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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 47

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Friday, November 24, 2017

Taking the pulse of residents' opinions

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Town officials continue to utilize myriad resources to gain residents' input on financial priorities, most recently launching an online survey.

Selectmen and Finance Committee members alike understand the challenges associated with funding various services with Spencer's

current operating budget. Jointly, the two boards have initiated a process to develop mission statements to guide elected and appointed officials in financial planning. Since the process will play an integral role in budgetary decisions over the next five years, officials wanted to ensure that residents and business owners had every opportunity to offer input on priorities.

To that end, a series of eight public forums and focus groups was held from August to October, yielding valuable insights from community stakeholders. The visions and priorities laid out during these forums helped town officials craft a survey intended to produce even more detailed responses.

Available on the town website (www.spencerma.gov) and

at select locations in paper form, the survey seeks input from all residents, including children and young adults. It is open to residents ages six and up, business owners, property owners, and town employees.

"This is a very productive way to get a lot of input from the community. We are interested in seeing the results," said Board of Selectmen Chairman Tony Pepe. "We know there

is a big wish list for residents, but we need to address items in the order that the town prioritizes."

Each individual may respond separately to the survey; you are not limited to one response per household. Input collected will assist officials in identifying Spencer's greatest assets, exploring future prospects, and setting measurable

Turn To **SURVEY** page **A3**



Amy Paul photos

The inviting exterior of Oakwood Farm, guarded by toy soldiers

Oakwood Farm always ready for the holidays

BY AMY PAUL
NEW LEADER CORRESPONDENT

Visiting the Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn in Spencer is a treat for the senses and finding gifts for those on your shopping list. Christmas music delights the ears; various colorful, homemade ornaments line the walls and dangle from every inch of the ceiling; pine incense wafts to the nose; and free, warm cider tantalizes the tongue. What better place to visit, shop locally, and satisfy cravings for all things Christmas than the Barn?

Unique items abound. Perusing upstairs in the loft allows for a stroll past museum-type displays of encased Christmas books and toys from the 1950s, the time of

the owner, Jim Devereux's, childhood.

In fact, housed in one glass case is a framed comic entitled "Clancy," for which Devereux has named every one of his Irish setters, the store's mascot. Currently, Clancy the 5th resides during working hours behind the counter, side-by-side with Devereux, as all other Clancys before him also did.

From Advent calendars to greeting cards to ornaments only sold at the store, there is something for everyone on the list. Devereux says his most popular sellers are the "Ornaments with A Story to Tell". These collectibles

Turn To **CHRISTMAS FARM** page **A10**



Surrounded by Christmas, Jim Devereux lives it all year

New complex answers need for affordable housing

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – In response to the critical need for additional affordable family housing in Massachusetts, local and state officials have joined forces to provide homes to families in need.

On Nov. 9, officials convened for an open house ceremony at the site of a recently completed affordable family housing complex in town. The South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC) took the lead in developing 42 apartment units at 19 Bixby Road. The newly constructed units are located on 15 acres just off

Route 9 near the public safety facilities, and officials are eager to see families fill them.

Not only does the complex provide appealing living spaces, officials said, but also an opportunity for families to be part of a community. It was a long permitting and design process, beginning almost five years ago, but officials are pleased with the result.

Financing for the complex was made possible by federal, state and private funders. Managed by

Maloney Properties, Inc., the 11-building complex is comprised of 21 two-bedroom units

Turn To **HOUSING** page **A5**

New STEM program gets expansion grant

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – School officials continue to lead the way in technological innovation, expanding opportunities each year for STEM programming through new courses.

In March, Leicester Middle School received a \$28,000 expansion grant from Project Lead the Way (PLTW) in partnership with the Mass STEM Hub. With this funding, LMS was able to purchase robotics kits and other tools needed to run its brand new Automation and Robotics class this year.

The school introduced the PLTW program to students last year, restructuring the entire schedule to ensure that every student could take one trimester of STEM coursework per year. Offered through Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the Mass STEM Hub, PLTW empowers students to develop new skills by applying creative strategies to real-world challenges.

With most new jobs in the next decade projected to be in STEM fields, local schools are always seeking enhanced educational opportunities.

"Leicester Middle School was recognized this year for being one of only two schools in the

state to provide STEM education for all students," said LMS Principal Joyce Nelson, who is thrilled with the PLTW results.

James DePace was selected last year as the school's STEM teacher. He had previously taught earth science at LMS, and he has an extensive background in aviation science. When school officials announced that they would kick off PLTW involvement with a Design and Modeling course for all students, DePace was eager to step up and fill the role. One of the course's projects involved students designing a toy for a child with cerebral palsy, and they learned several foundational STEM concepts.

Retired Leicester High School teacher Linda Colby has worked closely with LMS students during the PLTW sessions. Now serving as the secretary of Friends of Leicester Middle School, Colby has been impressed with DePace's accomplishments in the PLTW program.

"He was very willing and enthusiastic about taking on the challenge of kicking off a new STEM program," Colby said of DePace.

The students continue to

Turn To **STEM** page **A5**

Not kids this time: kids' toys

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Committed to brightening the Christmas season for families in need, a local business is once again teaming up with community leaders to stuff the bus.

AA Transportation Co., Inc., is set to launch its Stuff the Bus campaign next month. On Saturday, Dec. 2, AA Transportation drivers will be out in full force from 10 a.m. to

2 p.m. Buses will be parked at the Spencer Fire Station, the North Brookfield Hannaford, and the Leicester Wal-Mart – and residents are urged to get involved and fill those buses with new unwrapped toys.

In Spencer, Fire Chief Bob Parsons and his staff are always thrilled to host AA Transportation. Following the toy drive, all donations will be brought to town hall and eventually distributed to residents

by volunteer Donna Flannery.

In North Brookfield, meanwhile, AA Transportation has teamed up with the North Brookfield Police Department to make the toy drive happen. Led by Officer Paul Dacey and the Hannaford Supermarket staff, the event will provide North Brookfield residents with a convenient location to drop off toys. Following the

Turn To **TOYS** page **A9**

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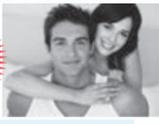
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Event for diabetes in its 12th year



Kevin Flanders photos.

Runners get ready to hit the road.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Ready, set, fundraise! For the twelfth straight year, residents ran for a great cause while taking in the autumn scenery of central Massachusetts.

Hosted by the Lions Club of the Brookfields, the Apple Run/Walk for Diabetes always draws a strong attendance, even during rainy and chilly mornings. This year, the event saw favorable weather for a run or a walk on Nov. 4, with guests enjoying a five-mile course down scenic country roads. The event began and ended at Brookfield Orchards.

To date, proceeds from the walk/run have surpassed \$22,000 donated to the event's two diabetes charities: the Clara Barton Camp for Diabetic Girls in Oxford and the University of Massachusetts Diabetes Research Team in Worcester.

"The UMass diabetes research team is heavily involved in potentially groundbreaking research in prevention of Type 1 diabetes," said Apple Run/Walk organizer Jim Buzzell in a previous interview. "Since Type 1 diabetes is an auto-immune disorder in which T-cells destroy the insulin-containing cells in the pancreas, it has been thought that if you can prevent these T-cells from attacking, you can prevent the onset

of diabetes in those children who are predisposed."

Additional research must be conducted in order for experts to understand why certain people are at greater risk for this auto-immune disorder – and they also must further explore the T-cells that tend to carry out this destructive behavior. The research team at UMass was able to identify the offending T-cells, and their study was published in the Nature Medicine journal last December.

The research team has also conducted numerous clinical trials. It recently took part in a collaboration of four sites that assessed the effectiveness of a bionic pancreas, which uses an iPhone app that takes data from a monitor to direct the delivery of insulin and glucagon through a pump in Type 1 diabetics. This method has the potential to more effectively regulate glucose levels in diabetics than the standard insulin pumps currently used, officials project.

The research team continues to receive strong support locally, as funds raised at this year's run/walk nearly reached \$3,000. With 103 total participants, the event easily broke last year's record as the most well-attended to date. In addition, 25 community sponsors stepped up to show their support, many of which do so every year.

"My favorite part of the whole pro-



Always eager to help their community, Bill and Jessica Piwowarski, of West Brookfield, prepare for the run.

cess is race day, as everyone involved – from young children to the elderly – seem to be smiling and enjoying themselves," Buzzell added. "It's just a positive vibe that's infectious. As happens every year, after the run/walk I listened to many suggestions on how to further improve the event for the future. I am already thinking ahead as to how to do so."

Of course, the Apple Walk's contributions to the research team and the Clara Barton Camp wouldn't be possible without the support received each year from participants and sponsors. This year, the event added Rapsallion Brewery, of Sturbridge, as a sponsor for the run/walk. Members of the brewery were on hand for race day, offering a complementary beer to each registered runner and walker upon completion of the course.

For more information on the event's results and causes, visit www.brookfieldslionsclub.org.

SPENCER NEW LEADER

ACCURACY WATCH

The Spencer New Leader 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 3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4130 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

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SURVEY

continued from page 1

benchmarks that will determine whether goals have been met.

Five years ago, when the town last coordinated a comprehensive effort seeking public feedback, residents identified road improvements as the greatest priority. Residents were frustrated with deteriorating roads, and the overwhelming majority of respondents from all sectors of the community cited roads as the number one area officials should target. Since then, the town has led a vigorous campaign of infrastructure revitalization projects throughout Spencer, including the ongoing downtown improvement project and the repairs to Route 31 South.

And now it's time to create a new list of priorities, officials said. The public forums set the foundation, and the survey will bring even more stakeholders into the mix. Selectmen understand that residents, business owners, and

municipal leaders often have entirely different visions – but the commonalities will establish priorities.

"This is a great opportunity for the citizens of Spencer to let us know what their concerns and priorities are," said Selectman Ralph Hicks. "Spencer is starting to move forward, and we want all residents to weigh in on the future of our town."

Added Pepe, "This is a long-range plan for the town – it's so important to establish priorities early."

If you prefer to answer a paper survey, copies are available at Richard Sugden Public Library and the Spencer Senior Center.

Town officials wished to thank all residents and business owners who have participated in the process.

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Deadline Dec. 15 5pm - Pub date Dec. 22
(300 words or less)

1. Write a letter to Santa (students & adults)
2. What are your family's holiday traditions?
3. Write a poem or short story about a snowman, reindeer, or Santa.
4. Share your neighborhood memories.
5. Topic of your choice

HOW TO SUBMIT?

- May be mailed or dropped off to: June Simakauskas, Spencer New Leader, 25 Elm Street, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550
- EMAILED TO jsima@stonebridgepress.news (preferred)
- FAXED TO: 508-765-0233

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We reserve the right to not publish essays for inappropriate content or to hold for a future publication. Early submissions are greatly appreciated.

SPENCER SNIPPETS

NATIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD & QUABOAG CHORAL SOCIETY

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 108 New Braintree Road, North Brookfield, is again hosting Nativities Around the World

Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30-8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, 5:30-8 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 9, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Also on Friday, Dec. 8 starting at 7 the Quaboag Choral Society will present

Small Town, Big City. Refreshments will follow.

Share your nativities for the event. Please leave a message for Robin at (508) 347-7092 to inquire about loaning your nativity for this event. We welcome your participation.

HOLIDAY FAIR

Mary Queen of the Rosary Church, Church Street, Spencer will hold its annual Holiday Fair Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Crafts, cookies, meatball sandwiches, hot dogs, religious items and poinsettias featured.

COLLECTING COATS & CANS

The West Brookfield Lions Club will hold their annual Coat Drive and Can Drive at the 25th annual West Brookfield White Christmas Celebration, Dec. 3, noon-5 p.m. We will be located at the Office of Mark Schultz, R.D.O. and Dr. Joseph Papandrea, 5 East

Main St. Support your local community while enjoying hot cocoa, cider and other treats! There will also be raffle items. Please bring your gently worn coats, hats, scarves and mittens. Together let's make change count!

QUABOAG CHORAL SCHEDULE

The Quaboag Choral Society will be performing a Holiday Concert in the area. Entitled, "Small Town, Big City", this enchanting concert of Holiday favorites will be sure to inspire a feeling of the Christmas season. Please join us, with family and friends, at one of our three concerts: Sunday, Dec. 3, West Brookfield "White Christmas" at the town hall at 6:15 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, North Brookfield, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, at 7 p.m. or Sunday, Dec. 17 Charlton, The Overlook Performing Arts Center, at 2 p.m.

White Christmas in West Brookfield The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, 36 N. Main St. will be open from 12 pm - 5 pm during the town's White Christmas celebration on Sunday Dec.3. Please join us for: *Delicious lunch featuring hot turkey sandwiches, three choices of delicious homemade soups, HOMEMADE pie and hot chocolate; Scrumptious Bake Table! *HUGE Holiday Raffle Table! Gift baskets, gift cards, toys, and much more. *Hardwick Memorial Handbell

Choir Concert - NEW this year! At 3 pm, with Cynthia Baird, director; *Annual Carols and Cocoa at 4:45 p.m. Free cookies, cocoa and a Christmas Carol sing-along!

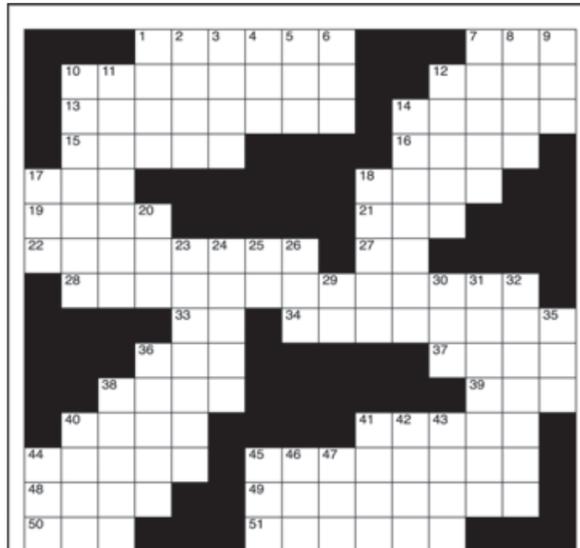
*Just what you need to create your holiday mood! Call the church at (508) 867-7078 for more information.

MERRIAM-GILBERT CELEBRATION

The Friends of the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library will be celebrating the 25th White Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 3, from noon until 4:00 p.m. with their annual raffle, plus refreshments. Local photographer, Beth Johnson, will be on hand selling her 2018 West Brookfield Calendars. Also, the Library is participating in the Kids' Elf Hunt.

MAKE A SIGN FUNDRAISER

Make and Take Sign Fundraiser on Wednesday, Nov. 29th, 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the North Brookfield High School Cafeteria. Come make a handmade inspirational sign.100 different sayings to choose from. Only cost \$25 per sign. It is easy and fun! You leave with the signs you make that night. Benefits NBHS student organizations RSVP is required by Nov. 26th Any questions or to RSVP contact Margaret Hanson at (508) 867-5136 or hansonfarm@verizon.net re: sign party.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Holds candles
- 7. In possession of
- 10. Rodents
- 12. Type of cofactor (Brit. sp.)
- 13. Hard candy on a stick
- 14. Animal of the weasel family
- 15. Things that should not be overlooked
- 16. "Silence" author
- 17. Dried, split lentils
- 18. People native to Ghana
- 19. Barros and Gasteyer are two
- 21. British thermal unit
- 22. Large oblong hall
- 27. Ethnic group in Asia
- 28. Holiday decoration
- 33. Milliliter
- 34. Open
- 36. Health physics concept (abbr.)
- 37. Tantric meditation
- 38. Where golf games begin
- 39. Birth swine
- 40. Rip
- 41. Remove
- 44. Puts together in time
- 45. Rotary engines
- 48. Skeletal structure
- 49. Member of a labor organization
- 50. Japanese classical theater
- 51. Undergarments

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "Snake Tales" cartoonist
- 2. Religious group
- 3. Singer Redding
- 4. ___ and tuck
- 5. Head honcho
- 6. Second sight
- 7. Composer
- 8. About aviation
- 9. Senior officer
- 10. Forecasts weather
- 11. Seasoned Hungarian soup
- 12. Town in Hesse, Germany
- 14. Thought to derive from meteorites
- 17. Hit lightly
- 18. Seemingly bottomless chasm
- 20. Title of respect
- 23. Warms up
- 24. Man and Wight are two
- 25. Type of scan
- 26. Atomic mass unit
- 29. Article
- 30. Incriminate
- 31. Passes by
- 32. Most nerve-inducing
- 35. David Alan Grier sitcom
- 36. Achieve
- 38. Freshwater fish
- 40. Beginner
- 41. Dark brown or black
- 42. A newlywed wears one
- 43. DiFranco and Vardanyan are two
- 44. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- 45. Ancient Egyptian King
- 46. Old name (abbr.)
- 47. Brazilian city (slang)



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Sweet Evalina's 688 Rt. 169	The Christmas Barn 835 Rt. 169	

For more information go to: ExploreWoodstock.com

Your Dental Health

by Edward Larkin D.M.D.

AVOID SHARING SALIVA WITH BABIES
While babies are born without the germs that cause tooth decay, they can get them from their parents. Research shows that, in effect, babies can "catch" caries (tooth decay) from their parents. More correctly, when mothers and fathers have high levels of the bacteria that cause cavities (Streptococcus mutans), the bacteria can be transferred to their toddlers through mouth-to-mouth kissing or sharing of utensils. Once these bacteria establish themselves in babies' mouths, the incidence of cavities becomes more likely. If parents are concerned about the transmission of bacteria to their babies, they can ask for a dental caries test, which measures the concentration of these bacteria in the mouth. In the meantime, saliva transmission should be avoided.

Do you have questions about your children's dental health? At 9 W. MAIN DENTAL, our philosophy is not only to treat dental needs, but more importantly, to educate our patients to prevent future problems. To this end, our mission is to provide open and free communication and the highest standard of personalized care in an environment of health, mutual understanding, and respect. We have office hours by appointment at 9 West Main St., West Brookfield. Please call 508.867.2777.

P.S. The most critical period for decay formation is within the first few months of eruption of teeth, when the enamel is still soft and development is finishing.

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\$239,000 8 Pope St, Powers, Emily L, to Gregorie Arthur L, and Gregorie, Susan.
\$144,000 6 Parent St, Kenneway, Sean F, and Bank New York Mellon Tr, to Bank New York Mellon Tr.
\$97,399 74 Maple St, Bailey, Linda G, and US Bank NA Tr, to US Bank NA Tr.

BROOKFIELD
\$210,000 10 High St, Iadarola, Lewis J, and Iadarola, Nina E, to Mandigo, Matthew, and Jones, Nicole D.
\$112,000 96 Long Hill Rd, Deutsche Bk Natl T Co Tr, to Skowyra, Steve.

EAST BROOKFIELD
\$290,000 102 Oakwood Dr, Cormier, Shawn P, and Cormier, Lynn A to Willbrant, Andrew G, and Berthiaume, Angela.

WEST BROOKFIELD
\$290,000 13 Winter St, Young, Donna, to Barnes, Russell, and Bardo-Barnes, Lisa.
\$145,000 264 Shoreline Dr, Moore, Ellen T, to Harrigan Charles.

NORTH BROOKFIELD
\$75,000 13 Barnes Rd, Mandala, James E, Russin William H.

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\$331,033 23 Virginia Dr #60 Prospect Hill Estates LLC, to Kustigian FT.
\$290,000 134 Auburn St Shea, Allison M, to Abisah, Beatrice.
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The Spencer New Leader (USPS#024-927) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical Postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

Tri-Valley, Inc. December 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dudley 508-949-6640, Franklin 508-520-1422, Milford 508-478-8102, Northbridge 508-234-2002, Oxford 508-987-6000, Southbridge 508-764-1469, Spencer 508-885-3904, Sturbridge 508-347-5063, Sutton 508-234-0703, Upton 508-529-9094, Uxbridge 774-482-6174, West Brookfield 508-867-1411 Tri-Valley receives federal financial support under the Older Americans Act furnished by the Central Mass Agency on Aging and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.				1 Lasagna Broccoli Herbed Carrots Apple Crisp Diet=Graham Cookies
4 Sesame Beef Steamed White Rice Broccoli & Carrots Pineapple Fortune Cookie	5 Chicken Cacciatore Pasta Italian Blend Vegetables Chocolate Mousse*	6 Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans Cole Slaw Peaches	7 Potato Crunch Fish Lemon Seasoned Potato Peas & Mushrooms Fresh Fruit <i>Chicken with Wild Rice Soup</i>	8 Buttermilk Chicken Red Bliss Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Streusel Cake Diet = Half Piece Streusel Cake
11 Chicken Mornay Couscous Roman Blend Vegetables Yogurt	12 Pork Rib-i-que Cole Slaw Corn Niblets Strawberries & Whipped Topping Wheat Roll	13 Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes Peas and Pearl Onions Gingerbread Diet = Half Piece Gingerbread	14 Meatloaf & Gravy Garlic Mashed Potatoes Country Blend Vegetables Mixed Fruit	15 Macaroni & Cheese Stewed Tomatoes Green Beans Fresh Fruit
18 Swedish Meatballs Gemelli Pasta Roman Blend Vegetables Fresh Fruit <i>Cream of Carrot Soup</i>	19 Stuffed Pepper Casserole Mashed Potatoes Carrots Pear Crisp Pears	20 Sloppy Joe Potato Wedges Mixed Vegetables Mandarin Oranges Wheat Roll	HOLIDAY MEAL Chicken with Sage Stuffing Chicken Gravy Sour Cream Chive Potatoes Peas and Carrots Cream Puffs Diet=Cheesecake Mousse	22 Catch of the Day O'Brien Potatoes Tuscany Style Vegetables Brownie Diet=Plain Cake
25 CHRISTMAS DAY NO MEALS SERVED	26 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Scandinavian Vegetables Baked Cinnamon Apples	27 Garlic Herbed Chicken Wild Rice California Blend Vegetables Peaches	28 Beef with Pearl Onions Garlic Mashed Potatoes Carrots Birthday Cake Diet=Plain Cake	29 Breaded Fish Tartar Sauce Delmonico Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Fresh Orange

HOUSING

continued from page 1

and 21 three-bedroom units. Most units include a one-car garage, and the property is easily accessible to public transportation.

Several state officials attended the open house, including Susan Terrey, the Assistant Undersecretary of the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). Collaborating with state and local officials, SMOC managed the construction of the complex.

"We wanted to create a neighborhood here, and we are thrilled with the results," Charles Gagnon, SMOC's chief operating officer, said during the open house. "We worked closely with town officials and the DHCD to make sure this is a great place for families."

A tour through the units revealed spacious living areas, attached garages in all but two of the units, and creative modern layouts. The complex also features three handicapped-accessible apartments. Several families are

already living in the new affordable apartment community, and officials are seeking more families who meet eligibility requirements.

"We are so excited to be part of this – it's a great town and a great community," said Amy Lawton, the regional manager of Maloney Properties, Inc. "There was an excellent vision for these units, and they are very amenable to how today's families want to live."

Additional amenities include patios, Energy Star kitchen appliances, vinyl plank flooring, multiple zone thermostat controls, a community room, and an on-site laundry facility, among others. Neighborhood benefits include close proximity to restaurants and local businesses, easy school bus pickup access for students, and onsite trail access to the Depot Rail Trail and conservation lands.

The entire property is smoking free. A vetting process is required for each prospective family to ensure that all eligibility requirements are met. For more information on leasing opportunities, visit www.bixbyroadapartments.com.

STEM

continued from page 1

add to their skill sets this year with the Automation and Robotics course, in which students build mechanical objects and learn coding to make them work. Next fall, with another year of STEM programming under their belts, the kids will advance to a Flight and Space course focusing on ways to create a sustainable living environment in space.

In addition to instructing the courses, DePace also started a robotics club for students who are interested in furthering their skills. School officials want to give the kids a solid foundation in STEM before entering high school, where they will deepen their knowledge in preparation for a career. This will enable them to tackle advanced concepts in high school that previously weren't even introduced until college.

"More than a club, this will be a

robotics team that will work toward challenging other schools in robotics competitions," Colby added. "The team has not had a chance to compete yet, but it is preparing to become a leading school in these competitions."

The recently received grant money also funded two 3D printers, which will allow students to bring their design concepts to life.

In recognition of its accomplishments in making STEM programming available to all students, LMS received a Gateway School Award from PLTW in collaboration with WPI and the Mass STEM Hub.

To learn more about PLTW, visit www.pltw.org.

Pet of the Week

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Size: Large
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Friday's Child



Jobak is a fun loving four-year old boy of Cape Verdean descent. Jobak typically makes people smile with his sweet spirit and determination. Jobak loves water and looks forward to having bath time. Jobak also enjoys playing and exploring in the outdoors. During summer months, he can often be seen running around in the sprinkler. Jobak likes to have sensory items he can play with to help

soothe him. He also likes toys that light up or play music.

Jobak is legally freed for adoption. There is a recruitment plan for four visits per year with his birth parents and monthly visits with his siblings who are being recruited for separately. Jobak's social worker is open to any type of two-parent family where Jobak can be the youngest or only child.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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CLASSROOM CORNER

It's all football...until it's the classroom



Ediberto 'Eddie' Rodriguez

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Always able to find the positives in any situation, Ediberto “Eddie” Rodriguez has emerged as a leader at David Prouty High School and was selected as a Panther of the Month.

A member of the DPHS football team, Rodriguez has impressed his coaches and teachers alike with his dedication and a will to improve. He grew up in Clinton, but Spencer has become his hometown with a supportive school community surrounding him, as well as great friends.

Like the Panthers of the Month who came before him, Rodriguez has thrived under the guidance of Prouty’s teaching staff. He enjoys rising to meet challenges in football and in the classroom.

“Two teachers have had the greatest impact on my career,” said Rodriguez, whose favorite subject is chemistry.

“First is Mr. Hamilton, the chemistry teacher here at David Prouty. He’s a great teacher because he makes great presentations. The second is Mr. Miller, the world history and psychology teacher. He makes learning very enjoyable.”

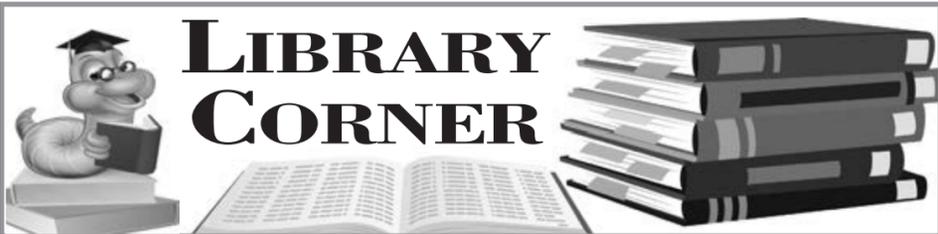
Rodriguez hopes to eventually become a lawyer or a research scientist. He is always willing to go the extra mile to help out a teammate or classmate, and his teachers have been pleased to see him step up as a role model.

“Eddie is an enthusiastic student who works hard and seems to genuinely enjoy school,” said Rodriguez’s English teacher, Zilicia Howard. “He is one of the most friendly and helpful kids I know. He exudes positivity and school spirit, and is just a great addition to any class because he can always see the bright side of things. He helps others to see the good in the world, too.”

Added world history teacher Thomas Miller, “Eddie is one of the happiest kids in the building. I know that when he first moved into the building and ended up in one of my classes last year, he infused so much life into the class and just brought smiles to everyone’s faces – including mine.”

Rodriguez described his family as his biggest role model, thanking them for their guidance and constant support of his academic and athletic pursuits. In terms of offering advice to incoming freshmen for success at Prouty, Rodriguez focused on positivity and surrounding yourself with good influences.

“Do your best, be kind, stay in a good friend group, and be positive,” he told the New Leader.



Richard Sugden Library
8 Pleasant Street
(508) 885-7513
spencerpubliclibrary.org

Open Monday and Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday.

Sign up today for the following programs!
Monday Nov. 27
Teens and tweens grade

6-9 are invited to Teen Mania from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm.
Tuesday Nov. 28
Free Toddler Story Hour (18 months-35 months) is from 10:00 am - 10:45 am. Pre-k for (ages 3 and up) is at 11:00. Sign-up any time.
Wednesday Nov. 29
Bouncing Babies is from 10:00-10:45 a.m. Drop in, ages birth to 24 months & their caregivers. Meet other caregivers, share stories, songs, &

rhymes.
Make it @ the library: Jewelry Class: Holiday Bling or a Simple Thing! Adults are invited to create holiday jewelry from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm. Sponsored by the Friends of the Richard Sugden Library. Registration required
Experiment! Can you make the best filter to clean dirty water? This after school program is from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm for Grades K -5).

Thursday Nov. 30
Icky Sticky Play time is for toddlers and preschoolers. Come from 11:00 a.m.–noon for this free CFCE program.
Holiday Music Past & Present. Adults (Grades 9+) are invited to this piano concert with Deborah Wyndham from 7:00-8:00 p.m. This free concert will include original arrangements of holiday traditional and popular pieces, contemporary classical and jazz to ragtime, holiday songs from both the far past, and the present, such as “Sleigh Ride”, “Greensleeves.” Deborah will also share interesting facts about songs’ beginnings and composers. Sponsor: Friends of the Library.
Monday, December 4
Spencer Writers Group is held for adults from 5:00-6:30 pm. All genres of writers are

invited. Come prepared to write! Refreshments will be served. Registration requested.
Wednesday, December 6
There will be NO Computer Class in December.
Thursday, December 7
Make it @ the library: 3-D Holiday Wood Sculptures. Adults are invited to learn about modern sculptors from artist/educator Theresa Monteith, then create your own one of a kind masterpiece with wood, paint and collage, with a touch of the holiday fun added! Join us from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm. Registration required. Space is limited. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.
Register for the adult programs by calling or visiting the Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, at (508) 885-7513 or by going online at www.SpencerPublicLibrary.org.



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- Driver’s License/have transportation to shop.
- Welder- OSHA 10.
- Hoisting license (plus not req)
- Medical card (plus not req)

Benefits include-

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- Health/Dental
- 401K
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- Uniforms (dry cleaning costs)
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FIELD ERECTOR- MISC METALS AND STRUCTURAL STEEL INSTALLER

Ability to apply common sense understanding to carry out detailed but uninvolved written or oral instructions. Ability to deal with problems involving a few concrete variables in standardized situations.

Requirements-

- 5 years minimum experience in misc metals.
- Driver’s License/have transportation to shop.
- Welder- OSHA 10.
- Hoisting license (plus not req)
- Medical card (plus not req)

Benefits include-

- Transportation and compensation to job site.
- Health/Dental
- 401K
- Flex Spending account
- Uniforms (dry cleaning costs)

SHOP FABRICATOR- Ability to apply common sense understanding to carry out detailed but uninvolved written or oral instructions. Ability to deal with problems involving a few concrete variables in standardized situations. The ability to use a tape measure.

Requirements-

- 5 years minimum experience in misc metals.
- Driver’s License/have transportation to shop.
- Welder- OSHA 10.
- Hoisting license (plus not req)
- Medical card (plus not req)

Benefits include-

- Health/Dental
- 401K
- Flex Spending account
- Uniforms (dry cleaning costs)

CONTACT JOANNA 860-564-3766
860RESUMES@GMAIL.COM



NEW VANS PURCHASED

Courtesy photo

Recently Bay Path High School purchased two new vans to transport students to their vocational worksites off campus. The attached picture shows the students from the health assisting shop in front of their new van. The students were departing the school to go to work at one of their clinical sites.

Gobi office hours

Tyler Wolanin, District Aide to Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer) will be holding office hours throughout the district during the months of November and December. The normal schedule has been divided to accommodate holiday season scheduling. Constituents and town officials are invited to meet with Tyler to express any concerns, ideas and issues they have. Walk-ins are welcome, but to set up an appointment you can e-mail Tyler at tyler.wolanin@masenate.gov, or call at 508-641-3502. Appointments are encouraged so that information on cancellations can be shared. Town groupings are not restricted to residents of those towns.

November

Monday, November 27th
Paxton Town Hall, 11 AM to 12 PM
Spencer - Howe Village, 12:30 to 1:30 PM
East Brookfield Municipal Offices, 2 to 3 PM

Tuesday, November 28th
Sturbridge Town Hall, 11 AM to 12 PM
Holland Town Hall, 12:30 to 1:30 PM
Monson Town Hall, 2 to 3 PM

December

Tuesday, December 5th
Brookfield Town Hall, 11 AM to 12 PM
West Brookfield Senior Center, 12:30 to 1:30 PM
New Braintree Town Hall, 2 to 3 PM

Thursday, December 7th
Ware Senior Center, 12 to 1 PM
Palmer Senior Center, 1:30 to 2:30 PM
Warren Municipal Building, 3 to 4 PM

Tuesday, December 12th
Brimfield Senior Center, 11 AM to 12 PM
Wales Senior Center, 12:10 to 1 PM
Charlton Senior Center, 1:30 to 2:30 PM

Wednesday, December 13th
Ashby Town Hall, 6 to 7 PM

Monday, December 18th
Ashburnham Town Hall, 12:30 to 1:30 PM
Winchendon Town Hall, 2 to 3 PM

Tuesday, December 19th
Oakham Senior Center, 9:30 to 10:30 AM
North Brookfield Senior Center, 11 AM to 12 PM
Rutland Senior Center, 12:30 to 1:30 PM

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Gobi has a challenger: Steven Hall



Republican senate candidate Steven Hall chats with a visitor at his candidacy declaration party at the Publick House.

BY GUS STEEVES
STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE – To Steven Hall, there’s “a lot of nonsense going on” in Boston and we’d “have a lot more money for projects in the towns if we stop wasting money on the state level frivolously.”

He’s hoping enough people across the region will agree with that and a list of other positions – most of them fairly traditionally Republican – to elect him state senator in November 2018. Recently, he threw his hat into the race against incumbent Democrat Anne Gobi.

During his announcement speech at the Publick House, he answered his own question about why he’s running by saying “the health care system is a mess,” with Obamacare “dictating care and taking away the patient-physician relationship,” increasing insurance

costs. At the same time, he argues, Medicaid costs have been rising “at an unsustainable rate,” and there is “a severe shortage of health care workers” because many “won’t commit to full-time employment” because they’ll lose their current benefits.

Hall comes to that view from several years as a nursing home administrator. His LinkedIn profile states his current job (since October 2016) is as a consultant at Modern Healthcare Advisors LLC, but lists several long-term care administration posts before that back to May 2008. It also cites two wheelchair safety-related patents, one issued in 2002, one filed in 2016.

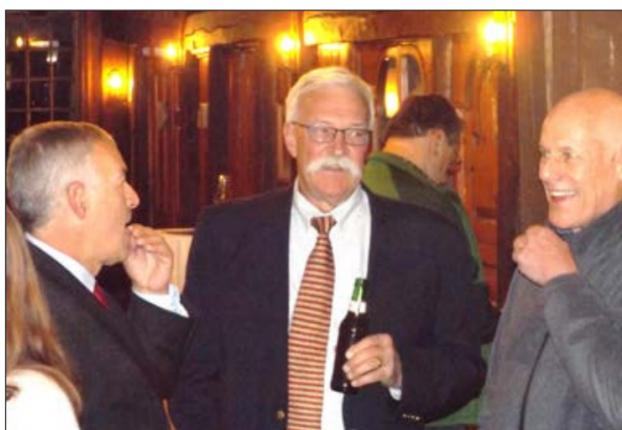
One aspect of his platform that is unusual is his intention to challenge the Registry of Motor Vehicles recent tightening of inspection rules and other issues, which he

described as “overreach.” He said the more stringent inspections, in which stations are installing more cameras “to make sure not even a little bit of rust gets through,” will “hurt the poor and middle class,” particularly in rural areas. While urban dwellers usually have access to public transit, “in our district a car is a vital requirement to get to work,” Hall said.

Before his speech, he was blunt about how he sees the RMV: “They have no common sense.”

In other areas, his views are conservative, particularly regarding business. He argues the state needs to reduce taxes and fees “that are making it impossible to do business in Massachusetts,” and states “small businesses, including our farmers, are the lifeblood of our state.”

Overall, Hall says he’d like to work for “a climate where



Steven Hall, left, shares ideas with former State Rep. Reed Hillman, right, and another man.

there’s less despair and more hope,” noting many people have turned to street drugs to cope with physical and/or emotional pain because they don’t “feel like they’re a valued part of society.”

The system needs to recognize the difference between real pain and self-medication, and provide help to those who need it, he said. He didn’t, however, explain how he’d do that.

“Everywhere I go, I meet people with a new optimism about their vote and the power of their voice,” he said. “In Central Mass, people are tired of the politics of old, and politicians who see the people as serving their agenda on Beacon Hill.”

His wife Janet is a supporter. She described Hall as having “an uncanny ability to listen” and come up with solutions and a “driven personality. He works on it until he accomplished his goal. During rough times is when his true character shines.”

In the audience, long-time friend Tony Leary said he normally tries to avoid politics, “but Steve I know and I trust. We need to bring the good people from local levels up and bring them in.”

Hall actually has no local government experience. He did serve for a while as recreation

director in Wales, and has been involved in various community volunteer efforts as a coach, in Toastmasters, and other things.

Toastmasters membership seems to be a common thread among several of his supporters. One of them, Luba Sinigur, said this is the first time she’s been involved in a political campaign; she migrated from Moldova in 1998 and became a citizen in 2012, and describes this as taking “baby steps” that might lead to local political activity.

“If we want to make a change in this country, we have to vote,” she said. “Whatever you stand for, we have to find people to vote for.”

Hall’s son-in-law Josh Paydos said Hall has been talking about the idea “a number of years.”

“Steve likes to succeed at whatever he does,” Paydos said. “I’m sure this won’t be any different. He’ll give it his 110 percent.”

The Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire & Middlesex senate district is a sprawling one, including all or part of 28 towns running from Sturbridge to the New Hampshire line. In this area, it includes Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland, Wales, Spencer, Charlton and all of the Brookfields.

White Christmas coming to West Brookfield

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

WEST BROOKFIELD – Regardless of whether it snows over the next few weeks, it’s going to be a White Christmas in West Brookfield.

The longtime event will once again draw families from throughout the area eager to celebrate the spirit of the season. For a quarter of a century, residents, business owners and municipal leaders have come together to make the event memorable. This year’s event is slated for Sunday, Dec. 3, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

A packed schedule of activities around the town center will kick off at 11 a.m. with a puppet show at town hall. Open houses at several town facilities – including the fire station, elementary school, senior center and library – will begin at noon. Churches in town, meanwhile, will be providing refreshments

to families looking to stay energized for a busy day.

In an event filled with history and tradition, families can enjoy everything from horse-drawn wagon rides to musical performances.

“This is my favorite event in town – it’s great to see everyone walking around and enjoying it,” said event co-chair Michelle Niemiec, a lifelong resident of West Brookfield.

Niemiec took over this year for Charlotte Boos, who previously oversaw the event. It’s been a lot of work to prepare, but volunteers and community leaders have several years of practice. The event is not only a great way to celebrate the season, officials said, but also an opportunity to introduce guests to West Brookfield’s restaurants, shops and businesses.

One of the staples of White Christmas is the annual tree lighting, which will

take place at 5:45 on the town Common. Later, at 6:15, a concert will be held inside town hall. Additionally, puppet shows will be offered for kids, and families can also take part in the annual elf hunt.

New this year will be chestnuts – and smores – to be roasted over the open fire on the town Common, as well as a Christmas carol sing-along on the Common. Kids can also have their pictures taken in winter-themed cutout props, and an ice sculpting demonstration will take place as well (if the weather cooperates).

For the youngsters, WBES will host its Elves ‘R Us gift sale from 12-3. You can also stop in at the library to try your luck with raffles and warm up with refreshments.

After all the hard preparatory work, event organizers are eager to see both the signature programs and new addi-

tions to the lineup.

“There is a lot to plan for over a short time,” added Niemiec, who has been involved in White Christmas preparations for five years. “This is such a great family event, and we are very excited for the 25th anniversary.”

To celebrate the giving spirit of the season, donations of nonperishable foods will be accepted to benefit the local food pantry.

A full program of events, including the locations for open houses, will be available at local businesses. Officials thank all businesses and community partners who support the event each year, all of which are listed in the program.

For more information about the event, check out the White Christmas in West Brookfield Facebook page.

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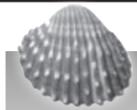
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EDITORIAL

The gratefulness factor

We have heard the proverb, "I despaired because I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet..."

As we recover from the abundance of a full groaning feast and enter into the frenzy of what to buy for Uncle Fred, reflect a moment on that.

Because we, most of us at least, did indeed indulge in a huge meal, the leftovers alone could feed a small army. If we have become tired of the turkey in a few days, an abundance of perfectly good food may find its way into trash bins just because we don't want it any longer.

How sad is that? We've done it. We've all done it. Bought something that sounded like a good idea as we roamed the market, brought it home with all good intentions, and never ate it. It deteriorated into some sort of unidentifiable fuzzy object in a vegetable bin, or a mutant green goo in a plastic container and hit that trashcan.

Ouch. In a world where food deprivation is real, and programs like free and reduced lunches exist, and service clubs send home bags of food to be certain children eat on the weekends when they aren't getting that school meal, and a newspaper runs a story extolling the new program about having breakfast in a classroom every day to be certain every child starts school not hungry... Ouch.

We won't even go into the "starving children in (fill in the blank third world country) our mothers threatened us with to get us to clean our plates. Because they are still starving. Nothing is any better for them either. Ouch.

We do food drives every single month in every single city and town in America. We do it in conjunction with other activities, Bring a canned good and get a \$1 off admission to something else.

And yet, in a country as rich as ours, where our politicians are fighting over how much of a tax break to give one another (forget us, we don't count); and we are shipping food grown in this country to other countries because we have so much, we have hungry people.

We have older people who must choose between paying for medication and food. We have struggling families who must pay the mortgage and a car payment and insurance and then squeeze groceries out of what is left.

Single mothers. \$8 an hour workers working three jobs at once to make ends meet.

Students trying to go to school and live on their own.

On top of all that, we have people who no longer know how to cook, how to do the simple meals from basically nothing and turn it into a good supper. Because they don't know how to cook, they then must buy over processed expensive prepackaged nonsense that costs them even more and satisfies even less. What a merry-go-round.

And on top of it being over processed, expensive and unhealthy, it is even worse: it makes you fat. So while you may be starving for good, clean, well made food...you may be fat. It's too much sugar, too much carbohydrate, too much salt...

Starving...and fat. What a country.



TOUCH DOWN!
CHECK OUT
THE SPORTS ACTION!

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tobacco Free: time again to Cold Turkey

To the Editor:
This Thanksgiving season, I'd like to remind readers to thank a co-worker, friend or family member who has quit smoking. Many smokers say quitting is the hardest thing they have ever done and any amount of recognition can help someone stay quit.

Smoking is the number one cause of preventable death and disease in Massachusetts. Nicotine is a very addictive drug and it takes most smokers several tries to quit for good. So reach out to smokers or ex-smokers. Let them know you are proud of how hard they're working to better their wellbeing. Thank them for improving their health and the health of the people around them.

If you're a smoker, even though the holidays can be a tough time to quit, they are a great time to get support from your loved ones to help you try to quit. If you have tried in the past, keep trying. Take advantage of the many resources available in Massachusetts to help you reach your goal.

Smokers can call the Massachusetts Smokers Helpline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) to talk with a free quit coach or enroll online through KeepTryingMA.org The Helpline is open 24 hours each day, seven days a week (excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas). Smokers can receive a four-week supply of free nicotine replacement help from the patch, gum or lozenge. Online supports include quit planning tools, peer support and motivational text messages.

Smokers who get support and use stop-smoking medicines are nearly three times as likely to quit for good as those who try to quit on their own. Quitting is hard—give thanks to a smoker in your life for quitting or for trying to quit. Every email, text message, phone call, or encouraging word makes a difference.

TINA GROSOWSKY
PROJECT COORDINATOR
CENTRAL MA TOBACCO FREE
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Reid: what it means to communicate

To the Editor:
As we approach Thanksgiving Day, we tend to think about things we are thankful for. I'm especially thankful to have communicated (some would say dueled) with the likes of Masters McRae, Emerson and Blais. For many months prior to my first letter, I was thankful for the opportunity to have read their letters and viewpoints. I was very sad to find no such letters in this week's paper – none at all.

I cannot help but think that my first letter, regarding "words," contributed to this unfortunate state of affairs. I was trying to poke fun but ended up creating venomous responses – my bad. I also feel bad that I was unable to wish Mr. McRae a Happy 242nd Birthday due to a vacation without a computer – please accept my belated wish. However, I felt happy for a week without phones, computers and TV or print news.

I think it's about time we get back to what we had. If we polled the readers

I think a vast majority would welcome the return. There are too many important issues facing us to simply stop addressing them. Let me start with this irrelevant issue that has bothered me since President Trump took office.

I wore ties for more years than I want to remember. All my stripe or rep ties were directed from the right shoulder to the left hip (US military, law enforcement and private schools) as opposed to left shoulder to right hip (European and Canadian). Take the time to notice how many of our politicians wear the foreign type ties. I have no idea what happened but I would love to get opinions from those in the know.

Remember, "It's nice to be important but it's more important to be nice." Happy Holidays.

JIM REID
SPENCER

Bedard: do a bit more

To the Editor:
Our Veterans' Day observance in East Brookfield always is on a very cold day. It is a typical program, but a meaningful one for most of us with deep emotions and memories.

Our Senator, Anne Gobi, suggested to the audience that as we thank our veterans we could ask if there is anything we could do for them.

We went into the senior hall after, to warm up with a nice hot cup of coffee and delicious snacks (thank you, committee members). I went over to a friend of mine who served in the Air Force during World War II. He proudly wore his blue uniform, and looked quite handsome. I thought I should heed our senator's advice. I thanked him and asked if there was something I could do for him.

He smiled and was completely embarrassed, not knowing what to say.

I then left the hall and was outside when I approached a man in his early forties, dressed in a camouflage National Guard uniform. I thanked him for his service, and in appreciation, could I help him with anything.

I certainly was surprised when he answered, "You already have! As far back as I can remember, you have never missed standing out in the cold to observe Veterans' Day."

In two months, I will be 93 years old, I hope I can be at a few more celebrations. I never realized my presence was noticed and appreciated.

I'll add this closing thought, "We never realize what impact we have on those around us and if you think it doesn't matter, maybe my experience will change your mind."

JOAN BEDARD
EAST BROOKFIELD.

Rizzo: opposing viewpoints

To the Editor:
It was very encouraging to have read your editorial, The Right to be Independent in the New Leader's October 20 issue and Kevin Kane's View Point the following week, Self Destruct in Washington.

I would like to suggest the book, On Tyranny, Twenty Lessons from The Twentieth Century by Timothy Snyder that further explains how Trump and his allies and leaders like them around the world contribute to

our loss of freedoms and what we can do about them here in America.

Unfortunately, Trump has also aligned himself with the religious right who's leaders have been skilled in making sheep out of their flocks. But fortunately, several Psychiatrists have recently published books on their views of why Trump is unfit to be our President.

CAROL RIZZO
SPENCER

Ciejka: thanks for road repair

To the Editor:
I would like to thank all involved in the restructuring of Rte. 31!

Now it's actually enjoyable to go that route, and I appreciate the time

and work put into this project. Thank you!

LINDA CIEJKA
EAST BROOKFIELD

During holidays, be extra vigilant about protecting financial data



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

To help achieve your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you should save and invest regularly.

But that's only part of the picture. You also need to protect your financial assets in various ways. One such method is guarding your personal information – especially any information that could be linked to your financial accounts. It's obviously important to be vigilant at any time, but you need to be even more on your toes during the holiday season, when fraudsters are particularly active.

So, to help keep your important data under wraps during the holidays, consider these suggestions:

Extend your protection to all mobile devices. Identity thieves can now compromise your mobile devices by installing spyware that steals usernames, passwords and credit card information. Fortunately, you can fight back. By doing a little research online, you can find the best mobile security software for your needs.

Use multiple passwords. Online security specialists recommend that you use different passwords for each new online shopping site you visit during the holiday season. Although this might seem like a hassle, it can be helpful, because even if identity thieves were to grab one of your new passwords, they still couldn't use it for other sites you may visit. And you can even find a free online program that can help you keep track of all your passwords.

Be suspicious of "huge savings." It happens every holiday season – identity thieves develop fake sites with attractive graphics and stunningly low prices on a variety of items, especially digital devices. If you fall for these pitches, you won't get any merchandise, but you might get a handful of headaches once the bad guys have your credit card number and other personal information. To prevent this, be wary of any deal that sounds too good to be true, and do some digging on the websites that offer these mega-savings.

Watch for fake shipping notices. During the holidays, when you may do a lot of online shopping, you will probably receive some legitimate shipping notices. But the bad guys have gotten pretty good at generating fake notices designed to resemble those from UPS, FedEx and even the U.S. Postal Service. If you were to click on the link provided by one of these bogus notices, you could either take on some malware or get taken to a "phishing" website created by the shipping notice forgers. Your best defense: Only shop with legitimate merchants and only use the tracking numbers given to you in the email you received immediately after making your purchases.

Keep your Social Security number to yourself. As a general rule, don't give out your Social Security number online – to anyone. No legitimate retailer needs this number. Finally, be aware that not all attempts at stealing your personal information will come online. When you're out shopping at old-fashioned, brick-and-mortar stores, consider bringing just one credit card with you – and protect that card from prying eyes.

By following these precautions, you should be able to greatly reduce the risk of being victimized by identity thieves and other miscreants. And the more comfortable you are in doing your holiday shopping, the more you can enjoy the season.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com

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Moneysaving Tips

With the holidays around the corner and escalating gas and oil prices there's never been a better time of year to tighten the family's financial belt. Read on for workable strategies to help you save money on everyday expenses.

Supermarket Switches: If you are buying all name brand products at the supermarket because you believe the quality is better than store brand items, you might want to rethink your savings strategy. Did you know government regulations require the same production and storage procedures for certain goods whether they are generic or name brand? When buying sugar, flour, salt and spices the cheaper choice is often the best bet to save money without sacrificing quality or flavor.

Plug in Savings: OK, you're feeling really good about snagging a bargain on a fancy new printer or TV – until the salesperson tells you it's going to cost another hundred dollars for a cable to connect it! Before you dish out more money for a high priced connector at an upscale electronics store, think again. Typically, the electronic cables found at a discount department store or online can do the job just as well for a fraction of the cost. Ditto for appliance cords and cell phone chargers.

Shake, bake and save: It's a fact that packaged spice mixes make cooking a

meal easier and tastier. But convenience comes at a cost. Here's a "recipe" for a chicken (or pork) baking coating that rivals the commercial brand for a lot less money. If you like it, plan to package up several batches at a time in zip-lock plastic bags and store in your cupboard. You'll save both money and time!

Ingredients: 4 cups flour, 2 tsp. Cayenne pepper, 1 cup bran flake cereal, crushed, 2 TB parsley flakes, 2 tsp. garlic powder, 1 TB onion powder, 2 tsp. chili powder, 2 TB taco seasoning, 1 teaspoon seasoned pepper, 1 t curry, sweet basil, oregano.

Directions: Mix all together into a plastic baggie and shake chicken or pork to coat before baking.

Through the years this column has periodically offered advice for saving money at the gas pump. With fuel prices climbing there's never been a better time to review the many ways a conscientious driver can offset the latest jump at the pump!

Downgrade: Buy the lowest grade of octane that is appropriate for your vehicle. Why pay for more if you don't need it? Check with your mechanic or car dealer to see if it's safe for you to switch to a lower grade. You might save hundreds of dollars a year.



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

Spring Ahead: Be sure to remove snow tires in good weather. The deep tread and big tires use more gasoline than regular tires.

The Wheel Deal: Keeping tires properly inflated and aligned equals gas savings.

Periodic wheel alignments and keeping tires inflated to the maximum recommended pressure really does improve your gas mileage, according to experts.

Haste Makes Waste: Tests show quick starts and hard breaking reduces travel time by only four percent, but fuel consumption is increased by nearly 40 percent.

Slow Down, You Move Too Fast: The faster you drive, the more gas you use. Did you know lowering your speed from 65 to 55 mph can improve your fuel economy by two miles per gallon?

Also, traveling at fast rates in low gears can consume up to 45% more fuel than is needed.

Idle No More: Did you know ten seconds of idling actually uses more fuel than restarting the engine? Save gas by making it a habit to turn off the car when parked.

Rough Road Ahead: Opt for driving on smooth roads whenever possible.

Rough roads with dirt or gravel rob you of up to 30% of your gas mileage!

Penny Pinchers: Make sure your gas tank is nice and snug. If not, buy a new one. Why? Gas easily evaporates from the tank through lose caps. And don't top off the gas tank. Gas may seep out from expansion.

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 dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

TOYS

continued from page 1

drive, all donations will be delivered to the NBPD and managed by Officer Dacey for distribution.

AA Transportation will collaborate with Leicester's police and fire departments – as well as the Leicester Teachers Association and Wal-Mart – to collect toys for children in that community. Residents won't be surprised to learn that super-volunteer Harry Brooks, who also finds the time to serve

as a selectman in town, will help ensure that each donated toy finds a loving home.

For AA Transportation members, it's thrilling to work with so many dedicated community partners each year to help make Christmas bright for all children. At a time when countless families struggle to raise enough money to make Christmas morning special for their kids, drivers understand that every donation helps.

Last year, residents stepped up with impressive donation totals, and officials are hoping for more of the same this

December. "All of us at AA Transportation try to find ways to give back to our communities – it is most important during the holidays," said Melody Miller, of AA Transportation.

The company will also celebrate the giving season by once again taking part in Spencer's Parade of Lights. A bus will be entered in the Dec. 2 parade, which begins at 7 p.m., and guests are encouraged to stop by and say hello. For many drivers, it is a fun chance to see kids and families outside the daily bus routes.

"The children that we transport daily are very special to us. We hope that we can warm their hearts with a special gift," Miller added. "Love grows by giving."

AA Transportation is based in East Brookfield. Officials in area communities thank drivers for their continued efforts to give back. If you can't make any of the Dec. 2 donation events, gifts can also be dropped off at the North Brookfield Police Department or with your AA Transportation bus driver between Nov. 28 and Dec. 1.

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'Tis the season for craft fairs

BY GUS STEEVES
STAFF WRITER

With the holiday season around the corner, people have already begun seeking places to get gifts, ornaments, and other Christmasy things. While some have no problem hitting the malls and chain stores, others would much rather find quirky, unique and handmade things that have character.

For them, there are a long list of arts and crafts fairs over the next month around the region, some of them long-running, some just being born.

The list starts this weekend at Pine Ridge Country Club in Oxford with the "One-Stop Holiday Shop," run by Dawn Oxnard.

"This will be a family-friendly shopping adventure where you can hopefully cross a bunch of names off your list," its Facebook page states, noting its aim is "supporting local women in business."

At the day's core, though, is a "superhero-themed" fundraiser for the family of Devin Suau, who died last month at age 6 of what his obituary dubbed "a terribly underfunded and unknown cancer" abbreviated DIPG. Officially called Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma, Dana Farber's website describes it as "highly aggressive and difficult to treat tumors found at the base of the brain." About 300 children, usually between ages 5 and 9, get this diagnosis annually, but the tumors "do not generally appear in adults," it adds.

"I ordered superhero masks for everybody [vendors and volunteers, that is] and people are encouraged to come as their favorite superhero," Oxnard said, noting a friend of hers is close to Devin's family.

This is the sixth fundraiser vendor

fair her group, the Bay State Network, has done, but she also did similar things when living in Rhode Island, she said. It will feature "a huge raffle table with items from each of the 28 vendors." Before and after the event, people can donate by sending checks to #whynotdevin, PO Box 755, Framingham, MA 01701, with the money seeding a foundation to support further research into and treatment for this illness.

The following weekend, Nov. 18, there are at least two fairs nearby, and "many people make the loop of craft fairs that day," said Stephanie Nikopoulos, who is promoting Overlook's 26th annual Holiday Craft Fair in Charlton.

"This is 100 percent run by the residents," she said, noting the money from table fees, food and other things is the primary source of funds for an annual \$1000 scholarship awarded to four residents or family members annually.

"I've never had a problem attracting vendors, and a lot of town people know it's that day," she added.

Although some fairs (including Pine Ridge's) will have Santa stop by, Nikopoulos said Overlook tried that a couple years ago and it didn't really work. "It's not really something kids come to," she said.

He'll probably be at Shepherd Hill's Festival of Crafts that same day, though. For 26 years, that event has raised funds for the school's Chorus program. That event's site includes a very long list of area crafters who are involved, and is already seeking vendors for next year's festival.

One of them is Imelda Lundstrom of Southbridge, who makes American Girl doll clothing out of recycled fabrics. She started tabling at the festival about five years ago and said she does about

five fairs during the Christmas season, with many of her customers being older adults who "are still working and don't have the inclination to make doll clothes," so they buy hers.

"You're not really making a lot of money, but I'm not there with other people, laughing with children, sharing American history," she said. She added that she especially enjoys promoting the American Girl book series, which highlights a wide range of girls doing things in historical settings, teaching about the past while providing strong messages of young female empowerment. "That's exciting for me."

Lundstrom said she finds a key aspect of the fair "precious" -- the fact the students who staff it are mostly in costume, singing songs and otherwise "making it fun." Each vendor is met by students in reindeer outfits who help carry material to their tabling location, among other things.

Combined all of the area's craft fairs represent only a tiny fraction of the "nearly 310,000 people employed by the creative economy in New England -- working within and organization or freelancing -- who combined [to] earn nearly \$17 billion a year," according to the June 2017 "Jobs in the Creative Economy" study by the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA). "This group is a more prominent part of New England's economy than the national average...."

Many have a regular job besides the creative one that might bring them to a craft fair; some make a living at their art, writing or crafting and would therefore be included in NEFA's "70,800 creative non-employers, most of which are self-employed individuals." Of them, half report "using their home as their

primary work space, so their home life and work life are intimately intertwined," it found.

In general, NEFA found the creative economy has been harder hit by the long-running recession than most economic sectors, but some aspects have actually done well. "Most of the job losses have been concentrated in the manufacturing, wholesale and retail sectors of the creative economy ... while those sectors that rely on an audience (e.g. artists, museums, theaters, etc) have remained stable or have grown over time," it states.

Just a few of the many arts and crafts fairs around the region are:

Nov. 18: Festival of Crafts at Shepherd Hill, Dudley, from 9-4.

Nov. 18: Holiday Craft Fair at Overlook, Charlton, from 9-3.

Nov. 19: Arts and Crafts Show at Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center from 10-4.

Nov. 24-25: Folk Art Craft Show at Sturbridge Host Hotel, all day.

Nov. 25: Vendor and Craft Show at St Joseph's Parish Center, Auburn, from 9-2.

Dec. 1: PTO Vendor and Craft Fair at North Brookfield Elementary School, from 6-9 pm.

Dec. 2: Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair at Alternatives, Whitinsville, from 11-5.

Dec. 16: Townwide Holiday Craft Fair at Auburn High School, from 9-4.

Dozens more fairs and similar events are listed at the Central Mass Vendor and Crafts Fairs Facebook page and/or at www.fairsandfestivals.net/states/MA/, where most of these came from.

CHRISTMAS FARM

continued from page 1

number between 70-100 different kinds of ornaments; accompanying each ornament is a personalized tale unique to each one. For example, there are the "Garden Trowel", "Shepherd's Staff", "Friendship", "Bird in the Nest", "Santa's Key", and the popular "Baby Jesus and the Animals" story ornaments, to name a few.

Other popular items include the bird ornaments, particularly the owl and the cardinal.

Though Devereaux makes many of the ornaments and bows himself, he also carries items from five main vendors and other smaller ones.



New this year are ornaments with something to say.

Prices begin at 75¢, with the average cost of an item as \$5.

New this year is a tiny, olive wood Nativity scene made from wood

from Israel. Devereaux also sells greeting cards of all kinds for just 43¢, a penny for each year he's been open.

Finally, historical



Woodland creatures haunt the walls

books on the Quabbin written by J R Greene and the 2018 Quabbin calendar don the shelves.

Established in 1974 as a store, but built 165 years ago, the Barn, which began as one of 40 to 60 Christmas-themed stores in the area is now the only surviving Christmas store between here and Woodstock, CT. The barn's original intent: housing chickens. Devereaux tells the story of the Christmas store's origin, "When I was a teenager, I worked for the Smith family in Spencer in the late 1950s. They had a Christmas store on

their property. I loved it so much I began to sell wreaths and trees from this location. When they closed, I expanded. This November 26th will be forty-three years."

Customers, new and repeat, find what they're looking for at the Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn: a bit of nostalgia, a strong sense of Christmas, and gifts for everyone.

Says one customer hailing from Plainville, whose first visit with her daughter last year brought her back with her daughter-in-law this year, "I came back

because I have been thinking of and talking about this store all year. I am overwhelmed by its beauty and the way it sets the Christmas mood. It's just so charming, never mind the owner's sincere and obvious love of what he does."

The Oakwood Farm Christmas Barn is open during the holiday season every day, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays noon-4:30 p.m. For more information visit them on the web at www.Christmas-Barn.com.

St. Joseph's 12th Annual Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 2nd

9:00am - 2:00 pm

St. Joseph's Parish Center

68 Central Street, Auburn

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Plants ~ Toys ~ Knits

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Frost's amendment to protect police officers passes in House criminal justice reform bill

BOSTON — State Representative Paul K. Frost (R-Auburn) and State Representative Kate Campanale (R-Leicester) announce they successfully passed their amendment to protect police officers in the House Criminal Justice Reform Bill debated Tuesday, Nov. 14. The amendment makes assault and battery with serious bodily injury on a police officer a felony charge, rather than a misdemeanor charge as designated by current Massachusetts law. The Frost and Campanale amendment, adopted by the House of Representatives, featured language used by Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito in a bill the administration had filed earlier this year.

After Auburn Police Officer Ronald Tarentino Jr. was shot and killed on Rochdale Street in Auburn on May 22, 2016, local law enforcement and beyond called for a change to the law regard-

ing how assault and battery on police should be treated. Officer Tarentino's killer had several prior assaults on police officers. Legislation to address these issues was filed by Representative Frost, Representative Campanale and Senator Michael Moore, as well as the Baker/Polito Administration in the wake of Officer Tarentino's tragic death.

The language of the amendment not only seeks to make it a felony charge for A&B with serious bodily injury instead of a misdemeanor, it also contains language allowing District Attorneys to ask the court to hold someone for committing an A&B on a police officer for a dangerous hearing. This option would be aimed at keeping those who are extremely dangerous in custody longer instead of releasing them on bail and risking them hurting or attacking others.

Frost commented, "I'm pleased we were successful in having this included in the Criminal Justice Reform Bill as we are fixing an inequity in the law. Assault and battery on firefighters and even police dogs can be treated as felony charges, while the same actions against police officers are merely misdemeanors. This makes no sense, and we are making progress to make it right and fair. We, as a society, have an obligation to protect our men and women in blue when they are on our streets and in our neighborhoods protecting all of us."

"We owe this to the officers, men and women who put their lives on the line on a daily basis," said Rep. Kate Campanale of Leicester, who serves as the State Representative of Officer Tarentino's hometown. "I am proud to be a part of this amendment, which justly matches the punishment to the crime, while benefitting the safety of

our officers."

The House version of the Criminal Justice Bill will now go to conference committee to work out the differences from the Senate version. In addition to Representatives Frost and Campanale, the House Amendment was co-sponsored by Representatives Donald Berthiaume (R-Spencer), Peter Durant (R-Spencer), Kimberly Ferguson (R-Holden), Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury), Kevin Kuros (R-Uxbridge), Joseph McKenna (R-Webster), David Muradian (R-Grafton), Timothy Whelan (R-Brewster), Keiko Orrall (R-Lakeville), Nicholas Boldyga (R-Southwick), William Crocker (R-Barnstable), Susan Gifford (R-Wareham), Bradford Hill (R-Ipswich), Bradley Jones (R-North Reading), Elizabeth Poirier (R-North Attleboro), Alan Silvia (D-Fall River), Todd Smola (R-Warren), and Donald Wong (R-Saugus).



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Library comes alive with the sounds of residents

SPENCER – The reading room at Richard Sugden Public Library was alive with the sound of music earlier this month, as a dozen residents stopped in to share their talents and meet other artists.

The Nov. 7 event featured singing, poetry, and other creative performances, offering a showcase for local talent and a unique event for library patrons to enjoy. Artists often struggle to find venues to perform, and library officials are eager to continue bringing the community together in support of local talent.

“The gathering provided an opportunity for participants to come together in a beautiful

space to inspire and create,” said library director Cheryl Donahue.

“There were collaborations among family members and friends to make music and perform spoken word. A writer read her own works along with selections from a dear fellow writer friend who is no longer with us. To the delight of the crowd, a father and daughter teamed up to perform several musical numbers.”

Library officials hope to host open mic nights at the library on a regular basis to encourage the community to support artists and help foster creative expression. Residents

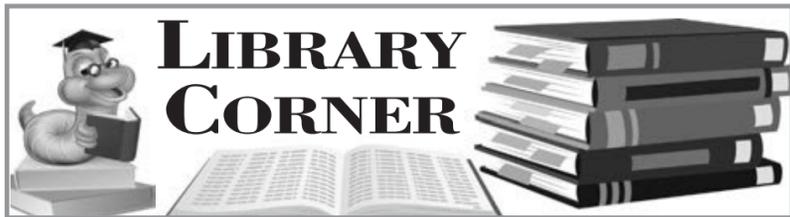
specializing in any kind of performance art are welcome to take part, including poetry, storytelling, singing, playing of instruments, comedy acts and magic.

The next open mic night will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 12, from 6-9 p.m.



Courtesy photo.

Local performers showed off their talents earlier this month at Richard Sugden Public Library.



Merrick Public Library
Banister Memorial Hall
2 Lincoln Street
(508) 867-6339
FAX: (508) 867-2981
merrikkpubliclibrary.org
brookfieldlibrary@gmail.com
merrikkpubliclibrary.blogspot.com
TWITTER @MerrickPL and on Facebook

Open: Tuesday and Thursday 1-8 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday.

HOLIDAY HOURS:
Thanksgiving hours: Open Wednesday, Nov. 22, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., closed Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24. Open Saturday, Nov. 25.

HOLIDAY HOURS: CLOSED Saturday, Dec. 23 to Tuesday, Dec. 27, OPEN Wednesday, Dec. 28, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CLOSED, Saturday, Dec. 30 (for New Year's Day holiday).

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. ~John Fitzgerald Kennedy

DID YOU KNOW!? The Friends of the Library are now a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization; your donations are now tax-deductible.

The Friends have items available for gifts for the holiday:

- Images of America: Brookfield by Brenda Metterville, Kate Simpson and Andrea Faugno (\$22)
- Images of America: West Brookfield by Brenda Metterville and William Jankins (\$22)
- Devil's Elbow and The Long Journey Home by Ed Londergan (\$15)
- Bathsheba Spooner by Jeffrey Fiske (\$13)
- Making Hay by John Jeppson (\$30)
- Library notecards (\$5)
- Cat's Meows of the library, cemetery gate and Unitarian Church (\$20)
- Luminaries for home use (\$5)

We have added puzzles to our paperback and magazine free swap!

BANISTER BOOK GROUP:
Nov. 28, 7-8 p.m. The Secret Life of Anna Blanc by Jennifer Kincheloe. Los Angeles socialite Anna Blanc, determined to break free of the era's rigid

social roles in 1907, takes a job as a police matron with the Los Angeles Police Department, where she takes on the investigation of a string of brother murders until the police chief's son discovers her true identity and introduces her to blackmail.

FOR CHILDREN
Magformers and Legos available for drop-in use during regular library hours.

FOR ADULTS
Fridays free home delivery and pick-up of library materials for anyone household.

This free service may be long or short term — call for more information.

Notary Public. Brenda Metterville, free service available during regular business hours.

December 2017
“Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time.” – Laura Ingalls Wilder

Please drop off items for the Food Pantry during regular business hours. They are in need of personal hygiene materials (soap, toothpaste, etc.), pet food and paper goods.

FOR CHILDREN
Wednesdays: 11:15 a.m. to noon Ms. Renee's Pre-School music fun, with a free snack. Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 28 and March 21, once a month until springtime! Funded with a grant from the Greater

Worcester Community Foundation, Jeppson Grant for Brookfield.

FOR ADULTS
Thursday, Dec. 7, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., stop by our information session at the Merrick Public Library to learn more about being a foster parent. If you've ever thought about opening your home to a child in need, this is the perfect opportunity to talk with staff member, Katherine Keefe, from the Department of Children and Families to learn what it takes to become a foster parent. For further information about becoming a foster parent please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/foster-care> or call: 1-800-KIDS-508

BANISTER BOOK GROUP:
Jan. 2, 2018, 7-8 p.m. A Dog's Way Home by W. Bruce Cameron.

Traces the story of Bella, a dog who is drawn to Lucas Ray, only to be separated from him by rules that disallow pit bulls in their Denver community, a situation that compels the puppy to travel back to the person she loves.

Jan. 30, 7-8 p.m. At the Water's Edge by Sara Gruen. While her brother, Ellis, and his friend try to find the Loch Ness monster in an attempt to get back into her father's good graces, Maddie is left on her own in World War II-era Scotland and experiences a social awakening.

Feb. 27, 7-8 p.m. Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly.

AREA BAZAARS AND FESTIVALS



As the fall festivals and winter bazaars go into full swing, many people travel from town to town, scooping up the sales and gathering in the hand-crafted items for gifts. In addition, the ethnic foods and mouthwatering baked goods add just the right touch for holiday entertaining. With that in mind, the Stonebridge Press newspapers are adding this listing of area events just for the upcoming couple of months so you can find the nearby festivals on a crisp weekend adventure. Enjoy!

Saturday, November 25

HOLIDAY BAZAAR: The GFWC, Auburn Junior Woman's Club will be holding their 6th annual Holiday Bazaar at North American Martyrs Parish in Auburn on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 25, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Vendors, local crafters, lottery board, homemade items, and plenty of raffles to take a chance on! Santa will be visiting from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. so get your camera ready.

Admission is \$1 or a non-perishable food item to benefit Kateri's Kitchen (food pantry).

If you have questions, please contact us at auburnjuniors@gmail.com, or comment on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/GFWCA>. This is sponsored by the Auburn Junior Woman's Club with proceeds from admission benefiting Kateri's Kitchen.

Saturday, December 2

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: All Saints Academy is holding their annual Christmas Bazaar Saturday, Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the St Anne Campus, 12 Day St, Webster. Shop local vendors, participate in holiday games and crafts, take pictures with Santa, enter to win raffles, and enjoy a pancake breakfast. No entrance fee.

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: Holiday Craft and Gift Fair held at the Charlton Public Library on Dec. 2. Applications available at the front desk of the Charlton Public Library or online at

<https://www.facebook.com/charltonlibraryfriends/posts/1900020216878052:0>
For questions contact Melinda at (508) 248-6292 or by email at melinda@sewcialite.com.

CRAFT FAIR: Need some unique, one of a kind Christmas gifts? Look no further than the Holly Berry Fair at the Sturbridge Federated Church, 8 Maple St., Sturbridge, on Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Local artisans and craftspeople will be selling all manner of handmade items including needlework, paintings and cards. Along with gift items, there will be baked goods, ornaments, and face painting for children. Enjoy some hassle-free shopping while supporting local artisans and crafts people.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: The Charlton Helping Hand Society Inc. will host their annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 am to 2 pm at The Dodge Chapel, 81 Hammond Hill Road, Charlton. All proceeds will benefit the group's charitable commitment to the Charlton Community. Offerings include our popular "Gramma's Attic", Bake and Cookie by the Pound Table, Vendors, Raffle Tickets, Ticket Auction, etc. All raffle prizes will be drawn at the end of the fair. Please join us, share the spirit of the season, the fellowship, bargains and especially to, HELP US TO HELP OTHERS.

CRAFT FAIR BAZAAR: Craft Fair Bazaar on Dec. 2 at the Charlton City Methodist Church, Stafford Road in Charlton. Please join us for the bazaar and craft fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: sponsored by the Golden Age Club, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Charlton Senior Center, 37 Main St. Hand knit items, baked goods, craft items, holiday & Christmas items, raffles, homemade chowder, meatball grinders, peach shortcake and more!

SANTA PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Santa Claus Pancake Breakfast at Bay Path High School, 57 Old Muggett Hill Road, Charlton, Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:30-10:30 a.m. Tickets \$5, children under 5 free. Free 5x7 family picture with Santa Claus professionally taken by Casson-Foster Photographers. You will receive an e-mail approximately one week after the event, notifying you that your photo is ready to be picked up in the main office at Bay Path. Raffle available.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Saturday, Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Joseph's Parish Center, 68 Central St., Auburn. Come and enjoy an old fashioned Christmas Bazaar and check out the collectibles, Attic Treasures, plants, jewelry, knit goods, holiday décor, toys, candy & baked items and so much more! Take a chance on one of our many raffles. There is something for everyone! Free Parking. Handicap Accessible.

CHRISTMAS TEA: First Congregational Church of Oxford, 355

Main St. will hold its annual Christmas Tea Saturday, Dec. 2. Doors open with tea & sweets at 9:30 a.m.; luncheon selections served 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Soups: corn chowder, autumn bisque, tomato basil; Entrees: baked apple French toast (lactose free), French (tourtiere) meat pie with gravy (contains potato), roast beef & bacon wrap with Provolone, lettuce and tomato, and chicken salad on a roll; Desserts: trio tray sampler, Black Forest cake, carrot cake, assorted scones; Specialty Teas: assortment of loose leaf teas; (flavors of the season); Coffee or Hot Chocolate. Treat: Sweet & Beverage: \$5.50; Snack: Soup, Sweet & Beverage: \$8; Delight: Entrée, Soup, Sweet & Beverage: \$10; Complete: Entrée, Soup, Sweet & Beverage: \$12.00; Child 8 and Under: Small Entrée, Sweet & Beverage: \$5. Gift Center, baked goods, Raffle Room, Book Nook & Granny's Attic: gently used treasures sure to please

CHRISTMAS FAIR: Charlton City United Methodist will be hosting its annual Christmas Fair. Please join us on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. located at 74 Stafford St. in Charlton. Just like the Wise Men, follow the stars from table to table; be rewarded with fellowship and goodies. There will be handmade items, fresh handmade wreaths, a large variety of delicious cookies, baked goods, a jewelry table, Grandma's Christmas attic, and so much more. Don't forget our men's scrumptious luncheon. You will find an array of gifts at our silent auction table. There will also be local vendors. Mr. & Mrs. Claus will be there to take pictures. We are handicap accessible and there is plenty of parking available. We are located at 74 Stafford St., Charlton, please call the church at (508) 248-7379 for details.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: The First Congregational Church of Dudley at 135 Center Road is having a Christmas Fair on Saturday Dec. 2 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The fair will include crafters & vendors, a Christmas and gift shop, delicious baked goods and luncheon, pictures with Santa, live entertainment, a basket drawing and a handmade quilt drawing. Great food and fun for all ages! A Goods and Service auction will take place at 2 p.m. Child care and movies will be provided during the auction. For more information and a list of auction items, please check our website: www.uccdudley.org

Sunday, December 3

MARK THE CALENDAR: Craft Fair/Winter Carnival Assumption School Event, 17 Grove St, (in Assumption Parish Hall) Millbury, on Sunday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. (some tables open

at 10 a.m.) Homemade scarves, jewelry, hand crafted minerals, floral arrangements, Mary Kay, LulaRoe, Perfectly Posh, any many more; great items for Christmas gifts! Games, face painting, kitchen menu, candy sales, gift wrapping Grand Raffle, and Crafter Raffle. Please join us!

December 7, 8, & 9

NATIVITIES AROUND THE WORLD & QUABOAG CHORAL SOCIETY: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 108 New Braintree Road, North Brookfield, is again hosting Nativities Around the World Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30-8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, 5:30- 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 9, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Also on Friday, Dec. 8 starting at 7 the Quaboag Choral Society will present Small Town, Big City. Refreshments will follow.

Share your nativities for the event. Please leave a message for Robin at (508) 347-7092 to inquire about loaning your nativity for this event. We welcome your participation.

Saturday, December 9

SANTA NEEDS HELPERS: Do you create amazing crafts? Sell beautiful jewelry, handy handbags, useful kitchen tools, natural soaps & lotions? OHS Operation Graduation 2018 is currently accepting vendor applications for our Santa Breakfast & Vendor Fair to be held Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Oxford High School cafeteria. OpGrad members will do the cooking, vendors will sell their wares! Cost is \$25 per 6-foot table space (you provide your own table) and \$5 per additional table (if you need more than 1). Please contact Lysa Dell'Aquila at lv987@charter.net or 508-523-8982 (text or call) to submit a Vendor Application.

A pancake breakfast (pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee) will be served from 8-11 a.m., and children will have the opportunity to have their photos taken with Santa.

Saturday, December 16

HOLIDAY BASKET FESTIVAL: Grace Episcopal Church will hold a Holiday Basket Festival on Saturday, Dec. 16 in Hodges Hall, 270 Main St, Oxford. The event will run 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a variety of baskets as well as small, affordable gifts, a bake sale table and a delicious lunch available. This will be a great event for those last minute gifts and for an opportunity to recharge your holiday spirit "battery."

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Ski or snowboard at Wachusett Mountain

Are you interested in having a lot of fun while also helping to make the winter fly by? Any student (8 years old and older), parent or teacher from any of the surrounding towns and states can ski or snowboard for eight consecutive Saturday nights at Wachusett Mountain for just \$150 through the Southbridge Ski Club. You drive to Wachusett Mountain on your own. The eight-week program begins on Saturday, Jan. 6 and ends Saturday, Feb. 24. Ski or snowboard rentals, as well as lessons are also available at a very reasonable cost. You may also be able to ski or snowboard for free through your health insurance coverage. Also, anyone (students or

non-students) can purchase gold, silver and bronze century passes at a lower discounted price through our Club. All eight-week and season passes must be ordered through the Wachusett website by Nov. 30 for these lower discounted prices. For more information on how to order, please contact Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or at lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

Worcester State University to host various baseball clinics in 2018

With various baseball clinics at Worcester State University set for 2018, please visit wsulancers.com/camps-clinics and facebook.com/WSUbaseballclinics for more infor-

mation. You can also call (508) 929-8852, (774) 230-3872 or email dbaker1@worchester.edu.

Ted Turkey Trot right around the corner

The fifth annual Trot with Ted — a 5k/10k run and walk — benefits the Tantasqua Education Foundation and is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 26 at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$30 for day of the race with a mail-in family cap of \$75. Race-day registration opens at 8 a.m. A kids' fun race, crafts and raffles will follow inside of Tantasqua's gymnasium. All proceeds from Trot with Ted go to the Tantasqua Education Foundation. Visit TedFound.org for more details.

ATHLETE of the WEEK

David Prouty, Leicester, Quaboag, Tantasqua and Bay Path varsity football players

To all local high school varsity football players, congratulations on a season well-done, which culminated in their traditional Thanksgiving games.

Athlete of the Week is sponsored by:

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Prepare vehicles for harsh weather

As the seasons change, motorists must take steps to safeguard their vehicles, especially when the season changes from fall to winter. Each winter, many vehicles are subjected to sub-zero temperatures, snowfall and icy roads, and such conditions can take their toll on vehicles over time. Taking steps to prepare vehicles for winter weather is a vital step that can make cars and trucks safer for drivers and their passengers.

BATTERY

Old batteries should be replaced before winter begins. Without a strong, properly functioning battery, engines cannot turn over. Most batteries last between three and five years. However, extreme cold can compromise batteries, especially those that have been around awhile. Batteries are made up of acid and water, and cold temperatures can freeze the water, thereby affecting battery performance. According to AAA's Automotive Research Center, at 32 F, the average battery loses 35 percent of its strength.

Newer batteries can be protected by starting the vehicle each day to warm up and recharge the bat-



CAPTION: Replace existing wiper blades at the beginning of each winter so driver visibility is not compromised. periodically cleaned off. Flush the underside of the vehicle whenever possible, taking advantage of any dry, slightly warmer days.

EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE

Keeping a car waxed and sealed can help maintain a durable exterior finish. This includes not only the paint, but the

rubber and vinyl parts of the car's exterior.

Winter is a good time to switch to a heavy-duty synthetic wax that can shield against water and road salts. High-quality sealants can be used on bumpers, trim and rubber door seals as added protection. Speak with an automotive retailer or even the car dealership

if you are unsure which products will make your car's parts most durable for winter weather.

Do not stop washing your car just because the weather is cold. Slushy, wet roads and snow-melting salts can speed up the formation of rust or other decay on the undercarriage of the vehicle. These materials will need to be

periodically cleaned off. Flush the underside of the vehicle whenever possible, taking advantage of any dry, slightly warmer days.

TIRE PRESSURE

According to the automotive retailer Pep Boys, vehicle tires lose a pound of air pressure for every 10-degree drop in tem-

perature. Many modern cars will alert to changes in air pressure, and drivers should be diligent in maintaining the proper tire pressure. Fuel economy as well as handling ability can decline when tires are not inflated properly. Tires can be refilled at many gas stations for little cost.

WIPERS

Visibility is key in hazardous weather conditions, and keeping the windshield clean is a priority. This means ensuring there is enough windshield wiper fluid in the car and that it is a product that will not freeze.

Wiper blades can freeze and crack in the winter. Older blades may be more susceptible to damage. It's a worthy investment to replace existing wiper blades at the start of each winter. When vehicles are parked, pull the wipers off of the windshield to safeguard them from sticking and cracking.

Cold weather requires drivers to amp up their vehicle maintenance routines. Consult with a mechanic or automotive retailer for more ideas and products that can help your vehicles operate safely and efficiently this winter.

Visibility starts with your windshield

Visibility is an essential component of automotive safety. According to the United States Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration, inability to clearly see the road, other motorists and potential obstacles is a leading contributor to automotive accidents and injury.

Approximately half of all fatalities due to motor vehicle crashes occur at night, even though the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration notes that traffic volume is substantially less at night. Lack of visibility, which may result from a dirty windshield or inclement weather, can render pavement markings nearly invisible or throw off drivers' senses of direction.

Poor visibility can be hazardous, and drivers must take steps to ensure they have maximum visibility at all times, whether it's day or night or if the weather is poor or fair.

One of the best ways to ensure maximum visibility is to keep your windshield clean. Not all windshield washer fluids and wipers are created equally. For example, some washer fluids are ineffective in freezing temperatures. Frozen washer fluid can cause a complete blockage of the system and greatly impair visibility.

As anyone who has driven on snowy and/or salty roads can attest, such substances can quickly gather on windshields, where they crust up and impede visibility. A windshield cleaning system that is not working effectively is a recipe for an accident.

Always read the product label before purchasing

washer fluid. Summer blends are only effective when temperatures remain above 32 F. When the mercury dips below freezing, these fluids freeze up. Winter formulas should contain an antifreeze solution that will lower the freezing point of the liquid. Many such fluids employ methanol to not only prevent freezing but also to melt frost and light accumulations of ice.

Drivers also may be able to supplement their washer fluids with common items to increase durability during extreme cold snaps. Mix 99 percent isopropyl rubbing alcohol into the washer fluid to prevent it from freezing. Otherwise, the washer fluid brand may have specific instructions for mixing for use in areas where the temperature regularly dips below freezing.

In addition to maintaining an obstruction-free washer fluid system, drivers can reduce accidents from poor visibility by heeding these tips from The National Weather Service:

- Clear your windshield and mirrors before getting on the road.
- Drive slow to maintain a safe stopping distance.
- Be aware that, when driving in conditions where visibility is impaired, drivers tend to follow the tail lights of the vehicles in front of them. Keep your headlights on to improve your own visibility and help others see your car.
- Don't slow down so much that you become a hazard to other drivers.
- If necessary, pull off the road and wait for conditions to improve. When pulling off, park as far off the road as possible, then turn off your headlights and put



POLICE LOGS

W E D N E S D A Y ,
OCTOBER 25

1:26 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 1:32 a.m.: fire alarm (Crestview Drive), false alarm; 1:37 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:42 a.m.: DPW call (Smithville Road), limb on wires; 2:01-2:18 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:17 a.m.: DPW call (Meadow Road), street lights out; 7:40 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:00 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), tree leaning on wires; 10:11 a.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 2:24 a.m.: medical/general (W. Main Street); 2:33 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 4:10 p.m.: fire alarm (S. Spencer Road), services rendered; 4:35 p.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 4:42 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 5:06 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 5:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), re: no trespass order; 5:52 p.m.: fire alarm (Brown Street), services rendered; 6:09 p.m.: accident (Route 49), report taken; 7:47 p.m.: disturbance (Town House Court), neighbors yelling/screaming; 8:01 p.m.: mv lockout (W. Main Street), assisted; 8:50 p.m.: distur-

bance (Chestnut Street), unwanted party; 9:02 p.m.: mv stop (Smithville Road); 9:21 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 9:40 p.m.: disturbance (Cherry Street), services rendered.

T H U R S D A Y ,
OCTOBER 26

12:22 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 2:24-3:15 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:07 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 6:44 a.m.: DPW call (Smithville Road), limb on wires; 6:56 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 7:29 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 7:30 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 9:11 a.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 9:25 a.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), services rendered; 9:40 a.m.: officer wanted (Charlton Road), citizen complaint; 10:20 a.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 11:14 a.m.: 209A service (Main Street); 1:34 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 2:13 p.m.: animal complaint (High Street), fox in area; 2:53 p.m.: LTC issued (W. Main Street); 3:20 p.m.: animal complaint (S. Spencer Road), concern for dogs; 5:35 p.m.: larce-

ny/theft (Valley Street), bicycle stolen; 5:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), scam phone call; 6:13 p.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), dog barking; 6:17 p.m.: OUI alcohol/drugs (S. Spencer Road), crashed into mail boxes; 6:23 p.m.: mv complaint (Chestnut Street), mvs speeding; 7:28 p.m.: juvenile matter (Fourth Avenue), unwanted party; 8:04 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 8:06 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:30 p.m.: animal complaint (Bixby Road), dog barking; 9:21 p.m.: medical/general (Duggan Street); 10:09 p.m.: medical/general (N. Spencer Road).

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

12:13-12:53 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:46 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), services rendered; 1:36 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 1:37 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:09 a.m.: disturbance (Lloyd Dyer Drive), noise complaint; 9:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), services rendered; 9:54 a.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 10:10 a.m.: juvenile matter (Paxton Road), services rendered; 10:37 a.m.: officer wanted (Charron Street), spoken to; 10:50 a.m.: medical/general (W.

Main Street); 10:57 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:45 a.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 1:19 p.m.: medical/general (N. Spencer Road); 1:36 p.m.: burglary (S. Spencer Road), report taken; 1:43 p.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), spoken to; 2:12 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:20 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), erratic operation; 2:57 p.m.: LTC issued (W. Main Street); 3:21 a.m.: medical/general (N. Spencer Road); 4:05 p.m.: suspicious mv (Lake Street), services rendered; 4:28 p.m.: disabled mv (Cherry Street), services rendered; 7:51 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:45 p.m.: accident (W. Main Street), hit & run w/property damage; 9:27 p.m.: property check request (Ash Street), noises heard in house; 9:28 p.m.: larceny/shoplifting (Main Street), report taken; 9:41 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:51 p.m.: disturbance (Lamb Grove), noise complaint; 10:42 p.m.: accident (N. Brookfield Road), mv vs tree;

S A T U R D A Y ,
OCTOBER 28

12:13 a.m.: disabled mv (N. Brookfield Road), services rendered; 12:42 a.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), erratic operation;

8:14 a.m.: disturbance (Charlton Road), services rendered; 8:15 a.m.: accident (Hastings Road), report taken; 8:17 a.m.: mv lockout (Pearl Street), services rendered; 8:35 a.m.: accident (S. Spencer Road), report taken; 8:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 10:55 a.m. 911 call (Vine Street), investigated; 11:09 a.m.: school alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 11:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), spoken to; 11:41 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), services rendered; 12:12 p.m.: accident (Greenville Street), report taken; 12:26 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), dead porcupine; 1:37 p.m.: animal complaint (Elm Street), loose dog; 1:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Temple Street), spoken to; 1:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), spoken to; 2:08 p.m.: DPW call (Grant Street), sewer issue; 2:46 p.m.: animal complaint (Northwest Road), cat in tree; 3:48 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to; 4:02 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 4:26 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), traffic hazard; 4:35 p.m.: medical/general (R. Jones Road); 4:52 p.m.: animal complaint (Bay Path Road), fox in area; 6:24 p.m.: officer

wanted (Howe Village), neighbor lockout; 6:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), services rendered; 7:00 p.m.: officer wanted (McCormick Road), tent vandalized; 8:25 p.m.: residential lockout (Howe Village), services rendered; 8:40 p.m.: residential alarm (Sunberg Road), services rendered; 9:01 p.m.: mv stop (W. Main Street); 10:45 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road);

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

12:22 a.m.: accident (Church Street), report taken; 12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:21 a.m.: disturbance (Adams Street), noise complaint; 2:57 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 3:50 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:00 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 8:37 a.m.: animal complaint (N. Spencer Road), dead cat; 9:52 a.m.: animal complaint (W. Main Street), services rendered; 10:02 a.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Road), dog found; 1:08 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 2:07 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Main Street), spoken to.

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Ease into the hectic holiday season with the help of aromatherapy. The fragrances of plant-derived essential oils have long been used to improve the health of our mind, body and spirit.

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Freshen your home with the scent of grapefruit. It's the perfect solution when unexpected guests drop by for a visit. You may also find the grapefruit aroma, along with your company, help to lighten your mood.

Use eucalyptus essential oil in the fight against colds and flu this winter. Just place a few drops into a diffuser on your desk at work, in your bedroom or family room. The diffusers come in a wide array of shapes and sizes. Some use heat, ultrasonic vibrations, fans or wood wicks to disperse the fragrance throughout the room. Others, like the Eden aroma diffuser, allow the fragrance to seep through

the porous portion of the diffuser pot and into the room.

Or use a eucalyptus eye mask to help relieve sinus pressure and soothe tired eyes. Just gently heat or cool the mask, cover your eyes and relax into a bit of relief.

End your day with relaxing lavender. It helps reduce anxiety, relieves headaches and improves sleep. Turn up the heat and fragrance with the Ultimate Lavender Wrap (gardeners.com). Simply pop the flax, rice and lavender infused insert into the microwave. Place it back into the cloth cover and drape it over your neck and shoulders. This can provide relief for those suffering from tense or aching muscles and winter chills.

Encourage a good night's sleep by tucking a lavender-filled sachet under your pillow. Or set a bundle of dried lavender stems in the bathroom, bedroom or anywhere you want to enjoy the fragrance of a summer garden and a bit of relaxation.

When you incorporate some aromatherapy into your routine you'll find yourself smiling and more relaxed.

The boost in energy and reduced stress will help you navigate the many gatherings, rich food and busy schedules ahead. And consider giving the gift of aromatherapy to someone you love, so they too can enjoy improved harmony and health into the New Year.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything Food Gardening for Everyone" DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Myers's web site is www.melindamyers.com.

Gardener's Supply Company photo

Warming wraps infused with essential oils can provide relief to those suffering from sore shoulder and neck muscles.



How to dig out your car after a storm



The arrival of cooler, shorter days is often a precursor to winter storms dominated by snowfall. A snow-covered land-

scape can make for an appealing image. But heavy snowfall also makes for extra work, especially for drivers who

must dig their vehicles out of the snow after each storm.

Some people live in suburban areas where they can

park their cars in driveways or garages, while others live in cities and have to park on the street, where snow plows can do a wonderful job of burying vehicles underneath mounds of snow. Rescuing a car or truck from a pile of snow can be tricky and time-consuming, but there is a process that can make the job easier.

- Begin by clearing out the tail pipe of the car. This is a vital first step because failure to do so can back harmful carbon monoxide gas and other fumes into the car. Take the time to clear out the rear of the car, including the taillights, so you will have improved visibility.

- When the exhaust pipe is clear, turn on the car. Some people prefer to put the defroster on right away. Others wait until the vehicle warms up before doing so. Having a warm car will melt some of the accumulated ice and snow and make it easier for you to clear the car.

- The right tools make faster work of the task at hand. A shovel is a necessity, and a telescoping snow broom/ice scraper can be helpful. This allows you to safely push the snow off the roof of the car. Some regions fine drivers who do not remove snow from the roofs or hoods of their cars, so take the time to clean such snow before driving.

- Work from the top of the vehicle down. Otherwise, you will end up negating all of your work by throwing fresh snow on the areas you already

cleared.

- By now the defrosters should have kicked in sufficiently enough to make it simple to clear snow from the windshield and rear window. Use some deicing windshield fluid to dislodge wiper blades if they have frozen to the windshield. Some drivers leave their wiper blades standing on end and away from the windshield prior to a big storm to prevent them from freezing to the windshield. Consider this trick if you're especially worried about the blades freezing to the glass.

- Use your shovel to carefully remove as much snow as possible from around the tires. Be careful not to puncture the tire with a metal shovel. Try to create a tire path in the direction you plan to move the vehicle. So if you will be backing out of the driveway, clear the way behind the car. If traction is a problem, use a bit of rock salt or cat litter behind the tires to give them more grip. Slipping a car mat under the tires also can provide much-needed traction.

- Exercise caution if you are digging out a car on a busy roadway. Make yourself visible to other motorists and use traffic cones, if you have them, to keep drivers away from your vehicle. Do not shovel the snow in the path of oncoming vehicles.

Shoveling out after a snowstorm is a task few people enjoy. However, it is a necessity of the season and one that can be done safely and efficiently.



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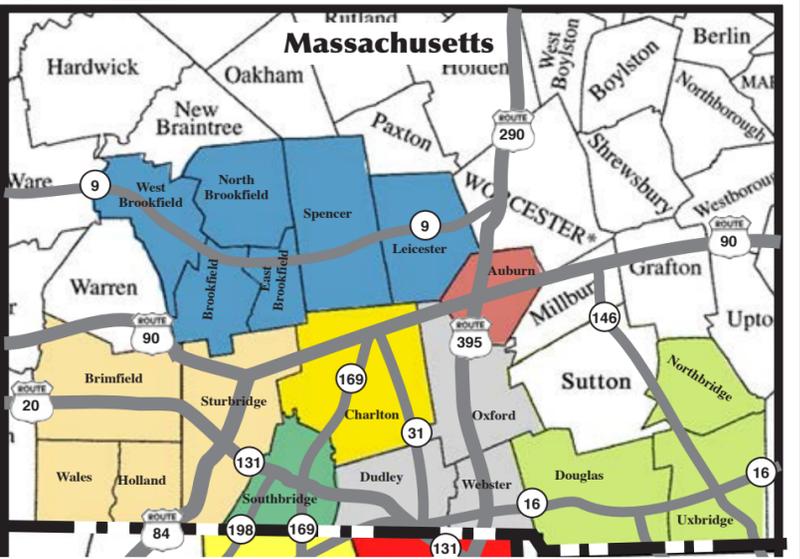
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MSRP \$26,319



STK# 268644 MODEL# 2546

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36 MOS.

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MSRP \$36,608



STK# 267684 MODEL# 5366

LEASE FOR **\$309** /MO*
36 MOS.

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Not responsible for typographical errors

FALL BULLETIN BOARD

NORTH BROOKFIELD PTO HOLIDAY FAIR
 Friday, December 1st,
 6:00 to 9:00 PM
 North Brookfield Elementary School
Free Admission Crafters, Vendors and a Food Truck Music, Raffles & More

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B Section
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Ad Libs by June
 My column last week was unfortunately from a week in September. It was a production error, and we apologize for the error. I did post the real column at 508local's Facebook page. If you're on Facebook, LIKE 508local's page where you'll find a lot of info and local photos.
'Tis the Season to Shop Local began last week. Please check out page 2 of this issue for some great discounts from restaurants for gift cards, and great ideas for Christmas décor and gift giving.
 I'd like to welcome to this page, a new business in Spencer... **KIM'S PRIMITIVES, CRAFT THYME, KEEPSAKES, CRAFT & SIP CLASSES...** located in the rear of Crop & Carrot, just past KLEMS. The store is filled with handmade primitive décor, lights, Christmas décor, lighted crafts, candles, signs, custom pieces, ornaments... and so much more. Stop by and welcome Kim Brown to her new Spencer location, and visit the store on Facebook for photos of her store and home decor. Door Busters on Saturday, November 25... the first 20 in the door that day gets a free gift! Free raffles too!
 Another business on this page offering a special on November 25, Small Business Saturday, is **SPENCER YOGA HOME**. They are located in the beautiful Sugden Building, 3rd floor, and open on Nov. 25 from 10-5. Everything is 10% off this day (excluding workshops, events & previous offers). Great time to pick up class cards, yoga props, eye pillows, handmade soaps, soy candles, and jewelry for yourself or to give as gifts. For more info, see the ad or call 508-769-7050. You can view all classes and sign up online at www.spenceryogahome.com.
 Shop **CORMIER JEWELERS** Black Friday (10-5:30) & Small Business Saturday (10-4) for Wind & Fire Bracelets... buy 3 get one free... and 30% off any in-stock Citizen Eco-Drive Watches. And then on Thursday, November 30 from 5:30pm-7:30pm is one of my favs... **LADIES NIGHT at CORMIER JEWELERS**. The first 50 people to attend will receive a free Cormier's gift certificate ranging from \$15 to \$200... over \$1200 will be given away! Free refreshments, wine, free raffles from local businesses and in-store baskets. It's fun and they make it easy for you to make your own wish list and to get some Christmas shopping done too. I'll see you there!
NORTH BROOKFIELD'S PTO is having a **HOLIDAY FAIR** on Friday, December 1 from 6-9 pm at the North Brookfield Elementary School. Free admission, crafts, vendors, food, music raffles and more!
MEXICALI MEXICAN GRILL in Spencer has a special **MILITARY APPRECIATION EVENT** coming up on December 2. They are taking pre-orders for Mexicali/ veteran t-shirts, the proceeds of which will go to a local veterans organization. Besides the t-shirts, with every food order from a special menu, 20% of the total bill will also be donated to a local veterans organization. There will also be a special raffle of two \$50 Mexicali gift cards, the proceeds of which will feed two military families for the holidays. A great cause and always great food at Mexicali Mexican Grill. This event is at the Spencer location only. Check out their ad on the homepage of 508local.com!
 Have a great week.
 June Simakauskas
 508-909-4062
 jsima@stonebridgepressnews

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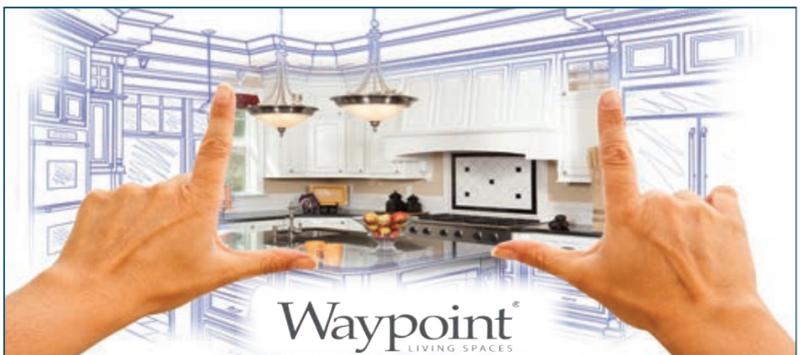


Applications are now being accepted from anyone interested in having a house built in one of our 10 member communities.

Deadline for applications: 1/8/18 @ 3:30 PM
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OBITUARIES

Ora L. (Lamprey) Lamprey, 85



LEICESTER- Ora L. (Lamprey) Lamprey, 85, of Stafford Street in the Cherry Valley section of Leicester died Saturday, Nov. 18 in her home surrounded by her family after an illness.

Her husband, Harold A. Lamprey died in 1978. She leaves two sons; David A. Lamprey with whom she lived and Daniel A. Lamprey and his wife Marilyn of Leicester, a daughter Christine M. Blanchard and her husband Gary of Worcester, four grandchildren; Tanya, Michelle, Cassandra & Melinda, three great-grandchildren; KayLee, Christian & Annalilia and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a daughter Cynthia Lamprey, a granddaughter Melissa Blanchard and two brothers; George and Bruce Lamprey.

Mrs. Lamprey was born in

Southbridge, daughter of George T. and Ora M. (Wakeman) Lamprey. She was a certified nursing assistant at Clark Manor Nursing Home for many years. She was a member of the Leicester First Congregational Church. She enjoyed ceramics, crochet, crossword puzzles and riding on the back of her late husbands Harley Davidson motorcycle. She was happiest when she was spending time with her children and grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, November 22 at 10:00 AM in Leicester First Congregational Church, 1 Washburn Square, Leicester. Burial followed in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. Calling hours were Tuesday, November 21 from 5:00-7:00 PM in MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main Street, Leicester. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Assoc. of MA/NH, 309 Waverly Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

David L. Keyes Sr. "Pep", 75



SPENCER- David L. Keyes Sr. "Pep", 75, died peacefully in his home Monday, November 13th. His many surviving family and friends will miss his laughter and love of life greatly. Calling hours were held on Tuesday, November 21st from

3:30-5:30, at J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a Memorial Service immediately following. The family will be making donations in his name to his favorite charities, to celebrate his love of life and heart of gold. May you be at peace, and "We love you man." 12/03/41-11/13/17

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Richard A. Crowley



LEICESTER: Richard A. Crowley, died Tuesday, Nov. 14 in his home after a brief illness.

He leaves his wife Jeanne (Levasseur) Crowley, a son Michael R. Crowley of Cherry Valley, a daughter Patricia A. Serra of Bourne, two brothers; Allan Crowley of Leicester and David Hoffman of Townsend, 4 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and his two best friends; Paul Miller and Steve Connolly both of Leicester. He was predeceased by his first wife Anne M. (Prefontaine) Crowley.

Richie was born in Lawrence, son of Mildred Crowley. He graduated from Leicester High School. He was a graphic arts printer at Hierrich's Ceramic Decal Co. in Worcester for many years before retiring. He symbolized the National Anthem and the American Flag and was proud to serve

his country in the United States Army. His wife and daughter were his special caretakers for the last few months. He enjoyed classic cars, hunting, fishing, trips to Cape Cod and trips to Townsend to visit his brother and make his famous maple syrup. He was a former member of the torquers car club of Leicester. Richie and Jeanne would be celebrating their 10th anniversary but his illness took him 2 days before. The family would like to thank VNA Hospice for their compassionate care they gave to Richie.

At Richie's request funeral services and burial will be private as he was also private during his illness. MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main Street, Leicester is directing funeral arrangements.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Rita F. Toto, 89



BROOKFIELD- Rita F. Toto, 89, beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother passed away peacefully in her home on November 12, 2017. Rita was predeceased by her loving husband John Toto in 1987. She was born in Belmont, MA on September 16, 1928 to the late Tuffield and Annella (Young) Hathaway. She lived a brief time in Jay, NY and grew up in Warren, MA. She then married her husband John Toto and raised her family in Brookfield, MA, a town she loved and considered her home.

She was a loving and devoted mother of four children, Jack Toto and his wife Jane of Harrisburg, PA, Eugene "Gene" Toto of Brookfield, Mark Toto and his wife Beth of Harrisburg, PA and her daughter Angela Jones and husband Andrew of Fort Myers, FL. She was blessed with 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, John Toto and his wife Desiree and 2 great-grandchildren of Chelmsford, MA, Matt Toto and his wife Emily and 3 great-grandchildren of Denver, NC, Lyndsey Toto Beltran and her husband Dario and 4 great-grandchildren, Mark Anthony Toto and his wife Jennifer and 2 great-grandchildren, Ashley Severage of Denver, Co, Andrew Severage of Dallas, TX and Emerson and Marissa Toto of Southbridge, MA. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews whom she also loved.

Rita enjoyed being a volunteer librarian assistant at Tantasqua Junior High School in 1977-79. She was an avid painter and filled her house with many

of her portraits. She enjoyed traveling with her sister, the late Lucille Cummings of Warren, MA. She loved her flower gardens and her home - she was a very kind, gentle, sincere woman who will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Calling hours were on Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm in Pillsbury Funeral Home 3 West Brookfield Rd. Brookfield. The funeral followed at 12:30PM in the funeral home. Burial was in the Brookfield Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to: The Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry at the Merrick Public Library or at St. Mary's Church, in Brookfield. She was a very big supporter of this program and would be pleased to know her efforts would continue. Online condolences may be made at Pillsburyfuneralhome.com

William F. Brisebois, 74



BROOKFIELD- William F. Brisebois, 74, passed away peacefully on November 17, 2017 in the Meadows of Leicester.

He leaves his wife of 33 years Eileen G. (Gallant) Brisebois ; a son William F. Brisebois Jr. and his companion Heather Daney of Maine and daughters Jennifer Smith and her husband Yancy of Templeton, Lisa Hanson & her husband James of Brookfield, Patricia Verhaegen & her husband Richard and Kimberly Hoyle & her companion Jamie Vincent all of Ware; 17 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by a daughter Pamela in 2002.

Bill was born in Worcester the son of the late William A. and Pauline

(Richards) Brisebois. He was an Army Veteran serving in Germany during the Vietnam War. He worked 10 years at the Brookfield Transfer Station until he retired. Bill loved taking care of his yard and spending time with his friends & family.

A calling hour was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 from 10:30-11:30AM in Pillsbury Funeral Home 3 West Brookfield Rd. Brookfield. Followed by burial with full Military Honors in Worcester County Memorial Park in Paxton. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his name to the American Cancer Society 30 Speen St. Framingham, MA. 01701.

Raymond A. DePauw, 92



WEST BROOKFIELD - Raymond A. "Ray" DePauw, 92, of West Brookfield died on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at the Southbridge Rehabilitation and Health Care Center.

He leaves Joan, his wife of 66 years. He also leaves his brother-in-law, James VanDyke and his wife Kathy, and their 3 children and 6 grandchildren. Originally from New Jersey, Ray was born in West Paterson, NJ, the only child of John and Ethel DePauw, and has lived in West Brookfield for over 40 years.

Mr. DePauw is a United States Navy Veteran of WWII, where he served on the Destroyer Escort USS Roy O. Hale in the European, Pacific, and American Theater campaigns.

Raymond worked out of the Worcester office for Massachusetts Blue Cross/Blue Shield for 30 years, retiring in 1986.

Raymond was a loving and devoted husband. He was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Ware, and will be missed by Joan, and his fellow Brothers and Sisters. Ray served several congregations in his 60 years of dedication to his God Jehovah.

A Memorial Service for Ray will be held in the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 124 Gilbertville Road, in Ware on Saturday, December 2, 2017, at 2:00PM. There are no calling hours. Due to allergies, it would be appreciated if those attending the service refrain from wearing fragrances or perfumes.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the West Brookfield Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 540, West Brookfield, MA 01585. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements.

varnumfuneralhome.com

Romeo J. Richard, 90

SPENCER - Romeo J. Richard, 90, of Spencer died on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at The Meadows of Leicester.

He leaves his wife of 70 years, Blanche A. (Robidou) Richard of Spencer; a son, Robert Richard of West Brookfield; a daughter, Annette Welch and her husband William of Spencer; two brothers, Gerald Richard and his wife Ann Marie of Simano, FL and Ronald Richard and his wife Lynn of Worcester; a sister, Dora Beaudin of Worcester; three grandchildren; three great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was born and grew up in Worcester, son of the late Arthur and Ozlie (Maillet) Richard and later lived in West Brookfield before moving to Spencer in 1984.

Mr. Richard was a compositor for 23 years, working for Davis Press, Stobbs Press and Heffernan Press of Worcester before retiring in 1990.

Romeo was a member of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Spencer for over 50 years.

He was a W.W. II United States Army Veteran. He was a member of the American Legion Post 138 of Spencer, and a lifetime member of the North Brookfield Sportsman Club in North Brookfield. Romeo was also

active with the Boy Scouts of America Troop 74 in Worcester for over 30 years.

A Funeral Service for Romeo was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., West Brookfield. A calling hour was held prior to the Service from 9 to 10 AM in the funeral home. Burial with Military Honors will follow in Worcester County Memorial Park in Paxton. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish Food Pantry, 60 Maple St., Spencer, MA 01562.

varnumfuneralhome.com

Christmas in Heaven Memorials



In the December 22nd issue, we invite you to place a memorial for your loved ones not with us this Christmas in the Spencer New Leader for just \$10. Size is 2.4" X 2" and all will run on the Obituary Page December 22. (Includes a photo and your own personal message.)

Sample Ad:

Ad Shown Actual size of 2.4"x2"



JOHN SMITH
1/1/23-6/20/99

Missing you this Christmas Season and Always.
Love, Jane, John Jr. Kathy & Mark

Deadline
Friday
Dec. 15
@3pm

The deadline to place the memorials is **Friday, December 15 at 3:00pm.**

Please email to June at

jsima@stonebridgepress.news,

or mail or drop off to

June Simakauskas
25 Elm Street, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550.






To place an In-Memoriam, Card of Thanks, Birthday or Anniversary Greeting, in the Spencer New Leader,

the deadline is Friday noon for the following week.

Ad prices are \$15 for a 2x3 (actual size 2.4" x 3") or \$25 for a 3x4 (3.7" X 4") or 4x3 (5" x 3").
You can add a photo at no additional cost.

To send by mail, please mail to
June Simakauskas, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

Personal checks, Visa, Master Card, Discover and AMEX are accepted.

For more information, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news and she'll be happy to help!




Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to jean@stonebridgepress.news

CALENDAR

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24

NO SERVICE MAKE A NOTE: S.C.M. Elderbus will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24 to observe the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Saturday, December 2

EB ELEMENTARY FAIR: East Brookfield Elementary School's fourth annual Winter Festival is set for Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event offers the perfect opportunity for last-minute Christmas shoppers to find a wide assortment of items, with dozens of crafters and vendors in attendance.

Gift wrap is available for items, and there will also be food at the event, which has drawn an increasingly large crowd in each of its first three years. Additionally, the event will include kids crafts, an activity room, and pictures with Santa Claus from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The school is located at 410 East Main St.

Sunday, December 3

COLLECTING COATS & CANS: The West Brookfield Lions Club will hold their annual Coat Drive and Can Drive at the 25th annual West Brookfield White Christmas Celebration, Dec. 3, noon-5 p.m. We will be located at the office of Mark Schultz, R.D.O. and Dr. Joseph Papandrea, 5 East Main St. Support your local community while enjoying hot cocoa, cider and other treats! There will also be raffle items. Please bring your gently worn coats, hats, scarves and mittens. Together let's make change count!

White Christmas in West Brookfield: The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, 36 N. Main St. will be open from 12 pm - 5 pm during the town's White Christmas celebration on Sunday Dec.3. Please join us for: *Delicious lunch featuring hot turkey sandwiches, three choices of delicious homemade soups, HOMEMADE pie and hot chocolate; Scrumptious Bake Table! *HUGE Holiday Raffle Table! Gift baskets, gift cards, toys, and much more. *Hardwick Memorial Handbell Choir Concert - NEW this year! At 3 pm, with Cynthia Baird, director; *Annual Carols and Cocoa at 4-4:45 p.m. Free cookies, cocoa and a Christmas Carol sing-along!

*Just what you need to create your holiday mood! Call the church at (508) 867-7078 for more information.

M E R R I A M - G I L B E R T CELEBRATION: The Friends of the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library will be celebrating the 25th White Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 3, from noon until 4:00 p.m. with their annual

raffle, plus refreshments. Local photographer, Beth Johnson, will be on hand selling her 2018 West Brookfield Calendars. Also, the Library is participating in the Kids' Elf Hunt.

December 7, 8, & 9

NATIVITIES AROUND the WORLD & QUABOAG CHORAL SOCIETY: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 108 New Braintree Road, North Brookfield, is again hosting Nativities Around the World

Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30-8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 8, 5:30- 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 9, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Also on Friday, Dec. 8 starting at 7 the Quaboag Choral Society will present Small Town, Big City. Refreshments will follow.

Share your nativities for the event. Please leave a message for Robin at (508) 347-7092 to inquire about loaning your nativity for this event. We welcome your participation.

ONGOING EVENTS

Deja New: Art, Antiques, & Collectibles Vendor Marketplace open on Wednesday from 1:00 pm-7:00 pm in the St. Joseph's Rectory building for its first season. In addition, a farmer's market will be open from 3:00-6:00 pm that day. Stop in and check out our vendor products! All proceeds will benefit the non-profit "24-7 Community Partnership" which will provide funds to programs for the needy, including the Leicester Food Pantry.

VFW MEETING: The Rochdale VFW Post 7556 will hold their monthly business meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the post at 713 Pleasant Street, Rochdale on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: On the third Wednesday of each month, 6-7 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass.org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

ECONOMY SHOP: 1st FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 207 Main St., Spencer; (508) 885-2149. Open every Wednesday 8 a.m. to noon; Thursday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 6 to 8 pm; Friday 8 a.m. to noon. Come in to see our new Fall line.

THRIFTY: St. Joseph-St. Pius X

Parish, 759 Main St., Leicester, (508) 859-8083. The "New To You" Thrift Shop. Hours: Tuesday, 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS: Richard Sugden Library in Spencer has the following weekly programs. For more information contact the library at (508) 885-7513.

Looking for a fun and educational activity to do with your toddler or preschooler? Come to toddler story hour at 10 a.m. and meet other parents, enjoy songs, stories, and activities with your 18 months to 3 year old. Caregivers must remain in the room with their toddler. Preschoolers (ages 3-5) come at 11- caregivers must remain on the same floor. These are free programs but do require registration which you can do when you arrive. Today's themes are drums and rhythm.

Join us at Bouncing Babies on Wednesdays from 10-10:45 a.m. for a rollicking, good time! Meet other caregivers, share stories, songs, & rhymes. It's for ages birth to 24 months & their caregivers. Program followed by open play time. The free Afterschool Fun program is today from 4-4:45 p.m. for children from k-grade 5.

Tune in Together on Thursdays is a music and movement program for toddlers and preschoolers and their caregivers, sponsored and presented by CFCE. Meets from 11 a.m.-noon.

Paws and Pages encourages children to become better readers by sharing a book with trained therapy dogs. This program is possible because of the generosity of trainer, Barbara Laborde and her canine helper. Come between 4-4:15 p.m. on Thursdays to reserve a spot.

FREE FOR MOM & KIDS: There will be free weekly parent/child programs from 9 to 11 a.m. Fridays and Wednesdays at the North Brookfield Elementary School, New School Road, North. The program runs on school calendar and closes for vacation and inclement weather according to North Brookfield School calendar. This free program is sponsored by the Spencer, Wachusett, North and East Brookfield Coordinated Family Grant in partnership with the North Brookfield Elementary School. Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. For more information, please call CFCE at (508) 885-2934 or e-mail Wachusettcpc@hotmail.com.

SUPPER TIME: A free, community meal is held on the first Tuesday of the month at The Cross Roads Café Coffeehouse, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the Emmanuel Church, 25 Winthrop Terrace, Warren. All ages are wel-

come. There is no cover charge; however, a love offering is accepted as a gift to the band or musician as thanks to God for their sharing of their talent and gift for the glory of God (www.emmanuelorthodox.org).

STRE-E-E-TCH: Senior Exercises Classes are held every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Rutland Community Center, Glenwood Road. Enjoy an hour of fun and exercise to music to help stay strong, fit, healthy and independent. Classes are co-ed and all are welcome. The fee is \$4 per class. For more information, call Joyce Gamache at (508) 754-2821.

SIT AND KNIT: knitting group every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Merriam Gilbert Library, West Brookfield. Bring your sewing, embroidery, knitting or crochet and enjoy some socializing while you work on your project.

ECONOMICAL: First Congregational Church, 207 Main St., Spencer, (508) 885-2149. Economy Shop hours, open every Wednesday, 8 a.m. to noon; Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to noon.

N-37: Bingo at the Knights of Columbus, 10 Meadow Road, Spencer every Thursday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. The first game starts at 6:30 p.m. Along with our regular games we feature two winner take all games, two 50/50 games and two progressive jackpot games with payouts of \$600 and \$500 respectively. Good food and soft beverages are available at Judy's Kitchen. Come and enjoy some good food, good people and hopefully win a little.

STAY HEALTHY: The VNA Care Network and Hospice is holding a free Keep Well Clinic to residents 60 and older from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Spencer Fish and Game Club on Mechanic Street. Local residents may have their blood pressure checked and learn about health concerns. Blood sugar, weight monitoring and other health assessments may also be available. VNA Care Network and Hospice clinics are funded in part by the United Way, local boards of health, private foundations. For up-to-date clinic information visit www.vnacarenetwork.org or call (888) 663-3688 x 5603.

IT'S A LUNCH DATE: The East Brookfield Baptist Church invites all senior citizens to a Community Lunch at 11:30 a.m. every second Thursday of the month in Fellowship Hall. A delicious lunch and great desserts will be served. This will be followed by a time of fellowship and games concluding with a devotional just before 2 p.m. Reservations are encouraged. Call (508) 867-7725.

Family-friendly winter activities

Join us for our 7th Annual Holiday Triple Play

Just \$25 per week!

(must buy all 3 weeks for this price) (Reg. \$32-\$40/wk)

Happy Holidays to All!



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New Year's Resolutions Jan. 5
A resolution to reflect your business.

~Established 1872~



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Business Milestones Jan. 12
How long you've been in business
New businesses welcome!

Deadline for all 3 December 15 NOON.
Call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

Many people may run indoors when the temperatures outside approach or dip below freezing. But the truly adventurous see no reason why a little cold weather should keep them cooped up indoors for months at a time.

Sports and other physical activities can provide the perfect respite from the cabin fever that can set-



tle in during long winters. Families looking to get some quality time outdoors together this winter can enjoy a host of activities in the great outdoors, even if the temperatures are a tad on the chilly side.

• **Sledding:** Sledding may remind

adults of their childhoods and turn kids' snow days into fun afternoons they will never forget. Kids can seemingly ride their sleds and toboggans down snowy hills all day long, but even parents get a kick out of racing kids downhill or sharing a sled with their youngsters. While older kids can typically handle sleds on their own, parents should ride along with toddlers to prevent falls and handle steering duties. When sledding, keep a close eye for any signs that suggest kids might be getting too cold, such as shivering or clothes that are soaked through.

• **Snowshoeing:** Parents may not know that many retailers sell snowshoes for children. While snowshoeing can be physically demanding, it's also a fun way for families that like family walks to continue those traditions even if there are a few inches of snow on the ground. Make sure kids are bundled up, paying extra attention to their footwear. Kids will enjoy snowshoeing more if their boots are both comfortable and capable of keeping their feet warm.

• **Snowman building:** Perhaps no outdoor winter activity is more conducive to family fun than building a snowman. The season's first substantial snowfall provides the perfect opportunity for parents and their children to start building some snowmen. While "snowman building" is unlikely to find its way onto any gym schedules, building a snowman provides a great workout. Lifting snow is great strength training, while pushing snow to form Frosty's body is a great way to get in some cardiovascular exercise.

• **Skiing and snowboarding:** The earlier youngsters start skiing and/or snowboarding, the more likely such activities will prove second nature. Many resorts offer skiing and snowboarding lessons to kids and adults, so parents can book weekend getaways for the family to nearby resorts and foster a love of winter sports in youngsters.

While it's tempting to huddle up indoors when winter hits full swing, families who embrace the great outdoors when the temperatures dip can avoid cabin fever and enjoy one another's company along the way.



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SUTTON - 30 Tournament Way Pleasant Valley Ct! Beautiful 3,100' 8 Rm Townhouse w/All the Expected Amenities for Your Enjoyment! Custom Granite Kit! Frplc Liv Rm w/18' Ceilings! Formal Dining! 1st Flr Master Suite! Library! 2+ Bedrooms! 2.5 Baths! Open 2 Car & Golf Cart Garages! *Fore* **\$549,900.00**



GRAFTON - 23 Maplewood Dr! Unique 5 Rm Brick Ranch! 3 Bdrms! Corner Lot! Enjoy the Convenience of One Floor Easy Access Living! Kit w/Breakfast Bar! Fireplaced Liv Rm! Din Area! Master Bdrm w/Full Bath! 2 Baths! Total! Florida Rm! Private Back Yard! Attached 2 Car Garage!
\$289,900.00



LEICESTER - 2 Logan St! Beautifully Updated 6 Rm Split Entry Set on Nicely Landscaped 1/2 Acre! Stainless Appliances! Kit w/Granite Tile Counter Opening to Dining Area & Liv Rm! Fam Rm plus 2 Bdrms or 3 Bdrms! Full Tile Bath! Sunroom w/Wall AC! Hardwood Flrs Throughout! **\$239,900.00**



CHARLTON - 2 Pinnakin Hill Rd! Nice Updated 7 Rm Split! 92Ac Corner Lot! SS Appliances! Center Isl, Cathedral & Skylight! Din Rm w/Slider to 12x16 Deck! Cathedral Liv Rm w/Brick Frplc & Pellet Stove! 3 Bdrms! 2 Full Baths, Whirlpool Tub! Frplc Fam Rm! Garage! **\$289,900.00**



EAST BROOKFIELD - 854 Podunk Rd! 6 Rm Cape! 1.5 Acres! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths! New & Recent Features! Open Fr Plan! Granite Kit! SS Appliances! 1st Flr Hrdw! Master Bath & Walk-in Closet! Natural Woodwork! Patio w/Hot Tub! Fruit Trees! Recent Roof & Windows! New Garage Door! **\$247,900.00**



WEBSTER - 8 Oakwood Dr! 12 Rm Hip Roof 5,165' Custom Colonial on 1 Acre w/In-ground Pool! Formal Din & Liv Rms! Frplc Fam Rm & Frplc Den! Master Suite! Master Bath! 6 Bdrms! 3 Full & 2 Half Baths! Hrdw's & Wall to Wall! C/Air! In-law Potential! 2 Car Garage!
\$499,900.00



STURBRIDGE - 13 Main St! Work & Live Here! Completely Remodeled! Turn Key! 1st Flr Beauty Salon w/Cair, Handicap'd Bthrm, Kit, Gas Heat! 2nd Flr - Appliances Kit, Liv Rm, 2 Bdrms, 1.5 Baths, New Oil Furnace! 13 Parking Spaces! 2 Car Garage! Sep Utilities! Town Services! Rte 20, 84 & 90!
\$329,900.00



AUBURN - 5 Pineclad Rd! Updated 7 Rm, 4 Bdrm Cape! Appliances! Cabinet! Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdw's! NEW 20x22 Liv Rm out to 14x20 Deck! 1st Flr 2 Bdrms w/Laminate Flrs! Recent Full Bath! 2nd Flr w/2 Bdrms w/Laminate Flrs! Laundry w/Washer & Dryer! 2 Sheds! Town Services!
\$222,900.00



DUDLEY - 36 Fish Rd! 7 Rm Raised Ranch w/Huge Split Level Cathedral Ceiling Family Rm w/Skylights! Open Cathedral Ceiling Kit/Din & Living Rms w/Skylights! 3 Bdrms! Master Bath! 3 Full Baths! Huge Steel I Beam Clear Span 2 Car Garage! 1.1 Acres! Oil Heat! Shed! **\$299,900.00**



DUDLEY - 20 Williams St! Nice 7 Rm Cape w/3 Car Garage! SS Appliances! Kit w/Oak Cabinets & Corian Counters! Frplc Liv Rm & Din Rm w/Hrdw's! Sunroom w/Hot Tub/Skylights! 3 Bdrms! Master Bath & Walk-in Closet! 2 Tile Bathrooms! Business Furnace! Town Services! Fenced Backyard!
\$244,900.00



LEICESTER - 36 Boyd St! Spacious 3 Fam! 6/6 Rms! 3/3 Bdrms! Investment or Owner Occupied! Quiet Residential Neighborhood! Corner Lot! Open Din/Liv Rms, Eat-in Kits w/Pantries & Laundry! Sep Utilities! Rooks, Gutters & Downspouts! 2017 Garage & Shed! Off St Parking! Well Maintained! **\$330,000.00**



DOUGLAS - 93 Monroe St! 10.97 ACRES! Updated 1867 8 Rm Farmhouse! Flexible Floor Plan! Loads of Charm! Frplc Liv Rm! Fam Rm w/Cathedral! Slider to Deck! Din Rm! 4 Bdrms! 2 Baths! 2 Car Attached Garage! Additional 3 BAY, 50x85', GARAGE BUILDING! **\$594,500.00**



DUDLEY - 7 Kayla Lane! 8 Rm Colonial Set On 1.84 Acres! Appliances! Granite Kit! Frplc Dining Rm! Living Rm w/Hrdw's! Cathedral Ceiling Family Rm! 3 Bedrooms! Spacious Master, Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! 1st Floor Laundry! Farmers Porch! Deck! Attached 2 Car Garage! **\$359,900.00**



WEBSTER - 9-11 Lyndale Ave! 8 Rm Colonial w/Greenhouses! Eat-in Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm! Open to Living Rm w/Wood Floors! Full Bath! Den w/Built-in! 4 Large Bedrooms on 2nd Floor! Nice Level Lot! Walking Distance to Center of Webster! Town Services! Rte. 395 Near Walk to Schools & Churches! **\$114,900.00**



CHARLTON - 44 Oxford Rd! 8 Rm Colonial w/Farmers Porch! 1.38 Acres! New Quartz Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Hrdw's! Frplc Fam Rm w/Hrdw's! Spacious Liv Rm! 4 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Total! 16x30 Deck! 2 Car Garage! Shed! 2016 Roof! Many Updates!
\$344,900.00



OXFORD - 74 Walnut St! 5 Rm Ranch! Central Location w/Good Size Level Yard! 2 Bdrms w/rd! Possible Full Bath! Hrdw's Liv Rm & Bdrms! Cedar Closet! Basement w/2 Finished Rms! Vinyl Siding! Older Replacement Windows! Deck! AG Pool! Shed! Cosmetics Needed!
\$184,900.00



WEBSTER - 42 Cushing Rd! 7 Rm Ranch! Cabinet Kit w/SS Appliances & Tile Flr Dining Area w/Corner Hutch! Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdw's! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdw's! Full Bath w/Tile Flr! Den w/New Carpet! New Electrical Service! Partially Finished Basement! Garage! Screened Porch! Shed! Town Services! **\$239,900.00**



WEBSTER - 141 Gore Rd! Rte 16! 1.88 Acres! Prime Exposure! Business Opportunities! Zoned Commercial! 165' Road Frontage! 183x2' 4 Car Garage! 12x20' Workshop! 7 Rm Colonial! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdw's! Din/Liv Rm w/Hrdw's! Slider! 2 Tile Bathrooms! Business Furnace! Updates to Electrical & Cosmetics! **\$109,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 10 Kenneth Ave! South Pond! Sandy Shoreline! 9 Rm Contemporary! 3 Bdrms! 3 Baths! Lake Views from Most Rooms! Hrdw's & Tile Flrs Throughout! Brunarhan Custom Granite Kit w/Cherry Cabinets! 1st Flr Office! Master w/New Bath! Frplc Fam Rm! Deck w/Summer Bar! 2 Car Garage! **\$639,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 294 Killdeer Island! North Pond! 62' Waterfront! Panoramic Views! 8 Rm Colonial! Kit w/Double Oven! GLEAMING Hrdw! 4 Bdrms! 2 Full Baths! 14x20 Trex Deck! Newly Painted! Prof Landscaped! Fenced Yard! Plenty of Docks Included!
\$524,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 10 Kenneth Ave! South Pond! Sandy Shoreline! 9 Rm Contemporary! 3 Bdrms! 3 Baths! Lake Views from Most Rooms! Hrdw's & Tile Flrs Throughout! Brunarhan Custom Granite Kit w/Cherry Cabinets! 1st Flr Office! Master w/New Bath! Frplc Fam Rm! Deck w/Summer Bar! 2 Car Garage! **\$639,900.00**



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\$524,900.00



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WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Pond Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms, 3 Bdrm, 2 Baths, A/C'd, Ranch! Custom SS Appliances! Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdw's & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Awning! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Skylight & Hrdw's! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frplc Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage!
\$749,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Pond Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms, 3 Bdrm, 2 Baths, A/C'd, Ranch! Custom SS Appliances! Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdw's & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Awning! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Skylight & Hrdw's! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frplc Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage!
\$749,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 82 Lakeside Ave! South Pond! Prime 157' Waterfront w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 10+ Rm, 4 Bdrm, 4.5 Bath, A/C'd, 3,832' Custom Colonial! Lake Facing Quartz Kit w/Heated Flr! Din Area w/Custom Wall Unit & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Elect Awning! Frplc Liv Rm! Din Rm w/Tray Ceiling! Lake Facing Master w/Master Bath! Upstairs 3 Bdrms, 2 Lake Facing! Lower Level Fam Rm w/2nd Kit, Sauna & Full Bath! 3 Car Attached, 1 Car Detached! Security! Generator! Boat House! **\$1,195,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 82 Lakeside Ave! South Pond! Prime 157' Waterfront w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 10+ Rm, 4 Bdrm, 4.5 Bath, A/C'd, 3,832' Custom Colonial! Lake Facing Quartz Kit w/Heated Flr! Din Area w/Custom Wall Unit & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Elect Awning! Frplc Liv Rm! Din Rm w/Tray Ceiling! Lake Facing Master w/Master Bath! Upstairs 3 Bdrms, 2 Lake Facing! Lower Level Fam Rm w/2nd Kit, Sauna & Full Bath! 3 Car Attached, 1 Car Detached! Security! Generator! Boat House! **\$1,195,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - Reid Smith Cove WATERFRONT LOT! South Shore Rd! Build Your Dream Home or Summer Retreat! Set on Quiet Road, Surrounded by Woods! Sloping Lot Down to Level Waterfront! 7,200' Lot! 57' on the Water & Road! Town Water & Sewer Available!
\$229,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 30 S. Point Rd! 91' Waterfront! Yr Rd 7 Rm Colonial! Ideal 2nd Home! Panoramic Views of South Pond! NEW Kit w/Dish Frplc Din & Liv Rm w/Lake Facing Picture Window! 3 Bdrms! Walkout Lower Level w/Fam Rm w/Summer Kit! NEW Int. Paint! Recent Roof & Siding!
\$349,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 55 Colonial Rd! South Pond! 105' Level Waterfront! Western Expo! Awesome Sunsets! 10 Rm Contemporary! Panoramic Lake Views! Most! Open Fr Plan! Frplc Liv Rm! 4 2nd Flr Bdrms, 3 Lake Facing! Master Bath! 2.5 Remodeled Bath! 2 Car Garage! Deck! Add Lot! Recent Roof!
\$599,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 33 Beacon Rd! 6 Rms, 3 Bdrms, 3 Baths! 141' Waterfront! 12,458' Lot w/Plenty of Privacy! Kit, Master Bdrm, Master Bath, Roof & Windows New in 2013! Enjoy Sunsets from Wrap-around Porch! Beautiful Lake Views! Frplc Liv Rm! SS Appliances! C/Air! 2 Car Garage!
\$519,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 48 Laurelwood Dr! Reid Smith Cove! One of the Lake's Best Lots! Beautiful 10 Rm, 3,686' Contemp! 104' Waterfront, 228' Rd Frontage, 33,628 Sq. Ft. or .77 Acres! The Best on Market! Gradual Sloped Land to Beach/Shore! Private Rd w/Woods Across Street! Location, Slope to Water, View & Exposure, Things You Can't Change, After that it's One's Imagination! Front, Back, & Side Yards, Space to Roam, Entertain, Park & Expand! Main Level, White & Black Granite Kit, Center Isl w/Gas Range & Sink, Wall Ovens! Din Area! Lake Facing Din Rm! Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral Open to Sun Rm w/Water View! Lake Facing Office/Possible 4th Bdrm! Half Bath! Upstairs, 3 Bdrms, 2 Bathrooms! Amazing Lake Facing Master, Bath w/Whirlpool, Steam Shower, Dble Vanity, Cathedral w/Skylight & Laundry! Walk-out Lower Level w/Frplc Fam Rm, Summer Kit & 3rd Full Bath, 3.5 Total! C/Air! Gas Heat! 2 Car Garage & More! **\$1,100,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 48 Laurelwood Dr! Reid Smith Cove! One of the Lake's Best Lots! Beautiful 10 Rm, 3,686' Contemp! 104' Waterfront, 228' Rd Frontage, 33,628 Sq. Ft. or .77 Acres! The Best on Market! Gradual Sloped Land to Beach/Shore! Private Rd w/Woods Across Street! Location, Slope to Water, View & Exposure, Things You Can't Change, After that it's One's Imagination! Front, Back, & Side Yards, Space to Roam, Entertain, Park & Expand! Main Level, White & Black Granite Kit, Center Isl w/Gas Range & Sink, Wall Ovens! Din Area! Lake Facing Din Rm! Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral Open to Sun Rm w/Water View! Lake Facing Office/Possible 4th Bdrm! Half Bath! Upstairs, 3 Bdrms, 2 Bathrooms! Amazing Lake Facing Master, Bath w/Whirlpool, Steam Shower, Dble Vanity, Cathedral w/Skylight & Laundry! Walk-out Lower Level w/Frplc Fam Rm, Summer Kit & 3rd Full Bath, 3.5 Total! C/Air! Gas Heat! 2 Car Garage & More! **\$1,100,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 18 Bates Crossing! South Pond! Beautiful Sunsets! Huge Eastern Exposure! 8 Rm 3,100' Custom Contemporary! 2.43 Acres! Substantial Privacy! Home Features Endless Possibilities! Open Fr Plan w/Magnificent Views from Every Rm! 3 Bdrms, 3 Baths, Cathedral Ceilings w/Skylights! European Kit w/Center Isl! Modern Frplc Liv Rm w/Glass Sliders Open to Waterfront Balcony! Master Bdrm w/en-suite Bath, Separate Shower, Jacuzzi Tub, Walk-in Closet & Attached Laundry! Lower Level Bdrms Share Private Bath! C/Air! Attached Garage w/Work Space! Detached 2 Car Heated Garage w/Workshop! Greenhouse!
Panoramic Lake & Estuary Views! **\$950,000.00**



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Panoramic Lake & Estuary Views! **\$950,000.00**



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Panoramic Lake & Estuary Views! **\$950,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 901 Treasure Isl! Prime Beachfront! Townhouse! 6Rms! 1.874' Open Floor Plan! Appliances! Granite Kit w/Hrdw's! Din & Liv Rms w/Hrdw's! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Frplc Fam Rm w/Tile Flr! Recent Clair, Gas Heat & Windows! Trex Deck! Garage! BOAT SLIP! Heated Pool! **\$424,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 334 Killdeer Island! Middle Pond! South Facing! Well Maintained 7 Rm Colonial! Appliances! Oak Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdw's! Cathedral Ceiling Liv Rm w/Lake Views! Cathedral Ceiling 3 Season Sunroom! Overlooking Lake! Lake Facing Master Suite, Master Bath! 3Bdrms! 2 Baths! Sandy Beach!
\$469,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Lakeside Ave! 100' Waterfront! Huge Views of South Pond! Western Exposure - Fantastic Sunsets! In Time for Summer! 5 Rooms of Rustic Charm! Real Log Summer Cottage! 10,924' Lot Allows for Room to Expand! Remodel It! Tear it Down! Build New! **\$359,900.00**

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Sharon Pelletier - Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

WE WANT YOUR LISTINGS!

43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570
Fine Realtor Associates to Serve You!
June Cazeault * William Gilmore II * Laurie Sullivan * Diane Strzelecki * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chasse * Mark Barrett * Brian Bohenko

Featured New Webster Lake Listing!

7 CEDAR DR & 0 BIRCH ISLAND RD

English Tudor Style Colonial! Cathedral ceiling Dining & Fireplaced Living Room! 1600+ sq ft of living area! 3 Good size bedrooms. Master bedroom with Master Bath! 1 bedroom on the main living level. 2-1/2 Total Baths! 7 rooms total! Finished basement with Hearth! Forced hot air by oil! Central Air Conditioning! 14' X 42' car port! 3 car garage! Comes with Non-Separable Waterfront Lot, on Middle Pond! Enjoy Webster lake without the High Taxes! **\$367,000.**

DUDLEY - 67 WEST MAIN ST

Looking for a place for your BUSINESS? Looking for a good INVESTMENT? Check out this Durable Business Zone! (B/S-15) Property on the CORNER of West Main & View Street! 197' road frontage (65 on W Main / 132 on View St). Business Zoned Abutting Rear Lot on View St. is also available, asking \$54,900. Improvements include an Antique 2 story single family home w/3 BDRS, 2 Baths. It may be possible to convert this home back to a 2 family with the addition of a 2nd means of egress. Home is Connected to Municipal Water & Sewer, a recent Natural Gas Business FHW Boiler w/cedar radiators, a 2 Car Detached Garage. **\$199,900**

WEBSTER - 12 ERNEST ST

Welcome home to this Huge, Sprawling, Custom Built, Very Attractive, Ranch Style Home! No Kidding - there is 2,848 SF +/- of Living Area on One Level! Meander on up the curved brick walkway and open the door to a very unique and private property! Half acre +/- level lot! In-ground pool, built-in hot tub, a poolside cabana w/kitchen & full bath, Gated driveway! Huge carpet/pavilion for entertaining! The interior is incredible w/separate wings for private family living & entertainment, separate BR suites, 10 rooms total! Currently has a long-term, established, successful in-home hair salon business! You Will Be Amazed!
\$349,900.

WEBSTER - 10 HIGHLAND ST

SORRY, SOLD!

Better than new young oversized 3 to 4 bedroom split entry on a dead end street! Hardwood floors! Granite counters! Forced hot water by oil! Above ground pool! Town water & sewer, 2 gar garage. So much more!
Sold higher than asking price **\$278,000**

THOMPSON - 422 RIVERSIDE DR

Roadside Oasis! Pride of Ownership! Close to 395! Ideal for anyone starting or has their own business, 30x40 Steel Building, 12th garage Door! 15 Foot Ceilings! Fully Insulated! Single Family - 3Bedroom, 2+ Bath - 1456 Sq Ft. Flat Level Lot, 1/2 Acre! Completely Renovated! Originally a 2 family converted to a Single Family Use, Security System! Stainless Steel Appliances! Town Sewer! Private Water!
\$259,000.

WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND #306

WELCOME TO WEBSTER LAKE'S PREMIER CONDO COMMUNITY - TREASURE ISLAND ONE UNIT# Unit 306 - Original owner Don't! This is the ONLY Condo Currently Available! Enjoy 16 Terrific Setting - Private "Haustrucap" Waterfront, overlooking the Quiet Enjoyment of Watching Herons, Eagles and More! Freshly Painted! New Windows and Siders! Recently Converted! Salt Water Pool for Summer Fun & Ice Skating - Ice Fishing is only a Short Walk from Home! 2 Boat Slips for Your Water Toy! Almost 1900 sq ft of Lake Living - Full Time or Vacation Home... 2 Spacious Bedrooms with Full Baths, Attached Garage, Economical Gas Heat, Central Air & Central Vac! PETS allowed!
On Deposit in



MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 1-800-367-9898 or email jean@stonebridgepress.news

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 Branch Manager
 NMLS #19396
 Phone: 774-241-0770
 Cell: 617-438-3021
Kristen.Walther@norcom-usa.com
 71 Main Street (Rt 131) • Sturbridge, MA 01566

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Certified Real Estate Appraiser
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RealEstateAppraiserMAandRI@gmail.com
Stacie Chandler ~ Chief Appraiser
 MA Cert: MACR #75485 RI Cert: CRA.0030012
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 ph/fax 855-243-8267

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 #1 in Sales 2006-2017
 South Worcester County
\$136,103,800 SOLD

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www.Century21LakeRealty.com
www.WebsterLake.net

Stacie Chandler ~ Chief Appraiser

MA Cert: MACR #75485 RI Cert: CRA.0030012
369 Main St., Suite 9 Spencer, MA 01562
 ph/fax 855-243-8267

Key Realty SERVICES

Donna Morin Flannery, Realtor, ABR
 415B Main St., Spencer, MA 01562
 c: 508-612-6771 f: 508-885-6047
DonnaFlannery@ERAKey.com
www.donnaflannery.com

Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea, Realtor
 CDPE, MLS, Notary Public
NS Lovett Real Estate
 270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
 109 West Street, Ware, MA 01082
 c: 978-434-1990 e: dorrinda@c21lovet.com
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 in this section

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 Leicester, MA 01524
508-769-6950
DebbieCampanale@gmail.com

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE AT PUBLIC AUCTION
Friday, December 1, 2017
11:00 AM-DOUGLAS
154 Main Street
 sgl fam, 1,754 sf liv area, 0.28 ac lot,
 7 rm, 4 bdrm, 2 bth,
 Worcester(Worc): Bk 40044, Pg 305

TERMS: \$5,000 cash or certified check at the time and place of the sale. The balance to be paid within thirty (30) days at the law offices of Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851, Attorney for the Mortgagee.
Auctioneer makes no representation as to the accuracy of the information contained herein.

BAY STATE AUCTION CO, INC.
 NORTH CHELMSFORD (978) 251-1150 www.baystateauction.com
 MAAU#: 2624, 2959, 3039, 2573, 2828, 1428, 2526, 2484



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 Call your local sales representative today!
1-800-367-9898

PUBLIC AUCTION WHITINSVILLE
 40 D Street, Unit B
 Mortgagee's Sale of Real Estate on Premises

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6 @ 10:00 AM

Three level, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse condo! Fully renovated 10+ years ago and features gas heat, hardwood & tile flooring, insulated windows, walkout basement and assigned parking for 2 cars. Ref# 1728. TERMS: \$5,000.00 as a deposit to be paid in cash or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale, balance within thirty days. Other terms to be announced at the sale.
 Details at: www.amgss.com
508-842-1900

Dale W. Schaezke, CAI, AARE PO Box 107, Shrewsbury, MA LIC#207

TOWN ORDERED AUCTION WEBSTER
2 PROPERTIES
HELD AT TOWN HALL, 350 MAIN ST. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 at 11:00am

28 MECHANIC STREET
 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

34 EAST MAIN STREET
 LAND PARCEL SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT

zekosgroup.com
 Terms: \$5,000 deposit. 30 day closing. Property sold as is.

ZEKOS GROUP AUCTIONEERS
 382 Boston Turnpike, Suite 222, Shrewsbury, MA 01545
508-842-9000

Donna Caissie & Sandra Terlizzi
 Realtors
 Donna 774-641-3325
 Sandra 508-414-9032
2SistersTeam@gmail.com
2SistersTeam.com

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 Free Market Analysis!

Maria Reed 508-873-9254
 Diane Luong 774-239-2937
 Maureen O'Connor 508-981-4902
 Bill Roland 508-272-5832 NMLS #20898

Call any agent listed above for a showing

Oxford: 2900sq.ft. Building. Ideal for adult Day Care, Residential or business use. Near Mass Pike, 395, 20, 12 & 146
498 Main St ~ \$485,000

Dudley: Development Possibilities. Town water and sewer available. Build duplexes or single family houses. 2-3 lots plus 2 bedroom house (rent or flip)
71 Mason Rd ~ \$359,900

OPEN HOUSE SUN. 10-NOON

Webster: Finished lower level, Fireplace, Walk to Webster Lake, 2 Baths, 1 year old roof, appliances, first floor laundry.
18 Paradise Ln~ \$239,900

Webster Lake: MUST SEE MULTI-LEVEL LIVING. 2900 sq. ft. Sandy beach. 3.5 baths. 16 Pattison Rd.~
\$799,900

Webster: Two units, 6-3-1 each unit, Sided, Garage, Natural woodwork
50 Lake St ~ \$184,900

Oxford: Condo, Updates include granite counter, Hardwood in living room. Pellet stove (fireplace). Garage.
1 Carol Dr ~ \$189,900

REAL ESTATE



Open House Directory

ADDRESS	STYLE	TIME	PRICE	REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26				
DUDLEY 6 Fourth Ave	S	11-1	\$229,900	ReMax Advantage 1/JoAnn Szymczak 508-943-7669
WEBSTER 18 Paradise Ln	S	10-Noon	\$232,500	ReMax Advantage 1/JoAnn Szymczak 508-230-5044 Vicki Bennett 774-633-6762

To have your open house listed in this directory please contact Sandy at 508-909-4110

Safety first for winter sportsmen



CAPTION: Sledgers, be they children or adults, should always sled feet-first or sitting up.

Winter is a special time of year for sportsmen. The great outdoors beckons men and women in the wintertime, when skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, and sledding are just a few of the many cold weather activities to entice athletes out of their homes.

Though winter sports can help fend off cabin fever, those who don't exercise certain safety precautions might find themselves dealing with another kind of fever. Cold weather can leave men, women and children susceptible to illness or injury if they aren't careful. The following are a few safety tips for winter sportsmen who want to make the most of the coming winter sports season.

CLOTHING

Inadequate clothing is one of the easiest ways a winter sportsman can fall victim to illness or injury. But the right

clothing can go a long way toward ensuring this winter sports season is fun and illness- and injury-free.

* Wear protective head gear. Protective headgear can help sportsmen avoid colds and head injuries. When venturing outdoors in the winter, always wear a protective wool ski cap. Most body heat is lost through the head, but wool caps help your body retain warmth on cold days and nights. In addition, sportsmen should always wear protective headgear when skiing, sledding, snowboarding or playing ice hockey. Even the most experienced sportsmen can suffer a head injury when playing a winter sport, but the appropriate headgear can prevent head injuries to veteran and novice athletes alike.

* Dress in layers. Dressing in layers is another way to stay warm and prevent illness in the winter months. Kids are

especially susceptible to cold weather, so parents should dress them in one more layer than they dress themselves. When wearing scarves, sportsmen should tuck their scarves in so they don't get tangled with sporting equipment.

* Remove drawstrings from kids' clothing. Drawstrings on winter hats, overcoats and pants can prove harmful to children. These drawstrings can easily get tangled and lead to strangulation. Parents should remove all drawstrings from kids' winter clothing before kids participate in winter sports.

ICE SKATING & HOCKEY

Winter is a great time to go ice skating or play some hockey. However, ice sports like skating and hockey can be especially dangerous, and it's wise for adults and children to

be as cautious as possible when getting in some ice time.

* Beware of thin ice. Ice that forms on moving waters, including rivers and creeks, is never safe enough to skate on. Such waters should always be avoided no matter how thick the ice may appear. When going ice skating or playing hockey outdoors, only do so on waters that are supervised and have been tested and approved for skating.

* Skate with the crowd and never skate alone. Skating alone might give you all the room in the world to perform a figure eight, but skating alone leaves you with no backup should the ice break and you fall in or if you injure yourself in a fall. When skating, never skate against the crowd.

SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING

Skiing and snowboarding are immensely popular in the winter, but that popularity should not overshadow how dangerous these activities can be.

* Get instruction. Ski resorts typically require guests with no previous skiing or snowboarding experience to get lessons before they can take to the slopes. These lessons are a must for novice skiers and snowboarders and even those athletes with no recent experience on the slopes.

* Be especially cautious when entering or exiting the ski lift. Ski lifts pose a significant injury risk, so skiers and snowboarders should always be attentive when entering or exiting the lift.

* Don't allow young children to snowboard. Many of today's youngsters prefer snowboarding to skiing. However, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children seven years of age and younger should not snowboard.

* Don't be in a hurry. Skiing or snowboarding too fast increases the chance you will lose control and cause injury to yourself or others. Go at a slower, more relaxed pace and take in all of the beautiful scenery along the way.

SLEDDING

Sledding is a great way to have some fun in the winter snow. But even though sledding is often seen as a carefree activity, it can be risky as well.

* Never sled near traffic. Sledding near traffic is a definite no-no, as it risks the lives of sledders and motorists alike. Always make sure you sled in an insulated area far away from roadways.

* Sled feet-first or sitting up. Sledding feet-first or sitting up greatly reduces a sledder's risk of suffering a head or neck injury. Never sled while lying down head first.

* Never sled on ice. Sledding on ice can cause injuries and make it difficult to control a sled. When sledding, only do so on packed snow.

* Do not allow a sled to be pulled by a vehicle. Being pulled by a vehicle while on a sled might seem like fun, but it's nearly impossible for oncoming traffic to see a sledder behind a vehicle, and it's very easy for the sled to fishtail into oncoming traffic.

HERE & THERE → Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24, 25, 26

COUNTRY FOLK ART CRAFT SHOW
Fri, 11-6, Sat. 10-5 & Sun. 10-4
Admission \$7
Your handstamp admits you all three days
Save \$1 off one admission with online coupon
Free parking
STURBRIDGE HOST HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER
366 Main St., Sturbridge, MA
CountryFolkArt.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

David Prouty High School Class of 2007 10th Class Reunion
Class members are allowed to bring one guest
Tickets: \$20 online and at the door \$20 guest (at all times)
8:00 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
Spencer Country Inn
500 Main St., Spencer, MA
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/david-prouty-class-of-2007-reunion-tickets-32864875728>

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:00 p.m.
HIT THE BUS
5-piece band playing an eclectic mix from the 50's through today
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St. East Brookfield, MA 774-449-8333

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25 AND 26

Monson Arts Council presents its 39th Annual **HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR**
SATURDAY 9:00 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.
SUNDAY 11:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
70 exhibitors in 4 buildings in easy walking distance On Main St (Route 32) Monson, MA

MA Pike exit 8, 32 South
Free admission. For more info call 413-364-9413

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

FESTIVAL OF GIVING TREES
Opening Day Premiere Tree Viewing
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Admission \$3 or \$5
And stay for choral event
CHORAL PREMIERE EVENT
7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Admission \$5 at door or online @ www.sparklingtrees.com
LaSalle Reception Center
444 Main St., Southbridge, MA

LADIES NIGHT

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
First 50 people will receive a free Cormier's Gift Certificate ranging from \$15-\$200
Free refreshments and raffles from local businesses and in-store baskets.
Wine served - must be 21 years or older
CORMIER JEWELERS & ART GALLERY
136 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-3385

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
NORTH BROOKFIELD PTO HOLIDAY FAIR
Free admission.
Crafters, vendors, food truck. Music, raffles and more!
NORTH BROOKFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
10 New School Dr.
North Brookfield, MA

FESTIVAL OF GIVING TREES
Tree viewing and Senior Citizens' Day
Free admission for seniors age 62 and over
Free raffles for seniors and lunch served by Annie's Country Kitchen at special price of \$5
Live entertainment

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS
6:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Admission \$15 in advance or \$20 at

door Entertainment, live auction
Buy tickets @ www.sparklingtrees.com
LaSalle Reception Center
444 Main St., Southbridge, MA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

10 am - 3 pm
PICTURES WITH SANTA
Children & pets welcome
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.
117 West Main St. Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

ST. JOSEPH PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
ST. JOSEPH PARISH CENTER
68 Central St., Auburn, MA
Jewelry, baked goods, plants, toys, knits, attic treasures, Collectibles.
Raffles, holiday items, unique finds

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

Mexicali Mexican Grill
117 Main St., Spencer, MA
(SPENCER LOCATION ONLY)
Special fundraising event for local veterans organizations. Live DJ, visit from the balloon man. Mexicali Mexican Grill gift cards raffle proceeds to feed two military families for the holidays. Special t-shirt sale proceeds and 20% of every food order on special menu to be donated to a local veterans organization.
774-745-8200

FESTIVAL OF GIVING TREES

Children's Day
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Food available for purchase 11-2
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.: Visit with Santa
10:00 a.m.: Pumpernickel Puppets
11:00 a.m.: "Holly" the Elf
12:30 p.m.: Lee Irish Dance
1:15 p.m.: Heather, Cody & Cate "Acoustic Trio"
3:00 p.m.: Festival's Got Talent
Contest LaSalle Reception Center
444 Main St., Southbridge, MA

9 pm
DIRTY POCKET

3 piece rock band performing classic & contemp covers

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

FESTIVAL OF GIVING TREES
Final Day 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Admission \$3
Food available for purchase 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Entertainment and raffles
LaSalle Reception Center
444 Main St., Southbridge, MA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
VISIT WITH SANTA during brunch
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St. East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

LADIES & GENTS NIGHT
Free refreshments, beer from local breweries
One-day raffle. Must be 21 years or older
CORMIER JEWELERS & ART GALLERY
136 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-3385

ONGOING

YOGA CLASSES
Monday evenings
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Woodstock Elementary School Gym
Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 13, 20, 27, Dec. 11, 18
\$56 (7 classes), \$35 (4 classes)
\$10.00 "Drop In"
Diane Converse @ 860-315-5175 or recreationdirector@woodstockCT.gov

ROADHOUSE BLUES JAM
Every Sunday, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102

TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS
7:00 p.m. register 7:30 p.m. start up
HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB

325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA
508-892-9822

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

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT
HEXMARK TAVERN
AT SALEM CROSS INN
260 West Main St., West Brookfield, MA
508-867-2345 salemcrossinn.com

TRAP SHOOTING
Every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Open to the public
\$12.00 per round includes clays and ammo
NRA certified range officer on site every shoot
AUBURN SPORTSMAN CLUB
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6492

HUGE MEAT RAFFLE
First Friday of the month
Early Bird 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
1st table: 7:00 p.m.
Auburn Sportsman Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6496

TRIVIA TUESDAYS
at 7:00 p.m.
Cash prizes
308 LAKESIDE
308 East main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

TRIVIAL THURSDAY
No cost to play
Cash prizes
Every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
CHESTER P. TUTTLE POST AMERICAN LEGION
88 Bancroft St.
Auburn, MA
508-832-2701

November 24

(Suggested topics for December)

The Write Stuff

Essays, Short Stories, Memories, Poems and more!

Open to ALL ages

1. Write a letter to Santa (students & adults)
2. What are your family's holiday traditions?
3. Write a poem or short story about a snowman, reindeer, or Santa.
4. Share your neighborhood memories.
5. Topic of your choice

For more information or to submit for next month, email jsima@stonebridgepress.news or call 508.909.4062

The Next Write Stuff Will Publish On December 22.

Deadline For Submissions Is Friday, December 15.

Thank you to Lamoureux Ford of East Brookfield for continuing to be a sponsor of The Write Stuff... it's "Where Friends Send Their Friends!" Also thank you to this month's authors, Sharon Legacy and the Spencer Writers' Group for joining us this month, and to Leicester Middle School Teacher Heather Stapel for her students' participation.

We hope that you will join us again in January, and encourage others to write as well. This is a great class project, senior center project, or for anyone who enjoys writing and sharing their thoughts.

PROVERBS

BY EVA E. PERRON, EAST BROOKFIELD, MA

Years ago, it was common for people to use proverbs. As a youngster when my friend Gladys and I visited an elderly neighborhood lady, Mrs. Lynch, she often used her favorite, "Waste not want not" or "Honesty is the best policy." Another... "Example speaks louder than words," and she lived her life accordingly.

From the cold months of October to April, she kept all of her doors in her kitchen closed; her kerosene kitchen stove, which sometimes smelled of kerosene, her only source of heat, kept her kitchen cozy and warm. A couch close to her table was her sleeping quarters, and a rocking chair, close to her radio served as a relaxing area.

When her perishable foods were brought into the kitchen from a table in her parlor, they were frozen, as hard as bricks.

Sarah (she preferred to be called by her first name) spoke often of a horrendous event in the 1930's when during a fierce windstorm, her outhouse blew down; however, it turned out to be a blessing in disguise, because then she was forced to have plumbing for an indoor bathroom, and almost as cold in the winter as the outhouse.

Many Sunday afternoons we played dominoes and listened to stories of past years.

Over Sarah's sink as a shelf with various items, among them an orchid in a glass of water. The story is that every New Years Eve, her neighbor, Alice, a maiden lady would go to the city to celebrate; her boyfriend Jim always presented her an orchid. The next day, they would visit Sarah and give her the orchid. The old one would be discarded and the new one in a fresh glass of water. The orchid remained beautiful with color during January and February, but by late October and November, it reminded us of a dried out onion. Many cold days as we put on our coats for the walk back home, Sarah would say, "Girls isn't my orchid still beautiful?" Rather than hurt her feelings, we'd agree and say "it is beautiful." Her response, "You girls know true beauty." We'd leave her home feeling guilty again for lying to her.

We learned how the generations before us sacrificed, use common sense, worked hard and practiced what they spoke of. I wonder how many youngsters in today's world know about proverbs, and the practice of which, brings peace of mind.

What I'm Thankful For...

BY TYLER PERRON

This question is a hard one to answer, because what I am thankful for isn't physical.

You can't hold it, See it, Even pictures what it looks like... That is because what I am thankful for, Is a feeling, an emotion.

A twinge in the heart or a pull in the stomach, A rush, a feeling of YES I can do this. That moment you can finally say I am happy with my life.

Many people experience this feeling, How they experience is up to them. You can't categorize it, Follow specific steps to reach it, But when you finally achieve it. I bet you will also be thankful for it.

Little Atlas

BY FRANCES ANN WYCHORSKI, WEST BROOKFIELD, MA

Calico cat looks up all fuzzy, sleepy-eyes from the corner chair. The heat clicks, with a gentle tick-tick-tick as the furnace fires up. It's cold outside. All is safe in this house. At the end of each day, it greets with a blessed quiet. A place to escape from too many voices, and so many demands. When the trees give up their leaves, from the kitchen window, I can see sunlight glittering on the Quaboag River. Mice scratch in the attic and sometimes find their way in. The favorite nesting place is under the bathroom sink. How many have I rescued? There is something sacred about a tiny deer mouse released from a have-a-heart trap, shaking all over, then dashing off to find another safe place to rest.

These four walls know everything. They know about the sleepless nights, moments of doubt and when we didn't have enough. They knew all the cats and shared our adventures inside and out. They know I love best to be in the sun porch on a balmy summer day. We will always remember that day in June when

we saw the tornado over the hillside. The winter of 2010-11 was a doozy. The snow kept piling on until the house became an igloo. The mounds cleared off the roof that cold day in February lay all around the house. In that moment, it was christened: Little Atlas. How on earth did it hold all that up?

This Thanksgiving, I am grateful for my home. After all these years, it's a fine place to be.

My Childhood -

DEBBIE GREGOIRE LEFEBVRE

I was born in 1962

Winters- very snowy; especially the blizzard of 1978

Sundays - stayed home- stores were closed; spent time with family or went to Church. You only worked if you were a police officer, fireman, worked in a hospital or a hotel, etc.

Holidays - spent time with family; stores were closed, went to Church if it was a Religious Holiday.

Computers - just starting to become available for home use; you had to write your own programs.

Research - used encyclopedias at home or went to the library. Used catalog cards to look up location of book you wanted.

TV programs - had to be home to watch; no recording methods and no way to purchase program. Not many commercials. Shows did not have to be rated for violence, content, language, age and nudity.

TV channels - 3 networks and UHF channels; didn't air 24/7; would play National Anthem and show test pattern during off air hours. Used a roof antenna and rabbit ears before having cable.

TV genres - crime drama/detectives, situation comedies, medical dramas, science fiction, game shows, talk shows, variety shows, westerns, documentaries, soap operas, news, cartoons and movie of the week.

Telephones - were not portable - no call waiting, call forwarding, no keyboards for texting; connected to the wall; no voicemail.

Video games - just starting to come out when I was 11. I played "pong". The screen had two ping pong paddles and a ball you hit back and forth. You played against an opponent or the computer.

Microwaves - didn't exist yet - used an oven and took time to preheat and cook meals.

Halloween - trick or treat had no time limit; We used to come home with home made cookies or fruit sometimes. When I was 13 (the last year I trick or treated), is when people started putting razor blades in apples and oranges, so you had to make sure you knew who gave you fresh goodies before you ate it.

Gasoline - leaded for cars. Less than \$1.00 at one time per gallon.

McDonald's - Could buy a hamburger, small fries and a drink for less than a \$1.00.

Christmas Catalogs - Getting Christmas wish catalogs in the mail from Sears & Roebuck, JC Penney and Toys R Us.

School - Watched movies on film and on film strip. Had presentations on overhead projector and photocopies on mimeograph machine. Only boys used back packs. We covered our books with paper bags from the grocery store.

Cameras - We used flash bulbs and rolls of film that you had to mail out to have developed.

Music - We listened to 8 track tapes, 45's, vinyl records (just made a comeback) and cassettes. None of them had warning labels marked "content not appropriate for children".

Stores, Banks, etc. - not open on Sundays and not very late during the week, except for one day usually on payday.

Miscellaneous - We celebrated the bicentennial in 1976. We wore mood rings and bell bottom pants while listening to disco music and bubblegum music

Today

Winters - sometimes snowy; more hurricanes, tornadoes, extreme heat, floods, etc., now.

Sundays - just like every other day

Holidays - just like every other day

Computers - they are portable and are pre-programmed.

Research - use internet on computer or other device.

TV programs - record by VCR or DVD or watch on Hulu or Netflix, etc. Shows are edited to add more commercials.

TV channels - lots of channels; 24/7, pay by view, on demand, etc.

TV genres - some are the same, but quality and intensity are different. Today there is a lot of reality tv.

Telephones - portable, texting, call waiting, call forwarding, voicemail, alarms,

calendars, camera, videos, e-mail, music, flashlight, apps, games, contacts, Skype, etc.,

Video games - very sophisticated now; lots of systems to choose from; games are rated by contents language, nudity, age, violence, etc.

Microwave - fast - can defrost food in minutes.

Halloween - time limit on trick or treat and know the people you trick or treat from. Parents check the candy to make sure it hasn't been tampered with.

Gasoline - unleaded only; over \$4.00 at one time per gallon.

McDonald's - Hamburgers alone cost nearly \$1.00.

Christmas Catalogs - Sears (minus Roebuck) has started doing catalogs again and Toys R Us still does.

School - Movies are shown on DVD and copies are made with a photocopy machine. Boys and girls use back packs. Books are covered with pre-made stretch book covers.

Cameras - still use film but can have it developed in an hour. Digital cameras for instant photos/videos.

Music - vinyl records are back. Music has to be labeled if the content is inappropriate for children.

Stores, banks, etc. - open late, sometimes 24 hours and ability to shop online; banks are open late, sometimes on Sundays, have ATM machines for 24 hour access and have telephone and internet banking.

Miscellaneous - Kids were born too young might not see the tricentennial.

SPECIAL LOVING HOME

BY SUE ANGELA HEALY, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

Upon entering the Christopher

Nursing Home

I felt an uncertainty—something I've never known

In the lobby it was like a hotel

That was the first step—all went well A friendly woman at the desk with that special look

Having to sign in when arriving—your name in a book

Around the corner an elevator but I

took the steps

Opening the door a sight soon not to forget

Beaumont on the right—Belmont on

the left side

A gentleman in a wheelchair—his crackers he was trying to hide

There were men-women-all around Walking-dozing-yelling-some not making a sound

Staring at everyone who came thru that door

Who you were they were not sure A woman approached me with a brand new doll

Another showing me her handmade shawl

One showing me her bright red sweater

Reassuring me she was only there until she was better

In a wheelchair with a plate on his lap

Singing happy birthday as they all began to clap

Two patients holding hands—knowing they couldn't walk

Smiling at each other—not a word did they talk

Most had shoes on-socks-some nothing at all

A nurse running to rescue a gentleman as he began to fall

Sitting side by side two friends on a bench

One had a coffee, the other some toast he did clench

There were nurses-patients at the front desk all around

One man named Bill so happy for his shoes they found

An employee feeding a patient-another cleaning a spill

This a job they have—now time for your morning pill

Walking down the hall—each room with 2 beds—their name

Never even realizing their lives would never be the same

A poster on the wall-the month and the season

Many there for years-but what was the reason

When we chose this place for my mom Mary Ciuffredo we knew it was the best

For the help treated my mom-like their own-the first day they passed the test

On March 29 my mother has already been there for a year

Given everything she needed-given excellent care

Every day her friends came to say hello

The love and kindness they have shown you'd never really know

Thoughtfulness from all usually in

great demand Feeding-clothing-washing her—all lend a helping hand

Heading for the door-leaving for the day

I knew for each and everyone of them I would day and night pray

Walking towards all the wheelchairs—all patients waved goodbye

Sadness in my heart-tears streaming down my eyes

Knowing from that moment forward mom would never be alone

For at the Christopher House in Worcester

She found a very "Special Loving Home"

QUEEN OF HEARTS

BY SUE ANGELA HEALY, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

In Loving Memory of Mary Ciuffredo

The winter weather outside is cold and gray

As I see my mom fading more and more each day

I want to tell her it's okay to leave us now

But he words won't come—I don't know how

Day after day she's confined to this tiny room

Knowing one of us will be visiting soon Most of the time she sits watching TV

As she squints her eyes for she can barely see

Now 90 years old she is now not able to walk

More and more difficult to say words to talk

Her right arm paralyzed—her left not able to open and close

Where she gets her strength nobody knows

If you ask how she feels she will always say okay

Never wanting anyone for her to go out of their way

As I watch her sleep I feel tear drops fall from my eyes

For in my heart in months I know she will eventually die

I want her to live forever because I just can't let go

But try in front of her not to let my emotions show

It's lonely and depressing here—no one to whom I can talk

Leaving her quietly as I go for a walk

Walking up to our memory garden to reminisce and pray

Needing someone to tell me she will be okay

But the tears keep falling—what am I supposed to do

How are we supposed to go living mom—everyday without you?

Days-weeks-months go by you are now not able to eat

But you are a survivor—strong not giving in to defeat

Your drinking liquids is now becoming less and less

Closing your tired eyes slowly-you only want to rest

Laying back in your chair as it eventually begins to recline

I know in my soul-it's just a matter of time

On Saturday, August 19, 2017 at 8:15 it was time for us to part

But you shall remain in everyone's life, "Our Queen of Hearts"

~~~~~

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**The Following Submissions are from the SPENCERS WRITERS' GROUP. The group meets at the Richard Sugden Library the 1st Monday of the month from 5-7. All are welcome!**

**Two with a Choice**  
BY SHARON ROSS LEGASEY, SPENCER, MA

Having just cleaned the sliding glass door, I sat a minute enjoying the freshness of the morning. Suddenly a small moth fluttered into my view.  
Realizing he was inside with me, I got up from my cushioned chair, slid the door open a crack and brushed him toward the opening. Carried on a gentle breeze he flew out into the freedom of the sun.  
A few minutes later, another moth fluttered into my vision. So I got up from my chair and tried brushing him gently toward the opening in the crack of the door. But he flew off in the opposite direction. I repeated the same steps three more times, he just traveled deeper into the corner away from the door. Exhausted he finally fell in between the slits in the slider and trapped himself. Unable to free him, I sat down and waited in hopes that another opportunity would come by.  
As I watched my thoughts began to wonder how closely related people are to those moths. Don't we too try to find answers by depending only on ourselves?  
Choosing freedom isn't always easy. It needs to be accompanied with understanding, patience, trust and love. Sometimes we need other's wisdom to show a path of less resistance. Maybe we should consider letting go of our own plan and trusting another's plan. Something new, a new idea! After all none of us are meant to be all-knowing.  
From a gospel point of view this story explains a lot. There is nothing we can do to convince anyone of the truth of the gospel, all we can do is explain its precepts, freedoms and promises. God has given us each a will and the right to choose. All we can do is wait for another opportunity to come by.

**The Hobby Story**  
BY JACOB CONWAY, AGE 13,  
N. BROOKFIELD

Many colors red, blue, and green  
You could give them all to me  
Place each piece one at a time  
Or many..... Just flip a dime!  
Alone or with a friend  
Created structures form in the end  
Sit there and do it all night  
And you could find a great delight  
Get some as a gift or buy them at a store  
Either way, you will want more  
I've done it for a while  
But each time I pick it up,,,,, I smile  
This I really love to do  
Even with the bug called, the "flu"  
I like this more than all the shows  
These small wonderful things called Legos

**Meme's Tourtie're Pie**  
BY SUZANNE VASHUGIN, HOLDEN, MA

Meme' had six pie crusts lined up on the oak wood table waiting to be filled with something delicious. It wasn't easy for Meme' to roll out the dough to make her crusts. Being eighty-nine years young and confined to a wheelchair meant that she had to be wheeled up close to the table with her wheels securely locked in order to push the heavy wooden rolling pin. She lovingly created each quarter inch thick circle. Then carefully folded each one in half and fit it snugly in its glass pie home. I loved to watch her gentle fingers mold each crust with perfect precision.  
My eyes remained transfixed on each empty shell with great anticipation. What wonderful filling would give each of them life? Would it be the apples I could smell with a touch of cinnamon that were sitting in a bowl on the kitchen counter? Or would it be the bubbling blueberry mixture that was simmering in a pan on the stove?  
Meme' always had her flower apron on for these occasions. At this moment, her apron, arms and hands were lightly dusted with flour. "Meme', what kind of fillings are you going to use?" I asked. "Five different kinds, child," she replied. "Of course, I'm going to make an apple, blueberry, pumpkin and chocolate cream, but I also need to make two Tourtie're pies," she continued. "Tourtie're pie, what kind is that?" I inquired.  
"It's a French kind of meat pie. Don you remember it from last Thanksgiving? I make it every year," Meme' replied. "No, I don't. I only remember having a huge piece of chocolate cream pie. It was so good! Is Tourtie're pie sweet like chocolate cream pie?" I asked. "No, Tourtie're pie tastes almost like meatloaf in a crust. Your dad and cousin Josh like putting ketchup on it. Are you going to try it?" Meme' asked. "Yes, but I'm going to top it with whipped cream, not ketchup," I replied. "Well, that certainly is a combination that I've never tried in my eighty-nine years! You'll have to let me know if you like it," Meme' playfully responded.

**How to get rid of a Mustache**  
BY GINGER CAMARDA, E. BROOKFIELD, MA

About a year after Joe's heart surgery he cut himself while shaving. He decided to grow a mustache to cover the scar. No one had ever seen him with a mustache; not his wife, or his kids, or his friends. No one liked it, but after all he had serious heart problems, so they thought it might be better to leave well enough alone.  
His wife knew that if she admitted how much she hated it, it would be there forever. His friends called Juan Valdez, the man with a mustache in the Columbian coffee commercial back in the nineties. If it wasn't Juan Valdez, it was the guy with a mustache in the Dunkin' Donut commercial. They would holler, "Hey Joe, it's time to make the donuts!" None of these bothered him. He thought it was funny. It Was! And the mustache was still alive on his upper lip. Everyone endured the mustache until about a year later when his daughter was going through some old photographs.

There we some of Joe without a mustache which prompted her to remark, "Wow Dad! You look so young in these pictures!"  
The next day the mustache was gone – No questions asked!  
~~~~~  
BY LINDA JONES, E BROOKFIELD
Every night I like to take a walk around dusk, but last night as I walked past the pond I heard a loud, "Huff!" followed by heavy footsteps in the underbrush. I stood very still. I was so very frightened as our neighbor had seen a big black bear in her yard. She said the bear came close to her house. He took down the bird feeders and brought them with him.
I didn't know what to do. Should I keep quiet or should I try to make it back to the house? Everything was so very quiet. Had the bear heard me or was he waiting for me to make a move? Why didn't I bring a flashlight with me or even my cane?
I was starting to tremble and I was so afraid to move, but I knew I had to do something. It had gotten darker and I thought that was good. Maybe this bear had poor eyesight!
So very gingerly I moved as quietly as I could and I made it to the road and then home. I was so glad to be home and safe. I haven't been out walking by the pond again at dusk.

Make it a Great Day
BY JOAN BEDARD, E. BROOKFIELD, MA

It's raining, It's pouring and old people could still be in bed snoring!
I opened my eyes to realize it was raining and thought about my plans for the day. It should be the day to put away my summer clothes.
I opened the closet door to see an array of sweaters, shirts, scarves, shawls, shoes, sneakers, slippers, slacks, skirts and more stuff all in a small space! "This just might not be the day to do this! I'll have my second cup of coffee and watch the rest of 'Good Moring America'."
I realized this is Thursday morning and the local newspaper, "The Spencer Leader," comes today. "I wonder if my story will be in the 'The Write Stuff'."
When the mailman came, I went right out to the mailbox. I didn't even bother to put my shoes on first. It sure feels good to splash-splash in the warm water of the puddles in the driveway! This is a great day! We won't have many more of these, as it will soon be winter with snowy, slippery icy roads.
I also think about my age, "Do I have years, months, weeks or days left of my life? I have to use this time to enjoy each day, and cleaning my closet doesn't fall into that category."
Well, it stopped rain. Here comes the sun! "I'll get my car keys and go out today. In a few weeks, we'll have those slippery, icy roads and I'll have lots of days to clean closets."
"I intend to do this soon! But, maybe something better will deter my good intentions and it would be late winter. Time does go by so fast, it will soon be Spring and Summer again and I'll need those clothes. Maybe I'll leave them, I'll be ahead of schedule!"

An excerpt from Puppy Love
BY R D ROLLINS, RUTLAND, MA

It was in the spring of 1962 I was fifteen years old and I wanted to find some summer work, a part time summer job. I was determined that I wasn't going to spend another summer playing whiffle ball and hide and seek, although I greatly enjoyed hide and seek when Sue Ellen Gallant played, for we would hide together.
I asked my dad for his advice, but as always, his answer was not simple, it meant work on my part.
I compiled a list of all the potential employment opportunities within walking distance of our apartment, on the next day I embarked on my quest.
My first stop was White's Five & Dime, Mr. White told me that he wasn't hiring. "Things are slow. Ever since this Kennedy guy got elected the economy has gone to hell," he said as he looked up from his morning paper.
The manager at the A & O told me, without even asking me my age, that I had to be sixteen. "Besides I have all the help I need. There are no openings," he informed me. While passing the coffee grinder I inhaled the aroma that lingered in the air. Man, I would love to be the guy who ground the coffee.
At the Smithfield Ice Cream Shoppe, a gorgeous girl with an ebony black pny tail and ruby red lips told me I could come back after 1:00 to see the manager, she added that she knew that he wasn't hiring. I things she like me for she gave me a wink as I thanked her.
The guy at the Lincoln Seafood Restaurant told me he needed weekend help; a busboy and a dishwasher but, "You have to be sixteen. You don't look sixteen kid," he told me.
I skipped going to Lee Wong's Chinese, for my buddy Gerry once told me that they trap and butcher the neighborhood cats to use in their Chow Mien, I wanted to part of that!
The manager at Syd's Hardware, who was standing high on a ladder stacking cans of paint, told me "Get lots kid!"
Old Tomasco Ferro the cobbler asked in his fractured English, "What da hell do you a know about fixing a leather shoes?" I answered and quickly left.
With deep disappointment I turned to the last entry on my list, Curtin's Market. What eh heck my mother was a regular there.
Now Mr. Saul Curtin was a bull of a man, six feet tall and four feet wide. Although I never witnessed it firsthand it was rumored that he possessed a terrible temper. He'd go after kids with a ball bat if he caught them stealing from his candy rack.
"Rollins, sure I know you. Your mother has an account with me. 26 Duxbury Rd, second floor. You know something I will need someone in a couple of weeks. My guy Ernie has been drafted. How old are you buddy?" he asked.
With reluctance I answered, "Fifteen Sir, I'll be sixteen this fall," I added, hoping to better my chances.
"No, no, you got to be sixteen... sorry buddy," he said. Mr. Curtin addressed all the men and boys as 'buddy' and all the ladies and girls as 'sister'.
Disappointed and frustrated I walked back home with my head hung low.....

INTO MY KINGDOM COME
BY SUE ANGELA HEALY,
NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

It's now 11:30 in the morning and I am still in bed
I slowly turn over on my pillow with the blankets cover my head
It's been over two years since my daughter has died
But I can't eat-sleep or function-all I do is cry
Since my daughter took her life mine is not the same
Why did this happen-who is really to blame
Trying to read the newspaper but simply can't concentrate
Walking from one room to another my heart pounding at a high rate
Looking out the window but I can't manage to go out the door
Even a task like making coffee seems like a day long chore
I don't go to functions with my family or talk on the phone with friends
My days and nites seem forever and never seem to end
Trying to go to church to sit in a quiet pew to pray
Yet the emptiness is always with me and just won't go away
Sometimes I manage to make myself some dinner but then I just can't eat
Taking a few bites out of food but then I feel defeat
Closing my eyes I hear her laughter and see her beautiful smile
If only she could have been able to cope and stay a little while
My heart in two is broken—I can't get thru the pain
Why was my Phoebe bullied--why did her life this came
Many times I called and spoke to teachers at her school
Why wasn't she safe--what happened to the golden rule?
What gives another human being the right to cause a death
Over and over in my head—that day I can't forget
If only I could have saved her – I only wish I knew
How do you think you would feel if this tragedy happened to you?
I would do anything to one day feel a calm
As I'm sure you now pray for your child there comes no harm
Our beloved teenage Phoebe—I miss you every day
Please look for signs from your girl or boy—listen to what they say
Growing up today is more difficult than years ago
People keep feelings locked inside and try not to let them show
When you suddenly lose a child—a part of you is gone
Recalling special memories you shared together
and the day that they were born
You wish you could hold onto them tightly—until the day is done
But then you realize God has called them home
Saying "Into My Kingdom Come"

Thanksgiving
BY MICHAEL BUGBEE, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Turkey is golden brown and nice and tender
Hungry with all the mouth watering food
Apple pie fresh out of the oven
November is the month where the celebrating is
Kitchen where the food is made
Stuffing is always stuffed in the turkey
Gravy flowing down the turkey
Indian corn always the best
Vegetables fresh out of the store ready to be cut and rinsed
Into leaves here we come
Napkins on lap so nothing spills on your pants
Grateful is the big word everyone uses when the talk about the Thanksgiving dinner

Thanks For Giving
BY MARIA CLARKE, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Thank you for the roof over my head
Ham is a good food to have on this day
Autumn is the season where this day occurs
Native Americans are history to all
Kitchen, the best place to go for food
Stuffing the turkey is always the best
Gravy is always good with turkey
Ice Cream is good for dessert
Vegetables are the best thing to give on Thanksgiving
Invite your family to harvest with you
Nuts are my family's favorite side to have
Gobble all the food you can and have fun

Thanksgiving
BY ETHAN LE, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Thanksgiving is a great time of the year. It's a time where people can show that they care! The thing that I enjoy doing on Thanksgiving is mostly spending time with my family. I also like to enjoy a nice warm meal with my family such as turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, or drinks. Thanksgiving is a day that people can show they are thankful. I am most thankful for a good family, lots of food to eat, lots of friends, a nice house, and a good school! The most important people to me are my dad, my mom, and my two sisters. Whenever I think of Thanksgiving, the words "yummy, yummy, yummy" come to my mind! I don't know why! I feel like everyone should be thankful and caring on Thanksgiving!

Turkey Day
BY CONNOR PARKE, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Turkey Day also known also known as Thanksgiving is a day to spend time with family and friends. Also, when the guests arrive on the front step they can already smell the sizzling turkey in the oven as if they were a mile away. When the family and friends come inside they see a long table with a nice table cloth full of rolls, cranberry sauce, stuffing and a lot of food, but the main reason we celebrate Thanksgiving is to give thanks to others.
Everyone hears the wonderful sound of "Ding"!!! Then everyone goes running to the table as if they were like the turkeys running from the hunters. When everyone is settled, they see a big platter with the turkey on it and their stomachs growl like a lion. After that, they all grab what they want and then they say, "Dig in!!!" During dinner you can hear the sound of people craving for more and more until they get stuffed like the turkey.
After dinner, everyone goes and sits down to chill out and let their stomachs settle before dessert. The adults go downstairs to go get the kids for dessert. Then for dessert the family had pudding, trifle, cookies, cake and a bunch of other deserts, but then the day comes to an end and the other family and friends start to leave as the kids start to fall asleep and the hosts start to clean up. They will never forget how amazing their Thanksgiving Day was.

Welcome Here
BY HALEIGH PARKINSON, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Family, Friends come to the table
My mother makes a maple pie
Which looks delightful to the eye
The turkey smells like applewood
Which spreads through the air
Hopefully there is turkey to spare
Maple, pecan, apples bloom
Thanksgiving has come
I thank you for being here
To celebrate this holiday
When it comes near

My Thanksgiving Poem
BY KYLA DAVIS, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Take a turkey, stuff it fat
Some of this, some of that.
Get some turnips, peel them well,
Cook a big squash in its shell.
Now potatoes big and white
Mash 'til they're soft and light.
Cranberries, so tart and sweet,
With turkey we must eat!
Pickles-yes-then oh, my!
For dessert pumpkin pie
Golden brown, spicy sweet,
What a Thanksgiving treat!

Thanksgiving Day
BY DESTINY RIVAS, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Every thanksgiving we gather around, and during the grace, we don't make a sound
Throughout the day, we all share our love and for the meal we thank the God above
Turkeys and stuffing, they fill us right up, but the fun has just begun
The football game has started up, and we have all the snacks so we're in luck.
Soon the game's over, and it's getting pretty late, we're going to visit grandpa and we can't wait.
But then the day closes to a quick end and next year we will start this again

Poor Turkeys
BY SADIE CONNERY, GR. 6,
LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

It almost the important date, run away turkeys before it's too late!
The turkeys are being turned into food, which I consider very rude.
The turkeys are getting plump on the farm, and don't expect any harm.
Mashed potatoes with turkey on the side.
Run away turkeys run and hide!
Poor turkeys they can't fight back, I just wish that they just could attack, but the good thing is that I have an empty tummy, and I think turkeys are also yummy.



LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 5 North Brookfield Road, Spencer, MA

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Joseph S. Gebo, Jr., to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Firststar Bank, N.A. and now held by Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc., said mortgage dated March 24, 2014, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 52633, Page 240, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Firststar Bank, N.A. to Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. by assignment dated March 2, 2016 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 55027, Page 277; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on December 12, 2017 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

All the land with the buildings thereon, situated in that part of said Spencer, called Hillsville, on a town road leadings from Hillsville to North Brookfield, bounded and described as follows:

On the north by said road;
On the East by land formerly of Louis Cassavant;
On the South by the Second described tract herein conveyed; and
On the West by land formerly of Ovid Letendre.

Also another tract adjoining the above described tract on the South and bounded on the North by land formerly of L. Fox, and the above described tract;
On the East by land former of Ford and Fleming and land formerly of Mrs. L. H. Hill;

On the South by land former of one Fox; and
On the West by land formerly of the heirs of S. Hill;

Said premises are conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all easements, covenants, reservations and restrictions of record so far as they may still be in full force and effect.

Meaning and intending to convey the same premises conveyed to the Grantor by deed of Hulda J. Gebo dated January 16, 1982 and recorded March 13, 1981, with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 7189, Page 54.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated March 24, 2014, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 52633, Page 238.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP
1080 Main Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Attorney for Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc.
Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 272-1400

November 10, 2017
November 17, 2017
November 24, 2017

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Edward McCutcheon to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for GMH Mortgage Services LLC, dated June 18, 2014 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 52445, Page 153, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for GMH Mortgage Services Inc. to PennyMac Loan Services, LLC dated December 23, 2015 and recorded with said registry on December 28, 2015 at Book 54751 Page 316 and by assignment from PennyMac Loan Services, LLC to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development dated December 16, 2016 and recorded with said registry on March 24, 2017 at Book 56889 Page 278 and by assignment from Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for the RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT dated February 8, 2017 and recorded with said registry on March 24, 2017 at Book 56889 Page 281, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 p.m. on December 4, 2017, on the mortgaged premises located at 43 HASTINGS ROAD, SPENCER, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

A certain tract or land situated in that part of said Spencer called Lower Wire Village, and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the road from Spencer to North Spencer, at land now or formerly of Wickwire Spencer Steel Company;
Thence Northerly by the west line of said road, about 509 feet to a point at the intersection of a road leading to Millsville;

Thence Northwesterly by said Millsville Road about 164 feet to a point at land now or formerly of Charles A. Derby;
Thence S. 13° 10' N. 427 feet to a point;
Thence S. 1° 25' W. 119 feet to a point at land now or formerly of said company;
Thence S. 81° 56' E. 139 feet to the place of beginning.

Excepting from the above described premises, however, a small tract conveyed by Francis G. Berthiaumeet ux to Michael Soboleski recorded in Book 3535, Page 449.

For title reference see deed recorded herewith. Book 524425 Page 147

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 52445, Page 147.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California Street
Newton, MA 02458
(617) 558-0500
201512-0089 - PRP

November 10, 2017
November 17, 2017
November 24, 2017

Notice of Public Hearing- Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:15p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Special Permit- Applicant: 116 Main St Spencer, LLC; Owner: Dmitry Bykhovsky. Location:116 Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map U07/04. The applicant is requesting Special Permit under Sections 4.9.3 (Nonconformity Uses) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to continue use of the previously approved special permit from June, 28, 1994 to have an auto show room with auto sales and repairs. The property is located within the Town Center zoning district.

Interested Parties may review these applications at the Office of Development & Inspectional Services in Memorial Town Hall located at 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562, during regular business hours from 7:30am-4:30pm Monday-Wednesday and 7:30am-12:00pm on Thursdays. The ZBA is committed to ensuring that its public meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Should you require auxiliary aids, services, written materials in other formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, please call 508-885-7500 ext. 180 in advance of the scheduled meeting.
November 24, 2017
December 1, 2017

Notice of Special Public Hearing- Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday **December 5, 2017** in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, on the following item(s) starting at 7:00PM or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Major Site Plan Review/ Stormwater Permit- Applicant: Joseph Bartzis, Sunpin Massachusetts Opus Centrum, LLC; Owner: Joseph and Susan Foley, Location: North Brookfield Road; Spencer Assessor's Map

R39/14. The applicant is requesting a Major Site Plan Review under Section 7.4 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw Zoning to install a solar farm. The property is located within the Rural Residential zoning district.

Interested Parties may review these applications at the Office of Development & Inspectional Services in Memorial Town Hall located at 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562, during regular business hours from 7:30-4:30 Monday-Wednesday.

The Planning Board is committed to ensuring that its public meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Should you require auxiliary aids, services, written materials in other formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, please call 508-885-7500 ext. 180 in advance of the scheduled meeting."
November 17, 2017
November 24, 2017

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO17P3626EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: Wayne G Howe Date of Death: 08/29/2017

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **William W Dame of Spencer MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **William W Dame of Spencer MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/12/2017.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 08, 2017
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 24, 2017

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO17P3635EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: Mary Frances Rizzelli Also known as: Mary Fran Rizzelli Date of Death: 10/10/2017

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **George R. Pacific, Jr of Marlborough MA and William D. Rizzelli, II of Brookfield, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **George R. Pacific, Jr of Marlborough MA and William D. Rizzelli, II of Brookfield, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/26/2017.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 08, 2017
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 24, 2017

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO17P3571GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 In the matter of: Barbara Bengle Of: West Warren, MA RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Dept of Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Barbara Bengle** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Paul Andersen of West Warren, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **12/05/2017.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 3, 2017
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 24, 2017

may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 08, 2017
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 24, 2017

TOWN OF EAST BROOKFIELD PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX CLASSIFICATION
The Board of Selectmen for the Town of East Brookfield will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. in the Memorial Town Complex at 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield, Massachusetts, to discuss the percentage of the tax levy to be borne by each class of real and personal property for Fiscal Year 2018, pursuant to Chapter 369 of the Acts of Massachusetts General Laws relating to classification and taxation of property according to use.
November 24, 2017

Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Board of Health

At the regularly scheduled Board of Health meeting to be held on Monday, December 4th, 2017 in Conference Room B, of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Proposed Donation Box Regulations
Interested Parties may review these applications at the Office of Development & Inspectional Services in Memorial Town Hall during regular business hours.
November 24, 2017

Burncoat Pond Watershed District

Tax Rate Setting December 12, 2017 Leicester Town Hall Evening Meeting Room # 3 6:00PM
November 24, 2017

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608

Docket No. WO17P3571GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 In the matter of: Barbara Bengle Of: West Warren, MA RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Dept of Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Barbara Bengle** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Paul Andersen of West Warren, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **12/05/2017.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 3, 2017
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 24, 2017

IMPERIAL HYUNDAI

"WE'VE COME HOME!" Imperial has opened a brand new Hyundai dealership at our 154 East Main Street home in Milford.

HYUNDAI Assurance America's Best Warranty 10-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty

Our Low Overhead Means Low Prices! • Now Servicing all Makes and Models!

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MEGA USED CAR OUTLET STORE

Whether I give you more for your trade or charge you less for your new car, our bottom line price is going to be the **BEST BUY FAR!**

OVER 700 USED CARS IN STOCK AND READY FOR DELIVERY!

MONTH-LONG BLACK FRIDAY SALES EVENT

20% OFF ON OUR MOST POPULAR MODELS

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Bad Credit? Don't Sweat it. We finance your future not your past.

<p>Brand Spankin' New 2018 Hyundai Elantra</p> <p>• America's best warranty • SE Trim • 4 cyl economy • iPod Input • Power Package</p> <p>SAVE \$7,700 MSRP: \$19,095</p> <p>BUY FOR: \$11,377 LEASE FOR \$159/MO. 36 MOS. • \$1,999 DOWN 10,000 MILES/YEAR</p>	<p>Brand Spankin' New 2017 Hyundai Santa Fe</p> <p>• Sport Trim • All Wheel Drive • 17" Alloy wheels • Bluetooth • Fuel Efficient</p> <p>SAVE \$9,000 MSRP: \$30,060</p> <p>BUY FOR: \$20,977 LEASE FOR \$229/MO. 36 MO. LEASE • \$2,249 DOWN 12,000 MILES/YEAR</p>
<p>Brand Spankin' New 2017 Hyundai Accent</p> <p>• 4 cyl economy • SE Trim • iPod Input • Power Package • Automatic • America's Best Warranty</p> <p>SAVE \$6,800 MSRP: \$16,755</p> <p>JUST REDUCED TO: \$9,977</p>	<p>Brand Spankin' New 2017 Hyundai Veloster</p> <p>• Spoiler • Front Wheel Drive • 17" Alloy wheels • Bluetooth • Back-Up Camera • Hatchback</p> <p>SAVE \$7,200 MSRP: \$35,355</p> <p>JUST REDUCED TO: \$24,977</p>
<p>Brand Spankin' New 2017 Hyundai Sonata</p> <p>• SE Trim • Bluetooth • Back-Up Camera • iPod Input • 16" Alloys</p> <p>SAVE \$8,400 MSRP: \$22,785</p> <p>BUY FOR: \$14,377 LEASE FOR \$199/MO. 36 MOS. • \$2,399 DOWN 12,000 MILES/YEAR</p>	<p>Brand Spankin' New 2017 Hyundai Tucson</p> <p>• Bluetooth • 17" Alloy wheels • Back-Up Camera • SE Trim • America's Best Warranty</p> <p>SAVE \$7,700 MSRP: \$26,045</p> <p>BUY FOR: \$18,377 LEASE FOR \$179/MO. 36 MOS. • \$2,999 DOWN 12,000 MILES/YEAR</p>
<p>Brand Spankin' New 2017 Hyundai Azera</p> <p>• America's best warranty • V6 economy • 18" Alloy wheels • Dual exhaust • Push button start</p> <p>SAVE \$10,300 MSRP: \$35,355</p> <p>JUST REDUCED TO: \$24,977</p>	<p>Brand Spankin' New 2016 GENESIS 3.8 Coupe</p> <p>Leather Trim • Keyless Start • Sport Suspension • 18" Alloy wheels • Bluetooth • Traction Control</p> <p>SAVE \$9,100 MSRP: \$29,130</p> <p>JUST REDUCED TO: \$19,999 AS LOW AS \$218/MONTH</p>

<p>2011 GMC SIERRA 1500</p> <p>#1711A • VORTEC V6, WORK TRUCK, TRACTION CONTROL</p> <p>\$10,988 AS LOW AS \$120/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2016 RAM 1500 4X4</p> <p>#37938B • QUAD CAB, BEDLINER, 5.7L V8 HEMI, 16K MILES</p> <p>\$25,344 AS LOW AS \$277/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$4,200 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2008 TOYOTA TACOMA</p> <p>#H7021A • REG. CAB, GREAT ON GAS, BRAKE ASSIST</p> <p>\$11,999 AS LOW AS \$131/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2014 RAM 1500 4X4</p> <p>#D8567 • HEATED SEATS, QUAD CAB, ALLOYS, BIG HORN TRIM</p> <p>\$25,377 AS LOW AS \$277/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2012 CHEVY SILVERADO</p> <p>#117415A • 1500 WORK TRUCK, REG. CAB, FUEL EFFICIENT</p> <p>\$13,988 AS LOW AS \$153/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2014 FORD F-150 4X4</p> <p>#17346A • SUPERCREW CAB, ALLOYS, TOW HITCH, BEDLINER</p> <p>\$25,988 AS LOW AS \$284/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2009 FORD F-150 4X4</p> <p>#D8694 • SUPER CAB, TRACTION CONTROL, 5.4L V8</p> <p>\$16,988 AS LOW AS \$186/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2014 FORD F-150 4X4</p> <p>#38257 • XLT TRIM, FLEX FUEL, BLUETOOTH, 5.0L V8</p> <p>\$26,444 AS LOW AS \$289/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$2,100 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2008 CHEVY SILVERADO</p> <p>#P11157A • 1500 LT, CREW CAB, 4X4, 17" ALLOY WHEELS</p> <p>\$18,988 AS LOW AS \$207/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$2,300 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2015 RAM 1500 EXPRESS</p> <p>#D814L • QUAD CAB, 4X4, V8, 20" ALLOYS, BEDLINER</p> <p>\$26,977 AS LOW AS \$295/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$2,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2012 RAM 1500 SLT</p> <p>#17410A • 4X4, TRAILER HITCH, REG. CAB, BED LINER, 5.7L V8</p> <p>\$19,977 AS LOW AS \$218/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2012 NISSAN TITAN V8</p> <p>#P11178 • 4X4, ALLOY WHEELS, CREW CAB, IPOD INPUT</p> <p>\$26,988 AS LOW AS \$295/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,700 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2009 FORD F-150 4X4</p> <p>#17795A • SUPERCREW, HEATED LEATHER, TRAILER HITCH, V8</p> <p>\$20,988 AS LOW AS \$229/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$2,700 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2017 NISSAN FRONTIER</p> <p>#D8580R • KING CAB, SV TRIM, 4X4, ALLOYS, ONLY 4K MILES</p> <p>\$26,988 AS LOW AS \$295/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$2,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>
<p>2010 CHEVY SILVERADO</p> <p>#38450A • 1500 LT, CREW CAB, Z71 TRIM, 4X4, 5.3 V8, ALLOYS</p> <p>\$20,988 AS LOW AS \$229/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$1,300 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>	<p>2013 FORD F-150 4X4</p> <p>#17668A • SUPERCREW CAB, V8, TOW HITCH, IPOD INPUT</p> <p>\$27,855 AS LOW AS \$304/MONTH</p> <p>PRICED \$2,900 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>

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