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Tri-Community Y plans open house for kids

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Tri-Community YMCA's Healthy Kids Day is coming on March 18. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the YMCA will be bustling with demonstrations, activities and presentations, the gym full of tables set up by organizations who will offer services and information to families who attend the free event.

The goal of the national YMCA event is to offer families information on how to live healthier lives by taking advantage of the programs, organizations and businesses in the area. This year's Healthy Kids Day theme is Charge into Summer.

"We want to kick-start healthy behaviors because summer is a critical out-of-school time where there's more concern for children's health issues," said preschool & family coordinator Erin Kirschner. "It's a kick start for parents to start thinking about what their kids can do over the



Courtesy photos

Turn To **OPEN HOUSE** page **A11** Kids have fun meeting the Healthy Duck!

Week teaches students... and community... about Skills

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – Bay Path Vocational Technical High School participated in their first ever SkillsUSA promotion week on Feb. 5 through Feb. 11. While Bay Path is no stranger to SkillsUSA, the week of promotion and awareness is something new in which SkillsUSA invited vocational schools participate.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to "ensure America has a skilled workforce," by helping students excel through competitive and educational events. While Bay Path and other area schools have been participating in the leadership programs and prestigious competitions for years, a lot of people in the local commu-

nities are not fully aware of what SkillsUSA is all about.

That's where the SkillsUSA Week came in.

On Feb. 6 the school watched a video from Mike Rowe — of Dirty Jobs fame — who discussed the SkillsUSA program and how important it is for businesses. According to business technology instructor Jennifer Stachura, Rowe has been a big supporter of the skills program, which he believes creates a more "engaged and skilled workforce."

There was a professional member breakfast for teachers who agreed to be a part of SkillsUSA on Tuesday. Then — one of the biggest days of SkillsUSA Week — was Advocacy Day on Wednesday.

Bay Path went out into the

Turn To **SKILLS** page **A13**

Taste of the sea: Chowda!



Olivia Richman photos

Colby and Dillon Pecore enjoyed tasting the different chowders.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE – The Tri-Community Exchange Club's eighth annual Chowder Fest drew in huge crowds on Feb. 19. The Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center was packed with hungry families looking

to try out various chowders served by local restaurants. Participants could also vote for their favorite chowders, buy raffle tickets for a silent auction and listen to live music. The money raised at the Chowder Fest went towards the Tri-Community Exchange Club's

efforts throughout the community, helping out families in need.

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by email at olivia@stonebridgepress.com

Turn To **CHOWDER FEST** page **A8**



Photos courtesy of Mark Ashton Lund

Director Mark Lund with Brooke Blahut and Isabella Ramirez, two actresses in his fourth film, "Serpentine," which had scenes filmed in Sturbridge and other nearby communities.

Sturbridge serves as backdrop for movie

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE – International intrigue! Political scandals! Intense sporting events! Successful independent film director and writer Mark Ashton Lund returned to Sturbridge to film important pivotal scenes for his fourth film, "Serpentine," a political thriller that revolves around the sport of figure skating.

After visiting Sturbridge the past two years for screenings of his film "Justice Is Mind" at Cinemagic, Lund returned in late fall 2016 to film at local author Al Mercado's ranch house. The beauty of the neighborhood and the colorful foliage were "just right" for the film, adding to Lund's excitement over the location, which he has grown to love over the years.

"Sturbridge, of course, is a very beautiful town," said Lund. "It was the perfect location for these scenes. Filming is not an easy process. There's

so many people involved, even in relatively simple scenes. We wanted to film where we were welcomed, in a familiar area. It really helped with the scene."

Fans of Lund's past films and locals looking to spot their town on the big screen can catch the world premiere of "Serpentine" on March 6 at the Strand Theater in Clinton. "Justice is Mind" will show first at 7 p.m., followed by a screening of the first 10 minutes of "Serpentine."

The actors and crew will also be available to meet with and speak with before and after the film, which Lund called a "true independent cinema experience."

Following the premiere, "Serpentine" will also be available on Amazon and other VOD platforms, read a press release.

If the 10-minute preview of "Serpentine" is well received, Lund hopes to bring it back to the area once it's a full-length

Turn To **MOVIE** page **A6**

Preschool programs in area towns gives a boost

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Family Foundations 5's free programs are in full swing and families are invited to drop in.

The programs, which are funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education & Care, are located in Brimfield, Brookfield, Sturbridge, Fiskdale, Wales and Holland, offering families in

more rural areas a chance to interact with each other.

One of 146 programs running in Massachusetts, Family Foundation 5's program mission is to bring early literacy and community engagement to pre-schoolers. The two-hour programs include a play group, story time, circle time, projects and free play. There are also special programs held through-

out each season, free book giveaways and special speakers and seminars for parents.

But for grant coordinator Karen Distefano, it's the interactions between families that truly makes the programs important to the area.

"Being in a semi-rural environment," she explained, "some of our families have a lot of

Turn To **PRESCHOOL** page **A3**

5 Major Health Hazards that you could have in your home

We want our home to be a safe place for us and our family but if we are not aware of the potential hazards in our home we run the risk of it harming our family. I have listed below several of the hazards and rem-

edies to the problems:
Lead Paint Hazards – This is typically found in home built before 1978 and is caused by peeling paint, Doors or windows that have lead paint and the dust rubs off when opening

and closing, or mouthable surfaces. When we think about lead paint I think most people just think it is a hazard for children which it is illegal to have a child living in a home that has known lead paint hazards and the child is under 6 years old. The reason for this is the size of the child and how the concentration can effect the child. Your dogs and cats are part of your family and they can also suffer lead poisoning as well as adults in larger concentrations. To remediate you would hire a lead inspector to check all areas of the home for lead and provide a report and a licensed deleader will professionally remove the lead paint by encapsulating, removed, and/or scraping the paint.

Asbestos – This was used because it is an incredible insulator and I have seen it used for siding on a home, floor tiles, ceiling tiles, insulation for steam pipes and also in



REALTOR'S
REPORT

JAMES
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which will not eliminate radon but should bring it to a safe level. It can also be removed from the water by installing an Aeration system which should take out about 99% of the radon in the water.

Arsenic – According to the Center for Disease Control Arsenic can enter the water supply from natural deposits in the earth or from industrial and agricultural pollution. Long term exposure to high levels of arsenic can cause cancer and other developmental defects. Arsenic can be removed by reverse osmosis systems which are used to treat a specific faucet or a whole house system may also be installed.

Mold – As we are getting our homes sealed up and more energy efficient we see more issues with this come up. Some of the common areas you will see mold is the attic because there is not proper ventilation,

Turn To **REALTOR'S** page **A3**



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The *Sturbridge Villager* (USPS#024-955) 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 Sturbridge Villager, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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How to get on the National Register

The Sturbridge Common: what is the process to be on the National Register of Historic Places and what does it mean?

The National Register of Historic Places in an honorary distinction granted by the National Park Service. It identifies and documents a building, area, or district as significant as to historic context, architecture, integrity of location, design, setting, or materials. The Sturbridge Common is an Historic District. It meets the National Park Service definition of a district as a “significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development.” The Sturbridge Common derives its unity and importance as the historic center of government, religion, industry, commerce, and residential area for the community.

The Sturbridge Common achieved the National Register designation in 1977. Achieving National Register designation may take one to two years for the multi-step process to be completed after the application is submitted. The process begins by contacting the state historic preservation office which is the Massachusetts Historical Commission. They provide the necessary information and forms required to document and evaluate the property for nomination. When the evaluation and documentation are completed the nomination is submitted to MHC. They notify the affected property owners and local government for comment. If the owner or in the case of a district a majority of owners object the property cannot be listed. It can: however, be forwarded to the National Park Service for a Determination of Eligibility for future consideration. Proposed nominations are reviewed by MHC and the state’s National Register Review Board. Completed and certified nominations are submitted to the National Park Service in Washington DC for final review and listing.

Properties are evaluated according to three main criteria; age, integrity, and significance. Age may be the easiest criteria to determine. A property must be 50 years old or older to be considered historic. It must look much the way it looked in the past; and, it must be associated with events, activities, or developments that were important in the past.

As was noted the Sturbridge Common is categorized as a district on the basis

of unity as the historic center of activity in the history of Sturbridge. A district may contain features of individual distinction and features that lack individual distinction; or, all of the components may lack individual distinction and still be considered if they represent a sense of time and place and historical development. Also, a district must have definable boundaries based on a shared relationship among the properties in the district.

There are seven aspects of integrity; Location - The physical place where the property was constructed,

Design – In the case of districts the way buildings are related as to spatial relationships, visual rhythms in a streetscape, layout and material of walkways and roads,

Setting- The physical environment either natural or manmade, in the case of districts the relationship between the property and its surroundings,

Materials – The choice and combination of the physical elements that reveal available materials and technologies at the time of construction; and, the property must be original,

Workmanship – Physical evidence of crafts of a culture or people within a given time period,

Feeling – The way physical elements reflect aspects of a culture; i.e. a barn may reflect agricultural life,

Association – The physical features convey a relationship to a historic event or person; i.e. Mount Vernon is associated with George Washington.

A significant property must be a good representative of an important part of history, architecture, engineering or culture. Significance is judged within the property or district’s historic context or where it occurs within a larger trend or pattern. One historic context of the Sturbridge Common is the predominance of buildings in the Federal and Greek Revival styles which were popular in the 19th century. Another is the trend from a New England theocratic government based in the church to a secular government based in a town hall.

While there are no restrictions on owners of buildings or districts that are on the National Register, there are ways a property can lose its designation from the National Park Service. If a building is renovated using modern materials such as vinyl siding, vinyl replacement windows, or altering the façade by making additions or changing

the placement of windows it will lose its integrity. A district may lose its designation if buildings are removed or changed over time or if new ones are added. This is referred to as “chipping away” at the historic integrity and character of a building or district. The loss may be felt by the owners through loss of historic and economic value and by the community through loss of a historical asset.

The benefits derived from a historic district like the Sturbridge Common are at the same time aesthetic, a source of pride, and economic. The continuity, spacing, streetscape, buildings and activities on the Common provide a sense of pride, calm, and stability. The fact that so much of Sturbridge history is visible on the Common is a source of pride and recognition of the efforts of the residents, businesses, and local government to maintain its historic character. It provides residents both adults and children the opportunity to experience and explore real history in their home town.

The Common is an economic engine for the community as a whole bringing people to Sturbridge for festivals, weddings and other celebrations, business meetings, and more. Owners may experience an increase in the value of their property on the Common, especially when the community recognizes the exceptional value of history and real estate businesses promote the National Register connection. The Common is attractive for heritage tourism; in this case, people who want to experience a small New England town. Plus, there is potential grant money for homeowners who want to historically renovate their homes; and, federal and state tax credits for businesses who want to rehabilitate their buildings.

Sturbridge is fortunate to have such a beautiful historical asset as the town Common. It is in our best interest to guard the integrity of the Common and to keep it on the National Register of Historic Places. In honor of the people who 40 years ago had the foresight to apply for the National Register of Historic Places designation, and for the people who faithfully maintain the buildings on the Common, and for the people who enjoy the Common for its history and beauty, and finally for ourselves and future generations it is important to preserve this historical asset.



ACCURACY WATCH

The Sturbridge Villager 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) 909-4140 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tuesday, Feb. 28

6:30 PM – Planning Board will meet at the Center Office Building

Wednesday, March 1

7:00 PM – Tantasqua Regional School Committee have a meeting at the TRJHS

Thursday, March 2

6 PM – The Conservation Committee will be meeting at the Center Office Building

6:30 PM – Sturbridge School Committee will meet at the Burgess



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| | Parent/Child Playgroup 10:30 am - 11:15 am Heritage Green, Sturbridge | Story Time 10:30 am - 11:15 am Water Public Library | STEAM Group 9:00 am - 11:00 am Brookfield Elementary | Story Time 10:00 am - 10:30 am Holland Public Library |

distance between them and their neighbors. For some families, especially with very young children who haven’t started school yet, they are isolated. The kids don’t have a lot of interaction. They rely on things at the library or things like what we are providing. This gives parents a place to go. It’s a safe environment to meet new people.”

Of course, the program is also a great way for children to get ready for kindergarten. The first hour is a “modified preschool class,” said Distefano. The children learn how to wait for things, learn how to take turns and get familiar with a variety of fine and gross motor skills.

The program also provides pre-screening for children that might not be developing on target. The instructors will recommend screening after noticing things that parents may not have been able to notice if they were home alone

with their child.

This year, Family Foundation 5 is also offering exciting new programs during the summer, an idea that Distefano has been planning since she took over the position. She is hoping to bring some of the programs out into the playgrounds in Sturbridge and Brookfield.

It’s obvious that Distefano is very passionate about the programs. She has been working as the facilitator for eight years. Over the years, she has seen children and families grow from participating in the programs.

“Some children or parents come in having a hard time,” she explained. “This is a mentoring environment, where they can talk to other mothers and fathers. It’s a safe place where nobody feels judged. We’ve all been there. When I was a new mother, I was surrounded by family. When we first moved here I didn’t know anybody.

PRESCHOOL

continued from page 1

There aren’t a lot of ways to get to know other people. It’s the support for the families...it’s an opportunity for them to get out of the house and be able to talk to other adults. It’s pretty cool. It’s a great environment.”

While there is a weekly schedule in place, there are also special events coming up.

The next special event is the Sensational Saturday, Dr. Seuss Birthday Party at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield on March 4.

There are no sign-ups required for the programs. For more information contact Distefano at union-61cfce@tantasqua.org.



New partnership return due date

The filing deadline for 2016 federal tax returns for calendar-year partnerships is March 15, 2017, a full month earlier than in past years. You can request an automatic six-month extension of time to file, until September 15, 2017, Need help? Contact our office.

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REALTOR’S

continued from page A2

or the bathroom because the bath fan is not being used or not sufficient to pull the air out of the room. I also many times see it in the basement or anywhere there was water penetration. If you can prevent high levels of moisture and have proper ventilation your chances of mold are less. I would definitely have a professional test and remediate any mold rather than taking it on yourself because when you remove the materials then the mold spores can become airborne and now you are getting it in areas that prior didn’t have mold.

If you suspect you have any of these hazards I strongly suggest not taking it lightly and have a professional in that field come look at it. If you are going to sell your home it is better to find any of these issues ahead of time rather than have them come up in an inspection. Ask your Real Estate Agent how you should specifically handle this on your home. If you are buying a home, it is crucial to know some of the hazards you should be concerned with and you can ask your Real Estate Agent and home inspector about having the items tested.




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Church plans program on financial management

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE – Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be hosting Financial Peace University starting March 12. The nine-week program is designed for people who are looking for different ways to manage money or deal with finance-related issues and stress, whether it be budgeting, investing, savings, retirement plans or getting rid of debt.

While Reverend Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt (who will be facilitating the sessions with her husband, Steve) said the program may be a “big commitment” — it’s \$93 per household — it

can truly change lives and make a huge difference for many people.

"I've seen it happen for myself and for other people," shared Roenfeldt. "When Steve and I first took this class, we had just gotten married. We were able to have a lot more open communication about money because of the class, which was huge. We also dumped our debt and were able to pay cash for tuition for graduate school in ways we weren't able to do before. It was a huge transformation about us. It lowered our stress level for sure by setting goals together."

The class provides a book, a set of CDs

and, most importantly, a supportive group of people who are there to listen and share their experiences and advice. The program is not only for people in debt or people struggling to get by. It's also for anyone who feels stressed about money or wants to find ways to manage or save it better. Feeling confident and less stressed is the bottom line.

"We don't shy away from discussing the challenges of life here," said Roenfeldt. "We are here to provide peace and guidance in the midst of these challenges."

For Roenfeldt and others who have taken the course in the past, seeing

the transformation in people throughout each week is “fun to see.” And for many, it’s another reason the church is the perfect place to host the program.

“This is a place to be together in the middle of challenges, but we are also here for the purpose of transformation,” explained Roenfeldt. “We believe God does something when we show up, here together.”

For more information on Financial Peace University, visit bethlehemsturbridge.org or call (508) 347-729. Roenfeldt can also be reached at pastorkirsten@bethlehemsturbridge.org.

Support group helps those grieving cope

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – The Bereavement Center at the Overlook wants you to know they are here for you. Their Grief Support Group meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The support group is a chance for people who are grieving to come together and share their experience.

"I often ask what the participants take away from this group," said volunteer Susan Fuller. "The response is that they don't feel as alone. I think that's vitally important and wish more people would take advantage of this program. I

see people come in, struggling. It really helps them move on, whether it takes a few months or a few years."

The lightly facilitated group offers people a chance to support one another and be there for others who are going through similar experiences. For people who have lost a friend, parent, sibling, child or grandparent, they soon find out that not many people can truly understand how they feel and what they're going through.

“People in these situations really benefit from some form of community,” explained Fuller, “but people often don’t understand what they’re going through and may avoid the subject, or disappeared alto-

gether. People sometimes don't know how to respond and it can be very hurtful. So now they're with people who really get it, who understand. And that's huge."

Right now, the Grief Support Groups are very small, with an average of five to ten people dropping in or coming regularly. While Fuller stated that larger groups she facilitated were quite functional as well, the smaller crowd makes for an intimate setting.

"They're all so supportive of one another," she continued. "One person will come up with something they're experiencing. For example, they'll talk about coming home to an empty house at the end of the

day, how hard that is. They'll look around the table and heads are nodding, the people really get it. They also share advice on different situations."

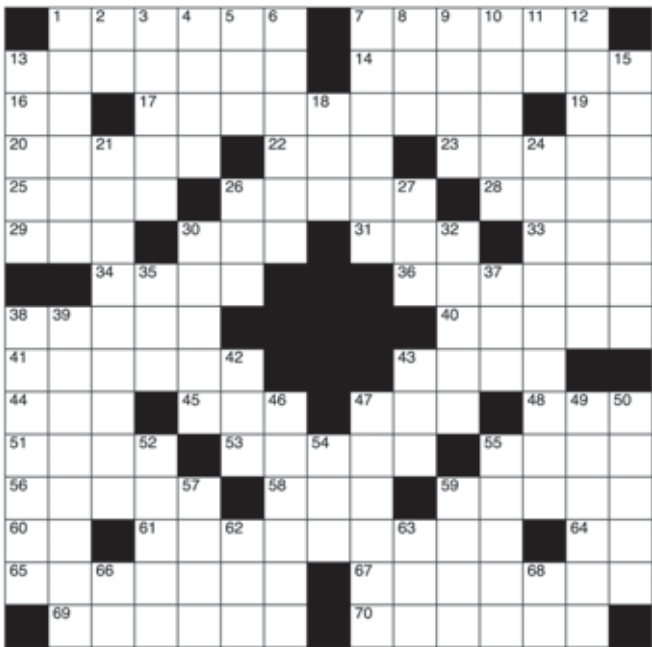
Not only does the Grief Support Group offer traditional support in that sense, but it also helps people see how far they've come or see that it's possible to heal. People who just start coming to the group see long-time members and realize it really does get better. And the people who have been at the group meetings for a while see new members and see how far they've come from when they first joined.

“That’s very powerful for them,” said Fuller. “The healing that goes on during griev-

ing can be very subtle and people don't realize how far they've come. Early on they feel it will never get any better and that they'll be miserable forever... That really isn't true."

While Fuller stated that it “doesn’t get any harder than death,” she said she also recognizes that having great support and a sense of community can really help people who feel stuck or are having a hard time. Sometimes all you need is company.

For more information on the Grief Support Group call (508) 434-2200 or email Fuller at sfuller@overlook-mass.org.



CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Package | 38. Cup-like cavity |
| 7. Wear away | 40. Chemical substances |
| 13. Joins a leaf to a stem | 41. Extremely stupid behavior |
| 14. Worsen | 43. He built Arantea |
| 16. Promotes international cooperation (abbr.) | 44. Beverage beloved by Brits |
| 17. Your folks | 45. Cereal plant |
| 19. Publicity | 47. Signal |
| 20. Moves up | 48. A bar bill |
| 22. Dept. of Labor | 51. Comedienne Faris |
| 23. Physicist Enrico | 53. Preface to a book |
| 25. Whitney and Manning are two | 55. Stores grain |
| 26. Human foot (pl.) | 56. In a way, medicated |
| 28. Coral is an example | 58. Small island (British) |
| 29. Extended error correction | 59. An Indiana-based hoopster |
| 30. Small amount | 60. Measures width of printed matter |
| 31. Dash | 61. Riders use this to transport goods |
| 33. The greatest of all time | 64. Once more |
| 34. Middle Eastern country | 65. Thin layers |
| 36. Ravine | 67. Says again |
| | 69. Cleans thoroughly |

CLUES DOWN

1. Relating to male organ
2. Indicates position
3. Covers with frost
4. Makes a soft murmuring sound
5. Wood
6. Type of fuel
7. Confused
8. Where you go at night
9. Canadian flyers
10. Type of birch tree
11. Beloved Welsh princess
12. Coated
13. Smooth substance of crushed fruit
15. Improves intellectually
18. A sign of assent
21. Island-based Italians
24. Pragmatic
26. Peter's last name
27. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
30. Mexican city
32. Sir Samuel __, Brit. statesman
35. Summer Olympics were just here
37. Fiddler crabs
38. Southern military academy
39. Tumors
42. Speaks incessantly
43. Sacred sound in Indian religions
46. Transactions
47. Et-__
49. Reminders
50. Doesn't interest
52. Norse gods
54. Canola is one type
55. Beloved sportscaster Craig
57. Irish mother goddess
59. Daddy
62. Press against lightly
63. Sound unit
66. Master of Ceremonies
68. Morning



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Creative Uses for Common Products

In today's highly commercial marketplace, we are surrounded by an array of household products geared to make our lives a little bit easier. But very often the cans, bottles, boxes and bags of assorted "stuff" only makes an already overburdened household even more complicated. The key to reducing the mountain of home helpers is to choose handy products that have the versatility to perform multiple tasks around the house.

If "necessity is the mother of invention," then creative use is surely the offspring of a good imagination! Looking beyond the virtues of common items such as vinegar, salt and baking soda, all of which have been covered in past columns, we take a look at expanding the life of popular commercial items via creative alternative uses.

Savvy Skin So Soft Suggestions

Avon Skin So Soft has been a summertime staple for generations. Most people know the scented bath oil also serves as an effective mosquito repellent. Here are some more uses you may be surprised to discover:

*Field and Stream magazine touts Skin So Soft as a great flea and bug repellent for dogs. The magazine recommended the following formula: Five parts water to one part Skin So Soft. As a bonus, brushing the mixture into the pet's fur makes its coat gleam.

*Skin So Soft polishes up

vinyl dashboards. It cleans up dust and dirt, while leaving behind a protective finish that prevents cracking.

*It works in the bathroom to clean away soap scum from shower doors. Skin So Soft also removes lime and hard water deposits from fixtures, tile, shower doors and windows.

*Struggling with stuck labels? Skin So Soft removes glue and gum left from price tags and labels from glass, metal and most plastics.

*Rub a little Skin So Soft on a shirt collar before washing to remove "ring around the collar."

*Skin so Soft works as a great hot oil treatment to soften fingernails.

*Skin So Soft cleans paint brushes easily, and as a bonus, leaves the brushes soft and silky.

*Some Skin So Soft fans report using it on the air conditioner filter screen with success. They say the bath oil not only freshens incoming air, but makes the filter easier to clean.

Essential Uses for Essential Oils

Essential oils are popular and readily available. Here are some interesting unconventional uses for the array of liquid oils on the market.

Note: Use essential oils with caution and read directions carefully before use. Keep out of reach of children.

*Dust mites are the source of many allergies. Recent research has shown that eucalyptus oil kills dust mites that live in bedding. For best results, use about 25 drops of eucalyptus essential oil to each load of laundry or add one half ounce to a jug of liquid laundry detergent.



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

*To disinfect and scent home saunas, add several drops rosemary, thyme, pine, or lavender to a spray bottle with water and spray surfaces. This water can also be used to splash onto hot sauna stones.

*Adding essential oil to paint will counteract the unpleasant smell. And because essential oils are not fatty oils, they will leave no oil spots on the walls. Add several drops to one gallon of paint and mix well.

*A drop or two of rosemary essential oil on your hairbrush is said to promote growth and thickness.

*To release a stubborn splinter without pain or hassle, put a drop or two of lemon essential oil on the skin, apply a bandaid and leave it alone for several hours. The oil not only disinfects the area, but should make the splinter much easier to remove.

Super Softener Sheets
Fabric softener sheets have a variety of uses all around the

house. Here are some ideas to add instant freshness wherever you need it.

*Tuck a fabric softener sheet inside a vase of silk or dried flowers for an extra bloom of freshness.

*Toss a sheet in your gym locker to deter odors.

*Give odors the boot by placing a dryer sheet in resting shoes.

*Tuck a dryer sheet in suitcases and vacation sleeping bags between uses.

*Keep a sheet in the bottom of the hamper to chase away odors.

• Place a sheet under the mattress pad to keep the bedding fresh smelling.

*Keep a sheet in the car glove compartment. Not only will it freshen the car, it's handy if you ever need to run it over a skirt to alleviate static cling

Fabulous Filters

Working well beyond the coffee maker, absorbent coffee filters are handy for a variety of household uses.

*Put a coffee filter in the bottom of a plant pot to help reduce water draining out too quickly.

*Coffee filters can be substituted for cheesecloth when preparing foods.

*Open up a coffee filter to put at the bottom of round cake pans to keep bottoms from sticking.

*Instead of paper towels, use a couple of coffee filters to drain homemade French fries.

*Stacking glasses? A coffee

filter tucked inside each glass prevents them from sticking together.

*Use coffee filters to wrap tiny holiday ornaments for safe packing.

*Coffee filters are the perfect size to use when cleaning the glass on small picture frames or prints.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press publications? Send questions and/or hint to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email kdrr@aol.com.

Coaching: it's not just for sports

BY GUS STEEVES
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — Say the word "coach" and most people almost immediately think of someone on the sidelines of an athletic event wearing a headset.

That's not the kind of coaching Gayle Suzanne Dragicevich, who works and writes as "Gayle Suzanne," does. For about four years now, she's been using some of her own experience with "a really bad childhood" and other life events to "help people get unstuck" as a life coach. Recently, the Charlton resident took her interest in this area to television, starting a local-access show called "Moving Forward" on Seekonk's TV-9. She hopes to bring it to Charlton-area cable access soon.

"As we become adults, we get a choice to believe what we've been told or not," Dragicevich said. "My mother told me a lot that made me think 'I'm no good,' and I believed it. ... [But] I've had the power all along to make things better in my life. For years, I gave it away to everyone else."

She makes a distinction between that and psychological counseling, noting coaching is largely short-term (weeks or months) work on "dealing with the issues right now" rather than a "lengthy, five-year process." In the former, the goal is to focus on the client's strengths to overcome their own "limiting beliefs" by helping them "guide themselves;" in the latter, it's often to deeply explore the causes of the pain, and address them.

Often, there's a fair amount of overlap, as International Coach Federation CEO Magdalena Mook observes.

"It's not unusual where a person could be in coaching and in therapy at the same time," she said. "Therapy helps them make a change, and coaching helps them sustain that change."

Dragicevich is an ICF-accredited coach, but ICF is not the only organization that trains and accredits people in this field. There are several others, and it is not necessary to get accreditation to actually hang up a shingle as a "life coach."

In fact, although the field has existed since at least the mid-1990s (when the ICF formed), there are few regulations surrounding it. According to state Division of Professional Licensure spokesman Jordan Maynard, Massachusetts has no rules and requires no license for life coaching, and there is no pending legislation to require them.

Mook notes a recent survey of coaches found that most of them in Asia welcome state regulation, but ones in the U.S. generally do not, in part because it would mean "50 different regulations" and some coaches are concerned they'd have to meet requirements in multiple jurisdictions because they have clients via the Internet. But "about 52 percent say coaching should be regulated because untrained individuals can do damage to the image of coaching," she adds.

If complaints come to ICF, they go to a panel which conducts an "ethical

conduct review" to examine what parts of the ICF standards the client believes their coach broke. If the investigation finds evidence it did happen, the coach is required to take "remedial action" of some kind. ICF has "had to 'disinvite'" some coaches, but not many, Mook said, noting their system only covers coaches they've accredited.

The ICF has a fairly complex training system in which newcomers get 350 hours of training in three 12-week cycles, Dragicevich said. Classroom work makes up about 120 hours of that time; the rest involves actual practice being both coach and client, with testing after at least 100 hours of being a coach. She did hers at Marlboro's New England Coaching Center, but efforts to call them were unanswered and their phone did not allow this reporter to leave a message.

"My particular coaching is coaching people who have been hurt and rejected help build their self-esteem," she said. "... That, I'm an expert at, and that's where my clients have really thrived."

Dragicevich notes this is a "late-in-life transition" career for her; she's also working essentially as a paralegal drafting contracts and similar documents.

Mook noted that's common among coaches. "It's a second, even third, career for people," with people coming from a wide range of fields, including psychology, business, engineering and finance. (Hers is in finance.) Years ago, she said, clients typically sought people with experience in their own field, but today, more want coaches who "live in my environment, my reality."

Life coaching is just one of a wide range of coaching avenues. The concept has become fairly common in corporate cultures, where its used to help promote team-building, improved performance and various other business interests. Mook said one of the fastest-growing areas is "health and wellness," but it's also growing among "social-progress" organizations and has become "a major initiative" in some areas of education.

The big question, though, is does it work?

Researchers Will Evers and colleagues tested one coaching program among 60 federal managers in 2006, finding "the coached group scored significantly higher ... on two variables: outcome expectancies to act in a balanced way and self-efficacy beliefs to set one's own goals," according to the research abstract at psycnet.apa.org/journals/cpb/58/3/174/.

But Evers goes on to note more research is needed to determine if "the effects found will be long-lasting" and other issues. An older (2002) abstract at www.emeraldinsight.com by Elizabeth Thach likewise claimed "a combination of multi-rate feedback and individual coaching do increase leadership effectiveness by up to 60 percent." Unfortunately, both full papers are behind pay walls.

Both of those papers were among those linked on ICF's own website. Several websites — most of them seem to be blogs — are critical of the field,

often for personal experience reasons, but finding independent critical research is difficult. A couple of major new organizations have run stories on the issue, including CBS News online's largely laudatory "Top 10 professional coaching myths" (Dec. 20, 2011).

There, Robert Pagliarini noted what Mook and Dragicevich willingly acknowledge — "that anyone can call themselves a professional coach," so

"the quality of coaches can vary dramatically." He also notes, however, that some studies of wellness programs have found a "return on investment of 300 percent ... as a result of decreased turnover, fewer sick days, reduced health insurance costs, etc."

"A good coach," he writes, "isn't there to 'fix' anyone, but to help the client navigate toward a more engaged and compelling future."

Friday's Child



Jordan is an eleven-year-old boy of Barbadian/Caucasian descent. Jordan enjoys being active as opposed to sitting around! Jordan's favorite sport is basketball, which can be a strong way to bond and build a relationship with him. Jordan attends a specialized school in order to ensure that he is receiving academic support. Jordan has challenges in learning; however, with the right support Jordan can overcome these obstacles. Jordan functions best when he has a fixed routine that is well communicated with him. Although Jordan may have difficulties in expressing his feelings, he has the ability to bond and build relationships as this is

seen when he visits with friends and family.

Jordan will need a dedicated family that is open to maintaining contact with his birth father in an open adoption agreement. Jordan also has half-siblings he may want contact with in the future. Jordan is a caring young child that builds relationships with males therefore he would like to have a male caretaker. Jordan has also expressed that it is important to him that a future family is interested in sports. Jordan would benefit from a home that provides consistency, routine and lots of physical activities.

How do I adopt a child from foster care?

To adopt a child from foster care, you must go through a training, interview and matching process. To begin, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE), for referrals to agencies in your area. After submitting an initial application, a social worker will meet with you, then refer you for the Massachusetts Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (MAPP) training. After completing the MAPP course, you'll have meetings with a social worker who will conduct your "homestudy" to explore adoption possibilities with you and begin to match you with a waiting child. It's important to balance patience with persistence to make a match that will build a lifelong family.

To learn more about Jordan, and about adoption from foster care, call the MARE at 617-54-ADOPT (617-542-3678) or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have "a permanent place to call HOME."

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Moore announces

BOSTON — As the Legislature rounds out the second month of the new legislative session, Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) announced he has filed more than 80 bills to pursue a diverse range of policy initiatives. Chief among them are bills that would help prevent abuse of persons with disabilities, deter the illegal harming of wildlife and curb college campus sexual violence.

“The start of a new session is always an exciting time that includes crafting a legislative agenda and filing bills with the hope of ushering them through to the Governor’s desk,” said

Senator Moore. “I am proud to work toward advancing legislation that responds to the needs of local residents while also tackling overarching issues facing our Commonwealth as a whole.”

In an effort to protect persons with disabilities, Senator Moore filed legislation that would establish an abuse registry within the Department of Developmental Services. The registry would identify individuals who have been found to have committed abuse against disabled persons in an effort to screen prospective employees who intend to work within the licensed caretaker field. The

bill, SD.583, resembles protections already enacted in other states across the country.

Senator Moore, who serves as the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education, also re-filed legislation, SD.871, to prevent sexual violence on college campuses. The comprehensive bill, which advanced through the Senate last session and ultimately did not receive a vote by the House of Representatives, would codify and compliment federal requirements, and establish new state-level policies for all higher education institutions in the Commonwealth.

As a former Environmental

Police Officer, Senator Moore has also recognized that existing anti-poaching laws have remained widely unchanged since the 1930s. As such, he has re-filed legislation that would address the illegal harming or killing of wildlife. The legislation elevates existing penalties for individuals convicted of illegally harming or killing wildlife. The bill, SD.654, also requires the Commonwealth to enter into a nationwide law enforcement network known as the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Massachusetts remains one of only four nonmember states and the only northeast state

that does not participate. The Compact allows for reciprocity with other states for the purpose of license suspensions to prevent wildlife violators who have lost their hunting, trapping or fishing privileges from circumventing license revocations.

In the coming weeks, legislation filed during the 2017-18 legislative session will be referred to legislative committees for review. Additional information regarding bills filed by Senator Moore and other legislative priorities is available on the Senator’s website, www.SenatorMikeMoore.com.

MOVIE
continued from page 1

film. He hopes to show it at Cinemagic once again, as well as other local theaters.

In “Serpentine,” the sport of figure skating meets the Cold War, explained Lund, in a modern day political thriller. While the full plot remains a mystery of sorts, Lund stated it involves an unofficial international intelligence network that lays in Olympic sports federations around the world.

“This idea isn’t really outside the realm of possibility,” said Lund, who noted that what makes thrillers even better is when the plot could truly happen in real life, although it’s a work of fiction.

“Even when governments are publicly having disputes, the officials will always still talk to each other at sporting events. Sports always goes on.”

Lund has been involved in figure skating off and on for more than 20

years. He used to skate himself. He also published a figure skating magazine for well over 10 years. He hopes the film will break away from Hollywood’s negative stereotypes of the sports and the athletes and give it a more realistic and positive spin. People within the sport have already praised the film’s premise.

After his first short film “First World” received awards at science fiction conventions and film festivals (along with a “tremendous amount” of plays on Amazon Prime), Lund was inspired to continue his career in film and writing. He started learning about the pitching process, about marketing and distribution. Now, Lund loves everything about directing and producing.

“I just love it,” he said. “It’s not an easy business. It’s hard. But if you have enthusiasm, drive and imagination...it can be done.”

Lund and the rest of the cast and crew invite you to the world premiere on March 6 at the Strand Theater in Clinton.



Photos courtesy of Mark Ashton Lund
The cast and crew of “Serpentine” behind the scenes during the filming in Sturbridge.

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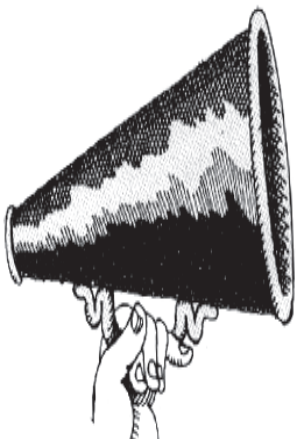
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Taste of the sea: Chowda!



The Chowder Fest featured live music by Zach Danzinger.



Olivia Richman photos

Ryan and Andrew, age 7, Miller had one thing to say after tasting the chowders: "I'm so full!"



"It was awesome!" said John and Kathy Fonner. John said The Duck's hamburger chowder was his favorite, while Kathy preferred Sturbridge Seafood's lobster chowder.



The Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center provided a traditional chowder for the fundraiser.



Fins & Tales served unique kale and sausage chowder.



Last year's winner Sturbridge Seafood had another hit with lobster cognac chowder.



Janet McDonald said she was "filled to the brim" after trying the large assortment of chowders. "It's fun to judge all of the different chowders," said McDonald, "like I'm one of the judges on the Food Network!"



"We came for the Chowdah!" said Mike and Marie Forand. "Fins & Tales and Sturbridge Seafood were our favorites!"



BT Smokehouse handed out a light, traditional chowder to guests.



Rovezzi's served homemade sausage and corn chowder.



The Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center served a traditional chowder from their menu.

Quilts of Valor presented to two local veterans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — James and Margaret Letendre have been thanked for their military service in many ways over the years, but rarely in such a unique fashion as their most recent reception of gratitude.

Both James and Margaret were presented with Quilts of Valor Feb. 10 at the Spencer Senior Center, with dozens of residents and town officials on hand to celebrate with them. The project was spearheaded by Spencer's Theresa Perreault, a state coordinator with the Quilts of Valor Foundation.

Both James and Margaret Letendre served in the Air Force — where they met — and residents were thrilled to have an opportunity to thank them for their service.

"In speaking with the director of the senior center where there is a group of volunteers who get together to sew once a month, Jim's name came up as a nominee for a quilt," Perreault recalled. "When gathering some information on what branch he served in, I was told his wife was also a veteran. The plan then became to do both awards at the same time."

The Quilts of Valor Foundation is a national organization committed to honor-

ing active service members and veterans with uniquely crafted quilts. Perreault became involved with the organization when a local shop was forming a group to make quilts for the foundation, and it means a lot to her to honor those who serve.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation has a mission to cover all military members touched by war; no special criteria is necessary to receive a quilt. As the state coordinator for Massachusetts, Perreault works with six groups of quilters across the Commonwealth who gather to sew the quilts. She then arranges for quilts to be made for nominated veterans.

"Our goal is to cover as many deserving veteran heroes as possible to comfort, honor and — most of all — to say thank you for your service and sacrifice for our country," Perreault added.

The foundation is comprised entirely of volunteers, relying each year on donations of both money and materials. Extensive preparation and craftsmanship go into each quilt, but it is well worth the effort when volunteers see smiles on the faces of veterans like the Letendres.

"The thanks we get is in showing the veteran that he or she has not been forgotten," Perreault said.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation was established in 2003 by Delaware's Catherine Roberts, whose son Nathaniel's year-long deployment to Iraq provided the initial inspiration for the organization. Her desire to welcome home her son and his fellow returning troops with quilts impelled her to expand the effort, which has honored countless service members and veterans over the years.

There are now Quilts of Valor groups and coordinators in almost every state, but they need your help to continue the mission. Creating just one quilt for a veteran can cost up to \$250, but your donations will help purchase fabrics, quilt tops and backing.

To learn more about the organization and how you can help, visit www.qovf.org.

Kevin Flanders photo
Veterans James and Margaret Letendre, of Spencer, receive Quilts of Valor in recognition of their military service. Presenting the quilts at the Feb. 10 event is Theresa Perreault, a state coordinator for Quilts of Valor



Hitchcock Academy hosts several activities

Brimfield — Hitchcock Academy presents Buddies Dog Training March 1, Yoga for You March 1, Belly Dancing March 2, Friends & Family Friday March 3 and Tai Chi Seminar March 4. For more information about these and a variety of other classes visit us at www.hitchcockacademy.org or call 413-245-9977

MARCH 1 – BUDDIES DOG TRAINING

This dog training basics class is for canines of all ages (puppies welcome) and provides positive training methods, good management practices, and problem-solving strategies. The first week is mandatory, and dogs do not attend. Vaccinations must be up-to-date. (6 classes)

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Fee: \$130 per dog; Instructor: Laurie Merritt, MEd., certified dog trainer. Learn more by visiting our website at www.hitchcockacademy.org for more details.

MARCH 1 – YOGA FOR YOU

Take some time just for YOU to breathe, stretch, strengthen, balance and relax. While this is not a fitness-type Yoga, classes are designed to help you reduce stress, build strength, and feel more calm and balanced. No experience necessary, but also great for those continuing their

Yoga practice. Bring a mat, blanket, water, and blocks if you have them. (6 classes)

Time: 7-8:15 p.m.; Fee: \$60 Instructor: Sharon Palmer, MEd., certified Kripalu Yoga teacher; www.AllCanDoYoga.com

Learn more by visiting our website at www.hitchcockacademy.org for more details.

MARCH 2 – BELLY DANCING

A time to dance freely in our supportive and judgement free learning environment. Focus will be placed on comfortable and smooth transitions through movement and expression. This class is beginner friendly, centering, and strengthening; with strong, intentional, and well defined movements. These belly dance classes are offered by an experienced instructor, who has 15+ plus years experience teaching and performing. Students will be introduced to dance combinations that transcend styles found in American Belly Dance, Raks Sharki, and North African dances. Appropriate class attire: Students are encouraged to dress in yoga or sweat pants/t-shirt or tank top and bring water. No shoes, unless they are flat soled dance shoes. Bare feet are recommended. (3 classes) Dates: Thursdays March 2, 9 & 16 - 7:15-8:15 p.m.; Fee: \$47; Instructor: Whitney Irwin

Learn more by visiting our

website at www.hitchcockacademy.org for more details.

MARCH 3 – FRIENDS & FAMILY FRIDAYS PRESENT – DRUMMING FUN

Enjoy a pizza dinner and then learn different rhythms and jam out with Drum Instructor Time Kane. Time: 6-7:30 p.m.; Fee: \$6 per person, \$30 max per household; Instructor: Time Kane. Registrations required, space is limited.

Learn more by visiting our website at www.hitchcockacademy.org for more details.

MARCH 4 – TAI CHI SEMINAR

Each three-hour seminar will include a variety of Tai Chi & Chi Kung. Some previous experience required (1 class) Time: 9 a.m.-noon; Fee: \$28 for 9 a.m.-noon or \$9 for 9-10 a.m. only. Instructor: David Masera

Learn more by visiting our website at www.hitchcockacademy.org for more details.

Courtesy photo

Learn something new and exciting this year. Try Belly Dancing at Hitchcock Academy on March 2nd.



Grow a high yield vegetable garden this season



Gardener's Supply Company photo

The High Yield Vegetable Garden Plan enables gardeners to grow more than 50 pounds of produce in only 18 square feet of space.

BY MELINDA MYERS

Spend less time and money while growing a bounty of flavorful vegetables this growing season. Increase your harvest, even in small garden spaces, with proper planning and easy care, high yielding vegetables.

A productive garden starts with a plan, but choosing the best vegetables to grow and where to plant them can be overwhelming.

You can break out the graph paper and pencils to design your garden or turn to technology for help. Many websites and apps provide ready-to-use garden plans or planning guidelines. Gardener's Supply (gardeners.com) offers free pre-planned gardens that do the planning for you. Reduce maintenance by growing easy care vegetables featured in the Plant-it & Forget-it gar-

den. Or grow more than 50 pounds of produce in just 18 square feet of space with the High Yield Vegetable Garden Plan and High Yield Vegetable Seeds.

These and other intensively planted gardens require proper soil preparation to maximize productivity. Invest time up front to reduce ongoing maintenance and increase your harvest. Dig several inches of compost or other organic matter into the top 8 to 12 inches of the soil. This improves drainage in heavy soil and increases the water holding ability in fast draining soils. Incorporate a slow release organic fertilizer at the same time. This provides needed nutrients throughout the growing season. Check the label and your plants to determine if a mid-season application is needed.

Maximize your planting budget by starting your plants from seeds. Many gardeners like to start long season plants like tomatoes and broccoli from seeds indoors. This keeps their green thumb warmed up for the season and provides the greatest selection of vegetable varieties. Others buy these plants from their local garden center. Start seeds of shorter season crops like greens, radishes, and squash directly in the garden when the growing season begins. Check the seed packet for specific directions on when and how to plant these seeds indoors and out.


When shopping for seeds, select vari-

eties suited to your climate and known for their disease resistance and high yield. Most vegetables produce best when grown in full sun. Greens and root crops are a bit more shade tolerant.

Once planted, cover the soil surrounding the seeded rows and transplants with a thin layer of shredded leaves, herbicide-free grass clippings or evergreen needles. This mulch helps conserve moisture and suppress weeds. Plus, it improves the soil as it breaks down. You'll save time and improve your plants' health and productivity with this one task.

After it's planted and mulched, you'll spend minimal time maintaining your garden. But be sure to plan a bit of time to enjoy the big, flavorful harvest your high yield garden is sure to provide.

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 Company for her expertise to write this article. Myers' web site is www.melindamyers.com.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

RUTH DEAMICIS
EDITOR, STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

EDITORIAL

Patience is difficult

This weekend was the beginning of the dreaded spring mud seasons...and the newest crop of pot-holes.

We know it comes with the territory, and towns, including Sturbridge, have a tough time keeping up with it. States have a problem keeping up with it, as a trip down I-84 attested last week-end.

Whether it is a state road or a town road, having a bloom in your road is no fun. And it seems to grow even as you watch it. You drive away in the morning and it's a few inches across, so you maneuver around it and remind yourself to remember where it was if you don't get back until after dark.

By the time you're back, it seems to have spread half way across the road.

How does that even happen?

We know the science behind it, the frost heave underneath that breaks up the asphalt, the "air bubbles" theories, the ice and water stuff, and even the rocks that push up. We know, we know.

And once a hole gets started the edges just keep crumbling. The weight of the vehicles keeps right on adding to the problems.

So we get it. But we don't want it.

And we do sympathize, we really do, with the beleaguered DPW guys who must hate this time of year even more. The threats of law-suits over flat tires and bent rims are enough, let alone all the other phone calls.

But there are a few things to take into consideration, like just how much time and number of men available to work in a day, and how much material there is to do repair (it's usually Chapter 90 money, a limited fund at best), and too, there is the question of just how much traffic your road gets.

A quiet residential street isn't going to get attention as quickly as a major thoroughfare. That's just reality. A big hole in front of the town hall compared to one in front of your house...which gets attention first? We thought so.

And speaking of the town hall, there are jurisdictional issues too. Town hall is on Rte. 131, is that a state DPW road or local DPW road? Or are pieces of it one or the other? Some roads are obviously local roads, numbered roads, there may be a question.

At any rate, as the mud bubbles up and the holes continue to bloom, as the frost heaves roller coaster the roads we can only say, take a deep breath, hope for the crocus instead and realize it at least signals spring is on its way... eventually.

“Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper”

www.Stonebridge Press.com

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES



Courtesy photo

HONORED FOR THEIR SERVICE

The Sturbridge Lions Club and District 33A Lions Honored James and Cindy Howard of The Center of Hope in Southbridge with the District 33A Humanitarian of the Year award for their many contributions and humanitarian efforts to the community at the District 33A Lions Mid-Winter Conference on Saturday, February 11th at the Boxboro Regency Hotel in Boxboro.

Pictured from left to right are: Sturbridge Lion Past District Governor Bob Briere, Cindy Howard, Jim Howard, District 33A District Governor Lisa Nelson, Lions International Director Bob Libin from Rego Park NY and Past Council Chairman/Past District Governor Bob Meunier, President of the Sturbridge Lions Club.

Breweriana (Beer Collectibles)



Statistics by the Brewers Association (www.brewersassociation.org) show that beer sales in 2015 were nearly even with 2014 sales. Craft beer sales increased greatly though. 2015 statistics show craft beer sales grew by 12.8%. Some craft breweries' beer is highly sought after. Buyers may line up hours before it goes on sale to buy the limited quantities that are available when a new batch is brewed. With the renewed interest in craft beers it's not surprising that beer related collectibles are also desirable.

As with most collectibles, the larger display pieces are typically the most valuable. Past auction results show rare, reverse painted, glass advertising signs have sold for over \$30,000. Other older (typically 19th century) wood, enamel and tin signs can also bring prices in the tens of thousands. Neon signs are still popular in taverns. Even newer ones have value to people who use them to decorate their home bars. Old ones in good condition are difficult to find because the neon can be so easily broken over time. They can bring five figure sums.

Beer trays were used to carry a number of beer glasses to the tables of thirsty bar patrons. Pre-prohibition (1919 and earlier) beer trays in nice condition can sell for well over \$1,000. Even some post-prohibition trays can be desirable. One of the local ones that I typically see selling for over \$100 or more is for Tadcaster Ale by Bowler Brothers Brewery of Worcester. The Worcester Sun reported that Bowler



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
• • • • •
WAYNE TUISKULA

Brothers produced over 160,000 barrels in Worcester during 1900. After prohibition ended in 1933, an attempt to revive the company in 1934 failed. Oscar Brockert then bought the company and called it Brockert Brewing Company. Following World War II, the name changed to the Worcester Brewing Company. Despite promotional events including bringing the Celtics to Worcester to play at Crompton Park, the company went out of business in the 1960s.

There are many collectors who specialize in collecting cans. Beer cans are post-prohibition collectibles. According to the Brewery Collectibles Club of America the first beer can was produced by The Gottfried Krueger Brewing Company of Newark, NJ in 1935. The original flat top cans used a "churchkey" to open them. Cone-top cans came on the market in September of 1935. G. Heilemann Brewing Company of La Crosse, WI first introduced them and Schlitz was the first major brewer to use them. The Pittsburg Brewing Company introduced the pull tab in 1963. The pull tabs had the unwanted side effect of harming animals that ingested them. Stay tabs were introduced in 1975 and are used today. Older, rare beer cans in nice condition may also fetch prices in the thousands of dollars.

There are other collectors searching for clocks, steins and even temperance movement related materials for their collection. It may be worth a look through those older pieces in your bar or attic to see if you have something valuable. Bottoms up!

My "Evaluating Your Antiques" class takes place at Bay Path's evening school on March 6. We have begun work on other upcoming events. See www.centralmassauctions.com for more information on future events.

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

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Sturbridge Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you

do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

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You can e-mail your Sound Off! to ruth@stonebridgepress.news. Just remember to label it as a Sound Off.

You'll want to keep your remarks relatively brief so we have enough space in the newspaper to include it all.

What's Smarter -- Paying Off Debts or Investing?

If you're just starting out in your career, you will need to be prepared to face some financial challenges along the way – but here's one that's not unpleasant: choosing what to do with some extra disposable income. When this happens, what should you do with the money? Your decisions could make a real difference in your ability to achieve your important financial goals.

Under what circumstances might you receive some "found" money? You could get a year-end bonus from your employer, or a sizable tax refund, or even an inheritance. However the money comes to you, don't let it "slip through your fingers." Instead, consider these two moves: investing the money or using it to pay off debts.



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

Which of these choices should you pick? There's no one "right" answer, as everyone's situation is different. But here are a few general considerations:

Distinguish between "good" and "bad" debt. Not all types of debt are created equal. Your mortgage, for example, is probably a "good" form of debt. You're using the loan for a valid purpose – i.e., living in your house – and you likely get a hefty tax deduction for the interest you pay. On the other hand, nondeductible consumer debt that carries a high interest rate might be considered "bad" debt – and this is the debt you might want to reduce or eliminate when you receive some extra money. By doing so, you can free up money to save and invest for retirement or other goals.

Compare making extra mortgage payments vs. investing. Many of us get some psychological benefits by making extra house payments. Yet, when you do have some extra money, putting it toward your house may not be the best move. For one thing, as mentioned above, your mortgage can be considered a "good" type of debt, so you may not need to rush to pay it off. And from an investment standpoint, your home is somewhat "illiquid" – it's not always easy to get money out of it. If you put your extra money into traditional investments, such as stocks and bonds, you may increase your growth potential, and you may gain an income stream through interest payments and dividends.

Consider tax advantages of investing. Apart from your mortgage, your other debts likely won't provide you with any tax benefits. But you can get tax advantages by putting money into certain types of investment vehicles, such as a traditional or Roth IRA. When you invest in a traditional IRA, your contributions may be deductible, depending on your income, and your money grows on a tax-deferred basis. (Keep in mind that taxes will be due upon withdrawals, and any withdrawals you make before you reach 59½ may be subject to a 10% IRS penalty.) Roth IRA contributions are not deductible, but your earnings are distributed tax-free, provided you don't take withdrawals until you reach 59½ and you've had your account at least five years.

Clearly, you've got some things to ponder when choosing whether to use "extra" money to pay off debts or invest. Of course, it's not always an "either-or" situation; you may be able to tackle some debts and still invest for the future. In any case, use this money wisely – you weren't necessarily counting on it, but you can make it count for you.

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



GOAL!!!
CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!



Healthy Kids Day is a great way for people to learn what the Tri-Community YMCA offers. Their pool and rock wall be available for children to use during the free event.

OPEN HOUSE
continued from page 1

summer to stay healthier, in body and in mind.”

Some of the organizations discussing their programs and services include Healthy Families Southern Worcester County, Southbridge Fire Department, Harrington Hospital, Girl Scouts, Savers Bank, the Kennedy Donovan Center and Southbridge Savings Bank. There will be two businesses offering chair massages and Polished Dental will be providing teeth cleaning, a service that many parents and children may not have had access to otherwise.

The Southbridge Police Department will also be there, providing free Easy Child ID Kits. The CDs include information and a photo of the child, including fingerprinting. There will be demonstrations by Spotlight Dance Academy, McCoy’s Action Karate and a BMX bike show by Wheels N’ Motion.

Children can also take advantage of the YMCA’s pool and rock climbing wall.

The YMCA will also be providing a bounce house.

There will be mascots walking around and goodie bags. The YMCA will also be hosting their Scholastic Book Fair (the only thing that costs money).

“This program is great because it brings all of these organizations and the community together,” said Kirschner. “We want the families to be more informed on what is out there, including what the YMCA offers. It’s a fun, free day. It brings families together. It’s just a fun day.”

For more information, call 508-765-5466.



Polished Dental will be offering free teeth cleaning for families at Healthy Kids Day, as in years past.

POLICE LOGS

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Sturbridge: | Springfield, was arrested on a warrant | damage on Main Street |
| Arrests: | Tuesday, Feb. 7 | 10:23 a.m. - Police responded to an accident, property damage on Main Street |
| Thursday, Feb. 2 | 3:12 a.m. - Austin J Conant, 20, of 74 Walker Pond Road, was arrested for trespassing and for breaking and entering | 5:19 p.m. - Police investigated a suspicious vehicle on Charlton Road |
| 7:49 p.m. - Robert M Stanikmas JR, 28, of 37 Breakneck Road, was arrestd for larceny over \$250 | Other Activities: | Monday, Feb. 6 |
| Sunday, Feb. 5 | Friday, Feb. 3 | 6:00 a.m. - Police investigated a suspicious vehicle on Charlton Road |
| 8:29 p.m. - Abismael Aviles-Melendez, 22, of 29 Village Drive Apt. #7, Southbridge, was arrested on a warrant | 9:53 p.m. - Police investigated a suspicious vehicle on Main Street | 4:00 p.m. - Police responded to an accident, property damage on E. Charlton Road |
| Monday, Feb. 6 | Sunday, Feb. 5 | Tuesday, Feb. 7 |
| 2:02 p.m. - Luis D Centeno Baez, 34, f 79 Elcon Drive, | 12:07 a.m. - Police responded to an accident, property | 8:49 p.m. - Police responded to an accident, property damage on Main Street |
| | | Wednesday, Feb. 8 |

Friendships Come In All Dimensions— Sometimes In The Most Unlikely Sizes

(NAPS)

What is so fascinating about unlikely friendships? Is it that opposites attract? Does it point to hidden mutual respect? Unlikely animal friendships have long held a particular fascination, documented with countless funny and adorable videos: a cat adopting baby ducks, a Labrador and an elephant, a baby lamb and a pig, a giraffe and an ostrich.

Child and adolescent psychotherapist Katie Hurley, a parenting expert and author of “The Happy Kid Handbook: How to Raise Joyful Children in a Stressful World,” notes “The wonderful thing about being a child is that friendships form just about everywhere! So it’s important to allow kids the space to form new relationships, even if they don’t appear picture perfect from the outside looking in.”

Nothing tells us more about this than characters in movies. Walt Disney Studios and Pixar have many improbable couplings in their tales. In “Finding Dory,” the mischievous Septopus Hank reluctantly befriends scatterbrained Dory, yet they overcome their struggles and help each other grow in wonderful ways. “Lilo & Stitch” brings a little girl and an alien together and the resulting bond teaches them companionship and understanding. “Toy Story” finds Woody and Buzz ultimately setting aside their differences and realizing they were meant to be friends all along. In “Ratatouille,” a human befriends a rat. Rats are unwelcome in all places, especially the kitchen. But Remy and Linguini find that love and compatibility can be found anywhere.

Disney’s “The BFG” and its remake of the classic “Pete’s Dragon”—both available November 29 on Blu-ray,



Disney’s “The BFG” (Big Friendly Giant) movie helps children understand that differences don’t have to stand in the way of friendship and fun.

So does the live-action remake of the animated classic “Pete’s Dragon.”

Digital HD & Disney Movies Anywhere—add beautifully to this legacy.

“The BFG” (Big Friendly Giant), directed by Steven Spielberg, is based on the beloved children’s classic by Roald Dahl. “The BFG” tells the story of a courageous and spirited orphan, Sophie, and the kind giant who becomes her protector. While initially afraid, Sophie comes to overlook the superficial homely appearance

of the BFG and to appreciate his noble intentions. The BFG and, Sophie, are actually very similar—both are lonely and yearn for the connection and safety of a friend, which they’re able to find in each other.

“Pete’s Dragon” is a reimagining of Disney’s cherished animated and live-action film—the adventures of an orphaned boy named Pete and his best friend Elliot, who just happens to be a dragon. Pete and Elliot belong

age children to connect with a world outside the immediate family:

Be Open-Minded. Find ways to help your child identify the differences between themselves and prospective friends and look for ways those differences can make playing together more fun.

Adopt Optimism. A person different from your child doesn’t have to be viewed as a stranger. If he or she is friendly and open, everything else should fall into place.

Make It About Others. Help your child figure out how to show interest in someone else. Simple starter questions like “what are your favorite games?” or “do you like outdoor or indoor games better?” can prompt a lively discussion.

Make Them Laugh. Laughter makes conversation fun and joyful. Encourage your children to be silly, to share their sense of humor with others and to not take anything too seriously—just have fun with getting to know others!

Initiate Hang-Out Time. Help your child be brave enough to make the first move and invite a new friend to spend time together. Whatever the activity, the important thing is bonding. And if you support it, they’re more apt to take the chance and see what happens.

Discover Mutual Passions. If your son or daughter sees a new friend light up when talking about something, encourage your child to ask more questions about the subject. Or if there’s a key word that provides a clue to their friend’s interest, suggest they use that to talk more in detail. You’ll be surprised how helpful that can be in fostering a meaningful connection.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

IT'S MAGIC: Magic, The Gathering on Friday, Feb. 17 from 6-10 p.m. Magic is a card/trade game that is open to all people ages 10 and up! Bring your cards and a friend! Make a new friend! Improve your skills! Don't know how to play? Don't worry — someone will get you started! FREE! Refreshments provided. First Congregational Church of Brimfield, 20 Main St.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

CHOWDAH! The Tri-Community Exchange Club is having its 8th annual Chowder Fest fundraiser. It is being held on Feb. 19 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel from noon-3 p.m. The tickets are a \$10 charitable donation per person in advance or \$12 at the door. Many local restaurants will be serving what they hope will be the winning chowder. There will be raffles and door prizes. You can purchase tickets at Penney's Appliance 171 Charlton Road, Sturbridge or Southbridge Savings Bank in Sturbridge. All funds raised are given to local charities within the Tri-Community.

SQUARE DANCING: The Hayloft Steppers Square Dance Club is holding a special "Advanced" dance on Sunday, Feb. 19 from 2-4:30 p.m. The

caller will be Don Bachelder. There are no rounds. Admission is \$7 per person. For information on our beginner classes, please call Moe at (508) 344-3430 or Al at (413) 436-7849 or visit our website @ www.hayloftsteppers.org. The club is located at 232 Podunk Road in Sturbridge.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

PUPPET SHOW: The Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School is bringing back one of their most popular events of the year, the Tom Knight Puppet Show! Join us on Monday, Feb. 20 from 10-11 a.m. at the Sturbridge Host Hotel. This show is fun for the whole family! Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$5 per person and a \$20 max per family. A great way to get out and kick off the February break!

VACATION FUN CLUB: The Tri-Community YMCA will be offering a February Vacation Fun Club for grades Kindergarten through 8th grade, starting 2/20/2017 to 2/24/2017. Cost is \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members. Please visit the Tri-Community YMCA on 43 Everett St. Southbridge to register your child. For more additional information please contact 508-765-5466 or www.tricommunityymca.org.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

CRAFTY: On Wednesday, Feb. 22 10:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the Brimfield Senior Center is offering a creative craft class. Join us to create a cute as button fairy in a jar lantern that can be used as a nightlight or magical accent. This is an easy but multiple step project which will be led by instructor Becca McManus. Cost of class and materials is only \$8. Please call to reserve your space prior to Feb. 17. Seating is limited to 15 for this class. Light refreshments will be provided.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

CHASE THE WINTER BLUES: On Friday, Feb. 24 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., come on in and enjoy a hearty, winter warm up feast. Your menu is: a table appetizer of Eva's homemade Italian cream cheese, pesto & sundried tomato spread with crackers; herb roasted pork loin with apple cranberry compote; fresh butternut squash; creamy, baked macaroni and cheese with crumb topping; seasoned broccoli and birthday cake for dessert.

February birthdays will be celebrated. There is a \$5 suggested donation for this party. Please reserve your seat prior to Feb. 20. The Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield. Contact at (413) 245-7253.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

SPEAKER: The Western Massachusetts Republicans will be hosting a luncheon with special guest and keynote speaker, Massachusetts Republican Party Chairman Kirsten Hughes. The event will be on Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 from noon-1:30 p.m. at Old Sturbridge Village, Oliver Wight Tavern, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road. Tickets are \$40 per person. To purchase tickets, please mail a personal check payable to WMR to Janet Garon, PO Box 24, Southbridge, MA 01550. Please include the names of attendees. You may also purchase tickets online at www.westernmarepublicans.com. Limited tickets may be sold at the door. For more information, call or text Janet at 774-230-7382.

PLANNING SESSION: Looking for a fun community volunteer opportunity? The Charlton Activities council needs you! Join us on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. as we plan the third annual Blueberry Festival at the Charlton Arts & Activities Center. Interested planning committee members are invited to attend this meeting to share their skills and ideas for the upcoming July festival. CAAC Farmhouse, 4 Dresser Hill Road, Charlton. For more information, please call Mrs. Petrik at (508) 248-9548.

Turn To CALENDAR page A13



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OBITUARIES

Shirley A. (Agard) Guillet, 83



SOUTHBRIDGE — Shirley A. (Agard) Guillet, age 83, formerly of Lyons St., Southbridge, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the Overlook Masonic Healthcare Center, after an illness.

She leaves her husband of 62 years, Robert O. Guillet; her daughter, Charlene M. Guillet of Southbridge; two sisters-in-law, Alice Fiorito of Florida and Lucille Reardon of Rhode Island; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Charles Agard and her sister, Phyllis Monroe. She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Charles H. and Florence (Gaumond) Agard.

Shirley worked for Southbridge Cable TV for many years. She previously worked for the Harvey Wells

Co. in Southbridge and Carol's Sales in Southbridge. She later worked at the Whistling Swan Restaurant gift shop for several years. In recent years, she worked at her daughter's store My Favorite Things in Sturbridge. She was a lifelong active member of St. Mary's Church in Southbridge. She was very active with the St. Mary's Bazaar, running the jewelry table at the bazaar for nine years. She was an active member of the Southbridge Women's Club and a member of the Harrington Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

Her funeral was held on Tuesday, Feb. 21, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 263 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Southbridge.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the St. John Paul II Parish, 279 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

Lucille I. 'Peanie' Antonovitch, 91

WARREN — Lucille I. "Peanie" (Towne) Antonovitch, age 91, of Quaboag Street, died Monday, Feb. 13, 2017 in Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer surrounded by her family.

She leaves one son, John M. Antonovitch and his wife Michelle of West Warren; one daughter, Barbara Pinsonnault of Ware; a son-in-law, Terrance Stout of Florida; five grandchildren, Sara Pinsonnault, Eric Antonovitch and his fiancé Jen, Matthew Antonovitch and his wife Ashley, Amanda Ward and her husband Casey and Laura Allenbaugh and her husband Aidan; four great-grandchildren, Mariah, Logan, Sterling and Owen; several nieces and nephews and her grand-dog Emma. She was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, John Antonovitch, a daughter, Linda Stout and two siblings, Robert Towne and Shirley Cleveland.

She was born in Warren on August 23, 1925, daughter of the late Merritt N. and Mary (Sieckowski) Towne and was a lifelong resident. She was a 1943 graduate of the former Warren High School.

Lucille was a member of St. Paul's Church in Warren and was a former Girl Scout leader. She enjoyed gardening and playing the lottery, but most of all loved being with her family.

A funeral Mass for Lucille will be held on Friday, February 17, 2017 at 11:00 AM in St. Paul's Church in Warren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Warren Fire Department Ambulance, PO Box 608, Warren, MA 01083 or to the Second Chance Animal Shelter, Inc., PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc. (varnumfuneralhome.com), 43 East Main St., West Brookfield.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

CPR TRAINING: two sessions of CPR training and certification at the Holland Community Center. The first option, at 1 p.m., is free and is a hands only version of CPR focusing on chest compressions. The second at 6 p.m. is full certification at \$45 and includes materials, and instruction for CPR for adults, infants or children. Two hour complete certification course. To register or for information call: (413) 245-3163.

DEMOCRATS MEET: The Charlton Democratic Town Committee will hold a caucus on Feb. 27 at the Charlton Public Library at 6:30 p.m.

SPENCER DEMOCRATS: A Spencer Democratic Town Committee is forming and invites people who are interested in getting involved with the party and grassroots activism. The meeting will be held at the Spencer Town Hall Monday, Feb. 27 from 6-7:30 p.m. in conference room A.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

HOME BREWING: On Thursday, March 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in Dexter Hall at the Charlton Public Library, join Greg Menafo, a member of Fitchburg Order of Ale-Makers, as he teaches us how to brew beer in the comfort of our own homes. Greg will tell you what you need and where to find it, as well as explain the beer brewing process to you. He will answer your questions, and hand out additional info to take with you. Remember beer brewing isn't a science, it's an art!

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

MINI-GOLF AT THE JOSHUA HYDE LIBRARY: Mini-Golf at the Joshua Hyde Library in Sturbridge is a delightful annual springtime event for the whole family. Celebrating its 5th year, the event will be held on Saturday, March 4 from 10:30-4:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 5 from 1-4:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person

and \$20 max for a family.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

CLASS of 2030: Kindergarten registration will be held at Charlton Elementary School, 9 Burlingame Road, Charlton, on Wednesday, March 8 from 9-11:30 a.m. and from 1-4 p.m.; Thursday, March 9 from 1-4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

WHAT IS ISLAM? Note change of venue, Thursday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Reading Area at the Charlton Public Library. How much do you know about Islam? What do Muslims believe? How do they practice? What do their holy texts say? Mona Ives, of the Worcester Islamic Center, will be here to answer all of these questions and more. Well over 1 billion people practice this religion. Let's learn about it together.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

PLAN FOR WATER SPORTS: ABOUT BOATING SAFELY, a one-day boating safety course to fit your schedule Saturday March 11, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Webster Fire Department classroom, 55 Thompson Road, Webster. Register soon as space is limited. Email edtavares@verizon.net or call (508) 404-8088. Course information is available at: http://wow.uscgaux.info/pe_class_flyer.php?unit=NAT&course=18432

*Discount for additional family members attending

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

SEASONAL DINNER: The Men's Fellowship is hosting a delicious corned beef supper at Charlton City United Methodist Church (74 Stafford St.) on Saturday, March 18 from 5:30-7 p.m. Come and enjoy food and fellowship

with friends and neighbors. Corned beef & cabbage, and your choice of beverage, along with a delectable dessert, will be served. As always there will be continuous serving and take-out. Adults \$10, \$6 for children six to twelve, and children five and under eat free. Take-outs are also available. Tickets may be purchased at the door although reservations are appreciated. Call the church office at (508) 248-7379 for information and reservations. The building is handicap accessible.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER: The BUUC Women's Alliance will be holding the 21ST annual Goods & Services Silent Auction on Saturday, March 18 at the Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church, 9 Upper River St., from 6:30-9 p.m. We will also have raffle baskets, a 50/50 raffle, and a bake-off.

MAGICAL FUNDRAISER: Friends of Charlton Library host Magic & Illusions with Frank Damileo at the Charlton Public Library, 40 Main St., 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tickets at \$5 each are available now at the circulation desk. Fun for the whole family, this is not a drop off event, doors open at 3 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Friends.

ONGOING

Ongoing - Free Playgroup at the Hitchcock Academy; sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation Five Grant. It includes: Music & Movement on Wednesday 9-9:45 a.m. and Playgroup on Monday & Thursday 9-11 a.m. For more information about these and a variety of other classes visit us at www.hitchcockacademy.org or call 413-245-9977

Grief Support Group: at Overlook Hospice, Charlton: Have you recently experienced the loss of a parent, child, sibling, friend or spouse? We are here to help. Join a safe, supportive and caring group to share your stories and support others who are learning to live again after the death of a loved one. Drop-in group for adults meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month,

1-2:30 p.m. Contact Susan Fuller at (508) 434-2200.

THRIFTY: Saint Paul II Parish's Flea Market, at 40 Charlton St., Southbridge, is open each Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items for sale include household, linens and furniture. We also have a holiday room. Donations are appreciated. All proceeds go to the support of the church.

NUMISMATICS: Southbridge Coin Club meets on the third Friday of the month (except July and August). The doors open by 7 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Collectors of all ages are welcome. The meetings include raffle, auction, and show and tell. Light refreshments are served. The meetings are held in the community room at the Southbridge Savings Bank at 200 Charlton Rd. (Route 20), Sturbridge.

SENIOR EVENTS: Weekly classes at the Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Senior Daytime Events: Mondays and Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, reservations required by calling (413) 245-3163 and a \$2 donation is requested. Mondays at 10 a.m. join us for "Fit for Life", strength training class & also at 10 a.m., Mah Jongg. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. we have Open Crafts and at 4 p.m. join us for Walking Club (rain or shine). Wednesdays at 10 a.m. we have Movin' and Groovin' and at 1 p.m. we have Mah Jongg. Thursdays at 10 am we have Stained Glass as well as Tai Chi, and at 12:15 p.m. join us for Cribbage. We also have a monthly book club, and assorted presentations. Community Evening Events: Mondays at 6 p.m.: Texas Hold 'Em, Tuesdays at 4 p.m.: Walking Club, Wednesdays at 5 p.m.: Yoga, Thursdays at 6 p.m.: Stained Glass & Pitch The Billiard Room is open daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m., Monday through Thursday. For more information call (413) 245-3163.

SKILLS

continued from page 1

community and discussed SkillsUSA, promoting its importance at Bay Path.

So why is SkillsUSA something the of which community should be aware?

"Skills USA is important for student pride," said Stachura. "It gives them a sense of competition and networking with other people and students. There's scholarship money. It looks good on their resume. It also brings students out of their shells and builds their

skill set. It's showcasing their talents."

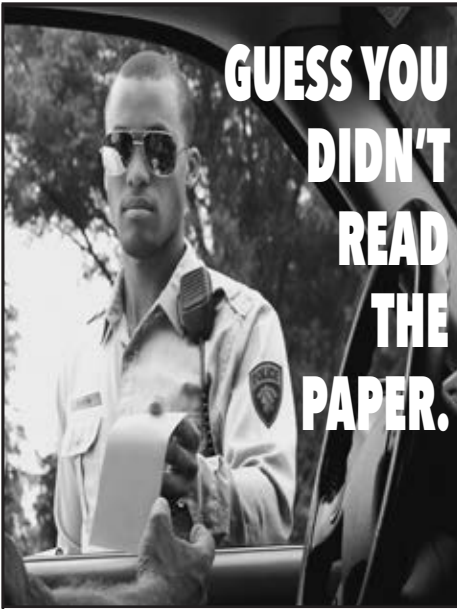
SkillsUSA features four different conference levels. There's a fall state leadership conference, where students can go to enhance their leadership qualities and gain more leadership knowledge. Then there's a district competition where students can compete, showing their leadership skills or their vocational skills, competing against other students in their chosen skill set around the district. Following that is a state level, then national level, which is in Louisville, KY this year.

Last year, Bay Path had students win gold at nation-

al level. They were invited to compete in worlds.

"SkillsUSA provides so much support for these students, with their advisors, shop instructors and administration," said Stachura. "It really helps students feel supported, a feeling that they can succeed. SkillsUSA develops confidence, skills and self-esteem. It allows empowerment for the student, to be able to compete in the skills they already learning here at school."

If you're interested in learning more about SkillsUSA or any upcoming fundraisers, contact Stachura at jstachura@baypath.net.



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SPORTS

Warriors fight hard, but drop decision to Notre Dame Academy



Mathew S. Plamondon photos
Lily Lucas of Tantasqua has just enough room inside to take a shot on a Notre Dame Academy defender.



Lily Lucas of Tantasqua puts up a jump shot versus Notre Dame Academy.



Tantasqua's Kelsey Emrich lets a left-handed layup fly in front of a Notre Dame Academy defender.

STURBRIDGE — Facing a tough foe in Notre Dame Academy of Worcester, the Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team gave it all they had when the two met on Friday, Feb. 17. But the Rebels eventually won out, 54-45. The Warriors held a lead for much of the first half and trailed by a single point at the end of the third quarter, 38-37, but Notre Dame Academy — a perennial postseason contender — won the final frame by a 16-8 count. Tantasqua dropped to 8-10 and now must win their final two regular season games, to be played after press time, to qualify for the Western Mass. Division 2 district tournament.



Tantasqua's Lydia Boland charges toward the basket before attempting a shot.



Tantasqua's Lydia Boland defends against a Notre Dame Academy player.

SPORTS BRIEFS

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating Course at Webster Fire Department

On Saturday, March 11, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Webster Fire Department Classroom (55 Thompson Road), there will be a boating course presented by the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Tri-State Flotilla 1002. The boating safety course is developed to provide the skills and confidence needed to explore the coast and inland waters by boat. Basic knowledge and skills are needed to have safe and enjoyable boating experiences. Successful completion of the course will certify a minor, ages 12 to 16, to operate a powerboat in Massachusetts waters. Register soon at edtavares@verizon.net or call (508) 404-8088, as space is limited. There is no charge, however there is a \$40 fee for the cost of materials, ABS textbook, study guide and certifications(s), and only \$20 for each additional family member.

Team Mass. AAU Basketball to hold upcoming sign ups, tryouts

The Team Mass. AAU Basketball program will hold tryouts on Tuesday, March 7 for boys at Tantasqua Junior High School (Brookfield Road in Fiskdale). Age breakdowns are as follows: Grades 4-6, 6-7 p.m.; Grades 7-8, 7-8 p.m.; Grades 9-11, 8-9 p.m. If the high school varsity team reaches the district tour-

nament, only sign-ups and no tryouts for those players. Girls will sign up on March 7 (same dates and location as the boys) from 6-8 p.m. The tryout will be held at a later date. Please bring a birth certificate and a \$20 tryout fee. Please arrive 15 minutes early. In case of inclement weather, please check the website at www.teammassboys.com and www.teammassgirls.com for more information. Coaches and assistant coaches are always needed.

Worcester State University set to host plenty of baseball clinics

Various baseball clinics will be held at Worcester State University this year. Please visit <http://www.wsulancers.com/camps-clinic/index> for additional information on any of the clinics. 10th annual Friday Night Baseball School: Feb. 24, March 3, hitting from 6-7 p.m., pitching from 7 to 8 p.m. in multipurpose gym/cages. 10th annual Pitchers and Catchers Clinic: April 18 and 20, 9 a.m. to noon outdoors on Lyons Diamond. Third annual U.S. Baseball Academy: June 26 and 29 outdoors on Lyons Diamond. 10th annual Instructional Prospect Clinic: Aug. 15, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Lyons Diamond.

Veterans Inc. to host annual Best Ball Charity Golf Classic

WORCESTER — Veterans Inc. will host its 20th annual Best Ball Charity Golf Classic on Wednesday, May 10 at the

Heritage Country Club in Charlton. All proceeds will benefit veterans in need and their families. The 18-hole golf classic will include an 8 a.m. registration time and a 9 a.m. shotgun start. Player registration is \$150. Golfer registration includes giveaways, greens fees, golf cart and a steak dinner. The tournament will include Hole-in-One contests sponsored by Sheldon's Harley-Davidson of Auburn, a men's and women's longest drive, a closest to the line contest and a closest to the pin contest. The deadline date for registration is April 26. Sponsorship opportunities are available at many levels from major to hole sponsorships. Donations of raffle items are also being accepted. All donation amounts are greatly appreciated and recognized. For a list of Sponsorship Opportunities and to download Sponsorship and Registration forms, visit our website at www.veteransinc.org. The tournament is Co-Chaired by State Representative John J. Mahoney and Mayor Joseph M. Petty of Worcester. For more information on how to become a sponsor or register, please contact (508) 791-1213 extension 1162 or email golf@veteransinc.org.

Join the free Charlton/Dudley Women's Basketball League

Please come and check out the Charlton/Dudley Women's Pickup Basketball League at the Heritage School in Charlton every Monday while school is in session from 7-9 p.m. There are no set teams and no fees. Come for the exercise and the fun of playing basketball. The league is for ages 18 and up. Call Deb at (508) 248-3600 for information.

SPORTS CORRESPONDENT



The Stonebridge Press Sports Department is seeking an individual to cover and photograph high school sports on a freelance basis. Candidate will be reliable and flexible with hours, and will be needed on nights and weekends as assigned. Correspondent must have a digital camera and the ability to e-mail photos and stories on deadline. Local applicants are preferred, but is not a requirement.

Please apply to Sports Editor Nick Ethier at sports@stonebridgepress.com or call (508) 909-4133.

SPORTS

Rams win one against Tantasqua on Senior Night



Tantasqua's Hayden Peterson (11 points) gets Shepherd Hill defender Kenny Flynn to leave his feet before attempting a shot from close range.



Tantasqua's Adam Phillips takes and makes a deep 3-pointer.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY — Although the 2016-17 season hasn't gone the way that the Shepherd Hill Regional boys' varsity basketball team had envisioned things to go, one aspect they can hang their hat on is their never-say-die attitude. The Rams did not qualify for either the Clark Tournament of the Western Mass. Division 2 district tournament, and after losing to perennial powerhouse St. John's High by 18 points on Feb. 14,

emotions could have been low when The Hill hosted Tantasqua Regional on Thursday, Feb. 16.

"So many teams would just fold and pack it in," Shepherd Hill head coach Scott Provost said with his team holding a 4-13 record. "But they come out and play hard. These guys just keep working, and that's a credit to them."

With five seniors being honored before the start of the game with the Warriors on Senior Night, the Rams won a 68-59 decision to improve to 5-13 with one game to go, which is to be played after press time.

"It's nice to see it come together for the seniors on Senior Night," said Provost.

Tantasqua, meanwhile, slipped to 7-9 as they continue to fight for a berth into the same Western Mass. Division 2 district tournament that the Rams were in search for.

"We just didn't cash in," head coach Tom O'Neil said of the Warriors' loss. "We missed a lot of foul shots tonight [and] made a lot of layups that kind of rolled in and rimmed out."

Free throw shooting was certainly a factor, as Tantasqua finished at 67 percent (14 of 21), while Shepherd Hill shot 77 percent (23 of 30).

"We needed to make some free throws at the end of the game, of course, and we made enough to stay ahead," said Provost, as the Rams also shot 77 percent (14 of 18) in the fourth quarter alone while nursing their lead.

The game was close throughout, as the teams played to a 14-14 standstill after the initial eight-minute quarter. Shepherd Hill then held a slim lead of 28-27 at halftime before coming out a more aggressive team in second half action.

"We talked about at halftime ramping up our man-to-man defense and playing a little tougher...and we did that," said Provost.

Tantasqua scored the first basket of the third quarter, but the Rams responded with a 3-pointer by Danny Cavic to grab the lead for good at 31-29. Shepherd Hill's defense allowed just six more points the rest of the frame, and that included a buzzer-beating 3-pointer by Drew Peretti (11 points).

The 3-pointer notwithstanding, the Rams still grew its lead to 42-35 heading into the fourth quarter.

Shepherd Hill then gained an 11-point lead at 48-37 before the Warriors began a comeback. Adam Phillips (14 points) drained a 3-pointer and Michael Frio



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Michael Frio drives on Shepherd Hill defender Vaughn Hammond.

followed with a free throw to cut the deficit down to four points, 50-46.

The Rams responded, though, with a 7-0 run to up the lead to 57-46, which included a pair of inside makes by Jason O'Regan (10 points).

"We had a few turnovers in there, but then we regrouped," Provost said of losing the double-digit lead before pulling away again.

Not only did Shepherd Hill score to pull away, but O'Neil said that his Warriors couldn't get the inside shots to fall.

"When you're trying to make a comeback, you've got to make every shot. We hit all our 3's [but] missed a lot of layups," he noted.

Tantasqua got no closer than five points away in the waning moments as they now must win at least three of their final four regular season games to reach the postseason.

"We have a shot. We can beat a lot of teams, we're just at a transition point," O'Neil said of having an older, yet varsity-inexperienced club.



Drew Peretti of Tantasqua keeps the ball away from Shepherd Hill defender Danny Cavic.

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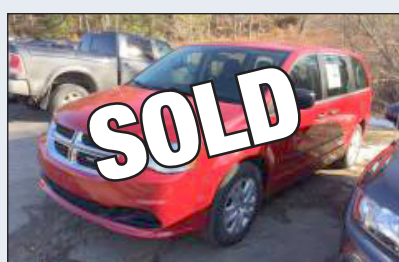


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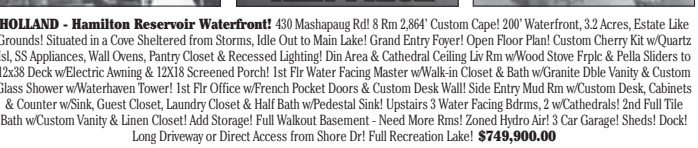
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| 27R Genevieve Ln | S | 1-2:30 | \$309,900 | Hope Realty 508-943-4333 |

LET US

Do Your Home Work!

Looking to sell your home, let us do the work for you. Your ad will be seen in over 50,000 households throughout Southern Worcester County.

E BROOKFIELD

Rare Find! 5 BR 3.5 Bath Waterfront Colonial on Lake Lashaway w/almost 3,000 sq. ft. of living space & 25 ft. of waterfront w/ direct access from the home! Gutted & renovated in 1991.

\$379,900

CHARLTON

2 BR 3.5 Bath, 1,266 sq. ft. Condo in pet friendly Cady Brook Crossing. Both bedrooms have full baths en-suite! Laundry room in unit; Brand new furnace; Two assigned parking spaces.

\$169,900

SHREWSBURY

3 BR, 2.5BA 1,728 sq ft Cottage style home located at the end of a dead end road & up a private driveway. Beautifully landscaped yard in front & spa-like patio with koi pond in the rear. Master BR has private balcony.

\$379,000

KW KELLERWILLIAMS.

A&M REAL ESTATE CONSULTANTS

508-365-3532

www.ViewCentralMassHomes.com • AMRealEstateConsultants@gmail.com

JoAnn Szymczak
CRS, GRI, SRES, ASP

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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

DUDLEY - LAND

Your Vision – Your Builder

TOBIN FARM

2 1/2 Acres \$119,900

3 1/2 Acres \$139,900

Come home to a great neighbourhood. Easy commute to highways. Close to schools, Golf course and shopping.

DUDLEY

2 CENTER FIREPLACES

- Quiet Cul-de-sac
- 4 Bedrooms
- 2 Full Baths
- Town Services
- Great Schools
- Room for extended Family

11 Elizabeth St - \$244,900

DUDLEY

BE IN FOR SPRING & SUMMER!

- Boat Included
- 35' of Docks
- 2+ Acres of land
- Private setting with a bonus of waterfront on Merino Pond
- 7 Room
- 3 baths
- Fireplace
- Family Room
- Office
- 2 Car garage

72 Flaxfield Rd • \$399,900

DUDLEY

BE THE LANDLORD

6 room house and 3 room Apartment

13 Railroad Ave - \$199,900

6 Units, New septic, sided & brick exterior

110 Southbridge Rd - \$349,900

Public Auction

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15th STARTING at 11:00 A.M.

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

• SOUTHBRIDGE •

(4)

APPROVED RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOTS

Hilltop Drive SOUTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

★ To be sold in its Entirety from Lot #7 Starting at 11:00 A.M. and then Individually on each Premises at the Following Times ★

Lot #7 at 11:30 a.m.

- ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
- Public Septic Available • ± 140' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive •
- Assessor's ID: 278-090-003 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Lot #8 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

- ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
- Public Septic Available • Located on Cul-De-Sac •
- ± 95' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive • Assessor's ID: 278-090-004 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Lot #10 at 12:30 p.m.

- ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
- Public Septic Available • Located on Cul-De-Sac •
- ± 135' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive •
- Assessor's ID: 278-090-007 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Lot #13 at 1:00 p.m.

- ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
- Public Septic Available • ± 100' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive •
- Assessor's ID: 278-108-099 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

★ WATCH FOR AUCTION SIGNS ★

Sale Per Order of Mortgagee Attorney Richard A. Sheils, Jr.
Of the Firm of Bowditch & Dewey, LLP, 311 Main Street,
Worcester, MA - Attorney for Mortgagee

Terms of Sale: Entirety: \$10,000.00 Deposit Cashier's or Certified Check.
Individually: \$2,500.00 Deposit Per Property Cashier's or Certified Check. 5% Buyers Premium Applies. Other Terms to be announced at Time of Sale.

Aaron Posnik
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REAL ESTATE



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New England
Properties



Katie Totten Stephanie Gosselin John Downs Brooke Gelhaus Mary Collins Diane White Mary Scalise Rachel Sposato Richard Governale Cyrille Bosio Mary Popiak Elizabeth Zimmer Brad Favreau Robert Ritchotte Chet Zadora Jen Jackson Robert Viani
Monique Maldonado Amy St. Laurent Paige Anderson Tatiana Nassiri Mike Wolak Charlotte Cook Peter Baker Joyce Fortin John Rich Charlie Tracy Paul Romani Joseph Collins Pete Everson Fran Edwards Delphine Newell Catherine Howard Amy Archambault

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1:00-3:00 NEW LISTING



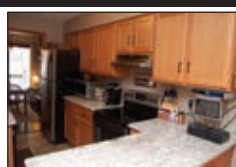
Killingly \$250,000 • 12 Deer Court
G10196502.bhhsNEproperties.com
Large 4 bed, 2.5 bath Colonial at end of Cul de Sac, new carpets, 3 season porch, finished LL, w/ bar, AG Pool.
Mary Collins 860-336-6677

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1:00-3:00 NEW PRICE



147 Old Town Pound Rd • Hampton \$539,000
G10180876.bhhsNEproperties.com
Tranquil beauty on 10+ acres w/ pond, abuts state forest. Custom open floor plan w/majestic views, 1st floor master suite.
Joseph Collins 860-336-1172

Thompson \$145,000 NEW LISTING



G10197681.bhhsNEproperties.com
Handsome open floor plan townhouse extensively re modeled. Great kitchen-granite. Extra living space-wood floors-balcony.
Chet Zadora 860-208-6724

Pomfret \$339,000 NEW LISTING



G10196597.bhhsNEproperties.com
Solar, energy efficient, custom built Contemporary Cape. Gorgeous area and grounds. Master bedroom suite on main floor.
White/Cook Team 860-377-4016

Brooklyn \$304,900 NEW PRICE



G10176371.bhhsNEproperties.com
Ranch on 11.16 acres, 1752SF, built in 2008, wood floors, 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths, large oversized Garage.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Pomfret \$550,000



G10153911.bhhsNEproperties.com
BRAND NEW cooks Kitchen, new granite baths, 4BD, FF in family RM, office, finished walkout, 1G pool with pool house.
Collins Team 860-336-6677

Woodstock \$499,000



G10192023.bhhsNEproperties.com
Beautiful 4 bedroom home located at the end of a dead-end road, quiet and peaceful living experience.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Pomfret \$172,000



G10188277.bhhsNEproperties.com
Tranquility abounds! Light-filled private home with 2 bedrooms, open layout.
Easy walk to Pomfret School.
John Rich 860-315-2615

Congratulations! January Top Agents



Top Listing Agents: Mary & Joseph Collins
Top Buyers Agent: Brooke Gelhaus
Top Selling Agents: Mary & Joseph Collins

Woodstock \$492,900



G10129567.bhhsNEproperties.com
Lake living at it's finest. 2011 energy efficient waterfront on Witch's Woods. 4 bds/3.5 baths. 2 docks, 3 levels of living.
Mary Scalise 860-918-1539

Woodstock \$500,000



G10174639.bhhsNEproperties.com
Stunning, expansive Cape located on 5.36 acres. Brazilian hardwood floors throughout.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Sterling \$164,900



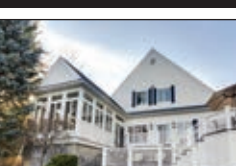
G10180420.bhhsNEproperties.com
Ranch on 1.23 Acres, hardwood floors, 3 BR, 1.5 Baths, 1144SF, lower level finished with walk out! Circular driveway.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Eastford \$599,000/\$699,000



G10152879.bhhsNEproperties.com
Elegant, mini-estate/retreat on 2.5 or 32 acres-you decide! 4/5 bedrooms, spaciousness abounds. Pool, stream, pond.
John Rich 860-315-2615

Union \$1,590,000 NEW PRICE LUXURY COLLECTION



G10116306.bhhsneproperties.com
Waterfront estate with 5.83 with breathtaking views & frontage on Mashapaug Lake! Includes a 2nd Guest Home along with an elegant home, tennis court, swimming beach, 5 garage spaces and 4 docks.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Woodstock \$489,000



G10157893.bhhsNEproperties.com
Lovely refinished Farmhouse with 3 story barn, 7 stalls and over 20 acres in rural setting!
White/Cook Team 860-377-4016

Woodstock \$439,000



G10184587.bhhsNEproperties.com
True elegance, soaring ceilings, walls of glass, hardwoods throughout, 1st floor master suite, each bedroom has full bath.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Ashford \$364,900



G10158346.bhhsNEproperties.com
Welcome home to this 2500SF well maintained Cape on 2.35 acres w/ a decked pool. In-law set up or additional living space
Mary Scalise 860-918-1539

Pomfret \$475,000



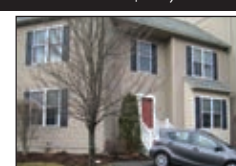
G10177171.bhhsNEproperties.com
Spacious cape with oversized bedrooms, finished basement, possible in-law, 4 garage bays, office & beautiful yard!
Brooke Gelhaus 860-336-9408

Putnam \$222,900



G10177084.bhhsNEproperties.com
Beautiful Farmhouse with porch, barn and pool. Convenient location 2260SF, 3BR, 1.5BA. Move right in.
Mary Scalise 860-918-1539

Putnam \$205,000



G10189471.bhhsNEproperties.com
Condo living at its best! Impeccable condition, close to 2000 sq ft, new kitchen and bamboo flooring throughout.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Woodstock \$369,000



G10150766.bhhsNEproperties.com
Walk to Woodstock Academy, 3/4 bedrooms, 3 baths, updated kitchen! Attached 2-car garage.
John Rich 860-315-2615

Woodstock \$229,500



G10176949.bhhsNEproperties.com
Great neighborhood in South Woodstock-close to everything! Spacious Ranch w/4 beds, living room w/hardwoods & fireplace.
White/Cook Team 860-377-4016

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45 Route 171 | Woodstock, CT | 860-928-1995

bhhsNEproperties.com



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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

9:00 p.m.
FLOYD PATTERSON
Solo artist playing R&B classics
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

POULTRY SEMINAR
AT KLEM'S
10:00 a.m. Free to attend
Learn basic care, egg laying, nutrition and more!
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.,
117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

THE MCMURPHY'S
9:00 p.m.
Fun loving duo playing
Songs we know and love
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

BEE KEEPING SEMINAR
AT KLEM'S
11:00 A.M. Free to attend
Tips for beginners
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.,
117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

6:00 p.m. till close
ST. PATRICK'S DAY
Lower Level
Playing Irish classics
And all your favorites too



308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

KLEM'S ANNUAL FISHING EXPO
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Meet reps and experts! Lowest prices of the year On fishing merchandise!
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.,
117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

EASTER BUNNY PICTURES
AT KLEM'S
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Children and pets welcome
With a \$5.00 donation
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.,
117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com



SATURDAY, APRIL 15

BEE KEEPING SEMINAR
AT KLEM'S
11:00 a.m.
Free to attend
Tips for beginners!
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.,
117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com



SATURDAY, APRIL 22

EQUIPMENT CONSIGNMENT
AUCTION AT KLEM'S
10:00 a.m.
Sell your unwanted
Tractors and equipment
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.

117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY APRIL 28, 29, 30



KLEM'S SPRINGFEST AND TENT SALE
Discounted items Up to 90% off retail
KLEM TRACTOR, INC.,
117 West Main St.
Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

ONGOING

MEAT RAFFLE
Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.
6 tables; prime rib, lobster
and much more
Public invited
In the Veterans Lounge
AMERICAN LEGION
TUTTLE POST #279
88 Bancroft St., Auburn, MA
508-832-2701



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
www.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



BREAST FEEDING SUPPORT GROUP
at Strong Body/Strong Mind
Yoga Studio
112 Main St., Putnam, CT
Third Friday of each month
at 6:00 p.m.
860-634-0099
www.strongbodystrongmind.us




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



★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★

PRESIDENTS' DAY Window Special!



- We are the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, and every window that we custom-build has to live up to their strict quality standards
- Our window helps make homes more comfortable because our window material is much more durable than vinyl
- To lock in this Presidents' Day Special, call on or before Saturday, February 25th, and schedule your free Window Diagnosis

Presidents' Day Special ENDS Saturday, February 25th

★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★

SAVE 20%

on windows and patio doors¹

PLUS

★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★

Take an additional

\$200 OFF

your project¹

★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★

PLUS

NO

Money Down

NO

Payments

NO

Interest

FOR 1 YEAR¹

Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full for 12 months. Minimum purchase required.

Renewal by Andersen

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an Andersen Company

The Better Way to a Better Window™



Call to schedule your appointment. Limited appointments are available.

1-800-209-2746

¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 3/4/2017. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. 20% off your entire purchase with no money down and 12 months no payments, no interest when you purchase 4 or more windows or patio doors between 2/5/2017 & 3/4/2017 with approved credit. \$200 off your entire project when you set your appointment by 2/25/2017 and purchase 4 or more windows by 3/4/2017. APR of 16.68% as of 6/1/2015, subject to change. No interest and no payments for 12 months available. Interest accrues from date of purchase but is waived if paid in full within 12 months. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at regular list price. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License MN: BC130983/WI:266951. Excludes MN insurance work per MSA 325E.66. MHIC #121441. VA Lic. #2705155684. DC Lic. #420215000125. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2017 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2017 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.



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SALE



PRESIDENTS' DAY
SALE



HURRY IN! OFFER ENDS 2-28-17



2016 FORD EXPLORER
7 Passenger
4x4
\$25,623 483X



2013 FORD FOCUS
"low miles,
great gas mileage"
\$9,923 52291R



2016 FORD FOCUS RS
788 Miles, Unique, AWD, High
Performance, Enthusiasts Car
\$38,623 7004A



2014 FORD EDGE SPORT
Fwd, Ruby Red, Nav., Moonroof,
Remote Start, 41805 mi.
\$23,623 5355B



2013 FORD F350 LARIAT
4WD Diesel
Ultimate Package
\$48,923 #7080A



2015 FORD FUSION SE
Roomy Family Car
\$15,823 #5234R



2014 ESCAPE
Titanium
Loaded
\$21,523 #506X



2011 FORD F150 LARIAT
Loaded, Super Low Miles
Must See!
\$26,213 4351X

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2016 FUSION S, WELL EQUIPPED

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2011 Ford Flex Limited very comfortable

#4721X **\$18,923**

2014 Fiesta Sedan, 4 Cyl, Auto, Blue Candy, 10K!

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2014 Ford F150 ext cab, leather XLT

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Ford
TOUGH**



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Mike Penner
General Manager



Like New 2016 Ford Fiesta SE
Heated Seats, NAV System,
16" Alloy Wheels, Only 1,063 miles!
Compare at \$18,815 new
JUST REDUCED!
\$13,577 **SAVE OVER \$5,200!**
25 FIESTA's IN STOCK

**HUGE PRICE
REDUCTION EVENT**

**BUY
TODAY**
NO PAYMENTS
'Till May!



Like New 2016 Chrysler 300 Limited
Compare at \$41,425 new
JUST REDUCED!
\$17,977 **SAVE OVER \$23,400!**
10 300's IN STOCK



General Manager
Mike Penner



Like New 2015 Chevy Malibu LTZ
Compare at \$36,765 new
JUST REDUCED!
\$15,877 **SAVE OVER \$20,800!**
65 MALIBU's IN STOCK



Like New 2016 F-250 Super Duty
XLT Trim, 17" Alloy Wheels, 4x4,
Tow Hitch, Only 54 Miles!
Compare at \$50,450 new
JUST REDUCED!
\$32,577 **SAVE OVER \$17,800!**
40 F-250's IN STOCK

LIKE NEW **2013 Buick Enclave**
Heated Leather, NAV System,
Moonroof, Alloy Wheels • #37384L
JUST REDUCED! **\$27,477** OR **\$97/WK**
PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!

LIKE NEW **2015 Ford Focus SE**
Back-Up Camera, 17" Alloy Wheels,
Heated Seats, NAV • #P10303R
JUST REDUCED! **\$16,377** OR **\$39/WK**
PRICED \$2,700 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!

LIKE NEW **2016 Jeep Cherokee Sport**
Sport Trim, Bluetooth, 4x4,
Only 3 Miles! • #D7913R
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PRICED \$1,100 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!

LIKE NEW **2016 Dodge Grand Caravan**
SXT Trim, 17" Alloy Wheels,
DVD Entertainment • #D7958R
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PRICED \$1,500 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!

LIKE NEW! **2014 Chevy Impala LT**
Fully Loaded
Power Package
Great on Gas
JUST REDUCED! **\$7,977** OR **\$83/mo!**
PRICED \$2,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!

Your Choice JUST REDUCED!
\$6,977

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2012 FORD FIESTA SE | 2011 FORD FOCUS SE |
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\$7,977

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2010 CHEVY MALIBU LT | 2010 KIA SOUL |
| 2013 CHEVY SPARK | 2009 MERCURY SABLE |

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\$8,977

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2013 CHEVY CRUZE ECO | 2005 SILVERADO 1500 |
| 2007 MONTE CARLO SS | 2013 FORD FOCUS SE |

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MENDON, MA
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DRIVE HOME TODAY!!!

\$0 DOWN

\$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

\$0 1ST PAYMENT

4 BIG DAYS!!

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

| | | |
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| <p>2017 CHEVY CRUZE</p> <p>LT SEDAN STK. #CR17204</p> <p>MSRP \$22,325 Sign n' Drive \$129 24 MONTH LEASE</p> | <p>2017 CHEVY EQUINOX</p> <p>LS SPORT UTILITY STK. #EQ17022</p> <p>MSRP \$26,405 Sign n' Drive \$189 39 MONTH LEASE</p> | <p>2017 CHEVY MALIBU</p> <p>LT SEDAN STK. #MB17504</p> <p>MSRP \$26,000 Sign n' Drive \$198 39 MONTH LEASE</p> |
| <p>GMC FEBRUARY'S BEST OFFERS BUICK</p> <p>WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE</p> | | |
| <p>STK. #TE17018</p> <p>2017 GMC TERRAIN SLE ALL WHEEL DRIVE</p> <p>\$0 DOWN Sign n' Drive \$239 39 MONTH LEASE</p> | <p>STK. #EN17645</p> <p>2017 BUICK ENCORE ALL WHEEL DRIVE</p> <p>\$0 DOWN Sign n' Drive \$198 39 MONTH LEASE</p> | <p>STK. #AC17423</p> <p>2017 GMC ACADIA SLE ALL WHEEL DRIVE</p> <p>\$0 DOWN Sign n' Drive \$298 39 MONTH LEASE</p> |
| <p>STK. #RE17550</p> <p>2017 BUICK REGAL SPORT TOURING SEDAN</p> <p>\$0 DOWN Sign n' Drive \$269 39 MONTH LEASE</p> | | |

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| 2009 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL AWD, 7 PASSENGER, LEATHER MOONROOF, HEATED COOLED SEATS, AC1731A YOUR PRICE \$16,988 | 2011 CHEVY SILVERADO EXT. CAB 2500 EDITION, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, FULL POWER, #R350A YOUR PRICE \$19,988 | 2013 BUICK REGAL GS PERFORMANCE SEDAN, LEATHER, NAVIGATION, MOONROOF, HEATED SEATS, AUTOMATIC, ONE OWNER, #P206 YOUR PRICE \$19,988 |
| 2014 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 1500 EDITION, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, #TK16519B YOUR PRICE \$20,988 | 2009 GMC SIERRA 4X4 SLT EXTENDED CAB, Z71 PACKAGE, LEATHER, LOW MILES, FULL POWER, #R350A YOUR PRICE \$23,988 | 2014 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4XA, AUTOMATIC, LOW MILES, ONE OWNER, #TK17563A YOUR PRICE \$23,988 |
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| 2014 FORD F150 XLT EXTENDED CAB, 4XA, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, ALLOY WHEELS, CA1625BA YOUR PRICE \$27,988 | 2015 GMC SIERRA 4X4 1500 SLE DOUBLE CAB, ONE OWNER, #SI16419A YOUR PRICE \$28,988 | 2015 CHEVY SUBURBAN LTZ 4X4 7 PASSENGER, HEATED COOLED SEATS, NAVIGATION, ONE OWNER, #AC17106A YOUR PRICE \$44,988 |

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| 2016 CHEVY EQUINOX LS ALL WHEEL DRIVE, FULL POWER, ALLOY WHEELS, #WD17588A YOUR PRICE \$21,988 | 2014 CHEVY IMPALA LTZ SEDAN - LEATHER, MOONROOF, HEATED COOLED SEATS, 8 CYL, R357A YOUR PRICE \$22,988 | 2015 CHEVY MALIBU LTZ SEDAN 2.0 TURBO ENGINE, AUTOMATIC, MOONROOF, LEATHER, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, #P304 YOUR PRICE \$23,988 |
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| <p>2013 Chevrolet Cruze LT-RS Really nice shape, upgraded alloys, RS package, great options.</p> <p>51,000 MILES!</p> <p>\$168 per month \$11,250</p> | <p>2013 Honda Civic EX Coupe Automatic, moonroof, reverse camera, Bluetooth, alloy wheels, and more.</p> <p>20,000 MILES</p> <p>\$187 per month \$12,525</p> | <p>2014 Honda Civic EX Sedan 36,000 miles, moonroof, backup camera, side view camera, alloys, power package, and much more. Super color, fun car, fuel saver.</p> <p>PRICED AT</p> <p>\$202 per month \$13,575</p> | <p>2014 Toyota Corolla LE Fully serviced, Bluetooth, reverse camera, automatic, and more.</p> <p>ONLY 19,000 MILES</p> <p>\$215 per month \$14,435</p> |
| <p>2015 Toyota Corolla S 14,000 miles, white with black leather bolstered seats, moonroof, navigation, Bluetooth, reverse camera, sharp alloy wheels to go along with the "S" body package.</p> <p>MUST SEE THIS CAR!</p> <p>\$235 per month \$15,735</p> | <p>2013 ACURA ILX Stunning Color Combo, Heated Leather, Moonroof, Alloys, And More! Great Combo Of Luxury, Sport, And Efficiency!</p> <p>27,000 MILES!</p> <p>\$235 per month \$15,780</p> | <p>2013 Nissan Juke S AWD 25,000 miles, CVT trans, turbo power, and take you anywhere all wheel drive</p> <p>A TON OF FUN FOR</p> <p>\$239 per month \$15,990</p> | <p>2013 Nissan Maxima SV White on black leather, BOSE, heated seats and steering wheel, reverse camera, moonroof, Bluetooth, alloys, and more.</p> <p>39,000 MILES</p> <p>\$249 per month \$16,650</p> |
| <p>2014 HONDA ODYSSEY LX CLEAN BUGGY AND READY FOR THE NEXT FAMILY VACA!</p> <p>41,000 MILES</p> <p>\$283 per month \$18,995</p> | <p>2014 Infiniti Q50 Premium Also includes Tech pkg. There is too much to list for this car. Serviced with new tires all the way around. Stunning car. and Bluetooth.</p> <p>PREMIUM DELUXE TOURING AWD SEDAN</p> <p>\$410 per month \$27,429</p> | <p>2013 Chevy Silverado 4x4 Crew 5.3L V8 with 33,600 miles and brand new tires! You name it, this truck will do it! \$27,995 or \$418/mo</p> <p>SLASHED!</p> <p>\$403 per month \$26,900</p> | <p>2013 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon Unlimited 4x4 Automatic, 36,000 miles, and super clean inside and out!</p> <p>PRICED TO SELL AT</p> <p>\$518 per month \$34,653</p> |

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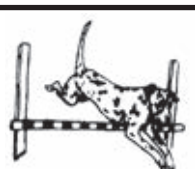
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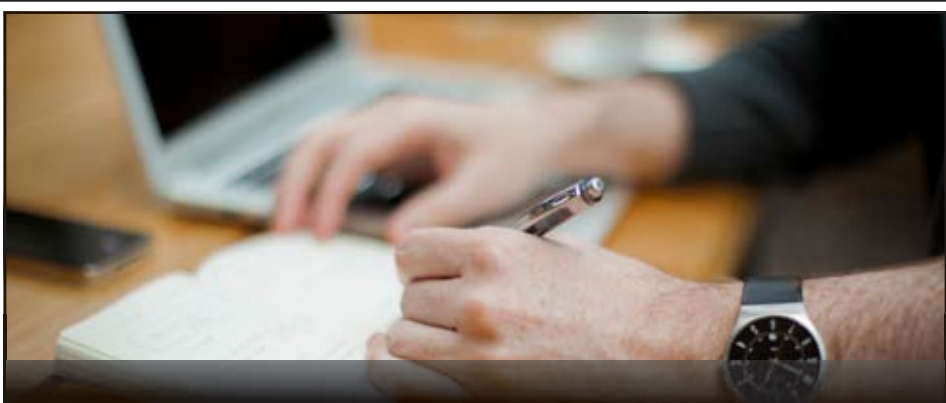
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72K Miles

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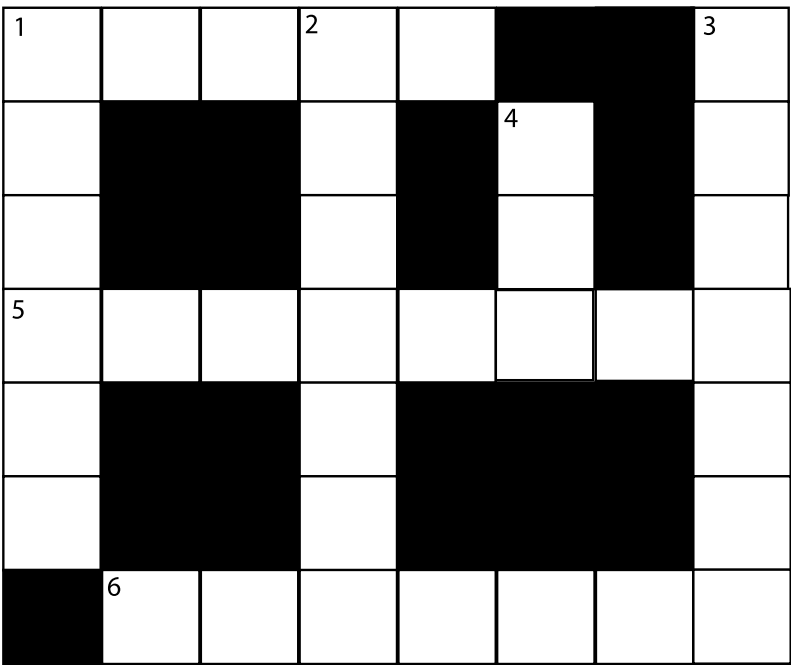
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Outerwear
- 5. Most silly
- 6. Falling frozen flakes

DOWN

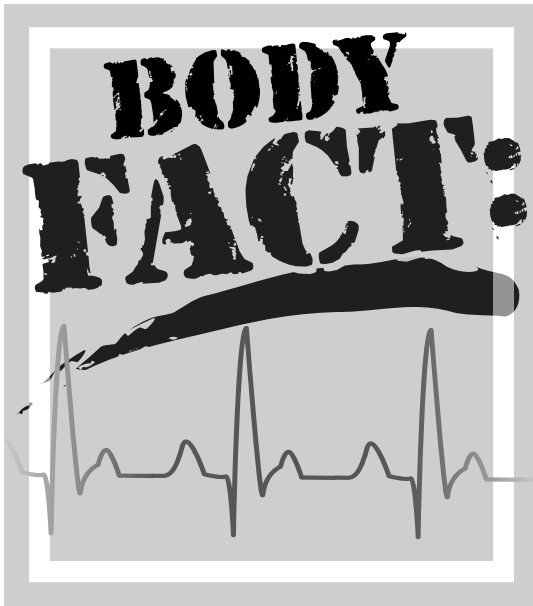
- 1. Somewhat cold
- 2. Funnel storm
- 3. Rink sport
- 4. Frozen water

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1613: MIKHAIL I IS ELECTED TSAR OF RUSSIA. THIS BEGINS THE ROMANOV DYNASTY.
- 1878: THE FIRST TELEPHONE DIRECTORY IS ISSUED. IT IS DISTRIBUTED IN NEW HAVEN, CONN.
- 1995: STEVE FOSSETT BECOMES THE FIRST PERSON TO CROSS THE PACIFIC OCEAN SOLO IN A BALLOON.



THIS IS THE TERM FOR WHEN SMALL MUSCLES THAT ARE ATTACHED TO EACH HAIR ON THE BODY CONTRACT AND CAUSE HAIR TO STAND UP.

ANSWER: GOOSEBUMPS

Down
1. Chilly 2. Tornado 3. Skating 4. Ice

Across
1. Coats 5. Looniest 6. Snowing
Answers:



TUNDRA

flat, permanently frozen areas of the world



- ENGLISH: Cloud
- SPANISH: Nube
- ITALIAN: Nuvola
- FRENCH: Nuage
- GERMAN: Wolke



SNOWBOARDING WAS INVENTED IN THE 1960S WITH TWO SKIS STRAPPED TOGETHER. THE ORIGINAL NAME WAS 'SNURFING.'



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SNOWMOBILE

CRYPTO FUN



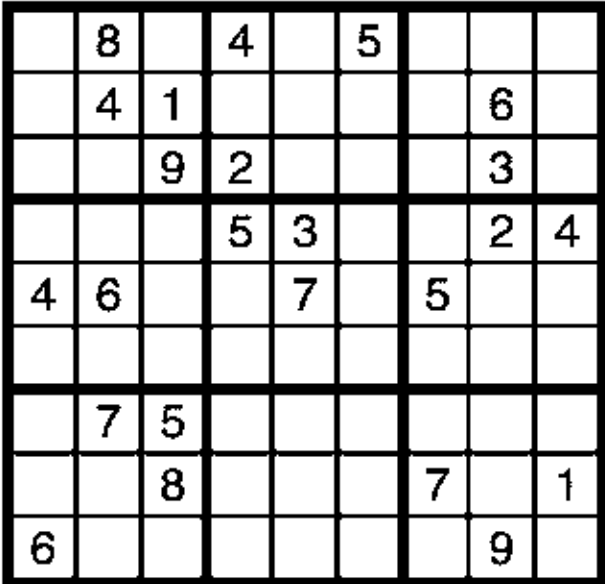
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to canned goods. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 21 = e)

- A. 14 26 16 4 21
Clue: Topping
- B. 15 21 8 21 6 26 13 10 21 14
Clue: Healthy foods
- C. 13 21 26 5 14
Clue: Kidney, red
- D. 14 24 16 12
Clue: Liquid meal

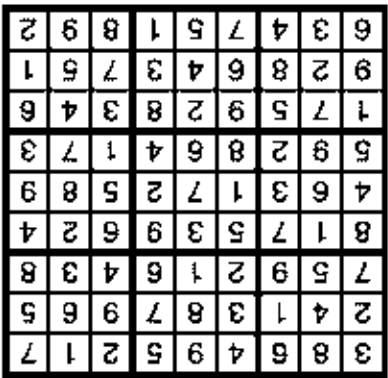
Answers: A. sauce B. vegetables C. beans D. soup

SUDOKU



Level: Advanced

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



ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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

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AND PICK-A-CAR
AND A PAYMENT!

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The
Commish



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Steve
The
Hoopfiller
Miller



2013 NISSAN
SENTRA

SV W/NAV #LAW705

2015 FORD
FOCUS SE

W/ALLOYS #LAW779

2012 HONDA
ACCORD SE

W/LEATHER #MB104

2014 CHEVROLET
CRUZE LS

W/AUTOMATIC
#LAW595

2014 HYUNDAI
ELANTRA SE

W/ALL POWER
OPTIONS #MB089

2015 DODGE
DART SXT

BLACK W/ALLOYS
#LAW778

2015 DODGE
DART SXT

BLUE W/ALLOYS
#LAW776

2011 HYUNDAI
SONATA SE

W/ 2.0 TURBO
#MB098

2013 NISSAN
SENTRA S

ONE OWNER
#LAW663

2014 TOYOTA
COROLLA L

W/AUTO TRANS &
ALLOYS #MB103

Do It
Again
Ken



2013 MAZDA 3
TOURING

W/ALLOYS #MB069

Chris
Crispies



2013 FORD
ESCAPE SE

W/ 4X4 #LAW700

2014 FORD
ESCAPE SE

W/4X4 #LAW698

2014 FORD
EDGE SE

W/CONNECTIVITY
#LAW748A

2013 TOYOTA
PRIUS

W/NAVIGATION
#MB072

2011 MERCEDES
C300 SPORT

AWD W/LEATHER
#LAW759

2015 FORD
FUSION S

W/BLUETOOTH
#LAW591

2014 HONDA
CIVIC EX

W/SUNROOF #MB086

2013 BUICK
VERANO

W/ONLY 8,000 MILES
#LAW731A

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COROLLA S

W/ALLOY WHEELS
#LAW653A

2012 CHEVROLET
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W/AWD #LAW765

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WHEELS #MB051

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