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Friday, March 15, 2024

Local comfort dog assists with K9 training class

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — The police department's Comfort Dog Finn and handler Officer Brett Fulone recently assisted with a Nero's Law K9 practical class.

Under Nero's Law, Chapter 23 of the Acts of 2022, according to reports, ambulance services in Massachusetts must ensure that all certified

EMTs, at all levels, complete a training course of at least three hours dealing with police dog (K9) treatment and transport.

The act provides for the care and transportation of police dogs injured in the line of duty.

"Ambulance services shall authorize their EMS personnel to provide emergency treatment to a police dog injured in the



Whitin Community Center holds Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony

WHITINSVILLE — The Whitin Community Center's annual meeting was held on Monday, February 26th, 2024, in our newly renovated gymnasium. This year, the Board of Trustees, Corporators, Award Recipients, WCC Staff & Administration enjoyed cocktail hour including hors d'oeuvres by Oliva's Market and gathered to reflect and celebrate on the past year's accomplishments.

At the event, the organization was addressed with a welcoming introduction by our Chairman Of The Board, Bruce Lynskey. We thanked our outgoing Trustee, Paul Harris, for his years of service and dedication to our organization as treasurer, and our outgoing Corporators, Andrew Knott, Jayne Knott, and Pam Siderewicz. In addition, we welcomed three new Corporators, William Kerrissey, Thomas Kuik, and Henry Lane. Heather Elster, our Executive Director, presented her annual review of our many renovations and projects, what we accomplished, and what our organization is looking forward to in the future. One of the highlights during the meeting was the presentation of photographs that were shared by some of our Senior Leadership Team members. Each photograph embodied a beautiful memory from a time at the Whitin Community Center, that inspired them and made them smile.

Each year, the WCC recognizes staff and community members who have gone above and beyond at the WCC and shown great support to our community with our Annual Awards. The Whitin Community Center wishes to congratulate the following award winners: Our High

Turn To WHITIN page A12

line of duty, and transport such police dog by ambulance, to a veterinary clinic or veterinary hospital equipped to provide emergency treatment to dogs," the legislation reads. "Provided, there are no person requiring emergency medical treatment or transport at that time."

Ambulance services must develop written policies or procedures for the following: Appropriate training of EMS personnel to provide police dogs basic level first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and life-saving interven-

A "police dog" is defined as a specially-trained dog owned or used by a law enforcement department or agency of

the Commonwealth and used in the course of the department's or agency's official work, including "a search and rescue dog, service dog, accelerant detection canine, or other dog that is in use by the law enforcement agency for official duties.'

"The town of Yarmouth suffered an incredible tragedy in April of 2018

when Sgt. Sean Gannon was killed in the line of duty. Also injured in this vicious attack was Gannon's canine partner, Nero," the MSPCA released on its website prior to the passing of the bill. "Nero suffered life-threatening injuries and was unable to be treated by emergency medical personnel due to existing state law that prohibits working animals from being treated or transported by emergency person-

Now, the Douglas Fire Department has completed training that will help. The fire department shared that the Sutton Animal Hospital and Brandy Golden assisted with the class, which allowed the fire department to practice assessment on a real canine.

"Finn was very patient with us all morning, no pun intended," the fire department released in a statement on social media following the training.

Uxbridge High Science Olympiad team places at state finals

Superintendent Michael Baldassarre and Principal Michael Rubin pleased to share that the Uxbridge High School Science Olympiad team had a successful run at the Massachusetts State Science Olympiad Division C State Tournament.

Science Olympiad is a nationwide competition designed to increase students' interest in STEM fields and provide recognition for outstanding achievement in team events. The Massachusetts State Science Olympiad Division C State on Saturday, March 2 at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston.

The Uxbridge High School Science Olympiad



Tournament was held Olivia Gray and Olivia Holden competed in Forensics in one of the invitational Tournaments.

team placed 14th out of 66 breaking last year's record and improving from its pre-

As part of the competeams at the tournament, tition, team members vious 15th-place finish.

decide which events they are most interested in during the month of September: Students then spend months leading up to the first invitational to be fully prepared for their events. Most of the prep work includes researching assigned topics, practicing sample problems and lab activities, perfecting prototypes, and performing mock competitions similar to the real thing.

During the competition, students competed in 22 events in categories including earth and space science, inquiry and nature of science, life, personal and social science, physical science and chemistry, and technology and engineering design.

All events were either knowledge tests, laboratory-based tasks, pre-builds, or a hybrid of all three.

'Science Olympiad is the best platform to meet students who share your passion for science. It is difficult, requiring a lot of work but can be equally rewarding," said freshman Uxbridge High School Science Olympiad team member Saanvi Singh.

Uxbridge High School's have them as part of top performances includ-

Mann, Olivia Holden and Sebastian Bradwin - 7th place (Experimental Design)

• Jake Richardson and Ben Bourgeois - 7th place (Robot Tour)

• Cam Caso and Ben Bourgeois - 7th place (Scrambler)

· Dan Mach and Saanvi Singh - 10th place (Astronomy)

• Dan Mach, Sebastian Bradwin, and Saanvi Singh - 9th place (Codebusters) · Aidan Arsenault and

Jake Richardson - 9th place (Detector Building) · James Bernard and Éabha Twohig-Mann - 9th

place (Tower) Honorable Mentions included:

 Zach Fortier and Olivia Gray - 14th place (Fossils)

• Zach Fortier and Stella Roy - 19th place (Geologic Mapping)

• Stella Roy and Erin Roche - 19th place (Write it Do It) • Cam Caso and James

Bernard - 20th place (Wind Power)

"We're very proud of our students for their achievements at the state finals," said Rubin. "Their hard work paid off at the tournament and they continue to grow and improve. We're excited to see what they accomplish next sea-

Firefighters graduate from academy



BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI

REGION — Four area fire departments have recently seen the graduation of firefighters from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

The fire departments in Northbridge, Douglas, Grafton, and Millville congratulated their members on graduation.

Volunteer

"Congratulations to Joe Atchue, Frank Brackley, and Dameon Zayas who graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy," the Northbridge Fire Department released. "Members of Call Recruit

Firefighter Program Class 110 graduated from the academy after completing over 240 hours of training.

The Douglas Fire Department congratulated Finley Luippold.

"Chief Furno and members of our department were in attendance at the ceremony," the Douglas Department released. In Grafton, the fire

department extended congratulations to Firefighter Laize Chuab Malo and Firefighter Tyler Prout.

'We are proud to Turn To FIRE GRADS ed:

Siobhan Twohigpage **A12**

Grafton police credit alert bank staff with arrest

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI CORRESPONDENT

GRAFTON — Police say an alert bank staff resulted in a suspect arrest on multiple charges.

According police. Grafton Police Dispatcher to cash what Brandon Dionne received a call from the staff Homefield Credit Union (HCU) on March 5 at about 3:44 "regarding a suspicious female at the drive thru window attempting

altered check." "A description of the female and the vehicle involved given to was the responding units, Officers Asassv Randy James and O'Brien," Grafton Police Department released.

appeared to be

fraudulent/

On his arrival, Officer Asassy "observed the suspect vehicle exiting the HCU lot heading northbound Worcester Street," according to reports.

"Officer Asassv followed the vehicle with emergency lights and siren activated, however, the vehicle refused to stop," police said. "The suspect vehicle did stop at North Main and Waterville but sped off as Officer Asassy approached the car. The suspect vehicle finally stopped in a driveway Shrewsbury St. and the driver attempted to flee on foot but was apprehend-

ed by Officer

June

Officer O'Brien to the HCU tell- a False Check, who arrived to assist," police said. "The driver was transported back to HCU where she was identified

The identified as Karen A. Brunelle, 47, of Wayne Street, Worcester, was then transported to police headquarters where she was processed and placed in a cell, according reports.

"Subsequent investigation revealed that the check presented

er was reported missing out of Sutton and identification as well as debit/credit cards carried by Brunelle under a different name reportwere ed missing out Worcester." Grafton Police said. "Officers O'Brien and Tom Michniewicz also located a quantity of Class B drugs in the suspect vehicle."

Based on the investigation, Brunelle was the following: Forgery of a Check, Uttering

Identity Fraud. Attempted Larceny Over Check \$1,200, Receiving Stolen Property Less Than \$1,200 (three counts), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Failure to Stop Police, Operating with Suspended License, Resisting Arrest, Speeding, Trafficking Controlled Substance (eighteen grams or more but less than 36 grams),

Substance (two counts).

Brunelle was held overnight pending her appearance in Westborough District Court.

"We would like to commend the staff at Homefield Credit Union for recognizing the suspicious activity taking place at their drive-thru and immediately calling police to report the incident, providing detailed information about the suspect and vehicle involved," police

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Blackstone Valley Tech to hold annual Golf Tourney June 10

You'll want to mark your calendar for BVT's

25th Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, 10, at Highfields Golf & Country

Asassy

Club in Grafton. Hit the links, show off your skills, and help raise money good cause to bene-fit the Valley Tech Education Foundation Athletic Department activities and

programs. Your registra-

tion (individual golfer \$150/golf foursome \$600) includes 18 holes on the championship course, a golf cart, and a buffet dinner. Take part in the silent auction and raffles, all to help support a special cause. Not a golfer, consider sponsoring a tee, putting green, or a cart to proudly display your company name in the program and during the event. The day prom-

ises to be full of fun and friendly competition. For all tournament details, to view sponsorship opportunities, donate a raffle item, or access the online golfer registration and payment portal, visit www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/ golftournament. Register today to secure your spot.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

and Possession

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge,

Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic

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News from Beginning Bridges where families

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Facebook: Beginning Bridges CFCE

E m urray@ smoc.org 508-278-5110

Beginning Bridges CFCE vision is that children, youth and families reach their full potential now and in the future. Our mission is to work with families

Hi! My name is Lovely and I

Lovely is an independent and

kind girl. As her name suggests,

Lovely is a sweet and friendly girl

with a great sense of humor. It can

take some time to get her to open

up, but once she is comfortable

she enjoys her connections with

others. Lovely is described as a

quiet girl with a go-with-the-flow

attitude. She enjoys painting and

Lovely receives some additional

support in school. She also puts a

great deal of effort into her school-

loves to display her art.

work with the support of her foster family as well. She gets along well

Lovely would do well with a family of any constellation, with or without

other children. While a family of any ethnicity will be considered, she

would love to have a family who shares her Caribbean island and His-

panic culture. Lovely would do well with a patient and nurturing family

https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8332

Can I Adopt?

If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ+ singles and couples. As an adoptive parent, you won't have to pay any fees, adoption from foster care is completely free in

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews,

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org .

Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guid-

ance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out

all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.

and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

have a great sense of humor!

commu-

partners to create the conditions for children, youth and families to thrive socially, academically and economical-Funding for the Coordinated Family Community

Engagement Grant (CFCE) is provided by the Massachusetts Dept. of Early Education and Care (EEC) and sponsored by South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC-Childcare/ Start). Head Beginning Bridges CFCE

funding the towns of Mendon, Northbridge, Upton Uxbridge. Currently, our FREE comprehensive serinclude vices weekly indoor outdoor parent/child playgroups. We also offer parent education programs, the Ages & Stages Developmental Questionnaire and can connect families to community resourc-

Upcoming Events-Registration is required for upcoming events. Links can be accessed on our website or contact Emily Murray at 508-278-5110 or Emurray@smoc. org.

Please check website our Facebook and page for Winter 2023/2024 Newsletter.

Wednesday, 4/3/24 Coffee Conversations 9:30 to 10:30 am at Taft Public Library, 29 North Ave in Mendon. Join us for an informal dropplaytime

will be able to build social connections, learn about early childhood development and family friendly resources. Please bring your own coffee. Muffins from Muffin House Cafe will be provided. Puppet Storytime will follow at 10:30 am. Register for both on the Taft

Public Library

website.

Thursdays 4/4 - 5/23/24 from 9 to 10:30 – TINKER PLAYGROUP Join Beginning Bridges CFCE and Taft Public Library for a FREE 6 week playgroup to play and learn together. Meet new friends and practice important STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) skills. Registration

required.

Contact Emily at 508-278-5110 or emurray@smoc.

Fridays 4/5 -6/14/24 from 9:30 - 11:00 Outdoor Explorers West Hill Dam Come join us as we explore the outdoors together engage in a story, craft and songs. Registration is still open although there is limited availability. Contact Emily Murray at 508-278-5110 or emurray@smoc.

Monday 4/8/24 Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins, 9:30 to 10:00am at Upton Town Library, Milford Street, Upton. Register on the Upton Town Library website.

Wednesday 4/17/24 - Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins, 10:30 to 11:00am at Whitinsville Social Library, 17 Church Street, Whitinsville. Register online at the Whitinsville Social Library website.



of the WEEK **GINO**

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Meet Gino! 3mo/15lb/Male/Husky mix! Gino is part of the "G pups" litter. These playful, smart & friendly puppies are

Apply for Gino, or his siblings at www.pawfectliferescue.org



Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor the Pawfect Life Rescue PAW of the WEEK!







Lovely

Age 14

with her peers and with the adults in her life.

who can take the time to build a trusting relationship.



Good Citizens Awards announced

The General Ebenezer Learned Oxford Chapter of the Daughters the American Revolution (DAR) is proud announce the school winners of the Good Citizens Award from the schools that the chapter sponsors.

A recognition reception was held on Saturday, March 9, for the winners. Reese Ann Reynolds is the Oxford High School representative and she also is representing the General Ebenezer Learned DAR Chapter at the Massachusetts DAR District IV level. Winners at the district level go on to the state DAR Good Citizen contest.

Bartlett High School. Webster, is represented by Reece LeBeau. Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Charlton, representby Sophia Balestracci. Courtney Wilbur represents



Left to right: Sophia Belestracci, Reece LeBeau, Helen Poirier, Sylvia Buck, Courtney Wilbur, Luke Poirier, Reese Ann Reynolds.

Millbury Jr./Sr. High School, and Luke Poirier is Shepherd Hill Regional High School Good Citizen representative. Also joining the Good Citizen group was past recipient, Sylvia Buck, who received her

Congratulations to all school representatives.

The DAR Good Citizens Award and Scholarship Contest, created in 1934, is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship.

award This recognizes and because

rewards individuals who possess the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in their homes, schools, and communities. These students are selected by their teachers and

demonstrate these qualities to an outstanding degree.

• This program is only open to high-school seniors whose schools accredited by their state board of education.

• Only one stu-

as a school's DAR Good Citizen.

• United States citizenship is not required.

 Additional rules and guidelines can acquired contacting your local DAR chap-

The Daughters of the American Revolution is non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization. DAR members are dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism in communities across the nation. All students are invited to participate and learn more about the educational programs the DAR offers.

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Webster First Federal Credit Union named to Newsweek's America's Best Regional Banks

WORCESTER Webster First Federal Credit Union, one of the most well-capitalized credit unions operating in the state of Massachusetts, announced today that it is recognized as one of America's Best Regional Banks Credit and Unions 2024 by Newsweek and Plant-A Insights Group. This survey of over 35,000 individuals included over 140,000 reviews regional banks and credit unions. Only 250 regional banks and 250 regional credit unions

from the entire

country made the list.

"Our team at Webster First values honesty and committing to doing our best each day. We believe living up to these values is the cornerstone of our award-winning service and how become we've one of the most well capitalized credit unions in Massachusetts. We're honored to be recognized as one of America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions by Newsweek and for our memberships continued support of our credit union,"

Executive Officer Michael Lussier.

Regional banks and credit unions play pivotal role in meeting the needs of communities across nation. Newsweek and market-daresearch Insights are proud to introduce America's Best Regional Banks Credit Unions 2024, highlighting local lenders that are committed to the needs of their communities, added Nancy Cooper, Global

Editor in Chief of Newsweek.

About Webster

First Webster First was founded in 1928 with 24 depositors and a capital outlay of \$350. Now, they've grown to serve over 90,000 members with 13 branches serv-Middlesex, Suffolk counties. They have voted as been the Telegram & Gazette's Union Credit Central of for the past five years, and are one of only four credit unions from

Massachusetts make Newsweek's list.

MASSHEALTH paperwork is confusing! Certified Application Counselors can help!

In person assistance available through March 2024 Tri-Valley Office Hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am-1pm and Wednesdays Noon-4pm at 10 Mill Street, Dudley Alternating Friday's 9am-11am at Webster Senior Center 5 Church Street, Webster

Call Tri-Valley to schedule an appointment that works for you! 508-949-6640 Information and Referral Department







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BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, March 15, 2024

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Helps little firms
- 4. Political action committee
- 7. Allowed
- 12. Olivia Colman played one
- 15. Open
- 16. He had a notable lamp
- 18. Promotional material
- 19. Domesticated animal
- 20. Larry and Curly's buddy
- 21. The best ever
- 24. TV network
- 27. Checked for
- 30. Dry or withered
- 31. Expression of annoyance
- 33. Dash
- 34. Fifth note of a major scale
- 35. A secret clique

- Partner to cheese
- school: where to learn healing
- 41. City in ancient Syria
- 42. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 44. Established practice
- 47. Thanksgiving side dish
- 48. District in Peru
- 49. It's becoming more prevalent
- 50. State in India
- 52. Measure of illumination
- 53. Raised platform
- 56. Japanese warrior
- 61. R.L. Stevenson novel
- 63. Transitory
- 64. Advanced degree
- 65. Fiddler crabs

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Prevent from seeing
- 2. Czech city
- and Andy, TV show
- 4. A young pig
- 5. Removed surgically
- 6. Covered with
- 7. Chest muscle (slang)
- 8. Nigerian City
- 9. Midway between south and
- 10. A way to shut
- 11. Stop playing
- 12 Marshy places
- 13. Takes apart 14. Ten cents
- 17. A gesture of assent
- 22. Scent
- 23. Teletypewriter
- 24. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 25. Hillside

- 26. Taxi driver
- 28. Semitic Sun god
- Town in India
- 32. Traditional rhythmic pattern
- 36. Fugitives are on the
- 38. Type of dance
- 40. Two letters, one sound
- 43. Having a strong, pleasant taste
- 44. Golf score
- 45. Mayhem
- 46. Drenched
- 51. River in northeastern Asia 54. Drug to treat anxiety (abbr.)
- 55. Part-time employee
- 56. A very large body of water
- 57. Aboriginal people of Japan
- 58. Millisecond
- 59. Forearm bone
- 60. Subway dweller
- 62. Royal Mail

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Quinsigamond Community College receives grant for emergency response device

WORCESTER Quinsigamond Community College recently received a grant from the Healey-Driscoll Administration to purchase an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) for one of the college's security patrol vehicles. QCC was one of 80 Massachusetts municipalities, public colleges and universities, and nonprofits chosen to receive part of \$165,000 in grant funding for AEDs to be placed in emergency response vehicles.

"We are close to completing the outfitting of all campus police and security vehicles with an AED. Seconds count in a cardiac situation, which is why we bring these vital life-saving devices on all critical calls," said QCC's Police Chief, Stephen DiGiovanni.

The funding will cover the cost of an AED assigned to one of the college's security vehicles. Currently 12 of the 13 police/security vehicles have AEDs, and the grant will ensure that all vehicles are now equipped with this life-sustaining device. Additionally, two AEDs are assigned to QCC's Police Academy, 21 in fixed locations that include at least one in each building on the West Boylston Street campus, three at the downtown campus and one at QCC's Southbridge location. The college's Athletic Center has four additional AEDs.

OCC's Campus Police Medical Advisor Stephen Rice noted that sudden cardiac arrest causes approximately 350,000 each year in the United Cardiopulmonary States. Resuscitation (CPR) with the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) can double or triple a sudden cardiac arrest patient's chance of survival. A person's chance of survival can decrease by 7%-10% for each minute that passes without restoring a normal heartbeat. If the AED determines that it is necessary, it delivers an electric shock through the chest to restore a normal heartbeat. The combination of AEDs around QCC in both fixed locations and patrol vehicles decreases the delay between sudden cardiac arrest and restoring a normal heartbeat.

The \$1,703.20 grant covers the cost of one AED package that includes one set of adult and pediatric pads, one battery pack, a carrying case and an initial warranty.

QCC Campus Police officers and security officers are all certified in Basic Life Support and First Responder. CPR and use of an AED are covered under Basic Life Support certification.

The college's Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education offers CPR/AED certification classes to the public for a fee. QCC Campus Police also occasionally offers non-certification training in recognizing sudden cardiac arrest, calling 911, Adult hands-only CPR and use of an AED.

AIC student Morgan Martellio named to American Field Hockey Coaches Association National Academic Squad

SPRINGFIELD—American International College (AIC) congratulates Morgan Martellio of Uxbridge for being named by the American Hockey Coaches Association as a member of the 2023 Division II National Academic Squad.

Martellio was among fourteen members of the AIC field hockey team to be awarded the honor. These undergraduate student-athletes were recognized for having a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale through the end of the fall 2023 semester. Founded in 1885, American

International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences. AIC supports and advances education, diversity, and opportunity for its students and the commu-

REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE

\$475,000, 239 Elm St, Doire Properties LLC, to Copeland,

Andrew J, and Sanlucas, Adianna L. \$290,000, 50 Main St, 48-50 Main St LLC, to Elliot Holdings LLC.

DOUGLAS

NORTHBRIDGE

\$175,000, Shore Rd #3, Douglas Properties LLC, to Speroni, Thomas M.

\$779,000, 377 Rebecca Rd, J & F Marinella Dev Corp, to Lawrence, Clayton P, and Lawrence, Emily C. \$500,000, 2418-2420 Providence Rd, Jano, Lisa, and Jano, Perry, to Valerio, Giovanni R.

\$470,000, 12-14 Railroad St, Borrelli, Christopher P, to Pinto, Paul J, and Pinto, Rena-Faye.

\$454,500, 61 Hillview Ln #61, Erickson, Linda D, to Gulla,

\$350,000, 14 Cross St, Chaston, Sarah A, to Damon, Michael W. \$150,000, Wing Rd #3, Renaud Jr, Edward K, to Cora Lane Group LLC.

UXBRIDGE

L \$700,000, 237 River Rd, River Road Rt, and Frederickson Jr, Howard, to Dallesandro Realty LLC.

\$365,000, 149 S Main St, Barbara A Johnson RET, and Mcnally, Christine L, to Cone, Jack.

\$300,000, 462 Blackstone St, P A Thomas-Fuller Lt, and Thomas-Fuller, P A, to Mjt Re LLC.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE

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Uxbridge High School student athletes attend sports management career conference



From left to right: Uxbridge High School Students Ella Pezzullo, Lukas Ritacco, Liam Kaferlien, Colin Spencer, Thatcher Kling and Mason Sanford at the Nashua Sport Management Summit at Rivier University.

UXBRIDGE — Principal Michael Rubin, and Director of Athletics Beth Wandyes are pleased to share that a group of Uxbridge High School student athletes attended the Nashua Sport Management Summit on Feb. 23 at Rivier University in

Six students from Uxbridge High School took time off during February vacation to attend the career conference, designed to inspire and aid career hopefuls in making connections in sports management profes-

"Our students shined at the Career Fair," Director of Athletics Beth Wandyes said. "They were challenged to articulate their passion for sports, and hearing their excitement and learning moments throughout the event was contagious."

Students enjoyed networking with industry professionals, learning about the different career paths for those interested in the sports management field, and listening to panelists who work for top companies

such as the Boston Celtics, ESPN, and the Boston Red Sox.

Mason Sanford, a senior, found that the most vital information that he received was learning what qualities top organizations look for in internship candidates.

Although most of the attendees were college-age, Uxbridge High School students highlighted the importance of being exposed to networking experiences early.

"The panels gave a lot of great

insight on the college and profes-

can guide me in the future," said Liam Kaferlien, a junior. "I'm grateful for these opportuni-

sional experiences that hopefully

ties and how our students represent themselves and our school," said Rubin. "Any program that allows our students to gain valuable insight into their goals, career opportunities, and future selves is valuable and connects directly to the philosophy of learning at UHS.

Maintaining a lawn routinely roamed by pets

homeowners toil for hours each week to ensure their lawns are pristine, or invest in lawn care services to help maintain a yard if they do not have the time to do so themselves.

While many treatments can be applied to lawns to help them thrive, animal waste is not among them. Pet owners who aspire to have beautiful lawns will have to take a few extra steps to ensure lawns can persevere despite the presence of furry com-

Reseed with a damage-resistant

There are many different types of grass, and some are more resilient than others. Tall fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and

Vibrant, green lawns can draw Bermuda grass are just some of these high-traffic areas to minimize When pets use the yard and rest attention to any landscape. Many the grass varieties that can capably the sights and signs of pet traffic. on the lawn, you'll need to eliminate the sight of the handle pet traffic. If replacing the entire lawn is not possible, consider reseeding or addressing the areas that pets frequent.

Strengthen the root system

It may be tempting to cut the lawn short, particularly if dogs or cats like to nibble on longer blades of grass. But that approach could be doing the lawn a disservice. According to The Home Depot, letting the lawn grow to at least three inches will help keep moisture in the soil and prevent evaporation. That moisture will strengthen the roots, creating a healthier lawn for pets and people.

Create pet paths

Various materials can be used in

Mulch or crushed stone can establish these pet highways and look like intended features.

Set boundaries

Pet urine contains high levels of nitrogen, which can burn grass and turn it brown. It's not possible to water down urine or pick up solid waste immediately every time a pet goes outdoors, so designate a pet-friendly spot for potty time. Use fencing or a dog run to separate this area and help mitigate "land mines" all over the lawn. Fencing also can keep pets out of vegetable gardens and away from potentially toxic plants.

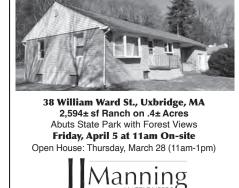
Avoid chemical lawn treatments

nate products that can be harmful to them. Choose all-natural fertilizers and weed and pest preventatives.

Look for alternatives

If maintaining a lawn with pets seems like an uphill battle, consider swapping out your landscape with a variety of materials. Scale back on grass, and incorporate groundcover, hardscape materials like pea gravel, or extend the patio. Artificial turf also is an option, as it won't brown and wither. Some turf products can even be quickly and thoroughly cleaned with water.

It can take some trial and error for pet parents to protect their lawns from the effects of having furry friends playing in the yard.



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The Town of Brookfield is seeking an experienced full-time Highway Superintendent. Full job description at brookfieldma.us.

Please submit resume and cover letter to selectmen@brookfieldma.us. Application review will begin after March 28th. Resumes accepted until position is filled. Brookfield is an equal opportunity

employer



Ham Meat Raffle

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BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, March 15, 2024



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Frank G. **C**HILINSKI President & PUBLISHER

BRENDAN **B**ERUBE EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A total eclipse of... the sun

In just a few weeks, on April 8, those who travel to Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine will have the extraordinary opportunity to witness a total solar eclipse. This celestial phenomenon, where the moon completely obscures the sun, casting a shadow on the Earth, is a moment of wonder.

For New Englanders, this upcoming eclipse holds particular importance, as the region has not experienced such a spectacle in over a century. The anticipation is palpable, with communities buzzing with excitement and preparations underway to ensure a memorable viewing experience for all.

The corona is a region of superheated gas extending millions of kilometers into space, but it's normally obscured by the sun's intense brightness. During a total solar eclipse, however, when the moon perfectly aligns with the sun, the corona's ethereal glow emerges, creating a spectacle unlike anything else in nature. For those fortunate enough to be in the path of totality, the sky darkens, stars emerge, and Republican Party, once a proud propothe sun's corona—the outermost layer of its atmospherebecomes visible.

Beyond the scientific implications, a total solar eclipse holds profound cultural and spiritual significance for many. Throughout history, these celestial events have been interpreted as omens, symbols of renewal, or moments of cosmic alignment.

It is essential to prioritize safety when viewing the eclipse. Directly observing the sun, even during an eclipse, can cause permanent damage to the eyes. Therefore, it is crucial to use certified eclipse glasses or other safe viewing methods to protect our vision.

The influx of traffic and people into small towns have caused local safety departments, and even state departments of transportation, to collaborate alongside local hospitals and businesses on how best to prepare.

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Misinformation and disinformation

To the Editor:

So, friend, which are you guilty of?

Misinformation: False or misleading information unintentionally presented as fact. Disinformation (is more insidious): False or misleading information is very purposely distributed as fact, even though the information's purveyor knows the information is patently false. (Purdue University)

A fact, according to Merriam-Webster, defines a piece of objective reality. Let's evaluate a few examples: "An open border provides the democrats with several things."

An open border keeps their (Democrats') porn industry alive.

Indeed, if the Democratic National Committee were an owner of the porn industry, wouldn't you think that they most likely would own the largest, most successful company, which, as of 2023, Is MindGeek? MindGeek dominates the industry. The company controls eight of the ten most popular pornographic Web sites in the United States. (IBIS) I hate to disappoint you, but "Avlo (formerly MindGeek and Manwin) is a Canadian multinational adult entertainment conglomerate owned by Canadian private equity firm ECP, primarily from Montreal, Canada.

So, which of the other 98 companies is owned by the DNC? Perhaps Mike Johnson, Speaker of the House, who described his use of Covenant Eyes so he and a family member could monitor their porn viewing habits, could provide the facts. (Slate) Or perhaps Trump, through his Stormy Daniels connection, can procure that info. Trump supporters that follow QAnon have been exposed to similar disinformation. Free of any evidence, "the QAnon alleges that a group of Satan-worshiping pedophiles, including Democratic politicians, run a global child sex-trafficking ring and is plotting against the president." (YouGov) This is the kind of disinformation that caused, according to Factcheck.org, "the long-debunked Pizza Gate conspiracy theory, which spread fiction that prominent Democrats, including Hillary and Bill Clinton, were running a child sex-trafficking ring in the basement of a DC pizzeria. Although it was a hoax, Edgar Welch received four years in prison for believing the

disinformation and arriving there with an AR-15 to shoot at customers.' Such a claim, the FBI has described, is 'very likely" to "motivate some domestic extremists to commit criminal, some-times violent activity." So, friend, what are you trying to incite?

Reich (Substack 2022) has a theory about why Republicans are so 'fixated on sex." Reich notes in Substack: "The nent of limited government, has turned itself into a font of sexual innuendo and legal intrusion into the most intimate aspects of personal life. Protecting children from predators is a worthy aim, to be sure, but the GOP is obsessing about all aspects of sex. Why? First, it's part of their culture war, and culture wars sell with voters (and the media) eager for conflict and titillation. A culture

war over sex sells even better. It lets Republicans imply that Democrats are somehow on the side of sexual 'deviants' who endanger the "natural order."

Also, by focusing on sex, Republicans can count both the evangelical right and the right-wing extreme QAnon vote. Most importantly, a culture war over sex allows Republicans to sound faux-populist without having to talk about the real sources of populist anger — corporate-induced inflation at a time of record corporate profits, profiteering and price gouging, monopolization, stagnant wages, union busting, soaring CEO pay, billionaires who have amassed \$1.7 trillion

during the pandemic but who pay a lower tax rate than the working class, and the flow of big money into the political campaigns of lawmakers who oblige by lowering taxes on the wealthy and big corporations and doling out corporate welfare. Oh, and by focusing on pedophilia, gender identity, gay people, and abortion, Republicans don't have to talk about Trump and January 6." Could Reich be right about Republican continued disinformation, friend?

Cloward-Piven strategy – exhaust our welfare system and force socialism on

Peter Dreier wrote an article in Dissent to explain how their theories from 1966 have continued to capture the attention of right-wing commentators. Realize that Cloward is, in 2024, dead, and Piven is 91 years old. Glen Beck, Rush Limbaugh, and Mark Levin, right-wing pundits, wrung their hands in 2009/2010/2011 and cried tears of horror as they claimed Cloward-Piven theories "spawned a radical movement dedicated to destroying

modern-day capitalism." Further, Limbaugh said, "and its ultimate objective is to have everybody in the country on welfare by destroying it." Dreier: "This maneuver is hardly new. As far back as Joseph McCarthy and Richard Nixon, Republican politicians and hired strategists have perfected the art of linking liberal democrats to communists, socialists, radicals, subversive, 'welfare queens' and terrorists, and now 'illegals.' The threats to Piven were so drastic a letter had to be written that stated the "threats must be taken seriously

by Fox News" and that "Professor Piven's life could well be at stake." Piven" has never encouraged or celebrated violence" (Dissent). She is not calling to overthrow capitalism. Piven has long been a proponent of using the combined power of voting and grassroots protest to bring change. Lately, she has wanted to "see massive investments in public-service programs and significant new initiatives in infrastructure and green

energy." Cloward-Piven's ideas "helped lead to the National Voter Registration Act" being signed into law in 1993 – perhaps a zenith for their theories.

So Beck, Limbaugh, and Levin are wrong again. The same disinformation persists in 2024 while capitalism is strong and the Dow hits another record close. According to 142 WBSM stats, 15 percent of the state's population, or one in seven, received benefits (2023). "More than 51 percent of Massachusetts SNAP participants are in families with children. More than 51 percent are in families with members who are older adults or are

Those supposed Cloward-Piven 'objectives' still haven't been achieved in almost 60 years. I guess it wasn't a very accurate interpretation of the theory. The pundits'

rage and disinformation didn't age well.

Still, our latest 'right-wing' commentator wants to reinvigorate Beck and co. disinformation and extend the theory on behalf of Cloward-Piven to immigrants: those 'invaders.' Well, that isn't going to age well either. A recent 2024 NY Times article titled "The U.S. economy is surpassing expectations. Immigration is one reason.'

As stated: "Immigrants also address a longer-term need: replenishing the workforce, a key to meeting labor demands as birthrates decline and older people retire." What may facilitate the number of immigrants working is 'state governments relocating immigrants to smaller cities where housing is more available.' This must be coupled with legal assistance to complete work permit applications quickly, among other initiatives.

Sounds like a Biden approach. Trump, on the other hand, threatens to deport every 'illegal,' denying their potential contributions to American growth. So, which approach is more likely to bring down capitalism?

Which approach is more likely to support capitalism? If anything is going to destroy capitalism and our way of life, let Putin take Ukraine. Read about the period before the 2nd world War and see how well appeasement worked. If you want boots on the ground, then deny Ukraine aid. And, of course, letting oligarchs run this country via Trump's policies is sure to change the face of democracy. The nonprofit Institute on Taxation and

Economic Policy found in a new report that 'the country's largest companies dodged more than \$275 billion in federal corporate income taxes from 2018 to 2022 using a variety of loopholes and tax breaks." Imagine how that could benefit our country. But Trump, purveyor of sneakers, cologne, the black metal card, the gold metal card, the platinum metal card (not clear what you would do with these), and the black hat doesn't support any of this, so his followers, the Republican cult, don't either. Talk about sycophants.

An aside: Trump and his cult have recently killed a bipartisan effort to work on border issues, unlike Reagan in 1980, who explained, "Rather than talking about putting up a fence, why don't we work out some recognition of our mutual problems, make it possible for them to come here legally with a work permit, and then while they're working and earning here, they pay taxes here..." These maga Republicans refuse to acknowledge: (VERA) "There is a long history of derogatory language being used to portray immigrants

as dangerous and undesirable, thereby justifying their mistreatment and exclusion. In the 1800s and early 1900s, people who opposed immigration compared Chinese, Irish, and Italian immigrants to diseases and animals. An appalling lack of progress was seen in the late 2010s when then-President Trump referred to Mexican immigrants in similarly degrading terms. Unsurprisingly, politicians who want to limit immigration and push anti-immigrant legislation persist in using harmful terms like 'illegal alien' (invaders) to erase their humanity." It continues today in 2024; God help us!

Linda Lacki Northbridge

Whitinsville

How beautiful it looks

To the Editor:

As you drive on Main Street, Whitinsville, past Core Mark, have vou noticed how beautiful the Arcade pond looks now that all of the roadside brush has been removed and the trees have been trimmed? You can now see the pond in its natural state. Often, you can see groups of swans or ducks swimming around. Fishing is now available to all who enjoy it.

Whitinsville has a lot of natural beauty by the ponds, but unfortunately, you can't always see it due to all of the roadside brush.

This clean-up project was started by Harbro Co., who owns the piece land by the LOVEY'S sign. This project caught the eyes of the town of Northbridge, and they finished cleaning the remaining portion of the pond that borders Main Street. You did a great job.

Now. I hope the town will continue to do this further up on Main Street, between the two Meadow ponds.

Thank you, Harbro and the town of Northbridge. Keep up the good work. Bernard S. Wiersma

Diagnosis 2024: America needs an intervention

To the Editor:

Something has happened to America. Some kind of mass delusion has taken hold of 30 - 40 percent of our citizens. This segment of the populace, along with one of our political parties, has demeaned the highest, most prestigious office in the land - President of the United States of America - into a seat suitable for the lowest form of humanity ever thrust on America's political stage.

I say 'thrust onto our stage' because Trump is nothing more than the product of the great American pacifier - television. He is the boob from the boob tube. He is the offspring of a fake reality show, which created a paper-thin veneer of respectability for a failed real estate developer. Fresh from 6 bankruptcies, on his third marriage, and reduced to selling 'Trump' naming rights to unsuspecting developers, Trump was transformed, through the miracle of television, into a business genius, and billionaire! And the deep thinkers of America bought it.

That in itself shouldn't have posed a problem, except to the workers he never paid, the wives he cheated on, and the condo buyers who were sold a bill of goods regarding the value and quality of what they were buying. But, that's just the American way – buyer beware.

Instead, the blustering, orange-tinted, combed-over carnival barker pulled the ultimate con - right into the White House. He had nefarious help, of course, but there are entire books written on that subject. My intent here, is to ask how, after experiencing the real Donald J. Trump (even his last name is fake - original family name 'Drumpf') over the course of four years – who in their right, or even wrong mind, would want a sequel? You've heard it all before - except on Fox, Newsmax, or OAN: the lies; the COVID-hoax deaths; the admiration of, and kowtowing to dictators; leaking classified info that resulted in allied spies being killed; abrogating the Iran Nuclear treaty; threatening NATO; covering for the murder of an American journalist in Saudi Arabia; the Jan. 6 attempted insurrection – just some of his 'greatest hits' – perpetrated on American democracy.

We survived all that. We have recovered and are prospering under Biden. Spare me the "I don't feel like the economy has improved' self-pity. Gas prices are down. (Russia and Saudi Arabia are now planning to reduce significantly their oil production as a way to drive prices back up, and influence the upcoming election in Trump's favor. They know it always works with stupid people.) "Food prices

remain elevated due to a mixture of labor shortages tied to the pandemic, ongoing supply chain disruptions, droughts, avian flu and other factors far beyond the administration's control. Robust consumer demand has also fueled a shift to more expensive groceries, and consolidation in the industry gives large chains the ability to keep prices high, economic policy experts say." But I'm not here to teach you economics.

His term in office was just the tip of Trump's corrupt iceberg. There is the matter of the 91 indictments hanging over his head. He is guilty of sexual assault, which doesn't bother his hypocritical Evangelical and "family values" supporters. He is guilty of fraud, which doesn't bother his "law and order" supporters. He says he is rich, but can't come up with the over half a billion dollars he owes in fines. He actually promises to be a dictator 'on day one'. Has any dictator in history voluntarily become democratic after any amount of time in office? It only takes one day to eliminate voting rights, commandeer the military, institute a state of martial law, declare yourself ruler for life, among other niceties. To prove his intentions, Trump is hav-

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The trout trucks are rolling

Spring trout fishing has already begun in the valley, and it is just the start, as Mass. Fish & Wildlife trout stocking trucks are already rolling!

This week's two pictures show Amelia Sinopoli with an impressive rainbow trout, and her first time fishing partner Jake Boudreau two weeks ago, while attending a birthday party for Logan Henchey. The pair were fishing from a small boat dock using worms as bait when suddenly Amelia yelled out to her mom that she had a big fish on! Mom quickly rushed over to assist her as the large rainbow was causing a lot of excitement for all in attendance. The fish was finally lifted onto the dock where pictures were taken of the happy angler and her prize fish! The trout was quickly released.

Their parents know exactly what to buy their new fishing anglers for the summer outings this year. All the parents need



GREAT OUTDOORS RALPH **TRUE**

to do is take the kids fishing in any body of water to get their kids hooked on

fishing! Black bear are coming out of hibernation and are having their young cubs tagging along! They are nice to see, but the public needs to keep their distance from the bear to stay safe. A recent attack on a woman and her dog seemed to be a danger to the female bear and her cubs. Fortunately, both the woman and dog survived the ordeal, but it could have been a lot worse!

Wild turkey hunting is fast approaching, and sportsmen are already scouting their favorite turkey hunting spots. The youth Turkey hunt is scheduled for April 27 this year, and is open to young





This week's two pictures show Amelia Sinopoli with an 18 inch rainbow trout caught in Lake Quinsigamond a week ago & Jake Boudreau fishing for the first time, during a birthday party for Logan Henchey!

also need to be accompanied by a licensed adult all of the regulations. Be

hunter. The abstracts have

sure to read them before hunting wild turkeys. The

regular wild turkey season opens on April 29.

A while back, this writer received a number of fishing lures from Donald Neilsen of Warren! They were made by Donald, and the material that he used to make the lures were quite unusual. I got to use some of the spinning lures last year, and caught numerous trout with them. I apologize for not getting back to him sooner to thank him for the lures. They were quite neat. Some were made out of beer caps! I have decided to donate the remaining lures to young anglers at the next kids fishing derby at Uxbridge Rod & Gun and Whitinsville Fish & Game Club. Thanks again, Don!

The dandelion will be blooming soon, which will signal the start of tautog fishing. Tautog is one of the best tasting fish in the ocean and most fishermen will agree!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Planning Ahead for a Flower Garden

HINT

Nothing jump starts "garden fever" like planning a bed of blooms! Now that we've turned the clocks ahead, thoughts turn to planning a garden. Whether you have visions of an elaborate formal flower garden or favor the simplicity of a side door flower bed, plotting a flowering garden is a labor of love. Prepping for plants allows for an infusion of personality, encourages visual creativity, and paves the way for a spectacular season of blooms! Read on for some easy tips and tricks to help you along.

Blooming Bulbs

Nothing adds color and beauty to a garden for less effort than bulbs. Even if you didn't have the foresight to plant spring bulbs last fall, you can still enjoy summer blooms. Ideally, you should wait until the danger of spring frosts has passed before planting bulbs. If you think the threat of frost is over, think again. Garden experts give May 30 as the first safe planting date of the season.

Some summer flowering bulbs that have a history of success include Dahlias, Gladiolus, Cannas, Caladiums, and Daylilies. Just keep in mind in our zone you may have to dig up the bulbs and store for the winter for springtime planting next year.

To test whether soil is ready to work, the clump. If the clump breaks up easily into small crumbs, the soil is dry enough

Getting a head start on bulb planting by starting them indoors increases your odds of success. Use deep pots and replant them outside once the ground has thawed.

Planning where you want to create "splashes" of color in the garden also includes how dramatic a statement you

want your plot to make. Large clumps of flowers demand attention and this method of planting has long been a favorite of gardeners.

Another popular planting pattern is to "drift" flower varieties, which

den with a brush of color. Drifts can encompass waves of complementing bulb varieties bordering each other, or each flower drift can stand on its own, perhaps creeping across an incline or making its way along a stone wall.

To ensure successful drifts, use a generous sprinkling of densely planted bulbs. Or, simply toss or scatter bulbs and plant them where they land for a natural mead-

Perhaps the best rule of thumb for planting bulbs is the most obvious.

Plant bulbs where you want to see color. Attractive uses include planting bulbs to border a perennial garden, to fill in a rock garden and as a decorative accent circling a mailbox post or light pole.

Garden experts recommend planting bulbs in crumbly soil with proper drainage, although hardy bulbs often thrive in less than satisfactory soil. Soil that been turned over in a while will benefit from loosening it up with a shovel. Your hole should be dug a few inches below where the bulb should sit to allow for fertilizer.

Bulbs should be planted pointed side up. Flat tubers should be planted sideways for best results. Avoid any air pockets in hole which can inhibit growth.

Here are more tips and shortcuts are geared toward cutting time and effort in the garden.

*Plants that grow best in alkaline soil

such as geraniums and TAKE hydrangea will thank you with better blooms if you House THE

water occasionally. KARFN *The first thing to check if **TRAINOR** your azalea leaves are looking yellow is the soil pH. Azaleas need a soil on the

water them with a mild

mixture of baking soda and

has been compared to painting the gar- acid side. Alkalinity locks up iron needed for green color.

*Adding Epsom Salt to plants has been reported to enhance the color of blossoms and leaves, promote new flowers and fruit, improve the root system and improve the strength of stems. For roses: Sprinkle one teaspoon of Epsom Salts per foot of plant height and spread evenly around the base for better blossoms and deeper greening. Add 1/2 cup sprinkled around the base and then scratched in, for strong production of new flowering canes and healthy new basal cane growth.

*Did vou know most fragrant flowers are lightly colored or white? If you want to add a scent to your garden, be generous with white or pastel blooms.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renown 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 tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

Spring garden cleanup with pollinators in mind

Spring cleaning, indoors and out. is a long-standing tradition for many households. But as we learn more about the important pollinators, insect-eating toads, songbirds, and beneficial insects, the more we realize we need to adjust some of our timing and meth-

ods. It is safe to remove winter protection, such as mulch, when the temperatures begin hovering around freezing or your plants are beginning to sprout. Keep some frost protection handy just in case you need to protect any tender plants

from a hard freeze. Always check for frost heaving. When cold winters are interrupted by warm spells, bare soil may thaw and then refreeze. This temperature fluctuation can cause the soil to shift and push spring flowering bulbs, coral bells, daylilies, and other perennials out of the soil. Just gently push them back in place or reset in the soil making sure the

roots are covered. Wait for temperatures to be consistently above 50 degrees to start cutting back perennials that were left standing. allows any beneficial insects overwintering in the hollow stems time to emerge and find a summer home.

Cut some of the stems to the ground and some back to



Melinda Mvers

Adjusting your spring cleanup schedule will help pollinators like this bee on an allium flower.



18 to 24 inches on

each plant. These

old stems provide

summer homes for

some of our native

growth emerges in

spring, it will mask

the older stems so

your garden will

look as beautiful

If you can't wait,

stack the stems

out of sight until

temperatures

warm and pollina-

tors have a chance

to emerge. Then chop and com-

post the debris in

Tie or bungy

cutting

cord tall ornamen-

tal grass plants

them back to make

cleanup easier.

Then use a hand

pruner for small

jobs or a string

trimmer or hedge

clipper for larger

for new growth

to fill in shorter

grasses and simply

comb your fingers

through the plant

removing the old

brown leaves.

plantings.

mid-summer.

before

As new

bees.

as ever.

GARDEN MOMENTS MELINDA **MYERS**

Leave leaves the soil surrounding the plants to serve mulch, as suppressing weeds and conserving mois-

ture. As the leaves break down, they add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. They also provide homes for beneficial insects and insulate the soil for plants, toads, and more.

Mark the location of perennials like butterfly weed and hardy hibiscus that emerge later than most plants in spring. This helps to avoid accidentally weeding them out. Leave a few stems standing, use plant markers, or next fall plant some spring flowering bulbs near the plants to serve as a colorful place-

holder. Consider leaving some sunny spots bare for ground-nesting bees. Avoid areas like entryways and gathering spots where people and the bees may collide. Although the bees are docile and not likely to sting, people are often fearful leading to their elimination. Setting aside some out-ofthe-way spaces for ground-nesting bees allows everyone to coexist more happily.

This is also a good time to tidy up garden beds and lawn edges. You'll slow the invasion of weeds and grass into garden beds and lawn encroaching onto walks.

Remove weeds as they appear. The smaller weeds are easier to remove and eliminating them before they flower and set seed means fewer weeds you'll need to pull in the future.

Take advantage of the delay in spring cleaning by cleaning and sharpening your tools. When the temperatures are right, with tools in hand, you will be ready to get busy in the garden.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including MidwestGardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers Web site is www. MelindaMyers.

Telepathy is reading others' intentions

Telepathy is the ability to communicate thoughts directly from one mind to another without the use of words, gestures, or any conventional forms of interaction. The idea of telepathy has intrigued humanity for centuries. Its origins are steeped in ancient lore and psychic traditions, often portrayed as a mystical bridge connecting human consciousness.

An example of telepathy in modern fiction can be seen in the character of Professor Charles Xavier, also known as Professor X, from the "X-Men" series. With his telepathic powers, Professor X can not only read minds but also project his thoughts onto others.

But does such a profound ability exist outside the realms of fiction? The question leads us to people like Uri Geller, a performer who claimed to possess psychic abilities, including mind reading. Geller's demonstrations of

spoon bending and telepathy captivated audiences worldwide, suggesting a glimmer of

reality to the powers depicted in tales and comics. Much skepticism

surrounds Geller's claims, with critics pointing to sleight of hand and psychological tricks rather than genuine psychic phenomena.

While the allure telepathy remains potent in our collective imagination, the jury is still out on whether a human being has truly harnessed this extraordinary ability.

Recent advancin artificial intelligence and neuroscience have led to the development of AI systems capable of decoding human brain waves into speech. This groundbreaktechnology bridges the gap between thought and communication, allowing for telepathy mediated by machines. While

I'm sure there are

benefits to POSITIVELY

SPEAKING TOBY MOORE

this technology, it's also terrifying. Terrence

McKenna was an ethnobotanist and author known for his controversial theories on psyche-

delics, consciousness, and culture. If you've ever listened to one of his lectures, you'd find that he had a different definition of telepathy than the one portrayed in

popular media. In one lecture, he states, "If you're like me, you think telepathy is hearing other people's thoughts. It isn't that; it's seeing what other people mean."

Consider when a friend texted you, "We need to talk." The immediate sense of dread, the assumption of an impending argument, only to discover they simply wanted advice. The text, devoid of tone and context, became a breeding ground for misunderstanding, showcasing a moment where telepathic

clarity — understanding the true intent behind the words — could have spared you the stress.

Or picture this: two travelers, one speaking only Italian and the other only Japanese, trying to find their way in a crowdinternationed al airport. Their attempts to communicate through gestures and broken English spiral confusion. Misinterpreting each other's actions, they become increasingly frustrated and offended, convinced the other is being rude. The situation escalates, as neither

the other's gestures. bystander who happens to speak both lanmisunder-

can grasp the true

intention behind

guages steps in to mediate. The translator breaks down the language barrier and quickly resolves the standing. The tension dissolves into

> Turn To **MOORE** page A8

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CONTINUED

The true meaning of "Come to Jesus"

To the Editor:

"Come to Jesus."

This phrase, as it is used by today's sophisticated people, is not clever and cute. It is profane and irreverent. They do not use it to mean a holy calling, nor use it as an invitation to renounce sin and follow the path of salvation and redemption. They do not use it to refer to Jesus' words: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6, The Bible.

No, they use it to mean something disagreeable.

According to the Urban dictionary, it means "getting called on the carpet, dressed down or otherwise chewed out in a severe manner, usually used in conjunction with a meeting." Do you associate that with Jesus? I

According to Wikipedia, it conveys "a scolding or a blunt discussion of a disagreeable fact - often between a person of authority and a subordinate." Maybe in the Book of Revelation. It also signifies an "intervention, the last resort before one suffers the consequences of one's actions." Jesus and a last resort? Yes.

The Forbes Business Journal says, "it is the most annoying business expression on earth." It won the Forbes "Jargon Madness Competition." Another social with me. media wit opined: "Come to Jesus meetings are not anything you want to have to do."

expression on earth precisely because it does not mean to repent, ask for forgiveness, and follow Jesus Christ. It is intensely offensive to me as a Christian.

Once, long ago and far away, because of my profession, I was associated with a civil rights training team, coaching employees to avoid harassment and discrimination on the basis of color, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, disability, age.

The head trainer persisted in using the phrase until I had had enough. I asked if I could speak with her privately in my office. During the meeting, I requested that she cease using the phrase because, as a bornagain Christian, it offended me. She argued ten ways to Sunday why it was not offensive. It puzzled me for as a trainer she was supposedly tuned in to words that would be considered harassment based on religion. And supposedly tuned in to the idea that, when a religious person tells you that your words are offensive to their religious belief, to continue is considered harassment under the law. It makes a lawsuit. She ceased, at least

So, when I heard the President telling colleagues that he was going to have a "Come to Jesus..." with the Jewish I heartily agree with Forbes. It is the most annoying Prime Minister of the Jewish state of Israel, I was stunned. He not only took the name of the Lord in vain, he did so in reference to a Jewish Prime Minister. How utterly contemptible.

> Further, when a reporter called out Biden for using the phrase, he angrily said: "I didn't say that in my speech! It's because you were spying on me!" Yup, it was not Biden's fault. It was the reporter's fault for catching him.

> The Rev. Arthur Ball (pastor, missionary and author) of Newark Baptist Temple explained that the phrase is used to describe someone suddenly coming to a startling realization, but "it is considered by unbelievers to be a clever remark, supposedly tinged with a certain amount of humor. But, when this phrase is used recklessly... Jesus' name has once again been used in vain.

> Rev. Ball noted that the phrase has an honorable place in our life when it is used "in reference to someone actually coming to the realization that Jesus is, indeed, The Way, The Truth, and The Life. John 14:6. Such a moment can be life altering. Ask Paul, the mighty apostle of the early church, about his moment on the Road to Damascus." Rev. Ball wrote: "God wants you to have a "come to Jesus" moment, for real, for sure, and without

> I now quote Rev. Ball because I could not say it better: "How about it... have you had a genuine "come to Jesus" encounter with the Savior? Where you bowed before Him as a lost sinner and asked Him to wash you from your sins and receive you unto Himself? Consider the man, in Luke 18:13, who would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat upon his chest while crying out in prayer: "God be merciful to me a sinner." Then listen to what Jesus said about this same man. "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified...'

> Rev. Ball concluded: "Now, that was a real 'come to Jesus' moment. Have you ever had one of those?"

Thinking about Easter,

Bev Gudanowski

State of the Confusion Union

I guess I shouldn't be surprised that the people who want Joe Biden to win his second term are angry, spiteful, and blinded. Some are just so focused on their disdain for Donald Trump that they're willing to destroy our beautiful country. I am already seeing some of the dumbest propaganda from the Democrats. I recently received a text from Liz Cheney warning Americans not to elect Donald Trump for four more years because he will never leave office; how pathetic. Anyone with a brain knows that's false, but some with low IQ's will think it's possible. Do you know why we are getting this garbage? Under the other stooge, Barack Obama, the Smith-Mundt Modernization Act became reality in 2012, and the rebirth of propaganda is well underway, being sent directly to your cellphone via a text message...gee thanks Barry.

My friendly neighbor to the south of me in Uxbridge eloquently calls Joe Biden, Mr. Magoo and I will use it throughout this letter (Hope she doesn't mind). Mr. Magoo is the second worst president in the United States according to Bill O'Reilly, and I have to agree with him. Under the Biden administration we have had record high inflation surpassing Jimmy Carter's failed administration and why? Mr. Magoo's near religious devotion to climate change while trying to eliminate fossil fuels has made it near impossible to drill anywhere for oil in the United States. This forces the U.S. to purchase oil from people who hate our way of life and we're paying dearly for it. Under Donald Trump we were energy independent and selling energy to our allies and gasoline was \$2.10 a gallon when he left office and it now hovers at 3.15 gallon under Mr. Magoo. Remember when Trump had a million deaths due to COVID under his command and the liberal media never said a word about it? Oops, I meant to say Mr. Magoo. Folks, Malcolm X said it right," The media is the real enemy of the people." Under Mr. Magoo, our border is a welcome mat for drugs, criminals, sex trafficking, and MS-13 gangs spilling into our country because they were invited by the democrats and most likely funded by George Soros. In addition, these people are being bussed all over our country and will not be returning to court with a story of asylum. Lil' Ricky says it's the law to let in asylum seekers and he is correct but highly confused and here is why. There are ten steps to naturalization and none of them are hopping the barbed wire at Eagle Pass. The fact of the matter is the people sneaking into our country are fleeing their country to stay out of prisons in their country. The United States should not be a place for criminals from other countries, and I wholeheartedly agree with Bev Gudanowski, these people don't deserve our sympathy or our country, deport all criminals no questions asked. Even dreamers who have broken our laws need to be deported because as lil' Ricky says, "we need to follow the laws of the U.S!" Lil' Ricky you can't have it both ways, the law is the law and we shouldn't make separate rules contrary to the law just because you want it that way and your lame excuse for not taking in an asylum seeker is duly noted as a typical hypocritical liberal response.

Picture this, someone breaks into your home, eats your food, enjoys the fruits of your labor and now you are stuck with them, that's a criminal according to the laws of our country. Our confused lefty from Whitinsville lil' Ricky is still barking about this 3% of scientists that are deniers in climate change. Let's get the facts straight, the so-called 3% is no more, it increased and for good reasons. My prediction is that the percentages will continue to climb as time goes by simply because the people who are frightened of global warming are going to realize they have been duped but are still paying for this hoax, and they will be angry. If climate change is real, why won't the other scientists present facts? Why won't Al Gore have a serious debate on climate change and have it televised to prove us wrong? The answers to these questions shouldn't be confusing, but they have been ducked, placed on the back burner, and ignored by the so-called experts.

As I was writing this letter, the clown show known as the State of The Union speech was about to begin, but it was 25 minutes late; this was probably due to Magoo's confusion thinking he was heading to the State of the Onion in California. I believe this is Mr. Magoo's last chance to get his act together, because Trump is the republican nominee and the damage Mr. Magoo has done abroad and overseas, he is easy pickings for Trump. I watched about fifteen minutes of the SOTU and had to shut it off because it was too nauseating listening to Mr. Magoo's lies about Rovy Wave (Roe v. Wade), Jan. 6, and the tough guy image he tried to portray in regards to Putin and his side hustle Ukraine. The following morning I caught this in regards to the SOTU, Mr. Magoo called Laken Riley, Lincoln Riley and I get it, Mr. Magoo will be the oldest president in the White House and this is the sole reason why he must go, he's old, forgetful, and has a hard time with speech and has access to the nuclear football and he and a few imbeciles believe we can win a hot war with Russia or China or both and if that doesn't scare you might be one of the deceased voters that democrats use for voting. Fox news had this thing to say about the SOTU, "Past presidents' speechwriters call Biden's address an 'utter disgrace' and 'unprecedented,' I concur. It was like watching Homer Simpson's dad yell at the clouds in the sky; comical but sad because Mr. Magoo belongs in a home where he can be cared for 24/7 not running the country.

The liberals, democrats, moderates, and conservatives in this country have a very important choice coming up in November, and my hope is that there will be no confusion. A vote for Magoo means more of the same with the U.S. policing the world, endless wars that could quite possibly put us in WWIII, open borders, fentanyl epidemics, sex trafficking, lies, more lies about Jan 6th, climate change hysteria along with tax hikes, increased crimes due to Sanctuary cities that want to defund the police, homelessness for legal citizens and more cries that we are a racist nation full of white supremacists. God help us.

Propane

Mike Downing Whitinsville

A bad week for liberal nation

Wow! Did anyone other than Democrats miss the fact that liberals had a historically bad Super Tuesday week?

The prior week was ominously bad in regards to the alleged Jan. 6 insurrection silliness. Then came Monday the 4th, when the Supreme Court unanimously nuked the idea that any State had the 14th Amendment authority to keep Donald Trump off the ballot. A major defeat

Next up was the Super Tuesday uppercut to the left-wing jaw from the New York Times. Where its own poll conclusively showed that fewer voters thought that Donald Trump committed crimes. With Democrats down a wicked bad seven percentage points. It was even worse with political Independents who were down nine percentage points.

The New York Times then delivered its double punch polling data to the Democratic Party's 2020 coalition gut on Wednesday the 6th. With Mr. Biden losing almost 2 out of 10 of his 2020 voters, down a whopping 17 percentage points and likely falling fast in the next-generation

Whereas with Mr. Trump and his 97 percent return rate, it clocks in at 10 out of 10 returning voters... and likely growing in number. Due to the same next-generation voting factor.

Sealing the deal for the worst week ever was Thursday's left-wing hack job that was meant to pass itself off as a State of the Union. Where instead, since it was Lent, it became Mr. Biden's farewell address to his Catholic faith over the abortion of life issue. Which in its religious context, distills itself down to Mr. Biden's personal crucifixion of the blessed Mother Mary, the mother of Jesus

Toss in Biden's Freudian slip "Lincoln Riley" as spoken directly to a grieving mother who wasn't actually in attendance. Those two words were confirmed by Snopes, Wikipedia, CNN and the BBC and it all confirms the nature of that SOTU disaster for the liberal team. With that grieving mother justifiably infuriated on Friday.

Thus, five consecutive days of complete and utter disaster for the Democrats, who continue to try to spin it all away. Leaving us all with the same question.

What sort of hell on earth do we and the rest of the world have to live through before the surviving Democrats finally admit they had a bad week?

Stephen Gambone Northbridge



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LETTER

continued from page A6

ing a love fest at Mar-A-Lago with Victor Orban, the authoritarian ruler of Hungary, who has done most of what I just described, because dumb voters gave him a second chance.

So the guy who tried to overthrow our government, after 250 years of men and women fighting, and dying, to preserve it, is your choice to be president? The guy who didn't care how many of you died from COVID, as long as it didn't impact his chances for re-election? The guy who lies every time he opens his mouth? The guy who tells you how much he admires a 'strong leader', like Putin, Orban, and Jong- Un? The guy who is obviously suffering from some type of cognitive decline? Not that he had far to go. (Did

he was "the dumbest student he ever had"? Have from former White House officials, about the chaos, dysfunction, and abject I could go on for days. Instead, read Liz Cheney's new book "Oath & Honor." She was there.

The Republican Party, the self-declared party of "family values" and "law and order", is Trump's enabler. He can't do anything without them. They are the epitome of corrupt, spineless, venal, ignorant politicians. The perfect match for Trump. Their only objective is to gain power, and retain their jobs. Look at what they are doing to Ukraine! Using other people's lives as a cudgel to get their way (which is basically to eliminate government

you forget that one of his programs that help us, and Wharton professors said to lower taxes and regulations on the rich). They don't care what this abdiyou forgotten the tales cation does to American trust and respect around the world. I keep asking - what have Republicans stupidity under Trump?) done for we, the people, in the last 50 years? Still no response. The answer, of course, is 'NOTHING'. The locals don't notice because they are too busy gnashing their teeth over

MOORE

continued from page A7

laughter and gratitude as

they finally understand

Misunderstandings

involve more than lan-

guage differences. Even

when we speak the same

language, we often end

up confused and in con-

flict because of misinter-

preting what's meant by

If we could truly under-

what's said.

what each other means.

immigrants, who have no impact on our daily lives. Despite everything that Trump has done to this country, Republicans fall in line behind him, as if his prior administration was just another fake reality show. His power – the power Republicans need to keep their jobs-comes from the base of people who still believe the "Apprentice" myth. They only watch right-wing media, where

stand the intentions and emotions behind other's words and actions, many misunderstandings that lead to conflict could be avoided.

This is easier said than done, but what if?

What if we just took a breath and tried to understand rather than reacting with a knee-jerk reaction and getting upset? Could we reduce social divisions, understand that we are all

'never is heard a discouraging word' (props to Gene Autry) about Trump, as if he poses no threat to democracy! (Rupert Murdock, owner of Fox, during the defamation trial, said that Fox wasn't interested in red or blue bias... only green (money)! If his audience wanted right-wing lies and misinformation, by gum, that's what we'll give 'em! Damn the torpedoes!

human, and accept that

The world is filled with miscommunication; what if we could become a more collaborative and innovative planet by truly looking past what is said and trying to understand what is meant.

we are all different?

Relationships could flourish free from the constraints of misinterpretation, with partners, friends, and family members trying

Of course, that attitude was before getting hit with the \$786 million penalty.) Mitch McConnell, who excoriated Trump after Jan 6, now says Trump has his backing! This is the best you got?

America needs an intervention. It may not come in a form we like, but it is coming. One way or another.

Rick Bevilacqua Whitinsville

to understand rather than assuming that they know.

Telepathy, as defined by the late Terrence McKenna, could be the key to unlocking a new era of human understanding and cooperation.

Is this possible? I don't know, but I suppose if we stopped jumping to conclusions and practiced more patience, we might be headed in the right direction.

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BVT Superintendent's Scholars named

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick proud announce that Ella Rogozenski Northbridge and Laney Beahn Douglas are the recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence. Both students are in BVT's Engineering & Robotics pro-The gram. annual commendation, also known as the Superintendent's Scholar Award, is presented to the two seniors who exemplify the school's commitment to cutting-edge career technical training and rigorous

academics. Presently, Ella Rogozenski the Class of 2024 valedictorian. Her dedication academic and vocational studies was demonstrated when she earned a gold medal in the Safety Design Poster Team at the SkillsUSA State (Massachusetts) Leadership Skills Conference in 2021, a silver medal in Urban Search & Rescue at the SkillsUSA District Leadership Conference in 2022, and a bronze medal in Entrepreneurship SkillsUSA State (Massachusetts) Leadership Skills Conference in 2023. A John & Abigail Adams Scholarship recipient, she has made the Commendation List every term of her high school career. Ella is a scholastically talented student who, in addition to her academic success, also excels as a student-athlete lacrosse as a CAL All-Star 2022-2023 and is a National Girls and Women

recipient. Rogozenski is analyzing multiple placement opportunities and options that strengthen her workforce entry options. She wants to further her education and training by studying civil engineering or architecture at a four-year college.

in Sports Award

Currently, Laney Beahn is the Class of 2024



Contact Mikaela Today 774-200-7308 mikaela@ stonebridgepress.news





Ella Rogozenski of Northbridge and Laney Beahn of Douglas have been named BVT's recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence. They will graduate in May from BVT's Engineering & Robotics program.

to further her

education

dent of DECA launch her career (Distributive with a bachelor's degree in aero-Clubs of America) and the Leo space engineering Club, a Senior to strengthen her Representative workforce entry opportunities. for the Student Council, Superintendentand National Director Dr. Honor Society Michael National Fitzpatrick, at the and Technical Honor January school Society member. committee meeting, on behalf She earned the Most Outstanding Assistant Superintendent-Student award in Engineering $D \bar{i} r e c t o r /$ Principal Robotics. and dedication Anthony Steele Her to academic and and the School vocational stud-Committee, congratulated ies was displayed Ella when she earned and Laney on a silver medal their awards and

salutatorian,

the vice presi-

in Urban Search

and Rescue at the

SkillsUSA District

Conference in 2021

and a bronze in

Entrepreneurship

SkillsUSA State

(Massachusetts)

Skills Conference

in 2022. Beahn was

a Massachusetts

DECA Quiz Bowl

State Semifinalist.

She is a scholasti-

cally talented stu-

dent who excels

in addition to her

academic success

and extra-curric-

ular activities as

a student-athlete

in soccer. Laney

is the girls' var-

sity soccer cap-

tain (2023) and a

Massachusetts

All-State All-Star

in 2021, a Central

in 2021 and 2023,

and a Colonial

Athletic League

All-Star in 2021,

All-Star

Mass

Leadership

Leadership

the

"Ella Laney exemplify the modern-day career technical student. They can readily demon-

thanked them for

their many contri-

butions.

strate high-level technical training and simultaneously validate high achievement in academics that serve as a foundation for their technical aptitude. It is not surprising given Ella and Laney's commitment to growth and learning that they also balanced their academic and technical education with extracurricular activities. It is an honor to have them represent BVT, and more generally speaking, the remarkable student outcomes possible within the Massachusetts model of career technical education," said Steele.

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OBITUARIES

Henry J. Heney, Jr, 84



Northbridge – Henry J. "Sonny" Heney, Jr., 84, of Northbridge passed away Monday, February 12, 2024 in Advinia Care 12, Northbridge of

natural causes. He was the husband of Dorothy A. (Sza-rek) Heney.

He was born in 1939 Northbridge, the son of the late Henry and Blanche (Trottier) Heney and attended Northbridge High

A lifelong resident of Northbridge, Sonny worked for Red Star Express Lines for 35 years, retir-ing at age 62. He took great pride in driving truck and hauling doubles. He received many awards for his safety and driving skills over the years which include one award for driving 2 million miles without incident. Previously, he had worked for his family's oil business, the former Heney Oil Company in Northbridge. He was a member of the Teamsters Union Local #251.

Sonny had also served in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, Yankee Division, Engineering Battalion in Whitinsville. He enjoyed many vacations, especially in earlier years with his young family. In retirement, he enjoyed spending many weeks in Wells, ME with his wife.

In addition to his wife Dorothy of 62 years, he is survived by two sons, James F. Heney of Whitinsville and Steven D, Heney



IL; 6 grandchildren, Samantha Heney of Whitinsville, Courtney Maracle and her husband Jonathan of Whitinsville, Nicole Macero and her husband Sam of Palm Springs, and Elizabeth Heney of Naperville, and nephews. IL; 7 great-grandchildren, Sophia, Charlotte, Ben, Violette, Everleigh, Owen and Jack; 3 sisters, Ida Haley, Shirley Heney and Elva Heney all of Northbridge and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his two sons, Douglas Heney and Michael Heney.

A funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday March 23, 2024 at 11 AM in St. Peter's Church, 39

Church Ave., Northbridge.
Burial will follow in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Northbridge.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Peter's Church, 39 Church Ave., Northbridge MA 01534. www.bumafuneralhome.com

Kathleen A. Buurma

Northbridge-Kathleen A. (Bosma) Buurma passed peacefully while surrounded by her devoted fami-ly, Tuesday, March 5, 2024, after a period of declining health. Kathy leaves three sons: Russell Buurma and his partner Linda Smith, of Linwood; Phillip Buurma and his wife Kristin, of North-bridge; Thomas Buurma, of Northbridge;

two daughters: Robin Cunningham, of Lowell, MI and Bonnie Olthof and her husband Scot, of St. John, IN; three brothers: Dr. Melvin Bosma, CA, Kathryn LeGrande and her of PA; Henry Bosma and Leonard husband Nick of St. Louis, MO, Bosma, both of MI; 12 grandchil-Meredith Heney of Chicago, IL dren, 11 great grandchildren, nieces

> Born January 8, 1936, in Northbridge to Frank and Grace (Zylstra) Bosma, Kathy graduated from Northbridge High School in

> 1952 and Calvin College in 1956, with a degree in Nursing. For 30 years she was a Registered Nurse at the former Sunshine Haven, on Linwood Ave. in Whitinsville. Aside from several years spent in Chicago.

Kathy lived most of her life in Northbridge.

Kathy was a talented singer. She sang solo in many area churches and at weddings. She enjoyed gardening and quilting, and was an avid reader. She enjoyed her home and yard. She was a member of the Pleasant Street Christian Reformed

Church, in Whitinsville. Kathy loved her children and their families, but above all, she loved the

A Memorial Service at the Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church was held on Saturday, March 9, 2024. Calling Hours in the church fellowship hall, preceded the service. Burial will be held at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Whitinsville Retirement Home, 10 Chestnut St., Whitinsville, MA 01588. Carr Funeral Home, 24 Hill St., Whitinsville is assisting the family. To share a condolence or memory with the family, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.com

WHITIN continued from page A1

Five Employee of the Year Award recognizes an employee who went "above and beyond" over the past year and made a difference through teamwork, excellence, dedication, safety, and respect, and this year recipient is, Leasha Smith.

New this year, we had the extreme honor of presenting an award created by Denis LaTour, the Heather S. Elster Leadership Award. This award is presented to a member of the WCC team who is a leader with a clear vision and passion to advance the mission of the Whitin Community Center. The award was presented to Monique Boucher-Adams.

Our Denis & Pam LaTour Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an individual whose exceptional volunteer effort has supported and advanced the mission of the Whitin Community Center. This year's award was presented to Charlie Thompson.

The Charles E. Thompson Youth Volunteer Award recognizes an individual under the age of 18 who has selflessly and enthusiastically volunteered time, effort and energy to advance the mission of the Whitin Community Center. This year's recipient was the 2023-24 Northbridge Middle School Student Council.

The Daniel J. Salmon Outreach Award recognizes an individual who has selflessly given of their time, energy and resources to help the Whitin Community Center's Youth Outreach program successfully empower youth through experiential education and recreation. This year's award was presented to Nathan Martel.

The James M. Knott, Sr. Innovation Award is presented to an individual, business or organization who has developed an innovative or inventive solution to a problem or challenge facing the Whitin Community Center (WCC) by contributing their time, talent, and/or treasure to support the WCC's work as a non-profit organization to strengthen our community. This year's award was presented to The Blackstone Valley Ed Hub for Workforce Development.

Finally, the George Marston Whitin Community Award recognizes an individual from the Blackstone Valley who personifies George M. Whitin's commitment to service to the community.

Through its mission, the Center continues to honor the memory of George Marston Whitin (1856-1920), whose vision of community life, family values, and citizenship have guided the organization's services and programming to residents of the Blackstone Valley since 1922. This year's award was presented to The Food Pantries and Banks of the Blackstone Valley including The Daily Bread - Milford, Hopedale, & Upton Food Bank, Douglas Food Pantry, Friends of Millbury Seniors Food Pantry, Grafton Food Bank, Mendon Food Pantry, Northbridge Association of Churches Food Pantry, Divine Mercy Parish - Blackstone- continued from page A1 Millville Food Pantry, Sutton Food our team. FF Malo will be assigned Pantry, The United Parish of Upton Food Pantry, and Uxbridge People First Food Pantry.

Thank you to all the award winners for your service to our commu- Firefighter/EMT Casey Hobson

The Whitin Community Center is committed to enhancing the health and well-being of individuals and families and building a strong community in the Blackstone Valley. We offer social, recreational, educational, and outreach programs that bring community members of all ages and backgrounds together. The Whitin Community Center is the Blackstone Valley's most complete family and recreation center with two swimming pools, a gym, fitness center. early learning programs, summer camps and a seven-and-a-half-acre park. For more information, call 508-234-8184 or visit www.Whitin Community Center.org.

Nancy Carpenter Dyer, 83

Nancy Carpenter Dyer (83) died Saturday, March 9, 2024, at The Waters of Kingsport, Kingsport, TN. Nancy was born in Worcester, MA, on November 5, 1940, and grew up in East Douglas, Massachusetts. She graduated from Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) School of Nursing in 1961 and spent the next 5 years in nursing at MGH, St.

Louis Maternity Hospital, and St. Luke's Hospital (St Louis, MO).

She came to Kingsport in 1975 when her husband, Mills, joined Eastman Kodak Company. She was a volunteer in the Kingsport Head Start Program and has been active in Bible Study Fellowship and in several positions at Kingsport Community Church.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Dr. W. Mills Dyer, Jr.; daughters Dr. Patricia Bruininks (and husband James) of Spokane, WA, and Allison Dyer of Kingsport; two grandsons C.J. Bruininks (and wife Chelsea) of Conway, AR, and



Gabe Bruininks (and wife Trisha) of Spokane; great-granddaughters Nora and Lucy Bruininks of Spokane; and sisters Sally Ballou and Carol Swallow of East Douglas, MA. She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter Lincoln Carpenter, Sr, and Wibbie Kortecamp Carpenter, brother Walter L. Carpenter, Jr. and sister Barbara Gjeltema.

A memorial service will be held at Kingsport Community Church on March 18 at 7:00 PM. The family will receive friends beginning at 6:00 PM.

Nancy requested that memorial contributions be made to Kingsport Community Church, 2316 Memorial Blvd., Kingsport, Tennessee 37664 Memories and condolences can be

shared with the Dyer family by visiting snydersmemorialgardens.com

Snyder's Memorial is honored to serve the family of Mrs. Nancy C. Dyer.

FIRE GRADS

to Station 2, while FF Prout will report to Headquarters," Grafton Fire released.

And in Millville, fire rescue said graduated from the program.

'Congratulations to the members of Call/Volunteer Recruit 110," Firefighter Class Massachusetts Department of Fire Services released. "Now, they're off

to protect their communities. Massachusetts firefighters are on the front lines protecting their communities every day, and today's graduates are needed now more than ever," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "The hundreds of hours of foundational training they've received will provide them with the physical, mental, and technical skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely.'

The 25 members of Class #110 represent the fire departments of

Ashby, Athol, Boxborough, Carlisle, Douglas, Grafton, Groton, Holden Lincoln, Millville, Northbridge, Pepperell, Petersham, Orange, Sherborn, Shrewsbury, Townsend, and Weston. They graduated on March 7 at the Department of Fire Services' headquarters in Stow.

"Massachusetts Firefighting Academy instructors draw on decades of experience in the fire service to train new recruits," said MFA Director Eric S. Littmann. "Through consistent classroom instruction and practical exercises, these graduates have developed the tools they'll need to protect their communities.

The Call/Volunteer Firefighter Recruit Training Program delivers a standard recruit training curriculum, meeting national standards, on nights and weekends to accommodate the schedule of firefighters in suburban and rural areas.

"Making the training more accessible means more firefighters can participate and allows them more time to practice training skills with instructors," the Department of Fire Services released.

The MFA, a division of the Department of Fire Services, has offered the program since 2003. More than 3,000 call and volunteer recruits have graduated since then.



FUNERAL HOMES Uxbridge • Whitinsville • Milford www.bumafuneralhome.cum



Jackman Funeral Home 7 Mechanic St. Douglas, MA 12 Spring St., Whitinsville, MA

Tancrell-Jackman Funeral Home 35 Snowling Rd., Uxbridge, MA

(508) 278-2200 - Reaches All Locations

JackmanFuneralHome@yahoo.com ~ JackmanFuneralHomes.com

Wanted Reach More Local Applicants

Email:ads@stonebridgepress.news Phone:(774)200-7308

SPORTS

Senior-laden Tigers accomplish multiple goals this season

Douglas enters Elite 8 before falling to New Mission



Douglas' Adam Dunphy, left, sends the ball toward a teammate while winning the game-opening tip



Nick Ethier

Owen Gray of Douglas surveys the floor while waiting for a play to develop.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS EDITOR

BOSTON — Of the 15 rostered players on the Douglas boys' varsity basketball team, all but three are seniors. Those 12 Josh Farrell, Isaac Gosselin, Matthew Doyle, Adam Dunphy, Andrew Hogan, Colton Howard, Owen Gray, William Hogan, Ethan Vassar, Gavin Gualtieri, Gavin Morin and Brady Nolan — and the coaching staff put out a list of goals to achieve before the season started. They were to become Dual Valley Conference (DVC) champions, reach the Kneller Center at the Clark Tournament and to reach the Elite 8 of the Division 5 State Tournament.

After splitting the two-game season series with Nipmuc and both teams finishing with matching league records of 8-2, Douglas and Nipmuc were named DVC co-champs. Later, the Tigers defeated Sutton in the first round of the Clark Tournament Small Schools bracket at Oxford High to reach the semifinals, which was played at Clark's Kneller Center. And then Douglas defeated Palmer and Holbrook in the D5 Rounds of 32 and 16, respectively, to reach the Elite 8.

"Those were the goals. It was awesome. That's what we wanted to do," said Chad Gosselin, head coach of the Tigers.

Douglas, seeded 10th in the Division

5 bracket, played its Elite 8 game at Madison Park Technical Vocational High School on Friday, March 8 against No. 2 New Mission of Hyde Park. And the Tigers fought valiantly but came up 11 points shy, 65-54.

"We didn't have any pressure on today's ame. We came out ready to go and felt that the effort that they gave against this team, I'll take that," said Gosselin, before mentioning a key factor in the contest. "Rebounding was a big issue for us."

The Titans held a slim six-point lead of 34-28 at halftime but won the third quarter, 19-9, to ultimately put the game away. New Mission won the battle of the boards in the second half, 24-13, routinely gathering multiple offensive rebounds at a time before eventually finishing a put-back.

Coach Gosselin was impressed with his team's compete level, though, all the way until the end. The Tigers won fourth quarter scoring, 17-12.

"All the little things that we ask as coaches is don't quit, don't give up until that buzzer sounds. They did not," said Gosselin.

Gray (14 points), Dunphy (13 points, 13 rebounds), Isaac Gosselin (11 points) and Josh Farrell (9 points) were the key contributors for Douglas, while New Mission was led by Solis Blue (19 points), Lawrence JaJa Davis (14 points) and Joseph Jackson (13 points, 11 rebounds).



Nick Ethier

Isaac Gosselin of Douglas rushes down the court with possession of the ball.



After getting New Mission defender Lawrence JaJa Davis to jump, Douglas' Brady Nolan push-



Douglas' Colton Howard looks at teammate Josh Farrell before sending the ball his way. since fourth grade."

The Titans improved to 17-6 and moved to the Final Four, while the Tigers finished 15-8.

"They've had a ride," Gosselin said of the seniors, which includes his son Isaac. "They couldn't have asked for a better season. We accomplished all of our goals. We finished with an 11-3 run toward the end of the year. They've been together

Gosselin noted that years down the line, the 2023-24 Douglas team will be

remembered as first-timers in the school. The banner that doesn't exist at Douglas. We put that up," he said of co-winning the DVC for the first time in school history. "They'll remember that for their kids and their kids' kids."

Rams reach Round of 16, then lose to No. 7 Bourne



Mahoney and Northbridge girls' varsity basketball team advanced to the Round of 16 inside the Division 4 State Tournament. There, the 10th ranked Rams played at

No. 7 Bourne on Wednesday, March 6. Northbridge lost the game, 44-36, to finish with a record of 16-7. Bourne played No. 2 Tyngsborough in the Elite 8 and lost a close contest, 45-42.

Uxbridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame now accepting nominations

The Uxbridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame will be accepting nominations for its next induction class. Nominations can be submitted on an ongoing basis, and the review of nominations for this class will be taking place in April and May of 2024. The eighth induction is being planned for November of 2024. Nominations can be submitted online using a form available on the Uxbridge High School website or by following this link: https://bit.ly/ UHSHOF23.

The UHS Athletic Hall of Fame honors the tradition, commitment, and excellence of athletics at Uxbridge High School. Nominations are accepted in four categories: individual student-athletes, coaches, contributors, and teams. Criteria are available on the by-laws; individuals must have graduated from UHS at least 10 years ago (prior to 2014), while a 10-year waiting period from the time of the team's distinction must have passed before a team can be considered for induction.

Questions regarding the nomination process can be directed to the Uxbridge High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, via the Committee's recording secretary or to the high school principal or athletic director.



BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE ¹⁴ Friday, March 15, 2024

Lifelong Whitinsville resident celebrates 100th birthday March 22

WHITINSVILLE — Marvin (Mike) Beinema turns 100 years old on March 22. He was born in Whitinsville on March 22, 1924 to Lawrence and Mary Beinema of 474 Church St. He had two older sisters, Jenny Jellesma and Jesse Vander Zicht who both lived well into their 90's. Mike

attended Northbridge schools and graduated in 1942 with 12 years of perfect attendance. He served 2 years in the Army stationed in Italy, Normandy, and Germany in World War

In 1945, he married his high school sweetheart, Henrietta (Honey) Haringa. They had their home at 579 Church Street built in 1950 and Mike still lives there. They raised four children, three of who, are still living. Verna Stone lives in Georgia, Brenda White lives in Florida, and Sally Masnoon lives in Marlborough, and is her father's main caretaker. His wife Honey



passed away in 2014, and son Larry in 2015. He has six grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and three great, great grandchildren.

Mike was a grocer and ran Beinema's Market until the 1970's when the bigger stores moved in. He went to work for Vanderbaan's Market, then Philips Market and retired in 1992. He spent a few retirement years driving cars for Harbro, and purchased most of his cars from them over the years.

Beinema is a lifelong member of Pleasant Christian Reformed Church.

His loving family hopes to have him around for a few more

LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO24P0658EA **CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION** Estate of:

> Vidal Colon Date of Death: 10/09/2023

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Maria Price of South Grafton MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

Maria Price of South Grafton MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before:

10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/09/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the

estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,

First Justice of this Court. Date: March 07, 2024 Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

(SEAL)

March 15, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT

DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT **CITATION** Case No. 16 REG 43500

Plaintiff: Stonewall Trust, Lisa Bourgeois, Trustee

To: Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Office of the Attorney General; Town Clerk, Town of Millville, Chairman of Board of Selectmen, both of Town of Millville, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Allan M. Trank, Alice Gomes Monteiro de Pina Trank, Timothy P. Haggerty, Valerie S. Haggerty, Donald R. Blanchette, Jr., Judith A. Legare, Trustee of The Judith A. Legare Living Trust, John M. Laura, Carol A. Laura, James D. Murphy, Eileen S. Murphy, Roger Belanger, Jr., Tracey Phelan, Leonard P. Hogue, Gail A. Hogue, Marjorie E. Blanchette, Kris Ryan Kaczowski, Jody E. Durbin,

James Galimi, Lisa Galimi, William H. Pleau, Helen R. Pleau, Robert E. Renault, Lisa M. Renault all of Millville, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Stephen Tourtellot, deceased, formerly of Worcester, or their heirs, devisees and legal representatives; and to all whom it may concern:

Whereas, a complaint has been presented to said Court by Stonewall Trust, Lisa Bourgeois, Trustee of Millville, County of Worcester, and said Commonwealth, to register and confirm title in the following described

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situate in said Millville, bounded and described as follows:

The land in Millville, Worcester County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts described on plan entitled "Plan of Land #46A Legg Street, #46Adj Legg Street, #113 Grove Street Millville, Mass. Surveyed for Lisa Bourgeois Trustee of Stonewall Trust" dated February 23, 2015, prepared by Civil Site Engineering LLC bounded and described as follows:

PLAN LOT 1

Northerly by Plan Lot 3, forty-three and 37/100 (43.37) feet;

Easterly by Legg Street, two hundred and 94/100 (200.94) feet;

Northeasterly by Legg Street, with a radius of 83.00 feet, a distance of one hundred eleven and 05/100 (111.05)

Northerly by Legg Street, two hundred fifty-five and 15/100 (255.15) feet; Northerly again by Legg Street, thirty-one and 55/100 (31.55) feet;

Northeasterly by the corner of Legg Street and Grove Street, eighteen and 26/100 (18.26) feet;

Easterly by Grove Street, five hundred fifty and 33/100 (550.33) feet;

Southerly by land now and formerly of Allan M. Trank and Alice Gomes Montiero de Pina Trank, three hundred forty and 32/100 (340.32) feet; Westerly by land now and formerly of

Allan M. Trank and Alice Gomes

Montiero de Pina Trank, two hundred eighty-nine and 84/110 (289.84) feet; Westerly by land now and formerly of Allan M. Trank and Alice Gomes

Montiero de Pina Trank, ninety-nine and 92/100 (99.92) feet;

Westerly again and by land now and formerly of Allan M. Trank and Alice Gomes Montiero de Pina Trank, two hundred twenty-seven and 45/100 (227.45) feet;

Westerly again four and 23/100 (4.23)

Northerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, twenty-four and 17/100 (24.17) feet; Westerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, sixty-nine and 44/100 (69.44) feet; Southerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, six and 49/100 (6.49) feet;

Westerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, twenty-two and 95/100 (22.95) feet; Southerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty,

sixteen and 89/100 (16.89) feet; Westerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, one hundred thirty-one and 65/100 (131.65) feet.

Containing 5.64 acres according to said plan.

PLAN LOT 2

Northerly by land now and formerly of James D. and Eileen S. Murphy and by land now and formerly of Roger Belanger, Jr., and Tracey Phelan, four hundred twelve and 69/100

(412.69) feet;

Easterly by Grove Street, two hundred seventy-one and 69/100 (271.69) feet; Southerly by Legg Street, three hundred four and 08/100 (304.08) feet; Southwesterly by a curved line by Legg Street, with a radius of 50.00 and a length of sixty-six and 90/100 (66.90) feet;

Westerly again by Legg Street, one hundred sixty-five and 79/100

(165.79) feet; Containing 2.16 acres according to

said plan. **PLAN LOT 3**

Northerly by land now and formerly of William H. and Helen R. Pleau, four hundred seventy-two and 95/100

(472.95) feet; Easterly by Legg Street by three lines measuring fifty-five and 67/100

fifty-two and 53/100 (52.53) feet and one hundred forty and 42/100 (140.42) feet;

Southerly by Plan Lot 1 forty-three and 37/100 (43.37) feet;

Southerly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, one hundred ninety and 66/100 (190.66) feet;

Easterly by land now and formerly of Timothy P. and Valerie S. Haggerty, ninety-two and 93/100 (92.93) feet; Southerly by land now and formerly of Allan M. Trank and Alice Gomes Montiero de Pina Trank, by two lines measuring two hundred thirty-nine and 77/100 (239.77) feet and eighty-seven and 63/100 (87.63) feet; Westerly by land now and formerly of Robert J. and Jane P. Brossman and by by land now and formerly of Keith J. and MarcyAnn Deragon by three lines measuring seventy-seven and 26/100 (77.26) feet,

eighty-six and 22/100 (86.22) feet and one hundred thirty-five and 39/100 (135.39) feet.

Containing 3.45 acres according to

said plan.

The above-described land is shown on a plan filed with said complaint and all boundary lines are claimed to be located on the ground as shown on said plan.

If you desire to make any objection or defense to said complaint you or your attorney must file a written appearance and an answer under oath, setting forth clearly and specifically your objections or defense to each part of said complaint, in the office of the Recorder of said Court in Boston (at 3 Pemberton Square, Room 507, Boston, MA 02108), or in the office of the Assistant Recorder of said Court at the Registry of Deeds at Worcester, in the County of Worcester, where a copy of the plan filed with said complaint is deposited, on or before the Sixth day of May next.

Unless an appearance is so filed by or for you, your default will be recorded, the said complaint will be taken as confessed and you will be forever barred from contesting said complaint or any judgment entered thereon.

WITNESS, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court, this Seventh day of March, in the year two thousand

DEBORAH J. PATTERSON

RECORDER

From the office of: Jeffrey L. Ontell, Esq., Marsh, Moriarty, Ontell and Golder, 99 Rosewood Drive, Suite 220, Danvers, MA 01923

March 15, 2024 March 22, 2024 March 29, 2024

A.C. 92A

Commonwealth of Massachusetts WO24E0055PP WORCESTER, SS. **PROBATE COURT**

To Katrina Hatem, Laura L. Hatem and Joseph Dunn and to all other interested persons.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Katrina Hatem and Laura L. Hatem of Douglas in the County of Worcester representing that she hold as tenants in common undivided part or share of certain land lying in Uxbridge in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows:

55 Chetnut Street, Uxbridge MA 01569. "Plan to show in Uxbridge, MA, owned by Roseann A. Vaughn", prepared. by Lavallee Brothers Inc., Sutton, MA-Dated February 27, 2002, Scale 1"= 100"; which plan was recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds on April 18,2001, in Plan Book 779 Plan 76, which.Plan reference.may be held for a more particular decription. Contains 2.189 acres, more or less

A deed of quitclaim, dated 9.25.2018, recorded with the Worcester Districy Book 59449 Page 226

Book 70177 page 298 Book 70175 page 188

setting forth that he desires that - all the aforesaid described part - of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than two hundred and ninety thoousand dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twenty-sixth day of March 2024, the return date of this citation.

Witness, LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-third day of February 2024. Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate March 15, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Docket No. WO24C0094CA CITATION ON PETITION TO **CHANGE NAME**

In the matter of:

Kayla Blade Wilkinson-Dixon A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by

Kayla Blade Wilkinson-Dixon of Northbridge MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Kurt Blade Wilkinson

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 04/20/24. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 29, 2024 Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate March 15, 2024

Friday, March 15, 2024 ·15

Great prize drawings part of Douglas Common Preservation Society annual fundraiser

BY LYNN PARESKY DOUGLAS COMMON PRESERVATION SOCIETY

DOUGLAS — Thanks to the generous support of local businesses, the Douglas Common Preservation Society's Annual Fundraiser has ten amazing prizes as part of the program! The Fundraiser was kicked off on March 1 to raise funding for 2024 maintenance, improvements and decorations -- including the fantastic holiday decorations and lighting – at the Douglas Common. Douglas pride was apparent this past holiday season, but also throughout the seasons as the Common blossomed and shined - and we loved it and plan to repeat the beauty and magic again this year, but we can only do this with your support.

There will be 10 prize drawings and you will get 15 chances to win with each \$25 you donate. Not only will you be supporting your community by making a donation, but you may be the lucky winner of a prize or two! You may choose which drawings your entries go into. The drawings will be held on April 20 at 2 p.m. at the Earth Day Celebration at the Common, and winners will be notified if not present.

Prizes were donated by area businesses and are made available as a thank you for supporting The Douglas Common Preservation Society's Annual Fundraiser. As you can see from the following list, all ten prizes are wonderful.

Drawing 1: Certificate for a one-night Cape Cod Getaway during period of Sept. 15 to May 15, Sunday to Friday, for two adults/two children in a Deluxe Room with two Queen beds at Bayside Resort Hotel in West Yarmouth, It includes a full breakfast and \$6 dinner Discount Vouchers. Advance reservations are required at least seven days prior to arrival – and are subject to availability. Certificate shows all Terms for Use. Value of the Getaway is \$175.

Drawing 2: Gift Certificate for Summer Concert Series Pass at Douglas Orchard and Farm, Douglas, a \$90 value.

Drawing 3: \$100 Gift Certificate to Breezy Picnic Grounds & Waterslides, Douglas

Drawing 4: Package of four passes to New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, Boylston, a \$76 value

Drawing 5: 20-by-30inch Canvas Print, "Blossoms for the Soldiers"

Drawing 6: \$50 Gift Certificate for Services by Connie at The Peaceful Place Day Spa, Douglas

Drawing 7: \$50 Gift Certificate to The Mane Place, Uxbridge

Drawing 8: Original 11-by-14-inch Framed Acrylic Painting, "Old Blue Eyes" by Janet Aleid, Janet's Pet Portraits, N. Grafton, a \$270 value

Drawing 9: Gift Certificate for Regular 5 Quart Oil Change



at K2 Automotive, Douglas, a \$49.95 value Drawing 10: Four passes to "Discover Tai Chi On The Common", Douglas Common, May 18, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., taught by Faith Kennedy, Hummingbird Holistic Center, a \$40 value

Donations may be made by check payable to Douglas Common Preservation Society, mailed to 76 NW Main St., Douglas, MA 01516; by Venmo to @Kathleen-Sugrue-Richards; or in person at the April 20 Earth Day Celebration at the Common or at the Fire Station. Be sure to include your name, telephone number, email and prize choices. Fundraiser flyers with Drawing Entry Information Form can be found on Facebook by going to either the Douglas Common group page or the We Are Dynamic Douglas group page. Some flyers will also

be available at the

Douglas Orchard and Farm, Simon Fairfield Library, The Grille on Main, Gregory's, The Mane Place and Douglas House of

Pizza. thanks Special to Bayside Resort Hotel, Breezy Picnic Grounds & Waterslides, Douglas Orchard and Farm, Hummingbird Holistic Center, Janet's Pet Portraits, Automotive, The Mane Place, New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, and the Peaceful Place Day Spa for their generous donation of prizes for this Fundraiser.

One hundred percent of proceeds raised from this Fundraiser will be used to fund projects planned for 2024, including repeating the holiday lights and decorations, completing garden preparation and mulching, purchasing flowers for gardens and planters for Spring, Summer and Fall, completing gaze-

bo maintenance, and taking on a new project to expand the electrical service underground to the Soldiers Monument to allow for permanent spotlights illuminating the flag and Soldiers Monument. The total cost for these 2024 projects is estimated at \$13,500. Since the Town of Douglas does not cover the expenses or perform the work at our historic park, the Douglas Common Preservation Society, relies on donations from the community, both individuals and businesses, to cover these Common expenses and make our work possible.

March will be a month when we need some maintenance and weeding of the lilies on the banking and around the gazebo done before the mulching takes place at the end of March/beginning of April. If you would like to volunteer a little time to help

with this, please check the Douglas Common Facebook page for dates once they have been scheduled.

As we move into Spring we can look forward to some bright additional color at the Common as the more than 1,350 daffodil bulbs we planted last Fall burst into bloom. They are already starting to push up through the soil. Hopefully they will be in full bloom the Earth Day Celebration on April 20. Plans are underway to have a free Planting Station at the Common for the children to come and paint pots and learn how to plant seeds to take home on Earth Day, followed at 2 p.m. by the Fundraiser drawings.

As we enter the warmer weather, the lilies offer a huge mass of color and will make the Common a beautiful setting for our "Discover Tai Chi On the Common" class

on May 18 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. It is open to the public with a \$10 donation made on the day of the event and will be taught by certified instructor, Faith Kennedy, of Hummingbird Holistic Center. We hope you will join us for this healthy and beneficial

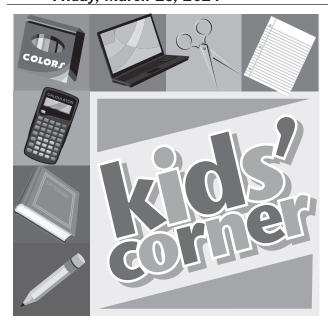
Whether you are visiting the Common for one of these events or just coming to enjoy the setting, we hope you enjoy the Common and all the improvements and beautification efforts your donations to the Douglas Common Preservation Society have made possible. We are a group, separate from The Town of Douglas, made up entirely of volunteers and are always looking for new members. If you would like to be part of our friendly group, please contact lynnparesky@aol.com at your convenience.

Every 8 minutes, we respond to a disaster.



HELP NOW >





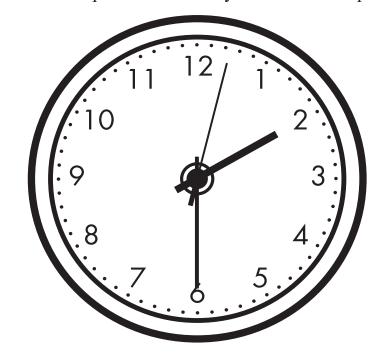


TRUE OR FALSE? ONLY ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE WORLD'S COUNTRIES PRACTICE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME.

ANSWER: TRUE

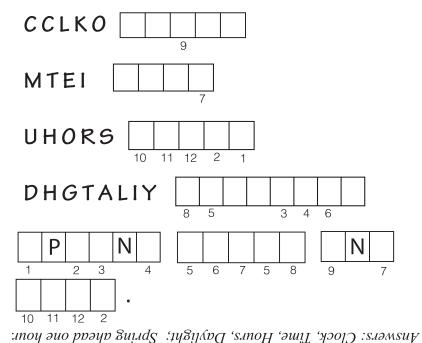
Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.





- **1820**: MAINE IS ADMIT-TED AS THE TWENTY-THIRD U.S. STATE.
- 1917: TSAR NICHOLAS II OF RUSSIA ABDICATES THE RUSSIAN THRONE, ENDING THE 304-YEAR ROMANOV DYNASTY.
- 2019: AROUND 1.4 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE IN 123 COUNTRIES GO ON STRIKE TO PROTEST CLIMATE CHANGE.



move something



ENGLISH: Time

SPANISH: Tiempo

ITALIAN: Tempo

FRENCH: Temps

GERMAN: Zeit



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME IS OBSERVED, PEOPLE MOVE THE CLOCK AT

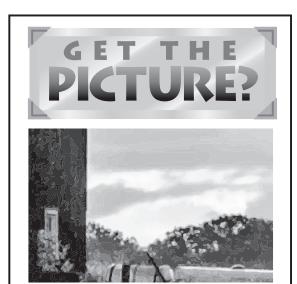
Answers: A. clover

B. green

C. saint D. patron

2 A.M. LOCAL TIME.





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

YNSMEK: SNNKISE ON Y LYKW

$\bigcirc * ^* \preceq @ * \sim \bigcirc \lhd \diamond * • × * + ::: * \land @ * \circ * × % \ t \ \cap \ \dagger \dagger \dagger \dagger \ \dagger \ \dagger \ \dagger \dag$ A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to St. Patrick's Day. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 15 = E)

16 7 12 2 15 22 A.

Clue: Little plant

9 22 15 15 26 В.

Clue: Color associated with nature

17 24 8 26 1 C.

Clue: Holy being

11 24 1 22 12 26 D.

Clue: Someone who supports a cause

SUDOKU

			7		4			
5	2			3				- Monooo
	3	7					2	
проводе							6	
		6	5					
	4					5	7	
	6						3	4
7		2		4	3		ageogo	
	- ogeosoo		9					

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!

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!

L	8	2	9	G	6	S	sanda	Þ
9	wwh	9	3	t	8	2	6	L
\$	ε	6	L	duna	2	ç	9	8
6	L	G	done	9	8	8	Þ	S
2	Þ	oberes	6	8	ç	9	1	3
ε	9	8	2	_	ţ	6	G	nonda
8	S	V	S	6	annih.	L	S	9
www	6	2	8	ε	9	ħ	2	S
9	G	ε	t	2	L	-	8	6

:R3WSNA

Friday, March 15, 2024 · 17 BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE

Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild to hold biennial show

UPTON — The Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild is pleased to present their biennial quilt show on March 16 and 17 at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School in Upton. The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

This year's show is chaired by Annie Bosma and Kathy Sperino. Admission is \$10 and children 18 and under are admitted free. On view will be more than 200 quilts designed and made by guild members including Guild Challenges, Round Robins, and Youth Quilts. Also on site will be a Silent Auction, Raffle Baskets, a Quilters' Boutique, vendors, and a spectacular raffle quilt made by guild members Grace Aloise and Marcia Nichols. Quilt raffle tickets are \$2 each or six for \$10, and will be available for purchase at the show.

The Guild's Special Project Charity this year is the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism. This foundation provides funds to help people affected by autism live life to the fullest. There will be a variety of gift items available for purchase with all proceeds donated to the foundation.

Vendors at this year's show include The Fudge Lady, Anthony's Sewing Machine Service and Repair, Appletree Fabrics, SOKE LLC, Bits and Pieces Quilt Shop, Angel Hair



Alpacas, H and H Creations, Adele Scott, Quilters' Loft, Fabritique, Molly's Apothecary, Camp Wool, The Indigo Squirrel, and the Handy Husband. There is a variety of vendors that will appeal to all attendees.

Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild was founded in 1992 by eight women interested in exploring the art of quilting. Today the guild has a membership of 85 members. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Mendon. The guild holds its biennial quilt show to display the works of its members and to further educate the community about the art of quilt making. Proceeds from the show are used to provide comfort the area communities through the donation of quilts to those in need of comfort due serious illness, loss of their homes, or personal trauma, those in nursing homes or assisted living facilities and quilts to those suffering from natural disasters or international conflicts. Proceeds are also used to provide scholarships to local art students, provide donations to charitable organizations, and to sponsor families at Christmas.

The Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild hopes to see you at our show and hopes that you will take away many

How families can show their appreciation for teachers

above and beyond for day season and/or at their students. Students the end of the year can benefit from those let teachers know their efforts in the class- efforts have not gone room, but many adults unnoticed. By pooling also can name one, two their resources, paror even more educa- ents can give teachers tors whose lessons and an especially nice gift. enthusiasm for learn- A night out at a local ing has benefitted them restaurant or tickets to long after the final bell a show can make for rang on their academic a well-deserved excur-

mile for their students students learn. are worthy of recognition and appreciation. at the school. An email Families who want to or phone with a school express their gratitude principal or another to teachers can do so in higher-up in the local any number of ways.

sonal note from a stu- ensure the efforts of a dent or parents or both teacher are recognized. can warm the hearts Let the higher-ups of teachers. Personal know when a teacher letters may not be as has made a positive common as they once were, but they remain how much their efforts a thoughtful way to are appreciated. express gratitude and appreciation to people who have had a positive impact on a person's life. That makes a personal, handwritten note an ideal and meaningful way for families to show their appreciation for a teacher.

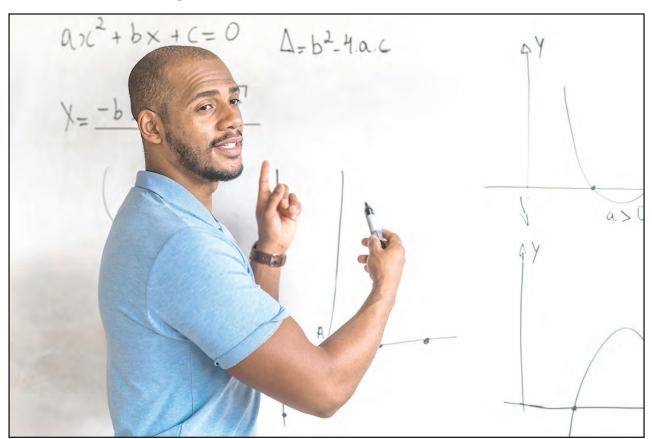
when the opportunity presents itself. Teachers seek a helping hand at various points in a given school year. A teacher might ask for volunteers to assist with holiday parties or special school events or even request help coming up with extra school supplies or items needed for a particular project. In fact, a recent survey from the Association of American Educators found that public school teachers spend an average of \$673 per year of their own money on school supplies. Parents can express their appreciation for teachers by responding with enthusiasm to requests for supplies, When responding, parents can ask teachers if there's anything else they can do to help and offer to volunteer their services during class parties.

• Organize a class gift. A gift from the

Great teachers go class around the holision for educators who The efforts of teach- often work long past ers who go the extra the school day to help

 Contact higher-ups school system is anoth-· Write a note. A per- er way for parents to impact on a child and

Many teachers go to



great lengths to sup-

port their students. nize those efforts in ways that will let edu- they're appreciated.

Families can recog- a host of meaningful

cators know how much

The basics of financial literacy

· Pitch in at school the COVID-19 pandemic showed how fragile economies can be and gave millions of people the impression that their financial well-being may not be as controllable as they imagined it was prior to 2020. Personal finances are indeed vulnerable to forces that shape both local and global economies, but individuals are not helpless against such variables.

literacy Financial is a term that can be defined is various ways, but is perhaps most usefully characterized as an individual's ability to utilize various financial skills. Budgeting, investing and sound borrowing strategies each fall under the umbrella of financial literacy, and under-

The ripple effects of standing how can help people better prepare for what's to come.

Budgeting Budgeting is one of the foundations of financial literacy and its value is not unrecognized. According to a 2023 survey from NerdWallet conducted by The Harris Poll, 74 percent of the more than 2,000 adults surveyed indicated they have a monthly budget. However, 84 percent of survey respondents who have a budget admitted they exceed it. This area of financial literacy is most useful when individuals not only recognize the need to budget, but also the benefits of living within a budget once it's established.

Investing

One of the more notable lessons of the pandemic is just how quickly inflation can affect cost of living and quality of life. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the cost of store-bought food increased by 23.5 percent between February 2020 and May 2023. While that was an extraordinarily high increase for such a short period of time, inflation affects the value of a dollar, and financially literate individuals recognize that a dollar saved today will be less valuable 20 years from now. Investing helps individuals grow their money so they can meet all of their future expenses. NerdWallet notes the average stock 10 percent per year (though that, too, is vulnerable to inflation), which shows just how vital sound investing is to securing your financial future.

Borrowing

Borrowing money is not bad, even though it's often discussed through the lens of credit card debt. Credit card debt is a significant issue, as data from the Federal Reserve indicated Americans' total credit card balance exceeded \$1 trillion in the third quarter of 2023. But borrowing to buy consumer goods and borrowing to finance an education or home purchase are two wildly different things. Numerous studies have shown that lifetime earnings are significantly

among college-educated adults than individuals whose formal education ended with high school. In addition, the S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller U.S. National Home Price Index indicates the historical annual average national home appreciation rate was 4.8 percent between 1987 and July 2023. In relation to financial literacy, borrowing to fund an education and/ or purchase a home is a far more effective longterm financial strategy than borrowing to purchase consumer goods.

Financial literacy can help individuals lay a sound financial foundation that can make them less vulnerable to unforeseen variables that threaten the stability of local and global



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\$399,000.

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acre Lot! OPEN FLOOR PLAN. Living room, dining room, upscaled kitchen with 8' island, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, Beautiful Hardwood Floors! central air. 2 car garage, & shed. \$615,000

WEBSTER - NEW ENGLAND COMMONS



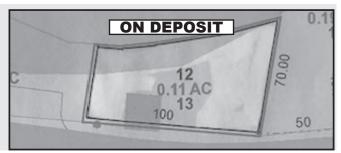
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sq/ft of living space! Gleaming hardwood floors can be found throughout! Cabinet packed kitchen w/breakfast b ar and tile floor! Large master bedroom w/ tray ceiling, walk-in closet & full bath w/ low step in shower! Low monthly HOA fees!\$ \$369,900

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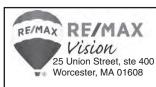
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Get schooled on vocational training

High graduates or individuals looking to explore continuing education at any age have various options. Among the most popular options is enrolling in a college or university. Studying a trade in a vocational school is another popular option.

What are vocational schools?

Vocational individuals as career or trade offer certificate programs that are HVAC much shorter in duration than traditional college degree programs, and train students for skilled jobs. pro-Vocational

prepare

Consider these community college benefits

grams



College is the next natural step for many students after they finish high school. The process of finding a school begins in junior year of high school, and students and their parents may visit many different colleges and universities throughout the next year. Even though the bulk of the focus might be on fouryear schools, students who may not yet have everything all figured out should not overlook the many benefits of community colleges.

The United States Department of State's Education USA says community colleges offer two-year programs that lead to the Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree. Some community colleges also have vocational programs. Community colleges are a viable option for students interested in continuing their education. Undergraduate students studying at community colleges can earn academic credit that will eventually go toward a bachelor's degree should they choose to continue benefits of community college.

- munity colleges do not have the same score for the ACT is 36. time restrictions and other requirements as schools offering four-year degrees. Interested parties may be able to register for classes at any time and not have to worry about being accepted or
- Part-time scheduling: Community colleges often offer part-time academic for college admissions testing. coursework, which means students do not have to take a set number of credits each semester to remain enrolled. This allows students to attend college classes according to their own schedules and work at their own pace.
- More affordable tuition: Lower tuition is one of the major draws to community colleges. The career planning resource Indeed says that many community colleges further discount their offerings to in-state students. This helps make post-secondary education much more affordable, particularly for those who are not sure about what they want to study.
- Relationships with four-year schools: A number of community colleges have partnerships with sister schools to facilitate the transfer of associate degree credits for a student working toward a four-year degree. Education USA says in this "2+2" process," a student can earn a bachelor's degree with two years of community college, followed by two years of university study. Some community colleges also serve as satellite locations for other schools, meaning one can take classes for a four-year school right on the community college campus if the location is more convenient.
- · Smaller class sizes: Many community colleges have smaller class sizes that make it easier for students to adjust to the pace of college life.
- Proximity to home: As the name implies, community college is a school that serves a particular community. That means it is likely close to home for the majority of students. Students who may not be willing or able to go away to school may appreciate the convenience and proximity of a community college.

Community college is an option that students may want to explore as they pursue post-secondary education.

schools are some- careers in electritimes referred to cal work, hairstyling and cosmeschools. Vocational tology, certified schools tend to nursing aids, automotive work, and services. among others.

Cost of attendance

Cost of education is an important factor when choosing a career, and the cost of vocational school is no exception. The College Board says trade school costs between \$5,000 and \$15,000 on average for a three- to 18-month program. comparison, the national average for a two-year degree program at public and private colleges can range from \$3,621 to \$15,333 per year. The cost to attend a four-year college considerably higher, though it varies widely by institution.

NerdWallet reports that, as dent loan debt in the United States exceeded \$1.61 trillion. Vocational school can be a much more affordable option than attending lege, without the specter of large amounts of debt looming once the

training is over. An obvious job path

Many higheducation concentrations are confronting enrollment, while vocational programs are doing quite well, according to The Hechinger Report, which covers innovation and equality in education. The reason may be that vocational training presents a clear career path, and a more secure to a solid wav job. Mechanic and repair trade had programs enrollment increase of 11.5 percent

2021 spring 2022, indicates the

National Student

Clearinghouse. "America lending money it doesn't have to kids who can't pay it back to train them for jobs that no longer exist," says Mike Rowe, television personality and founder of the Mike Rowe Works Foundation, which offers schol-

arship money to

those who are pursuing the trades. Rowe feels that America has convinced people that the best path for most people is an expensive education. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates there are more than seven million jobs available across the U.S.

a four-year-degree. Advantages to vocational schools

that do not require

Trade school students can look forward to some benefits.

 hands-on learning

more rigid schedule \bullet efficient time

usage faster class

pace

small class

sizes · ability for licensure, where need-

 lower costs of attendance compared to other types of schooling instructors who are experts in their fields

Vocational schools are an option for students right out of high school or those returning to school later in life. Such schools provide access to millions of rewarding and lucrative jobs that can offer financial

How to help students master college entrance exams

The college admissions process is multifaceted and stretches out over a year or more. High school students who plan to continue their education at four-year schools typically go through the admissions process at various schools before deciding where the next step on their academic journeys will take them.

Testing is part of the college admissions process. Parents and guardians who want to give young people the best chance of being admitted to their preferred school can help students prepare accordingly. In the United States, performance on the SAT and/or the ACT has traditionally been a key consideration for college admissions departments. The college information resource College Vine says standardized test scores are not required in the admissions process for public Canadian universities, although some private ones will accept SAT scores. According to the Princeton Review, the SAT is created and administered by the College Board. The test consists of Math and Evidence-based Reading and Writing. Each section is scored on a 200-to-800-point scale, (a score of 1600 indicates mastery of the exam). The ACT is a similar test that also helps measure college readiness. The schooling. The following are some of the ACT consists of four sections: English, Reading, Math, and Science. There's also an optional 40-minute Writing Test • Flexible admissions process: Com- that some colleges may require. The maximum composite

> Most schools do not favor one test over the other, so it's possible students will take just one exam. However, college-bound students are increasingly taking both the SAT and ACT and only submitting the higher score to schools. This is important for families and students to recognize. Generally, students can study concurrently for both tests, and the following are some additional strategies to prepare

- Enroll in a test prep course. Students may benefit from taking test prep courses either in sophomore year of high school or early in their junior year. These courses familiarize students with the testing format and enable them to take practice exams. They also offer tips for getting through the test within the alloted time. Knowing "how" to take the test is often just as important as knowing the material on the
- Focus on vocabulary. Families can work together to expand students' vocabularies. Everyone can learn new words and use them on a daily basis.
- Prioritize rest and a healthy lifestyle. This can be a stressful time in students' lives. Parents and other caregiv-



ers can recognize this and reinforce healthy living habits that will help teens get the rest they need to stay both physically and mentally well. Try not to put extra pressure on students during this critical time. Avoid emphasizing a need to get the best test scores possible, which can lead to additional stress, burnout and resentment.

· Realize many schools are test-optional. Students who simply are not excellent test-takers may take comfort in knowing that a growing number of schools have become test-optional. Families can determine if students want to be "one-and-done" on standardized testing, or take the test a few times to improve their scores.

Families can work together to make preparing for standardized testing more successful.

- Prioritize rest and a healthy lifestyle. This can be a stressful time in students' lives. Parents and other caregivers can recognize this and reinforce healthy living habits that will help teens get the rest they need to stay both physically and mentally well. Try not to put extra pressure on students during this critical time. Avoid emphasizing a need to get the best test scores possible, which can lead to additional stress, burnout and resentment.
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Families can work together to make preparing for standardized testing more successful.







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> untamedsalonspa@gmail.com confidentiality respected



BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, March 15, 2024

Manchaug Pond cleanup set for April 27

SUTTON — The Manchaug Pond Foundation will be holding their Spring Clean Up of scenic Manchaug Pond on Saturday, April 27.

Volunteers are invited to join members and Friends of the Manchaug Pond Foundation in cleaning up Manchaug Pond and its watershed. Volunteers

with boats are also welcome to help us clean up coves. Volunteer time will support the MPF's third s319 Non-point Source Pollution Grant requirements



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which was awarded in the Fall of 2020 by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

The effort is scheduled to take place Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to noon, with volunteers meeting at the state Public Access Boat Ramp on Torrey Road in Sutton. Everyone will hit the pavement with garbage bags in hand to clean the roadsides, shoreline, and boat ramp - all areas within the Manchaug Pond watershed and volunteers are not required to stay for the duration of the clean up. Good company, beautiful scenery, safety vests, rubber gloves, and garbage bags will be provided. Rain date will be Sunday, April 28th and the rain date notice will be posted on the Manchaug Pond Foundation's Facebook page and website.

The Manchaug Pond Foundation's educational events look to improve the water quality of the picturesque 380 acre community lake, which lies within Douglas and Sutton, through the education of the many users and watershed residents. Educational information on residential Low Impact Development (LID) techniques such as landscaping with buffer zones and rain gardens to limit runoff of fertilizer nutrients are available on the Foundation's website. Educational materials have been made possible by the MPF's previous two water quality grants and current grant awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. For more information, visit manchaugpond.org.

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