

More than 150 attend Southbridge Catholic Schools reunion

SOUTHBRIDGE — Southbridge Catholic Schools recently held a reunion of alumni up to 1990. This event included all Notre Dame, St. Mary's, Marianhill and Trinity Catholic Academy high school alum age groups including grammar school classmates from Notre Dame, St. Mary's, and St. Joan of Arc School!

More than 150 came together for this fun and memorable evening. The festivity offered the perspective of 150 years of Catholic Education in Southbridge with Trinity Catholic Academy, a STREAM school (science, technology, religion, engineering, arts, and math), now representing

Murder most salacious comes to Jacob Edwards Library

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — It happened more than two centuries ago, but the Bathsheba Spooner case is still one of the most salacious murders in Central Mass archives.

Last week, Andrew Noone brought his recently-released book about the conspiracy to Jacob Edwards Library.

Spooner was born Bathsheba Ruggles, the sixth of seven children of loyalist jurist, general and Speaker of the House Timothy Ruggles, in 1746. She grew up with a reputation for having “a dynamic, erratic personality,” Noone said. Among other things, contemporaries claimed she “lied incessantly,” had a “sharp temper,” and was involved sexually with up to five men. Noone's research discovered reports from witnesses seeing her with at least three, and said he believes she probably was “as wayward as they said she was.”

According to the MassMoments website (<https://www.massmoments.org/moment-details/brookfield-woman-put-to-death.html>), she may also have been a victim herself.

“She was locked in a loveless marriage to Joshua Spooner, an abusive man to whom she had 'an utter aversion,' and she was pregnant with her fifth child. The child she was carrying this time was not her husband's.” The site goes on to claim, “In court depositions, [wealthy Joshua] was described as a weak man, easily intimidated, unable to sustain 'a manly importance as the head of the family.' Others claimed that he was an abusive drunk, and several suggested that he seduced family servants when his wife turned him away.”

Noone said Bathsheba's fetus seems to have been the child of Ezra Ross, a Continental soldier who had previously stayed with the Spooners while recovering from an illness on the way home to Topsfield, but had visited them a few times since then. He said Ross had tried to poison Joshua in February 1778, while the two were on a trip to Princeton.

The following month, two British soldiers (William Brooks and James Buchanan) escaping Patriot custody also found their way to the Spooner house, where Bathsheba concocted a new plan to kill Joshua. At the time, Joshua was dining with friends elsewhere in Brookfield. When he arrived home, Brooks beat Joshua to death with a piece of wood, then Buchanan and Ross allegedly dumped the body in a well.

Noone said there's no evidence that Ross knew of that plot prior to that night, but he admitted discussing it with the others over dinner and lots of alcohol then. “How they stood up I don't know. They were well lubricated,” he added.

The crime only remained hidden for a day, after which all four conspirators were arrested. Because of Bathsheba's connections, the case attracted two of the period's best known lawyers – Levi Lincoln for the defense and prosecutor Robert Paine (later the state's first attorney general). The trial lasted just one day in April, with all defendants getting convicted and sentenced to death. Lincoln tried to seek court clemency on the grounds of his client's insanity, but Noone noted that defense would not be accepted for many more years.

After conviction, Bathsheba pleaded for a delay on the grounds of her pregnancy, which Noone said was rejected by one examining doctor, supported by a second whose evidence was rejected, and finally supported by a third doctor. But the court executed her anyway in July 1778, hanging her and the others on Frost Hill in

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The Class of 1972 poses for a photo during the Southbridge Catholic Schools reunion

Courtesy

this legacy of the school system in Southbridge. Through the years Southbridge Catholic schools have served, and continue to serve, students from across Southern Worcester County and northern Connecticut. The Saturday evening reunion was preceded by the Annual TCA Golf Classic and followed by a Sunday morning celebratory Mass by Fr. Ken Cardinale with TCA students presenting banners that represented each school. A tour of Trinity Catholic Academy followed Mass, featuring the new science lab. Comments during the tour included lots of "remember when" and the mention of different activities that occurred throughout the school.

The evening was full of socializing and reminiscing amongst the classes and schools. A roll

call of all classes got the crowd “wild” claiming their class acknowledgement. The Marianhill Class of 1975 dedicated their cheer to Ralph Loconto-St. Mary's '65, the basketball coach at Marianhill during the 70's. The amazing Notre Dame Class of 1958 had ten alumni attend! The Marianhill Class of 1972 had the highest attendance, celebrating their 50th reunion year. Alumni traveled to Southbridge for the occasion from California, Oregon, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and states throughout eastern US. Included in attendance was Lucille Bartlett LeBeouf whose last year at St. Joan of Arc School was 1945, celebrating over 70 years since her days at the school. (photo) Raffles were

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Trace the history of the penny with Women's Fellowship

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Women's Fellowship of Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm St., Southbridge, Mass. is excited to present our first program of 2022-2023 on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m., when Dick Lisi and Bill Gibson of Nipmuc Coin Club present “A Penny for Your Thoughts.” They will trace some of the interesting and humorous history of the penny, from Colonial times to the present.

During the program they will play a game or two as well as have a free raffle for a chance to win prizes. They will also share tips and “Do's and Don'ts” on collecting, proper ways to store coins and what

factors make coins valuable.

Have you ever wondered what that old coin or paper currency is worth? Dick and Bill will answer your questions and offer free verbal appraisals of up to 6 items at the conclusion of their presentation. It is recommended that everyone sign up for the program as the appraisals will happen in the order of the signup.

This program will be held at 7 p.m. in the church Vestry and is open to everyone in the surrounding communities. We are handicap accessible via the parking lot behind the Town Hall. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program.



Courtesy

First row, from left to right Wor. George Makara, bro. Chip Hubert, bro. Rick Laverne, Wor. John Shaw, Wor. Chris Kanz. Second row, left to right: Wor. R.J. Parron, bro. Will Proper, with top hat Master of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge Wor. Bill Bellanger, bro. Ben Marinelli, R.W. Chris St. Cyr. Back row, left to right: Wor. Mike Seriglia and bro. Bob St. Cyr. We are proud of our new 2023 officers of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge.

Quinebaug Masonic Lodge installs new officers

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Monday, Sept. 12, family and friends gathered at the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge to witness the installation of new officers for the 2023 Masonic year. Chartered in 1859 this tradition has been going on for 164 years. Quinebaug Masonic Lodge continues to grow in members and men in the community want to know the secret on how this non-profit organization of Master Masons can make good men even better. For you skeptical men out there that is just a little bite curious about Freemasonry, come and stop by the first Monday

of the month between 6-7 p.m. Come and talk to some of our brethren before our meeting start at 7:30 p.m. You may even be surprised to know one or maybe two men from the community. We are also having an open house on Saturday Oct. 15 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. You can get a private tour and see all the mysterious Masonic symbols and artifacts. You will see old photos dating back to the 1800's of our Past Master up to the present day.

You may also recognize some of these pictures with old names of prominent citizens from the 1800-1900's like the Wells, Hyde's, Harrington, Morris, to name a few, and all these men were

Turn To **MASON OFFICERS** page **A17**



Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy UNICEF Club announces new officers

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2023 announced the election of new UNICEF Club officers.

Elected were Emily Rossignol of Dudley as chair, Ana Hilner of Oxford and Fidelis Mensah of Worcester as co-chairs, Jamal Kimani of Worcester as secretary, Etta Lahai of Leicester as treasurer, and Maureen Bittner of Worcester as press relations officer. The election was held recently as the Practical Nursing Class of 2023 held the US Constitution Day under the guidance of Professor Virginia Dockstader, BSN, RN of Hopkinton.

Rossignol is a 2019 high school graduate of Sturgis Charter Public, Hyannis East Campus. She was a PCA in CNA training at Southbridge Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Hilner is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) with experience working at the Overlook in Charlton. She completed her CNA training at the Fieldstone School in Worcester. She is fluent in English and Spanish and worked as a substitute from 2017-2020 at the Oxford Public Schools. Mensah is a CNA who trained with Peak



Medical School. She holds a Certificate in ECDE teaching from Jomaken SCDT College and a Diploma in ECDE teaching from Maragua ECDE College. She completed research work on factors leading to child labor and abuse. Kimani currently works for the Hospital for Behavioral Medicine in Worcester as a dietary aide. He graduated from Worcester Technical High School in 2020, with Auto collision trade and auto body shop certification.

Prior to attending Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, he was a first-year biology major at Worcester State University. Lahai obtained her CNA certificate in 2013 at

the MetroWest Health Care Academy in Framingham, MA. She previously worked for Bethany Health Care Center prior to Nursing Agency work. Bittner grad-

uated from South High School in Worcester in 2022. She completed a babysitter Certificate through the American Red Cross. She is currently a Wendy's Crew member.

All UNICEF Club officers are certified in Dementia care and have a valid Healthcare Provider/ BLS Provider CPR from the American Heart Association. As UNICEF Club officers they will lead the PN Class of 2023 in children's advocacy and raising awareness. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy UNICEF Club was founded in 2016 and each year club officers lead members through various fundraising methods that serve to educate and raise awareness of relevant issues happening locally and globally. The UNICEF Club meets after school hours. For the October fundraiser, the club officers will be distributing UNICEF Halloween donation boxes for trick-or-treaters. Plans are underway for more fundraising activities.

Charlton sets 2023 Water Master Plan grant initiatives

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — Charlton's Water & Sewer Commissions have ironed out the plan for the 2023 Water Master Plan Grant scope of work as the town continues to seek out new public water sources with help from outside engineering firms.

The town is working with both the BETA Group and Bristol Engineering to help spearhead initiatives to prepare the town of new water line extensions and find feasible and reliable water sources to connect

into the system in the coming years. The Water Master Plan Grant is a source of funding to help pay for the research, investigation, testing, and drilling required to make it all happen.

The Water and Sewer Commission was joined by BETA Group Vice President Bob Mackie and Peter Newton, President of Bristol Engineering Advisors, who discussed the six tasks built into the Fiscal Year 2023 plan. These include updating the GIS information, updating

water models, and a series of well drilling and testing initiatives primarily on what has become known as the "Santos" property in town. Peter Newton did much of the talking, updating the Commission on the progress made in the previous fiscal year.

"It was a busy year. We undertook a geophysical lining study. Basically, using aerial photographs I try to identify features that would likely be bedrock fractures through which water would flow. We accomplished that and it was primarily the Santos property. That's where we were directed at the time so because it's a limited geographic scale, we were able to devote all the resources in that area and we iden-

tified a number of fractures that look promising," said Newton.

They determined seven or eight sites that had potential with two being drilled and tested as potential well sites. Only one was able to produce enough water to be considered promising. Reaming that well is considered the final task of the 2023 plan, but Newton indicated that he'd first like to see the town explore other potential wells that could be even more promising. The hope is that in the near future Charlton will have a confirmed new public water source they can draw from to provide more water to the growing system.

"The expectation is that we're going to have multiple wells in this plan and

that probably we won't get 150 or 200 gallons a minute from any one well. We might get lucky. That would be fantastic," said Newton.

There was talk about whether or not the size and depth of the digging could result in more or less water running through any of the potential well sites, but both Newton and Mackie stressed that they are dealing with fractures that allow only so much water to run through the natural material. However, Newton indicated that utilizing additional pumps could help with the yield. First, they need to determine the most reliable source, then they can examine how to best utilize it to finally provide Charlton with a new source of public water.

Correction

SOUTHBRIDGE — After reading last week's article on the Blackstone Canal, an observant reader alerted us to the fact that we inadvertently listed the date of its construction as 1922.

The correct date is, in fact, 1822.

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United Way kicks off campaign with night of trivia

SOUTHBRIDGE — United Way of South Central Massachusetts is celebrating 85 years of service to our communities. To welcome the beginning of the annual campaign, a fun night of dining and trivia is planned for Friday, Oct. 21 at Visions Restaurant, located at the Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center.

Both long time supporters of United Way and local trivia players are invited to attend. The evening begins with the Campaign Kickoff dinner at 5:30 p.m. and follows with five rounds of trivia at 7 p.m. Enter a team of four players for this year's Annual Pub Quiz and compete for the "Sharpest Knife in the Block" trophy provided by PUB QUIZ sponsor Dexter-Russell, Inc. Come for dinner, dinner and trivia or just the trivia portion of the night! All proceeds support United Way member agency programs. Tickets are available by calling (508) 765-5491 or by visiting www.uwscm.org.

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New student representatives at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy!

CHARLTON — New student representatives to the Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy PN Class of 2023 were elected recently and began their term this fall.

Practical nursing students Patrick Ndegwa of Dudley and Evan Cleveland of Westborough were voted as student representatives for the PN class of 2023. The student representatives are an important part of the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Faculty Organization (PNFO). Their main responsibility is to be a link between Practical Nursing faculty, staff, and the students, and to contribute to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy activities and projects. Ndegwa and Cleveland represented the students of PN Class of 2023 on the advisory board and steering committee meeting held on Sept. 27.

Student representatives are responsible for attending the PNFO meetings, where they serve as non-voting members. The student representatives speak on behalf of the student body and report on topics they want to bring to the PNFO's attention. The student representatives are also invited to attend the spring Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for March 2023.

“One of the goals of the student representative role is to continue to advocate for governance by increasing awareness of student's role in governance,” said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN, Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director.

The student representatives will work together towards feedback on topics in the PNFO agenda.

“The topics that go into the agenda are ones that resonate with the student body, these are very unifying topics, and are all in congruence with regulatory and accreditation requirements for BORN (Board of Registration in Nursing), COE (Council on Occupational Education), and ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing),” Bolandrina said.

Ndegwa was with the Hospital for Behavioral Medicine as a mental health technician and the Evergreen Center Milford as a care giver. He holds a certificate in automotive technology from Porter and Chester Institute. He was a recent recipient of the Charles, Christine, and Cecilia



Courtesy

(Left) New student representatives to the Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy PN Class of 2023 were elected recently and began their term this fall. Practical nursing students Patrick Ndegwa of Dudley and Evan Cleveland of Westborough were voted as student representatives for the PN class of 2023.

Paradise Scholarship. Cleveland is a Personal Trainer/CrossFit Coach at Prototype Training Systems. He took a four-year exercise science program (BS, CSCS) at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

Both Ndegwa and Cleveland have a valid Health Care Provider/ Basic Life Support Provider CPR, are Dementia Care Certified, and are Mental Health First Aid Certified. Ndegwa and Cleveland will bring student issues up, participate in governance, and focus on not just current students but may include alumni and possibly incoming students in conversations and activities.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy: Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Visit us online at www.bay-path.net.

Give back this Breast Cancer Awareness Month *PinkHippy.org selected to benefit in Big Y Community Bag Program*

REGION — Reduce single-use plastic in the environment and give back to those in need in the local community, all while supporting Breast Cancer Awareness Month at Big Y. PinkHippy.org has been selected by local Big Y store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the Community Bag Program for the month of October!

The Big Y Community Bag Program is an easy way for shoppers to give back to the local community and the environment as part of the regular shopping routine. Every \$2.50 reusable Community Bag sends a \$1 donation to a non-profit local to the Big Y in which it was purchased.

As part of this ongoing program,

every month at every Big Y location a different local non-profit is selected to benefit from the sale of the reusable Community Bag. PinkHippy.org was selected as the October beneficiary in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by local store leadership at the store located at 505 East Main Street, Southbridge MA. PinkHippy.org will receive a \$1 donation for every \$2.50 reusable Community Bag purchased at this location in October.

“This is such a powerful way to give back to a worthy cause as part of your regular shopping routine,” said Del Bachand, President of the Board of Directors of PinkHippy.org. “Non-profits at the local level, like us,

are in need of community support. This program offers the perfect opportunity to support the environment, give back locally and raise awareness during this Breast Cancer Awareness Month!”

PinkHippy.org is a non-profit based in Webster. Founded in 2014, PinkHippy.org works to provide free integrative therapies, services and support to cancer patients in our local communities with a focus and women and men with breast. Learn more about PinkHippy.org by visiting www.pinkhippy.org.

For more information about the Big Y Community Bag Program, please visit bigy.bags4mycause.com.



BY KURSTYN





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WORCESTER — Local legislators, community organizations, food pantry donors, and members of the Quinsigamond Community College community gathered together on Friday, Sept. 23 for a legislative breakfast and ribbon cutting of the college's HomePlate Food Pantry and Resource Center. The morning events featured QCC students who shared their stories and the impact the food pantry and resource center has had on their

and their students' lives. The event was moderated by Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society President Lindsey Colgate, who shared her experiences as a college student at QCC.

"I'm a single mom; I've dealt with homelessness. I was even working full-time and just couldn't get out of that hole. Now I'm here and I never thought I'd be running an honor society or speaking at an event like this, but it shows that community college offers so much more than

a degree," Colgate said.

Many members of the QCC community referenced how QCC's HomePlate Food Pantry and Resource Center allowed students such as Colgate to continue their education by assisting with basic needs.

"The food pantry is used by many types of people who just want to better their lives. Now they don't have to choose between school and work," said QCC Student Resource Manager Bonnie Coleman, who added that this is helping to

remove the stigma from food insecurity.

A student survey done in 2018 by Wisconsin Hope Lab found that close to 50 percent of students at QCC were food insecure and 11 percent were homeless. To address this issue, QCC opened the first iteration of the college's food pantry in July 2018. In 2021 the food pantry doubled in size due to increased student need.

Today, the HomePlate Food Pantry and Resource Center offers fresh produce, dairy, and

CLUES ACROSS

1. Crops sown in winter in India
5. Nursemaids in East Asia
10. Investigates
12. Treated like a child
14. About religious belief
16. Widely used exclamation
18. Car mechanics group
19. Not good
20. Indigenous people of Alberta
22. Everyone has one
23. Fencing sword
25. Soaks
26. The human foot
27. Of she
28. Erythrocyte (abbr.)
30. Soldiers
31. Energy, style and enthusiasm
33. Playwright O'Neill
35. Stone parsley
37. Small stones
38. Gas descriptor
40. Monetary unit of Samoa
41. Jeans manufacturer
42. NHL great Bobby
44. Cool!
45. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
48. Winged
50. Partner to "oohed"
52. Defensive nuclear weapon
53. Coated
55. Furry household friend
56. Chinese principle underlying the universe
57. Prefix meaning "within"
58. Makes easier
63. Transferred property
65. Branched
66. Hillsides
67. Abba __, Israeli diplomat

1. Eggs in a female fish	32. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
2. Military mailbox	34. Firearm
3. Unit to compare power levels	35. Consolation
4. Line on a map connecting similar points	36. An island in the north Atlantic
5. One who accepts	39. Pitching statistic
6. Partner to cheese	40. Disconsolate
7. Ancient Greek sophist	43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
8. About hilus	44. Call it a career
9. Southeast	46. Behave in a way that degrades someone
10. Where actors ply their trade	47. Health insurance
11. Beloved Philly sandwich	49. Recommend
13. Intend	51. Baltic peninsula
15. Talk excessively	54. Father
17. Bronx cheers	59. After B
18. Drain	60. Bar bill
21. Renews	61. Doctors' group
23. Monetary unit in Asia	62. 2,000 lbs.
24. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)	64. Equal to one quintillion bytes.
27. Carthaginian statesman	
29. Aged	


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Greater Worcester Community Foundation names Tim Johnstone as Interim CEO

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a. Paid Electronic Copies	▶	63	58
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☐ Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner

Kevin J. Sullivan

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST/CIRCULATION

Date 9/26/21

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

Singer/songwriters Oakes & Smith and Kala Farnham to offer free concert at the Jacob Edwards Library



SOUTHBIDGE — As part of its robust series of arts and cultural offerings, the Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St. in Southbridge, is pleased to host singer/songwriters Oakes & Smith and Kala Farnham for an evening of story and song Thursday, Oct. 13 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The performance will feature the artists' own original compositions, as well as songs by other artists. All are invited to attend this free in-person event, sponsored by The Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency funded by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. For information, call 508-764-5426 or visit jacobedwardslibrary.org.

Husband-and-wife folk duo Oakes & Smith creates an ethereal sound not often heard in today's popular music. The couple evokes a soulful sense of wonder, expressing themes of love, creativity, mystery, and an appreciation of natural beauty. Said Kylee Colvin of The Levity Ball, "Oakes & Smith... bring a sense of calm and ease to the air... with songs so full of wisdom and true emotions." Their latest release, *Between the Earth and the Sky*, was mixed by Grammy-winning engineer Oz Fritz and features a performance by celebrated Yes vocalist Jon Anderson. The EP was on high rotation on Soul Traveler Radio, and critics have given it warm praise. Said Cody Conard of The Big Takeover magazine, "The duo's chemistry is well and clearly still in place, arguably more than ever before, because (this) is one of their best releases yet." And Anthony Avina of On Request magazine called it "emotional, heartfelt music that touches the soul." Annie Rew Shaw of Echoes and Dust said, "Katherine's vocals are so pure and clear, they almost crystallize in your head. Her voice... holds deep emotion and wisdom." For more information

about Oakes & Smith, visit www.oakesandsmith.net. Armed with a voice and an entourage of instruments, songstress Kala Farnham set out into the world with one vision: To inspire through the transformative power of musical storytelling. Farnham has garnered numerous awards and recognition, including serving as the current Connecticut State Troubadour, 2020 Falcon Ridge Festival

Emerging Artist, 2020 Great American Song Contest Finalist, and 2019 Rose Garden Performing Songwriter Contest winner. Farnham's 2020 album, "Your Spirit Is a Work of Art," is composed of thirteen musical vignettes exploring the imperfect beauty of the human condition; it has been described by Nick Noble of The Folk Revival as "a work of poetic insight... worth listen-

ing to again and again." Drawing from a classical education and professional career in musical theater, Kala presents a hallmark reinvention of the folk tradition: her lush musical arrangements, compelling vulnerability, and vivid storytelling draws her audience into imaginative re-creations of the familiar world. For more information about Kala Farnham, visit www.kalafarnham.com.

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SPORTS

High School Notebook

Tuesday, Sept. 20
Tantasqua 167, St. Paul 168 — The Warriors traveled to Green Hill for a golf match with the then-undefeated Knights. In a down to the wire match, Tantasqua edged St. Paul by a single stroke. The stellar play of freshman Sam Pieczynski (1-under par 35) and junior Colm McGrath (2-over 38) were key to the Warriors improving to 5-2, while the Knights dropped to 6-1.

Wednesday, Sept. 21
Leicester 15, North Brookfield 50; Quaboag 20, Leicester 35; Quaboag 15, North Brookfield 50 — Competing at Quaboag Regional's 3-mile course, the Leicester High girls' cross-country team saw Abby Bernabei win her third race of the season. Both Juliana Dahlgran and Savannah Kulig ran their best times of the season as the Wolverines are now 4-2.

Leicester 22, Quaboag 33; Leicester 23, North Brookfield 33 — The Wolverines are now a perfect 4-0 in boys' cross-country after Leicester won the meet at Quaboag. Running the same 3-mile



Courtesy

The Leicester High boys' and girls' cross-country teams have enjoyed impressive starts to their respective seasons.

course, the Wolverines' Jason Fournier won with an impressive time of 18:32, his third victory of the season. Teammate Gio Aguair (20:37) took second place after an impressive closing kick, and Tyler Herron placed fourth (21:46).

Tantasqua 40, Shepherd Hill 14 — Competing in match play against the Rams' golf team at Dudley Hill, the Warriors won to improve to 6-3. Medalist honors again go to Tantasqua's Sam

Pieczynski as well as teammate Colm McGrath. Both shot 40's on the par-36 layout.

Monday, Sept. 26
Tantasqua 158, Leicester 208 — Playing at Hemlock Ridge, the Warriors' golf team defeated the Wolverines, improving to 7-2 in the process. Medalist honors go to Tantasqua's Sam Pieczynski, who shot an even-par 36 after birdieing his final two holes.

Youth hockey returns to

Northeast Connecticut



Courtesy

CT Outlaws to offer instructional and recreational programs at Pomfret's Jahn Rink

also oversaw teams and programs of the Tri-Valley Youth Hockey program.

Outlaws hockey strives to teach the fundamentals of ice hockey to make it fun, safe, and inclusive for all children interested in trying out the sport. We will continue the tradition of offering Instructional, Recreational, and Travel programs for everyone from first-time beginners to accomplished players. Additionally, top players will be offered to opportunity to play in Tier 1 leagues through the Outlaws.

House League programs will continue for all players ages five and up for the coming season. Young players will progress from half-ice to full-ice games.

"We are thrilled to share our passion and experience for the incredible game of hockey with young players in Northeast Connecticut," said the Outlaws Hockey Board of Directors. "We look forward to building upon the great history of Griffin Youth Hockey in the coming weeks."


Programs at Jahn Rink will begin in October. All players interested in learn-to-skate, learn-to-play, and House League hockey should register immediately at <http://www.outlawshockey.com>.

SPORTS CONTINUED page A11

☂☂☂

Friday's Child

☂☂☂



Nicholas
Age 12

Hi! My name is Nicholas and I love sports and want to be on a sports team!

Nicholas is a sweet and polite boy of Hispanic descent. He loves pets and is compassionate to all who know him. He also has a very funny sense of humor and can joke around easily with others. Being well-groomed and clean is very important to Nick. In his free time, Nick loves to listen to hip-hop music and play basketball. He also enjoys video games but would prefer to be outside being active and burning off his energy rather than being inside. Nick has many friends, is very sensitive to others' feelings, and tries to help out those who he feels are struggling. He is a role model in his program. When a new kid arrives, Nick takes them under his wing and mentors them. He provides comfort to other kids when they are upset. He is very well-liked by both his peers and adults in his living setting. He is a loyal friend. He receives support services in school to help with expressive and receptive language and reading. Nick does perform very well in math. Due to the lack of foster families, Nick lived in a residential program much longer than needed but recently moved in with a foster family. He is doing great living in a family environment.

Freed for adoption, Nick would do well in any family constellation with older, younger or with no other children in the home. He would do well in a home with routine, structure and much love to give. Currently he has regular visits with his siblings. Nick has a lot of potential and is waiting for his new family to help him tap into this potential so that he can reach for the stars.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7053>

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 Massachusetts.

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.

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LEGALS

<p>SOUTHBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL BYLAW READING NOTICE</p> <p>In accordance with the Southbridge Town Charter, the Town Council will commence three readings of a new Wetlands Bylaw, to be identified as Section 9-203 of the Code of Bylaws, during its regular meeting of Sept 26, 2022.</p> <p>If approved, Section 9-203 would do the following: Enable the Conservation Commission and/or its agent to enforce the Wetlands Act (MGL Chap 131, Sec 40) directly with local fines for violations; define development setbacks and other requirements regarding various types of water bodies; require 24 hour notice and proper ID for inspections, except in emergencies; define notification, filing and hearing procedures; set wetland replication requirements; and codify other aspects of wetland protection. The full text of this bylaw has been posted on the Southbridge town website, https://www.ci.southbridge.ma.us, and paper copies are available for public review in the Town Clerk's office, Jacob Edwards Library, and the police station. Citizens can also obtain electronic copies by contacting the Town Manager's office at (508) 764-5405 or from any Town Councillor.</p> <p>The readings may be witnessed and are open for public comment in person during the Town Council meetings of Sept 26, Oct 3 and Oct 17, with a vote on adoption on Nov 7. These meetings will also run on Southbridge Cable Channel 192, the Town's YouTube page (https://www.youtube.com/user/southbridgecable) and at the Southbridge Cable on-demand page (http://71.11.2.11/CablecastPublic-Site/?channel=1).</p> <p>Gus Steeves Southbridge Town Councillor September 22, 2022 September 29, 2022</p>	<p>Town of Brimfield Public Hearing Notice</p> <p>In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday October 12, 2022, at 6:30 PM to review a Notice of Intent submitted by Green Hill Engineering c/o Robert Thomas. The Notice of Intent is requesting the repair of a Septic Holding Tank. All disturbance associated with the project as proposed is located within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.</p> <p>Project Location: 40 Third Street, Brimfield, MA (Assessor's Map 5C-A-31)</p> <p>Meeting Location: Public Participation will be In-Person at the Brimfield Town Hall at 21 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 at 6:30 PM.</p> <p>Any person(s) interested or wishing to be heard on this request should appear at the time and place designated. A copy of the permit application and plan may be inspected at the Brimfield Town Annex in the Conservation Commission Office, Salisbury Annex Building, 2nd Floor, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or contact the office at 413-245-4100 ext. 1101.</p> <p>Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia Co-Chairs 09/13/2022 September 29, 2022</p>	<p>Town of Brimfield Public Hearing Notice</p> <p>In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday October 12, 2022, at 6:30 PM to review a Notice of Intent submitted by Green Hill Engineering c/o Richard H. McGill. The Notice of Intent is requesting the repair of a Septic System. All disturbance associated with the project as proposed is located within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.</p> <p>Project Location: 42 Third Street, Brimfield, MA (Assessor's Map 5C-A-32)</p> <p>Meeting Location: Public Participation will be In-Person at the Brimfield Town Hall at 21 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 at 6:30 PM.</p> <p>Any person(s) interested or wishing to be heard on this request should appear at the time and place designated. A copy of the permit application and plan may be inspected at the Brimfield Town Annex in the Conservation Commission Office, Salisbury Annex Building, 2nd Floor, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or contact the office at 413-245-4100 ext. 1101.</p> <p>Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia Co-Chairs 09/14/2022 September 29, 2022</p>	<p>ORDER OF NOTICE</p> <p>TO: Jose J. Peralta</p> <p>and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq): Land Home Financial Services, Inc. claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Southbridge, numbered 277 South Street, given by Jose J. Peralta to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Land Home Financial Services, Inc., dated April 10, 2020, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62189, Page 219, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before November 07, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.</p> <p>Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on 9/21/2022.</p> <p>Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder September 29, 2022</p>
<p>(SEAL) THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket 22 SM 002732</p>			

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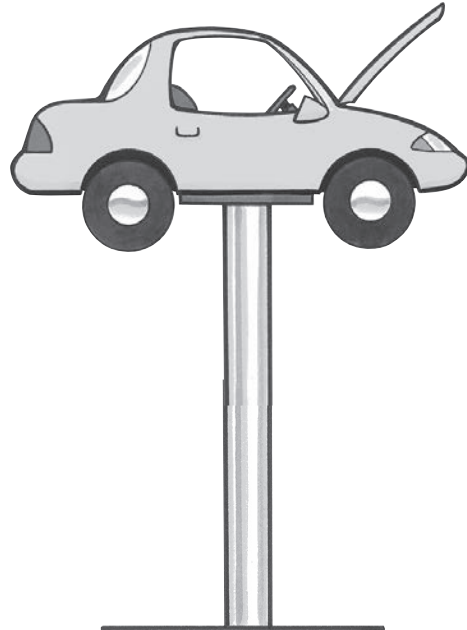
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

*The voice of the
young is more
important than ever*

We have heard much buzz from younger voters recently regarding the upcoming mid-term elections, and the overwhelming consensus among them, is that their votes do not count. While there are exceptions to this rule, we figured we would stress to our younger counterparts how important it is to pay attention and to head to the ballot box.

The youth voice is important whether you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent, Libertarian, or something in between. Important issues in every election directly relate to concerns students and young professionals have, which is even more reason to arm yourself with knowledge. Truth be told, younger voters are needed now more than ever. Issues that concern students are college tuition reform, healthcare and federal job programs to name a few. You may not care now, but you may care a few years from now when choices politicians make, begin to affect your life, and they will.

Young voters make up almost 50 percent of the voting population, giving you a stronger voice than you think, making your votes collectively more influential across the board. An interesting bit of trivia is that youth votes declined by 2 percent from a record of 52 percent in 2008. In 2016, 19 percent of those ages 18-29 voted in the presidential election. Those ages 45-64, however, made up for 49 percent of the vote.

You may not think your vote counts, but, every vote counts. Oftentimes, politicians will win by a small margin as low as 20 votes, especially in local and state races, proof that your vote DOES matter. Young people that want to inspire change need to find the candidate who represents their values best, and cast their votes.

With news at our fingertips these days, it's easier now more than ever to educate yourself regarding politics. Sure, it may seem boring and often times it is, but educating yourself on current events and the issues will serve you well. One bit of advice is to not believe everything you read or see and to always fact check your sources. Protect your interests and use your voice, after all this is what democracy is all about.

Do not be discouraged or intimidated to vote, it's easy. You have a right to be at the polls just like every other American. Bring a friend and go grab some lunch or breakfast afterwards, making it a fun occasion.

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.

Nothing quite captures the senses of the autumn season as the native apple, and for many area families the New England apple harvest is celebrated with an annual drive to a country orchard. A "a day on the farm" is not only an opportunity to stock up on fresh fruit, but a chance to take stock of good old fashioned New England values. A short hike or hayride to trees laden with crisp, red apples promises an abundance of both fruit and family fun. With several orchards within the Stonebridge Press region, pick-your-own apples, freshly pressed cider, hot apple treats and a variety of seasonal farm goods are just a short drive away.

New England Apples: New England is known for its distinct variety of apples. The area's hot summers, cool fall days, and rocky soil are credited with the production of big, red apples with a unique mix of sweet and tart flavors.

McIntosh leads the pack in production of New England apples, accounting for two-thirds of the region's crop. Other classic regional varieties are Cortland, Empire, Macoun, Red Delicious, and Rome. Additional favored New England varieties include Mutsu, Gala, Golden Delicious, IdaRed, Jersey Mac, and Paula Red.

The apple's rich New England history is evident in the many heirloom varieties of apples that were discovered here and are still grown at a sprinkling of established apple farms. Among them are Early Mac, Lodi, Baldwin, Northern Spy, Roxbury, Russet, Pippin, and Red Gravenstein.

Sharing shelf space with the classics and heirlooms (and often a top pick today) are a breed of apples, dubbed the "hybrids." Since the late 1980s area orchards have introduced newer hybrid varieties grown to hold up better in storage and look more attractive to the consumer: Braeburn, Honey Crisp, Gala and Ginger Gold, Jonagold, Crispin, Fuji, Pink and Lady are some top selling hybrids. I recently discovered the RubyMac variety, and as a loyal Macoun fan, I have to admit the RubyMac rivals my all time favorite!

Old Fashioned Apple Recipes: Read on for some tried and true apple recipes that spotlight the area's harvest: Ann Tuttle's Apple Pie (from Breezeland Orchards) Baked each autumn and during holiday time, the homemade pie, made from fresh orchard apples, is a Tuttle tradition. Once again, this column shares her family recipe:

Ingredients: apples; 3/4 cup sugar; 1 tsp. cinnamon; 1 tbsp. minute tapioca; 1 tbsp. water; 1 tbsp. butter
Preparation: Roll out dough for bottom of pie plate. Peel and slice apples to generously fill pie plate. Mix and sprinkle the sugar, cinnamon and tapioca on top of apples as you put in the slices. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon of water and 1 tablespoon of butter (in little dabs) on top. Cover with top crust. Cut 3 or 4 slices in top crust. Bake at 425 for 20



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR
minutes and then 375 for 25 minutes.
Classic Baked Apples
Sugar, nuts and spices transform ordinary apples into a comfort food dessert, thanks to this classic mid century baked apple recipe.

Ingredients: Six apples, peeled, cored and sliced; 1/2 cup white sugar; 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour; 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon; 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg; 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves; 1/2 cup raisins; 1/2 cup chopped walnuts; 1/2 cup whole milk
Directions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 2 quart casserole dish, or coat with non-stick cooking spray. Place apples in a large bowl. In a small bowl, mix together sugar, flour, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. Stir spice mixture into apples until evenly distributed. Fold in raisins and walnuts. Spoon into prepared dish. Pour milk evenly over apple mixture. Bake in preheated oven for 45 to 60 minutes, or until soft and bubbly. Allow to cool slightly before serving.

Baking Powder Biscuit Apple Dumplings

Old fashioned apple dumplings made with baking powder biscuits have been a favorite fall treat for generations.

Biscuit Ingredients: 3 cups flour; 4 teaspoons baking powder; 2/3 teaspoon salt; 1/4 cup shortening; 3/4 to 7/8 cup water or milk

Filling Ingredients: apple; 2 tablespoons butter; one cup sugar; one tablespoon flour; 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg

Directions: Sift dry biscuit ingredients, cut in shortening, then liquid and knead lightly. Toss on floured board and pat, roll lightly to 3/4 to 1 inch thick and cut as for biscuits.

Put a quarter of a raw apple in each biscuit and fold in carefully. Place in baking pan (rough side down) and pour sauce over them with is made from 2 tablespoons butter, one cup sugar, one tablespoon flour, one pint boiling water and 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until apples are done when tested with a fork.

Slow Cooker Apple Butter
What's better than delicious homemade apple butter? How about a recipe that is nearly effortless and fills the house with the scent of steaming apples and cinnamon?

Ingredients: 15 medium or ten large apples, cut into chunks; one cup brown sugar; one teaspoon cinnamon; one teaspoon vanilla extract; 1/2 teaspoon salt; 1/2 teaspoon ginger; 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg.

Directions: Mix apples, sugar and spices. Place into crockpot and cook on low for 8 hours. Puree to desired consistency using an immersion blender, food mill or food processor.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing.

TO THE EDITOR

Thanks to all who supported TCA's Golf Classic

To the Editor: Trinity Catholic Academy would like to thank everyone who helped make the 27th Annual Golf Classic with over 120 golfers, another wonderful success. Volunteers and a continued team spirit from a solid committee led by Paula Toti have been the key to the success of this event over the years, with other resolute individuals who led this effort prior to her. The volunteers who helped are too numerous to mention, but they include the eighth-grade class at TCA, teachers, parents, alumni, and friends! Please accept our sincere thanks for all that you did. We want to thank Heritage Country Club, area parishes who posted the tournament in weekly bulletins, and all who shared the information via social media to make this highly attended tournament a reality. www.facebook.com/groups/tcagolffclassics Of course, the tournament could not have been held without the vital support of: Our great Tournament Sponsors: Melissa Cournoyer, Affiliate of Academy Travel and Velo Coffee Roasters Tournament Gift Sponsor:

Golf Cart Sponsors: Advanced Concepts in Tile, Inc. Dr. Natalie Stanley, DMD & Associates Lunch Sponsor: Main Street Tire & Auto Center, Southbridge Beverage Cart Sponsors: Savers Bank, the Apple Barn Southbridge Credit Union & United Lens. Putting Contest Sponsor: Dan Aronson Banner Sponsors: Hometown Realty, Universal Tag, Aucoin Realty, Accounting 1 2 3, Brousseau Floor Covering & Ideal Pools Sponsors: Derosier Insurance, Cornerstone Bank, Aucoin Ryan Realty, Fused Fiber Optics, Judith Wild-Kordash '64, Rubens Transportation, Fused Fiber Optics, Tasty Tabs, Precision Auto Builders & the Dowling Family. The many Individual and business donations are very much appreciated: Lauria Tiberii, Klems, Mane Creations, Rejuvenis Spa, Old Sturbridge Village, Cormier's Publick House, Alice's Fitness & Dance, Hair Gallery, Kid Power Gymnastics, Unique Hair by Chrissy, Golfers Warehouse, Alicia Smith, Tasty Tabs, Helen Stansky,

Missy Hilli, Marty's of Dudley, Bob Clemence, Diane Perry '74, William & Genevieve Pioppi, Teddy G's, Yankee Spirits, YMCA, Tabitha Jewelry, Taylor Brook Brewing Company, & Thompson Liquors. Our sponsorship area continues to grow as our students hale from so many area towns! The day's festivities offers several positive comments year after year. What a perfect day of golf it was! We are sure that when they left on Saturday, they did so as goodwill ambassadors for the next TCA Tournament and the mission it supports. It's great when you can hold an event that attracts local community members, alumni, families, and friends from near and far in support of an over 150-year legacy of great academic education and comradery. Again, we want to thank all that had anything to do with the day ensuring the success of the tournament. TCA is blessed to have fine people who come forward to give of their time and financial support for the mission of Trinity Catholic Academy. Gratefully, Trinity Catholic Academy Southbridge

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

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

Failure to plan:
Is it planning
to fail?

Benjamin Franklin once said, "If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail." But as you chart your financial course, what steps should you take to help you keep moving forward to where you want to go?

Consider these suggestions:

- Establish and quantify your goals. Throughout your life, you'll have short-term goals, such as an overseas vacation or a home renovation, and long-term goals, the most important of which may be a comfortable retirement. You'll want to identify all your goals and put a "price tag" on them. Of course, it's not always possible to know exactly how much it will cost to achieve each goal, but you can develop reasonably good estimates, revising them as needed.
- Create an investment strategy to achieve your goals. Once you know how much your goals will cost, you can create the appropriate savings and investment strategies to potentially help you reach the needed amounts. For your retirement goal, you will likely need to contribute regularly to your IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But for shorter-term goals, you may need to explore other types of investments. For all your investment moves, though, you'll need to consider your risk tolerance. You won't want your portfolio to have such a high-risk level that you're constantly uncomfortable with the inevitable fluctuations of the financial markets. On the other hand, you won't want to invest so conservatively that you jeopardize your chances of achieving the growth you need to reach your goals.
- Control your debts. We live in an expensive world, so it's not easy to live debt-free. And some debts, such as your mortgage, obviously have value. But if you can control other debts, especially those that carry high interest rates, you can possibly free up money you can use to boost your savings and investments.
- Prepare for obstacles. No matter how carefully you follow the strategies you've created to achieve your goals, you will, sooner or later, run into obstacles, or at least temporary challenges. What if you incur a large, unexpected expense, such as the sudden need for a new car or a major home repair? If you aren't prepared for these costs, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments – and every time you do that, you might slow your progress toward achieving your goals. To help prevent this, you should build an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses.
- Review your strategy. When you first created your financial strategy, you might have planned to retire at a certain age. But what if you eventually decide to retire earlier or later? Such a choice can have a big impact on what you need from your investment portfolio — and when. And your circumstances may change in other ways, too. That's why it's a good idea to review your strategy periodically to make sure it still aligns with your up-to-date objectives.

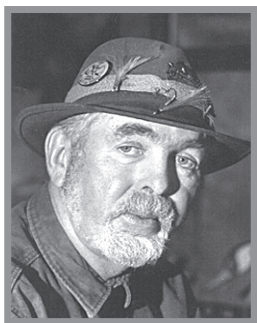
None of us can guarantee that our carefully laid plans will always yield the results we want. But by taking the right steps at the right times, you can greatly improve your chances.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com.



FINANCIAL
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Time for tautog



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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RALPH
TRUE

Fishing was great on all fronts this past week. Matt Fontaine and this writer fished for tautog this past Wednesday in Rhode Island, and had little trouble catching our limit of three fish each, along with some impressive seabass. The parking lot was full of boats and trailers again when we arrived, but they all vanished when we got to our fishing spot. They were obviously chasing Albies and stripers, so we had the whole area to ourselves. We later found out that the stripper fishing was red hot in front of Newport, and Albies were in front



Courtesy
(Left) This week's picture shows Matt Fontaine of Uxbridge with a couple of nice tautog we caught last week in Rhode Island. of Carpenters Beach.

Fortunately, Matt & I love catching bottom fish like Tautog and seabass, and this week's picture shows the results. They are excellent eating fish, and also provide us with some great fishing. Using light fishing rods, these hard fighting fish are fun to catch while using green crabs for bait. I always cut the crabs in half, and also remove the legs of the crab before placing them on a #3 circle hook. I seemed to be doing OK last week, until my fishing buddy Matt was catching all the big tautog.

He said that he was leaving the legs on the crabs after cutting them in half; I decided to give it a try. As soon as I hit bottom with the bait, I felt a sharp hit, and I found myself battling a large tautog. Bringing the fish to the surface took a while, and I was enjoying every minute. Matt quickly grabbed the net and scooped up the impressive fish. Just a simple change in presenting the bait made the difference, and it makes sense. Seabass were also hitting the crabs, and although we caught many of them, we came up two short of our limit. Fishing for these two species is only going to get better in the next two or three weeks. If you have a youngster that you want to get hooked on fishing, now is the time to go, but you need to use a boat to get to the fishing grounds, that is only half a mile off shore.

Bird hunters are getting their gear and dogs ready for the upcoming pheasant season, which opens on Oct. 15, statewide for the first year. A reminder that anyone hunting pheasant in Mass. need to acquire a pheasant stamp, at a cost of \$10, along with a 2022 hunting license. Numerous youth pheasant hunting opportunities are available this year. Check them out in the 2022 abstracts. The daily bag limits for pheasant hunters are two birds, but new this year, there is no limit on annual pheasant bag limits.

Waterfowl season in Mass. opens on Oct. 10 this year, with a six-bird daily bag limit. The recent heavy rain should make hunting local streams and rivers, a lot better, as most areas had dried up due to the lack of rain this year. Hunting rivers and streams from a boat or Kayak, should provide some great shooting opportunities for duck hunters this year. Geese also open on Oct. 10, and with most corn fields cut, hunting should provide plenty of action, even though there numbers have dropped off significantly. Migrating geese should change all of that, as they stop off in cornfields to feed and rest a day or two before moving on during their annual migration. Note: A state and federal waterfowl stamp is needed to hunt ducks and geese, and non-toxic shot is also required. Your firearm cannot hold more than three shells total!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Harvesting red and green tomatoes



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Nothing beats the flavor of fresh-from-the-garden tomatoes. Harvesting when they are fully ripe ensures the best flavor for eating fresh, cooking, and preserving.

Visit your garden often and watch for the fruit to turn from green to fully colored. Then leave them on the plant for five to eight days. Vine-ripened tomatoes have the best flavor for using fresh or preserving.

Check plants regularly and keep harvesting, so the plants continue to produce. This also reduces problems with insects and disease organisms attacking overripe or rotting fruit. Store mature, fully colored tomatoes in cool, 45-to-50-degree conditions with high humidity. They will last about seven to 14 days in these conditions.

When growing indeterminate tomatoes, you will notice the plants keep growing and producing more flowers and fruit until the frost kills the plant. Redirect the plant's energy from sprouting new blossoms and fruit to ripening the fruit that is already on the plant. Prune off the stem tip of indeterminate tomatoes about a month before the average first fall frost in your area. This allows the existing flowers to develop into fruit and the existing fruit to mature before the end of the growing season.

Extend the harvest season with the help of floating row covers. These fabrics allow air, light, and water through, but trap heat around the plants. Protecting plants from the first few fall frosts often provides time for more tomatoes to ripen.

Sometimes you cannot protect plants from frost or hungry critters prevent you from leaving the tomatoes on the plant to fully ripen. You can pick any tomatoes that are starting to show color before the killing frost and finish ripening them indoors. The blossom end should be greenish white or starting to color up. Use blemished and cracked fruit right away since these do not store well.

Store green and under-ripe tomatoes in a cool 60-to-65-degree location to maximize their storage life. Set the tomatoes on heavy paper spread apart so they are not touching. Or wrap them individually in newspaper so the fruit do not make direct contact. This helps prevent rot spreading from one fruit to the next.

These tomatoes will ripen over the next few weeks. You can speed up the process by moving a few tomatoes to a bright, warm location a few days before they are needed.

Extend the tomato season next year by growing a Long Keeper. The flavor is not as good as vine-ripened fruit, but you can pick these before the first fall frost and enjoy garden tomatoes for up to three months.

And don't let the rest of the green tomatoes go to waste. Use them for frying, chow chow, green salsa, and other tasty treats.

Keep harvesting and enjoying your garden-fresh tomatoes as long as your growing season allows. Then make space to store them a few weeks after the first fall frost.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardeners 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 TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Melinda Myers

'Tye Dye' tomato in the garden with red and green tomatoes to harvest.

Learning to lead

Lately, I have been trying to read more. I bought a book I have been told to read many times, but I have never been interested enough till now. Reading it has caused me to have significant reflections on the last few years.

Do you have a dream you want to accomplish? Does it seem too big? Does it seem like maybe if you tried to accomplish it, you would be biting off more than you can chew?

It would be wise for you to examine the conditions before you commit. Look at the market you are trying to enter, give yourself and your abilities an honest assessment, read the necessary materials, and listen to the experts. These will serve as your roadmap that you can navigate to success should you decide to commit.

I never thought the dream I was trying to accomplish was too big, but I heard from my business partner that my dad confessed to him early on that he thought what we were trying to accomplish may not be possible!

One of the chapters in the book discusses that to navigate successfully to your dream, you will need to find a balance between faith with facts! Some people have their heads up in the clouds so high that they never bother to look at the facts. It is essential to assess the situation and strike a balance. Also, you do not want to be so fact-oriented that you cannot dream and have faith, but knowing the facts of the situation will keep you

POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY
MOORE

grounded and let you know if you need to scale it back.

Once you find the balance between faith and facts and decide to keep moving forward, it is important to realize something. It was the biggest realization I have had in a long time; a reality check.

For the last few years, I have worked with a team of people who are all experts in their field to accomplish a big vision. I believe in the dream and what we are doing; I have balanced the faith with the facts, and I was naive enough to think that is all I needed: a great team and a grand vision.

I learned something while reading this book that I should have known, and maybe subconsciously, always have known. Just because you have an excellent vision for the future, a great team, have balanced faith with facts, and are willing to work hard to make your dream a reality does not mean you will get there.

The book I am talking about is "The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership" by John C Maxwell.

In it, I discovered something quite profound. No matter how positive you are, how beautiful your vision is, or how hard of a worker

you are. You will never rise higher than your leadership ability.

If your vision is a 10, but your leadership is only a 5, you will only accomplish half of your vision. Wow! If you have a big dream, you would like to accomplish, that should send shivers down your spine.

It is not the size of the vision and the execution of it that will ensure success. It is not your work ethic; it is not your positive attitude. All of these are essential, and combined, these qualities will take you a long way, but one of the determining factors in how far you can advance your vision is your ability to lead!

According to Maxwell, your success will never surpass your leadership ability. Your leadership level is the cap on how high you can take your vision.

That made me nervous to read that; I have never thought of myself as much of a leader.

The book was worrisome in many ways but also provided strong reassurance.

Maxwell says, "Champions don't become champions in the ring- they are merely recognized there... if you want to see where someone develops into a champion, look at their daily routine."

In the same way that investing in the stock market will not make you instantly rich, you can never become a leader in a day. It only happens through consistency, regular learning, practice, and focus. You can learn to lead!

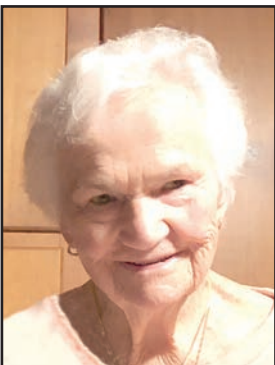
OBITUARIES

Barbara A. Dargie, 94

Southbridge: Barbara A. (Lavallee) Dargie, 94, of Crestview Dr., passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 20th, in her home after a brief illness. Barbara was born in Worcester the daughter of Ladislaus G. and Anna Ellena (Heffernan) Lavallee.

Her husband, Robert E. Dargie, passed away in 1995. She leaves her daughter and caregiver Patricia A. Dargie of Southbridge; two sons, Michael R. Dargie and his wife Denise of Southbridge and Peter J. Dargie, MD and his wife Michele of Hermon, NY, her seven grandchildren; Hilary McCarthy, Christopher Dargie, Nathan Dargie, Ann Gladd, Elisabeth Himes, Robert Dargie and Amanda Dargie; and 9 great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her brother, Robert G. Lavallee.

Barbara graduated from Forsyth School of Dental Hygiene, Boston in 1947. She worked as a dental hygienist for Dr. Ernest Borsari, Dr. Thomas Boccia and for the Town of Southbridge Board of Health. Barbara



was a member of St. Mary's Parish (now St. John Paul II Parish) in Southbridge and after retirement she volunteered as the parish's Coordinator of Christian Medical Services. She was a member of the Harrington Hospital Auxiliary and a member of the Southbridge Women's Club. Barbara was an avid golf enthusiast and was a past president of the Heritage Country Club, Ladies League. Her whole life was dedicated to her family and especially loved gatherings with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A funeral Mass for Barbara was held on Saturday, Sept. 24th, at 10:00am in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 263 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial followed in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. There are no calling hours.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

REUNION

continued from page A1

held with proceeds going to Trinity Catholic Academy.

Memorabilia tables lined the walls as attendees reflected and remembered days gone by.

The committee and attendees would like to thank Margaret Trahan Farrand (Notre Dame High School, '62) the facility manager of La Salle; Hearthstone Market Catering, owned and run by Lenny Petrillo (St. Mary's Grammar School alum); DJ, Mark Genereux (Notre Dame Grammar School alum); as well as Photos by Coral; and the teachers, students, and alums of Trinity Catholic Academy, who participated. Their kindness, generosity, and conscientious work is appreciated.

Special thanks to Fr. Carlos of St. John Paul II Parish and Fr. Luc Martel - Notre Dame High School, '62 for offering the blessings before dinner and Mrs. Angela Symock, TCA Principal for sharing her vision for Trinity Catholic Academy going forward.

We couldn't have done it without our reunion sponsors: Thomas Palmerino - Marianhill '74; Gerry Proulx Marianhill '71; and Trinity Catholic Academy. Entertainment sponsor was St. Mary's High School, Class of '64 and beverage sponsor was Dennis Ravenelle -Marianhill '70. Appetizer and dessert sponsors were Jeanne Perry-

Lynskey and Judy LeBlanc Laroche both Marianhill'76, Barbara Kudzol Gentry - Marianhill,'69, and Paul Berry, owner of Paul's Automotive, who attended Notre Dame and St. Joan of Arc grammar schools. Additional thanks to local businesses for their support especially Globe Sign Company, Universal Tag - Paul Mandeville, a student at Notre Dame Grammar School, and Southbridge Rent-A-Center.

The event's amazing committee spanned the U.S. Ninety percent of the event was planned via zoom meetings! Committee members included alumni from St. Mary's High School - Paul Moriarty '63, Judith Wild Kordash'64, Bill & Doreen Sacramone'65. Marianhill was also represented on the committee; Louise Perry'69, Nancy Germaine Coderre '70, Gerry Proulx '71, Rita Blais '72, Paulette Proulx Fontaine '72, Mary Berry Perry '72, Cathy Gravel Fournier '74, Diane Proulx-Perry '74, Trish Bombardier Bourassa '75, Sue Forcier Paradis '7), Diana Ravenelle DiBello '82, and Suzanne Beaudry Adams '85.

Reaching out to alumni was done though local press releases, social media, church bulletins, radio announcements, posters, flyers, and personal notes from class ambassadors when addresses were available.

Photos by Coral captured the memories at this event. Photos can be found at photosbycoral.smug-mug.com.

BATHSHEBA

continued from page A1

Worcester, near where Union Station now stands. The subsequent autopsy proved she was right, but Noone said he suspects the government mostly wanted to be done with this case and her notoriety. Curiously, he added, the issues surrounding Bathsheba's execution may have later prevented that of another famous female killer, Lizzie Borden.

Noone said he was drawn to the story after hearing the rumor Bathsheba and her unborn son were buried across the street from his home near Green Hill Park, Worcester. In fact, he said,

MASON OFFICERS

continued from page A1

industrial giants with successful businesses. A couple still in town thriving today. These are family-oriented men that had a vision of what men can be and could become. Many of these prominent citizens during that time frame had made Southbridge what it is today. Our

Wales Community Pantry needs your help



WALES — The Wales Community Pantry serves residents of Brimfield, Holland and Wales and we need your help!

The number of households the Pantry services is growing every week. We help to supplement food budgets and address the nutritional challenges faced by nearly 300 individuals a month. Folks are trying to juggle the increasing costs of food, fuel, medicine, and housing to name a few. We not only help our walk-in families we also deliver to the elderly, disabled, and ill, house-bound families. Our main goal is to address food insecurity in our community.

We are facing an immediate need to raise \$30,000 to provide continued support to all the families we

are serving through January of the new year. With the winter season and holidays approaching, we are facing our time of greatest need.

In order to provide Nonperishable food items, Meat and Fish, Dairy products, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables we need your help.

Our campaign on Go Fund Me is: Give Some, Feed Many. Any amount proves the power of neighbors helping neighbors. You may access our donate button on our New Facebook page: Wales Community Pantry, through our website www.walescommunitypantry.com or mail a check to Wales Community Pantry, 85 Main St., P.O. Box 337 Wales, MA 01081.

We are grateful to all our neighbors helping neighbors.

Coast Guard offers boating safety & certification courses

REGION — The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Tri-State Flotilla, Massachusetts will be instructing three upcoming boating safety classes in November. They are scheduled as "in-person" unless further Covid restrictions move them to the Zoom video conference platform.

Boat America Course - for Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut certification

This is a one-day course developed to provide the skills and confidence needed to explore the coast and inland waters by boat. Basic knowledge and skills are needed to have safe and enjoyable boating experiences. This course is perfect for families that have just purchased any type of boat or are planning to in the future, and for the boater keeping up with changes to boating regulations and laws. Successful completion of the course will certify any minor, from 12 to 16 years of age, to operate a powerboat, including a Personal Water Craft / Jet Ski (for 16 & 17-year-old operators), on all Massachusetts waters; in conjunction with the Mass. Environmental Police. Adults completing the course will get a Mass. certification that may be required in the future. Approved by NASBLA it will also cover the requirements to operate a vessel in most other states & many countries where boating safety education is mandatory including Rhode Island and Connecticut.

Most boating insurance companies offer a discount on premiums for successful completion of this course. The Boat America course is limited to 20 students.

Two Saturday courses offered:

Nov. 5 at Milford High School 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Nov. 12 at Webster Fire Department 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Suddenly in Command Course - For anyone out on the water

Imagine you are out on the water when the boat's captain somehow is incapacitated or falls overboard and cannot swim back to the boat. Are you prepared to take basic actions to get help, stop or start the engine and take the helm? A little knowledge could save lives and make you feel more comfortable boating when you are not generally at the helm. Misfortunes can and do happen while on that fishing, diving, adventure, or party charter. Being out on your own boat with that significant other at the helm, or going out on a friends' pontoon boat, or as a personal watercraft passenger can also turn to horror if the skipper is suddenly out of commission. This is a boating safety primer for those not generally at the helm but would like to know what to do, to be better prepared.

Nov. 16 at Milford High School 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Milford High School courses offered at 31 West Fountain St., Milford.

Registration is managed through the Milford Community School Use Program, Adult-Boating, at <http://mcs.milford.ma.us> or Laura Farrell (508) 478-1119; keeping in mind that availability is limited and you may receive course materials prior, if given on Zoom. There is a \$75 fee for the Boat America Certification course (registration deadline is Nov. 5), and a \$10 fee for the Suddenly in Command course (registration deadline is Nov. 15) covering hand-out materials etc. Participants under the age of 16 must be accompanied in person, or online by a registered parent/guardian.

For additional USCGAux. information: phil.uscgaux@verizon.net or (508) 478-3778.

The Webster Fire Department Classroom is located at 55 Thompson Rd., Webster.

Additional USCGAux. information and Registration is managed by Public Education Officer Phil Kubat phil.uscgaux@verizon.net or (508) 478-3778. The Boat America course fee for materials etc. in Webster is \$50 keeping in mind that availability is limited and you may receive course materials prior, if given on Zoom (registration deadline is Nov. 5). Participants under the age of 16 must be accompanied in person, or online by a registered parent/guardian.



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SPORTS

Wild fourth quarter sees Wolverines hang on to defeat Tantasqua



Tantasqua quarterback Adam Howe delivers a pass up and over the reach of Leicester defender Andrew Boisvert.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

STURBRIDGE — The Reservation was packed on Friday night, Sept. 23, and those in attendance that watched the Tantasqua Regional varsity football team host Leicester High saw a dramatic fourth quarter play out.

The Wolverines held a 7-6 halftime lead and that lead held as play moved to the fourth quarter. In that final 12 minutes — the first four minutes, to be precise — both teams scored a pair of touchdowns as Leicester held on for a 21-19 victory.

The Wolverines were 0-2 to start the season, so this victory was paramount for the team's morale.

"We feel like we've been in games, but our turnovers have just sucked the life out of us," said Leicester head coach Tim Griffiths, of which the Wolverines have accumulated 16 in the three games. "Practices have still been upbeat... but you can see the frustration on all of us."

"I can't even express the toughness of giving up a couple of quick touchdowns and coming right back," added Griffiths. "The one thing that's been constant from Day One in our scrimmages is the front five."

The five offensive linemen Griffiths spoke of were Matt Drenzo at center, Anthony Saksa and Justin Long on the right side, and Miguel Mackenzie Andrew Boisvert on the left.

"We've been moving the ball against everybody, so we've been relying on them," said Griffiths.

The offensive line helped Leicester backs Griffin Metcalf and Mitchel Giggey go to work, especially in the second half. Of the Wolverines' 25 offensive snaps over the final two quarters, Metcalf and Giggey combined for 21 carries and 155 yards. Metcalf scored Leicester's two fourth quarter touchdowns — from 5 and



Nick Ethier

Tantasqua's Liam Hubacz hauls in a beautiful touchdown reception.

22 yards out — while Giggey found pay dirt from 34 yards away in the opening quarter.

"Our seniors are supposed to lead us, and Griffin and Mitchel did that. They had their ups and downs in the first couple weeks, but they did what they're supposed to do tonight," said Griffiths.

"I was seeing the field well and the linemen really stepped up today," added Metcalf. "Me and Mitch, we knew we were going to run the ball down their throat all game, so we stepped up."

Metcalf's first touchdown came on the first snap of the fourth quarter, and Mason Griffiths booted his second of three successful PAT's to give the Wolverines a 14-6 lead. Tantasqua then countered with a touchdown a minute later, quarterback Adam Howe hitting Liam Hubacz on a 67-yard pass to cut the deficit down to 14-12.

Moments later, Leicester extended its lead to 21-12 following Metcalf's second touchdown, but the Warriors responded when Howe (13 for 28, 287 yards, 3 TD's) connected with Derek Plowman (5 receptions, 148 yards) on a 58-yard scoring strike. Luke Marvin's extra point kick made the score 21-19 with 8:26 to play.



Nick Ethier

Abner Colon Martinez of Tantasqua braces for impact from Leicester's defense while carrying the ball.



Nick Ethier

Leicester defender Griffin Metcalf tackles Tantasqua ball carrier Abner Colon Martinez.



Nick Ethier

Leicester defender Alex Russo gets good positioning on Tantasqua receiver Liam Hubacz and breaks up the pass.

But the scoring ended there, and the Wolverines held on.

"We really needed that one," said Metcalf. "We played a tough South team and a tough Northbridge team, and turnovers have been killing us lately, but we stepped up today, held onto the ball and made it happen."

Tantasqua dropped to 1-2.

"They physically beat us up. They out-coached us, outplayed us. They destroyed us on the offensive and defensive line," said head coach Nate Orzech.

The Warriors' first half touchdown came in the second quarter, Hubacz catching his first touchdown from 21



Nick Ethier

Hunter Senior of Leicester goes up and over Tantasqua defender Luke Boisvert to catch a pass.

yards out. Hubacz's two touchdowns — and two receptions totaled 88 yards.

SPORTS CONTINUED page A13

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SPORTS

With limited offensive production, Shepherd Hill can only tie Hudson

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

DUDLEY — After a 1-1 tie with Hudson High on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at Carmignani Field, Shepherd Hill Regional boys' varsity soccer head coach Tim Cormier didn't mince words when expressing how he felt about the Rams' outcome.

"They [Hudson] haven't had that good of a year, they're not a very high-pressure team and they're not very organized. It feels like a loss," said Cormier.

Shepherd Hill scored in the game's opening moments, which was nice to see. But from there, the Rams were unable to remain on the attack and double the lead — which would have essentially put the game away.

"We got lucky on the corner goal and you've got to take advantage of having control of the game," expressed Cormier.

On the goal, Mike Sobocinski inserted a corner kick toward the Hawks' net. From there, chaos ensued.

"Sobocinski took the corner kick and the defender tried to clear it, it went under him, and it popped up and hit the goalie and went right in. None of our players touched it," said Cormier of the score that in professional soccer would have went down as an own goal.

Shepherd Hill's uninspired play from there carried over into the second half, where Hudson increased its offensive attack.

"We were begging to give it away. I don't have a lot of faith in that squad that we played. We've got to work the ball and possess it," said Cormier. "We lose it in the offensive third. We lose that possession-minded play. That's not how we try to play. The opportunities come when you keep the ball."

The Hawks eventually tied the score



Nick Ethier

Shepherd Hill's Dan Gronek shields Hudson's Ivan O'Neill while gaining possession of the ball.

in the 62nd minute when John Kuhn was dragged down in the box by a pair of Ram defenders. Cormier called the play a "clear penalty."

From there, Hudson's Davi Nunes took the penalty kick. He aimed his shot toward the right corner of the goal, but Shepherd Hill keeper Ryan Davis dove to his left to make the save. But the ball bounced right back to Nunes, who deposited his rebound attempt into the open net.

"He's unbelievable. He's been a top goalie in the area for a couple of years," Cormier said of Davis and his ability to make the initial stop. "The bounce went right to the [Hudson] player. Everyone else is six yards further away, so we're not going to win that race."

The final 18 minutes didn't provide much offense for either team, as the Rams are now 2-2-1, while Hudson is 1-3-1.



Nick Ethier

Shawn Maple of Shepherd Hill goes left to kick the ball out of his team's defensive end.



Nick Ethier

Shepherd Hill's Mike Sobocinski looks down the field and sends a long ball toward Hudson's goal.

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call 508-885-7515 or on the Town website www.spencerma.gov
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The Town of Auburn Department of Public Works is accepting applications for snow plowing for the 2022 - 2023 winter season.
Applications may be obtained at the Department of Public Works – Highway Division,
5 Millbury Street, Auburn, MA 01501,
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.. Applications are also available on the Town of Auburn website www.auburnguide.com.
Applications must be returned to the Department of Public Works.
The Town of Auburn reserves the right to waive any informalities and accept or reject any or all applications, or portions of such, if thought to be in the best interest of the Town.

Kenneth Fairbanks
Highway Superintendent

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Brimfield celebrates fall season with Harvest Festival



Kevin Flanders Ashley Hayward, of Brimfield, spends the day with her 8-year-old daughter Summer. Musical entertainment was provided throughout the day. Kevin Flanders



Kevin Flanders Kevin Flanders Author Shawn Boyle, of Sterling, joins Leicester's Clare Dillon in greeting readers. Brimfield Auction Acres. With more space and parking at its new location, the fair drew one of its largest attendances to date. Guests enjoyed a range of activities and offerings, and they took advantage of opportunities to get some early holiday shopping done. The Brimfield Community Partnership is thanked for hosting the event each year. Kevin Flanders Robin and Steven Fedor represent Cub Scout Pack 7, of Brimfield. Kevin Flanders (Right) Daris Arguelles, of Sturbridge, and her 6-year-old son Cooper get ready for a fun autumn day. Kevin Flanders

Fall brings apples, cider, harvest and folk music events to center stage at OSV



STURBRIDGE — Fall is a busy and bustling time at Old Sturbridge Village (OSV), with weekend events taking place Sept. 24 through the end of October. The events shed light on the autumn activities of the past and of today, including a Folk Music and Celebration of Cider event, Apple Weekend, and Harvest Weekends taking place throughout October.

Guests can kick off the fall season with a Folk Music and Celebration of Cider event, taking place on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. While enjoying the sights and sounds of the Village, visitors can settle in for live folk and Americana performances from local bands including Fox and the Dragon, The Meadows Brothers, On the Trail, Drown Your Boots, Local Freight, Laura Lee Imhoff, Evan Couture, and The Midnight Anthem (subject to change).

Several participating cideries will be serving up hard cider, while costumed historians from Old Sturbridge Village educate visitors about the history of cidermaking and demonstrate its production. While hard cider will only be available to those 21 and over, this is an all-ages event.

Also taking place Saturday, Sept. 24 and into Sunday, Sept. 25, is Apple Weekend at Old Sturbridge Village. New England's fall staple is the apple, which is put front and center as guests taste antique apples, tour the heirloom apple orchards, watch an ox-powered cider mill in action, and see how apples were used in cooking in the household. The event is included with standard daytime admission to the Village or membership and takes place during normal operating hours.

In October, weekends at OSV will celebrate the harvest as farmers and households busy themselves with the tasks of the season, including apple picking, bringing in the harvest, preparing the fields for winter, and preserving the gardens. The month will begin by Kicking Off The Harvest on Oct. 1 & 2, with hands-on harvesting, picking and preservation activities. October 8, 9 & 10 brings Agriculture Fair Weekend, which recreates a 19th-century Cattle Show and Exhibition of Domestic Manufacture. Finally, the month ends by Celebrating the Harvest on Oct. 22 & 23, as gardeners pull the last crops from the ground and preserve the vegetables or cook them up for enjoyment. Harvest weekends are included with Standard Daytime Admission to the Village or Village membership.

The public can participate in the fall fun from afar by entering this year's Virtual Home Gardener's Exhibit. Entries can be anything grown in the 2022 season – vegetables, flowers, herbs, and more, and don't have to be of heirloom variety. They must be grown by the exhibitor, arranged and photographed and will be posted online by the weekend of Oct. 22 & 23. Tips for arranging an award-winning entry can be found on the OSV website. Submissions are due by Oct. 11 and winners will be awarded in a variety of categories, as judged by a panel of expert horticulturalists.

Throughout the fall, the newly opened Ox & Yoke Mercantile will be offering locally produced, specialty foodstuffs for sale, including cider vinegar, cider syrup, apple butter, and more. See the full fall lineup at: <https://www.osv.org/fall-2022-at-the-village/>.

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