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Friday, December 2, 2022

Upcoming holiday events in the Blackstone Valley

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT



REGION — Celebrate the holidays in the Blackstone Valley with several upcoming events.

Starting this weekend, the following events are taking place:

The Douglas Historical Society will host photos with Santa tomorrow, Dec. 3, from 1-5 p.m., according to the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor.

Hopedale is holding its 11th annual Downtown Winter Stroll tomorrow, Dec. 3, from noon to 7 p.m. in downtown Hopedale.

“The stroll takes place at many stops along Hopedale Street and Dutcher Street, including many historic buildings such as the Draper Gym, Hopedale Community House, Bancroft Memorial Library, Hopedale Unitarian Church, Union Evangelical Church, and the Little Red Shop Museum,” event information reads. “Multiple vendor locations will showcase work from local vintage vendors, hand makers, artisans, food vendors, and mobile shops.”

According to reports, many downtown businesses take part in the event with special offers for customers and refreshments.

“Past years have included performers setup along the route, like live music at the park, costumed characters, outdoor movies, and carolers roaming the route while our guests stroll,” according to Winter Stroll event information. “All of this ending in the long-standing and popular town tradition of the tree lighting and Santa visit at the Hopedale Community House.”

Sutton’s Chain of Lights will also take place tomorrow, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

“Join the businesses, churches, and organizations

Turn To **EVENTS** page **A11**

Douglas police welcome visiting Boy Scouts

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — The police station recently welcomed some special visitors as Boy Scout Troop 316 stopped by for a tour.

“They were such a well-behaved group that asked great questions,” the Douglas Police Department released in a statement on its social media page. “We would happily welcome them back anytime...thanks for stopping by Troop 316.”

Police said that members of the Boy Scout troop, as well as siblings, were given a tour by Officers Brett Fulone and Adam Wright.

“They started their tour in the training room where they learned a little about the history of the police department and the different tasks police officers perform on a daily basis,” police said.

Here, the visitors were also introduced to the ballistic shield, police said, which some had the option of holding. Comfort Dog Finn also joined in on the tour, according to reports.

“The tour made its way to the Communications Center where Dispatcher [Brandon] Auger gave a presentation on the job of a dispatcher and what happens when you call 911,” police said. “They even got to hear the actual 911 phone ring.”

From there, the booking room was next on the list where the process



of prisoner intake was explained, according to police.

“The group was able to check out the prisoner cells and a few curious ones wanted to see what it would be like handcuffed to the concrete bench,” police shared.

After that, the group had a cruiser tour where they got to climb through the back seat and experience “how uncomfortable the hard plastic seats are,” police added.

“They saw a cruiser with all the emergency lights activated and were

shown items in the trunk of the cruiser such as the medical bag and tactical vest.”

The tour ended back in the training room, according to reports, where the group was given a few goodies to take home with them.

Milford Regional’s Melange Gala raises unprecedented \$1.1 million

MILFORD — Milford Regional Medical Center’s Melange 2022 Gala and Live Auction – “A Lifeline to Our Future” — raised a record-breaking \$1.1 million this year. The Nov. 5 fundraiser returned to an in-person occasion and took place at the Willows in Medway. The event was sponsored by Salmon Health & Retirement and attended by more than 400 Milford area businesses and community leaders, sponsors, friends and supporters of

the hospital.

Since 2005, the Melange Gala has been raising funds for the most crucial needs of the hospital. This year’s much anticipated in-person benefit was chaired by Anthony and Susan Consigli.

“It was truly amazing for Susan and I to experience the community coming together to support Milford Regional in a such a big way,” said Anthony Consigli.

“Raising a record-breaking \$1.1 million is a testament to our community’s collective generosity and dedication to our community hospital, which continues to play such a vital role in the lives of so many.”

The live auction portion of the evening was hosted by celebrity auctioneer Paul Zekos of The Zekos Group and included a number of high-ticket bid items such as an eight-day stay

in the Tuscan countryside, a two-night stay in Nashville with tickets to the Country Music Awards, a five-night stay in Kildare Ireland and four hours of flight time for 14 individuals on a private jet.

Pledges were also accepted to support the creation of a Congestive Heart Failure program at Milford Regional during the “Fund-a-Need” portion of the auction. CHF affects approximately

six million Americans and is one of the most common reasons people age 65 and older go into the hospital, according to the American Heart Association. Heart fail-

Turn To **GALA** page **A11**

Superintendent focus groups, library seeking survey participants

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

UXBRIDGE — The town is seeking community involvement regarding “Superintendent Profile” focus groups, as well as a survey that will “help shape the future” of the library.

This week, several focus groups were held as the School Committee works to develop a Superintendent Profile to assist in hiring the district’s next Superintendent of Schools. According to information released by the town, the focus groups were held to assist in the process; the Committee has engaged NESDEC, a consulting firm, to collect parent and community feedback, and so far, focus groups have been held on November 28 and November 30, the town

released.

Capacity was limited at the individual meetings this week, but the town said that additional meetings may be added to accommodate the number of participants interested. Residents who would like to participate “in this very important piece of the search process,” the town released, have been asked to reach out to Matthew Keane at mkeane@uxbridge.k12.ma.us or Christine Pezzullo at cpezzullo@uxbridge.k12.ma.us.

“Additionally, a survey soliciting similar information will be sent beginning Dec. 1,” the town released in a statement on its website.

In other town news, the Uxbridge Free Public Library is seeking participants in a survey. The library is developing a “Building Program” that will “evaluate the

evolving needs of library patrons and local residents,” according to the library.

“This report will articulate the Library’s vision of its future by honing in on current building space needs and projecting how these needs will change over the next 20-30 years,” the library released. “Your input is essential as we plan for the future.”

The survey has been described as “comprehensive” and will take about 10-15 minutes to complete, according to reports.

“The Library Trustees are asking residents and library patrons to help shape the future of the Library and its services,” the town released.

To access the survey, visit uxbridge-ma.gov. The survey is also available on the library’s Web site at uxbridgelibrary.org.



Courtesy
Former Milford Regional Medical Center Board Chair and current partner at Mirick O’Connell Robert Kilroy and wife Deborah with Milford Regional Medical Center Trustee Beverly Swymer and husband George and former Milford Regional Trustee and WGB Construction President Gregory Burrill and wife Elsie.

Working together for Uxbridge seniors

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Senior Center wishes to thank all the volunteers, contributors and donors who helped make the 2022 Thanksgiving Meal Distribution Project a success. The Senior Center packaged and delivered more than 270 turkey dinners to seniors throughout the Town of Uxbridge on Monday, Nov. 21. This year, the senior center collaborated with the Mendon Street Kitchen in Uxbridge to cook the luncheon. The Town is truly blessed to have so many people who care for each other. It is with many hands that we accomplish so much. What a wonderful way for the community to come together for a great cause.

We especially want to thank our major contributors/donors that helped make this project financially feasible- Fallon Health, Hannaford's, Savers Bank, Table Talk Pies, the Mendon Street Kitchen and Unibank. The Senior Center also wants to acknowledge all of our volunteers, too many to name. (Some are pictured here) Thank you to the Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild who contributed their time and talents to make special table mats for some of our seniors. We especially want to thank State Rep. Mike Soter who helped package the food at the Center. Thank you for allowing the Senior Center to be a part of this endeavor. Our seniors thank you!

The Uxbridge Senior Center is located at 36 South Main Street. For a current newsletter and to get more information on our services, please contact the Center by calling 508-278-8622.



Courtesy

Pictured above from left to right: Millie DeLeonardis, Pat Ordway, Vin Demanche, Kathy Genoa, Deb Where, Lisa Bernard, Linda Roberts, Susan Taft, Marianne Shanley, Cecile Gaigals, Bob Risio, Karen Green, Sylvia Habe, and Sally Selvidge

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December 24th – 10 pm
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December 25th – Christmas Day
Prayer Service 10:15 am

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S.C.E. REAL ESTATE’S SANDRA CONSIDINE GOES BEYOND
THE BROKERAGE IN DOWNTOWN DOUGLAS



BY SANDRA CONSIDINE
S.C.E. REAL ESTATE
DOUGLAS

DOUGLAS — Starting from scratch would have been much easier.

When you're married to a general contractor, you get used to the swirling and dusty chaos that is the demolition stage. It's labor intensive, for sure. And HGTV has us all fooled into thinking that it only takes a few minutes and a commercial break or two to get the job done.

Renovation on the other hand – it takes focus, foresight and a great deal of patience. It's one thing to tear a building down. But to honor the integrity of a classic space in a community while celebrating its potential from the inside out? That takes a strong vision.

That's what my husband and I shared when we bought 295 Main Street in October 2020, with the intention to make it the home office for my growing brokerage, S.C.E. Real Estate.

Because, when you come across a building that perfectly encapsulates the history of a town you've raised both your family and your business in, you wouldn't dare tear it down.

As renovations began in August 2021, my family and I began the (very) slow and intentional practice giving our new building a lift – honoring the space that it was and ushering it into its new purpose.

It's not as easy as starting over. And it's not the path many new building owners would take. But, when I set out on this journey, my mission wasn't to take the easiest route. It was to take the most meaningful one.

That journey began long before we ever signed contracts or picked paint swatches.

Dignity and Depth in the Details
I've always had a keen eye for the details.

What's more, I wanted my business to be something my family would be proud of. As a working mother, I felt it deeply important to include my love for my family as a value in S.C.E. Real Estate. So, I snuck the initials of my two daughters ("C" for Caroline and "E" for Evelyn) into the very name of my business.

We took the same level of depth and care when it came to weaving together the vibe of our space. When the new home of S.C.E. Real Estate opens in November 2022, you'll be greeted by a light & airy aesthetic. We're aiming for a sort of history meets modern look. Simple. Clean. Inviting. Anything but stuffy. Above all else, we want it to be a space where people feel comfortable, and at home.

We want our agents to feel inspired and proud of what they do. Moreover, we want our clientele to feel welcome. Here, it's our aim to serve people from all walks of life – from the first-time homebuyers to the soon-to-be-retirees looking to downsize. Everyone will receive the same level of high-level attentiveness and deep care. It's just how things should be done.

S.C.E. Real Estate will also be a place where my own daughters will visit. They'll pour over their math homework or work on an art project at the end of their school day.

We're a family, and we're here to serve yours, too.

It's Not Just Business. It's Personal.

If how we do one thing is how we do everything, then it follows that taking the purposeful, intentional steps of building the business of S.C.E. Real Estate itself should divert from the traditional industry standards.

And it does.

Too often, we've come across the conventional character traits in the general realm of real estate: power hungry, competitive, self-serving, to name a few. That couldn't be in more opposition to the brokerage we've established. Just like with our space, S.C.E. Real Estate was designed to foster community among our agents and our clients alike.

We're a brokerage who supports each other. We'll cheer on the sidelines at our kid's soccer games. We'll support each other's open houses. We'll create a kind and caring atmosphere for those new to the real estate industry, and create opportunities for us to learn from each other along the way.

Because, at the end of the day, we're building so much more than a brokerage. We're building a legacy.

We're taking the road less traveled by, and I truly believe it will make all the difference.

I can't wait for you to see what we're all about.

REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE

\$540,000, 127 Lakeshore Dr, Colton, Mark, and Colton, Ann, to Veiner, Daniel, and Veiner, Galina.

DOUGLAS

\$573,000, 55 SE Main St, Grady, Christopher, and Grady, Kelli, to Gregory, Alexandria M.
\$118,000, Maple St #3, Booher, Frank D, to Morrisette, Jason.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$367,000, 2134 Providence Rd, Juanita M Maynard IRT, and Maynard, Donald W, to Coulombe, James M.
\$265,000, 113 Heritage Dr #113, Valanzola, Michael J, to Toland, Cortney.
\$171,000, 66 School Park #66, Wells Fargo Bank NA Tr, to Desousa-Silva, Ernane, and Desousa, Kamila.

UXBRIDGE

\$449,900, 20 Farnum St, Fox Run RT, and Bevilacqua, Anthony, to Mercury, Leonard J, and Laguerre, Nicole T.
\$415,000, 4 Jackson Ct #4, Demelo, Jeanine, to Wright, Richard F, and Wright, Patricia A.
\$310,000, 12 Pinecrest Rd #12, White Spurgeon LT, and Olsen, Jacqueline, to Rubio, Michael G.

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MILFORD SENIOR CENTER

CHAIN OF LIGHTS
Join us on Sunday, December 4th
10:30 A.M. - 3 P.M.
We will have a Hot Chocolate Bar
Choose a variety of tasty toppings to add to your choice of hot chocolate!
We will also be making ornaments to take home!

HOLIDAY PARTY WITH ROBERT BLACK “ELVIS IMPERSONATOR”
Thursday, Dec. 22nd 10:30 – 11:30 A.M.
Enjoy entertainment
Followed by a Holiday Lunch
Stuffed Chicken, mashed potatoes with seasoned carrots and Cheesecake Mousse for dessert
To RSVP call or stop by the center 508-865-9154

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Price can vary based on specific project
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CRAFT CLASS
Once a month
Tuesday, December 6th

12:30 – 1:30 P.M.
Price is \$5 and includes all Materials
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Meet with a representative from Senator Moore’s office!
Wednesday, Dec. 14th
One Wednesday every month between 11 – 12 P.M.
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Any questions please call 508-865-9154

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Mondays and Fridays 9:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M. (Free!)
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YOGA
Thursdays 9 – 10 A.M. (Class is \$3)

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Mondays at 12:30 P.M.
MAHJONG
Mondays at 12:45 P.M.
CRIBBAGE
Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M.
Tuesdays at 1:00 P.M.
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC
Every Tuesday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.

SOCIAL BINGO
Wednesdays at 1 P.M.
Bring your pennies!
COLORING
Thursdays at 10 A.M.
DULL MENS CLUB
Thursdays at 10 – 11 A.M.
No reservations required for any of our activities or exercise classes!

Lunches are served Monday through Friday 12 P.M. at the Senior Center
The menu is available on the town website, www.townofmillbury.org
Or our Millbury Senior Center Facebook page.
A 48 hour reservation is required.
Call the center at 508-865-9154

Friends of the Millbury Senior Center Transportation
Transportation is provided for Millbury Senior Residents Monday through Friday
Between 9 A.M. and 3:00 P.M.
We travel one town out in each direction including Sutton, Grafton, Auburn and Worcester
A 48 hour notice is required for scheduling rides (business days)
Rides are free until January 1st
To schedule transportation call the center at 508-865-9247

“MEMORY CAFÉ”
Please join us on Tuesday, December 13th at 2 - 3:30 P.M.
Christmas with Heather Rae
Enjoy live Holiday music!
Refreshments will be served
A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss/ challenges and their care partners. It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time.
We are also looking for volunteers to assist with this program!
Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154!

SNAP APPLICATIONS (Food Stamps)
Our appointments are on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Call for an appointment & required documentation 508-865-9154
“This project has been funded at least in part with Federal Funds from USDA.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider
The SNAP Logo is a service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
USDA does not endorse any goods, services or enterprises.”

NORTHBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

(508) 234-2002

Daily Coffee Time is back at Plummer Place. Every day from 9:00-11:30am, come enjoy a fresh cup of coffee or tea, snack on some pastries or doughnuts, and meet up with friends in our warm and inviting dining area. No need to sign up, come when you can!

Take a Hike walking club will meet, Tuesday,

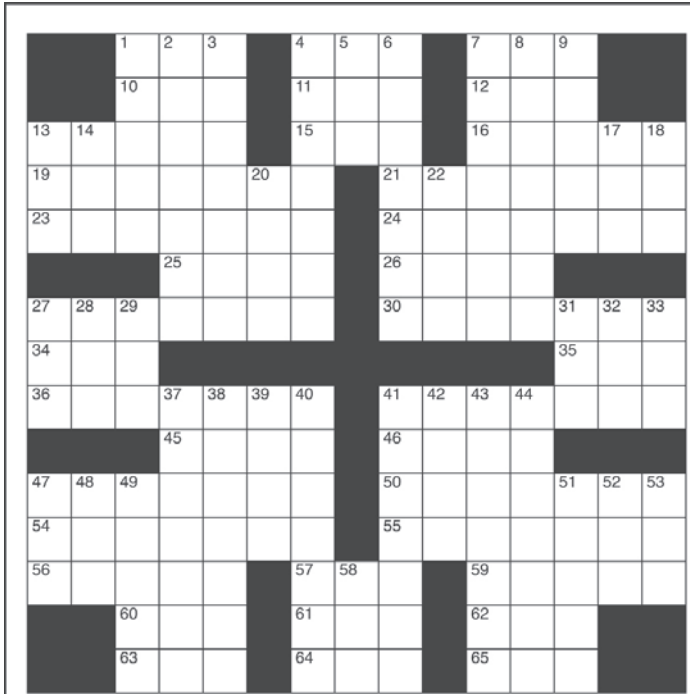
November 29th @ 10:00am, call Jeanne at Plummer Place for the location.

Fire Safety Lunch and Learn in December: Join Northbridge firefighter, Arthur Fenno on Wednesday, December 7th from 11:15-12:15pm in our main dining room for a pizza lunch and plenty of safety information including safely using home and medical oxygen, preventing cooking fires, how to create an escape plan and so much more. Please sign up at the main office.

This includes assistance with applications for SNAP, CHAMP, MRC, RAFT and MassHealth. She can also help with housing including subsidized housing applications, tenancy preservation, rental assistance, and congregate housing. Call the Center to make an appointment with Katelynn.

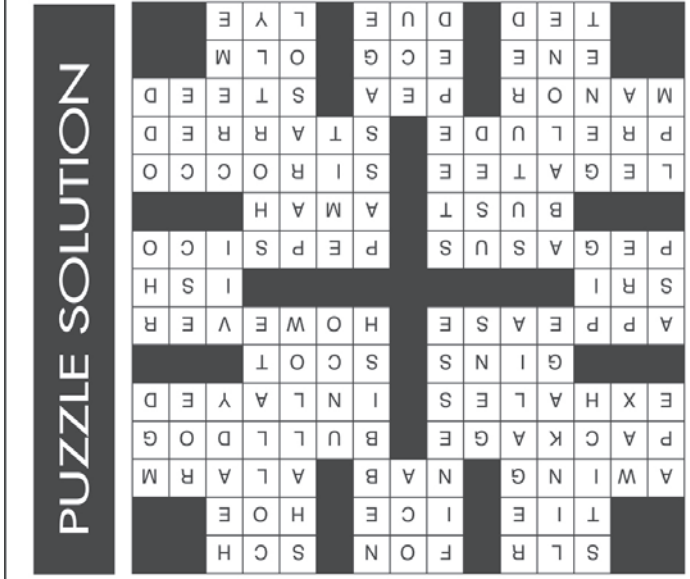
Tap Class at Plummer Place, every Wednesday from 2:30-3:30 with instructor Ed Burch. Come join this high energy, fun exercise class-no experience necessary! Call Michelle for more information.

Joy of Movement class, Thursdays from 10-11:00am. If you enjoy dance, this class is for you. Our instructor, Gypsy, will introduce you to many dance moves including hula and belly dancing. Very low impact exercise, with a great instructor. Call for more information.



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Single Lens Reflex
 - 4. People of southern Benin
 - 7. One who is learned (abbr.)
 - 10. Neckwear
 - 11. Solid water
 - 12. A way to work the soil
 - 13. Inspiring
 - 15. Pick up
 - 16. It wakes you up
 - 19. Parcel
 - 21. Popular dog breed
 - 23. Lets out a sigh
 - 24. Embedded into the surface
 - 25. Hard liquors
 - 26. One from Scotland
 - 27. Satisfy
 - 30. Used to introduce a contrasting statement
 - 34. Antidepressant drug type (abbr.)
 - 35. Similar
 - 36. Winged horse
 - 41. Soft drink maker
 - 45. One who doesn't live up to expectations
 - 46. Nursemaid
 - 47. Inheritor
 - 50. Hot, often dusty wind
 - 54. Serves as an introduction
 - 55. Earned top billing
 - 56. Mansion
 - 57. A partner to a carrot
 - 59. War-horse
 - 60. Midway between northeast and east
 - 61. It checks the heartbeat
 - 62. Aquatic salamander
 - 63. CNN's founder

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Pinochle trick
 - 2. A system of connections
 - 3. Emblems of royalty
 - 4. Work with a soft hand
 - 5. Plant cultivated in Peru
 - 6. A timid man
 - 7. Lacking intellectual depth
 - 8. A way to order
 - 9. Intoxicating
 - 13. Mimic
 - 14. Surfers use it
 - 17. Small Eurasian deer
 - 18. Popular Miller beer
 - 20. Finds out about
 - 22. Unusual
 - 27. Small European viper
 - 28. Indicates before
 - 29. Birth swine
 - 31. 7
 - 32. Useful keyboard key
 - 33. Letter of the Greek alphabet
 - 37. Edible mollusk
 - 38. Stitched up
 - 39. Utilized
 - 40. __ in tradition
 - 41. A way to get through
 - 42. Let off
 - 43. Fashionable source of shade
 - 44. In due time
 - 47. Printing speed
 - 48. A major division of geological time
 - 49. Nocturnal, cat-like mammal
 - 51. __ de la __
 - 52. After B
 - 53. Unusual
 - 58. Former money of the EU



Billiards Organized Games, every Wednesday 8:30-10:30am.

Katelynn Wackell, Care Manager at Tri-Valley, will be at Plummer Place the third Thursday of every month from 1-2:00pm. Katelynn will provide public benefit resources and options.

Revel in the magic of the season at BVCC’s Jingle & Mingle event

SUTTON — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce (BVCC) is excited to extend an invitation to our annual Jingle & Mingle event on the evening of Dec. 7, at Vaillancourt Folk Art, Manchaug Mills, 9 Main St., Sutton. This holiday networking event, will begin at 5:30 p.m. and go until 7:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required, and the community is welcome to enjoy the magic of the holidays with us. We are also proud to announce Homefield Credit Union as our presenting sponsor.

Jingle & Mingle is always well attended and guests will enjoy delectable hot hors d’oeuvres provided by the culinary students at Grafton Job Corps, taste a variety of seasonal beverages, be entertained by the music of Daniel Chauvin, enter to win fabulous prizes, holiday shop throughout the lovely Vaillancourt Folk Art, enjoy great company, and mingle with the community!

“Our annual Jingle & Mingle returns to Vaillancourt Folk Art where we will immerse ourselves with the sights, sounds and tastes in celebrating the magic of the season as we network with fellow Chamber members and the community. Come and experience nostalgic traditions of the holiday season all while creating new lasting memories and connections,” said, Jeannie Hebert, President and CEO of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Register online at www.blackstonevalley.org/events. Members \$10, Non-Members \$20. Admission is free with a donation of an unwrapped toy or giftcard to benefit children of all ages through Blackstone Valley Family Services. Please RSVP by Dec. 5. For more information, please contact Liz O’Neil at 508.234.9090 ext 102 or email Liz at, lonelil@blackstonevalley.org.

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.

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DOUGLAS ADULT SOCIAL CENTER

331 Main St.
(508) 476-2283
Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-noon

DAILY ACTIVITIES: All our daily activities are free of charge.
Monday: Painting class 10am to 12:30pm, Balance & Strength Exercise 10am, Mat yoga 2 pm
Tuesday: Cribbage 9:30am, Zumba 9:30am, Bingo 12:00 pm, Technology Class 1pm, Jenga or Connect4 2pm (bring a friend, and play a game!)
Wednesday: Balance & Strength 10am, MahJong 1pm
Thursday: Chair Yoga 9:30am, Wii Games 11am, Hand and Foot card game 1 pm
Friday: Balance & Strength 10am
NOVEMBER EVENTS:

Bemis Nursery is back November 30th @ 11:00. We will be making a Centerpiece Surprise and the cost is \$15.00 per person. RSVP before 11/23

DECEMBER EVENTS:

The center will be closed on Monday December 26th and Monday January 2nd. Happy holidays!
Blood Pressure Clinic on Thursday 12/8 & Monday 12/19 @ 10:00 am

Monday 12/1 @ 11:30 we will be “Ornament Making” at the center. There will be refreshments served. There is no charge for this event. RSVP before 11/23

“Gingerbread House Decorating” on 12/2 @ 10:00 am. The sunshine club sponsors this event each year and it is always fun. There is no charge for this event. Sign up, come down and show off your design skills. Limited seating available, RSVP before 11/28

“Wine bottle decorating” on Wednesday 12/7 @ 11:30 am. We will supply the wine bottle, paint, and a cork that will light up your bottle. These could make someone a great gift! RSVP before 12/1

“Lunch & Pictionary” will be on Thursday 12/8 @ 11:30 am. The Sunshine Club invites you lunch and a fun afternoon of game playing. Lunch is \$5.00 p/p. RSVP before 12/1

“Holiday Party” on Thursday 12/15 @ 12:00 pm. Come in enjoy a nice ham luncheon and spread some holiday cheer with friends. Stephen George will be returning to the center to provide a fun afternoon of songs and carols. RSVP before 12/8

“Picture & video transformation” on Wednesday 12/28 @ 11:30 am. Come in and learn how about how to put your pictures or old videos onto a newer digital format for viewing.

Please call the center to sign up for programs, 508-476-2283

UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2022-2023 school year.

Grade 8
High Honors: Ammar Alomar, Lilliana Ambrosino, Bradley Anderson, Iain Andrews, Connor Antobenedetto, Nicholas Arruda, Clarah Avery-Boyer, Ava Bazinet, Aubrey Beland, Gabriela Belanger, Ava Cahill, HadassahCalixto, Madison Cammuso, Susana Casper, Alex Channing, Isabela Chapman, Dolan Comforti, Ashton David, Foao de Souza-Rodrigues, Parker Dery, Miranda ElTurkamani, Ava Fenner, Daniel Ferreira, Alyssa Friis, Savannah Gasset, Nathan Goryl, Cameron Gray, Brian Guertin, Mallorie Hallfelder, Jordan Hilgenberg, William Hinchcliffe, Elaina Horgan, Samantha Huth, Brooklyn Kaferlein, Emrie Dling, Madison Labonte, Julie Lafontaine, Joshua Lavergne, Charlotte Lewis, Sydney Loisselle, Mary Lowrey, Dominic Mastroianni, Braelyn Matheson, Kaia Mollica, Adam Morrisette, Benjamin O'Neill, Mia Owellette, Zackary Pelletier, Emma Peloquin, Lauren Pitner, Nicholis Polselli, Hannah Samolinski, Rachel Scott, Chawarvi Sillapachairuang, Maddilyn Silva, Caroline Simonds, Lelia Sjogren, Sarah Stark, William Stark, Gabriel Stone, Kai Torku, Kumani Torku, Erik Ward, Samuel Weeks, Addison Whitney, Phoenix Zereski

Honors: Aaron Alves-Thomas, Addie Blood, Aubrey Bouchard, Stephen Bouvier, Blake Burr, Aiden Costigan, Skylar Daniels, Dylan Demers, Sofia Denietolis, Ethan DeVito, Abigail Donahue, Charley Dorr, George Eissa, Emma Frazier, Brianna Fuoss, Caleb Gaultitz, Allie Gauthier, Olivia Gauthier, Lindsay Genoa, Nathan Harris, Ian Heim, Felix Harrera, Matthew Hicks, Brynn Hosley, Tyler Joyce, Mathias Lalakidis, Ella-Mae Libby, Megan Matte, Nathan Oliveira, Blake Oliver, Vibhav Patel, Caiden Pellegrino, Samuel Plumer, Aidan Power, Katherine Pratt, Frederick Romano, Charlie Roy, Noah Samolinski, Kole Silvestro, Annabel Smutok, Lukas Tierney, Zachary Veneziano, Aryannah Vespa, Madison Webber, Benjamin Yoffe

Honorable Mention: Connor, Brooks, Joseph Cascella, Gabriel Gomes, Yasmin Higa, Lucas Jastremski, Amir Julien, Maxwell Kammerer, Grace Kibe, Logan Lalakidis, Eliasa Roy, Benjamin Russin Jr., Gavin Scardino-Poillucci, Kaleb Wallace, Drew Wilson

Grade 9
High Honors: Alexander Aldrich, Aidan Arsenault, Ella Bain, Novelle Bousquet, Boyalla, Gaurav, Sebastian

Bradwin, Lauren Cabral, Morgan Charbonnier, Kason Chludenski, Logen Erickson, Brady Esposito, Alison Fleming, Zachary Fortier, Sophia Freire, Kendall Gilmore, Lola Grube, Mazen Hamza, Ethan LaChapelle, , Julianna Lopes, Daniel Mach, Brayden Mackin, Niamh McSweeney, Erin O'Day, Julia Okenquist, Keira Paul, Jake Richardson, Jacob Rivet, Erin Roche, McKenna Savage, Brian Stumpf, Andrew Tamsky, Eabha Twohig-Mann, Grady Walsh, Austin Walusiak

Honors: Alexander Aldrich, Camden Bartlett, Taylor Bettencourt, Amelia Blood, Kaleb Chabot, Tyler Constantineau, Macy Cullen, Breanna Donahue, Hunter Douangsavanh, Samuel Dow, Colin Dwyer, Logen Erickson, Isabella Field, William Fisher, Nicholas Fortier, Zachary Fortier, Sophia Freire, Danika Grabowski, Camden LaChapelle, Jeffrey Laflamme, Lily LaLiberte, Mateo Lame, Cameron McIsaac, Wilson Obiocha, Joshua Paulino, Daniel Pimentel, Liam Powers, Alex Rivera, Thayla Santos, Autumn Smith, Brian Stumpf, Zachary Tilton, Zachary Turcotte, Cody Veneziano, Austin Walusiak

Honorable Mention: Angelica Afonso, Jeremy Barry, Camden Bartlett, Taylor Bettencourt, Malaika Cabrera, Vanessa Chavez, Finnegan Cove, Heidi Doyon, Jacob Ethier, Joshua Fontes, Tyler Kavanaugh, Camden LaChapelle, Drish Patel, Matthew Perron, Mylie Prachith, Emmalyn Romano, Jullian Rosenburge, Jonathan Sene, Hunter Sheard, Thatcher Sweeney

Grade 10
High Honors: Ali Alomar, Maria Aprili, Elyse Bouchard, Victoriana Chapman, Sydney Daniels, Maxwell Deary, Rogan Devlin, Timothy Devlin, Bailey Dzivasen, Evelyn Ferreira, Ewan Fortin, Katharine Fox, Lillyanna Gallant, Alicia Gauvin, Shane Gilmore, Addison Griffiths, Alyson Haley, Matthew Hinchcliffe, Joshua Johnson, Thatcher Kling, Sumeyye Koyuncu, Milla Mace, Macen Martone, Aidan Nolan, Darren Oliver, Danielle Olson, Natalie Orr, Olivia Pirrotta, Maxwell Roy, Stella Roy, Alanna Russell, Bruno Sampaio, James Sanford, Hunter Schiller, Dominic Silva, Michael Stark, Landon Sweet, Julia Wilczewska, Denning Yoffe

Honors: Joshua Alt, Hope Beroth, Joao Fernando De Oliveira, Dominick Genoa, Shane Guillet, Amelia Hay, Chase Henault, Liam Kaferlein, Shawn Lemovitz, Hunter Levesque, Awwab Mohamed, Abigaile Oliveira, Brianna Pare, Diya Patel, Lily Ramage, Marrodox Sisowath, Rylee Spear, Colin Spencer, Jack Sullivan, Jamal Uddin,

Ashton Watt

Honorable Mention: Joseph Baldwin, Catherine Buma, Camden Chludenski, Charles Criscola, Jenna Devine, Hannah DiMeco, Jillian Dimo, Justin ElTurkmani, Hunter Fontaine, Yasmine Graveson, Max Meagher, Madison Silbor, Caroline Usenia, Cassidy Westcott

Grade 11
High Honors: Rylie Beland, James Bernard, Aidan Blood, Benjamin Bourgeois, Kathryn Cahill, Braden Cammuso, Cameron Caso, Brynn Doherty, Syrianna Dousangsavanh, Jack Emmons, Luke Esposito, Madison Fairweather, Andrew Flynn, Carter Gilmore, Olivia Gray, Oliva Holden, Catherine Hughes, Hailey Kinyanjui, Kellen Lachapelle, Grace Linsley, Jessica Lutton, Aiden Marquez-LeRoy, Sara Morton, Brianna Moss, Gage Nichols, Sean O'Day, Ella Pezzullo, Phetmany Phianesin, Phoenix Cooper, Avari Powers, Benjamin Roerden, Payson Roy, Lincoln Schiller, Siobhan Twohig-Mann, Emma Walker, Zoe Wojnowski, Elizabeth Yarger

Honors: Mason Baptista, Tyler Bergman, Dylan Bibeault, Parin Boyalla, Ashley Brodeur, Emma Demers, Matthew DiLibero, Nathan Fuoss, Kevin Graveson, Brianna Hughes, Tessa Johnston, Samantha Jones, Kahlea Lachapelle, Cassidy Leach, Kamryn Leroy, Elizabeth Lewis, Jackson Livingstone, Luke McCuin, Samuel Noel, Liam Rigney, Lukas Ritacco, Christopher Szajna, Ellie Thompson

Honorable Mention: Alanah Allard, Rosario Astorga, Thomas Costa, Jalyngingras, Maximus Libby, Iris Marcello, Sophia Mone, Nathan Noyes, Shane Okenquist, Frank Osimo, Mikayla Ouellette, Joseph Romasco, Bradley Sadd, Mason Sanford, Sebastian Soares, Maria Sobrinho, Matthew Thayer, Samuel True, Cheyanne Uvezian, Brayden Wilcox, Victoria Williams-Huth

Grade 12
High Honors: Maren Anderson, Luke Boisvert, Lily Brayman, Kamryn Brodeur, Kelsey Brooks, Victor Cardoso-Collins, Julie Compston, Sophie Compston, Sean Costa, Joshua Cristina, Myah DeLang, Jessie DeMalia, Logan Donnelly, Jason Fontes, Carl Nathan Gallawan, Drew Gniadek, Evan Grube, Avery Guillette, Briana Hawes, Samantha Hinchcliffe, Paige Irving, Tia Jacobs, Sameer Khan, Eleanor Kimball, Christopher Lincoln, Lex Lovell, Alan Mage, Timothy Makynen, Patrick McDonnell, Isabella Nolan, Matthew O'Neill, Grace Orr, Morgan Ouellette, Alexandria Patterson, Kylie Paul, Julia Philbrook, Audrey Phillips, Olivia Phillips, Casey Prior, Chris Reid, Tyler Richardson, Theodore Rigney, Makayla Ross, Aidan Russell, Abigail Sanches, Sadie Schultzberg, Meghan Smith, Troy Spencer, Jack Tasick, Sabrina Tibedo, Madison Tousignant, Lindsay Vario, Braeden Watt, Megan Wingfield

Honors: Bruce Alberto, Samara Barry, Emma Brothers, Katie Cullen, Dylan Donahue, Sophie Ellenberger, Tyler Erickson, Tanner Gauthier, Ryan Labonte, Trevor Masnyk, Edson Mendes, Zachary Oliveira, Laela Pendleton, Coral Young

Honorable Mention: Nathan Cole, Samwail Girgis, Chloe Guertin, Colleen Kenny, Kate Matthews, Tyler McIsaac, Isabella Ristaino

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OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY HONOR ROLL

UXBRIDGE — Our Lady of the Valley Regional School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2022-2023 school year.

High Honors
Grade 8: Allison Horrigan, Natalie Johnson, Sylvia Lemire, Diana Pacheco, Abigail Siciliano
Grade 7: Savannah Hendricks, Isabella Kay, Julianna Kay, Isabella Lima, Cormac O'Neil, Katelyn Siciliano
Grade 6: Mikayla Elhosri, Dylan Gallagher, Reese Hendricks, Luke Hutchinson, Laura Jorad, Gavin Pintarich, Thomas Rosborough
Grade 5: Kathryn Britt, Nolan Calnan, Allison Creighton, Zephaniah Fritz, Nathan Weed, Emma Wickstrom
Grade 4: Angelina Lucchetti, Joseph Podles

Honors
Grade 8: Nicholas Gebarowski, Troy Hafers, Elene Pacheco, Nolan Pinchuck, Emmanuel Ramla, Cameron Vaidya, Jacob Vaidya
Grade 7: Julia Colonero, Rebecca Daly, Addisyn McCrohan, Ishani Patel, Allie Patnode, Anna Pena, Sarah Pomeroy, Lile Twohig, Lillian Wickstrom
Grade 6: Isabelal Bardon, Zachary Hafers, Madeline Hurley, Brynn Kent, Teddy Pino, Allison Seitz, Eleanor Susienka

Grade 5:
Matthew Auger, Anthony Baldwin, Charlee Bellefeuille, Cameron Berger, Gavin Chapman, Peter Colonero, Andrew Gebarowski, William Horrigan, Aimee Talbot, Molly Till

Grade 4: Jacob Carter, Abigail Cook, Catalina Goncalves, Caelyn Kent, Sophia Pica, Graeme Pintarich

PET of the WEEK



Meet Josie! 1 1/2 years old

Are you looking for your new best friend? Look no further! This spunky, fun-loving girl is always up for an adventure! Josie loves to go on long walks and hikes with her people. If that's not an option, Josie doesn't mind staying home and playing with her toys! Josie has yet to find a toy that she can't get the squeaker out of! What a talented young lady! Josie is very friendly with all people and does well walking with her canine friends! If you think this special lady could be your new sidekick, please start the process today and email adopt@baypathhumane.org.

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Friday's Child



Talaysia
Age 16

Hi! My name is Talaysia and I'm looking for a loving family!

Talaysia is a young lady of African-American descent with a great sense of humor. She loves to dance, sing, and be silly. She enjoys playing games and is a great Uno player. Talaysia requires extra support in school to help her stay focused on her work but with one-on-one support she can be successful academically. Talaysia is working hard to learn how to trust others and will benefit greatly from having a caring family that she can count on.

Legally freed for adoption, Talaysia would love to have a family to call her own and just wants to be loved. Talaysia's social worker is looking for that loving family who will provide her with the support and comfort she needs. She would benefit from being an only child in a family of any constellation. It is very important to Talaysia that she is able

to preserve her connection with her aunt, who resides in North Carolina. <https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7901>

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.



Traveling for the holidays? ‘Waterproof’ your home before you leave

WHITINSVILLE — For many, the holiday season includes travel, whether it is to join a family gathering or enjoy a holiday vacation. These traditional holiday trips stand to amplify an already growing travel demand. The U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics* reports that for July 2022, the number of people boarding a U.S. airline plane for domestic or international travel grew to 69.9 million, up 8.6 percent from July 2021 numbers. As the holiday travel season approaches, the water and fire remediation specialists at SERVPRO® caution homeowners that they need to go beyond buying tickets and packing a suitcase before they leave on a trip. Homeowners need to «waterproof» their homes.

“Your home is subject to water damage from inside and out when you

head out on a trip,” says Rick Isaacson, CEO of Servpro Industries, LLC. “Leaking or burst pipes can wreak havoc on the inside of your home. Severe weather can pose a flooding threat inside and outside your home. If you are planning to travel this holiday season, there are six important steps you can take before you leave to help ensure your home will be ready and welcoming when you return.” Ask Someone to Check on the House While You’re Gone. Taking the simple step of asking a friend or family member to stop by while you’re gone may catch a potential problem before it becomes a disaster.

Check for leaks. Inspect pipes under kitchen and bathroom sinks, check your water heater for cracks or rust, and ensure that hoses connected to dishwashers, refrigerators, and wash-

ing machines are leak free.

Insulate exposed pipes. Insulating exposed pipes can help prevent them from freezing in cold climates, but wherever you live, your home needs constant air circulation to help prevent water damage and mold caused by condensation. Keep the HVAC system turned on and open the cupboard doors under sinks to promote airflow.

Turn Off the Main Water Valve. If you don’t already know where this is, this is a good time to find out and then shut it off if your home will be unattended and vacant during your trip.

Clear Gutters and Downspouts of Debris. Clear out debris, dirt, leaves, and sticks and position downspouts to direct water at least ten feet away from the home to prevent flooding.

Inspect and Test the Sump Pump. If you have

a sump pump, test it before you leave by filling the sump pit with water and watching to see if the pump empties out the water. This can mean the difference between finding a dry or flooded basement when you arrive home.

“SERVPRO specializes in water damage remediation so we know how difficult it can be to deal with flooding caused by burst pipes, failed sump pumps, or heavy rainfall, even if you discover the problem right away,” says Isaacson. “It would be even more heartbreaking to return to your home after a holiday trip to find that water has been creating chaos while you were away. Taking steps to ‘waterproof’ your home before you leave on your holiday trip can help ensure you return to a dry, safe home, rested and relaxed from your time away.”

SERVPRO specializes in fire and water cleanup and restoration services and repair services, helping to remediate damage for both commercial and residential customers. For more information about SERVPRO, please visit www.servpro.com/. For more information on SERVPRO in the Southbridge area, please contact please contact one of the local business owners below.

* For SERVPRO of Shrewsbury/Westborough, please contact Donny McKendall who can be reached at (508) 393-7898 or donnymckendall@servproworcester.com. * For SERVPRO of Southern Worcester County, please contact Don McKendall who can be reached at (508) 234-3399 or Don@servpromckendall.com.

*<https://www.bts.gov/newsroom/july-2022-us-airline-traffic-data>

About SERVPRO For more than 50 years, SERVPRO has been a trusted leader in fire and water cleanup and restoration services, construction, mold mitigation, and biohazard and pathogen remediation. SERVPRO’s professional services network of more than 2,000 individually owned and operated franchises spans the United States and Canada, responding to property damage emergencies large and small from million-square-foot commercial facilities to individual homes. When disaster strikes, homeowners, business owners, and major insurance companies alike rely on SERVPRO to make it “Like it never even happened.”

Childbirth education classes resume at Milford Regional

MILFORD — Milford Regional Medical Center is pleased to announce that in-person and virtual childbirth education classes will once again be offered to expectant parents beginning in January 2023 and running through the end of the year.

Each session will walk parents through the last weeks of pregnancy discussing discomfort, exercise and nutrition. Sessions will also focus on birth plan options, stages of labor, comfort measures during labor, cesarean births, immediate postpartum, newborn care and much more.

Classes will be given by instructor Laura Laird, a certified and experienced Childbirth Educator (BCCE) whose goal is to help expectant parents feel prepared and supported during their

last weeks of pregnancy, labor and delivery and postpartum.

“We are thrilled to once again be offering these very informative childbirth education classes at Milford Regional,” said MRMC’s Director of Maternal Health Rose Galimi-Hayes. “Laura comes to Milford Regional as a highly recommended childbirth educator whose experience, knowledge and warmth will help parents through the final stages of their pregnancy journeys, as well as the beginning of life with their newborns.”

Milford Regional is offering several childbirth class options including an in-person, four-week session at Milford Regional on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., a virtual four-week session on Monday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m.,

and in-person weekend sessions at the hospital that cover everything over a two-day period on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. A tour of the Maternity Center will be provided for in-person sessions. Masks are required for all in-person sessions.

Participants do not have to be delivering at Milford Regional to participate in these classes. It is recommended that participants register no later than their 36th week.

The fee is \$200 per session. Space is limited. To register, view milfordregional.org and click on classes and events. For questions, contact Michelle Sanford, Public Relations and Community Benefits Manager at 508.422.2827 or msanford@milreg.org.

Santa Claus is coming to the Whitin Community Center!

WHITINSVILLE — The Whitin Community Center (WCC) is excited to announce the return of our 14th Annual free “Santa’s Coming” event provided by the Blackstone Valley Children’s Place Staff.

Our Santa’s Coming event will be held in the WCC’s Gymnasium, located at 60 Main St., Whitinsville, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10, for all children and their families free of charge with holiday-themed games and activities, a bake sale, cheek art and more! While waiting for your child to meet with Santa, the WCC’s Gymnasium will be filled with more than 20 fun, festive games and activities for the children to

enjoy including: Holiday Cheek Art, Snowman Bowling & Bag Toss, Santa’s Cookies, Gingerbread Mini Golf, “Up On The Roof Top” Present Toss, the popular Christmas Claw Machine, listening to holiday storytelling, writing a special letter to Santa using our Santa Express Mail, creating a card for our Troops, enjoying making Magic Reindeer Food to take home and so much more! Santa will also have a special surprise for every child after their visit! Don’t forget to bring your camera for this magical event!

We are also looking for donations of individually wrapped baked goods for the bake sale portion of our concession table for the event! All proceeds from the bake sale will go towards the Blackstone Valley Children’s Place Playground Fund. Please label your baked goods if they contain any of the following allergens: milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, soy, or wheat. Please drop off all baked goods for this event to the Member Services Desk by noon on Friday, Dec. 9.

Thank you to our Sponsors of this year’s event including: Koopman Lumber &

Hardware, New England Disposal Technologies, Inc., Osterman Family Foundation, and UniBank.

If you are interested in volunteering at this festive community event, please contact Michelle Benoit, BVCP School Age Administrator at 508-234-8184, ext. 104 or Michelle.Benoit@OurGym.org. Volunteer tasks include set up, take down, game coordination, facilitating activities, guest direction, Santa’s elves, concession table, and more!

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.WhitinCommunityCenter.org.

Deborah Wheelock Chapter DAR learns about Honor Flight NE

UXBRIDGE — Nationally, November is devoted to celebrating veterans of the Armed Services. On Nov. 9, the Deborah Wheelock Chapter learned first-hand about the “race against time to locate and honor WWII, Korean and Vietnam War vets with a day-long trip to Washington, D.C. to thank them for their service”. Joe Byron of Manchester, New Hampshire founded Honor Flight New England, a non-profit 501 c (3) organization and serves as its Executive Director. He spoke at the Chapter’s meeting at their historic Simeon Wheelock House (1768) in Uxbridge.

In 2009, Honor Flights began nationwide. Mr. Bryon volunteered to start the program in New England, giving priority to the most senior or terminally ill veterans. There is no cost to veterans who apply to be selected for flights, and each veteran is accompanied by a chaperone on the day-long trip. A gauntlet of military personnel and hundreds of well-wishers always gather to wave flags and carry ‘thank you’ signs, offering heartfelt send-offs and welcome home greetings at airports such as Manchester (NH) Regional and T.F. Green

(RI) in this area.

While in Washington, the veterans are treated to music, mail call, comradery and visits to many war memorials. According to Mr. Bryon, oftentimes tears result as “bottled up memories shared with no one for decades are shared in a safe, supportive and compassionate environment” since many have lived with survivor’s guilt and are overwhelmed by this experience.

The Deborah Wheelock Chapter is honored to help spread the word about this organization’s desire to reach those deserving veterans with one more Tour with HONOR. Find veteran application, volunteer ‘chaperone’ and donation forms at <https://honorflightnewengland.org> or contact Mr. Bryon directly at honorflightnewengland@gmail.com.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution has promoted education, historic preservation and patriotism since its founding in 1890. If interested in joining over one million women actively volunteering to serve their communities, contact deborahwheelockDAR@gmail.com.

Milford Federal Bank appoints Fatima Ferreira to Vice President Loan Servicing

MILFORD — Milford Federal Bank is pleased to announce that Fatima Ferreira has joined Milford Federal as VP Loan Servicing Manager.

Fatima will be responsible for managing and directing loan servicing activities, and will provide support to the SVP Residential and Consumer Lending.

Ferreira, a life-long resident of Milford, has held numerous positions in the banking industry over the past 25-plus years, including 11 years as AVP Loan Operations Manager, Loan Servicing Assistant Manager and Commercial Portfolio & Commercial Operations Manager at Unibank. Prior to Unibank, Fatima worked in Loan Servicing at Milford National Bank for 14 years, and MetroWest Bank in Framingham.

Established in 1887, Milford Federal Bank has been assisting its neighbors and friends for 135 years. Serving the greater Milford and Blackstone Valley areas in Massachusetts and Northern RI, it has four conveniently located offices in Milford and Whitinsville Massachusetts and Woonsocket, RI and can also be found on the Internet at MilfordFederal.com and Facebook.



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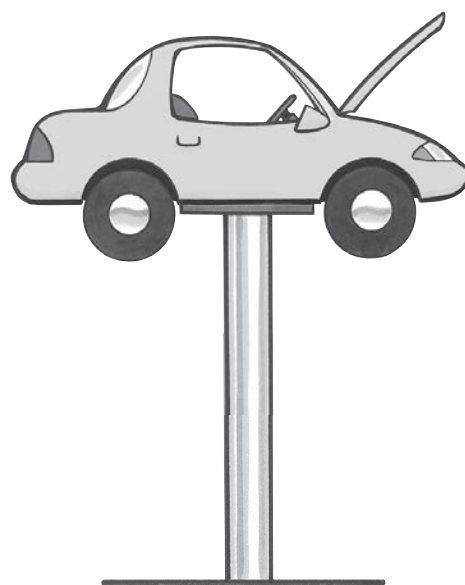
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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EDITORIAL

May you never
be too grown
up to search
the skies on
Christmas Eve

It's official — the holiday season has arrived, with the first big one under our belts. Thanksgiving is the perfect segue into Christmas and Hanukkah. It's when all the fall decorations, and the dilapidated pumpkins get tossed and the candy canes and red and whites come out. Black Friday and Cyber Monday has passed, now it's time to put things into cruise control until the big day arrives.

When we were younger, the holidays were magical and fun for most of us (as embodied by the quote that headlines this Editorial), with a minimal amount of stress and an abundant number of gifts to those fortunate enough to receive any. As we get older and have families of our own, holidays remain fun, as we pour that magic into making our own children's holidays memorable.

However there comes a time when our children are grown, and the holidays can seem to be more of an obligation and a day to get through. Not only that, but we also long for the days when we had all our family members alive, when the holidays were the 'good old' days'. Moving forward, for some, can be quite depressing. Hopefully, that isn't the case for many, but for those who feel that sense of Grinch-esque dread, we have some tips that can help put the spark back into your hot apple cider.

If you remember what it felt like to have an amazing holiday, use those memories to pass down the same magic onto someone else. Even if it's not a child. Do something creative to make someone's holiday one they can remember, something they don't expect. When you take the time to essentially play Santa Claus, the joy you get back is tenfold.

As for relieving stress, don't put too many expectations onto yourself and respect your own limits. You don't have to do everything, you can delegate. As for shopping, you can find just about anything online, even from local shops making gift buying easier. If shopping isn't your thing, hand out gift cards with a handwritten letter.

Throughout the season, take in the lights and remember to take in the holiday spirit of those around you. Go for a walk in the snow and listen to how quiet everything is. Begin and end each day with something you find enjoyable. We find that watching holiday movies, eating sugar cookies, and listening to Christmas music really can be uplifting. 'A Christmas Carol' does put things into perspective. If you haven't read the book in a while or watched the movie, now is the time.

The point of the holidays is to spend time with our favorite people. While we can't go back in time and re-live the days when trains circled our Christmas trees we can live in the present and create new adventures with memories that will put a smile on your face for years to come.

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

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

Juggling your holiday commitments

We are deep into the holiday season, and almost all of us are busier during the holidays than during the rest of the year: parties to attend, gifts to buy, and people to visit. With all the tasks we're already juggling, the holiday season can make it extra tricky to keep all the balls in the air!

If you look around this holiday season, you'll notice some people can handle the extra workload with a smile, and others grit their teeth every step of the way.

Can we learn to become more graceful under pressure?

There's a thing called "Living in the Moment." I'm sure you've heard of it. I've heard the phrase a few million times, but I've only recently paid attention to what it means.

Living in the moment sounds so simple I thought I was naturally doing it all along. How could we do anything but live in the moment? After all, we all live through a series of moments every day!

In the last couple of years, I took on a lot more responsibility than I was used to. As my workload increased, I reacted less gracefully than I would have liked. Although I was getting most everything done, I was constantly worried about what to do next. Always so afraid of not getting everything done that I couldn't properly focus on the task at hand.

I was rushing through each task as fast as possible, unable to perform at

my best, and simultaneously feeling stressed and anxious about everything and everyone else. My fearful thoughts turned to bitter thoughts as I mentally complained about those who I thought should be helping me but were not.

If you have a lot to accomplish, it's only natural to plan, have a list of to-do's, and try to accomplish as much as possible. If you are on a deadline and have commitments, you must follow through with; it's almost impossible not to nervously anticipate each moment and how it will all get done. It comes with the territory.

I used to think that Living in the moment was the same as Living for the moment. Living in the moment and living for the moment aren't exactly the same, but they do share some qualities. Living for the moment is simply enjoying your life without caring about the future.

How is that different than Living In the Moment?

Living in the moment is accepting where you are, being aware of your emotions and thoughts, and allowing yourself to fully engage in the present moment without anticipation and worry for the next.

Eckhart Tolle said, "Are you able to be present in what you're doing, or is what you're doing no more than a means to an end? And approaching every

moment with the hurried attitude of just needing to get this moment out of the way so you can get to a better one?"

If you're living in the moment, your focus is on what's happening now. You aren't thinking about what is for dinner or what you'll wear to work tomorrow. You aren't reliving moments from the past or being distracted and concerned about future events - you're focused on what you should be doing in the present moment.

Some have asked if you can live in the moment and be a long-term planner? Is it ok to multitask and live in the moment? The answer is yes and yes!

If you have to multitask and perform several jobs simultaneously, you can do all that while staying in the moment. If you're a long-term planner with a big vision, it can sometimes be a distraction to dream about the future. Staying in the moment can help you get the daily chores finished.

Living in the moment is especially useful when dealing with people during the holidays, helping you to treat everybody with dignity and respect.

Living in the moment is associated with less stress and better decision-making, especially when combined with an attitude of acceptance and gratitude. Rather than letting the season's stress ruin your holiday cheer, take a breath, accept, be thankful, and live in the moment.

Selecting and keeping your
Christmas tree looking its best



Melinda Myers

Proper selection and care of your Christmas tree will keep it fresh and looking its best throughout the holidays.

The hunt for the perfect tree is oftentimes an important part of family tradition. Buy local whenever possible by supporting local Christmas tree growers. Purchasing locally grown trees also reduces the risk of spreading unwanted pests into your landscape.



While cataloging photos for our ongoing auction of the Rotman family Worcester, New England and historical items collection, I was inspired to write about collecting and selling photos, specifically how to tell if the items you have in your home might be valuable.

First, a brief history of photography. The idea of capturing images dates back further than you might expect, beginning with the technique of "camera obscura," which is now known as a precursor to modern cameras. Items were projected from the outside into a dark room or hall through a pinhole. Britannica writes that that the concept dates back more than 2,000 years with the Chinese and ancient Greeks such as Aristotle likely taking part.

On Jan. 7, 1839, members of the French Académie des Sciences first viewed images (daguerreotypes) by Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre (1787-1851). According to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Daguerre wanted to develop a way to permanently capture the fleeting camera obscura images he viewed. Sadly, the "Diorama" where Daguerre kept his photographs burned

Your local University Extension Service and Department of Natural Resources provide updates on any threats.

Family tradition may dictate your tree choice. Many prefer the fragrance of balsam fir and needle retention of other firs like Fraser, white, Grand, and Noble. Though not a true fir, Douglas fir needles have a wonderful aroma when crushed. White pine lacks the fragrance that many prefer. Its pliable branches only support lightweight ornaments, but the soft needles have less bite than the popular Scots or Scotch pine. This evergreen has stiff branches that support heavier ornaments and its needles hold even when dry.

Check for freshness. A fresh tree will last throughout the holidays. Run your hand along the stem. The needles should be pliable yet firmly attached to the branch. Avoid trees with lots of moss, lichens, vines, broken branches, and other signs of poor care.

Look at the overall shape and size of the tree. Stand the tree upright to make sure it will fit in the allotted space. Check the trunk. It should be straight and the base small enough to fit in your tree stand.

Make a fresh cut, removing at least



GARDEN
MOMENTS

• • • • •

MELINDA MYERS

an inch from the base of the trunk before setting it in the stand. Straight or diagonal cuts work equally well. A diagonal or V-shaped cut may make it difficult to properly support the tree in the stand.

Proper watering is key. Fill the stand with water and check it

often. Fresh trees can absorb as much as 2 quarts of water in the first 24 hours. Keeping your tree stand filled with water is the best way to keep your tree looking its best throughout the season.

Once your tree is in place, you can add lights and decorations. Then take time throughout the busy holiday season to relax with your favorite winter beverage and enjoy the beauty of your Christmas tree.

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

Antique photographs

to the ground.

Ambrotypes and tintypes (also known as ferrotypes) came into use during the 1850s. They were quicker and cheaper to use than daguerreotypes. The cost ranged from 25 cents to \$2.50 in the U.S.

Cartes de visite (commonly called CDVs) became popular in the late 1850s. A CDV is a small photograph on cardboard backing. Cabinet photos followed soon after and gradually replaced CDVs, coming into use during the 1860s. Cabinet cards are similar to CDVs, but larger and typically include the photographer's name and location.

Here are some things to look for in your own photos. Most daguerreotypes were portraits of unidentified people and usually don't have a lot of value. But a daguerreotype of a famous person can be very valuable. A daguerreotype of Sam Houston, who was an important figure during the Texas Revolution from 1834 to 1836, sold for \$33,000 in 2018. A daguerreotype of an outdoor scene can be even more valuable. An image of a San Francisco building draped in bunting sold for over \$140,000 in 2008. Sometimes the cases can be worth more than the image inside it. The Vermont Journal writes that thermoplastic cases were made of shellac and sawdust that was mixed and colored with chemicals before being rolled to create a thin sheet of plastic. A thermoplastic case depicting Washington crossing the Delaware



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

• • • • •

WAYNE TUISKULA

sold for \$2,600 in 2019.

There are also many examples of other types of photos fetching high prices. An ambrotype of a traveling photographer's studio went for \$95,000 in 2010. A tintype of Buffalo Bill Cody posed with guns and game sold for \$36,000 in 2016. A CDV of Major Martin Delaney (who was one of the first African American men admitted to Harvard Medical School and a surgeon during the Civil War) in uniform sold for over \$59,000 in 2020.

Baseball player photos also sell very well. A Honus Wagner Sporting Life cabinet photo brought \$264,000 in 2019. A picture is worth a thousand words, and sometimes even six figures.

There are many local photographs in the Rotman memorabilia online auction. We will be holding a preview on Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bidding ends on Wednesday, Dec. 7. We are cataloging items for another online auction featuring art, Civil War memorabilia, samplers and other antiques, collectibles and memorabilia. It will start in December and end in early January. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

Please contact us at www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com for antiques and collectibles auction services.

On the hunt

Shotgun deer season opened this past Monday under ideal conditions, although some hunters that like to track deer in the snow may need to wait a bit longer. Deer hunting in the valley is a far cry from when I was hunting in my early years. There were few deer in the area, so we headed into the hills of Petersham, and hunted along the outskirts of the Quabbin Reservoir! We were fortunate enough to find a family that owned numerous acres of land that gave us permission to hunt. We were able to park our cars on their property just across the street from their home.

On opening day, we headed out real early, as we had to make the one and half hour journey to Petersham. We encountered a long line of traffic which was mostly other deer hunters heading into Petersham, Oakham and other great deer hunting spots in the area. The long line of traffic moved very slowly, as the old cars and trucks of the time had drivers driving a more normal speed than the crazy drivers of today. The car's headlights seemed as though there was a train heading in the same direction, until many drivers stopped to have a hot breakfast at some of the many eating establishments along the way.

After the long drive, we finally reached our destination a half hour before open-



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS

RALPH
TRUE

ing time to hunt. We were all excited to start our annual deer hunt that consisted mostly of our family and a few outcasts. During our day in the woods, we would hear a few shots being fired, but our turn to discharge our shotguns

often never happened. Finally, after a few years of hunting the area I heard a few shots, not far from where I was hunting. Suddenly, a nice eight point buck appeared, not far from where I was standing. After firing a couple of shots at the buck, I headed into the direction that I had last seen him. Suddenly, a wave of excitement came over me as I spotted the buck laying only a few yards away from where I had last seen him. It was the first buck I had ever shot.

We had no radios, as hunters do today, so I sat down and waited for a couple of my family to come looking for me. They had heard the shots, so it did not take long for them to find me. After a few high fives and pictures, the deer was field dressed and dragged out to the car. Numerous hunters that accompanied me over the years were Dick Baker, who harvested a nice eight point buck, my brother Mel a nice doe and former police chief Emerick harvested a nice doe. Numerous other deer were harvested over the years at the site, and we always shared our venison with the

nice people that allowed us to hunt their property. We were known by other local hunters as flatlanders!

Today, we seem to have more deer in our area, than the areas we hunted long ago. We also have coyotes, black bear, and numerous other species of wildlife that we did not have back in the '60's. Today, we only need to walk out our back door to hunt deer, although we have lost all of our native pheasant, and woodcock due to development. Grouse have all but disappeared from the valley area also.

I am sure I will hear stories of successful hunters all this week, and there are going to be some big bucks that were harvested this week. Remember that all deer harvested this week need to be brought to a checking station for this week only. There is no online checking of deer!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Courtesy

For 15 years, Joe L. has been employing WTA TAGS trying to draw a bighorn tag in Montana. His persistence has paid off! After booking with Worldwide Trophy Adventures in Montana, Joe and his guide passed on several smaller rams over three days. Late on day four, they glassed-up this band and then made their loop. They were then able to get into position and took this boomer out of the group at 450 yards. Congratulations, Joe, on this truly remarkable trophy.



Guide to Choosing a Holiday-Worthy Christmas Tree

A holiday tree is the center of the yuletide celebration. Decked out in garland and adorned with ornaments, the stately Christmas tree is not only a tradition but the source of both merriment and sentiment. It's no wonder choosing a special evergreen is a task not to be taken lightly. Whether freshly cut, balled and bagged, or artificially constructed, the choices are pleasantly plentiful.

Read on for ways to ensure this year's pick is truly trim-worthy!

Oh Evergreen!: Selecting a Christmas tree is a fun family tradition, but getting caught up in the festivities, one can overlook the requirements of a successful pick. The first thing to remember is in a lot or on a farm, a tree can look much smaller than it will in your home. Rule number one is to always bring a tape measure to ensure a proper fit.

When choosing a freshly cut evergreen, look for nice, even coloring throughout the tree with no signs of browning. Also, beware of brittle branches, which are



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

another sign of an old tree that may not last the season in a heated home. Look for flexibility in a bough.

To test freshness, pick a needle and bend it. A fresh fir needle will snap; a fresh pine needle will bend, but not break. The old "shake tip" really reveals a tree's freshness. Simply shake from the trunk, or wave a bough and observe how many needles fall off. If it is more than several, keep looking.

Live trees balled with the root and wrapped in burlap or containers (a.k.a. balled and bagged trees) are a great choice if you plan on planting the tree after the holidays. The most important consideration with a balled and bagged tree is to make sure the tree species can thrive in your climate zone.

Once you've chosen a holiday tree, it's necessary to prep it for inside enjoyment. If you're using a cut tree, when you get home make a fresh cut at the base. This will help the tree better take up water. It pays to keep in mind that a properly watered tree will keep about a month inside. Be sure to keep the water level above the base of the tree. Believe it or not, a freshly-cut tree can consume a gallon of water in 24 hours!

To prevent fallen needles, add one of these to the base: three tablespoons glycerin; three tablespoons sugar; or a few crushed aspirin.

After Christmas is over, the holiday tree will need to be properly disposed of. Check your city or town transfer stations for recycling options. Some municipalities recycle trees and grind them into mulch that is repurposed back into the community as such.

Faux Forest: If a fresh cut tree is impractical, an artificial tree can be a good investment -

if you choose wisely. When evaluating artificials, buy the best you can afford as skimping on such a purchase will shorten its lifespan. Did you know a well made artificial tree can last a decade or more? Choose trees with many branch tips and multiple needles, thus creating a "fullness" that rivals the real deal.

Look for easy to set up models with hinged branches for quick and easy set up. High end trees often come equipped with an abundance of lights. Make sure the tree stand is sturdy enough to hold a tree laden with heavy ornament and garlands. Lastly, consider a tree that can easily refold into a box or bag, for hassle free storage.

Love the smell of a real tree? You can mimic the fresh scent of balsam simply by sprinkling your carpets with a pine scented carpet freshener before vacuuming. Since smell is the most potent of our senses, visitors to a house that smells like the holidays will feel doubly welcomed!

Christmas Tree Preservative: If your

family loves decorating a real tree, but you hate the mess of fallen needles, and the fear of sparking branches - don't despair! And don't spend big bucks on commercial preservatives either. This recipe will save the tree, some money, and maybe even a few frayed nerves: Ingredients: one gallon water; one cup ammonium sulphate (available from garden supply store); two tablespoons borax (available from grocery or hardware store); a few aspirins or three tablespoons glycerin, or three tablespoons sugar. Instructions: Mix first three ingredients together well. Pour into a spray bottle. Spritz on tree and pour the remainder into the tree stand instead of in water. Saw off the bottom of the trunk, one to two inches and use a drill to bore a narrow hole up through the middle of the trunk. Then fill the hole with cotton, and pack tightly. Put the base in warm water as soon as possible. Warm water will melt the sap, allowing the tree to drink more easily.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House 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 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 E-mail KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

Nichols College supports veteran cause with 22 laps



DUDLEY — Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M, presented donations totaling more than \$1,600 to Bill Moore, founder, CEO and president of Project New Hope Inc., representing funds raised from the college's annual Sweat for Vets 22 Laps event held on Nov. 10.

The charity event, which is sponsored by the Veteran and Military Services group at Nichols, has been a campus tradition since 2019. Participants, comprising students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members, take a 22-lap run or walk around the track

on Vendetti Field. They and others are encouraged to donate \$22 to the cause.

The significance of the 22 laps is that, according to the Veteran Administration, 22 veterans are lost to suicide each day.

Founded in 2011, Project New Hope Inc. is a Worcester-based nonprofit organization that provides services and resources to veterans, service members and their families, such as therapeutic retreats, food and baby care pantries, and other humanitarian programs.

Courtesy

Nichols President Glenn Sulmasy (center) presents donations totaling more than \$1,600 to Bill Moore, CEO of Project New Hope Inc. Also pictured are members of the Veteran and Military Services group at Nichols, from left, Tom Stewart, April Girardin, and Boyd Brown.

Cornerstone Bank donates \$2,500 to Hearts for Heat

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has donated \$2,500 to the Leicester chapter of Hearts for Heat, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing winter heating fuel to families in need.

“With both inflation and fuel prices on the rise, we know this year will pose greater financial challenges to many residents when it comes to heating their homes,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “We are proud to support this grassroots organization that has been helping families in Worcester County stay warm during the winter for the past 15 years.”

Hearts for Heat has chapters in Leicester, North Brookfield, Princeton, Spencer, and other Worcester County towns. It was started in 2007 by Cindy Shea, a local social worker with a teaching background and a passion for helping those in need.

To learn more about Hearts for Heat or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit heartsforheat.org.

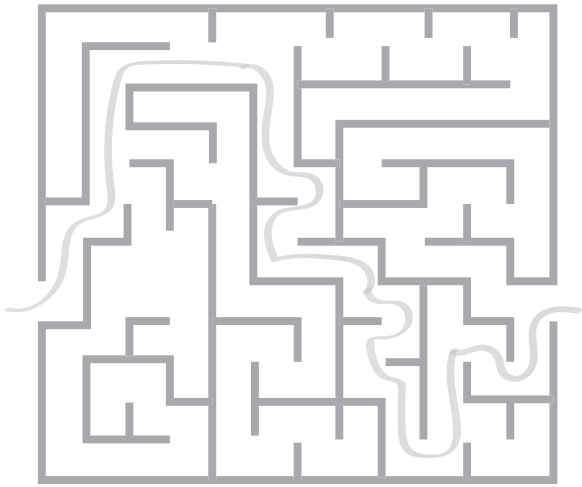
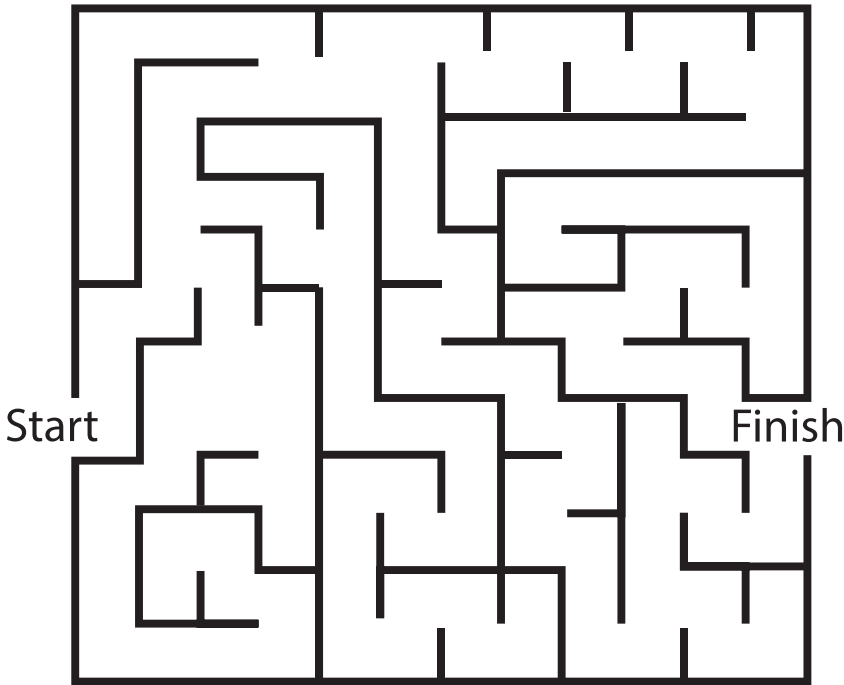
Free community Christmas dinner at BVUMC

WHITINSVILLE — Parishioners and volunteers from the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church would like to cordially invite the community to a traditional turkey dinner, including the usual holiday meal favorites; potatoes, vegetables, squash, stuffing and cranberry sauce. This year's meal will be served on Sunday, Dec. 25, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Faith Hall at 61 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville. Parking is available behind the church accessible from Church Street. The dinner is open to everyone free of charge. Please come join us for a joyous Christmas celebration that will include holiday fun, food, and fellowship with many from the community. For more information, call the church office at 508-234-2275.



Maze Craze

Can you find your way through the maze?



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1814: "THE TIMES" OF LONDON BECOMES THE FIRST NEWSPAPER TO BE PRODUCED ON A STEAM-POWERED PRINTING PRESS .
- 1960: MAURITANIA BECOMES INDEPENDENT OF FRANCE.
- 1990: MARGARET THATCHER RESIGNS AS THE LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND, THEREFORE, AS BRITISH PRIME MINISTER.



HOW MANY CONTINENTS ARE ON PLANET EARTH?

ANSWER: SEVEN



NAVIGATE

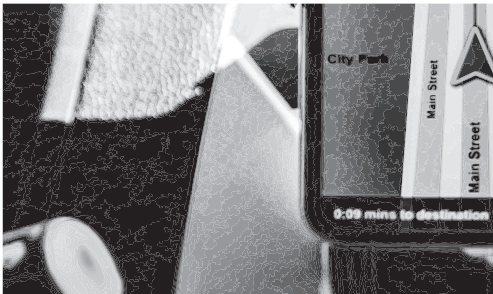
to plan and direct a course of travel

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Map
- SPANISH:** Mapa
- ITALIAN:** Mappa
- FRENCH:** Carte
- GERMAN:** Karte



A GLOBE IS A CYLINDRICAL MAP OF THE WORLD THAT MAY PROVIDE A MORE REALISTIC INTERPRETATION OF THE PLANET THAN A FLAT MAP.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: MOBILE PHONE GPS

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to adoption.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 10 = A)

- A. 15 11 20 14 4**
Clue: Youngster
- B. 26 13 10 18 4 20 10 6**
Clue: One who protects
- C. 10 4 2 17 24**
Clue: Take in to care for
- D. 5 10 23 20 14 12**
Clue: Group of united persons

Answers: A. child B. guardian C. adopt D. family

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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

ANSWER:

OBITUARY

William J. McGee, 86



UXBRIDGE – William J. McGee, 86, of Uxbridge passed away Fri. Nov. 18, 2022 in Milford Regional Medical Center, Milford. He was the husband of Jean M. (Izzo) McGee.

Mr. McGee was born in Marlboro in 1936, the son of the late William F. and Teresa (Glancy) McGee and was a graduate of Emerson College, Boston.

He was a Korean War veteran, serving in the U.S. Navy aboard the U.S.S. Cassin Young. In later years, he volunteered as an interpreter aboard the same ship for the U.S. Park Service.

Bill lived his entire life as a truly kind and spiritual person with a touch of humor. For many years, he donated his platelets to hospitals in Worcester and Boston until having health issues. As a stroke survivor, he made the best of his affected years. He volunteered for 11 years in the Taft and Whitin public schools in Uxbridge. Those years in the schools gave him many fond memories.

He also led a prayerful life. Prayer was a private and intimate time to which he was devoted. Along with

his wife, he was a longtime member of Valley Chapel in Uxbridge. Every day, Bill would use the gift of prayer; while sitting in his recliner at home, and would pray for his many friends and for many people he did not know throughout the world.

Mr. McGee loved a good joke and was a great joke teller. He also had the ability to weave a true story into a knee-slapping humorous event.

In addition to his wife Jean of 60 years, he is survived by a daughter Ellen Conserva and her husband Rev. Michael Conserva of CT and a son Thomas A. and his wife Jennifer McGee of Uxbridge; a daughter-in-law, Tammy McGee of Bellingham; 9 grandchildren; 2 great-granddaughters and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a son Daniel McGee who died in 2020.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sat. Nov. 26, 2022 at 11 AM in Valley Chapel, 14 Hunter Road, Uxbridge.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. www.bumafuneralhome.com



EVENTS

continued from page A1

in Sutton...for our annual town-wide celebration welcoming the Christmas and Holiday season.” event details read. “Held every year on the first Saturday of December, the event features free trolley rides to all the participating locations, food, children’s activities, shopping, and lots of holiday cheer.”

Uxbridge will host the 25th anniversary of its “Holiday First Night” parade and celebration tomorrow, Dec. 3, from 4-7 p.m. The event will include a fireworks show and more; for more information, visit the “Uxbridge First Holiday Night” page on Facebook.

Also this weekend on Sunday, December 4, Millbury will hold its Chain of Lights from 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The event is described as “an annual, town-wide event to celebrate the holidays with food, music, and entertainment galore.” Wojcik’s Farm in Blackstone is celebrating next weekend with “Christmas in the Country” on Saturday, December 10, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Visit wojcik-farm.com/events for more information.

Also nearby, the Winter Wonderland and Festival of Illumination at Southwick’s Zoo will run Wednesday through Sunday evenings through Saturday, Dec. 31. The event has been described

as a “breathtaking world of over a million dazzling holiday lights and enchanting festival lanterns” showcasing fairy-tales, legends, and myths through handcrafted displays.

“Take a train ride through the Magical Holiday Forest where you may spot a fallow deer or the Grinch himself,” the Zoo reported.

For more information or tickets, visit southwickszoo.com.

In other news, the Blackstone Valley Polar Express train ride, which is available weekends through Friday, Dec. 23, has reported that it is sold out for the season. The 2023 tickets are slated to go on sale in the spring, the group shared.

GALA

continued from page A1

ure is a serious long-term condition, but with the proper medical treatment and attention, patients afflicted with CHF can enjoy a high quality of life.

“I want to personally thank everyone who contributed to this unprecedented level of philanthropic support of Milford Regional, making this year’s *Mélange* the most successful to date,” said MRMVC Vice President of Philanthropy and Executive Director of the Milford Regional Healthcare Foundation Emily Quinn. “The tremendous and selfless generosity of our many incredible donors, supporters and friends speaks volumes to our community’s commitment to Milford Regional’s mission and the patients we proudly serve.”

“Hero” sponsors (\$25,000) included: The Brucato Family, Consigli Construction Co., Inc., Green Site Services Group, ImperialCars.com, Cliff Rucker & the Worcester Railers, SALMON Health & Retirement and Wayne J. Griffin Electric, Inc.

“Livesaver” sponsors (\$10,000) includ-

ed: A & A Window Products, Inc., Bessa Brothers Construction and New Generation Custom Homes, Vascen J. Bogigian, Boston Children’s Hospital, Brown & Brown of Massachusetts, Inc., Central Travel, Century 21 The Real Estate Group, Community EMS, Inc., Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women’s Cancer Center, Family Orthodontics, Hillview Equipment, Hyman & Shirley Hill Foundation, Inc., Kimball Sand Company, Inc., Koopman Lumber Co., Lobisser & Ferreira Construction Corp., Lockheed Architectural Solutions, Inc., MAS Building & Bridge, Inc., Milford Anesthesia Consultants, P.C., Mirick O’Connell, Mohan Family Foundation, Orion Emergency Services, Inc., Mr. and Mrs. Vincent J. Osterman, Physicians Insurance Agency of Massachusetts, REC Hopkinton, LLC, Riverdale Mills Corporation, Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation, Rubicon Builders, SOS Corporation, Specialty Services of New England, LLC, Sunrise Erectors, Inc., Terva Corporation, UniBank, W. L. French Excavating Corporation and Worldband/Tinio Corporation.

For more information on the event, visit <https://foundation.milfordregional.org/getinvolved/specialevents/melange/>.

Send all obituary notices to
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or by e-mail to
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LEGALS

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket No. 17 SM 003132 ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: **Robert Menard Jr. and Cheryl A. Menard**
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (*et seq*) **U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT**
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Northbridge, numbered 29 Louis Street, given by Robert Menard Jr. and Cheryl A. Menard to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, dated June 3, 2008, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42944, Page 23, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, have filed with this court a complaint for determination of 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 1/2/2023 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 11/18/2022.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
December 2, 2022

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. WO22P3979EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: Gloria Louise Barbrie Also known as: Gloria L. Barbrie Date of Death: 03/20/2015
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by **Christine A. Pontus of Warwick RI** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Christine A. Pontus of Warwick RI** and 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 12/20/2022**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised

administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 22, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
December 2, 2022

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket No. 22 SM 003475 ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: The Heirs, Devisees and Legal Representatives of the Estate of Francis J. O’Connor, Lynn Phelan, Caryn O’Connor, Matt O’Connor, Cynthia Ciavarra
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (*et seq*):
U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee on behalf of and with respect to Ajax Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-E, Mortgage-Backed Securities, Series 2019-E
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Uxbridge, numbered 2 Carriage Path, Unit No. 2, of the Juniper Hill Condominium, given by Francis J. O’Connor and Christine M. O’Connor to Fleet National Bank, dated April 19, 2004, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 33658, Page 112, 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 1/2/2023 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 11/16/2022.
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
December 2, 2022

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. WO22C0132CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME In the matter of: Lewis Michael Saunders
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Lewis Michael Saunders of Whitinsville MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Lewis Michael Bell**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/13/2022. 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: November 16, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
December 2, 2022

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WEBSTER - 18 THIRD STREET
2 Family - Needs work! 1st Flr has 4 Rooms - 2 Bedrooms. 2nd & 3rd Flr - 6 Rooms, 2 Bedrooms 2nd Flr & 2 Bedrooms on 3rd Flr! 32,560 +/- sf. 75 Acre -. Property being sold "As-is".
\$259,000.



WEBSTER LAKE - PATTISON RD
LAND - Terrific opportunity 14,798 Sq. Ft. of LAND. CONSERVATION APPROVAL for proposed Building, MASS DEP# 313-1167. 248 +/- Road Frontage, 279 +/- Water Frontage. Town Water & Sewer accessible.
\$250,000.

THOMPSON - 266 POMPEO ROAD
Unique, spacious raised ranch, TRI-LEVEL on 1.96 ACRES! 11 spacious rooms! 2800 +/- Sf above grade living area. 3 bedrooms & 2 baths. Primary Bedroom Suite w/Hardwoods, full bath, walk-in closet & Private exterior balcony! Upgraded cherry cabinets, granite countertops, SS Appliances, so much more! A MUST SEE!
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WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE
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WEBSTER - NEW ENGLAND COMMONS
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DUDLEY - 18 WARSAW AVE
SORRY, SOLD!
3 bedroom ranch has gleaming hardwood floors, Corian countertops, 3 season porch. Many updates! New shingle roof, Buderus boiler, Roth Tank + New Hot Water Heater. Central Air! Heated lower level.
\$279,900.

PUTNAM - 96 ELVIRA HGTS
ON DEPOSIT
Exceptional opportunity! Conveniently located 5 room, 2 bedroom, 2 bath ranch! Downsized! Must see! Hardwoods, Appliances dine-in kitchen w/skylight! Fireplaced living rm, Bay window! Private bath/whirlpool tub! Central-air! Two car garage!
\$287,900

LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD/PUTNAM
WEBSTER LAKE LAND - 22 SOUTH POINT RD Architectural Plans included! **\$315,000.**
OXFORD - LAND - General Business Zoned! Marijuana OVERLAY DISTRICT! LAND with 4,095 SF Metal Building! 124 SOUTHBRIDGE RD (RTE 20). Town Sewer Project Plans are Approved. 22,884 sq. ft Level Lot. 140 ft of road frontage. **EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES!** **\$795,000.**
OXFORD - LAND - RTE 20 General Business Zoned! Marijuana OVERLAY DISTRICT! Vacant LAND, Level & cleared. 39.549 SF. **\$419,000.**
PUTNAM - LAND Zoned General Business 29 acre 103' frontage. Water, Sewer, & city gas available. 2 street entrances. **\$125,000**
OXFORD - 2 Merriam Rd 80 +/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake 13 Loveland Rd
Eastern Exposure & Amazing Sunrises! Beautiful shoreline, 3 bedroom Cape features eat in kitchen w/island, fireplace living & dining room. 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms with 1/2 bath! Lower Level walkout, fireplace Family Room! Half bath.
\$785,000

Webster Lake - 27 South Point Road
SORRY, SOLD!
OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! Unique opportunity to Own Waterfront Property with an 80' +/- ft sandy beach! .22 Acre & 100' rd frontage - expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage,
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Webster Lake 13 Bates Point Road
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--	---

<p>WEBSTER</p> <p>2 units, 3 bdrms ea. unit, Sided, Easy highway access, Near boat ramp 142 Killdeer Rd - \$419,900</p>	<p>CHARLTON</p> <p>LAND, 5 acres, Upscale subdivision, Private setting 12 Elliot Dr - \$124,900</p>	<p>Home Buyer coffee hour</p> <p>SAT. Noon - 1pm 21 Schofield Ave., Dudley Learn about seller concessions. Buy down your rate, and Homes for Heroes Program</p>
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SPORTS

Spartans surge past Rams in Battle of the Bridges



Photo courtesy Beth Wandyes, Uxbridge High Athletics

The Uxbridge High football team concluded its season with a 49-13 victory over Northbridge High on Thanksgiving Day and posed for a celebratory team picture following the contest.

BY DEAN P. ST. LAURENT
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

UXBRIDGE — In a rivalry that dates back to 1896, the Uxbridge and Northbridge High varsity football teams clashed once again on the gridiron on Thanksgiving morning. Over the last few years the Rams have gotten the best of the Spartans in the holiday matchup, but this year was different. Led by a very talented group of upperclassmen, Uxbridge defeated Northbridge, 49-13, on their home turf in the Battle of the Bridges.

“There is no doubt that it is a big rivalry and that definitely fuels everything it motivates,” expressed Uxbridge head coach Matt Blood. “We had to swallow a pretty hard pill when we lost to St. Bernard’s, it was great that we were able to use this to turn it up a little bit. It feels good to win on Thanksgiving, it hasn’t happened often here, but we will continue to build

and compete.”

Uxbridge finished this 2022 campaign with an 8-3 record and lost a heartbreaker to St. Bernard’s in the second round of the Division 7 State Playoffs. The Spartans never lost back-to-back games this year and that is telling in the type of team they were this year and the program Coach Blood is running.

“Never giving up, this team has faced a lot of adversity,” Blood stated when asked what this team’s identity is. “We lost a couple games we thought we should have won and there were times where we could’ve said we are done packing it in, but the resilience of this team is something to speak of. That senior class is a close group, they have been playing since they were little and the junior class is the same way, so I think the two classes combined helped take us to where we needed to be in the end.”

In this contest, both

teams came out with an energy that was felt through the whole sporting complex. The Battle of the Bridges started quickly and Uxbridge got on the board first. The Spartans held the Rams to a punt and were able to take advantage of a short field and scored in three plays when junior quarterback Kellen LaChapelle eluded pressure and scrambled for an 11-yard touchdown with 8:31 left in the opening quarter. Following an extra point, the Spartans led 7-0 early.

However, despite going three-and-out on the first drive, Northbridge, led by senior quarterback Tim Labrie, led the Rams 65 yards and punched in a touchdown. Labrie completed four passes on the drive for 56 yards, including an 18-yard fade touchdown to fellow senior Matt Visbeek, who high pointed the football over the Uxbridge defender. The Rams attempted a fake field goal and

remained behind 7-6 midway through the first.

This scoring drive would wake up Uxbridge, and they took control of the game quickly. The Spartans scored on four consecutive drives and held Northbridge to a punt on their three possessions following the scoring drive in the first quarter.

LaChapelle accounted for three rushing touchdowns and connected with junior Aiden Blood for a passing touchdown in the first half. Senior halfback Ryan Labonte also plunged in a 1-yard touchdown early in the second quarter.

“We have known Kellen for a while, he has

been here for a while and even though he is just a junior,” expressed Blood. “He is a multi-sport athlete and we are going to look for even more from him next year. We are happy that he has been able to develop the way that he has and the sky is the limit as to what we can do if we put our proper work ethic into it in the offseason.”

LaChapelle also added an 80-yard rushing touchdown in the second half to end his turkey day with five total touchdowns.

Despite the score, Northbridge kept fighting and ended up adding a score on their last drive of the game. Led by freshman quarter-

back Joel LaChapelle, the Rams drove 70 yards and ended the drive with a LaChapelle 1-yard rushing touchdown.

It wasn’t a typical year for Northbridge, finishing the season 3-8, but long-time head coach Ken LaChapelle was pleased with the group of seniors’ effort and is also looking forward to the future.

“They played hard, it just wasn’t our year. This doesn’t happen too often to us where we don’t have a solid or winning season. It has been tough on the seniors, there is not much you could say to them, but they continued to play hard and that is all we could do,” said Ken LaChapelle.

Correction: Amelia Blood, not sister Addie, scored in State Championship game for Uxbridge

Amelia Blood scored the final goal in the Uxbridge High field hockey team’s 5-0 victory over Manchester-Essex Regional in the Massachusetts Division 4 Tournament championship game, played Saturday, Nov. 19, at Norwell High. Last week’s print edition of the Blackstone Valley Tribune erroneously credited the goal to her sister, Addie Blood. We apologize for the mistake.

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