

**STRESS FREE
CAR SHOPPING**
FULL SERVICE CENTER
Huge savings from MSRP
trusted for 52 Years
508-234-6767
HARBROAUTO.COM
HARBRO
 AUTO SALES SERVICE



**Candy
corn: still
confusing.
Still
October.**

©2025, Issue #41

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Friday, October 17, 2025

Fine arts a tradition at WCS

WHITINSVILLE — Whitinsville Christian School has been known for talent and dedication to the arts for many years. Mary Dykstra, new Director of the Arts, is excited about building upon this long tradition. Through music, theater, and visual arts, the Fine Arts program is expanding in exciting ways, enriching both the school and the broader community.

Less than seven weeks into the new school year, the first pops concert took place with a new Band and Choir Director at the helm, Derek Wielsma. Known throughout the area for his musical leadership in education, local churches, and as a skilled piano tuner, Wielsma brings both technical expertise and deep community ties to his new role.



“He’s passionate about helping students build their skills,” said Dykstra. “His energy is contagious, and we can already see the connections he’s made with students.” The pops concert featured music from ‘Star Wars.’ “The students had glowing bows and our Orchestra Director, Zach Surapine, had a glowing baton. The audience loved it!”

The WCS Strings Program, which teaches through the Suzuki method, is celebrating its 45th year. “Over the years, the program has continued to grow and we love playing at school and community events,” said Dykstra.

Students can develop a love of music by joining Strings as young as three and four years old. The high school

drama department is rehearsing for their first show of the year, “12 Angry Jurors.” Under the leadership of director Heather Rufo, students are excited for their performances on Jan. 9 and 10.

“Our dedication to the arts is evident in the 25 students currently participating in the Fine Arts track,” said Dykstra. “Students who complete a minimum number of art classes and participate in a senior showcase can earn an arts track endorsement on their diplomas.”

“The arts are part of the fabric of life at Whitinsville Christian,” said Dykstra. “From concerts, plays, and art displays, we are reminded that our Creator has designed us to be creative!”

Free songwriter showcase to be held at Singh Performance Center

WHITINSVILLE — Open Sky Community Services, a nonprofit behavioral health and human services organization, will sponsor a Songwriter Showcase on Friday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the G.B. and Lexi Singh Performance Center, located at 60 Douglas Rd. in Whitinsville. The free community event will feature four accomplished local singer-songwriters performing in a Nashville-style “in-the-round” format, sharing original music and stories.

The evening will feature:

- Bekka Dowland, a country singer-songwriter from Westfield, whose heartfelt lyrics and storytelling are influenced by classic country legends and modern artists like Taylor Swift.
- CaptC (pronounced Captain-Cee) of Brookfield, known for his Americana sound that blends vivid characters, wry humor, and memorable hooks. His music is available on Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube, and TikTok. More information can be found at www.captc-music.com.
- Scott Allan Savoy of Athol, whose genre-crossing style and award-winning songwriting are showcased in his latest album, *A Million Miles from Home*. Upcoming shows and music are available at <https://www.reverbnation.com/scottallansavoy/shows>.
- Eric Troy of Spencer, an award-winning songwriter with a dynamic vocal range and a classic Americana style. His self-titled album was released earlier this year and is available on all major streaming platforms.

The showcase is part of Open Sky’s inclusive performing arts initiative, “Take Down the Wall Presents...”, which creates opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in the arts together. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the performance will run from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Concessions will be available for sale, and a suggested donation of \$10 will support future inclusive arts programming through Open Sky.

About Open Sky Community Services

Open Sky Community Services is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency based in Worcester that has been helping individuals in our community achieve more than they imagined possible for over 50 years. The agency provides a wide range of services throughout Central Massachusetts for children, adults, and families with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness, and other complex challenges. Open Sky has more than 1,300 dedicated employees and nearly 150 programs throughout the region, supporting more than 8,000 individuals annually. The organization is committed to race equity and is on a journey to learn, grow, teach, and transform. For more information, please visit www.openskycs.org.

Northbridge Historical Society meets Wednesday

NORTHBRIDGE — The Northbridge Historical Society will meet Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. at the Singh Performance Center (Open Sky/Alternatives) at 7 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville.

A short business meeting, led by Society President, John W. Walker, Jr., will include news of the assessment and evaluation of conditions at the Fletcher House, Christmas party plans, and other unfinished business.

The program for the evening will be Janet Parnes

of LadiesTell, portraying Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins.

Soak up stories from this Massachusetts woman who defied her Victorian upbringing to become the first female cabinet secretary. Frances Perkins was a Worcester native who was the driving force behind workplace protections such as the minimum wage and the forty hour work-week, and Social Security. Learn about the pivotal New York factory fire and

her relentless campaigning to enact laws to assure abused workers’ safety, sanitation, and justice. The Greendale Branch of the Worcester Public Library honors her memory and legacy.

This program is funded by the Northbridge Cultural Council through the Massachusetts Cultural Council and admission is free and open to the public.

Members are reminded that dues are payable now, and are still \$25 per person.

Step back into Sutton’s Revolutionary past

SUTTON — Join the Sutton Historical Society on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. in the First Congregational Church, 307 Boston Rd., Sutton, as we step back into Sutton’s Revolutionary past and uncover the stories of people who lived it.

Society Museum Assistant Curator Charlie Wilson, as the lead for the Society’s Revolutionary War Soldier Biography project, will share the stories of soldiers who marched off to fight, families who kept life going at home, and newcomers to Sutton. This presentation is all about the small stories that show how ordinary people found themselves playing a role in extraordinary events. Discover how you can participate in the 250th commemorations of the Revolutionary War and tell your own stories.

This free event is open to members and the general public of all ages. Event announcements and updates can be found at sutton1704.org and on Facebook at Sutton Historical Society, Inc.



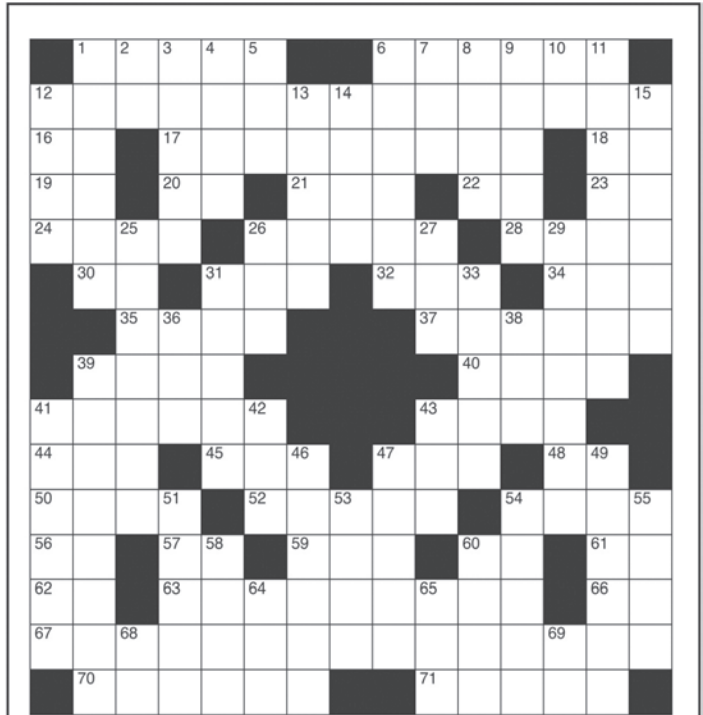


ARTHRITIS?

Is your arthritis care all that you would hope it to be?
If not we may be able to help.

**Osteoarthritis
of Hands - Knees- Hips.
Back and Shoulder Problems
Rheumatoid Arthritis
Psoriatic Arthritis - Gout**

Charles A. Birbara, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, Umass-Chan Medical School
25 Oak Ave., Worcester, MA 01605 508-799-2674
"Committed to Advancing appropriate care to people with arthritis"



CLUES ACROSS

1. Martial arts in China

6. The butt of jokes

12. Nevertheless

16. Sportscaster Michaels

17. A firm believer

18. Atomic #18

19. One's bestie

20. Of I

21. Hamburger accessory

22. Thus

23. Partner to Pa

24. Scottish tax

26. Cuts away

28. Require

30. Government lawyer

31. Own (Scottish)

32. Body cavity

34. Brew

35. Young woman (French)

37. Platforms

39. Pair of points in mathematics
40. Attack suddenly

41. Aviators

43. Make perfect

44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)

45. Neither

47. The center of a city

48. Sacrifice hit in baseball

50. Singer Redding

52. Dragged forcibly

54. Puncture with a knife

56. Belonging to me

57. Expresses surprise

59. Haul

60. The Golden State

61. Biblical Sumerian city

62. Integrated circuit

63. Opposed to certain principles

66. Sodium

67. Qualities

70. Walk

71. It awaits us all

CLUES DOWN

1. Ate quickly

2. Peyton Manning's alma mater

3. Moves through water

4. Run away from

5. Utah resident

6. Natural objects

7. Children's game

8. Obligation to prove

9. Ancient Greek building for performances

10. Soldier

11. Decorated

12. Catches

13. Russell __, author

14. Speak indistinctly

15. Students get them

25. Japanese warrior

26. Dessert

27. Doleful

29. Most cushy

31. Moon crater
33. Small evergreen Arabian tree

36. Something fugitives are "on"

38. 007's creator

39. Paintings on hinged panels

41. Type of bomb

42. Japanese classical theater

43. U.S. gov't department

46. Flightless bird

47. One who cuts wood or stone

49. Buttock and thigh together

51. A way to gather

53. Body part

54. Argentinian city

55. Undergarments

58. Jai __, sport

60. Container for shipping

64. Type of screen

65. Get free of

68. Indicates position

69. Business department

PUZZLE SOLUTION

H	I	V	E	D		E	D	I	R	I	S
S	O	I	L	S	I	H	E	L	C	V	H
V	N		T	V	H	E	B	I	T	I	O
H	N		V	C		M	O	L	V	H	A
B	V	L	S		D	E	T	V	H		S
H	S		B	N	H		H	O	N	V	L
		E	N	O	H			N	E	W	H
	D	I	V	H				D	V	N	D
S	E	S	I	V	D			E	T	T	W
E	T	V		C	V	S		N	I	V	D
D	E	E	N		S	E	H	V	P	S	S
V	W		O	S		N	N	B		E	W
H	V		E	N	O	T	O	E	D	I	T
G	N	I	D	N	V	L	S	H	L	I	M
E	G	O	O	L	S			N	H	S	N

Soter announces \$102,338 in Justice Assistance grants for local police departments

REGION — State Representative Michael J. Soter announced today that the five communities within his district—Bellingham, Blackstone, Millville, Medway, and Uxbridge—have been awarded a combined total of \$102,338 through the Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

The JAG Program, which is administered in Massachusetts by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants & Research (OGR), provides critical funding and seed money to support a broad range of activities aimed at preventing and controlling crime based on local needs and conditions. These funds will be used by the local police departments to support areas such as law enforcement, prevention and education programs, and technology improvement programs.

The total awards secured by the five towns are:

- Bellingham Police Department: \$30,000
- Uxbridge Police Department: \$30,000
- Medway Police Department: \$18,000
- Millville Police Department: \$12,738
- Blackstone Police Department: \$11,600

Soter emphasized the critical importance of these funds in supporting local public safety operations. "Bringing home over \$102,000 in assistance for our local police departments is a major victory for our district," said Soter. "This funding ensures that Bellingham, Blackstone, Millville, Medway, and Uxbridge can invest directly in the specialized equipment, technology, and prevention efforts necessary to enhance public safety, without imposing a burden on local taxpayers."

Local police chiefs across the district echoed Soter's remarks, highlighting the meaningful impact this funding will have on their departments and communities.

Bellingham Police Chief Ken Fitzgerald expressed his gratitude, stating, "We're grateful to the Office of Grants and Research and to Representative Soter for their support through the Byrne JAG program. Thanks to Sgt. Mark Auld's strong grant work, this award funds a critical capital item that strengthens our service to residents—while doing so in a fiscally responsible way that reduces long-term costs for Bellingham taxpayers."

Blackstone Police Chief Gregory Gilmore noted the direct benefits the funding will bring to his department, saying, "We are extremely pleased to be awarded the JAG grant here in the Town of Blackstone for use by the Blackstone Police Department. The department will utilize the funds for programs that will have a direct impact on public safety for our residents. We thank Representative Soter for his hard work in supporting our efforts to secure this much needed funding."

Medway Police Chief William Kingsbury also underscored the transformative potential of the grant. "We are excited that the Medway Police Department has received a technology grant through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Program," said Kingsbury. "The funds awarded will be used to expand and improve real-time public safety emergency response capabilities, as well as to enhance our investigative capabilities. I want to thank Governor Maura Healey, Secretary Susan Terry, and our legislative delegation, including Senator Karen Spilka and Representatives Mike Soter and Jeff Roy, for their support of this program."



To advertise in this directory the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, please call Mikaela at 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news
It's the best deal in the house!

Carpentry



Mark Vaz 774-244-6781

HAMMERHEAD CARPENTRY

TRIBUNE ALMANAC -REAL ESTATE-

BLACKSTONE

\$656,000, 4 Crestwood Dr, Barr, Elizabeth A, and Barr, Mathew R, to Analytical Sciences Mktg.

\$375,000, 4 Fairway Ln #4, Sarkisian, Judith, to Barr, Elizabeth A.

DOUGLAS

\$525,000, 13 A St, Valenca, Paulo, and Valenca, Jose, to Harmony Haven Prop LLC.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$849,000, 75 Kennedy Cir, Beauregard, Frederick J, and Beauregard, Maureen L, to Russo, Peter, and Russo, Maureen.

\$295,000, 151 Heritage Dr #151, Kinnecome Francis J Est, and Bandstra, Kara A, to Rafiq, Omer.

UXBRIDGE

\$630,000, 91 Rivulet St, Wildes, Eric A, and Wildes, Melissa A, to Donohue, Craig V.

\$605,000, 262 W River Rd, Hudon, Joseph R, and Hudon, Elizabeth A, to Williams, Brandon, and Williams, Amy.

\$355,000, 127 Old Millville Rd, 127 Old Millville Rt, and Skatoff, Joseph, to Bachie, Daniel D.

PET of the WEEK



Meer Bourbon

Meet Bourbon — a snuggly sottie who's happiest by your side. This affectionate guy loves to lean in for pets and couch cuddles, and he's always up for tagging along on everyday adventures. Bourbon has lived well with dogs, enjoys buddy walks with his doggy pals, and walks nicely on leash. He also knows "sit," is house-trained, and loves people.

500 Legacy Farms North • Hopkinton, MA 01748



Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

Bring your furry friend along on your next trip to MFB for a treat from our drive-up tellers, or stop in any branch and bring home a treat from our complimentary doggy treat bar.



1271 Providence Rd, Whitinsville, MA 508.234.8256 • 800.357.2265
MilfordFederal.com



BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE

TO PLACE AN AD:
MIKAELA VICTOR
(774) 200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
(508) 909-4103
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL:
obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 508-909-4149
OR send to Blackstone Valley Tribune
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR:
E-MAIL:
news@stonebridgepress.news
OR send to Blackstone Valley Tribune
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
FRANK@SALMONPRESS.NEWS

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4101
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
508-909-4105
julie@villagernewspapers.com

The Blackstone Valley Tribune (USPS 024-873) (ISSN 0745-8673) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Blackstone Valley Tribune, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.



DA to host upcoming event on holistic approaches to substance use disorder treatment and recovery

SHREWSBURY — Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr. is hosting a free event for the public focused on holistic approaches to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery on Thursday, Oct. 23, from 8 a.m. to noon at Veterans Inc., 59 South St., Shrewsbury.

This event, presented by the Prevention and Support Network, will feature keynote speaker Linda Geraghty, a trau-

ma-informed
yoga instructor
and dedicated
family recovery
specialist
prominently
featured in the
award-winning
documentary
"Our American
Family."

Ms. Geraghty will share insights into the role of mindfulness, movement, and self-compassion when exploring generational addiction and trauma. Her work emphasizes the importance of integrating mind-body practices into traditional recovery

pathways to promote long-term healing for individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder.

The event will also include a panel discussion featuring professionals in wellness, nutrition, and fitness, further exploring how holistic strategies can complement traditional recovery supports. Refreshments, networking, and resource tables will take place from 8 – 9 a.m. The program will begin

promptly at 9
a.m.

District Attorney Early is dedicated to addressing the root causes and impacts of the polysubstance use crisis, as well as the effects of trauma, especially on children. In 2015, he formed the Central Massachusetts Opioid Task Force, now known as the Prevention and Support Network, which has more than 800 members in the network. Additionally,

Mr. Early launched the Critical Incident Management Systems (CIMS) software in 2020, which allows police throughout Worcester County to track overdose incidents as they occur and promptly follow up with survivors to assist them in obtaining treatment. In 2021, Mr. Early also established the Worcester County Drug Endangered Children's Alliance to identify and support children

who have experienced a traumatic event. Federal grant funding was awarded in 2022 to support the expansion of the Alliance and the implementation of the Handle With Care programs in schools

throughout the county, through which schools are notified by local police when a student has experienced a trauma such as viewing a drug overdose, enabling the school to reach out to the affect-

ed child.

Please register using the QR code provided on the flyer or visit the following link: <https://forms.office.com/g/sUPe-VKYdBx>

*Thimble Pleasures Quilt
Guild hosting biennial
show next spring*

UPTON — The Thimble Pleasures Quilt Guild is pleased to announce that its biennial quilt show will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15, 2026 at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical Show in Upton. The Guild has selected "Creating Comfort" as their show theme. This

theme reflects not only the members' love of quilting but also reflects the guild's mission and fundraising efforts.

More than 200 member quilts as well as guild challenges and round robins will be on display. Also included at the show will be a special raffle quilt, the Quilters'

Boutique, raffie baskets, and local area vendors. Any local area vendor wishing to participate in the Guild's show should contact Deb Hudgins by mail at TPQG, P.O. Box 447, Mendon, MA 01756.

The guild has chosen "Home Base" as the show's special fundraiser. All funds raised

through the sale of items at the special fundraiser table will be donated directly to Home Base. Home Base is a Red Sox Foundation dedicated to healing the invisible wounds of veterans, service members, and their families through clinical care, wellness, education and research. The 2026 show

is being chaired by Gina Brooks, Donna Hopkins, and Val Ogilvie.

Community Calendar

October 17–24

Thursday, Oct. 17
At Douglas Library, six o'clock sharp,
Join a "Craft and Cocoa" — make fall
art by heart.

Sip, snip, and glue in the reading nook
glow,

A harvest of color before the frost's
show.

Friday, Oct. 18
At Uxbridge Senior Center, seven till

The "Autumn Dance" promises music divine.

Twirl to the tunes, enjoy cider sweet —
Laughter and friendship make the
night complete.

Saturday, Oct. 19
Northbridge Green, from ten until two,
Farmers and makers with honey and
stew.

Pumpkins, preserves, and crafts to admire —
The Valley still hums with community fire.

Sunday, Oct. 20
At Sutton Common, the hikers convene,
Trails crunch with leaves of bronze

and green.

Meet at ten for a guided roam,
Then share warm donuts before head-
ing home.

Monday, Oct. 21
Quiet in town, but at Whitinsville's

The Select Board meets — decisions

Policy talk may lack rhyme or flair,

Yet civic care starts exactly there.
Wednesday, Oct. 23
At Douglas Senior Center, noon on the

Join "Lunch & Learn" — the soup will be hot.

A talk on scam safety, a raffle, some cheer,
Simple reminders we all need to hear.
Thursday, Oct. 24

The week winds down in a musical way —
At Uxbridge Library, children's play.
Storytime rhymes with pumpkins and

Where little ones giggle and parents belong.

Yankee
Magazine's Choice
for Best New
England Cuisine!



Salem Cross INN

RESTAURANT & TAVERN

260 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

**Time
to Make
Thanksgiving
Reservations**

Over 50 Years of New England Hospitality!

Open Thurs ~ Sat 4-8 Sunday 12-5

Dine Outside on Our Patio Weather Permitting

Hexmark Tavern is Open Thurs. & Fri. 4-8



www.salemcrossinn.com (508)867-2345



*No Outdoor Dining When A Wedding Ceremony Is Taking Place

WANTED TO BUY

Antiques & Old Stuff

- Bottles • Crock • Jugs • Costume Jewelry • Pottery • Toys
 - Games • Glassware • Sterling Silver • Coins • Gold
- Silver Plated Items • Watches • Typewriters • Sewing Machines
 - Tools • Radios • Clocks • Lanterns • Lamps • Kitchenware
- Cookware • Knives • Hunting • Fishing • Military • Masonic
 - Fire Dept • Advertising Signs & Much More

CALL DONALD ROY 860-874-8396

LOWEST PRICES • FULL SERVICE

Serving Worcester County for
almost 60 years!



**Affordable™
Windows &
Doors** COMPANY, INC.






HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8-4:30 • SAT. 9-1

MARVIN


**We Deliver
Throughout
New England**



**1152 Main Street • Route 9
Leicester, MA • 508-892-9292**

www.affordablewindows.com







Elevate Slider
 Price includes:
 Ultrix Threshold
 Clad Maintenance
 Free Exterior
 Handle Set
 Low E Argon Gas
 60x80 • 72x80



\$1895*
 *Promotion Price
 Valid when you bring this ad.
 Ends October 25



**TAKE
AN EXTRA
20% off**
**All The Bargain Bay Products
While Supplies Last**
When you bring this ad
**See the Tab Bargain Bay
at our website for a
large selection!!**

**BARGAIN
BAY**
**BIG SAVINGS
ON**

Visit our
Online
Bargain Bay
[affordable
windows.com](http://affordablewindows.com)



INTERIOR/EXTERIOR DOORS & WINDOWS AT SUPER BARGAIN PRICES



\$38
 As Low As



\$75
 As Low As



\$16
 As Low As

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



25 ELM ST.
SOUTHBIDGE, MA 01550
TELEPHONE: (508) 909-4126
FAX: (508) 764-8015
WWW.STONEBRIDGEPRESS.COM

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The quiet strength of small acts

Every fall, when the air turns crisp and the maples burn like lanterns, we're reminded that community isn't built by grand gestures—it's built by a thousand small ones. The neighbor who rakes the leaves that blow into your yard. The high schooler who volunteers at the library without being asked. The retiree who spends Tuesday afternoons sorting donations at the food pantry. None of it makes headlines, but together, it's the heartbeat of the Blackstone Valley.

Our towns move forward on the quiet rhythm of those who show up. It's the parent who coaches youth soccer in the chill of October. It's the firefighter who answers an alarm at midnight, and the librarian who slips a book into a child's hands knowing it might change the way they see the world. These are not small things, even if they seem that way. They are the scaffolding of civic life.

In an age when outrage travels faster than gratitude, it's easy to forget how much good happens quietly. Every week, there are volunteers planting trees, cleaning riverbanks, stocking shelves at the food pantry, and preparing meals for neighbors who need them. Their work doesn't trend online or attract spotlights. It simply keeps the Valley running—tidy, nourished, and humane.

In Douglas, the Sunshine Club hosts another community supper, where no one goes home hungry or alone. In Uxbridge, the Lions Club continues to raise funds for scholarships and eye-care programs, year after year. Church kitchens hum with the sound of soup being ladled into take-out containers for the sick and homebound. This is what strong towns look like—not marble monuments or booming economies, but everyday decency practiced over and over until it becomes second nature.

What's most remarkable is that none of this depends on politics or partisanship. These acts of kindness belong to everyone. They are a reminder that community spirit isn't measured by ideology, but by action—by a willingness to invest time and care into the place you live. It's the slow, patient work of building trust, one conversation, one favor, one shared effort at a time.

So, as the leaves fall and the days shorten, take a cue from the season. Shed what's heavy, share what you can, and make time for one another. Call the neighbor who hasn't been out much lately. Leave a few cans for the food drive. Support the students selling raffle tickets to fund their band trip. Attend a town meeting, even if you'd rather stay home. These are small acts, but they ripple far beyond the moment.

The strength of the Blackstone Valley has never been in its size, but in its steadiness—its habit of caring for people quietly, without fuss or fanfare. That's what keeps our towns grounded through every change and challenge. The world doesn't need louder heroes. It needs more of the kind we already have here.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The high cost of solar power, Part 4

To the Editor:

Eat local. Farm to table!
How about Farm to BESS? Farms are being turned into Battery Energy Storage Systems in your backyard and mine by the Green crazies.

First, the geniuses on Beacon Hill killed local zoning by passing a law that allows anyone to build "an Accessory dwelling unit" on any piece of property in any zone, including exclusively single family home zones.

In typical Communist fashion, the state has an affordable housing crisis so they make you build affordable housing in your own backyard. Move over, garden and chicken coop. A new small home will soon be erected in your backyard. No new parking spaces required and no additional septic system. Park on the lawn!

Second, the Communists on Beacon Hill passed a so-called "Clean green energy" bill which allows so-called Green energy companies to build Battery storage facilities in any zone. Any zone. Next door to your home. Or school.

Cut down the forests! Build solar farms and battery storage on agricultural land!

Instead of requiring these solar panel farms or battery storage facilities to be built on already destroyed land such as along highways or in industrial parks or on top of buildings or landfills or on top of parking lots, Massachusetts says they can build them anywhere. Anywhere. Any who. Anyhow.

The geniuses on Beacon Hill have raised the ire of state Boards of Health which now demand a moratorium until state guidelines are finalized. Let me repeat. A moratorium. The state Energy Resource department still has no guidelines for siting these abominations! Two years into the law, and the state Energy Department still has no guidelines. Typical: come up with a grand plan, but Marxists have no idea how to implement it. Because they are not realistic.

Environmental groups such as Responsible Solar are fighting the state at every step. Let me repeat, the Communists on Beacon Hill are now fighting environmental groups who do not want battery storage or solar panel farms on agricultural or open land or on forested land. Farm to table, remember?

On Oct. 4, ABC News posted this: "Fears of massive battery fires spark local opposition to energy storage projects." ABC explained that, nationally, residents are "pushing back due to fears that the systems will

go up in flames as a massive facility in California did earlier this year."

ABC reported that small towns are enacting moratoriums. "We are not guinea pigs for anybody," said the mayor of Island Park, N.Y., which passed a moratorium in July of 2025, after a battery storage facility was proposed near their village line.

Even in Washington state, that Communist bastion of Antifa and open drug use, many towns have passed moratoriums on battery storage systems.

In August, Lee Zeldin, administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, visited New York State. He said New York was "rushing approvals in order to meet delusional green power goals." Solar farms and battery storage are delusional.

In order to reach "net zero emissions" in our region, we would have to build 12,000 wind turbines and 129 million solar panels and improve the grid at a cost of \$815 billion. For 20 percent of that, we could build gas or nuclear plants. Oh, and not destroy the ocean or whales or farms or open land.

ABC explained that a large battery storage system consists "of rows of shipping containers in a fenced lot with the containers holding hundreds of thousands of lithium cells." Once these catch on fire, there is no way to extinguish it. No way.

Who makes these cells and sells them to Massachusetts? China. Do you want to be calling China when one of these cells catches on fire and sparks a thermal runaway fire? No, me neither. Why does China want to own our infrastructure electric grid anyway? Do you think there is a Spy cell built in? You bet there is.

In Uxbridge, we have six proposed or installed battery storage facilities. One along Route 146 near the solar panel farm. A second one is proposed to be added there. On Chestnut Street, they are cutting down 16 acres of trees to build this monster. Another one is proposed on Hazel Street on agricultural land. The sixth is proposed for Blackstone Street, on open land, in the middle of a strictly residential area. You cannot even build a duplex in this zone. Six Chinese monsters in one town.

We have a right to say no. But Commie Massachusetts has beaten all the other states in prohibiting local control. Communism is here and it is Massachusetts.

Bev Gudanowski
Uxbridge

Pardon me?

To the Editor:

Band of brothers? Nope. Comrades in arms? Nah. Den of thieves? Bingo!

Just four months into his Carnival of Clowns administration, your favorite criminal low-life and convicted felon, El Jefe 47, has done what most presidents wait until the end of their term in office to do — issue pardons to those who have been deemed to have repaid their debt to society. But our Criminal-in-Chief issues pardons for crimes on his behalf (the Jan 6 insurrectionists), crimes that can benefit him financially (Ross Ulbricht), or crimes that are similar to the ones he's been convicted of (Trevor Milton, Brian Kelsey). For a token investment in Trump, Inc. — starting at \$1 million — you can become a member of his exclusive 4F Club – Freed Financial Fraud Felons, headquartered at Mar-a-Lago. The Chrisleys and Paul Walczak are the latest two, with Walczak' mother having recently attended a \$1 million-per-person Trump fundraiser. Trump somehow believes that by pardoning fellow criminals, he is exonerating himself, or as some have suggested, providing examples of Biden's weaponizing of the Department of Justice, while he and Pam Bondi use the DOJ to attack law firms, media outlets, journalist, and colleges. By issuing these pardons, Trump not only frees these white collar criminals, he overturns repayment requirements - they get freedom and the right to keep all the money they stole. Well, all of it that hasn't already ended up in Trump's pocket. As comedian Yakov Smirnoff used to say... "What a country!"

Re: "huffing and puffing" – that was an interesting reaction from someone who was just exposed — let me be kind here — for 'misspeaking' about the CEOs voluntarily helping Musk, the "dizzying positives being delivered," the "clear plan" that changes and roils the markets every other day, the lack of any details on 'waste and fraud uncovered by DOGE. I refuted every statement she made, and her response? "He huffed and puffed!" Maybe that's all one can expect from MAGA Little Red Riding Hood.

As for Mr. G, if you want to criticize someone, at least get your facts straight — it was Kristi Noem who didn't know what 'habeas corpus' meant. And Trump was the "overwhelming choice" for president? Trump received 49.8 percent of the votes. Maybe you failed math along with music theory, but that's less than half. New reports are out showing that Republicans managed to disenfranchise over three million legitimate Democratic voters in the weeks leading up to the election. That's why Trump was able to eke out a victory. Remember him saying "I don't need any more votes?" He knew what the Republicans had planned.

MAGA Mikey then anointed some random black guy on X as a modern day oracle. He posted a litany of contradictions that read like a third grader's logic homework assignment. Let's be honest, Mikey, Trump was never a 'rock star,' he was a reality TV star — as in a scripted fake TV show, which served to divert attention from his six bankruptcies, his sexual assaults, his fraudulent business dealings, and his draft dodging. It obviously worked on you. By the way, the Statue of Liberty was a gift to America. The plane was a gift to Trump. See the difference? Presidents are forbidden from taking gifts from foreign countries. (Of course, Trump fired all the Inspectors General, so there is no one left to enforce the Emoluments Clause.) Trump then tried to say it was a gift to the military... a commercial airliner? He stuck his foot in his mouth – again - when he said

he would put the plane in his presidential library (along with his Sharpie collection). How would a gift to America end up in a presidential library?

Re: "so many good things have happened since Donald J. Trump took office" - you say you don't know where to begin, so let me help you:

Breaking news: Donald Trump's tariffs strangle the American economy as new data reveals that unemployment claims spiked in the first quarter of 2025, while corporate profits crashed.

MAGA is driving this country straight into the ground...

"This is a sign that cracks are starting to form in the economy and that the outlook is deteriorating," said chief economist Christopher Rupkey of FWDBONDS. "There is nothing great about today's jobless claims data and the jump in layoffs may be a harbinger of worse things to come."

According to a new report from the Labor Department, the number of Americans collecting unemployment checks in mid-May hit its highest point in three and a half years.

240,000 people applied for state unemployment benefits for the week that ended on May 25th. Reuters reports that economists had predicted 230,000. They further report that economists believe claims in June will exceed the 205,000-243,000 range for the year.

The math here is simple. The tariffs are predictably causing companies to lay off workers and the trend will only accelerate as economic uncertainty remains. As companies see their margins shrink due to higher import prices, they're looking to labor cuts to make up the difference.

The corporate profit numbers are equally grim. While far less important than the financial struggles of average Americans, these numbers are useful for determining the overall health of the economy.

Profits from current production, factored in with inventory valuation and capital consumption, dropped by a staggering \$118.1 billion in the first quarter according to the Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Gross domestic product fell at an annual rate of two tenths of a percent, marking the first time that the American economy has shrunk in three years. The trade deficit hit record highs despite all of Trump's tough talk.

Consumer spending rose by a measly annual 1.2 percent after it was originally expected to hit 1.8 percent. It constitutes the smallest increase in this crucial metric in three years.

Any way you look at these numbers, they spell disaster. Trump has made Americans poorer while accomplishing absolutely nothing. We have become the laughingstock of the world. Foreign countries know that they can't trust a single thing this White House says, making it impossible for them to negotiate in good faith.

Our only path forward is to ensure that Democrats sweep the mid-term elections so that they can curtail Trump's powers. Until then, our fate is tied to the erratic whims of a madman.

This list doesn't even count the higher food prices, gas prices, the on-going war in Ukraine, the number of his Executive Orders that have been ruled illegal... So many good things indeed!

Next week, I'll provide a list of all the reasons we hate MuskRat, Gabbard, and RFK Jr.

Rick Bevilacqua
Whitinsville

United Way of South Central MA kicks off 2025 Campaign, “United is the Way”

REGION — More than 130 years ago, a small group came together with the big idea that sparked the first United Way: communities get more done when we work as one. United Way Worldwide has once again been recognized on the Chronicle of Philanthropy’s America’s Favorite Charities list, which ranks the U.S. nonprofits that raise the most in gifts of cash and stock. The list identifies cause-driven organizations that most successfully earn direct financial

support from individuals, foundations, and corporations. This year, United Way Worldwide was ranked first on the list. As a member of United Way Worldwide, United Way of South Central MA carries the vision of communities working together forward, creating pathways to better health, education, and job opportunities for all. We connected more than 19,000 people to resources and opportunities

this past year alone. We are inviting you to take action because United is the Way to a better tomorrow. It’s the way we support our neighbors facing challenges today. It’s the way we create lasting change for all the residents of Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Webster. When people like you come together, your generosity is multiplied by the power of community. Together, we can improve

access to quality health insurance, education and care, support youth success from childhood through college and career, open pathways to financial freedom for individuals and families, and connect people to urgent resources, from social services to disaster relief. Join us in shaping a thriving future for South Central MA. For more information or to donate, please visit our Web site, www.uwscm.org.

Advertise. Inspire. Sell.

Idea in the mind!

POSITIVELY SPEAKING TOBY MOORE

Andrew Carnegie was born on Nov. 25, 1835, in Dunfermline, Scotland. In 1848, his family crossed the Atlantic and squeezed into a single rented room near Pittsburgh. Machines had wiped out his father's weaving trade. His mother took in mending and sold bread to keep them alive. No money. No connections. Schooling cut short. Odds of success? Near zero. At 13—before child labor laws or safety nets—he was expected to earn a living. He worked from dusk till dawn for \$1.20 a week. Just enough to keep the rent paid. He clawed his way to a telegraph office—first as a messenger, then as an operator, sending messages across the wire faster than any train. It opened a door to the Pennsylvania Railroad. There, for the first time, he saw the inner workings of power. He watched the men at the top. He took notes. And somewhere along those tracks, he made a quiet decision: He wouldn't just ride the rails—he'd own them. He moved forward with that idea, built a steel empire, and became the wealthiest man alive. Carnegie then turned to a bigger question: What creates success? In 1908, he met a young reporter named Napoleon Hill and dared him to find the answer. He opened doors to tycoons and inventors, told Hill to study them, and to write the playbook. Years later, Hill delivered it—first in “The Law of Success,” then in “Think and Grow Rich.” That book went on to sell over 70 million copies—and it's still reprinted and read

around the world. Of all the ideas Carnegie gave Hill, one grips me most. He reportedly said: "Any idea that is held in the mind—emphasized, feared, or revered—begins at once to clothe itself in the most convenient and appropriate form." Burn that into your mind! Let's break it down. "Any idea held in the mind..." What does it mean to hold an idea? It means you keep it alive. You see it in your mind every day. You write it down. You say it out loud. You paste it on your fridge. You carve time for it. You take small, doable steps now—not later. "...Emphasized, feared, or revered..." To emphasize means to want it deeply. You think about it often. You're willing to give up comforts and distractions to chase it. To fear it means the right kind of fear—the voice that whispers, "If I don't act, this dream will die." It gets you out of bed. It drives you to do the hard thing first. To revere it means to honor it. You treat it like a calling. You protect it from doubt, from cynics, from your own excuses. "...begins at once to clothe itself

in the most convenient, appropriate form." What happened to Carnegie when his dream began to clothe itself? The world began to respond. A skill put him near railroad men. A boom in demand met him on the tracks. A new way to make steel found him. Partners appeared. Doors opened. Setbacks drove him forward. The idea became motion, then matter. It put on names, places, timing, and tools—until it wasn't an idea anymore. It was his life. Now you ask: When will my dream happen? When farmers plant seeds, they don't demand a harvest tomorrow. They water. They weed. They walk the rows before sunrise. They fight off the pests, mend broken fences, pray for rain, and rise again. When a child is conceived, no mother asks, "Why isn't the baby born yet?" She nourishes it for nine months, knowing its time will come. So it is with your dream. One of the great teachers of human potential, Bob Proctor, taught that you may not know a dream's gestation time, but you can shorten it through focus and concentration. Show up when it's boring. Work when it's hard. Believe when no one sees. Be patient like a farmer. Fierce like a parent. Steady like the sun. If you hold the picture in your mind, and you move your feet— If you believe through the silence, Work through the doubt, Stay lit by a desire that doesn't dim—Then one day, your dream, dressed in real life, will walk out to meet you.



Community Connection

PLUMBING

JOHN DALY PLUMBING
The Homeowners Plumber, SINCE 1988
Faucets, Toilets, Pipe Repair, Garbage Disposals, Sinks, Vanities, Shower Valves, Outside Hose Connections, New Kitchen Sink Strainers and Undersink Re-Pipes, Sump Pumps, Sink Drain Cleaning,
Buy What You Like And I Will Install.
Fully Licensed And Insured, License Number MPL-21763-J
Call 508 304 7816 • jdrainman714@aol.com

For Advertising Information Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Charlton Oil Company
508-248-9797 Propane

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL
0-50	\$5.70	300-500	\$2.55
50-75	\$3.40	500 PLUS	\$2.40
75-150	\$3.05	Duel Fuel	\$3.75
150-300	\$2.75	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00

Tanks Filled to 80% Driver Discretion

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!
Sunday price 10/12/25 was **\$2.99** per gallon*
100 gallon minimum
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Crooked Creek Farm
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up now!

Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.crookedcreekfarmma.org

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

Find Us on Social Media

Thrift shop finds



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA
Many readers of this column enjoy attending estate sales or stopping when they see a “yard sale” sign. Some of you also like hunting for bargains at estate sales. In today's column, I'll share some exciting thrift shop, estate sale, and yard sale finds that took place this year, along with

some shipwreck treasures that were recently discovered. Some thrift shop buyers post their finds online on Reddit, and Yahoo! News recently shared a few. One buyer paid \$40 for a gold ring that was estimated to be worth \$162. Elsewhere, a Canadian woman found a diamond and pearl ring in a “store grab bag” from a Canadian thrift store which could also sell in the low hundreds of dollars. Another thrift store buyer found a diamond ring in a “bulk trash pile.” The diamond ring could sell in the



low to mid-hundreds. An estate sale buyer recently

found the sale of their dreams, according to a “Newsweek” article. The estate sale buyer/dealer posted live on social media when they were allowed inside the garage door at an estate sale. They said they were the third person to enter the sale and there were about 200 people waiting to come in. The dealer posted images of a statue which was titled “Dying Gaul” priced at \$8. There was what looks to be a Victorian era figural incense burner marked for \$5. The buyer said that they bought a Chinese

vase for \$1 and had already been offered \$2,500 for it. The dealer estimated that their \$3,000 in purchases would yield \$30,000. An Ohio couple had a great unexpected find when they decided to stop at a thrift shop while driving home. As they were leaving the shop, a gold frame caught the woman's eye, according to the “U.S. Sun.” She purchased it for \$2.90. When she got in the car, she noticed a label that said “Johann Berthelsen.” She at first thought Berthelsen was a local painter, but her research

later showed he was a well-known artist. She consigned it to a local auction house, and it brought \$2,267. Switching gears to the seas, coins from a 1715 Spanish shipwreck were just discovered in Florida, according to NBC News. Over 1,000 gold and silver coins were aboard the ship when a hurricane sank it off “Florida's Treasure Coast.” The coins include pieces of eight, which could be broken into eight pieces and then spent individually. The coins are estimated to be worth \$1 million.

Other items like a gemstone and gold necklace were also pulled from the wreck. Whether you're diving 100 feet down into the ocean or diving into a thrift store jewelry box, you may be lucky enough to find some treasures too. Our single-collector Civil War memorabilia auction will be online later this month. There is still time to consign for our major auction that will follow. We are accepting consignments of gold, platinum, diamonds, and other fine jewelry, sterling silver flatware and holloware, paintings, statues, gold and silver coins, and other valuable antiques and collectibles. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events. Contact us to consign items or for auction information at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/ Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique, Collectibles Auctions and Appraisal Services info@centralmassauctions.com or (508-612-6111)

CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY

LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEK!

10/17 Fender Road

Get your tickets for the Comedy Show on 11/22/2025

Check out our Fall Menu

Please call 774-449-8333 for reservations, take-out or reserve online 308lakeside.com

Check out the new Fall/Winter menu

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK 11 - CLOSE

CLOSED MONDAYS

Please visit our website or Facebook page for our full menu.

308 MAIN STREET EAST BROOKFIELD 774-449-8333 308LAKESIDE.COM

Find us on Facebook

EVERYBODY TALKS About Ford and Lamoureux Ford!

LAMOUREUX

Best Vehicle Lineup! Best Sales Experience!

Visit us on-line at lamoureuxford.com

Treat Yourself, It's Time!

WE MAKE IT EASY!

366 E. Main Street, Rte. 9 • East Brookfield

877-LAM-FORD or 508-885-1000

SALES HOURS: Mon-Thurs 8:30am-6pm • Fri 8:30am-6pm • Sat 8:30am-3pm

SERVICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm • Sat 8am-Noon Sun-Closed

Marlborough to host New England’s largest holistic health & wellness event

MARLBOROUGH — The 18th Annual Natural Living Expo, New England’s largest holistic health and wellness event, will return to Marlborough’s Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel & Trade Center on Nov. 8 & 9 for an enthusiastic crowd of more than 5,000 attendees. The Trade Center and Hotel are located at 181 Boston Post Rd. West (Route 20), Marlborough.

The much-awaited annual alternative health event, which attracts a wide variety of exhibitors and speakers, draws thousands of attendees looking for the best holistic healthcare information, practitioners and products. Sponsored by Uxbridge-based SpiritofChange.org holistic magazine, the expo provides a unique opportunity to connect in person with alternative health and nutri-



tion experts, healing schools and organizations, wellness products, premium natural beauty care lines, and transformational and spiritual offerings you will not find gathered together anywhere else in New England.

The \$21 prepaid weekend admission includes access to the Trade Center with 200 exhibitors, healthy food vendors both

inside and outdoors, plus over 60 workshops held at the adjoining Best Western Hotel. The prepaid admission also includes a free expo tote bag. Tickets purchased at the door are \$25. New this year, a Sunday late entry ticket offers workshop and exhibit hall access from 1-4:30 p.m. for \$10.

Exhibits at the Trade Center include natural health products

and information, trusted wellness consultants, access to spiritual and transformational opportunities, talented intuitive readers, mini healing sessions, self-care demos, all-natural beauty care, clothing, thousands of crystals, unique jewelry, home décor and holiday shopping, plus product samples to taste and try in person. This year’s show

features many locally made health food products from exhibitors and food vendors in the dining area.

“This is the only venue in New England with access to so many unique and high quality natural healing exhibitors from around the country,” commented event founder and producer, Michella Brudner. “If you are interested in alternative medicine, especially to keep your immune systems strong in the face of winter flus, the Natural Living Expo is the place to start your learning or expand on it. Come talk to our exhibitors to learn how to boost your immunity naturally.”

The expo schedule offers over 60 one-hour work-

shops included in the weekend admission. A sample of workshop titles includes: “Sole Focus: How Your Feet Affect Your Wellness”; “Alzheimer’s Dementia Prevention and Treatment”; “Empowering the Healer Within”; “Your Higher Self: Intuition and Quantum Consciousness”;

“Emotional First Aid”; “Mediumship and Spirit Drawing Demonstration”; “Tea with a Homeopath,” plus many more. View the complete event guide.

Weekend admission to the expo is \$21 in advance online, and \$25 at the door. Kids under 12 years old are free. Free re-admission on Sunday

is available with your wristband. Onsite parking is free. Expo hours are Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Visit www.naturalexpo.org for discounts, weekend accommodation recommendations and a full listing of exhibits and workshop schedules. Email michella@naturalexpo.org for more details.

Collect and save some heirloom vegetable seeds



Melinda Myers

The disease-resistant Abe Lincoln heirloom tomato was introduced in Illinois in 1923.



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

Be a part of history and save money when planting next year’s garden. Collect and save the seeds from your favorite heirloom tomatoes, peppers, beans and peas this fall.

Seeds of heirloom plants have been collected and passed along for generations, producing offspring identical to the parent plant. Hybrids on the other hand involve crossing different plants to create a unique or improved variety. Saved seeds from hybrid plants do not grow into plants with all the same characteristics as the parent plant.

Heirloom peas and beans are generally self-pollinated, so they form seeds that will grow into plants like the parent plant. Allow the peas and beans you plan on saving to dry on the plant. Once the pods turn brown and the seeds rattle inside, they are ready to harvest. This is about six weeks

after you harvest snap beans for eating and about four weeks after the normal picking stage for peas.

Protect plants from frost or pull them out of the ground and hang them in a cool dry location, so the pods can finish drying if needed. Remove the pods from the plants, spread them out and allow them to further dry indoors for about two weeks.

Remove the seeds from the dried pods, store in an airtight opaque container in a cool dark location. You may want to store different varieties separately in paper packets and all the packets in one large airtight container. Label the seeds with the varietal name and date they were collected. Store in a cool location.

Saving seeds from tomatoes requires a bit different preparation. Once the fruit is fully ripe scoop out the gelatinous center. Place this in a container of

water set in a warm location to ferment. Swirl or stir the contents twice a day. After about a week the good seeds will sink to the bottom of the container.

Remove and compost the layer of fermented tomato waste and the inferior seeds floating on the surface. Pour the remaining water and the good seeds sitting on the bottom of the container through a fine mesh strainer. Rinse the seeds, removing any of the gelatinous material that may remain. Spread the seeds on a piece of paper to dry.

Once dry, place the seeds in an envelope labeled with the date and variety and set in a sealed jar or plastic container. Store in the refrigerator or other consistently cool location until it’s time to start them for next season.

Use your saved seeds the following year for the best results. Then repeat each season.

Start with these and then consider trying other open-pollinated vegetables, flowers and even tree and shrub seeds. You’ll find helpful information in books, online and on the Seed Savers Exchange web-

site. Saving your own seeds can help you save money while preserving and planting a bit of gardening history.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the *Midwest Gardener’s Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” streaming courses* and the nationally syndicated *Melinda’s Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

FIND YOUR BEST NIGHT'S SLEEP TODAY

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Crown Jewel by Sealy® Jewel Nile Queen Mattress Only

\$399*

Crown Jewel by Sealy® Opal House Firm or Plush Queen Mattress Only

\$649*

Crown Jewel by Sealy® Royal Cove Firm or Plush Queen Mattress Only

\$799*

Upgrade to an Adjustable Base

CARRYING THE TOP BRANDS

STEARNS & FOSTER®

LAYAWAY* • FREE DELIVERY & REMOVAL* • FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE*

SUNDEEN FURNITURE

241 Providence Rd. Whitinsville, MA 01588 (508) 234-8777

Mon.-Wed. 9:30 AM-6 PM
Thurs.-Fri. 9:30 AM-7 PM
Sat. 9:30 AM-6 PM/Sun. 11 AM-5 PM

*Terms and conditions apply. See store for details. Copyright 2025 Sealy, Inc. All rights reserved.

ROOFING IS OUR THING. NO ONE DOES IT BETTER.

At Andrew Porter Contracting, Inc., **honesty, transparency and affordability** come standard with every job. We'll walk you through everything — from a detailed explanation of what's included in your estimate, to the materials we use and why. With APC, you'll get everything you need, and nothing you don't need!

What you WON'T get:	What you WILL get:
Complicated or vague estimates	An easy-to-understand, comprehensive estimate
Mystery fees and upcharges	Workmanship guarantee that we will stand by
Cutting corners	Above-industry standard installation practices
Gimmicky promotions	Real \$AVING\$ that won't cost you later on
Slimy sales rep	A reputable owner with a slightly questionable beard

SCAN TO TEXT US!

Call or text 774-452-2129, or visit APCROOFS.com.
Financing available and major credit cards accepted.

ANDREW PORTER
CONTRACTING, INC

TOP-RATED LOCAL ROOFING CONTRACTOR SERVING CHARLTON AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

OBITUARIES

Carol Ebbeling, 90

Whitinsville - Carol B. Ebbeling, 90, a lifelong resident of Whitinsville passed away on Thursday, October 9, 2025 after a short residence at Cornerstone Assisted Living in Milford.

Carol was the wife of the late Kenneth Ebbeling for 70 happy years. Carol loved being Ken's wife and soulmate, and they shared a lifetime together enjoying each other's company in all they did and raising a daughter, Lynn. Carol took pride in her home and enjoyed reading, cooking, knitting, crocheting and being a mother. She will be remembered by friends and family for her sweet smile, her sparkling blue eyes, and her kindness. As a sales clerk at Louis Fashion Shop and Bakers Department Store, she enjoyed making many friendships that lasted for years.

Carol leaves her daughter, Lynn Paresky, and son-in-law, Lee Paresky of Douglas. Carol and Ken were happiest when their family was together, spending time with Lynn and Lee at their home



in Douglas and taking short trips. They also loved spending time with Lynn and Lee's dogs over the years. Carol often referred to herself as "Grammy" when talking about them.

Those who knew Carol were always surprised to learn that she loved riding on the back of Ken's motorcycle with him, riding around the local area, going out to eat, and going to their favorite spots at the Cape, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Carol was the daughter of the late Charles and Theresa (Dufries) Willard and the sister of Charles, Jr. ad Vernon Willard who predeceased her.

A graveside funeral service will be held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 11 AM in Pine Grove Cemetery, Linwood Ave. in Whitinsville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, MA/NH chapter, 320 Nevada Street, Suite 201, Newton, MA 02459.

Beverly Ruth Keeler

Webster/formerly of Whitinsville-- Beverly Ruth Keeler passed away peacefully on September 27, 2005, at Brookside Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Webster, Massachusetts.

Bev was born July 11, 1936, in Whitinsville to Ruth Campbell and Robert F. Keeler. Bev graduated from Northbridge High School in 1954 where she was a cheerleader and active in Girl Scouts. In 1958, she graduated from Framingham State College with a degree in Education. She was proud to be the Class President and organized many reunions after graduation. She received her master's degree from Worcester State.

After graduating, Bev started her teaching career in Northbridge followed by 4 years in Upper Darby, PA but her pride and joy was spending 33 years at the Mendon-Upton School District. She enjoyed working with the students and loved her colleagues. She always had a story to tell about her adventures in teaching including her pants falling



down in class!

Bev contributed to the community in her many volunteer roles including Friends of Northbridge Elders, Whitinsville Woman's Club, Northbridge Board of Registrars and United Presbyterian Church. Bev loved people along with a good lobster! She spent many summers at her cottage on Squam Lake and later vacationed on the coast of Maine. She enjoyed reading and always believed what she read even if it came from the National Enquirer.

Bev was predeceased by her parents and brother, Robert (Bobby). She leaves her nephew, Bruce Keeler (Sheila Dever), niece Candance Olsen (Mike), sister-in-law Karen Nagle and cousins Judith Condrate (Robert) and Linda St. John (James). Though she never had children of her own, she spoiled her friends' children and considered them hers including the Aldrich, Barry, Greene/Hackathorn, and Igo families.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the United Presbyterian Church, 7 Spring Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588, to the attention of the Marion Boyd Endowment Fund.

A funeral service will be held on Friday October 24, 2025, at 11 AM in the United Presbyterian Church, Cottage Street, Whitinsville, with a burial to follow at Pine Grove Cemetery, 241 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville. Carr Funeral Home, 24 Hill St., Whitinsville, is conducting services. To share a memory or condolence, please visit www.carr-funeralhome.com



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

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

(508) 278-2200 - Reaches All Locations

JackmanFuneralHome@yahoo.com ~ JackmanFuneralHomes.com



Uxbridge • Whitinsville • Milford

www.bumafuneralhome.com

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by David M. Bouley to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Residential Mortgage Services, Inc., dated September 17, 2019 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61067, Page 164, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Residential Mortgage Services, Inc., its successors and assigns to PHH Mortgage Corporation, recorded on May 10, 2024, in Book No. 70493, at Page 206

PHH Mortgage Corporation to Selene Finance, LP, recorded on December 3, 2024, in Book No. 71367, at Page 300 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on November 4, 2025, on the mortgaged premises located at 17 D Street, Unit C, DeVille Condominiums, Whitinsville (Northbridge), Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

The Unit known as Unit No. C in the DeVille Condominium located at 17 D Street, (Whitinsville) Northbridge, Massachusetts, and established pursuant to the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 183A by Master Deed dated February 3, 2005 and filed with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 35655, Page 363. ("The Master Deed"). Said Unit is conveyed together with an undivided percentage interest in the common areas and facilities of the property ("Common Elements") as described in said Master Deed as being attributed to the Unit, as may from time to time be amended. The Unit is conveyed subject to and with the benefit of the provisions of M.G.L.A. Chapter 183A, and the said Master Deed and the Declaration of Condominium Trust, dated February 3, 2005 and recorded in Book 35656, Page 1, all as may be amended (Collectively the "Condominium Documents").

For mortgagor's(s) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61067, Page 161.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens,

improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

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

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

SELENE FINANCE LP
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
28145
October 10, 2025
October 17, 2025
October 24, 2025

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. WO25P3439EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Richard G Vineyard
Date of Death: 08/05/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Kelly DiMillo of Plymouth MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Kelly DiMillo of Plymouth MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety**

on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/04/2025.**

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: October 03, 2025
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 17, 2025

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. WO25P3405EA
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Estate Of: **Byron M Deane, Jr.**
Date of Death: 05/09/2025
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner
Louise A Deane of Whitinsville MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Louise A Deane of Whitinsville MA has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory

and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

October 17, 2025

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. WO25P3416EA
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Estate Of: **Anna M DiLorenzo**
Date of Death: June 28,2025
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner
Antonio DiLorenzo of Northbridge MA
Petitioner
Pasqua Reed of Whitinsville MA a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Petitioner
Antonio DiLorenzo of Northbridge MA
Pasqua Reed of Whitinsville MA has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

October 17, 2025

Plummer Place

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

The following events will take place at Plummer Place, Home of the Northbridge Senior Center. We are located at 20 Highland St. in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508) 234-2002. All programs require signing up by calling or stopping by our Main Office. Northbridge residents have priority for programming and events.

Regular Programs:
Monday, October 20th
Representative David Muradian's Office Hours
10:00am-11:00am

Monday, October 20th Grief Support Group
1:30pm-2:30pm
NO Meditation on Thursday, October 23rd

October 23rd — Writing Your Way Writer's Group
This group will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 2:30pm-3:30pm. All writing levels/experience are welcome to attend! Please call Lori for more information.

Tuesday, October 28th
9:30am Dull Men's Club
Guest Speaker Joel Brown, Veterans

Story Sharing

Special Events and Activities:
Halloween Harvest Party
Thursday, October 30th from 12:00pm-1:00pm.
There are a few spots left for Plummer Place's Halloween Harvest Party! Entertainment by Roger Tincknell and themed luncheon. Tickets are \$10 each, limit of 2 tickets per person and Northbridge residents have priority. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the main office. Costumes are encouraged and costume prizes will be awarded! Get your tickets now before we sell out! This program is sponsored by Unibank and a grant from the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Medicare Open Enrollment Program
Tuesday, November 4th
10:30am-11:30am
Join us for an important meeting to discuss updates to Medicare and any health or drug plan changes. Sponsored by SHINE. SHINE counselors provide Medicare counseling free of charge. Don't wait until it's too late.
The Brew Crew
Wednesday, November 5th

9:30am-10:30am
Come and enjoy Plummer Place's newest program offering guest speakers, timely topics, and fun activities to jump start your day. All are welcome and treats, coffee/tea are on us! November's guest speaker is: Northbridge Police Chief, Tim Labrie. Please drop in and join us!

Great American Landmarks
Wednesday, November 5th
1:00pm-2:00pm
Please join us for this enjoyable, patriotic event and learn about great American Landmarks such as the USS Arizona Memorial, Hoover Dam, and the Grand Canyon.

Senior Veteran's Breakfast
Thursday, November 6th
9:30am-10:30am
Please join us for this free event to honor our beloved senior veterans. Northbridge residents have priority. Two ticket limit per person. Tickets are available at the main office, and you must have a ticket to attend. Sponsored by the Northbridge Police Association, Unibank, FINE, and Representative David Muradian. Please note: if you have attended this program in the past, your ticket is being mailed to you. Any questions, please call Amy Cowen, program and volunteer coordinator at (508) 234-2002 x1305.



Drivers

YOU HOLD THE KEY TO OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

Each year, thousands of schoolchildren are killed or injured by automobiles. Remember, you hold the key to their safety and future in your hands.

Please drive carefully.



Home Fall Auto

AUTO BODY / REPAIRS



KEARNS

COLLISION REPAIR

Since 1969
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services
Warrantied Work & Repairs
Diagnostics • A/C Repair
Tune Ups & Engine Repair
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)
Northbridge, MA 01534
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231
www.kearnscollision.com
Fully Certified • RS# 2678

BEST WINDOW COMPANY

Beautiful, Efficient, Affordable
WINDOWS & DOORS



KUBALA
HOME IMPROVEMENT
Your Window & Door Expert

Award Winning High Performance
Windows & Doors



Lifetime Warranty

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE

CALL NOW FOR EXCLUSIVE SPRING SAVINGS
508-784-1550

MA CSL100114 | MA HIC150118 | CT HIC0619712

BUILDER



Todd A. Ethier

TAE

B • U • I • L • D • E • R
INCORPORATED

Remodeling Expert

- ◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS
- ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ GARAGES
- ◆ SIDING ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS
- ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS
- ◆ KITCHEN ◆ BATHS

Quality Building Since 1985
Licensed & Insured
508-764-2293 ◆ 774-230-3967

LAWNMOWERS



WORCESTER COUNTY LAWMOWER

ALWAYS THE BEST SERVICE

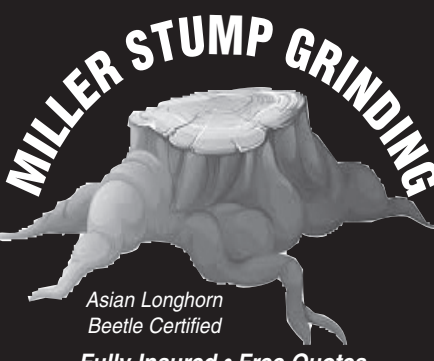


Snowblower & Generator Repair
Tractor Service
Tune-Ups & Repairs
Pickup & Delivery

508-987-2775
492 Main St Oxford
WORCESTERCOUNTY LAWMOWER.COM



Stump Grinding



MILLER STUMP GRINDING

Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified

Fully Insured • Free Quotes

REASONABLE RATES
PROMPT SERVICE

ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER
OWNERS / OPERATORS

508-688-2159

For Advertising Information
Call 774-200-7308
email:mikaela@stonebridge press.news

CHIMNEYS/MASONRY

CHIMNEY CLEANINGS

Starting at \$99

ALL KINDS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE WORK

New & Repairs, Repointing, Rebuilding, Re-lining, Waterproofing, Foundation & Chimney Repair, New & Stair Repair, Concrete Walkways, Stonewalls, New Roofs, Construction & Carpentry.

Need to get it done? Call me!

-FREE Estimates-
Quality Chimney
(508)752-1003

Home Improvement

BONETTI'S

Home Improvement

- Roofing
- Siding
- Decks
- Remodeling
- Windows
- Doors
- Basement Finishing
- Gutters Cleaning
- Pressure Washing
- Painting Landscaping

Over 25 Years Experience
Residential Specialist

Licensed and Insured
128231

508-347-4906
Cell 508-688-0072

MASONRY



CJ

MASONRY HARDSCAPE
RETAINING WALLS
OUTDOOR LIVING CONSTRUCTION

- Chimney Repair
- Foundation Repair
- Steps, Patios
- Water Proofing
- Walkways
- Stone Veneer
- Brick and Block Work
- Cord Wood

Brian French
(413)222-5542
cjmasonryhardscape@gmail.com

GJ LEDUC PAINTING

Interior and Exterior

- Power Washing
- Wallpapering
- General Repair
- Fully Insured
- Over 40+ Years Experience

508-764-8548
774-230-8373

PAINTING

Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS

Finest Craftsmanship Since 1979

Interior-Exterior
Paints, Stains,
Wallpaper and
Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Free Estimates
774.452.0321

Plumbing



MIKE LAMBERT'S PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

Commercial, Residential, New Construction

369 Main St,
Ste 4
Spencer, MA
1-833-969-4330
Fully Insured

MIKELAMBERTSPANDH@GMAIL.COM

Got Space?

we do.

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

ROOFING

David Barbale ROOFING

Roofing/Gutters Repair Work

Fully Licensed and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127
MA HIC. LIC #1079721
INS. # CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709
O: 508-248-6709
davidbarbale.com

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING

Read our reviews at the Better Business Bureau. A+ rating and accredited member since 2009.

Call Bill Toll-Free
1-866-961-Roof
508-765-0100

Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available

MA Reg #153955
CSL #095459
CT-HIC #0638641

Fully Insured, Free Estimates
Family Owned and Operated
Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards



Window Cleaning

Crystal Clear Window Cleaning

Residential
Commercial
Professional

Spencer, MA

Sean McGrail
(774)633-4309

Seancmcgrail21@aol.com



Advertise on this page for one low price!

Get 7 papers.
Call 774-200-7308

- Spencer New Leader
- Sturbridge Villager
- Charlton Villager
- Southbridge News
- Webster Times
- Auburn News
- Blackstone Valley Tribune

Keep pets safe this Halloween

Halloween is an annual celebration that many children and adults look forward to each October. From the mysterious and the macabre to the goofy and gregarious, Halloween speaks to people in many different ways. And with the opportunity to accumulate several pounds of sugary treasure after a few hours of trick-or-treating, is it any wonder celebrants love Halloween?

While Halloween hijinks may be ideal fun for plenty of ghosts and ghouls, companion animals may not be so enthusiastic come October 31. In fact, Halloween can be a source of stress and even dangerous for many pets. Here are some things pet parents should keep in mind prior to Halloween.

Costumes

Pet costumes are popular and can help owners and their pets coordinate for Halloween. Some pets may find costumes uncomfortable or frightening. For those with a mind toward creative costume coordination, introducing the costume to the pet slowly and gradually can help ease the transition. Allow the pet to sniff the costume and put treats nearby to indicate it is no threat. If the pet



late. Chocolate is toxic and particularly dangerous to dogs. Chocolate with high amounts of cacao is especially dangerous. Raisins and gum with the artificial sweetener xylitol also are problematic. Candy wrappers can get stuck in the intestinal tract and cause a life-threatening blockage. Lock candy away so pets can't get into it.

Nerves

Many youngsters will ring the door bell on Halloween. Anxious pets, and even those that normally aren't nervous with visitors, may be overwhelmed. Keep pets in a dark, calm room away from the door to reduce anxiety and make it less likely skittish pets will escape the home and get lost.

Understanding common Halloween dangers can help keep pets safe on this fun-filled holiday.

simply will not warm to the idea of a costume, it's best not to force the issue.

Glow sticks

Glow sticks are a safe way for children to enjoy some spooky fun on Halloween night and become more visible when the sun sets. But those glow sticks may be attractive to pets and they can bite them, ingesting the liquid. The ASPCA Animal Poison

Control Center says typically pets experience a mild and self-limiting taste reaction to glow stick liquid. Wiping off the excess with a damp cloth to help prevent the pet from licking again and having another reaction can help.

Accessibility to candy

One of the biggest Halloween dangers for pets is the accessibility of candy, especially choco-

Affordable family-friendly activities

Parents know that the cost of living has risen dramatically in recent years. There are numerous metrics to determine just how much more people must spend to get by, but one that families can readily identify with is the cost of groceries, which the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimated would increase by more than 2 percent in 2025.

Increased costs across the board underscore the need for families to find affordable ways to have fun together. Thankfully, there are many ways for families to get out of the house and have fun without breaking the bank.

Visit the local library. Libraries are home to hundreds of books that all can be borrowed free of charge, but these local institutions also offer much more at no cost. Many libraries host numerous arts and crafts programs for kids, weekly board game gatherings for adults, free movie rent-

als ideal for family movie nights, and educational series and programs for adults and children alike.

Take in some scholastic sports. Families that love their sports can get some affordable live action that's closer to home than the local professional teams. Friday night high school football games under the lights can be a fun way to satisfy a love of live sports and provides a great opportunity to engage with the larger community. Once the temperatures dip, let indoor sports seasons provide a great way to get out of the house during a time of year when it can be easy to go a little stir crazy.

Enjoy the great outdoors. Regardless of which season it might be, the great outdoors provides endless opportunities for family-friendly fun. Community swimming pools can be a great place to cool off in summer, while local, state or

national parks offer ample activities families can enjoy together. Hiking, fishing, kayaking, cycling, and other activities are affordable and fun, making them ideal options on weekend afternoons regardless of what the weather is like.

See a show at a community theater. If it's culture families are looking for, community theater programs are wonderful options to consider. Local community theaters perform classic or even original productions at minimal cost. Families also can consider local high school productions, where they might just come across tomorrow's A-list stars before they make a name for themselves.

A rising cost of living can make it hard for modern families to make ends meet. When looking for ways to have fun together, families have a wealth of free or low-cost options to consider.

Home Town Service.
Town-to-Town

CLASSIFIEDS

774-200-7308

Place your ad today!

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:

Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need. 24/7 Support Generous Reimbursement, \$1000 Sign-On Bonus. Call For Details.

Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care.
(508)829-6769

4 ALMOST NEW WINTER SNOW TIRES
(2 - 3 thousand miles)
Firestone Winterforce LT tires.
Size, LT225/75 R16
(40,000 mile tread life)
Paid \$160.00 each.
Sell for \$80.00 each.
John (508)596-8065

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED:
WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc. Over 40 years' experience.
Call David (508) 688-0847.
I'LL COME TO YOU!

Friday's Child

Kamren
Age 8
Registration #9052

Kamren is a resilient and fun-loving boy with a bright, inquisitive nature. He has a wonderful ability to advocate for himself and share his needs, which speaks to his strength and self-awareness. Affectionate and engaging, Kamren's genuine happiness and warmth make him a joy to be around. He might even describe himself as "super fun and always ready to play!"

Kamren loves spending time outside, especially swinging and playing active games with others. He also enjoys building with Legos and exploring activities that engage his senses, such as sand, water, and playdough. These experiences allow him to be creative and adventurous in his own way.

When it comes to food, Kamren's favorites include waffles, pasta, and ice cream—and he'll never turn down a Sprite!

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/22660622673>

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 visit www.mareinc.org . Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.

Glickman Kovago & Jacobs

25 ELM STREET | SOUTHBRIDGE, MA

9,536-SF HISTORIC OFFICE BUILDING FOR SALE

- Historical building, also known as Tiffany-Leonard House, built in 1832
- Large Executive Offices with Elegant Finishes and High Ceilings
- Large Open Concept Cubicle Areas

- Listing price: \$550,000
- Building size: 9,536 SF
- Lot size: 13,939 SF
- Loading docks: (1) tailgate height
- Basement: partial | Unfinished

MORE INFO:

JAMES GLICKMAN
Principal
508-769-5007
jglickman@glickmankovago.com

JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President
508-868-3765
jdglickman@glickmankovago.com

Tips to winterize your vehicle

The elements pose a unique challenge to motor vehicles, and that's particularly notable when seasons change. Though the shift from spring to summer or even summer to fall may not be too significant, drivers who want to safeguard their vehicles would be wise to take certain measures to prepare their cars or trucks for winter weather.

Winterizing a car can be an important part of vehicle maintenance. That's particularly true for vehicle owners who live in regions where winter is marked by especially cold temperatures and/or significant snowfall. As fall gives way to winter, drivers can take these steps to winterize their vehicles.

• Address tires and tire pressure. The experts at Kelley Blue Book note the danger of aging and/or poorly inflated tires,

particularly in winter. Icy, wet and/or snow-covered roads can be dangerous to traverse, so it benefits drivers to examine their tires prior to winter. Worn down treads reduce traction and make it more difficult for vehicles to stop, which is already challenging on roads where ice is present. It's equally important to keep tires properly inflated, as KBB reports each 10-degree dip in temperature can lead to a one-pound loss in air pressure. Poorly inflated tires can decrease performance and safety on the road.

• Check the battery and replace it, if necessary. Another step to winterize a car involves the battery that helps to keep the vehicle running. The automotive experts at Firestone note that sinking temperatures force the chemical reaction within vehicle batteries

to slow, which reduces the amount of power the battery can generate. In fact, Firestone estimates a battery can lose as much as 60 percent of its strength in freezing temperatures. Firestone urges drivers to get a battery assessment test prior to winter to ensure the battery is healthy enough to endure the coming months. If the assessment indicates the battery is weak, replace it prior to winter.

• Check fluid levels. Routine vehicle maintenance at an auto body shop or car dealership typically involves checking and topping off fluid levels. Book such an appointment in advance of winter to ensure the vehicle has coolant, which KBB notes is formulated to resist freezing. Without sufficient coolant, a vehicle engine can suffer significant damage. Windshield washer

fluid also should be filled to ensure the windshield can be sufficiently cleaned of salt during and after snowstorms. A pre-winter oil change also can help the vehicle run smoothly throughout the colder months.

• Inspect belts and hoses. KBB notes cold weather weakens belts and hoses, which can become brittle and fail in low temperatures. Belts and hoses should be checked prior to winter. Engines can overheat, electrical system problems can emerge and power steering may be compromised if belts and hoses are allowed to fall into disrepair.

Winter can be a challenging time of year for cars and trucks. Various strategies to winterize a car before the mercury drops can make it safer to be on the road when the weather turns cold.



HOPE
REAL ESTATE GROUP
43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570
Finest Realtor Associates to Serve You!

hope2own.com
508.943.4333
Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

We Want Your Listings!

Featured Listing
DUDLEY - 13 OXFORD AVE

2 -FAMILY offers 2,354 SF of living area! 2 Large Apartments, 5 Spacious Rms, 2 BRs, 1 Bath each. Beautiful grand front entry foyer with the charm of yesteryear! double French doors & other unique features. Plenty of Natural light that flows into these apartments! 2nd flr apt has a private enclosed rear entry with it's own outside covered porch. Updates were done to electric & roof to accommodate Solar Panels. Property was family occupied **\$415,000.**

Webster Lake - 302 Killdeer Island PANORAMIC VIEWS!



Renovated + move-in ready lakefront home w/1,700+/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Primary suite w/private bath! 2 add'l bedrooms, 2nd Full bath. Lower level family room w/walkout to water. Wraparound deck, new vinyl railings, terraced yard, sandy beach, professional landscaping. Many updates. **\$775,000**

Snug Harbor Villa! WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT



WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT LIVING AT IT'S FINEST!
THE VILLA'S at SNUG HARBOR! ** END UNIT** IS TRULY A RARE FIND! ONE of ONLY 6 UNITS > Custom Built THIS 4000+/- SF w/Special Features & Upgrades. Offers 4 BRs - 3 are Primary BR Suites w/private baths, 4-1/2 Baths Total!! The Outstanding direct lakefront location provides exceptional Southern panoramic views across Middle Pond, a boat dock, & full recreation activities - whatever Floats Your Boat :-)! Perfect setup for entertaining family, friends & guests! It's more than a home - it's a Life Style! **NEW PRICE \$1,050,000**

WEBSTER - 24 COOPER RD

NEW CONSTRUCTION Craftsman Style Home! Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake w/Access at Lakeside Beach/ Boat Ramp. 3rd of 4 Homes being built at this Site. Offers 2,155 SF +/- of Living Area, 7 Rms, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 9' Ceilings. Wood Flooring Throughout w/Ceramic Tile Floors in the Baths. Spacious Main BR Suite w/Walk-in Closet & Private Full Bath, Double-Sink Vanity! Lower level walkout w/Slider. Basement-rough plumbed Central AC! Garage. **\$649,900.**

WEBSTER- 4 PERRYVILLE RD

Hip Roof ranch! Move In Ready. Updated Kitchen. Formal Dining Rm, Living Rm.(18x13) Great Rm. 3+ BRs & full updated Bath w/Tub. Hardwood floors. Fireplace.Quality Owens-Corning finished basement system. 3 large LL rooms & 2nd Full Bath, kitchen area w/cabinets & refrigerator. Morton Barn Style Garage .39 acre **\$435,000**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT LISTING! KILLDEER RD



ON DEPOSIT

Ready for your year round enjoyment. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Open floor plan. Garage w/ enclosed entry to mudroom. Open living room with spectacular view! 2 bedrooms - 3/4 bath, on main level. Central air. Lower level, additional 2 bedrooms, bath, bonus family room, summer kitchen! Boathouse! 51' of sandy beachfront! **\$799,000.**

Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!!



ON DEPOSIT

Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF, 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! **\$1,100,000**

Webster Lake - 53 Colonial Rd



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT! JUST SIMPLY AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY! OVER 31,000 SQ FT OF LAND! Summer Cottage on 9482 SF of land.. assisted sale **\$1,199,900**

Webster Lake Waterfront 8 Long Island



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautifully Updated Circa 1890s Classic Antique Island Cottage, with Rare Boat House Included! Extremely Unique, Clean & Well Maintained. Modern Conveniences w/the Charm of Yesteryear! 1,240 SF, 6 Rms, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, Hardwood Floors! Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Stove, Wrap-Around Screened Porch, Lg Outbuilding w/Full Bath/Shower/Laundry & Workshop, Patio, Town Wtr/Svr + Private Well for Outdoor &/or Off-Season Water Use! 14,300 SF+/- Level Lot w/105' of Shoreline. **\$995,000**



REAL ESTATE





MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

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

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



PUT YOUR TRUST IN US TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE
Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254
Bob Berk 508-367-9226
Vicki Bennett, Client Coordinator
ReMax Vision • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608
CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

CHARLTON- NEW TO MARKET

*Fantastic Location * 1.4 Acres
*Finished Lower Level Family Room
*3 Full baths * Central Air
*Central Vac * Lawn Sprinkler System
*Fireplace * Main Bedroom Bath Updated Walkin Shower
Shown by appointment

DUDLEY- \$5000 BUYER INCENTIVE!



*3 Bedroom *Hardwood Floors Throughout
*Every Efficient Construction *Gas Heat
*Central/Gas Fireplace *2 Wooded Private acres
128 Old Southbridge Rd \$745,000

LEICESTER- Ranch



*1/2 acre lot *Open floor plan
*2 Car Garage *Vinyl Sided
2 Victor Ave \$429,900



"I SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"
ReMax Professional Associates
Licensed in MA & CT
We need properties to sell - any type!
Conrad Allen
508.400.0438
callen1995@aol.com



RE/MAX Professional Associates



ERA Key Realty SERVICES
Donna Flannery Realtor®
508-612-6771
Donnaflanneryrealtor.com
Donnaflannery@erakey.net

OVER 30 YEARS SELLING LOCAL REAL ESTATE
NATIONAL ERA FINALIST TWICE FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

TOP AGENT YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR # OF UNITS SOLD & SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME
ERA HALL OF FAME

415B Main Street Spencer, MA 01562



When Experience and Commitment Matter

Mary Vigliatura Stolarczyk
ABR, GRI, CRS, C2EX RE/MAX Hall of Fame
508.612.1382
MESRealty.com
Mary@WillSellit.com





Jo-Ann (Nedrosick) Szymczak
CRS, GRI, SRES
508-943-7669
774-230-5044

STURBRIDGE/ DUDLEY 30+ ACRES
POTENTIAL FOR 4 FRONTAGE & LOTS

*Ideal for Privacy, Recreation, or Investment
*Build Your Dream Home and Keep Some Land for your Future Family Members or Investment

ReMax Vision
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608
CALL JO-ANN FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT



Bay Path LPN launches new chapter after 17 years of compassionate care

CHARLTON — For longtime Charlton resident Delene Sarsfield, the journey to becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) has been one of perseverance, passion, and purpose. A 2025 graduate of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Sarsfield brings 17 years of hands-on experience as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) into this next chapter of her professional life—one defined by dedication to both her patients and her family.

Sarsfield recently passed the NCLEX-PN on her first attempt—a milestone she describes as “the greatest reward for all the hard work throughout nursing school.” Her success comes after completing Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy’s intensive ten-month program, all while navigating the challenges of being a first-time mother.

“My biggest challenge besides the rigorous curriculum... was ‘mom guilt,’” she shared. “As a new mother to a very young baby, I felt so guilty leaving her behind... but I had to do this for her, as well as for myself.” Sarsfield says her daughter remains her strongest motivation: “She is fiercely my driving force behind anything that I do—to set an example that any goal is achievable with honesty, diligence, and never giving up on your dreams.”

Before entering the practical nursing program, Sarsfield built a solid foundation in patient care, working at local facilities



Courtesy Photo

port system. Her mother, a nurse with nearly 30 years of experience, has been a guiding light. She also expresses deep gratitude to her in-laws and her husband, Daniel.

“I’m especially thankful for my wonderful, faith-filled husband, Daniel,” she said. “He’s always shown me integrity, kindness, patience, and love. He believed in me even when I struggled to believe in myself, and we’ve walked this journey hand in hand.”

As she prepares to begin her nursing career at The Overlook, Sarsfield brings clinical expertise in medication administration, wound care, and tracheostomy care—along with a deep sense of humility and an eagerness to continue learning. Her faith remains central to her path forward: “I enter this new profession with utmost humility, eagerness to learn, and always trusting in God and my faith.”

Sarsfield isn’t stopping here. She’s already planning her next step: enrolling in an LPN-to-BSN bridge program, reflecting her commitment to lifelong learning and professional growth.

Her message to others is simple but powerful: “It’s never too late to go back to school or learn something new. As long as you put in the effort, dedication, and hard work—you can achieve anything.”

Delene Sarsfield

including CareOne at Millbury and Sterling Village. Her nearly two decades as a CNA deepened her empathy and commitment to providing the highest standard of care.

At Bay Path, Sarsfield stood out as a student leader and academic achiever. She was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society, elected as

Student Representative and Commencement Speaker, and nominated for the prestigious Dr. Adelina Healy Clinical Excellence Award. She also held a leadership role in the UNICEF Club and served on the school’s Mock Code Team, demonstrating her commitment to both global and clinical health initiatives.

Sarsfield credits her success to a strong sup-

Is it time to
Fall
in love
with your
next home?

www.lisacaron.com
OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE!
Lisa Caron Real Estate
Broker, Owner GRI, ABR, SRS, RENE, C2EX, SRES, MRP, PSA, LMC, CDE, E-PRO
42 W. Main Street, PO Box 447 Brookfield, MA 01506
Cell : 508-341-8299
Search Homes Instantly: <http://www.lisacaron.com>

Local Mortgage Lending. Trusted Guidance.

Whether you’re buying your next home, building your dream house, or refinancing, UniBank’s local mortgage lenders are here to help.

We’ll put our expertise to work for you – offering personalized guidance and making the mortgage process feel a little less overwhelming and a lot more approachable. From your first home to your forever home – we’re here to help.

Let’s Connect!
Visit unibank.mymortgage-online.com or scan the QR code to connect with one of our trusted lenders today.

UNIBANK
Connecting all offices: 1.800.578.4270
www.unibank.com



Courtesy Photos

Plummer Place, home of the Northbridge Senior Center, went swinging into the cooler temperatures last week with the Double Take Jazz Combo! This jazz ensemble based out of Metrowest Massachusetts, offered an eclectic mix of classic jazz standards and original compositions for all to enjoy! “It was a great pleasure to enjoy the jazz sounds of Double Take Jazz Combo accompanied by Diana Kaufman’s vocals,” said Steve Lotterman, Friends of Northbridge Elders president and concert goer. “You’ll want to make sure you hear them when they return again to Plummer Place!” he added. An extraordinary selection of songs to include Duke Ellington’s “Take the A Train,” “How Deep Is The Ocean,” “Fly Me To The Moon,” and “Girl From Ipanema” took the crowd through a soulful, rhythmic, and bluesy afternoon. For more information on Plummer Place’s concerts, special events and programs, please call Amy Cowen, program and volunteer coordinator at (508) 234-2002.