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Friday, May 3, 2024

Thanks to Yanks pays it forward

MILFORD — Mike Shain, and volunteers with their family from the nonprofit, Thanks to Yanks recently traveled to Devens to bestow \$1,000 to another worthy organization that is also working tirelessly in support of America's heroes — Clear Path for Veterans.

Clear Path for Veterans is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to create a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for Veterans. In 2020, Clear Path renovated the Army Headquarters and Hospital at Fort Devens to facilitate this mission. This historic, three-story building became the catalyst giving Clear Path the ability to provide its programs, services, and activities to Veterans. Its many offerings include Service Dogs for Veterans, Peer-to-Peer Mentoring, Homeless Veteran Reintegration, Wellness for TBI and PTSD Veterans, Warriors Working and so many other great efforts this organization proudly delivers.



Courtesy

The \$1,000 Donation Thanks to Yanks, Mike Shain and volunteers donating \$1,000 to Clear Path for Veterans on behalf of their Service Dog Program.

from Thanks to Yanks was allocated directly to Clear Path's Service Dog program. Under a 12-month program rescued dogs are housed, fed, and trained by Clear Path then gently introduced to their Veteran. If they are compatible the Veteran is also trained in handling their new family member. One awe-inspiring detail about these Service Dogs is that they are each named after a Massachusetts hero killed in duty to their country.

Thanks to Yanks deemed this program a valuable resource for Veterans and their families.

"Clear Path is truly deserving of our resources, and we are grateful for the support they provide to Veterans and their families," Mike Shain responded.

For more information on Clear Path for Veterans visit their Web site at www.clearpathne.org and for Thanks to Yanks at www.thankstoyanks.org.

Whitin Community Center's Picnic in the Park back by popular demand

WHITINSVILLE — The Whitin Community Center's Picnic in the Park celebration will take place on Saturday, June 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine! (Let's hope for shine!)

"We are very excited about this year's celebration of community spirit!" says WCC's PITP Event chairman, Michelle Benoit. "A committee of volunteers have worked on this event for several months and they have recruited great entertainment and family attractions that will ensure a wonderful day for all."

The entertainment begins at 10 a.m. and will go until 2 p.m. Many family favorites will be offered again this year with something fun for the whole family throughout Whitin Park including exhibit vendors, sack races, tug 'o war, and story walk. In addition, a Kid Zone featuring Candy Land themed games, obstacle course, and cheek art will highlight this fun day. Demonstrations by Family Karate Center, BEATZ Dance Studio, WCC Aerobics, and Live Music by: Blackstone Valley Music & Performing Arts Collaborative are also experiences not to be missed!

Step up to our Dunk Tank and take your pitch in hopes of soaking Northbridge Police Chief, Timothy Labrie, Senator Ryan Fattman, Northbridge Elementary School Principal, Nick Hoffman, and our very own BVCP Teachers, Emily Lacharite and Stefanie Cecconi. Interactive Entertainment by Flippo the Juggling Magician, Foamy Bubbles Foam Party, and UMass Safety Quest Mobile Classroom make the day complete!

Several great options from food trucks to tantalize the taste buds will be available for purchase. Because of the generous contributions of a number of area business sponsors including UniBank, Koopman Lumber & Hardware, Gaudette Insurance, and Osterman Family Foundation who underwrite the cost to procure the attractions, there is no fee to participants, so even the largest families can come out and do everything and have a good time.

The event attracts an estimated 3,000 people who come together to enjoy all that the regional community has to offer. All proceeds from Picnic in the Park benefit the Whitin Community Center, a non-profit organization that serves the families of the Blackstone Valley region with social, recreational, health & fitness, and free outreach programs.

The Whitin Community Center is a private, non-profit, community-based organization serving the Blackstone Valley since 1922. The Whitin Community Center is committed to enhancing the health and well-being of individuals and families and building a strong community in the Blackstone Valley. We offer social, recreational, educational, and outreach programs that bring community members of all ages and backgrounds together. The Whitin Community Center is the Blackstone Valley's most complete family and recreation center with two swimming pools, a newly renovated gym, a fitness center, childcare and after school programs, summer camps and a seven-acre park. For more information call 508-234-8184 or www.whitincommunitycenter.com

Soorp Asdvadzadzin Church to hold annual community yard sale

WHITINSVILLE — Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Church, 315 Church St. in Whitinsville, holds its Annual Church and Community Yard Sale on the front lawn facing Church Street on Saturday, June 8 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Vendor space is available for a donation of \$15 per spot so if you were contemplating your own yard sale but don't have the space you can't been the green lawn, tree shade and great traffic exposure along Church Street.

Since this is an outdoor event,

please provide you own tables, tarps and canopies if desired. Admission to the buying public is free with plenty of parking along both sides of Church Street or behind the church. For details and reservations, please email Jeff at katama@gmail.com.

Take a walk in the gardens



Courtesy

Millions of tulips grace the grounds of Keukenhof Gardens in the Netherlands in April and May.

WHITINSVILLE — Now that there are daffodils everywhere, surely it must be spring. What better time to dream of what your yard can be by this time next year? Join the Blackstone Valley Gardeners (BVG) for a trip through "Spring Bulbs in the Landscape," this month's program. Speaker Barbara Hall will entice us with the possibilities, starting with the earliest bulbs and building to a cre-

scento of tulips and their companions

The highlight of the May 9 BVG meeting will be a "trip" to the Netherlands and a stroll through the famous Keukenhof Gardens on a perfect spring day. This 79-acre garden, operated by a non-profit foundation, draws one and a half million visitors a year. It features a huge variety of spring bulbs, but it is the seven million tulips that steal the show. Dutch grow-

ers plant their prize varieties in drifts and swirls, sited around the Gardens in breath-taking panoramas. The bulbs are carefully timed to bloom during the few short weeks in April and May when Keukenhof is open to the public. You are sure to see something that you cannot live without!

The BVG meets at the United Methodist Church, 61 Linwood Ave. in Whitinsville. There is easy access to

the rear of the church and the meeting room. Enter the parking lot via the passageway next to Domino's Pizza on Church Street. A hospitality gathering begins at 6:30 p.m., with the program at 7 p.m. BVG meetings are open to the public. Annual club dues are \$25 a year, and non-members are welcome to attend a meeting for a fee of \$5.

You won't want to miss a stroll through the gardens on Thursday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Please complete and mail the card in today's paper.

Millbury Senior Center

CRAFT CLASS
Monday, May 13th at 1 - 2 P.M.
Class is \$5 per person
Call or stop by the center to RSVP 508-865-9154

BEACH FINDS ART CLASS
Friday, May 24th at 12 P.M.
price is \$60
Work with Kerry Consentino Vilorio a local artist and owner of the Orange Jellyfish to create your own family picture using hand picked materials from New England beaches
Pebbles, stones driftwood & scallop shells
RSVP 508-865-9154

BETTER BREATHERS CLUB
Tuesday, May 28th at 10 - 11 A.M.

U P C O M I N G PRESENTATIONS

5 WISHES WORKSHOP METROWEST HOSPICE
Discuss how to create a living will talking about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well as medical wishes.

Choose the person who you wish to make health care decisions for you when you are unable to make them for yourself.
Desserts and Coffee
Tuesday, May 14th 1 P.M.

ISABELLA STUART GARDNER MUSEUM HEIST PRESENTATION
Meet with the author of DUPED, Bob Ainsworth who wrote a fictional account of the 1990 Art robbery
Learn about the details of the theft, suspects and motives behind the worlds most valued art theft.
Wednesday, May 22nd 10 A.M.

CONSUMER RIGHTS PROGRAM PRESENTATION
File disputes or complaints you have with a

Massachusetts business directly in person, or online with the Attorney General's Office
Wednesday, May 22nd 11 - 12 P.M.

Meet with a representative from Senator Moore's office!
Wednesday, May 1st
First Wednesday of the month between 11 - 12 P.M.
All are welcome to meet and discuss issues of importance or looking for assistance
Any questions please call 508-865-9154

TRANSPORTATION
All appointments will be accepted by the WRTA
Millbury Seniors 60 and older / those with ADA services call 508-752-9283 in order to register with the WRTA in advance if they need transportation
Transportation Hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. & Fridays 8 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
Rides have to be scheduled by 4:30 P.M. the day before by calling 508-752-9283
For more information on regards to transportation call the center at 508-865-9154

SENIOR CENTER EXERCISE CLASSES!
ZUMBA CLASSES
Mondays at 1 P.M. (Class is \$3)

LIGHT EXERCISE CLASSES
Mondays and Fridays 9:30 A.M. - 10:15 A.M. (Free!)
TAI CHI
Tuesdays 9:30 - 10:30 A.M. (class is \$3)
LINE DANCING CLASSES
Wednesdays at 10:30 A.M. (Class is \$3)
YOGA
Thursdays 9 - 10 A.M. (Class is \$3)

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES!
MAHJONG
Mondays at 12:45 P.M.
CRIBBAGE

Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M.
Tuesdays at 1:00 P.M.
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC
Every Tuesday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.
SOCIAL BINGO
Wednesdays at 1 P.M.
Bring your pennies!
PITCH
Thursdays 1 - 3 P.M.
COLORING
Thursdays at 10 A.M.

Lunches are served Monday through Thursday 12 P.M. Friday 11:30 A.M.
The menu is available on the town website, www.town-of-millbury.org
Or our Millbury Senior Center Facebook page.
A 48 hour reservation is required. Call the center at 508-865-9154

"MEMORY CAFÉ"
Please join us on Tuesday, May 28th 2:00 - 3:30 P.M.
Refreshments will be served
A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss/challenges and their care partners. It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time

Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154!

SNAP APPLICATIONS (Food Stamps)
Our appointments are on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

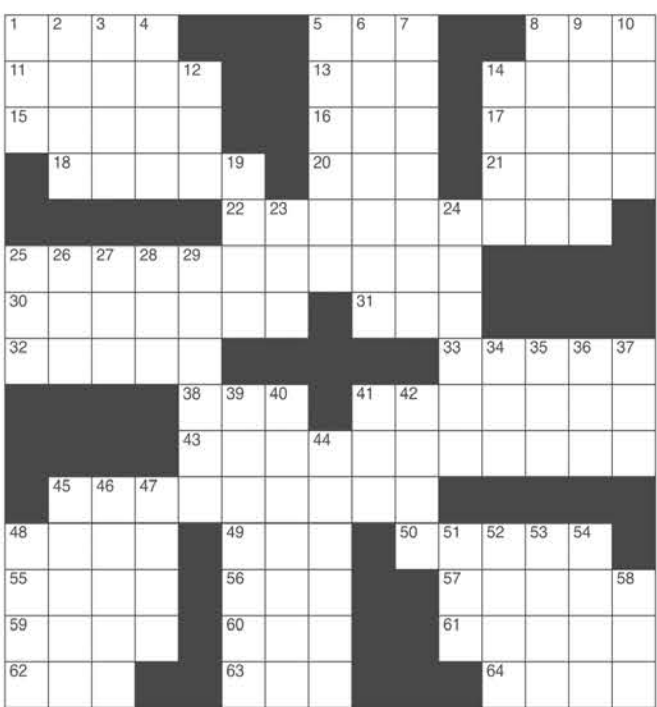
Call for an appointment & required documentation
508-865-9154

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USDA does not endorse any goods, services or enterprises."



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Lions do it
- 5. In favor of
- 8. Rest here please (abbr.)
- 11. Pulpits
- 13. Leisure activity
- 14. Fertility god
- 15. Financial obligations
- 16. When you anticipate getting somewhere
- 17. Spanish river
- 18. Sporting events
- 20. Type of tree
- 21. Ceased to be
- 22. Persons
- 25. Synthetic resin
- 30. Relates to photochemical reactions
- 31. Father
- 32. Former Cowboys coach
- 33. City in Finland
- 38. Run batted in
- 41. Got through
- 43. They darken skin
- 45. In a harmful way
- 48. Form of weaving
- 49. City of Angels hoopster
- 50. Caucasian language
- 55. Syngman __, Korean president
- 56. Sun up in New York
- 57. Paddled
- 59. Fishes
- 60. Affirmative
- 61. Nimble
- 62. Doctor of Education
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. A small island

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cool!
- 2. Hebrew unit of measure
- 3. Swedish rock group
- 4. College army
- 5. Favor over another
- 6. Called it a career
- 7. Egg-shaped wind instrument
- 8. Israeli statesman
- 9. Hurries
- 10. Slog
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Benedictine monk
- 19. Self-immolation by fire ritual
- 23. Family of regulator genes
- 24. Surrendering
- 25. Political action committee
- 26. S. American plant
- 27. Long-term memory
- 28. Bark
- 29. Breathes in
- 34. Take hold of
- 35. Everyone has one
- 36. Valentine's Day color
- 37. Drivers' licenses and passports
- 39. Outer walls of castles
- 40. Enters with force
- 41. One thousandth of an inch
- 42. Deceased Chinese politician
- 44. Sugary secretion of plants
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Shelter
- 47. Utilizes
- 48. Forest resident
- 51. Fashion accessory
- 52. A sharply directional antenna
- 53. __ Kristofferson, actor
- 54. A bad place to end up
- 58. MLBer Gordon

PUZZLE SOLUTION

E	T	S	I		R	S	S		D	D	E
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L	A	V	B		C	E	R		S	O	B
P	H	R			O	R	P		R	A	R

WCHS Drama Club presents "Grease"

WHITINSVILLE — The Whitinsville Christian High School Drama Club is ready to take you back to the 1950s with duck-tails,

hot rods, and catchy tunes! Join us for a 7 p.m. show on May 2, 3, or 4. Tickets are available at whitinsvillechristian.org.

REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE DOUGLAS

i \$470,000, 42 Compass Point Dr #42, Joseph J Hurley Jr RET, and Hurley Jr, Joseph P, to Bonnick, Sheldon, and Bonnick, Pansheena.

\$85,000, 445 NE Main St, Jmt Sleepy Hollow LLC, to Lobisser Building Corp.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$750,000, 234 Tessier Ln, Jbx Developers Inc, to Renaud Jr, Edward K.

\$615,000, 71-77 Fletcher St, Fletcher Street LLC, to Shi, Jason.

\$592,500, 131 Clubhouse Ln #131, Laprade Lt, and Laprade Jr, William R, to Klinger, Wolfgang M, and Klinger, Xia.

\$485,000, 489 Highland St, Deschamps, Ethan, and Deschamps, Brianne, to Crisafulli, Paul, and Crisafulli, Mekenna.

UXBRIDGE

\$50,000, 44 Cassie Ln, Renaud Jr, Edward K, to Bickford, Troy E.

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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
frank@stonebridgepress.news

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

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

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagenewspapers.com

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PET of the WEEK

Meet : Stevie
Sweet Stevie is a shy gal with lots of love to share! Although it takes her a little while to warm up, her silly personality is worth the wait. She loves to hop around with her canine friends and eat yummy snacks (cheese is her favorite). We also catch Stevie playing with her favorite toys (plush stuffedies that squeak!)
Here is Stevie's Wishlist for her new home: - a fenced in yard (she doesn't know how to walk on a leash yet!) - a confident canine sibling to help show her how to be a dog - someone with shy dog experience who can help acclimate Stevie to a home environment - a home with teenagers or older who understand how scary loud sounds and quick movements can be, - someone who loves to train and can help Stevie build confidence and learn how to be a dog
If you think you'd like to give Stevie a chance, please start the process today!
* With this dog, there is a training requirement at time of adoption
Apply for Stevie at baypathhumane.org

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

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BOY SCOUT TROOP 273 SPRING YARD SALE
Saturday, May 25th

Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley
Early Birds (8am to 9am) \$10.00 per person fee
9am until 3pm FREE We accept CREDIT CARDS!
24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY
Pick your items and Make an offer!

Grouped Items: Electronics - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TV's)
Tools - hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. Furniture - Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc..
Housewares - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances
Sporting goods - Bikes, skis, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment
Clothes - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags
Kids toys and baby items - high chairs, bouncy, games, Antiques

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Every 8 minutes the American Red Cross responds to a disaster and makes this promise: "This holiday season, you can help us keep it."

Donate today at redcross.org

American Red Cross

Uxbridge High School honor roll

U X B R I D G E
— Uxbridge High School has released its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2023-2024 school year.

Grade 8
High Honors: Taylor Anderson, Kaylee Arsenault, Desmond Botelho, Evan Bourgeois, Elyse Bousquet, Cooper Burdick, Kendra Cabana, Emily Cabral, Stacy Calderon, Matteo Casasanta, Jaidyn DeLuca, Tucker Denietolis, Lily Derouen, Jacob Dzivasen, Paige Foley, Margaret Fox, Emily Geshlin, Casey Griffiths, Everett Hazel, Emily Hughes, Benjamin Johnson, Ashton Khondker, Bronwyn LaChapelle, Jessica Labonte, Katelyn Laflamme, Madyn Lame, Abigail Livingstone, Blake Mace, Clayton Maracle, Kevin Marchand, Carly McKay, Thomas Newhall, Nadia Nolan, Connor Osper, Shea Paxton, Zoey Pomerville, Olivia Rivet, Blake Rosborough, Benjamin Rota, James Sadd, Mason Soucy, Abigail Spiecker, Adeline Tartakoff, Silas Tripp, Haley Walsh, Avery Wood, David Zaitoun

Honors: Cayden Almy, Nina Bandstra, Cooper Bartlett, Kiersten Bradwin, Bradley Dwight, Bryana Fernandes, Ryan Fitzgerald, Logan Fleming, Violet Fratus, Liam Gover, Kelly Greene, Emma Harney, Lola Hawkins, Aiden Jennings, Matthew Lambert, Jacoby Martins, Olivia Mazzola, William McClintock, Cooper McCuin, Julia McDonnell, Salah Mohamed, Isaac Nagle, Nathan Rivera, Najarro, Elijah Norman, Marissa Pirrotta, Jack Posterro, Ava Rosborough, Lily Savoia, Emmett Sharr, Piper Sullivan, Sarah Szajna, Jaxon Thomas, Hope Tibedo, Lily Trottier, Malik Uddin, Kevin Vietro, Autumn Wood

Honorable Mention: Emily Calderon, Aiden Danforth, Aiden

Dugan-Bubble, Ryan Fitzgerald, Logan Harris, Grace Jones, Naome Keniston, Nathaniel Kinyanjui, Jamison Lalakidis, Logan Leshinski, Myles Loos, Ryder Lovell, Mazzy Martone, Kyle Reardon, Gabriel Rodrigues, Dylan Shay, Matthew Yarger

Grade 9
High Honors: Ammar Alomar, Bradley Anderson, Iain Andrews, Aubrey Beland, Gabriela Belanger, Addie Bouchard, Ava Cahill, Madison Cammuso, Isabela Chapman, Parker DaCosta, Skylar Daniels, Joao P de Souza-Rodrigues, Parker Dery, Miranda ElTurkmani, Daniel Ferreira, Alyssa Friis, Allie Gauthier, Olivia Gauthier, Nathan Goryl, Cameron Gray, Brian Guertin, Mallorie Hallfelder, Jordan Hilgenberg, William Hinchcliffe, Samantha Huth, Tyler Joyce, Brooklyn Kaferlein, Emrie Kling, Madison Labonte, Sydney Loiselle, Mary Lowrey, Braelyn Matheson, Benjamin O'Neill, Caiden Pellegrino, Aidan Power, Hannah Samolinski, Chawanvi Sillapachairuang, Maddilyn Silva, Saanvi Singh, Lelia Sjogren, Sarah Stark, William Stark, Gabriel Stone, Erik Ward, Samuel Weeks

Honors: Ammar Alomar, Clarah Avery-Boyer, Blake Burr, Hadassah Calixto, Joseph Casella, Susana Casper, Austin Clancy, Aiden Costigan, Dylan Demers, Savannah Gasset, Joshua Lavergne, Lillian McClintock, Kaia Mollica, Elizabeth Moriarty, Nathan Oliveira, Blake Oliver, Mia Ouellette, Vibhav Patel, Emma Peloquin, Nicolis Polselli, Katherine Pratt, Charlie Roy, Elias Roy, Noah Samolinski, Kole Silvestro, Annabel Smutok, Lukas Tierney, Samuel Trottier, Zachary Veneziano, Kaleb Wallaceti

Honorable Mention: Aaron Barry, Brianna

Fuoss, Gabriel Gomes, Elaina Horgan, Maxwell Kammerer, Mathias Lalakidis, Yosselin Ramirez Alfaro, Aidan Valenti, Madison Webber

Grade 10
High Honors: Aidan Arsenault, Novelle Bousquet, Gaurav Boyalla, Sebastian Bradwin, Lauren Cabral, Julianna Casucci, Adriana Cugini, Hunter Douangsavanh, Brady Esposito, Alison Fleming, Nicholas Fortier, Zachary Fortier, Kendall Gilmore, Lola Grube, Julianna Lopes, Daniel Mach, Brayden Mackin, Niamh McSweeney, Erin O'Day, Julia Brynn Okenquist, Keira Paul, Liam Powers, Jake Richardson, Jacob Rivet, Erin Roche, Brian Stumpf, Andrew Tamsky, Jacob Tavares, Eabha Twohig-Mann, Grady Walsh, Austin Walusiak

Honors: Angelica Afonso, Alexander Aldrich, Ella Bain, Jeramy Barry, Amelia Blood, Taylor Bettencourt, Jeremiah Bourguignon, Maxwell Brayman, Emerson Burns, Morgan Charbonnier, Kasoon Chludenski, Tyler Constantineau, Finnegan Cove, Logen Erickson, Jady Flood, Caleb Gonyea, Mazon Hamza, Camden LaChapelle, Eithan LaChapelle, Lily LaLiberte, Migui Medeiros, Wilson Obiocha, Liam Palmer Ramirez, Alex Rivera, McKenna Savage, Camron Savoie

Honorable Mention: Mitchell Andre, Malaika Cabrera, Kaleb Chabot, Samuel Dow, Colin Dwyer, Joshua Fontes, Isaac Kling, Cameron McIsaac, Skylar O'Neill, Krish Patel, Mylie Prachith, Victor Alessandra Ribeiro, Riley Spicer, Zachary Turcotte, Cody Veneziano, Gabriel Woodrow

Grade 11
High Honors: Ali Alomar, Ayden Anderson, Maria Aprili, Elyse Bouchard, Charles Criscola, Sydney Daniels, Maxwell Deary,

Jenna Devine, Rogan Devlin, Timothy Devlin, Bailey Dzivasen, Evelyn Ferreira, Ewan Fortin, Katherine Fox, Lillyanna Gallant, Shane Guillet, Alyson Haley, Matthew Hinchcliffe, Thatcher Kling, Sumeyye Koyuncu, Milla Mace, Aidan Nolan, Darren Oliver, Danielle Olson, Natalie Orr, Brianna Pare, Maxwell Roy, Stella Roy, Alanna Russell, Hunter Schiller, Rylee Spear, Michael Stark, Landon Sweet, Ellen Teixeira

Honors: Joshua Alt, Catherine Buma, Brady Chludenski, Jillian Dimo, Briana Ferschke, Shane Gilmore, Addison Griffiths, Thatcher Kling, Hunter Levesque, Macen Martone, Olivia Mone, Abigaile Oliveira, Diya Patel, Olivia Pirrotta, Julia Porter, Evelyn Rivera, Talen Rosborough, Bruno Sampaio, Lily Sander, Madison Silbor, Dominic Silva, Morrodox Sisowath, Tre Smith, Ella Vadenais, Ashton Watt, Julia Wilczewska, Zabria Willame

Honorable Mention: Hope Beroth, Benjamin Casucci, Victoriana Chapman, Camden Chludenski, Madison Currie, Justin ElTurkmani, Dominick Genoa, Chase Henault, Liam Kaferlein, Isadora Malta, Awwab Mohamed, Rafael De Miranda Rodrigues, Kheirid Saint-Fleur, James Sanford, Colin Spencer, Antoinette Stewart-Gingras, Jamal Uddin, Caroline Usenia, Cassidy Westcott, Denning Yoffe

Grade 12
High Honors: Alanah Allard, Rosario Astorga, Lillianna Avila, Rylie Beland, James Bernard, Dylan Bibeault, Aidan Blood, Luke Boisvert, Benjamin Bourgeois, Jocelin Bourque, Parin Boyalla, Owen Burrill, Kathryn Cahill, Braden Cammuso, Cameron Caso, Emma Demers, Matthew

DiLibero, Brynn Doherty, Syrianna Douangsavanh, Luke Esposito, Madison Fairweather, Nathan Fuoss, Carter Gilmore, Olivia Gray, Ezekiel Hamel, Olivia Holden, Catherine Hughes, Kahlea LaChapelle, Kellen LaChapelle, Kamryn Leroy, Grace Linsley, Jessica Lutton, Iris Marcello, Aiden Marquez-LeRoy, Jaden Mello, Sara Morton, Brianna Moss, Gage Nichols, Sean O'Day, Shane Okenquist, Ella Pezzullo, Phetmany Phianesin, Cooper Phoenix, Jack Phoenix, Ava Pitner, Avari Powers, Lukas Ritacco, Benjamin Roerden, Payson Roy, Lincoln Schiller, Christopher Szajna, Matthew Thayer, Siobhan Twohig-Mann, Emma Walker, Brayden Wilcox, Zoe Wojnowski, Greyson Yarger

Honors: Landin Adams, Mason Baptista, Ashlee Brodeur, Thomas Costa, Andrew Flynn, Jalyngingras, Kevin Graveson, Brianna Hughes, Tessa Johnston, Samantha Jones, Cassidy Leach, Elizabeth Lewis, Maximus Libby, Jackson

Livingstone, Samuel Noel, Nathan Noyes, Frank Osimo, Mikayla Ouellette, Liam Rigney, Maria Sobrinho

Honorable Mention: Samuel Abdel Nour, Luke Dow, Jack Emmons, Aiden Joyce, Hailey Kinyanjui, Luke McCuin, Sophia Mone, Jack Nummela,

Jasmine Mason Sanford, O'Connell, Sebastian Soares, Joseph Romasco,

Evergreen Cemetery Annual Trustees and Lot Owner Meeting will be held on May 11th at 8am at the Douglas Municipal Center 29 Depot Street Douglas, MA

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PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Can you accept an Orban way of life?

To the Editor:
A recent political ad from Republican Voters Against Trump highlights Trump's legal woes. A reporter presents himself looking for a job in various venues, explaining his problems using a list of indictments from MAGA Land. He volunteered that he had a sexual assault conviction, classified documents indictments, etc., and then he asked the mall employer/s if they would consider hiring him. Are you surprised their answers were no? "If Trump is too big of a liability to get a job at your local mall, he is too big of a liability to be President of the United States," the narrator declares in said video. (The Hill)

Similarly, Richardson (HCR) reminds us of the liability of MAGA winning control of our country. MAGA believes that equal rights for everyone are 'destroying society,' so MAGA supporters want to create a society that imposes on the majority a hierarchical society in which the majority votes don't matter – the only effective government is Trump tyranny by the minority MAGA. They believe that some people are actually better than others and should, therefore, have the right to vote and govern. She notes that the factors for this reasoning could be their wealth, religion, belief in Trump, etc. She continues to remark, which points out the obvious truth: MAGA supporters do not believe in equality for all. Therefore, they don't believe in the principles of our country, and ultimately, they don't believe in democracy.

Project 2025 is their touchstone for a 'blueprint installation of a (maga) president that can't be checked by courts or Congress' for Trump's second term or someone like him. (HCR) This 1,000-page tome 'provides the roadmap for Trump to seize as much power as he can.' (TNR) This is shades of the Desantis reign in Florida—the mini Project 2025 project about seizing executive power. Read the book – The Courage to Be Free – but only for the 'unwoke' voters.

Heritage and others want a litany of actions, including no abortion, getting rid of no-fault divorce, LGBTQ+ going 'dark'- permanently, massive deportation of 10 million, and removing birthright citizenship while replacing experts in civil service positions with inexperienced loyalists, etc. Trump and Project 2025 supporters are learning their lessons from the master's knees – Viktor Orban via the Danube Institute/Heritage connection. The Danube Institute is funded by the Hungarian state, which is pushing Orban propaganda. Heritage "began remaking Heritage's priorities with a distinctly Orban flair - and began opening up Heritage as a vehicle for Hungarian influence in the US." (Michel) This 'remaking' led to "Heritage leading the effort to gut funding for Ukraine." And notice how MAGA Trump can't praise Orban enough - There's nobody better, smarter, or a better leader than Viktor Orban. Heritage leadership led by Kevin Roberts praises his (Orban's) movement, which "fights for truth, tradition, and families" (TNR), while Hemmer suggests this US affinity could want a more powerful state willing to use force for their values. An example is Hungary's controversial "child protection law, which has been widely criticized for being discriminatory, limiting freedom of expression, and targeting women's rights and the LGBTQ+ community.

Adopted in 2021 by the right-wing government of Orban, the law restricts underage people's access to books, movies, and other cultural products that promote or portray deviation from [gender] identity aligning with sex at birth, gender reassignment, or homosexuality. The law also limits sexual education in schools, with only government-approved instructors allowed to teach the subject." (RadioFreeEurope) Notice how the state becomes the parent, and the parent is not allowed to protect their own child from the state's decisions. Again, these actions

sound like Florida - a 'big' government project led by DeSantis and, worse, echoes of Hitler's rise to power. Keep imagining Florida policies going national and Orban saying nobody is better or smarter than Trump – America's new dictator for the day.

A final curious connection is Christopher Rufo, the anti-woke 'Moses' who is 'helping DeSantis to turn back the clock on social progress.' "Rufo is a primary source and surrogate for the governor's anti-woke agenda."

(Kruse) "He distorted an academic and legal framework that examines how racism is embedded in institutions and laws into a concise acronym and conduit for white grievance." He was a resident Danube Institute visiting fellow sharing the glory of his moral panic over CRT and wokeness. This man wants to learn and emulate Orban's brand of nationalist populism – "illiberal democracy that has subjugated the independent press, banned LGBTQ+ content from schools, ended gender studies in universities," among many things. For Rufo, it's a model to be replicated via his connection to DeSantis, Heritage, and Trump – the Maga way. After speaking at NCC Orlando, he signed a manifesto rejecting globalism and elevating Christian values – "a road map for autocracy (Salon) drafted with the help of US admirers of Orban."

So it's simple: If you want democracy to continue, you can't in good conscience vote for someone who won't defend our democracy. Trump's best 'friends' are dictators. He has already shared his plan for the one-day dictatorship, and then Project 2025 – via Heritage hands him the Danube Institute-informed plan for his term.

Realize you could vote for an Orban way of life if you don't hold your vote as sacred. You could be the one to impose minority tyranny on the majority of this country. Can you really live with that?

Linda Lacki Northbridge

EDITORIAL

Unwind and savor

In a world where the pace of life seems to quicken with each passing day, it's becoming crucial to pause and appreciate the beauty in life's simplest moments. We're bombarded with messages that tell us success is synonymous with constant activity and productivity, but in our relentless pursuit, we often overlook the joy that can be found in slowing down and simply chilling out.

Think about it—how often do we rush through our days, barely taking the time to notice the world around us? We grab our morning coffee on the go, scroll through our phones during moments of downtime, and fill our schedules to the brim with commitments and obligations. But what if we took a step back and savored the little things?

There's something incredibly powerful about embracing simplicity in a world that seems to value excess. Whether it's enjoying a quiet moment with a good book, taking a leisurely walk in nature, or sharing a meal with loved ones without the distraction of technology, these small acts can have a profound impact on our well-being.

Research has shown that practicing mindfulness and engaging in simple activities can help reduce stress, improve focus, and cultivate a greater sense of contentment. By slowing down and being present in the moment, we can find peace amidst the chaos and rediscover the beauty that surrounds us.

Living more simply isn't about depriving ourselves or giving up on our goals—it's about finding balance and prioritizing the things that truly matter. It's about recognizing that true happiness isn't found in material possessions or external achievements, but rather in the connections we form, the experiences we cherish, and the moments of quiet reflection that nourish our souls.

Our governor is driving people out of Massachusetts

To the Editor:
Here are a few reasons why 50,000 citizens flee Massachusetts each year. We are number 7 in the top ten states, losing population, including New York.

The good news is that these states will lose U.S. representatives and dilute their toxic effect on Congress. That is why they are packing in millions of illegal invaders to expand their census and thus representation. Yes, representation in Congress depends upon a state's population, not the number of real citizens.

Massachusetts is the third most expensive state in which to rent an apartment or buy a home, according to Banker and Tradesman. Here is why:

Comrade Healey just declared a hiring freeze, but not before she hired a first ever in the nation (!) Climate Chief, one Melissa Hoffer, at the outrageous salary of \$166,400. Have you seen a photo of her? Grinning like a mad scientist in her ethnically-borrowed serape. She is in charge of the Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience.

First thing she did, after she added 200 employees to our state's environmental agencies to fight climate change, was to produce an 86 page report.

Did she stop one drop of rain that hit the

farmers in central Massachusetts in 2023, or stop one drop of the 20 inches of rain we received between July and December? Did she obtain one cent from the federal government to help the farmers? No.

Hoffer is an environmental attorney, not a scientist, who worked for the Conservation Law Foundation and "raised awareness about the pollution caused by coal-fired power plants like Brayton Point Power Station in Somerset." Hoffer and her crew closed down the plant that provided cheap electricity and 20 per cent of Massachusetts' electricity. Then she worked for the Attorney General in Massachusetts and sued Exxon Mobil for "not adequately informing investors and residents in Massachusetts of the true impact of fossil fuels on the climate."

How do you measure "not adequately informing investors"? And exactly what is that exact true scientific impact, Melissa? Un-provable. But that did not stop Meddling Melly from becoming a Day One appointee of Benedict Biden to be Acting General Counsel for the EPA. Your tax dollars at work. She did that job for about a minute before becoming Climate Queen here. Send her back to D.C.!

Healey added 300 employees to the Health and Human services department in 2023.

Did your health care improve? Did you know that since Obama-care was passed, health care costs have risen 55 percent? Thank you, O-Biden.

Then, there is the new Office of Energy Transformation which just transformed the life of the new head of the department: \$173,000 a year. That was before the hiring freeze. Oh, but after she gave Healey a huge campaign contribution. Huge.

Our genius governor came up with the brilliant idea of an Office of Possibility at the Department of Transportation. First thing, hire two useless bureaucrats at \$160,000 a year and \$138,000 a year. Yup, this will solve the mass transportation problem. They expect to fail!

The genius Chief of Possibilities said: "Government works in a set of probability mindset, right? [Does he need our approval to proceed?] Where you're taking very little risk, you're working with experts that are already known to you. So the theory here of a possibility government, is can we take slightly larger risks, knowing that not everything is going to work out? [This is starting to sound like colossal stupidity.] That failure is an outcome. [Yikes! What kind of junkified thinking is this?] But can we do that on a scale that is small enough where we learn

and improve the thing until we get it right?" As the kids say, OMG.

No. We do not need to waste \$300,000 to find out that government bureaucrats who never accomplished anything in the Real Sector cannot succeed. That idea is worth \$300,000 of your hard-earned tax dollars? These folks are the definition of inmates running the insane asylum.

Karen Dizaglio the new state auditor audits 200 state entities, but the only one that has refused to allow her to audit their books is the Massachusetts representatives and senators. They hate her because she believes her job is to let the sunshine in on how they spend your tax money. No, no, no. They object. Dizaglio is seeking legal intervention, but the state Attorney General, who is not a real lawyer never having prosecuted any cases or worked as a real lawyer, avoided the question. She only became state Attorney General after she ran for every other office in the state and lost. She finally found an office she could win. Yay!

Now, she's in charge of crime. I'm scared, are you? Let's just set fire to our money. It's quicker and more honest, and at least you can see where it goes. Up in ashes.

Bev Gudanowski Uxbridge

Tony Schwartz's 'monster'

To the Editor:
In 1816, Mary Shelley, born Mary Wollstonecraft, along with her husband, Percy Bysshe Shelley, John Polidori, and Lord Byron, had a competition to see who could write the best horror story.[5] Mary was inspired to write "Frankenstein" after imagining a scientist who created life and was horrified by what he had made.

Jumping ahead 200 years, writer Tony Schwartz performed similar alchemy, with more diabolical ramifications – the 'monster' he created was flesh and blood rather than simply pulp fiction.

"I put lipstick on a pig," Tony Schwartz, the ghostwriter of "The Art of the Deal," said.

His book helped create the myth by which America saw Trump as a charmer with an unflinching knack for business, and he now regrets it. His book became the inspiration for the fake 'reality' show "The Apprentice," which, in turn, propelled the myth, and the monster, into the presidency of the United States. In 2005, Timothy L. O'Brien, an award-winning journalist who is currently the executive editor of Bloomberg View, wrote – "The

Apprentice' is mythmaking on steroids. There's a straight line from 'The Art of the Deal,' to 'The Apprentice,' to the 2016 campaign. During a lengthy 2016 interview, and after spending 18 months within feet of Trump, Tony Schwartz expressed deep remorse for his role in foisting Trump onto a bamboozled and unsuspecting country. "Trump used the book to turn almost every step of his life, both personal and professional, into a 'glittering fable.'" More low-lights from the interview:

- Upon announcing his candidacy, Trump laid out his qualifications, saying, "We need a leader that wrote 'The Art of the Deal.'"

Although Schwartz had ghostwritten Trump's 1987 breakthrough memoir, Trump appeared to have convinced himself that he had written the book.

Schwartz recalls thinking, "If he could lie about that on Day One—when it was so easily refuted—he is likely to lie about anything."

Edward Kosner, the former editor and publisher of New York, where Schwartz worked as a writer at the time, says, "Tony created Trump. He's Dr. Frankenstein."

"Lying is second nature to him," Schwartz said. "More than anyone I have ever met, Trump has the ability to convince himself that whatever he is saying at any given moment is true, or sort of true, or at least ought to be true."

Often, Schwartz said, he lies that Trump told him were about money – "how much he had paid for something, or what a building he owned was worth, or how much one of his casinos was earning when it was actually on its way to bankruptcy."

"He lied strategically. He had a complete lack of conscience about it." Since most people are "constrained by the truth," Trump's indifference to it "gave him a strange advantage."

When challenged about the facts, Schwartz says, Trump would often double down, repeat himself, and grow belligerent. Whenever "the thin veneer of

Trump's vanity is challenged," Schwartz says, "he overreacts—not an ideal quality in a head of state."

"Trump didn't fit any model of human being I'd ever met. He was obsessed with publicity, and he didn't care what you wrote."

He went on, "Trump only takes two positions. Either you're a scummy loser, liar, whatever; or you're the greatest. Schwartz had written about Trump before. In 1985, he'd published a piece in New York called "A Different Kind of Donald Trump Story," which portrayed him not as a brilliant mogul but as a ham-fisted thug who had unsuccessfully tried to evict rent-controlled and rent-stabilized tenants from a building that he had bought on Central Park South. Trump's efforts - which included a plan to house homeless people in the building in order to harass the tenants - became what Schwartz described as a "fugue of failure, a farce of fumbling and bumbling." Yet, to Schwartz's amazement, Trump loved the article.

"He has no attention span." It's impossible to keep him focused on any topic, other than his own self-aggrandizement, for more than a few minutes. He regards Trump's inability to concentrate as alarming in a Presidential candidate. "If he had to be briefed on a crisis in the Situation Room, it's impossible to imagine him paying attention over a long period of time," Schwartz believes that Trump's short attention span has left him with "a stunning level of superficial knowledge and plain ignorance."

He added, "I seriously doubt that Trump has ever read a book straight through in his adult life."

Schwartz said he never saw a book on Trump's desk, or elsewhere in his office, or in his apartment.

"He'd like people when they were helpful, and turn on them when they weren't. It wasn't personal. He's a transactional man—it was all about what you could do for him."

As Trump defied predictions by establishing himself as the front-runner for the Republican nomination, Schwartz's desire to set the record straight grew. The prospect of President Trump terrified him. It wasn't because of Trump's ideology—Schwartz doubted that he had one. The problem was Trump's personality, which he considered pathologically impulsive and self-centered. "I genuinely believe that if Trump wins and gets the nuclear codes there is an excellent possibility it will lead to the end of civilization."

Schwartz kept a journal while he was writing "Art of the Deal." In it, he wrote, "Trump stands for many of the things I abhor: his willingness to run over people, the gaudy, tacky, gigantic obsessions, the absolute lack of interest in anything beyond power and money." "One of the most deep and basic needs he has is to prove that 'I'm richer than you.'" Schwartz would go home and tell his wife, "He's a living black hole!"

Trump's self-portrayal as a Horatio Alger figure has buttressed his populist appeal in 2016. But his origins were hardly humble. Fred's fortune and influence pedaling were instrumental in everything that Trump did. "The notion that he's a self-made man is a joke." Trump's father had to co-sign many contracts, lent Trump seven and a half million dollars to get started as a casino owner in Atlantic City, and at one point, when Trump couldn't meet payments on other loans, his father tried to tide him over by sending a lawyer to buy some three million dollars' worth of gambling chips.

People are dispensable and disposable in Trump's world." If Trump is elected President, he warned, "the millions of people who voted for him and believe that he represents their interests will learn what anyone who deals closely with him already knows—that he couldn't care less about them."

Rick Bevilacqua Whitinsville

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.

LETTERS CONTINUED page A10



THE GREAT OUTDOORS
RALPH TRUE

Stripers are starting to invade coastal waters

in both Mass. & Rhode Island. This week's picture shows John Gareri with his first striper of the

Invasion of the stripers

season caught in the Providence River last week! The pair of anglers reported no sightings

of Menhaden, but the fish were feeding on some small fish near the surface. The one striper that they

caught was on a surface plug. Tautog fishing was also hot last week, with Captain Mel of



Courtesy

John Gareri with his first striped bass of the season from the Providence River!

five rabbits that were killed by cars near my home. It is a sure sign that the rabbits are making a big comeback, and are here to stay. Unfortunately, they are a nuisance to gardeners trying to grow some fresh vegetables for the family. Woodchuck populations are also abundant in the valley area, and can mow down a garden almost overnight.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun club will stock their club pond with trout this Friday in anticipation of their annual kids fishing derby next Saturday, May 4. Breakfast will be served starting at 7 a.m., and the derby will start at 8 a.m.! Fish chairman Matt Fontaine is hoping for a good turnout, with plenty of prizes being awarded for the largest trout caught.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Bending!



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

It's finally May, and the promise of a warm weather and a bountiful gardening season awaits. For many in New England, the highly anticipated spring season brings with it the excitement of "getting out in the garden" again.

A new season of gardening chores has begun, and in recognition of the 2024 planting season, the following guide, geared toward planning your garden tasks, is offered - as well as some tried and true garden tips.

MAY
Month Stats:
Average temperature (Worcester, MA): High: 66 degrees; Low: 47 degrees; Precipitation: 4.19"; Rainy Days: 15 days
US Climate Data, 2024

May is the month to:

Obtain a soil test
Add lime to "sweeten" soil as necessary

Complete indoor sowing of tomatoes, herbs, broccoli, cauliflower

Set out cool season varieties such as peas.

Turn gardens over

Compost or fertilize garden beds six to eight inches deep

Dig and transplant many perennials before new growth advances

too far. Fertilize your trees, shrubs and perennials. As these plants emerge from the dormant state, their need for nutrients is great.

Plant your bare-root rose stock this month.

Transplant crops that were sown in April.

Transfer crops to larger containers until ready to plant

Fertilize spring bulbs which are actively growing

Plant your summer flowering bulbs later in the month such as gladiola, dahlia and canna.

Prune shrubs such as forsythia, witch hazel, and weigela right after blooming. Fertilize soon after for lush growth this season

Harden off plants to prepare for planting

Pinch back early blossoms of annuals now and you'll be rewarded with more blooms later. Also Pinch off early blossoms of established strawberries for a more bountiful harvest later.

Control your lawn weeds now before the heat of summer to avoid burning grass.

Green Thumb Growing Tips

Hard shelled seeds do not always germinate properly. But you can aid the germination process by making an x cut in the hard seed with a sharp knife.

Or, to speed germination in with-

out breaking the surface, try soaking hard shelled seeds overnight in water.

To get a fast start on germinating corn, try this old trick. Place the corn seeds on a moist paper towel, leaving it overnight. Then fold the damp towel over. Corn seed that has been pre-sprouted will jump-start your crop and is less likely to rot in cold soil.

When planting your garden, sink a small jar or can in the middle of a row. This way, you can gauge exactly how much water your garden is getting from both irrigation and rainfall.

To stop vigorous mint from spreading and taking over the garden, keep it corralled by planting it in a plastic bucket with the bottom cut out.

Pepper plants thrive on heat, so it helps to place large rocks next to your green pepper plants to attract the sunlight

Plants that grow best in alkaline soil such as geraniums and hydrangea, will thank you with better blooms if you water them with a mild mixture of baking soda and water occasionally.

When buying flowers, the general rule is to choose the largest bulbs

because they usually result in larger flowers.

When buying annuals, you'll have the best luck transplanting them if you choose short, stocky, dark green plants with no flowers on them.

When removing the plants from their containers, don't be afraid to break the root mass apart. It will stimulate these small starters into better, stronger growth.

For cost effective mulch, use three sheets of newspaper under bark mulch. You'll save money on bark and the newspaper decomposes, enriching the soil.

Did you know that approximately seven pounds of human hair contain as much nitrogen as 200 pounds of manure? Save hair from home trims to toss in the garden.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month (or whenever enough entries are received) will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across

Attract success, don't chase it

So many of us yearn to be successful, driven by an unrelenting desire to achieve. We work tirelessly, struggle against all odds, and clock in long hours, yet often find ourselves falling short of our goals.

Sometimes, it seems we're chasing after success like a mirage in a vast desert, seemingly within reach yet perpetually out of grasp, like trying to catch smoke with our bare hands. It can be like running a marathon with no finish line in sight. This relentless pursuit can feel like chasing the horizon — the closer you get, the further it seems to stretch away. Success, when pursued directly, often proves elusive, darting away like a startled deer the moment you think you've cornered it.

If you persist in chasing success and consistently fall short, you will encounter a series of deep disappointments. These are not just mere setbacks; they are soul-wrenching disappointments that penetrate to the core of your being. Like sharp thorns on a seemingly beautiful rose, they prick at your spirit each time you reach out, leaving emotional scars that linger. Each failure feels

like a personal betrayal, a dream deferred that saps your enthusiasm and dims the light of hope within you. These profound letdowns can hollow you out, leaving a feeling of emptiness where your passion once thrived.

Imagine sitting quietly in a park, lost in thought, when Jim Rohn, a white-haired man with twinkling, wise eyes, sits beside you. He carries the quiet authority of someone who has experienced much in life and who, during his lifetime, was celebrated for his insightful approach to personal development.

After a moment of comfortable silence, he turns to you and asks gently, "Well, how come you haven't achieved success yet?" His voice is soft but carries a weight that suggests deep understanding.

You find yourself opening up more than you intended, sharing, "I've tried for many years, but Success has always eluded me. I put in the hours, worked relentlessly, and at the end of the day, I watched as everyone else got their slice of the pie, but I never got mine." The older

man nods thoughtfully as if he knows this story all too well.

His response is both shocking and eye-opening. He responds with serene confidence, "Success is something you attract, not something you pursue. It's something you attract by becoming attractive."

You can't help but chuckle to yourself, misinterpreting his words, and reply, "Well, there are plenty of successful people who aren't traditionally attractive, and unfortunately, we're born with the looks we have."

He flashes a gentle, knowing smile and clarifies, "Not that kind of attractive. I'm talking about becoming someone who naturally draws opportunities. It's about being a person of value, character, and action—qualities that magnetize success."

Encouraged by his insight, you lean in, intrigued, and ask, "So, how does one attract success then?"

His eyes light up with the question as if he's been waiting to share this secret.

He replies earnestly, "It's not about chasing external rewards; it's about personal

development. You can have more than you've got right now because you can become more than what you are right now. If you multiply your value by three or by five, you can easily multiply your income by three, five, or even ten. But the key is to work on yourself. That's how you make yourself a magnet for Success.

His words resonate deeply, suggesting a shift from outward effort to inward growth and highlighting a pathway to better circumstances and a better self.

If you want to have a successful large business, you need to refine your leadership skills. If you aspire to be a renowned artist, enhance your innovative thinking and master new artistic techniques. For those aiming to excel in academia, strengthen your research abilities and cultivate critical thinking. Want to innovate in technology? Develop your technical expertise and learn to adapt quickly to new technological advancements.

By focusing on personal growth in these targeted ways, you make yourself a beacon for opportunities, naturally attracting the success you seek.

American folk art

I've had the pleasure of seeing and handling a wide variety of antiques and collectibles and one of the things I enjoy seeing most is folk art. Folk art follows traditional forms of style, theme, and craftsmanship. Items were made from whatever resources were available to the craftsman at the time. Folk art pieces often have a utilitarian purpose but are also aesthetically pleasing.

Folk art started being created in the United States in the late 1700s. Itinerant painters traveled from town to town during the early 19th century painting portraits for the people who commissioned them. The portraits were mainly of wealthy people who had the means to commission them, but middle- and lower-class people are sometimes represented as well. The paintings also offer an insight into life at that time. The Worcester Art Museum has a portrait of two girls with a fruit basket and their cat. A painting in Colonial Williamsburg shows nine children in an outdoor setting. One of the boys has a stick and hoop that was a popular toy at the time. An older girl is holding a baby. Other paintings of the time depict boys with fishing poles and a sea captain with a ship beside him. Given the high mortality rate for children during that time period, many paintings of children were painted posthumously.

Another type of folk art is quilting. European colonists were skilled in working with wool and linen. Quilting was born out of necessity,

though. When imported textiles weren't available or when people didn't have the money to buy them, they repurposed material. Block printing and printing on copper plates were used to create designs on fabric, according to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. These fabric pieces were often incorporated in quilts. Basic designs consisted of squares, diamonds, and hexagons. There were other styles of quilts, but the patchwork quilt is a popular style that used small pieces of cloth to create something that not only kept people warm but looked great in their homes.

There are many other types of folk art, including weathervanes, whirligigs, cigar-store figures, trade signs, ship's carvings, stoneware face jugs, game boards, carnival game wheels of chance, and scrimshaw. Most definitions describe a whirligig as a toy that spins like a top or pinwheel. The folk art whirligigs often depict people with paddle-like arms that twist in the wind or cause a character to saw wood or perform another task.

Some of the more interesting types of folk art we've handled were trade signs. We sold a painted zinc sign that had painted eyes inside the frame to let people know they could find an optometrist there. That piece sold in the mid-thousands. We've sold multiple weathervanes, but an old banner (directional arrow design) with great patina (natural aging) went for over \$4,000. A pair of beautifully painted leather fire buckets with a connection to Sutton,



MA sold for nearly \$20,000. We've sold two 19th century wooden barber poles that brought figures in the thousands. One pole had a sign attached advertising haircuts, shaves, and baths. Up until the 1700s, barbers also performed surgery, dental work, and bloodletting. The red and white design that's still being used symbolized blood and bandages. In the 18th century, you had to be very clear when telling a barber to "take a little off the top."

We are accepting folk art consignments for our summer auction, along with historical items, fine jewelry, sterling silver, art, coins, and other antiques and collectibles. It was

nice discussing antiques with the large group who came to the Holden Senior Center last week. Thank you to the readers of this column who attended the event. I'll be at a Learning in Retirement event in Danielson, Conn. on May 6 discussing downsizing. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to other 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).

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Heat-tolerant beauties for gardens and containers



GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS



Courtesy — Suntory Flowers

Boost the summer-long beauty and heat tolerance in your gardens and containers with new varieties of annual vinca (Catharanthus). The unique Soiree® vinca varieties provide added appeal with their cute, double, and ruffled flowers.

Annual vincas, also known as Madagascar and Rose periwinkle, thrive in full sun and well-drained soil. Once established they are drought tolerant. Similar in growth habit as impatiens but these flowers thrive in hot sunny locations where impatiens struggle. Hardy in zones 10 and 11, vincas are grown as an annual in most parts of the country.

Include annual vincas in containers, hanging baskets, and garden beds. Mix them with other plants or allow them to shine on their own.

Soiree® Kawaii vincas light up any garden with their vibrant mini flowers. You'll enjoy an abundance of flowers that cover the nine to 18 inch tall by 12 to 18 inch wide mound of glossy deep green foliage. No need to prune away long leggy branches as this plant maintains its compact habit all season long. Kawaii means cute in Japanese and these flowers certainly are just that.

Select from eight Soireea® Kawaii (suntoryflowers.com) flower colors ranging from white to coral, purple, and red. Add some sizzle with Paprika Red, a patriot flare with the Lady Liberty Mix, or a harmonious mix of pinks and purple in the Berry Blast mix. Grow White Peppermint, Coral, or Coral Reef Soiree® Kawaii if the disease phytophthora has been a problem in the past. These three are as resistant to this disease as Cora XDR, the gold standard of phytophthora resistance.

Visitors to your garden will take a second look when you add Soiree® Double and Flamenco vincas to the landscape. Their unique flowers don't look like a typical vinca, adding a bit more pizzazz to any planting and combination.

Soiree® Doubles have two distinct layers of frilly petals and produce an abundance of blooms. They are more vigorous, with a larger growth habit than Soiree Kawaii. These plants have a larger leaf and body. You can select from white-, pink-, or orchid-colored flowers that bloom all season long. Don't be fooled by their delicate appearance, Soiree® Doubles are as heat tolerant as other annual vincas.

Unlike any other vinca, the Soiree® Flamenco puts on a display as fancy as that of a flamenco dancer. The ruffled petals may be solid or bicolor. This plant grows 8 to 12 inches tall and 15 to

Soiree® vincas are drought tolerant, thrive in full sun, and add lots of color all summer with an abundance of flowers.

20 inches wide. It has the same heat tolerance, glossy green foliage, and compact growth habit as the other Soiree® vincas.

Senorita Pink Flamenco flowers have a dark pink eye surrounded by a lighter pink blending into the white outer edges of the frilly petals. Contrast that with the deep maroon ruffled petals with a bright terracotta edge of Salsa Red. Salmon Glow's white eye contrasts nicely with salmon

peach. Pink Twist has the most curled flowers in a lovely pink, adding to its appeal.

Look for opportunities to add some unique flare to this year's garden and containers. You'll enjoy their season-long beauty and the oohs and aahs they inspire.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, 2nd

Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD and instant video series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Suntory Flowers for her expertise in writing this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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DAILY ACTIVITIES: All our daily activities are free of charge.

Plummer Place Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

Meditation Group meets every Thursday at 9:30am, all are welcome! Learn how to meditate and how it can benefit your health!

Scrabble will meet Monday, May 6th at 10:00am, all are welcome.

"Take a Hike", our Plummer Place Walking Group will meet on May 7th at 10:00am, location to be announced. Call Jeanne if interested.

"Women on the Move", our Plummer Place women's group, will meet on Wednesday, May 8th at 9:30am. Contact Amy or Michelle if you are interested in joining.

Mother's Day Tea, Thursday, May 9th @ 1:00pm. Janet Parnes will be back with part 2 of the historical portrayal of Frances Perkins. Frances Perkins was the first woman to serve in a U.S. Presidential cabinet, was the Secretary of Labor from 1933-1945 and the driving force behind many of the groundbreaking New Deal programs. Sign up in the main office. Sponsored in part by a grant through the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency and Struggles and Snuggles.

Friends of Northbridge Elders Annual Meeting and Pizza Luncheon, Thursday, May 16th from 12:00-1:30pm. Join us for a fun afternoon and see what our FINE group is all about! This is a free event; you must sign up at the main office to attend.

We need volunteer out of town medical drivers! This is a very important service we provide at Plummer Place for seniors who cannot drive to their medical appointments. If you can spare some time, even if it is one day a week, it would be much appreciated. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage. Call Michelle or Amy if you would like more information or to volunteer.

Monday: Painting class 9:45 to 11:45, Balance & Strength Exercise 12 pm, Mat Yoga 2 pm

Tuesday: Walking club 9 am, Cribbage 9:30 am, Zumba 9:30 am, Bingo 12:00 pm, Technology Class 1pm (call to make an appt.)

Wednesday: Balance & Strength 10 am, Darts 10 am, MahJong 1 pm

Thursday: Walking club 9 am, Chair Yoga 9:30 am, Pitch 9:30 am, Hand and Foot card game 12:30 pm

Friday: Balance & Strength 10 am

MAY EVENTS:
• The center will be closed on Monday May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

Wellness Clinic: Monday May 6th & Tuesday May 21st 10 am to 12 pm. Nurse Ann will be here to check blood pressures, blood sugar, and discuss any concerns you may have.

The Art of Pysanky (Ukrainian Easter egg) Workshop: Thursday May 2nd @ 1:30. We are going to explore the colorful world of Pysanky as you learn this wax-resist technique handed down through generations of Eastern Europeans. No experience is required! We only have space for 20 people as this can be a little time consuming. This class is FREE and made possible through a Douglas Cultural Council

Grant. Please call the center to sign up @ 508-476-2283.

Hearing aid cleaning with Darci on Thursday May 2nd @ 10 am. Please call the center to schedule an appointment, 508-476-2283.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration on Friday May 3rd: Doors open @ 5, dinner @ 5:30, DJ entertainment from 6 to 8. The Sunshine Club invites you to celebrate with them. There will be tacos, virgin margaritas, dessert, beverages, & snacks. The cost to attend is \$5.00 per person due at time of sign up. Please call the center to sign up @ 508-476-2283. Please RSVP before 4/29.

Mother's Day Luncheon Thursday May 9th @ 12 pm. Come in and enjoy a special lunch, with special friends for an afternoon of food, fun, & laughter. Please RSVP by 5/3. Please call the center to sign up at 508-476-2283.

Meet & Greet with the candidates for selectmen, Thursday May 9 @ 1:30 pm. All Douglas residents are invited to attend. You do not have to rsvp for this event.

Three Seasons Restaurant Thursday May 16th @ 11 am. We will be going to the restaurant at BVT for a three course luncheon. The meal will be a wedge salad, choice of Roast Beef Au jus, Chicken

Cordon Bleu with supreme sauce or Seafood Casserole served with Broccoli & cheese sauce & Lyonnais Potatoes. Dessert will be strawberry shortcake. The cost for the meal is \$12.00 thanks to a donation from the Sunshine Club. Please come into the center to sign up, payment is due at time of sign up. Space is limited please RSVP by 5/6.

Lunch & a Movie Thursday May 23rd @ 11:30: Join us in watching Tom Hanks give another outstanding performance in "Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." Lunch is Chicken broccoli Alfredo, salad, & dessert for \$4.00 per person. Please RSVP before 5/16. Please call the center to sign up, 508-476-2283.

Tower Hill Botanical Gardens Friday May 24th: The Sunshine club is taking a field trip! We will be meeting at the center and carpooling. Admission for seniors is \$14.40. There will be a guided tour at 11 am for us to enjoy. Please call the center to sign up @ 508-476-2283 by 5/17.

PLEASE CALL (508) 476-2283 TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS & CLASSES

Check our website for events that may not be listed here

<https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center>

Local residents named to Simmons University Dean's List

BOSTON — The following local residents were named to the 2023 fall semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston.

- * Eva Llopiz, Douglas
- * Katherine DiPillo, Millbury
- * Kyleigh Leonard, Sutton

To qualify for dean's list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter

grade system.

About Simmons University
Located in the heart of Boston, Simmons is a respected private university offering nearly 50 majors and programs for undergraduate women and graduate programs open to all on campus, in blended formats, or entirely online in nursing and health sciences, liberal arts, business, communications, social work, public health, and library and information science. Founded in 1899, Simmons has established a model of higher education that

other colleges and universities are only recently beginning to adapt: the combination of education for leadership in high-demand professional fields with the intellectual foundation of the liberal arts. The result is a Simmons graduate prepared not only to work, but to lead in professional, civic, and personal life - a vision of empowerment that Simmons calls preparation for life's work. Follow Simmons on Twitter at @SimmonsUniv, and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/school/simmons-university/>.



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email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

New Community Health Worker position provides invaluable support

REGION — The Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health was created as a collaborative effort among local Boards of Health in eight nearby communities, including Blackstone, Douglas, Hopedale, Mendon, Millville, Northbridge, Upton and Uxbridge. The many lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic only strengthened the bonds between these towns leading to the realization that more support was needed to effectively address the socioeconomic complexities of the most vulnerable populations.

The town of Northbridge, in collaboration with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission,

received the State Action for Public Health Excellence (SAPHE) Grant from the Office of Local and Regional Health, which allowed for the long-awaited Community Health Worker position to be created. The Community Health Worker position is meant to be a crucial role within these eight communities, with a focus on increasing access to mental health resources; coordinating community-based initiatives that are age friendly; providing targeted resources for healthy aging; and, acting as a liaison for research and support. "As the position evolves, this list will likely expand, especially given that the needs of each town truly differ," says the new Community Health Worker, Jenna Gouin. In addition, the Community Health Worker posi-

tion will work closely with local police and fire departments, as well as Senior Centers. "The key to success here will certainly be ongoing collaboration and open communication. I am excited to work alongside these remarkable individuals and to make a difference in these communities."

Gouin has over ten years of experience in health and social services and has a wealth of experience in navigating complex situations that these vulnerable populations face daily. She received her undergraduate degree from Worcester State University and her dual Master's degrees from Nichols College. Gouin also has strong ties to several of these communities, which really show her level of investment and dedication. "We

are beyond thrilled to have her and are so excited she is finally here. She has already hit the ground running," says Jeanne Gniadek, Northbridge Board of Health Administrator.

In addition to the Community Health Worker position, the Town of Northbridge also hired two Regional Health Inspectors with the funding from the SAPHE grant. These individuals will be supporting the local Health Agents with routine health inspections of food establishments, public schools, and other entities to ensure compliance with state and local health regulations.

If you need Gouin's assistance, she can be reached by calling 508-825-6862 or emailing jgouin@northbridgemass.org.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stop, lest we forget

To the Editor:

Oct. 7 was a "night of infamy" when Israel (victim) suffered an unprovoked attack by Hamas (villain) imbedded in Gaza. More than a thousand men, women and children were massacred and over one hundred prisoners taken, with many, including Americans, still captive and used as pawns for a cease fire. At first in recalling the attacks of 9/11, our government waxed strong in support of Israel's decision to respond with 'defensive' measures against Hamas' terrorist leaders. But federal support and sympathy for Jews and the Jewish State has waned as ugly voices were raised at organized anti-Semitic & anti-American protests.

Freedom of speech is no longer a First Amendment right afforded to all; instead, a privilege available only to those spouting current liberal lines. Among the few exhibiting academic a "profile in courage," the head of the

Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies buked anti-Israel rhetoric and attempt to stifle 'free speech' in "Why I'm Leaving Clark University" (Washington Post, April 15). After 20 years, it stated, "I cannot function effectively at an academic institution that... lacks the strength of character to protect diverse points of view..." "Luck students at a local Catholic university can now hear that voice speaking out freely.

Chaos in cities and on campuses is reminiscent of Nazi Germany in the late 1920s and 30s or anti-war protests in '60s-'70s! Like then, today's protests are falsely labelled "peaceful" even though Jewish students are harassed and defenders attacked. Hate-filled chants- "From the river to the sea," "Zionism is Fascism," "I am Hamas," "Death to America"; virtual education and graduation cancelled for "safety's sake!" Some colleges negotiate

while those in even higher authority are mainly silent. Without meaningful action deterring genuine protestors, 'useful idiots,' and likely insurgents, more unrest is ensured in our tomorrows. Present and future business and civic leaders will continue to have long-held core values and principals eroded by professors who blind students to history's reality.

Since 1948, Jewish people have sought and fought to live peacefully beside Arab neighbors symbolized by the Abraham Accords. Hamas must be recognized as a military terrorist government who enslaves its people in poverty and uses them as human shields in a publically declared battle-to-the-death against Israel. "Lest we forget" the millions of Jews gassed during WW II, those who died Oct. 7 and innocent Palestinians in the middle.

Jane F. Keegan
Uxbridge

LEGALS

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket Number: 24 SM 001594
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
Ricky W. Nelson
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Norwich Commercial Group, Inc., dba Norcom Mortgage claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Whitinsville (Northbridge), numbered 513 Church Street, given by Ricky W. Nelson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Norwich Commercial Group, Inc., D/B/A Norcom Mortgage, dated March 16, 2021, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 64738, Page 199, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before June 3, 2024, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on April 22, 2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
25680
May 03, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
Docket No. W024P130GD
In the matter of:
Mark R. Morton of Millville, MA
Respondent
Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Cheryl Kempton of Mendon, MA

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Mark R. Morton** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Cheryl Kempton of Mendon, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **05/14/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 19, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 03, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
Docket # W024P1301GD
In the matter of:
John Bro of Whitinsville, MA
Respondent
Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Department Of Mental Health of Worcester, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that John Bro is in need of a Guardian and re-

questing that **Some suitable person of,** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **05/21/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the abovenamed person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 19, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 03, 2024

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket Number: 24 SM 001590
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
Scott M. Lemon
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc. claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Uxbridge, 329 Millville Road, given by Scott M. Lemon to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., dated April 13, 2020, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62396, Page 160, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a

complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before June 3, 2024, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on April 22, 2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
25765
May 03, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No.24 SM 000101
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Christine L. Smith and Justin M. Porzio
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

The Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in 492 Fowler Road Whitinsville, MA 01534, given by United States of America Acting through the Rural Housing Service or Successor agency, United States of Agriculture to The Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development dated September 28, 2010, and recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 46380, Page 292, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of De-fendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 05/27/2024 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 4/09/2024

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
May 3, 2023



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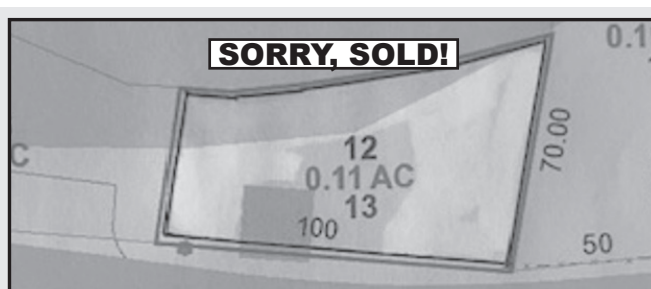


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Take a historical trolley tour of Northbridge

NORTHBRIDGE — The Northbridge Historical Commission, in partnership with the Northbridge Historical Society, is pleased to offer its popular Historical Trolley Tour of Northbridge on Saturday, May 18. Three tour times are available: 9 a.m., 11 a.m., or 1 p.m., and space is limited. This tour is extra special as it will roll for the last time with

Ken Warchol as narrator and guide. Northbridge historian, teacher, and longtime chairperson of the Northbridge Historical Commission, Warchol will guide you on a leisurely two-hour trolley tour of Northbridge Center and The Historic District of Whitinsville. Warchol began providing historic tours of his hometown in 1977 and has

since celebrated and shared Northbridge's history with countless students and community members of all ages. Riders will learn about the vital role Northbridge played in the Industrial Revolution and its growth from a village to a thriving industrial global center under the direction of the entrepreneurial spirit and engi-

neering prominence of the Whitin family. From humble beginnings at the Fletcher Forge to the establishment and growth of Whitin Machine Works into the 1920s, Whitin Machine Shop became the world's most prominent textile machine shop. The tour includes aspects of village life and explores the architectural skeletons and

landmarks that remind us of a bygone era. The tour begins at the 1770 Colonel James Fletcher Homestead, former home to James Fletcher, founder of the Fletcher Forge and now the home of the Northbridge Historical Society. It continues with a stop at the Town Hall and on to more historical places and scenic views.

There is no charge for the tour, thanks to a generous donation from Unibank. Seating is by registration only, and tours fill up quickly. To request seat(s), e-mail Folloni1908@gmail.com. Include your contact info, number of seats requested, and preferred tour time (not guaranteed). You will receive a confirmation e-mail with details.

Coffee Break Bible Study offers one-month study "SHALOM: The Promise of Peace"

WHITINSVILLE — During May, Coffee Break — a non-denominational community Bible study for women — is offering a one-month study, to be held each Thursday morning, from May 2 to May 23, entitled "SHALOM: The Promise of Peace." The author writes, "Every day there are countless reminders of the lack of peace in our world and nations; perhaps also within our own families, lives, or minds. Peace is something we all long for. In the pages of the Bible, we see the word "peace" woven throughout.

We'll discover together what the Bible says about peace." The study will be in small groups at Fairlawn Church. Refreshments are provided, and child care is available for infants through pre-school age. Coffee Break is free and open to anyone in the community and is held each Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Fairlawn Church. Coffee Break offers women in the Blackstone Valley an opportunity to read and discuss the Bible, share questions and concerns, and develop

new friendships. Each lesson is independent, so if you can't attend every week, you won't feel "lost." There's no "homework" required, and no previous Bible knowledge is necessary. Study guides and bibles are provided free of charge. Fairlawn Church is located at 305 Goldthwaite Rd. (off Hill Street) in Whitinsville. For directions, questions, or to get more information, call Ginette at 508-234-4806 or visit fairlawn-crc.org/outreach/coffeebreak.cfm.

Explaining the wildly popular sport of pickleball

Crowded pickleball courts are a testament to the popularity of a sport that has taken many communities by storm. A 2023 report from the Sports & Fitness Industry Association indicates just under nine million people played pickleball in 2022, which marked a stunning 159 percent increase in participation over just a three-year period. With such significant increases in participation, pickleball undoubtedly has piqued the curiosity of millions more who have not yet picked up a paddle. Individuals whose curiosity has compelled them to give the sport a try can consider this rundown of pickleball so they're as prepared as possible upon picking up their paddles.

The sport Pickleball, invented by a congressman from the state of Washington and two friends in the 1960s, combines components of badminton, ping-pong and tennis. A ball made of plastic is used in pickleball, and the ball is slightly larger than a tennis ball. Tennis courts, which many communities have now re-designated as pickleball courts, are still widely used as playing surfaces for pickleball players. The nets for pickleball are lower than for tennis, and that's due to science. According to the paddle and apparel manufacturer Paddletrek, after the first bounce a tennis ball retains about 60 percent of its bounce, which means it can reach a height of nearly 46 inches. A pickleball retains between 38 and 44 percent of its energy after bouncing, which means it peaks around 30 to 34 inches. That's why tennis nets are typically lowered for pickleball competitions.

Is pickleball a team sport? Socialization is one of the foremost health benefits of pickleball, potentially helping to reduce feelings of loneliness that can increase risk for depression and other conditions. Pickleball can be a team sport if players prefer doubles competitions, but it's also played in one-on-one settings as well. But even players who prefer singles competitions can reap the socialization benefits of pickleball by engaging with their competitors and the wider community of local players. When does a pickleball game end? Debate is ongoing as to whether professional pickleball should institute a shot clock to increase the pace of play, but no such clock currently governs the game. According to USA Pickleball™, games are normally played to 11 points, and players must win by two. Tournament games may play to 15 or 21 (win by two).

The popularity of pickleball has exploded in recent years. Non-players who are curious are urged to give this beloved sport a try.

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Friday's Child



Hi! My name is Destiny and I love art and music!

Destiny is a charming, compassionate, and creative girl. She is described as very sociable and enjoys making new friends. Destiny takes pride in being an older sister and loves caring for others. Her creative side has inspired a love of art and music, which includes dancing and coloring. Destiny has developed a new interest in reading and enjoys reading to others. Her favorite sport is basketball which she plays with her friends, and she wants play for a team in the future. Destiny also enjoys hanging with friends whether she is going shopping, going to trampoline parks, or making TikTok videos. She also loves dogs.

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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.

ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL ~ StonebridgePress.com

