The Tantasqua Regional High Drama Club is almost ready to present its annual fall production.

"Peter and the Starcatcher." 

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — The Tantasqua Regional High School Drama Club invites audience to Neverland with “Peter and the Starcatcher”

The Tantasqua Regional High School Drama Club is almost ready to present its annual fall production. 

Charlton Sending “Select Board” name change petition to legislature

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The voters of the town of Charlton voted to petition for the change of the official label of their highest elected board, the Board of Selectmen, to the Charlton Select Board during their regular special town meeting on Oct. 15. The affirmative vote was tallied and signed to petition the Massachusetts state legislature for a name change to the Board of Selectmen and for over a half-century, it has been the name of the highest elected board of the town. Once the state legislature receives the name change petition, it will be up to them whether or not to change the name of the board to Select Board or to a different name.

"The change that we're proposing is not changing who we are or what we do as a board. It doesn't change the rules that we have. It's just a simple gender-neutral change. We have the Select Board Association in Massachusetts that is overseeing over 200 boards in Massachusetts alone. It has hundreds of members and for over a half-century they had the name Select Board Association. They also changed that name to Select Board Association in 2010. So did most of the towns in that association. There are a few towns that are still using that name, but it didn't change – there's not a single woman on those boards, so that's the change. My mother always told me that if I work hard enough and I believe in something I can do anything I want. So, I did. I am many things, but a Selectman is one of them. I am Selectman, and proud of it,” Zurawski said.

With the affirmative vote, the town will now send its petition to the state legislature for approval. Charlton's move is far from unique in today's cultural climate as the push for gender neutral names for elected boards has gained momentum on a national level. Once the state approves the change, the town will also change its name to Select Board or to a different name.

BY GUS STEEVES STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBOROUGH — The local cannabis field is about to get a little bit bigger.

Last week, the organizers of a firm called Monasqua LLC held their online community meeting, although only a handful of people showed up.

They're planning to convert spaces at 10 East Main St. in Southborough and in the town centers of cannabis delivery services. According to CEO Curtis Rosa, it will not be a "traditional brick and mortar retail location" and won't be open to the general public.

He said the organizing team had not yet decided how many delivery trips per day they intend to have, nor exactly how many cannabis deliveries per week. It is expected to open seven days a week and is expected to be open for business by early 2024.

Most of those details remain to be worked out with the Conservation Commission.

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — A heavy downpour didn't dampen the spirits of runners and walkers in the third annual TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K & Fun Walk which was held on Sunday, Oct. 29. According to race director Klaus Hembriedl, the event went on with much enthusiasm and only minor inconvenience to the more than 170 participants and race volunteers.

The family-fun event included 1K Trail Run, a 1K Road Run, and a 5K Trail Fun Walk using the Old Sturbridge Village Education Center on Old Sturbridge Village Road and the Archives Park Trail in the Leasman-Monticello Conservation Lands.

"It was a little wet on the day, but a fantastic race for everyone, including our volunteers and race participants," Hembriedl said. "The runners were out in full force, and the weather was perfect for a good run or walk."

Charlton Selectmen have filed a petition to change the name of the Select Board to a gender-neutral name.

The petition was filed after a special town meeting in October, where the voters of the town of Charlton voted to change the name of the Select Board to a gender-neutral name.

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Christmas by Candlelight tickets on sale now

STURBRIDGE — Christmas by Candlelight at Old Sturbridge Village tickets went on sale to the general public beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 27. This popular holiday event returns with select dates in November and December inviting visitors to step into the past and celebrate New England holiday traditions of the 19th-century and today.

Christmas by Candlelight is a great family activity to share while guests are in town, as a way to get in the spirit and always with a new spin.

Enchantment abounds – Old Sturbridge Village’s 200-acre campus will be decorated for the holiday season. Guests can wander the Christmas Tree Trail and Christmas Wish Bridge, a nature path lit up with Christmas lights and gifts and the tinners will be punching tin lanterns. Take in the sights and smells of holiday baking at the Foss Farmhouse and visit with the farm animals, and so much more!

This year’s event will see the return of many favorite holiday activities, and always with a new spin.

Christmas by Candlelight tickets on sale now

With the help of over 200 volunteers and the United Way of South Central Massachusetts, the team has assembled over 1,500 craft kits for the event.

This year’s event will see the return of many favorite holiday activities, and always with a new spin.

Enchantment abounds – Old Sturbridge Village’s 200-acre campus will be decorated for the holiday season. Guests can wander the Christmas Tree Trail and Christmas Wish Bridge, a nature path lit up with Christmas lights along the Quinebaug River. Or watch the evening come to life at a lighting ceremony every night at 4:30 p.m., ride in the horse-drawn carryall around the Village Common, visit the 500-plus-piece nativity set in Friends Meetinghouse, and view Christmas decor from the 1830s, 1860s, and 1870s in the Salem Towne House. Thanks to special contributions from Oakwood Farms Christmas Barn in Spencer, the Asa Knight Store will feature the history of glass ornaments. The cabinmaker will be crafting wooden toys and gifts and the tinners will be punching tin lanterns. Take in the sights and smells of holiday baking at the Foss Farmhouse and visit with the farm animals, and so much more!

Stop back in time – The households throughout the Village will feature various traditional craft demonstrations including making wooden ornaments, authentic marzipan, knitting Christmas stockings, baking cakes, punching tin lanterns, making pottery, and more. Sample mulled cider and Polish gingerbread and see other holiday treats being made.

Get hands-on with crafts – Visitors can make crafts at various stations throughout the Village, purchase craft buildings in their holiday finest.

STURBRIDGE — Christmas by Candlelight at Old Sturbridge Village will light the Village, and over 2,000 more than 4,000 candles in tin lanterns delivered for the Christmas Tree Trail, This year over 80 cut trees will be decorated for the holiday season. Guests can wander the Christmas Tree Trail and Christmas Wish Bridge, a nature path lit up with Christmas lights along the Quinebaug River. Or watch the evening come to life at a lighting ceremony every night at 4:30 p.m., ride in the horse-drawn carryall around the Village Common, visit the 500-plus-piece nativity set in Friends Meetinghouse, and view Christmas decor from the 1830s, 1860s, and 1870s in the Salem Towne House. Thanks to special contributions from Oakwood Farms Christmas Barn in Spencer, the Asa Knight Store will feature the history of glass ornaments. The cabinmaker will be crafting wooden toys and gifts and the tinners will be punching tin lanterns. Take in the sights and smells of holiday baking at the Foss Farmhouse and visit with the farm animals, and so much more!

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Get hands-on with crafts – Visitors can make crafts at various stations throughout the Village, purchase craft buildings in their holiday finest.
Children and adults are dressed up for Trunk or Treat and having fun with the community outreach program. This Trunk or Treat event was held in the Southbridge Community Outreach Program at the Community Lodge parking lot in Southbridge on Saturday, Oct. 28.

For four hours, the children came in waves to retrieve the tasty treats offered in the trunks of these decked out vehicles. Many lodge members and volunteers from the community gave up their time and resources for this fun event for the children.

SOUTHBRIDGE—Saturday, Oct. 28 was a beautiful fall day for the Trunk or Treat event held at the Quinsigamond Masonic Lodge parking lot.

The Masonic Quinsigamond Community Outreach Program holds this fun event for the local community. Children and adults alike dressed up in their costumes to retrieve treats from the trunks of cars, trucks, and decorated and decked out in the parking lot. Passing on volunteers helped their host as they drove by to witness all the children in costume and decked out cars.

We even had a few vehicles drive by and pull over to watch the children as they walked out of our lot. The children were knowing each other playing with one another.

The concept dates back to the English Mus- ter Law of 1772, according to Douglas Quigley, who explained in the Committee of Correspondence of the Massachusetts General Court that the Massachusetts militia organization was just one of the many community groups that the town was supporting.

This Trunk or Treat event was one of the many outreach programs at O. MASONIC LODGE No. 25.

Masonic Trough or Treat sees great turnout

By Gus Steeves

SOUTHBRIDGE—Saturday, Oct. 28 was a beautiful fall day for the Trunk or Treat event held at the Quinsigamond Masonic Lodge parking lot.

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Opacum Land Trust to plant 1,300 free trees in Southbridge and Ware

How it works
Opacum Land Trust provides the trees, along with the site preparation and are willing to plant an arborist and planting crew to plant the trees. The trees are picked for your location by an arborist to ensure the health and that you love them! We want to help our community which now needs to agree to water and care for the trees after planting. There’s no cost to the recipient. With a total value of $100 per tree, this is an exciting opportunity for the communities of Southbridge and Ware!

Want to get free trees?
Hurry and sign up now to get on the planting list before time runs out! This program is open to owners of land, businesses, and organizations in Ware and Southbridge and Ware.

Sign up at: www.Opacum.Ter/trees or contact Steve Ready, Southbridge Free Planning Coordinator, at 508/777-4747 or sready@opacumlt.org.

Opacum Land Trust is a regional, nonprofit land trust that protects land for wildlife, forestry, farming and recreation. We work in a 10-mile radius from eastern Hampshire County towns and Ware and Southbridge. Since 2000, Opacum has conserved over 1,400 acres and is working to protect more land across the region.

Would you like to be a tree recipient and Southbridge resident Lynn Derr (“Derr”) says “We have been so grateful for the trees that were planted in my yard by Opacum Land Trust. The planting crew helped me to plant the trees and they were so helpful in planting my yard.”

Opacum Land Trust is based in Ware and Southbridge and Ware.

HOLLAND

$480,000, 18 Bank St, Pun Development LLC, to Bollert, Jose, L., and Blanchard, Soma A.

$10,000, 71 Lee Rd, Langsager, Arv T to Bashnop, Mariah B.

$970,000, Marc And Caracca, Robert A, and PHH Mortgage Corp, to Farfard, Tara M, and Collette, Kerrie, and Collette, Andrew.

$75,000, 216-218 Holland Rd, Bessette, Lena I, to Soto, Anthony.

$580,000, 39 Fitzgerald Rd, Fontaine, Jason R, and Fontaine, Kathryn.

$57,000, 94 Holland Rd, Bessette, Lena I, to Soto, Anthony.

$279,300, 20 Marc Ave, Caranci, Robert A, and PHH Mortgage Corp, to Friesen, Kristina, and Friesen, Kennedy.

$350,000, 35 Lens St, Lusignan, Irene J, to Shahyar, Mariah B.

$240,000, 224-B Holland Rd, Palmer Marc D Est, and Palmer, Lee D. 

$35,000, Cathy Ln, Thompson, Clyde B, and Thompson, Cathleen A.

$75,000, Jennings Rd, Gair LLC, to Prop Soln Re &

Thursday-Friday, November 2-3, 2023
Charlton City UMC hosting Season of Joy winter fair

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Folks Hall at 14 Stafford Street, visitors are welcome to this warm and intimate affair where you will find unique gifts for everyone—Handcrafts, jewelry plants, Grammy’s Attic treasures, craft vendors, our fan-favorite silent auction, and so many handmade baked goods as you can carry out. Don’t forget to warm your belly with a delicious handcrafted beverage from our Men’s Group!

A fitting portion of the proceeds this year will benefit the Charlton REAS (Residential Energy Assistance for Seniors), who assists senior citizens of all ages and needs of the community, including education, income, health, and housing.

United Way of South Central MA’s Season of Joy Winter Fair promotes road safety. The grant is the first major gift this year that will support UWSCM’s Bridging the Gap Campaign, which provides funding for critical childcare and nutrition programs in South Central Massachusetts.

“A United Way of South Central MA (UWSCM) is pleased to announce that it has received a $70,000 grant from Fundación MAPFRE, a global nonprofit organization that provides social assistance and promotes road safety. The grant is the first major gift this year that will support UWSCM’s Bridging the Gap Campaign, which provides funding for critical childcare and nutrition programs in South Central Massachusetts.

2023 Winter Fair

The Bridging the Gap Campaign supports a variety of programs that provide childcare and nutrition assistance to low-income families in South Central Massachusetts. These programs include:

Childcare subsidies that help families afford high-quality childcare at the YMCA and Boys and Girls Club of Webster-Dudley.

Nutrition assistance programs through Tri-Valley, Inc. that provide food to older adults and individuals with disabilities.

A weekly dinner program for families through the YMCA’s “Tri-Community” Outreach “What’s for Dinner” program.

Fundación MAPFRE is planned to support the United Way of South Central Massachusetts in its important work in the community,” said Jaime Tamayo, President and Chief Executive Officer of MAPFRE USA, who also serves as Chief Representative of Fundación MAPFRE in the U.S. “We are proud to help the United Way’s Bridging the Gap Campaign to provide more essentials to children and adults.”

About Fundación MAPFRE

Fundación MAPFRE is a global non-profit organization that provides social assistance and promotes road safety. The foundation was established in 1975 by MAPFRE, a leading insurance company. Fundación MAPFRE works to improve the lives of people in need through a variety of programs and services, including support for children and families, disaster relief, and road safety initiatives.

About United Way of South Central MA

United Way of South Central MA is a nonprofit organization that works to improve the lives of people in need in the towns of Southbridge, Sturbridge, Charlton, Dudley and Webster. UWSCM funds more than 20 programs and services that address the critical needs of the community including education, income, health, and housing. The 2023 campaign will run through December 31. People can donate online at www.uwscm.org or by mail to United Way of South Central MA, 176 Main St., Suite 400, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Sturbridge Girl Scout troop welcomes new girls

CHARLTON — Seasons greet the outdoors, and community service. Girl Scout expe-rience is not necessary.

You can register for a spot in the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts Girl Scout troop at www.gscwm.org or by mail to United Way of South Central MA, 176 Main St., Suite 400, Southbridge, MA 01550.

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Web: www.gscwm.org Phone: 508-764-2486
Email: info@gscwm.org

11/17/23 Ed Murray for the wachusett Daily

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BRIMFIELD — Mother Nature dished out a few more tricks than treats this year at the Brimfield Harvest and Craft Fair, but vendors and guests still had plenty of fun.

Originally scheduled for late Sept.-October, the event was postponed due to a rainstorm. A month later, on Oct. 22, guests didn’t have to contend with any rain this time around, instead bundling up and braving a cold, biting wind at Brimfield Winery.

The event featured multiple crafters, live music, special appearances from local organizations, children’s activities and Halloween-themed fun.

The Brimfield Community Partnership and Brimfield Winery are thanking for making special arrangements this year to maximize guests’ enjoyment of the event. Organizers are already looking forward to a strong 2024 event.

Local author Dawn Gray, right, provides guests with plenty of great reads. Local author Dawn Gray, right, provides guests with plenty of great reads.

School district qualifies for free meals under USDA changes

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — After months of waiting and worrying, the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District finally got its answer concerning the fate of free lunches in the district, but not from the state. Instead, the district now qualifies to provide free breakfast and lunch thanks to changes on the federal level.

The Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee has been waiting for months to see if COVID-19-free lunch programs would be continued allowing more leniency when providing meals to its students. However, regardless of what state lawmakers decide, the district now qualifies for one breakfast and lunch per school day for each student at no cost to the students thanks to changes recently approved by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Director of Finance and Operations Richard Mathieu confirmed the news during a meeting of the School Committee at the end of October explaining that the new rules drop the minimum identified student percentage threshold from 40 to 21 percent.

“Under the new rule our school district will qualify for the federally funded School Eligibility Program for the upcoming four-year cycle that will start next school year,” said Mathieu. “This means the entire district will qualify for breakfast and lunch at no charge for the next four years regardless of what the state does with its existing program. We’ve been on the cusp of qualifying for this at individual schools. You can combine schools. We’ve approached that level of inclusiveness for those combinations but we’re open to 21 percent is fantastic. That’s really a good step forward.”

According to the USDA’s website, a final rule was published on Sept. 26 expanding access to the Community Eligibility Provision giving an increased number of schools the option to offer all students healthy school meals at no cost to their families. Furthermore, the rule eliminates unapid meal charges. The rules now state that the “identified student percentage” number for any participating district needs to be at or above 21 percent. “Eligible students” are certified for free meals without a household application. This number is calculated by dividing the total number of identified students by the total number of enrolled students in the district. Mathieu said Dudley and Charlton will easily fall within these guidelines.

The policy changes also align with Grace New England which allows schools that fall below the 21 percent threshold, but remain above 15 percent in year four to elect utilizing the provision for a fifth year if they choose, meaning the district could theoretically continue to utilize the program even if the need for free meals is reduced during the four-year cycle.

Pasture Prime Players present 24 Hour Short Play Festival

CHARLTON — The Pasture Prime Players will be hosting its second 24 Hour Short Play Festival Friday, Nov. 10 and Saturday Nov. 11! A series of short plays will be written, rehearsed, and performed in just 24 hours.

All participants must be at least 18, old enough to attend the opening audition and theme selection event on Friday at 5 p.m. and re-hearse their play the next day, except for the writers who will write their plays the night before. Come with a rated PG theme idea! The plays will be presented for an audience at 7 p.m. Saturday evening at the Charlton Arm’s Activities Center 4 Dessert Hill Rd. in Charlton. Admission for the festival is free. To sign up to participate or receive more information about the 24 Hour Short Play Festival, please email Pasture Prime Players at pastureprimeplayers@gmail.com

Old Sturbridge Academy named semi-finalist for prestigious national award

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Academy (OLA) has been named one of 35 semi-finalists from around the country nominated for The Yass Prize, awarded annually by The Yass Foundation.

OLA is the only Massachusetts school to reach the semi-final stage, and one of 200 applicants from every state in the U.S. OLA will receive a $200,000 award and is in the running for the grand prize of $1 million.

“We are extremely proud of the work we do at Old Sturbridge Academy and that has been validated by The Yass Center,” said James Donahue, president of the school’s board of directors. “We believe that OLA is raising the bar for public charter school education — particularly because of the unique tie we have with Old Sturbridge Village allowing our students to get hands on with various aspects of history.”

The Yass Prize recognizes schools that concentrate on personalized approaches to better educate students, and was dubbed the “Pulitzer Prize of Education” by Forbes Magazine.

“OALA model presents students with individualized approaches for matching their experiences and that aligns perfectly with The Yass Prize,” said Donahue. “By participating in hands-on activities in the classroom and at Old Sturbridge Village, our model encourages students to think and act for themselves.”

OLA is located on the campus of Old Sturbridge Village, the largest outdoor history museum in the Northeast, which provides educational programs to the students as part of the curriculum.

The winner and finalists will be announced at a New York City gala later this year.”

Old Sturbridge Academy (OLA) has been named one of 35 semi-finalists from around the country nominated for The Yass Prize, awarded annually by The Yass Foundation.

Parents Choice Award.

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The virtues of intelligence, open-mindedness, and humility

In a world that often celebrates individualism, innovation, and personal success, it’s imperative to remember ourselves as part of a larger whole. Intelligence, open-mindedness, and humility are not only commendable but also essential in our societal advancement.

Intelligence, the ability to think critically and gain knowledge, is undoubtedly a valuable asset. It fuels innovation, promotes creative discoveries, and leads to technological advancements that improve our lives. However, intelligence alone is not enough. What truly separates individuals who are leaders in their field from others is their ability to adapt and change. They recognize that knowledge often emerges from diverse experiences and viewpoints, and they are open to incorporating new ideas.

Open-mindedness is the gateway to progress. It allows us to consider a willingness to consider different perspectives, even when they challenge our own beliefs. Open-minded individuals are not only more receptive to ideas from others, and adapt to change. They recognize that truth often emerges from diverse experiences and viewpoints, and they are open to incorporating new ideas.

Humility, on the other hand, is the willingness to listen and learn from others. It allows us to recognize that wisdom often emerges from diverse experiences and viewpoints, and that we are more likely to collaborate, learn from others, and adapt to change. They are more likely to consider the perspectives, even when they challenge our own beliefs.

In the end, it is the combination of these virtues that separates individuals who are not just intelligent but wise, not just humbly intelligent but humble, not just thoughtfully but compassionate, and not just selflessly but socially responsible.

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author’s name, address, and daytime phone number for verification of identity. Only the author’s name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted with all of the required information will be accepted. Those who don’t include all information may be rejected at any time for reason of length or if the editor deems it appropriate.

Editorial

The virtues of intelligence, open-mindedness, and humility

Now that Halloween is over, there’s a likely an uncanny or pumpkin shortage. Whether the leftover pumpkin seeds are for harvest decorations, or just for the taste of something different—seeding the grade at Jack-O-Lantern’s quest is what to do with them. With a “redskin, redskin, redskin” ring on my ears and the guilt of two pumpkins still on the porch, I searched old cookbooks and the internet for ways to recycle my fall decor into tasty treats. Read on for the results.

Pumpkin Seeds, Plain and Fancy

Pumpkin seeds are not only tasty and nutritious but seed are also a good source of protein, copper, and magnesium. To prepare them, first halve the pumpkin, and remove the seeds and pulp. Rinse the seeds under running water and pat dry. Then toss the seeds in a single layer on a baking sheet. Place in the oven and bake at 225 degrees for two hours, stirring once. The seeds are ready when they are golden brown. Store them in an airtight container.

Pumpkin Seed Granola

A creative use for leftover pumpkin seeds is to make your own granola. In a large bowl, mix together pumpkin seeds, rolled oats, brown sugar, and cinnamon; stir until well coated. Spread on a baking sheet and bake in the oven for 25 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from the oven and let cool. Stored in an airtight container, these granola bars can last for weeks.

Pumpkin Seed Brittle

This is a delicious, healthy, and frugal way to use up leftover pumpkin seeds. In a saucepan, combine 1 cup sugar, 1/4 cup butter, and 1 cup pumpkin seeds. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer for about 10 minutes. Stir in 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract. Remove from heat and let cool. Break into pieces and store in an airtight container.

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Pumpkin Seed Brittle

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By lifting ourselves, we bring a brighter future. At times, the pathedespiteStruggle. The journeytopeaceasadreamthat seemsshouldbeunattainable.Inthetwilightsofhis work, Dr. Hawkins reflected on the profound impact of small, seemingly insignificant actions:

"The problem with many people is they don't take an estate appraisal, or know anything about it. They think it's just a matter of finding a few items, and maybe some jewelry. But an estate contains far more than that. It's everything a person has collected, from their personal belongings to their memories. Each item holds a piece of who they were, and what they stood for. "

Hawkins's words are a reminder that even the smallest of actions can bring about significant change. Just as a single seed can grow into a towering tree, so too can a single action ripple through a community, a country, or even the world. And just as a garden needs care and nurturing to thrive, so too do we need to cultivate our own inner gardens of growth and transformation.

"When we lift others, when we give them hope, when we share our light, we are not only helping them, but ourselves as well. For in lifting others, we are lifting ourselves. "

By lifting ourselves, we bring a brighter future. The world is full of challenges, but also of opportunities for growth and change. Let us look to Dr. Hawkins's words for inspiration, and remember that even the smallest of actions can bring about the most profound of results. For in lifting ourselves, we are lifting the world.
Monsters meet Masons for candy

around the country

In the 1800s, “the chances of survival in Sturbridge are about the same as in a US uniform in combat was practically nil,” he said. These soldiers were not top of the barrel, he noted one observer of that era said “the militia is what’s left after being purged by Army enlistment.

By contrast, the law required every free, able-bodied white male citizen serve in a militia, which were required to train at least once a year (in Massachusetts, two times). The plan, he said, was to have “a well-trained militia at the source of an invasion or an insurrection that was ready to move at a moment’s notice, not the Army could get there.”

There was a long list of exemptions that reduced its size (or it would be too small), though. Among them were members and staff of most of the state’s medical professionals. One was Dr. William James Piatt, who was a general practitioner in Sturbridge and the Zouave troops on both sides. Their uniforms were based on Algerian Berber outfits that the French encountered during their conquest of Algeria in the 1830s and borrowed for the later Crimean War. The Berbers were noted for being ruthless, aggressive and fight-

SOUTHBRIDGE — Halloween came a little early last Saturday as dozens of children haunted the Quinnipiack Lodge of Masons, seeking out whatever was going to be several sugar high moments. Masons, who have served as re-actors doted out candy for this year’s Trunk or Treat, which had been postponed from the previous week due to rain.

Southern General Hospital and the “military hospital” in Worcester, as well as “alcoholics, lunatics, drunks, vagrants and criminals.”

What was left formed two types of volunteer companies and standing companies. Both types further divided into light infantry (with muskets), riflemen, artillery and certain kinds of specialists, with specific equipment required for each kind. In all, 1832, Massachusetts had 36,070 men in various militia, about 23 percent in volunteer companies. By 1840, just 7 percent of those eligible were volunteer-

In practice, the units often formed along community lines. Sturbridge had three companies, one of them ar- ranged in urban areas, some formed along ethnic lines, Piatt said. Boston had 14 companies; one group of them was the all-Irish Montgomery Guards (named after Rev- erend John P. Montgomery, the first major officer to die). That unit ar-

Today is the magical night in the year when they do this. Afternoon, on the way home, the unit was attached with rocks for being Irish. The governor disarmed all the units.

Many of the men who showed up to training didn’t take it seriously. Piatt said, “Most of the men hated it,” and used it as an excuse to get drunk and drown around.

It prompted the state to ban all col-

rushed for attending the three annual trainings. Those men were sup-
posed to provide the guns, but “they were bringing junky old guns to training days.”

The federal government saw that, too, and in 1840 Congress legislated that the nation would standardize the weapons. That really began in 1810, when the Springfield and Harp- er’s Ferry Armories and various contractors were mass producing the model .58 caliber musket) and distributed them to the states. The following year, they also started making the .54 caliber flask. More importantly, percussion lock guns started seeing service just be-

The autumn regimental conventions are highly recommended for fans of the story 1st re-

nin the fan of the story 1st releas-

Gus Steeves

Laurie Ann of Dudley is halfway through creat-

also the Ox & Yoke Café with ve-

sandwiches, festive desserts, a Puer-

sandwiches, pastries, and beverages at various locations including our charming display of miniature trains.

Visits with Santa – Santa Claus will make an appear-

American troops had 46,700 men in various kinds of units. In 1832, Massa-

Montgomery, the first major officer to die. His unit consisted of “sham battles” ”so lightly built they were nev-

Even the magical beasts need a moment of clo-

Though most New England mil-

lies saw little actual combat until the Civil War, when many units went in their own order on both sides. The first battles were “confusion,” with difficulty sometimes identifying which side a unit was on, Piatt said. While the US Army had a standard blue uniform by then, the Confederates only later standardized theirs to gray “because that was the uniform of an elite company.”

Even after that, some units maintained their own gear, among the many famous were the Zouave troops on both sides. Their uniforms were based on Algerian Berber outfits that the French encountered during their con-

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the Civil War. Massachusetts drafted the men to stockpile them until needed for war, letting the militia train in their cheaper copies that were “to give the troops practice do-

Rutgers University press, which published a book about the story of the Great Fire of 1831.

Halloween Model Rail Roaders! Enter your creation on display. Families, bakers are all welcome and baking contest and put your creation on display. Families, bakers are all welcome and baking contest and put your creation on display. Families, bakers are all welcome and baking contest and put your creation on display. Families, bakers are all welcome and baking contest and put your creation on display.

Christians

CHRISTMAS continues on page 2

kites in our shops for gift giv-

ging, and try candy dipping for an additional fee.

Real stories of the season—Venus can sit and listen to readings of The Nativity Gospel of Luke and The Nativity Gospel of Saint Mat-

them in the Friends Meeting-

house or hear classic Christ-

unto the army or its members. According to a generation later,

Eventually, the state was given the guns, but “it wasn’t a time of peace, so they could enjoy this hall-

Militia

continued from page 3

seed the benefits of membership at www.osv.org/ membership/

Saw with membership

Members enjoy much more! Not a member? Membership is a gift that keeps giving all year long. Explore the benefits of membership at www.osv.org/ membership/
Hi! My name is Joshua and I always try my best!

I am a lifelong resident of Southbridge. As a longtime resident of South Central Massachusetts, I've always known what a special community we are. It's where I've raised my family, and it's where we've always been. For deliveries, you can trust me! We deliver to people under 21. For deliveries, you can trust me! We deliver to people under 21.
Southbridge plans for trees and housing

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE

SOUTHBRIDGE — The town’s long list of grant funding continued last month, with $2.8 million Community Forestry grant and one on going effort to secure $10 million to repair Hamilton Street.

The former is in the hands of Steve Brady, who described it as “our ultimate grant” when he spoke to the Council On Thursday. The Massachusetts Community Shade Tree Commission, deter-mined to grow new or maintain existing forestry and street trees there really are and what remains, if any, is to be done. In residential areas, there will be a “community arboretum,” although where that can be is still un-clear, with the possibility that the town could get Southbridge a National Arbor Day Tree City Certification.

Brady said participation will be quiet, as it is a realization part of learning a little about trees.”

For more than several hours, he has been coordinating the tree planting for Opacum Land Trust’s ongoing 1000 Shade Tree project, which aims to reduce the “urban heat island” effect and provide shade in downtown neighborhoods. So said Brady, who described it as “an amazing effort to secure $10 million to re-

May come in and build complexes under Mass-General Law Chapter 41, § 77, which allows for the Planning Board and most other local boards to green light buildings under state over-sight, although they still do have to go to the Zoning Board for local hearings. (As an example of the differ- ence, the Seekonk apartments were built through 41, but the developer now has two others in the works but cannot go to the Zoning Board that won’t be.)

Southbridge is “a housing plan and/or ex- ceeding that 10 percent threshold, in the way the state defines things, South- bridge can now only document having have stopped anyone from doing a 40B application plan. If the town had had such a pro- ceeding that 10 percent threshold, in the next year,” Dean said.

Pets will be a “community arboretum,” that level is around $70,000 a year for 10 percent of town-owned forestry and town-owned open space and said she thought “the third time’s more, declare a housing inventory and produc- tion plan. If the town had had such a pro- ceeding that 10 percent threshold, in the next year,” Dean said.

At issue is that, according to the way the state defines things, South- bridge can now only document having have stopped anyone from doing a 40B application plan. If the town had had such a pro- ceeding that 10 percent threshold, in the next year,” Dean said.

And handed out such a plan in a few years ago, when the Wells Apartments opened, it “would have stopped people from doing a 40B in the next year,” Dean said.

So said Brady, who described it as “an amazing effort to secure $10 million to re-

When a town has less than 10 per cent of its housing designated as “affor-
able” that way, developers can install new officers

As a Lodge nearest to you.

If you are interested in the history of the Lodge, read the deep histo-

logy of Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington.

First row, left to right: Brother Brett Goodrich, Worshipful Master George Caufield, Second row, left to right: Bro. Jan Alexander, Bro. Jim Alexander, Bro. Dave DeNardo, Bro. Harry Manuel, Bro. Stephen Bob Munier and Worshipful Master Brady, who described it as “an amazing effort to secure $10 million to re-

Critical Thinking Discussion Group - Selected Poems of English & American Poets

Thursday, November 9, 6:00-7:00

No registration and open to all. Discussions are free and open to the public. Tonight will be a gen-

The meetings are free and open to the public. Tonight will be a gen-

Community Yoga

Saturday, November 4, 9:45-10:15

Dexter Hall - No Registration

All ages and jeans are welcome. No need to register. Bring your own yoga mat.

Book Discussion - WRITERS AND LOVERS BY Lily King

Monday, November 6, 7:00-8:00

Local History Room and via Zoom (check event calendar)

No registration and open to all. Books are available for checkout at the adult circulation desk.

Death Cafe

Charlton Public Library

November 15, 1:00-3:00

Dexter Hall - No Registration

On Thursday, November 9, 6:00-7:00 — Community Meeting - Room No. 3:00 - Dexter Hall - No Registration

The meetings are free and open to the public. Tonight will be a gen-

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Local History Room and via Zoom (check event calendar)
Thursday-Friday, November 2-3, 2023 • STONEBRIDGE PRESS • 13

GAIL M. WATERTHUR

DEPARTMENTS

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Select Board, Chairperson
Brimfield Elementary School, 22 Wales - Cross Road approximately 150+/- feet

Reason:
National Grid to install (1) SO Pole on the bond in November 2023 at 6:00 p.m. for the following:
Including the necessary sustaining and reinforcing pull-in wire locations petition filed by National Grid to install (1) SO Pole on the bond in November 2023 at 6:00 p.m. for the following:

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE

The Public Hearing will be held in person and virtual;

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PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE

The Public Hearing will be held in person and virtual;
Tantasqua's Lilina Shiers breaks free from Marlborough's defense for her first goal.

Ava Chevalier of Tantasqua (12) keeps right with Marlborough's Emma Reynolds.

Tantasqua's Eve Van Wickler (foreground) and Nicki Vejack (back) tightly defend Marlborough's Ava VanBuskirk.

Tess Chevalier of Tantasqua tracks down a loose ball.

Minutemen lose heartbreaker in final minute to BMR, but remain postseason bound

Bay Path's Kaiden Brochu takes off for a big gain while rushing the football.

Quarterback Corey Scovil of Bay Path launches a pass toward teammate Brayden Downes.
SOUTHBURY — Although the David Prouty varsity football team began its season 0-4, all of those losses were by two scores or less. And the Panthers shook off those losses the next four weeks, defeating Bartlett (36-12), Murdock (48-14), Quaboag (8-0) and then finally Southbridge (42-0), the last coming Friday, Oct. 27 at McMahon Field, to improve to 4-4 in the regular season finale.

Prouty got the scoring started early in the first quarter when quarterback Logan Josti hit JJ Neiray on a 10-yard pass. Then, later in the half, the Panthers’ Jamison Kondratowicz found the end zone on a 5-yard run and Josti hit Finn Hitchner on the two-point conversion pass. Prouty took a 22-0 lead into the halftime break when Josti’s deep pass to Neiray from 65 yards found pay dirt. Josti then connected with Kondratowicz on the two-point pass.

The Panthers then put the game away with 20 more points in the second half.

David Prouty didn’t quite qualify for the Division 8 State Playoffs, though. Instead, they will play a non-playoff game at Littleton on Friday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m.

The Pioneers (0-8) will also compete in a non-playoff game Friday, Nov. 3, where they will host Murdock at 6:30 p.m.
SPORTS

Dudley Middle School edges Charlton under the lights

DUDLEY — Under the bright lights of Carmignani Memorial Field, in the rain, on “The Hill,” the Dudley Middle School Titans faced the Charlton Middle School Grizzlies in a regular season ending girls’ soccer matchup on Monday, Oct. 30. The Titans took this one over their crosstown rivals with a last-minute goal, 3-2.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD
Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
St. Mary’s Church
4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
Distribution: Wednesday 9 AM-11 AM; Saturday 9AM-11AM

CHARLTON
Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

LEICESTER
Leicester Food Pantry
St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD
St. Joseph’s Food Pantry
296 No. Main St, North Brookfield, MA 01535
Distribution: First Thursday 5 PM-6:30 PM; Third Thursday 12 PM-1:15 PM

SOUTHBRIDGE
Saint John Paul II Food Pantry
Saint Vincent de Paul
279 Hamilton St, Southbridge, MA 01550
Distribution: Tuesday 3 PM-5 PM, Wednesday 9 AM -11 AM

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY
Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
Saint Vincent de Paul
60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562
Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

WEST BROOKFIELD
Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
First Congregational Church
36 North Main Street, W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM - Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Tantasqua football gains third victory

On Friday, Oct. 27, the Tantasqua varsity football team traveled to Bolton and soundly defeated the Wolves, 35-13. The Warriors trailed after the first quarter, 10-7, but won the second frame by a 21-3 count to surge ahead, 28-13. Overall, quarterback Adam Howe completed 15 of 16 passes for 233 yards and a pair of touchdowns, which were caught by Jack Rapose (7 catches, 142 yards). Brandon Denham added a pair of rushing scores and Logan Arrastia added another TD on the ground. Luke Marvin successfully booted all five of her PAT’s through the uprights. Tantasqua improved to 3-5 with the win.

Help Wanted

NEED JOB
Try the Bank.

Find a Career in The Classifieds!
Town of Brookfield - Interim Highway Superintendent

Brookfield is seeking a full time Interim Highway Superintendent. Applicants may be considered for permanent position. Full job description and application details at brookfieldma.us

Deadline to apply is November 1

FOR SALE
HUSQVARNA
24” SNOW BLOWER
10 HORSEPOWER
ELECTRIC START

$300 OBO
CALL 508-892-9235

Town-to-Town
CLASSIFIEDS
774-200-7308

TOP PAY • GREAT COMPANY!
HELP WANTED
GENERAL LABORERS & OPERATORS

Would you like to earn above-average pay while working for a reputable company? We offer 401 K health insurance, vision, dental and more. Chappell Construction & Hardscapes is a growing leader in the segmental MSE & sound wall industry.

We take pride in our professional approach and quality of work. We are a growing company with room for advancement.

• We are looking for laborers - experience & OSHA 10 a plus, but will train the right person.
• We are looking for equipment operators with experience only. Must be able to operate all types of equipment. Must have a MA and RI hoisting license.
• Travel is required/supplied

860-317-1207
office@ccwalls.com

Foster Parents Wanted

Growing leader in the segmental MSE & sound wall industry.

We offer 401 K health insurance, vision, dental and more. Chappell Construction & Hardscapes is a growing leader in the segmental MSE & sound wall industry.

We take pride in our professional approach and quality of work. We are a growing company with room for advancement.

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• Travel is required/supplied

860-317-1207
office@ccwalls.com
**WEBSTER LAKE - 36 EAST MAIN ST**

Woodstock - 4 ABBREED RD

This single family home is currently located just off Charlton Street and sits on a level 0.42 acre lot. It has 1,734 sq. ft. of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, charming front porch and oversized detached 2-car garage.

**WEBSTER LAKE - 7 MOUNT DANIELS WAY**

**WOODSTOCK - 4 ABBREED RD**

Real Estate Section

- The property is a level 0.42 acre lot.
- Three bedrooms, one bathroom, and an oversized detached two-car garage.

**WEBSTER LAKE - 36 EAST MAIN ST**

Single Family Residence

- Located off Charlton Street.
- 1,734 sq ft, 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom.
- Oversized detached two-car garage.

**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@stonebridgepressnews.

**RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS**

- **WEBSTER LAKE - NEWLY LISTED**
  - Beacon Park
  - Convenient to Highway
  - 3000 sq ft, 2.5 Baths
  - Upgrading Heating Unit
  - Waterview

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 13 SOUTHBRIDGE RD**
  - 124 SOUTHBRIDGE RD (RTE 20)
  - Town Sewer Project Plans included!

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 131 LAKESIDE AVE**
  - 131 Lakeside Ave
  - Near WEBSTER LAKE'S LAKESIDE
  - Water, Sewer, & city Gas available.

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 12 SOUTH POINT RD**
  - 1277 sft on the water!
  - 10,000 sq ft of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, charming front porch and oversized detached 2-car garage.

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 13 SOUTHPOINT RD**
  - 1077 sft on the water!
  - 10,000 sq ft of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, charming front porch and oversized detached 2-car garage.

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 17 BRODEAU AVENUE**
  - 17 Brodeau Avenue
  - Town Sewer Project Plans included!

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 266 POMPEO ROAD**
  - Thomsen - 266 Pompeo Road
  - 2600 sq ft of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 2-car garage, Artesian Well, Town Sewer.

- **WEBSTER LAKE - 248+/- ROAD FRONTAGE, 279+/- BUILDING, MASS DEP# 313-1167.**
  - Road Frontage: 248+/-, Building: 279+/-
  - Mass Dep#: 313-1167

- **WEBSTER LAKE - PATTISON RD**
  - Webster Lake
  - 1147 sft on the water!
  - 10,000 sq ft of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, charming front porch and oversized detached 2-car garage.

- **WEBSTER LAKE - NORTHEAST VISTA**
  - Webster Lake
  - 1100 sft on the water!
  - 10,000 sq ft of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, charming front porch and oversized detached 2-car garage.

- **WEBSTER LAKE - ON DEPOSIT**
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  - 1100 sft on the water!
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  - 1100 sft on the water!
  - 10,000 sq ft of living area and offers 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, charming front porch and oversized detached 2-car garage.
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