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Whitinsville Christian students named Commended Students

WHITINSVILLE — Braden (Brady) Gorman and Charbel (C.J.) Najem have been named Commended Students in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students (top 2.5 percent) who entered the 2025 competition by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Gorman and Najem are both seniors at Whitinsville Christian School and members of the National Honor Society. Gorman's extracurricular activities include soccer, basketball, tennis, DECA, and class officer. Najem is an accomplished track athlete, a leader of HOSA, and a talented



Courtesy

Pictured, left to right, are CJ Najem and Brady Gorman.

The official letters will be presented at the WCHS Award Ceremony in the spring. "I am so pleased to recognize the dedication, hard work, and intellectual prowess of

these two students," said Tammi Gorman, WCS High School Principal. "This prestigious recognition is a testament to their commitment to academic excellence as well as to their character. We are incredibly proud of your accomplishments and the bright future that lies ahead. Keep pursuing excellence, and continue to inspire us all with your remarkable achievements. Well done!"

"Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource: recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."

Our Lady of the Valley hosting milestone 40th Annual Holiday Fair

UXBRIDGE — Our Lady of the Valley Regional School will host its 40th annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 75 Mendon St., Uxbridge (behind St. Mary's Church).

The OLV Holiday Fair, run through the Parent's Guild, is one of the school's largest fundraisers of the year, with funds going to support Catholic education and activities for more than 200 students in the region. The Fair includes something for attendees of all ages, including over two dozen local vendors selling unique gifts just in time for the holidays.

Kids will have a great time participating in various activities, including a video game truck, bounce house, kids' crafts, inflatable ax throwing, a special kid's raffle table, a scavenger hunt, and much more. Santa will also be dropping in for free pictures.

The Fair will also offer a variety of freshly made meals and baked goods. Pancakes will be served from 9-10 a.m. Lunch options include a choice of a chicken parm sub, meatball sub, hot dog, or pizza, with fries also available. Snack options include fresh popcorn, soft pretzels, or chips. Additionally, there will be a wide selection of fresh cookies and baked goods available.

Feeling lucky? The Fair offers multiple opportunities to win great prizes. In addition to the kids' raffle, participants can try their luck at the grand raffle, super raffle, and basket raffles, which feature over 50 unique baskets.

The OLV Fair has so many activities that it spans three buildings, including the main school building, the G.R.A.C.E. Center, and The Good Shepherd Parish Hall within St. Mary's.

Follow the OLV Fair Event page on Facebook or visit their website www.ourladyofthevalleyregional.com, for all the latest updates. For questions, email the guild at olvguild@gmail.com.

Thanksgiving project needs your help

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Senior Center is organizing our annual Thanksgiving lunch distribution to more than 275 seniors and homebound. We are looking for assistance from volunteers to make this project a success. The amount of organization and preparation is surmountable, but with many hands, the work is attainable and rewarding.

This project takes place on Monday, Nov. 25 at the Uxbridge

Senior Center. Volunteers can help by donating monetary donations made payable to the Uxbridge Senior Center at 36 South Main St., Uxbridge. Others may help by volunteering their time to help package or deliver the meals. Your time would consist of a few hours between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., depending on the assignment.

In addition, the senior center is accepting names of

Uxbridge residents that would like lunch, please call the center and indicate if you would like the meal delivered to your home or if you would like to pick it up at the senior center.

If you can help in any way, please reach out to the Uxbridge Senior Center by Nov. 12, contact Lisa Bernard, Director, at 508-278-8622. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Scarecrows on the Douglas Common

BY LYNN PARESKY
 DOUGLAS COMMON PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.

DOUGLAS — The Douglas Common was alive with activity as the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. kicked off its 1st Annual Douglas Scarecrow Contest, sponsored by the Slovak Catholic Sokol, on Saturday, October 12th. With 50 entries in this free contest, the scarecrows are a must to visit. The talent and creativity of our community is truly amazing.

The scarecrows will remain on display through the end of October, so make sure to plan your visit to see them before they are gone.

As the start of a new tradition for Douglas, the Scarecrow Contest was a wonderful success. Families, individuals, businesses, athletic groups, various clubs and organizations, and Town Departments all came out to showcase their talents and be part of this community activity. With a grant awarded to the Douglas Common Preservation Society from 4Imprint's One by One Corporate Giving, free commemorative t-shirts were able to be given to the first 40 entries, as well as to the volunteers who helped out at the event.

Judging will take place



on Oct. 26, and it's going to be a tough decision for the judges to select who wins in each of the three contest divisions: Most Creative, Funniest, Scariest. The first place winner in each of the three Divisions will receive a \$50 Amazon Gift Card, but the real prize is all the fun everyone had being part of this event and knowing that their creation was a source of pleasure for so many.

Since the start of the contest, there has been a

steady stream of visitors of all ages coming to view the display, most with cameras to capture the wonderful collection of scarecrows. Our community can be very proud of what is offered right here in Town at the Douglas Common.

With the Scarecrow Contest so successful in its first year, just imagine what it will be like next year! A number of people are already planning what they will do for their 2025



scarecrow entry. We hope next year to increase the display to at least 75 scarecrows and invite you to be part of the fun.

The fun will continue at the Common in November as the Fall decorations are replaced with holiday lights and decorations. The Douglas Common Preservation Society is planning a Holiday Lighting Celebration at the Common on Saturday, November 30, from 6 to 7 PM. This free event

will feature caroling performed by The Very Merry Dickens Carolers, photo opportunities with Santa or the reindeer; and refreshments. And, of course, the lights and decorations will be fantastic and sure to put you in the holiday mood.

The Common will also be a stop on the Second Annual Winter Stroll scheduled for Dec. 14. As you Stroll through Douglas, stop in at the Common for hot choco-

late and caroling hosted by the Sunshine Club between 5 and 6:30 p.m. — and use this opportunity to take some beautiful family photos.

Beautifying, maintaining and decorating the Common is the year round work of volunteers who make up the Douglas Common Preservation Society. The Society relies on the support of many members of the community, both businesses and individuals, to make this possible. All sponsors who donate between July and Thanksgiving will be recognized on a second Recognition Banner placed at the Common during the month of December. Your tax-deductible donations should be mailed to Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc., 76 NW Main St., Douglas, MA 01516 if you would like to support this worthwhile cause. Memorial Donations will also be recognized on the Recognition Banner with a memorial message. All donations are tax-deductible and are used 100 percent for the Douglas Common. Together we can make our Common a source of pride for our Town and a location where the community can come together to celebrate the seasons.

Uxbridge Senior Center

36 South Main St.
508-278-8622
Lisa Bernard – Director
Gail Boutiette – Outreach Coordinator
Donna Oncay – Transportation Coordinator
Omer Boucher – Van Driver
Sally Selvidge – Activities Coordinator
Pat Ordway – Chef

DIRECTOR NEWS FOR NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to November and the start of the holiday season!

The Senior Center will carry on the annual Thanksgiving meal distribution for Uxbridge residents. This year's meal will be held on Monday, November 25th. At your request, the lunch can be delivered to your home between the hours of 11:30am-1:30pm, or, if you prefer, you can drive by the senior center to pick it up. Lunch will consist of hot, sliced, turkey with gravy dinner with mashed potatoes,

stuffing, vegetable and a roll, and cranberry sauce on the side along with a personal sized Table Talk Pie for dessert. We are accepting monetary donations to the Center to help support this project. The lunch is free and open to all seniors and the disabled. Please call the Center if you would like lunch or if you would like to donate. Once again, this year, the Senior Center received a Fallon Health Mini Grant to cover for some of this project. We appreciate their continued support!

A big shout out to Hannaford's Pharmacy for sponsoring our Flu Shot Clinic last month. Over 50 seniors participated in this event! Thank you, Hannaford's Pharmacy, for keeping our seniors safe!

Appointments are available to help folks with Fuel Opportunity Council). This program begins on November 1, 2024.

Please call the senior center for more information and schedule your appointment.

Tara Hammes from MCOA (Massachusetts Council on Aging) visited us on October 3rd at McCloskey School (our satellite site) to host the MCOA ActiveAgers Program. Councils on Aging (COAs) are essential in promoting healthy aging by offering diverse programs and services that keep older adults active, eating well, managing chronic conditions, and staying socially connected. The Uxbridge Senior Center was awarded a \$100 grant to sponsor this event, and we had 2 lucky drawing winners for the ActiveAgers Program who each won a \$25 VISA gift card, and the door prize was raffled which consisted of a gym bag with lots of extras inside! The Uxbridge COA focus is on fitness programs, namely our Zumba, Low Impact and Walking Groups which our Wellness Coordinator, Doreen Cedrone, supervises. Thank you to all our participants and to MCOA for a spectacular day! PS.-Stay tuned for another exercise program coming soon to McCloskey School for our older adults!

In Home Vaccinations Available Call (833) 983-0485 In-Home Vaccination Central Intake Line or Go to: In-Home Vaccination Program (COVID-19/Influenza) | Mass.gov Get COVID Free Test Kits Stop by the Senior Center or order them by calling 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489). Happy Thanksgiving to All! Lisa

The Uxbridge Senior Center has been chosen, again, as a Shaw's GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag Program Nonprofit Partner! The senior center will receive \$1 for each \$3.00 GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag sold during the month of November 2024 at Shaw's, 1177 Providence Road, Whitinsville MA! Also, The Uxbridge Senior Center has been chosen, again, as a Hannaford Bloomin' 4 Good Program Nonprofit Partner! The senior center will receive \$1 for each specially marked Bloomin' 4 Good bouquet sold during the month of November 2024 at 158 No. Main Street, Uxbridge MA!

Friday, November 1st – 12:00 pm – Lunch & Learn with Chief Montminy. Meet the UPD's new Clinician & Mental Health Advisor Gabriela Cohen.

Be sure to RSVP for this event.

Monday, November 4th – 1:00 pm – Uxbridge Senior Center Drama Club Meeting with Cathy Thornton. Does this sound like it would be something fun to do? Reading aloud, discussing, viewing plays could be our focus. Field trips to local community theatres are a possibility. Maybe invite some high school students to join in reading some selections. Call 508-278-8622 if you are interested in joining!

Monday, November 4th – 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm – Computer Tutoring with students from BVT. Please call ahead to book an appointment. This will be held on the first Monday of each month. Next date will be Monday, December 9th.

Tuesdays, November 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th – 9:00 am – 1:30 pm – SHINE Appointments – Pat Nectow, our SHINE Counselor, will be here to help you with your health insurance questions. Please call 508-278-8622 to schedule.

Tuesday, November 5th & 19th – 1:30 pm – Make Clay Christmas Ornaments with Christine Tansen! Onetime cost is \$10.00, and class is limited, so sign up early! We will make the ornaments on the 5th and then glazing them on the 19th. Please stop by the senior center to sign up.

Friday, November 8th - 11:30 am - 12:30 pm – "PopUp Library". Books will be on display to check out, library card sign-ups, book hold pick-ups, etc. This program is being offered by the Uxbridge Free Public Library.

Monday, November 11th – The Senior Center will be closed in observance of Veterans Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, November 12th at 8:00 am.

Tuesday, November 12th – 1:00 pm – Uxbridge

Library Book Club. They will be discussing "Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murders" by Jesse Q. Sutanto. You are welcome to join us for lunch on this day, just be sure to call ahead to "book" yours! Next book club meeting is on Tuesday, December 10th and they will be discussing "The Secret Book of Flora Lea" by Patti Callahan Henry.

Tuesday, November 12th – 1:00 pm – Benefit Enrollment Specialist – Tri-Valley, Inc. Call the senior center to book an appointment with Gina. Next date will be December 10th.

Wednesday, November 13th – 10:30 am – 11:30 am – Senator Ryan Fattman Staff Office Hours. Meet with District Director Amanda Hellyar. The purpose of staff office hours is to give constituents a chance to meet with their office to seek guidance on issues related to a state agency, find out about upcoming events, and learn more about legislative affairs on Beacon Hill.

Thursday, November 14th – 1:30 pm – "New" Fall Soups & Stews with Therapy Gardens. This is sponsored by The Uxbridge Elderly Connection Inc. Come explore recipes perfect for the season like Butternut Squash & Apple & Sage, Roasted Pumpkin & Ginger, Creamy Mushroom with Tarragon, Roasted Red Bell Pepper Soup and more! Learn the ingredients, techniques, and tips to create these fantastic dishes. Get Therapy Gardens latest recipes! Whether you're an experienced cook or just starting, this presentation will inspire you to bring the flavors of fall into your home. Space is limited so sign up early! Taste samples will be provided!

Thursdays, November 14th, 21st & December 5th - 2:45 pm – 3:45 pm - 8-session Low Impact Exercise Classes Continue. Please stop in the senior

center to sign up. Enrollment and waiver forms are required prior to the start of class. Cost: \$25.00 donation.

Thursdays, November 21st, December 5th, 12th & 19th - 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm – 8-session Zumba Classes Continue. Please stop in the senior center to sign up. Enrollment and waiver forms are required prior to the start of class. Cost: \$25.00 donation.

Monday, November 18th - 1:30 pm – "Ask the Attorney" with Attorney Ralph Tepper by appointment only. Please Call 508-278-8622 to schedule your appointment.

Thursday, November 21st – 12 noon – November Birthday Cake Celebration. Come Celebrate all the birthdays this month!

Friday, November 22nd – 12:00 pm – Annual Thanksgiving Celebration with Bob Moon here to entertain us! This is Sponsored by the Uxbridge Elderly Connection Inc. Sign up early as space is limited!

Monday, November 25th – 11:30 am – 1:30 pm - Meal Distribution. No lunch at the center this day.

Tuesday, November 26th - 11:00 am – 12:00 pm – Ask the Nurse Free Blood Pressure Clinic with Nancy Favulli, Salmon Health VNA. RSVP to participate and to join us for lunch.

The senior center will be closed on Wednesday, November 27th, Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th in observance of Thanksgiving. We will re-open on Monday, December 2nd at 8:00 am.

Card Game played during lunch on Mondays. No Games on 11/11 or 11/25.

Hannaford grocery shopping every Tuesday. Pick up begins at 8:30 AM. Please sign up in advance by calling us at 508-278-8622 to reserve your seat on the van.

Knitting Club every Tuesday @ 1:30 pm – Come join the creative fun!

Walk & Talk Exercise Group every Tuesday @ 9:30 am – Join Doreen Cedrone, our Wellness Coordinator. For the month of November, we will walk the Town Loop in Uxbridge and meet up at McCloskey School parking lot, 62 Capron Street at 9:30 am. If you haven't already signed up, please stop by the senior center for your enrollment & waiver forms. The program is weather permitting. Don't forget to wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle. This is a Free Event!

Every Wednesday – 9 am – 3 pm – The Uxbridge Senior Center Transportation Program Community Shuttle. This shuttle is for seniors and individuals with disabilities such as post office, pet care appointments, hair salon or barber, bank, pharmacy & shopping anywhere in the Uxbridge/Northbridge area. Note: this replaces the weekly bank/pharmacy and Shaw's Ocean State rides. Call 508-278-8622 for more information and to book your FREE ride. Requests require a 48-hour notice. NOTICE NEW DATE: November 26th for this month only!

Wednesdays - "Canasta" Hand, Knee & Foot Card Game – 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm. No Canasta on November 27th.

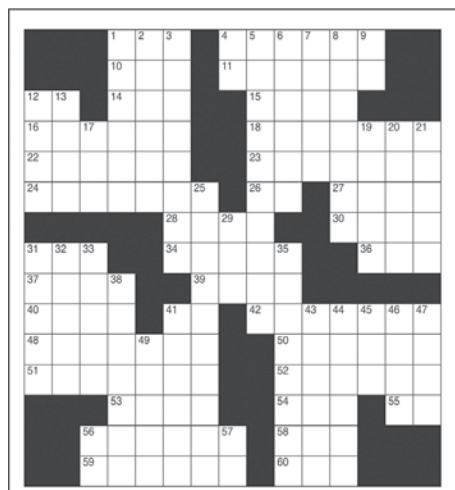
Wednesdays – Play Scrabble! – 1:00 pm – Come by for an afternoon playing Scrabble. Boards are supplied by the senior center. Let us know if you'd like to join us for lunch! No Scrabble on November 27th.

Medical Transportation is accepting appointments. Call 508-278-8622 to schedule your rides.

The senior center is in need of the following donations: Lysol wipes, newly packaged napkins, paper towels, tissues, toilet paper; tea (regular and caffeine free), ground regular & decaf coffee. We thank you for your support!

Feel free to contact us at 508-278-8622 or visit us on our web page at Uxbridge-ma.gov/coa or like us on our FB page or by googling Uxbridge Senior Center and our new YouTube Channel or even dropping by.

• https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNH_RIq99rucmFH-UO7VFBw
• <https://www.uxbridgetv.org/schedule/192>



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. "60 Minutes" network
- 4. Train line
- 10. Go quickly
- 11. Straightforward
- 12. Canadian province
- 14. At any rate (abbr.)
- 15. Genealogy
- 16. Make changes
- 18. Utter repeatedly
- 22. In a way, turned up
- 23. Type of ship
- 24. Agents of one's downfall
- 26. Not out
- 27. Something to scratch
- 28. Round water pot
- 30. Refreshing green fruit (slang)
- 31. Promotions
- 34. Primordial matters
- 36. One-time world power (abbr.)
- 37. Source of illumination
- 39. The content of cognition
- 40. An Arab ruler
- 41. South Dakota
- 42. Gnawed at with teeth
- 48. Hawaiian island
- 50. Smaller
- 51. Of a single person
- 52. Rigid bracelet
- 53. Barbary sheep (Fr.)
- 54. Not even
- 55. Specific gravity
- 56. Engage in petty bargaining
- 58. Boxing's "GOAT"
- 59. Split between parties
- 60. Notable offensive

CLUES DOWN

- 1. A place to lounge
- 2. Skewed views
- 3. Peacefully
- 4. Commercial
- 5. Auxiliary forces
- 6. Large mollusk
- 7. Take out again
- 8. Sharp and forthright
- 9. Knight (chess)
- 12. Source of fiber
- 13. Flesh covering some birds' beaks
- 17. Energy
- 19. Night monkeys genus
- 20. Small, sharp nails
- 21. Pleasant-smelling liquid
- 25. Affirms one's hold
- 29. CNN's founder
- 31. Texans can't forget it
- 32. "Oppenheimer" actor Matt
- 33. Expression
- 35. Vessel
- 38. Lacking poetic beauty
- 41. Tall, swift and slender dog
- 43. Sports personality Michelle
- 44. Robber
- 45. Liquefied natural gas
- 46. Snake-like fishes
- 47. The most worthless part of something
- 49. City in Crimea
- 56. Bad grades
- 57. Reichsmark



REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE

\$610,000, 182 Farm St, Ballou, John F, and Ballou, Lisa A, to Deluca, Kelly, and Deluca, Brandon.

\$499,900, 8 Monica Ln, Mazzuchelli, Paul J, and Mazzuchelli, Ann M, to Bedoya, Jonathan, and Morais, Samantha.

DOUGLAS

\$425,000, 177 Yew St, Mcdermott, Elaine M, to Marks, Tristan.

\$346,000, 75 Eagle Dr #75, Andreozzi, Bryan C, and Andreozzi, Kristen, to Kraby, Jeffrey, and Kraby, Sheri.

\$248,400, 32 Nautical Way #32, Northbrown LLC, to Aiad, Mina.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$1,100,000, 206 Hannah Dr, Davis, Amy, and Davis, Dennis R, to Nguyen, Son, and Ho, Thuy.

\$705,000, 1830 Providence Rd, John P Silva Lt, and Silva, John P, to Mary C Macdonald RET, and Macdonald, Mary C.

\$695,000, 23-29 N Main St, 23-29 North Main St Nt, and Boyd, Paul W, to Nogueira Family LLC.

\$670,000, 57 Louisa Dr, Harris, Joshua A, and Harris, Kimberly M, to Malouf, Evan.

\$250,000, 32 Prunier St #32, Santoro, Sharon A, to Sadikaj, Astrit, and Sadikaj, Margarita.

\$233,900, 29 B St #29, Farrell, Kevin, to Ferraiuolo, Michele A.

UXBRIDGE

\$534,900, 55 Pouts Ln #55, West River Homes LLC, to Rojas, Nelliza M, and Rivera, Victor A.

\$435,000, 322 High St, Arbogast, Michael, and Arbogast, Karise, to Thompson, Marissa.

\$260,000, 180 N Main St, Frigon Donald O Est, and Bijesse, Elizabeth D, to Patino, Maria.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE

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Seven of New England's top comics take the stage to support Manny 267 Foundation

WORCESTER — Seven hilarious comedians will come together Nov. 2 at the DCU Center in Worcester to raise money for the Manny 267 Foundation. The foundation is named in honor of Worcester Police Officer Emmannuel "Manny" Familia, who tragically died in 2021 while attempting to save a 14-year-old boy from drowning. Hosted by comedian Harrison Stebbins, the night of comedy will feature nationally touring comedians who all call New England home including Emily Ruskowski, Orlando Baxter, Corey Rodrigues, Brian Glowacki, Rafi Gonzalez and Paul Nardizzi. Tickets for the 267 All-Star Comedy Night are on sale now at EventBrite.com.

The Manny 267 Foundation aims to raise awareness about the hazards of drowning. The foundation provides funding for floatation devices that are installed in emergency vehicles to be used as life-saving tools when responding to aquatic emergencies, as well as supporting water safety training for police officers and swimming lessons for young people.

"Manny's legacy continues to live on through the incredible work the foundation is doing to insure no other families have to go through the pain and loss that we have suffered," said Elvin Familia. "One hundred percent of the proceeds from this comedy show will go towards providing Manny Tubes and water rescue training for police departments around Massachusetts."

Manny is described by his friends and family as "always the funniest person in the room," making the All-Star Comedy Night a fitting tribute to his legacy.

The line-up at the DCU Center includes:

Harrison Stebbins, Host

With a sarcastic wit and an improvisational style, Stebbins' unique blend of high-energy physical comedy and clever insights, keeps audiences laughing long after he has left the stage. Not only is Harrison widely regarded as one of New England's funniest headliners, but he has also performed with some of the most popular national comedians working today.

Emily Ruskowski

Ruskowski is a one-woman charm offensive. With a style that's totally approachable and instantly impressive, she is equally comfortable diving into

personal insecurities or work-place nonsense. With an irrepressibly cheerful demeanor, she commands attention and delivers stories loaded with punchline after punchline. Ruskowski's comedy combines a quick mind, an infectious energy, and a totally unique eye for observation. She brings a genuine sense of fun to material that ranges from a career in social work to a passion for boy bands. She has been featured in The Washington Post and Boston Globe and has appeared on the popular 2 Dope Queens Podcast and Laughs TV on Fox.

Orlando Baxter exploded onto the Boston comedy scene in 2005, and was quickly established as one of the area's hottest comics. His fresh perspective and unique relatability soon made this former high school teacher a fan favorite and led to a string of finalist positions in a host of contests and festivals all over the world including NBC's 'Stand Up for Diversity,' Boston Comedy Festival, and Montreux Comedy Festival. In 2016, Baxter made his late night TV debut on the Conan show on TBS. He has since appeared on television shows like "Comedy Up Late" in Australia, B.E.T.'s "50 Central," Laff Mobbs Laff Track on Tru TV and TBN's Mike Huckabee show. Orlando currently tours across the country performing at clubs, colleges and festivals at home and overseas.

Corey Rodrigues Rodrigues is a highly sought-after national touring college, club, and corporate performer. He was the winner of The Catch a New Rising Star, The Funniest Comic in New England, and the 2017 Big Sky

Comedy Festivals. Rodrigues has been featured on the hilarious Gotham Live, Laughs on Fox, and True TV's Laff Mobbs Laff Tracks. In 2018 he released his Dry Bar Comedy special, was voted "best of the fest" at the Big Pine Comedy Festival, and was picked as one of TBS's Comics to Watch at the New York Comedy Fest. In 2019, Rodrigues made his late-night TV debut on the Conan O'Brien show. In 2020 he released another 30-minute Comedy Special for the EPIX series "Unprotected Sets." His comedy is honest and fun, constantly peppering in stories from his life and the lives of those around him. Mix that with a hilarious point of view and he's able to talk about just about anything.

Brian Glowacki Glowacki's comedy feels like home. His playful style and originality have quickly taken him from a small town class clown to a nationwide crowd favorite. His likability on stage paired

with sharp observations on life have quickly catapulted him into one of the nation's premier emerging talents. Brian is the national touring opener for comedian Bob Marley as well as headlining many clubs and festivals on his own. Most notably he became the first independent, local comedian to headline the historic Wilbur Theatre in Boston. "BGlow" has performed at the Funny or Die "Oddball Comedy and Curiosity Festival". He received "Best of Fest" honors at Burbank Comedy Festival, Big Pine Comedy Festival and San Diego Comedy Festival. He connects daily to his growing tribe on social media through short videos about his family and his travels.

Rafi Gonzalez A stand-up comedian from Puerto Rico, Gonzalez originally found success as the lead singer of a nationally touring rock band. In 2015, Gonzalez switched gears and exploded onto the New England

and Boston comedy scenes. In 2021, he appeared on HBO MAX's Ha Comedy Festival. In 2022, Rafi participated in the prestigious San Francisco Comedy Competition. He was a finalist in the Boston Comedy Festival in 2023, and was also voted "Best of the Fest" in The Noho Comedy Festival and The Burbank Comedy Festival in Los Angeles. In 2024, he was voted "Comedian of the Year" in the Boston Comedy Choice Awards. Rafi has also taken his comedy to the sea after being hired by several cruise lines. Check him out across all social media platforms, where Rafi has accrued millions of views.

Paul Nardizzi Nardizzi began his comedy career in 1990, quickly becoming a Boston area favorite and a national headliner within four years. Paul Nardizzi has made numerous appearances on Late Night with Conan O'Brien, Comedy Central, NESN Comedy All-Stars. He also won the Boston Comedy Festival Competition, HBO's U.S. Comedy and Arts Festival and is one of the most requested acts on XM Satellite Radio. As a top stand-up comedian in Boston and the New England Area, he is known for his rapid-fire comedy, ability to engage the crowd, and tailor material to audiences. He can be seen performing in clubs nationwide in addition to providing corporate entertainment and working at charity events and parties.

All-Star Comedy Night to benefit The Manny 267 Foundation takes

place on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 8 p.m. at DCU Center, 50 Foster St., Worcester. Tickets and information are available at EventBrite.com.

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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Collaboration is key

As election season approaches, voters are faced with critical decisions that go beyond party labels. It's essential to understand the core values of both Republicans and Democrats, and more importantly, to consider how those values align with your own interests and the needs of your community. This election, one of the most important things voters must ask themselves is whether a candidate is willing to work across the aisle—because that's the only way real solutions happen in a democracy.

In times like these, collaboration is key. One of the candidates in this election has shown a willingness to work with people from both parties to solve real problems. That kind of bipartisanship is exactly what we need right now. Our country, and especially local communities, can't afford to be gridlocked by partisan infighting. When elected officials are willing to compromise and work with others, that's when meaningful change can happen.

The other candidate has made it clear that they are more interested in self-serving politics. They've proven time and again that they aren't interested in listening to or working with those across the aisle. This is not what democracy is about. Democracy thrives when ideas are debated and when leaders can come together to create solutions that work for everyone, not just their own base.

It's important to remember that your vote is your voice, and it's crucial to vote in line with your values and interests. Voting against your own interests because of party loyalty or negative campaign tactics can have lasting impacts on your community and country. What truly matters is having representatives who will work for the common good—people who prioritize problem-solving over political grandstanding.

This election, take the time to think critically about the candidates on your ballot. Who is willing to put in the effort to work with those on the other side? Who is willing to compromise for the greater good? The future of our democracy depends on leaders who will work across party lines to create a better future for everyone, not just a select few. Don't let divisive rhetoric or blind partisanship determine your vote—vote for the candidate who will work for you, for your neighbors, and for a stronger, more unified community.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trump being 'good on the economy'

To the Editor:

Donald Trump continued his pre-election economic event tour on Tuesday with a lengthy interview with Bloomberg at the Economic Club of Chicago. It was a total mess.

Bloomberg Editor-In-Chief John Micklethwait did not take it easy on Trump, and it quickly became clear that the former president has no conception of the mechanics of, or the potential ramifications of, the economic platform he's running on. Bluntly, the former president was incoherent when pressed with real questions about his policies.

Micklethwait spent most of the interview attempting to break Trump out of his rambling digressions - with ever-decreasing intelligibility - and general inability to focus on a given topic for more than a few seconds. Micklethwait worked repeatedly to bring him back on topic and answer the actual questions. The grilling exposed Trump's total cluelessness with regard to his own economic policy, and led Trump to attack Micklethwait as biased.

Here are the most notable moments from the most rigorous round of policy questioning Trump has been subjected to in recent memory.

The central pillar of Trump's economic plan is widespread tariffs on all imported goods, with penalties appearing to increase depending on how much he dislikes the exporting country. Economists have warned that such a policy could have devastating effects on American consumers, who would be saddled with increased costs for all imported goods. When questioned about the specifics of his plan, and if he was aware of its pitfalls, Trump seemed ignorant of basic economic principles, insisting that other countries, not American consumers, would pay for the tariffs. (Read up on the devastation that Trump's 1st term tariffs did to U.S. farmers.) Micklethwait tried to explain the actual impact. "Three-trillion worth of imports and you will add tariffs to every single one of them, and push up the cost for all of these people to buy foreign goods," he said. "That is just simple

mathematics." Trump countered that he was "always good at mathematics," and that high tariffs - and thus costs - would force companies to move production into the United States. "That will take many, many years," Micklethwait said, to which Trump replied that high enough penalties would make the move immediate - as if companies could simply wave a wand and have production plants, orchards, wineries, factories, pop up on American soil.

Micklethwait's attempts to keep Trump on topic earned him no grace from the former president, who hates few things more than being contradicted. When Micklethwait asked Trump to address a report by The Wall Street Journal estimating that his economic proposals would raise the national debt by upwards of \$7 trillion, the former president fell back on his standard playbook - bashing the interviewer.

"What does The Wall Street Journal know? They've been wrong about everything, and so have you by the way, you've been wrong," Trump replied, crossing his arms and curling into his seat.

"You've been wrong all your life on this stuff," he added.

The interview was notable for Trump's total avoidance of providing straight answers to the questions. The most egregious example came when Micklethwait asked Trump if he believes the Justice Department should break up Google. Trump responded by ranting about Virginia's voter rolls.

"The question is about Google, President Trump," Micklethwait replied.

Trump then went on about how Google is unfair to him and doesn't show users any positive stories about him.

When Micklethwait noted that Trump's plan to deport 11 million undocumented workers would have a large impact on the American economy - as many undocumented migrants participate in the labor force - Trump immediately pivoted to crime.

After Trump ranted about murderous migrants for several minutes, Micklethwait interjected, "The issue I

asked you about was the idea if you reduce immigration - every economist will tell you - if you have fewer people, there is a smaller economy, and who is going to do the jobs that these immigrants do?"

Trump then singled out a member of the audience.

"They will look at you - a beautiful woman - they'll look at you and they will kill you," he said.

An exasperated Micklethwait noted that the crime rate has actually gone down under Biden.

When asked by Micklethwait to give an example of how he would cut waste, Trump pointed to the remodeling of Air Force One. Huh? Trump was unable to say how he'd help small businesses. Trump didn't deny that he had talked to Putin, telling Micklethwait that he won't comment on it, but that if he did talk to Putin, it would "be a smart thing." (It would violate the Logan Act.)

Trump tried yet again to rewrite history about the Jan. 6, 2021 coup attempt. He said that it was a "peaceful transfer of power," accusing Micklethwait of being biased against him for asking the questions, and reiterated that he believes the 2020 election was "crooked."

At one point, after Trump spent minutes meandering through multiple trains of thought in response to a question about the American dollar's status as an international reserve currency, Micklethwait attempted to interject into his rambling. Trump wasn't happy.

"You have got to be able to finish a thought because it is very important," Trump said. Micklethwait countered, "You've gone from the dollar to Emmanuel Macron."

The former president claimed that his speaking style was "called the weave" and that "it's all these different things happening." None of which ever came together to make any sense.

Somehow, Trump voters still think he would be better for the economy - a subject he obviously knows nothing about.

*Rick Bevilacqua
Whitinsville*

Still waiting in vain for better answers

To the Editor:

A Northbridge writer regularly debates at length, name-calling those with whom he disagrees, all while blithely misrepresenting their points. As Truman said, "When they stop lying about me, I will stop telling the truth about them."

For the record, my original points were: 1) a candidate is entitled to change positions based on new information; 2) voters are equally entitled to know 'whys' behind flip-flops from 2019 campaign to present; 3) the Dems' nominee exhibits reticence or inability to articulate reasons. In this context she was (rightly) faulted, a point which eluded the one who labelled my opinion "word salad."

Many have already cast a vote, but some patiently await more definitive

answers. Closing arguments are due and serious questions about policies and plans about how to actually implement them if elected must be asked. If more substantive (understandable!) responses are not forthcoming, beyond trash-talking about her opponent and what even SNL mocks, a decision must be made. Is the Democrat candidate equipped for the office of the President?

Beware her stances diverge markedly from where a large percentage of the country stands on critical issues. The 'caution' flag turns red for the one billed as the agent-of-change-who-wants-to-turn-the-page-to-the-future-with-joy. After three-plus years as "the last person out the door" on decision-making responds to "What would you do differently" with "I can think of nothing"... what are 'undecideds' to

think? Like or loath, policies proposed by the 'other' nominee are well-defined.

'Undecided' voters likely will wait in vain for better answers, judging by the recent Fox interview watched by approximately 8 million, that ignored every problem arising under Biden-Harris; gave filibuster-length responses; accepted zero responsibility; offered no apology for her part in current problems; outlined no 'solution' plans or even descriptions of where she herself stands on important issues. The electorate deserves better than excuses that blamed all ills on her opponent describing him as "Nazi, Fascist, unstable, mentally un-fit to serve."

"Anger, hope and courage make change." Vote!

*Jane F. Keegan
Uxbridge*

Chameleon Kamala

To the Editor:

It's astonishing, really, how Chameleon Kamala cannot answer a question.

Let me be clear. I have been very clear on this. Let's turn the page.

This babe is truly the obfuscation queen who belongs back as mayor of her toxic city, San Francisco. All the corporations have left. All the stores have left. All the decent people have left. Drug needles and poop cover every street and make walking a Joy. Just a small sample of what she has in store for all American towns and cities, with her joyful "New Page and New Generation of Leadership".

Question: How many illegals have you allowed into the country over our Southern Border since 2021? A fair clear question about facts.

Answer: "You know, let me be clear on this. I have been very clear on this. We have had a broken border since the Civil War, and it's all Trump's fault."

Real Answer: 10 million, give or take an additional 10 million, counting getaways, counting the 325,000 children that she and Biden and Majorkas lost. How do you lose

325,000 illegal immigrant children? I'm sure the Cartels know where they are.

Question: When did you first realize Old Joe was in cognitive decline? You said you had lunch with him every week.

Answer: "Let me be clear. I have been clear on this. I have seen Joe Biden rule over the country holistically and negotiate holistically with foreign powers, every day." [You and I watch him stumble, bumble, slur his words, and fall down.]

That was not the question, I would have said: "You did not answer the question. You lied about Joe Biden to the American people every day. Would you now like to apologize for repeatedly lying about his Dementia?"

Answer: "Let me be clear. I have been very clear on this. Joe Biden is sharp."

No one asked this, but should have: Then why did he, when he had 14 million delegate votes, step down?

Question: you said you would not do anything differently from the last four years of the wreckage of the Biden Administration. How would

your administration be different?

Answer: "Let me be clear. I have been very clear on this, and I will be clear now. I am not Joe Biden, and I am not Donald Trump."

Question: But how would your administration be different?

Answer: "I have been very clear on this, and I will continue to be clear on this. I clearly represent a clear New Page, and a clear New Generation of leadership...You know what I'm talking about...."

Questioner: "No, actually I don't know what you're talking about" [because your answer is nothing but platitudes and phrases that have no meaning].

Her final complaint: "This interview is supposed to be about the contrast between me and Donald Trump."

No, the interview is not to serve your purposes, Kamala. It is so that We the People can find out who you are and what you intend to do, should, God forbid, you get the keys to that fabulous Maserati we call the Presidency, which Old Joe has driven into a ditch. And despite your dodging and swerving, we did find

out who you are.

Kamala, you are the worst con woman grifter we have ever met. You look us straight in the eye and lie. You are nothing. You are everything. You are against everything. You are responsible for anything. This is exactly how psychopaths behave. The essence of a psychopath is not being responsible for anything. And for lying even in minor circumstances when the truth would not hurt, and lies will not matter, psychopaths lie anyway.

If asked, Kamala would not admit to the sky being blue. "Let me be clear. I have been very clear on this. I will follow the law on what color the sky is."

Kamala's campaign is Lies, Lies, and More damned Lies. The only thing we know for sure is that she is absolutely for unlimited abortion, for killing as many babies as possible. That is her platform. Is that the only thing that you are for?

God help us, and I mean it.

*Bev Gudanowski
Uxbridge*

Is this puzzle still missing a piece?

To the Editor:

Here we go again with yet another harebrained puzzler from that Bourbonnais, Ill. vacuum cleaner salesman, Toby Moore. The totally spooky prequel to his Loretta Chapel staircase mystery that goes "Missing 411" from the very start of its Watergate plumber's plunge of an in your face snow job.

"Many of you will start looking," his eminence Mr. Moore writes, "for a logical explanation as soon as I bring up this topic. Our brains want to rationalize the strange and unusual."

Well gee, no kidding?

Kamala Harris couldn't run a preschool in the wilds of the Pacific Northwest without losing all the two year old kids to the first pro-life advocate who happens by. So her fellow Democrats, who we all know absolute-

ly detest America, stuck us with that "Biggest Loser" of a candidate just because we were saying bad things that were totally true about Joe "the old knucklehead" Biden.

And now you're actually suggesting that it was either an Australian dingo or a North American Bigfoot that put the Sasquatch snatch on that kid back in 1952?

Were psychedelic mushrooms involved when you wrote this thing on your way to losing that highly coveted Emmy nomination of yours?

You would not shame a retired police officer in this way and thereby discredit his totally legitimate cold case revivals. That is an absolute certainty.

Everything about that cold case is easily explained, and you must know

that, Mr. Moore. So why the falsely spooky pretense, and why now?

You must also know that Mark Harmon's premiere episode of "NCIS: Origins" was almost exclusively based on an AI generated screenplay that was adapted for television. And the legendary rules of Leroy Jethro Gibbs tell us there is no such thing as a coincidence, Mr. Moore.

Obviously, there's a need to revisit the Loretta Chapel mystery, but you're up to something that is quite different in its scope and direction.

So stay tuned, readers. There must be some other part to this mysterious trilogy of a puzzler that remains Missing 411.

*Stephen Gambone
Northbridge*

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.

Douglas Scouting Association to hold holiday craft show

DOUGLAS — Mark your calendars! The Douglas Scouting Association is entering its fourth holiday season with the best Country Craft Show in the area.

Starting on Friday, Nov. 29 (also known as Black Friday), the doors will open to a wide assortment of unique homemade country craft items that make perfect gifting for the holidays or something special for you. Come enjoy this three-day Country Store

themed event located at the Olive Branch Masonic Lodge 7 Depot Street, Douglas. Open Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.,

Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free refreshments. There is one checkout accepting cash, checks

and most major credit cards. All proceeds benefit the Douglas Scouting Association.

Douglas Historical Society hosting spaghetti supper

DOUGLAS — The Douglas Historical Society, Inc. is hosting a Spaghetti Supper Nov. 2. We have limited seating so please call for your reservation at

either 4 or 5:35 p.m. We rely solely on the Generosity of others and we're asking for a donation of \$15 per plate (to go is accepted) to help with our overhead

costs and keep our doors open.

To reserve your seat or plate, please call Ursula at 508-723-3484 or email enjenckes1833@gmail.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CONTINUED

ICE data confirms that violent criminals are being unleashed on America

To the Editor:

Am I surprised by the latest data just released by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)? No. But it's still shocking nevertheless. In my very first letter to the Editor, I stated what almost every one of us knows — that people are being released into our country that mean to do us harm.

Here is the data from ICE. As of July 2024, we have imported into this country, through our wide open border, 425,000 convicted criminals from other countries. Of that 425,000, over 13,000 of them have been convicted of homicide. Over 15,000 of them have been convicted of rape and sexual assault. They are roaming around our country right now. What kind of president and vice president would allow this? The kind that despises the American citizen, of which half despise their policies. The kind that will allow people from any country, no matter who they are or what their intent, to enter this country to create a new constituency for them that will vote them into office in perpetuity. The kind that wants to tear this country apart so they can build it back with their Marxist, socialist agenda. That's who.

Just this morning, I have heard the Department of Homeland Security comment on the ICE data, saying it is misleading because that data goes back decades. OK, then, why doesn't DHS break down

that data by administrations? So far, there is no answer from DHS. And if they do, I'm sure there will be fact checkers out there to make sure that this administration doesn't feed us phony data — you know, like the kind of phony data given to us by the Labor Department overstating the amount of jobs created from 2023-2024 by 818,000 jobs.

That immigration bill that Rick Bevilacqua loves so much — you know, the one that will solve our problems — isn't an immigration bill. It's an amnesty bill. It allows for catch and release into the country, just like the murderers and rapists are in here right now. How many times do you have to hear Kamala Harris say she will end detention centers at the border on day one. It allows for citizenship in five years for up to two million people per year that we know little or nothing about. It provides billions of dollars to sanctuary cities and states that we, the American citizens, are paying for. All the chaos and misery that this open border policy has caused the American people will be codified into law. We are committing national suicide because of these insane Democrat policies. Terrorists from enemy countries are here right now. They are waiting for the opportune time to hit us. People like Mr. Bevilacqua say the crime rate is relatively low. It should be zero — because they shouldn't be here.

And while all this is going on, Rick can't help but conjure up his old standby bogeyman once again. This time, he found a Dr. John Gartner and 300 of his petition signing buddies who say that Donald Trump probably has dementia. Rick scans the Internet looking for anyone who will say anything negative about Donald Trump. Then he can't wait till he can report it to us in his next letter as though it's true. People have political agendas, Rick, don't you know that yet? Some shrink says Donald Trump has dementia and you swallow it hook, line, and sinker. Just like the so called 51 intelligence experts who signed the letter stating that the Hunter Biden laptop had all the earmarks of Russian disinformation when they all knew the laptop was real. You swallowed that hook, line, and sinker too, didn't you. I have to tell you, Rick, swallowing all that fishing tackle is not good for the digestive system. I know a good gastroenterologist I can recommend to you. The first thing he'll tell you to do is to stop taking the bait.

Folks, our country is dying. This election is the last chance we get to try to save it. Donald Trump is not a threat to this country. He is a threat to the Democrat Party. The Democrat Party from yesterday is long gone. The party of JFK is long gone. All that is left is the party of radical Marxists like Kamala Harris, Bernie Sanders, and Hakeem Jeffries

and their ilk. As for Joe Biden — he's just a puppet and a useful idiot.

Speaking of Biden, does anyone have any idea who is running the Executive Branch of this government? I noticed Dr. Jill Biden at the last Cabinet meeting. You think I'm going to slam her for being there. On the contrary, I think she could do just as good as any of the fools sitting at that table. While they are at it, why not get Gilligan, the Skipper, the Millionaire and his wife there too and get some real work done?

Early voting starts on Oct. 19. Our country will not be able to stand another four years of this. I said before, if these radicals are in office for another four years, this country may still be called America — but it will be unrecognizable. We must go out and vote. Vote Jim McGovern our office. Vote for John Deaton as your next U.S. Senator from Massachusetts and send Elizabeth Warren home to retirement. And vote for Donald Trump and get that phony Kamala Harris out of office.

We must show the Democrats in this state that they cannot take their rule over us for granted, whether it is on the federal, state, or local level. Vote Republican and send a shockwave through the Democrat establishment here.

Thank you very much for reading.

Jim Krikorian
Whitinsville

Religious beliefs or Jesus teachings

To the Editor:

What do we have here? Your response non-response is now fodder for the requisite 'come to Jesus meeting.' The simple truth is that Jesus would have baked the wedding cake for that gay couple happily. Period, end of story.

Take a moment and actually read the summary judgment from the Supreme Court on the Masterpiece decision. The Supreme Court ruled for the wedding cake maker because "he was entitled to the neutral and respectful consideration of his claims in all the circumstances of the case" by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. "Because the commission was 'neither tolerant nor respectful of his religious beliefs,' the court held that the bakery wasn't treated fairly when the commission decided the discrimination claim." It was also felt that 'Phillips' case was treated differently than similar cases involving other bakers. What the Supreme Court did not do was provide an answer to the real question: "Is a business's freedom to choose its customers more important than the government's interest in stopping sexual orientation discrimination?" (ABA) Also, realize that at the time of the case (2012), Colorado had not yet 'recognized the validity of gay marriage performed in the state. With your spurious comments, "We all know, do we not, that the LGBTQ+ community used the US Supreme Court to better subjugate their fellow Christians by forcing them against their religious beliefs to bake wedding cakes?" it is clear you did not read nor understand the Masterpiece decision.

And if by any chance you were actually aware of Jesus's teaching and how that is rooted in Christianity, you would know Jesus didn't discriminate against marginalized groups. Jesus's key teachings are simple and direct. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39) Jesus actually hung out with the considered 'sinners'/ social outcasts of his time. His 'people' included despised tax collectors, traitors

who colluded with Roman authorities, immoral women — 'nasty' women, those prostitutes and sinful women, women and children in general who were considered low-rent folks in the society of those times, add in a few lepers, the handicapped, and the possessed, to name a few. Hey, he even spent time with the 'hypocrites' known as Pharisees/scribes: "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!" — Matthew 23:23-24

Because we 'still' have separation of church and state, there needs to be a recognition that there is a 'distinction between religious obligations and civil duties' as Jesus stated: "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's." And here is the poetic difference. You wouldn't have needed a court case if this case was really about Jesus's core teachings. The only reason you need a court case is because of a 'religious belief,' which, in this case, turned into a civil matter. The very same Supreme Court decision also stated, "Our society has come to the recognition that gay persons and gay couples cannot be treated as social outcasts or as inferior in dignity and worth. For that reason, the laws and the constitution can, and in some instances must, protect them in exercising their civil rights. The exercise of their freedom on terms equal to others must be given great weight and respect by the courts." Research from 2023 out of UCLA states: "(Note!) Most Americans (some 84 to 71 percent, depending on which component) oppose the use of religious beliefs to deny business services, medical care, and employment to LGBT people. Be careful your 'true colors' are showing.

Realize a huge amount of 'historical' pain was caused by someone's 'religious beliefs' — yes, let's talk subjugation! Who can forget: the Inquisition, the two centuries of the crusades between 'Christians' and Muslims over the holy sites in Jerusalem, and the fighting

hasn't stopped in that area yet. Let's not overlook the witch hunts in colonial America or colonial atrocities where religious beliefs were used to justify the 'conquest and exploitation of indigenous peoples.' Then "the majority of southern white evangelicals actively opposed the civil rights movement in its various manifestations in the middle decades of the twentieth century because they saw it as a violation of God's design for racial segregation." (Taylor)

"Historically, laws at the state and national level during this period, meant to counter waves of Catholic and Jewish migration and to suppress Black suffrage, sought to wed Protestant Christianity and white supremacy to the state. Such attempts led to widespread suffering, poverty, and death, especially for racial and religious minorities targeted as immoral by Christian activists." (Time)

Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robinson, recent 2024 Nobel Prize winners in economics, studied the impact of the way government institutions were created and the impact they have on 'economic growth and prosperity.' Their long-term research collaboration "demonstrated that democracies, which hold to the rule of law and provide individual rights, have spurred greater economic activity over the last 500 years" while acknowledging our country's original sin of slavery. (MIT) They found that history shows that European colonizers "created inclusive institutions that protected individual freedom and property rights, enforced the rule of law, educated their populations, and encouraged innovation and entrepreneurialism."

Inclusive institutions like these affect the nation's future prosperity: "Representative legislatures, good public schools, open markets, strong patent systems, and those that invest in infrastructure, fight poverty and disease encour-

age innovation." Such institutions are critical "to determine how rich a nation becomes."

"But we also emphasize that political inclusion — meaning, a framework in which people have a voice, [and] power is equally distributed and not monopolized by one group, one person, [or] one party — is key," Acemoglu said. "It's very difficult to maintain economic inclusion when the iron fist of an autocrat rules you."

Let me spell it out — Trump is not good for our American prosperity by his own words. To support democracies in decline, one of the winners states: "Political leaders need to focus on those left behind and give them a leg up and a stake in the system. He advocates for a good jobs agenda that envisions policy changes and public investments to create, naturally, good jobs and shared prosperity." And that means for everyone — Jesus's marginalized groups included, thank you very much. And how timely — enter Kamala Harris and her real plans to build an 'Opportunity Economy' — that seeks to heal our country and 'turn the page.' While your beloved Trump, 'Father of IVF?', can only offer a beautiful 'concept' and tariffs. We can continue our prosperity as a democracy if we protect our cherished institutions and bring everyone along—including all of Jesus's 'social outcasts and sinners' — the Jesus way, but more importantly, the democratic way. Oh, and those darn left, pragmatic liberal democrats/independents, they would have said if asked, — "Gays, wedding cakes, new market, pictures on TikTok, more revenue — Sure, we can do it and tell all your friends," — the American capitalist way. Don't you just love it!

Linda Lacki
Northbridge



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Plummer Place Café is catered by The Neighborhood Kitchen right here

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here at Plummer Place. You must call to sign up, space is limited. Please note we are

no longer serving lunch on Mondays. We are accepting donations

for our Plummer Place Café. Heavy duty plasticware utensils, heavy duty plates large

and small, bowls, napkins, plastic cups, crystal lite packs, bottled water either large

or small, creamers, decaf coffee and regular coffee, Shaw's gift cards. We appreciate all donations to help our café run successfully!

and 4th Thursday of the month. All writers are welcome to share your writing with others, get motivated to write your story, and get feedback from fellow writers! Lori Gannon is the instructor for this class, call the Center for more information. \$5/class.

Plummer Place Shuffleboard League has openings for a few more players. They meet every Tuesday at 9:00am. Call the Center to join this fun league or for more information.

Calling all singers: join our first ever Plummer Place Singers Group. Raienne Richards will lead you as a group, to develop your skills, to enjoy the camaraderie, and to perhaps sing for others. If you would like to join this group, please call the Center to sign up. They will meet every Thursday at 2:30pm, and the cost is \$5 per week.

"Writing Your Way" will meet Thursdays from 2:00-3:30pm. They will meet every 2nd

Halloween Harvest Party, Thursday, October 31st from 12:00-1:30pm. Davis Bates celebrates Halloween at Plummer Place, come ready to sing along! \$10/person with a 2-ticket limit. Northbridge residents have priority. Costumes highly encouraged. Supported in part by a grant from the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, State Rep. David Muradian and Unibank. Tickets are on sale now at the Plummer Place front office.

Disposing of problem plant debris



Melinda Myers

You've probably read you should remove and dispose of insect pest-infected and diseased plant material to reduce these problems in next season's garden. This is not as easy as it seems. Most compost piles do not heat up and maintain hot enough temperatures to kill weeds, weed seeds, disease organisms, and insect pests. In many locations burning is not allowed and it negatively impacts air quality. So, what's a gardener to do?

Start by calling your local municipality and asking about disposal options. Many communities allow you to dispose of invasive plants in the garbage after placing them in a clear plastic bag labeled invasive.

Solarization is an option for managing weeds. Place small amounts of plant

debris in clear plastic bags. Then place the bags in a warm sunny location before composting. For larger quantities, set the problem plant debris on a sheet of plastic and securely cover it with a 2- to six-mil clear plastic tarp. The plastic helps create a greenhouse effect, trapping heat while blocking access to water. The seeds will sprout and then seedlings and other plants are killed by the high temperatures and lack of water. It is most effective when the days are long and hot.

This may be effective if the

temperatures are hot enough to kill plant insect pests and diseases. Most plant pathogens are killed when moist soil remains at 145 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 minutes, 160 degrees for bacteria, and 180 degrees for weed seeds.

If battling jumping worms, the University of Maryland has found creating a solarization package is effective for managing them in soil, compost, and mulch. Spread a sheet of clear plastic on the ground. Place a six to eight inch layer of mulch, compost, or soil

on the plastic tarp, leaving enough excess to wrap and completely and securely cover the enclosed material. On a sunny day, the material inside can reach 150 degrees. Research varies on the number of days needed to kill the jumping worms. Several University sources recommend three or more days of at least 104 degrees or 105 degrees to kill the eggs, cocoons, and adult jumping worms.

You may want to enlist this strategy when harvesting your compost before applying it to the

soil. This extra step may help reduce the risk of introducing problems back into the garden.

Burying diseased material can help reduce the source of future infection of some diseases. Dig a hole, fill it with plant debris, mix it with soil, and then cover it with an inch or two of disease-free soil. Speed up the decomposition of buried material by shredding it before burying it. Avoid growing plants susceptible to the disease in that location the following season.

Remember to disinfect your pots, stakes, and tools that may have housed or touched diseased plants. Disease-causing organisms can survive on these items, increasing disease risk in next year's garden. Soak pots for 30 minutes in a 10 percent bleach solution, rinse with clear water and air dry. Store in a clean location. This is much more effective with clay and ceramic pots than plastic. Consider rotating plantings

as you would in the garden and changing display areas when using plastic containers if you do not want to dispose of them.

Disinfect garden tools by dipping them in a 70 percent alcohol solution using rubbing alcohol or something similar for at least 30 seconds. Or you can spray your tools with a disinfectant spray containing about 70 percent alcohol.

Investing time in prevention will result in fewer problems and better results in next year's garden.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series* and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Douglas Sunshine Club hosting plant swap

DOUGLAS — Calling all you gardeners out there who are cleaning out, redesigning or just dividing excesses in your gardens!

The Douglas Sunshine Club is hosting a plant swap for anyone interested in sharing their extra indoor /outdoor plantings, bulbs, tubers, seeds, etc. on Friday, Nov. 1 from noon to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the Adult Social Center at 331 Main St., Douglas. Bring whatever you may need to transport items home. Any questions? Call 508-476-4474.

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MORE INFO:

JAMES GLICKMAN
Principal

508-769-5007
jglickman@glickmankovago.com

JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President

508-868-3765
jdglickman@glickmankovago.com

Disposing of problem plant debris

BY LYNN PARESKY
DOUGLAS COMMON
PRESERVATION SOCIETY,
INC.

D O U G L A S — The fun will continue at the Douglas Common in November as the Fall decorations are replaced with holiday lights and decorations. The Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. is planning a Holiday Lighting Celebration at the Common on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 6 to 7 p.m. This free event will feature caroling performed by The Very Merry Dickens Carolers, photo opportunities with Santa or the reindeer, and refreshments. And, of course, the lights and decorations will be fantastic and sure to put you in the holiday mood.

The Common has not had a lighting celebration for many years, and the Society is excited to be able to respond to your requests and bring back this popular event for the community's enjoy-

ment. This festive event is made possible thanks to generous donations from our major sponsors, UniBank and Bright Factor, in addition to a grant awarded to the Society from the Mass Cultural Council. This year the reindeer "herd" will be enlarged thanks to the handiwork and generosity of the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, increasing the decorative appeal of the Common and offering more opportunities for family photos.

The Society hopes you mark your calendars and come join us for this hour-long holiday celebration.

The Common will also be a stop on the Second Annual Winter Stroll scheduled for Dec. 14. As you Stroll through Douglas, stop in at the Common for hot chocolate and caroling hosted by the Sunshine Club



between 5 and 6:30 p.m. — and use this opportunity to take some beautiful family photos.

Follow the activities and events of the Douglas Common Preservation Society on our Facebook page (Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc.).

Beautiful, maintaining and decorating the Common is the year-round work of volunteers who make up the Douglas Common Preservation Society. The Society relies on the support of many members of the community, both businesses and individuals,

to make this possible. All sponsors who donate between July and Thanksgiving will be recognized on a second Recognition Banner placed at the Common during the months of December and January. Your tax-deductible donations should be mailed to Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc., 76 NW Main St., Douglas, MA

01516 if you would like to support this worthwhile cause. Memorial Donations will also be recognized on the Recognition Banner with a memorial message. All donations are tax-deductible and are used 100% for the Douglas Common. Together we can make our Common a source of pride for our Town and a location where the community can come together to celebrate the seasons.

You're Invited to An
Election Day Prayer Vigil
Tuesday, November 5th
at 12 noon.
All are Welcome!
Vote. Pray. Love.

On Tuesday, November 5th, the Village Congregational Church sanctuary will be hosting a N.A.C. Ecumenical Election Day Prayer Service. This service will feature a number of clergy from NAC congregations as we gather for a time of non-partisan prayer and reflection on a day of important national discernment. Together, we will read scripture and offer prayers for peace, unity, neighborly love, and hope in a time of great partisan division. We aspire for this to be a moment for all of us to take stock and remember Christ's call, to love God and neighbor. The service will begin at noon and should last no longer than 35 minutes. We hope you'll join us!

5 Church St. Whitinsville, MA



Douglas Adult Social Center

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

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

Senior Van: The van is very busy, please remember to call 48 business hours in advance to book your ride. We realize that last minute doctor's appointments come up, we do our best to accommodate these appointments when we can. The van will be available on November 5th from 9:00-10:30 for voting at the town hall.

NOVEMBER EVENTS:
The center will be closed on Monday the 11th & Thursday the 28th.

Lunch & a Movie: Thursday Nov. 7th @ 11:30am. This month our movie choice is "Gifted." Lunch will be chicken, baked potato, green beans & pudding. Cost for lunch is \$4.00. Please sign up by November 1st.

Three Seasons Restaurant: Wednesday Nov. 13 @ 11:00am, join us for a wonderful lunch, laughs, and fun with friends. There is a 3 meal choice, you must decide on your meal

when you sign up. The cost for the meal is \$12.00 per person and must be paid when you sign up. Please sign up by November 7th.

Veteran's Breakfast: Thursday November 14th @ 9:00am. We try to show our Veterans support each month with a free breakfast. All Veterans are welcome to sign up with their spouse. Please call the center to sign up by November 11th.

Candle Holder Craft: Thursday November 21st @ 11:30am. We will be making a birch tree candle holder. This is a FREE craft, supplies will be provided. Refreshments will be served. Please sign up by November 13th.

Sunshine Club Events: Meetings are held at the center on the first Tuesday of the month at 2:00 pm.

PLANT SWAP FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1st 12PM TO 2PM Bring your extra indoor or outdoor plants to swap. If you are not a plant person stop in talk with some growers and take one home to try.

DON'T BE A TARGET THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14th @ 12:30PM Mandi from the Karate Studio will be here to teach us about personal protection and safety awareness when out and about. Please sign up before November 8th.

ANNUAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING FRIDAY DECEMBER 6th @ 12PM. Come in and have some fun decorating your own house. All supplies are provided. Please sign up before November 22nd.

HOLIDAY SOCIAL SATURDAY DECEMBER 14th 5PM to 6:30PM. We will be at the town common serving cookies & hot chocolate while caroling.

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>

Community invited to election day prayer vigil

WHITINSVILLE — On Tuesday, Nov. 5, the Village Congregational Church sanctuary at 5 Church St. in Whitinsville will be hosting a N.A.C. Ecumenical Election Day Prayer Service. This service will feature a number of clergy from NAC congregations as we gather for a time of nonpartisan prayer and reflection on a day of important national discernment.

Together, we will read scripture and offer prayers for peace, unity, neighborly love, and hope in a time of great partisan division. We aspire for this to be a moment for all of us to take stock and remember Christ's call, love God and neighbor.

The service will begin at noon, and should last no longer than 35 minutes. We hope you'll join us!

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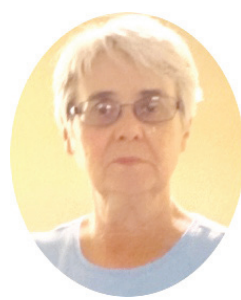
Betty Jean Gressak, 83

Douglas- Betty Jean (Therrien) Gressak, 83, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 7, 2024. Her husband of 57 years, Anthony J. Gressak died on May 23, 2018.

She is survived by 2 brothers-in-law, Stephen C. Gressak of Douglas and Daniel J. Gressak and his wife Sandra of Bristol, CT; a sister-in-law, Rosanna B. Greene and Al Senecal of Mendon, many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins and friends. Born in Whitinsville on July 4, 1941 she was the daughter of Wanda (Prybyla) and Edward A. Therrien and lived in Douglas all her life.

Mrs. Gressak worked as the Coordinator - Graduate (Physician) Medical Education for Saint Vincent's Hospital for 33 years until her retirement in 2003. Betty Jean always said that this was the best job ever, it gave her the opportunity to observe many young physicians on their journey through the world of medicine and was a wonderful experience. She previously worked as a secretary at the former Hayward-Schuster Woolen Mill in Douglas and the former Whitin Machine Works in Whitinsville.

Betty Jean was a graduate of Douglas



Memorial High School, class of 1959 where she was a cheerleader, and played softball and basketball. She graduated from Salter Secretarial School in 1960.

In her younger years, Betty Jean enjoyed riding horses, which she was introduced to and taught by her father when she was just 3 years old. She enjoyed cooking,

reading, and entertaining family and friends, especially at the "Res". She and Tony spent many wonderful winters in Ft. Myers Beach and Longboat Key, Florida. She was an avid Red Sox and N. E. Patriots fan, and she loved college basketball, whether attending games or watching games on TV. She was a lifelong member of St. Denis Church.

Her funeral Mass will be held on Friday, October 18th at 11 AM in St. Denis Church, 23 Manchaug Rd., Douglas. A calling hour will be held prior to her Mass in Jackman Funeral Home, 7 Mechanic St., Douglas from 9:30-10:30 AM. Dotion's in Betty Jean's memory may be made to the Douglas Ambulance Fund, PO Box 22, Douglas Ma 01516 or to Abby's House, 52 High St., Worcester MA 01609. To leave a condolence message for her family please visit: www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com

Nichols celebrates investiture of President Pieczynski

DUDLEY — The Nichols College community convened for the investiture of William C. Pieczynski on Friday, Oct. 18, as the ninth president of Nichols College, a role he has held since May 2024.

President Pieczynski has a long and distinguished career at Nichols, working closely with faculty, staff and students across academic disciplines and campus-wide departments. He joined the College as director of the Nichols Fund in 2006, where he was charged with expanding the President's Society, generating annual funds and overseeing alumni relations. President Pieczynski was named vice president for advancement in 2010 when he oversaw the successful completion of the College's bicentennial campaign, Securing a Legacy of Leadership, which raised \$66 million to support capital projects, endowment and brand-elevating curricular and co-curricular initiatives. The campaign was the largest in the College's history, generating a record number of multimillion-dollar gifts, and far surpassed the campaign's initial goal of \$45 million.

The investiture ceremony, presided over by Chair of the Nichols College Board of Trustees Randy Becker '83 MBA '96, included calls to service and remarks by representatives from various constituencies of the college. Provost Daniel Borgia served as Master of Ceremonies.

Messages of support were delivered throughout the calls to service. "Bill has a proven track record of outstanding leadership and loyalty to Nichols College having been a valuable member and contributor of the Nichols Family for over 17 years," said Nichols College Trustee David Bedard '86, representing the Committee for the Future of Presidential Leadership (CFPL).

The investiture ceremony was conducted by Becker, with special assistance from Pieczynski's sister, Denise, and wife, Lana.

"Today, we gather to celebrate a man of genuine integrity, humility and compassion. We are confident that President Pieczynski will support the culture of Nichols and foster change that is both forward-thinking and deep-rooted in the College's honored traditions," said Becker, who also noted Pieczynski's many accomplishments, from setting new standards of giving to securing contributions to support new building projects to expand-

ing experiential learning opportunities.

Pieczynski in his inaugural address remarked, "Now, this is a somewhat different investiture in that I am not a newly appointed president, still unboxing mementos or contemplating the quickest way to get from Conrad Hall to Vendetti Field. I have had the time to develop deep friendships here, to leverage a tenure that dates to 2006, and to understand the complexity of this institution at this moment in time. Indeed, when I was asked to pursue the presidency, I responded that I was eager to do whatever was best for the College."

He praised the resilience of Nichols, noting its evolution throughout its history, dating back to 1815, commenting "I am fortunate to lead a college that is comfortable in its own skin-always aware that we are a work in progress-but one that has confronted momentous change and has persevered."

Turning to the challenges of educating students for a future and jobs that don't yet exist, Pieczynski remarked that the school possesses a strong foundation for this task, with its "unabashedly" student-centered living and learning environment and unique experiential opportunities.

He cited what the College's administrators casually refer to as the Nichols "triple threat," where students complete an internship, receive a professional certification, and complete an experiential learning experience, as an area of focus and enhancement. He quoted higher education research that spoke of these kinds of experiences as "career game changers."

Developing such experiential learning opportunities and academic differentiation, said Pieczynski, will be one of four short-term strategic priorities, alongside developing a robust budget model that drives net revenue growth, an institutional branding, and a better understanding of the College's current culture in building toward a more supportive, collaborative and inclusive community.

Concluding the day's spirited events was a community celebration and Presidents' Society Dinner.

About Nichols
Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the largest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols College transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

Women's Bible Study examines "The Gift of Christmas"

WHITINSVILLE — Coffee Break, a non-denominational community Bible study for women—will begin a new study on the "The Gift of Christmas," beginning on Thursday morning, Nov. 14. The author writes, "Come face to face with the Christ of Christmas and discover the real meaning of this miraculous story. You'll not only learn facts that may be unfamiliar and challenge some assumptions, but you'll also grow in understanding why Jesus came to live among his people."

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 any-

one 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 fairlawnrc.org/outreach/coffeebreak.cfm.



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LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508)831-2200
Docket No. W024C0479CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the matter of:
Brenda Linnea McCarthy
A Petition to Change Name of Adulthas been filed by **Brenda Linnea McCarthy** of Millville MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Brenda Linnea Linnell

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 11/02/24 at 10 a.m. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 09, 2024
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 25, 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
Docket No. W024P3510EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate Of:
James E. Joseph, III
Date of Death:08/08/2024

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Krystal L. King** of Whitinsville MA requesting that the Court enter a for-

mal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:
Krystal L. King of Whitinsville MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/19/2024**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 15, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 25, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. W018P3590GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF GUARDIAN OF AN INCAPACITATED PERSON
In the Interests of:
Kathleen Limanek
Of: Uxbridge, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Blackstone Valley Health & Rehab of Whitinsville, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court Terminate the Gaurdianship. The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

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 **11/05/2024**. 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: October 11, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman
October 25, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. W021P1768EA
Estate of:
Arthur R. Bois
Date of Death: 01/15/2021
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Maureen A. Giguere** of Blackstone MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, the first amended and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/12/2024**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court
October 10, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
October 25, 2024

QCC generates \$349.8 million in annual economic impact

WORCESTER — A recent economic impact study revealed that Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) contributed \$349.8 million to the regional economy in fiscal year 2022-'23. The study, conducted by Lightcast, demonstrates QCC's role in supporting local jobs, boosting student earnings and providing a strong return on investment for students, taxpayers and society.

According to the study, through its operations and construction spending, student spending and alumni impact, QCC added \$349.8 million in income to the economy of its service area, equivalent to supporting 3,930 jobs.

Key findings of the study included:
 • **Alumni Impact:** Former QCC students generated \$276.9 million in added

income for the regional economy, supporting 2,738 jobs.

• **Student Return on Investment:** The average associate degree graduate from QCC will see an increase in earnings of \$11,200 each year compared to a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in Massachusetts.

• **Taxpayer Benefits:** State and local taxpayers see a return of \$1.30 for every dollar invested in QCC.

• **Societal Impact:** Society receives \$7 in added state revenue and social savings for every dollar invested in QCC.

"This report clearly demonstrates the influence QCC has on our local economy, area industries and the workforce," said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. "As one of the larg-

est colleges in Worcester, QCC continues to make an indelible impression on our communities. This study shows what we do here each and every day - facilitate student success, which translates into our region's success."

QCC's day-to-day operations and construction spending added \$69.3 million to the regional economy, while student spending contributed an additional \$3.6 million.

The college serves as a key source of employees for regional industries, particularly in healthcare. The study found that QCC's impact supported 1,043 jobs in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector alone.

Lightcast based its report on several sources including QCC's academic and financial reports, data from the U.S.

Bureau of Labor Statistics and data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Celebrate the holidays at Winter Stroll in Douglas

DOUGLAS — This year's Winter Stroll will take place Saturday, Dec. 14 from 4-7 p.m. with participation of organizations and businesses throughout Douglas. Do some holiday shopping, listen to carolers, explore the Museum and take part in special events, and treats at the Library (special guest appearances, too!), visit the Orchard, get your trees and wreaths, grab an app or meal... best of all, take in the holiday lights on Main Street all the way up to the Common!



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Water Power: Bathe Away What Ails You

What could be better than a relaxing soak in a hot tub? How about the knowledge the simple act of bathing can provide drug free relief from a myriad of ailments.

When we sit in a tub to relieve back pain, run cold water over a skin burn, or even seek solace in a long, hot bath, these familiar actions employ the ancient practice of hydrotherapy - using water to heal. From calming anxiety and relieving pain to combating insomnia and detoxing the body, baths are beneficial for health. While water has been used as therapy for centuries, thankfully the modern world is rediscovering the simple art of bath-

ing and its many virtues. Read on for some surprising ways a good soak can do a body good!

Note: If you are pregnant, have high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, or any other medical condition, get your doctor's OK before bathing in hot water. Hot water therapy is not for infants, children or elderly.

Some Like it Hot: Hot baths can ease muscle and joint pain, constipation and respiratory ailments. To loosen tense muscles and reduce the pain of backaches, experts suggest a bath tempera-



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

ture of 102°F to 106°F.

For minor sprains, the combination of a hot bath and Epsom salts can bring welcome relief as the Epsom salt draws fluid out of the body and helps shrink swollen tissues, easing pain. The salts also draw out built up lactic acid, which can contribute to muscle aches. For maximum benefit, add two cups of Epsom salts to a warm bath, and relax.

A nice, long soak is also hailed for cutting short cold and flu symptoms. Submerge as much of your body as you can in a tub of comfortably hot water. Immediately after the bath, dress warmly and go to bed under warm covers for a nap. To combat the chills, add about eight drops of lavender and four drops of cinnamon essential oils to the warm bath.

Do you have trouble sleeping? Combat insomnia by bathing in hot (up to 103 degrees) water approximately two hours prior to bedtime. If congestion is the culprit to your insomnia, soak in a hot tub and place a warm washcloth over your face. Breathe through the cloth several times. The combination of the bath and the warm steam should relieve congestion and promote sleep.

Neutral Soak: If you are anxious, irritable, or suffer from panic attacks, a neutral bath can relieve symptoms and offer soothing comfort. Bath water should be between 94 and 97 degrees for optimum results. Submerge as much of your body as you can, relax, and soak for at least 20 minutes. Warm water has been proven to halt the physiological part of the fight-or-flight response, so familiar to panic sufferers.

Aromatherapy and Hydrotherapy can also work together to alleviate anxiety. Try this formula: Add six drops geranium and four drops basil oils to a tub of warm water. Soak for at least 20 minutes.

To relieve hot flashes, naturopathic experts advise taking a neutral bath each morning to "improve vasodilatation, which might help release the heat of a hot flash." Soak for about 20 minutes in water slightly cooler than body temperature. Refill water to keep temperature steady.

This simple bath blend has been praised for its antidepressant properties: Add three drops of rose essential oil and four drops of ylang ylang essential oil to a tub full of warm water. To induce further relaxation, bathe by candlelight.

Cool It: Cold water prevents itching, making it the perfect treatment for summer skin maladies. To further relieve the itch of sunburn, bug bites or psoriasis, add about two cups of vinegar to the bath water. A cool water bath is also effective way to fight fatigue. Cold water increases

the consumption of oxygen to the skin, helping your body "wake up" quicker.

A cold footbath had long been used to treat varicose veins, circulatory problems, or sleeplessness. Fill a basin or tub with cold water and submerge feet at least calf depth. Soak feet until water is no longer cold.

Proper Bathing: The deeper you can submerge your body, the more effective the hydrotherapy will be. If you can, strive for neck deep water. (Those with heart or respiratory problems should not bathe in water higher than the heart.) If you are using a regular tub, fill it as high as possible, and lie down, submerging your hands and feet for optimum coverage.

Experts advise soaking in a bath for 15 to 20 minutes. However, if you show any signs of dizziness or overheating, get out of the tub immediately.

Detox Baths: Hot baths are natural detoxifiers. Here's why: Hot water draws toxins out of the body to the surface of the skin. While the water cools, it pulls those toxins from the skin. Salts added to a bath accelerates this process by promoting sweating. Common salts used in detox baths include sea salt, dead sea salt, baking soda and Epsom salts.

Detox Salts: Mix together Two cups baking soda; one cup sea salts; one cup Epsom salts. Pour about a quarter cup of the mix into the bath while tub is filling. If desired, add; one tablespoon glycerin to prevent dry skin.

Ginger Bath: Some naturalists tout a ginger bath as a great way to sweat out toxins. Simply add about one eighth cup of ginger under running hot bath water. Lie down and soak for at least 30 minutes.

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

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

Skinwalker Ranch

As Halloween approaches, I'm wrapping up my spooky season series with a tale that fits perfectly into the Strange, Dark, and Mysterious. We've explored unsettling phenomena in previous weeks, but for the finale, I'm diving into one of the most bizarre and mysterious places in the United States—Skinwalker Ranch. This 500-acre ranch in Uintah County, northeastern Utah, known for tales of supernatural occurrences, has intrigued investigators, scientists, and paranormal enthusiasts for decades.

In 1994, the Sherman family purchased the ranch, hoping to lead a quiet life as cattle ranchers. When the Shermans arrived, they found the home oddly fortified with metal bars on the windows, heavy-duty door locks, and chains, presumably for guard dogs, on each side of the house. It was as if the previous owners were preparing for an intrusion.

Soon after settling in, the Shermans began experiencing a series of unsettling incidents. One day, Terry Sherman spotted a huge wolf in the distance. The animal, which appeared to be nearly as tall as a human's chest, calmly approached the family and their cattle. With a muscular build and piercing blue eyes, the wolf seemed tame initially, but suddenly, it lunged at a calf and locked its jaws around the animal's neck. Terry grabbed a rifle and shot the wolf several times, yet the bullets seemed to have no effect. Eventually, the wolf casually turned and walked away; as if it wasn't riddled with bullets, it trotted back into the woods.

This bizarre encounter was only the beginning. The Shermans began noticing heavy equipment disappearing or moving to strange places. On one occasion, a 70-pound post digger vanished and was later found high up in a tree.

One of the strangest incidents involved the sudden disappearance of four bulls, which were later found crammed into a locked trailer in a seemingly trance-like state. The trailer's latches were still locked, and there was no reasonable explanation for how the bulls could have ended up inside alone. It was as though something had teleported them there.

At times, they felt an invisible presence following them. On one occasion, they heard heavy breathing and saw brush moving like an unseen creature prowling nearby. It was as if a cloaked entity was stalking them.

Cattle mutilations became another ter-

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rifying issue. The family started losing cattle at an alarming rate. These cattle were found dead with surgically precise incisions, with organs missing but no signs of blood anywhere near the scene.

The Shermans frequently heard strange, disembodied voices above their ranch, speaking in an unknown language.

Even more chilling were the glowing orbs that frequently appeared. The most unsettling encounter involved a bright blue orb that seemed to pulse with energy, giving off an almost electric crackle. These orbs filled the air with an inexplicable dread as if deliberately manipulating the family's emotions.

As they dug deeper, the Shermans learned that their property had long been considered cursed by local Indigenous tribes. The Ute people, in particular, believed the land was associated with Skinwalkers, creatures known for their shape-shifting abilities. Because of this lore, the ranch eventually became known as Skinwalker Ranch.

Unable to cope with the ongoing disturbances, the Shermans moved out. Before they left, they shared their experiences with the media, drawing the attention of billionaire Real Estate Tycoon Robert Bigelow, who had a longstanding interest in the paranormal. In 1996, Bigelow purchased the ranch to conduct his investigations, enlisting a team of scientists and researchers to study the strange phenomena.

Terry remained the ranch manager, eager to help Bigelow's team uncover the truth. The paranormal activity continued, with cattle mutilations, glowing orbs, portals, UFOs, and encounters with mysterious creatures.

In another chilling event, one of Bigelow's researchers claimed that a giant creature had "taken over his mind," leaving him with a message that they were being constantly observed.

Today's Skinwalker Ranch remains shrouded in mystery, heavily guarded, and off-limits to the public.

While I can't confirm the truth behind every tale I've shared this spooky season, the lingering mysteries at Skinwalker Ranch continue to warrant serious attention.

As we enjoy the eerie delights of Halloween, remember that some of the strangest stories aren't found in horror movies—they're hidden in remote places like Skinwalker Ranch.

Friday's Child



Hi! My name is Izabella and I love nature and the outdoors!

Izabella, who also goes by Izzy, is an inquisitive, outgoing, and outspoken girl in search of her forever family. She loves to explore the outdoors and nature, which include various community activities, gardening, and collecting small insects for her "bug sanctuary" that she advocated to have. She always willing to try new things and new foods. Izzy also enjoys arts and crafts and going to the library to pick out books to read. Her biggest strength is her ability to advocate and speak up for herself.

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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.








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November 2024 Programs
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER SCOTT MALONEY TO PRESENT "I AM" - NOV 18 AT 6PM

Join motivational speaker and author Scott Maloney for his inspiring keynote, "I Am," where he will share strategies for staying positive in tough times and learning from past challenges. A survivor of a traumatic brain injury and author of Lean on Me: A Story of Hope, Healing and Holding On, Scott's powerful story of resilience promises to leave a lasting impact. Sponsored by the Uxbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. Register now — don't miss this opportunity for adults and teens alike!

UXBRIDGE KNIT-N-STITCH CIRCLE - MONDAYS AT 6PM

Do you love to craft? Do you have an interest in knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or other fiber arts? Are you looking for a crafting community? Then join our craft circle! Bring your crochet, knitting, or other craft project to work on and take the time to relax and learn from others.

Our Knit-N-Stitch circle meets weekly on Mondays at 6pm.

ADULT PROGRAMS
Register now:

Gentle Flow Yoga – Mondays, Nov 4, 18, and 25 at 7pm & Saturday, Nov 9 at 10am
Uxbridge Knit-n-Stitch Circle – Drop-in fiber arts crafting group, meets Mondays at 6pm

VIRTUAL: 50+ Job Seekers Networking Group – Nov 6 & 20 at 9:30am

PopUp Library at the Senior Center – Nov 8 at 11:30am

Cardmaking Hands-On Workshop – Nov 14 at 6:15pm

I AM... Presented by Scott Maloney – Nov 18 at 6pm

Embroidery 101 with Madonna Terlizzi – Nov 20 at 1pm & Nov 21 at 6pm

Shawna Foundation Library Poetry Tour – Nov 21 at 7pm

Book-a-Librarian – Need help downloading e-books and using other library digital resources? Contact the library to book a 30-minute appointment with a librarian for hands-on tech assistance. Wednesdays from 2:30pm-4pm.

Join a Book Club:
Uxbridge Senior Center Book Club – Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers by Jesse Q. Sutanto, Nov 12 at 1pm

Historical Fiction Book Club – The Last Days of Night by Graham Moore, Nov 19 at 3:30pm

Bookies Book Club – The Spectacular by Fiona Davis, Nov 25 at 6:30pm

YOUTH & TEEN PROGRAMS
Register now:

Teen Book-In-A-Bag (ages 13+) – Pick up your themed book-in-a-bag choice between November 1-15

Blossoming Youth Yoga (ages 5-12) – November 4, 18, & 25 at 6pm

Family Candy Bar Bingo (ages 6+) – Nov 2 at 11am

Drums For All (ages 10+ & Adults) – Nov 4 at 6pm

Cat Pom Pom Toy (ages 4-12) – Nov 5 at 4:15pm

Kindness Speaks (ages 5-12) – Nov 6 at 4:15pm

Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins (all ages) – Nov 7 & 21 at 11am

Teen Wise Guy Trivia (ages 12-19) – Nov 7 at 6:30pm

Fantasy Miniature Painting (ages 8-19) – Nov 9 at 12:30pm

Zodiac Constellation Banner (ages 8-19) – Nov 12 at 4:15pm

Lego Challenge Build (ages 6+) – Nov 13 & 20 at 4pm

Virtual Fortnite Tournament (ages 8+) – Nov 14 at 6pm

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FROM PAGE A10

Build Wave (ages 5+ w/family) – Nov 16 at 12:30pm
 Teen Rune Reading (ages 13-19) – Nov 18 at 6pm
 Turkey Succulent Pots (ages 4-19) – Nov 19 at 4:15pm

Henna by Jen! (ages 10+) – Nov 21 at 6pm
 Science with Amanda: Turtles (ages 6-12) – Nov 25 at 5:30pm
 Pumpkin Fairy House (ages 8-19) – Nov 26 at 4:15pm
 Claytime (ages 8-19) – Nov 23 at 12pm
 Storytimes & Playgroups (registration required):

Baby Storytime (0-2 years) – Nov 17 at 11:30am
 Toddler/Preschool Storytime (2-4 years) – Nov 13 & 20 at 11:30am
 Baby Bumble (Socialization playgroup, 0-2 years) – Nov 5 & 19 at 11am
 Toddler Tumble (Socialization playgroup, 2-5 years) – Nov 12 & 26 at 11am
 Drop-In Programs:

Crafty Wednesdays – Wednesday mornings and afternoons
 Please visit the Library's website at uxbridgelibrary.org or call us at 508-278-8624 to inquire about our upcoming programs or to register to attend! Many of our programs are supported by the Uxbridge Board of Library Trustees and the Friends of the Uxbridge Free Public Library.



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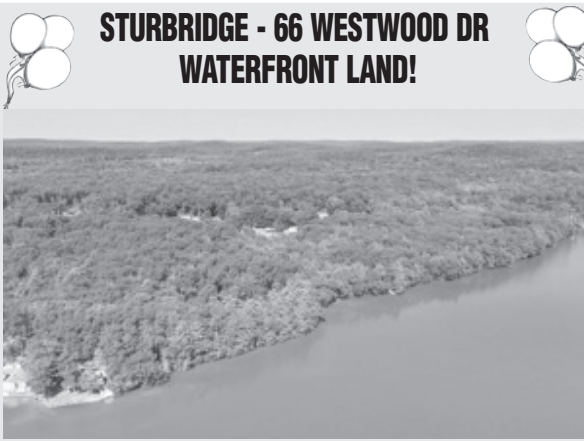
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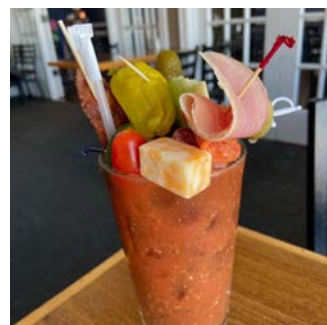
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Easy ways to support small businesses

It's easy to overlook how integral small businesses are to local, national and even global economies. The Small Business Administration and the U.S. Census Bureau indicate small businesses account for 99.7 percent of all American businesses, employing 56.8 million people. Similarly, according to Statistics Canada, local businesses classified as micro or small businesses made up 98.1 percent of all the employers in Canada in 2021.

Since small businesses are the economic engine of many neighborhoods and communities, it's in everyone's best interest to pitch in and ensure such firms' success. Thankfully, it's easy for anyone to support the small businesses that make their communities unique.

- Shop locally and online from small businesses as much as possible. If you cannot shop right away, consider purchasing gift cards to the retailer or service provider and share them as gifts to others.

- Before you immediately go with a well-known chain or e-commerce giant, find out if a local retailer offers the same items you need and shop there.

- Actively discover new brands, check them out, and then spread the word about your findings to others.

- Share posts from small businesses on social media. It's good exposure for them and can help to widen their customer base.

- Attend special events or promotions hosted by local businesses. Well-attended events may spark others' curiosity.

- Share a quick photo of something you bought at a small business or of a service they provided. For example, if a local landscaping company did a wonderful job putting in a new patio or pavers, share the before and after with those you know.

Communities can embrace various strategies to support the small businesses that make Main Street unique.

How communities benefit when consumers shop local

Ideas about shopping are never set in stone, and the pandemic illustrated just how quickly consumer trends and opinions can change. Many individuals are now reevaluating how they spend their hard-earned money, particularly since inflation has affected just how far a dollar can be stretched. When consumers think about which stores to patronize, locally owned businesses may be the smartest option for a number of reasons — not the least of which is the way such enterprises benefit the communities they call home.

More money kept in the community

Shopping locally means that more money will stay in the community. According to recent research from Civic Economics, local eateries return nearly 79 percent of revenue to the community, compared to just over 30 percent for chain restaurants. Overall, for every \$100 spent at a local business, around \$73 remains in the community, versus roughly \$43 when shopping at a non-locally owned business.

Get a personal touch

Local business owners typically are inclined to go the extra mile for their customers and are personally invested in the services and products they are selling. As a result, shopping locally tends to be a personalized experience. Furthermore, a local business owner may be more amenable to ordering products for specific clientele. Such personalized service is typically not accessible when shopping big box stores or other shops where owners are off-site.

Lines are short

Waiting in long lines for check-out or to pick up merchandise ordered online can drain consumers' energy and contribute to stress. Local businesses tend to have short lines and small crowds, which can lead to a more pleasant shopping experience.

Generates tax revenue

Local businesses generate more tax revenue per sales dollar, according to Rubicon, a digital marketplace for waste and recycling businesses. Taxes paid by local small businesses go to support schools, parks, roads, and other programs that benefit the community as well.

Support nonprofits

Local businesses often support good work in the community, such as nonprofit groups. These can include schools and sports teams, among other groups. According to Dr. Sue Lynn Sasser, professor of economics at the University of Central Oklahoma, studies indicate nonprofits "receive 250 percent more support from small businesses than larger ones."

Support other local businesses

Local business support other local businesses by buying and selling among each other. A local, independently owned restaurant may source its ingredients from local farms, which means visitors to such eateries are supporting multiple local businesses each time they dine out.

Small businesses are a boon to the economy, particularly local economies. These enterprises help their communities in a multitude of ways.



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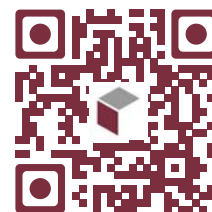


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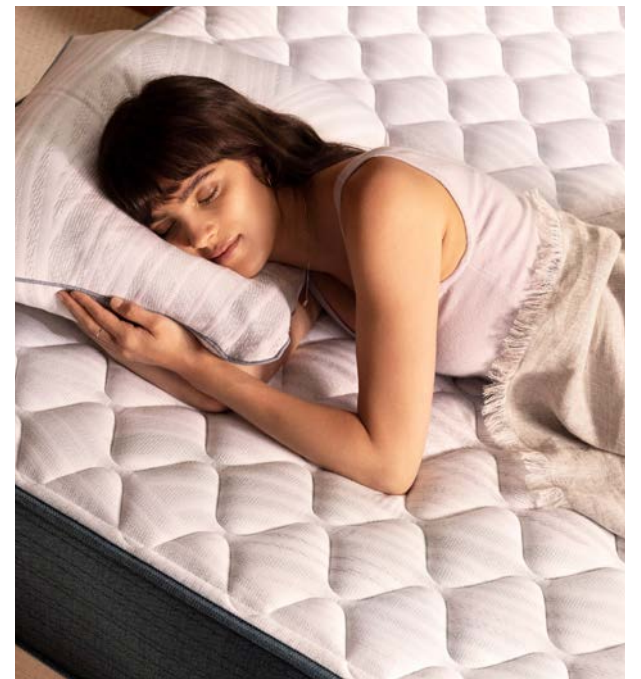
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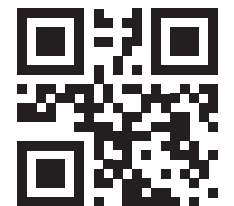
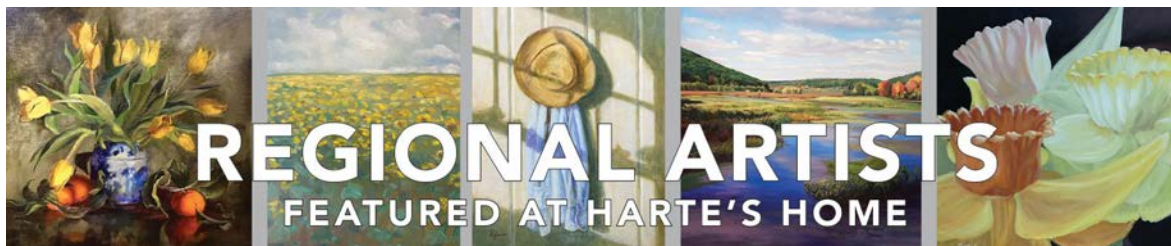
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