

## New Sutton Town Manager Hired

At their April 2 meeting, the Sutton Select Board voted 5-0 to hire Austin Cyganiewicz as the new town manager. Cyganiewicz had previously served as town administrator in Rutland since April 2023.

In the April 15 meeting, Cyganiewicz signed a contract that will pay him Austin on a yearly salary of \$180K; the position was advertised as high as \$190K, depending upon qualifications, select board chair Dave Hall said. The town is not currently offering a contribution to a 457 SMART retirement savings plan (available to Massachusetts municipalities) that was available to town manager James Smith, who is retiring after 18 years.

Cyganiewicz will also receive 20 days vacation for a one-week carry-over. He will also have a \$400 monthly stipend for automobile use. His first official meeting with the Sutton select board will be in June.

Hall described the package as amenable and one that can grow with Cyganiewicz over time and over the course of new contracts.

Board members cited Cyganiewicz's preparedness for his interview, and also for his achievements in Rutland.

Select board members praised Cyganiewicz for his preparedness for the interview as well as his accomplishments in Rutland, where he helped develop human resources policies and created an online rubric to aid in the budget

process and said that he was confident, clear and passionate about government. Those experiences, members said, would serve the town of Sutton well.

His community engagement and planning and goal setting process was also praised.

Select board member Jeffrey Bannon said he thought that



Cyganiewicz would bring a lot of continuity to the job.

Several board members said they had watched recordings of Rutland select board meetings and felt Cyganiewicz conducted himself well, holding and explaining his position without alienating others, steering the conversation so it never became unfriendly.

The board interviewed two other candidates on March 31 - Holden DPW director John Woodsmall and Upton town manager Joseph Laydon. The three candidates were chosen in a screening process by a Sutton selection committee and consultants Community Paradigm.

Austin has made this a low stress, easy process to get through, Hall said.



## Open Sky Community Services to Mark 40 Years of Valley Friendship Tour

Annual Run, Bike and Walk Fundraiser Provides Support for Individuals with Complex Challenges

Open Sky Community Services, a nonprofit behavioral health and human services organization, will host the 40th annual Valley Friendship Tour community event and fundraiser on Saturday, June 7 at Alternatives' Whitin Mill at 50 Douglas Road, Whitinsville to support essential programs serving individuals with complex challenges.

The Valley Friendship Tour is Open Sky's signature fundraising event for the agency's nearly 150 programs throughout Central Massachusetts that serve children, adults and families with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, and homelessness.

Individual and team participants can choose from a 1-mile walk, a timed 5K run, a 5K walk or a 30-mile bike ride through

the scenic Blackstone Valley. The variety of routes are designed for people of all ages and abilities, those with and without disabilities or mental health challenges, to come together as equal participants. The opening ceremony begins at 9 a.m. The all-day event also features lunch, live music, raffles and family-friendly entertainment and activities on the Dennis H. Rice Community Plaza at Whitin Mill.

"We are extremely thankful for our sponsors, participants and the community for four decades of the Valley Friendship Tour," said Open Sky President and CEO Ken Bates. "By coming together for this inclusive event year after year, our supporters are directly helping to ensure that youth, young adults and families served by Open Sky will have the support they need to lead fulfilling lives."

Since it began nearly four decades ago, the tour has raised more than \$3 million in support of individuals and families in Central Massachusetts. Many local businesses are taking part in the festivities, led this year by opening ceremony sponsor The Shop at Whitinsville and finish line picnic sponsor Diplacido Development Corporation.

The Valley Friendship Tour was the signature fundraising event for Alternatives Unlimited for 33 years. In 2018, Alternatives affiliated with The Bridge of Central Massachusetts to form Open Sky Community Services. The Valley Friendship Tour continues to be the agency's widest-reaching fundraising event, attracting participants from throughout Central Massachusetts as well as Connecticut and Rhode Island.

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# Millbury Annual Town Election Results April 29

*denotes election winners	<b>Board of Assessors – one seat for 3 years</b> *Harold F. Proodian – 535 142 blanks 3 write-ins	<b>Re-Development Authority - one seat for 5 years</b> *Leonard F. Mort – 529 149 blanks 2 write-ins
<b>Selectmen – two seats for 3 years</b> *Mary Krumsiek – 470 votes Alan F. D'Allesandro Jr. – 251 Juliette-Marie Isabella Somerset – 137 *Brian T. Tagg – 350 150 blanks 2 write-ins	<b>Planning Board – one seat for 3 years</b> *Bruce M. Devault – 530 145 blanks 5 write-ins	<b>Re-Development Authority – one seat for 2 years</b> No candidates 650 blanks 30 write-ins
<b>School Committee – two seats for 3 years</b> Sean Michael Cooper – 304 *Christine A. Pugliese-Savage – 394 *Michael S. Taber – 411 247 blanks 4 write-ins	<b>Board of Health – one seat for 3 years</b> *Ronald J. Marlborough – 551	<b>Housing Authority - one seat for 5 years</b> *Michael K. Michalak Sr. – 511 167 blanks 2 write-ins
	<b>Library Trustees – three seats for 3 years</b> *Eric M. Boll – 491 *Christine A. Brady – 518 *Christine M. Fintzel – 469 561 blanks 1 write-in	<b>Blackstone Valley Regional School Committee – one seat, serving April 30, 2025 – Nov. 3, 2026</b> *Jan P. Hanratty – 547 130 blanks 3 write-ins

# Sutton Memorial Day Ceremonies and Parade

Dudley-Gendron American Legion Post 414 schedule of events 7 a.m. West Sutton Cemetery – Roll Call 7:30 a.m. Mateychuck Triangle – Roll Call; Laying of the Wreath; March to bridge; Traditional wreath in river 7:50 a.m. South Sutton Cemetery – Roll Call 8:25 a.m. Wilkinsonville Cemetery – Roll Call	8:45 a.m. Town Memorial in Wilkinsonville – Roll Call 9:05 a.m. Dodge Cemetery – Roll Call 9:20 a.m. Armsby Cemetery – Roll Call 9:35 a.m. Howard Cemetery – Roll Call, March to Veterans Square, Burbank Road 9:50 a.m. Veterans Square – Roll	Call 11 a.m. – Sutton Cemetery (behind Town Hall) – Roll Call 11:10 a.m. Sutton Common – Roll Call 11:15 a.m. Sutton Common – Parade begins 11:45 a.m. Sutton High School – Parade Ends, Memorial Day ceremony begins
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## BLACKSTONE VALLEY Xpress

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# Grafton's Business Scene

BY CHRISTINE GALEONE

The days are getting brighter. And the howling bitter winds have transformed into soothing warm breezes. The most beautiful part of spring recently arrived. With its arrival, more people are emerging from the darkness of

Troop 2019, Sustainable Grafton and the GAIN program – removed trash from local roads, parks and playgrounds. Event sponsors included Pepperoni Express, Swirls & Scoops, Savers Bank, UniBank and the Grafton DPW. Beginning Wednesday June 18, people can come together to appre-

gifts and more. Grafton Recreation recently announced that one of its popular free fun family events will return next month. On Saturday June 21 from 10 a.m. until noon – with 10 to 11 being sensory friendly – at Millbury Street Elementary School, kids can explore a variety of big

fundraiser for the Grafton Historical Society, the fair will feature antiques and collectibles vendors. There will also be antique appraisals (for a small fee) and live music by the Kelly Clark Trio. A Paradise BBQ food truck will also be there. Finally, for people who would like to buy Memorial Day plants/flowers, there are at least three Grafton businesses that sell beautiful flowers. They can be found at Perreault Nursery & Landscape Supply in North Grafton, Koopman Lumber in North Grafton and

at Pete's Oasis at Blackstone River Farm in South Grafton. Canopies of vibrant green amidst an azure sky. Robins, blue jays and cardinals flitting in and out of the trees. Green time in Grafton can be sublime. And as we appreciate the freedom to enjoy the outdoors, we also deeply appreciate the freedom that so many of our brave military members gave their lives to protect. Contact Christine with your business news items at cmgaleone15@gmail.com.



winter and stepping into the light of spring. They're also reuniting with friends, family and neighbors while enjoying much-needed green time. And Grafton businesses and organizations are helping them to do so. From April 14 through April 19, the Grafton Garden Club held an incredibly successful Grafton Clean-Up. The club organized the event, in which many volunteer teams – including ones from the Grafton Garden Club, the Grafton Historical Society, the Grafton Land Trust,

ciate the outdoors while supporting small businesses. The Grafton Farmers Market, which will be held every Wednesday from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. will return for the season on that day. It's returning to the Grafton Common. With a variety of vendors (which vary each week), the volunteer-run market works hard to achieve its goal of providing "fresh, local food directly from farmers to consumers." Its vendors offer an array of local produce, baked goods, jams, syrups, candy, natural skincare items, handcrafted

rigs during Big Truck Day. Another anticipated event is happening in town Saturday, June 14. Starting at 9 in the morning and going until 3 p.m. is the 57th Annual Antiques and Arts Fair, which will be held on the Grafton Common. Admission is \$5.00. A



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# Grafton Senior Center

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Blood Pressure Clinic: Thursdays at 11 a.m.  
Breathing & Healing Chair Yoga: Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m. - Free for Grafton Seniors thanks to Friends of Grafton Elders (FOGE)  
Cardio Barre Exercise: Thursdays at 12 p.m.  
Congressperson Office Hours: Vary  
Council on Aging: Meets second Thursday of every month at 1 p.m. unless otherwise posted

Day Trips/ Extended Trips: Vary- see newsletter/brochure rack for details  
Dull Men's Club: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Duplicate Bridge: Thursdays at 9 a.m.  
Fall Prevention Exercise: Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.- free for Grafton Seniors  
Fuel Assistance: See Lisa Kelley for appointment  
Hooked on Books Club: First Wednesday of the month- 10:30 a.m.  
Jog Your Noggin: Spirited conver-

sation with Lisa  
one Wednesday a month at 10:30 a.m.  
Line Dancing: Every Friday at 1 p.m. \$3/ person  
Lunch: Monday- Friday at 11:45 a.m. Suggested \$3 donation. For home delivered meals, call 508.852.3205. Please call two days prior for reservation.  
Mahjong (Chinese Form): Mondays at 9:30 a.m.  
Medical Equipment Loan Closet: walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, etc. Just ask!  
Nutrition Class: an interesting discussion with Senior Exercise instructor, Wendy Reid  
Oldies Singalong: a fun singalong of the classics. One Friday a month.

Outreach: Assessing needs and linking resources- Call for appointment with Lisa  
Out to Lunch: Monthly outing to area restaurant.  
Painting Independently: Fridays 10 a.m.  
Pinochle: Thursdays 1:15 p.m.  
Pitch: Monday and Tuesday at 1 p.m.  
Rummikub: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.  
Senior Bootcamp: A more intense workout that combines cardio & strength training. Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.  
Senior Exercise Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 am. Free for Grafton Seniors thanks to FOGE.  
Social Knitting: Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

SNAP (Supplemental Food Assistance Program): See Lisa Kelley for appointment  
Tap Dancing: Every Wednesday at 2 p.m. \$5 pp  
Tax Work Off Program: Call Shannon for more info  
Tone and Stretch Exercise: Mondays at 9:30 a.m.  
Transportation: Call the office for info!  
Watercoloring Class: Fridays at 1 p.m.  
Wii-TV Game Exercise: Available in the TV room almost any time!  
Writer's Group: Meets 2nd and 4th Friday at 1 p.m.  
Zumba: Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m. FOGE sponsored.

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## UniBank Held Annual Meeting at the Portuguese Club in Milford

UniBank, the largest Mutual Community Bank headquartered in Central Massachusetts, recently held their Annual Meeting at the Portuguese Club in Milford. Michael Welch, CEO of UniBank, said, "Our Annual Meeting had a special energy at the Portuguese Club. We welcomed over 160 Directors, Corporators, and team members who each contributed to our great success in 2024. It always makes me proud to reiterate the 150+ year legacy of our commitment to the Central Mass community, our giving of over \$2M to non-profits and charities in 2024, and the current

strength of UniBank financially, as well as our prosperous outlook for the remainder of 2025." UniBank Chairman, Tim Wickstrom, commented at the meeting, "Tonight, we hold our Annual Meeting for the 1st time in Milford, where we have a very vibrant and prosperous branch just a stone's throw from here. It is also fitting that we have our meeting at this beautiful Portuguese Club of Milford, a long-time gathering place for the Portuguese immigrant community in Milford and Hopedale." Chairman Wickstrom added, "As many of you know, Milford and the Blackstone Valley towns of Uxbridge and Whitinsville have a long history of welcoming immigrants to work, live, worship, and prosper in their communities. In Milford and Hopedale, the Portuguese immigrants worked at the Draper Mill, an-

other large textile machine manufacturer in the Blackstone Valley area, second only to the Whitin Machine Works in Whitinsville. Tonight, we salute, celebrate and recognize the Portuguese immigrant community here for their contribution to the Greater Milford community through their hard work culture, their family and faith values, and their neighborly acts of kindness towards one another. We look forward to continuing to support this community, as well as the communities in the Greater Milford area, as we expand our presence in adjacent communities." UniBank would like to thank the Portuguese Club team for their gracious hospitality as well as Oliva's Market, Catering and Gourmet Gifts of Milford for providing their exceptional catering and service.



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# Observe Save for Education Day with a 529 plan



Tim Furbush, CFA

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Whether your children are in grade school or high school, they'll be leaving for college or trade school before you know it. With the cost of education rising, now is the time to prepare for that day.

Starting to invest when your child is born is often a great way to build a strong financial future. Even if your children are older, you can still make progress and

potentially reap tax benefits by contributing to a 529 education savings plan. Contributions are made with after-tax dollars, accumulate with no federal income tax and can be withdrawn for qualified education expenses federally tax free.

Unfortunately, half of Americans don't know what a 529 plan is, and fewer than a quarter have one, according to 2024 research from Edward Jones and Morning Consult. One way to keep a 529 plan top of mind is to recognize May 29 (5/29) as Save for Education Day.

### Benefits of a 529 plan

- **Tax Advantages.** Your withdrawals are free from federal income tax when you use them for elementary or secondary school tuition — including vocational schools and some online courses and degree programs — registered apprenticeships, and qualified higher-education expenses such as housing, books and more.

- **Flexibility.** The variety of qualifying expenses may surprise you. For example, you can pay for off-campus housing (up to the cost of on-campus room and board), student loan repayments (up to a \$10,000 lifetime limit), and computers and computer-related accessories, including printers, internet access and educational software used primarily by the plan beneficiary. You may even be able to roll over unused funds to a Roth IRA for your beneficiary, switch beneficiaries or roll it over to another 529 plan.

- **Control.** As the account owner, you — not the beneficiary — control how the funds are used, as you planned and intended.

### Strategies for building 529 savings

If you set aside money every month, it can make a big difference toward funding your child's best educational path forward. So, how can you budget for a 529 for your child, when you have

competing financial priorities?

- **Save early and regularly.** Consider setting up automatic transfers into a 529 account, even if it feels like a small amount. Taking a few minutes to set it up now can help pay for four years of your child's education in the future.
- **Increase over time.** You could reallocate your day care expenses once your child enters school, which could be a substantial amount each month.
- **Review your savings over time.** Many things can change over time — your available dollars, education costs, investment performance, choice of college, financial aid options and the number of children you're providing for. You have the flexibility to change your contributions.

Your financial advisor can help you determine how a 529 plan can fit into your overall financial strategy and navigate the various guidelines and limits

— such as defining a qualified expense, changing beneficiaries and rolling unused dollars elsewhere.

A 529 plan can be a valuable tool for helping your family members afford the educational opportunities that can lead to a promising future. Whether you're exploring this opportunity for the first time or reviewing your current plan, Save for Education Day on 5/29 is good time to do it.

Contact Tim for assistance with your personal finances.

Tim Furbush, CFA  
Edward Jones Financial Adviser  
Westborough, MA 01581  
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# BVT Has a New Superintendent

For the first time in 31 years, the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District is proud to announce that, effective July 1, 2025, Assistant Superintendent-Director/Principal Anthony E. Steele II will become the next Superintendent-Director, making him the fourth leader in Blackstone Valley Tech's (BVT) history. With a three-year agreement, he will take over for Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, who will retire at the end of June. BVT is excited about Steele's lead-

ership and his vision for the future. With nearly three decades of education experience at BVT, Steele has held many roles. The first was in 1997, when he began his career as an English teacher. He can still recall his first interview for this position. "I vividly remember cresting the hill on Pleasant Street in 1997 and laying my eyes on our school for the first time. Customary jitters aside, I was relieved that my McNally Road Atlas led me to our

campus on time and without incident. I was confident, yet hopeful to be offered the job, but I never imagined that BVT would become my home for the next 28 years and come to represent my life's work." For BVT, it was an exciting and pivotal time when education reform would challenge vocational schools to meet the MCAS standard. Bringing a vocational perspective to the position, Steele said, "As a 22-year-old construction worker, I hung up my hard hat to try my hand at teaching English. I never anticipated the numerous opportunities for professional growth beyond improving my classroom teaching."

When Steele was named Assistant Principal/Director of Curriculum in 2001, BVT sustained a feverish pace of redefining what was possible in vocational education.

"It was thrilling to be a key player in transforming BVT from a strong, traditional vocational school to a nationally acclaimed career-technical center for the new era."

He says there has never been a dull moment in his career. "For the past thirteen years, I have been honored to serve as the Assistant Superintendent-Director/Principal under Dr. Fitzpatrick, who encouraged innovation and embraced change," said Steele. "My leadership experiences and growth at BVT were not accidental, but rather a philosophy in action that has allowed our school to develop talent, maintain focus on our mission, and ensure smooth transitions as time passes. We strategically develop succession plans to maintain a deep bench of talent that ensures the upward trajectory of our school for generations. I am well prepared to build on Dr. Fitzpatrick's legacy and lead our school on a continued path of innovation and excellence."

Steele has also served on various state committees and held leader-

ship positions in professional organizations throughout his career, including the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and the Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association. He appreciates the perspective gained from his longevity at BVT and is most proud of the school's culture of high expectations, collegiality, and the resulting success of its graduates.

Steele has been a key player in transforming the school into the successful model it is today. His foresight for the future is exciting for many reasons, and he has several immediate goals for the district:

Expand Access to Career Technical Education (CTE): Establish the Blackstone Valley Technical Institute, which will expand our adult Moonlight Program to implement 200-hour, credential-based programs in HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, Welding, and Advanced Manufacturing. This grant-funded program will allow us to deliver high-quality CTE to adults interested in upskilling and retraining, provide skilled labor to the local workforce, and generate non-taxpayer revenue to help fund the school.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Across the Curriculum: Continue to refine our AI Governance policies as we embrace this technology in our teaching and learning. We are training our academic teachers and vocational instructors to use AI in their classrooms and shops, and likewise, we are training our students on the responsible use of AI. It is vital that we stay current with emerging AI tools and practices and that our graduates are prepared to utilize AI in the modern workplace.

Maximize the benefits of the "Skills-Based-Hiring" Movement: Through our Cooperative Education (Co-Op) Program, we will continue to increase the number of



students placed in Co-Op employment positions. Over 180 students participate in Co-Op each year, providing a seamless pathway to employment after graduation. Our students learn sophisticated career planning through their Career Enrichment courses, and we are giving extra attention to analyzing emerging opportunities as the Skills-Based-Hiring movement grows nationwide. We will also continue to work with employers to create attractive opportunities for seniors going directly to work after graduation.

Expand the Role of The Valley Tech Education Foundation: With sensitivity that there are fewer tax and State dollars available each year, it is imperative to generate alternative revenue streams to maintain the quality of education at BVT. We wish to increase the Education Foundation's efforts to seek charitable donations through businesses, foundations, and the private sector, and expand fundraising activities and events. The goal is to strengthen the quality of education and student opportunities at BVT while decreasing the reliance on member town assessments.

"I am eager to provide the unique blend of administrative experience, historical perspective, local knowledge, leadership style, and philosophy required of the next superintendent-director," said Steele. "I am honored to serve my school in this new role, and I am very excited about our future."

Having nurtured the talent within its administrative team, BVT has qualified, prepared internal candidates for the assistant superintendent-director and principal roles, and they will lead an exhaustive search for outside candidates as well. Either way, BVT will continue to be led by bold, innovative, mindful leaders with new ideas.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT): Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge.



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The Grafton Police Department completed recertification earlier this month with electronic control weapons (commonly referred to as TASER). Officer Joe Coggans was tasked with playing the role of "Uncooperative Aggressor". Let's just say we will be nominating him for an Emmy Award for his performance. From Grafton PD Facebook page.

## Sutton Senior Center

The Monday Brew Crew: Every Monday at 8 a.m. Enjoy coffee, tea, juice and a morning treat.

Darts - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Cribbage - Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Pitch - Thursdays at 10 a.m.

I'm Sorry - Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

A card game that's easy to learn and fun.

Bingo - Fridays at 1 p.m. presented by The Friends of Sutton Sutton Elders

Book Club - Our reading group meets monthly hosted at Sutton Library

Computer Club - A social gathering for all skill levels Thursdays at 9 a.m. led by Paul Holzwarth

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Saturday, June 14th



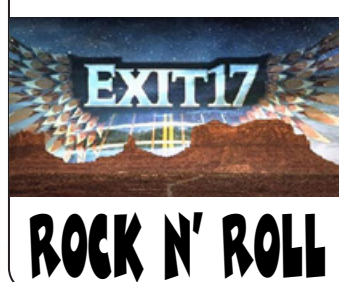
A Led Zeppelin Tribute Band

Saturday, June 21st



A Santana Tribute Band

Saturday, June 28th



ROCK N' ROLL

Saturday, July 12th

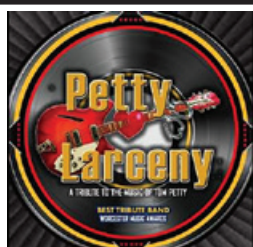


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Tom Petty Tribute Band

Saturday, July 26th



Rolling Stones Tribute

Saturday, August 2nd



Saturday, August 9th



Southern Rock Tribute

Saturday, August 16th



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# Spring cleaning is greener with Affordable Junk Removal

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## Business spotlight

Figuring out who to call can be challenging. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route



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- Leave the money in his/her former employer's plan, if permitted;
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- Roll over to an IRA;
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Call me today for more information or to schedule a consultation.

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you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2005. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with eight trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't ac-

cept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it. He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any hidden costs or surprise fees with Affordable Junk Removal.

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.

They also have a thriving commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

Contact Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business take care of everything for you. Call Jay Schadler at 774-287-1133 or visit us online at [www.affordablejunkremoval.com](http://www.affordablejunkremoval.com).

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Engage one-on-one with another senior, or pursue a cause close to your heart, such as the Senior Fraud Helpline. Help Foil the Frauds by assisting seniors to recognize, resist, and report senior scams and fraud. Live life to the fullest as an AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteer -- for others and yourself.

Please call to Volunteer 508.769.1807



# Changing of the Guard

The Millbury Women's Club (MWC) held their Annual Meeting at Pleasant Valley Country Club and the evening was enjoyed by all. The featured speaker was Sheila Shea, Director of Junior Clubs of Massachusetts 1994 - 1996, State President of Greater Federation Women's Clubs

istration. She spoke about different White House events attended and her travels to the Far East on behalf of GFWC International. The evening culminated in the installation of a new Executive Board to GFWC Millbury Women's Club for 2025-2027 with Diane Hill as the new President.



Above: Diane Hill (left) and Sheila Shea

At left: Diane Erickson, Marylou Mulhane, Cindy Flaherty, Donna Aliquo, Janet Hayes, Jane Cheetham, Marguerite Duncan, Diane Hill, Sheila Shea (from left to right)

(GFWC) of Mass. 2004-2006 and GFWC International President 2016-2018. Sheila spoke about her journey as a member of the Greater Federation of Women's Clubs over the years and her presidency at GFWC Headquarters in Washington D.C. during the Obama admin-

If you have an interest in being a member of the MWC, please check out our website at millburywomenclub.yolasite.com or our Facebook page for all our activities and fundraising to support local community projects and information on how to attend one of the MWC

meetings.

Save the date Nov. 14 for "The Queen is Coming," our MWC Ladies Night Out fundraiser. This fun evening benefits community project and will be held at the Millbury VFW.

# Minuteman Bike Race Wheels Back to Sutton

The Minuteman Road Club in conjunction with USA cycling will sponsor a bicycle race in Sutton on Saturday, June 14. Participants will park at the Sutton schools, and will head off on the race in groups. The club is working with local police on safety for the race and will also be working to

clean up unsafe gravel areas to prevent bicyclist injuries. Roads will not be blocked off for the race. The group is asking residents to take extra care along the route. They will also be making a \$1,000 donation to the Sutton Food Pantry and will ask participants to bring food donations for the pantry as well.

More information will be available soon now that the select board has given permission for the race.

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# Proud Champions of the Skilled Trades

## BVT Competitors Earn 46 SkillsUSA Medals

The 51st SkillsUSA State Leadership & Skills Conference was held on May 2 at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT). The annual event, hosted by SkillsUSA Massachusetts, welcomed approximately 2,100 district champions and many notable dignitaries. It was an incredible showcase of vocational technical training at its finest.

BVT's Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick was honored during the opening ceremonies. The national high school president of SkillsUSA, Kallie Allen of Hopedale, a senior in the Biotechnology program at BVT, presented Dr. Fitzpatrick with the SkillsUSA Massachusetts Honor-

ary Life Member award. It is one of the highest recognitions within the SkillsUSA organization, bestowed upon individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of SkillsUSA and vocational education. He accepted the award on behalf of the district and in memory of Helga "Sunnie" Epstein, a Holocaust survivor and vocational advocate.

BVT's student competitors achieved remarkable results, earning 46 medals: 17 Gold, 17 Silver, and 12 Bronze. Maria Clara De Oliveira of Milford, a sophomore in the Electrical program at BVT, was elected as a State Officer for the 2025-2026 school year. These achievements are a testament to

the student's hard work and dedication.

The gold medalists earn the right to represent SkillsUSA Massachusetts and compete with champions from all over the country at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, this June. The complete list of medalists is available at [valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa](http://valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa)

### BELLINGHAM

Silver: Audrey Drons, Promotional Bulletin Board; and Kiele Sarnie, Carpentry.  
Bronze: Matthew Skarin, Welding.

### BLACKSTONE

Gold: Haley McKinnon, Photography.  
Bronze: Mia Delvecchio, Baking & Pastry



Kallie Allen, SkillsUSA National High School President, presents Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent Director with the SkillsUSA Massachusetts Honorary Life Member award.

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Arts; and Isabella Olsen, Health Knowledge Bowl.

### DOUGLAS

Silver: Ava Austin, Sticker Design; and Devin Drumheller, Mechatronics.

### GRAFTON

Gold: Connor McInerney, HVAC/R; and Cooper Often, Mechatronics.  
Silver: Amaya Langer, Bio Tech Knowledge Bowl; Robert Lazo, Mechatronics; Daniel Warfield, Electronics; and Ellen Winderbaum, Promotional Bulletin Board.

### HOPEDALE

Gold: Ella Foster, Engineering Technology.  
Silver: Evan Griffin, Internetworking; and Christopher Russell, Bio Tech Knowledge Bowl.  
Bronze: Gabriella Griffin, Health Knowledge Bowl; and Declan Reilly, Computer Programming.

### MENDON

National Voting Delegate: Payton Smith.  
Gold: Phoebe Burke, Robotics & Automation Technology; and Payton Smith, Safety Poster Design Team.  
Silver: Kalyann Bellefontaine, Nurse Assisting; and Nathan Lucey, HVAC&R.  
Bronze: Leila Leyvas, Health Knowledge

Bowl.

### MILFORD

National Voting Delegate & State Officer Elect: Maria Clara De Oliveira.

Gold: Andrew Dolan, Health Occupations Professional Portfolio.

Silver: Ethan Dahmer, Bio Tech Knowledge Bowl.

Bronze: Olivia Guido, Painting & Design Technology; and Arianna Turner, Robotics & Automation Tech.

### MILLBURY

Gold: Allison Garden, Engineering Technology.

Bronze: Jonathan Tremblay, Diesel Equipment Technology.

### NORTHBRIDGE

National Voting Delegate: Bella Baltramaitis.

Gold: Esther Alves, Robotics & Automation Technology; Bella Baltramaitis, Safety Poster Design

Team; Steven Caya, Principles of Technology; Zabel Derkosrobian, Telecommunications

BVT

continued on page 12

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# Millbury Public Library

128 Elm St., 508-865-1181.  
Millburylibrary.org. The library will be closed on Saturday, May 24 – Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

Dungeons & Dragons for Adults: Friday, June 6, 6 - 8 p.m. Come join in an adventure at the Spicy Water Distillery for an evening of Dungeons & Dragons. Take on the roles of fictional characters and embark on quests, exploring dungeons, fighting monsters, and discovering treasures. Visit: Millburylibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/

dungeons-dragons-for-adults-25/ to register.

Recurring events:

Storytime: Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. For ages 0-4. No registration required.

Stories, fingerplays and sensory playtime.

Chair Yoga: Wednesdays, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Gentle stretches and strengthening poses using a chair as a prop. All ages welcome. Pauline Estey of Motus Training is a certified yoga teacher. Registration required. Wednesday, May 28 will be the last class of the season be-

fore taking a break for the summer.

Knitting/Crochet Group: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cribbage Club: Thursdays at 6 p.m. All levels welcome. No registration required.

Teen Dungeons and Dragons: Thursdays from 3 - 5 p.m. Registration required.

Watercolor Painting, Level 2: Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Build on techniques learned in the beginner class. Must have beginner class or equivalent experience/knowledge. Must attend all four classes. First class is mandatory.

Bring a notebook, all other supplies provided. Registration required.

Special events:

Friends of the Millbury Public Library

Growing a Summer Salad class: Wednesday, May 28 at 6 p.m. We will walk you through everything you need to know to grow your own tomatoes, cucumbers, and lettuce.

Genealogy Through DNA: Wednesdays, June 4 - June 25, 6 – 7 p.m. Join genealogist Seema-Jayne Kenney and learn about the

cutting-edge science that can help enhance or confirm your paper-based family research.

A mix of history, available tests, testing companies, and using your test results, this hour will get you started on adding DNA as a genealogical resource.

Registration for this event opens Wednesday, May 21 at 9 a.m. To register, call the Millbury Public Library or online at www.millburylibrary.org.

Wood Carving Class: Saturday, June 14 & July 12, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Join Steve Berard of New England Woodcarvers Inc., and learn the basics of woodcarving techniques. Steve was awarded “Best in Show” at last year’s Spirit of Wood show, and he will walk you through the process step-by-step, from wood block to finished piece. Registration for this event opens Saturday, May 31 at 9 a.m.

Cribbage Tournament: This competition will pit the Cribbage Club of Millbury against other local libraries’ clubs for a chance to win the coveted trophy to display at their library until the next tournament. Each library in the area

will take turns hosting. Wednesday, July 16 at 5:30 p.m. at the Mill-

bury Public Library – Registration opened May 8.

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# Sutton Public Library

The Sutton Public Library is located at 4 Uxbridge Road, 508-865-8752, [suttonpubliclibrary.org](http://suttonpubliclibrary.org).

## RECURRING EVENTS

Baby Storytime: Tuesdays, 10:30 - 11 a.m. For babies and caregivers to meet friends, read books and sing songs. No registration needed.

Wednesday Storytime: Every Wednesday, 10:30 - 11 a.m. No registration required.

Dungeons and Dragons: Wednesdays through June 25, 3 - 5:30 p.m. For ages 12 to 18 years. Registration required.

Thursday Storytime: Every Thursday, 10:30 - 11 a.m. No regis-

tration needed.

Cribbage Club: Mondays, 1 to 2 p.m. Beginners or experienced players welcomed.

No registration needed.

Writing Group: Second Thursday of each month, 6 to 7:45 p.m. Join local author Lisa Shea for the writing group. Come bounce your ideas off of other authors and get creative and constructive feedback. For full details about the writing group please visit [suttonmass.org/writinggroup/](http://suttonmass.org/writinggroup/)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Music & Movement with Deb Hudgins: Monday, June 2 from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Gear towards ages 1-5 and caregivers. Come sing and dance along with Deb Hudgins! She will share stories and songs that will get you moving and your mind growing! No registration needed.

Amazing Amphibians: Monday, June 23rd from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. When was the last time you felt the cool skin of a frog? Discover more about our local frog, toad and salamander species in this hands-on program. We will learn about the amphibians that live in our state, some of their characteristics and habits, and where they can be found. Registration for this event opens Saturday, May 31 at 10 a.m.



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**BVT**  
*continued from page 10*

Cabling; and Autumn Gromelski, Restaurant Service.  
Silver: Liliana Carpenter, Restaurant Service; and Olivia Medina, Painting & Design Technology.  
Bronze: Sosie Derkosroffian, Medical Terminology.  
**SUTTON**  
Gold: Benjamin Hicks, Electronics Technology.  
Bronze: Keira Lavine, Robotics & Automation Tech.  
**UPTON**  
Gold: Justin Fransen, Mechatronics.  
Bronze: Cassidy Lyon, Health Knowledge Bowl.  
**UXBRIDGE**  
Gold: Gabrielle Gannon, Engineering Technology.  
Silver: Matteo Lame, Power Equipment

Technology; and Abigail Thompson, Promotional Bulletin Board.  
  
The SkillsUSA competitions are off to an impressive start for BVT. Our students brought home a total of 82 medals, earning 31 Gold, 28 Silver, 23 Bronze, and 8 Sweeps at the district event. Congratulations! Our students will now compete at the SkillsUSA State Leadership and Skills Conference Championships held on our campus on Friday, May 2nd.  
The following students, organized by hometown, earned gold, silver, and bronze medals at the SkillsUSA Massachusetts District V Leadership Conference in February and March.

**BELLINGHAM**  
Gold: Tan Tran, Restaurant Service.  
Silver: Kiele Sarnie, Carpentry; and Matthew



Medallists of SkillsUSA competition

Skarin, Welding.  
**BLACKSTONE**  
Gold: Mia DelVecchio, Baking & Pastry Arts; Haley McKinnon, Photography; Isabella Olsen, Health Knowledge Bowl; and Ella Ruth, Welding.  
**DOUGLAS**  
Gold: Tyler Grybowski, Cyber Security; and Caitlin Kelly, First Aid/CPR.  
Silver: Celina Cutler, Health Knowledge Bowl; and Devin Drumheller, Mechatronics.  
Bronze: Leah Boudreau, Plumbing; Haley Chamberlain, Cosmetology (over 500 hours); and Sean Stevens, Mobile Robotics.  
**GRAFTON**  
Gold: Brooke Grabau, Welding Sculpture; Karolina Malkowski, Medical Math; Connor McInerney, HVAC/R; Cooper Often, Mechatronics; and Daniel Warfield, Electronics Technology.  
Silver: Luke Keenan, Health Knowledge Bowl; and Robert Lazo, Mechatronics.  
Bronze: Nathaniel Nelson, Technical Computer Applications; and Kaylee Schlanger, Natural Hair & Braiding.  
**HOPEDALE**  
Gold: Nathan Allen, Cyber Security; Gabrielle Griffin, Health Knowledge Bowl; and Ethan Novelli, Television (Video) Production.  
Silver: Ryan McGovern, Television (Video) Production; and Declan Reilly, Computer Programming.  
Bronze: Joe Bache, Photography; Evan Griffin, Internetworking; and Edward Holland, Robotics & Automation Tech.

**MENDON**  
Gold: KaylInn Bellefontaine, Nursing Assisting; Phoebe Burke, Robotics & Automation Tech; and Cassidy Lyon, Health Knowledge Bowl.  
Silver: Charles Lozeau, Mobile Robotics; Nathan Lucey, HVAC/R; and Aiden Quimby, Mobile Robotics.  
**MILFORD**  
State Officer Candidates: Maria Clara De Oliveira and Emily Kee.  
Gold: Jack Auger, Television (Video) Production; and Lacey Coffman, Advertising Design.  
Silver: Julien Awuku-Asante, Electronics Technology; Davi Dalla Dea, Additive Manufacturing; Matthew Naves, Technical Computer Applications; and Arianna Turner, Robotics & Automation Tech.  
Bronze: Olivia Guido, Painting & Design Technology; Anthony Pinsonault, Diesel Equipment Technology; and Dominic Quintino, Cyber Security.  
**MILLBURY**  
Gold: Ethan Ikeda, Carpentry; Robyn Repekta, Telecommunications Cabling; and Jonathan Tremblay, Diesel Equipment Technology.  
Silver: Lily Kelley, Advertising Design; and Gianna Piscitelli, Nail Care.  
Bronze: Gavin Quang, Medical Math; and Isabella Raymond, Nursing Assisting.  
**NORTHBRIDGE**  
Gold: Esther Alves, Robotics & Automation Tech; Tarek Bensellam, Internet of Things;

Sosie Derkosroffian, Medical Terminology; Zabel Derkosroffian, Technical Computer Applications; and Olivia Medina, Painting & Design Technology.  
Silver: Autumn Gromelski, Restaurant Service; and Victoria McKelvie, Health Knowledge Bowl.  
Bronze: Liliana Carpenter, Restaurant Service; Nora Layden, Medical Terminology; and Haley Marston, Dental Assistant.  
**SUTTON**  
Silver: Killian Farrer, Additive Manufacturing; Cole Garand, Diesel Equipment Technology; Keira Lavine, Robotics & Automation Tech; and Michael Osowski, Architectural Drafting.  
Bronze: Benjamin Hicks, Electronics Technology; and Owen Jolley, HVAC/R.  
**UPTON**  
Gold: Justin Fransen, Mechatronics; and Leila Leyvas, Health Knowledge Bowl.  
Silver: Alexa Ladd, Photography; and Makenna Walls, Health Knowledge Bowl.  
Bronze: Donnacha Lambert, Cyber Security; and Emma Langner, Mobile Robotics.  
**UXBRIDGE**  
Gold: Matteo Lame, Power Equipment Technology.  
Silver: Emily Blanding, Basic Health Care Skills; Matt Hicks, Television (Video) Production; and Julie LaFontaine, Painting & Design Technology.  
Bronze: Yaritza Ayala, Culinary Arts; and Gavin Scardino-Poillucci, Collision Repair Technology.



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# Healthier Baking in the Blackstone Valley

BY CHRISTINE GALEONE

In New England, many of us tend to be partial to classic desserts. But when two traditional desserts are combined to create a modern treat, the result can be irresistible. Such is the case with the brookie – a combination of a brownie and a chocolate chip cookie.

While it's believed to have been invented in the early 2000s, several bakers have taken credit for its creation. But no matter who originally combined the two treats, it has quickly become a beloved dessert around the world.

vitamins B5, B12 and B2.

The oats are whole grains that can provide energy. They also contain fiber, which is good for digestive health. And they're a heart-healthy ingredient – which contains vitamins, minerals and antioxidants – that can lower cholesterol.

## DOUBLE CHOCOLATE CHIP OATMEAL BROOKIES

### Cookie Ingredients:

1 ½ cups of old-fashioned or quick oats  
½ cup of dark chocolate chips  
¾ cup of flour



Although brookies are indulgent, it's possible to make them in a way that's significantly healthier. This recipe for double chocolate chip oatmeal brookies achieves that goal without sacrificing flavor.

In many brookie recipes, you'll find much more sugar. That's because most brownie recipes and most chocolate chip cookie recipes contain a lot of sugar. But with the dark chocolate chips and vanilla flavor, the brookies require less sugar to enhance the taste.

Cocoa and dark chocolate chips are rich in magnesium and antioxidants. Additionally, cocoa contains selenium, iron, zinc and theobromine. Because of this, cocoa can help increase immunity, improve cognition, and it can improve muscle and nerve function. The selenium in cocoa may also help reduce the side effects from radiation therapy in people fighting cancer. Cocoa's flavonols and polyphenols also reduce the risk of heart disease. Finally, eggs, which are filled with nutrients, are excellent sources of protein, selenium,

¼ cup of brown sugar  
¼ cup of granulated sugar  
1 large egg  
½ tsp. of baking soda  
1/4 tsp. of salt (omit if using salted butter)  
1 tsp. of vanilla extract  
½ cup (1 stick) of butter (slightly softened)\*

### Directions:

In a large mixing bowl, mix together the dry ingredients (except the oats and chocolate chips).

In a separate large mixing bowl, cream the butter, brown sugar and sugar together. Add the egg and vanilla to the butter mixture, and mix well.

Gradually combine the mixed dry ingredients with the mixed wet ingredients. Fold in the oats and chocolate chips.

\*If cholesterol is an issue, you can use a plant-based butter like olive oil butter.

### Brownie Ingredients:

½ cup of unsifted all-purpose flour  
1/3 cup of unsweetened cocoa  
1 tsp. baking powder  
½ cup of sugar  
½ cup of light tasting olive oil

1 tsp. of pure almond extract  
2 eggs  
½ cup of dark chocolate chips

### Directions:

Combine flour, cocoa and baking powder in a large bowl.

In a separate bowl, combine sugar, olive oil and almond extract.

Add eggs to the mixture, and beat well with a spoon.

In a few increments, add the dry mixture to the wet mixture. Blend together with a spoon.

Mix in dark chocolate chips.

Pour batter into an 8"X8" baking pan.

### Brookie Directions:

Scoop large spoonfuls of cookie dough onto the brownie mixture. Spread it evenly throughout the top of the pan.

Bake in a pre-heated oven at 350 degrees for around 30-35 minutes. Brownie base should begin to pull away from the edges of the pan, and the cookie top should be golden brown.

Let cool until warm.

Cut into about 16 squares, and enjoy!

It astounds me that this is the first time I've made brookies. But I hope to make many more. If you enjoy brownies and oatmeal chocolate chip cookies, there's a good chance you'll feel the same. Happy (healthier) baking!

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Honors: Savannah Allen, Liam Anderson, Emily Andrade, Shaya Birnkrant, Keira Boratyn, Alexis Cao, Gabriella Carvalho, Eliana Choma, Alexa DiGennaro, Annabeth Drummond, Thomas Edmunds, Ryan Elliott, Danika Eykman, Kyle Favela, Austin Healy, Ian Jakubiak, Irellyn Kerrssey, Aubrey Koneczny, Cooper Langevin,

Wyatt Learned, Conor Lynch, Ryder Magnuson, Joshua McGarry, Martin Mikhail, Haleigh Mitchell, Ethan Most, Angelleyez Muham-mad, Katherine Nunnemacher, Dylan O'Mara, Katherine Patraitis, Benjamin Pawlak, Lily Selvitelli, Jonathan Silva, Ava Slivka, Haley Teixeira, Caitlyn Timlege, Elena Vernon, Anna Wence, Lillian Wheeler, Caitlyn Williams, Peyton Winchell

### TENTH GRADE

High Honors: Samuel Borowski, Isaac Bradley, Vivien Bregman, Lyla Carlsen, Courtney Clemens, Michael Ettamarna, Emma Fisher, Mina Gallo, Alexis Gemme, Lilly Kasputis, Louis Kong, Lea Lamoreaux, Kate Lavine, Joshua Leary, Hadyn MacNeil, Elijah McNeil,

Isaac Moore, Matthew Mulderig, John O'Leary, Collin O'Rourke, Max Perry, Bronwyn Petkus, Elizabeth Reid-Eriksen, Jack Thompson

Honors: Catherine Brigham, Oliver Bush, Joseph Casillo, Victoria Chambers, Ella Conners, Day-seane DaSilva, Evan Fisher, Troy Georgiopoulos, Chloe Goldman, Kaydence Green, Sama Hamoudi, Kaleigh Hunting, Nylah Johnson, Liam Kane, Liberty Kendrick, Max Kinne, Griffin Kiesel, Joseph LaPlante, Baraka Lawndi, Ethan Leveille, Evelyn LoCastro, Leen Melhem, Karan Patel, Mckenna Perry, Sophia Quill, Ana Sarsfield, Patrick Stadinski, Edith Tufts

### ELEVENTH GRADE

High Honors: Claire Acocelli,

Wesley Anderson, Abraham Auciello, Allison DaSilva, McKenzie Elliott, Alexander Ettamarna, Sarah Gouvea, Palmer Graff, Gianna Greco, Nishtha Khanna, Jocelyn Klinghard, Annabella Lamoreaux, Emma Logue, Ava Magnuson, Leah Medeiros, Brady Pitts, Joseph Prado, Julianna Strassner, Gwenyth Sumner, Kaila Wheeler

Honors: Charles Anderson, Kayleen Boratyn, Luca Briggs, Isabella Caban, Jahaira Castillo, Christina DeCell, Ryan Dennis, Landon Dresser, Zachary Duca, Jaiden Forrest, Eliana Gledhill, Malacki Green, Julia Hemingway, Sam Hicks, Abigail Jankins, Jackson Kehowski, Kyle Kolofsky, Grace Kozaczka, Aubrey LaPointe, Emma Leveille, Natalie Loughlin, Raunika Malhotra, Joseph Malo, Jeremy McGarry, Sarah Mendoza, Nover Mikhail, Oliver Morgan-Smith Cline, Kevin Morin, Dermot Noone, Madelyn Nunnemacher, Jack Patraitis, Erin Prior, Launa Rattanavong, Fabiola Rivera-Vazquez, Maeve Rogan, Jack Rosenfield, Cody Ruth, Andrew Smith, Giselle St. Pierre

### TWELFTH GRADE

High Honors: Ryder Glidden, Aria Healy, Jayden Jeffries, Molly Jenkins, Addison Jerome, Anna Joseph, Jocelyn Lannon, Madisyn Lucia, Logan Newton, David Potkonjak, Dakota Shugrue, Connor Smith, Zoey Szydluk

Honors: Mallory Barnes, Jacob Bastardo, Cameron Benedict, Katelyn Briggs, Christopher Campbell, Madeline Cyronak, Audie Deshais, Ryan Doolin, Wesley Dykstra, Karolina Eykman, Harry Galanis, Elise Gaul, Liam Gervickas, Reagan Giguere, Riley Giguere, Carley Gopfert, Katelynn Graham, Samantha Grant, Allison Hastings, Emma-Rose Heldenbergh, Jasper Herbert, Zachary Hicks, Gwyneth Johnson, Madeline Joyce, Andrew Kalvinek, Camryn Kinne, Amsden Klinghard, Amelia Lannon, Koda Mannino, Hunter Miller, Emma Nolan, Harllen Riyah Orofino, Arielle Powell, Hannah Pratt, Katerina Quill, Madysen Raskett, Kole Rumford, Sydney Scott, Evan Spencer, Sadie Stadinski, Annika Stockhaus, Nathan Sullivan, Emma Temple, Karma Trusell, Dylan Welch, Ryan White, Alexa Xhengo, Dantey Yantin

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## Emergency Shelter Has New Help for Homeless

The Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter is continually looking for ways to help those who are experiencing homelessness in our Valley. We have two new opportunities where you might consider volunteering. We have started a new program called "Baskets of Hope," which will provide laundry services to those experiencing homelessness. The volunteer commitment is once a month.

The shelter has announced the launch of a new initiative to support the homeless by offering free laundry services once a month. If you are interested in supporting or volunteering, please reach out via email to bv.emergency.shelter@gmail.com or call 508-266-5122.

Bvemercencyshelter.org.

Mission - to give people in an emergency situation a safe place to

stay.

The BV Emergency Shelter has provided shelter to those in need for the past eight years. The organization works with individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or an emergency situation.


The BV Emergency Shelter will be a safe place that links people in stressful situations to providers of services that could include a warming shelter, job training, addiction support, facilities for personal hygiene, mentoring, counseling and consistent accountability.

Our objective is not only to provide temporary assistance but to walk with individual and families in their adverse circumstances.

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## OBITUARY

**Hannelore Amelia Pacheco (Kuhlmann), 95**, formerly of Holbrook, known affectionately as Hanna to her friends and family, passed away peacefully of natural causes on May 1, 2025, in Raynham, Massachusetts. Born on December 8, 1929, in Mecklenburg, Germany, she was a beacon of adventurous spirit, generosity, and captivating charm throughout her 95 years.

Hanna's early years in Germany were marked by an appreciation for the great outdoors, a passion that only grew as she did. Her love for ice skating, skiing, and hiking was matched by her talent in each, and became an integral part of her life. Her melodious voice found a home at The Boylston Schul-Verein, Walpole, a German Club, where she joined the singing choir, and she sang with gusto and joy, sharing her culture and zest for life with all those around her.

A master of the garden, Hanna cultivated beauty and life in the soil of her home in Holbrook, creating an oasis that reflected the care and attention she gave to every aspect of her life. Her gardens were a symbol of her nurturing soul, a

trait that extended into her relationships with her loved ones.

She is reunited in eternity with her husband, Manuel Costa Pacheco, her mother Dora Becker, and her sister, Ursula Clark, whom she cherished deeply. Hannelore leaves behind a legacy of love carried on by her children Bruce Pacheco and wife Beth, Mark Pacheco and wife Linda, and Michelle McSherry and husband George, her grandchildren Jonathan, Lauren, Emily, Hannah, Katelyn, Shane and Joshua and her great-grandchildren Evelyn and Kellan. Each family member carries forward a piece of Hanna's extraordinary legacy through their own lives.

Those who knew Hanna will remember her as a woman who embraced life's challenges with a remarkable blend of strength and grace. Her generous nature knew no bounds, and she was always the first to offer help to anyone in need. Her life was a tapestry of experiences that made her one of the most interesting and engaging individuals to be around.

Hanna's passing leaves a void in the hearts of all



who loved her, but her spirit remains a guiding light. Her adventurous tales, her laughter in the chorus, and the beauty of her gardens will continue to inspire and comfort her family and friends. Hannelore Amelia Pacheco's life was one well-lived, full of passion and kindness, and she will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A private memorial service honoring her life will be held at Cartwright funeral followed by burial at Blue Hills cemetery.

The family would like to thank Old Colony Hospice of West Bridgewater for their compassionate care. Memorial contributions may be sent in lieu of flowers to Old Colony Hospice, 321 Manley St. West Bridgewater, MA 02379.

[www.oldcolonyhospice.org](http://www.oldcolonyhospice.org)

## Minuteman Bike Race Wheels Back to Sutton

The Minuteman Road Club in conjunction with USA cycling will sponsor a bicycle race in Sutton on Saturday, June 14. Participants will park at the Sutton schools, and will head off on the race in groups. The club is working with local police on safety for the race and will also be working to clean up unsafe gravel areas to prevent bicyclist injuries. Roads will not be blocked off for the

race. The group is asking residents to take extra care along the route. They will also be making a \$1,000 donation to the Sutton Food Pantry and will ask participants to bring food donations for the pantry as well. More information will be available soon now that the select board has given permission for the race.

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BY AMY PALUMBO-LECLAIRE

I'm getting attached. I've fallen in love with a spunky puppy who's turned three and stolen my heart. I've watched him learn how to swim, catch a frisbee on the fly, and study ants. I've admired the magnificent way he soars across a frozen pond, and skids freely while I holler his name. "Lewwwk! Come!"

The emphatic tone of the com-

LIVING WITH LUKE

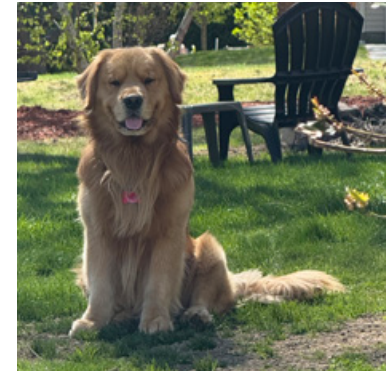
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A Potent Kind of Love

mand resonates. He freezes and spins back towards me. "Don't worry, Momma! I was just exploring the winter lake!" He settles down at my feet, lifts his head high and brandishes a wolfish smile. "Life is so good." I massage his ears and compliment him. "You're the best boy, Luke. Thank you for listening. Mummy doesn't want to lose you."

It's true. Luke is a big part of my life now. I don't want to lose him.

A dog's life is short. Dog parents sign up knowing this—even those who have experienced multiple passings. The joy of owning and sharing a life with a dog seems to supersede the pain of losing one. Nonetheless, the loss is nearly unbearable. Regardless



of our dog's age, we are never ready to say good-bye.

Ten years is considered an average life span for a Golden, with some



studies suggesting that a decade is considered generous. Luke laps a wedge of blueberry scone from the palm of my hand. He's trying so hard to "be easy" these days. He lowers his head like a lamb's while I pet him. "Maybe you can give me just one more piece to reinforce a learned habit."

Ten years? My pup is already three and we have so much more to accomplish. There are beaches and rivers and friendships to soak up. There are trails and bunnies and football games to follow. His gaze rests on the last piece of scone. Luke is unconcerned with the doom and gloom of his too-short life, or the fact that his mom will suffer a numbing, hollow pain, one redeemed only by strange, erratic dreams. What just happened? Where's Luke? Oh, not this. My dog. Sigh.

"You're having a good day, aren't you, Luke?" He lifts a paw to agree. "Every day is a good day when we're together Momma." Luke does not concentrate on suffering. He has people to see and places to go. That's what got me thinking.

Dogs Live in the Moment

Dogs naturally live every day as though it's their last. Have you ever noticed how grateful a dog is to be a part of the simplest of routines? "I GET TO COME ON A CAR RIDE WITH YOU!!!!" He barrels down the stairs when I give him the affirmative signal, the jingle of his leash and a high-pitched voice. "Luke can come to." It doesn't matter where we're headed, but only that we are together. Traffic jams are simply an opportunity to see drivers up-close.

"Hey, Mom—that lady is laughing at me." I notice him tilt his head to the driver behind us. Indeed, her smile is lavish. I explain to him that adult drivers love to see dogs in cars. "The sight of a cute dog is a welcome surprise and respite from road rage. She's not laughing at you, she's just happy to see you, Luke." His frozen stare becomes a smile. "If you think I'm cute, you ought to see my Daddy."

Dogs Receive and Give Freely.

In life, giving often feels better

LUKE

continued on page 17

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## REAL ESTATE

# Do You Think the Housing Market's About To Crash? Read This First!

Lately, it feels like a lot of people have been asking the same question: "Is the housing market about to crash?" If you've been scrolling through social media or



BY MARK MARZEOTTI

watching the news, you might have seen some pretty scary headlines yourself. That's why it's no surprise that, about 70% of Americans are worried about a housing crash in 2025. But before you hit pause on your plans to buy or sell a home,

take a deep breath. The truth is: the housing market isn't about to crash – it's just shifting, and that shift actually works in your favor.

Today's Inventory Keeps the Housing Market from Crashing. Economists are saying, there's just generally not enough supply. There are more people than housing inventory. It's Econ 101. Think about it. If there's a shortage of something – like tickets to a popular concert – prices go up. That's what's been happening with homes. We still have a shortage of supply. Too many buyers and not enough homes push prices higher. Even though the number of homes for sale is climbing, data from Realtor.com shows we're still well below normal levels.

That ongoing low supply is what's stopping home prices from

dropping at the national level. Again, economists are saying "... if there's a shortage, prices simply cannot crash."

More homes for sale means price growth is easing, and, as more homes become available, that takes some of the intense upward pressure off home price growth – leading to healthier price appreciation. So, while prices aren't falling nationally, growing inventory means they also aren't rising as fast as they were. What we're seeing is price moderation and that moderation should continue through the rest of this year. In 2025, you should expect the pace of house price appreciation to moderate from the levels seen in 2024, while still maintaining a positive track. Put simply, that means prices will continue going up in most areas,

just not as quickly. That's good news for anyone who's been having trouble finding a home and feeling sticker shock from the rapid price appreciation of the past few years. But of course, what's happening with prices and inventory is going to vary by local market. So, talk to

The Marzeotti Group or another trusted agent to find out what's happening where you live. Don't let the talk scare you. Experts agree that a housing market crash is unlikely in 2025.

## LUKE

*continued from page 16*

than receiving. The "giver" receives a surge of joy when presenting a gift to a loved one. "I thought of you when I saw that stuffed bunny on the shelf. I know how much you love to watch them in our yard, so I found you one. This brand is known for the longest chew time, too." We pat ourselves on the back and glimmer with a giver's high. Here's the truth. A stranger could offer your dog a cardboard box and he will be just as happy to receive it. "I love boxes!! Especially square Amazon boxes!! Let me at it!" The box will move and bounce like a live cartoon while he wrestles. Dogs are fully and naturally appreciative. They give and receive freely.

**In a dog's world, giving is natural. Receiving matters just as much.**

Our dogs provide us with intangible gifts, the stuff money can't buy. They give us their time, companionship, unconditional love, loyalty and affection. We give back all of this,

along with a forever home. When we are sad, we need to think about all that our dogs have received. Like them, we need to be grateful.

Where would Luke be without all that he's received from me? What if a different family with a different lifestyle didn't realize that he has a mild case of claustrophobia? "These people are cool, but these four walls are getting old." What if he sat crated all day long? He'd scratch at the latch, I imagine, and find a way to free himself. Then, like an episode from Lassie, he'd run and run along back roads and find his way back to me. "Luke!! I missed you so much!" We'd roll around on the ground like a pair of fools.

Right now, I don't have to miss Luke or worry about the future. I have today. We have today! He curls up on his bed like a fox, tail wrapped around his mouth. "Love you, Luke." I collapse by his bedside and snuggle for a few moments. Then I fluff up his blankets on the floor, in case he wants to change positions throughout the night.

Luke will receive rich and priceless gifts from me each day, until he's

ready for his last. Life is too short for my gloom. We will stay blessed by a life lived out loud—and with a potent kind of love. (I still pray that this meatball will reach a solid nineteen).

Write to Amy:  
amyleclaire@hotmail.com  
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# of bedrooms	Rent*	Minimum Income Requirement**
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2 BR	\$1728	\$51,600
3 BR	\$1851	\$55,400

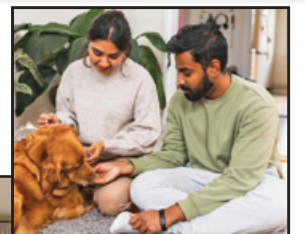
\*Rent may be adjusted based on annual income limits provided by HUD.  
\*\*Minimum Income Requirement does not apply to households receiving housing assistance such as Section 8 or MRVP.

#### Eligibility Requirements:

- Must meet all income and background eligibility requirements under the Tenant Selection Plan approved by EOHLC.
- Minimum 1 person per BR

Maximum Income per Person/People Household Size  
(2024 limits, provided by Worcester MA, HUD Metro Area)

1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people
\$68,500	\$78,250	\$88,050	\$97,800	\$105,650	\$113,450



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## TALES FROM BEYOND

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# The Glowing Stone and the Ghost Girl

BY THOMAS D'AGOSTINO

The strange paranormal events that transpired in St. Stephen's Cemetery in Attleborough, Massachusetts, established in 1889, caused nationwide attention. So much so, that it was said to be on the show, Unsolved Mysteries. Although the segment aired a long time ago, some of the locals still living in the area remember cars reportedly lined on both sides of the street full of paranormal enthusiasts, thrill seekers and legend trippers all

there to see for themselves, the legend of the glowing stone.

The marker is not any special elaborate monument or anything that would immediately stand out from the rest of the headstones or memorials. Yet, the stone (name withheld out of respect) has been heavily studied and investigated by paranormal researchers and scientists alike. It was proven that the stone would glow with a greenish hue around dusk and into the early twilight. Fantastic accounts of people witnessing the sun's rays dipping below the ho-

rizon while the memorial would begin to ooze with light on its own accord. Investigators of various sciences gathered and tried many experiments, including turning the stone to dispel the possibility of an outside reflection being cast upon the marker. This was to no avail as the stone still emitted the now famous light. After returning it to its original position, the stone took on a reddish hue for several days before returning to its familiar green glow.

The date of decease on the stone are 1962 and 1964 which means the phenomena began sometime after the stone was put into place in the 1960s. From then until recently, the legend of the glowing stone has sent scores of people on a pilgrimage to witness the uncanny event. Alas, recent reports state the stone no longer glows, but that has not stopped some from visiting in hopes of perhaps an encore performance of the green glow.

If one does not witness the glowing stone, perhaps they will get a visit from one of the resident ghosts of the cemetery. The road that goes to the left of the giant cross leads toward the rear of the cemetery where Eugene (1881-1924), his wife Albertine (1888-1936), their son Ernest (1918-2002) and two year old Doris Doucette (1917-1919) are buried under a monument bearing their names. Eugene and Albertine had six children in all, but only two are buried with them. One of them, Doris, seems to enjoy greeting visitors who happen to wander into that section of the cemetery.

There are numerous reports of a child's footprints left in the wet grass or on the pavement. Other reports include the sound of footsteps that resemble a small child walking or skipping. The sound usually follows people as they walk down the road near Doris's resting place. Some have heard the laughter of a small child near

the grave as well.

The ghost of Doris also appears every now and then. Her apparition appears near her grave and then vanishes into thin air. Witnesses have also seen the ghosts of who they believe are Albertine and Eugene roaming around their gravestone, probably looking for Doris as she frolics among the tombstones looking for someone to play with. Whether The ghosts know the living are there, or just appearing and disappearing at random is anyone's guess. Perhaps they are just eternally passing time, a mom and dad spending the afterlife with the daughter they lost so young. If you should happen to visit the cemetery and see any one of the ghosts of Eugene, Albertine, or Doris, you may want to make an attempt to ask them why they linger in the place where their mortal frame is interred. Who knows, you might just get an answer.



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## SPORTS

# Baseball Has Been His Life

BY CRISTOPHER TREMBLAY,  
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

James Tindall began playing baseball at an early age and found that he loved the sport so much that he wished that he continuous play the sport for eternity.

"It's a fun game that I never get tired of and I seem to be pretty decent at," he said. "If I could play baseball all the time, that would be really great."

As the Grafton athlete is completing his final season with the Gators, he is looking forward to moving on. Tindall will be attending Bryant University in North Smithfield, RI in the fall, unfortunately he is unsure of what the Division 1 school holds for him in terms of his baseball career.

"Bryant is a good school and definitely the one that I wanted to go to for academics (Accounting), but right now I'm not committed to play baseball for them," Tindall said. "I'm still going to keep my options open and continue to keep in touch with the baseball program. I think that my off-speed stuff may impress the coaches and if I put on some muscle back on I may have a shot."

If for some reason he can not play for the Bulldogs on the collegiate level, he may seek out a club program.

According to Grafton coach Brian Andersen, baseball has been the senior's main focus his entire life and Tindall always had aspirations of pitching on the collegiate level, but at this moment he realizes that school is important.

Growing up, the Grafton native always found himself to be bigger than the majority of his peers, so he gravitated toward first base, a position that he says called out to him.

"Being a bigger individual, both height and weight wise, first base seemed to be the perfect position for me," he said. "All the first basemen that I saw on the college and professional levels all seemed to be bigger – it made sense that I fit right in at the position."

Playing for the Evolution Baseball Club out of West Boylston, Tindall was introduced to pitch-

something that would have never happened if not for my coaches putting me there."



ing, something that he had never considered before. Young baseball athletes are moved around the field into different positions all the time and while playing for the U12 team, Tindall was asked to give pitching a try and it was love at first sight.

"Pitching just happened; it wasn't something that I was looking for. Once I got involved with it I found that I was in love with the position and wanted to develop and get advice on improving my pitches," Tindall said. "The position definitely has self-motivation and I wanted to be on the mound, but it's

Approximately two years after being introduced to pitching, Tindall found that he was doing quite well and it occurred to him at that moment in time that baseball may be a lifelong experience for him. With that thought process running through his mind, he decided to focus on pitching and made it a priority to develop a curveball and

change up while working on getting better. He also knew that as he aged he was going to have to keep his pitching awareness ahead of the batters if he wanted to continue to stay successful.

Upon entering high school, he knew that he wanted to play baseball for Grafton, but being a shy and nervous person he didn't know how he'd do at tryouts. Although he didn't earn a full-time position with the varsity team he was put on the junior varsity squad as a swing player where he got the opportunity to sit on the varsity bench and was able to get into three games as a pitcher giving up a couple of hits and no runs.

"As a freshman on the mound looking down at hitters that were like 6'4" and 200 pounds it was really shocking," he said. "Luckily I was ready and confident to attack them. They may have been scary looking on the outside, but not on the inside so it didn't intimidate me."

Entering his sophomore season the team was hit with a pitching crisis and Tindall was thrust into position of being the team's ace on the hill. Once again, he didn't let the narrative disturb him and he went on to have a great season, one in which his confidence on the varsity level expanded.

While on an upward trend in the sport, Tindall was hit with something that he did not see coming. Near the end of the season he found that he was having some stomach issues, so his coach thought.

"He was forcing himself to eat, but just couldn't keep anything down," Andersen said. "It wasn't until his travel coach called me to let me know the stomach issues were still happening that really alarmed me. James had lost about 100 pounds at that point."

Tindall went and saw a doctor and was diagnosed with an eating disorder and over four months he lost 90 pounds without even trying to; the Gator pitcher said it was a low point in his life.

"I had uncharacteristically thrown up and it struck me hard, causing me not wanting to eat," he said. "I was only eating about 200 calories a day while still playing baseball in the heat of the summer and I really wasn't drinking a lot either."

After finally seeing a doctor who Tindall said pushed him in the right direction, tracking his eating habits and seeing him once a week. Now he is feeling much better and looking to gain back some of the weight that he lost during the ordeal.

"When I returned to the team this year, I felt really strange. I have always been big my whole life and now I'm the same size of all my peers – it was weird," he said. "But I'm gaining some weight and my energy level is coming back."

Andersen is glad that his ace is alright and getting back to his old self.

"He's been the heartbeat of our team the last three years, pitching over 100 innings and getting a lot of the quality starts," the Grafton coach said. "He's always had a good three pitch mix that keeps batters off balance. Originally we were unsure that he was going to be able to pitch this year, but he's back and pitching well."

Thus far, at the time of this writing, Tindall has notched two complete games, throwing 19 innings while only allowing 14 hits, walking 7 batters and striking out 17 and has not allowed an earned run. The team is 8-4 and the pitcher is confident that the Gators can make a run through the tournament.

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## How to Handle a Random Misfire

**Q.** My GMC Terrain has been diagnosed with a random misfire. The dealer told me it is the gas I am using and they will need to do some major disassembly to solve the problem. The engine runs fine and has this occasional check engine light. What can be done, without taking the engine apart?

**A.** Gas quality can be part of the issue, and it makes sense when you can to use TopTier gasoline. But I also believe at the heart of these problems is direct fuel injection systems that seem to allow more combustion chamber carbon buildup. This is due to the way fuel is injected directly into the combustion chamber, which doesn't allow the fuel to clean the valves as it does in traditional port injection engines. In the past I have had good luck solving this issue running fuel cleaner directly into a large vacuum port. There are solvents and special adapters made just for this purpose.

**Q.** I have a Ford Edge 2013 with 228,000 miles on it. It runs well and was at the time of purchase, fitted with all the latest amenities, so I'm enjoying the car for the next period of its life after my wife drove it for eleven years. It has a disturbing hesitation that at first my mechanic thought might be gas related and recommended an additive, but this did not work, and the problem persisted. The car checked out on the computer, and I said it felt as if it might be a transmission slip issue. I've become less concerned about it and, so far, has not gotten worse with time. It occurs while entering an on ramp that requires the car to

accelerate under load and climb, but it rectifies itself in seconds. What do you think I am experiencing with my trusty Ford Edge? I'd like to continue to drive it. Am I furthering damage by driving it under its present condition? I don't want to spend too much money given the age of the car.

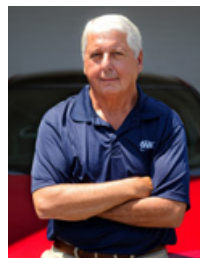
**A.** I would road test the car with your mechanic so they can experience exactly what you are experiencing. At 12 years old, it certainly could be a transmission issue which is not uncommon in this vehicle. The other possibility is the fuel system could be at fault. A weak fuel pump could also be a possibility. At this point you will need to go back to the repair shop for additional diagnostic testing, which should include a test of fuel pressure under load. The question, are you doing additional damage by continuing to drive the car? If it is the transmission the cost to repair it will be the same now or later, if and when the symptoms get worse.

**Q.** What causes my Kia Soul to use so much oil? There are no leaks so I brought the car to the Kia Dealership and they said they could not do anything until the motor seized up. How stupid is that!

**A.** The issue with many Kia/Hyundai engines is the piston rings gum up and allow oil to bypass the oil rings and be consumed during combustion. Typically, the dealer will start with an oil consumption test. They will change the oil and have you come back in 1000 miles. If the oil is still at or near the full mark, Kia considers the oil consumption normal. If the oil is low, then the dealer will try an engine cleaning. This cleaning is supposed to remove the build up at the rings. My experience is that

this procedure, which is necessary for warranty works, almost never works. If after the cleaning the engine still uses oil, and the car is under warranty, the engine gets replaced.

**Q.** I have a 1966 Ford Falcon convertible that my wife originally got in 1974. It is a car that does not get driven enough.



BY JOHN PAUL

I have been lucky over the years to not have massive repair bills, but I have always been concerned about being overcharged and whether the work being done is by capable mechanics/shops. Or maybe I just expect better customer service or better service overall. I prefer to have someone close since when something must be done it always needs overnight or multiple days in the shop. Again, is that normal or can the service be better?

**A.** This is a great car, relatively simple to repair with easily available parts. The problem as you found is that good shops are busy. Back when shops had plenty of help, classic cars were a great fill in work, especially in winter. Today with less quality shops and the challenges of finding qualified staff, almost no one has time for classic car work that can take up valuable shop/bay space. As warm weather comes around go to car shows (look for Ford owners) and ask around you may find some leads.

**CAR DOCTOR**  
continued on page 21

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# Free 2025 Vessel Safety Check

At Wallum Lake Boat Ramp, Saturday, June 14 at Douglas State Forest, Douglas or Memorial Beach Boat Ramp, Saturday, June 21 at Nipmuc Cove, Webster Lake, MA

Bring any type of watercraft from kayaks, canoes, PWCs, sailboats, cabin cruisers, to ski & pontoon boats for a stem to stern check of equipment for compliance

Weather- related rescheduling will be the following Sunday, same time, and location.

Vessel Examiners are qualified and experienced to answer any boating related questions or concerns along with being trained to spot any potential problems. They will award your vessel with a 2023 VSC decal if it meets Auxiliary standards on items such as: registration & hull numbering,

to federal and state safety regulations. Vessels can be inspected on a trailer as well as afloat.

Trailered vessels, not having Webster access sticker and not launching, can be examined at the entrance gate to Memorial Ramp. Personal watercraft, not allowed to launch at the Wallum Lake Ramp on weekends, can also be examined at the gate. Both locations can accommodate boats arriving by water. The stations will be active from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

life jackets, fire extinguishers, expiration dates on flares (if required), working navigation lights, overall vessel condition, etc. A VSC is conducted only with your consent; no reports are filed with any law enforcement agency. There are no citations, legal obligations, or penalties on violations or potential problems found. A VSC decal may result in a boat insurance discount and will indicate to law enforcement on the water that your vessel complies with safety regulations.

## CAR DOCTOR

continued from page 20

My 2018 Subaru Outback info screen has been beeping and changing stations on its own, sometimes the screen freezes and I cannot do anything. There is no rhyme or reason to when it happens. I have searched several YouTube videos and so far, everything I tried is temporary. Help!

This is an issue we see in many vehicles that have infotainment screens. Just like with a computer tablet over time the touch screen can get wonky. With your Subaru and many other vehicles, the issue is the screen itself and the fix is to replace it. The screen delaminates and causes the phantom changes. There was a class action lawsuit but as far as I know it did not go anywhere.

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The Examiner will give the vessel owner options and information on correcting any issues. Often a quick trip to the nearest boating supply vendor is all that is necessary to obtain missing safety items and easily pass a re-inspection, sometimes on the same day. Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examiners will be around the local lakes at various, un-scheduled times during the boating season; they are few in number and not readily available inland.

If you cannot make it to the station, schedule a VSC online at the link: [VesselSafetyCheck.org](http://VesselSafetyCheck.org)  
It is best to take advantage of

this scheduled opportunity and start your boating season with a visit to our station, and a 2025 VSC decal.

Staffed by Tri-State Flotilla 10-2

US Coast Guard Auxiliary VSC Station personnel.



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NOTE: Community bulletin board-type items are welcome for inclusion in the Happenings! section of the Xpress newspapers. Please allow enough lead time for publication. Email your calendar or event notice to [news@theyankeeexpress.com](mailto:news@theyankeeexpress.com).

**MONDAY, MAY 26**  
• St. Patrick's Church, 7 East Street, Whitinsville will hold a Memorial Day Breakfast before the town's parade. It will be served from 8-10 a.m. Delicious pancakes,

scrambled eggs, orange juice and more will be served. Veterans meals are offered free of charge. There will be a 50/50 raffle. The breakfast is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Mumford Council #365. For more information, call 508-234-5656.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7**  
• Saint Peter's Parish in Northbridge will be holding a Yard Sale on Saturday, June 7, 7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the parish hall, 39 Church Avenue, Northbridge. If you are moving, spring cleaning or just have too much clutter, bring us your gently used items for our yard sale. You may drop-off your donations every Saturday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. starting April 26 through May 17, to the parish garage, behind the church. We are accepting kitchen items, home goods, toys, books, small furniture items, clothing, that is not ripped or stained and much more. Please see our website for a

complete list of what we are accepting. You may also call 508-234-2156 or email the parish office: [parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org) if you have any questions.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8**  
• The New England Country Music Club will hold a dance with the live classic band "Angela West & Showdown" at the Progressive Club, 18 Whitin Street, Uxbridge. Doors open at 12:15 p.m., Live music from 1-5 p.m. Snacks may be brought in, cash bar for beverages.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 12**  
• The Annual Meeting of the Millbury Historical Society will be held at the Asa Waters Mansion, 123 Elm Street, Millbury at 6 p.m. After the business meeting, the featured program of "Five Millbury Families" will be presented. The families featured this year are the Pearsons, the Bailey/Mazzeos, the Stowes, the Hills and the Buck Brothers. All

are invited and refreshments will be served.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 13**  
• The Uxbridge Senior Center, 36 South Main Street, Uxbridge, is hosting a Father's Day party for Uxbridge dads. The celebration starts at 12 p.m. Sponsored by the Elderly Connection with entertainment provided by the Uxbridge Cultural Council. RSVP required, 508-278-8622

**SATURDAY, JUNE 14**  
• The Sutton Historical Society Inc. will host the annual Town-Wide Yard Sale from 8 a.m. 1 p.m., rain or shine. The registration fee is \$10. Registration forms are available at [sutton1704.org](http://sutton1704.org) and must be received by Friday, May 30. Participants can either set up at their home address or request a spot at the M.M. Sherman Blacksmith Shop, 6 Singletary Avenue, Sutton. Theo society creates and distributes location maps identifying all participating location to assist visitors with locating all yard sales. Send questions to [sutton1704@gmail.com](mailto:sutton1704@gmail.com). The Sutton Historical Society is a 501c3 organization.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 15**  
• The theme of the 2025 Millbury Fourth of July Parade is "A Community Celebrates!" The parade will start at Millbury High School, 12 Martin Street at 1 p.m. and end at Windle Field.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 21**  
• Join family and friends for a stuffed chicken dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Parish Hall, 39 Church Avenue, Northbridge. Tickets are \$17 per dinner and include salad and dessert. To go meals will be available for pick-up at 5 p.m. All orders must be purchased in advance by Tuesday, June 16. Call 508-234-2156 or email the parish office: [parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org) for orders and tickets.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25**  
• Uxbridge Spartan Basketball is having a one-time only golf fundraiser to raise money for scoreboards at Hecla Street basketball courts at Blissful Meadows, 801 Chocolog Road, Uxbridge. The cost is \$175 per golfer or \$400 for a foursome. Registration opens at 8 a.m. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. Please make checks payable to Uxbridge Spartan Basketball Association, P.O. Box 386, North Uxbridge, MA 01538. The organization is a 501c3 charity. Sponsor opportunities are available: hole/tee sign \$200; beverage cart \$500; or registration table \$1000. You can also register at <https://tinyurl.com/USBAGolf>.  
• The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce will hold its Business After Hours Networking Event from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Murder Hill Brewery & Taproom at 670 Linwood Avenue, Building C, Whitinsville. Murder Hill is an exciting local brewery nestled within the historic Linwood Mill complex. Enjoy a relaxed and lively evening of networking, with local craft brews on tap and delicious bar bites. Admission is \$20 for members and \$40 for future members. RSVP by June 23 to Liz O'Neil at 508-234.9090 ext. 102 or via email at [lonel@blackstonevalley.org](mailto:lonel@blackstonevalley.org)

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28**  
• A Basic Life Support and First Aid Class will be offered beginning at 8 a.m. in St. Peter's Parish Hall, 39 Church Avenue, Northbridge. This class is for newcomers and those looking for re-certification. Learn valuable lifesaving skills. Training is done by the American Heart Association. The class is \$89 per person and must be paid in advance when you register. Class size is limited. Please register by Monday, June 23. Call 508-234-2156 or email the parish office: [parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org) for more information.

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Steve Walason - July 17  
Steven George - August 7  
Stefan Couture - August 14  
Tyler Fauxbel - August 21  
Missy Maxfield - August 28

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### AQUANETT

May 23

### PAPER IN FIRE

May 24

### COMEDY NIGHT AT SLATERS

June 19

### TICKET 2 RIDE

July 10

## Flag Day Celebration

Veterans Luncheon and Cruise

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025

12PM: WATERFRONT LUNCHEON  
1:30PM - 3PM: INDIAN PRINCESS CRUISE

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## Prayer



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil (intention), Amen.

If you pray three times a day, three consecutive days, you will receive your intention, no matter how impossible it may seem. Praise and Thanksgiving please the Heart of God.

Believer





## BVCC's Beloved "Ladies On The Lake" Event Returns June 12

The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce's (BVCC) Women's Success Network (WSN) is thrilled to announce the return of its signature Summer event—Ladies On The Lake—on the serene evening of Thursday, June 12 aboard the spectacular Indian Princess, docked at Indian Ranch, 200 Gore Road, Webster. Boarding begins at 5:15 p.m., with the cruise running from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. A rain date is scheduled for June 26.

This highly anticipated event offers an evening of networking, scenic views, and relaxation. Guests will enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, refreshing cocktails, and the unique charm of cruising Webster Lake aboard the Indian Princess—a modern-day replica of the classic riverboats that once graced the Mississippi River. She remains one of the few authentic stern-wheel riverboats operating in the United States today.

"Ladies On The Lake has become a standout favorite in our Women's Success Network series," said BVCC President & CEO Jeanne Hebert. "It's a beautiful setting to build meaningful connections, strengthen relationships, and enjoy the peaceful beauty of the lake with friends and colleagues. Don't wait



to register—this event sells out fast!"

If your plans happen to include a post-cruise dinner at Samuel Slaters Restaurant (many have in the past), reservations are strongly recommended (use Resy for online or call (508) 943-1639). Mention that you are with the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce cruise group, and they will do their best to sit the parties close together. If it's nice weather, we hope for deck seating!

We are proud to thank our generous sponsors: Presenting

Sponsor: UniBank, Partner Sponsors: COREXP Business Solutions & ConvenientMD Urgent Care, and Major Sponsors: Fidelity Bank and Package Steel Systems. If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please contact Liz O'Neil.

Register online at [www.blackstonevalley.org/events](http://www.blackstonevalley.org/events). Members \$55, Future Members \$70. Please RSVP by June 5, 2025. For more information, please contact Liz O'Neil at 508.234.9090 ext. 102 or email Liz at [loneil@blackstonevalley.org](mailto:loneil@blackstonevalley.org).

## Millbury Senior Center

The Millbury Senior Center has many services for seniors including: SHINE appointment for insurance information by phone anytime; podiatry clinic, third Friday of each month; Memory Café, fourth Tuesday of each month. Call 508-865-9154 to make appointments for any of the three.

Other drop-in activities include:

Monday: 9:30 a.m. Light exercise; 12:45 p.m. Mahjong; 1 p.m. Zumba

Tuesday: 9 – 10 a.m. Blood pressure clinic; 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Tai Chi; 1 p.m. Cribbage

Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. Craft class; 10:30 a.m. Line dancing; 1 p.m. Social Bingo

Thursday: 9 a.m. Yoga; 10 a.m. Coloring class; 12:30 p.m. Pitch

Friday, shopping, light exercise. Lunch is offered every day at noon. For more information about Senior Center activities, visit [millburyma.gov/senior-center/pages/classes-clinics](http://millburyma.gov/senior-center/pages/classes-clinics).

Coffee and Cribbage is looking for players: Join them every morning at 8:30 a.m.

Shopping trip, every Friday, 9

a.m. pick up, return 11 a.m. Trip alternates between Market Basket in Shrewsbury and Market 32 in Sutton.

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