

INSIDE

**PULL-OUT SECTION**  
*Holiday Gift Giving Guide*  
*'Tis the season....*  
Christmas is the time to share the joy of giving. Find the perfect gift for everyone on your list. The YankeeXpress Holiday Gift Giving Guide is here to help you find the perfect gift for everyone on your list.

**HEALTHIER BAKING**  
Oatmeal chocolate chip cookies  
PAGE 6

**FULLER'S COLLISION**  
Education grant  
PAGE 7

**LIVING WITH LINCOLN**  
Destined for a good life  
PAGE 15

Hot diggity dog!  
Schultzy's Place wins  
2021 Safari trophy

By Rod Lee

The timelessly popular hot dog is a more prominent item than ever on the menu at Schultzy's Place in Sutton these days, and for good reason. Owner Steve Schroeder and his staff at the little storefront breakfast and lunch restaurant in the Heritage Plaza on Boston Road in the Wilkinsville part of town are still riding high from their first-place finish in the 2021 Worcester Hot Dog Safari.

Schultzy's prevailed in the tenth-anniversary edition of the event despite a forewarning from defending champion Berts that "we're not giving up the trophy without a fight!"

"It was fun, it was cool," Ashley Melanson said just before closing time at Schultzy's Place the afternoon of November 4 (Mr. Schroeder was away).

"Winners from the last ten years were invited back," Ms. Melanson said. Also competing this year, then, were George's Coney Island in Worcester, Hot Dog Annie's in Worcester, Tatnuck Driving Range in Worcester, Cracked in Rutland, Still Four Corners in Rutland, Best in Show in North Grafton, Fired Up, Ralph's in Worcester, Berts in Uxbridge and Grumpy's in Bellingham.

Scoring was tabulated in five categories: dog; bun; topping; presen-



The much-coveted Worcester Hot Dog Safari trophy wound up in the hands of Schultzy's Place this year, after the restaurant finished second in 2020. "Nothing happens until the wiener mobile arrives," organizer Tom Mahoney says.

tation; and value. Visits to all of the participating establishments were made to determine first-hand the quality of the entries.

Evidence that Schultzy's Place was not intimidated by going up against some giants of the game

surfaced on Facebook a couple of days before the Safari, with a post that read "Schultzy's Place is making a big push for number one this year. They've got it all, the creative vision AND the mainstay meat

Continued on page 2

Wonderful ways to prepare for  
the season in Grafton

By Christine Galeone

It's hard to believe, but it's that time of the year again. It's time to try to get into the spirit of the upcoming holidays.

Naturally, people get ready to celebrate the holidays in a myriad of ways. But putting up festive décor, attending holiday events, and embracing the spirit of giving are wonderful ways for many to prepare for the season. And Grafton businesses and organizations are ready to help.

Shoppers looking for adorable, whimsical or elegant holiday ornaments, décor or gifts can find them in various Grafton shops, including Perreault Nurseries' gift shop, the Grafton Country Store, Off the Common Antiques and The Saddle Shed. In addition to selling festive soy candles and holiday greenery, Perreault Nurseries, the North Grafton nursery and landscape supply shop sells

holiday items featuring cardinals, cats, gnomes and more. The Grafton Country Store, the Grafton Common gift shop that sells gifts, jewelry, décor and accessories, among other things, boasts a wide selection of holiday gifts (including many with cardinals), ornaments and décor, and it's running a special promotion leading up to Christmas. Customers who buy

Continued on page 2



A Christmas Display at the Gift Shop at Perreault Nurseries in North Grafton. (Courtesy of Perreault Nurseries Facebook Page)

ELIMINATE PAIN WITH PT

**con**  **erge**

PHYSICAL THERAPY

(508) 841-5037 | 307 Grafton St  
conciergephysicaltherapy.com




7 SIMPLE  
WAYS TO STOP  
KNEE PAIN

scan code or visit  
bit.ly/3nsZgnN



I've got my bank at  
my fingertips and my  
future in my hands.




Tomorrow is already on its way, and our job is to help you make the most of it. With our on-the-go banking tools like Zelle®, Face and Touch ID and Mobile Deposit, you can safely send, receive and manage your money on your own terms.

Unlock your potential

bank **Hometown**

Learn more at [bankHometown.com](https://bankHometown.com) or call 888.307.5887

Member FDIC | Member DIF 

**HADDAD**   
**Auto Detail**

The  
**DEEP**  
CLEAN SPECIALISTS

*Inside and Out!*

**FREE Loaner Car**  
with this ad  
Worcester \* Westboro  
**508-755-5250**



## SCHULTZY'S PLACE

Continued from front page

sauce. Though dog count was going up the end of this week, it was hard not to get everything on the menu!"

Three months after the win, Schultzy's is still tout-ing its hot dog combos to customers, starting with "the Schultzy," topped by "our secret meat sauce recipe."

The other choices are: -"The Nacho," featuring jala-

peno cheddar cheese sauce with bacon bits; -"The Homewrecker," which includes pepperjack cheese and jalapeno spread topped with sriracha hot sauce; -"The Hawaiian," wrapped in ham and topped with crushed pineapple and Hawaiian BBQ sauce; -And of course "the Chili," boasting "our Sutton famous chili with onions and cheddar."

Nor does Schultzy's hot dog selection end there; try the Avocado Bacon hot dog on for size sometime, staff suggests.

Schultzy's Place stands out in ways aside from its win in the Safari. Ever-innovative with its menu, entrées for breakfast or lunch often include such seasonal or in-demand favorites as pumpkin spice pancakes with white chocolate chips, patriotic pancakes with red, white and blue M&Ms, fruity French toast, homemade corned beef hash and the

steak and cheese sandwich with onions, peppers and provolone in a pita pocket.

For Organizer Tom Mahoney and other key principals involved with the 2021 Worcester Hot Dog Safari, which ran for an entire week (August 13-21), the best news of all was "we raised \$6900 for the Worcester County Food Bank, our most money ever!"

The Worcester Hot Dog Safari has become something of a cultural phenomenon—and a labor of love for Mr. Mahoney. "It's my life's work now, I plan to do it forever," Mr. Mahoney told Mike Hsu on The Pike radio station. As for selecting the Worcester County Food Bank as a benefactor, he said "the only way to justify

the gluttony is to support a good cause.

Scorecards, Safari T-shirts, hats and other ingredients are all part of a festive mix, the week of the competition.

An after-party was held at Ralph's Diner, on Grove St.

Contact Rod Lee at [rodlee.1963@gmail.com](mailto:rodlee.1963@gmail.com) or 774-232-2999.



The hot dog is king these days at Schultzy's Place in Sutton, following a first-place finish for Schultzy's in the 2021 Worcester Hot Dog Safari.

**BIG KAHUNA**

- BIG KAHUNA CARNAUBA WAX
- UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER
- x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK
- HIGH PRESSURE WASH
- x2 FOAMING POLISH
- SHIELD "HIGH GLOSS TOTAL PROTECTANT"
- SPOT FREE RINSE
- LASERDRI

**\$18**

**DELUXE WASH**

- UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER
- x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK
- HIGH PRESSURE WASH
- x2 FOAMING POLISH
- SHIELD "HIGH GLOSS TOTAL PROTECTANT"
- SPOT FREE RINSE
- LASERDRI

**\$14**

**SUPER WASH**

- UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER
- x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK
- HIGH PRESSURE WASH
- SPOT FREE RINSE
- LASERDRI

**\$10**

**BASIC WASH**

- x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK
- HIGH PRESSURE WASH
- SPOT FREE RINSE
- LASERDRI

**\$8**

**Vacuums always 75¢**

# BLACKSTONE VALLEY Xpress

Published on 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month.  
Direct mailed to 63,000 unique homes and businesses each month and available on news stands throughout the region.

2nd Friday: Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford and Webster, 1/2 all addresses.  
2nd Friday BLACKSTONE VALLEY South: Douglas, Northbridge and Uxbridge.  
4th Friday: Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford and Webster, other 1/2.  
4th Friday BLACKSTONE VALLEY North: Grafton, Millbury and Sutton.

## DIRECTORY

Submit business news and community events to [news@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:news@TheYankeeXpress.com)  
Request advertising information: [ads@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:ads@TheYankeeXpress.com)

Kathy Benoit, Advertising Director [kathybenoit@theyankeeexpress.com](mailto:kathybenoit@theyankeeexpress.com)  
Billing and advertising information Laura Gleim [lgleim@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:lgleim@TheYankeeXpress.com)  
Tony Discepolo, Sales (Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford, Webster) [tdiscepolo@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:tdiscepolo@TheYankeeXpress.com)  
Bill Cronan, Sales (Blackstone Valley) [bcranon@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:bcranon@TheYankeeXpress.com)

The Newspaper Press, LLC / contents copyright 2021  
Sally Patterson, Production Manager Carol Koth, Graphic Artist  
Contributing writers and columnists: Peter Coyle, Tom D'Agostino, Magda Dakin, Christine Galeone, Rod Lee, Amy Palumbo-Leclaire, Janet Stoica

168 Gore Road, Webster, MA 01570 PHONE: 508-943-8784 FAX: 508-943-8129

## GRAFTON Continued

\$300 or more in one visit will receive a Golden Ticket entitling them to 50 percent off Christmas items from Dec. 29 through Dec. 31. Nearby, **Off the Common Antiques**, the multi-artisan, multi-vendor shop has also updated its inventory to include many holiday hand-crafted and antique ornaments and décor (including items with gnomes) and holiday dining items, and some weekends, it has a pop-up chocolate shop with hand-crafted chocolates. Over in South Grafton, **The Saddle Shed**, which offers a selection of horse equipment, accessories, gifts and tack and has winter wear for horses and their riders, has also been selling holiday ornaments and gifts, including new items from the Breyer 2021 Holiday Collection.

The **Grafton Police De-**

**partment** is once again helping people get into the holiday spirit by giving them a chance to give back. In partnership with **Savers Bank**, the GPD is collecting new unwrapped toys for area children. People can drop off the donations at Savers Bank in North Grafton. Additionally, the GPD has been helping people to stay safe by re-posting an article by Chief Normand A. Crepeau, Jr. on its Facebook page. The article includes safety tips concerning how to avoid colliding with a deer – a significant problem in Grafton and Central Massachusetts, in general, during this time of the year, which is the animals' mating season. The article includes tips concerning things such as the importance of fully braking, instead of swerving, when a deer darts out in front of you, staying alert for deer after sunset and

just before sunrise and being aware that deer frequently cross the street single file, so if you see one, another might be close behind. The chief wrote that the use of high beams, when safe for other drivers, is also helpful.

In North Grafton, **Houl-den Farm** is getting ready to help bring people some traditional Christmas cheer. The day after Thanksgiving, it will begin selling Christmas trees. The farm, which also sells fresh holiday greenery, is staying open through Dec. 23.

On Saturday Nov. 27, another North Grafton farm will also provide a fun way to enjoy Thanksgiving weekend. **Angel Hair Alpacas** will hold its annual open house from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. In addition to farm tours and refreshments, there will be pop-up vendors selling things such as fudge, holiday gifts and wreaths. Its own farm shop will be selling knitted garments and yarn. Those who aren't fully vaccinated must continue to wear masks.

Finally, on Sunday Dec. 5, the **Grafton Recreation Department** will hold its **Grafton Celebrates the Holidays** event. The event will include a craft and vendor fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Grafton Municipal Center gym, festivities at "Frosty Stops" and a visit with Santa.

Getting into the spirit of the holidays isn't always easy. But there are many fun and many heartwarming ways to try. Have a happy, healthy Thanksgiving!

Contact Christine with your business news items at [cmgaleone15@gmail.com](mailto:cmgaleone15@gmail.com).

## Sutton Historical Society December events

The Sutton Historical Society will be participating in the town-wide Chain of Lights event on Saturday, December 4, from 10 am - 4 pm. Trolleys will not stop at our various locations. Visitors are welcome to stop by in their own vehicles. The Eight Lots School House, 54 Eight Lots Road; The General Rufus Putnam Museum, 4 Uxbridge Road; and the M. M. Sherman Blacksmith Shop, 6 Singletary Avenue, will be open for visitors to stop in and see these historic buildings and interact with members of the Society, who are busy keeping history alive in Sutton.

On Tuesday, December 7, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the First Congregational Church, the Society will hold its annual Christmas Potluck dinner for members. Bring your favorite main dish, dessert or beverage to enjoy with other members and their family and friends.

Finally, join us at the M. M. Sherman Blacksmith Shop, 6 Singletary Avenue, for our Annual Last Night Cannon Firing on December 31, at midnight. This is a great way to say goodbye to 2021 and hello to 2022.

The Sutton Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to preserving the history of Sutton. Membership is open to all. Updates to our events can be found at [suttonhistoricalsocietyinc.org](http://suttonhistoricalsocietyinc.org) and our Facebook page.

# Liberate Your Property

**REMOVAL OF BRUSH, BRIARS, BRAMBLES, VINES, UNWANTED SAPLINGS, DEAD TREES, LOGS, STUMPS, OVERGROWN WEEDS & GRASS!**

- BRUSH CUTTING
- PROPERTY CLEARING
- TRAIL GROOMING
- STUMP GRINDING
- FIELD MOWING
- MATERIAL HAULING
- EQUIPMENT TRANSPORT
- GRAVEL/MULCH DELIVERY

**DAN KASANOVICH HAULING & RECOVERY LLC NORTHBRIDGE, MA**

**CALL / TEXT: 774-280-1691 OR VISIT US AT WWW.DKHAUL.COM**



Is your future **LASER** bright?  
If not, we are looking for **YOU!**



IPG Photonics Corporation is a growing global organization with local facilities in Oxford and Marlborough, MA. What makes IPG unique as a manufacturer is that we make most of our components in-house, allowing our employees long-term stability.

**Jump start your  
career at  
IPG Photonics,  
the World Leader  
in Laser  
Technology.**



#### **Your career at IPG will offer:**

- Annual discretionary bonuses for **ALL** employees
- Competitive starting pay
- Health Insurance benefits effective DAY ONE
- 3 weeks of vacation, 12 paid holidays, sick time
- Tuition assistance
- 401K w/company match
- Overtime available

#### **Rewarding careers include:**

- **Entry Level Assemblers** - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> shift - willing to train- no experience necessary!
- **Experienced Assemblers**
- **Technicians:** Electrical, Mechanical, Field Service, Opto-Mechanical
- **Engineers:** Electrical, Mechanical, Opto-Mechanical, Software
- **Finance** and **IT**
- And MUCH more...

#### **How to contact us:**

- By phone: 508.373.1100
- By e-mail: [careers@ipgphotonics.com](mailto:careers@ipgphotonics.com)
- By Website: [www.ipgphotonics.com/en/company#\[careers\]](http://www.ipgphotonics.com/en/company#[careers])
- By scanning the QR code
- By texting HOTJOBS to 21000



IPG Photonics is committed to fostering a culture of diversity, inclusion, respect, and professionalism. We view diversity as an opportunity to foster multi-cultural differences as a means of providing a more inclusive and rich company culture.

*Equal Opportunity Employer / Affirmative Action M/F D/V*



## Healthier baking in the Blackstone Valley

### Nutritious Oatmeal Chocolate Chip cookies

By Christine Galeone

At Thanksgiving, we give thanks for all of the blessings in our lives. For most people, including me, faith, family and friends tops that list. But what about good health?

Good health is certainly a blessing to be grateful for. On Thanksgiving, however, it's not always something we think about. Most of us tend to overindulge during the holidays, especially on Thanksgiving.

But amidst the pecan pie, the cheesecake and the cannoli – and after the mashed potatoes and gravy – can be a healthier dessert to either provide an alternative to the sugary sweets or to create some sense of balance. This recipe for oatmeal chocolate chip cookies is one that will produce that type of dessert.

If you bake cookies regularly, you know how many recipes call for an obscene amount of sugar. And many of them produce a relatively small amount of cookies. It's just not necessary.

These cookies are packed with nutritious ingredients. The oats are healthy for your heart. The dark chocolate chips provide antioxidants. And the pumpkin spice, which generally consists of cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and allspice, provides antioxidants, antimicrobial properties, fiber and minerals along with a warm holiday flavor.

#### Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients:

**3 cups of old-fashioned or quick oats**

**1 cup of dark chocolate chips**

**1 ½ cups of flour**

**½ cup of brown sugar**

**½ cup of granulated sugar**

**2 large eggs**

**1 tsp. of baking soda**

**½ tsp. of salt (omit if using salted butter)**

**1 tsp. of pumpkin spice**

**1 tsp. of vanilla extract**

**1 cup (2 sticks) of unsalted 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 eggs 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.
- Use a cookie scoop to scoop the cookie dough onto a baking sheet.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 11-12 minutes.
- Remove from oven and let cool for a couple of minutes before transferring to cooling racks or plates.

Makes about 60 cookies.

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

These cookies are even more delicious than they are healthy. And they're easy to make. Happy (healthier) holiday baking!

*Images from Douglas Orchard & Farm after last week's storm.*



# Blackstone Valley Cannabis

## Visit us

**79 River Rd, Uxbridge, MA**  
**bvcannabis.com**

**Mention this ad for a FREE BVC tote bag with any purchase (while supplies last)**

**Please Consume Responsibly.** This product has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is limited information on the side effects of using this product, and there may be associated health risks. Marijuana use during pregnancy and breast-feeding may pose potential harms. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. The impairment effects of edible marijuana may be delayed by two hours or more. In case of accidental ingestion, contact poison control hotline 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. This product may be illegal outside of MA.



# SUTTON CHAIN OF LIGHTS

## Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 4 pm



Join us for a fun filled day through the rolling hills of Sutton visiting local businesses and community organizations as they open their doors to welcome the holidays. Travel on old fashioned FREE trolleys over two routes throughout town where you can shop, eat, and share holiday memories with friends and family.

**FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY MASKS MUST BE WORN ON TROLLEYS AND BUSES.**

### 2 TROLLEY ROUTES OFFERING A VARIETY OF HOLIDAY FUN

(TROLLEY HUB: Sutton High School)

Crafts and unique gift items • Kids activities • Food offerings • Entertainment

Blackstone National Golf Course  
Manchaug Mills  
Vallencourt Folk Art  
Puckihuddle Preschool  
Sutton Police Department  
First Congregational Church  
Tailor Pros

Pleasant Valley Crossing  
Unibank  
Market 32  
Blackstone Dental  
Sutton Children's Dentistry  
Holy Spirit Episcopal Church  
Al's Rubbish and Container Service

Dudley Gendron Post 414  
St. Mark's Church  
Mickey's Car Wash  
Not to Miss by Car  
(Trolleys do not stop here!)  
Eight Lots School House  
Sleighbell Farm

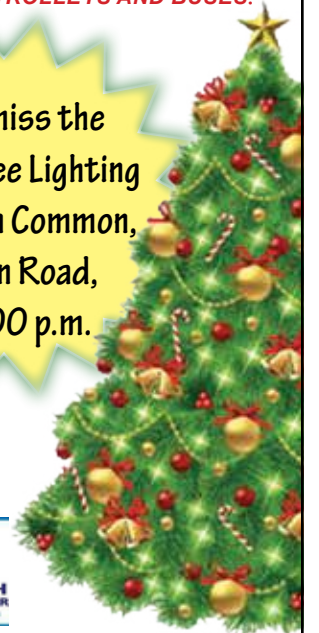
Don't Forget  
2nd Annual  
Light Up Sutton  
Contest  
This Year!

Don't miss the  
annual Tree Lighting  
on Sutton Common,  
Boston Road,  
at 5:00 p.m.

@suttonchainoflights

@suttonlights

Visit <https://suttonchainoflights.weebly.com> for more details.



## DAR celebrated anniversary with a Day of Service

The Captain Job Knapp Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the anniversary of the founding of the DAR, with a Day of Service to the American Red Cross Blood Drive at Milford Hospital on October 21.

Blood is urgently needed by the Red Cross and the Chapter encourages the public to get involved and give blood at their local blood drives.



Pictured left to right: Anne Marie Safaee of Dudley, Carolyn Lavalley of Uxbridge, , Noveline Beltraim of Pascoag RI, Betsy Ryder of Whitinsville, and Sylvia Gamache of Dudley. Not pictured Susan Perkins of Douglas.

## Dream boldly

### with a Home Equity Loan from UniBank.

Home Equity  
Loan Rates  
as low as  
**2.99%** APR

- No closing fees
- Apply at [Unibank.com](http://Unibank.com) today!

## UNIBANK

Connecting all offices: 1.800.578.4270  
[www.unibank.com](http://www.unibank.com)

Scan to  
apply!



Blackstone • Douglas • Grafton • Hopkinton  
Milford • Shrewsbury • Sutton • Upton  
Uxbridge • Whitinsville • Worcester



MEMBER FDIC/MEMBER DIF • UNIBANK NMLS #583135 \*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) effective as May 20, 2021 and is subject to change at any time. Offer of credit is subject to approval. Homeowners and Flood insurance (where applicable) is required for the life of the loan. Up to 80% Loan-to-Value (LTV) of the market value. Other terms, conditions, and fees may apply.

# MULHANE

## Home for Funerals

*Honoring, Remembering, Celebrating*

Owned and operated by the Mulhane Family for over 150 years.

*Stuart & Matthew Mulhane*  
508.865.2560 • [www.mulhane.com](http://www.mulhane.com)



# Rep. Muradian supports \$3.8B COVID relief bill

BOSTON – State Representative David Muradian, R-Grafton, recently supported a multi-billion dollar COVID relief bill that makes significant investments in housing, economic development, workforce training, health and human services, education and the environment, while also addressing food insecurity issues and financing a wide range of local initiatives across the state.

House Bill 4219, An Act relative to immediate COVID-19 recovery needs, utilizes \$2.5 billion Massachusetts received from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and \$1.15 billion from the state's FY21 budget surplus. The bill was engrossed by the House of Representatives on a vote of 159-0 on October 29.

House members spent two days considering over 1,100 amendments filed to the bill. Through this process, Representative Muradian was able to secure funding for several projects in his district, including the following:

- \$100,000 for the town of Grafton to replace and upgrade the heating and ventila-

tion units within the Grafton public schools

- \$100,000 for the town of Northbridge for public safety broadband infrastructure improvements

- \$100,000 for the town of Upton to replace and upgrade heating and ventilation units within municipal buildings

The original version of House Bill 4219 released from House Ways and Means allocated \$600 million for housing initiatives, \$750 million for workforce programming, \$777 million for economic development, \$765 million for health and human services programs, \$265 million for education, and \$350 million for the environment and climate resiliency efforts. An additional \$173.6 million in spending was added through the amendment process. To ensure accountability and transparency, the bill provides the Inspector General's office with \$5 million to develop a database so the public can easily track how the ARPA money is being spent, including the number of projects awarded to minority-owned businesses and organizations.

Representative Muradian noted the bill offers financial assistance to both businesses and workers impacted by the global pandemic. In addition to investing \$500 million to offset unemployment insurance costs, House Bill 4219 provides \$200 million in tax relief to small businesses that were required to pay personal income taxes on COVID aid they received from the state or federal government. The bill also establishes a \$500 million premium pay program that will offer bonuses ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 for essential employees who continued to work in person during the pandemic, specifically those earning less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level, or about \$38,640 a year.

The bill also directs the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) to establish a public information campaign to provide notice to all 2020 and 2021 UI claimants about the availability of an overpayment waiver. As part of this outreach effort, DUA must provide information related to the right to request a waiver, eligibility require-

ments, the application process, and information about collection actions.

House Bill 4219 also includes a \$10 million transfer to the Community Preservation Trust Fund. This fund helps support historic preservation, affordable housing, and parks and open space across the Commonwealth.

The following are some of the other key provisions contained in the COVID-19 relief package, by category:

## HOUSING

- \$200 million to promote homeownership opportunities, half of which is directed to residents of communities that were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- \$100 million for the creation of affordable rental housing
- \$150 million to rehabilitate and modernize state-aided public housing developments
- \$150 million to provide permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless, domestic violence survivors, seniors and veterans

## WORKFORCE

- \$150 million for workforce skills training, with priority given to those individuals who were laid off during the pandemic to help them re-engage in the workforce, includ-

ing apprenticeship programs for low-income workers, adult basic education programs, rapid re-employment contracting and regional planning and equipment grants

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- \$60 million in grants for small businesses negatively impacted by the pandemic, including \$25 million set aside for those businesses that did not qualify for previous grants and \$35 million for businesses that focus on reaching underserved markets, along with minority-owned, women-owned and veteran-owned businesses
- \$125 million for a cultural assets reserve to assist cultural organizations and artists

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- \$150 million over three years for local and regional public health systems to address health disparities
- \$250 million for behavioral health programs, including \$100 million for initiatives ranging from student loan assistance and tuition reimbursements to workshop training programs
- \$250 million for community hospitals and \$20 million for community health centers to update and improve electronic health record systems
- \$70 million to update and modernize nursing facilities and address workforce shortages

## EDUCATION

- \$25 million in endowment funds for the University of Massachusetts, state universities and community colleges
- \$100 million in grants for public school districts to improve ventilation and indoor

air quality in their facilities

- \$100 million for the capital needs of existing vocational and career and technical schools

- \$10 million for grants distributed by and for the Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs for workforce development and capital improvements to YMCA buildings and camps

**ENVIRONMENT**

- \$100 million for marine port development and offshore wind

- \$100 million for environmental infrastructure to help communities become more climate resilient

- \$100 million for water and sewer infrastructure improvements

- \$25 million for a forestry and tree planting greening program for projects on publicly owned land and land owned by non-profit organizations

- \$25 million for state parks and recreational facilities upgrades

## MISCELLANEOUS

- \$78 million to address food insecurity across the Commonwealth

- \$50 million to close the digital divide for broadband and internet access in low-income areas

- \$15 million in prison re-entry grants to support individuals released during the pandemic

- \$10 million for community-based gun violence prevention programs in high-risk areas

- \$12 million to assist with the resettlement of Afghan refugees in the state

House Bill 4219, as amended, now moves to the Senate for its consideration.



GRAFTON - As part of *Grafton Celebrates the Holidays*, the Grafton Recreation Dept. is putting on its second annual town-wide home or business decorating contest.

Categories include Best Light Display (to be viewed at night), Best Decorations Display (to be viewed during the day), and Best Business Display (can choose day or night viewing).

Maps will be made of all the participating homes and businesses so you can view and vote for your favorite.

Winners of each category will receive a \$50 Grafton restaurant gift card and the overall favorite will win a \$100 gift card. For more information: GraftonRec.com.

## HAWK HILL ORCHARDS

**Now Taking Orders for Thanksgiving Pies, Dumplings and Breads!!**

Wed. thru Sun. 10-5  
Thanksgiving Week  
Mon.-Wed. 10-5

- Apples
- Fruit Pies
- Dessert Breads
- Chicken Pot Pie
- Apple Dumplings
- Gifts • Jams/Jellies
- Cider • Maple Syrup
- Our Own Honey
- Assorted Baked Goods
- Specialty Sauces and Salsas

**83 Carleton Rd.,  
Millbury, MA  
508-865-4037**

## SCHULTZY'S PLACE

Winner of Worcester's Hot Dog Safari's Golden Hot Dog!

**Try Our Homemade Soups, Chilis and Corned Beef Hash**

**Seasonal Specials at Schultzy's**

**\$3.00 OFF**  
a \$15 purchase  
Mon.-Fri. ONLY

One per table, not to be combined. Exp. 11/30/21

Hrs.: Mon.-Sat. 5:30am-2pm; Sundays 6:30am to 2pm  
3 Boston Road (Heritage Plaza) Sutton, MA • (508) 865-6777

## Hair's To You

Full Service Salon

Walk-Ins Welcome

299 Providence Rd., So. Grafton, MA  
(774) 293-1444

- HAIRCUTS • KIDS CUTS
- COLOR • SKIN CARE
- KERATIN TREATMENTS
- WAXING • MANICURES
- FACIALS

CUTS • KIDS CUTS • COLOR • SKIN CARE • MANICURES

Kim Bogosian &  
Wendy Tucker

\$10.00  
OFF ANY  
HAIRCUT

New customer ONLY.  
Exp. 12/31/2021

---

\$10.00  
OFF ANY  
Color Treatment

New customer ONLY.  
Exp. 12/31/2021

Call today for your FREE In-Home Consultation

Budget Blinds

888-88-BUDGET

SUPER  
AUTUMN  
SALE

Block that  
damaging SUN

Save 20%

on all sliding door  
treatments

Save 25%

on all Honeycomb  
and Solar/Roller  
Shades

Cannot be combined with any other coupons or offers.  
Offer valid until 11/30/21

Independently Owned & Operated  
by Sue Adams

Local: 508-865-9300



## Fuller's Collision Center announces grant approval for continuing education and training

AUBURN – Fuller's Collision Center of Auburn, MA is proud to announce that it recently received approval for a \$104,000 grant from the Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund with the assistance of Human Power Solutions (HPS), a learning and development company that specializes in improving skills, culture and technical capabilities within an organization.

As a fourth-generation organization, Fuller's Collision Center has continued its commitment and dedication to its stakeholders and customers alike over the years. Receipt of the Workforce Training Grant represents a two-year specialized training commitment for Fuller's Collision Center, through which the shop will participate in "Advanced Principles of a Safety and Health Management System," led by Safety Trainers (Worcester, MA), in addition to receiving training through HPS on negotiation and a variety of other "soft" skills.

According to Joshua Fuller, owner of Fuller's

Collision Center, "Today's collision repairs are very complex, and in order to deliver exceptional customer service and compete in the industry, our business must learn soft skills, such as communication and organization, which help us prioritize our repair jobs and enable us to continue being effective day to day."

The grant also includes continuing education and training through I-CAR, the standard of excellence in the auto collision industry. I-CAR's ongoing training programs ensure that shops are educated in the most current and up-to-date processes and procedures relating to collision repair.

"The I-CAR technical vehicle repair training is a requirement in our industry to ensure that we have the knowledge to repair vehicles both, safely and properly," Fuller says. "In addition, we take pride in providing a work environment in which our stakeholders can continue to grow themselves both professionally and personally. The funding from

this grant focuses on specific areas which do exactly that, such as leadership, communication, customer service, and team building. Even in difficult economic times, it is essential to continue to invest in our people and our culture, and the financial assistance we are receiving from the state shows that they also realize how important it is to invest in our team."

Fuller's Collision Center is part of Fuller Automotive Companies, which was founded in 1914. Located on RT. 20 in Auburn, they also have an Auto and Tire Center for all mechanical repairs and tire replacement packages. For more information, visit [www.fullerautomotive.com](http://www.fullerautomotive.com).



### Northbridge Housing Authority

12 Colonial Drive  
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Tel (508) 234-7736 Fax

Info@northbridgehousing.com

#### APPLICATION OPENING

The Northbridge Housing Authority will be accepting applications for the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP). AHVP is a state mobile voucher subsidy for households with at least one member who is both under the age of 60 and disabled. All AHVP vouchers are one bedroom, except by reasonable accommodation. A lottery system will be used for the purpose of the initial acceptance of applications to be placed on the Northbridge Housing Authority waiting list.

The income limits for AHVP are:

1-person household: \$55,350

2-person household: \$63,250

Apply online on CHAMP at [www.mass.gov/applyforpublichousing](http://www.mass.gov/applyforpublichousing) between Monday 11/8/21 and Friday 11/26/21.

If you prefer, paper applications are available between the hours of 8:30A.M. – 2:30P.M. Monday through Friday. After Hours inside the community room on the wall to the right as you enter labeled. If you choose, leave the application in the gray drop box next to applications at the Northbridge Housing Authority, 12 Colonial Dr, Whitinsville, MA 01588. You may also obtain an application by mail by calling the Authority at (508) 234-7736 or emailing [jeannine@northbridgehousing.com](mailto:jeannine@northbridgehousing.com). To request a reasonable accommodation or language assistance, please contact Brett R. Lambert at (508) 234-7736 [brett@northbridgehousing.com](mailto:brett@northbridgehousing.com).

All applications received or postmarked by Friday 11/26/21 at 2:30P.M. will become part of the lottery system for tenant selection set forth by Department of Housing and Community Development.

The lottery will be conducted through an automated computer process overseen by the Department of Housing and Community Development at the end of December 2021. Applications will be placed on a waiting list by priority and preference as they are drawn in the lottery.

After the completion of the lottery, the Northbridge Housing Authority will continue to accept applications. All applications received after 11/26/21 will be placed on the Northbridge Housing Authority wait list by priority and preference in accordance with date and time of their receipt.

John O'Brien, Chairperson  
Northbridge Housing Authority



## Hear For The Holidays!



Are you left out of conversations? Do you feel as if family members mumble? Contact us for hearing testing and solutions.

We are here to help!

[www.hearjoyaudiology.com](http://www.hearjoyaudiology.com) for online booking

HEAR JOY IS AN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE



HearJOY  
AUDIOLOGY  
PRECIOUS SOUNDS, LIFE'S PLEASURES



Dr. Mary Ellen Rancourt

43 Main Street  
South Grafton, MA  
Call 774-293-1515

Dr. Rancourt has over 30 years of experience as an audiologist, serving newborns to elders.



## OFF THE COMMON ANTIQUES MARKETPLACE



MODERN  
RUSTIC  
VINTAGE

DECEMBER  
ONLY  
7 Days/Week  
10:30 - 6:00 pm

4 WORCESTER STREET  
GRAFTON

508-839-1700

[offthecommonantiques.com](http://offthecommonantiques.com)



# SENIOR FRAUD HELPLINE

## 800.297.9760



Family Services  
OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS  
An Affiliate of Seven Hills Foundation



Central Massachusetts  
Agency on Aging, Inc.



## Boy Scout Troop open house

Boy Scout Troop 155, Whitinsville, is sponsoring an Open House for boys, ages 11-17, to join the program on Saturday, November 20, 3:30-5:00 p.m. at the Whitin Community Center,

located at 60 Main Street, Whitinsville.

Troop 155, was founded in 1951, and has been a very active troop with membership typically exceeding 40 boys from the community. Ac-

cording to Charles Thompson, Troop 155 Committee Member, "COVID-19 forced the troop to halt in-person activities for over one year, and our ranks have thinned a bit because of it. Now that the troop has been able to meet again for in-person programming and enjoy outdoor activities like hiking and camping, it's the ideal time to invite boys to check out the program."

Coming up quickly is Boy Scout Troop 155's annual Christmas Tree sale. Not only does the sale completely fund the troop's program for the year, but also gives

the opportunity for boys to earn all the money they need to attend the annual summer camp.

The troop overnights regularly at its private camp on a local lake. Canoeing and kayaking is a big part of the troop program. It boasts a fleet of 10 canoes and 4 kayaks for scouts to use.

Scouting instills values of citizenship, responsibility, and setting personal goals. The scout oath reminds scouts to "help other people at all times." Some of the annual service projects of the troop include working with the veterans organization in placing flags on the graves of those who served our country, holding twice yearly food drives to help the good people at the "Peace of Bread Community Kitchen and Pantry," and volunteering at the annual "Greenway Challenge," a community-wide event that utilizes almost 100 volunteers each year.

The Open House will give prospective new members a chance to meet other troop members. Parents can meet adult leaders and have their questions answered about the troop and the scouting program.

For more information, contact Charles Thompson at 774 276-7210.

## Millbury Council on Aging

MILLBURY - Millbury Council On Aging, 1 River St. has listed the schedule of events.

Senior work-off program for eligible seniors, 60 or older who are residents of Millbury receive up to \$1,500 per year that can be used to pay real estate property tax in return for voluntary service at a town department. For more information or to pick up an application please call the center at 508-865-9154.

Light exercise classes Mondays and Fridays 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Tai chi Tuesdays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. (class is \$3)

Wii bowling Mondays at 12:30 p.m.

Mahjong Mondays at 12:45 p.m.

Blood pressure clinic every Tuesday from 9 - 10 a.m.

Social bingo Wednesdays at 1 p.m. Bring your pennies.

Dull men's club Thursdays at 10 - 11 a.m.

No reservations required for any of our activities. If you would like Lunch ahead of time a 48 hour reservation is required call the center at 508-865-9154.

Lunches are served Monday through Friday 12 p.m. at the Senior Center. The menu is available on the town website, [www.townofmillbury.org](http://www.townofmillbury.org) or our Millbury Senior Center Facebook page. A 48 hour reservation is required.

Millbury Senior Center Transportation is provided for Millbury senior residents Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We travel one town out in each direction, including Sutton, Grafton, Auburn and Worcester. A 48-hour notice is required for scheduling rides (business days). For more information or to schedule transportation call the center at 508-865-9154.

Memory Café - Please join us Tuesday, November 23 2 - 3:30 p.m. A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss/challenges and their care partners. It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time. Fourth Tuesday of each month, refreshments will be served. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with this program. Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154.

Our Friendly Visitor Program is now being provided by telephone. Volunteers call clients to check in with them, chat and hear a friendly voice. For more information on coordinating a friendly visitor. Call the center at 508-865-9154.

SNAP applications (Food Stamps) appointments are on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Call for an appointment and required documentation 508-865-9154.



● **Home Grown Meats for the local community**

● **Seasonal Produce**

● **Fresh Eggs**

● **Local Products**



**64 Williams Street  
Upton, MA**



# Shop Local for Quality Cards and Gifts!

This holiday season, order your cards from a trusted, local vendor.

Our Town Publishing now offers holiday cards, prints, photos gifts and more!

Go to

**[ourtownpublishing.com](http://ourtownpublishing.com)**

to get started today!

## Our Town PUBLISHING

74 Main St., Suite 16 • Medway, MA 02053  
508-533-NEWS (6397) • [ourtownpublishing.com](http://ourtownpublishing.com)





**SENIOR NEWS LINE****Social Security gets big benefits bump****By Matilda Charles**

The news is in. Our Social Security benefit for 2022 will increase by 5.9%, slightly less than the 6.1% estimate the government put out this summer. Still, that's much greater than the 1.3% increase we saw for 2021 and the 1.6% the year before.

The average monthly dollar increase will be \$92, making the average benefit \$1,657 per month for a single person. For a couple, a \$154 increase would come to \$2,753 per month.

The official mail on the cost-of-living adjustment will come out in December.

I've done my calculations for next year, and once again I shake my head. We've been notified already that I'll have a rent increase. Heating fuel is likely to go up 47%. We all know what has happened at the grocery store. Medicare Part B is sure to go up, maybe a \$10 per month increase.

There is one worrying note, and we need to think about how it will play out for us individually. The question is: Will that increase move us into a higher tax bracket?

It depends on our provisional income. That number is any income (pension, wages, dividends and more) not from Social Security, plus half the amount of Social Security. Those of us who come in under \$25,000 won't have a federal tax put on our Social Security. If that number is between \$25,000 and \$34,000,

there will be a tax on half of our Social Security income. Over that and it goes up to a tax on 85% of our Social Security income.

If your situation for 2022 is likely to put you in the category of having to pay taxes on

your Social Security benefit, you can elect to have them take money out of your check each month. If you want to learn about that, call the IRS at 1-800-772-1213 and ask for IRS Form W-4V.

(c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Yellcom Computer Services****Sales • Installation • Maintenance • Repair • Training**

**When disaster strikes, count on Yellcom.**  
**We support computer users at home and at work.**

**OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:**

- Cybersecurity protection services
- Encrypted and verified desktop backups with virtual desktop continuity within minutes
- Managed eMail services - restores, filtering...
- 24/7 Help Desk services - phone, text, email
- Comprehensive cybersecurity assessment
- Encrypted and verified server backups with virtual server continuity within minutes
- Disaster recovery planning
- Network monitoring and management

**(508) 320-2356****www.yellcom.net • Sales@Yellcom.net**

**BLACKSTONE VALLEY CHAMBER of COMMERCE**

# Jingle & Mingle

VAILLANCOURT FOLK ART  
DECEMBER 8TH, 2021  
5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM

**Price:**  
\$10 or an unwrapped gift/gift card to benefit Blackstone Valley Family Services

**www.FESTIVALOFILLUMINATION.com**

# FESTIVAL OF ILLUMINATION

and  
*Winter Wonderland*

**Southwick's ZOO**  
Mendon, MA

**NOW to JANUARY 2**  
Wednesday to Sunday Evenings  
5:30pm to 10:00pm

**Now to November 24 Walk-thru**  
**November 26 to January 2 Drive-thru including Winter Wonderland**

**PURCHASE TICKETS**



## Living well and looking good

# You're never too old for HPV infection

By Keith Roach, M.D.

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I read your recent column stating that the HPV vaccine is recommended up to age 45. Are people older than 45 years no longer susceptible to HPV? Asking for a 52-year-old friend (who thinks he's Wolverine). – C.F.

**ANSWER:** The comic character Wolverine has a mutant healing ability (that's how he was able to survive having his bones replaced with adamantium), so he has nothing to worry about. However, non-mutants do have to worry about HPV, which can come from any kind of skin-to-skin contact with a person who has HPV. Having the virus often

means having warts, but sometimes people can have contagious HPV without having any visible lesion. It's been estimated that 90% of people with HPV don't know they have it.

People of any age are susceptible to HPV. Most people have been exposed by age 45, which is why the recommendations are the way they are now, but vaccination might make sense in some situations. The clearest example is someone who has had very few sexual partners and is about to become more sexually active (for example, a person recently divorced or widowed).

Although the vaccine is

not indicated by the Food and Drug Administration in this situation and the person is likely going to have to pay out of pocket, it might still be worth it to get the vaccine to reduce the risk of acquiring a new sexually transmitted HPV infection. I received several letters from people who acquired new genital warts in just this situation who were upset that their doctor did not offer the vaccine.

If people have already been exposed to HPV, the vaccine will not harm them. In fact, there is some anecdotal evidence that the vaccine might help people with difficult-to-treat warts by boosting the immune system specifically for HPV.

### Choosing not to treat prostate cancer

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** Every year, I used to get a physical, which included a prostate exam as well as blood tests with PSA. When my doctor retired, I had a hard time

finding a new one I liked. It has been three or four years since my prostate was checked, but my new doctor doesn't do the prostate exams (I am 63). He says that recent studies do not recommend them, and I have seen news reports about the unreliability of the PSA test. How do you find out

if you have prostate cancer if you don't look for it? My brother-in-law found out he had it at 52, and it was successfully treated. I don't really want to wait until I am showing symptoms, and there is no history in my direct family. What do you think about this? – T.D.

**ANSWER:** Prostate cancer isn't really one disease. It can be very aggressive – both with local invasion and spreading to bones quickly

– but it also can be very indolent, hardly growing at all over years. Yearly prostate cancer screening with PSA is more likely to find the slower-growing cancers, since they are around for a long time. The goal of screening is to find aggressive cancers, the fast-growing ones that can go from undetectable to too-late-to-do-anything-about in a very short time.

But a downside is that screening may lead to unnecessary treatment of the more-indolent cancers, most of which can be carefully monitored and will not need surgery or radiation, at least not for years.

If a man elects to undergo prostate cancer screening, he should understand the benefits (finding prostate cancer early enough it can be cured) and the risks (treatment for prostate cancer causes complications frequently; these can

include incontinence and loss of sexual function). Not treating low-risk prostate cancer reduces the risks.

Low-risk prostate cancer is defined by a PSA below 10, a very small or non-detectable tumor by palpation or imaging and a low Gleason score, which is based on how the tissue looks to the pathologist. Six or less is low risk. Most men in this situation do not need immediate treatment. Some men have difficulty NOT treating cancer, but treatment does not appear to improve the already good prognosis. Choosing not to treat is hard for some men.

*Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions 2to 2toYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2021 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved*

## To your good health

Athenascleanahs@yahoo.com

**Athena's Cleanahs**

Business & Residential Cleaning Service

Free Estimates • Fully Insured • Decluttering

Carl 774-482-0089 Karen 508-320-0465

THE COUNSELING CENTER  
AT MILLBURY, MA

**GET THE HELP YOU NEED CLOSE TO HOME**

**World-Class Substance Abuse & Mental Health Outpatient Treatment**

The Counseling Center offers a full range of treatment for adults and adolescents in a serene and comfortable atmosphere with flexible scheduling during day and evening hours.

**CALL NOW (508) 785-4990**

Custom Framing • Experienced Designers • Photo Restoration

**The Framers' Gallery**

567 SOUTHBRIDGE STREET, AUBURN MA  
WWW.FRAMERSGALLERYMA.COM  
508-832-6111

**HAPPY FALL YA'LL  
COME IN EARLY  
FOR HOLIDAY  
CUSTOM FRAMING**

**Monday-Thursday 9-6  
Friday 9-5  
Saturday by appointment  
Sunday closed**

**Adult Day Health Program  
serving your community**

*Family Owned and Operated*

Reliable partner assisting families  
Offering Skilled Nursing,  
Personal Care, Case Management,  
Recreation, Nutrition  
and Transportation Services.

Homey, Fun, Secure, Safe, Clean  
CDC/MA COVID-19 Compliant  
Ultraviolet Air Cleaning System

**TESTIMONIAL:** "When my mother's dementia progressed to the point that she was no longer able to live by herself; I was in desperate need of help and found it with the folks at Accord."  
-Marcia T

10 Cudworth Road • Webster, MA 01570  
508-949-3598  
www.accorddaycenter.com

**Accord  
ADULT DAY CENTER**



## So much to do this holiday season at Southwick's Zoo

MENDON - Plan a great holiday time adventure this November 25. Guests will be delighted to know that the Festival of Illumination at Southwick's Zoo will be open as a Walk Thru on Thanksgiving Day, 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Guests can also catch a glimpse of the Winter Wonderland Holiday Spectacular, which will be open as a drive-thru beginning November 26 and running through the holiday to January 2.

Beginning on Black Friday, November 26, Winter Wonderland and the Festival of Illumination come together at Southwick's Zoo to create an extraordinary and memorable holiday experience for guests of all ages. Guests will be immersed in the magical world of over a million dazzling holiday lights and enchanting festival lanterns. The 45-minute drive-thru route includes a visit to the Frozen Forest where guests may spy a few of Southwick's Zoo's beautiful fallow deer, Whooville to encounter the Grinch himself and the integration of the impressive and "larger than life" Festival of Illumination lanterns, showcasing a tour of the globe through the incredible artistry of hand-



crafted Chinese Lanterns. Included with admission, enjoy Santa's Village. After your tour, park your car and hop on the train tram that will drop guests off at the entrance to the Village. Warm up in the Cirque de Lumination Big Top tent. Meet and greet with Santa Claus, enjoy live entertainment, cozy up by the firepits and enjoy s'mores, hot toddies and more. [www.festivalofillumination.com](http://www.festivalofillumination.com)

The Purple Peacock Gift Shop located at Southwick's Zoo will be open throughout the holidays, offering special in-store weekly and daily sales, including discounts on Southwick's Zoo 2022 admission tickets and in-store merchandise. Don't miss the Purple Peacock Gift Shop Openhouse, noon to 9pm, on December 4th and 5th. [www.southwickszoo.com](http://www.southwickszoo.com)

Southwick's Zoo's much anticipated Cyber Monday sale begins on Sunday, November 28 and runs through to Wednesday, December 1 at midnight; 50% off 2022

Southwick's Zoo Flex Admission Ticket. [www.southwickszoo.com](http://www.southwickszoo.com)

Grab your camera and the little ones. Santa's Brunch is back at Galliford's Restaurant, each weekend beginning on the weekend of November 27 and 28, through to December 18 and 19; 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Galliford's Restaurant at Southwick's Zoo is open year-round. During the holidays reservations are strongly recommended. [www.gallifords.com](http://www.gallifords.com) 508.928.0928

Winter Wonderland and the Festival of Illumination is an evening event now through to January 2; Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays 4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays 4:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Advance ticket purchase is recommended for the walk thru portion. Ticket purchase for the drive thru portion must be purchased online and will not be available at the gate. For additional information please visit [www.festivalofillumination.com](http://www.festivalofillumination.com).



# SHREWSBURY

## Marble & Granite, Inc



### Fall SALE

# \$39<sup>99</sup>

Installed

Minimum 40 square feet

**Biggest selection of marble, granite and quartz.**

ALL MARBLE & GRANITE SLABS ON SITE

620 Boston Turnpike (Rt. 9), Shrewsbury  
1/4 Miles East of Home Depot. (BIG BLUE BUILDING)

## 508-842-9800

[WWW.SHREWSBURYMARBLEANDGRANITE.COM](http://WWW.SHREWSBURYMARBLEANDGRANITE.COM)

Mon.-Thurs. 8-4; Fri.-Sat. 9-4; other times by appt.



## Herbert E. Berg

### FLORIST INC.

*Let us help you with all your  
Sympathy, Birthdays, Holidays,  
Weddings and other life events.*

**19 Blackstone River Rd., Worcester, MA 01607**  
(Conveniently located - Exit 19 off Rt. 146 - five minutes from Millbury)

*Call Sally Jablonski, owner, family resident of Millbury for over 60 years*  
*Sandy Michalak, office manager, Sutton resident for over 55 years*

## 508-755-5888 or 1-800-383-Berg

ACCEPTING NEW PRIMARY CARE & SPORTS MEDICINE PATIENTS

## Welcome John Andrea, DO

Board certified in family medicine, **John Andrea, DO** comes to Milford Regional Physician Group from Virginia, where he recently completed a sports medicine fellowship. He earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from University of New England and completed his residency at VCU-Fairfax Family Medicine.

Dr. Andrea is involved locally in high school and college sports, providing sideline game and training room medical coverage. He has a special interest in sports medicine and concussion-related conditions and cares for patients of all ages.



John Andrea, DO

**To schedule an appointment with Dr. Andrea, please call 508-234-6311**



## Milford Regional Physician Group

Blackstone Valley Family Physicians

100 Commerce Drive • Northbridge, MA • 508-234-6311

A member of the Milford Regional Healthcare System

For more information, visit [milfordregionalphysicians.org](http://milfordregionalphysicians.org)

Follow us on Facebook @MilfordRegionalPhysicianGroup

# Choice100

## Graphics

508-949-2024

**YOUR #1 CHOICE FOR CUSTOM:**

**T-Shirts**

**Banners**

**Lawn Signs**

**Coffee Mugs**

**Embroidery**

**Business Cards**

**Canvas Prints**

**And MORE!**




**505 S. Main St, Webster, MA**  
**Info@Choice1Graphics.com**  
**www.Choice1Graphics.com**



## AN EVENING OF POETRY

# ValleyCAST welcomes a gathering of poets at Alternatives' Whitin Mill

WHITINSVILLE - An Evening of Poetry will be held on Saturday, November 20, at the GB & Lexi Singh Perfor-

mance Center at Alternatives' Whitin Mill, 60 Douglas Road, Whitinsville. A celebration of poetic excellence, this event

features readings from four regional poets and an open mic segment following intermission. Scheduled from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., the event is free and open to the public.

The poetry showcase will spotlight Candace Cur-

ran, Paul Richmond, Karen Warinsky, and Gerald Yelle, who will all read during the first hour. Curran has twice been named Western Massachusetts Poet's Seat laureate, while Richmond was honored as Massachusetts

Beat Poet Laureate (2017-2019) and National Beat Poet Laureate (2017-2019). Warinsky has been a finalist in the Montreal International Poetry Contest. Her debut collection, Gold in Autumn, was released last summer.

Yelle's publications include The Holyoke Diaries and No Place I Would Rather Be. He is a member of the Florence, Massachusetts Poets Society.

Following intermission, community poets from the audience will be able to participate in an open mic segment, with five minutes allotted to each poet. Participants will be able to sign up to read at the start of the event.

This event is being hosted by ValleyCAST, the arts and culture arm of Open Sky Community Services. Following Open Sky's COVID safety protocol, all attendees are required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.

For further information about this program or to learn more about participating, email Karen Warinsky: karen.warinsky@gmail.com. To learn more about ValleyCAST and/or Open Sky Community Services, visit opensky.org.



## Thanksgiving

11am to 5pm, served in the Grand Hall

Tables are set 8ft apart

Hot entrées, carving station and assorted desserts

Adult: \$29.95 (plus tax & tip)  
Child 6-12: \$17.95 (plus tax & tip)  
Child 2-5: \$11.95 (plus tax & tip)

See the menu at  
[www.maxwellsilvermansbanquet.com](http://www.maxwellsilvermansbanquet.com)

Call 508 755-6408 for more information

FREE VALIDATED PARKING

Maxwell Luciano's Banquet & Conference Center at Union Station  
2 Washington Square, Worcester, MA 01608

## Thanksgiving Dinner

### TO GO AT YOUR HOUSE

All birds are cooked fresh Thanksgiving Day!



## New England Steak and Seafood

RT. 16, MENDON, MA

**Announces Turkey with all the Fixins** (fresh birds never frozen)  
Cooked or ready to cook with reheating and cooking directions.

**LET US DO THE WORK FOR YOU!**

**508-478-0871**

**Approx. 20 LB. TURKEY**  
Feeds approx. 8 to 12 people.

**INCLUDES:** Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Peas, Pearl Onions, Cranberry Sauce and (1) Apple Pie.

**\$299**

**Cinnamon Rolls** \$15.99 doz.  
**Onion Rolls** \$15.99 doz.  
**Pumpkin Bread** \$15.99 doz.  
**Apple Pie** \$15.99

ALL ORDERS MUST BE IN BY NOV. 20 AND PICKED UP ON NOV. 25 BETWEEN 11 AM & 2 PM  
"NOTE PLEASE ORDER EARLY"!!!! Please look for our Christmas Dinner to go special.

**Support local businesses this holiday season.**

*Happy Thanksgiving*



## HOULDEN FARM

139 Old Westboro Road,  
N. Grafton • (508) 839-2409

- Christmas Trees
- Wreaths
- Christmas Greens
- Roping
- Cemetery Baskets

*Staying Open thru Dec. 23rd*

- Fruits and Vegetables
- Dairy • Baked Goods

(Off of Rte. 30 by Tufts)  
Hours: Monday through Sunday 10am-5pm



## American Heritage Museum

WWII Symposium:  
*Pearl Harbor - Inevitable or Infamy?*  
December 4th  
Tickets on sale now.

**Museum Open Wed. - Sun. 10 AM to 5 PM**

Extraordinary museum featuring some of the world's most rare tanks, armored vehicles and historic artifacts. Walk through the immersive WWII trench experience and captivating exhibits.

**568 Main Street, Hudson, MA**  
[www.AmericanHeritageMuseum.org](http://www.AmericanHeritageMuseum.org)  
**(978) 562-9182**

## GRAFTON FLEA MARKET, INC.

**OPEN EVERY SUNDAY OUTDOOR - INDOOR**  
6 A.M.-4 P.M.

**NEW! Outdoor Beer and Wine Garden Now Open!**

• Acres of Bargains • Hundreds of Vendors • Thousands of Buyers

**51st Season**

Rte. 140, Grafton/Upton town line

**Grafton Flea is the Place to be!**

Selling Space 508-839-2217  
[www.graftonflea.com](http://www.graftonflea.com)

Remember your mask!





TABLE 3 RESTAURANT GROUP

[table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving](http://table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving)



## Thanksgiving Catering

Open Thanksgiving Day From 7am–Noon

Enjoy a complete Thanksgiving Dinner or choose from scrumptious salads, sides, sauces, and desserts to enjoy at home.

See a full list of menu items available at [table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving](http://table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving)

To order, call the Café at 508-347-6800.

Orders must be placed by 2pm Monday, Nov. 22. Pick up times at Cedar Street Café are Wednesday Nov. 24 from 7am–3pm or Thursday Nov. 25 from 7am–Noon.

**SAVE ON  
THANKSGIVING  
CATERING**

**\$10 OFF**  
WHEN YOU  
SPEND \$50

Valid thru 11.25.21. Order must be \$50 before tax and gratuity. **Coupon must be presented prior to payment.** Cannot be combined with other offers. Customer responsible for applicable sales tax.

## Traditional Thanksgiving Day Feast



Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>  
at The Duck & Avellino

Reservations  
are limited!

502 Main Street | 508-347-2321  
[theducksturbridge.com](http://theducksturbridge.com) | [avellinorestaurant.com](http://avellinorestaurant.com)

A bountiful and festive dinner with all your favorites and some of ours too. Our **prix-fixe Thanksgiving Day Menu** includes a bakery basket, choice of soup or salad, entrée with sides, and choice of dessert—all for \$39.95 per guest (plus tax & gratuity).

### CHOICE OF ENTRÉE

Traditional Roast Turkey & Stuffing | King-Cut Prime Rib Dinner  
Pecan Crusted Salmon | Pumpkin Mascarpone Ravioli

View the full menu at [table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving](http://table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving).  
**Make your reservation now by calling 508-347-2321.**



## Thanksgiving Day at THE BARN AT WIGHT FARM

Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at The Barn at Wight Farm

420 Main Street | 774-241-8450 | [thebarnatwightfarm.com](http://thebarnatwightfarm.com)

Join us for Bountiful Chef-Attended Stations including Hors d'oeuvres, Salad, Assorted Breads and Rolls, Carved Fresh Roast Turkey & Prime Rib of Beef, Cracker Crusted Cod, Chef's Holiday Sides, and Scrumptious Dessert Selection. Cost is \$39.95 per guest (plus tax & gratuity).

View the full menu at [table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving](http://table3restaurantgroup.com/thanksgiving).  
**Make your reservation now by calling 774-241-8450.**



## Paws corner

### Pet sitting goes awry

By Sam Mazzotta

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: Last month, I agreed to pet sit for a friend while she and her boyfriend went on vacation. I did this for free because I love pets and want to see if pet sitting as a business is right for me.

Bitsy, her 3-year-old cat, was a joy to care for ... the first week. On Monday of the

second week, I came to take care of her and Bitsy was laying in the middle of the floor, lethargic. I scooped her up and took her straight to the veterinarian, who thinks she either ingested a toxic houseplant or spoiled food. After fluids and rest at the vet, Bitsy is doing much better.

But my friend is angry with me because the vet's bill is very high. She says it's my fault that Bitsy got into her houseplant. I followed my friend's instructions to the letter. Why is it my fault? What should I do? Sign me – Confused

DEAR CONFUSED: I'm glad Bitsy is doing better. You did

the right thing by taking her in for medical care.

My advice is to give your friend a little time to process everything that happened. You've explained your side already. Hopefully with a little breathing space she will be able to think more clearly and then the two of you can talk and decide what to do.

When you open your pet sitting business, take this as a lesson learned. Spell out terms very clearly, stating that the pet owner is responsible for any vet bills incurred due to illness or injury. You can learn much more through groups like Pet Sitter International (<https://www.petsit.com/>) and the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (<https://petsitters.org/>).

#### Readers sound off on letting cats outside

DEAR READERS: My recent letter from a pet mom who strongly believes cats should be allowed outside really touched a nerve among readers. They sent in some great responses, both for and against. Only a few are published here due to space constraints, but you can read all of them, unedited, at [www.pawscorner.com](http://www.pawscorner.com). Here are just a few:

DEAR PAWS: I do not have a cat, but I would keep them indoors because of the dangers from and to them. And I do not let my dog run free either. – Mary Ann C.

DEAR PAWS: My current cat thrives on being outdoors, and she loves coming in and being a lap cat, too. I never

let my cat stay outside all night, however; definitely more dangers then. – Carol T., Leicester, New York

DEAR PAWS: I think a person who lets any of their pets roam freely outside is uncaring, selfish and inconsiderate. A dictionary says this of a pet: "any domesticated or tame animal that is kept as a companion and cared for affectionately." – Signed, I love my pet

DEAR PAWS: Our pet cats still have an instinct to kill and be wild and free, just like big cats have. About the ticks: Just pull them off, put a little medicine on the bite, and that is that. – Adrian M.

DEAR PAWS: I agree with you. I lost two inside/outside cats when living in Florida. One got killed in the road; one got killed by a neighbor's dog. After that I kept cats inside. – Linda K.

DEAR PAWS: I just can't understand someone saying they "love having a cat," but they certainly don't seem to love the mess they leave in everyone else's yards! – Becky H.

What are your thoughts on the issue? Send them, or any pet care questions, to [ask@pawscorner.com](mailto:ask@pawscorner.com). (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

# JOHN THE ROOFER CO.



MA HIC # 111318

MA CSL # 97139

## "70 YEARS STRONG!"

*"Hire the BEST, because you live under that roof!"*

- Shingles
- Rubber & TPO
- Standing Seam Metal
- Vinyl Siding
- Replacement Windows
- Carpentry Services

TOLL FREE **866-906-ROOF (7663)**  
**www.johntheroofer.com**

## See an Expert in Cosmetic Dentistry

Jason R. Tubo, DMD, MAGD - Master of the Academy of General Dentistry

Advanced Cosmetic Bonding | Minimally Invasive Dentistry  
Completely Digital Treatment (**NO impressions!**)  
Single-tooth implants | Full-mouth reconstruction  
Computer-Guided Surgery | 3D Cone-Beam X-ray  
Crowns | Veneers | Advanced Esthetics



whitinsville  
family dentistry

(508) 234-8107

12 Prospect Street  
Whitinsville, MA

[www.DrTubo.com](http://www.DrTubo.com)

Finding yourself a little addicted to Dr. Tubo's Before and Afters?

See them when they're brand new  
Follow Dr. Tubo on Instagram:



@dr.jasontubo

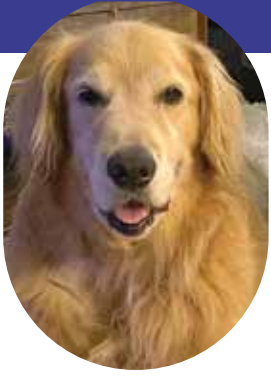
**Real People. Real Results.**

See more of Jen's case and more  
REAL Before and After cases  
actually done by Dr. Jason Tubo at

[www.DrTubo.com](http://www.DrTubo.com)







**By Amy LeClaire**

I've yet to name the puppies I haven't met yet. Lincoln has left a gape in our hearts, as is the case with the loss of any family member. Loss is loss. But the loss of a family pet, I've come to know, is unique. We not only lose a dog-son or dog-daughter, but also a full-time companion, therapist, clown, walking partner, driving partner, work buddy, and domestic assistant. Dogs, simply put, are just there, and there for you. A dog meets our basic human need for love, affection, security, connection, laughter, and friendship. They give us what matters the most in this life with one simple request asked in return. Spend time with me.

Lincoln adored people. He would rush to the front door to remind me of how important it is to say hello to the Go Green Man, even when my patience with outdoor solicitors had worn thin. "Someone is AT OUR HOUSE and he might want

## Living ON with Lincoln

# Destined for a good life

to PLAY!" He'd wiggle and glance up at me with a shoe in his mouth. "Hurry and open that door. This man looks so fun."

Lincoln was right. The salesman may have interrupted my 5:00 p.m. bustle and train of thought but I needed to cut him some slack. He has a hard job. How many rejections might this young man have already endured? "Hello. My name is Bob. I was wondering if you were interested in hearing—"

"HI!! MY NAME IS LINCOLN! I BROUGHT YOU A SHOE!"

Lincoln made awkward situations pleasant. Professional dog trainers advise that dogs (reasonably) wait at their "spots" while the owner opens the door. A dog needs

to learn salutary manners and know his boundaries.

"Want to play a quick game of fetch? Hold on!"

Lincoln was exceptional. He had to be the first to meet and greet. He learned manners by spending long happy and sad days together. He learned by watching his favorite people get along in this clumsy world. "Lincoln – you can have some eggs..." I'd tell him in a gentle, positive tone, "but you have to wait. You just have to wait." I emphasized the key word as though holding up a flashcard for him. "Got it!" He sat patiently at his spot, lifted his nose to egg scented air, and waited. Every so often he'd break into that infectious Golden smile. "Damn, I got it good here."

Lincoln had it good because he was so damn good. He reminded me of how much there was to be joyful about. Like me, he wore rose-colored glasses and saw the very best in people and in situations. The puppies I've yet to meet will have it good as well. That said, will it be possible for my two pups to be as remarkable as Lincoln? I'm skeptical. In any event, their names will suit who they are, or perhaps who they are destined to be. Lincoln's name emerged while looking at a pocket calendar to plan ahead for his pick-up date. We would bring home a Twin Beau' D puppy on February 12, which happened to be Abraham LINCOLN'S birthday. Truthfully, I can't remember why I walked into the kitchen at times, but the memory of seeing Lincoln's name in that booklet is as clear as the lake waters he would swim through over and over again. Like a message from a bottle, Lincoln's name came and stayed.

Later, we would learn that his name implies a connection to lakes and cliff climbing, both of which marked two prominent inspirations in his life. He would grow to be a remarkable long distance, stick-holding swim-



**Excitement for a hike beside a stream.**

mer. At only six months old, he would climb up and fall off of a small cliff at Newport but he'd be okay. He was robust and resilient and he'd go on loving life until he no longer could.

My family still awaits details on pregnancies and parents of puppies we've yet to meet in the spring of 2022. We haven't decided on whether we'll take two boys, or a boy and a girl (from the two different breeders for which we are enlisted) but

we do know of a few names that we like. Though we are hesitant to share names publicly at this time, we hold them dearly in our hearts and want to thank all of you who have taken the time to share names with us! One thing is for sure, the puppies will have it good. Stay tuned for more on Living ON with Lincoln.

*Tell me a story about your dog's name – amyleclaire@hotmail.com*



Lincoln assuming his namesake.



Happy about his life.

**WWW.TLCPETHAVEN.COM**

Over 30 years in Business  
Denise and Bill Jones

**TLC**

Dog and Cat Grooming & Boarding  
Luxury Suites Available  
Doggie Daycare  
In-Home Services Available

**PET HAVEN & Mobile Groom-In-Vans**  
68 US Route 146, Sutton MA • 508-865-3180

**154 Riverlin St.  
Millbury, Ma. 01527  
508-865-8155**

- Grooming
  - Daycare
  - Boarding
- by Kelly Hauk



**BEST OF CENTRAL MASS**  
Best Pet Groomer 2016 & 2017

**www.barknbubblesmillbury.com**

**BARK-N-BUBBLES**



**Gibson's Natural Pet Resort**

Lodging & Daycare & Grooming  
Training & Pet Supplies



**Hours:**  
Mon.-Thurs.  
6:30am to 6pm  
Fri. 9:30am-4pm  
Sat. 8am-noon  
Sun. 5pm - 6pm only

**139 Upton St. (Rt. 140), Grafton, Ma 01519**  
**Phone: 508-839-1757 Fax: 508-839-1736**

**Grafton@GibsonsNaturalPet.com**  
**www.GibsonsNaturalPet.com**





## Shepherd Hill Festival of Crafts

DUDLEY - The 29th annual Festival of Crafts at Shepherd Hill Regional High School will be held Saturday, November 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Over 125 top-quality New England crafters and artisans will be on hand offering wonderful ideas and items for Christmas gift giving. There will also be raffles and food trucks. Parking and shuttle service is free with free package carry-out service. The fair is sponsored by the Shepherd Hill Music Parents and is held at the high school, 68 Dudley-Oxford Road, Dudley.

## Christmas bazaar

AUBURN - St. Joseph's Parish Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 4, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the St. Joseph's Parish Center, 68 Central Street, Auburn.

Come and enjoy an old fashioned Christmas Bazaar and check out the collectibles, attic treasures, plants, jewelry, knit goods, holiday decor, toys, candy and baked items, and so much more. Take a chance on one of the many raffles. There is something for

## Christmas Fair

CHARLTON - The Charlton Helping Hand Society, Inc. presents its annual Christmas Fair at the Dodge Chapel, 81 Hammond Hill Road, Charlton. Catch the holiday spirit (and bargains) on Saturday, December 4, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enjoy the huge assorted cookie table, Santa's Village shopping room, raffle table and raffles for gift cards, cash, services, etc. Winners for the raffles will begin to be drawn at 1 p.m. Come to shop, come for the fellowship and spirit of the holiday and come to "help us to help others."

## Hometown Holiday Hall to help heat Scout building

DOUGLAS - The Douglas Scouting Association will host a three-day holiday shopping hall at the Olive Branch Masonic Lodge at 7 Depot Street in Douglas from Friday, November 26, to Sunday, November 28.

The Lodge will be set up as a Country Store with all-local, homemade items, with one featured vendor per category. "No two items will be alike," said event organizer Mary St. Pierre.

Ms. St. Pierre explained that the Association has acquired the former Old Past-Time Club on Church Street and a dedicated group of scouters, local contractors and individuals have been upgrading and replacing all the major systems in the historic building. Their goal is to have Scout meetings, community activities and events like the Hometown Holiday Hall. But they can't do it without heat.

Proceeds from the Hometown Holiday Hall will benefit Scout Hall heating for the winter.

Hall hours are Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free, refreshments will be available, and credit cards are accepted for purchases.

## Christmas Festival

WORCESTER - St. Christopher Church, 950 West Boylston St., Worcester will hold its annual Christmas Festival on Saturday, December 4, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The festival will feature food, raffles, flea market, crafts, jewelry, baked goods and much more. No admission fee. Come start your Christmas shopping while enjoying the festivities. For more information, call the parish office at 508-853-1492.

## Gently used toy sale

UXBRIDGE - Many families have slightly used Children's items or toys that their families have outgrown. This is a way for parents, grandparents and others to get gifts for the holidays, in light of the reports of shortages of toys etc. this year and also the increased prices.

If you have items you'd like to sell and share with others this is your chance. Suggestions: toys, books, puzzles, craft items, back packs, etc.

On Saturday, November 27, there will be a Gently Used Toy Sale at the Community House, Uxbridge Congregational Church in Uxbridge. Table space donations are \$20.00. The hours will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Table space is limited. If you would like to reserve table space, please contact Andrea 774-696-8243.

## Craft and vendor fair

GRAFTON - Grafton Recreation will hold its annual Craft and Vendor Fair on December 5 as part of the Grafton Celebrates the Holidays.

The fair will be held in the Grafton Municipal Center gymnasium, 30 Providence Road, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Items for sale from local artisans will include jewelry, charcuterie boards, wreaths, ornaments, soaps, self care products, clothing, knits, coasters and more.

## Holiday dinner

WHITINSVILLE - Parishioners and volunteers from the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church would like to cordially invite the community to a traditional turkey dinner with all the usual holiday meal favorites: potatoes, vegetables, squash, stuffing, and cranberry sauce. This year's meal will be served on Saturday, Dec. 25, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at the church, 61 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville. The dinner is open to everyone free of charge. We ask that you wear masks while you are not eating and maintain social distance where possible. Please come join us for a joyous Christmas celebration that will include holiday fun, food, and fellowship with many from the community. For more information, call the church office at 508-234-2275.

## Holiday Craft Fair

AUBURN - The Auburn Recreation and Culture Department will present its 8th annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, December 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Auburn High School. Snow date is December 12.

More than one hundred fifty craft vendors will help get you into the spirit of the holiday season. Santa will be making an appearance from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. so bring the kids. There will be activities, food, drawing, face painting and much more. The schedule of events is listed on www.auburnguide.com. For information kpappas@town.auburn.ma.us.



# Clean Slate Estate Inc.

New England's Premier Clean-Out Company

Call (401) 640-9385  
Toll Free (800) 989-4521



## CALL NOW TO MAKE CASH \$\$\$ WE BUY...

SMALL & LARGE  
COLLECTIONS OF  
ARTWORK, BASEBALL  
& BASKETBALL CARDS,  
COINS, COMICS,  
DIAMONDS, GOLD,  
JEWELRY, POKEMON  
CARDS, SILVER, STAMPS,  
TRAINS & TOYS (ANTIQUE)



Fully Insured and Bonded

FREE  
QUOTES

[www.CleanSlateEstate.com](http://www.CleanSlateEstate.com)

CALL US  
FIRST



## SMALL LOAD CONCRETE

SERVING WORCESTER COUNTY

### WHY SMALL LOAD CONCRETE?

- Buy ONLY what you need
- Flexibility - according to your schedule
- Custom Mix / Pour on the job...no "Hot-Loads"
- Less Expensive than bagged and large mixers
- Cost Effective • No Waste
- Environmentally Friendly

### CONCRETE APPLICATIONS

Homeowners	Contractors
• Patios	• Gas Stations
• Steps	• Road Work
• Fence Posts	• Footings
• Decks	• Curbing
• Retaining Walls	• Sidewalks
• Pool Decks	• Pre-Cast

Custom-Concrete - Metered Pours

Concrete finishing services available

Also available for delivery on **SATURDAYS...**



34 Providence Road, Sutton, MA  
508-770-1200 • [www.smallloadconcrete.com](http://www.smallloadconcrete.com)



**430 Main St., Oxford, MA**

**We repair all makes and  
models of Garage Doors and  
Electric Openers**

**- Commercial and Residential -**

*Visit our display by appointment*



Renew your home's appeal  
with a new garage door.  
Many new styles and colors  
to choose from.

**Sales • Service • Installation**

**800-605-9030 508-987-8600**

[www.countrysidedoors.com](http://www.countrysidedoors.com) email: [countrysidedoors@aol.com](mailto:countrysidedoors@aol.com)



## Tales from beyond

## The Legend of Laura Sherman

By Thomas D'Agostino

www.tomdagostino.com

New England is full of incredible legends and stories that add to the magic of the region. There is one certain legend that resides near the Tri-State border of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

At the crossroads of Wakefield and Croff in Burrillville, Rhode Island, one will find the remains of a small burial lot. If it were not for the sign that marks it as Rhode Island Historical Cemetery # 1, visitors may never know it is actually the Sherman family burial lot.

Raised up from the road by a stone wall, the unmarked plot holds the remains of five members of the Sherman family and what looks like the remains of a cellar hole where perhaps their cabin once graced. Buried in this lot are Caroline Sherman, born 1837-death unknown, Clark Sherman, born 1831-death unknown, Ellen Sherman, birth and death dates unknown, Laura Marsh Sherman, born

September 24, 1803-died 1870, and Squire Crandell Sherman, born July 1828 and died April 21, 1879.

The only trace of gravestones is the base of Laura Sherman's monument. The others have nothing left but mounds rising from the earth to show of their being buried there.

Legend states the rest of the stones were stolen to perform some sort of rituals. This would seem easy to do as the lot is located in an isolated area along the woods of Buck Hill.

The lack of death dates on record would indicate that the Clark family buried their own and never bothered to record exact dates of death with the town. Some claim that Caroline and Ellen may have been the wives of Clark Sherman, but it is the grave of Laura Sherman, the oldest of them all, that is of interest in this narrative. Laura may have been the matriarch of the family and still watches

over her loved ones.

It has been passed down from generation to generation that Laura haunts the lot. If you visit on a full moon and dance around her grave thirteen times, she will appear and answer your questions. It is a local legend that has been attempted many times. Some have fled in fear as Laura Sherman materialized out of a wisp of smoke, keeping her part of the bargain for their toil, while others swore the whole story is nothing more than an urban legend created by the local boy scout camp at Buck Hill.

There are other stories of people who swore Laura Sherman watches over the

graveyard. Many of the Burrillville residents say that they have been startled or even frightened by what they believe is the ghost of Laura standing at the edge of the plot looking at the road as they drove by. When they would look back, the ghost would be gone.

One account relates to a small group of high school students who decided to call forth the spirit of Laura. One of the girls circled the grave thirteen times while the small throng waited anxiously for the ghost to appear. After a while, they felt deceived by the spirit and left the lot. While driving away, the people in the other car noticed

an old woman sitting in the back seat of the car driven by the girl who tried to summon Laura from her eternal rest.

If you decide to visit the cemetery be thoughtful and courteous to both the living and the dead.

Thomas D'Agostino and his wife Arlene Nicholson are seasoned paranormal investigators, authors, and co-organizers of Paranormal United Research Society. You can find out more about them by visiting [www.tomdagostino.com](http://www.tomdagostino.com).



- The opposite of paranoia is pronoia. A person suffering from pronoia feels that people or entities around them are plotting to do them good!
- American flags left on the moon will eventually get bleached white by the sun.
- Only two animals have the ability to see behind themselves without turning around: the rabbit and the parrot. Their eyes are on the sides of their head, allowing them to swivel 360 degrees.
- David Babcock broke a Guinness World Record for his time in the Kansas City marathon, at 5 hours, 48 minutes and 27 seconds. But not for running – he managed to complete the race while knitting a scarf that measured just over 12 feet long. As he said later, "Knitting the whole way really did help distract me from the hard parts of the marathon."
- Mozart sold the most CDs in 2016, beating out Adele, Drake and Beyonce, even though those artists all had Grammy-winning hits that year.
- In the 16th century, Parliament passed a law declaring the use of makeup "to deceive an Englishman into marriage" punishable as witchcraft.
- A survey of 2,000 U.S. adults by the skincare brand StriVectin found 63% admitted

to spending at least half their time on video calls staring at their own face, while 58% admitted to getting so distracted by their own appearance that they sometimes stopped listening.

•When Victor Hugo was facing a tight publication schedule for "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," he asked his valet to confiscate his clothes so he wouldn't be able to leave the house.

•President John F. Kennedy was buried without his brain. The original reason given was that it had been "lost" during his autopsy, but in 2018, newly released U.S. government documents revealed that his brother, Robert Kennedy, ordered the brain secretly destroyed to ensure that it would never be displayed in a museum.

•Eating Kentucky Fried Chicken on Dec. 25 is such a popular tradition in Japan that the chain asks customers to place their orders at least two months in advance. The custom started in 1974 when it was introduced to Japan for visitors who were looking for a dinner that resembled a traditional holiday meal.

•Aside from being the first commercially successful 3D game, Battlezone also was used by the U.S. Army to train tank gunners.

*Thought for the Day:* "Of all the liars in the world, sometimes the worst are our own fears." – Rudyard Kipling

**BLACKSTONE VALLEY Xpress**  
CROSSTOWN ADS AND BUSINESS NEWS  
formerly The Yankee Xpress

For advertising information contact  
[ads@theyankeeexpress.com](mailto:ads@theyankeeexpress.com)

MA &amp; ISA Certified Arborist

Full Circle

T.R.E.E.C.A.R.E.

Insect and disease diagnosis  
and treatment #16339Specimen and  
ornamental tree  
and shrub care  
Since 1989

Dwight A. Bristowe

Office: 508-476-3258

Cell: 508-523-9631

[www.FullCircleTreeCare.com](http://www.FullCircleTreeCare.com)

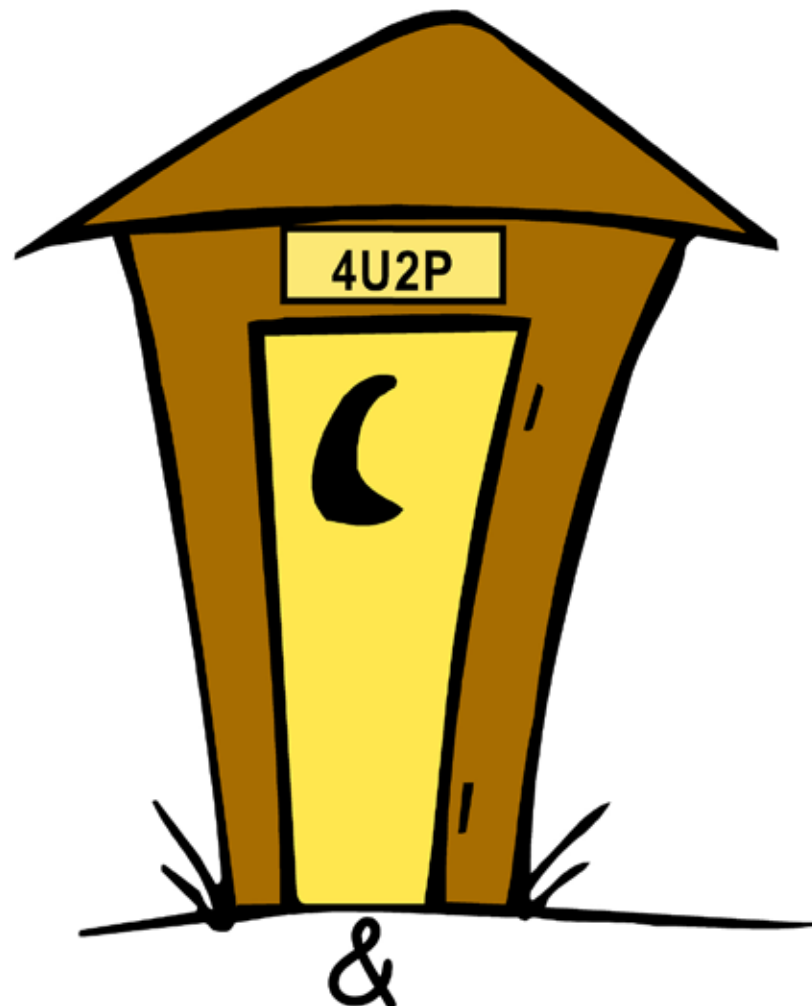
# CHASE/harris Septic

85 Dudley Rd.

508.865.2007

Sutton

508.865.2090



## Portable Toilets

We're still going...so we can keep,

## "Keepin-U-Goin"



# KOVELS® Antiques & Collecting

By Terry and Kim Kovel

**Toy Icebox**

Children's toys are often miniature copies of full-sized objects in the house. They like to imitate Mom and Dad's work. A recent Bertoia auction sold the toy icebox with its original pristine box for \$1,440. The Gurney toy

refrigerator made by Arcade is only 5 1/2 inches high. It is a copy of an 1840s icebox. Although the first refrigeration method was patented in 1809, the icebox for home use dates from the 1840s. The toy has a square door on the right side that covered

the compartment that held a block of ice, which was delivered by an iceman in a horse-drawn wagon. Food was kept in the large compartment, and the small section on the right is where the water from the melting ice was collected and discarded each day.

A modern electric refrigerator was made by General Electric Co. in 1927. It is named for the Monitor Top. It remained popular until the 1940s. Today's refrigerators can be dated by the special section for frozen food introduced in 1924. All of the styles have been copied for toys.

**Toilet paper?**

Q: I was just told that there was a bag kept in the privy building used in past centuries. It was quilted from old pieces of cloth and used to save scraps (some say cloth, some paper) to use like we use toilet paper. Is this true? A: We thought that was a strange question, but we searched our library and finally went online to Kovels.com. We wrote about an exhibit in 2009 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, of quilted privy bags. They also had a booklet showing the collection. The bags were used in the privy to hold the pieces

of paper that were to be used like toilet paper. Waste went into the hole in the seat to the ground about 6 feet below. Lancaster, Pennsylvania, seems to have been the center of this tradition with Amish-made quilted bags. As you probably have heard, the joke was last year's Sears and Roebuck catalog was saved for the outhouse. The only price we have seen for this rare item was \$995.

**Perfume lamp**

Q. My aunt gave me a perfume lamp 50 years ago. It's a figural dog sitting up and begging. It has perforations on the head, a place for the perfume in the back of the head and large glass eyes where the light can show through. Can you tell me something about perfume lamps?

A: Maurice Berger, a French pharmacist, invented the perfume lamp in 1897 when he added perfume to lamp oil or other liquid fuel. Electric perfume lamps that used a lightbulb to heat the perfume were made by the early 1900s. The fragrance is emitted through small holes in the lamp.

Perfume lamps have been made in many different figural shapes and were made by manufacturers in several different countries. The lamp with a lightbulb, but



This toy refrigerator can be dated by the square section that held a block of ice, an early type used from the 1840s. It sold at auction in "unplayed with" condition with a pristine box for more than \$1,000.

without the perfume inside, is often used as a nightlight. Today a battery-operated or plug-in product, diffuser or spray can be used to provide a pleasant scent to a room.

**Current prices**

Silver plate, bowl, Candara, smooth organic form, marked, Lino Sabattini, Italy, 4 1/2 x 9 3/4 inches, \$25.

Advertising, jar, Eat Tom's Toasted Peanuts, clear glass, black script lettering, overhanging lid, red knob with Tom's, 11 x 9 inches, \$150.

Decoy, rainbow trout, wood, painted, shades of green, pink and teal, tack eyes, Miles Smith, c.1973, 9 1/2 by 32 inches, \$280.

Jewelry, bracelet, bangle, Clic Clac, hinged with twisting H clasp, steel, inset enamel band, marked, Hermes K, 7 inches, \$365.

Piano Baby, bisque, child lying on stomach, rosy

cheeks, brown molded hair, bare feet, romper, holds pug dog, painted, Germany, c.1900, 9 x 4 inches, \$70.

Royal Doulton vase, landscape, cows in field with daisies, flambe glaze, swollen cylinder form, rolled rim, 8 1/2 inches, \$175.

Dough Box, stand, burl wood, carved, women, holding hands, field, shaped apron, 35 1/2 x 39 inches, \$390.

Toolbox, carpenters, wooden, lift lid, interior compartments and drawers, steel side handles, two riser base, c. 1940, 15 x 28 inches, \$675.

TIP: If a thin chain becomes tangled, dust it with talcum powder and the untangling should be easier.

"Kovels' Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide" – the new 2022 edition with more than 12,500 all-new and real prices, 3,000 color photographs and 500 marks – is now available in bookstores and online. (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

5			7					3
1	6				8	5		
		8		6			2	
9			2				3	6
		6		4	3			8
	8			1		4		
4				5			8	
	9		4			3		
		5	8		2			7

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Fully Insured & Licensed in MA

RI Reg #: 41975  
HIC #: 190392

- Roofing
- Chimney
- Gutters
- Siding

Working with you every step of the way!

**SHINE** CONSTRUCTION INC

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE TODAY

**508-278-3300**

• SERVING ALL OF NEW ENGLAND •

www.shineconstructioninc.com

## 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

7	4	2	6	3	8	5	1	9
1	5	3	9	7	4	2	6	8
2	8	9	6	1	5	3	7	4
5	6	4	1	7	9	3	8	2
8	1	2	3	4	6	9	5	7
6	3	7	5	8	2	1	4	9
9	2	1	4	5	6	8	7	3
4	7	8	3	2	6	9	1	5
3	6	1	8	9	7	4	2	5

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

## Samuel Slater EXPERIENCE

### Help us tell the story as a Slater Experience Guide

Slater Experience Guides are volunteer hosts of the Samuel Slater Experience (SSE) who support and enhance visitors' experiences throughout their tour of the museum.

As knowledgeable emissaries, they greet visitors, assist with self-guided tours, supply transitional and anecdotal information for each exhibit, explain the digital technology and techniques used, and answer specific questions about the Samuel Slater story, the founding of Webster, and the history of the Samuel Slater Experience.

**Requirements**

Slater Experience Guides are expected to share an interest and enthusiasm for the history of the American Industrial Revolution and the town of Webster.

They should have good people skills and the ability to actively interact with children, school groups, and adults in public speaking settings.

Volunteer Experience Guides are asked to make a one-year commitment and be available for at least two 3-hour shifts per

month during SSE's hours of operation, including at least two weekend days each quarter.

SSE will provide periodic training sessions covering all aspects of the museum, the technology, and the building. Slater Experience Guides must be able to attend Slater Experience Guide Orientation and Training and are expected to review additional material as periodically provided or approved by SSE in order to stay up to date on any changes, additions or deletions, and to broaden their knowledge of our mission.

**Benefits**

Experience guides will receive a family pass for free entry to the museum during their tenure as volunteers. They will receive a 20% discount in the gift shop, a 20% discount on event rentals, and invitations to special events.

For an application form, contact Reanna Kuzdzal at 508-461-2955 or email rkuzdzal@samuel Slater Experience.org. Applicants will be asked to come in for an in-person interview.



## Q & A with The Car Doctor

John Paul is AAA Northeast's Car Doctor. He has over 40 years' experience in the automotive business and is an ASE certified master technician. He will answer reader's questions each week. You can find the Car Doctor podcast at [www.johnfpaul.podbean.com](http://www.johnfpaul.podbean.com) or other popular podcast sites. Email your car questions to [jpaul@aaanortheast.com](mailto:jpaul@aaanortheast.com). Follow John on Twitter @johnfpaul and friend him on facebook mrjohnfpaul



**Q.** I enjoyed your Q&A column regarding the recent question about 2005 Corolla with poor headlights. Another likely problem which we had with the same car was that the headlight covers became translucent. The dealer cleaned them up for \$100. But there are Internet fixes with toothpaste and baking scrubbing. This may be worth looking into.

**A.** Yes, you are correct that cloudy headlight lenses can reduce headlight performance by 90 percent. Cleaning or replacing the headlight assemblies as well as new bulbs can make a remarkable difference when driving at night. In fact, our testing at AAA showed that depending on condition, cleaning the headlight lens can offer better lighting than some aftermarket replacement headlight assemblies.

**Q.** I have trouble shifting my car out of the park position. I went to the dealership service department, and they said there was nothing wrong with it. Yet I still have trouble shifting out of park, what could be wrong.

**A.** The issue may be where you park. If you are parking on an incline, the shift may be more difficult to move since you have the weight of the car on the parking mechanism. As a simple test, before you shift into park, set the parking brake. When you drive the car again, shift into park or reverse and then release the parking brake. Using this method, the brakes are holding the car in park rather than the transmission.

**Q.** I have a 2000 Mazda Protege that I had been driving the day before and got ready to go somewhere and nothing would come on. I bought a new battery, and the car didn't start. Someone else said it was ignition switch, which I installed and still nothing. Please help me.

**A.** Start with the basics, which includes the cables and fuses. There is a 100 amp "maxi-fuse" as well as a fuse that runs to the ignition switch. If the warning lights illuminate but the car doesn't start, the issue could be a faulty neutral safety switch or starter interlock clutch switch. Finally, there is the starter itself.

**Q.** I have a 2018 Subaru Legacy Limited 2.5 with 29,300 miles. I was told by a technician that I need rear brake pads and rotors immediately at a cost of \$299.00. The technician said I was down to "two" for my rear brakes and that my front brakes were a "four" which I should replace within six months. My questions are: is it unusual to need new pads and rotors at only a little over 29,000 miles? And is the cost of \$299.00 per axle reasonable?

**A.** Brakes are one of the few systems that wear is almost completely based on the driver and their driving habits. I have seen brakes need replacement in as little as 10,000 miles and in some cases last nearly 100,000 miles. If the front brakes are worn down to two millimeters they do need replacing. The friction material of a new brake pad averages about 10 millimeters. In many cases replacing brake pads and rotors together guarantees better performance. Although, depending on brake wear, typically you can get two sets of pads out of one set of rotors. Regarding price, it really depends on where you go and the quality of the parts. The typical dealer price will be more expensive, and some independent shops could be cheaper.

**Q.** A couple a weeks ago on television it was mentioned that someone stole catalytic converters at a lot of car dealerships. The same day, ABC had a

segment on the same topic, citing 300 percent more thefts than last year. My son has a 2007 Honda Accord and his car's converter was stolen at a hotel that he was at. He had an aftermarket installed for under \$1,000. The auto repair owner said thieves don't want aftermarket ones, since they are not worth much money. I have a Toyota Corolla with an original converter and want to prevent this from happening to me. On ABC news, how to protect your converter from getting stolen, they mentioned a steel plate cover. I have asked a few auto repair shops about this, and they are not aware of these plates. They are guessing maybe one must be fabricated. Any suggestions?

**A.** Yes, we are seeing more and more catalytic converter thefts. The reasons are simple. catalytic converters contain very expensive precious metals. Additionally cordless power tools make it easy to cut through the exhaust system. In my opinion the biggest issue is some salvage yards or metal recyclers don't ask for any documentation as to where the converters came from. There are companies that are fabricating aluminum shields that are bolted to the underside of the car that prevent theft. My concern would be depending on how they were fabricated, there may not be enough air to help control the converter temperature. My advice is the same as the police: park in well-lit areas. Park close to building entrances or the nearest road in public parking lots. This gives your vehicle more exposure where more people can see it.

**Happy Thanksgiving  
from the Car Doctor**

## QUALITY BUILDING MATERIALS FOR ALL YOUR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING NEEDS!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE • FREE DELIVERY • ESTIMATING

Lumber & Plywood • Windows • Doors • Millwork • Roofing • Insulation • Decking

Rail Systems • Siding • Hardwood • Fasteners • and Much More!

**C&S  
LUMBER**  
CO., INC.

Family Owned And Operated Since 1952.

124 Main St., Millbury

[cslumberco.com](http://cslumberco.com) • 508-865-4822

Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sat. 7:30 a.m. - Noon

VISIT US FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT!  
HOMEOWNERS  
WELCOME!

**KEARNS**



**COLLISION**

*Repair*

FREE ESTIMATES • QUALITY SERVICE

1734 Providence Rd., Northbridge, MA • 508-234-5211

Thomas F. Colonair Jr.

[www.kearnscollision.com](http://www.kearnscollision.com)



## Colin's Property Maintenance

- Tree Removal
- Tree Trimming
- Bobcat Work

- Storm Damage
- Clean Outs
- Trash Removal

Fully Insured

**774-230-9080**

Free Estimates

CHARLTON, MA

~ Servicing Worcester County ~



### COMPLETE AUTO GLASS SPECIALISTS

- Chip & Crack Repair
- Windshield Replacement
- FREE Mobile Service



### MOBILE AUTO GLASS SPECIALIST

Insurance Company Preferred Shop.

- Certified technicians to your location
- Foreign & domestic auto, truck, bus, motor home, windows & sunroofs
- Construction equipment, heavy duty vehicles
- Fabrication of flat glass
- Vehicles equipped with convertible or vinyl roof
- In-shop service • Free mobile service
- Saturday service
- Free pick-up and delivery within a 10 mile radius
- Quality workmanship guaranteed
- Customer safety and satisfaction is our first priority
- Servicing customers for over 25 years

201 W. Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571

800-479-7697 • 508-949-1327

Monday-Friday 8am to 5pm • Saturday 8am to 12pm

Visit Us at [roysautoglass.net](http://roysautoglass.net)



## Donna's Day: creative family fun

### Leaves to treasure

By Donna Erickson

Memories of times and places from my childhood flood my mind this time of year whenever I toss on a light jacket and grab a rake. I remember jumping in piles of newly raked leaves on a Saturday morning, and the smell of burning them by the curb at day's end. It was legal to do that then, even in the city.

I also recall sitting on the front porch with my friends, weaving colorful leaves into crowns just as we had done with dandelions and daisies the previous spring.

Years later, in a dorm at North Park University in Chicago, fall's leaves arrived early, in a box mailed by my friend's mom from Massachusetts. Carefully layered between sheets of waxed paper were dozens of the biggest, most brilliant red and orange maple leaves I had ever seen. We taped them to the walls, one by one, just like kindergartners decorating an elementary-school hallway.

Leaves and the memories they evoke are treasures for many families this time of

year – even in Orlando, Florida. Amy Anderson, mom of two girls ages 2 and 8, says that leaves just keep on falling in her yard long after the snow begins to fall in states “up north.” “Sometimes it takes extra effort to motivate my family to do the constant raking, so we’ve turned the chore into a game,” she says. “We estimate the number of bags we’ll fill with leaves in any given session. Afterward, we go out for ice cream – bragging rights and extra sprinkles on top of a scoop go to the best estimator. A simple game not only motivates the kids to help, but it has become a great family tradition.”

Here are a few leaf activities you can enjoy with your kids this season, even if you don’t have a giant oak in the backyard:

– After a rainfall, find a stick and use it to poke under a pile of fallen damp leaves. Look for bugs, worms and other critters.



Design adds interest to a fall leaf.

– Press leaves and use them for decor around your home. Spread them out between sheets of smooth paper towels. Place heavy books on top and let the leaves dry for about one week. Remove books and gently remove leaves.

– Draw pictures on pressed leaves using nontoxic paint pens or permanent markers. Draw a fall scene of pumpkins, a colorful tree or a simple design. Set on a plate for a festive place card at a special gathering of friends and family.

Find more family fun at [www.donnaerickson.com](http://www.donnaerickson.com). Write to Donna at [Info@donnaerickson.com](mailto:Info@donnaerickson.com) (c) 2021 Donna Erickson Distributed by King Features Synd.



• On Nov. 25, 1783, nearly three months after the Treaty of Paris was signed ending the American Revolution, the remaining British soldiers withdraw from New York City, the last British military position in its former colonies.

• On Nov. 26, 1862, Oxford mathematician Charles Dodgson sends a handwritten manuscript, “Alice’s Adventures Under Ground,” to 10-year-old Alice Liddell. Dodgson made up the story on a picnic, and Alice insisted he write it down. He published it under his nom de plume Lewis Carroll in 1865.

• On Nov. 22, 1900, the first car produced under the Mercedes name is taken for its inaugural drive in Cannstatt, Germany. The car was specially built for Emil Jellinek, a fan of fast, flashy cars, who bought 36 of them. In exchange, the car was named after his 11-year-old daughter, Mercedes.

• On Nov. 26, 1931, the first cloverleaf interchange to be built in the U.S., at the junc-

tion of U.S. Rt. 1 and NJ Rt. 35 in Woodbridge, New Jersey, is featured on the cover of the Engineering News-Record. A piece on the under-construction Hoover Dam was relegated to the journal’s back pages.

• On Nov. 23, 1959, Robert Stroud, the famous “Birdman of Alcatraz,” is released from solitary confinement for the first time since 1916. For 15 years, Stroud lived with canaries that were brought to him by visitors.

• On Nov. 24, 1960, Philadelphia Warrior’s center Wilt Chamberlain snags 55 rebounds in a game against the Boston Celtics and sets an NBA record for the most rebounds in a single game. Chamberlain broke more than 70 NBA records in his 14-year career.

• On Nov. 28, 1979, a New Zealander sightseeing plane traveling over Antarctica crashes, killing all 257 people on board. The pilot had descended to 1,500 feet just as the plane reached Mount Erebus, a 12,444-foot volcano.

(c) 2021 Hearst Communications, Inc.

All Rights Reserved

## Resource directory

[ads@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:ads@TheYankeeXpress.com)

### home

**CAPITOL SIDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT COMPANY, INC.**

Custom Exteriors • Vinyl Siding  
Replacement Windows  
Roofing • Seamless Gutters

MARK SARKISIAN, JR.  
[markjr@capitolsiding.com](mailto:markjr@capitolsiding.com)  
[www.capitolsiding.com](http://www.capitolsiding.com)

30 Auburn Street  
Auburn, MA 01501  
Tel 508-832-5981  
Fax (508) 832-0464

### automotive

290 Providence Rd.  
S. Grafton, MA

Kris Sutton  
[kris@streetcarsolutions.com](mailto:kris@streetcarsolutions.com)

**STREET CAR SOLUTIONS**

[StreetCarSolutions.com](http://StreetCarSolutions.com)  
**508-839-7071**

### gifts

*Holiday Shopping*

with LuLaRoe  
USE CODE: 25LIGHTS  
at checkout to **Save \$25**  
on your first order!

<https://shop.lularoebless.com/kathybarlett>

**LuLaRoe**

Kathy Bartlett, Fashion Consultant  
401-480-3564  
[kbartlett0919@gmail.com](mailto:kbartlett0919@gmail.com)

## CLEAN OUTS

DONE BY

**MrCleanest.com**

**WE DO EVERYTHING!!**

“Better than the rest” - VERY REASONABLE PRICES TOO!



Estate / Cellar / Attic / Garage  
Carpets / Floors / Upholstery  
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SNOW PLOWING

**508-740-1883**

DOUGLAS  
MASS.



**508-278-9924**

## GI Joe Figures & Vehicles Wanted



*From the  
1980s and  
1990s*

**Please call 860-933-5549**

## THINKING ABOUT PAINTING YOUR CABINETS?

More affordable, less disruptive than you may think

WITH **AMAZING** RESULTS

*Fine Interior Finishes*

[econnor117@gmail.com](mailto:econnor117@gmail.com)  
207.779.7142

Gift Certificates available in any denomination  
make great Christmas gifts.

**Professional Car Cleaning  
Motorcycles & Boats**

Owner: Vic Catacchio Since 1983

218 Worcester St.  
N. Grafton, MA 01536  
774-272-0815  
[shineitup2@yahoo.com](mailto:shineitup2@yahoo.com)

**catacchio**

**AUTO  
DETAIL**



13 Cook Street  
E. Douglas, MA  
**508-476-2278**  
[www.SochiasOil.com](http://www.SochiasOil.com)

**FUEL OIL - PROPANE - KEROSENE**

**SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION**

Serving: WHITINSVILLE, UXBRIDGE, DOUGLAS, SUTTON,  
MILLVILLE, MENDON, UPTON, MILLBURY, WEBSTER,  
GRAFTON, OXFORD, DUDLEY, HOPDALE

Heating - Air Conditioning  
24 Hour Burner Service



GRAFTON LIBRARY UPDATE:**Limited computing available, meeting room reservations**

GRAFTON - Grafton Library has listed a number of service updates which include:

**Staffing** - We filled our Children's Room vacancy, and hired three temps. Please join us in welcoming Stacie (Children's), Erin (Teen), Brianna (Teen) and Kate (Reference). We are struggling to complete off desk work and cover meal breaks with our current staff level and thank you for your patience.

**Phones** - We are having trouble reconciling the new system with the old and cannot accept any direct incoming calls. Please leave a message and we will call back during operating hours.

**Library cards** - Complete your application online in advance at <https://graftonlibrary.org/home/get-a-library-card/> and come in to pick up your new card.

**Museum passes** - Museum passes are available, but many venues have limits or restrictions. Please visit <https://graftonlibrary.org/reserve/museumpasses/> for up-to-date information on procedures for each individual attraction and check the museum's website as you plan your visit.

**Public computers** - Computers are available for children (4), teens (3) and adults (4); additional laptops are still being set up. Printing may not be available. Faxing is not available. Advance reservations are not accepted. There is a 30-minute time limit when others are waiting. Please sign in to use library computers. Using the Library's Wi-Fi network or computers constitutes agreement with and adherence to our Internet Use Policy, online at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NwwPD9k3XGsyMH9M5VXqZktrzyb8xNCA/view?usp=sharing>.

**Meeting rooms** - Meeting room bookings are Live. Two seat tutor rooms (117, 124, 125) as well as the 4-seat group study room (202) are available from opening until 15 minutes before closing. No meeting rooms are available for Friday night, Saturday night or Sunday use at this time. Group study rooms 228 and 229 still have

items stored in them. The 10-seat conference room (219) is booked for the month for aspiring writers for NaNoWriMo (Come Write In!). The Community Room has been booked for a variety of Library events including programs, the Friends Book Sale, and International Gaming Week. Please visit [www.graftonlibrary.org/reserve/meeting/](http://www.graftonlibrary.org/reserve/meeting/) to review our meeting room policies and request a space.

**Still under construction** - The Grafton Public Library's construction team continues to make progress on ADA compliance and punch list items. Last week, subcontractors worked on the staircase, shower, replacement of historic windows, and repositioning toilet accessories. Subcontractors may be on site during your visit - please obey all posted signage and staff directives. We apologize in advance for any noise generated by the contracted work. Patrons who need use of a counter or sink that is not within ADA compliance should ask for accommodations and we will be happy to direct you to a table, or a compliant sink / hand sanitizer as needed. Signage and commissioning for various systems are still in process.

**POLICIES** - With the half-day last week, we had a number of children under the age of 13 who opted to return home when advised of the Board of Library Trustee's Unattended Child Policy, developed with support from the Grafton Police Department and Town legal counsel. As a reminder, for everyone's safety, children ages 0-7 must have a parent/guardian in vicinity; children ages 8-12 must have a parent/guardian in the building, and children ages 13+ may be at the Library unattended. Exceptions may be made for children attending scheduled library programs. We thank parents and guardians for their cooperation. The Board of Trustees has updated a number of policies; a printed copy may be requested at any service desk, and they are posted online at <https://graftonlibrary.org/home/policies/>.

We appreciate your patience as we continue to work through issues in our beautiful new building! Please direct comments, concerns, and complaints to Beth Gallaway, Library Director at [gallawayb@graftonlibrary.org](mailto:gallawayb@graftonlibrary.org) or 508-839-4649.

This project is partially funded by a state grant administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

- Beth Gallaway - [gallawayb@graftonlibrary.org](mailto:gallawayb@graftonlibrary.org)

## THOMPSON

### Landscaping & Construction



#### COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SNOW PLOWING

- Leaf Clean-Ups • Lawn Mowing & Yard Work
- Tree Work • Excavation

**Eben Thompson**

**Millbury, MA • 508-523-7790**

**ThompsonLC.com**

**Ebthompson36@gmail.com**  
**Free Estimates • Fully Insured**



## Come work for an awesome team, and be proud of the work you do!

Job Corps is a career training and education program for students ages 16 through 24 who meet low-income requirements, designed to help students find a path to personal and career success.

### We are recruiting for the following positions:

- Assistant Cooks
- Driver/Maintenance-part-time, 20 hours/week flexible
- LPN
- Medical Clerk-part-time, 20 hours/week flexible
- Bookkeeper
- Residential Advisor
- Purchasing Assistant
- Executive Administrative Assistant

We offer a robust benefit package for full time employees working 30 hours a week or more! This includes: Medical/Dental/Vision, Health Savings/Flexible Spending Account, Group Term Life and A&D, Voluntary Life and AD&D, Short/Long Term Disability, 401K (after one year of service), vacation/sick time and 11 paid holidays. Adams and Associates, Inc. is a **100% employee-owned organization** employing more than 2,000 staff members at 17 locations, including 13 Job Corps sites across the country. We provide academic and vocational training services to approximately 11,000 young people from age 16 to 24 each year. Adams has offices in Reno, NV, Columbia, MD, and Worcester, MA to provide support and expertise to our Job Corps locations. We are an **Equal Opportunity Employer**.

## Careers Begin Here!

**BLACKSTONE VALLEY Xpress**  
CROSSTOWN ADS AND BUSINESS NEWS  
formerly The Yankee Xpress

Your source for business, community news  
and advertising.

[www.blackstonevalleyxpress.com](http://www.blackstonevalleyxpress.com)  
[ads@theyankeeexpress.com](mailto:ads@theyankeeexpress.com)  
[news@theyankeeexpress.com](mailto:news@theyankeeexpress.com)



## FOR ALL YOUR FUEL NEEDS

### NEW BOILER INSTALLS

- Crown Boilers
- Williamson Furnaces
- Oil Tank Installs



ALL NEW  
INSTALLS COME WITH  
A 3 YEAR PARTS  
AND LABOR WARRANTY,  
AS WELL AS THE  
MANUFACTURERS  
WARRANTY.

**We do NOT  
Sell Biofuel!**

Which will help prevent  
system breakdowns.

**Central air conditioning  
and ductless mini splits**

#### HELP WANTED -

**Class B CDL driver with air brake, tanker and hazmat  
endorsements. Must have DOT Medical Card.**



A Full Service Oil Company  
24-Hour Emergency Service

**WWW.LMTOIL.COM • WE DO ONLINE ORDERING**

## Jeff D. Helgerson Excavating, Inc

**\*\*Rare Opportunity, with Amazing Benefits\*\***

### CDL CLASS A & B DRIVERS WANTED

*Are you looking for a change  
and want to work, drive & haul  
locally with regular work hours?*

Our servicing hours are Monday-Friday, 7AM-3:30PM, with  
OT available. Helgerson's is a well-established and reputable  
Septic & Excavating Company that drives quality, integrity,  
superior performance & Teamwork. We are a Family-Owned  
Company servicing our customers for over 25 years.

**Benefits:** 100% paid Medical Insurance premiums

- STD & Life Insurance • Simple IRA, with matched contribution
- Paid Time Off • Paid Uniforms • On Call Incentive Pay
- Annual Bonus • On Job Training • Growth Opportunities

**Requirements:** Valid Class A or B license • Current Medical  
Card • Tankers Endorsement • Flexibility • Experience with  
Septic Cleaning, Wastewater Hauling or Industrial Vacuum  
equipment is a plus.

*Competitive pay based on abilities & experience.*

Visit our website at [www.helgersonexcavating.com](http://www.helgersonexcavating.com)



Interested applicants may direct  
questions and application requests to  
**Jessica Pinto-Boniface at 508.248.7242**

# Al's

## RUBBISH & CONTAINER

77 Providence Rd., Sutton, MA 01590

Phone: (508) 865-4193

Website: [www.alsrubbish.com](http://www.alsrubbish.com)

E-Mail: [alsrubbish@gmail.com](mailto:alsrubbish@gmail.com)



Serving the  
Blackstone Valley and  
the Surrounding Towns  
in Worcester County

Support  
Local Small  
Business

# Fall Special

SUTTON, MILLBURY and GRAFTON

### Al's Rubbish Provides

- Dumpster Rental  
Services 7 Days
- All Rentals Include Drop Off  
and Pick Up
- No Hidden Fees
- Estate Clean Outs
- Furniture/Appliance
- We Recycle

**10 yard \$300**  
**15 yard \$350**  
**20 yard \$475**

**FREE  
DROP OFF  
AND  
PICK UP**

3 DAY RENTAL ONLY !!



**508-865-4193 • WWW.ALSRUBBISH.COM**



## RE: Real Estate



Mark Marzeotti

## Buying a foreclosed home: Where to search, how to buy and what to watch out for

The deals are real, but there are risks involved.

If you're searching for a house to buy, and you're looking for a deal, a foreclosure may be an enticing option. Foreclosed properties, which have been taken back by a lender after the homeowners defaulted on their loan, usually sell for significantly less than similar homes on the traditional market.

The lower price tag has a few strings attached, though. Buying any house can be complicated and a foreclosed house especially so, with its own unique set of risks and challenges. Learn

more about how to buy a foreclosed home to decide if it's a good option for you.

*What is a foreclosed home?*

Foreclosures have been seized by the lender because the homeowner was no longer able to pay the mortgage. Most lenders will begin the foreclosure process when the owner falls three to six months behind but has been longer as of late.

Foreclosures varies by lender, state and the homeowner's specific situation, the ultimate outcome is largely the same: The lender seizes control of the property and looks to resell the home as quickly as possible to minimize or recoup any losses. To speed up this process, foreclosed homes usually come at a discount and are often sold "as is," which means that lenders may be reluctant to make repairs.

For a buyer, the primary difference between purchasing a foreclosure and a traditionally listed property is that you're buying from a lender and not the homeowner. This changes the dynamics of finding a home, making an offer and negotiating a contract.

Before you start looking for hot foreclosure deals, it's important to understand the process and what you should expect.

One tricky aspect of buying foreclosures is the number of ways you can buy them. These include:

- **Short sales:** With a short sale, a lender agrees to accept a sale price that's lower than what's owed on the loan. When a homeowner owes more on their mortgage than the equity they have in the home, sometimes known as "being underwater," lenders may agree to this type of sale if they believe they'll recoup more from short-selling than a full-blown foreclosure. Short sales are listed openly on multiple listings services and are relatively easy to find with your realtor.

- **Auctions:** If a foreclosure is inevitable, the bank may let the homeowner take their property to auction. Home auctions are typically administered by a county or municipality-level agency.

Buyers at auction should be prepared to make a full-cash offer and be ready to stomach some risk; the property's condition and who holds the title may be uncertain.

- **Direct from lender:** Properties that have completed the foreclosure process and are released to the lender become bank-owned or real estate-owned homes. Banks tend to take their time with what are called real-estate owned homes in order to find the most profitable offer. As a result, buying an REO (real estate owned) home can take a long time, depending on the number of foreclosures the bank is handling. Sometimes, it can take months for a bank just to respond to your offer.

- **From the government:** Agencies such as the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Veterans Affairs also sell foreclosures on loans they guaranteed. You can find listings online at the various agency websites but must work with a real estate agent/Realtor to make an offer.

- **Pre-foreclosures:** Homeowners in the pre-foreclosure stage have received notice from their bank that foreclosure is looming. They will have a specified period to catch up on payments and late fees but will often look for a buyer who will pay the right price for their home to save them the financial trouble of foreclosure. Pre-foreclosures can be harder to find since they're not officially on the market.

If you're thinking about buying a foreclosed home, choose your real estate agent/Realtor carefully.

An agent who knows how the process of buying a foreclosed property works will be very helpful. Understanding the process allows the agent to manage buyer expectations. An agent with a lack of foreclosure experience can make the transaction a bit challenging. Marzeotti Group is experienced and can help.

Get Pre-approved: Securing your mortgage preapproval is an essential step for any prospective buyer, but it's critical when targeting foreclosures. The most successful foreclosure buyers

make all-cash offers, which immediately gives them a leg up on anyone who still needs to secure financing. A preapproval letter proves that you can back up your offer and close the deal.

You may also want to investigate alternative loan options that work well for foreclosures. The FHA 203(k) loan, for instance, lets you finance up to \$35,000 in repairs or upgrades into the loan, which is particularly helpful since foreclosure properties often need a lot of work.

An experienced agent should have no trouble helping you find foreclosure listings. Good luck and call if you need help!

### VETERANS POST

#### Cybercriminals have vets in their sights

By Freddy Groves

Veterans are victims of cybercrimes at a much higher rate than civilians. And it's not just veterans, included are military spouses, survivors, active-duty personnel and our families. This is no doubt because of our benefits and the goodies to be had after stealing from us.

To tackle the problem, the Department of Veterans Affairs is stepping in and partnering with outside groups like the Cybercrime Support Network (cybercrimesupport.org), whose motto is Recognize, Report and Recover. It's about time ... over the past five years, veterans have reported cybercrime losses of more than \$420 million.

The CSN's mix of initiatives includes ScamSpotter (ScamSpotter.org), with practical consumer advice about how to spot and avoid fraud and scams.

Especially for us is Fight Cybercrime (fightcybercrime.org/military). Its crime-fighting partners are pretty impressive, and include the Disabled American Veterans and Army Emergency Relief. Look over the site for a resource library for us, law enforcement and businesses. Interesting topics include how to reduce your risk of ransomware, determining if a text message is fake or real, being safe in online gaming and even a pre-vacation checklist.

A recent Fight Cybercrime webinar touched home for many of us: How to keep your business information safe when you're working from home and sharing your online connection with children. Past webinars are worth watching as well: staying safe on social media, avoiding a scam from a government tax imposter, and COVID scams, which seem to be everywhere.

So, we have the tools. The information and resources are out there. But we need to take advantage of all that's offered to avoid becoming another cybercrime statistic.

One of the biggest problems with cybercrime is that we don't always report it. We're embarrassed because we thought we couldn't be fooled ... until we are. Do your part. If you get scammed, report it. (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

**RE/MAX ADVANTAGE 1**

25 Union Street, 4th Floor  
Worcester, MA 01608

617-519-1871  
MLMarzeotti@gmail.com  
www.MarzeottiGroup.com

### CLASSIFIED AD

**FOR SALE - '01 Dakota w/Curtis Pro snowplow. 74K miles. New tires. Runs well. Truck and plow as is and complete. \$3500.00 firm. 508-380-7888.**

**Maureen Cimoch**  
Real Estate Consultant  
Cell 508.769.9211

111 East Main Street, Webster  
www.LakeRealty.net  
www.WebsterLake.com or .net

**Cliff Van Reed**  
Owner/Broker

Cell: 508-864-0520  
cliffvanreed@realtor.com

306 Main St., PO Box 538, Douglas, MA 01516  
Cell: 508-864-0520 • Fax: 508-476-1766  
www.countrylivingdouglas.com

# BLACK NOVEMBER

**LOWEST PRICES OF THE YEAR! BEAT THE SHORTAGES & PRICE INCREASE!**

**OVER 1,500 BICYCLES INSTOCK**

## MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: Reg. \$299 **NOW \$189<sup>99</sup>**  
 FULL: Reg. \$499 **NOW \$269<sup>99</sup>**  
 QUEEN: Reg. \$599 **NOW \$299<sup>99</sup>**

## 1000s OF APPLIANCES

IN STOCK FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY

18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$799 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b>	SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1699 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$1299<sup>99</sup></b>	KITCHENAID DISHWASHER Reg. \$999 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$899<sup>99</sup></b>	OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN Reg. \$299 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$179<sup>99</sup></b>	STAINLESS SMOOTH TOP STOVE Reg. \$799 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b>
DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER Reg. \$549 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$479<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>SEE OUR FLYER INSIDE THIS ISSUE</b>			DELUXE DISHWASHER Reg. \$449 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$399<sup>99</sup></b>
FAMOUS MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE Reg. \$549 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$599<sup>99</sup></b>	DELUXE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$499 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$479<sup>99</sup></b>	LG FRONT LOAD WASHER Reg. \$699 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$669<sup>99</sup></b>	GE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$549 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$599<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>100s of FREEZERS IN STOCK!</b>

## GIGANTIC TV SALE

## GIANT TOY DEPARTMENT

## BLACK FRIDAY OPEN 8AM - 10PM

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST  
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000

Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons

# WHITCO

Mon-Fri. 10-9; Sat. 9-8; Sun. 12-7  
140 Main St., Spencer, MA  
508-885-9343




FIND YOUR  
BEST NIGHT'S  
SLEEP TODAY!

**FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY**



**SPECIAL SAVINGS**  
Sealy® Response  
Firm or Plush  
Queen mattress only  
**\$399\***



Sealy® Performance  
Cushion Firm  
Queen mattress only  
**\$579\***



Sealy® Performance  
Plush Eurotop  
Queen mattress only  
**\$799\***



Sealy® Performance  
Firm or PLEPT  
Queen mattress only  
**\$899\***



**UPGRADE TO AN  
ADJUSTABLE BASE**

**WE ALSO CARRY**

**STEARNS & FOSTER®**

www.sundeenfurnitureinc.com

## Sundeen Furniture

241 PROVIDENCE ROAD, WHITINSVILLE • 508-234-8777

LAYAWAY / FREE DELIVERY & REMOVAL\*

FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE\*

Mon Tues Wed 9:30-6 / Thur Fri 9:30-8 / Sat 9:60-6 / Sun 11-5

\*See store for details. Copyright 2020 Sealy, Inc. All rights reserved.



## BLACKSTONE VALLEY'S LOCAL DESTINATION FOR ALL THINGS CLEAN

- Automatic Tunnel Wash
- Saber Touchless Wash  
OPEN 24 hours a day
- 10 Self-Serve Vacuums

- Heated Indoor Self-Serve Bays
- Pet Wash Stations
- Interior Cleaning Services

Join our **VIP PLATINUM** club  
for Free Monthly Washes & Discounts




Gift Cards & Wash Packages Available Online

**WWW.FITZYSCARWASHES.COM**

85 Worcester St  
North Grafton, MA  
508-839-5250



**Quality Workmanship**

Over 35 Years in Business • I-Car Gold Certified

On All Insurance Company Lists

Every Vehicle Must Pass a 25 Point Safety Inspection



## FREE RENTAL

### NEVER PAY FULL DEDUCTIBLE!

188 Worcester St., (Rte. 122) Grafton, MA

## 508-839-9508

restrictions apply

## Any Room, Any Home, Anywhere





**Morrisette & Son**  
Electrical Contractors,  
INC.

ELECTRICAL • HVAC • GENERATORS

**508-476-9879**  
[MorrisetteElectrical.com](http://MorrisetteElectrical.com)

Choose Morrisette & Son as your installer, and receive:

- Upgraded Diamond Dealer Parts & Compressor Warranty to 12 years  
(from standard 5 years parts/7 years compressor)
- Financing through the MassSave HeatLoan
- Rebates through MassSave, with processing on your behalf
- Extended Labor Warranty Available
- Highly trained technicians with Installation & Service
- Maintenance Contracts Available