

Serving Westfield, Southwick, and surrounding Hilltowns

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TONIGHT

Partly Cloudy.
Low of 26.



VOL. 87 NO. 8

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018

75 Cents

Blandford, Westfield G&E hold kick off meeting for broadband connectivity in town

By AMY PORTER
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – On Tuesday morning, members of Blandford's Municipal Light Plant and Board of Selectmen met with Westfield Gas & Electric's Whip City Fiber and Precision Valley Communication representatives to start plans for broadband connectivity in the town.

Peter Langmore, chair of the Blandford MLP said that Monday night, the selectmen had signed the \$1,040,000 grant from the Baker-Polito Administration that would pay for 50% of the cost of the

project. The total cost has a price tag of \$2,295,000 million and will take 18 months to two years to complete, he said.

"It will come to the town in four payments. We'll spend that down first," Langmore said. He said the grant allows them to start the make ready work, and they have signed an intergovernmental agreement with Westfield G&E.

"This is a historic event for Blandford, one of the most historic ever. Besides the Water Plant, it's the most money we've ever spent," Langmore said at the start of the meeting.

Joseph Parda, project engineer for Whip City Fiber and Richard Carnall, senior fiber architect introduced Nick Sarnelli, field operations manager and Anthony Barbosa, quality control for Precision Valley Communication of Springfield, VT, who will begin this week doing the make ready work.

Carnall said what will happen next is that Sarnelli and Barbosa would start walking the streets taking pole measurements, span lengths and identifying the last pole to houses. They will also map

See Connectivity, Page 2



Blandford and Westfield Gas & Electric officials hold "historic" kick off meeting to start the process for broadband connectivity to the town.

Guilty plea entered in case related to Westfield teen death

By DAN DESROCHERS
Correspondent

WESTFIELD—A man who stood accused of selling heroin to a 16-year-old Westfield girl who died has pleaded guilty.

Seth Lombard-Hawthorne pleaded guilty to charges of involuntary manslaughter, distribution of heroin and distribution of fentanyl Monday at Hampden County Superior Court, according to Assistant District Attorney for the Hampden District Attorney's Office Joan O'Brien.



Seth Lombard-Hawthorne

Lombard-Hawthorne was arrested on Feb. 6, 2016, by Westfield Police and Massachusetts State Police, according to an article from The Westfield News. Lombard-Hawthorne was arrested following the death of Westfield High School student Lillian "Lily" Anderson, 16. It was suspected that she died from a heroin and fentanyl overdose.

According to O'Brien, the state had asked Hampden Superior Court Judge Mary-Lou Rup for a three to five-year sentence in state prison for the involuntary manslaughter charge, as well as three years probation for the drug distribution charges.

However, O'Brien said that the defense counsel for Lombard-Hawthorne asked for a two-year sentence to House of Corrections for the involuntary manslaughter charge, as well as an 18-month suspended sentence for three years for the drug distribution charges.

Sentencing is next scheduled for Feb. 22, at 2 p.m.

Town trying to identify grease problem

By GREG FITZPATRICK
Correspondent

SOUTHWICK – Two town of Southwick officials are attempting to figure out a grease problem that has recently emerged in a sewer system in town.

According to DPW Director Randy Brown, members of the DPW were out near the southern part of Berkshire Ave about a month ago, doing a different task when they discovered that there was a grease blockage in that sewer line.

"Luckily, we were able to locate it and clean it out, but if there was ever a complete blockage it could impact all of the customers that are up stream," said

See Grease, Page 8



The Broadway chair lift was still offline Tuesday, with parts on order.

Ski Blandford opening postponed

By AMY PORTER
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – This week, Blandford Ski Area posted on its website (SkiBlandford.com) a message to its valued customers, announcing that its opening would be delayed until the beginning of February.

The message read in part: "When we first purchased Ski Blandford in late fall, we realized we would face many challenges getting the resort in proper operating condition to ensure a safe environment for our guests. Rather than disappointing our loyal customers by cautiously closing for the 17/18 season..., we made the decision to forge ahead 100% to open for 17/18. As we have worked diligently day and night since that decision was made, many previously unknown operational issues have continued to arise. With our commitment to safety taking precedent over all else, we are humbled to admit the unforeseen issues have delayed our opening, despite our best efforts. We will be closed for the month of January regardless of weather conditions."

Ron Crozier, who was hired in October as general manager for Ski Blandford, said they've been doing a lot of work on snowmaking and the lift systems. He said they found some things wrong with them still, mostly routine maintenance not done properly. Parts for the lifts are on order with lead time, and they continue to do line work, concentrating on the Broadway chair lift, one of three at Ski Blandford.

Crozier said with the ownership of Butternut completing the purchase of the ski area on Sept. 1, it didn't give them a lot of time. He said they had hoped to get up and running by the Christmas holiday, but found things they didn't like.

"Some of the difficulties we've found; we need to take time, and

See Ski Blandford, Page 8

Frozen pipes an issue through the cold snap and beyond

By DAN DESROCHERS
Correspondent

WESTFIELD—As the area finally begins to thaw from the single-digit and below temperatures experienced the past week-plus, frozen pipes may not seem like as much of a problem anymore.

However, just as bursting pipes were a problem during the freeze, residents should still be aware of the risks of frozen and burst pipes, according to Westfield Fire Deputy Chief Eric Bishop.

"Just because it warmed up a little bit doesn't mean your burst pipe danger is over," Bishop said.

"Our concern is that it's frozen but that the ice is blocking any water flow so the issue is unnoticed," Bishop said. "As it warms up blockages become free and you will see some water flow."

According to Bishop, between Dec. 1 and 30 this past year, the Westfield Fire Department received a total of two water issue calls, which include burst pipes. From Dec. 31, 2017 to Jan. 8, 2018, that number jumped to 14. And Bishop said the department believes more of these incidents will occur through the season and as the weather warms.

Frozen and burst pipes can lead to damage to your home, residence or business, and can be costly to fix. As the weather warms up, it is important to make sure that pipes still get adequate warmth, in order to avoid this costly mess from happening.

Bishop said that one incident that occurred last year was at an apartment building. The resident moved out of the third floor he said, while someone still resided on the second floor. According to Bishop, a pipe had burst on the third floor, causing water damage on each floor of the building, including the basement.

"The end result is you could have significant water damage," Bishop said.

Nick Gardner, of NGM Services, said that the cost following a burst pipe can range from \$200 to \$1,000, with some damage causing the cost to go even higher.

Gardner said that even as the weather warms, you should be aware of the potential for frozen pipes so you don't end up finding this unpleasant surprise.

"We live in a society of old, old houses," Gardner said, noting many homes in the area were constructed before the 1970s. "Those type of houses are going to have leaks, drafts. Do everything you can to protect from that."

Gardner suggests residents perform their own heating audits, make sure to take out air conditioners and close windows. Pay attention to trouble spots as well, if you're aware of them.

See Frozen, Page 8

Final draft of open space plan reviewed

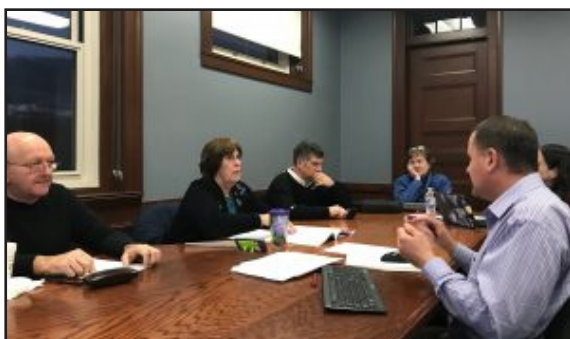
By GREG FITZPATRICK
Correspondent

WESTFIELD – On Tuesday night, the Open Space Plan and Recreation Committee reviewed the final draft of an open space plan they created.

The open space and recreation plan allows municipalities to apply for various grants in the state but they have a certain time-span for which they are eligible for grants

Communities throughout Massachusetts have the option to create a new plan every seven years and Westfield's open space plan was set to expire this summer.

During the summer of 2017, the committee held two public sessions along with the Pioneer Valley



The Open Space and Recreation Committee reviewed the final draft of the open space plan on Tuesday night. (Photo courtesy of Greg Fitzpatrick)

Planning Commission, who is heading the effort through a District Local Technical Assistance grant.

The purpose of the public sessions was to allow residents the opportunity to brainstorm and offer

opinions on what pieces of land in the city should be a part of the new open space plan.

City Planner Jay Vinsky went over the four separate goals that the committee has come up with for the plan, and they are:

An abundant and safe drinking water supply for current and future generations

Large, protected connected blocks of open space which preserve landscape character and viable wildlife habitat corridors

An intermodal city-wide transportation network linked to the open space and recreational fabric, and which supports the

See Open Space Plan, Page 8



Westfield Fire Deputy Chief and Fire Prevention Officer Eric Bishop



AROUND TOWN

Submit your Around Town News to pressreleases@thewestfieldnews.com

Westfield Democratic City Committee monthly meeting

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Democratic City Committee will hold its monthly meeting on **Thursday, January 11, 2018** at the Boys and Girls Club in Westfield. The business session starts at 6pm followed by a speaker from Voter Choice Massachusetts at 7pm who will be discussing Ranked Choice Voting (RCV.) Ranked Choice Voting is an upgrade to the way that we vote. Instead of choosing just one candidate on your ballot, RCV allows you to rank multiple candidates in the order you prefer them (1, 2, 3, and so on). 3.7 million Americans live in communities that use RCV. Ranking your choices allows you to vote honestly for any candidate, while still allowing you to vote for a “backup” choice. If your first choice doesn’t get strong support, your vote transfers to your backup candidate. This means that your vote always stays intact and can never be “thrown away”. RCV liberates you from being pressured to vote for a “lesser of two evils” front-runner, and eliminates the problem of “spoiler” candidates and similar candidates splitting the vote. RCV incentivizes positive campaigns by requiring candidates to appeal to a broader base of voters in order to win. Finally, because the ranking is essentially a runoff conducted instantly right on the ballot, RCV allows cities and towns to combine the preliminary and the final election into a single “instant runoff” election. Doing so boosts voter turnout and saves cities and towns money. Voter Choice Massachusetts is an advocacy group that has been spearheading the RCV option for MA elections. The presentation is open to all. Please join us! For additional information contact Kathryn Martin at KWM@westfieldmassdems.org.

Connectivity

out every address and every telephone pole for the entire community, and design what the network will look like.

“We are ready to start, and could have people here tomorrow,” Sarnelli said, adding, “We’re teed up and ready to go.” Carnall said they would let the police know where they will be, so residents aren’t caught unaware. Langmore asked if they should alert residents that the work will begin through a Reverse 911 call. Parada said the town knows best how to communicate with residents. He said the vehicles would be identified as Whip City Fiber.

Parada asked whether there were any special circumstances or people that would have a problem with an unknown surveyor. Blandford MLP member June Massa said that Springfield Water was the only one that has created problems in the past. “They own a lot of land, and don’t allow any trespassing,” Dolby said.

Parada said the fiber would be laid out in a hub and spoke type of architecture, and from there tree and branch architecture. He and Carnall stressed that it’s important to lay fiber for every potential building or buildable parcel within the Blandford boundary, with an eye on future homes or connections. Parada said typically they recommend adding 20% additional fiber.

“A strand of fiber is \$25 per mile. If you don’t have it, it becomes \$30,000 per mile,” Carnall said, adding, “Anything you can anticipate, put in extra glass.”

The group also discussed laying fibers towards other towns for regional transportation rings, and also outlying areas such as the Water Plant, and structures on the borders of the town. Carnall said each individual “edge case” takes a while to evolve to a solution.

Another area of discussion was whether the town wanted a municipal network for town buildings and emergency responders separate from the residential network. “We would look at where are your buildings, and add fiber to connect buildings together,” Carnall said.

Dolby, who is in the Fire Department said the town has a dire need for First Responders network. “Right now, it’s a 50/50 shot if I get radio coverage. I think we need to plan to put that in,” he said.

“Precision Valley will paint the picture. It’s all about the path,” Parada said. He said that when Precision Valley is done with their

Continued from Page 1

mapping, they will come back to the group to see if they’re missing anything. “It’s the foundational basement. Everything gets built on that. We don’t want to miss a strand. That’s one of the most important parts,” he added.

Sarnelli said it would take three weeks to map out everything first. Pole surveys will come next, and take about four weeks. Pole applications to Verizon and Eversource take longer. “It’s a waiting game for the poles,” Carnall said. He said once everything is ready to go, they will build out quickly, one mile a day, starting next year.

Langmore asked whether the town could get help with publicity. Carnall said the town should let people know that Whip City Fiber mapping work will be done in the next few weeks. He said G&E has lawn signs for when they are hooking people up.

Langmore also said people don’t want to sign up. Carnall said that would be a part of the next process. He said some towns are working with Whip City Fiber directly, and some are going through WiredWest. Langmore said they hadn’t decided yet what they will do.

“A lot of towns don’t know what they’re going to do. We want to be as transparent as possible. We’re not going to force anybody’s hands,” Carnall said, adding that they are in the process of working on a contract with WiredWest to be the Internet Service Provider (ISP) for them, but it’s not done.

Sarnelli said he is ready, and just needs the go-ahead to start once the state signs the contract.




Following the meeting, Parada and Carnall were asked how working with the hilltowns impacts the progress of Whip City Fiber in Westfield. Parada said they are two independent projects, adding that everything goes out for procurement.

Carnall said it ultimately benefits Westfield customers through cost efficiencies, explaining that when WCF plunks down \$150,000 for a router, they have the 6,000 Westfield Customers and the 6,000 customers in the towns to support the capital purchase. “The more people you have, the more efficient we get,” he said.

“It’s amazing for us. I’m super excited. I don’t know if we could come up with a more important project for the town,” Dolby said,

22 STORM NEWS TEAM

LOCAL FORECAST

TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Partly Cloudy.	 Mostly Cloudy.	 Rain early.
26-27	46-50	53-56
WEATHER DISCUSSION		
Today, plentiful sunshine. High 37F. Tonight, partly cloudy skies. Areas of fog with some patchy drizzle. Low 26F. Thursday, mostly cloudy skies. High near 50F. Thursday Night, showers early becoming a steady rain late. Low around 40F. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph. Friday, rain early...then remaining cloudy with showers in the afternoon. Thunder possible. High 56F.		
WWLP.com · Working For You		
TODAY		
7:19 a.m. SUNRISE	4:39 p.m. SUNSET	9 hours 19 Minutes LENGTH OF DAY

ODDS & ENDS

Good Samaritans rescue moose calf trapped in snow

CROUSEVILLE, Maine (AP) — A group of concerned citizens in Maine saved a young moose trapped in the snow. WLBT-TV reports that the group dug the calf out of 40 inches (101.6 centimeters) of snow in Crouseville on Monday.

Lauren Allen’s husband was among the small crowd of helpers. Allen says Maine game wardens responded to help load the distressed animal onto a flat sled and move her to stable ground.

Allen says the moose got stranded last week too and needed help. Community members think the calf lost its mother.

But a Warden Service spokesman said there’s no happy ending.


Cpl. John MacDonald said the baby moose’s labored breathing pointed toward an illness called lungworm. In consultation with wildlife biologists, Wardens determined the moose had to be put down.

LOCAL LOTTERY

LAST NIGHT’S NUMBERS

MASSACHUSETTS

MassCash
10-15-19-24-35
Mega Millions
16-29-31-65-67, Mega Ball: 23, Megaplier: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$40 million
Numbers Evening
7-2-5-1
Numbers Midday
5-8-3-4
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$40 million



CONNECTICUT

Cash 5
20-24-28-30-34
Lotto
05-07-14-17-34-39
Estimated jackpot: \$1 million
Lucky Links Day
01-07-09-14-17-18-20-22
Lucky Links Night
01-03-07-09-11-12-17-22
Play3 Day 0-2-4
Play3 Night 8-0-2
Play4 Day 8-2-1-6
Play4 Night 6-7-2-0

TODAY IN HISTORY

TODAY IS WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10, THE 10TH DAY OF 2018. THERE ARE 355 DAYS LEFT IN THE YEAR.

On Jan. 10, 1776, Thomas Paine anonymously published his influential pamphlet, “Common Sense,” which argued for American independence from British rule.

- ON THIS DATE:
- In 1861, Florida became the third state to secede from the Union.
 - In 1863, the London Underground had its beginnings as the Metropolitan, the world’s first underground passenger railway, opened to the public with service between Paddington and Farringdon Street.
 - In 1870, John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.
 - In 1920, the League of Nations was established as the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY’) went into effect.
 - In 1946, the first General Assembly of the United Nations convened in London. The first manmade contact with the moon was made as radar signals transmitted by the U.S. Army Signal Corps were bounced off the lunar surface.
 - In 1948, future country music star Loretta Lynn (nee Webb) married Oliver “Mooney” Lynn; she was 15 at the time, he was 21 (the marriage lasted until Oliver Lynn’s death in 1996).
 - In 1957, Harold Macmillan became prime minister of Britain, following the resignation of Anthony Eden.
 - In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson, in his State of the Union address, asked Congress to impose a surcharge on both corporate and individual income taxes to help pay for his “Great Society” programs as well as the war

- in Vietnam. That same day, Massachusetts Republican Edward W. Brooke, the first black person elected to the U.S. Senate by popular vote, took his seat.
 - In 1978, the Soviet Union launched two cosmonauts aboard the Soyuz 27 capsule for a rendezvous with the Salyut 6 space laboratory.
 - In 1984, the United States and the Vatican established full diplomatic relations for the first time in more than a century.
 - In 1994, President Bill Clinton, attending a NATO summit meeting in Brussels, Belgium, announced completion of an agreement to remove all long-range nuclear missiles from the former Soviet republic of Ukraine.
 - In 2000, America Online announced it was buying Time Warner for \$162 billion (the merger, which proved disastrous, ended in December 2009).
- TEN YEARS AGO:
- The United States lodged a formal diplomatic protest with Iran over an incident in which Iranian speedboats harassed U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf. President George W. Bush, visiting Israel and the Palestinian-controlled West Bank, said a Mideast peace pact would require “painful political concessions by both sides.” John Kerry, the 2004 Democratic presidential nominee, endorsed Barack Obama’s White House bid. Maila Nurmi, whose “Vampira” TV persona pioneered the spooky-yet-sexy Goth aesthetic, died in Los Angeles at age 85.
- FIVE YEARS AGO:
- President Barack Obama nominated White House chief of staff Jack Lew to be treasury secretary. Vice President Joe Biden met with representatives from the National

- Rifle Association and other pro-gun groups as he worked on recommendations to curb gun violence. Major League Baseball announced it would test for human growth hormone throughout the regular season and increase efforts to detect abnormal levels of testosterone.
- ONE YEAR AGO:
- An unrepentant Dylann Roof was sentenced to death in Charleston, South Carolina, for fatally shooting nine black church members during a Bible study session, becoming the first person ordered executed for a federal hate crime. President Barack Obama bid farewell to the nation in an emotional speech in Chicago. Singer Buddy Greco, 90, died in Las Vegas.
- TODAY’S BIRTHDAYS:
- Opera singer Sherrill Milnes is 83. Blues artist Eddy Clearwater is 83. Rock singer-musician Ronnie Hawkins is 83. Baseball Hall of Famer Willie McCovey is 80. Movie director Walter Hill is 78. Actor William Sander-son is 74. Singer Rod Stewart is 73. Rock singer-musician Donald Fagen (Steely Dan) is 70. Boxing Hall of Famer and entrepreneur George Foreman is 69. Roots rock singer Alejandro Escovedo is 67. Rock musician Scott Thurston (Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers) is 66. Singer Pat Benatar is 65. Hall of Fame race car driver and team owner Bobby Rahal is 65. Rock musician Michael Schenker is 63. Singer Shawn Colvin is 62. Rock singer-musician Curt Kirkwood (Meat Puppets) is 59. Actor Evan Handler is 57. Rock singer Brad Roberts (Crash Test Dummies) is 54. Actress Trini Alvarado is 51. Rock singer Brent Smith (Shinedown) is 40. Rapper Chris Smith (Kris Kross) is 39. Actress Sarah Shahi is 38. Presidential adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner is 37. American roots singer Valerie June is 36.

Sen. Markey: Push on to overturn 'net neutrality' decision

BOSTON (AP) — U.S. Sen. Edward Markey says 40 senators are co-sponsoring a resolution designed to overturn what he called the "anti-consumer" regulations passed by the Federal Communications Commission to end "net neutrality."

The Massachusetts Democrat said 30 members are needed to send the resolution to the Senate floor for a vote. A simple majority is needed to pass it.

The FCC repealed the Obama-era "net neutrality" rules in December, giving internet service providers like Verizon, Comcast and AT&T a free hand to slow or block websites and apps as they see fit or charge more for faster speeds.

Of the 40 senators supporting the resolution, 38 are Democrats and two are independents. Markey will have to win over the remaining Democratic senators and a handful of Republicans to pass the measure.

Employment agency owner gets 2 years' prison for tax scheme

BOSTON (AP) — An employment agency owner has been sentenced to spend two years in federal prison, after acknowledging she failed to pay taxes on approximately \$4.3 million in wages.

The U.S. attorney's office in Boston says 48-year-old Souleang Kane, of Providence, Rhode Island, ran several temporary staffing agencies that supplied agricultural workers in Massachusetts.

It says she withheld federal taxes from the workers, but she never reported their wages to the Internal Revenue Service, and never paid the taxes.

Prosecutors say she evaded paying more than \$1.3 million in federal taxes and more than \$431,000 in Massachusetts state taxes.

Kane previously pleaded guilty to willful failure to collect and pay taxes, as well as mail fraud.

They say she also underpaid her workers' compensation insurance premiums.

Baker says US attorney should focus on opioids, not pot

BOSTON (AP) — Gov. Charlie Baker says he's hoping to talk with the top federal prosecutor in Massachusetts about efforts to create a regulated marijuana market in the state.

The Republican governor said Tuesday that U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling should instead use his limited resources to focus on the street drugs — in particular the powerful opioid fentanyl — that have been killing people every day in Massachusetts.

Lelling said in a statement Monday that while he understood the desire for guidance on the federal approach to the state's voter-approved recreational marijuana law, he "cannot provide assurances that certain categories of participants in the state-level marijuana trade will be immune from federal prosecution."

Also Tuesday, the state Cannabis Control Commission met to continue to write regulations so marijuana shops can open by July.

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION

Westfield G&E asks: are you protected from carbon monoxide poisoning?

WESTFIELD — During winter months, there is an increased risk associated with carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning which can build up quickly in enclosed spaces, and Westfield Gas + Electric wants to remind residents about the dangers of CO. It is an odorless, colorless gas found in improperly functioning or inadequately vented heating systems, gas stoves, space heaters, fireplaces, automobiles and gas-fired small engines, including generators. Because you can't see it, smell it, taste it, or hear it, carbon monoxide is extremely hazardous. Every year, hundreds of people die in the U.S. from accidental CO poisoning, and thousands more end up in hospital emergency rooms.

Common symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. Higher levels of CO inhalation can lead to loss of consciousness and death. Unless suspected, CO poisoning can be difficult to diagnose because the symptoms mimic other illnesses, especially the flu. People who are sleeping or intoxicated can die from CO poisoning before ever experiencing symptoms, so installing CO detectors in your home provides the best protection from carbon monoxide. Detectors should be installed on every level of your home and within 10 feet of bedroom doors. Change the batteries every six months, and replace detectors every five to seven years.

If you suspect poisoning, get fresh air immediately and call for help, either to WG+E 24/7 Emergency Dispatch at 413-572-0000, or 911. If your detector does sound an alarm, do not assume it is defective. Because CO is odorless and colorless, you must rely on a detector to warn you of the presence of this harmful gas. By following these important steps, you can help keep family safe year round. For more information, please visit the Safety page on our website at www.wgeld.org.

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) CAN BE DEADLY



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Government Meetings

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10

SOUTHWICK
Agricultural Commission Meeting at 7 pm

BLANDFORD
Finance Committee at 7 pm
Fire Department Meeting at 7 pm

Christmas Tree Disposal Drop Off Locations

WESTFIELD — The City will this year be providing drop off locations where residents can drop off holiday trees for disposal at their leisure. There will no longer be curbside service for holiday tree disposal. The City will monitor the sites so that we are able to get an accurate count on how many trees collected, and to ensure there is space for further drop offs. All trees will be chipped, and repurposed; therefore the trees should be free of lights, ornaments, tinsel, etc.



Drop off locations and hours are as follows:

- CITY HALL**
59 Court Street
Back Parking Lot
7 days, 24 hours
- HAMPTON PONDS PLAYGROUND**
121 Old Stage Road
7 days, 24 hours
- HIGHWAY GARAGE, DPW**
12 Ponders Hollow Road
7 am - 3 pm
Monday - Friday
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If there are any questions, please contact City Hall, 572-6201.

State primary election set

BOSTON (AP) — Massachusetts' top elections official has chosen Sept. 4, the day after Labor Day, to hold the state's 2018 primary.

Secretary of State William Galvin on Tuesday also proposed a five-day early voting period before the primary election.

Galvin has struggled to finalize a primary date because the original date set by law, Tuesday Sept. 18, conflicted with the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. The earlier Tuesday — Sept. 11 — also conflicted with a religious holiday.

Boston City Councilor Josh Zakim, who is challenging Galvin in the Democratic primary, said it's "outrageous and unprecedented" to schedule a primary for the Tuesday after Labor Day. He said people are just returning from vacation and haven't focused on the upcoming election.

The Westfield News

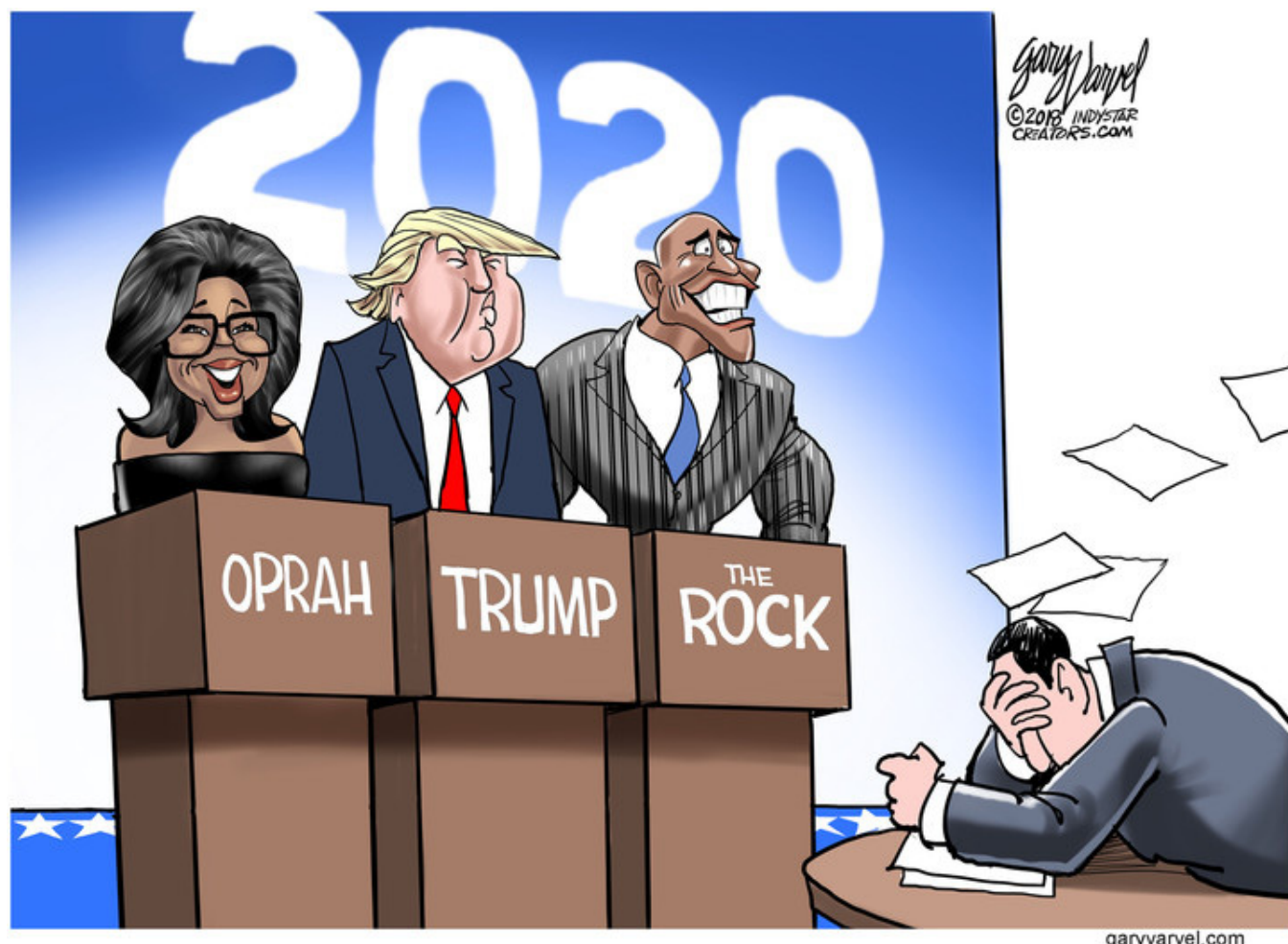
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COMMENT



Lawmakers seek deal on immigration, border security

By ALAN FRAM
and KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bargainers seeking a bipartisan immigration accord planned talks as soon as Wednesday as President Donald Trump and leading lawmakers sought to parlay an extraordinary White House meeting into momentum for resolving a politically blistering issue.

Facing a Jan. 19 deadline for averting an election-year government shutdown, negotiators were seeking a formula for reviving protections against deportation that Trump has ended for nearly 800,000 immigrants who arrived illegally in the U.S. as children. In exchange, Trump and Republicans want toughened border protections and tightened restrictions on others trying to migrate to this country.

"I'll take all the heat you want," Trump told nearly two dozen lawmakers Tuesday at the White House for a meeting that began with a startling 55 minutes in which reporters and TV cameras watched. "But you are not that far away from comprehensive immigration reform."

Trump said an immigration deal could be reached in two phases — first by addressing young immigrants and border security with what he called a "bill of love," then by making comprehensive changes that have long eluded Congress. That second bill would likely face long odds for passage, considering long-running disagreements over issues like how to handle all 11 million immigrants illegally in the U.S.

Republicans will need Democratic votes to prevent a federal shutdown in 10 days, votes Democrats have threatened to withhold without an immigration agreement. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., told reporters talks would begin as early as Wednesday, adding, "And we'll solve this problem and find common ground."

Negotiations over the DACA program may be more complicated in light of a federal judge's ruling Tuesday night to block temporarily the administration's decision to end the program. In doing so, U.S. District Judge William Alsup in

San Francisco granted a request by California and other plaintiffs to let lawsuits over the administration's decision play out in court.

Alsup said lawyers in favor of DACA clearly demonstrated that the young immigrants "were likely to suffer serious, irreparable harm" without court action. The judge also said the lawyers had a strong chance of succeeding at trial.

After Trump and lawmakers spent time meeting privately, the White House and numerous lawmakers said there was agreement to limit the immediate bill to four areas. These were border security, family-based "chain migration," a visa lottery that draws people from diverse countries and how to revive the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

That Obama-era program has given hundreds of thousands — the so-called Dreamers — a shield from deportation and the right to work legally. Trump ended it last year but gave Congress until March 5 to find a fix, and Tuesday he signaled flexibility.

"I think my positions are going to be what the people in this room come up with," Trump said during the Cabinet Room meeting.

Trump even flashed some give on his cherished plan to build a wall along the border with Mexico, perhaps his highest profiled pledge from last year's presidential campaign. That proposal has been strongly opposed by Democrats and many Republicans as a futile waste of money.

Trump said it needn't be a "2,000-mile wall. We don't need a wall where you have rivers and mountains and everything else protecting it. But we do need a wall for a fairly good portion." He'd made similar statements last year, but this time it was in the context of negotiations for actual legislation.

Both parties were already showing signs of divisions over how much to give in upcoming talks. But one conservative foe of giving ground acknowledged the impact of Trump's support.

"There are scores of Republicans who have shifted their position to follow the president," said Rep. Steve King,

R-Iowa. He said while he helped head off a bipartisan immigration effort in 2013, "I don't want to promise the result will be the same. This is more momentum than I have ever seen."

Among Democrats, Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Texas, who attended the White House meeting, said he was open to negotiations on the four issues bargainers will address.

But Rep. Ruben Gallego, D-Ariz., who was not there and like Cuellar is a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, said he favored a narrow bill protecting Dreamers with perhaps something negotiable on border security.

"They took the hostage," Gallego said of Trump's action that would end Dreamers' protections. "We're not going to pay for it."

One attendee, No. 2 Senate Democratic leader Dick Durbin of Illinois, said, "The sense of urgency, the commitment to DACA, the fact that the president said to me privately as well as publicly, 'I want to get this done,' I'm going to take him as his word."

Underscoring the effort's fresh momentum, the head of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Rep. Michelle Grisham Lujan, D-N.M., said late Tuesday she was "encouraged" by Trump's words and would work "in good faith" toward a deal. Some of the group's members have taken a hard line against surrendering too much in a compromise with Trump.

Conservatives quickly sounded alarms about a process that would lead to a comprehensive agreement on immigration, a path that has long been anathema to many rank-and-file Republicans.

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., leader of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus, said in a text message after the White House meeting he was "generally" opposed to a two-step process "because history would indicate the second step never happens." He later said that if the first steps included the four areas outlined by the White House, "then I could support a two-step process realizing that step one is the only thing that is guaranteed."

President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with lawmakers on immigration policy in the Cabinet Room of the White House, Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018, in Washington. From left, Trump, Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., and Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)



PULSELINE OF WESTFIELD



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Letter to the Editor

Hello Ward 3, and all of Westfield... I came out of hibernation to chat. I took my first walk with Ollie today, and I really appreciate your concerns as to where were we? Ollie suffered the brunt of the weather, only going out into the yard for 5-10 minutes, no ride to Stop and Shop to get the papers. But, as promised it is politics.... So much has happened... let's start with the TAX Cut. Everyone is talking how much they gain or lose, but are not looking at the other side of the ledger... budget cuts! We see cuts in education, environment, health care, research and so many others. So you save a few dollars, but it will cost you ten? Cuts like these to the states, means cuts to the local, that's us. Back to Libertarian basic, if you want it you pay for it, or do without. Not that these are Libertarians... But, millionaires, and billionaires deciding what is important or not. Think about it... do you gain then, or lose; is this just bait? To then blame the state, or local government when you are on the hook?

Another that irks me, Easthampton re: freshman? OK, you don't like that; what about sophomores which literally means wise morons. Have we not enough substantive things to discuss?

Next, while have avoided this as a futile use of time: Trump. Fire and Fury! 1. As to being mentally unstable. To some degree we all are. His more than bloated ego, and vicious counter attacks as any who question him; the over the top use of superlatives; his claims at being better than any previous president, and anyone for that matter, and whatever he does as the greatest in history definitely show narcissism, and demagoguery. His claim to be smarter than the generals, and everybody else. His over the top reactions, public insults backed by alternative facts... That is a problem too. He praises someone to the hilt one day, and denounces them the next. Declares a stance, his surrogates support it, and then changes it. He is known for his made up versions as Ted Cruz's father involved in the assassination of JFK, 1,000' of Muslims celebrating on 9/11 in N.J., but no one else saw this, especially from NYC as the greatest media hub in the world; millions of illegal voters, thousands from Ma. Who went to N.H. to vote for Clinton; Obama admin. Bugged Trump Tower and on and on; please. His need to take claim to what others did. Exaggerations as the first thing he did was to start a nuclear weapons up grade, and are now ready; Obama started that program and it won't be done for several years. Economic recovery does not happen overnight and the work that Obama did to get us out of the Great Recession. Another is that he will say something on t.v. with missions watching then deny it, or you misunderstood, etc. Helped to write up his son's explanation (American adoption of Russian children) as the purpose for meeting with the Russians then to say it was opposition research, but denounces Clinton doing opposition research. Admiration for Putin and other dictators troubles me, and his refusal to criticize Putin for spying on an American Naval station in R.I., denial that the Russians hacked our elections and put out a lot of disinformation designed to trick the gullible, while Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and now Sweden found proof of it in their countries.

So you decide... I do not think he is stable, dangerous to our form of government and our unique American values; attacks our Judicial system, undermines our electoral process; and our national security people. OK, I have reservations about some of this but nowhere near the degree he does. But, I do hope others who are keeping an eye on him continue to do so. But, this is, for now, a Republican problem as they made him president, and I doubt, for now, if the Dems can do all that much about it. Last on this is Amarosa who just left his administration is supposed to be preparing to do a "Tell All" book about her experiences there. Factor the sales of Fire and Fury, looks tempting. Enough for now Back soon with more local stuff... **Your former Ward 3 City Councilor, Brian Hoose, brhoose@comcast.net.**



Raiders welcome back Jon Gruden as head coach

The Westfield News

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OBITUARIES

<http://thewestfieldnews.com/category/obituaries>

Gail J. Judecki

HUNTINGTON – Gail Jane (Lafond) Judecki daughter of the late Charles Ernest and Agnes Francis (Sanderson) Lafond left this world on Friday December 29 at Hartford Hospital surrounded by the love of her four daughters. Gail was born in Huntington MA in October 1937, graduated from Springfield Vocational School as a hairdresser, worked in Huntington as a hairdresser. After marrying Frederick “Fred” Judecki and having their first two children she became a full time mother and housewife. She returned to work part time after their third child, selling Dutchmaid clothes at home parties until she entered the work force full time when her fourth and youngest started school, becoming a machine operator and later being promoted to expeditor at Old Colony Envelope in Westfield and then moving to Western Mass Hospital where she was a housekeeper and eventually promoted to a switchboard operator until she retired. She is survived by her husband Frederick Judecki, daughters; Darlene Swaffer (Thomas) of Port Hueneme, CA, Deborah Breault (Charles) of Springfield, Dawn Altieri (Robert) and Denise Judecki both of Westfield, grandchildren Rylee and Domenic Altieri, a sister Muriel Gross of Shutesbury, MA and many nieces and nephews throughout the country. Gail was predeceased by her siblings Chester, Charles and William Lafond, Blanche Pero, Viola (Kondek) Clark, and Francis Bostic. A celebration of life service will be held at Firtion- Adams Funeral Home, 76 Broad Street, Westfield, MA on Saturday, January 13, 2018 from 2-4 pm. In lieu of flowers donations can be made in her name to one of the following: Western Mass Hospital Patient Fund, Hartford Hospital Neurology ICU, or highland Valley Elder Services. www.firtionadams.com



Roger Schweitzer

HOPKINS, SC – Roger Lewis Schweitzer, 89, was peacefully called to heaven on December 15, 2017. Previously, Roger and his family lived in Westfield in the 1970's. In 1984 he became a resident of Clermont, Florida where he owned and worked a citrus grove with his wife Beverly, who went to heaven in 1998. In 2000, he moved to Hopkins, South Carolina. Roger was an avid fisherman, collector of antique tractors, gardener, loved farming and was a proud Veteran of the U.S. Army. Roger especially enjoyed hanging out with his family and friends. He will always be known as a man who helped anyone at any time. He was preceded to heaven by his wife Carolyn, wife Beverly his son Jeffrey, granddaughters Kristin and Hillary and great grandson Jeffery. He leaves his sons Roger (Darlene), Steven (Diana), daughters Jacqueline (Jay), Mary (Jimmy), Diane (Paul), LuAnn (Manny), and Barbara. He enjoyed parties and all fun events, so roll out the barrels for Roger and have a cold one in his honor. You are already missed and will be for a long, long time. A celebration of Roger's life will take place in the spring.



Man who rammed 3 police vehicles gets prison time

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — A Massachusetts drug dealer who rammed three police vehicles with his pickup truck while trying to avoid arrest has been sentenced to up to seven years in prison.

The Republican newspaper reports that 54-year-old Ivan Santiago, of Springfield, was sentenced Tuesday after pleading guilty to possession of heroin with intent to distribute and three counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Police say they saw Santiago selling heroin last Jan. 12 and boxed in his vehicle with two unmarked police cruisers. Prosecutors say he put his truck in reverse and drove into one police vehicle, then went forward and hit another. He then drove into oncoming traffic where he hit a third police vehicle.

Police say they found hundreds of bags of heroin in his vehicle and apartment.

Mentally ill inmates sue sheriff over solitary confinement

FALL RIVER, Mass. (AP) — A lawsuit filed against officials at a Massachusetts county jail alleges that mentally ill inmates are often held in solitary confinement with little treatment, but the sheriff dismisses the accusations as lies from disgruntled inmates.

The lawsuit was filed Tuesday against Sheriff Thomas Hodgson and other officials at the Bristol County Jail. It accuses jail officers of failing to assess inmates' mental health history before segregating them from the rest of the population and failing to provide effective treatment.

Hodgson says state agencies and national accreditation organizations have regularly visited the jail and found that its policies meet standards. He says the lawsuit is riddled with inaccuracies and lies.

The plaintiffs are represented by the advocacy groups Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts and the Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee.

Former firefighter arraigned on child pornography charge

WOBURN, Mass. (AP) — A former Massachusetts firefighter has been arraigned on a child pornography charge after investigators reported finding hundreds of images on his computer and cell-phone.

Raymond Spellman pleaded not guilty Tuesday in Middlesex Superior Court. He was released without bail and ordered to undergo counseling and not to have any unsupervised contact with anyone under age 18. He was also ordered not to use social media.

The 44-year-old Spellman resigned from the Hudson Fire Department shortly after investigators searched his home in May. Prosecutors say more than 600 photos and videos were discovered on his devices.

Spellman could not be reached for comment.

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POLICE LOGS

WESTFIELD

Major crime and incident report

Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018

4:54 a.m.: Accident, Montgomery Road. Police received a report of a one-vehicle accident involving a car and a tree. One person was reported injured and transported to Baystate Noble Hospital via Westfield Fire ambulance and personnel and one tow truck was requested. Police also blocked off a portion of the road following the accident.

9:59 a.m.: Shoplifting, Walmart Springfield Road. Police received a report of a possible past shoplifting. At the time, the alleged shoplifter could not be identified, according to police, and the incident is under investigation.

7:32 p.m.: Accident, hit-and-run, Elm Street. Police received a report of a vehicle that was struck from behind and the other vehicle left the scene. No description of the vehicle provided or direction of travel.

COURT LOGS

Westfield District Court

Jan. 2, 2018

Gary J. Harnden, 29, of 63 George St., Apt. 3Flr., Westfield, was arraigned on and pleaded guilty to a charge of shoplifting by asportation, with fines and fees assessed, brought by Westfield Police.

Jacob Baez, 28, of 685 Elm St. 3rd floor, West Springfield, was released on \$500 cash bail and with pretrial conditions pending a Feb. 28 hearing after being arraigned on a charge of unarmed robbery, brought by Westfield Police.

Ihar S. Kot, 37, of 29 Lathrop St., West Springfield, was released on \$200 cash bail pending a Feb. 14 hearing after being arraigned on charges of breaking and entering daytime for felony, possession class A drug and trespass, brought by Westfield Police.

Randi J. Devors, 42, of 93 Maple St., Apt. 23, Westfield, was released on his personal recognizance pending a Feb. 14 hearing after being arraigned on charges of assault and battery on family/household member and strangulation or suffocation, brought by Westfield Police.

Eduard Kostyushko, 26, of 33 Russellville Road, Westfield, was released on \$200 cash bail with pretrial conditions pending a Jan. 31 hearing after being arraigned on charges of breaking and entering daytime for felony and trespass, brought by Westfield Police.

If you would like to run a Birthday Announcement in The Westfield News contact us at: 413-562-4181

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Radiology lab loses medical records of about 9,400 people

FRAMINGHAM, Mass. (AP) — A Massachusetts radiology lab says it has lost a portable hard drive that may contain the personal information and X-ray images of almost 9,400 patients.

Charles River Medical Associates, based in Framingham, mailed letters this week to patients whose records are missing. The hard drive stored names, dates of birth, patient identification numbers and bone density scan images dating to 2010. It did not have insurance information or Social Security numbers.

The practice's executive director, Brian Parillo, tells The MetroWest Daily News "there are no leads on" the hard drive's location.

Staff noticed the hard drive was missing in late November. The device, which has no encryption protections, was updated once a month and employees last remember seeing it in late October. The lab informed patients are an exhaustive search.

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FOODTRAVEL

This Dec. 14, 2017 photo shows Dan Dan Noodles in New York. This dish is from a recipe by Katie Workman. (Carrie Crow via AP)

Westfield Farmers' Market Extended

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Farmers' Market will have three Winter Markets to be held inside the Church of the Atonement, 36 Court Street. **The next date is February 10. The hours are 10 am to 3 pm.**

As we have had all summer, we feature 25 to 30 local vendors and crafters selling all sorts of fresh produce and other products. There will also be music, thanks to a grant from the Westfield Cultural Council. SNAP and HIP benefits are accepted, and we will match up to \$5.00 when SNAP tokens are purchased at the Market Table. For more information please visit our web page at www.westfieldfarmersmarket.net or call 562-5431 x101.

Our Community Food Pantry Mobile Van

Our Community Food Pantry serving Southwick, Granville & Tolland is proud to announce that our Mobile Van serving Granville and Tolland weekly, will begin **January 10, 2018**. Pick-up times are Wed. in Tolland at the Emergency/Safety complex 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm, and Granville at the Town Hall 1:45pm – 2:15pm. Our program is based on income eligibility. Applications will be available at the pick-up locations, or by calling 569-9876.

Livestrong At The YMCA

WESTFIELD — The YMCA of Greater Westfield is committed to serving individuals and their families living with, through and beyond cancer. LIVESTRONG at the YMCA is a free 12-week exercise program for adult cancer survivors who are currently in or have completed treatment and are physically deconditioned. Developed by Stanford University, this specially designed program has proven to help survivors regain strength, overcome fatigue, and enhance functional ability to do everyday tasks. Beginning January 22nd, the class will meet twice a week, for 12 weeks on Monday & Wednesday; 1:00PM-2:30PM to strength train and improve cardiovascular function. **Must register by January 12.** Space is limited. For more information, visit www.westfieldymca.org or contact: Cindy Agan, Health & Wellness Director, at the YMCA of Greater Westfield 1.413.568.8631 or cagan@westfieldymca.org

Greater Westfield Chamber of Commerce – January After 5 Connection

WESTFIELD — **January 10, 2018 (5 – 7 pm)** Join us for our January After 5 Connection hosted by Armbrook Village, 551 North Road, Westfield, MA. Free for Chamber members, \$10 Potential Members (cash/credit paid at the door). Refreshments will be served. 50/50 Raffle to benefit our Chamber Scholarship fund! Bring your business cards and make connections! On-line registration will be made available @ www.westfieldbiz.org. For more information, please call Pam at the Chamber at 413.568.1618.



COOKING ON DEADLINE:

DAN DAN NOODLES

By **KATIE WORKMAN**
Associated Press

Dan Dan Noodles are a classic Chinese dish originating in the Sichuan province. Noodles have been part of Chinese cuisine for over 4,000 years, and long strands symbolize longevity, one of the nicest things you can wish for on the Lunar New Year (on Feb. 16 this year).

Dan Dan Noodles are essentially long skinny noodles topped with a flavorful sauce built on ground pork and seasoned with pickled vegetables, chilis, soy sauce, and a bit of Chinese wine and vinegar. This dish was originally a street food. The name Dan Dan refers to the pole on which street vendors in Sichuan would carry the pots of food: one for the noodles, another for the sauce.

A few of the ingredients might take a little work to find unless you live near a great Asian market. Seek them out if you want to approach authenticity, but otherwise use these easy substitutions: If you can't find the Chinese black vinegar, substitute even parts of rice vinegar and balsamic vinegar. Really any vinegar would be fine, but that combo gives you the closest approximation. Dry sherry is a fine substitute for the rice wine.

If you have access to a great Asian market, or want to find a source online, then buy ya cai, zha cai or Tianjin dong cai, which is a preserved vegetable mix, or sometimes just pickled mustard root. It's available in cans or jars. Otherwise jarred pickles work just fine.

There are many versions of this dish, as there are with any classic recipe. Some are brothier than others, some have peanut butter or sesame or ginger, or Szechuan peppercorns. Sichuan cooking is often quite spicy, and these noodles are no exception. If you're feeling a little timid about the amount of chili paste, you can always dial it back a bit — these

noodles definitely pack a kick.

DAN DAN NOODLES

Serves 4
Start to finish: 30 minutes

Sauce:
1/4 cup chili garlic paste
1/4 cup vegetable, peanut or canola oil
2 tablespoons Chinkiang or Chinese Black vinegar
3 tablespoons soy sauce
1 tablespoon sugar
4 scallions, minced
Pork and Noodles:
1 tablespoon vegetable or peanut oil
1 pound ground pork
1/4 cup chopped, jarred, Chinese pickled vegetables or small diced pickles
1 cup roughly chopped arugula (optional)
2 teaspoons finely minced garlic
2 tablespoons Chinese rice wine (which might be called Shaoxing, or a Japanese version is called Mirin), or use dry sherry
1 cup chicken broth
16 ounces fresh Chinese wheat noodles or 8 ounces dried Chinese noodles, or substitute spaghetti
To serve:
1/4 cup crushed roasted peanuts
1/4 cup thinly sliced scallions

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Meanwhile, make the sauce. Combine the chili paste, 1/4 cup oil, vinegar, soy sauce, sugar and minced scallions in a large bowl and stir to mix well.

Heat the 1 tablespoon vegetable or peanut oil in a large skillet or wok over high heat. Add the pork and saute until browned, about 3 minutes. Drain if there is any liquid in the pan, then return to the pan. Stir in the preserved vegetables or pickles, arugula (if using) and the garlic, and cook for another minute. Add the rice wine and stir until it is evaporated, about 1 minute. Add the broth and bring to a simmer, then remove from the heat.

Add the noodles to the boiling water and cook according to package directions (fresh usually take about half as long as dried). Drain.

Stir the sauce to re-combine, then add the noodles to the sauce and toss to coat. Add the pork mixture and toss again. Serve hot, in shallow bowls, sprinkled with the peanuts and sliced scallions.

Nutrition information per serving: 687 calories; 261 calories from fat; 29 g fat (8 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 76 mg cholesterol; 1628 mg sodium; 73 g carbohydrate; 4 g fiber; 9 g sugar; 28 g protein.

Katie Workman has written two cookbooks focused on easy, family-friendly cooking, "Dinner Solved!" and "The Mom 100 Cookbook." She blogs at <http://www.themom100.com/about-katie-workman>. She can be reached at Katie@themom100.com.



KATIE WORKMAN

Leftovers make tasty Spinach and Feta Burgers

By **SARA MOULTON**
Associated Press

Leftovers! Some folks love them, others happily scrape them into the trash. Me, I'm on the love team. Leftovers speak to me. I'd always rather start a meal with a fridge full of tasty bits of this and that than have to confront a blank canvas of raw ingredients. This recipe tackles one particular challenge: how to repurpose leftover cooked chops, steaks, or roasts.

The answer? Turn them into burgers. "Wait a minute," you say. "They've already been cooked once. Won't they be dry as dust if you turn them into burgers and cook them again?" Nope, not if you combine the leftover meat with some moist ingredients, such as the spinach and feta cheese listed here.

For Spinach and Feta Burgers with Cucumber Yogurt Sauce, start with 12 ounces of cooked meat — pork, beef or lamb — trimmed of excess fat and any sinew. Cut the meat into cubes roughly 1 inch per side, then pulse in a food processor to chop it to burger consistency. (Be careful not to leave your finger on the pulse button for too long; you don't want to end up with baby food.) Add the moist ingredients, along with an egg and a bit of panko to bind it all up. If you're no fan of spinach and feta, you can substitute other cooked (and finely chopped) vegetables and/or cheese.

If you have time, make the burgers early in the day and chill them for a few hours before cooking. This will help them to hold their shape. If you don't have the time, don't worry. Just take care to turn them gently as they cook.

One last note: The sauce is a wonderful complement, but you're welcome to lose it if it doesn't appeal to you. The burgers are plenty tasty without it.



This Dec. 29, 2017 photo shows a spinach and feta burger with a cucumber yogurt sauce in New York. This dish is from a recipe by Sara Moulton. (Sara Moulton via AP)

This recipe's true miracle is transforming a mere 12 ounces of meat into six full dinner portions, allowing you to save money as well as food. And the new dish is so different from the original that no one will pipe up to say, "What, leftovers again!?"

Spinach and Feta Burgers with Cucumber Yogurt Sauce
Start to finish: 50 minutes (30 hands on)
For the sauce:
A 6-inch piece of English cucumber (the long, thin kind)
Kosher salt
1 cup plain Greek yogurt

1 teaspoon minced garlic
For the burgers:
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
5 ounces baby spinach
Kosher salt
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1/4 teaspoon hot pepper flakes, optional
1 large egg
12 ounces trimmed cooked lamb or pork chop meat or cooked steak, or leftover roast meat
3 ounces coarsely crumbled feta cheese

See Leftovers, Page 7



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Leftovers

Continued from Page 6

3/4 cup panko bread crumbs
6 pita halves
Shredded romaine lettuce and sliced tomatoes for garnish
Make the sauce: Peel, halve lengthwise and seed the cucumber. Coarsely shred it and in a medium bowl toss it with a pinch of salt. Let the cucumber stand for 10 minutes and then add the yogurt, garlic, additional salt to taste; stir well.
In a large nonstick skillet heat 1 tablespoon of the oil over medium-high heat until hot. Add the spinach and a pinch of salt and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add the garlic and hot pepper flakes, if using, and cook, stirring, until all of the spinach is wilted, 1 1/2 to 2 minutes. Transfer the mixture to a shallow bowl and cool to room temperature in the refrigerator. Wipe out and reserve the skillet.
In a food processor, process the egg until it is lightly beaten. Cut the lamb into 1-inch pieces and add it to the food processor. Pulse 6 to 8 times or until the meat is chopped into medium-fine pieces. Add the feta, cooled spinach mixture and 1/4 cup of the bread crumbs and pulse two or three times or until just mixed.

Shape the mixture into six burgers. Spread out the remaining bread crumbs in a soup or pie plate. Heat the remaining 2 tablespoons oil in the reserved large skillet over medium heat until hot. Dip the burgers into the crumbs to coat them lightly on all sides; shake off any excess crumbs. Add the burgers to the skillet and cook until golden and heated through, about 3 minutes a side.
Transfer the burgers to the pita halves and spoon some of the sauce over each burger. Garnish with the lettuce and tomatoes. Makes 6 servings.
Nutritional information per serving: 331 calories; 141 calories from fat; 16 g fat (6 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 50 mg cholesterol; 593 mg sodium; 26 g carbohydrates; 2 g fiber; 2 g sugar; 19 g protein.
Sara Moulton is host of public television's "Sara's Weeknight Meals." She was executive chef at Gourmet magazine for nearly 25 years and spent a decade hosting several Food Network shows including "Cooking Live." Her latest cookbook is "HomeCooking 101."

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Frozen

Continued from Page 1

"If you do have problem areas deal with it with heat tape or insulating pipes or stopping drafts," he said.

Gardner also suggests having adequate amounts of heating fuel, if that is your source of heat.

Also, if you do have an alternate source of heat, such as a pellet or wood stove, be aware of other parts of your homes and utilize the other sources.

Gardner said that while these alternate sources of heat work well to heat areas of your home, they may only heat one room and leave pockets where cold air can be, as well as register to a thermostat that a home is warmer than it is.

"Even though there are heating lines, if the heat's not running because the thermostat is satisfied by a pellet stove you run a risk, as well," he said.

"It's not uncommon to hear that people had a frozen pipe trying to conserve energy and using alternate heat source with baseboard hot water heating," Bishop said.

"During these cold snaps people will try to conserve energy only by heating areas they are in and that's where you run into areas where areas you're not in become so cold pipes freeze," Bishop added.

Other measures to make sure your pipes do not freeze include the following, previously reported in The Westfield News from the State Fire Marshal's office:

- **Let water drip from faucets**
- **Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors, allowing warmer air to circulate around pipes**
- **Keep thermostats at the same temperature both day and night**
- **Shut off outside water**

Also, if you must thaw the pipes, it is suggested that you leave the faucets open. Then, it is suggested that you apply heat to the section of pipe that is frozen. Suggestions from the State Fire Marshal included an electric heating pad or a towel soaked in hot water wrapped around the pipe, or an electric hair dryer.

Space heaters can be used, but the Fire Marshal suggested that residents be careful when using them, including not using extension cords but if you have to, that they are properly rated. Also, don't overload circuits.

Also, it is suggested to not use open flame devices, such as blowtorches or kerosene or propane heaters.

Finally, make sure full water pressure is restored when applying the heat. If the pipe cannot be located though, or other issues exist, then it is suggested that you contact a licensed plumber.

Ski Blandford

Continued from Page 1

make sure we're safe," Crozier said. He said safety is paramount, and they wouldn't put the public on something that was not completely safe. "It is all about their safety for us, it truly is," he added.

Crozier said he hopes the parts arrive so they can make an announcement the first of February, but there is still a lot of work to be done prior to that time.

In the meantime, season pass holders can ski for free at Butternut and Otis Ridge until Blandford is able to open. As the website states: "As a courtesy to our loyal season pass holders, we have arranged for FREE skiing and riding at Ski Butternut and Otis Ridge until Ski Blandford is able to open (Please bring valid ID to the business office to redeem free pass). Many of our customers have enjoyed this complimentary offer so far, and we encourage everyone to visit both Otis Ridge and Ski Butternut frequently."

Crozier said sales have been strong for the \$199 season pass this year. "We were really encouraged by them. Certainly, we're disappointed we couldn't open for the holidays for our guests," he said.

While the ski area has not opened to the public, they have done some on-hill training with the ski school. "No lifts, just the base area," Crozier said.

The pre-season lift evacuation and refresher training for the ski patrol was also held at the beginning of the season. Ski patrol member Robert Garriepy, the police chief in Huntington said he hasn't put on his skis since. He said he wasn't going to drive to Butternut, adding that the beauty of Blandford is that it's so close, and if he were going to drive, he'd take a couple of days and go north.

Garriepy did acknowledge that Crozier had done a "phenomenal job" making sure that everybody and anybody could ski at Butternut or Otis if they wanted to. "He's a super nice guy. The right guy in the right place," he said.



Ski Blandford General Manager Ron Crozier.

Crozier previously worked for Butternut from 1999 to 2004. In October, he said the position of general manager was like "coming home." When he worked for the ski area the last time, he lived in East Otis. This time, he commuted briefly from Pennsylvania to start, then bought the same house he and his wife formerly owned, and moved back to East Otis. He said his wife's family is from the Otis area.

Crozier said that at one point he had a crew of about 20 working in Blandford. He said now that the buildings and picnic tables have all been painted, they've scaled back. "Now, it's more just the hill guys to get the lifts ready."

"Watch our website. As we move closer to the first of February, hopefully we'll have a nice announcement instead of postponements," Crozier said.

Grease

Continued from Page 1

Brown.

That particular sewer line involves the Southern section of Berkshire Ave and the neighborhoods surrounding South Pond on Congamond Lake. Brown said up to 200 sewer customers would be effected if the grease became more of an issue.

A year prior to this incident, workers went out at that same location and actually checked the sewers for grease and found no signs of it.

"Something happened during that time period," said Brown.

Board of Health Director Tom FitzGerald has been working with Brown to determine where the issue is originating. FitzGerald is in the process of sending out emails to the 20 or more restaurants throughout Southwick that are hooked up to sewers. The email will also include the school district, since they are also hooked up to a sewer system on Feeding Hills Road.

FitzGerald said that the notification will focus on reminding businesses about compliance with the grease regulations that were adopted by the Town of Southwick in 2009. In the regulation it states, "All commercial businesses that have licenses issued by the Board of Health for the purposes of preparing and/or serving food, shall be required to have a grease trap sized by the agent sized by plumbing or other applicable codes."

The regulations then go on to say that if any establishment fails to comply with installing or pumping grease traps, they could have their food license revoked by the Board of Health.

FitzGerald certainly doesn't prefer to take such an action but it could be necessary in order to prevent a small problem from getting worse.

"We don't want excessive grease in the sewers," said FitzGerald.

After the notice goes to all the food establishments that are connected to sewers, he and Brown will be creating a comprehensive plan on how to deal with grease traps properly and set up a plan to become aware of the routine maintenance that's required for the restaurants.

The Board of Health will also be discussing this at their next meeting on January 24.

Open Space

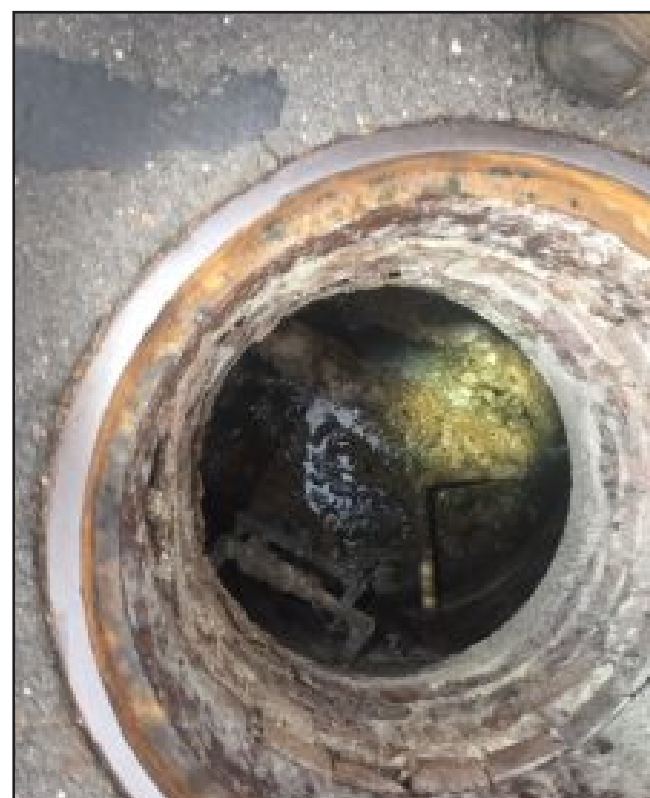
Continued from Page 1

community's identity

Recreational and open space facilities which are available and comparable for residents of all neighborhoods, ages, classes, and abilities.

According to Vinskey, the next step is to send letters of the final draft of the plan to Mayor Brian Sullivan, the Planning Board, and PVPC. After there is approval from all three parties, the plan would have to be submitted to the state. Once the state approves, the plan would be in effect and good for another seven years.

"Any recreation improvement or open space improvement fits into the framework," said Vinskey. "It really just the goal to make policy decisions."



Southwick DPW workers took a picture of the grease blockage that was in a sewer near the southern part of Berkshire Ave. (Photo courtesy of Southwick DPW)

Veterans behind bars: US jails set aside special cellblocks

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The military veterans playing cards in the Albany County jail wear the same orange uniforms as everyone else, with "INMATE" printed down the legs. But their service offers one distinct privilege: a special cellblock where they can work through problems they often share, such as substance use and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"It's not just us and our thoughts all day," says 31-year-old Navy veteran James Gibson, who was serving a 60-day criminal contempt sentence. "Everybody who's been in here has been in the service. So we can all relate to at least that."

Such "veteran pods" are becoming an increasingly common part of state and county lockups as the criminal justice system focuses more on helping troubled former service members. Veteran inmates are more likely to have reported mental health issues, particularly PTSD, according to a snapshot of the prison population by the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Nationwide, veterans accounted for 8 percent of all inmates, and there are at least 86 prisons and jails with designated veterans' housing, according to federal government statistics. Many of the programs were started in the last five years.

Some of the half-dozen veterans' dorms in Florida prisons feature daily flag raisings or monthly formations. Others, like Albany, tend to avoid military trappings. The San Francisco Sheriff's Department offers yoga and meditation and works with a local veterans treatment court. But their common aim is to create an esprit de corps and a

"safe space" to help veterans deal with their issues and reintegrate into society.

Sixty-two-year-old Army veteran Roberto James Davis said a two-month stay in veterans housing at San Bruno in the San Francisco Bay area in 2016 helped him change his mindset after decades of arrests and substance use. He now has steady work as a truck driver.

"I really started listening this time around," Davis said. "I was determined that if I got another shot I was going to make the most of it. And I have."

Albany's pod, a Spartan common area flanked by two stories of single-bunk cells, recently housed about a dozen men who served in different branches and in different decades stretching back to the Vietnam War.

But for the military branch emblems on a far wall, it looks like any jail block. The difference here is that the veterans receive intensive counseling and help from the nonprofit group Soldier On.

On a recent morning, 10 men gathered around the pod's bolted-down tables and drew pictures representing what they were doing in past years. The exercise helped them reflect on the choices they made that eventually landed them in jail.

"I've held a lot of conversation — good conversations — with some of you guys," Wesley Merriwether, 23, said during a recent morning group session. "Like I said, I'm young I can't give you much advice, but the advice I can give you: Just keep your heads up."

Inmates and officials say the Albany pod

is cleaner and less troublesome than other tiers. When a guard was attacked here in 2016 by an inmate from another unit, the pod inmates ran from across the common area to the guard's aid.

"We send all these young men and women overseas and when they come back, a lot of them with PTSD, domestic violence, drug issues," said Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple, who started the veterans pod more than three years ago. "And I just felt we could have treated them better or done something for them."

Apple said 6 percent of the roughly 331 participating veterans in Albany over the years have returned to jail, far better than the typical jail recidivism rates of more than 40 percent.

It helps that Soldier On also provides post-release services like housing. So when Tommy Hartmann was released from the Albany jail last year after 90 days he had a place to go. The 29-year-old Army veteran moved into Soldier On's transitional housing in Leeds, Massachusetts.

He also got a job with Soldier On, on the resident staff. When the group helped serve a holiday meal recently, Hartmann returned to his old block to chat up inmates he knew.

This time he wore khakis and a tie. And he got to go home at the end of the night.

"They set me up to succeed when I got out," Hartmann said before his visit. "Rather than just sitting on the tier, playing cards, watching TV, doing pushups, whatever, I was doing positive stuff toward my recovery and becoming a better part in society."

Listen at WSKB.org or watch on Comcast Cable CH. 15

MONDAYS

6-8 am: By George... it's Monday with George Delisle

8-10am: Owls on the Air with Michael "Buster" McMahon '92

TUESDAYS

6-8 am: WOW, It's Tuesday, with Bob Plasse

8-10am: Ken's Den, with Ken Stomski

WEDNESDAYS

6-8 am: Wake Up Wed., with Tina Gorman

8-10am: Wednesday Roll Call - Rotating Hosts

1st Wed: On The Town with Mayor Brian Sullivan and Denny Atkins (8-10am)

2nd Wed: Window into Westside with Mayor Wil Reichelt (8-9am)

Chamber Chatter with Kate Phelon (9-10am)

3rd Wed: Everything Southwick with Selectman Joe Deedy (8-9am)

ArtsBeat with Mark Auerbach (9-10am)

4th Wed: Rock on Westfield with Harry Rock (8-9am)

Boys and Girls Club Hour with Bill Parks (9-10am)

THURSDAYS

6-8 am: The Westfield News Radio Show, with host Patrick Berry

8-9 am: In The Flow with Rob & Joe: Westfield Tech. Academy's Rob Ollari & Joe Langone

9-10am: Superintendents' Spotlight with Stefan Czaprowski

FRIDAYS

6-8 am: JP's Talk about Town, with Jay Pagluica

8-9 am: Owls Sports Weekly with Devin Bates '18 and Anthony Swenson '18

8-9 am: Conversations with Pete Cowles

SATURDAYS

6-10am: Polka Jammer Network, with Billy Belina

RADIO FOR THE WESTFIELD MASSES

SPORTS



Southwick's Evan Clarke (34) skies high above the defense for a 2-pointer. (Photo by Chris Putz)

Seventh heaven

By CHRIS PUTZ
Staff Writer

SOUTHWICK – It may have been a low-scoring affair, but one high school boys basketball team was soaring high after their recent victory.

Southwick outscored Mahar 18-12 in the fourth quarter to squeak by the Senators 39-34 Tuesday at home. More importantly, the Rams stayed unbeaten to improve to 7-0.

Billy Strain led Southwick with eight points. Rams' Hunter Iglesias had seven, Evan Clark, 6, and Connor Roy and Danny Scharmann with five apiece.

Sam Paul scored a team-high 13 for Mahar. Senators' Matt Jenks had 10.

Bombers hit road block

Northampton 74, Westfield 48

Diego Corrado-Mattei (18 points) and Michael McCarthy (13) led Northampton to victory at home.

Aidan Dunn (13), Kam Wells (13), and Javi Santos (11) finished with double-digits scoring for Westfield.

Pioneers rally past Gators

Pathfinder 45, Gateway 35

Jay Lagrant scored a game-high 19 points as Pathfinder rallied from a halftime deficit to win on the road in Huntington.

Gateway freshman Evan Cortis finished with a team-high 13. Gators' sophomore Ryan Orr had a career-high five.

Gateway led 20-18 at the half, but Pathfinder outscored the Gators 17-7 in the third quarter.

See H.S. Roundup, Page 11



Southwick's defense clamps down on Mahar in the corner. (Photo by Chris Putz)



Southwick's Daniel Scharmann (10) drives through the Mahar defense Tuesday night. (Photo by Chris Putz)



Southwick's William Strain (15) goes up strong to the hoop. (Photo by Chris Putz)



Southwick's Bradley Durand (43) attempts a long range jump shot. (Photo by Chris Putz)

WESTFIELD STATE SPORTS SCHEDULES

2017-2018 Westfield State Men's-Women's Indoor Track and Field

DAY	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Saturday	Jan. 20	Maroon & White Classic	Springfield College- Springfield, Mass.
Saturday	Jan. 27	Massasoit Classic	Springfield College- Springfield, Mass.
Fri.-Sat. Feb 2-3 NEICAAA Championship			
Reggie Lewis Center- Boston, Mass.			
Saturday Feb. 3 Wesleyan University Invitational II			
Wesleyan University- Middletown, Conn.			
Saturday Feb. 10 MASCAC/Alliance Championships			
Rhode Island College- Providence, RI			
Fri.-Sat. Feb. 16-17 New England Division III Finals (W)			
Springfield- Springfield, Mass.;			
M) Middlebury – Middlebury, Vt.			
Sat. Feb. 24 TBD			
Saturday March 3 Tufts Final Qualifying Meet			
Tufts University- Medford, Mass.			
Fri.-Sat. March 9-10 NCAA Division III Championships			
CrossPlex- Birmingham, Ala.			

2017-2018 Westfield State University Men's Basketball Schedule

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sat	Jan. 13	BRIDGEWATER STATE	3:00
Wed	Jan. 17	FRAMINGHAM STATE	7:30
Sat	Jan. 20	at Salem State	3:00
Tues	Jan. 23	at Fitchburg State	7:30
Thur	Jan. 25	WORCESTER STATE	7:30
Sat	Jan. 27	MCLA	3:00
Sat	Feb. 3	at Bridgewater State	3:00
Wed	Feb. 7	at Framingham State	8:00
Sat	Feb. 10	SALEM STATE	3:00
Wed	Feb. 14	FITCHBURG STATE	7:30
Sat	Feb. 17	at Worcester State	3:00
Tues	Feb. 20	MASCAC Quarterfinals	TBA
Thur	Feb. 22	MASCAC Semifinals	TBA
Sat	Feb. 24	MASCAC Championship	TBA

2017-2018 Westfield State University Women's Basketball Schedule

Sat 1:00	Jan. 13	BRIDGEWATER STATE	Wed Sat	Feb. 7 at Framingham State 6:00 Feb. 10 SALEM STATE 1:00
Wed 5:30	Jan. 17	FRAMINGHAM STATE	Wed Sat	Feb. 14 FITCHBURG STATE 5:30 Feb. 17 at Worcester State 1:00
Sat	Jan. 20	at Salem State 1:00	Tues TBA	Feb. 20 MASCAC Quarterfinals
Tues 5:30	Jan. 23	at Fitchburg State 5:30	Thur Sat TBA	Feb. 22 MASCAC Semifinals TBA Feb. 24 MASCAC Championship
Sat	Jan. 25	WORCESTER STATE		
Sat	Jan. 27	MCLA 1:00		
Sat	Feb. 3	at Bridgewater State 1:00		

2017-2018 Westfield State University Women's Swimming & Diving Schedule

Fri	Jan. 19	at Saint Joseph, CT	5:00
Sat	Jan. 27	WESTERN CONNECTICUT	1:00
Sun	Jan. 28	at Rhode Island College (at Bryant)	1:00
Sat	Feb. 3	LEC Championships	11:00 a.m.
		@ UMass Dartmouth	
Fri	Feb. 16	New England Championships	
Sat	Feb. 17	New England Championships	
Sun	Feb. 18	New England Championships	
		@ University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI	

2017-2018 Westfield State Ice Hockey Schedule

Fri	Jan. 12	at Martha's Vineyard Tournament vs Curry	3:00
Sat	Jan. 13	at Martha's Vineyard Tournament vs Salve Regina	1:00
Thur Sat	Jan. 18	UMASS DARTMOUTH	7:35 3:30
Thur Sat	Jan. 25	at Fitchburg State	7:00
Thur Sat	Jan. 27	PLYMOUTH STATE	5:35
Tues Thur	Jan. 30	FRAMINGHAM STATE	7:35
Tues Thur	Feb. 1	SALEM STATE	7:35
Thur Sat	Feb. 8	at Framingham State	7:30
Thur Sat	Feb. 10	at UMass Dartmouth	4:30
Thur Sat	Feb. 15	WORCESTER STATE	7:35
Thur Sat	Feb. 17	FITCHBURG STATE	5:35
Tues	Feb. 20	at Plymouth State	6:00
Sat	Feb. 24	MASCAC Quarterfinals	TBD
Tues	Feb. 27	MASCAC Semifinals	TBD
Sat	March 3	MASCAC Championship	TBD

HIGH SCHOOL 2017 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 10, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Amherst-Pelham, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Amherst-Pelham, 7 p.m. BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Minnechaug, Amelia Park Arena, 7 p.m. WRESTLING at East Longmeadow, 7 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 12, 2018 SWIMMING at Belchertown, Chestnut Hill Community School Pool, 4 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pope Francis, 5:30 p.m. JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Mount Greylock High School, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pope Francis, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Mount Greylock High School, 7 p.m. SWIMMING at Belchertown, Chestnut Hill Community School Pool, 4 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 13, 2018 WRESTLING at Ludlow Duals, 9 a.m. BOYS ICE HOCKEY at Agawam, Olympia Ice Center (West Springfield), 4:30 p.m. GIRLS ICE HOCKEY (Longmeadow Co-Op) vs. Leominster, Fitzpatrick Ice Arena, 8 p.m.
Sun., Jan. 14, 2018 JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Minnechaug, Amelia Park Ice Arena, 6:10 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 15, 2018 GIRLS ICE HOCKEY (Longmeadow Co-Op) at Wellesley, Babson Skating Center, 3:40 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Watertown, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Watertown, 7 p.m. BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. West Springfield, Amelia Park Ice Arena, noon
Tues., Jan. 16, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Central, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Central, 7 p.m. SWIMMING vs. Minnechaug, 4 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17, 2018 JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Minnechaug, Amelia Park Ice Arena, 3:45 p.m. BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Agawam, Amelia Park Ice Arena, 7 p.m.

SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 10, 2018 WRESTLING at West Springfield High School, 7 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018 SKIING at Berkshire East, 5 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Athol, 6 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 12, 2018 INDOOR TRACK vs. TBD, Smith College, 3:45 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Monson, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Monson, 7 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 13, 2018 WRESTLING at The Gilbert School, 10 a.m.
Sun., Jan. 14, 2018 JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. South Hadley, Cyr Arena, 5:30 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 15, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Greenfield, 4:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Greenfield, 6 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 16, 2018 WRESTLING vs. South Hadley, 7 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Renaissance, 5:30 p.m. JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Pioneer Valley Regional, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Renaissance, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Pioneer Valley Regional, 7 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 18, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. JV GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Mahar, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Mahar, 7 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 19, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Easthampton, 5:30 p.m. INDOOR TRACK @ Smith College (Northampton), 6:45 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Easthampton, 7 p.m.

GATEWAY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 10, 2018 WRESTLING vs. Sabis, 6 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 12, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Baystate Academy Charter Public School, South End Community Center, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Baystate Academy Charter Public School, South End Community Center, 7 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 13, 2018 WRESTLING @ Joe McCabe Invitational, Maple Hill High School, 10 a.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL @ Falcons Winter Classic vs. Hampden Charter School of Science, Smith Academy, 2:30 p.m.
Sun., Jan. 14, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL @ Falcons Winter Classic vs. TBD, Time TBD
Tues., Jan. 16, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Smith Vocational, 5 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Smith Vocational High School, 6:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Duggan Academy, 6:30 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17, 2018 WRESTLING vs. Duggan Academy, 6 p.m.

WESTFIELD TECHNICAL ACADEMY
Wed., Jan. 10, 2018 No Sports Scheduled
Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018 BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Smith Voke, 6 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 12, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at McCann Tech High School, Time TBA BOYS BASKETBALL at McCann Tech High School, 7 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 16, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Franklin Tech, 6 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 18, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Commerce, 6 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 19, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Smith Vocational, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Smith Vocational, 7 p.m.

SAINT MARY HIGH SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 10, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Commerce High School, 7 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 12, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, 6:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Pioneer Valley Regional School, Westfield Middle School North, 6 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 13, 2018 BOYS JV ICE HOCKEY vs. Easthampton, Williston-Northampton School, 6 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 15, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Easthampton, 7 p.m.
Tues., Jan. 16, 2018 BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pathfinder, Westfield Middle School South, 6 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Renaissance, Westfield Middle School North, 5:30 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 17, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Mohawk Trail, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Mohawk Trail, 7 p.m.



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H.S. Roundup

Continued from Page 9

Tigers rally past Saints

Westfield Technical Academy 57, St. Mary's 52
Westfield Tech rallied from an 8-point, fourth-quarter deficit.

St. Mary's Jake Butler scored a game-high 20 points. Cody Garwacki (14 points 13 rebounds), Ken Flores (11 points, 3 rebounds), and Josh Bush (11 points, 8 rebounds) led Westfield Tech.

Flores and Garwacki each went 2-for-2 from the foul line in the final minute of the game to secure the comeback.

"St. Mary's played hard and scrappy and it took a total team effort on our part to put something together at the end of the game," Westfield Tech coach Kyle Dulude said.

Mark Klyuchits also had nine points and three rebounds for Westfield Tech. Tigers' Tyler Starzyk had five points, and Ruvim Suprunchuk finished with four.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Martin pace Rams

Turners Falls 45, Southwick 29
Emily Martin led the way for Southwick with 12 points. Rams' Julia Gardner grabbed eight rebounds.

In JV action, Southwick defeated Turners Falls 34-26. Sophia Andrade had 11 points, and Ashley Squired chipped in nine.



PHOTOS BY LYNN F. BOSCHER



Looking for a Unique Gift?



Put a picture of someone you love on a keepsake.

These are pictures the staff at The Westfield News Group have taken at events throughout our communities.



Go to www.thewestfieldnews.com visit "Photos" look for your favorite photo, then click the "Buy" icon located at the top.



Dear Annie

By ANNIE LANE

Does Mother Know Best?

Dear Annie: A few months ago, my mom came to visit from out of state. We've always had a strained relationship and never seen eye to eye. While she was here, she made a big deal about the fact that I wash my dishes with bristled brushes and not dishcloths. I explained that dishcloths harbor bacteria and that bristled brushes are more environmentally friendly than cloths and sponges (in my own opinion). She offered to go to the store to buy me some dishcloths. I explained that my limited supply was because of my personal wishes and not monetary reasons and that I would not use them if she bought them. So she didn't.

Fast-forward five months and my Christmas present in the mail includes dishcloths. I am very annoyed, as I feel she couldn't care less about my feelings and thinks she is right no matter what. It also feels like a jab. Should I let her know my feelings on the subject or let it slide? -- Mother Doesn't Always Know Best

Dear MDAKB: Bristled brushes are the most hygienic choice. They dry quickly and are easy to clean. So you're right. But that's beside the point.

Your mother will always think she knows best. I could tell you to talk to her and explain why the gesture seemed patronizing and hurt your feelings, but realistically, she's probably going to keep "sending you dishcloths" in one form or another for the rest of her life. All you can change is how you receive them. Rather than wring every passive-aggressive meaning from the gift, accept it at face value and say thank you.

Dear Annie: I'm writing about a situation in the medical field. It's about the long hours expected of nurses.

It's a fact that when a nursing replacement doesn't report to work, the person who has just worked an eight-hour shift is required to stay. Additionally, a nurse must request a vacation well in advance, and even though it is supposedly guaranteed, the vacation can be canceled at the last minute. There is no concern that the employee must cancel reservations, cancel flights and lose deposit money.

I am concerned for the well-being of dedicated nurses and for the future of nursing. Who would want to work where these conditions seem to be the norm? I'm concerned for patients. Nurses who would normally be friendly, compassionate and caring can become tired and grouchy. Everyone needs some down time, especially people who work at such an important job. -- Worried in Wisconsin

Dear Worried: I agree. Nurses work hard, long hours, in a role that is physically and emotionally draining. Countless studies have shown the adverse effects that fatigue has on nurses' health and job performance. In pursuit of better hours and conditions, many nurses have chosen to unionize. Though this might not be for everyone, it's worth considering. A Nurse.org article titled "Should I Join A Nurses Union? Pros And Cons" is a good primer, though I encourage everyone to do independent research.

Additionally, the American Nurses Association (<http://nursingworld.org>) offers fact sheets about staying healthy as a nurse.

HINTS FROM HELOISE

KEEP THE TEARS AWAY

Dear Heloise: When working with ONIONS, I have two things I do to reduce the tears: (1) Core the onion. Then after the onion is cut, you can continue to cut up the core. I use my apple corer. (2) Run fingers and hands under cold water, and rub fingers on a stainless-steel spoon. In less than 30 seconds, the smell is gone. This works with garlic, too. -- Susan D., Highland, Ind.



TAPIOCA STARCH VERSUS CORNSTARCH

Dear Heloise: What is the difference between cornstarch and tapioca starch? Are they interchangeable? -- Ruth M., Omaha, Neb.

Ruth, tapioca starch comes from the root of the cassava plant. Cornstarch comes from the grain of maize (corn). Both are thickening agents. If you are preparing a sauce made with cornstarch, it will be opaque, while a sauce made with tapioca starch will appear translucent. If your recipe requires a long cooking time, use cornstarch. As for interchangeability, it all depends on the dish you are making, but go with the instructions. -- Heloise

STORING LEFTOVERS

Dear Readers: Leftover stews, chili and soups often taste better a day or two after they're made. If you have leftovers, store them in plastic, sealable bags, and lay them flat in your refrigerator or freezer. These can be stacked to save room. Plus, you can see what the item is. Do let the food cool before putting it into the bag, and you can jot down the date on the bag, too! -- Heloise

SLICING TOMATOES

Dear Heloise: Our tomatoes were rather small this year. So, instead of slicing them clear through to put on a sandwich, I butterflyed them and laid the connected halves on the bread. They didn't slide around on the bread. Love my fresh tomatoes! -- Diane U., Springfield, Ill.

TV Sports Tonight

Wednesday, Jan. 10 COLLEGE BASKETBALL

7 p.m.
BTN — Rutgers at Michigan St.
CBSSN — UCF at UConn
ESPN2 — Duke at Pittsburgh
ESPNU — Notre Dame at Georgia Tech
SEC — Mississippi St. at Florida
8 p.m.
ESPNEWS — Oklahoma St. at Kansas St.
FS1 — Xavier at Villanova
9 p.m.
BTN — Minnesota at Northwestern
CBSSN — Temple at SMU
ESPN2 — Georgia at Missouri
ESPNU — TCU at Texas
SEC — LSU at Arkansas
10 p.m.
FS1 — Colorado at Southern Cal

GOLF

3 a.m. (Thursday)
GOLF — European PGA Tour, South African Open, first

round, at Gauteng, South Africa NBA BASKETBALL

8 p.m.
ESPN — Oklahoma City at Minnesota
10:30 p.m.
ESPN — L.A. Clippers at Golden State

NHL HOCKEY

8 p.m.
NBCSN — Minnesota at Chicago

SOCCER

2:55 p.m.
ESPN2 — Carabao Cup, semifinals, 1st Leg, Chelsea vs. Arsenal, at London

WINTER SPORTS

5 p.m.
NBCSN — Biathlon: IBU World Cup, Men's 20km Individual, at Ruhpolding, Germany (same-day tape)

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Noon
NBCSN — Richmond at Saint Joseph's
7 p.m.
FS2 — St. John's at Butler

On The Tube



This combination photo shows actresses listed in alphabetical order, top row from left, Asia Argento, Rosanna Arquette, Jessica Barth, Cara Delevingne, Romola Garai, Judith Godreche, Heather Graham, Angelina Jolie, Ashley Judd, Rose McGowan, Lea Seydoux and Mira Sorvino, who have made allegations against producer Harvey Weinstein. The women who initially spoke out against sexual misconduct in Hollywood this fall, inspiring millions to tell their own stories of harassment and illegality on social media, have been named The Associated Press Entertainers of the Year, voted by members of the news cooperative and AP entertainment reporters. (AP Photo/File)

Rose McGowan: Weinstein legal action costing her house

By LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Rose McGowan, refusing to mention Harvey Weinstein by name, said unspecified legal action by the man she instead calls "the monster" is forcing her to sell her house to fight him.

The actress-turned-activist spoke to TV critics Tuesday about her upcoming documentary series "Citizen Rose" and what she called her global struggle against sexual assault and economic injustice.

McGowan helped start a national public discussion when she accused Hollywood mogul Weinstein of raping her. Weinstein, facing numerous other accusations of misconduct, has repeatedly denied "allegations of non-consensual sex."

"Citizen Rose," debuting Jan. 30 on E!, refers only to Weinstein as "HW" or "the monster," said executive director Andrea Metz. In video remarks before the panel, McGowan asked reporters to refrain from saying Weinstein's name and to ask respectful questions to acknowledge her humanity.

The former star of "Charmed" was

asked if she had any qualms working for E!, which was called out on the Golden Globes red carpet by stars unhappy with E! host Catt Sadler's departure over pay disparity. The issue arose after she'd made a deal with the channel for series, McGowan said, adding, "Let me hang out for a while and maybe things will change."

Frances Berwick, who oversees E! as president of Lifestyles Networks for NBC Universal Cable Entertainment, addressed the issue after McGowan's Q&A. Sadler, who said she quit E! because she was paid less than fellow host Jason Kennedy, had a different role than Kennedy and therefore a different salary, Berwick said.

Sadler was a daytime host and Kennedy worked in prime-time news and on the red carpet, Berwick told the Television Critics Association.

McGowan has been privately taping her life for several years, joining with Bunim-Murry Productions to create the documentary series, McGowan said.

"I want to be like Gertrude Stein, to have a conversation with the world instead of just in my living room," said McGowan, who is highly visible on

social media. She called the series "raw" and her "truth."

"I'm really just trying to stop international rapists and child molesters," she said at another point, after a reporter had asked if she was a "warrior."

McGowan separated herself from Hollywood's anti-misconduct Time's Up initiative, saying she doesn't believe change will come from those who hold power in the industry.

A settlement reached with Weinstein in 1997 over an encounter in a hotel room during the Sundance film festival didn't include a non-disclosure agreement, McGowan said. But she added that she faces the sale of her house to pay "legal bills fighting off the monster."

There was no record of a lawsuit by Weinstein against McGowan in Los Angeles courts, where the actress has lived, although legal action may not have arisen to the level of a public filing yet.

She went public with her accusation of rape after The New York Times reported on the settlement as part of a larger expose on Weinstein.

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

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

NBC's drama 'Rise' gives rise to high school theater grants

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — An upcoming NBC drama about a high school theater program will be a boon to 50 real schools. The network said Tuesday it's donating \$500,000 in grants to high school theater departments nationwide.

Jason Katims, executive producer of the new series "Rise," says in a statement the grants will help supports the kind of schools and students whose stories are told in the series.

"Rise," inspired by a true story, stars Josh Radnor ("How I Met Your Mother") as a teacher who energizes his school's theater department and its working-class town. The cast includes Rosie Perez, Auli'i Cravalho ("Moana") and Damon J. Gillespie. High schools can submit applications at NBC.com/Rise through Feb. 6, with the winners to be announced in March. "Rise" debuts March 20 after a March 13 preview.

COMICS

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



AGNES Tony Cochran



ARCHIE Fernando Ruiz and Craig Boldman



RUBES Leigh Rubin



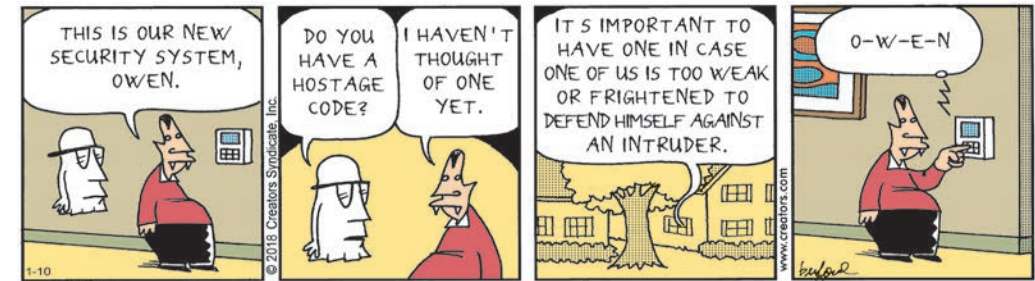
DADDY'S HOME Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



DUSTIN By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



SCARY GARY Mark Buford



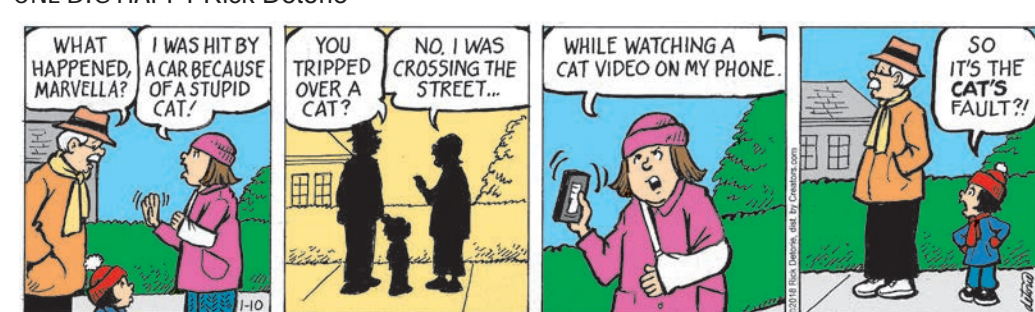
DOGS of C-KENNEL Mick and Mason Mastroianni



B.C. Mastroianni and Hart



ONE BIG HAPPY Rick Detorie



ANDY CAPP Mahoney, Goldsmith and Garnett



ZACK HILL John Deering and John Newcombe



YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Jaqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018:
 This year you seem to be able to flawlessly bind your intellect to your feelings, creating results that please you and others to no end. You could become impulsive at times, but you'll learn to trust your judgment. If you are single, you will make excellent choices when dating. If you want a major relationship, the time has come to make it so. If you are attached, confirm that you and your sweetie are on the same page when making important decisions. Together, you can create inspiring results. **SCORPIO** can be an earnest yet blunt friend.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ You will make a point of having one-on-one talks with those who are key to your well-being. You easily could feel inspired by a mere suggestion. Problems might arise later in the afternoon, as there seems to be confusion surrounding an agreement. Tonight: Confirm plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ You instinctively know what to do. Ask a loved one to help you with a cause that's close to your heart. You are able to see the impossible as possible. You will follow through on what is important. A friend inspires you to continue on your chosen path. Tonight: Out and about.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ You are on top of your game right now. You might feel the need for a checkup, as you sense that something is off. Understand your limits. An older friend seems to have a better sense of what will work, so listen carefully to what he or she has to say. Tonight: Pace yourself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Keep heading down your chosen path. Make sure that others understand your goals. Your sunny side emerges when dealing with a loved one. This person might be disruptive. Let your mind wander as only it can, and you'll come up with an unusual solution. Tonight: Go for it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ You sense an unusual problem brewing, or at least one you would prefer not to deal with. You might need to have a conversation with an irate friend who seems ready to erupt. You will want to think through a problem carefully before taking any action. Tonight: Stay close to home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Investigate what is happening, and try not to sit on any anger. You'll want to distance yourself from someone who is being a bit hot-headed. You might not like what this person has to say, but know that there is some truth behind his or her words. Tonight: Meet a friend halfway.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ You might be too hard on yourself. Relax and listen to what someone is sharing, especially if it has to do with finances. You can and will bypass a budgeting problem. Your creativity points to a vague yet wonderful idea that could affect your life. Tonight: Put your feet up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ You can't smile enough, as you see your energy creating the results you desire. You work hard and are diligent. Express your unique ingenuity; it often paves the path to an effective solution. Do not be too strict about mixing business and pleasure. Tonight: Do your thing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ You might want to be quiet and removed, but someone will try to draw you out of your shell. You'll want to handle a problem directly, so you will need to rethink how to use your energy most effectively. Express your emotions. Tonight: Dinner at a favorite place.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ You might want to rethink a matter more carefully. You could be challenging to others, and are likely to cause yourself a problem as you seek the right path or solution. Consider reaching out to a friend who wants to give you some feedback. Tonight: Where the action is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ Confusion arises when dealing with a loved one. You could sense a sudden rigidity that causes you to stop and think. Get down to basics and zero in on your priorities before initiating a conversation. Tap into your creativity, and you'll know what to do. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ You enjoy yourself no matter where you are and no matter what you are doing. You are in the process of gaining more insight into what motivates others. With that understanding, success in various realms of your life becomes even more possible. Tonight: With a favorite person.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Preparing for the unexpected

North dealer.
 Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
 ♠ A K J 8 2
 ♥ 8 3
 ♦ A 6
 ♣ Q 7 5 3
WEST
 ♠ 10 6 5 3
 ♥ J 10 9 6 2
 ♦ J 9 7 4
 ♣ —
EAST
 ♠ 9 4
 ♥ Q 7 5
 ♦ 10 8 5 2
 ♣ K 10 9 4
SOUTH
 ♠ Q 7
 ♥ A K 4
 ♦ K Q 3
 ♣ A J 8 6 2

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1♠ Pass 3♥ Pass
 4♠ Pass 4♥ Pass
 5♠ Pass 6♣ Pass

Opening lead — jack of hearts.
There is no time clock that compels declarer to rush headlong into the play of a hand. Speed has its rewards in some games, but bridge is not one of them.
South went down quickly on this deal, where he lost a slam he could have made by playing more slowly. He won the heart lead, played a diamond to the ace, returned a low trump and finessed the jack. The finesse succeeded, but West showed out. Since East still had the K-10-9.

Tomorrow: Evasive tactics pay off.
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CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

- 1 "Hum-bug!"
- 4 Killer whale
- 8 Just adorable
- 12 Outback bird
- 13 Dread
- 14 Taj Mahal site
- 15 Lincoln nickname
- 16 "Imagine!"
- 18 Gold-loving king
- 20 — Juan
- 21 Chest muscles, briefly
- 24 Water conduits
- 28 "Enough!"
- 32 Fishing rod
- 33 Bristle
- 34 Ganges garments
- 36 Fall from grace
- 37 Weakening
- 39 "So there!"
- 41 Fashion

DOWN

- 1 Smile broadly
- 2 Both (Pref.)
- 3 Colored
- 4 Makes up
- 5 Actor
- 6 Paint container
- 7 Curved lines
- 8 Tabby temptation
- 9 "This tastes terrible!"
- 10 — la-la
- 11 Chow down
- 17 Chatter

19 PC program

- 22 Converse
- 23 Jazz legend
- 25 Vaughan
- 26 Lamb alias
- 27 Faxed
- 28 Tools
- 29 Ninny
- 30 "I'm — way!"
- 31 "Kon- —"
- 35 Capitol VIP
- 38 Needle-nose tool
- 40 QB's goals
- 42 Goof up
- 45 \$ dispensers
- 47 Hen pen
- 48 Shoppe description
- 49 Try out
- 50 Bump into
- 51 Eggs
- 52 Retrieve
- 53 Smack
- 54 Simile center

Solution time: 23 mins.

D	O	E	A	F	O	G	C	A	P
U	N	D	O	P	O	L	E	A	
E	A	S	V	A	S	P	E	L	E
A	N	G	L	O	P	E	S	I	D
A	N	G	L	O	P	E	S	I	D
R	I	O	N	E	B	R	A	S	K
A	N	O	M	I	L	E	V	I	O
B	A	D	H	A	B	I	T	S	C
A	R	C	S	D	U	E	L	S	
B	O	S	S	A	E	L	A	N	
R	A	N	D	R	Y	A	S	D	U
A	R	E	A	C	E	S	A	L	O
S	S	W	M	A	S	H	E	T	N

Yesterday's answer 1-10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16				17			
18			19				20			
21			22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30				31		32		
33			34			35		36		
37			38			39		40		
41			42			43				
44			45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52			53	54		55		
56			57			58				
59			60							

CRYPTOQUIP

O I H P E F B K A T F B E H K K N P
 O I S G Q F J S W F A T O S H L Q H
 Q J H K K F L G H J S G P F G H
 W L H E S K S P ? W F A N K T E I H L J.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BASEBALL LEGEND LASORDA WAS SUCH A WISE MANAGER THAT YOU HEARD PEOPLE CALL HIM "SWAMI TOMMY."
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals B

Tennessee Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota (8) hands off to running back Derrick Henry (22) in the second half of an NFL football game against the Los Angeles Rams Sunday, Dec. 24, 2017, in Nashville, Tenn. (AP Photo /James Kenney)



Titans confident with Mariota doing bit of everything

By **TERESA M. WALKER**
AP Pro Football Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Titans linebacker Derrick Morgan says he kind of blacked out.

Everyone who stayed on the Tennessee sideline went crazy, celebrating.

As a group of teammates mobbed him, quarterback Marcus Mariota simply stood and looked back at them knowing he had helped the Titans to their first playoff victory in 14 years in his postseason debut.

The big play? Not his first touchdown pass, which he conveniently caught after it was batted back to him.

Or the big first downs he delivered with his legs.

No, this time Mariota delivered by putting his right shoulder into a linebacker, clearing space for Derrick Henry to run for the clinching first down to finish running out the clock on their rally from 18 points down to beat Kansas City 22-21.

"You don't really see quarterbacks blocking and doing such a selfless play like that," Morgan said Tuesday.

The 2014 Heisman Trophy winner may be polite and as well-mannered as any parent's dream. He's also a winner, and Tennessee's third-year quarterback finally is healthy and leading the Titans to victories that matter.

He's also showing off his versatility from catching the first TD pass he ever threw in a postseason game to running and even blocking to lead the Titans to an AFC divisional

game in New England against the defending champs.

Pro Bowl left tackle Taylor Lewan said Mariota has made big plays two weeks in a row to fire up the Titans, including a stiff-arm while running to a big first down to clinch Tennessee's playoff berth in the regular-season finale.

"It's pretty awesome, especially as mild-mannered as he is," Lewan said. "His competitive nature is bigger than anybody else's in here, so I know he wants to win every single game, and we're just here to help him do that."

Mariota, 24, easily had his worst regular season yet in the NFL with more interceptions (15) than touchdown passes (13). But he ran for a career-high five touchdowns, while playing through a hamstring injury that cost him one start in October.

Now Mariota gets his second chance at the Patriots and Tom Brady, whose 25 playoff victories not only are the most in the NFL, but more than Mariota has (21) since arriving in the league from Oregon.

Mariota's first trip to Foxborough did not go well at all in his rookie season.

The Patriots sacked him three times, and Mariota completed just 3 of 6 passes before having his season ended with a sprained knee in a loss Dec. 20, 2015.

These Patriots (13-3) have won 11 of their past 12 games, and Brady led the NFL with 4,577 yards passing.

The Titans quarterback showed he's as

healthy as he's been all season with a handful of highlight plays starting with the NFL's first touchdown pass by a quarterback to himself when Darrelle Revis batted the ball back to Mariota who ran toward the pylon to cap a 91-yard drive to jumpstart the Titans' comeback.

Mariota also threw the game-winning TD to Eric Decker with 6:06 left for his fifth game-winning drive this season and ninth of his career.

"This guy is a physically tough player," Patriots defensive coordinator Matt Patricia said of Mariota. "You definitely see that on film."

Mariota ran eight times for 46 yards, twice on third down for first downs in the second half against the Chiefs.

And that block was the cap to a performance that let tight end Delanie Walker know his quarterback finally is healthy.

"When he wasn't healthy, you wouldn't see him run out of the pocket, juke people or anything like that," Walker said.

"It just shows that he's healthy. This is the Marcus that everyone knows. He's been doing this in college, and now everyone just starting to see it because it's prime-time, and we're in the playoffs. At the end of the day, this is him."

NOTES: RB DeMarco Murray (right knee) did not practice and remains day to day after missing the past two games. CB Logan Ryan (ankle) did not practice as a day of rest, while LG Quinton Spain (back) also was held out.

Gronk: Belichick knows to how help Pats avoid distractions

By **MIKE SHALIN**
Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Rob Gronkowski says coach Bill Belichick makes it easy for the New England Patriots to ignore distractions such as the one created by last week's ESPN report.

"Throughout my years here I've seen a lot of negative, a lot of positive," Gronkowski said Tuesday as the Patriots prepared for Saturday night's divisional playoff game against the Tennessee Titans.

"The reputation that Coach tries to get us to have is just ignore the noise — ignore the noise from the outside and I feel like that's what myself and a lot of other players have been doing."

"You just gotta ignore the noise and just focus on what we've been doing all year and that's preparing hard, studying our opponent, getting ready, mentally and physically for the big game, so what's going on on the outside, as a team, as an organization, just gotta keep grinding, keep going, keep doing our job."

Gronkowski, healthy this season after missing last year's Super Bowl-winning run, said such "noise" will "if anything it's just going to bring us closer and it's going to bond us together."

The report concerned the relationship among team owner Robert Kraft, Belichick and Tom Brady, focusing on Brady's role in the trading of backup quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo to the San Francisco 49ers for a second-round draft pick.

Earlier Tuesday, Brady reacted strongly to the claim he was involved in moving Garoppolo, who won five straight games for his new team down the stretch of the season.

"I think that's just such a poor characterization of anything. In 18 years, I've never celebrated when someone has been traded, been cut," Brady said on his weekly appearance on Boston radio station WEEI.

"I would say that's disappointing to hear that someone would express that, or a writer would express that, because it's so far from what my beliefs are about my teammates."

He continued, saying, "I would never, ever



New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski (87) runs on the field during NFL football practice, Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018, at Gillette Stadium, in Foxborough, Mass. The Patriots are scheduled to host the Tennessee Titans in an AFC divisional NFL football playoff game on Saturday in Foxborough. (AP Photo/Steven Senne)

feel that way about when Jimmy got traded, when Jacoby (Brissett) got traded. I've kept in touch with all those guys. When Matt Cassel was gone. All these guys I've worked with, I felt like I had such a great relationship with all the quarterbacks I've worked with. I kept in touch with basically everybody. So to characterize that as a certain way is just completely, completely wrong."

Gronkowski was asked if Brady is amped up even more than usual.

"I've gotten that question many times throughout my career and I've said this many times — it's hard to see him go to another level of intensity because he's always intense, he's always preparing hard," Gronkowski said.

"I've just seen him do the same old that he does every week, prepare hard, practice hard and get ready for the game."

Defensive captain Devin McCourty was asked about the ESPN article.

"I don't care about it and I think a lot of guys don't really care about what goes on outside and who writes what and if we stink, if we're great — it doesn't matter."

"So, I just think guys are motivated by playing for each other, their families more than an ESPN article."

"I think it's a great thing for our fans and people outside. I think they enjoy all of that, but I think for us, it's just going out there and playing for each other."

"An ESPN article doesn't help us when we go out there and it's negative-9 degrees. Like you're not going to be motivated to prove an article wrong. You're just having fun playing with the guys."

Wide receiver Brandin Cooks, in his first year with the team, was asked how they keep distractions out of their locker room.

"I think because the guys listen. Coach has been doing this for a while and he knows what the potential distractions can be," Cooks said.

"I think he does a great job on letting us know what they are and as players we listen to him and being coachable and tune out the noise."

NOTES: Tennessee coach Mike Mularkey, talking with New England reporters via a conference call, was asked what affect the ESPN story might have on the Patriots, said, "You know what, I'll be honest with you, I don't know anything about it. I'm not a social media guy. I don't know enough, I really don't, to make any comment about something like that." ... Gronkowski, talking about making AP All-Pro for the fourth time, said, "It's definitely an honor, a humbling honor, but it means nothing now to tell you the truth, it means nothing. It's the playoffs now, it's one-and-done if you lose, so you just keep on preparing, looking forward. ... "I'm just looking forward to this game, man — super excited to be back out there with the team."

Gruden welcomed back to Raiders 16 years after departure

By **JOSH DUBOW**
AP Pro Football Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — Jon Gruden finally decided the time was right to finish what he nearly achieved in his first stint in Oakland and deliver another Super Bowl title to the Raiders.

Nearly 16 years after he was traded to Tampa Bay following a crushing loss in the "Tuck Rule" game in New England and after a six-year courtship by Raiders owner Mark Davis, Gruden is officially back in Oakland where he started his head coaching career 20 years ago.

Gruden was introduced Tuesday in front of a large crowd that included nearly 50 former Raiders and nine Pro Football Hall of Famers as the coach Davis believes can carry Derek Carr and the Raiders back to the top.

The Raiders nearly got there in Gruden's first stint from 1998-2001 but the team lost to Baltimore in the 2000 AFC title game and followed that with the memorable loss in the snow against the Patriots that still haunts the franchise.

Gruden was then traded to Tampa Bay the following month for four draft picks and \$8 million. He beat Oakland in the Super Bowl the next season but always identified with the Raiders.

"For my career to end that night in New England, it still ticks me off," Gruden said. "I'm so thrilled to be back here. I hope people understand the emotion inside. I feel there's unfinished business. I also feel a lot of loyalty and I feel a lot of responsibility to get the Raiders going again. It's been a while since we consistently performed at a high level. That's all I care about."

"I'm going to do everything I can to help this team get right again."

Davis said he had been trying to bring Gruden back for six years ever since taking over the franchise following his father's death. He said he thought he had been close four times before and the opportunity was finally right this year after more than a dozen cross-country recruiting trips to Tampa, Florida.

Davis said he first got an inkling Gruden might be ready to return when he met with him during the season when the Raiders spent a week in Florida to talk about how to fix a team that was struggling after winning 12 games a year ago under Jack Del Rio.

Talks became even more serious when they met on Christmas Eve before the Raiders played in Philadelphia in a game Gruden worked for ESPN. That led Davis to decide to cut ties with Del Rio and finalize a deal with Gruden.

Gruden will get a 10-year contract worth about \$100 million, a person familiar with the deal said on condition of anonymity because terms had not been released.

"Everybody knows I've been infatuated with him or whatever to get him here, but they really didn't know how deep our conversations were going, how far along we were in that to make it happen," Davis said. "Somebody asked me, what was harder — to get the 31 votes to move to Las Vegas? Or to get Jon Gruden? And by far to get Jon Gruden was the toughest."

Gruden returns to the sideline after nine seasons as an announcer at ESPN. He said he's eager to take over a team with a promising young quarterback in Carr.

Gruden said he hopes the familiarity with new offensive coordinator Greg Olsen, who had that role in Carr's rookie season in 2014, will help Carr bounce back after regressing this season from the form that made him an MVP candidate in 2016.

The Raiders had major drops in scoring (26 to 18.8), yards per game (373.3 to 324.1) and committed twice as many turnovers (14 to 28) this season as Carr took a major step back in his development after signing a \$125 million, five-year extension in the off-season.

"I think he's got huge upside," Gruden said. "With Greg Olsen and the system we will put in place that will demand a lot from him, I think that's going to unlock the greatness in him. I'm very, very excited to have him as our quarterback."

Gruden also has hired former Cincinnati defensive coordinator Paul Guenther and former Dallas special teams coordinator Rich Bisaccia for those roles on his new staff.

Gruden brings intensity to the sideline and the meeting rooms that made him a fan favorite in his first stint, earning him the nickname "Chucky" after the character in the 1980s slasher movie "Child's Play."

Some of Gruden's former players said the new Raiders are in for something they've never experienced before.

"Either you buy in or you're not going to be a part of it," said Hall of Famer Jerry Rice, who played one year for Gruden. "I hope these players are ready because they're going to get Chucky. They're going to get him. Now how they deal with that is a different story, but Chucky's going to come out."

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and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 et seq.:

New Penn Financial LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Russell, numbered 961 Blandford Road, given by Marcus Houston to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as a nominee for New Penn Financial, LLC, dated December 3, 2015, and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20977, Page 222 (the "Mortgage"), as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated April 10, 2017 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 21822, Page 490, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

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