

The Westfield News



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VOL. 87 NO. 14

TONIGHT

Low of 13

Partly Cloudy.



visits Montgomery

with grant money

MONTGOMERY - On Tuesday, Lt.

Governor Karyn Polito came to Montgomery

Town Hall to meet with Hilltown officials and

present two grants - one for \$42,000 to the

Hilltown Collaborative for marketing and pro-

motion of the region, and one for \$150,000 to

the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

(PVPC) to help the towns with Internet

Sean Cronin of the Division of Local Services

and Senator Donald F. Humason joined Polito

on the visit. Polito said she and Humason used

to sit next to each other while serving in the

House of Representatives. "It's good to have

the Lt. Governor come out to Western Mass.

Also present were Joshua Garcia, Patrick

Beaudry and Molly Goren-Watts of PVPC,

who have been working with the towns since they signed Community Compacts with the

Baker-Polito administration in May 2016,

pledging to collaborate on regional issues.

These are the fourth and fifth grants that the

Polito, who has made frequent visits to

Western Massachusetts, started the meeting by

asking everyone gathered to introduce them-

selves and what they do in their respective

towns. All of the representatives expressed

their gratitude for the support of the state.

Polito gave a lot of the credit to Cronin, who

has also worked closely with PVPC and the

municipal government in Brookline. The gov-

ernor and I and our team are so grateful to have

Sean's leadership in the DLS. His expertise is

so important. We wouldn't be so far along with-

out his engagement. We're getting a lot of work

done, and a lot of that goes right back to Sean,"

Polito presented the check for \$42,000 to

"As the product of a very small town, I feel

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito presents a check to Hilltown Economic Development Director

Jeanne LeClair with Sean Cronin (L) and

Sen. Donald F. Humason. (Photo by Amy Porter)

See Lt. Gov. Polito Visit, Page 2

Hilltown Regional Economic Director Jeanne LeClair on behalf of the Hilltown Collaborative, and asked LeClair to talk about the work she's been doing since taking on her role in June.

"Sean comes with a lot of experience in

towns have received since first signing.

Technology upgrades and management.

once again," Humason said.

Hilltown Collaborative.

Polito said.

Lt. Gov. Polito

for Hilltowns

By AMY PORTER

Correspondent

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018

Picture of Ronald M. Coates, provided by Westfield Police.



Picture of Richard M. Coates, provided by Westfield Police.

Police arrest twins following chase

By DAN DESROCHERS Correspondent

WESTFIELD-According to Westfield Police, twin brothers were arrested Friday evening following a chase that allegedly included both a vehicular pursuit on city streets and foot pursuit through backyards.

According to Westfield Police Capt. Michael McCabe, police arrested Richard M. Coates and Ronald M. Coates, both 38 and both of Middletown, Connecticut, following the pursuit. The reported twin brothers face numerous charges brought by police, including possession of class A drug and receiving a stolen vehicle and were arraigned at Westfield District Court.

According to McCabe, police reported observing a vehicle around 6:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 12, parked along Russell Road with the driver's side door open. According to police, the person on the driver's side was allegedly squatted and "digging" into the driver's side of the vehicle. A person was also reported in the front passenger seat.

Police investigated, reporting additionally that the driver had allegedly left for a period of time. According to police, the vehicle had reportedly come back as stolen out of Middletown.

Following this, police reported that the driver had allegedly entered the vehicle and drove from the area, reportedly without their lights on.

Police reported that they had attempted to

stop the vehicle but it would not stop. The vehicle eventually came to the Highland View Street and King Street Extension intersection, according to police, and had reportedly lost control and "slid into a snowbank," according to McCabe.

After this, McCabe reported that the two occupants allegedly fled the vehicle, going through backyards in the area.

Eventually, police reported that the pair had allegedly broken into a garage on Hubbard Street, though eventually left that. Police reported that the two suspects had allegedly left behind syringes and used heroin paraphernalia, which was later reportedly found by police canine.

After an additional short pursuit reportedly from the Hubbard Street location, police apprehended both Richard and Ronald Coates.

Police charged Richard M. Coates with motor vehicle lights violation, fail to stop for police, stop sign violation, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, receive stolen motor vehicle, possession class A drug, breaking and entering building nighttime for a felony and resist arrest.

Meanwhile, police charged Ronald M. Coates with possession class A drug, breaking and entering nighttime for a felony, receive stolen motor vehicle and resist

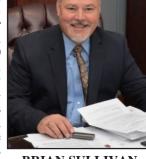
See Twins, Page 8

City Council preview, **Jan. 18**

By DAN DESROCHERS Correspondent

WESTFIELD-Several items are going to be coming from City Council Committees during this week's City Council meeting.

The City Council will meet Thursday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m., with communications from Mayor Brian Sullivan beginning at 6:30 p.m. in City Council chambers at City Hall. There are several items on this week's agenda, including request of funds related to two new police-related vehipossibly



BRIAN SULLIVAN Westfield Mayor

strengthening the abutter ordinance and more. Beginning with "Communications from the Mayor," Sullivan is expected to request consideration of a payment from the Westfield Gas and Electric for just over \$11,500 related to the Green Communities projects, this time for freezer-coolers within schools in the city.

Next, Sullivan is expected to request a transfer of money from the Westfield Police Department's Towing and Storage of Motor Vehicles account to purchase two vehicles. The total is just under \$55,000, and will be used to purchase two vehicles, a 2018 Ford Edge that will be used as an unmarked police vehicle, and a Ford Transit, which will be used to replace a vehicle for Westfield Animal Control.

Sullivan said that there will be no contributions made from the city for the purchases.

Another appropriation will be for \$300 to the License Commission from the city's Unforeseen account, which Sullivan said would be used for

See Preview, Page 8

Westfield Police sergeant retiring, replacement chosen

By DAN DESROCHERS

Correspondent

WESTFIELD—The city's Police Commission appointed one officer to the position of sergeant yesterday, following a special meeting at City

The Westfield Police Commission chose Westfield Police Officer Michael Gibbons to serve as one of the city's next police sergeants. Gibbons was one of three candidates, alongside Westfield Police Officers Juanita Mejias and William Cavanaugh.

"There's no reason to bypass anybody, all three are very strong," Westfield Police Chief and Commission member John Camerota said.

"We could take any one of you for sergeant and be very happy," Commission Chairperson Karl H. Hupfer said.

See Westfield Police, Page 8



Westfield Officers stand at attention to the left as the Commission makes a decision for the next sergeant for the Westfield Police. From left to right: William Cavanaugh, Michael Gibbons, Juanita Mejias.

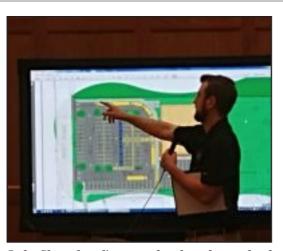
Public hearing for Root Road school raises more questions than answers

By AMY PORTER Correspondent

WESTFIELD - The Planning Board continued a public hearing for the Root Road school proposal on Tuesday, resulting in many more questions for the principles to answer before any decision on a site plan is made, despite City Planner Jay Vinskey's reminders that religious and educational institutions are a by right use according to Mass General Law.

At the last public hearing on Dec. 19, the board had asked for an opinion from the Traffic Commission on the parking, drop-off and pick-up plan for the proposed school. Planning Board Chair Philip McEwan said that according to City Attorney Meghan Bristol, the Traffic Commission had no

See Public Hearing, Page 8



Luke Showalter discusses the plans for a school on Root Road at Dec. 19 Planning Board meet-

Four Southwick firefighters graduate from fire academy

By GREG FITZPATRICK

Correspondent

SOUTHWICK – Four members of the Southwick Fire Department were recognized at Tuesday night's Select Board meeting. Shane Hope, Josh Girard, Anthony Caracciolo, and Rosie Lacas were congratulated for graduating from the Massachusetts Fire Academy in

The four-month academy, which consisted of over 230 hours of training, gave the four individuals both the firefighter 1 and firefighter 2 certifications.

Besides getting the certifications, the four members of the Southwick Fire Department are now considered interior firefighters,

See Firefighters, Page 8



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THE WESTFIELD NEWS

OUND TOW

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Lt. Gov. Polito Visit

Continued from Page 1

proud and lucky to work in a program that's so well structured. The Gateway Hilltowns support each other, and pride themselves on their history," LeClair said. She pointed to the Village Enterprise Center which opened in Chester last week, and will serve as a computer center, classroom space, drop in and visitor's center in what she called "a spirit of collaboration" with several Hilltown groups, including the Southern Hilltown Adult Education Center and The Historic Route 20 Association.

LeClair said she's been working with small businesses on business plans, marketing and websites, and will be holding a "Biztro" drop-in for businesses at the Village Enterprise Center on Monday nights. She has also started the Gateway Enterprise Club, a small business hub for students at Gateway High School.

LeClair said the grant will be used for marketing and promotions of the Hilltowns. Through a Request for Proposal, the Collaborative has teamed up with TSM Design in Springfield for branding and marketing. She said the emphasis will be on the Hilltowns being a great place to live, raise a family, and start a business; and on the great natural resources of the area.

Hilltown Collaborative Chair Andy Myers of Chester said that LeClair's position as regional economic development director is



Hilltown officials gather at Montgomery Town Hall on Tuesday to meet with the Lt Governor. (Photo by Amy Porter)

itself a great example of towns working together. "We got our first year funding from the Community Compact for Jeanne's position. Now the towns are putting her salary in as a line item,' Mvers said.

Polito said it is a great success story. She also said she knows that broadband access has been an issue in the small towns in Western Mass, and the administration, along with their "legislative friends" have made a commitment to getting the communities online. She said when she started, there were 53 communities still on dial-up, and now they are down to eight, with the others on their way. "We will work very closely with the remaining communities on a pathway forward. We know it's an economic issue, a safety issue, a health issue," Polito said.

We recognize the need for more IT regionalization and efficiency," Polito also said in presenting the Regional IT grant to PVPC for \$150,000.

"We are really excited about this project. This is a great example of a lot of different programs coming from the state and working with PVPC," said Goren-Watts, who will be the lead on the program. Through an earlier grant opportunity, she was able to do an IT assessment in each of the towns, looking for the potential for a shared IT director. Instead, they realized that having PVPC offer IT management services and help with procurement and hiring of third party vendors would be more stable for the towns than an individual hire, and also provide economies of scale.

With the grant, PVPC will start a pilot program, working with the Hilltown Collaborative and the Gateway Hilltowns to offer the service. They then hope to expand the program and offer it to all of their 43 member communities.

"That's very innovative, and the economies of scale should improve the quality of service. I think PVPC is one of the only planning organizations doing this, pioneering this initiative, Polito said. She also said the state has just opened up a new round of capital funds for IT projects that will be closing on Feb. 15.

Some of the grant funds will also be used to provide hardware,



Sean Cronin of the Division of Local Services, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and Senator Donald F. Humason. (Photo by Amy

software, and rewiring that were identified as needs in the towns, along with some supplementing of initial service contracts, Goren-Watts said.

"We're very appreciative of everything you have been doing for us, and the resources you've made available to us so that we can pursue these programs," said Derrick Mason of Russell. "Your economic support has helped to fund critical parts and we need your continued financial support. Our small towns are desperate," he added.

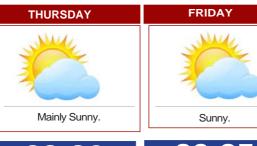
"We recognize these are projects that you couldn't do without money from the state. In the governor's budget is continued funding for Community Compact and regional programs," Polito said.

'I wish we could do this in all the towns," added Humason. He said regional schools, infrastructure, and economic development are all areas for collaboration, whenever possible.

"As Governor Baker says, when you find something that's working, keep doing it," Polito said.

LOCAL FORECAST





WEATHER DISCUSSION Today, partly cloudy with snow showers. High 32F.

Chance of snow 60%. Tonight, partly cloudy skies. Low 13F. Thursday, mainly sunny. High near 30F. Thursday Night, partly cloudy. Low 17F. Friday, sunny. High around 35F. Friday Night, generally fair. Low 23F. Saturday, partly cloudy skies. High 47F. Saturday Night, partly cloudy. Low 29F.

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TODAY

SUNRISE

SUNSET

LENGTH OF DAY

ODDS & ENDS

Mom-daughter duo show 2 carjackers crime and cocoa don't mix

WOODBRIDGE, Va. (AP) — Police in the Virginia suburbs of the nation's capital say two would-be carjackers fled from their intended victims when a splash of hot cocoa and a dash of resourcefulness entered the mix.

Police in Prince William County, Virginia, said in a statement that a 50-year-old woman exited a 7-Eleven convenience store on Saturday night with some purchased items when two men, one with a handgun, approached and demanded her vehicle.

Police say the woman struck one man with her bag before her 22-year-old daughter threw her hot chocolate toward both men, who then

No one was hurt and no property was taken.

LOCAL LOTTERY

LAST NIGHT'S NUMBERS

Powerball

MASSACHUSETTS

MassCash 03-04-08-15-19 Mega Millions 03-11-23-29-59, Mega Ball: 18, Megaplier: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$50 million Numbers Évening 0-9-2-0 **Numbers Midday** 1-5-8-1

Estimated jackpot: \$62 million

CONNECTICUT

Cash 5 04-08-17-26-28 Lotto 10-20-27-39-41-43 Estimated jackpot: \$1.1 million Lucky Links Day 02-08-09-15-17-18-19-21 **Lucky Links Night** 01-02-04-05-07-08-09-21 Play3 Day 5-2-6 Play3 Night 4-9-1 **Play4 Day** 8-4-8-1 Play4 Night 8-1-1-5

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 17, the 17th day of 2018. There are 348 days left in the year.

n Jan. 17, 1893, Hawaii's monarchy was overthrown as a group of businessmen and sugar planters forced Queen Lili'uokalani (lee-LEE'-oooh-kah-LAH'-nee) to abdicate. The 19th president of the United States, Rutherford B. Hayes, died in Fremont, Ohio, at age 70.

ON THIS DATE:

In 1781, during the Revolutionary War, American forces defeated the British in the Battle of Cowpens, South

In 1806, Thomas Jefferson's daughter, Martha, gave birth to James Madison Randolph, the first child born in the White House.

In 1917, Denmark ceded the Virgin Islands to the United States for \$25 million.

In 1929, the cartoon character Popeye the Sailor made his debut in the "Thimble Theatre" comic strip.

In 1945, Soviet and Polish forces liberated Warsaw during World War II; Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, credited with saving tens of thousands of Jews, disappeared in Hungary while in Soviet custody.

In 1953, a prototype of the Chevrolet Corvette was unveiled during the General Motors Motorama at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

In 1961, President Dwight D. Eisenhower delivered his farewell address in which he warned against "the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex.'

In 1966, a U.S. Air Force B-52 carrying four unarmed hydrogen bombs crashed on the Spanish coast. (Three of the bombs were quickly recovered, but the fourth wasn't recovered until April.) The Simon & Garfunkel album "Sounds of Silence" was released by Columbia Records.

In 1977, convicted murderer Gary Gilmore, 36, was shot by a firing squad at Utah State Prison in the first U.S. execution in a decade.

In 1984, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Sony Corp. of America v. Universal City Studios, Inc., ruled 5-4 that the use of home video cassette recorders to tape television programs for private viewing did not violate federal copyright laws.

In 1995, more than 6,000 people were killed when an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 devastated the city of Kobe (koh-bay), Japan.

In 1998, the Drudge Report said Newsweek magazine had killed a story about an affair between President Bill Clinton and an unidentified White House intern, the same day Clinton gave a deposition in Paula Jones' sexual harassment lawsuit against him in which he denied having had a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

TEN YEARS AGO: Bobby Fischer, the chess grandmaster who became a Cold War icon when he dethroned the Soviet Union's Boris Spassky as world champion in 1972, died in Reykjavik, Iceland, at age 64. Former football player-

turned-preacher Ernie Holmes, a two-time Super Bowl champion with the Pittsburgh Steelers, was killed in a one-car accident near Lumberton, Texas, at age 59. Character actor Allan Melvin died in Los Angeles at age

FIVE YEARS AGO:

Algerian helicopters and special forces stormed a natural gas plant in the Sahara to rescue hostages from at least 10 countries held by al-Qaida-linked militants; nearly all the militants and at least 37 of the hostages were killed. Oprah Winfrey's OWN network broadcast

the first of a two-part interview with Lance Armstrong, in which the disgraced cyclist told Winfrey he had started doping in the mid-1990s.

ONE YEAR AGO:

President Barack Obama granted clemency to Chelsea Manning, allowing the transgender Army intelligence officer convicted of leaking more than 700,000 U.S. documents to go free nearly three decades early. Donald Trump's choice to head the Interior Department, Rep. Ryan Zinke, rejected the president-elect's claim that climate change was a hoax, telling his Senate confirmation hearing it was indisputable that environmental changes were affecting the world's temperature and that human activity was a major reason.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Actress Betty White is 96. Former FCC chairman Newton

N. Minow is 92. Actor James Earl Jones is 87. Talk show host Maury Povich is 79. Pop singer Chris Montez is 76. Rhythm-and-blues singer William Hart (The Delfonics) is 73. Actress Joanna David is 71. Actress Jane Elliot is 71. Rock musician Mick Taylor is 70. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sheila Hutchinson (The Emotions) is 65. Singer Steve Earle is 63. Singer Paul Young is 62. Actor-comedian Steve Harvey is 61. Singer Susanna Hoffs (The Bangles) is 59. Movie director-screenwriter Brian Helgeland is 57. Actor-comedian Jim Carrey is 56. Actor Denis O'Hare is 56. Former first lady Michelle Obama is 54. Actor Joshua Malina is 52. Singer Shabba Ranks is 52. Rock musician Jon Wysocki is 50. Actor Naveen Andrews is 49. Electronic music DJ Tiesto is 49. Rapper Kid Rock is 47. Actor Freddy Rodriguez is 43. Actor-writer Leigh Whannel is 41. Actress-singer Zooey Deschanel is 38. Dancer Maksim Chmerkovskiy (TV: "Dancing with the Stars") is 38. Singer Ray J is 37. Actor Diogo Morgado is 37. Country singer Amanda Wilkinson is 36. NBA player Dwyane Wade is 36. Actor Ryan Gage is 35. DJ-singer Calvin Harris is 34. Folkrock musician Jeremiah Fraites is 32. Actor Jonathan Keltz is 30. Actress Kelly Marie Tran (Film: "Star Wars: The Last Jedi") is 29. Actress Kathrine (cq) Herzer is 21.

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BONELESS * 10 LB. LOTS CHICKEN BREAST 1.89 LB. 5 LB. LOTS ★ CHICKEN WINGS 2.99 LB.

BUTCHER BLOCK'S OWN ALL NATURAL. ANTIBIOTIC FREE, AIR CHILLED:

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YUKON POTATOES99 LB. BROCCOLI CROWNS 1.99 LB. LARGE SPANISH ONIONS99 LB.

GREAT SPECIALS

BUDDABALL HAM STEAKS ... 2.79 LB. **CHAIRMAN'S RESERVE PRIME PORK**

1/2 PORK LOINS BONELESS.3.99 LB. CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS ...3.99 LB.

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10-20 CT • FRESH DRY SEA SCALLOPS13.99 LB. FRESH SWORDFISH8.99 LB. COCKTAIL SHRIMP 26-30 CT. ... 11.99 LB.

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WHOLE BELLY & CHIPS9.99 TAX FISH & CHIPS5.99 PLUS

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BOARS HEAD FRESH DELI! SWEET SLICED HAM4.99 LB. OVEN GOLD TURKEY9.99 LB.

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Pittsfield hospital's nurses authorize another 1-day strike

PITTSFIELD, Mass. (AP) — Nurses at a western Massachusetts hospital have authorized a second one-day

Unionized nurses at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield voted 369-80 Tuesday to authorize their bargaining unit to set a strike date. The vote does not mean a strike will take place, just that union officials can schedule one if they deem it neces-

The nurses held a one-day walkout in October to protest stalled contract talks with hospital management. That was followed by a four-day lockout because the hospital had to hire almost 250 replacement nurses on a five-day contract.

The nurses allege the hospital is understaffed, which affects

patient safety.

A hospital official tells The Berkshire Eagle she was "surprised and disappointed" by the strike vote because hospital management felt contract negotiations were going well.

Mass. official: Can it happen here?

BOSTON (AP) — The director of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency says it's unlikely the state would experience a false ballistic missile alarm like the one that caused widespread panic in Hawaii because Massachusetts has "very different" protocols in place.

The alert that panicked Hawaii last Saturday was blamed on a worker who pressed the wrong button during a shift change. The alert was not rescinded for 38 minutes.

Crayola **Calligraphy** for Teens

WESTFIELD — January 23 is handwriting day. Come to the Westfield Athenaeum to create some fancier letters just using markers! This program is for kids in grades 6-12. 3-4pm at the Westfield Athenaeum.

Colleen **Contest**

WESTFIELD Applications for the 37th annual Sons of Erin Colleen Contest are currently being accepted for women ages 17-22 who are residents of Westfield, Southwick, the surrounding hilltowns or daughters/granddaughters of members of the Sons of Erin. Applications are available at all area high schools and online at www.sonsoferin. com. Applications must be postmarked by January 17, 2018.

Spring Series of the Adult **Book Discussion Group Begins**

SOUTHWICK — The first meeting in 2018 for the Southwick Public Library's Adult Book Discussion Group will be on Wednesday, February 7th at 1:30 p.m. The first book in this series of discussions will be Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly. You also have the option of checking out the library's copy or obtaining the book through inter-library

Southwick Grange



January 21st

VENDOR SHOPPING - 11AM BINGO - 1PM

Prizes supplied by vendors. \$10 per bingo card pack. Guaranteed minimum of 15 games.

All Bingo Sales to benefit Southwick Animal Shelter.

Bring a donation for Southwick Animal Shelter for bonus cards!

580R College Hwy. Southwick, MA (behind Best Auto)

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Government Meetings

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

BLANDFORD:

Board of Health Meeting at 6 pm Finance Committee at 7 pm Fire Department Meeting at 7 pm Historical Commission Meeting at 7 pm

WESTFIELD:

Off-Street Parking Commission at 6 pm

THURSDAY, JAN. 18

BLANDFORD:

Library Trustees Meeting at 7:30 pm

CHESTER:

Municipal Light Department Meeting at 6 pm

WESTFIELD

Personnel Action Committee at 6:05 pm

MONDAY, JAN. 22

BLANDFORD:

Council on Aging Meeting at 4:30 pm Assessor's Meeting at 6 pm Zoning Board Meeting at 7 pm Selectboard Meeting at 7 pm

TOLLAND:

Men's Coffee at PSC Building at 7:45 am Board of Selectmen at 5 pm

CHESTER:

Board of Health Meeting at 6 pm Board of Selectmen Meeting at 6 pm

WESTFIELD:

Westfield School Committee and Westfield Technical Academy General Advisory Committee Joint meeting at 6 pm

WESTFIELD FAIR MEETING

January 18th at 7pm **Wyben Church** Montgomery Road, Westfield

Anyone interested in participating and volunteering in planning this year's Westfield Fair, PLEASE JOIN US!

For More Information or Questions? Call 413-222-4067

CSF Scholarship application deadline March 18th

WESTFIELD — The CSF Westfield Dollars for Scholars Board of Directors announces that beginning February 1st high school seniors and college students in undergraduate studies residing in Westfield may apply for college scholarships online through the website, http://csfwestfield.dollarsforscholars.org. Students will have the ability to create online profiles, which allow them to apply for and be matched to multiple scholarships on both the local & national level for the 2018-2019 school year. We encourage prospective college students to begin developing online profiles now to assure that you are alerted of scholarship opportunities in advance of CSF awards are need and merit based. deadlines. Applications must be completed, the 2018-2019 SAR report from the FAFSA and most recent academic transcript uploaded into the Additional Documents section, and sub-

MEET A TEAM MEMBER ~ DAN HESS mitted by March 18, 2018. Daniel Hess, President and founder of Southwick Insurance Agency is a lifelong resident of Southwick. After graduating from Southwick High, he then obtained a Bachelors degree in Teaching through Westfield State



College. This led him to Southwick Powder Mill School where he taught for two years before switching career paths and taking a sales position with American Mutual Insurance Co. Dan was the top salesperson at the West Springfield office for the next 3 years before deciding to take a risk by starting his own agency "Southwick Insurance Agency, Inc.". With little money and hard work, Dan and his brothers Gerry and Mike who would join the agency at later dates, grew the agency from a few to over 8,000 clients currently. The agency motto has

always been to shop for the best premium available for our clients and provide the best service possible.

Dan has always been active in local youth organizations, sponsoring Rec Center, Park and Rec and School sporting teams. Besides sponsoring local youth sports, Dan has also volunteered to coach at the High School, Middle School, and local travel teams in basketball, soccer and baseball. Now in his 50s, Dan continues to play competitive basketball in local basketball leagues in Western Mass featuring local high school and college players.

SOUTHWICK INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

The most important part of Dan's life has always been his family. Dan has been happily married to his wife Kimberly since 1984 and has been blessed with 3 great children Cyrena, Tyler and Jillian.

Don't waste 7 or 15 minutes of your time, fax or email your current policy to our agency and we will quote your policy with our top 5 companies. Shopping for low rates can be very complicated on-line. Let us find all the discounts you maybe entitled to. Low mileage, multi policy, good driver, auto clubs, college graduates, good student, senior driver, group credits and many more...

www.southwickinsagency.com · Email: dhess@southwickinsagency.com

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2240 Westfield Street West Springfield, MA 01089 (413) 746-2822

24/7 Claim Service Free Registry Pick Up planning a St. Valentine's Event of a Soup and Grilled

Huntington Council on

Aging St. Valentine's Event

Cheese Sandwich Buffet Luncheon on Thursday, February 15th at 12:00 in Stanton Hall. There will be a choice of two soups. Grilled cheese bar will include a variety of cheeses and toppings. The luncheon is open to all Huntington residents. There is no cost for seniors and veterans. All others by voluntary donation. To reserve a seat, please call Helen at 413 512 5200, Jen at 413 512 5205, or Aimee at 413 512 5202 by February 8th. Seating is limited and by reservation

HUNTINGTON — The Huntington Council on Aging is

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



Plus, get



The Family Gourmet Buffet

2 (5 oz.) Filet Mignons 5 oz.) Top Sirloins

4 Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. pkg.) 2 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops

4 (3 oz.) Kielbasa Sausages 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers

4 (3 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin 4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets OS Seasoning Packet (.33 oz.)

Combo Price \$4999



4 more Burgers and 4 more Kielbasa FREE! Limit 2 pkgs. Free gifts must ship with #51689. Standard S&H will be added. Expires 2/28/18. ©2017 OCG | 17M1957 | Omaha Steaks, Inc.

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GOP still struggling with Trump's remarks on Africa

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans are struggling to get their stories straight as President Donald Trump's Homeland Security secretary became the latest GOP official to offer an inconclusive version of a meeting in which Trump is said to have used vulgar remarks that have been criticized as racist.

Democrats accused Republicans of selective amnesia as Cabinet member Kirstjen Nielsen testified Tuesday under oath that she "did not hear" Trump use a certain vulgarity to describe African countries. "It was a meeting of 12 people. There was cross-talk," she explained at a congressional hearing, but she didn't "dispute the president was using tough language."

Under persistent questioning, Nielsen said she didn't recall the specific language used by Trump.

"What I was struck with frankly, as I'm sure you were as well, was just the general profanity used in the room by almost everyone."

Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., angrily criticized Nielsen's comments, telling her during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing: "Your silence and your amnesia is complicity."

Nielsen's comments came five days after the president ignited what Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., termed an "s-storm" with his Oval Office remarks.

The White House has not substantively disputed accounts of the episode, in which Trump is said to have used the term "sh*thole" to describe African countries of origin for potential immigrants to the U.S. The revelations, semi-denials and continuing comments have cast a pall over the White House's legislative agenda, brought the country closer to the brink of a government shutdown and sparked international outrage.

And with the midterm elections approaching, there are fresh fears among Republicans who were already anxious over the political climate going into November — and over Trump's unpredictable actions.

Administration officials and lawmakers spent the holiday weekend debating the precise presidential vulgarity used, and moved to cast last Thursday's White House meeting as a salty affair, with expletives flying in all directions.

The White House said Trump had no intention of apologiz-

"The president hasn't said he didn't use strong language, and this is an important issue," press secretary Sarah Sanders said, "He's passionate about it, he's not going to apologize for trying to fix our immigration system."

There is internal debate in the West Wing over whether Trump said "sh*thole" or "sh*thouse." One person who attended the meeting told aides they heard the latter expletive, while others recalled the president saying the more widely reported "sh*thole," according to a person briefed on the meeting but

not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Trump has not clarified to aides what he said, but told reporters Sunday night in Florida that comments attributed to him "weren't made."

A confidant of Trump told The Associated Press that the president spent Thursday evening calling friends and outside advisers to judge their reaction to his remarks. Trump wasn't apologetic and denied he was racist, said the confidant, who wasn't authorized to disclose a private conversation and spoke on condition of anonymity.

White House officials tried to offer clarity on the two-hour period Thursday morning that saw Trump move from requesting a briefing on a potential immigration breakthrough to graphically rejecting the agreement reached by Graham and Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.

Chief of staff John Kelly phoned Trump from Capitol Hill to advise him against accepting the proposal, and the president summoned conservative Republican negotiators to help build a united front against the plan, which would have provided some border security funding as well as protection from deportation for immigrants brought to the country as children and now here illegally.

illegally.

A senior White House official said Trump does not believe he has an ally on this issue in Graham, a Republican who has long tried to partner with Democrats on immigration legisla-

See Trump Remarks, Page 8

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COMMENT



This Jan. 3, 2018, file photo shows the Capitol in Washington. The government is financed through Friday, Jan. 19, and another temporary spending bill is needed to prevent a partial government shutdown after that. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File)

Conservatives balk at GOP plan to avert government shutdown

By ALAN FRAM and ANDREW TAYLOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hard-line conservatives are threatening to scuttle Republican leaders' plans to prevent a weekend government shutdown and saying GOP leaders lack the votes to push their proposal through the House.

The setback late Tuesday came as a deal between President Donald Trump and Congress to protect young immigrants from deportation also remained distant.

The intransigence by the House Freedom Caucus came as Republican leaders raced against a Friday deadline for pushing a short-term spending bill through Congress. If they fail, federal agencies would start shutting their doors over the weekend. That's an election-year debacle that GOP leaders and many Democrats are eager to avoid for fear of alienating voters.

The leader of the Freedom Caucus emerged from a Tuesday night meeting to say its members — and other GOP law-makers as well — want a short-term bill keeping federal agencies open to contain added money for the military.

"There's not enough support to pass it with GOP-only votes in the House," the group's leader, Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., told reporters. He said he planned to discuss their concerns with Republican leaders.

The GOP focus on keeping government open comes as it's become certain there's no time to cut a deal by Friday on protecting young immigrants.

Those talks were soured by Trump's incendiary remarks about "shithole" countries in Africa last week. Democratic leaders said they would not promise to vote to keep the government open past Friday without a plan to preserve a program that protects the young immigrants known as "Dreamers."

"We don't want to shut down the government. ... We want to keep the government open," Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer, D-Md., told reporters. "But we're not going to be held hostage to do things that we think

are going to be contrary to the best interests of the American people." House Republican leaders tried to win

repeal unpopular taxes as part of the bill preventing a shutdown.

They sweetened the plan with a two-year delay on implementation of unpopular taxes on medical devices and generous

employer-subsidized health care plans. The

over wary conservatives with a promise to

taxes, also unpopular with many Democrats, are part of former President Barack Obama's marquee health law.

The temporary funding bill would also include a long-delayed, six-year renewal of

a popular health insurance program for children of low-income families. It would fund the government through Feb. 16. House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., unveiled the plan at a Tuesday evening GOP meeting. Lawmakers and aides initially said it was received well, raising

hopes that a potential shutdown would be

sidestepped with relative ease. A Ryan

spokeswoman declined later to comment on the Freedom Caucus' opposition. Many Democrats said they're still unlikely to support the measure without an agreement on immigration. The prospects for such a deal were complicated as Democrats appeared to see scant reason to bargain with a president many in their party view as

holding racist views.
"There's no trust there," said Rep. Raul

Negotiations on immigration were to resume Wednesday but Marc Short, a top White House aide, said an agreement was very unlikely to come this week. "We're optimistic that we'll get a deal," Short said. "I think this week would be fairly Herculean."

Even if they succeed in the House, Republicans would still need at least nine Democratic votes to push a spending package through the Senate, which the GOP controls 51-49. Democrats seeking leverage are forcing that bill to require 60 votes for passage.

When the Senate approved a similar short-term spending bill in December, 17

Democrats plus Maine independent Angus King voted to keep the government open. Seven of those Democrats face re-election in November in Trump-won states — including West Virginia, North Dakota and Montana, which have small numbers of minority voters.

Sen. Joe Manchin, a Democrat from West Virginia, said Tuesday he'll vote for a short-term spending bill without a plan to assist the immigrants facing possible deportation.

"I think everyone has the empathy and compassion to want to help these young people who are stranded and we're trying to find that, but shutting down the government isn't going to help them," Manchin said.

Democrats voting against that December bill included some senators — such as Cory Booker of New Jersey and Kamala Harris of California — who might seek the presidency in 2020 and would love support from their party's liberal voters.

On the left, liberal groups are ramping up pressure on Democrats to resist any spending plan. Groups like MoveOn, United We Dream and CREDO shifted their focus from Republicans to Democrats earlier in the month, threatening primary challenges and public ridicule for Democrats unwilling to risk a government shutdown to save the program for young immigrants.

Meanwhile, the bipartisan group of senators continued work to build support for a plan to protect the "Dreamers" and toughen border security, including funds to start building Trump's long-promised border

Trump ended the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, late last year but gave Congress until March 5 to pass legislation extending the initiative created by President Barack Obama. It has protected around 800,000 young immigrants from deportation.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell sought to highlight the later deadline, suggesting there was more time to work out a deal. A shutdown now would be "a manufactured crisis," he argued.

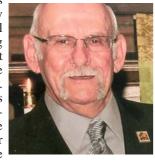


OBITUARIES

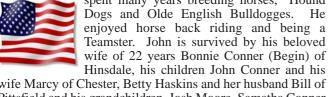
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John F. Conner

HINSDALE - John Francis Conner, 71, passed away Thursday, at Berkshire Medical Center, surrounded by his loving family. John was born in Becket on December 16, 1946 to the late Elliot and Elise(Fuller) Conner. John was honored to serve his country in the Marine Corps serving in Vietnam. John was the owner of Conner Trucking for over 18 years. He served on the School Committee and as



Moderator for the Town of Hinsdale. John was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing and canoeing. He spent many years breeding horses, Hound



wife Marcy of Chester, Betty Haskins and her husband Bill of Pittsfield and his grandchildren, Josh Moore, Samatha Conner and Kalee Conner, his sister Susan Szenda and her husband Albert of Westfield. He was predeceased by his brother Robert H. Conner. He will be dearly missed by his nephews, nieces, cousins and to all who knew him. Family and friends are asked to gather, Saturday January 20th at 10:00am followed by a Memorial Service at 11:00am, officiated by Pastor Jennifer Kimball at 11:00am at First Congregational Church, 129 Maple Street, Hinsdale, MA 01235. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John's memory to Soldier On, 360 West Housatonic Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Westfield Funeral Home and Cremation is assisting the family with these arrangements. Please visit www.westfieldfuneralhome. com for John's memorial page.

Robert P. Sands

WESTFIELD -Robert P. Sands, 79, passed away on January 9, 2018 at Mercy Medical Center. He was born in Ware, MA to the late Edward and Marie (Query) Sands. He was employed in manufacturing for many years, he also supported donation charities such as



Goodwill Industries. He enjoyed reading, crafts and was a sports enthusiast, especially the Red Sox and Patriots. Robert is survived by his daughter, Bridget A. Sands and her mother Barbara of Westfield, his brothers, James E. Sands and his wife Jeanne of Ohio and Phillip Sands and his wife MaryAnn of Chelmsford, MA, two grandchildren, one niece, seven nephews and seventeen great nieces and nephews. All services are private and at the convenience of his family. Arrangements are under the direction of the Firtion Adams

Shirley Petrucelli

Shirley WESTFIELD Petrucelli,92, passed away peacefully on January 10, 2018 at a local nursing home. Shirley was born on February 6, 1925 to the late James and Irene (Gadreault) Crean. She grew up in Westfield, graduating from Westfield High School. While being a devoted wife and mother, Shirley worked diligently blazing the trail helping to found the Hampden County Association for Retarded Children, Camp Togowalk



and the Work Opportunity Center. In 1986 Shirley and Charlie, along with the oldest son, moved to Cape Cod where they became members of Our Lady of Victory Parish. An avid gardener, Shirley was a member and the treasurer for the Hyannis Garden Club. Predeceased by her husband Charles L Petrucelli Sr. and her son Charles L Petrucelli Jr., Shirley leaves behind her children Neil Petrucelli and his wife Wendy of Westfield, Sara Petrucelli of Lake Wales FL and Daniel Petrucelli of Lake Wales Fl. She also leaves her grandchildren Jason Petrucelli, Chelsea Baker and Nicholas Baker. Shirley leaves a great grandchild Breighlyn Surrell. Shirley was predeceased by her brothers William Crean, James Crean and sister Mary Rose Crean and many nieces and nephews. The funeral will be held on Saturday January 20 at 9am from the Firtion Adams Funeral Service 76 Broad St Westfield followed by Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10:30 am in St Mary's Church. Donations may be made in Shirley's memory to Cape Abilites 895 Mary Dunn Rd Hyannis, Ma 02601 or Work Opportunity Center P.O. Box 481 Agawam Ma 01001 Firtionadams.com

Patricia A. Bruneau

WESTFIELD - Patricia A. Bruneau, 76, of Westfield died Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. She was born in North Adams on August 2, 1941 to Charles and Elanor (Hurlbut) Fletcher. Patricia was a graduate of North Adams High School, moved to Westfield in 1966 and was employed as a cook for area restaurants, most recently Points East Restaurant in Westfield. She was the widow of Gilbert H. Bruneau who died in



1997. Patricia leaves three sons Wayne, Roland and Dale all of Westfield, two step children Richard Bruneau of Westfield and Linda Bruneau of Houston, TX, two sisters Lisa Alcombright of North Adams, and Tracy Dogostino of Sarasota FL, and a brother Dennis Fletcher of Adams, nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Funeral and burial will be at the convenience of the family. Calling hours are omitted. Firtion-Adams Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements. firtionadams.com

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Federal Judge and Author Michael Ponsor to Speak at SPL

SOUTHWICK — Semi-retired, Federal Judge Michael Ponsor will talk about his two mystery novels featuring Judge Norcross at the Southwick Public Library on Wednesday, January 31st at 7 **p.m.**. His first book The Hanging Judge focuses on a death penalty trail in Western MA and is inspired by his own experience presiding over a 2000 Massachusetts capital case, the first in the state in more than fifty years. His newest book, The One-eyed Judge, draws on Ponsor's thirty years as a US district judge and concerns illicit materials found on a respected professor's computer. Judge Ponsor will answer questions from the audience on his books and also about the Federal Judicial system. His books will be available for

> sale at the end of the program. This program was made possible with the help of the Friends of the Southwick Public Library.

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lingers, sweetly, tender, fond and true. There is not a day dear Mother, that we do not think of you.

Sadly missed by son William, grandson Billy, grandaughter Roxanne and great-grandchildren TO THE BUSINESS OF THE

In Loving Memory of Joseph Maslar



First Anniversary ~ January 17, 2017 ~

Always in our hearts and prayers

Love & Miss You, Wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sister, family & friends.

Court Logs

Westfield District Court

Jan. 9, 2018 Jonathan B. Burke, 29, of 47 Broad St., Apt. D#49, had a charge of possession class E drug admission to sufficient facts found but continued without a finding until Jan. 9, 2019, with fees assessed, brought by Westfield Police.

Crystal M. Cassidy, 22, of 7 Basket St., Huntington, had charges of unlicensed operation of motor vehicle and leave scene of property damage admission to sufficient facts found but continued without a finding until April 9, 2018, with fees assessed on the latter charge, brought by Westfield Police.

Derron P. Johnson, 42, of 12 Feeding Hills Road, Apt. B3, Southwick, was placed on probation until Jan. 9, 2019, after pleading guilty to charges of breaking and entering building daytime for felony, larceny of firearm and larceny over \$250; fees were also assessed on first charge; brought by Southwick Police.

Jorge A. Sanchez, 23, of 310 Walnut St., Apt. 3L, Holyoke, was held without right to bail pending a Jan. 23 hearing after being arraigned on a charge of fugitive from justice on court warrant, brought by Westfield Police.

Everett Brown, 50, of 22 Upland St., Springfield, had a charge of operating under influence of liquor or .08 percent admission to sufficient facts found but continued without a finding with probation until Jan. 9, 2019, with fees assessed and restitution ordered, while a charge of negligent operation of motor vehicle was dismissed nolle prosequi and a charge of marked lanes violation found not responsible, brought by Westfield Police.

POLICE LOGS

WESTFIELD

Major crime and incident report **Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018**

12:23 p.m.: Vandalism, motor vehicle, Main Street. Police received a report of two vehicles who had their bumpers scratched. No further information provided by police.

2:54 p.m.: Vandalism, motor vehicle, Colfax Street. Police

received a report of a vehicle that had its tires slashed.

6 p.m.: Warrant service and arrest, Valley View Drive. Police reported that a warrant was served and they arrested George D. Steele-Perkins, 54, of Westfield, on an arrest warrant.

9:07 p.m.: Accident, hit-and-run, North Elm Street. Police received a report of a vehicle that was involved in an accident and the other vehicle reportedly left the scene. A plate number was given to police and police reported they were out with the vehicle at Franklin Street and Charles Street.

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

LITTLE RIVER FIRE STATION

366 Little River Road **Back Parking Area** 7 days, 24 hours

TWISS STREET TRANSFER STATION

37 Twiss Street No sticker needed. Can drop off tree only. Monday - Friday, 7 am - 2:45 pm Saturday, 7 am - 2:45 pm

Drop off areas at each location will be clearly marked. Residents will be able to dispose of their trees at these locations from December 26, 2017 - January 31, 2018.

> If there are any questions, please contact City Hall, 572-6201.

YMCA of Greater Westfield "Chocolate, Chowder, & Chili Cook Off

WESTFIELD — It's time once again to participate in the annual YMCA of Greater Westfield "Chocolate, Chowder, & Chili Cook Off' fundraiser. The "Cook Off' date is **Saturday March** 3, 11:30AM-1:30PM. Tickets will be sold at the Westfield YMCA in advance, in February, for \$8.00; four for \$30.00 or \$10.00 at the door. This year's fundraiser will support the LiveStrong program. LiveStrongat the YMCA is a free 12-week exercise program for 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. We're welcoming chefs and owners who might be interested in promoting their business and cooking for a good cause. Chefs will have the opportunity to showcase their cooking skills by cooking either a chili, chowder or a sweet chocolate delight. The chili and chowder have to be cooked in a Board of Health approved kitchen. When registering, specify the exact name of each dish in order for it to be printed in the right ballot category. Votes will be tallied by 1PM. The voting process is in the spirit of fun with the main goal of fundraising. The YMCA will provide the room, tables, and the paper goods. You may decorate your table with any business paraphernalia to help promote your business. Please reply as soon as possible to reserve a table at no cost, and have your name or restaurant's name promoted. For more information, contact, Cindy

Agan at 568-8631 x323 Email:cagan@westfieldymca.org

FOODTRAVEL



Bring to a boil, reduce heat to low, and simmer

45 minutes. Stir in the corn, and continue cook-

ing 5 minutes before serving.

Kale, Quinoa, and Avocado Salad with Lemon Dijon Vinaigrette 2/3 cup quinoa

1-1/3 cups water

1 bunch kale,

torn into bite-sized pieces 1/2 avocado - peeled, pitted,

and diced

1/2 cup chopped cucumber 1/3 cup chopped red bell pepper

2 tablespoons chopped red onion

crumbled feta cheese

DRESSING

1/4 cup olive oil

2 tablespoons lemon juice

1-1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

3/4 teaspoon sea salt

1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

Bring the quinoa and 1-1/3 cup water to a boil in a saucepan. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until the quinoa is tender, and the water has been absorbed, about 15 to 20 minutes. Set aside to cool. Place kale in a steamer basket over 1 inch of boiling water in a saucepan. Cover saucepan with a lid and steam kale until hot, about 45 seconds; transfer to a large plate. Top kale with quinoa, avocado, cucumber, bell pepper, red onion, and feta cheese. Whisk olive oil, lemon juice, Dijon mustard, sea salt, and black pepper together in a bowl until the oil emulsifies into the dressing; pour over the salad.

Avocado and Tuna Tapas

1 (12 oz.) can solid white tuna packed in water, drained 1 tablespoon mayonnaise

3 green onions, thinly sliced, plus additional for garnish

1/2 red bell pepper, chopped 1 dash balsamic vinegar Black pepper to taste 1 pinch garlic salt, or to taste 2 ripe avocados, halved and pitted

Stir together tuna, mayonnaise, green onions, red pepper, and balsamic vinegar in a bowl. Season with pepper and garlic salt, then pack the avocado halves with the tuna mixture. Garnish with reserved green onions and a dash of black pepper before serving.

Broiled Tilapia Parmesan

2 lbs. tilapia fillets 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese 1/8 cup butter,

softened

3 tablespoons light mayonnaise

2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

1/4 teaspoon dried basil 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper 1/8 teaspoon

onion powder 1/8 teaspoon

celery salt

Preheat oven broiler. Grease broiling pan or line with aluminum foil. Mix Parmesan cheese, butter, mayonnaise, and lemon juice together in a small bowl. Season with dried basil, pepper, onion powder, and celery salt. Mix well and set aside. Arrange fillets in a single layer on prepared pan.





This Jan. 9 2018 photo shows potato skins baked with roasted

garlic rosemary butter and an onion kale dip spiked with

fresh chiles. This dish is from the recipe "Decadent Snacks

for the Super Bowl" by Sara Moulton. (Sara Moulton via AP)

Super Bowl snacks: Baked potato skins and onion kale dip

By SARA MOULTON

Associated Press

I'm not really sure why, but when sports fans assemble in front of their TVs to watch the Super Bowl, major sustenance seems to be required. The big game clearly inspires its viewers to go big.

This recipe is made to order for the occasion. In fact, it's two recipes. The first is for potato skins lathered with roasted garlic rosemary butter and baked until crispy. The second is for onion kale dip spiked with fresh chiles (a variation of the classic spinach and onion dip).

You can bake and scoop out the potatoes a day ahead of time — saving the innards for delights such as hash browns or shepherd's pie — then just slather the skins with the butter and pop them into the oven about 15 minutes before the game starts. You can also prepare the dip the day before.

Convenience aside, the dip's flavor will improve if it's allowed to sit in the refrigerator for a while. Both dishes can be made healthier. Brush the potato skins with olive oil (mixed with garlic and rosemary) instead of butter and replace half of the sour cream with non-fat Greek yogurt. Taste-wise, you're welcome to swap in spinach for kale, if that's your preference. As for the chiles, I call for chopped fresh jalapenos, but you can replace them with pickled jalapenos, minced chipotles in adobo or hot sauce. And if you don't like spicy food, leave out the

Each of these recipes is more than capable of standing on its own (although if you roll with the dip, you'll need to serve your favorite chips or crackers in place of the potato skins). But together? Touchdown!

DECADENT SNACKS FOR THE SUPER BOWL

Start to finish: 4 hours (1 hour active) Servings: 8 to 10

For the dip:

1 cup finely chopped onion

1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil

5 ounces baby kale, coarsely chopped

2 ounces light cream cheese

1 1/2 ounces finely grated Parmigiano-Reggiano

One 8-ounce container sour cream

1 tablespoon minced jalapeno with the ribs and seeds, or to taste

2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice Kosher salt

For the potato skins: 3 pounds russet potatoes

1 head garlic (about 2 inches across)

6 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened

2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh rosemary

Kosher salt

Make the dip: In a large skillet cook the onion in the oil over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until golden, about 8 to 10 minutes. Add the kale, increase the heat to medium-high and cook, stirring, until all of the kale is wilted, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove the pan from the heat, add the cream cheese and Parmigiano-Reggiano and stir until the cream cheese is melted. Transfer the mixture to a bowl and add the sour cream, jalapeno, lemon juice and salt to taste. Cover and chill for at least 1 hour.

Make the potato skins: Preheat the oven to 400 F. Prick each potato several times and arrange them on a rimmed sheet pan. Cut off and discard the top quarter of the head of garlic, wrap the garlic in foil and add it to the sheet pan. Roast the potatoes and garlic in the lower third of the oven until the potatoes are very tender and the garlic is very soft, about 1 to 1 1/2 hours. (The garlic may be done before the potatoes.) Remove the sheet pan from the oven and let the potatoes and garlic cool for 15 minutes. Increase the oven temperature to 425 F. Cut the potatoes in

half lengthwise, and then each half in thirds lengthwise. Scoop out the flesh, (reserving it for another use) and leaving a 1/4-inch thick layer of potato on the skin. Into a small bowl squeeze out the garlic. Add the butter, rosemary and 1/2 teaspoon salt to the bowl; mash and mix well using a fork. Arrange the potato wedges on the sheet pan, skin side down, and divide the garlic butter evenly among the top sides of the wedges, spreading it to coat

all of the surface. Bake the wedges on the lower third of the oven until golden and crisp, about 18 minutes. Sprinkle lightly with salt and let cool briefly on a rack before serving.

Nutritional information per serving: 227 calories; 115 calories from fat; 13 g fat (8 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 37 mg cholesterol; 270 mg sodium;

23 g carbohydrates; 2 g fiber; 3 g sugar; 5 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."



Crowder via AP) COOKING ON **DEADLINE:**

Steak Fajitas By KATIE WORKMAN Associated Press

This year I'm looking to shake up the Super Bowl gathering a bit. Normally, a pot of chili anchors our party, but this year I'm thinking fajitas. They are customizable, have lots of visual appeal, and will definitely fuel the armchair athletes as they offer their unsolicited advice to the television.

Fajitas are surprisingly easy to make, especially if you use a premade fajita seasoning or some other Mexican seasoning blend. I use red onions because I like the way they add even more color to the dish, but if you have yellow or white onions, no problem, use them. For more color, use two different color peppers. And don't shy away from a tiny bit of sugar, which just enhances the caramelization of the vegetables. If you want a little more heat, you could either use two jalapenos or stick with one but leave some of the seeds in (that's where almost all of the heat is in a hot pepper).

Tempting though it might be, don't skip the part where you warm your tortillas in the pan. This adds flavor, those nice brown spots bringing out a toasty wheat taste, and also makes the tortillas more pliable. It takes only a few minutes, and I think it makes the meal. If you want to toast them before cooking the meat, that's also a fine order of events — then you might want to heat them for about 20 seconds in the microwave once the meat is cooked up.

Multiply the recipe as needed, but don't crowd the pan when cooking the vegetables and meat especially the meat, which needs to brown as it cooks. Cook

the meat in batches. If you want to make this meal just that much more special and restaurant-like, pick up more than one kind of salsa — maybe a green tomatillo version and a tomato-based red-style jar. And go to town with the rest of the toppings; assembling the perfect fajita is part of the pleasure of this meal.

STEAK FAJITAS

Start to finish: 45 minutes Serves 4

2 tablespoons vegetable or canola oil, divided

2 red onions, halved and sliced

2 red bell peppers, stemmed, seeded and sliced 1 jalapeño, stemmed, seed-

ed and chopped

1 teaspoon sugar

pound fajita-sliced beef

1 tablespoon taco, fajita or Mexican seasoning blend

1 lime, halved

10 6-inch flour tortillas

To serve (pick and choose): Salsa (maybe more than

Crumbled queso fresco, or another white, crumbly Mexican cheese (feta works too, in a pinch!), or shredded Mexicanblend cheese

Sour cream Lime wedges Fresh cilantro leaves Avocado slices or guacamole

In a large skillet, heat one

See Fajitas, Page 8



In this Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018 photo, Director of Collections Shoshana Greenwald at the Amud Aish Memorial Museum, in Brooklyn, N.Y., talks about the 1945 uniform of Bergen-Belsen concentration camp survivor Chaim Schmidt, in the museum's archive room. The museum focuses on Jewish religious practice and the role of faith during the *Holocaust*. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

A Holocaust museum in Brooklyn focuses on faith, survival

By KAREN MATTHEWS **Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — Faith and survival, not the machinery of death, are the central themes at an atypical Holocaust museum in Brooklyn.

The three-year-old Amud Aish Memorial Museum, located far from the tourist crowds at near the very edge of the borough, focuses on the experiences of Orthodox Jews during and after the Holocaust.

Its collection includes letters, diaries, photos and religious items, like a frayed prayer shawl worn secretly by a prisoner at Auschwitz.

Many were donated by Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox Jews who had stashed the artifacts in basements and attics would not have given them to another museum, Amud Aish staffers said.

"Part of that is because their culture is different and they don't patronize museums for the most part," said Shoshana Greenwald, director of collections. "But here they felt this was a museum that would tell their story and understand where they are coming from."

The collection includes the Warsaw Ghetto diary of Hillel Seidman, who wrote about Jews' daily struggle to survive and to practice their religion in the face of horrific persecution.

"It's a well-known diary," said Dovid Reidel, the museum's director of research. "This is the original."

The family of Seidman, who vived the Holocaust and died in 1995, gave the diary to Amud Aish because they "felt other museums will just focus on his general story," Reidel said. "They felt he wouldn't be appreciated from his religious dimension as well."

Currently housed in a temporary space downstairs from a home health care company, far from city subway lines, the Amud Aish Memorial Museum has long planned on moving to a more prominent location. When it opened in the remote Mill Basin neighborhood, there were plans to build an \$11 million permanent museum in the borough's Borough Park section, home to a huge and growing population of Orthodox Jews. Sholom Friedmann, the museum's director and CEO, said there's now no fixed date for a move.

An exhibit that officially opens at the museum later this month tells the littleknown story of thousands of Jews who



In this Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018 photo, program Coordinator Miryam Gordon, left, of the Amud Aish Memorial Museum, in Brooklyn, N.Y., leads a tour of the museum's "Precious Gift: Rescue and Shanghai" exhibit with a group of students from Brooklyn's Nefesh Academy. The museum focuses on Jewish religious practice and the role of faith during the Holocaust. (AP Photo/Richard

found refuge in Japanese-occupied Shanghai, China.

A group of teenage girls from a private Jewish school clustered around the vitrines during a recent visit and learned about the Walkin family, who fled Lithuania on the Trans-Siberian Railway in 1941, landing first in Kobe, Japan and then in Shanghai. Program coordinator Miryam Gordon pointed out sabbath candlesticks adorned with Chinese characters.

"Daily life continued," she said. "Children were born. People got mar-

Reidel's own grandfather, Mike Tress, is featured in Amud Aish's collection for his work trying to secure passage for European Jews to the United States or another safe haven.

There are typed minutes of an Oct. 14, 1944, White House meeting between first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Tress and other rescue activists. They met on a Saturday when religious Jews are not supposed to travel or conduct business, Reidel noted, adding, "When it came to rescuing lives, that supersedes the not traveling or not holding these work meetings on shabbos."

Colleagues in Holocaust remembrance said there's a place for a museum that's devoted to the devout.

"The more opportunities there are to engage with Holocaust education, the better," said Elizabeth Kubany, a spokeswoman for the Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, located in lower Manhattan.

Tova Rosenberg, the creator of the "Names, Not Numbers," a Holocaust oral history program, said Amud Aish shows the "spiritual resistance" of Jews who maintained their religion even in the concentration camps.

'They were going to keep their religious commandments no matter what," Rosenberg said. "And that isn't portrayed so much in other museums.'

Michael Berenbaum, a Holocaust scholar who has served as a consultant to Amud Aish and other museums, said he hopes Amud Aish can reach its core community while also attracting a broader audience that may have little contact with the Orthodox beyond passing them on the street. "I would hope that lots of non-Jews, non-Orthodox Jews would come to see it in part as a bridge to understanding with these people they live adjacent to," he said.

> **AMUD AISH MUSEUM:** http://www.amudaish.org/

Southern states join to promote civil rights tourism

By JAY REEVES

Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Southern states that once fought to maintain racial segregation are now banding together to promote civil rights tourism at sites including the building where the Confederacy was born and the motel where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. died.

Fourteen states stretching from Kansas to Delaware, including all of the Deep South, are joining to promote the U.S. Civil Rights Trail, which will highlight about 130 sites linked to the modern civil rights movement. The joint effort is being unveiled as part of the MLK holiday weekend. Individual Southern states

have used such promotions for In this Oct. 15, 2015, file years, beginning with a black photo, a statue of Rev. history trail launched by Martin Luther King, Jr. Alabama in the 1980s, but never overlooks the 16th Street before have they joined together Baptist in a single push to bolster civil Birmingham, Ala. (AP Photo) rights tourism, said Lee Sentell, a leader of the effort.



"Everyone wants to showcase

their landmarks. For the U.S. Civil Rights Trail, we're saying 'What happened here changed the world,'" said Sentell, Alabama's tourism director. Most states participating in the promotion are part of the

Atlanta-based Travel South USA, which is funded by state tourism agencies to lure visitors to the region. The organization has launched civilrightstrail.com and is placing advertisements in national magazines to promote the trail. Landmarks on the trial include churches, courthouses,

schools, businesses and other sites that played a role in the civil rights movement in the 1950s and '60s, plus memorials and museums that document the period.

Some of the sites on the list are familiar, like Alabama's

Delegates met in the white-domed building to form the Confederate States of America in 1861, and King spoke outside the building at the end of the Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights march in 1965. The trail also features the National Civil Rights Museum, located at the Lorraine Motel where King was assassinated in 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee, and the MLK National Historic Historic Site in Atlanta.

Other locations are less well-known, like schools in Topeka, Kansas, that were part of the Brown vs. Board of Education case that resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing segregated schools in 1954, or Howard High School of Technology, part of another desegregation case in Wilmington, Delaware.

The trail includes locations in Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. It also features the District of Columbia, with attractions including the Lincoln Memorial, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the U.S. Supreme Court building.

The trail is the product of a suggestion made two years ago by then-National Park Service director Jonathan Jarvis, who wanted historians to document surviving civil rights landmarks, Sentell said. Researchers at Georgia State University located 60 sites, and states added about 70 more.

Alabama, which was the site of racial violence and multiple civil rights protests in the early 1960s, has the most locations featured on the trail at 29. That doesn't include a new memorial to lynching victims scheduled to open later this

year in Montgomery. Sentell said the main goal of the trial is "to get tourists to cross state lines and to learn about things that happened in various cities."

"If someone is going to Montgomery and Selma, and we want them to go to Jackson, Mississippi, to learn about the story there and go to the Mississippi Delta and then to Memphis," he said. European visitors are a primary target of the campaign, he said.

Chicago sees record number of visitors in 2017

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago played host to a record 55.2 million visitors last year.

That's the estimate from City Hall and marks a 2.5 percent increase from the then-record 53.8 million people that visited in 2016.

The figures are a clear indication that Chicago is becoming a bigger and bigger tourist attraction — particularly since the increase comes despite the fact that the city saw a dip in the

number of business-related visits last year. Mayor Rahm Emanuel tells the Chicago Tribune that part of the boost in leisure travel could be attributed to praise the city has received from such publications as Bon Appetit magazine, which named Chicago "restaurant city of the year" and the assertion from the Financial times that Chicago is

"perhaps the most architecturally aware city on earth."

2 newly confirmed van Gogh drawings on show in Netherlands

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Two drawings of a hill in Paris have been confirmed as works by Vincent van

Gogh and are going on display at a Dutch museum.

Gogh The Van Museum in Amsterdam said Tuesday that an drawing Montmartre owned by the Van Vlissingen Art Foundation was recently



confirmed as a work by the Dutch master based on extensive research into its "subject, style, technique, materials and

Based on that research, a similar drawing in the Van Gogh Museum's own collection also has been confirmed as an original by the Dutch artist most famous for his vibrant oil paintings.

Both drawings are part of an exhibition titled "Impressionism & Beyond. A Wonderful Journey," at the Singer Laren Museum near Amsterdam.

Hyper • Local



When it comes to 21st century multimedia platforms, "hyper local" is a term you hear a lot.

It's not a new idea. In fact, The Westfield News has been providing readers with "hyper local" news coverage of Westfield, Southwick, and the Hilltowns all along. Television, radio and regional newpapers only provide fleeting coverage of local issues you care about. TV stations and big newspaper publishers, after years of cutbacks and mergers, frankly aren't able to provide in-depth coverage of smaller markets anymore.

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Preview

specialized paper the commission needs. Also, Sullivan is expected to request the acceptance of authorization for the remaining \$1,800 from the PEG funding, which will be used for the PEG operation expenses. According to Sullivan, the funds were jobspecific, so City Council must approve of their alternative use.

Then, Sullivan is expected to submit appointments of several individuals. First, Eileen Rockwal and Kerry Ann Kielbasa are expected to be put forth as nominees to the Council on Aging, replacing two members retiring.

Then, Sullivan is expected to submit the appointment of Jeffrey Gosselin as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities. Gosselin, Sullivan noted, is a former School Commission member.

Next, the City Council is expected to go through the "Reports of Committees," addressing several committees.

First, from the Finance Committee, At-Large Councilor and City Council President John Beltrandi said that there are two motions for transfers of funds related to Department of Public Works to care for past

Then, there is an expected motion for an appropriation for \$28,750 from the PEG Access designated Fund to pay for the salary of the Media Systems Specialist.

Also, Beltrandi said that Ward Three Councilor Andrew Surprise and At-Large Councilor David Flaherty are also looking to establish the "Special Purpose Stabilization

Continued from Page 1

Fund," which would be funded through monies gathered from the city's Local Option Meals and Room Occupancy Taxes.

Beltrandi noted that there may be a bit of an issue with this, but noted that its intent is good, so a discussion may be had about it. Then, a briefing from former Finance

Committee members is expected for current Finance Committee members. Then, the rest of the items Beltrandi said

that he expects to be taken out of committee without any action, including motions related to adding questions on the 2017 ballot. Next, four items are expected from the

Legislative and Ordinance (L & O) Committee during the meeting.

The first item is from former At-Large Councilor Steven Dondley, who asked the city to explore possible legal action against pharmaceutical companies related to the opioid crisis.

L & O previously determined to allow the city's Law Department to handle this.

"I think there's some action being taken by the Attorney General, so I think we'll wait and see where the chips fall," Beltrandi said.

Next, a motion is expected to repeal the sex offender ordinance in the city. According to Beltrandi, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court determined that such ordinances were unconstitutional in 2015, and that this ordinance, which he believes was never active and was in committees, is being motioned to be taken out and repealed. Then, a transfer of care and custody of the

West Farms Schoolhouse on Montgomery

Road is expected to come with a positive recommendation. The schoolhouse, located in Wyben, will be changing hands from the Westfield School Department to the Westfield Historical Commission.

Finally from L & O, City Council is expected to receive a positive recommendation on allowing Mayor Sullivan to execute a development agreement for the traffic improvement project on Springfield Road.

Then, the Personnel Action Committee is expected to have five items acted upon. However, Beltrandi noted that these will be hashed out Thursday, after their meeting prior to City Council's is done.

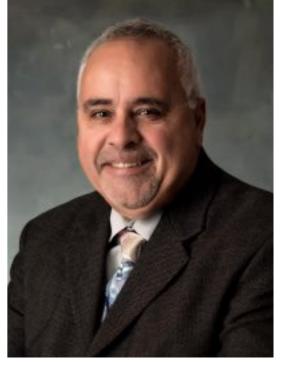
And the final committee report expected on the night is the Natural Resources Committee, which is related to a status report on the Water Resource Protection District ordinance.

The final agenda topic is that of "Motions, Orders and Resolutions."

The first is a motion by At-Large Councilors Dan Allie, David Flaherty and Nick Morganelli, Ward Six Councilor Bill Onyski, Ward Five Councilor Robert Paul and Ward Three Councilor Andrew Surprise to see about strengthening the ordinance related to abutter notification. According to Beltrandi, it's being sought to extend the notification from within 300 feet to within 500 feet. Then, At-Large Councilor Emmershy, as

well as Onyski and Surprise, are requesting that the City Council's City Properties Committee account for and evaluate all city

Continued from Page 1



At-Large City Councilor and City Council President John Beltrandi

property, which could be used to maximize and improve value, among other items.

Then a motion coming from Ward Four Councilor Michael Burns, as well as At-Large Councilor Brent Bean, as well as Paul, which is seeking to allow the city's sewer rates to be set by the Board of Public Works.

Finally, the same councilors as the last-mentioned motion will also seek information related to combining the city's Water Commission and the Board of Public Works.

Public Hearing – Continued from Page 1

authority to make recommendations to the Planning Board. Planning Board member Jane Magarian requested they be given a transcript from the Traffic Commission anyway for the information. She also said that City Engineer Mark Cressotti reviewed the plans, and suggested an independent review of traffic. Vinskey was asked by a majority of the members to get an independent review of the traffic flow. Luke Showalter and Brian Bailicki of Sage Engineering

came prepared to answer questions, but had not added to or changed their plans from the last hearing. The applicant, Roots owner Frank DiMarinis was unable to attend Tuesday's meet-McEwan asked if the septic system for the project was fully

designed and approved. Showalter said the perc season would begin in a couple of weeks, and the testing hadn't been done. He said in the past, they have submitted the results to the Health Department.

"This board is not a clearing house for all approvals. Our focus is the zoning ordinance," Vinskey said.

"Any special consideration that we should give because it's over the aquifer?" Magarian asked.

"Nothing specific, no requirement in the ordinance," Vinskey said. "Keep in mind there's a bigger state law that says you can put a school anywhere."

Another question asked of Vinskey was whether the driveways around the school were sufficient for fire department access. Vinskey said he had asked for comments, but did not receive any from the Fire Department. Four of the Planning Board members requested that he ask again and get a definitive answer regarding a fire lane.

Magarian also asked Showalter in the case of a fire, where resulting would water drain into. He said he would find out for the next meeting.

Members of the public were then invited to ask questions of fact. Abutter Vin Rosella asked several questions about fire department access, dumpsters, hazardous waste and capacity to handle a spill, prompting McEwan to ask future speakers to limit themselves to one question. Showalter said dumpsters were located on the north side

and hazardous waste would be handled by outside contractors, and there is no specific location for onsite storage as yet. He also said there is adequate water pressure in the building.

Magarian also asked about waste from science labs that would need to go to a hazardous waste container, and how big that would be. Several of the questions that were being asked had been emailed to Planning Board members in a memo from Kristen Mello of WRAFT (Westfield Residents Advocating for Themselves).

Mello came forward and said given the plan for the school is for a potential of 584 students in grades 6-12, she asked how many teachers, custodial staff, etc. there would be. A Westfield Education Association member estimated that number to be 100. Mello said that brings the number of occupants to 650 to 700. Mello said there is a limitation in nitrogen sensitive areas to 440 gallons per day of waste water, when more would be needed for the number of occupants in the building.

Another question raised was whether the drop-off queue blocked the handicapped spaces in the parking lot.

Planning Board member William Varellas also questioned the local ordinance (Section 4-140) as compared to Mass General Law, and suggested that the local ordinance was broader, allowing for private service corporations, while the state lists public service.

Vinskey said the intent in how the local ordinance was drafted was to mimic Mass Law, but he said it is true that it doesn't require it be public, so it is a little less restrictive.

Varellas said if a private school comes in, struggles and fails, could they turn around and sell the building. Vinskey said in order to change the use; they would have to come before the Planning Board for a special permit.

Ward 1 City Councilor Mary Ann Babinski said that based on the missing information, she hoped that the Planning Board would look for a continuance. "Lots of questions," Babinski said. "This is over our aquifer, the recharge area for the Town of Southampton. It's good information to follow up on," she added. The hearing was then continued to February 6.

Twins -

Continued from Page 1

McCabe reported additionally, that while in police custody the suspects allegedly stated that they had swallowed drugs. Both were transported to Baystate Noble Hospital via Westfield Fire ambulance and personnel for treatment.

Ronald M. Coates was held in lieu of \$25,000 cash bail or \$250,000 bond following arraignment, pending a hearing Feb. 7. Richard M. Coates was held in lieu of \$20,000 cash bail or \$200,000 bond following arraignment, also pending a hearing

Westfield Police

Gibbons was chosen to replace the soon-to-be retired Sgt. Alex Baginski. According to the Commission, Gibbons would start serving as sergeant on Feb. 4.

The three candidates were previously interviewed for the sergeant position during May last year, as part of a shake-up of the ranks following the retirement of then-Capt. Hipolito "Paul" Nunez in Jan. 2017, as well as the subsequent promotions thereafter. This time, the candidates were once again interviewed in the

public meeting, with their order being determined by their placement on testing for the position. Interview order was Gibbons, Mejias and Cavanaugh. Gibbons, who noted that he has been a full-time officer on

the patrol division for most of his career, remarked on his performance over the past four years. He said that over that timeframe he has conducted over 1,700 traffic stops, made 80 arrests and assisted in an additional 90. During that time, he said, he received no citizen complaints,

and was also nominated for a police commendation shield in Gibbons added that he has a Bachelors in Criminal Justice

from Westfield State University. He also mentioned his attendance record, which he said has

had 10 sick days in four years. When asked what area of law enforcement he prefers,

Gibbons said patrol.

"I like patrol, chose to stay in patrol," Gibbons said. "I like the action," he added.

Camerota noted during the interview that Gibbons also previously served with the Westfield Detective Bureau, but after that short stint wanted to get back in patrol.

Mejias, the next officer to be interviewed by the Commission, said that she has been with the department since 2001, and the

Trump Remarks

Continued from Page 4

In a hearing Tuesday, Graham said Trump expressed openeal, only to reject it

"I think somebody on his staff gave him really bad advice between 10 o'clock to 12 o'clock on Thursday," Graham said. Asked about Kelly, the South Carolina Republican said the chief of staff is "a fine man, but he's part of the staff."

Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., one of the lawmakers summoned to the Oval Office by the president to counter the Durbin-Graham proposal, blasted Durbin's account of the meeting in an interview.

"I'm not going to get into all the details of a private meeting. I'll just say, what Senator Durbin has portrayed is a misportrayal," Cotton told Little Rock radio station KARN on Tuesday.

"The proposal brought by Senator Durbin and Senator Graham would go in the opposite of what we need, which is a skill-based system that treats people for who they are, not where they're from," Cotton said. "It's fair to say the president reacted strongly to that.'

As the firestorm over Trump's comment began late last week, the White House and Trump's National Security Council provided no guidance to the State Department about what to say to foreign countries who were incensed, said a U.S. official familiar with the conversations between the White House and other federal agencies.

Left to its own devices, the State Department came up with its own talking points to be used by U.S. missions in Africa working to stem the damage, said a U.S. official, who wasn't authorized to disclose internal deliberations and demanded anonymity.

The key message, the official said: Emphasize that the United States has a "deep respect" for people from Africa and that the U.S. relationship with any country is deeper than any one comment. Avoid confirming or denying what the president might have said, referring to it instead as an "alleged comment."

Firefighters -

Continued from Page 1

which means that not only are they on the call force but they can now step into a home or a building in the event of a fire. Prior to graduating from the academy, Hope, Girard,

Caracciolo, and Lacas were on the call force but weren't able to take part in an interior fire. 'They're very active, they're a good crew," said Southwick

Fire Chief Russ Anderson. "I know they'll do a good job, it's great having more resources. The Massachusetts Fire Academy trains fire personnel throughout the commonwealth free of charge to cities and

campuses, and as well as local fire departments.

towns. The training takes places at both the Stow and Springfield

majority of that time, roughly 11 years, has been spent on She is also currently assigned to the Detective Bureau, where

she has been for about four months. There the majority of her work is related to sexual assaults, she said. In addition to this, Mejias noted that she had previously spent

over three years in the community policing portion of the

department. Mejias said that her time there helped her learn about what it is to be an officer.

"I value the time I had in community policing, definitely think I learned a lot," she said, adding that it was more than just responding to calls.

She learned about the community and the people in it, as well as paid attention to the neighborhoods and learning what was needed, she said.

Mejias added that while she does not use it as a crutch, "being female on the department is a huge plus." She noted that sometimes there are incidents where a gentler hand may be needed, and she can provide that.

In addition, she said that she is bilingual, speaking English and Spanish, which also helps her on the job.

Regarding education, Mejias said that she had received a Masters degree, though the school was not accredited in

Regarding her favorite aspect of the job, Mejias remarked on the community service aspect of it.

'Community contact is my utmost favorite," she said.

The final candidate interviewed was Cavanaugh, who in May 2017 during the previous interview, was said to have had five years experience on the department and thus had the least amount of the candidates.

However, Cavanaugh's experience includes him receiving his juris doctorate from Westfield State University.

Cavanaugh also noted that he has recently become a field training officer, a position that trains incoming officers for the job, and it's "not something I take lightly."

Cavanaugh said that he aims to be a team player, one "that anybody would want to work with or work for," and this includes picking up two-and-a-half shifts on Christmas.

When asked about the area of policing he prefers, Cavanaugh noted patrol work, in part due to the variety of instances that the department will deal with.

When asked about the negatives of being an officer, Cavanaugh noted the political climate that the country is in, which can make it difficult in "maintaining trust" with the com-

However, he added that he believes that the Westfield community does have trust in the city's police force. When asked about future aspirations, especially regarding

his degree in law, Cavanaugh said that he would like to work up through the ranks at the department. "I would like to advance in this department," he said. "I don't

want to put a cap on myself for my individual goals." "This is where I want to be, Westfield Police," he added. Following the interviews, the Commission chose Gibbons

Fajitas

unanimously.

Continued from Page 6

tablespoon of the vegetable oil over medium heat. Add the onions, peppers, and jalapeno, sprinkle the sugar over them, season with salt and pepper, and sauté for 8 to 10 minutes until fairly tender. Remove all the cooked vegetables to one half of a serving platter.

Return the pan to medium heat and add the remaining tablespoon of oil. Add the beef strips, sprinkle with the seasoning, and saute for 5 minutes, until the beef is cooked. Add salt and pepper to taste. Transfer the beef to the other half of the serving platter. Tent with foil to keep warm.

Carefully clean the hot pan and return it to medium-high heat. Make sure the pan is clean and dry before warming the tortillas, one at a time, for 15 to 20 seconds on each side until browned in spots and slightly fragrant. Transfer the tortillas to a plate as they are warmed, and keep them covered with a clean dishtowel to keep them warm.

Remove the foil and dishtowel, and squeeze the juice of the lime halves over the meat and the vegetables. Serve the beef and vegetables with the tortillas and assorted toppings, and let everyone fill their own fajitas.

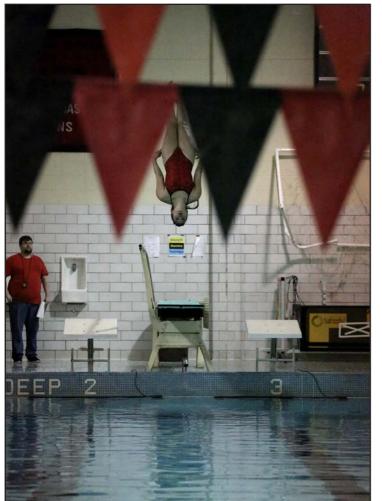
Nutrition information per serving: 537 calories; 196 calories from fat; 22 g fat (6 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 72 mg cholesterol; 945 mg sodium; 52 g carbohydrate; 5 g fiber; 9 g sugar; 32 g protein.

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.

SPORTS



Emily Mihalek cuts through the water during the girls 100m butterfly. (Photo by Randall S. Burlingame)



Jordan Bannish executes an impressive move during the diving portion of the meet. (Photo by Randall S. Burlingame)



Lizzie Fraser fights a stroke for stroke battle against her opponent from Minnechaug during the girls 200m individual medley. (Photo by Randall S. Burlingame)



Josef Adamscyk rallies toward the finish on the last stretch of the boys 200m freestyle against Minnechaug. (Photo by Randall S. Burlingame)



Matt Rowbotham takes a breath and stays focused during the boys 200m individual medley. (Photo by Randall S. Burlingame)



The WHS swim and dive team chant in the pool and hype Sara Russell (lane 4) gets the jump on her opponents $each\ other\ up\ going\ into\ the\ second\ half\ of\ the\ meet.\ (Photo\ \ start\ the\ girls\ 100m\ freestyle.\ (Photo\ by\ Randall\ S.\ Burlingame)$ by Randall S. Burlingame)



Falcons swoop past Bombers

By CHRIS PUTZ

Staff Writer

WESTFIELD - The much-ballyhooed matchup between the Minnechaug Falcons and Westfield Bombers swim teams fizzled Tuesday due to the flu running rampant through the Whip City's high school swim

Westfield was missing more than a quarter of its swimmers, who, according to swim coach Tom Lewis were under the

"The really good meet never really materialized," coach Lewis explained. "All in all we actually had some pretty good swims tonight. ... We were just missing far too many kids to put up any type of a fight tonight.

The Westfield girls' swim team (6-1) was knocked from the ranks of the unbeaten, losing to Minnechaug 138-48.

Westfield's Elizabeth Fraser managed a first-place finish in the 200 individual medley with a time of 2:22.81. Fraser was also involved in the most dramatic race of the day, just being touched out by Minnechaug in the 100 breaststroke (1:14.12).

Matt Morash and Tommy Russell won two individual events apiece to lead the Westfield boys' squad (5-2), which fell to Minnechaug 116-60.

Russell finished first in the 50 freestyle race (22.74) and 100 backstroke (56.26); Morash claimed gold in the 200 free (1:55.20) and 500 free (5:14.66).

Westfield's Kevin Hayes took first in diving (228.00) and the Bombers' medley relay team (Russell,



Westfield's Emma Pedolzky, left, attempts to get a jump shot to fly over the outstretched arms of a Central Golden Eagles' player Tuesday in Springfield. (Photo by

Patrick Lurgio, Morash, Adrian Orszulak) won in 1:50.45. Westield will attempt to get back on track Friday at East Bombers' Chandler Pedolzky had 10.

Longmeadow High School, beginning at 4 p.m.

"Hopefully people will be back and healthy," Lewis

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hall, Marsh pace Tigers

Franklin Tech 47, Westfield Technical Academy 12 Jordan Hurlbert (12 rebounds) and Amber Merritt (8 rebounds) scored 10 points apiece in leading Franklin Tech to victory on the road.

Jaymee Hall (5 points, 10 rebounds) and Leilani Marsh (4 points, 14 rebounds) led Westfield Tech.

Crosby leads Saints

Renaissance 46, St. Mary's 23

Three players scored in double digits - Da-Sha Wilson (16 points), Desiree Crawford (15), and Antonaya McMillian (10) – to fuel Renaissance's road victory at Westfield Middle School North.

St. Mary's Jessica Crosby scored a team-high nine points. Saints' Anna Kosinski had six.

Golden Eagles soar

Central 91, Westfield 37

Central raced out to a 28-2, first quarter lead. The Golden Eagles looked to pull away early in the second quarter with a 3-pointer just 20 seconds in.

Makayla Thompson drained four 3-pointers and finished with 20 points to lead Central. Golden Eagles' Kiana Ortiz and Jaliena Sanchez finished with 14 and 11 points, respectively.

Westfield's Olivia Hadla scored a team-high 12 points.

WESTFIELD STATE SPORTS SCHEDULES

Sat

Sat

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

DAY DATE EVENTLOCATION

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

TIME DAY DATE **OPPONENT**

Jan. 17 FRAMINGHAM STATE 7:30 Wed

3:00 Sat Jan. 20 at Salem State

Jan. 23 at Fitchburg State Tues Jan. 25 **WORCESTER STATE 7:30** Thur

MCLA 3:00 Jan. 27 Sat

Feb. 3 at Bridgewater State 3:00 Sat

Wed Feb. 7 at Framingham State 8:00

Feb. 10 SALEM STATE Sat

FITCHBURG STATE 7:30 Wed at Worcester State 3:00 Feb. 17 Sat

MASCAC Quarterfinals TBA Feb. 20 Tues

Feb. 22 MASCAC Semifinals TBA Thur Feb. 24 MASCAC Championship TBA Sat

2017-2018 Westfield State University Women's Basketball Schedule

Sat

Wed Jan. 17 FRAMINGHAM STATE Feb. 7 at Framingham State 6:00 Wed 5:30 Feb. 10 SALEM STATE 1:00 Sat Sat Jan. 20 at Salem State 1:00

Feb. 14 FITCHBURG STATE 5:30 Wed Tues Jan. 23 at Fitchburg State 5:30 Sat Feb. 17 at Worcester State 1:00 Thur Jan. 25 WORCESTER STATE 5:30

Feb. 20 MASCAC Quarterfinals Tues

TBA Feb. 22 MASCAC SemifinalsTBA Thur Feb. 24 MASCAC Championship Sat

TBA

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

Jan. 27 MCLA 1:00

Feb. 3 at Bridgewater State 1:00

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**

Thur Jan. 18 UMASS DARTMOUTH 7:35 Jan. 20 at Worcester State 3:30

FRAMINGHAM STATE 7:35

Jan. 25 at Fitchburg State 7:00 Thur **PLYMOUTH STATE 5:35** Sat Jan. 27

Feb. 1 SALEM STATE 7:35 Thur

Jan. 30

Thur Feb. 8 at Framingham State 7:30 Feb. 10 at UMass Dartmouth 4:30

Feb. 15 **WORCESTER STATE 7:35** Thur Feb. 17 **FITCHBURG STATE 5:35** Sat

Tues Feb. 20 at Plymouth State 6:00

Sat Feb. 24 MASCAC Quarterfinals TBD

Tues Feb. 27 MASCAC Semifinals TBD

March 3 MASCAC Championship TBD Sat

HIGH SCHOOL 2017 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDUL

URGENT: ALL LOCAL TEAMS HIGH SCHOOL SPORTING EVENTS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED WEDNESDAY DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.

WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Thurs., Jan. 18, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Northampton, 5:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL at Northampton, 7 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 19, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Chicopee, 5:30

p.m. JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at West Springfield, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Chicopee, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at West Springfield,

7 p.m. BOYS ICE HOCKEY at Simsbury, International Skating Center of Connecticut, 6 p.m.

INDOOR TRACK @ Smith College (Northampton), 6:45 p.m. SWIMMING at East Longmeadow, 4 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 20, 2018 WRESTLING @ Burt Burger Tournament, Chicopee High School, 10 a.m.

Sun., Jan. 21, 2018 JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY at Longmeadow,

Fitzpatrick Ice Arena, 1:50 p.m. Mon., Jan. 22, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Commerce,

5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Commerce, 7 p.m. GIRLS ICE HOCKEY (Longmeadow Co-Op) at Algonquin, New England Sports Center, 8 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 23, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Chicopee, 5:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL at Chicopee, 7 p.m. SWIMMING at Northampton, JFK Middle School, 4 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 24, 2018 WRESTLING vs. Northampton, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Longmeadow, 5:30 p.m. JV GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Chicopee Comp, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Chicopee Comp,

7 p.m. SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. Fri., Jan. 26, 2018

BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Groton-Dunstable, Amelia Park Ice Arena, 7 p.m. INDOOR TRACK @ Smith College (Northampton), 3:45 p.m. SWIMMING vs. Longmeadow, 4 p.m. GIRLS ICE HOCKEY (Longmeadow Co-Op) at Needham, St. Sebastian's Lane Rink, 6 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 BASKÉTBALL at Easthampton, 5:30 p.m. INDOOR TRACK @ Smith College (Northampton), 6:45 p.m. BOYS BASKÉTBALL at Easthampton, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 20, 2018 WRESTLING @ Mt. Everett Duals, Mount Everett Regional High School, 10 a.m.

Sun., Jan. 21, 2018 JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY at Chicopee, Fitzpatrick Ice Arena, 5:20 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 22, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Hampshire, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Hampshire, 7 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 23, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Frontier, 6 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Frontier, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 24, 2018 WRESTLING at Sabis, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL at South Hadley, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at South Hadley, 7 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 26, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKÉTBALL vs. Easthampton, 5:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Easthampton, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 27, 2018 WRESTLING @ Mountie Invitational, MCLA, 9 a.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Wahconah, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Wahconah, 7 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 28, 2018 JV BOYS ICÉ HOCKÉY vs. Amherst-Pelham, Fitzpatrick Ice Arena, 5:20 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 29, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Ludlow, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Ludlow, 7 p.m. Tues., Jan. 30, 2018

JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Smith

Academy, 5:30 p.m.

GATEWAY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Thurs., Jan. 18, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. WRESTLING vs. Duggan Academy, 6 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at St. Mary's,

Westfield Middle School North, 6:30 p.m. Fri., Jan. 19, 2018

JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Smith Voke, 3 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Smith Voke, 6:30 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 20, 2018 WRESTLING at Mt. Everett Duals, Mount Everett Regional High School, 10 a.m.

Mon., Jan. 22, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter, 5 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 23, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Sabis, 5 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Westfield Technical Academy, 6:30 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 24, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. St. Mary's, 5 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. St. Mary's, 6:30 p.m. WRESTLING at Mohawk Trail, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Hampden Charter School of Science, 5 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Hampden Charter School of Science, 6:30 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 26, 2018 JV GIRLS BASKETBALL at Sabis, 4 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at

Renaissance, Boland School, 6 p.m.

WESTFIELD TECHNICAL ACADEMY

Thurs., Jan. 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.

Mon., Jan. 22, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Pathfinder, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Pathfinder, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. St. Mary's, 6 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 23, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Gateway, 6:30 p.m. Wed., Feb. 24, 2018

No Sports Scheduled

Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, 7 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 26, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Pioneer Valley Christian Academy, 6 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 29, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Gateway, 5 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Gateway, 6:30 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 30, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at St. Mary's, Westfield Middle School North, 5:30 p.m.

> Wed., Jan. 31, 2018 No Sports Scheduled

Thurs., Feb. 1, 2018 BOYS BASKETBALL at Duggan Academy, 7 p.m.

SAINT MARY HIGH SCHOOL

Thurs., Jan. 18, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Mohawk, 5 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Gateway, Westfield Middle School North, 6:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETALL at Mohawk,

6:30 p.m. Fri., Jan. 19, 2018

No Sports Scheduled

Mon., Jan. 22, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Smith Vocational, 5 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Smith Vocational, 6:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Westfield Technical Academy, 6 p.m.

l ues., Jan. 23, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Hampden Charter School of Science, 7 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 24, 2018 JV BOYS BASKETBALL at Gateway, 5 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Gateway, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018 SKIING @ Berkshire East, 5 p.m. JV BOYS BASKETBALL vs. McCann Tech, Westfield Middle School South, 5:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. McCann Tech, Westfield Middle School South, 7 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 26, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Franklin Tech, 6 p.m.

> Mon., Jan. 29, 2018 No Sports Scheduled

Tues., Jan. 30, 2018 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Westfield Technical Academy, Westfield Middle School North, 5:30 p.m.



HIGH SCHOOL STANDINGS / RESULTS

BOYS ICE HOCKEY Westfield 8-2-1

BOYS BASKETBALL

Westfield 6-3 Southwick 8-1

Gateway 1-9 Westfield Technical Academy 3-3 St. Mary 1-6

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Westfield 3-6 Southwick 3-5 Gateway 2-3 Westfield Technical Academy 0-7 St. Mary 0-6

GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

Westfield-Longmeadow Co-Op 4-2

GIRLS SWIMMING Westfield 6-1

BOYS SWIMMING

Westfield 5-2

WRESTLING Westfield 8-3

TUESDAY'S RESULTS GIRLS SWIMMING Minnechaug 138, Westfield 48 BOYS SWIMMING
Minnechaug 116, Westfield 60
GIRLS BASKETBALL Franklin Tech 47, Westfield Technical Academy 12 Renaissance 46, St. Mary's 23 Central 91, Westfield 37



Tomlin not ready to endorse Haley's return in 2018

By WILL GRAVES AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Todd Haley's contract as the offensive coordinator for the Pittsburgh Steelers is up.

And coach Mike Tomlin doesn't sound as if he's in a rush to decide whether Haley will be back next season.

Tomlin sidestepped several attempts to endorse Haley's return on Tuesday as the AFC North champions continued to dissect what went wrong in an upset home playoff loss to Jacksonville . Asked if he anticipated any changes to his staff, Tomlin demurred.

"I don't know where these roads are going to lead," Tomlin said. "Some contracts are up. Some aren't. I'm not ready to discuss that."

Haley just finished his sixth season with the Steelers and has helped design one of the NFL's most dynamic offenses.

Led by quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, All-Pro running back Le'Veon Bell and All-Pro wide receiver Antonio Brown, Pittsburgh (13-3) has finished in the top three in total yards in three of the past four years.

Though Haley and Roethlisberger have found a level of detente following a somewhat bumpy start to

their relationship, Haley's occasionally fiery approach has made him a touchstone when things don't go well.

While the Steelers piled up more than 500 yards against the NFL's top-ranked defense on Sunday, they also made a couple of curious play calls on fourth down that halted their momentum.

Bell was stuffed for a loss on a toss play when Pittsburgh needed just 1 yard in the first quarter and Roethlisberger threw incomplete to rookie JuJu Smith-Schuster on fourth down in the fourth quarter when advancing the ball a matter of inches would have extended the drive.

The Steelers, however, have gone away from using the quarterback sneak in recent years to help Roethlisberger avoid the con-

Tomlin brushed off the notion that the sneak is no longer a part of the playbook, saying "to suggest there's a resistance to it in concept, I'm not ready to say that."

Tomlin also isn't ready to

say much about his staff. Offensive line coach Mike Munchak has interviewed for the open head coaching job in Arizona and wide receivers coach Richard Mann is retir-

Hines Ward, a two-time Super Bowl winner who is also the leading receiver in franchise history, spent time with the team during the season as a volunteer assistant, though Tomlin declined to get into any specifics about any sort of future role for Ward or anybody else for that

"I'm not going to have a lot of definitive answers (right now)," Tomlin said. "I don't want to provide you misinformation.'

Tomlin called his 11th season a "wild and challenging and fun ride."

One with more than its fair share of bumps created from

From the "botched" decision to stay out of sight during the national anthem in Chicago in September to wide receiver Martavis Bryant's trade demand to Tomlin openly talking about having to face New England twice — hinting he expected the Steelers to face the Patriots in the AFC championship game more than a month before it would become a reality — hardly a week passed with the attention focused somewhere

other than the field. "We realize oftentimes it may create a storm around coach Mike Tomlin takes questions during the news confrence after an NFL football game against the Jacksonville Jaguars, Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018, in Pittsburgh. The Steelers lost 45-42 and the Jaguars advance to the AFC championship. (AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

us, but that's not us," Tomlin said. "We don't care. We can't care. We can't control it any-

Outside of linebacker Ryan Shazier's life-altering spinal injury, the Steelers created most of the noise that

While Tomlin said it's on him to help his players learn to use the attention directed at them and their own social media agendas "for good" he's also aware that none of it matters so long as his team

cess is only measured in Lombardi Trophies, 2017 ended in disappointment, one the Steelers will have a longer than expected offseason to process.

"It ended the way it ended and looking back at it, there's nothing we can do about that other than learn from the experience," Tomlin said. "Hopefully that strengthens

One the Steelers are start-

Pittsburgh Steelers head

Not exactly.

surrounded them.

For a franchise where suc-

us for our next journey.'

ing earlier than expected.

Parks, Martin, lead Memphis over UConn

By CLAY BAILEY

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Mike Parks Jr. had a career-best night for Memphis, while Jeremiah Martin, the Tigers leading scorer, matched him in points and rebounds. The result was an early lead that built to a runaway victory

for the Tigers as Memphis defeated UConn 73-49 on Tuesday Both Parks and Martin recorded 21 points and 11 rebounds to lead the Tigers. Parks' totals were career-highs in both cat-

egories, and the rebounds included five off the offensive "He's like a big ol' teddy bear. He's got a soft heart. He's got a great disposition and he's a real likable kid," Memphis

coach Tubby Smith said. Kareem Brewton Jr. added 10 points for the Tigers (13-6, 4-2 American Athletic Conference), who never trailed in the game en route to their fourth straight victory.

For UConn (10-8, 3-3), the outing was a disaster almost from the start. The Huskies committed 17 turnovers, shot 37 percent on the night and were outrebounded 38-23, including Memphis grabbing 14 offensive rebounds.

"I don't know what it was, but we're going to have to correct it," Huskies coach Kevin Ollie said after emerging from a postgame session with his team that extended well past 25 minutes. "We didn't play our UConn style. We got outrebounded. We got out-toughed in every area of the game."

The Huskies, who saw their three-game winning streak snapped, were led by 15 points and nine rebounds from Josh Carlton. Christian Vital added 14 points and leading scorer Jalen Adams, who averages 18.5 a game, had 11 points.

Terry Larrier, the Huskies second-leading scorer at 15.3 points a game, sat out with lingering headaches.

Even Larrier's 15-plus points wouldn't have made a big difference as UConn seemed out of sync all night. The 49 points in a game were a season-low for UConn, below the previous low-water mark of 57 against Michigan State on Nov. 24.

UConn's offensive struggles began early and didn't improve. Besides shooting 42.1 percent in the first half, the Huskies committed 11 turnovers before the break. UConn also missed eight of its 10 shots from outside the arc in the half.

Those problems, coupled with Parks scoring 13 points for Memphis, helped the Tigers carry a 32-18 into halftime.

"(Parks) was rebounding. He was getting wherever he wanted to," Ollie said of Parks' first-half performance. "Our guys have to fight a little bit harder to get around him. He commanded the basketball.'

BIG PICTURE

UConn: The game got away from the Huskies in the first half, scoring a season-low 18 points before the break. Between shooting woes and poor ball handling, UConn never got untracked offensively. The Huskies, who connect on 75.6 percent of their free throws on the season, never got to the line in the first half, and things never got better in the second half

Memphis: The Tigers got a big start from Parks, who entered the game averaging 5.9 points. Parks had 11 points early and 13 at the half as Memphis led by as many as 13 points en route its 32-18 lead at the break. Memphis would shoot even better in the second half making 51.9 percent of its shots (14 of 27), in spite of coach Tubby Smith clearing the bench in the final minutes.

MISSING LARRIER

Larrier's absence was a game-time decision as the headaches became more intense. While the Memphis victory was more than Larrier's 15.3 average, the junior swingman's absence was noticed. "Without Terry, we needed everybody to step up," Ollie said. "He had a headache, and it just never subsided. It does get better, but it comes up when he exerts energy. The medical staff and he felt that the best thing for him was not to play."

DIE-HARD FANS

The attendance was 2,417, a small turnout even in the tough times Memphis is facing right now, where interest in the program has waned. The problem Tuesday was the weather. The city was hit with about two inches of snow Monday night into Tuesday morning and the temperature stayed in the teens through the day, making driving to FedExForum, the Tigers downtown arena, a bit dicey.

UConn: Entertains No. 1 Villanova on Saturday, Memphis: Travels to Tulsa on Saturday.



Memphis forward Mike Parks Jr., is fouled by Connecticut's Mamadou Diarra, left, during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in Memphis, Tenn., Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018. (Mark Weber/The Commercial Appeal via AP)

Davis scores 45, Pelicans beat Celtics in OT

By DOUG ALDEN

Associated Press BOSTON (AP) - Anthony Davis and the New Orleans Pelicans eventually were too big for the Boston Celtics.

Davis had 45 points and 16 rebounds as he and DeMarcus Cousins controlled the lane and led the Pelicans to a 116-113 overtime victory on Tuesday night, ending the Celtics' seven-game winning streak.

"It was a great win for us. They tested us," said Davis, who just missed matching the 48 points he scored Sunday during a win in New York.

Cousins added 19 points and 15 rebounds, and Jrue Holiday scored 23 points. The trio combined for all 12 Pelicans points in OT as New Orleans handed the Celtics their first loss of 2018.

Ian Clark added 15 points for the Pelicans, whose size inside ended up prevailing in overtime when Boston's barrage of 3-pointers stopped falling. Kyrie Irving led Boston with 27 points,

24 after halftime as the Celtics rallied from

a 12-point deficit and led by as much as five late in regulation. "For some reason tonight, the whole game we were a little careless. It just carried over there at the end," said Al Horford, who had 14 points and nine rebounds. "We

thought we had it. It just got away from us." Marcus Smart and Jaylen Brown added 16 points apiece for the Celtics, who attempted a season-high 50 3-pointers. Rather than challenge Davis and Cousins inside, the Celtics lived outside and it cost them in overtime when they went just 1 for

"I thought we did a great job defensively in the first half trying to contain Kyrie. You know that that's not going to last the entire game," Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry said. We came up with stops when we absolutely had to and then we were able to make some plays down the stretch that were the difference in the game."

Horford's 3-pointer early in OT gave Boston a 107-106 lead and Boston went up 113-110. A jumper by Cousins cut the lead to 113-112, then Holiday added two more field goals and Boston couldn't catch up from there.

They kept worrying about me so much diving to the rim, Jrue was able to hit them little midrange jumpers. He kind of took over that overtime for us and got some separation for us," Davis said. New Orleans survived a rough start to

the fourth, opening the period 3 for 13 and

going without a field goal from 6:40 remained until the 1:50-mark, when a layup by Clark cut Boston's lead to 101-98. The Pelicans went ahead 104-102 in the final minute of regulation before Irving drove for a layup to tie it at 104-all with 11 seconds left.

Irving scored 16 in the third to help Boston back into it, but New Orleans scored the last six points of the third for an 87-80 lead, and went ahead by 10 early in the fourth

Boston battled back again, tying it at 95-all when a dunk by Brown invigorated the home fans.

SECOND WIND

The Pelicans overcame Boston's fivepoint lead late despite a rough fourth quarter for Davis, who was 0 for 3 from the floor and scored only four points in the period.

"I think they did a good job on him but also he had played a long stretch of minutes. And I thought he was fatigued more than anything," Gentry said. "But when we needed him most, when we needed Jrue most, that's when they came through. And that's the big thing.

ÜP NEXT:

Celtics: Host Philadelphia on Thursday.



Dear Annie

By ANNIE LANE

Toxic Family Members

Dear Annie: I am a 50-year-old married woman with two children. I am far from perfect, but I do feel I am a decent person. My issue is my sister and my mom. I have spent most of my adult life trying to please both of them. I walk on eggshells every time we have a family function, because I never know what I've done that they will be upset about. The latest blowup was because I suggested a different Christmas game. I was yelled at by my sister in front of my parents and grandma, and they all sat there and let her rip me to shreds. I think they are afraid of her, too. One year, she screamed at me because I couldn't pick up a birthday cake for another family member because I had to be out of town for a few hours. That same week, my mom screamed at me for a halfhour while I was at work, all because I couldn't make this relative's birthday supper. I plan and organize family birthdays, get-togethers, etc., but my mom and sister come late, pick fights and make me feel terrible.

They don't like my friends and tell me so. They have made fun of my hair color, my makeup, my weight, the fact that my house is clean -- you name it! To them, any part of my life or personality is fair game for attack.

They once took my son when he was small and drove him around and grilled him because they thought he was being abused. He had fallen and hit his face on a bleacher at the pool. My mom was there and saw the whole thing happen but pretended not to know. I worked for Child Protective Services at the time and was humiliated. But thank goodness, my son and I were interviewed, so we could prove nothing

What do I do? I make myself sick trying to please these two. I make myself sick thinking I should cut the ties. Any suggestions? Talking to them doesn't work. -- Sick of Them

Dear Sick of Them: You're making yourself sick; you can also make yourself better. Stop trying to please your mom and sister. In fact, stop trying to please anyone. Act out of integrity and with love and respect for yourself. Take a break from seeing or communicating with your relatives for a while. Think of it as a detox. Then, with a more clearheaded perspective, decide what level of relationship you can have with them while still protecting yourself. You may indeed need to cut ties, or you may just need to limit the frequency and duration of visits. As you seem to have internalized a lot of guilt, consider enlisting the help of a therapist for constructing and placing boundaries.

Dear Annie: I had a friend who went through a tough breakup last year, and I was there for her every day. This year, I find myself going through something similar, but she's too busy with her new boyfriend to answer the phone when I call, I guess. Why is it that so many people want your companionship during rocky periods but can't be there for you when you're in need? -- Bitter

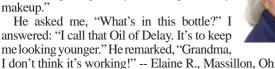
Dear Bitter: The hard times are great for showing you who your real friends are. This woman is not one of them. Don't be bitter. Do find better friends.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

HINTS FROM HELOISE

OIL OF DELAY

Dear Heloise: I was getting ready one morning, and my 5-year-old grandson Danny asked what I was putting on my face. I replied, "My



THE PURPOSE OF PANTYHOSE Dear Readers: Do you have old pantyhose that you need to clean out of your lingerie drawer? You know, the ones with a run in one leg, a color you will never wear, or it's just plain time to toss them. Don't throw them away. Lay the hose flat, and cut in

2-inch intervals. Here are some uses for these stretchy pantyhose * Secure boxes and gift-wrap rolls.

* Put over the kitchen trash bag to hold it in place. * Tie up bundles of twigs and brush for recycling.

* Stretch over a paint pot to strain paint through.

* Hold a bandage in place on your arm or leg.

EASY ON THE KNEES

Dear Heloise: I needed some support for my knees when I was kneeling to clean the bathtub. My solution? Crouch down on a roll of paper towels. Good support, and inexpensive! -- Pat R. in

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to Heloise(at)Heloise.com. I can't answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.



TV Sports Tonight

Wednesday, Jan. 17
COLLEGE BASKETBALL

6 p.m. ESPNEWS — Tulsa at Temple 6:30 p.m. CBSSN -- Dayton at St. Joseph's FS1 — Villanova at Georgetown 7 p.m. BTN – - Iowa at Rutgers ESPN2 — Arkansas at Florida ESPNU — SMU at Wichita St. SEC — Auburn at Alabama 8:30 p.m. CBSSN — St. John's at Xavier FS1 — Seton Hall at Creighton

8 p.m. ESPNEWS — Houston at Tulane - Ohio St. at Northwestern ESPNU — Iowa St. at TCU SEC — Tennessee at Missouri 10:30 p.m.

CBSSN — Nevada at San Jose St.

- Fresno St. at San Diego St. FIGURE SKATING NBCSN European Championships, Pairs Short Program, at

 European Championships, Men's Short Program, at Moscow (same-day tape) **GOLF**

8 p.m. GOLF — Asian Tour, SMBC Singapore Open, first round, at

GULF — Addition Singapore
10:30 p.m.
GOLF — European PGA Tour, Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship,
first round, at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

NBA BASKETBALL

ESPN — L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City 10:30 p.m. ESPN — Denver at L.A. Clippers

On The Tube

Emeril TV producer fighting subpoena from Florida House

By GARY FINEOUT **Associated Press**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A television producer for one of Emeril Lagasse's cooking shows is fighting a subpoena to turn over financial records to the Florida House of Representatives.

The House demanded last week that producer Pat Roberts and his company turn over records by Tuesday or risk hefty fines and even jail. Instead of complying, Roberts filed a lawsuit in federal court that contends his constitutional rights are being violated by the Republican-controlled House.

Legislators are asking for years of records detailing how the show "Emeril's Florida" spent millions of dollars it received from the state's tourism agency. Those documents include tax records from Roberts' company MAT Media as well as information on how Lagasse was paid.

Visit Florida paid at least \$10 million over a five-year period for the show that aired on The Cooking Channel. A House committee last October issued its own subpoena asking for the records, but Roberts refused to turn them over and instead filed a lawsuit in state court.

House leaders, worried the legal battle could be dragged out, took the extraordinary step of having the entire House vote on the subpoena request during the opening week of this year's legislative session. House Speaker Richard Corcoran signed the subpoena in front of the entire chamber and had it



In this Aug. 23, 2016, file photo, Emeril Lagasse poses for a portrait in promotion of his television show 'Eat the World' in New York. (Photo by Brian Ach/Invision/

delivered within minutes of approval.

Tim Jansen, one of the attorneys representing Roberts, said the House can't threaten to punish his client without giving him a chance to challenge the request in court.

"Pat Roberts and MAT Media are not below the law and Speaker Corcoran and the House are not above the law," Jansen said.

A spokesman for Corcoran, who is widely expected to run for governor this year, did not immediately respond to the latest lawsuit. But in the past, Corcoran has defended the House's actions over the last few months, saying that legislators are trying to safeguard taxpayer money and that if Roberts has nothing to hide he should cooperate.

Attorneys for Roberts, however, have argued that some of the information the House is requesting is confidential business information that will trigger lawsuits if it is revealed.

Earnhardt Jr. to help NBC Sports at Super Bowl, Olympics

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Nearly every day brings a new experience for Dale Earnhardt Jr., who spent the first 43 years of his life living in a bubble that consisted of NASCAR and not much else.

Now that he has retired from full-time racing, he's got time to experience new adventures. Just last weekend, he went to brunch

- his first brunch ever — with his wife and friends, then was convinced to get his first pedicure. The best is yet to come.

NBC Sports announced Tuesday it will use Earnhardt in its pregame show before the Super Bowl, then send him to South Korea for the network's coverage of next month's Olympics. Earnhardt retired from driving in November and signed on to be an analyst for NBC Sports, a gig that begins in July.

"It's not going to be putting me anywhere outside of my comfort zone, obviously I've never been to a Super Bowl or South Korea," Earnhardt told The Associated Press. "What they are asking me to do is just go out there and be myself and hopefully get people interested in tuning into NASCAR.

NBC plans to use Earnhardt at the Super Bowl in outdoor events and activities taking place in Minneapolis in the days before the game. At the Olympics, he'll visit the speed skating venue and accept a recent social media invite from American bobsled team pilot Nick Cunningham to ride in a bobsled.

We can't wait to get Dale's take on what is one of the most compelling aspects of the Winter Games — sports that offer a mix of speed with the prospect of danger, an equation that he knows very well," said Jim Bell, president of NBC Olympics Production

"Instead of the turns at Daytona, it's the downhill, the luge, and the short track oval. And I think he will have something unique to offer about the need for speed on snow and ice.'

Earnhardt, a third-generation NASCAR driver, is the son of Hall of Famer Dale Earnhardt Sr. He grew up around racing and its grueling 11-month schedule that has drivers on the road and away from home at least three days a week. Although the Super Bowl is typically held before NASCAR's season-opening Daytona 500, rabid Washington Redskins fan Earnhardt said he never had a desire to go to the game.

"Not everybody goes to the Super Bowl," he said. "I was too young when the Redskins were going, I was still in school, and they haven't been since 1991. I definitely would have gone if they had played in one. But as a fan of a particular team, it sort of feels wrong to go to another game. I'd have a hard time even going to see the Redskins play in an opponent's stadium. If I had no purpose to be at the Super Bowl, besides to just see a game, it was hard to make that kind of time commitment."

And the Olympics? Well, that's a dream trip that Earnhardt never had the time to even dream of making. Asked Tuesday where he's been outside the United States, he listed Germany and France — trips he took with his now-wife — as well as Mexico, Canada, Japan and Australia. He also once spent 24 hours in Monaco.

When I was driving, I didn't want to do anything else," Earnhardt said. "Someone would say, 'Wow, I've got some time, let's go have some fun,' but I wouldn't want to do anything. If I had a day to myself, I wouldn't want to go anywhere or do anything." Then he was sidelined for the second half of the NASCAR season with concussion symptoms, and Earnhardt was forced to

'When I started peeling away the layers, I started losing some of that habit and getting more comfortable doing things," he said. "When we weren't in the car, you weren't supposed to be focused on anything else. When you went and did something, go to a concert, visit another city, you almost felt guilty for doing it. Like, we already have a pretty good lifestyle as race car driv-

ers and can afford just about anything. So I just felt bad enjoying yourself. "But when I was out of the car for so long, my doctor encouraged me to put myself in a lot of complex situations. That meant going to concerts and places I've never been and situations where I could push my anxiety. I'll tell you, I was like: 'Wow, this is

what retirement is going to be like." He's not nervous about transitioning into his new television career, or that his first real appearances as an NBC Sports analyst will be on two worldwide stages. Earnhardt, who recently learned to ski while in Aspen with Jimmie Johnson, is planning on

bringing boots and a helmet to South Korea to try out the slopes. He's also eager to try the cuisine. The only drawback is that pregnant wife Amy can't make the trip, and Earnhardt said he doesn't sleep well when they are apart.

PBS to air five-part series '#MeToo, Now What?' in February

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — PBS will air a five-part series about the sexual misconduct crisis.

PBS chief executive Paula Kerger said Tuesday will address the burst of attention to the issue and how it can be used to produce "positive and lasting change." "#MeToo, Now What?" will be hosted by Zainab Salbi, founder of Women for Women International, a humanitarian organiza-

expand his lifestyle.

PBS said the series will include reporting and conversations on topics including how race and class figure into the issue. Studio guests will include men and women from across the country, along with activists, and leaders from media, business and other sectors.

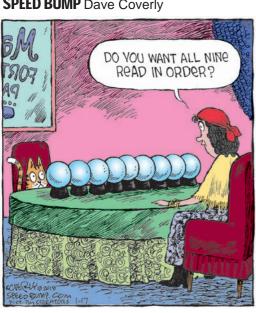
The Me Too unity movement was triggered by allegations of sexual misconduct against prominent men including Harvey Weinstein.

RUBES Leigh Rubin

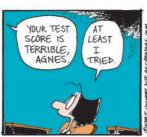
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OF

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



AGNES Tony Cochran



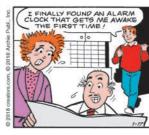




ARCHIE Fernando Ruiz and Craig Boldman







"Oh, not much. You know, the usual. ... Just waiting for the master to come home so I can perform another nauseatingly joyous display of unconditional love.

DADDY'S HOME Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein















SCARY GARY Mark Buford







DOGS of C-KENNEL Mick and Mason Mastroianni







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. 17. 2018:

This year you will experience life from a more lighthearted perspective. You tend to express your feelings more often. Your caring attitude keeps many people focused on you. If you are single, you attract your fair share of suitors. Choosing the right one might take time, though you will enjoy dating in the meantime. If you are attached, allow your relationship to expand and grow naturally. You often spend a lot of money on your sweetie, but know that you don't have to. AQUARIUS enjoys indulging you.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

*** Where your friends are is where you will naturally gravitate to. Everyone appreciates having people cheer them on. You will have an opportunity to visit with an older relative. Take advantage of whatever brings you together. Tonight: Be aware of someone else's feelings. TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** Others look up to you and want you to take the lead, no matter what is going on. You don't need to be pushy to take the lead; in fact, you can do it with a smile. Strong feelings come forward when you open up. Refuse to sit on any negativity. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Reach out to someone at a distance. You could see a change in how you deal with this person. You can't be anything but happy around someone who is as gracious as he or she is. You could feel that others seem excited to hear from you. Tonight: Get some tickets to a concert.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ One-on-one relating takes you down an interesting path. How you feel and what goes on could be symbolic of the strength of a major relationship in your life. You have an important choice to make; you want it to be as grounded as possible. Tonight: Opt for togetherness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Defer to a partner who cares about you and finds you exciting. Your sense of humor emerges, no matter what is going An associate clearly feels good about his or her bond with you. Reach out to a friend whom you have not heard from in a while. Tonight: Accept an offer.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Be realistic about your limits. You might have the best intentions; however, you have only so much energy. Your smile helps melt someone else's resistance. Listen to what others share. You might be getting informative tidbits that need to be listened to. Tonight: All smiles

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** You sense that it is time to be less intense. Be spontaneous. Follow your sixth sense, knowing what can happen if you let go. Your sense of fun emerges when lightening up the moment, sharing time with a child or flirting with a new friend. Tonight: Keep on frolicking

SČORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** Tension builds around the homefront. You might not be sure what the right way to handle a problem is, but you will be thinking about the issue. You would be better off not getting into a power struggle; instead, be more caring, open and warm. Tonight:

Make it easy, and order in. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** You have the potential to go far and create much more of what you need. Allow conversations to flow naturally. Though you are quite determined, getting feedback from others will be important. Express your caring in a way that it can be heard. Tonight: Speak your mind. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** You have seen a lot go down as of late. The result of this type of change could present certain challenges, especially as you could be so thrown off your game. Stay open, and enjoy someone else's good intentions. Listen to suggestions carefully. Tonight: Enjoy a night out. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** You have a softness about you that draws in many people. You feel deeply about a child or loved one. Your caring attitude comes out in various situations. Others come in closer than they have in a while. You seem to be unusually attractive right now. Tonight: Buy yourself a treat. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You could be on top of a personal matter. How you see a situation develop might be somewhat distorted. Everyone seems to see only what he or she wants to see. Listen to news more openly, and be prepared to explain what you are involved in. Tonight:

Make it early.

BORN TODAY

Former U.S. first lady Michelle Obama (1964), actress Betty White (1922), boxer Muhammad Ali (1942)

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Par-fect defense

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

J

VAKJ ♦ OJ9853 WEST EAST ↑ A Q 10 4 3 2 ▼ 8 6 3 **♠**65 ♥9752 SOUTH ↑ K 9 8 7 ♥ Q 10 4 ↑ 10 7 2 ↑ K Q 5 The bidding:
North South Pass Pass

Opening lead six of spades.

This deal was played many years ago in the Bridge Olympic, a "par" contest featuring prearranged hands. The defenders were supposed to defeat three notrump, but very few of the East-West contestants succeeded. Indeed, the winning defense is not readily apparent even when all four hands are examined.

West was directed to lead the six f spades, and the burden of the defense thereafter fell to East. The issue was largely decided on the very

ACROSS

39 Roswell

visitors

first trick, with the outcome of the hand depending upon which card East played on the jack of spades.

The correct play is the four, permitting the jack to win the trick. South then cannot make the contract regardless of what he does next. Suppose declarer leads a diamond at trick two. West takes the king and returns a spade to the ace. East leads

a high spade to force out the king and still has the ace of diamonds as an entry to his established spades. Against this defense, declarer cannot score more than eight tricks. Observe that East does not defeat the contract if he wins the spade lead

with the ace and returns the queen. Declarer simply sets up his diamonds, and the defenders can't score more than four tricks. Nor can East stop three notrump by playing the queen of spades at trick one. South ducks the queen, and

the defense is once again helpless. This is not a really hard play for South to make, because the six is obviously West's highest spade. East should know from the bidding and the opening lead that declarer has the K-9-8-7 of spades.

Since East has only one side entry card, he should duck the jack in order to retain a line of communication

Tomorrow: The best-laid plans.

GROSSWORDS

41 Release

1 Play parts money 5 Auto fuel 43 Debacle Romeo 2 Spring 8 Wild 46 Talk a blue guess 3 Ripped 12 Booty streak? 4 Buffet-13 Flying **50** Corn table saucer Belt heater 14 Marathon state 5 Pistol 51 Spying 6 Astern fraction 15 Stinging devices 7 Mediocre 54 Rating insects 8 Blood-17 Cupid's hound's unit 55 Away alias clue 18 Warning 9 Lever from **19** Baby SSW in a 56 Historic hooters trunk 21 Night 10 Oodles periods light? 57 Robert 11 Porgy's 24 Yalie of love 25 Canvon "Air-16 Conplane!" sound sumed 28 Siren 58 Gender 20 Sobbed **30** "Way 59 Roman 22 It takes cool! emperor the cake 33 Half of Solution time: 23 mins. XIV 34 Ledger entry 35 Flamenco cheer 36 Hearing thing **37** Privy to 38 Chew (on)

DOWN 23 Bigwig 25 Prior night 26 Espio

nage org. 27 Steal, as employees 29 "Dracula"

heroine 31 Mode lead-in 32 Morning moisture

34 Platter 38 Protein in wheat flour

40 Russian rulers **42** Bar supply

43 Go angling **44** Tittle **45** Has

47 Scarce 48 Mast 49 Canadian

brand 52 Chemical

suffix **53** "Toy

Story" dinosaui

10 36 38 42

GRYPTOQUIP

VGXBWB

MZRUQ TGXHQIUO'B FHZK XO

VGXTG SGU CBU AM WXSTGUO

TARFHUSUHK

XΒ

ACSHZVUQ: "JUZSUI JZO." Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A COMPANY FIRED A MEMBEŘ OF ŤĤE ĈLÊRGY, I BELIEVE THEY'D HAVE TO GIVE HIM REVERENCE PAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals P

South Middle School Honor Roll

1st Trimester

8th Grade Maximum Honors
Anipko, Alice
Bazukin, Andrew Aleksey
Beaulieu, Lauren Taylor
Bennett, Daniel David
Botyan, Anzhelika Vladimirovna
Brenzel, Rachel Ann
Brown, Lindsey Taylor

Butyrin, Victoria
Coach, James Joseph
Darling, Charles Edward
Fontanilles, Alex Lawrence
Gagnon, Kelsey Lyn
Gallo, Isabella Meg
Gamache, Amanda Erin
Gardner, Hannah Lynne
Ghalayini, Ziyad Faouzi
Glynn, Elliott Frances
Hevey, Troy Joseph
Hitchcock, Aleksandra Zofia
Isler, Jessica Elizabeth
Jorgensen, Gracia Chella dawn
Kondratyev, Mark
Lambert, Ryan Elyse

Jorgensen, Gracia Chella dawn Kondratyev, Mark
Lambert, Ryan Elyse
LaPoint, Emma Mabel
LaPoint, Ryan Joseph
Latshaw, Melody Crystal
Lawry, Olivia Grace
Lujan, Livia
Metcalf, Ashley Marie
Naser, Fatimah Fadhil
Page, Michael Thomas
Pantus, Philana
Perez, Aidan Michael
Petrovych, Daniil Oleksandrovych
Poirier, Aiden Andrew
Ruiz, Ricardo

Urbanski, Leah Marie Valeri, Nathan Edward Velazquez, Steven Tobias Watson, Eliza Cole Winn, Naomi Grace Yesu, Silas James

Sardinha, Vasco Andrade

Savenko, Hannah Autumn

Scanlon, Samantha Casey

Slonka, Isabella Angeline

Urbanski, Cara Elizabeth

Zelazko, Maxwell Richard

7th Grade Maximum Honors Adamtsev, Samantha Grace Aieta, Willa Devaux Al Nageeb, Ibrahim Mohammed Balser, Abigail Lauren Beach, Savannah Marie Berube, Mason Daniel Bloom, Deimian Alexsander Bonacci, Anton Joseph Bulatov, David Ruslanovich Bush, Kaden Seth Cardin, Jenna Marie Daniels, Molly Elizabeth Elderkin, Gage Lucas Vasquez Fillion, Morgan Ashley Forest, David Michael Foyle, Colin Michael Gavrilyuk, Anatolevna Esther Gibson, Kaden Riggs Gordner, Madeline Talulah Goretskiy, Mary Esther Goyette, Ryan Timothy Grady, Jax Thomas Harlin, Karlie Marie Harper, Asia Cherri Johnson-Corwin, Ciara Catherine Kahlon, Anjli Tia Kondratyev, Joseph Andrew Kopacka, Hunter Joseph Kravchenko, Veronica Jamie Labonte, Rylee Marie Lansing, Alexina Renee LaPoint, Colby Donald Lincoln, Decarlo Rodimus

Liucci, Alessandro Gerardo Lukasik, lan David Lund, Ella Catarina Martinez Torres, Juliemar McCarthy, Shane Patrick McMahon, Sarah Elizabeth Moore, Abigail Katherine Morales, Dayanara Natania Morrissey, Mallory Nicole Morse, Brendon Thomas Moskalenko, Daniel Munger, Makaylee Elizabeth Nimchick, Rylie Jane Noel, Jaden Michael Osowski, Jakob Jay Parks, Brandon Tyler Petrovych, Alla Oleksandrivnaa Petrovych, Ilona Diana Pyatachenko, Luba V Scanlon, Camryn Shea Slivca, Marina Stern, Lillian Rebecca Sutter, Jordan Catherine Timmerman, Heaven Leigh Urbanski, Anna Katherine Vella, Jonathan Thomas Yesu, Samuel Frank

Yurovsky, Alyona

6th Grade Maximum Honors Antropov, Borese Andreyevich Barcomb, Kasandra Bethany Barton, Josephine Marie Beaulieu, Emma Kathryn Bentrewicz, Alena Zavras Brenzel, Abigail Beth Butler, Matthew Peter Connors, Gavin Kennedy Couchon, Paige Elizabeth Cree, Ava Marie Danyuk, Nazar Anatolyevich David, Grace Autumn Delgado, Noah Manuel Doyle, John Frank Dubovaya, Ella Leah Duffy, Grace Marie Hitchcock, Zuzanna Holmes, Kennedi Leigh Hosmer, Gwenn Hautin James, Emery Elizabeth Keeney, Hannah Rae Koziol, Madison Patricia Layng, Aidan Dunfee Leary, Brayden Tines Lowe, Cody Louis Luis, Noah Jacob Majkowski, Camren Regis Morgan, Dylan William Padilla, Emily Elizabeth Phelps, Michael David Popp, Erin Olivia Riga, Grace Miller Rizaan, Reeha Fathima Rogers, Alejandro Jaime Sidash, Ana Kirillovna Stepanchuk, Miroslava Oksana Theriaque, Danielle Elisabeth Turner Jr, Anthony Mark Vega, Edith Marie Vysotskyi, Vladyslav Ziblim, Wunnyuriti Ismail

8th Grade Honor Roll Blott, Morgan Jennifer Bryon, Lindsey Patricia Carey, Tucker John Curbelo, Evander Luis Dallesandro, Emma Ruth Decoteau, Devin Ray Durkee, Dacota Riley-Edison Fortier, Jack Joseph Gardner, Noah Robert Guarente, Allison Rose Hosmer, Kevin Hautin Hrabovskyi, Maksym Klyuchits, Daniel Jason Korchevskiy, Eric Rostislavovich Kutt, Tyler Joseph Leclair, Cooper Stephen Montovani, Ava Birgit Ovdiychuk, Kristina Diana Patrick, Hanna May Pease, Elivia Lyn Pellegrini, Katelynn Grace Popp, Mary-Elyse Reed, Sean Lewis Renaudette, Emma Katherine Ryan, Cassidy Gail Saunders, Kassidy Rose Sevostyanova, Viola Szostek, Vivian Elizabeth Thomas, Dakota Mitchell Tomczak, Jordan Lynn Gail

Williams, Julianna Jade

7th Grade Honor Roll Alaboud, Sattam Fawaz Allen, Cody Joseph Alvord, Mary Elizabeth Barker, Tyler James Bowen, Austin Jeremy Burris, Grace Anastacia Chemeris, Vladislav Crean, Cailyn Grace Crevier, Catrina Anne Delgado, Alejandro Avier Fazil, Omar Gallo, Lillian Mae Gilmet, Alaina Ann Grabiec, Gabriella Shea Grabowski, April Hebert, Michael Anthony Hubbard, Eric Anthony Hynes, Sydney Morgan Lauriano, Brianna Marie Lincoln, Dominick Steven Litvac, Emanoil Liu, Aaron Loya, Jasmine Gregoria Lukasik, Dillon John Mendez, Jaiden Anthony Ortiz, Bryela Alexis Pacheco, Karlie Anne Raymond, Kenzie Emerinie Sadique, Hana Seymour, Bryan Phillip Soto, Ian Michael

Tereshchuk, David Pavlovich

6th Grade Honor Roll Bazukin, Kristina Alexes Bowers, Devlin Michael Bruno, Camille Catherine Bunin, Elizabeth Cree, Olivia Jayne Curbelo, Angel Jeremiah Daigneault, Phoenix Heather Darling, Brooke Elizabeth Dejesus, Ariana Faunce, Jacob Ryan Fontaine, Nathan Gary Frazier, Mackenzie Allison-Grace Gall, Jordan Shelagh Gavrilova, Elena Gibson, Dylan Austin Kiforishin, Timothy Petrovich Krasun, Maxim Lenfest, Nicholas Michael Lilly, Nathanael David Melnik, Jessica Navarro, Joshua Alberto Nicolle, Serena Rose Panasyuk, Victoria Alexandra Pecor, Joshua Albert Pelletier, Hannah Ashley Pelletier, Michael Robert Sevostyanova, Vera Sidoryuk, Karina Tatyana Taddia, Vincenzo Dante Talbot, Thomas Matthew Theriault, Drew Joseph

8th Grade Honorable Mention Boyer, Kaden Thomas Cernak, Nickolas Steven Cortis, Paige Abigail Galczynski, Elizabeth Jane Gladysh, Philip Pavel Krause, Jackson Sean Little, Raylan Lewis Mulville, Ethan Michael Radionov, Dennis Rivera, Daymien Osvaldo Rodriguez, Jayden Michael Roman, Ian Josue Rosado, Sujailee Marie Santiago, Kailyb John Savoy, Julia Patricia Schrecke, Jordan John

Strycharz, Adam Louis

7th Grade Honorable Mention
DeVone, Messiah Takiy Anthony
Diaz Martinez, Nathalie Arabel
Korchevska, Angelina
Lopez-Knight, Ayanna Jenee
Quinones Natal, Marjorie Angelys
Reed, Paris Antoinette
Reyes, Jasilyn Juliyana
Robinson, Jeffrey Ryan
Rokosz, Madison Rose
Ross, Anthony William
Yurovskiyh, Victoria

6th Grade Honorable Mention
Bodemann, Elijah William
Brock, Cameron Thomas
Fazil, Zainab
Kurdun, Danila
Machnik, Sophia Louise
Mamchur, Anna Mykolaivna
Matthews, Declan Vincent
Mulville, Ava Angelica
Roche, Cayleene Amaya
Theroux, Justina Angelica
Vasilevich, Saveliy Sergeyevich



LEGAL NOTICES

January 17, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Public Health

Western Massachusetts Hospital

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, Western Massachusetts Hospital hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the following:

Western Massachusetts Hospital Sidewalk Replacement Project: 91 East Mountain Road, Westfield, MA 01085. Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) certification preferred but not required, as this is a public works project. Design specifications and the invitation for bids may be obtained at the Mandatory Pre-Bid Walkthrough/Conference on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 2:00PM sharp in the Clark Computer Lab, Western Massachusetts Hospital, 128 East Mountain Road, Westfield, MA 01085

Proposals must be submitted in a non-transparent sealed envelope, which is plainly marked on the face 18-0012:

Western Massachusetts Hospital Sidewalk Replacement Project. Proposals will be accepted by mail or in person at Western Massachusetts Hospital, 91 East Mountain Road, Westfield, MA 01085 no later than Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 9:00AM at which time they will be opened in the Chadwick Conference Center. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, Western Massachusetts Hospital reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects, informalities, and minor irregularities in proposals as may be deemed in the best in-terest of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, Western Massachusetts Hospital. All proposals must be submitted in the form of a proposal and must conform to the specifications.

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LEGAL NOTICES

January 17, 2018

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket # 18P0032

ORDER OF INFORMAL
PROBATE OF WILL
AND/OR APPOINTMENT
OF
PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE

Date of Death: November 25, 2017

1. A Petition has been filed requesting:

Estate of: EDWARD JAMES WOJCEK Also Known as:

The appointment of a Personal Representative.

Informal probate of the will dated **OCTOBER 5, 2011** of the above named Decedent.

2. Upon consideration of the Petition, I determine based upon the Petition that all of the following are true:

 a. The Petitioner is an interested person and has filed a complete and verified Petition.

b. Venue is proper.

c. The Petition was filed within the time period permitted by law.

d. Any required notices have been given or waived.e. A death certificate issued by a

public officer is in the Court's possession.

f. The spouse, heirs at law and

any devisees are not incapacitated or protected persons or minors; or if they are, they are represented by a conservator or a guardian who is not the Petitioner.

INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL

3. The original, properly executed and apparently unrevoked will is in the court's possession. The will dated **October 5, 2017** and any codicils are referred to as the will. There are no known prior wills which have not been expressly revoked by a later instrument. The will is admitted to informal probate.

APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

4. The person whose appointment is sought has priority for appointment, with or without appropriate nomination and/or renunciation. Any will to which the requested appointment relates has been formally or informally probated.

Estate of: EDWARD JAMES WOJCEK

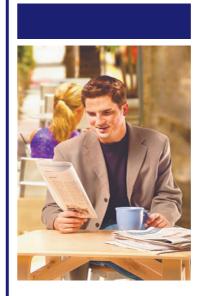
The following person is appointed Personal Representative: KAREN A. DEPAULO of 12038 Steven Ln, Dunkirk, MD 29754

The Personal Representative shall serve in an unsupervised administration: without surety on the bond.

The Personal Representative(s) shall comply with all relevant requirements under the law and the appointment is subject to termination as provided in G.L. c. 190B, §§ 3-608-612.

Date: January 8, 2018 Rosemary A. Savomani, Magistrate

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Duct WorkCleaning Tune-Ups

LEGAL NOTICES

January 17, 2018

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

> Docket No. HDP18P0037EA

Estate of:

DAVID C. WOLCOTT

Date of Death: August 11, 2017 To all persons interested in the

above captioned estate, by Peti-Petitioner David S. Wolcott of

Montgomery, MA a Will has been admitted to in-

formal probate.

David S. Wolcott of Montgomery, MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.



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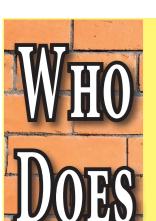
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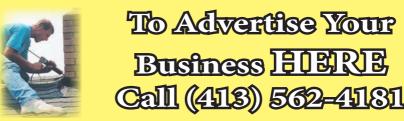
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