TONIGHT
Rain Showers.
Low of 36.

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TODAY IN WESTFIELD HISTORY:
1782: Bluebirds, blackbirds, and robins appeared,

"It is the individual who is not interested in his fellow men who has the greatest difficulties in life and provides the greatest injury to others. It is from among such individuals that all human failures spring."
— ALFRED ADLER

VOL. 87 NO. 46 | SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2018 | 75 Cents

Facilities director finds ways to save

By AMY PORTER
Correspondent

WESTFIELD – Director of Facilities Bryan P. Forrette has been in the spotlight lately in City Hall. First the Finance Committee asked him to come in on Feb. 14 and tell them about his work, which the committee then reported back to the City Council the next day. Mayor Brian P. Sullivan joined him at the Finance Committee as Forrette is a direct report to the Mayor's office.

Forrette, who was hired approximately three years ago, said his job is to oversee the day to day physical structures of every building owned by the city. While the school department has its own facilities group, he also works with them on some bulk purchasing items and energy efficiency projects.

Using paper products as an example, Forrette said they recently bought toilet paper and paper towels in bulk. "Before, literally every single building had different products. We got pricing; in year one, we saved $8,000, then $7,000, then $6,000," he said.

Another savings has been in copiers. Before, every department had its own copiers and paid their own licenses. They now have 25 copiers all on the city's network under the Information Technology department.

Another part of Forrette's job is working on the Green Communities grant of $266,000 that the city received as a result of signing the Community Compact partnership with the Baker-Polito administration. The bulk of that money is being spent to change over the lighting in the schools to LED light. Sullivan said North Middle School has just been completed, and Westfield High School is next.

The city is also using the grant to buy an electric vehicle for the city's pool of cars, which they are downsizing, according to Sullivan, who said Westfield Gas & Electric will put some charging stations at City Hall for employees. Other charging stations are located at St. Thomas, at both Big Y's, Stop & Shop and at the G&E operations city.

Along with the savings in energy bills for these projects, the City also receives incentive payments from G&E. "Most items are eligible through G&E," Forrette said.

The Mayor said the city is looking at Green Community grants of $800,000 to $900,000 to continue the work.

At the Finance Committee meeting, At-Large Councilor Matthew Emmershy asked whether they've outlined other ways to get spending under control, such as more insulation in roofs. "There is room to make everything a little better," Forrette replied.

Sullivan said Forrette has already insulated half of the roof at the Fire Station, which reduced the amount of heat they were using. "With Green Communities, we're doing the other half of the building for weatherization. Their use of gas is going down



Facilities Director Bryan Forrette and Mayor Brian P. Sullivan meet with the Finance Committee on Feb. 14. **(Photo by Amy Porter)**

See Facilities, Page 5

Granville Police slate meeting with residents

By GREG FITZPATRICK
Correspondent

GRANVILLE – The Granville Police Department is gearing up to host their first public information meeting of 2018 on March 20 at 6 p.m. at the Granville Town Hall.

The meetings, first begun in December of last year, were created to give the residents of Granville the opportunity to learn more about the department and the 16 part-time officers who patrol their streets on a daily basis. Those attending the session will also have the chance to ask questions and give their opinions and feedback, as well as voice their concerns about community matters.

Chief Scott Flebotte initiated the meetings as a new community outreach tool to increase transparency within the town.

"We're just trying to say "hey what's important to you, what do you want in a police department,"" said Flebotte. "I just wanted to create a venue where people could voice their opinion without criticism."

During the meeting in December, Flebotte discussed new programs and tactics that the department has been implementing and also criminal complaints and other issues in Granville.

Flebotte added that the format for the meeting on March 20 will be the same as the one in December. While Flebotte hopes that residents will be able to attend the March meeting he noted that he is also available to the community during his office hours. His hours take place every Monday night from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the police department.



Chief Scott Flebotte speaking to Granville residents at the public meeting in December. **(WNG File Photo)**



The Southwick DPW has been working on patching up some of the potholes in town. **(Photo courtesy of Greg Fitzpatrick)**

Pothole repair underway

By GREG FITZPATRICK
Correspondent

SOUTHWICK – The Southwick Department of Public Works is continuing its work to locate and repair potholes that are appearing in streets throughout the town. Unusual weather conditions earlier this week, with two-consecutive days of temperatures rising past 60 degrees, followed by days of 40 degrees or under have contributed to the problem.

Probationer permitted pot

By CARL E. HARTDEGEN
Correspondent

WESTFIELD – When a city man admitted to a probation violation during a hearing Friday at Westfield District Court his original probation order was reaffirmed but probation conditions ordered previously were modified.

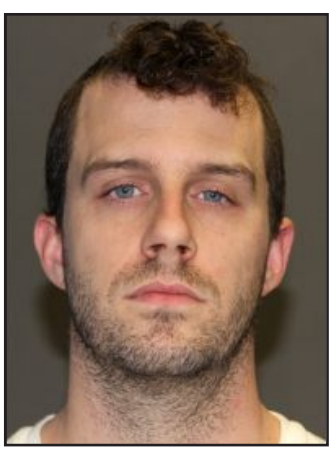
Marijuana use, which had been specifically prohibited in the original probation conditions, is now allowed after those conditions were modified at the hearing to "exclude marijuana from drug prohibition".

In June, 2017, Matthew T. Danish, 32, of 19 Lockhouse Road, Westfield, had submitted to facts sufficient to warrant a guilty finding for charges of possession of a Class A drug, possession of a Class B drug and negligent operation of a motor vehicle brought by city detectives investigating narcotics sales in the city. He was placed on probation until June 13, 2018, and probation conditions were ordered.

By August, Danish had been served with a violation of probation notice and, at the subsequent hearing in October, admitted to the violation. His probation was "continued to the original date"

In December, Danish was again served with a violation of probation notice and admitted to the alleged violation when he appeared before Judge William O'Grady for a hearing Feb. 16. At that hearing, his probation was again continued to the original date but this time the conditions were modified.

The only modification which was made lifts the prohibition of marijuana use which had been specifically included in the original conditions.



MATTHEW T. DANISH



ENTERING WESTFIELD EST. 1669 · ENTERING SOUTHWICK EST. 1770 · ENTERING HUNTINGTON EST. 1775 · ENTERING GRANVILLE EST. 1775 · ENTERING RUSSELL EST. 1792 · ENTERING CHESTER EST. 1783 · ENTERING BLANDFORD EST. 1741 · ENTERING MONTGOMERY EST. 1780 · ENTERING TOLLAND EST. 1810

AROUND TOWN

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Second Church Installs Hesse as 16th Settled Pastor

In an afternoon service yesterday, The Rev. Barbara B. Hesse was installed as Pastor of The United Church of Christ, Second Congregational, in Westfield, Massachusetts. The Installation followed an Ecclesiastical Council convened by the Hampden Association of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC). A reception afterwards completed the day's celebration.

During the Council assembly, pastors and delegates of the local association, as well as members and friends of the congregation and invited guests, heard Rev. Hesse reflect on her faith journey. She shared that her favorite Biblical passage is Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven." She went on to say "in everything we think and say and do, we need to be a light of this world."

The Rev. Dr. Rob Gormley, Chair of the Association's Committee of Church and Ministry and Interim Pastor of First Church of Monson, UCC, explained that installation confirms and celebrates the covenantal relationship among a local church, its Pastor and the UCC. He said that "Installation is a sign that these covenantal partners are committed to share mutually in the mission of the UCC and the ecumenical church."

In delivering a Pastoral Charge, The Rev. Elva Pawle, Pastor of the First Congregational Church in Westfield said to Pastor Barb she was happy to have her as a colleague and partner in the recently formed Westfield Partners in Ministry. She told Barb that she looked forward to working with her as they "minister to the spiritual needs of Westfield and the wider community."

Pastor Barb, or simply Barb as she's referred to by church members and friends, told her congregation that the search and call process has been "a time of excitement and anticipation." She added, "Now we need to discern what it is that God is calling us to do and what it is that God is calling us to be." Barb proclaimed that the church "will be a beacon of hope in what can be a dark and dreary world." She continued, "We will shine the light of Christ for all to see."

The Rev. Hesse became the 16th Settled Pastor to lead the congregation which traces its roots to 1856 when a group of First Congregational Church parishioners set out on a "mission" to form a second Congregational church in town. Once located on the Westfield green, the congregation relocated, in 1962, to its new location on Western Avenue.

Pastor Barb came to Second Church after more than a year-long search by the congregation. She began her ministry here on August 1 last year. Search Committee Co-Chair Karen Smith noted at the time "Barb is a loving and compassionate woman of God. Her passion for ministry has had us hooked since the first time we met her … we knew her enthusiasm was going to infect us!"

Pastor Barb is a 2016 graduate of Andover Newton Theological School with a Master of Divinity Degree and a certificate in Pastoral and Spiritual Care. She fulfilled her Ordination requirement for Clinical Pastoral Education by completing an eleven-week internship at Baystate Medical Center and is ordained as a Minister of the United Church of Christ.

With an undergraduate degree in public relations from Syracuse University, Pastor Barb spent 30 years as a professional sales rep. She tells that, after 40 years as a member and leader of Elmwood Community Church in West Hartford, CT, she answered a lifelong call to ministry.

Pastor Barb serves Second Church with what she calls "an attitude of gratitude." In addition to her duties as Pastor of her church, Barb also serves Westfield State University as Protestant Chaplain.





Above, Rev. Elva Pawle, Pastor of the First Congregational Church in Westfield, embraces The Rev. Barbara Hesse after her installation as Pastor of the Second Congregational Church in town. At right, Rev. Barbara Hesse is all smiles after being installed as the 16th Settled Pastor of the Second Congregational Church in Westfield.

22 NEWS STORM TEAM LOCAL FORECAST

TONIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Rain late.	Light Rain.	Partly Cloudy.
34-35	37-40	48-51

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Today, mostly cloudy. High 52F. Tonight, rain late. Low 34F. Sunday. periods of rain. High around 40F. Winds ENE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of rain 100%. Rainfall near a half an inch. Sunday Night, Cloudy. Low 34F. Monday, partly cloudy. High 51F. Winds WNW at 10 to 15 mph. Monday night, a mostly clear sky. Low 29F. Tuesday, sunny. High near 50F.

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TODAY

6:37 a.m.	5:34 p.m.	10 hours 57 Minutes
SUNRISE	SUNSET	LENGTH OF DAY

ODDS & ENDS

French customs officials find stolen Degas in luggage on bus

PARIS (AP) — French customs officers have found an impressionist painting by Edgar Degas stowed on a bus, more than eight years after it was reported stolen.

The French Culture Ministry said Friday that customs agents in Marne-la-Vallee were surprised to find a work of art bearing the signature "Degas" inside a suitcase in the bus' luggage compartment. The ministry says none of the passengers claimed the suitcase during the Feb. 16 search.

Experts verified the artwork as Degas' "Les Choristes" ("The Chorus Singers"), which depicts a scene from Mozart's opera "Don Giovanni."

The painting was stolen from a Marseille museum in 2009 while on loan from Paris' Musee d'Orsay.

French Culture Minister Francoise Nyssen said she was delighted by the recovery of a work "whose disappearance represented a heavy loss for the French impressionist heritage."



This photo taken Thursday Feb. 22, 2018 and provided by French Customs shows a stolen painting by French painter Edgar Degas. French customs have discovered an original Impressionist masterpiece by Edgar Degas stolen in 2009 _ in a suitcase on a bus. **(Marc Bonodot/French Customs via AP)**

TODAY IN HISTORY

TODAY IS SATURDAY, FEB. 24, THE 55TH DAY OF 2018. THERE ARE 310 DAYS LEFT IN THE YEAR.

On Feb. 24, 1868, the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson by a vote of 126-47 following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

ON THIS DATE:

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued an edict outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)

In 1761, Boston lawyer James Otis Jr. went to court to argue against "writs of assistance" that allowed British customs officers to arbitrarily search people's premises, declaring: "A man's house is his castle." (Although Otis lost the case, his statement provided early inspiration for American independence.)

In 1918, Estonia issued its Declaration of Independence.

In 1920, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.

In 1937, Mexico observed the first holiday honoring its national flag.

In 1942, the SS Struma, a charter ship attempting to carry nearly 800 Jewish refugees from Romania to British-mandated Palestine, was torpedoed by a Soviet submarine in the Black Sea; all but one of the refugees perished.

In 1955, the Cole Porter musical "Silk Stockings" opened at the Imperial Theater on Broadway.

In 1968, "Fleetwood Mac," the group's debut album, was released in the United Kingdom on the Blue Horizon label.

In 1975, the Congressional Budget Office, charged with providing independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues, began operating under its first director, Alice Rivlin.

In 1983, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."

In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a $150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt.

In 1996, Cuba downed two small American planes operated by the group Brothers to the Rescue that it claimed were violating Cuban airspace; all four pilots were killed.

TEN YEARS AGO:

"No Country for Old Men" won Academy Awards for best picture, best director and best screenplay adaptation for Joel and Ethan Coen and best supporting actor for Javier Bardem; Daniel Day-Lewis won best actor for "There Will Be Blood," while Marion Cotillard was named best actress for "La Vie en Rose." Cuba's parliament named Raul Castro president, ending nearly 50 years of rule by his brother Fidel.

FIVE YEARS AGO:

Pope Benedict XVI bestowed the final Sunday blessing of his pontificate on a cheering crowd in St. Peter's Square. At the Academy Awards, "Argo" won best picture while Ang Lee was named best director for "Life of Pi"; Daniel Day-Lewis won best actor for "Lincoln" while Jennifer Lawrence received the best actress award for "Silver Linings Playbook." Jimmie Johnson won his second Daytona 500, beating his Hendrick Motorsports teammate Dale Earnhardt Jr., who made a late move to finish second. Danica Patrick, the first woman to win the pole, finished eighth.

ONE YEAR AGO:

Vice President Mike Pence assured the Republican Jewish Coalition meeting in Las Vegas that he and President Donald Trump would work tirelessly on foreign and domestic issues important to the group, such as enacting business-friendly policies at home and supporting Israel abroad. President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski of Peru said he and President Donald Trump had a "cordial and constructive conversation" during their meeting at the White House.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:

Actor-singer Dominic Chianese (kee-uh-NAY'-see) is 87. Movie composer Michel Legrand is 86. Opera singer-director Renata Scotto is 84. Singer Joanie Sommers is 77. Actress Jenny O'Hara is 76. Former Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., is 76. Actor Barry Bostwick is 73. Actor Edward James Olmos is 71. Singer-writer-producer Rupert Holmes is 71. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 68. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 67. Actress Helen Shaver is 67. News anchor Paula Zahn is 62. Baseball Hall of Famer Eddie Murray is 62. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 60. Actor Mark Moses is 60. Actress Beth Broderick is 59. Singer Michelle Shocked is 56. Movie director Todd Field is 54. Actor Billy Zane is 52. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 44. Jazz musician Jimmy Greene is 43. Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 35. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 35. Actor Wilson Bethel is 34. Actor Alexander Koch is 30. Actor Daniel Kaluuya (Film: "Get Out") is 29. Rapper-actor O'Shea Jackson Jr. is 27.

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We have great news for residents in neighborhoods on the western side of Southwick Road south to Stoney Hill Condos, along City View Road to Fowler Road, and on both sides of City View Boulevard, including Fox Meadows and Park River Drive. Whip City Fiber will be constructing in these areas soon. Internet and phone installations will be available this spring.

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Tuesdays 5:00-7:00 pm
Saturdays 10:30 am-12:30 pm
Amelia Park Ice Arena, 21 South Broad Street

FREE Whip City Fiber Workshops
March 3 | 9:00-10:30 am (1st Saturday of the month)
March 13 | 5:00-6:30 pm (2nd Tuesday of the month)
Amelia Park Ice Arena, 21 South Broad Street

Rep. Velis' weekly update

Hello Westfield! Hope you all had a wonderful week and enjoyed the nice weather a few days ago.

I want to start off this week's update by remembering my friend and colleague, Representative Peter Kocot, who died aged 61 earlier this week. Rep Kocot, who lived in Northampton, was the consummate public servant and served as a mentor and role model to many legislators, particularly in the Western Mass delegation. He was more than just intelligent and kind- his listening skills and knowledge of the issues was unparalleled. Rep Kocot had a certain way of making everyone feel comfortable and understood. He was truly an outstanding advocate for his constituents and the Western Mass community at-large, and his presence will be missed more than I can say.



REP. JOHN VELIS

With this past week being school vacation, the office was a little less busy than usual. Nevertheless, there were still a few highlights, including the 3rd Annual Wild Game Dinner and Fundraiser on Saturday hosted by New England Adventures. NEA is a local non-profit that seeks to help Veterans connect with nature by providing free wilderness retreats to Vets and their families. Todd Crevier, the founder, came up with this idea a few years back and has really done some remarkable trips with local Vets. As a Veteran himself, he found that reconnecting with nature helped to heal some of his battle wounds, and I have to say I couldn't agree more with the mission of his organization. The Wild Game Dinner was a huge success, and I am very much looking forward to working with Todd throughout the year to help spread the word about his non-profit.

On Thursday, I had the pleasure of attending the first anniversary celebration for WRAFT, or Westfield Residents Advocating for Themselves. WRAFT initially formed one year ago this week to organize residents affected by the PFAS contamination in some of the wells near Barnes ANGB. Since then, they have been lobbying elected officials, including myself, and state and federal agencies to advocate for no-cost blood testing and more education about the issue. It was great to speak to the members of the group about their continued advocacy work, and to applaud them on the progress they have made in a relatively short amount of time. Congratulations, again, to everyone who has worked to hard to grow the organization to what it is today- very impressive!

Later that day was the Veterans Town Hall hosted by the VA of Central and Western Massachusetts. I can't say often enough how important it is for the VA to do these kind of outreach events, and I'm very thankful that they came to Westfield this week. I know many older Veterans feel that the VA doesn't work for them, or that the hassle of the application process isn't worth the benefits they could receive. Many often don't even know about the benefits available to them from the VA. That's why these kinds of informational sessions are vital- even I learned a lot about the services they offer and the improvements they've made recently to their claims process. If you're a Vet and you couldn't attend on Friday, I highly suggest that you speak to a VSO or someone at the VBA. As they said yesterday, not everyone will be eligible to get something, but if you don't ask, you're guaranteed to get nothing!

That's it for this week, folks. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to my office at (413) 572-3920 or john.velis@mahouse.gov. Enjoy your weekend!

Government Meetings

MONDAY, FEB. 26

GRANVILLE:
Selectboard at 7 pm
Assessors at 7:30 pm
Planning Board at 7:30 pm

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

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

TOLLAND:
Board of Assessors at 10 am
Board of Assessors at 10 am

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

SOUTHWICK:
Agricultural Commission Meeting at 7 pm

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

WESTFIELD:
ZBA at 7:15 pm

Schools physically restrained students 9,000 times last year

BOSTON (AP) — Public school officials in Massachusetts say they had to physically restrain students more than 9,000 times last school year, sparking outcry from some advocates who say the practice is dangerous and overused.

Districts were required to report cases to the state for the first time last year as part of new rules meant to curb the practice. Massachusetts education officials released the data this week in response to a public records request from The Associated Press.

Among the 9,070 cases reported in the 2016-17 academic year, 244 resulted in injuries to students or staff, according to the data. And while most schools said they used physical restraint five times or fewer, some logged more than 200.

Massachusetts education officials said they discourage comparisons between schools because of differences in the programs they offer and the students they serve.

"The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education continues to discuss with schools the need to carefully monitor, report and reduce the use of restraints," the department said.

Leaders of the Disability Law Center, a Massachusetts advocacy group, said the numbers of cases and injuries are "extremely disturbing."

Rules on restraint vary from state to state, and the federal government doesn't closely track the practice. The U.S. Education Department estimates physical restraint was used 22,000 times in public schools in the 2013-14 school year, its latest numbers, but advocates say it is widely underreported.

Massachusetts state law forbids physical restraint in public schools except in emergencies, saying it can be used only as a last resort and if a student's behavior poses an immediate threat.

Rules that took effect in 2016 outlaw restraining devices, such as straps or belts, along with seclusion, the practice of confining students alone until they calm down. But the rules allow a variety of physical holds ranging from a bear hug to a restraint that's used to pin a student face-down on the ground and has been blamed for asphyxiation deaths at some U.S. schools.

Records released by Massachusetts include only broad details about the number of cases and don't disclose the types of restraint that were used or the severity of any injuries. Statewide, the number of restraint cases amounted to one for every 105 students, the data show, but in some schools it was far more common.

At the John J. Doran Community School, an elementary school in the Fall River district, students were restrained 253 times, leading to 19 injuries, the highest numbers in the state. More than three-quarters of the school's 500 students come from low-income families, and nearly one-fourth have a disability, according to separate state data.

The school's principal, Eric Bradley, declined to comment.

A group representing 42 schools listed in the data is asking the state to release more information for context, including the age of students and the type of restraint used. The group, known as the Massachusetts Association of 766 Approved Private Schools, represents private programs that receive public funding to serve students with disabilities.

"We need more and better data," said Jim Major, the group's executive director. "Without that information you really don't begin to understand what the data means."

Students with disabilities have been found to face restraint at higher rates than their peers, which some advocates say amounts to discrimination. The U.S. Education Department reported in 2016 that students with disabilities made up 12 percent of all students enrolled at public schools, but 67 percent of those subjected to restraint or seclusion.

In Massachusetts, schools that frequently used restraint had varying populations of students with disabilities.

At the William R. Peck School in Holyoke, which reported 180 restraint cases, nearly a third of the students have disabilities, well above the statewide total of 17 percent. By contrast, the Mary Fonseca Elementary School in Fall River, which logged 244 cases, reports that 12 percent of its students have disabilities.

The state's data don't include details about students who were restrained, including their race, age or if they have a disability.

Christine Griffin, executive director of the Disability Law Center, said the numbers suggest schools aren't using restraint as a last resort for students with or without disabilities. Her group will use the data to guide its future investigations into possible abuse, she said.

MS Talent Show Coming Up

HUNTINGTON – The Gateway Class of 2020 is organizing a Talent Show for students at Gateway Regional Middle School. Auditions have been held and performers selected for the event, which takes place on **Friday, March 2 from 6 – 8 p.m.** in the Gateway Performing Arts Center.

Admission will be $2 per student and $4 per adult.

Come see middle school students sing, dance and perform a comedy act at Gateway on March 2!

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"Now you are Christ's body..." 1 Corinthians 12:27
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Lenten Speakers Series 2018
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:30PM

FEB. 21: Meet **ORTRUD BIANCHI** *whose life was blessed by a future saint.*

FEB. 28: Meet **BRYAN MERCIER.** *A story of salvation.*

MAR. 7: **FATHER WARREN SAVAGE** *and our call to be Christ to others.*

MAR. 14: **CALEIGH ROCKWAL** *shares her faith and hopes for the world.*

MAR. 21: **NANCY AMANTI** *shines a light of hope on a distant village.*

MAR. 28: **DEACON PEDRO RIVERA MORAN** *shares the story of a saint in wating.*

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INFORMATION MEETING
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- Strong partnership between school & family
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COMMENT



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Ex-Trump aide pleads guilty, will cooperate in Russia probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former senior adviser to President Donald Trump's election campaign pleaded guilty Friday to federal conspiracy and false-statements charges, switching from defendant to cooperating witness in the special counsel's probe of Trump's campaign and Russia's election interference.

The plea by Rick Gates revealed that he will help special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation in "any and all matters" as prosecutors continue to probe the 2016 campaign, Russian meddling and Gates' longtime business associate, one-time Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

With his cooperation, Gates gives Mueller a witness willing to provide information on Manafort about his finances and political consulting work in Ukraine, and also someone who had access at the highest levels of Trump's 2016 presidential campaign.

Gates, 45, of Richmond, Virginia, made the plea at the federal courthouse in Washington. He stood somberly beside his attorney and did not speak during his hearing except to answer routine questions from the judge about whether he understood the rights he was giving up.

He admitted to charges accusing him of conspiring against the U.S. government related to fraud and unregistered foreign lobbying as well as lying to federal authorities in a recent interview. Under the terms of the plea, he is estimated to face between 57 and 71 months behind bars and a possible fine ranging from $20,000 to $200,000. Prosecutors may seek a shortened sentence depending on his cooperation.

The plea came a day after a federal grand jury in Virginia returned a 32-count indictment against Gates and Manafort, Trump's former campaign chairman, accusing them of tax evasion and bank fraud. Gates is the fifth defendant to plead guilty in Mueller's investigation.

The indictment in Virginia was the second round of charges against Gates and Manafort, who were initially charged last October with unregistered lobbying and conspiring to launder millions of dollars they earned while working on behalf of a pro-Russian Ukrainian political party.

Manafort continues to maintain his innocence.

"I had hoped and expected my business colleague would have had the strength to continue the battle to prove our innocence. For reasons yet to surface he chose to do otherwise," Manafort said Friday. "This does not alter my commitment to defend myself against the untrue piled-up charges contained in the indictments against me."

In court filings over the past few months, Gates gradually began to show the strain the case was placing on him and his family.

He frequently pleaded with U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson for leniency in his house arrest to let him attend sporting events with his four children. Even on Friday, ahead of his plea, Gates had asked the judge to let him take his children to Boston for spring break so they could "learn about American history in general, and the Revolutionary War in particular."

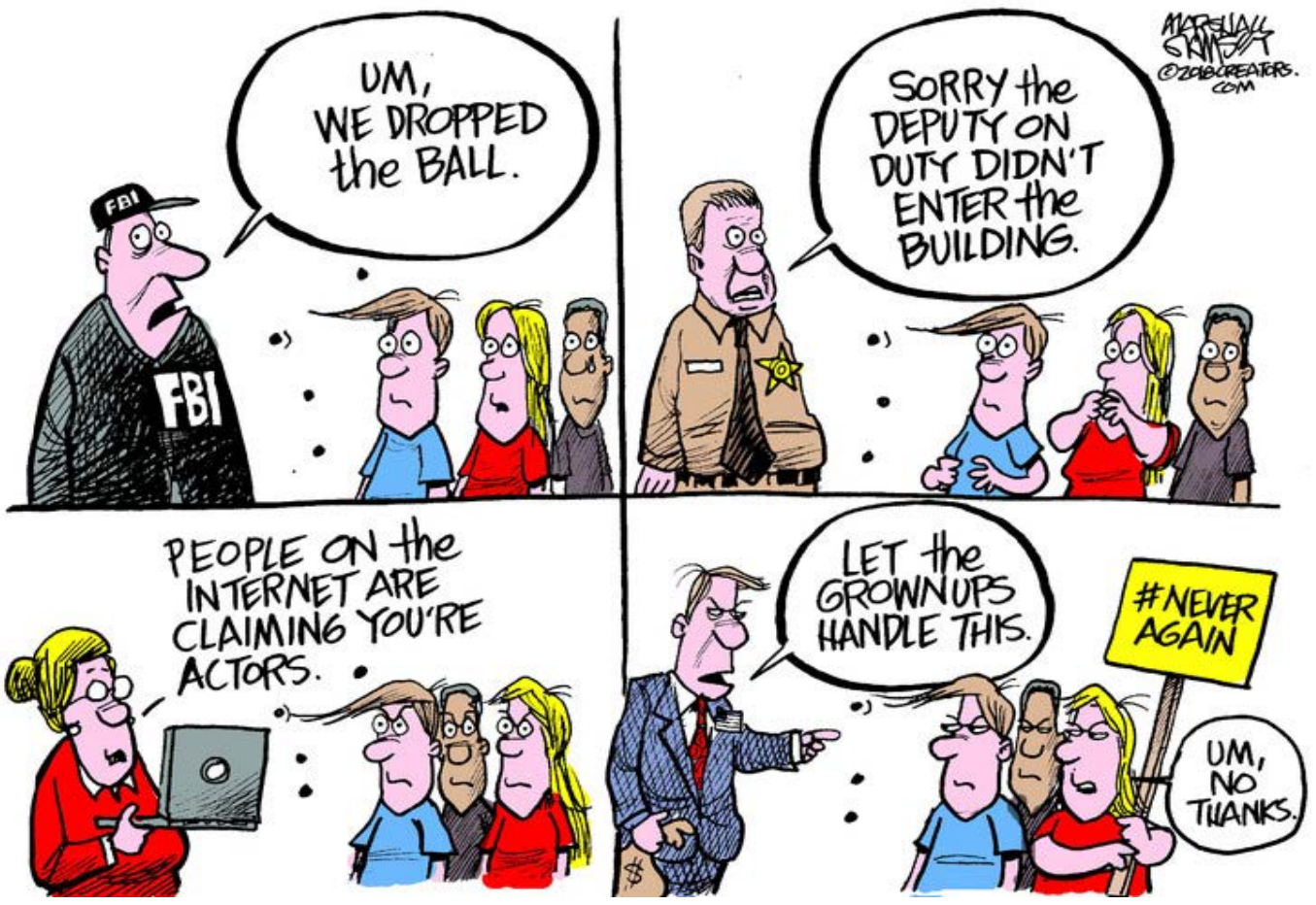
Gates' plea comes on the heels of the stunning indictment last week that laid out a broad operation of election meddling by Russia, which began in 2014, and employed fake social media accounts and on-the-ground politicking to promote Trump's campaign, disparage Hillary Clinton and sow division and discord widely among the U.S. electorate.

The charges to which Gates is pleading guilty don't involve any conduct connected to the Trump campaign. They largely relate to a conspiracy of unregistered lobbying, money laundering and fraud laid out in his indictments.

But his plea does newly reveal that Gates spoke with the FBI earlier this month and lied during the interview. That same day, his attorneys filed a motion to withdraw from representing him for "irreconcilable difference."

Gates served on the Trump campaign at the same time that Manafort, Donald Trump Jr. and Jared Kushner met with a team of Russians in Trump Tower in June 2016. He was also involved in the campaign when then-Sen. Jeff Sessions held a

See Russian Probe, Page 5



After school shooting, Florida leaders propose new gun laws

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida's governor announced plans Friday to put more armed guards in schools and to make it harder for young adults and some with mental illness to buy guns, responding to days of intense lobbying from survivors of last week's shooting at a Florida high school.

Gov. Rick Scott unveiled his school safety proposals as teachers returned for the first time to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School since the shooting nine days ago that killed 17 people.

The shooting sparked an intense push to restrict access to assault rifles fueled by student activists who swarmed the state Capitol demanding concrete gun control measures.

President Donald Trump said repeatedly Friday that he favored arming teachers to protect students, an idea many educators rejected out of hand.

"I am totally against arming teachers," Broward schools Superintendent Robert Runcie said. "They have a challenging job as it is."

Scott, a Republican widely expected to run for the Senate, outlined his plan at a Tallahassee news conference. In addition to banning firearm sales to anyone under 21, the governor called for a trained law enforcement officer for every school — and one for every 1,000 students at larger schools — by the time the fall 2018 school year begins.

Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, which has more than 3,000 students, had one armed resource officer who never entered the building under attack while a gunman was shooting people inside, officials said.

That failure was compounded by confusion about what was being shown to police on school security cameras the day of the shooting and the lack of meaningful response to reports to the FBI and local police that 19-year-old suspect Nikolas Cruz might become violent, had guns and possibly would attack a school.

Florida's House speaker called it an "abject breakdown at all levels." Cruz is jailed on 17 counts of murder and has confessed to the shootings, investigators say.

A woman close to Cruz warned the FBI on Jan. 5 that he had rifles and said, "I know he is going to explode," according to a transcript of the tip to the FBI's call center, which was obtained Friday by The Associated Press. The FBI has acknowledged it failed to investigate the tip. The woman described Cruz's short temper and said he had the "mental capacity of a 12 to 14 year old." She said Cruz posted pictures of weapons on social media and he wrote, "I want to kill people."

Among other things, the governor's $500 million plan would create a "violent threat restraining order" that would let a court prohibit a violent or mentally ill person from purchasing or possessing a firearm or any other weapon under certain circumstances.

The proposal would also strengthen gun purchase and possession restrictions for mentally ill people under the state's Baker Act, which allows someone to be involuntarily hospitalized for up to 72 hours. Scott is seeking $50 million for initiatives that include expanding mental health services by providing counseling, crisis management and other mental health services for youth and young adults.

"No one with mental issues should have access to a gun. It is common sense. It for their own best interest, much less the best interest of our communities," Scott said.

The governor's plan made no mention of arming teachers on school grounds

However, the Legislature's Republican leadership proposed letting teachers carry a gun if they have had law enforcement training. The legislators' plan also calls for a three-day waiting period for most gun purchases, with exceptions.

Democrats said neither plan goes far enough.

"Unfortunately, both plans omit a third, critically important piece of legislation Democrats have been and continue to push for: a ban on assault weapons and high capacity magazines," said state Senate Democratic Leader Oscar Braynon. He added that recent mass shootings show that "so long as these high powered weapons of war remain available for purchase these killings will continue."

Talia Rumsky, a 16-year-old Stoneman Douglas High student who was at school during the shooting, was among those who travelled to Tallahassee Wednesday to lobby lawmakers about gun control.

She said Scott's plan to make it illegal for anyone under 21 to purchase a gun is a start, but said she doesn't think it goes far enough.

"This is a great first step and we appreciate it," the sophomore said. "But it's not enough and we're going to make sure they know it's not enough and is not solving our problems."

Trump told reporters Friday that schools need some kind of "offensive" capability to deter and respond to attackers.

"If they're not gun free, if there are guns inside, held by the right people, by highly trained professionals, you're going to see this end. It won't be happening again. Our schools are essentially gun-free zones and that makes them very dangerous places," the president said.

On Friday evening, Marion P. Hammer, former president of the National Rifle Association and longtime Florida lobbyist, issued an appeal to gun enthusiasts titled, "EMERGENCY ALERT! Don't Let Them Blame You For Parkland." She mentioned several proposals they could support, such as "hardening our schools," putting officers in schools and training volunteer teachers to use guns. But she said a three-day waiting period would not have stopped the Parkand shooter; bump stocks had nothing to do with it; and raising the age limit for gun purchases would be unfair.

After days of funerals for those killed in the attack, teachers began the emotionally fraught process of returning to the school Friday to collect belongings from classrooms that have been off-limits since the slayings. Following an orientation Sunday for teachers and students, classes resume Wednesday.

Broward teachers union president Anna Fusco met with the teachers as they returned to campus Friday hailing them as "incredibly brave and strong."

"I met with one that was grazed with a bullet ... she has a hole in her arm and a bruise from her shoulder to her elbow that looks like somebody whacked her with a bat and she's like, 'I'm here because we need to get things ready," Fusco said.

Fineout and Farrington reported from Tallahassee, Florida; Anderson from Miami; Freida Frisaro and Jennifer Kay contributed from Miami; Kelli Kennedy from Parkland; and Jason Dearen from Gainesville.



The press gather around Democrat Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith for comments after the Republican leadership laid out their school safety proposal during a new conference at the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee, Fla., Friday, Feb 23, 2018. **(AP Photo/ Mark Wallheiser)**

The Westfield News

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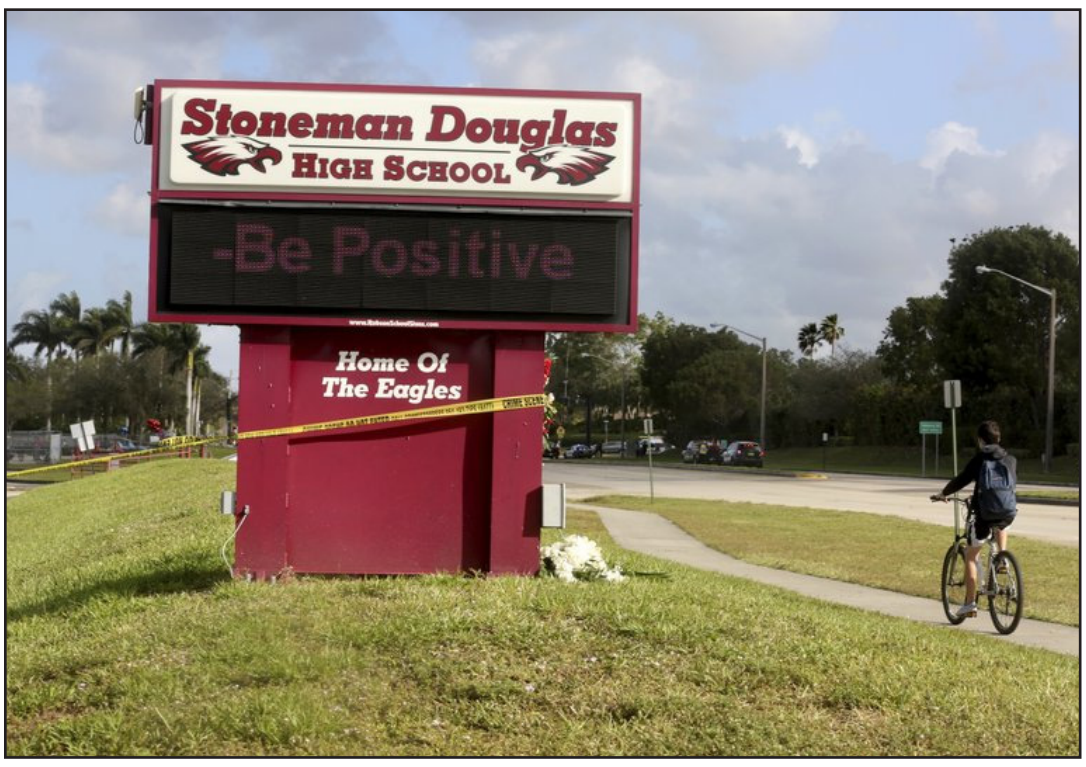
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A bicyclist rides past a sign at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Friday, Feb. 23, 2018 in Parkland, Fla. Teachers and administrators returned for the first time since the Valentine's Day shooting that killed several people. **(Mike Stocker/South Florida Sun-Sentinel via AP)**

Police experts urge intensive training if teachers are armed

The idea of arming teachers to take out a shooter is alarming some law enforcement experts, who say it takes more than just being a good shot at a gun range.

They say it would require specialized and repeated training to teach educators the proper tactics and enable them to conquer their fear and remain calm and clear-thinking in a fast-moving, life-or-death situation.

"Simply putting a gun on the premises and hoping someone's going to do the right thing with it is baseless," said Chris Grollnek, a former law enforcement officer who specializes in security issues, especially active shooter situations. "All you're doing is signing people up for PTSD."

The idea of arming teachers isn't new. Some schools around the country already allow educators to bring guns onto school grounds.

But the notion is gaining momentum after the shooting rampage at a high school in Parkland, Florida, last week that left 17 students and adults dead. It turned out the only armed officer on duty at the school stayed outside rather than go in to confront the gunman.

President Donald Trump suggested even paying bonuses to teachers willing to be trained to carry firearms at schools.

Still, law enforcement experts note that police are trained for months in the academy and then are put through drills during their careers on such things as making split-second decisions in a crisis and dealing with the mentally ill.

Experts who have spent careers on SWAT teams or other specialized units say it isn't something that comes naturally. It can take not just training but real-life experience in pressure-cooker situations before the instruction takes hold and they're able to respond effectively.

"What an individual officer or a team of officers will do in an active shooter incident calls on every aspect of their overall training and policing. And that's one of the reasons why you'd be hard-pressed to find someone in policing who thinks it's a good idea to arm teachers," said Rick Myers, executive director of the Major Cities Chiefs Association.

"Teachers' training and expertise has nothing to do with police tactics — shoot-don't-shoot decision making, the psychological trauma that accompanies violence, all the things that are built into what police officers deal with on a daily basis."

Around the country, in places like Ohio and Texas, some schools post warnings that staffers are armed, while others keep potential attackers guessing.

Chris Cerino, a former law enforcement officer, now offers training to educators through his Cerino Consulting and Training Group. The program has taught 1,300 educators over five years. They spend 28 hours learning not just how to fire a gun but such things as ambush tactics, responding under stress, and treating wounds.

Students on occasion have left the class within the first few hours after realizing they're not cut out for it.

Cerino said teachers realize that the usual tactics taught in school — lockdowns and throwing books and other objects at a gunman — are simply "not going to stop a determined killer with a gun. And all that's going to do is delay in the inevitable."

Christopher Albrecht, a fourth-grade teacher from Brockport, New York, and the state's 2018 teacher of the year, said there is already high anxiety in schools with lockdown drills and fears of shooters. He said he is not convinced arming educators is the solution.

"I can't imagine if I had a gun that was visible on me what that would do to anxiety levels. If anything right now, I'm trying to lower anxiety levels in my classroom. I think that would just raise them," he said.

Mo Canady, executive director of the National Association of School Resource Officers, urged every school to first get an armed officer posted before it considers arming teachers. Those officers are highly trained, he said. Also, he said, arming teachers could make it difficult for police rushing to the scene of a shooting to tell who the bad guy is.

"We see one person or six people with weapons drawn in plainclothes — that could go bad in a hurry," Canady said.

The tactics for dealing with active shooters changed after the Columbine High School attack in 1999 in which two students killed 13 people. At the time, it was general practice for law enforcement to wait for a team of officers to assemble before going in to confront a gunman.

Since then, officers have been trained to go in immediately — even if it's a lone officer without backup.

Why the school resource officer stayed outside rather than try to stop the Parkland shooter hasn't been disclosed. But one possible factor, law enforcement experts said, is the limited daily experience those officers have with high-pressure situations.

Is it then unreasonable to expect educators to perform any differently?

"Just being a gun enthusiast doesn't mean you're going to perform well under stress," said John Bostain, a former police officer in Virginia who now travels the country training law enforcement. "You can't just tell people what it's going to feel like. You have to experience it."

Police Logs

WESTFIELD

Major crime and incident report
Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018

9:13 a.m.: animal complaint, Westfield Animal Shelter, 178 Apremont Way, the director of animal control operations reports a border collie dog was found on Russellville Road and transported to the shelter;

12:10 p.m.: incapacitated person, Russell Road, a motel clerk called to report a customer who had damaged the room he rented the night before has returned and appears to be under the influence of drugs and refuses to leave, the responding officer reports the man was transported to Baystate Noble Hospital where staff reported that the highly uncooperative and belligerent man does not appear to be under the influence of any substance and may have been "faking it", the responding officer reports **Steven J. Rodriguez**, 24, of 52 Clarkwood St., Mattapan, was arrested on a warrant issued by Boston Municipal Court;

2:36 p.m.: found property, Western Avenue, a supervisory officer reports there is a mountain bicycle in the bushes at the corner of Western Avenue and Kensington Avenue, the bike was transported to the station for safe keeping;

11:13 p.m.: accident, King Street at Grand Street, a caller reports hearing a crash and looking outside to see that a pickup truck had struck a tree, dual response dispatched, the operator was transported to Baystate Noble Hospital and the truck was towed to the police impound yard.

Court Logs

Westfield District Court

Friday, February 16, 2018

Nicholas R. Rheaume, 22, of 258 Rock Valley Road, Holyoke, submitted to facts sufficient to warrant guilty findings for charges of negligent operation of a motor vehicle and assault with a dangerous weapon brought by State Police and the charges were continued without a finding with probation until June 15, 2018. He was assessed $300.

Michael L. Niquette, 59, of 349 N. Loomis St, Southwick saw charges of assault and battery on a person older than 65 or disabled and intimidating a witness brought by Southwick police dismissed when the alleged victim asserted her marital privilege and refused to testify.

Tykei T. Copeland, 21, of 11 Longview St., Springfield, submitted to facts sufficient to warrant a guilty finding for a charge of carrying a dangerous weapon on school grounds brought by Westfield State University police and the charge was continued without a finding with probation until Aug. 14, 2018. He was assessed $300 and charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and malicious destruction of property valued more than $250 were not prosecuted.

Facilities

Continued from Page 1

as well," Forrette said.

"This position started because we had no inventory of each of our buildings. Before that, it was the problem du jour. That was the first thing he did," the Mayor explained. He said the money for the position came from the facilities cost in each department budget. Now they are starting to look at long term preventive maintenance, although they are not there yet, he admitted.

Sullivan said they are looking at all the boilers, all the roofs in the city, and the floors, windows and caulking in City Hall, which needs to be maintained. "Maintenance is always the first thing that gets cut," Sullivan said.

They are also talking about a combined facilities department. Sullivan said with the school department's trades people, and with Forrette's expertise, "It makes a whole lot of sense," But, he added, "It won't happen this year."

RELIGIOUS LISTING

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement
36 Court St., Westfield, MA 01085
(413) 562-5461
www.atonementwestfield.net
Parking off Pleasant Street
The Rev. Nancy Webb Stroud, Rector
Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 8 am and 10 am
Wednesdays: Holy Eucharist and Healing at 12:15 pm

This Week at Atonement
Office Hours:
Tuesday-Friday 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Sunday, Feb. 25
The Second Sunday in Lent
8 am and 10 am Holy Eucharist
11:30 am Outreach Meeting
2 pm AA Women's Fellowship
4:00 pm Messy Church
7 pm Taizé (Ferst Interfaith Center at WSU)

Monday, Feb. 26
8-9 pm AA Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 27
9:30/10:30 am Music Together
10:00 am Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
6:00 pm Holy Eucharist/Soup Supper

Wednesday, Feb. 28
12:15 pm Healing & Holy Eucharist
7:00 pm OA Meeting

Thursday, March 1
6:30 pm Evensong
7:30 pm NA Meeting

Friday, March 2

Saturday, March 3

Sunday, March 4
The Third Sunday in Lent
8 am and 10 am Holy Eucharist
2 pm AA Women's Fellowship
7 pm Taizé (Ferst Interfaith Center at WSU)

City Street Snow Parking Ban policy

The City Of Westfield has an on-street snow ban parking policy during plowable snowstorms.

Motorists are not allowed to park on the city streets from the beginning of a parking ban announcement until after the storm ceases and the plowing has been completed on the streets. Announcement of a parking ban is done on the Local Cable Access Channel 15, TV stations WWLP 22 and WGBY 40 and the local radio stations, WMAS, WHYN, WNNZ.

When a parking ban is called motorists must obey the policy or they will be subject to towing and a parking violation.

When a snowstorm is anticipated to begin during the night, motorists who park their vehicles overnight on the street in front of their residence should move their vehicles off the street prior to retiring for the night.

Motorists who use the downtown core streets for business parking during a snow ban must park in one of the city's off-street parking lots. The off-street lots are free during snow bans from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. only. This action will allow the streets to be plowed and prevent motorists from being towed and receiving parking violations.

Motorists may call the following offices or go on the city's website for confirmation of a parking ban.

- **Parking Clerk-572-6202-Press 2**
- **Police Dept.-562-5411- Ext 8**
- **Mayor-572-6201**
- **City Website - Cityofwestfield.Org**

Announcement of a Parking Ban is reported by the following:

- **Local Cable Access Channel 15,**
- **Tv Stations WWLP 22, CBS3, ABC40, & FOX6**
- **The Local Radio Stations**
- **City Website - Cityofwestfield.Org**
- **www.thewestfieldnews.com**

Russian Probe

Continued from Page 4

pair of undisclosed meetings with Russian ambassador to the U.S. Sergey Kislyak.

For a few months in 2016, Gates was indispensable to Trump, leading the ground effort to help Trump win the Republican nomination and flying from state to state to secure Republican delegates in a scramble that lasted all the way until the Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

But his power and influence waned once Trump fired Manafort in August 2016 after The Associated Press disclosed how Gates and Manafort covertly directed a Washington lobbying campaign on behalf of Ukrainian interests.

Gates survived his mentor's ouster, serving as the campaign's liaison to the Republican National Committee and later working on Trump's inaugural committee. Gates also worked briefly with the outside political groups supporting Trump's agenda, America First Policies and America First Action, but was pushed out of that job last year.

When he was indicted last October, Gates was working for Tom Barrack, a close friend of Trump.

Friday's court papers accuse Gates of lying to federal agents about a March 19, 2013, meeting involving Manafort, a lobbyist and a member of Congress. Gates said the meeting did not include discussion of Ukraine, when in fact prosecutors say it did.

The charges don't name the lobbyist or the lawmaker but filings with the Justice Department show Manafort and Vin Weber of Mercury Public Affairs met with Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Calif., on that date as part of a lobbying campaign on behalf of Ukrainian interests.

Also Friday, Mueller's team unsealed a new indictment solely against Manafort that included an allegation that he, with Gates' assistance, secretly paid former European politicians to lobby on behalf of Ukraine.

The indictment accuses Manafort of paying the former politicians, informally known as the "Hapsburg group," to appear to be "independent" analysts when in fact they were paid lobbyists. Some of the covert lobbying took place in the U.S.

The indictment says the group was managed by a former European chancellor. Court papers accuse Manafort of using offshore accounts to pay the group more than 2 million euros.

Associated Press writer Jeff Horwitz contributed.

RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

Email your notices of religious events and listings to pressreleases@thewestfieldnews.com

Advent Christian Church
11 Washington Street
Westfield, MA 01085
Phone: (413) 568-1020
Email: info@westfieldadventchristian.com
www.westfieldadventchristian.com
Pastor Merle Beal
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11:00 a.m. Praise and Worship Service
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study
Friday: 6:30-8:00 p.m. Youth Group for grades 5-8

Baha'i Community of Westfield
Sundays - 10 a.m. to 12 noon worship and study classes for children and adults at Daniel Jordan Baha'i School in March Memorial Chapel, Springfield College. Open to the public.
The second and fourth
Fridays of every month at 7 p.m.
Westfield study and discussion meetings
Call 568-3403.

Central Baptist Church
115 Elm St., Westfield, MA 01085
Phone - (413) 568-0429
Email:cbcabc@comcast.net
website: http://www.centralbaptist churchwestfield.com

Sunday School 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Sunday - Worship Hour - 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Christ Church United Methodist
222 College Highway, Southwick, MA 01077
Pastor Rev. Ken Blanchard
Phone - (413) 569-5206
Sunday Worship - 9 a.m.
Handicapped accessible.
Air conditioned. Nursery available.

Christ Lutheran Church
568 College Highway, Southwick, MA 01077
Rev. Jeff King, Pastor
Phone - (413) 569-5151
Sunday - 8:15, 9:15, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m.
11 a.m. - Contemporary Worship with Children's Hour and CLC Live with Children's Hour. Childcare available.
Thursday evenings - Weekender's Worship - 7 p.m.

Christ The King
Evangelical Presbyterian Church
297 Russell Road, Westfield, MA 01085
Rev. Jason S. Steele, Pastor
Office Phone - (413) 572-0676
ctkwestfield.org
Weekly Calendar of Events:
Sunday - Worship Service - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages - 11 a.m.
Monday - Men's Group - Sons of Thunder - 7 p.m.
Tuesday - Women's Bible Study
Wednesday - Beginners Bible Study
- 7 p.m.
Childcare is available.

The Episcopal Church of the Atonement
36 Court St., Westfield, MA 01085
(413) 562-5461
www.atonementwestfield.net
Parking off Pleasant Street
The Rev. Nancy Webb Stroud, Rector
Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 8 am and 10 am
Wenesdays:
Holy Eucharist and Healing at 12:15 pm

Congregation Ahavas Achim
Interfaith Center at Westfield
State University
577 Western Avenue, P.O. Box 334,
Westfield, MA 01086
Rabbi Efraim Eisen.
Phone - (413) 572-8570
www.congregationahavasachim.org/
email: ahavasachiminquiry@gmail.com
Friday or Saturday Sabbath Services 10 a.m.or 7:15 p.m. - 2 times/month and Holiday Services.
Call for dates. An Oneg Shabbat follows the service and new members are always welcome.
Monday Hebrew School - 5 to 7 p.m.
Sunday School
Adult Study Group.

Faith Bible Church
370 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, MA 01001
Phone - 413-786-1681
Pastor: Rick Donofrio
Sunday School for all ages 9:30am
Worship Services 10:30am
Children's Service 10:30am
Fellowship/Refreshments-12:30am
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 6:30 pm

First Congregational Church of Westfield
18 Broad Street, Westfield, MA 01085
Phone - (413) 568-2833
Fax - (413) 568-2835
Website: churchonthegreen.org
Email :office@churchonthegreen.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9a.m.-1p.m.
Rev. Elva Merry Pawle, Pastor
Tracy Gervais , Church School Coordinator
Allan Taylor, Minister of Music
Worship Service : Sunday's 10 AM
Church School Sunday 10 AM
Childcare Available - Handicap Accessible
Fellowship Hour 11 AM

First Spiritual Church
33-37 Bliss Street, Springfield, MA 01105
Rev. John Sullivan, Pastor
Phone - (413) 238-4495
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m., Sermon, Healing Service, Spirit Communication.

First United Methodist Church
(A Stephen's Ministry Church)
16 Court Street
Westfield MA 01085
413-568-5818
Rev. Bruce T. Arbour
Email:FUMC01085@JUNO.COM
Worship Service : Sunday's 10 a.m.
Sunday School: Sunday 10 a.m.
Coffee Hour: every Sunday 11 a.m.
Childcare Available-Handicap Accessible

Grace Lutheran Church
1552 Westfield Street,
West Springfield,
MA 01089
Phone - 413-734-9268
Website -
http://www.gracelutheranonline.com
The Rev. John Marquis, Pastor
E-Mail -pastorwhite@ gracelutheranonline.com
Margit Mikuski, Administrative Assistant
mmikuski@gracelutheranonline.com
Sunday service - 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday – 9 a.m. - Bible Study
Wednesday service - 6 p.m.

Granville Federated Church
American Baptist
& United Church of Christ
16 Granby Road, Granville, MA 01034
Phone - (413) 357-8583
10 a.m. - Worship Service, Sunday School to run concurrently with Worship Service. Childcare available
11 a.m. - Coffee Hour
Monday - 8 p.m. - AA Meeting
Thursday - 7 p.m. - Adult Choir Practice
First Saturday - 6 p.m. - Potluck Supper in Fellowship Hall
Third Sunday - 8:30-9:30 a.m. - Breakfast Served in Fellowship Hall
Third Wednesday - 12 noon - Ladies Aid Potluck Luncheon & Meeting
Fourth Sunday - 11:15 a.m. - Adult Study Program led by Rev. Patrick McMahon.

Holy Family Parish
5 Main Street -
PO Box 405
Russell, MA 01071-0405
Phone/FAX 413-862-4418
Saturday Vigil at 5 p.m. -
Sunday Mass at 8:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
335 Elm St., Westfield MA 01085
Rev. René L. Parent, M.S., Pastor
Deacon Charles Wainwright
Phone: (413) 568-1506 Fax: (413) 572-2533
Website: www.holytrinitywestfield.com
Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil - 4 p.m.
Sunday - 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m. (Polish) and 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass: Monday - Thursday - 12:10 p.m.
Communion Service: Friday - 12:10 p.m.
Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday - 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday -
3 to 3:45 p.m. or by appointment
Handicapped accessible

Hope Community Church
152 South Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA. 01030
413.786.2445
Pastor Brad Peterson
Sunday morning worship begins at 10 a.m.
Contemporary worship, life oriented messages, from the Bible, nursery and children's church available, classes for all ages. Weekly home groups and Bible studies, active youth group, special activities for families, men, women, and children.
For more information, call the church office 413-786-2445, weekdays between 9 a.m. and noon. Please leave a message any other time.
Valley Community Church and Agawam Church of The Bible merged May 2010 to become Hope Community Church

Huntington Evangelical Church
17 Russell Road, Huntington, MA 01050
Rev. L. Charles Cinelli, Pastor
Phone - (413) 667-5774
Sunday Worship - 9:00 am during the summer months & 10:00 am following Labor Day
Children's Church downstairs during the service except during the summer months.

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
117 Southwick Road, Westfield, MA 01085
Phone (413) 568-1780
English: Wednesday & Thursday - 7-8:45 p.m.; Sunday 10-11:46 a.m. & 1-2:45 p.m.
Russian: Tuesday - 7-8:45 p.m.;
Saturday 4-5:45 p.m.

Montgomery Community Church
Main Road-Montgomery, MA
Pastor Howard R. Noe
Phone - (413) 862-3284 Office
Nondenominational Services every Sunday 9-10 a.m., with Coffee Fellowship following all services.
Weekly Men and Women's Bible Studies available.

Mountain View Baptist Church
310 Apremont Way
Holyoke, MA 01040
Pastor Chad E. Correia
413-532-0381
Email: http://www.mvbaptist.com
Sunday Morning Worship - 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Study - 10 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study - 7 p.m.
Thursday - Visitation & Soul Winning - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday - Buss Calling & Soul Winning - 10 a.m.

New Life Christian Center
157 Dartmouth Street
Westfield, MA 01085
Senior Pastor. Rev. Wayne D. Hartsgrove
Phone (413) 568-1588
Sunday School 9:15 am
Sunday Service 10:30 am
Mid-Week Service on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
Life Groups on Thursdays and Sundays at 6:30 pm
www.nlccwestfield.com

New Life Worship Center
118 Meadow Street
Westfield, MA 01085
413-562-0344
http://www.nlwcofwestfield.org
Pastor Gene C. Pelkey
Sundays - 10 a.m. - Worship and Sunday School.
Wednesdays - 7 p.m. - Bible Study.
Men's and Ladies prayer groups (call for schedules)
Changed Into His Image Class (call for schedules)

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish
127 Holyoke Road
Westfield, MA 01085
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 489
Westfield, MA 01086-0489
Pastor: Rev. Daniel S. Pacholec
Deacon Paul Federici
Deacon Paul Briere
Pastoral Minister: Mary Federici
Parish/Religious Education Office: (413) 562-3450
Parish Fax: (413) 562-9875
www.diospringfield.org/olbs
Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 4 p.m. (Vigil)
Sunday: 7, 8:30, 11 a.m.
Monday-Wednesday: 7 a.m. Communion Service Thursday & Friday: 7 a.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. Miraculous Medal Novena
Confession: Saturday 3:15- 3:45 p.m.
Handicapped accessible.

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Pastor: Rev. Henry L. Dorsch (413) 569-0161
Deacon David Przybylowski (413) 569-0161
Catechetical Leader:
Lynda Daniele (413) 569-0162
Bookkeeper: Rosemarie Ricco
Parish Secretary: Maxine Matos
(Fri. 8 am - 4 pm)(413) 569-0161
Tel: 569-0161- email: OLLake7@aol.com -
Best rectory office hrs.
Thurs 9 am-noon & Fri. 8-4 pm
Sacristan: Stella Onyski
MASS SCHEDULE
Sat. 5 p.m. (vigil), Sun., 8, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Weekdays: Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Penance/confession: Saturdays 4:15-4:45; Wed. before 7 p.m. Mass and by appointment.
Baptisms: Sundays at 11:15 a.m. Arrange with Pastor and a pre- Baptism meeting is scheduled.
Marriage: Arrangements should be made with pastor prior to any reception arrangements as early as one year in advance
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament:
1st Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Marian Cenacle of Prayer:
Saturdays 7:30-8:30
Charismatic Prayer Meeting: Thursdays 7 p.m.
St. Jude Novena after
Wednesday 7 p.m. Mass
Miraculous Medal Novena after
Tuesday morning Mass
Chapel of Divine Mercy, Litany, Rosary,
Friday 3-3:34
Home and hospital visits. Please call rectory
Anointing of the Sick. Please call the pastor
Prayer Line: for special intentions.
Call Marian at 569-6244
Bible Study: Tuesdays 9:15 a.m.
at rectory meeting room

Pilgrim Evangelical Covenant Church
605 Salmon Brook Street,
Route 10 and 202, Granby, CT 06035
Rev. Dennis Anderson, Pastor
Phone: (860) 653-3800
Fax: (860) 653-9984
Handicap Accessible.
Schedule: Sunday School - 9 am, Adult - Youth - Children.
Sunday Praise and Worship - 10:30 a.m., Infant and toddler care available.
Men's Group Fellowship Breakfast - 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m., the 2nd Saturday of each month.
Call for a Youth Group schedule of events.
You can visit us on the web at:
http://www.pilgrimcovenantchurch.org.

Pioneer Valley Assembly of God
Huntington, MA 01050
Rev. Chuck Vanasse
Phone - (413) 667-3196
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. - Service of Worship
Weekly Bible Study. Call for information.

Pioneer Valley Baptist Church
265 Ponders Hollow Road, Westfield, MA 01085
(corner of Tannery and Shaker Road)
Phone - (413) 562-3376
Pastor James Montoro
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Service – 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday Service – 7 p.m. We provide bus transportation for those in need of transportation.
Just call us at 562-3376.

Psalms Springs
Deliverance Ministries
141 Meadow Street, Westfield, MA 01085
Phone - (413) 568-1612
Pastor Sharon Ingram
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
Wednesdays - Childrens reading hour, 5 to 6 p.m. with Pastor, 4 to 10 years old.
Wednesday Evening - 7 p.m. - Bible Study & Deliverance Service
Friday - Y.E.S. - Youth Excellence Services, 13 years old and up.

Russell Community Church
Main Street, Russell 01071
Rev. Jimmy Metcalf, Pastor
Sunday - 9 a.m. - Sunday School, all ages - Fellowship, parsonage; 10 a.m. - Family Worship; 6 p.m. - Youth Fellowship, parsonage.
Tuesday - 7 p.m. - AA Meeting; Family Bible Class, parsonage.
Wednesday - 9 a.m. - Women's Prayer Fellowship, parsonage.
Friday - 7:30 p.m. - AA Meeting.

St. John's Lutheran Church
60 Broad Street
Westfield, MA 01085
Phone - (413) 568-1417
http://stjohnswestfield.com
Sunday - Adult Bible Study and Summer Sunday School (Preschool - High School) 8:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship 10 A.M.
Tune in to the taped broadcast of our Worship Service over WHYN (.560 on your AM radio dial) at 7:30 on Sunday morning.

Living Hope Church
Pastor Dan Valeri
267 College Highway
Southwick, MA 01077
413-569-1882
Living Hope Church - Hope for everyday living!
We are a church that proclaims a message of hope and healing for the hurts and problems of everyday life through the message of Jesus Christ...
info@livinghopechurchag.org
Service time: 10 AM
Thursday Family Night 6:30pm
Office hours - Mon through Thurs 9:30am-4pm

Southwick Community
Episcopal Church
660 College Highway
Southwick, MA 01077
Phone: 569-9650
http://www.southwickchurch.com
Rev. J. Taylor Albright, Pastor
Saturday Evening Worship Service 5 p.m.
Sundays 9:30 AM, Service that blend contemporary worship with traditional liturgy and a family-friendly atmosphere
KidZone: Childcare and children's ministry during the service
Sign Language Interpreted
Handicapped Accessible
Women's Group: Thursdays 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Good coffee, fellowship and light-weight discussion of faith issues.
Childcare provided.

Southwick Congregational Church, UCC
488 College Highway, P.O. Box 260
Southwick, MA 01077
Phone: 413-569-6362,
email: Southwickucc@gmail.com
Website: www.Southwickucc.org
Minister - Rev. Bart D. Cochran
Music - Roberta Kowal
Lyn Casey, Office Admin. M-F 9-1
Sunday
10 AM Worship Service
Nursery Available
10:15 AM Sunday School/Youth Group every 2nd and 4th Sunday

3:30 PM O.A. Meeting
Tuesday
6:30 PM Scouts Meeting
6:30 PM Bell Choir
Wednesday

7 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday
6:30 PM Mid-Week Service
Friday
9-1 Henrietta's Thrift Shop Open
6 PM O.A. Meeting
7:30 PM A.A. 12 Step Meeting
Saturday
9-1 Henrietta's Thrift Shop Open

St.Joseph National Church
73 Main Street, Westfield, MA 0185
Social Center: Clinton Avenue
Father Sr. Joseph Soltysiak, Pastor
Phone (413) 562-4403
Email - Soltysiak@comcast.net
Fax - (413) 562-4403
Saturday Mass: 4:00 pm
Sunday Mass: 9:00 am
Sunday School: 10am--- at the Social Center
Catechism-Monday Evening classes
Daily and Holy Day Masses as announced
For more information & links: PNCC.org

St. Mary's Church
30 Bartlett Street, Westfield, MA 01085
Phone - (413) 562-5477
http://www.St.MarysofWestfield.com
Rev. Frank Lawlor - Pastor
Rev. Ryan Sliwa and Rev. John Touhey, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Daniel Brunton, in Residence
Deacon Pedro Rivera
Deacon Roger Carrier
Weekday Mass - Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.
Holy Day Masses 8:30 am &
6:15 p.m. (bilingual)
Confessions - Saturdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. (lower church)
Saturday Mass - 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass - 8:30 and 10 a.m.
11:30 a.m., and 5p.m.
All Masses are in the upper church, the 11:30 a.m. is in Spanish
Handicapped accessible, elevator located to the right of the main entrance.
Adoration and Benediction - Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
St. Mary's Elementary School (Pre-K-8)
(413) 568-2388
St. Mary's High School (9-12) - (413) 568-5692
Office of Religious Education - (413) 568-1127
St. Vincent de Paul outreach to the poor and needy - (413) 568-5619

St. Peter & St. Casimir Parish
22 State Street
Westfield, MA 01085
Rev. William H. Wallis, Pastor
Parish Office - 413-568-5421
Mass schedule Daily -
Mon.-Thurs. - 7:15 a.m.
Saturday Mass - 4 p.m.
Saturday Confessions - 3 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass- 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Temple Beth El
Worship Services
Sunday - Thursday Evening, 7 p.m.
Friday evening, 6 p.m.
Saturday evening, 5 p.m.
Monday-Friday morning, 7 a.m.
Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m.
Sunday and Holiday morning, 8 a.m. Ongoing
Monday afternoons - Learning Center (Religious School), 3:15 p.m.
Tuesday afternoons - B'Yachad (Hebrew High School) 6:30 p.m.; Parshat ha Shove study group, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday afternoons - Learning Center (Religious School), 3:15 p.m.;
Youth Chorale, 5:15 p.m.
Thursday evenings - Boy Scout Troop #32 meets at 7:30 p.m.
Friday mornings - "Exploring our Prayers" with Rabbi, 7 a.m.

Unitarian Universalist Society
of Greater Springfield
245 Porter Lake Drive, Springfield, MA 01106
Re. Jason Seymour, Minister
http://uuspringfield.org
phone 413 736-2324
Handicap accessible
Sunday 9:15am and 11am Worship Services, Religious Education and nursery for children,
Wednesday 5:30 pm Soulful Suppers
Thursday 7PM Choir Rehearsals
Monthly Unity House Concerts.
Check our Facebook Page.

United Church of Christ
Second Congregational Church
Rev. Barbara Hesse, Pastor
487 Western Avenue, P.O. Box 814
Westfield, MA 01086
http://www,secondchurchwestfield.org
E-mail: office@secondchurchwestfield.org
Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Closed Monday
Phone – (413) 568-7557
Sunday – 10 a.m. Worship Service and Sunday School for preschool through high school
Sunday evening – Youth Program

Westfield Alliance Church
297 Russell Road, Westfield, MA 01085
Rev. Jordan Greeley, Pastor
Phone - (413) 568-3572
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Bible Life a.m. for all ages, nursery care provided; 11 a.m. - Worship and the Word; 6 p.m - evening service.

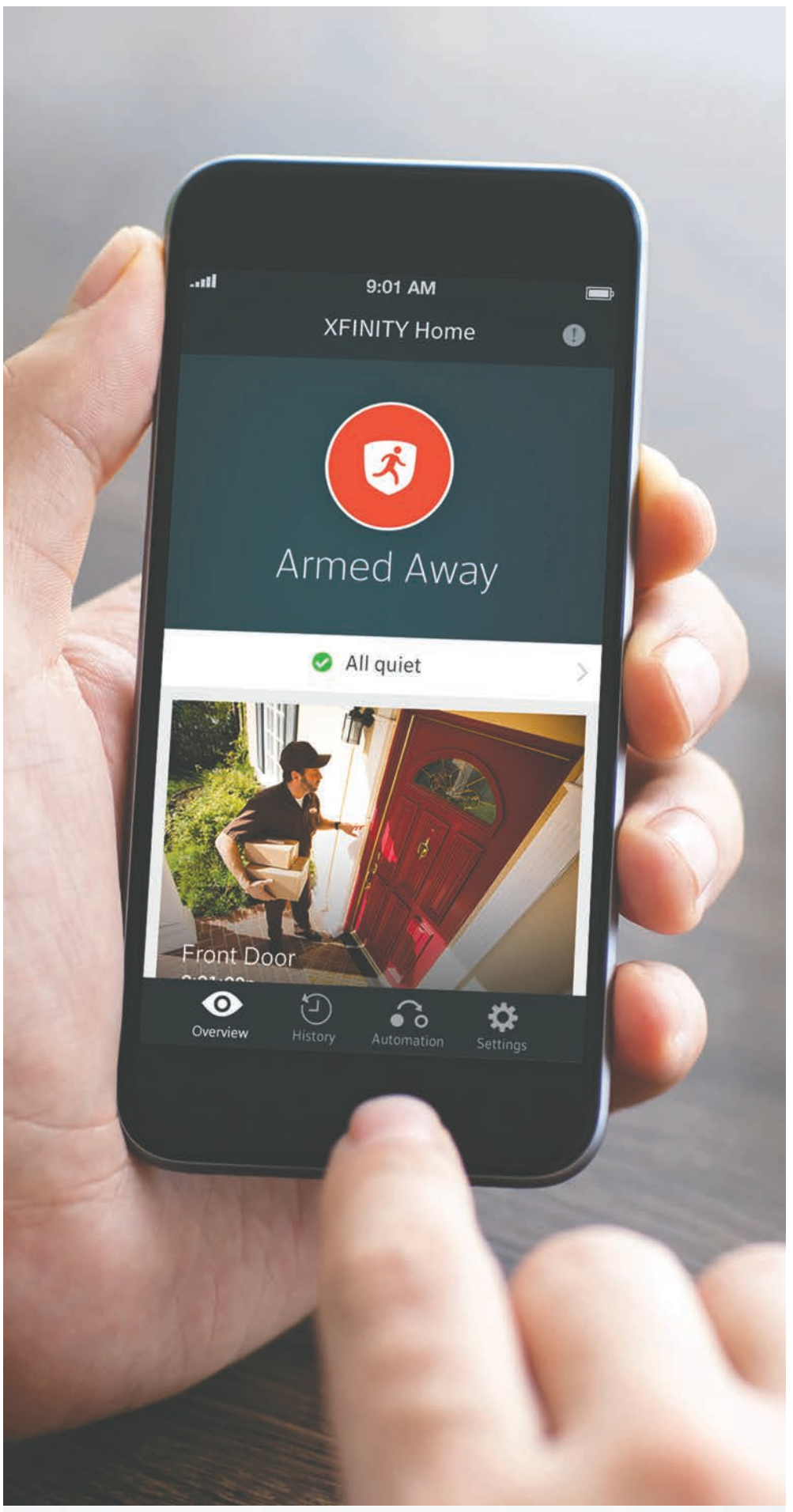
Word of Grace Church
of Pioneer Valley
848 North Road, Route 202
Westfield, MA 01085
(413) 572-3054
Email:office@wordgrace.us
http://www.wordgrace.us
Chet Marshall, Senior Pastor
Sunday Morning Service: 10 a.m.
Sunday evening, 6 p.m.
Wednesday evening, 7 p.m.

Westfield Evangelical Free Church
568 Southwick Road, Westfield, MA 01085
Rev. David K. Young, Pastor
Phone - (413) 562-1504
Sunday – 10 a.m. - Morning Worship, childcare available; 8:45 a.m. - Sunday School.
Wednesday - 7 p.m. - Bible Study.
Friday - 6:30 p.m. -
Awana Children's Program.

West Springfield Church of Christ
61 Upper Church Street,
West Springfield, MA 01089
Phone - (413) 736-1006
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Worship Service; 9:30 a.m. - Bible Study.
Wednesday - 7 p.m., Bible Study.

Wyben Union Church
An Interdenominational Church
678 Montgomery Road, Westfield, MA 01085
Phone - (413) 568-6473
Rev. George Karl, Pastor
Sunday Worship and Sunday School at 10 a.m.
Summer Worship at 9:30am
Nursery Available
Bible Studies in both Church and in Members' homes.
wybenunionchurch.com

Submit Your Local Religious related briefs to ***pressreleases@thewestfieldnews.com*** *Religion -* ***WNG***



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~ BUMBLE ~



Bumble, a Holland Lop, is a social boy looking for an indoor home. Bumble loves to jump onto his boxes, races around his kennel area and loves his greens! Come to Westfield Animal Shelter to meet Bumble!

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413-562-4181, Ext. 117

Kelly's Home & Garden

Forgetting about winter, kids made their own terrariums at Kelly's Home & Garden this week.



Kelly's Home & Garden's Adrianne helps Cooper Racicot with his terrarium. **(Photos by Flora Masciadrelli)**

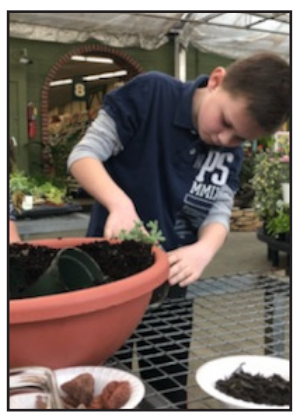












MASON BROWN



NICHOLAS DUBOIS





COOPER RACICOT



ZOE BROWN AND MASON BROWN



Graham Schroth with Stacey Kelly, Owner of Kelly's.



ZOE KELLOGG-BRODEUR AND FIONA KELLOGG-BRODEUR.



PIPPA SCHROTH



PIPPA SCHROTH , ELEANOR SCHROTH AND *GRAHAM SCHROTH*



SPORTS





Vacation Week is not just for kids



WESTFIELD – Even the "big kids" took advantage of Wednesday's beautiful weather.

Westfield Pickleball took its indoor program outdoors to the Municipal Courts from celebrate the February thaw. They'll move back indoors at the Boys & Girls Club from 8:30-11 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, beginning next week. Likewise, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:45-7:45 p.m., the Westfield Park and Recreation Department offers Pickleball at Highland Ave. School.

Just what is Pickleball?

Basically, it is another racquet sport (using a paddle and Wiffle Ball) which is played on half of a tennis court and with a partner as in doubles tennis. Games are about 10-15 minutes long, fast-paced, and one of the most evolving social sports you may encounter.

Pickleball is loud, laughable, friendly and a fun experience. If you can walk, you can generally play Pickleball. It is the fastest growing sport in the States and has finally made its way up north from Florida (the seniors brought it back home with them).

Look it up online or stop by the Boys & Girls Club in Westfiled to see how it is played. There are close to 60 players in town players with that number growing weekly. Pickleball is also played at the YMCA on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:45 a.m.

Join in the fun, make many new friends and get a little exercise as a benefit. The "game" moves outdoors to the Municipal Tennis Courts as the weather gets better.

For more information on Pickleball in Westfield, contact Nan Stolpinski at 413-626-3880. – Courtesy of Nan Stolpinski

Championship bound

WESTFIELD – Top-seeded Westfield State University women's basketball got 18 points each from freshman Melissa Gray (Peabody, Mass) and junior Lucy Barrett (Williamstown, Mass) to defeat fourth seeded Worcester State University, 105-80 in Thursday night's Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference semifinal game at the Woodward Center.

With the win, Westfield (18-7) heads back to the MASCAC championship game for the fourth straight year, and the Owls will be looking to win their third straight conference title. Westfield State University will host the MASCAC championship game Saturday against second-seeded Framingham State University, at 1:00 PM at the Woodward Center.

The Owls ran out to an early 10-2 lead led by Chelsea Moussette's (Southampton, Mass) early eight points. Leading 12-8 late in the first quarter the Owls went on an 11-0 run forcing five Worcester turnovers in that stretch, which was capped by yet another three-pointer from Moussette.

"We shot really well today," said Westfield State head coach Andrea Bertini. "I thought we were able to run our pick and roll, and cut and move. Nothing drastically different from the last meeting, but early we did a good job of turning them over and getting tempo I think that was really important because the pace off play and trying to keep them off the foul line is our goal and we did a good job with that."

Westfield led 55-37 at the half, and 80-65 after three quarters.

The Owls opened the third quarter with a trademark three-pointer from Barrett, which sparked a quick 10-0 run that put the Owls ahead 90-65 with 7:47 left to play.



Westfield State's Lucy Barrett drives to the hoop for two of her 18 points in the Owls 105-80 win over Worcester State in the MASCAC Semifinals. **(Dave Caspole photo/WSU)**

Westfield shot lights-out from downtown all night as the Owls shot 62 percent (13-21) from behind the arc, to go along with overall field-goal percentage of 54 percent on the game.

Westfield also dished out 20 assists on 30 baskets.

"This is a great shooting team, maybe the best I have had in my time at Westfield State," said Bertini, and they share the ball really well."

Moussette added 17 points and eight assists. Senior center Rebecca Sapouckey (Granby HS/Chicopee, Mass.) added 14 points, eight rebounds and five assists, and junior guard Kierra McCarthy (Ludlow, Mass.) added 13 points to round out five Owl scorers in double figures.

For Worcester, junior Emily Carens (Northboro, Mass.) led with 21 points and five rebounds off the bench, while junior Kaitlyn Berkel (Waterford, CT) scored 17 points and 14 rebounds while junior Kate Surprenant (Pelham NH) added 16 points and five assists to lead the effort for the Lancers.

Worcester finishes the season 13-14 overall.

Westfield's win sets up a rematch in the conference title game, as the Owls and Rams will meet in the conference final for the third straight time.

Framingham was a 71-50 winner over Bridgewater State in the other semifinal game tonight.

"Obviously Framingham is a really good team, they probably have three all-conference players and seniors on that team," said Bertini. "You have two very good teams that are very familiar with each other, that are very competitive, we've been 1-2 in the league for the last three or four years; it's going to be a fun match up. They'll be ready, our kids will be ready, and we'll see what happens for 40 minutes." – Courtesy of Westfield State University Sports

Daytona 500 proves to be too challenging

By CHRIS PUTZ
Staff Writer

Round and round we go. Which NASCAR driver in the Daytona 500 stopped ahead of the pack, nobody knew.

In our first Putz's Ultimate Sports Challenge event of the season (the Daytona 500), Austin Dillon claimed the trophy. No one claimed our weekly prize.

Only one top three finisher was chosen in our contest, Denny Hamlin, but because that was also my pick of the week it was simply a tie. Better luck next time.

Don't fret though. There is still a whole slate of events upcoming, highlighted by March Madness/NCAA Final Four, all four golf majors (beginning with The Masters April 5-8), the chase for horse racing's Triple Crown, and – all new for 2018 – every Red Sox-Yankees series through the summer.

PUTZ'S ULTIMATE SPORTS CHALLENGE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

MARCH MADNESS
NCAA Final Four
March 31
(Entry Deadline: Wed., March 14)

GOLF MAJOR
Masters
April 5-8

MLB
Red Sox-Yankees Series
April 10-12

HORSE RACING – TRIPLE CROWN
Kentucky Derby
May 5

MLB
Red Sox-Yankees Series
May 8-10

HORSE RACING – TRIPLE CROWN
The Preakness
Sat., May 19

HORSE RACING – TRIPLE CROWN
Belmont Stakes
June 9

GOLF MAJOR
U.S. Open
June 14-17

MLB
Red Sox-Yankees Series
June 29-July 1

GOLF MAJOR
The Open Championship
July 19-22

MLB
Red Sox-Yankees Series
Aug. 2-4

GOLF MAJOR
PGA Championship
Aug. 9-12

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In this Feb. 10, 2018, file photo, Alabama guard Collin Sexton drives to the basket against Tennessee during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game, in Tuscaloosa, Ala. **(AP Photo)**



In this Feb. 26, 2017, file photo, Michigan State's Miles Bridges drives during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game against Wisconsin, in East Lansing, Mich. **(AP Photo)**



In this March 30, 2017, file photo, NCAA President Mark Emmert answers a question at a news conference in Glendale, Ariz. Bank records and other expense reports that are part of a federal probe into college basketball list a wide range of impermissible payments from agents to at least two dozen players or their relatives, according to documents obtained by Yahoo Sports. **(AP Photo)**

Report: FBI probe docs list range of payments to top players

New details of payments to athletes in a federal investigation that has lurked in the shadows since first rocking college basketball last fall mark the latest threat to the sport's basic foundation, showing the breadth of alleged corruption.

Bank records and other expense reports that are part of the investigation list a wide range of impermissible payments from agents to at least two dozen players or their relatives, according to documents obtained by Yahoo Sports.

The depth of the violations raises questions about the structure of college athletics, a business funded primarily through college football and basketball, including $19.6 billion in TV money for the NCAA Tournament over the past 22 years — a hoops extravaganza American sports fans know as March Madness.

NCAA President Mark Emmert said in a statement Friday the allegations "if true, point to systematic failures that must be fixed and fixed now if we want college sports in America."

Yahoo said Friday that the documents obtained in discovery during the investigation link current players including Michigan State's Miles Bridges, Duke's Wendell Carter and Alabama's Collin Sexton to potential benefits that would be violations of NCAA rules.

Michigan State and Duke officials said Friday they didn't believe their players did anything wrong, and Alabama coach Avery Johnson said Sexton, who was held out of the season opener for violating NCAA rules, will play Saturday against Arkansas.

According to the report, players over the past several years and family members allegedly received cash, entertainment and travel expenses from former NBA agent Andy Miller and his agency ASM Sports. Line items in four pages of documents released by Yahoo showed a wide range, including some five-figure payments and two dinners for less than $40 each.

Don Jackson, an Alabama-based attorney who has worked on numerous college eligibility cases, said the root of the problem is that the NCAA's model of amateurism doesn't work.

"This problem can be solved if players are compensated," Jackson said. "The NCAA is not capable of adequately policing tens of thousands of athletes around the country."

A balance sheet from December 2015 lists several payments under "Loan to Players," including $43,500 to Dallas Mavericks guard Dennis Smith, who played one season at North Carolina State in 2016-17. Another document says Smith received $73,500 in loans.

N.C. State athletic director Debbie Yow said the school disassociated itself from Miller in 2012.

Documents also said Brooklyn Nets guard Isaiah Whitehead received $26,136 while a freshman at Seton Hall, and Tim Quarterman, now playing for the Agua Caliente Clippers of the NBA G League, received at least $16,000 while a junior at LSU.

The story said the mother of Bridges received $400 in a cash advance. Current Kentucky player Kevin Knox, Carter and Sexton are listed among players or families meeting or having meals with former ASM Sports associate Christian Dawkins.

Coaches and athletic officials at several schools, including Clemson, North Carolina State, South Carolina, Southern California, Utah and Wichita State said they did not know of the alleged payments until Yahoo's report was released, but pledged to cooperate in any investigation. Several coaches distanced themselves from Miller.

"Personally, I welcome the scrutiny on the sport of men's basketball because the behavior of some agents, along with reports of other illegal recruiting activities, is hurting the sport," Utah athletic director Chris Hill said.

Tennessee coach Rick Barnes said he isn't surprised by anything that happens in college hoops.

"We can sit here and talk about it for days on end if we wanted to, all the things that have gone on in college basketball," Barnes said. "I'm not surprised by any of it."

Lawyers for two of the 10 defendants arrested in the federal cases said it was inappropriate for Yahoo to have the documents.

"An effort was clearly made to embarrass some defendants and cast aspersions on some current student athletes whose only 'crime' may be that their relatives didn't reimburse an agent for a single steak dinner," said Jeffrey Lichtman, who represents former Southern California assistant basketball coach Tony Bland, who was fired last month after his arrest. Bland is accused of receiving a $13,000 bribe for steering the team's players to Dawkins and a financial adviser when they became professionals. Bland pleaded not guilty in November to charges related to bribery and wire fraud.

Dawkins attorney Steven Haney Sr. said the report doesn't mean Dawkins broke the law.

"In the most simple of legal terms; prove it," Haney said in an email.

Jackson said the NCAA or the schools would need to conduct their own investigations as opposed to making any rulings based on the documents from the FBI probe.

"They can't just automatically accept the credibility of this document," the Alabama-based attorney said.

Emmert said the NCAA Board of Governors and recently formed independent Commission on College Basketball are committed to "making transformational changes" and will cooperate with the federal prosecutors to "identify and punish the unscrupulous parties seeking to exploit the system through criminal acts."

AP sports writers Steve Megargee in Knoxville, Tennessee, Gary B. Graves in Lexington, Kentucky, John Marshall in Phoenix, Joedy McCreary in Raleigh, North Carolina, Pete Iacobelli in Columbia, South Carolina, and Associated Press writer Larry Neumeister in New York contributed to this report.

HIGH SCHOOL 2017 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Sun., Feb. 25, 2018
JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Amherst-Pelham, Fitzpatrick Ice Arena, 12:40 p.m.

SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Sun., Feb. 25, 2018
JV BOYS ICE HOCKEY vs. Agawam, Fitzpatrick Ice Arena, 11:30 a.m.

SAINT MARY HIGH SCHOOL

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US gymnasts tell AP sport rife with verbal, emotional abuse

They were little girls with dreams of Olympic gold when they started in gymnastics. Now they're women with lifelong injuries, suffocating anxiety and debilitating eating disorders.

They are the other victims of USA Gymnastics.

Thirteen former U.S. gymnasts and three coaches interviewed by The Associated Press described a win-at-all-cost culture rife with verbal and emotional abuse in which girls were forced to train on broken bones and other injuries. That culture was tacitly endorsed by the sport's governing body and institutionalized by Bela and Martha Karolyi, the husband-and-wife duo who coached America's top female gymnasts for three decades.

The gymnasts agreed to speak to AP, some for the first time, after the recent courtroom revelations about USA Gymnastics' former team doctor, Larry Nassar, who recently was sentenced to decades in prison for sexually assaulting young athletes for years under the guise of medical treatment.

The Karolyis' oppressive style created a toxic environment in which a predator like Nassar was able to thrive, according to witness statements in Nassar's criminal case and a lawsuit against USA Gymnastics, the Karolyis and others. Girls were afraid to challenge authority, Nassar was able to prey on vulnerable girls and, at the same time, he didn't challenge the couple's harsh training methods.

"He was their little puppet," Jeanette Antolin, a former member of the U.S. national team who trained with the Karolyis, said. "He let us train on injuries. They got what they wanted. He got what he wanted."

Young girls were virtually starved, constantly body shamed and forced to train with broken bones or other injuries, according to interviews and the lawsuit. Their meager diets and extreme training often delayed puberty, which some coaches believed was such a detriment that they ridiculed girls who started their menstrual cycles.

USA Gymnastics declined to answer questions for this story. The Karolyis didn't reply to requests for comment, but their attorney denied they abused anyone.

Some female gymnasts in the U.S. were subjected to abusive training methods before the Karolyis defected from their native Romania in 1981. But other coaches and former gymnasts say the Karolyis' early successes — starting with Romania's Nadia Comaneci becoming the first woman gymnast awarded a perfect score in competition — validated the cutthroat attitudes that fostered widespread mistreatment of American athletes at the highest levels of women's gymnastics.

The Karolyis, who helped USA Gymnastics win 41 Olympic medals, including 13 gold over three decades, trained hundreds of gymnasts at their complex in rural Huntsville, Texas, known as "the ranch." They selected gymnasts for the national team and earned millions from USA Gymnastics.

But while the Karolyis are credited with dramatically improving the performance and medal counts of the U.S. women's team, gymnasts in the U.S. and Romania told AP that the couple were verbally, emotionally and sometimes physically abusive.

A congressional committee investigating the gymnastics scandal said in Feb. 8 letters to the Karolyis, USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Olympic Committee that they were all "at the center of many of these failures" that allowed Nassar's sexual abuse to persist for more than two decades.

Former gymnast Mattie Larson, who was molested by Nassar and was among the nearly 250 who provided victim impact statements during his sentencing hearings, said the doctor cleared her one time to train at the Karolyi complex on an ankle that turned out to be fractured.

"Martha, did you keep Larry around because he was a good doctor? Or did you really keep him around because he let us compete when we were injured and was willing to keep your secrets?" Larson said in court.

It's unclear what the Karolyis knew about Nassar's sexual abuse and whether they took any action to stop it.

Martha Karolyi, in a deposition given last year as part of the lawsuit against the Karolyis and numerous others, acknowledged that "in or around June 2015" she received a phone call from the then-head of the national gymnastics organization, Steve Penny, informing her that the organization had received a complaint that Nassar had "molested a national team gymnast at the ranch."

The deposition was included in a Feb. 14 letter to two U.S. senators from John Manly, an attorney representing Larson and other Nassar victims in a lawsuit that seeks monetary damages and court oversight of USA Gymnastics.

Manly cited the deposition to accuse the sport's governing body of lying to Congress.

In a timeline submitted to a congressional committee investigating the scandal, the organization said it was told in mid-June of an athlete "uncomfortable" with Nassar's treatment, but that it was not until late July 2015 that it decided to notify law enforcement "with concerns of potential sexual misconduct."

That "timeline is incomplete, inaccurate and equally misleading," Manly said. Penny, the former USA Gymnastics chief, said in a statement that Martha Karolyi was mistaken about the timing of his call.

Texas has one of the strongest child abuse reporting laws in the nation, requiring anyone who has reason to believe abuse has occurred to immediately alert authorities. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor punishable by jail time and a fine, said Scott McCown, director of the Children's Rights Clinic at the University of Texas at Austin, and "any kind of sexual abuse is going to count."

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services said it did not find any reports about abuse at the Karolyi ranch.

In the deposition, Martha Karolyi said she did not discuss what she learned about Nassar with anyone but her husband, her lawyers and the USA Gymnastics official who called her.

That raises questions about whether she violated Texas law.

The AP requested an interview with the Karolyis through their Houston attorney, Gary Jewell, who declined. Reporters also visited the ranch, left phone messages and sent the couple a letter, but they never responded.

Jewell said the Karolyis didn't know about any sexual assault complaints involving Nassar until Martha Karolyi was contacted by a USA Gymnastics official in the summer of 2015. Jewell insisted the Karolyis didn't abuse anyone and were cooperating with authorities. He said he would not discuss additional details because of ongoing litigation.

The Texas Rangers and the local sheriff's office are both investigating the ranch, which is closed, and declined to comment. USA Gymnastics recently cut ties with the Karolyis, and it's unclear where the couple is living.

LIFETIME OF PAIN

Before 1984, the U.S. women's gymnastics team had won only one Olympic medal: A bronze at the 1948 games in London. Individually, U.S. women gymnasts didn't fare much better.

So when the Karolyis arrived in the United States and opened their own gym in Houston in 1982, they began attracting gymnasts who wanted to train with the coaches who catapulted Comaneci to fame.

One of their first American students was Mary Lou Retton, who was already a promising gymnast when she decided to make the Karolyis her new coaches. She declined an interview with the AP.

Retton's success at the 1984 Olympics, where she won five medals, including a gold, cemented the Karolyis' reputation.

After that performance, hundreds of girls from all over the country wanted to train with the Karolyis. Capitalizing on this demand, the couple launched a long — and profitable — relationship with USA Gymnastics, opening a new training center on a secluded tract of land outside Huntsville, a town of less than 40,000 in southeast Texas best known for the prison that houses the state's execution chamber.

According to USA Gymnastics' financial records reviewed by AP, the Karolyis were paid at least $2.1 million. Their true income is likely higher because despite their long association with the nonprofit organization, the Karolyis are named in publicly available financial records for only 2000 through 2007. Martha Karolyi was the national team coordinator from 2001 to 2016, and prior to that her husband led the team for nearly two years.

USA Gymnastics declined to say how much the Karolyis were paid. The organization canceled plans to purchase the ranch after the Nassar scandal broke.

At the ranch, the Karolyis controlled every aspect of the girls' lives, from their diets to routines, former gymnasts told AP. They would search the girls' rooms, looking for snacks that might be stashed away, according to the lawsuit and interviews with former gymnasts. The Karolyis, their coaching staff and sometimes other visiting coaches would publicly ridicule girls about their weight or bodies and force the gymnasts to work through devastating injuries.

Sara Tank Ornelas said that soon after she began training with the Karolyis in 1985 she realized that the Bela Karolyi she had seen on television, who was "animated and acted like he loved kids," was "not the Bela that was in the gym."

"We were treated like a business plan," said Ornelas, now 44 and living in Wichita, Kansas.

Ornelas said she suffered 13 broken bones while training at the Karolyis' Houston gym from age 11 to 15.

Being hungry was part of life, she said. A typical breakfast was a measured amount of cereal. Lunch consisted of dry tuna and a few crackers. Dinner was often a small portion of chicken and broccoli or rice.

Larson, who began training at the ranch when she was 10, said she feared even drinking water because of possible weight gain. She took laxatives daily for six years, she said.

The lack of calories and intense workouts left the girls' bodies malnourished, delaying puberty. Studies have shown delayed puberty can cause lifelong problems such as osteoporosis. Puberty was something to be feared, Ornelas said, and girls who developed breasts were ridiculed for needing a bra.

"If a girl started wearing a bra, coaches would snap the bra and the other girls would make fun of them," said Ornelas, who trained all year between 1985 and 1989, when she said a botched surgery ended her career.

The insults still sting, she said.

"I remember a coach yelling across the gym that I had a fat ass," she said. "I was 11."

Antolin, the former member of the U.S. national team, recalled one time when she was about 15 or 16 "Bela grabbed my butt and told me to lose it."

Antolin, one of the plaintiffs in Manly's lawsuit, said her personal coach was also abusive, limiting her to 800 calories per day despite hours of rigorous training.

Nassar was seemingly the only friendly adult around, gymnasts said, but he did nothing to challenge the Karolyis' behavior.

Dominique Moceanu, who competed in the 1996 Olympics, said the Karolyis used the threat of her abusive father as a means of control. If she didn't perform to expectation or complained about injuries, she said, they would threaten to tell her father, knowing that he would beat her. A former member of the Karolyi staff told AP that he witnessed a beating of Moceanu by her father.

Once, Moceanu recalled, when she complained about a leg injury, Martha Karolyi grabbed her by the back of the neck and told her to call her father. Dumitru Moceanu died in 2008, and his widow did not respond to requests for comment.

The pressure to stay thin, which included being called "fat" in front of teammates, was also humiliating, Dominique Moceanu said.

"You're just hanging by a thread by the time the Olympics rolled around," she added.

DARK PAST

Aside from being known as the coaches who guided Comaneci and Retton to victory, it's unclear what USA Gymnastics officials knew about the Karolyis' background when they asked them to lead the national team.

USA Gymnastics would not say if the Karolyis had been vetted. But there were many red flags, AP found.

Six Romanians — four gymnasts, their choreographer and a team nurse, most of whom have never spoken publicly — told AP the Karolyis were physically and emotionally abusive to gymnasts in their native country.

If anyone on staff objected to the beatings, verbal abuse or meager diets, they were fired, all the Romanians interviewed said.

Gabriela Geiculescu, a former gymnast who trained with the Karolyis in Romania, said she believed the couple knew they couldn't treat U.S. gymnasts as they had those in their home country.

But she is still haunted by the abuse. "You would get so hungry you would eat toothpaste," Geiculescu, who now runs a gymnastics program in Nashville, Tennessee, told AP. "And when you were injured you had to hide the pain or they would beat you."

Bela and Martha Karolyi met in college and opened a gymnastics program together. At the time, most gymnasts would begin training at 10 or 11 years old — even later.

But the Karolyis changed the sport. They began searching for children in elementary school, believing that young girls were easier to build into champions.

They started training Comaneci when she was 6. And when the 14-year-old dazzled the world with her perfect 10 performance, the Karolyis were on the map.

Comaneci, who now lives in Oklahoma with her husband, fellow Olympian Bart Conner, did not respond to AP's requests for an interview.

With the blessing and support of Romania's communist leadership, the Karolyis centralized gymnastics training in the 1970s, opening a center in a small town in Transylvania where the country's best gymnasts were required to train and go to school.

Dana Beck was a 14-year-old budding young gymnast in Romania's capital city Bucharest when she was picked to train with the Karolyis.

Then known as Dumitrita Turner, she said she didn't want to go. While her own coach was verbally and physically abusive, she said, she had heard "horror stories" about the Karolyis.

Beck said Bela Karolyi — a burly man who towered over the tiny gymnasts — would often strike her if she didn't "do things his way" in practice. But she said her physical abuse was nothing compared to what her fellow gymnasts endured.

She recalled that one gymnast practiced so long on the parallel bars that the blisters on her hands popped. Beck said Bela warned the girl to keep going and she did until her hands started to bleed. In pain, the young gymnast sobbed that "I can't do this anymore."

What happened next stunned Beck. "He beat her so long and hard that she peed in her pants," she said.

Two Romanian gymnasts and two former members of the Karolyis' staff confirmed this account.

"You can't imagine the brutality inside that building," said Geza Pozsar, who was the Karolyis' choreographer from 1974 to 2002. He defected with them in 1981 when the Romanian team was traveling in the U.S.



Larry Nassar appears in court in Lansing, Mich., in 2017. **(AP Photo)**



Martha Karolyi instructs her charges. **(AP Photo)**



Bela Karolyi congratulates Dominique Moceanu at the Centennial Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. **(AP Photo)**

Pozsar acknowledged he had a tumultuous relationship with the Karolyis over the years. Still, he said he worked closely with them in Romania. The gymnasts at the Karolyis' training center had to go to school, where Pozsar's wife was a French teacher. He said he and his wife were so appalled at the gymnasts' diet that they'd sneak the girls "chocolate bars" and other food.

Limiting calories despite long, exhausting workouts was a way the Karolyis believed they could delay the girls' puberty, he said.

"They did not want them to have their periods or develop breasts. It was a stigma," he said, adding that the Karolyis had derogatory nicknames for the gymnasts. "They would call them cows and say they were fat. They would humiliate the girls."

Beck, now an accountant living in Australia, said the gymnasts were so hungry that they'd scrounge for food in garbage cans when they went into town. Worse, while they ate meager portions, the Karolyis and staff members would often eat huge plates of food in front of them, said Beck and the other Romanians interviewed by AP.

When the Romanian team heard the news about their coaches' defection, everyone cheered, the gymnasts said.

"We celebrated by buying chocolate and having a big chocolate party," Beck said.

PLAGUED BY INJURIES

Former gymnast Cathy Rigby, who at 15 was the youngest girl on the 1968 U.S. Olympic team, said she "learned to be bulimic" in gymnastics long before the Karolyis arrived on the scene.

The pressure to perform with injuries also pre-dated the Karolyis, she said, but "when Bela came here, other coaches saw that they were winning and thought, 'This is the way you have to coach.'"

And with each new success, the Karolyis' methods became institutionalized across the sport, gymnasts told AP.

"It became the only way if you wanted to win," said Jennifer Sey, a former member of the U.S. national team who did not train with the Karolyis but with coaches in the 1980s who she said followed the Karolyis' abusive model.

American gymnasts interviewed by AP said they weren't punched or assaulted as the Romanians said they had been, but nearly all complained of constant emotional abuse. They also said they considered many of the Karolyis' tactics — including forcing gymnasts to work through serious injuries — a form of physical abuse.

USA Gymnastics shares much of the blame for the abusive environment, the former gymnasts said.

The organization's executive, board members and coaches attended the Karolyis ranch and other gymnasiums. The gymnasts interviewed by AP said it would be nearly impossible for them not to have witnessed the verbal and emotional abuse and forced training through injuries.

In fact, former USA Gymnastics board member, Dr. Jay Binder, warned in a 2010 report for the Federation of International Gymnasts that forcing girls to work through injuries and severely limiting their caloric intake could lead to a lifetime of physical and emotional pain.

"Gymnastics is an aesthetic and athletic sport so there is sometimes pressure from coaches, judges and teammates to 'not get fat' or to stay lean because they believe it will keep them competitive and enhance performance," Binder wrote. "The facts show that these strategies have the opposite effect and lead the athlete into unhealthy eating patterns or even anorexia and bulimia."

He also noted that extreme training and severe dieting, combined with delayed-onset puberty, could lead to "potentially devastating" bone loss.

"We have the bodies of old people," said Larson, now 25.

Ornelas is also plagued by injuries and body-image issues. She says she struggles with "horrible arthritis" and low self-esteem. "I think it's a habit from being called fat and told I had a big butt," said the 5-foot-4, roughly 110-pound former gymnast.

Years before the U.S. gymnastics scandal erupted publicly, one former gymnast-turned-lawyer quietly sought to help the governing body change its bylaws to better protect girls from possible abuse.

Jessica Armstrong said she researched USA Gymnastics' rules after her own daughter wanted to join the sport. Armstrong said she had been sexually abused by a coach, who later was convicted of child pornography, but never told anyone. She wanted to ensure her daughter was better protected, but said she found loopholes in how coaches and staff were vetted.

Armstrong and another lawyer developed proposed guidelines and got two dozen other gymnasts, including Rigby, to endorse them. They sent the proposal to a USA Gymnastics official in a May 29, 2012, letter but got no response.

"It's clear they were not open to changing the rules that would protect children from abuse," Armstrong said.

In the wake of the Nassar scandal, USA Gymnastics adopted new bylaws, which expanded the number of categories of prohibited conduct to include verbal and emotional misconduct, bullying, hazing and harassment.

USA Gymnastics' bylaws also say members "must promote a safe, misconduct-free environment" for gymnasts, participants, coaches, officials, volunteers and staff. Anyone violating misconduct rules could be suspended or banned from the sport.

Sey said USA Gymnastics accepted the emotional and physical abuse of its athletes "to the point that it's become invisible." Now, it needs to aggressively tackle the issue of physical and emotional abuse, otherwise "more young girls will be hurt."

"There needs to be a cultural change," Sey said, calling for "zero tolerance for abuse of any variety — not just sexual abuse. But I don't think USA Gymnastics has the moral courage to reset the sport."

Larson agreed: "It's sad for me to say this, but if gymnastics can't find a way to keep athletes healthy and happy, they need to shut it down."



Dear Annie

By ANNIE LANE

Hope for those with Eating Disorders

Dear Annie: I want your readers who think they may have an eating disorder to know that they are not alone and that their condition is treatable. I am living proof!

Throughout my childhood, I struggled with my weight and my relationship with food. When I reached the end of high school, I committed to being "healthy." I lost more than 50 pounds by eating better and exercising. What a feeling of power it was to have made such a big and (I thought) positive change.

However, when I went away to college, I started to throw up when I thought I had eaten too much. I only did it occasionally, but it crept up eventually to twice a day. I realized that I was purging to cope with my feelings of depression and restricting my food intake to have a feeling of control over my life. My feelings may have been out of control, but I knew exactly how many calories were going into my body at any moment.

I wore my dizziness and lightheadedness with pride. After all, I was getting compliments from people about how great I looked.

Eventually, all the purging and restricting could not keep my depression at bay, and my health started to decline. I enrolled in a treatment program, and I am happy to say it worked. Though I don't know that I'll ever be completely "cured," I live a happy and healthy life now. I want other young women to know that there is help. -- Living a Sunny Life

Dear Living a Sunny Life: Thank you so much for having the courage to share your story. Next week is National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, and people can check their symptoms at http://www.mybodyscreening.org. It takes only a few minutes. It is free and anonymous, and it could change your life.

Dear Annie: The recent news stories of sexual abuse of children have encouraged me to share my story in the hope it helps others. I was sexually abused by my maternal grandfather. I won't go into details here, but my greatest hurt was when I told my mother. I was about 45 years old and had started counseling. I told her of my childhood experiences and pleaded with her not to tell anyone, saying the counseling was helping and all I asked of her was to give me some confidentiality and support. She expressed sympathy but was not surprised, as this had happened to her when she was younger. Two days later, she called me, said I was lying and told me she and her sisters were going to get a lawyer and sue me if I shared this with anyone. I was so hurt. This split our family apart; she and my brother constantly attacked me verbally and emotionally. Reconciliation was attempted years later, but relationships never were fully restored.

My point here is to protect your children as much as possible, and if there is suspicion of abuse, deal with it immediately. Support them and always give them the benefit of the doubt. The shame of abuse is indescribable. I am glad that now people are coming forth with the truth. -- Been There but Doing Better

Dear Been There but Doing Better: I am so sorry that happened, but I'm grateful to you for sharing your story.

Anyone who suspects child abuse should call the Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline, at 800-422-4453.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

HINTS FROM HELOISE

SOLAR ENERGY



Dear Heloise: My husband wants us to convert to solar energy, but I hate those ugly panels on the roofs of homes that have solar power. We live where there is plenty of sunshine, and it makes sense to have solar energy in our home, but those panels are unattractive. -- Hannah D., Odessa, Texas

Hannah, currently there are solar panels and solar shingles. The panels can be upgraded from the standard panels to all-black panels, making them appear a bit more modern and streamlined. However, the reasons behind using solar energy are to reduce pollution and to save money. Both panels and shingles do this. For more information, please refer to the online sites energy.gov or www.eia.gov. -- Heloise

WHOLE-WHEAT PASTRY FLOUR

Dear Heloise: Is whole-wheat pastry flour still made? I can't find it anywhere. -- Kay F., Corinth, Miss.

Kay, yes it's still available. Check out health-food stores, or go online to order it. -- Heloise

A CORNY SUBJECT

Dear Heloise: My mother and I have a debate going on about the nutritional value of corn. She says it's just empty calories, and I say not so. -- Patty W., Ashburn, Va.

Patty, corn is a starchy vegetable, but it contains vitamins C and B, magnesium, phosphorus and lutein, and is a good source of fiber. -- Heloise

SEND A GREAT HINT TO:

Heloise
P.O. Box 795000
San Antonio, TX 78279-5000
Fax: 1-210-HELOISE
Email: Heloise(at)Heloise.com

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

2/24 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★★

Previous puzzle solution

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

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TV Sports Listings

Saturday, Feb. 24

Auto Racing

9 a.m. NASCAR Xfinity Series: Rinnai 250 Qualifying (FS1)
10:30 a.m. NASCAR Camping World Truck Series: Active Pest Control 200 Qualifying (FS1)
12 p.m. NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Series: Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 Final Practice (FS1)
2 p.m. NASCAR Xfinity Series: Rinnai 250 (FS1)
4:30 p.m. NASCAR Camping World Truck Series: Active Pest Control 200 (FS1)

Baseball

12 p.m. MLB Spring Training: St. Louis Cardinals vs. New York Mets (43, MNT)

Basketball

12 p.m. NCAA: Seton Hall vs. St. John's (FOX)
12 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESPN)
12 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESP2)
12 p.m. NCAA: Providence at Georgetown (CBSSN)
12 p.m. NCAA: Marquette at DePaul (YES)
1 p.m. NCAA: Louisville at Virginia Tech (CBS)
2 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESPN)
2 p.m. NCAA: Illinois State at Loyola (ESPN2)
2 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (CBSSN)
2 p.m. NCAA: Boston College at Miami (YES)
2:30 p.m. NCAA: Villanova at Creighton (FOX)
3 p.m. NCAA: Notre Dame at Wake Forest (CW-14)
4 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESPN)
4 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESP2)
4 p.m. NCAA: Women's Kansas at Kansas State (MSG)
4 p.m. NCAA: Indiana State at Bradley (CBSSN)
6 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESPN)
6 p.m. NCAA: Iowa State at West Virginia (ESPN2)
6 p.m. NCAA: Bowling Green vs. Kent State (CBSSN)
6 p.m. NCAA Women: Connecticut vs. SMU (SNY)
7:30 p.m. NBA: Boston Celtics at New York Knicks (MSG)
8 p.m. NCAA: St. Bonaventure at VCU (CBSSN)
8 p.m. NCAA: Gonzaga at BYU (ESPN2)
8:15 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESPN)
8:30 p.m. NBA: Oklahoma City Thunder at Golden State Warriors (ABC)
8:30 p.m. NCAA: Yale at Columbia (SNY)
10 p.m. NCAA: Long Beach vs. CSU Fullerton (ESPN2)
10:15 p.m. NCAA: Arizona at Oregon (ESPN)

Boxing

9:30 p.m. HBO After Dark: Carlos Cuadras vs. McWilliams Arroyo (HBO)

Golf

1 p.m. PGA Tour: The Honda Classic Round 3 (GOLF)
3 p.m. PGA Tour: The Honda Classic Round 3 (CBS)
1 a.m. LPGA Tour: Honda Thailand Final Round (GOLF)
5 a.m. European PGA Tour: Qatar Masters Final Round (GOLF)

Hockey

7 p.m. NHL: Buffalo Sabres at Washington Capitals (MSGPL)

Motorcycle Racing

7 p.m. AMA: Supercross (FS1)

Olympics

6:30 a.m. Winter Olympics: Men's Ice Hockey Bronze Medal (NBCSN)
7 p.m. Winter Olympics: Women's Curling Gold Medal (NBCSN)
8 p.m. Winter Olympics: Figure Skating Gala, Men's Bobsleigh 4-Man Final (NBC)
10:30 p.m. Winter Olympics: Men's Ice Hockey Gold Medal (NBCSN)

Soccer

10 a.m. EPL: Liverpool at West Ham (CNBC)
12:30 p.m. EPL: Everton at Watford (NBC)
7:55 p.m. MFL: Morelia at Tigres (UNI)
9:55 p.m. MFL: Tijuana at America (UNI)

Sunday, Feb. 25

Auto Racing

2 p.m. NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Series: Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (FOX)

Baseball

1 p.m. MLB Spring Training: Miami Marlins vs. New York Mets (SNY)

Basketball

12 p.m. NCAA: Tulsa at Cincinnati (CBSSN)
12 p.m. NCAA Women: Ohio State at Penn State (ESPN2)
1 p.m. NCAA: Michigan State at Wisconsin (CBS)
1 p.m. NCAA Women: Georgia Tech at Florida State (YES)
2 p.m. NCAA: UNLV vs. N. Mexico (CBSSN)
2 p.m. NCAA Women: Creighton vs. Villanova (FS1)
2 p.m. NCAA Women: North Carolina State at Notre Dame (ESPN2)
3 p.m. NCAA Women: Virginia at Wake Forest (YES)
3:30 p.m. NBA: San Antonio Spurs at Cleveland Cavaliers (ABC)
4 p.m. NCAA: Colorado State at Nevada (CBSSN)
4 p.m. NCAA: Minnesota at Purdue (FS1)
4 p.m. NCAA: Teams TBA (ESPN)
4 p.m. NCAA Women: South Carolina at Tennessee (ESPN2)
8 p.m. NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Washington Wizards (ESPN)

Golf

1 p.m. PGA Tour: The Honda Classic Final Round (GOLF)
3 p.m. PGA Tour: The Honda Classic Final Round (CBS)

Hockey

12 p.m. NHL: St. Louis Blues at Nashville Predators (NBC)
5 p.m. NHL: Boston Bruins at Buffalo Sabres (MSGPL)
7:30 p.m. NHL: Detroit Red Wings at New York Rangers (MSG)

Olympics

11:30 a.m. Winter Olympics (NBCSN)

Soccer

9:05 a.m. EPL: Chelsea at Manchester United (NBCSN)
9:30 a.m. DFL: Schalke at Leverkusen (FS1)
11:25 a.m. EFL Cup Final: Arsenal vs. Manchester City (ESPN)
12:30 p.m. MFL: Guadalajara at UNAM (UNI)

Former NFL player detained by police after Instagram post

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former Miami Dolphins offensive lineman Jonathan Martin, who has struggled with mental health issues after a 2013 bullying scandal that shook the NFL, was taken into Los Angeles police custody Friday after a threatening Instagram post on his account mentioned two former teammates who had harassed him.

Martin was being questioned by investigators after the post showed a shotgun and referred by name to the private Harvard-Westlake prep school in Los Angeles that he once attended, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The post also included mentions of the Instagram usernames of former Miami Dolphins players Richie Incognito and Mike Pouncey and said suicide and revenge were the only options for a victim of bullying, the official said.

The Harvard-Westlake prep school was evacuated earlier Friday after officials were made aware of the post. It was not immediately clear whether Martin posted the photo himself and he was not under arrest Friday afternoon.

Martin left the Miami Dolphins midseason in 2013 after accusing teammates of bullying. An NFL investigation found that Incognito, Pouncey and teammate John Jerry engaged in persistent harassment directed at Martin.

Incognito was suspended for the final eight games and sat out the 2014 season before joining the Buffalo Bills.

The NFL's investigation also found that teammates threatened to rape Martin's sister, called him a long list of slurs and bullied him for not being "black enough." Martin is black and Incognito is white.

Martin, who underwent counseling for emotional issues after the bullying scandal, posted on Facebook in 2015 that difficulties in football led him to attempt suicide multiple times.

Martin, the son of two Harvard graduates, attended Stanford University. After he left the Dolphins, Martin played for the San Francisco 49ers and Carolina Panthers. He left the NFL in 2015.

Representatives for the Miami Dolphins and the NFL declined to comment and referred questions to Los Angeles police.



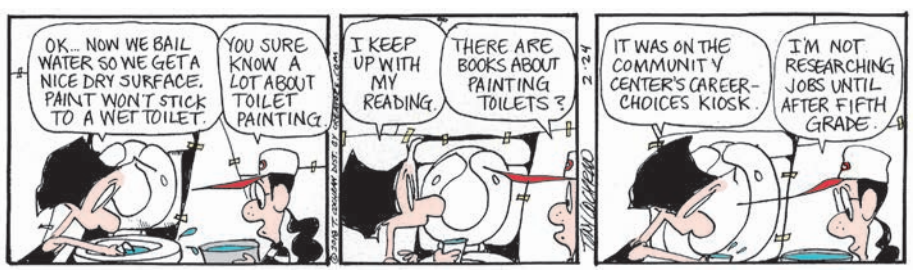
This Aug. 28, 2014, file photo shows San Francisco 49ers' Jonathan Martin on the bench during an NFL football preseason game against the Houston Texans in Houston. **(AP Photo/ David J. Phillip, File)**

COMICS

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



AGNES Tony Cochran



ARCHIE Fernando Ruiz and Craig Boldman



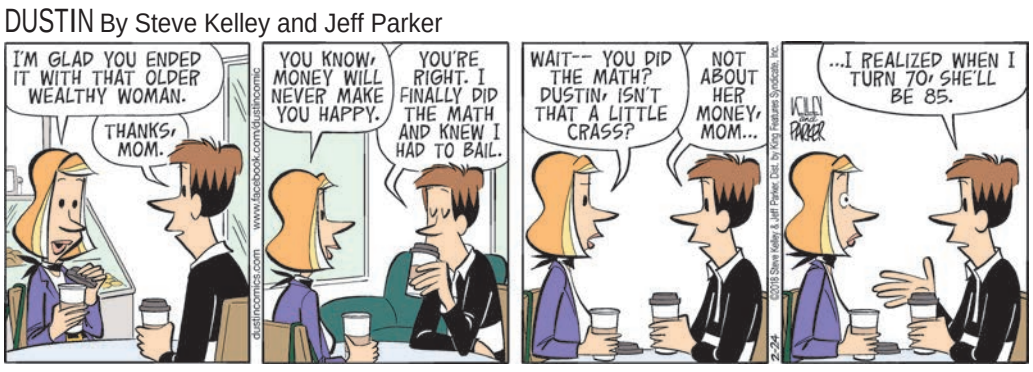
RUBES Leigh Rubin



DADDY'S HOME Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



DUSTIN By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



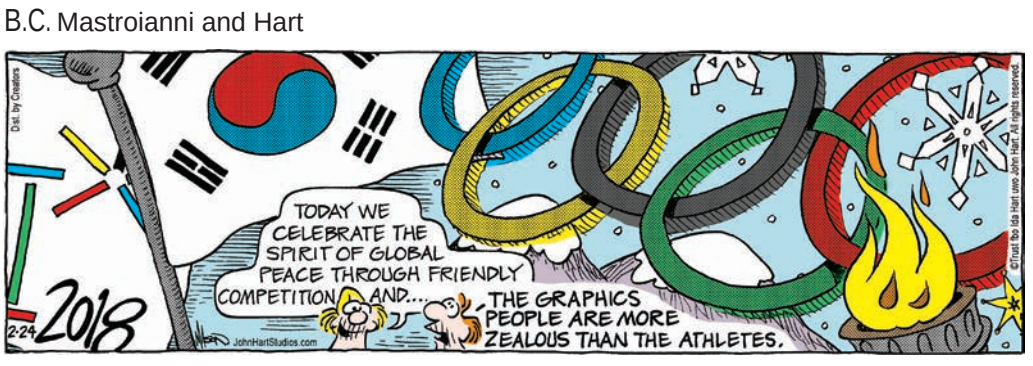
SCARY GARY Mark Buford



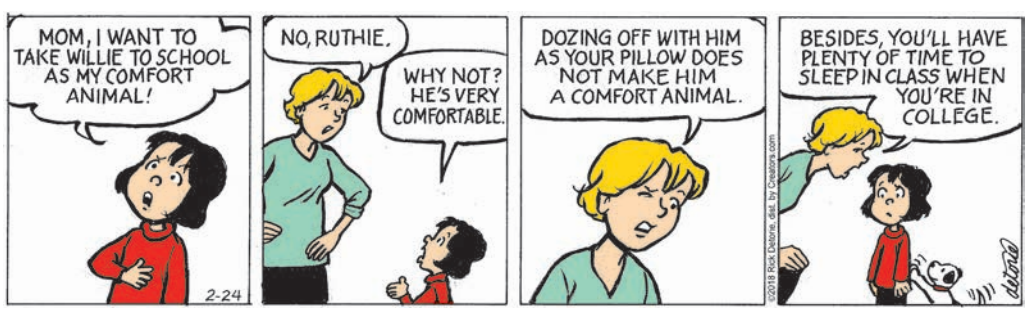
DOGS of C-KENNEL Mick and Mason Mastroianni



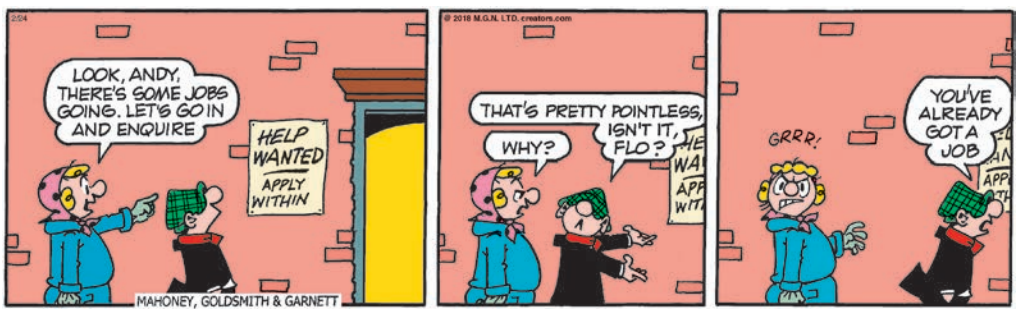
B.C. Mastroianni and Hart



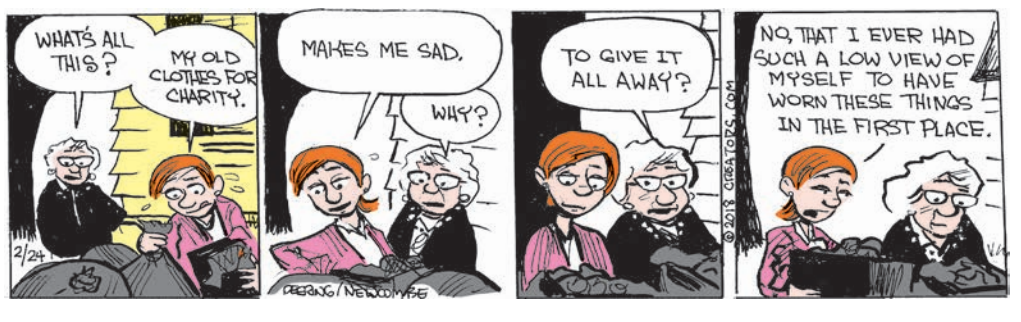
ONE BIG HAPPY Rick Detorie



ANDY CAPP Mahoney, Goldsmith and Garnett



ZACK HILL John Deering and John Newcombe



YOUR HOROSCOPE

By Jaqueline Bigar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018:

This year you often feel tense, and you use that stress to get energized. You will accomplish a lot while also learning how to express yourself more openly. If you are single, you attract several interesting potential suitors. Be wise, and refuse to push this person to be someone he or she is not. If you are attached, you and your sweetie often draw different conclusions from the same statement. Recognize how very different your perspectives are, and learn to explain and understand where each of you is coming from. Take a lesson in sensitivity from CANCER.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your frustration might come out in a positive way as you head out on a crusade to fix a problem. A family member might feel left out, and probably wishes you were around more. You could be surprised and delighted by others' actions. Tonight: Communicate actively.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Tension builds around a financial matter. You also could be concerned about news you hear or a call that comes your way. The other party clearly is upset and needs to talk. You might feel cornered. Know that you'll see a situation change, given some time. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You seem to be on top of your game. Your finances are likely to get out of whack if you are not careful. Your frustration or anger with a difficult situation might encourage some spending. An element of excitement surrounds a friendship. Tonight: Pay your bills first.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You will be glad that you have chosen to head down a certain path. You seem to be full of fun. Lighten up a conversation involving an older friend or relative. This person has a way of sending chills down your spine before you even realize it. Tonight: Out until the wee hours.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ You sense that you have a limited window to make something you want happen. Others will be more receptive in the daytime. You'll enjoy socializing and visiting with almost everyone who crosses your path. Schedule some personal time with a loved one. Tonight: Opt for cozy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ All eyes turn to you. Others assume that you know how to bring people together for a fun time. Touch base with close friends and loved ones. Don't forget to call a certain family member. Make plans to enjoy a fun afternoon and evening. Tonight: Let the party go on and on!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ One-on-one relating draws many people toward you. Look at the big picture to see what is going on around you. With some understanding, you will be less concerned about how things play out. Some of you might want to take a day trip. Tonight: Expect to go till the wee hours.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ A partner practically demands more one-on-one time. How you see a certain matter now could be a lot different from how you had viewed it in the past. Your interactions promote a fresh perspective. Your ingenuity punctuates your plans. Tonight: Try a new type of cuisine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Others seek you out en masse throughout the day. You might feel overwhelmed by what is happening within your group of friends. Whatever is occupying your thoughts and taking up your time needs to be taken care of immediately. Tonight: Schedule more bonding time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You have a lot of ground to cover, which you will do quickly and efficiently. You could be overly excited when you consider your plans for later on. Someone takes a stand quickly and unexpectedly, and you might have some difficulty understanding why. Tonight: All smiles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You could be pondering a fun suggestion. Whenever you are in a discussion with someone, you seem to enjoy yourself. Your sense of humor comes out when dealing with an aggravating situation. Be realistic about how energized you are. Tonight: Time for fun!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might want to examine what is going on around you. Someone you care about could be on the warpath. Know that you'll need to deal with this person before you get your day started. A loved one wants your time and attention. Tonight: Invite friends over for dinner.

BORN TODAY

Actress Kristin Davis (1965), actor Abe Vigoda (1921), musician Matt Skiba (1976)

***

Jacqueline Bigar is on the internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

South has a problem to solve

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K 7 6
♥ A 3
♦ J 8 3 2
♣ 10 9 5

WEST
♠ 10 4 3
♥ Q J 10 9 7 6 4
♦ A 10
♣ 7

EAST
♠ Q J 9 8
♥ 8
♦ Q 9 7 6 5
♣ K 8 2

SOUTH
♠ 5 2
♥ K 5 2
♦ K 4
♣ A Q J 6 4 3

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	5 ♣		

Opening lead — queen of hearts.

One of the chief purposes of a pre-emptive bid is to deprive the opponents of the ability to exchange information at a low level. It is therefore not surprising that a partnership will often fail to arrive at its best contract after a pre-emptive bid by the opposition.

Take this case where North-South would have been much better off at three notrump than the inferior contract of five clubs they reached after West's opening three-heart bid.

Declarer had a lot of work to do to make five clubs. He took the opening heart lead in dummy and returned the club ten, winning the finesse. Another trump finesse disclosed that East had started with three to the king, which in turn meant that South's third heart could not be safely ruffed in dummy. Two diamond losers also appeared certain since West was very likely to have the ace for his vulnerable three-bid.

The outlook was bleak, but declarer found the answer. After drawing East's last trump, he cashed the A-K of spades and ruffed a spade. He then played his last two trumps, reducing himself to the K-x of both red suits. On the last trump, West had to choose a discard from the J-10-9 of hearts and A-10 of diamonds.

If West discarded a heart, South would then play the king and another heart, compelling West to lead a diamond. And if West discarded the ten of diamonds instead, a low diamond play would convert declarer's king into a trick. Either way, the jig was up.

South certainly gets full credit for his excellent play, but West has to get an assist for having made it possible to test declarer's mettle.

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CROSSWORDS

ACROSS
1 Sign after Virgo
6 George Washington —
12 Virgil epic
13 Indefinite interval
14 Stand up for
15 Raps
16 Starting
17 Nantes notion
19 Kreskin's claim
20 Bigfoot's cousin
22 German article
24 Map lines (Abbr.)
27 Thailand, once
29 Earth circler
32 Greeter's words
35 Cowardly Lion portrayer
36 Protuberance
37 Cry
38 Dalloway or Doubtfire
40 Baseball team
42 Carnival city
44 Commotion
46 Black, in verse
50 Unprincipled
52 Ring around the sun
54 Sand trap, for one
55 Dried grape
56 Aromas
57 Upright

DOWN
1 Sediment
2 Data
3 Powerfully built
4 — Tin Tin
5 Building wing
6 Birthday dessert
7 Bearded, as grain
8 Plato's P
9 Showy butterflies
10 BPOE members
11 Breathing (Abbr.)
12 Nabokov novel
18 Wedding ring sparkler
21 Ballpark fig.
23 911 responder
24 NBC weekend show
25 Spanish aunt
26 Chat
28 So-so
30 Odometer start
31 Gist
33 Mess up
34 Poetic dusk
39 Kick off
41 Haunting
42 Stadium cheers
43 Apple computer
45 Early automaker
47 Pear type
48 Getting the job done
49 A Bobbsey twin
51 Scooted
53 Crew tool

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-24

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12							13					
14							15					
16					17	18				19		
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42	43			44	45				46	47	48	49
50			51				52	53				
54							55					
56							57					

CRYPTOQUIP

L Q Z P W N R Q P M D J Y Z V V C A D C V A L Q D Y D B O P F J Y P O Z X A P M B A P O X D F Y N F Y J O A O? C F A Y Z J P N D B Z F M W A O Q A F O.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A BASKETBALLER'S STYLE IS IDENTICAL TO THAT OF THE LAKERS' BRYANT, IS HE A CARBON KOBE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals W

NASCAR THIS WEEK

The Daytona Beach News-Journal's Godwin Kelly & Ken Willis have covered NASCAR for nearly 60 years combined.
godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

SPEED FREAKS

A few questions we had to ask ourselves

Does Austin Dillon's win propel the No. 3 team to a new level in 2018?
GODSPEAK: This will have Childress Racing pumped up, but drivers say "racing" starts with Atlanta.
KEN'S CALL: We've seen enough of these to know that the Daytona 500 is no harbinger of things to come for the rest of the season.

Same question regarding Bubba Wallace's runner-up finish in the No. 43.
GODSPEAK: If Wallace can throw some of his personality under the hood, he may win the championship.
KEN'S CALL: Same answer. But everyone with the No. 43 team is insisting things will improve throughout the schedule. That would be nice, but we'll see.

CUP STANDINGS

1. Ryan Blaney	58
2. Joey Logano	50
3. Austin Dillon	47
3. Darrell Wallace Jr.	47
5. Paul Menard	46
6. Michael McDowell	39
7. Denny Hamlin	37
8. Ryan Newman	34
9. Aric Almirola	33
9. Chris Buescher	33
11. Trevor Bayne	31
12. Martin Truex Jr.	30
13. Alex Bowman	29
13. Clint Bowyer	29
15. AJ Allmendinger	28
16. Kurt Busch	27
17. Jamie McMurray	23
18. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	22
19. Kevin Harvick	19
20. Kyle Larson	18

GODWIN'S PICKS FOR ATLANTA

WINNER: Martin Truex Jr.
REST OF TOP 5: Brad Keselowski, Kyle Busch, Joey Logano, Jimmie Johnson
FIRST ONE OUT: David Ragan
DARK HORSE: William Byron
DON'T BE SURPRISED IF: Cup drivers will say this is the first "race" of the season. Truex dominated the 1½-mile tracks in 2017.

MOTOR MOUTHS PODCAST

There's a lot to digest from Daytona. Can we do it in 30 minutes? Maybe.

Tune in online at **www.news-journalonline.com/daytonamotormouths**



DAYTONA
THREE THINGS WE LEARNED

1. Theron's hero

Actress Charlize Theron met with the media before the Daytona 500 and said she admires Danica Patrick. "The girl in me secretly is, obviously, cheering for her," Theron said. "I just love that even my kids were really impressed that a girl was racing cars today, too."

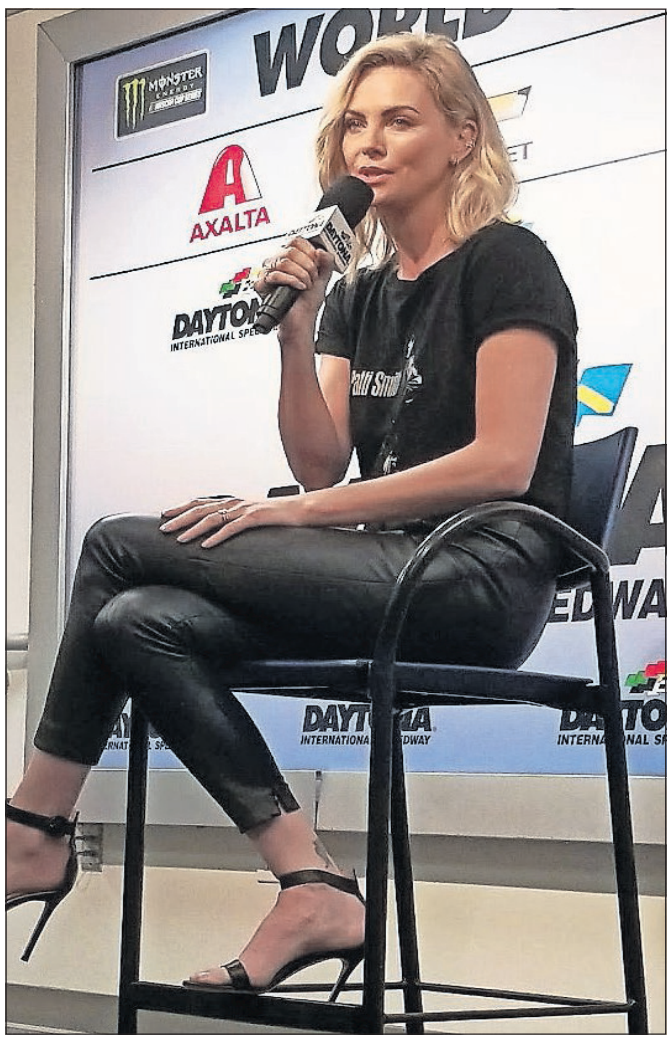
2. Buescher bonanza

With Austin Dillon taking the No. 3 to Daytona's Victory Lane and Bubba Wallace finishing second as a rookie, Chris Buescher's fifth-place Daytona 500 finish was lost in the mayhem. "That was awesome," he said. "For us to even be in contention to have a shot was pretty neat."

3. Ford flops

Ford dominated the conversation after its drivers won the Clash and a 500 qualifying race. It didn't show up on the 500 race report. The highest-finishing Ford was the No. 22 of Joey Logano, who rallied back from a lap-down situation.

— Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com



Actress Charlize Theron, who waved the green flag on the Daytona 500, said she cheers for girl racers. [NEWS-JOURNAL/GODWIN KELLY]

THREE THINGS TO WATCH

1. Paybacks?

The action at Daytona frayed some nerves and fired up emotions, which will likely spill over the Florida-Georgia line this weekend. Keep an eye on Denny Hamlin and Bubba Wallace, who mixed it up on the last lap of the Daytona 500. And don't forget, Austin Dillon forced his way past race leader Aric Almirola, knocking him out of the way to score the 500 victory Sunday. "This one is gonna hurt for a while," Almirola said.

2. Stage points

Martin Truex Jr. showed the value of winning stages when he piled up a stack of playoff points that helped him advance to the Championship Round last November. Look for teams to make some aggressive calls to earn those extra points, starting with the race at Atlanta Motor Speedway. Kevin Harvick finished ninth at AMS last year, but walked away with 48 points, third most.



Austin Dillon turned Aric Almirola around to win the Daytona 500. Could payback be in Dillon's future. [NASCAR GETTY IMAGES/JARED C. TILTON]

3. No rest

There is no rest for the weary Daytona Speedweeks competitors. The Cup Series teams report to Atlanta Motor Speedway Friday after nearly two weeks of racing in Florida. After that, there is the West Coast Tour, which hops from Las Vegas to Phoenix and Fontana, California. The Cup teams close out this crazy segment with a visit to Martinsville Speedway before having Easter weekend off. Whew!

— Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

QUESTIONS & ATTITUDE

Compelling questions ... and maybe a few actual answers

Did the needle move?

Sure it did. The Daytona 500, practically by design, always produces the type of spills and thrills that have people chatting the next day (or two). If it produces an enjoyable winner, yes, it can move the proverbial needle. This one seemed to produce two winners: Austin Dillon and surprise runner-up Bubba Wallace, two energy-to-burn personalities who will each gather new fans this week.

So, good news for NASCAR?

Yes, at least temporarily. A dramatic finish (as always) with drama, theatrics and a little controversy (poor Aric Almirola) will do that. If Bubba had won, there'd be a whole lot more national media attention from the usual suspects (morning and late-night shows, etc.), but all in all, the Daytona 500 gave NASCAR something to work with.

FEUD OF THE WEEK

BUBBA WALLACE VS. DENNY HAMLIN: Wallace said Hamlin tried to knock him into the wall when the two were racing to the checkered flag. Hamlin said he had a flat tire.
GODWIN KELLY'S TAKE: It sure looked like a veteran trying to get the best of a rookie. "We had some momentum and we beat him, so it's all good," Wallace said.

WHAT'S ON TAP

CUP SERIES: Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500
SITE: Atlanta Motor Speedway (1.54-mile oval)
TV SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 11 a.m.), qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 5 p.m.). Saturday, practice (Fox Sports 1, noon). Sunday, Daytona 500 (Fox, coverage begins at 1:30 p.m., green flag, 2 p.m.)

XFINITY: Rinnai 250
SITE: Atlanta Motor Speedway
TV SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 9 a.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 1:30 p.m.)

CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS: Active Pest Control 200
SITE: Atlanta Motor Speedway
TV SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 10:30 a.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 4:30 p.m.)

2018 SCHEDULE AND WINNERS

Feb. 11: Clash at Daytona (Brad Keselowski)
Feb. 15: Can-Am Duel at Daytona (Ryan Blaney and Chase Elliott)
Feb. 18: Daytona 500 (Austin Dillon)
Feb. 25: Folds of Honor 500 at Atlanta
March 4: Kobalt 400 at Las Vegas
March 11: Camping World 500(k) at Phoenix
March 18: Auto Club 400 at Fontana
March 25: STP 500 at Martinsville
April 8: O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 at Texas
April 15: Food City 500 at Bristol
April 21: Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond
April 29: Geico 500 at Talladega
May 6: AAA 400 at Dover
May 12: Go Bowling 400 at Kansas
May 19: All Star Race at Charlotte
May 27: Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte
June 3: Pocono 400
June 10: FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan
June 24: Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma
July 1: Chicago 400 at Chicagoland
July 7: Coke Zero 400 at Daytona
July 14: Quaker State 400 at Kentucky
July 22: New Hampshire 301
July 29: Pennsylvania 400 at Pocono
Aug. 5: 355 at the Glen, at Watkins Glen
Aug. 12: Pure Michigan 400
Aug. 18: Night Race at Bristol
Sept. 2: Southern 500 at Darlington
Sept. 9: Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis
Sept. 16: Las Vegas 400
Sept. 22: Federated Auto Parts 400 at Richmond
Sept. 30: Bank of America 500(k) at Charlotte road course
Oct. 7: Delaware 400 at Dover
Oct. 14: Alabama 500 at Talladega
Oct. 21: Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas
Oct. 28: First Data 500 at Martinsville
Nov. 4: Texas 500
Nov. 11: Can-Am 500(k) at Phoenix
Nov. 18: Ford EcoBoost 400 at Homestead

KEN WILLIS' TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MARTIN TRUEX JR. Still the champ	**BRAD KESELOWSKI** Maybe next year	**DENNY HAMLIN** Making headlines already	**KYLE LARSON** Mr. Hunch likes him at Atlanta	**CHASE ELLIOTT** 0-for-78	**KYLE BUSCH** Middle name is Thomas	**KEVIN HARVICK** Happy to unplug the plate	**JIMMIE JOHNSON** Picking up the pieces, literally	**RYAN BLANEY** Oh so close	**AUSTIN DILLON** A top-10 keeper? We'll see

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Express your creativity and be part of our team. Part-time mid-level graphic design position available. Customer Service and Multi-tasking skills required. Fast paced environment. Must have working knowledge of Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign.

Please send resume to:

contact@southwoodsmedia.com

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Mother's hours. Several mornings and/or some afternoons to work with toddlers with special needs in Early Intervention program. High School diploma and experience working with young children required.

Submit resume to:

Thom Westfield Infant
and Toddler Services
209 Root Road Suite #2
Westfield, MA 01085

or call Charlene at
413.568.3942 ext. 188

HELP WANTED

CHD/Full-time Outreach Caseworker/40hrs

Job Description:

Provide direct services and casework supports to program participants with developmental disabilities who live independently in the greater Westfield/West Springfield and Springfield community. Responsibilities include supporting program participants to achieve their individual goals and objectives, manage their ongoing heath maintenance needs, and provide supports/skill building for all aspects of independent living, awhile providing opportunities to optimize their independence. Help people to obtain and maintain all generic entitlements, responsibly manage their funds, and develop rewarding social and recreational experiences where desired. Provide and maintain written documentation and assist Case Manager with Individual Service Plan development, assessments, and progress updates.

Requirements

Ideal candidate will have an Bachelor's Degree or equivalent experience; strong interpersonal skills; empathy for others; demonstrated commitment to serving those with significant needs; ability to work well within a team model and independently. Computer skills necessary. Must have good writing and communication skills, and excellent interpersonal skills. Must be at least 21 years of age and have a vehicle for work use and current driver's license; a willingness to transport program participants in own vehicle. Mileage reimbursed. In-service training provided. All candidates must complete and pass background record screening process, and a driving record check.

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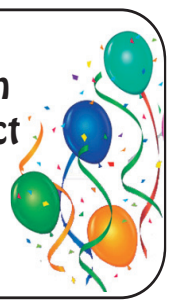
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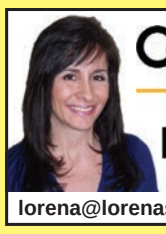


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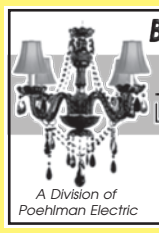
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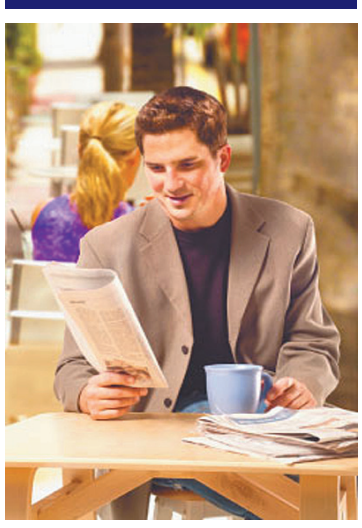
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