

OBITUARIES

Nancy F. Bednarz, 73

SOUTHBRIDGE — Nancy F. (Perron) Bednarz, 73, of Southbridge, died Friday, Nov. 5, 2010 at Harrington Memorial Hospital, following a brief illness. She was the wife of Stanley A. Bednarz, Jr., to whom she been married to for over 36 years.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, Joseph L. Chenard, and his wife Lee, of Southbridge; a daughter, Diana L. Landry, and her husband Mark, of Sturbridge; a brother, Joseph Perron of Rhode Island; two sisters, Louise Berthiaume of South Carolina, and Genevieve Roso of Kentucky; six grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and many nieces and nephews.

She was born in Southbridge, and was the daughter of the late Louis and Frances (Mis) Perron.

She worked for many years at the Old Sturbridge Village as a



membership coordinator and in the research department. She was an avid RPG video game player, and especially enjoyed spending time with her family and grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend her funeral service on Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010 at 11 a.m. at the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial will follow at New Notre Dame Cemetery in Southbridge. A calling hour will be held at the funeral home on Tuesday, from 10:00-11 a.m., prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241-7005.

Frances Hilton, 78

WEBSTER — Frances Hilton, 78, of 6 Carter St., died Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010 at Hubbard Campus - Harrington Hospital, Webster, after an illness.

She leaves her husband of 49 years, Sylvester Siekierski; six daughters, Christine Hurd of Thompson, Conn., Linda Mooney of Thompson, Conn., Patricia Fite of Louisiana, Terry Mongeau of Webster; Christine Hurd and Sandra Boutwell of Louisiana; four sons, Morris Hilton of Southbridge, Mark Hilton of Brooklyn, Conn., Charlie Hilton of Putnam, Conn., and Brian Hilton of Webster; four sisters, Dorothy Gomes of Thompson, Conn., Bernice Mooney of Brooklyn, Conn., Marion Sargent of Thompson,

Conn., and Ruth Bibeault of Thompson, Conn.; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by a brother, Walter Brown.

She was born in Webster; the daughter of the late Joseph and the late Blanche (Faford) Brown. She lived here all her life.

She enjoyed yard sales and loved trips to the casinos.

Memorial calling hours will be held from 4 - 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 10 at the Bartel Funeral Home & Chapel, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley.

Please omit flowers. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1818, Memphis, TN 38101.

Janet M. Chapdelaine, 61

DUDLEY — Janet M. (Parczyk) Chapdelaine, 61, of Oxford Avenue, died Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010, after being stricken ill. She leaves a son, Randy J. Chapdelaine and his wife Ashley of Worcester; a grandson, Noah Chet Kairu Chapdelaine; two sisters, Barbara Russo of Dudley and Nancy Gaska of Binghamton, N.Y.; her longtime companion, Alan S. Rusack of Dudley; aunts, uncles and two nieces. She was born in Southbridge and raised in Quinebaug, Conn., the oldest daughter of Chester C. and Sophie W. (Pietluck) Parzych, whom she affectionately called

"jaju" and "babci." She lived in Dudley for several years.

She graduated from Tourtellotte Memorial High School in North Grosvenordale, Conn.

She was currently working in marketing for Karl Storz in Charlton and Sturbridge.

She enjoyed cooking and shopping. Memorial calling hours will be held Tuesday, November 9, from 5 - 8 p.m. in the Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main St., Webster.

Donations in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Agnes M. Ashe

CHARLTON — Agnes M. (Prunier) Ashe, formerly of Theresa Avenue in Southbridge, died Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010 in her daughter's home in Charlton, after a long illness. She was a loving wife, mother, "Gram" and "Nana" to her family. Her beloved husband and best friend of 55 years, Raymond, passed away in November 2006.

She leaves two daughters, Kathleen Ashe-Robidoux, and her husband Kevin Robidoux, with whom she recently lived, and Diane Robbins and her husband Ronald Robbins, all of Charlton; a sister Rita Gaumond of New Hampshire; four grandchildren, Matthew Ashe, Melissa Widing, and her husband Marc Sr., Jennifer Martins and her husband Dave, and Richard Menard III, and his wife Diane; six great-grandchildren, Ashley and Marc Jr. Widing, Zachary & Anthony Martins, and Richard IV and Ashelyn Menard; in-laws, Everill and Florence Ashe; and several nieces, nephews, and many dear friends. She was also predeceased by two brothers who died at birth.

She was born and raised in Charlton, the daughter of the late Frank and Victoria (LaMountain) Prunier. She was a graduate of Charlton High School.

She worked at the American Optical Company for over 30



years as a Quality Control Inspector. She was a communicant of St. Joseph's Church in Charlton, and the Ladies Sodality of Sacred Heart Church. Agnes and Ray were members of the Hayloft Steppers for many years. She enjoyed painting, crossword puzzles, cooking for the family, and was an avid Red Sox fan. She loved spending time with her family and friends, especially on the holidays, and will be dearly missed by all who loved her.

Her funeral will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2010 from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, followed by a funeral Mass at 9:30AM in St. Joseph's Church, 10H Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. Burial will follow at Old Notre Dame Cemetery in Southbridge. Calling hours will be held at the funeral home on Monday, Nov. 8, from 4 to 7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the VNA Care Network Hospice, 120 Thomas St., Worcester, MA 01608, or to the Southbridge Fire Department, 24 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. www.morrillfuneralhome.com

WHAT TO DO

CALENDAR

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STURBRIDGE — The Center of Hope will hold its 10th annual Talents and Treasures Charity Auction and Buffet Dinner on at the Publick House Restaurant. If you like skiing, plays and shows, theme baskets, overnight packages, cruises, museums, restaurants, amusement parks, day spas, all kinds of entertainment, sports memorabilia, jewelry, and dozens of items that can be used as Holiday gifts, this is the place to be on Friday night. Viewing and Cocktail Hour will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. The Buffet Dinner will be held at 6 p.m. and the Auction will begin at 7 p.m. The cost is \$30 for the dinner. You may just show up, but a call would be preferred by calling (508) 764-4085. There are many NEW items, as well as yearly favorites. The Auctioneer, Former Rep. Mark Carron, always makes it a fun night, as well.

JUNIOR HIGH DANCE

STURBRIDGE — The Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale will hold a dance for Junior High School students from 7 - 10 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be a DJ. These area fun evenings for all junior high kids. The cost per youth is \$7 and a snack bar is available. There is a "Once you're in, you're in" policy. Parents can pick up their youth

outside on the front steps of the Federated Church at 10 p.m.

GIFT SHOP, LOBBY, BAKE SALE

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Harrington Hospital Auxiliary will hold the Holiday Gift Shop, Lobby, and Bake Sale in the Harrington Hospital Lobby from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Simultaneous with the Bake Sale, the lobby will feature numerous holiday items for your shopping pleasure. The adjoining Gift Shop will also feature most items for sale at either a 10 or 20 percent discount. The Lobby and Gift Shop sales will take place from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. This annual Lobby, Gift Shop, and Bake Sale is sponsored by the Harrington Hospital Auxiliary.

Also, the large Harrington Hospital "Giving Tree" will be decorated during this event with woodland theme ornaments purchased in the name of cancer survivors or as memorials. A scroll will list all names of honorees for whom "Giving Tree" decorations have been purchased. The "Giving Tree" will be featured at the Festival of Giving Trees in early December. Decorations include a wide assortment of doves, cardinals, birds nests, angel garland, and silver and red Christmas balls. Ornaments will be sold for \$2 each or three ornaments for \$5. Decorations may also be purchased in advance at the Harrington Hospital Volunteer Office, 100 South St.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Nov. 8

Today is Monday, Nov. 8, the 312th day of 2010. There are 53 days left in the year.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT IN HISTORY:

On Nov. 8, 1960, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy defeated Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the presidency.

ON THIS DATE:

In 1860, the Stephen Foster song "Old Black Joe" was copyrighted.

In 1889, Montana became the 41st state.

In 1909, the original Boston Opera House first opened with a performance of "La Gioconda" by Amilcare Ponchielli.

In 1923, Adolf Hitler launched his first attempt at seizing power in Germany with a failed coup in Munich that came to be known as the "Beer-Hall Putsch."

In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated incumbent Herbert Hoover for the presidency.

In 1935, the movies "Mutiny on the Bounty," starring Clark Gable and Charles Laughton, and "A Night at the Opera," starring the Marx Brothers, premiered in New York.

In 1942, Operation Torch, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War II as U.S. and British forces landed in French North Africa.

In 1980, scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. announced that the U.S. space probe Voyager 1 had discovered a 15th moon orbiting the planet Saturn.

In 1988, Vice President George H.W. Bush won the presidential election, defeating Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis.

In 1994, midterm elections resulted in Republicans winning a majority in the Senate while at the same time gaining control of the House for the first time in 40 years.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Norman Lloyd is 96. Singer Patti Page is 83. CBS newsmen Morley Safer is 79. Singer-actress Bonnie Bramlett is 66. Singer Bonnie Raitt is 61. TV personality Mary Hart is 60. Former Playboy Enterprises chairman and chief executive Christie Hefner is 58. Actress Alfre Woodard is 58. Singer-songwriter Rickie Lee Jones is 56. Author Kazuo Ishiguro is 56. Rock musician Porl Thompson (The Cure) is 53. Singer-actor Leif Garrett is 49. Chef and TV personality Gordon Ramsay is 44. Actress Courtney Thorne-Smith is 43. Actress Parker Posey is 42. Rock musician Jimmy Chaney is 41. Actress Roxana Zal is 41. Singer Diana King is 40. Actor Gonzalo Menendez is 39. Actress Gretchen Mol is 37. Actor Matthew Rhys is 36. Actress Tara Reid is 35. Country singer Bucky Covington is 33. Actress Dania Ramirez is 31. Actress Azura Skye is 29. Actor Chris Rankin is 27. TV personality Jack Osbourne is 25. Actress Jessica Lowndes (TV: "90210") is 22.

E-mail obituary notices to atremblay@stonebridgepress.com

A different look at America while traveling abroad

REARDON

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when you run into someone and they've never met an American before, and they decide, halfway into a conversation, to say: "I just have to tell you, I am not such a big fan of America," then you sort of don't know what to say.

That's actually only happened to me a handful of times, and it wasn't at the movie premiere, where, for the most part, interesting discussion took place. And when someone brings up questions or things they dislike about America, it can provide an opportunity to open dialogue to widen both their perspective and mine.

But sometimes it can be difficult to get someone to understand: well, just because I'm here right now doesn't mean I'm disowning my country.

It takes a bit of citizen-to-citizen diplomacy.

I don't get too upset, really, because it never helps the situation, and I know that people often have well-founded reasons for not liking things (and, the U.S. is far from perfect). But I try to tell them, in a polite way, that although I frequently criticize my own government, that for me, it comes from a place of wanting the country to be better because I actually like it ... not because I dislike it, too.

Yet when I'm confronted like that, I never feel more American. Sometimes I think that living outside the U.S. will do one of two things: make you stay outside the U.S. because you agree with what people are saying against it, or make you feel more American than ever.

Two extremes. But I've clearly found the one that I fall under.

Kristina Reardon, of Uxbridge, is in Ljubljana, Slovenia on a Fulbright grant for the 2010 - 11 school year. You can reach her at kristina.reardon@gmail.com. Her views are her own and do not reflect those of the U.S. Department of State or the Fulbright Program.

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