

Kathryn A. Toomey Register of Deeds

ello and Happy January. We are coming to the end of a busy Holiday Season. Some people embrace it and some people steer clear. I am a Christmas Lover. I always have been. I do enjoy the parties and the contact with people but what I truly love is the lights and the outdoor experiences. So we will focus on the small and mighty community of Princeton. I will remind you, I grew up in Holden, so Princeton is a consistent destination for me.

My family relocated from the suburbs of Boston to the suburbs of Worcester in the late 1970s. Having parents who both grew up in urban neighborhoods, my family began driving to parks, trails and nature related places. Princeton was a frequent place for us to explore. As a kid in my single digit years we visited the Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, an Audubon property of 1220 acres. Every fall they host a fall festival that has

Worcester Registry of Deeds

Newsletter

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schoolers, pre-school kids and adults. You can access twelve (12) miles of trails, they are open to the public Tuesday through Sunday and they offer a senior discount for admission.

Some of my fondest memories of middle school began with my ski lessons at Wachusett Mountain. My parents signed me up for the after school program. Every Monday in January and February, I would board a bus and travel to Princeton. rent skis and take lessons. I

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Mount Wachusett

Community Statistics Worcester South District Number of Recordings in **57 November 2023** Median Home



Value

\$672K







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adopted a sport and made many friends. Prior to my ski club, my elementary school made an annual trek to the Mountain, not in the winter, to hike to the top.

Some of you may know but we have a great local organization http://www.midstatetrail.org/,

The Midstate Trail is a scenic footpath located in Worcester County, 45 miles west of Boston. This 92 mile hiking trail extends from Rhode Island crossing the gentle hills of central Massachusetts and eventually connecting to the Wapack Trail in New Hampshire. The Midstate Trail is highly accessible, easy to hike and the best way to enjoy the natural side of the region. Yes Princeton is one of the many towns that the Midstate Trail traverses.

I need to also mention the Leominster State Forest. Also part of the Midstate Trail, has picnic areas, public restrooms, a beach and snowmobile trails.

The Town of Princeton boasts on their town webpage (https://www.town.princeton.ma.us/open-space-committee/pages/princeton-trails) links to 20 trails for outdoor experiences. Additionally, they provide 17 resources or links to trails that start in abutting towns and cross into Princeton.

I am happy to have been a kid from the region who could use Princeton for all it has to offer and continue to do so today. If you have not been to Princeton I highly recommend you plan a visit. On a visitor note there are a few small businesses in the town to offer retail shopping, restaurants and coffee shops.

Town Spotlight Princeton

Original Summit House 1870



Second Summit House 1884



Third Summit House 1908



A popular resort destination in the late 1800s and early 1900s, eight trains arrived in Princeton daily, bringing hundreds of summer visitors, including Louisa May Alcott, Sarah Bernhardt, Lydia Pinkham, the Harpers of *Harper's Magazine*, and Thomas Edison.

Winter Word Search

Blizzard Frostbite December Frozen Igloo Skating Jacket Slippery

Snowshoes February Gloves January Sleigh Solstice Fireplace Hockey Longjohns

Flannel Holidays Mitts Snowballs Toboggan **Flurries** Hot Chocolate Scarf Snowboarding

Icicle Shovel **Snowflakes** Wintertime Skiing Snowman Frigid Whiteout

Happy New Year

Easy Chicken Corn Chowder

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 1 small sweet red pepper, finely chopped
- 2 cans (14-3/4 ounces each) cream-style corn
- 1-1/2 cups chopped cooked chicken
- 1 can (12 ounces) reduced-fat evaporated milk
- 1 teaspoon chicken bouillon granules
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 8 bacon strips, cooked

Directions

- 1. In a large saucepan, heat butter over medium-high heat. Add onion, celery and red pepper; cook and stir 6-8 minutes or until tender.
- 2. Stir in corn, chicken, milk, bouillon and pepper; heat through, stirring occasionally (do not boil). Top servings with bacon.



Upcoming Speaking Events

Thursday, January 18, 2024 1:00 pm – Harvard Senior Center 16 Lancaster County Rd, Harvard, MA 01451 (with a snow day of 1/23/24)

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 12:30pm – Bolton Senior Center 600 Main St, Bolton, MA 01740

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:30pm – Northborough Senior Center 119 Bearfoot Rd, Northborough, MA 01532 (with a snow day of 2/21/24)

Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:00pm – Dudley Senior Center 71 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571

Thursday, February 15, 2024 11:00am – Rutland Senior Center 53 Glenwood Rd, Rutland, MA 01543

Thursday, February 22, 2024 12:45pm – Hopedale Senior Center 43 Hope St, Hopedale, MA 01747