



Kathryn A. Toomey
Register of Deeds

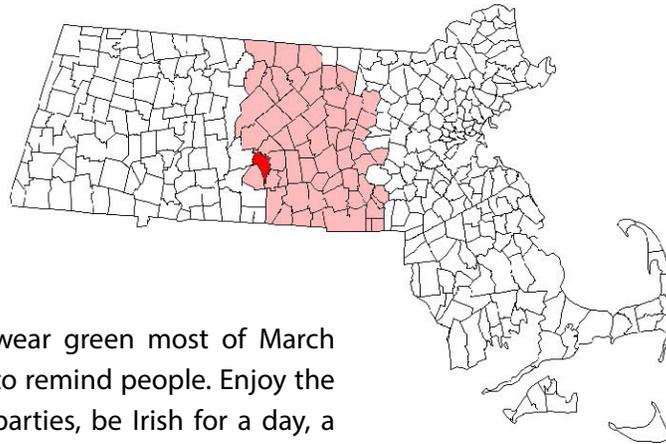
Worcester Registry of Deeds

Newsletter

March 2024 ~ Issue #30 ~ Town of West Brookfield

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wear green most of March to remind people. Enjoy the parties, be Irish for a day, a week or the month. Erin Go Braugh (Ireland Forever).



Community Statistics

Worcester South District

53 Number of Recordings in January 2024 West Brookfield

\$371k Median Home Value

58.7% Homes Owned vs. Rented

1,539 Total Housing Units

75 Density (Houses per Square Mile)

Saint Patrick's Day, an Irish and Irish-American holiday commemorating the death, as legend has it, of Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, on March 17, circa 492. It is also the occasion, in many American cities, for celebrating Irish heritage with a parade. Here in Worcester we have a large parade, currently scheduled for March 10, 2024. It begins in Webster Square and ends at Elm Park. I have been a spectator; a marcher and a reveler in the parade since I was a kid. Originally they had the parade on Main Street in Worcester, but it moved to Park Avenue. When I was a kid I remember viewing the parade from my dad's office at 332 Main Street. All of his co-workers would bring their families and enjoy the parade, together. It is a fun family event for the greater Worcester County area. I bet you can guess my family lineage, yes I am of Irish descent. If my name did not give it away, I tend to



Town Spotlight

West Brookfield

Lucy Stone

Written by: Eleni Tzikas

Every year, March is designated as Women’s History Month—a month dedicated to honoring women’s contributions in US history. This month our article is about Lucy Stone. When I was reviewing article after article delving into Lucy Stone’s life and accomplishments, I found a moment where I had to take a pause. It’s mind boggling considering a world where women don’t possess the majority of the rights that they do now. Stone, and other suffragists, put in the grueling work so women of the future could live more independently. I for one am very grateful.

Lucy Stone, an American abolitionist and suffragist, was born August 13th 1818 in a farmhouse on Coy Hill Road in West Brookfield. [See Deed. Book 149, Page 314](#)

“
*This is what
so many
women
before us
worked
so hard to
achieve.*

”
— Eleni Tzikas

Stone grew up at a time where most women’s legal, civil, and personal rights were nonexistent. Women were subjugated to live under their husband’s rulings and control. Stone was adamant about not letting this be her reality. At age 25, she sought education at Oberlin College in Ohio, becoming the first woman from Massachusetts to receive a college degree.

After graduating in 1847, Stone began touring the country for the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, giving lectures condemning slavery and advocating for women’s rights. Abby Kelly Foster, a Massachusetts native who shared the same sentiments, was the one who persuaded Lucy to share her wealth of knowledge. In 1850, Stone was an organizer for the National Women’s Rights Conven-

tion which was first held in Worcester, MA where advocates and abolitionists gave speeches on equal wages, women’s property rights, and education and career opportunities among other topics. In 1855, Stone married Henry Blackwell, an Ohio abolitionist. At that time marriage laws still refused to recognize the wife as independent. Retaliating against *Lucy Stone continues on page 3*

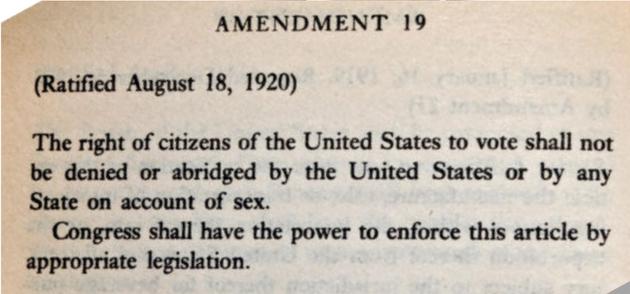


The Lucy Stone Home Site, located on Coy Hill Road in West Brookfield

Lucy Stone continued from page 2

the laws, Stone retained her maiden name. As controversial as it was at the time, women followed Stone's example and deemed themselves as "Lucy Stoners". 1869 saw the American Women Suffrage Association (AWSA) form. The AWSA lobbied state governments to enact laws and expanding women's right to vote in the United States. Stone was the AWSA's most prominent leader. In 1870 in Boston, Stone started a weekly periodical for the AWSA entitled *Women's Journal*. This publication was "devoted to the interests of woman to her educational, industrial, legal and political equality, and especially to her right of suffrage". It became the leading publication of the women's suffrage movement.

On October 18th 1893, Lucy Stone died at the age of 75 in Dorchester, MA from stomach cancer. Her wish was to be cremated, making her the first person cremated in Massachusetts. Six months before her death, Stone urged women to "labor unceasingly" for equal rights. Stone's farmhouse remained in the family until 1936. However, in 1950 the house burned down. Its ruins are at the center of the property, which was acquired by the Trustees of Reservations in 2002, a non-profit land conservation organization dedicated to preserve natural and historic places in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Lucy Stone Home Site is located on Coy Hill Road in West Brookfield, serving as a memorial to Stone's legacy.



Upcoming Events

Wednesday March 6, 2024 1:00 pm
Gardner Senior Center
 294 Pleasant St, Gardner, MA 01440

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 1:00pm
Mendon Senior Center
 62 Providence St, Mendon, MA 01756

Thursday, March 28, 2024 12:30pm
West Brookfield Senior Center
 73 Central St, West Brookfield, MA 01585

Thursday, April 4, 2024 11:30am
Douglas Senior Center
 331 Main St, Douglas, MA 01516

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 1:00pm
Boylston Council on Aging
 599 Main Street, Boylston, MA 01505

Thursday, April 11, 2024
Spencer Senior Center
 68 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562

Recipe: Baked Haddock



Ingredients

- ¾ cup milk
- 2 teaspoons salt
- ¾ cup bread crumbs
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ¼ teaspoon ground dried thyme
- Haddock fillets
- ¼ cup butter, melted

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Total time: 25 minutes

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 500 degrees
2. In a small bowl combine the milk and salt. In a separate bowl, mix together the bread crumbs, Parmesan cheese and thyme.
3. Dip the haddock fillets in the milk, then press into the crumb mixture to coat. Place haddock fillets in a glass baking dish, and drizzle with melted butter
4. Bake on top rack, about 15 minutes.

American Women's History Month Word Search

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

Harriet Beecher

Stowe

Sandra Day

O'Connor

Laura Ingalls Wiler

Susan B. Anthony

Georgia O'Keefe

Sonia Sotomayor

Maria Tallchief

Sojourner Truth

Amelia Earhart

Harriet Tubman

Michele Obama

Dolly Parton

Ruby Bridges

Helen Keller

Clara Barton

Rosa Parks

Betsy Ross

Sacagawea