



Afghans in the U.S. fearful, anxious

INSIDE, 4A

The METROWEST DAILY NEWS

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COMING UP GREEN



Framingham Garden Club President Shannon Fitzpatrick, Framingham firefighters David Lombardi and Isaac Rivera, and Assistant Fire Chief John Schultz, at Fire Department headquarters on Dec. 2, with wreaths made by the Garden Club for the fire stations. The Framingham Garden Club Greens Sale takes place Friday, Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to noon at the Cushing Park Maintenance Building, enter via the Keefe Tech driveway on Winter St. The annual sale has member designed wreaths, swags, floral centerpieces, and other artful gifts for the holidays. Proceeds fund high school scholarships. PHOTOS BY ART ILLMAN/DAILY NEWS AND WICKED LOCAL



Framingham Garden Club President Shannon Fitzpatrick, right, and Garden Club member Sally Vetstein, rear, visited Framingham firefighters at the Fire Department headquarters on Dec. 2 with wreaths made by the Garden Club for the fire stations.

MA Lottery replacing Lucky for Life game

Michael P. Norton
State House News Service

Time's almost up for Lucky for Life. The Massachusetts Lottery early next year will stop offering the multi-state draw that launched here in 2012 and will begin offering a Millionaire for Life draw game instead. Tickets for the new game will cost \$5, compared to \$2 for Lucky for Life, and the grand prize will be \$1 million a year for life. Drawings will still be held daily. The first drawing of Millionaire for Life is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026, the day after the last drawing of Lucky for Life. The Lottery Commission last week voted unanimously to make the switch. Asked why the Lottery was making the move, Mass. Lottery Executive Director Mark William Bracken said the decision on the multistate draw game

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DOJ: Man was paid \$1.7M under the table

Norman Miller
The MetroWest Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Marlborough man has agreed to plead guilty to taking part in a multi-year scheme to cheat the Internal Revenue Service, according to the Department of Justice. According to a press release, Stephen L. Hochberg, a former accounting and real estate executive, was paid more than \$1.6 million in compensation and fringe benefits under the table. The goal, according to the release, was to lie to the U.S. Attorney's Office about his income and avoid paying restitution to victims of an earlier fraud case.

See CHARGED, Page 2A



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