

Established 1923

Thursday, November 26, 2020

Santa parade gets green light, with changes



Photos Gus Steeves

The Big Bunny clan rides down Main Street last year.

BY GUS STEEVES

SOUTHBRIDGE — Despite Covid, Santa's still coming to town.

The annual Santa Parade was in limbo for a while, but will be happening this Saturday, Nov 28 at 6 pm, after organizer Denise Clemence and town officials "modified it for these challenging times.'

only be a vehicular "rolling rally." No walking groups can join, and spectators on the roadside are strongly encouraged to stay with their own families rather than mingling in large groups.

Likewise, the usual events on the Common won't happen, but "as Santa passes by, he'll wave his arm and [the town tree] will light by magic," she said. "We tried to come up with a plan, but when [the state]

started reducing outside gathering numbers, it didn't work."

She's referring to recent changes that, among other things, advise all citizens to stay at home between 10 pm and 5 am, set a maximum of 100 people for outdoor events for "lower risk" communities (those that have not been labeled "red" in the previous three weeks, which is true of Southbridge The most important change is this – it'll as of this writing) or 50 in "high risk" communities, all such events must disperse by 9:30 pm, all people over age 5 must be masked, and all people maintain the sixfoot distance. The governor's Nov 2 order adds, "A gathering shall violate this provision where, no matter the number of participants present, conditions or activities are such that it is not reasonably possible for all participants to maintain this degree

Please Read PARADE, page A7

Cops and Kids and Lions Toy Drive underway

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Lions Club and the Southbridge Police Department are sponsoring their second annual Cops "N" Kids & Lions Toy Drive. Please help us bring Christmas to deserving children in our area by donating new, unwrapped, non-violent toys by Dec. 15. Of particular need are toys for infants through age two, and adolescents ages 12 through 16. Some gift ideas for adolescents are ranging up to \$30, include: water bottles, reusable straws, pop socket, skin care kit, scrunchies, cool charging cables, stick-on phone card holder or phone case, portable phone charger, also neutral baseball caps (Nike versus a team).

Toy Drop-Off Locations Avelino Restaurant

Big Bunny Market Cedar Street Cafe Cedar Street Grille Harrington Hospital Savers Bank Southbridge &

Sturbridge Southbridge Cornerstone Bank

Southbridge Credit Union (all locations)

Southbridge D.O.D. Southbridge Fire Department

Southbridge Police Department

Southbridge Town Hall Police Sturbridge Department

Sturbridge Stop and Shop The Duck

All toys will benefit local families. Applications for family assistance are available at the Southbridge Police

Please Read TOY DRIVE, page A7



Nichols moving to remote learning after holiday

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY - Nichols College will be transitioning to remote learning for the remainder of the year after completing its on-campus learning schedule as planned.

a press release prior to the Thanksgiving break that planned before the start of despite the increased concerns

the school would maintain its commitment to in-person learning until students left for Thanksgiving on Nov. 25. The release further stated that following the holiday students would remain home adapted to a remote-learning approach The college announced in until Dec. 9, when the semester ends. This transition was the school year and was not

of the COVID-19 pandemic implemented as a result of the recent spike in COVID-19

"With the health and safety of the campus community at the forefront, we began the semester with an ambitious plan to provide our students with the on-campus experience they desire," said Nichols College President Susan West Engelkemeyer, Ph.D. "Students seem truly grateful

to be here, and they were committed to keeping themselves and each other safe."

Nichols College has provided free weekly COVID-19 tests to students, faculty and staff throughout the school vear. Over a 14-week period, the school ran more than 23,000 tests resulting in only 25 positive cases. The school also recorded a seven week with no positive cases included a string of five consecutive weeks with no positive results. The transition from in-person learning to remote learning was planned with the intent of allowing students time to visit family for the holiday and avoid the stress of returning for a brief period of time where COVID testing would be required to be on campus.

The pandemic has changed Turn To **NICHOLS** page **A7**

New York couple arrested on drug charges



CHARLTON - A New York couple is in custody after a high-speed chase took them through several southern Worcester County towns, culminating in their arrest in Charlton.

BY JASON BLEAU

According to a report from the Massachusetts State Police, troopers placed 25-year-old Blair Thornton and 23-year-old Shantia Crocker-Carter under arrest after a series of events led police to discover the pair were allegedly attempting to deliver cocaine.

The suspects were first spotted by Trooper Nicholas Latino out of the State Police-Sturbridge Barracks at 1:18 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19. Trooper Latino attempted to stop a 2015 dark blue Honda Accord registered in North Carolina foe speeding on Route 84 in Sturbridge. Instead of stopping, the vehicle accelerated fleeing

from the scene leading Trooper Latino to engage in a pursuit. The Honda reportedly reached speeds of up to 130 mph, weaving through traffic, including reaching 80 mph in a construction zone. Trooper Latino lost the vehicle when it took Exit 3A onto Route 20 eastbound leading him to inform surrounding law enforcement to be on the lookout for the car.

Charlton police soon located the vehicle at 1:30 p.m.at which time another attempt to stop the car failed as the vehicle fled

on Route 20. Eventually the Honda crashed at H. Putnam Road. Both Thornton and Crocker-Carter fled on foot before being



Please Read ARRESTS, page A7

TIS THE SEASON TO SHOP LOCAL

Gifts, Gift Cards & Gift Certificate Ideas from these local businesses.

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Now more than ever, it's important to Shop Local!

Tips to simplify shopping and wrapping

a busy time of year. People devote many hours to generating gift lists and planning their shopping excursions. Shopping can be all-encompassing during the holiday season, but it is only half of the gift-giving equation. After all of those toys, articles of clothing and other goodies are purchased, those items will need to be wrapped and hidden away. Gift-givers may be looking for ways to make these tasks just a little easier.

Shop early

The sooner you begin shopping, the more time you will have to purchase everything you need and then get it prepared for giving. While Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales feature great deals, there are discounts to be had all year long if you keep your eyes open. Grab an item here and there when there is something that catches your eye and fits the needs of a gift recip-

Shopping early also

affords shoppers a greater buffer if they plan to do some of their shopping online. Shipping times have changed due to COVID-19, which has disrupted some supply chains and put added pressure on shipping companies. The U.S. Postal Service says products and packages may require more time to be delivered due to limited transportation availability, so shopping early can help ensure everything arrives on time.

Tackle the kids' gifts

Watching children's bright grins and all their excitement opening presents can make all the hard work worth it. Be sure that you shop for all of the gifts for children in your household first, especially if you play Santa's helper. Use opportunities when the kids are in school or at daycare to bring gifts into the house and then wrap them. Wrapping as you go can help to ensure there are no "spoil-



er alerts" prior to the holidays.

Create a wrapping station

A dedicated area for wrapping can streamline the process. Gift wrapping supplies can be tough to keep organized because they're usually awkward sizes and can eat up a lot of space.

That's where a wrapping station can come into play. It can be custom-made or you can use items already around the house. A laundry room or a large closet can be the ideal location for a wrapping station. Because wrapping paper rolls are the most cumbersome wrapping supplies, find a way to corral them. A tall laundry hamper works, or consider hanging wrapping paper rolls horizontally on thin curtain rods attached to a wall or the back of a door. Simply pull off the amount of paper you need and cut.

Organize other supplies in a nearby drawer or organizational caddy. Store gift bags and tissue paper in a fabric tote bag. Having everything within arm's reach cuts down on time spent searching for supplies.

It's that time of year for shopping and wrapping. Ensure it is a lowstress experience with some time-saving tips.

People to tip and gift this holiday season

Are you making a list and checking it twice? If so, don't forget to add a few extra people to that list who are worthy of a gift this holiday season. Certainly friends and family are in mind for presents, but what about the service providers in

After a challenging

year, people in the service industry might benefit from a holiday boost this year more than ever. Here's who you may want to spread some cheer to this holiday sea-

nail techs: It takes a lot of effort to look one's best, and these individuals

help people put their best selves forward. Consider tipping the amount you would normally spend on one visit. If you get your hair or nails done frequently and consider this person a friend, opt for a Hairdressers and gift instead, such as a gift card to a nice restaurant or a pampering service for him or her.

· Babysitter or caregiver: This person is likely close with the family and may be deserving of more than a tip. Pick an age-appropriate gift you know this person will love. What about a coveted pair of Bluetooth-enabled earbuds or headphones? A gift card to a store you know this person frequents also can be fitting, or a yearlong subscription to a streaming music or mov-

ie service. • Landscapers: If the same person or crew services the lawn most of the time, a tip of \$20 each is

an appropriate amount. · Teachers: Class parents may take up a col-

lection for the teacher and offer one class gift. If your student is educated by multiple teachers and the school staff is top-notch, consider stocking the staff lounge with snacks and beverages or cater a lunch.



· Mail carrier: The mail is delivered six days of the week in any and all weather. Treat your mail carrier to a nice gift, but stick to the rules of the

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carriers are not allowed to accept cash, checks or gift cards that can be used like credit cards. Stick to a gift of no more than \$25. • Cleaning person:

U.S. Postal Service. Mail

You rely on this person to keep your home tidy and clean. He or she is deserving of the cost of one visit, according to Roseanne Thomas, author of "Excuse Me: The Survival Guide to Modern Business Etiquette."

Individuals can use their discretion concerning service providers in their lives who may be worthy of some extra cheer this holiday sea-



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Services

Duby's career at Community

Healthlink spanned 20 years during

which she held an additional eight

titles, held roles including Assistant

Vice President of Recovery Services,

Director of Emergency Services in

North County, Director of Program for

Assertive Community Treatment and

nity to utilize my skills in leading,

developing and inspiring excellence

in a behavioral health organization,'

said Duby. "I think I can bring a fresh

perspective and new approach, and I

am excited to get started with Ken and

"I'm excited for this new opportu-

Crisis Stabilization Clinician.

the entire Open Sky team."

About Open Sky

Open Sky Community Services is

dba for Alternatives Unlimited, Inc.

and The Bridge of Central MA. Open Sky offers a wide range of services

for adults, adolescents, and children

with mental health challenges, devel-

opmental and intellectual disabilities,

substance use disorders, brain injury,

homelessness and other challenges

throughout Central Massachusetts.

Open Sky Community Services has

over 1,200 dedicated employees and an

annual budget of \$83M with more than

100 programs throughout the region.

For more information, please visit

www.openskycs.org.

Open Sky Community Services appoints new Vice President of Behavioral Health



Karen Duby

WORCESTER Open Community Services has announced the appointment of its new Vice President of Behavioral Health, Karen Duby, LICSW. As part of her role on Open Sky's Senior Leadership team, Duby will be responsible for oversight of all of the organization's behavioral health programs, including Career Services, Respite Services, and the Adult Community Clinical Services Division.

"Karen comes to us with extensive experience in leading behavior-

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Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Labor Day) Sunday: Closed

Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

8 a.m.-4 p.m.

al health programs in the Central Massachusetts area," said Ken Bates, President and CEO of Open Sky Community Services. "Her strong clinical and management background, paired with her passion for the field, will greatly strengthen our services at Open Sky and we're excited for what she brings to the team."

Duby began working in the mental health field after obtaining her Master of Social Work in May 1993, from Boston College. Duby previously served as a Vice President at Community Healthlink in Worcester, where she led division leadership of up to 20 directors and supervisors in operating their respective programs. Duby also provided clinical oversight for Community Healthlink's primary care services, Homeless support services and the Continuum of Inpatient Substance Use Disorder services.

ALL ITS NEWS REPORTS. ALTHOUGH NUMEROUS SAFEGUARDS ARE IN PLACE TO ENSURE ACCURATE REPORTING, MISTAKES CAN OCCUR.

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Southbridge Mews

The Southbridge News (USPS 504-380) is published Fridays, by Stonebridge Press Inc., PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodicals postage paid at Southbridge, Mass. Postmaster: Send address changes to The News at address listed above. Friday delivery (in county) only for \$18.00 per year. Friday delivery (out of county) only for \$56.00 per year. Web only subscription \$15.00 per year.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday December 5, 2020 ~ 9 am to 1 pm

Casella Waste Services Facility

Residents of Southbridge, Massachusetts

At 165 Barefoot Road (across from the landfill)

In order to accommodate everyone, there is a 10-gal limit per household

Materials That Will Be Accepted At NO CHARGE for SOUTHBRIDGE RESIDENTS ONLY: Oil Based Paint, Pesticides/Herbicides, Cleaning Products, Household Batteries, Thinners/Strippers/Removers/Solvents, Acids/Bases, Automotive Oil/Antifreeze/Gasoline, Stains/Preservatives, Mercury, Fluorescent lights and Photo Chemicals.

Small Electronics (other than those listed below), Yard Wastes (leaves, brush or shrubs), Bulky furniture and mattresses.

Materials That Will Be Accepted FOR A CHARGE: Appliances \$20 each (computer monitors, televisions, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, water coolers or

freezers). Propane tanks, car/truck tires, car/truck batteries \$20 each. MATERIALS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT 165 BAREFOOT ROAD FACILITY: NO Asbestos, PCBs, explosives or shock-sensitive materials, ammunition, compressed gas cylinders, radio-active wastes, pathological wastes, infectious waste, or medicines. CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS (SEE NOTE BELOW FOR ALTERNATE DELIVERY SITE) NO COMMERCIAL WASTE NO LATEX PAINT METAL NO RECYCLING/CARDBOARD NO FOOD OR HOUSEHOLD TRASH

On December 5, 2020, Southbridge Residents may bring up to 2 cubic yards (approximately 4'x4'x4') of construction and demolition waste, free of charge, to the Casella Oxford Transfer Station located at 200 Leicester Street, North Oxford, MA, between the hours of 8:00 am and noon

You MUST provide a valid form of identification showing you are a resident of Southbridge (Driver's license, Town tax bill, etc.) or you will have to pay a fee to use the facility

The Oxford Transfer Station will be accepting RESIDENTIAL construction and demolition debris ONLY. NO OTHER wastes or recycling will be accepted in Oxford. No commercial wastes will be accepted free of charge

Construction and Demolition Waste is waste building materials and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair or demolition of buildings, pavements, roads or other structures (including but not limited to concrete, bricks, asphalt pavement, masonry, plaster, gypsum wallboard, metal, lumber and wood).

> See Southbridge Cable Access Channel 192 for more information No pre-registration is necessary. Proof of residency will be required.

If you have any questions about the event or acceptable materials, please call

Casella Waste Services at 888-532-2735

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Bay Path students awarded Horatio Alger National Career & Technical Scholarship



Tianna Welcome

CHARLTON — Tianna Welcome of Oxford and Ashley Winters of Spencer have been awarded the 2020-2021 scholarship from the Horatio Alger National Career & Technical Scholarship Program (CTE Scholarship).

Welcome and Winters, both full-time practical nursing students at Bay Path **RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy**



Ashley Winters

will each receive an award of \$2,500 for their practical nursing studies. CTE Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis of verification of good academic standing, high school completion or earned high school equivalency credential, enrolled in a career or technical certificate program leading to employment, attending a notfor-profit post-secondary institution, Pell Grant eligibility, US citizenship, and be under the age of 30.

Welcome works as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) at CareOne in Millbury. Prior to joining Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Welcome Medical completed Assistant Certificate at Salter College (Dean's Assistant/Home Nursing Health Aide Training program at Peak Medical Academy in Worcester, and courses towards General Studies Healthcare option at Quinsigamond Community College.

Winters is a CNA working closely with hospice nurses at Uxbridge, MA. She completed her CNA and HHA certification at the American Red Cross in Worcester. She took courses toward majoring in social work at Anna Maria College in Paxton. She is an elected officer for the PN Class of 2021's UNICEF Club.

Both Welcome and Winters are 14 weeks into the rigorous ten-month of academics and clinicals to complete the practical nursing program and make positive contributions while continuing their service to the nursing profession.

The Horatio Alger Association honors the achievements of outstanding individuals in our society who have

succeeded despite adversity and who are committed to supporting young people in pursuit of increased opportunities through higher education.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy

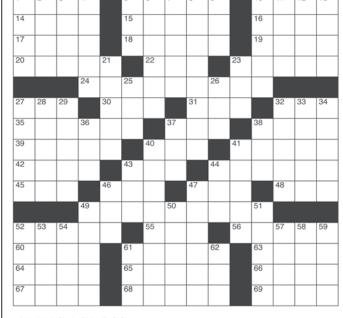
Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing 239 Causeway Street Boston, MA 02114 617-973-0800 www.mass.gov/dph/ boards/rn The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education 840 Roswell Road Building 300, Suite 325 Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 www.council.org Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 209 Burlington Rd., Suite 201 Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022 www.neasc.org.

Joshua Hyde Library invites children

STURBRIDGE — Children bread kid with craft supplies

library during the Sturbridge Recreation Department's "Light Up Sturbridge!" event to see our Gingerbread Library makeover beginning on Dec. 5! Be sure to check out our Story Walk "Catch that Cookie" by

Joshua Hyde Library.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cold War player
- 10. Jamaican tangelo 14. Debauched man
- 15. Less covered 16. Require to live
- 17. Patrick and Aykroyd are two
- 18. Mixes
- 19. Insurance claim expenses 20. Tries to persuade
- 22. Equal (prefix) 23. Czech name for Prague
- 24. London soccer team 27. Greek letter
- 30. Small Eurasian deer 31. Swiss river
- 32. Miller beer
- 35. Less appealing
- 37. 8th month (abbr.)
- __ Alto, California city 39. Grandmothers
- 40. American time
- 41. NW Chinese people

CLUES DOWN

- 2. Fly high in the air
- 3. Made musical sounds 4. Organized again
- 5. TV channel 6. Unable to fly
- 7. Get up 8. Air traveler
- 9. Married woman 10. Take weapons from
- 11. Sicilian city 12. Actress Remini
- 13. Thought 21. Infections
- 23. Golf score 25. Hill or rocky peak
- 26. Witch 27. Adjusted
- 28. Succulent plant
- 29. Forearm bones 32. Hot fluid in the earth's crust
- 37. Burned material residue

34. Part of an organism

42. "Westworld" actress

44. Poplar trees (Spanish)

47. Corpuscle count (abbr.)

48. Comedienne Gastever

46. Not or

49. Fonts

55. Down time

56. Spiritual leader

61. Trimmed by cutting

64. A long narrative poem

68. Pacific Island country

69. Whale ship captain

67. Shut Your Pie Hole (abbr.)

63. NY Giants owner

65. Old World lizard

66. Product for sale

43. Northeastern US university

45. Hip hop legend Kool Moe _

52. Female cattle mammary gland

60. Small brown and gray American

- 38. Brain layer: __ mater
- 40. Unable to partake
- 41. Lesion 43. Historic railroad company (abbr.)

36. 007's creator

- 44. Basics 46. Scottish port
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Instruct 50. Untamed
- 51. Moth genus 52. Utilizes
- 53. Foolish
- 54. Fall in small drops 57. A place to get clean
- 58. La Tar Pits 59. Metrical foot
- 61. Semiliquid food
- 62. Small crow

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to help decorate for the holidays

are welcome to assist in decorating the exterior of the Joshua Hyde Library by decorating a gingerbread kid! Cardstock gingerbread kids are available at the library during curbside pick-up hours (Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday noon-4 p.m. and Wednesday 3-7 p.m.). Call 508-347-2512 when

Kids! Decorate the ginger-

or recyclable items as desired. If you would like your gingerbread kid returned to you, please write your name, library card number and town on the back. We will do our best to return it. Completed gingerbread kids should be returned to the library, in a paper bag, by Dec. 2. They may be left on the cart outside of the library.

Be sure to stop by the

Hallie Durand, too.

This creative event is sponsored by the Friends of the

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

* * Friday's Child * * *



Raven Age 14

Hi! My name is Raven and I am a fashionista!

teen girl of Caucasian descent. Raven describes herself as polite and well dressed, but others would add she is outgoing, happy, and just fun to be around! Raven's creativeness tends to shine through her art and her clothing choices. Some of Raven's favorite activities include reading, cheerleading, gymnastics, spending time outside, and going shopping. Raven is a highly motivated child with goals for her future. When she grows up, she would like to become either a nurse or a fashion designer.

Engaging and confident, Raven has made tremendous progress in school. She likes to advocate for herself and have her voice be heard. Raven also thrives in family settings and does best when given a structured environment with clear rules and expectations.

Raven is legally freed for adoption and hopes her future family will have two parents, an older sister and a dog. Her social worker is also willing to consider single female families with children in the home. Raven would do best as the only or youngest child in the home. Raven has close relationships with her sisters and their adoptive families, who live on the South Shore of Massachusetts, and it is important for her to keep these relationships.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LG-BTQ singles and couples.

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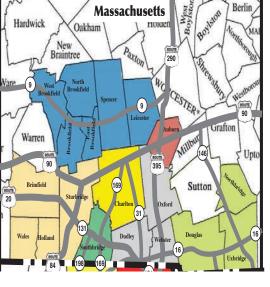
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Learn "How to Master Your Mindset During A Crisis" with Mike Savage Dec. 1 Mike Savage will imagined. While most business lead-routine, peer network, and thought state of mind, belief

WORCESTER - Mike Savage will present "How to Master Your Mindset During A Crisis: The Seven Secret Weapons of Great Business Leaders Who Thrive During Challenging Times" at a Zoom meeting of The Communicators Club from noon to 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1.

Savage said the pandemic is a curveball that none of us could have

ers have assessed the reality of their situation, applied for a PPP or EIDL loan, and taken the necessary steps as required by law, they may not be addressing an important aspect of this crisis – their mindset and mental state. Mike, who has more than 30 years of entrepreneurship, believes that mindset, language, focus, daily

process are significantly more important to success than a tactic, product or marketing plan.

Savage will dig into how great leaders summon their inner powers when faced with seemingly insurmountable challenges and emerge victorious. He will explain how entrepreneurs can win this battle as they manage their

state of mind, believe that the universe is unfolding as it should, and have faith that they will successfully navigate through this adversity.

There is a \$10 fee for the virtual program. To register, go to https://conta. cc/38uuUvp.

For more information about The Communicators Club, visit https:// communicatorsclub.org/.

PARADE

continued from page A1

of separation."

At last Monday's Town Council meeting Health Director Andy Pelletier noted Southbridge is still in the state's "yellow" category, mostly because the state changed how it calculates the risk (getting less than 5 percent of tests positive). The town has seen a large spike in cases over the last few weeks, with "most of these cases arising because people are getting lax," he said, noting he knows of "six or seven residences with three or four cases [each].'

He's seeing "13 or 14 [new] cases a day" and expects spikes "immediately after Thanksgiving and immediately after Christmas." To avoid that, he urged people to "follow the rules," particularly wearing masks in public (now required anytime, not just within

six feet of others) and maintaining social distancing. "I don't think there's a whole lot more we really want to do without stifling the population."

He didn't specifically mention the Santa Parade, but Clemence noted she spoke to him and got the green light, thanking town departments in general for their "overwhelming support."

"We ask that people decorate their vehicles in some way," Clemence said. "Whatever you want to do, we're open to it."

In previous years, the route ran down Main Street. This year, though, it's longer - a loop downtown to allow more people to see things while maintaining social distancing. Specifically, it'll start at Mechanic and North, roll to Charlton Street, to Worcester, Central, Main, then down to the Rotary and back to the

starting point.

Clemence said some of her inspiration came from googling the rolling rally in Medway, which is happening the same night. With Covid restrictions, numerous communities have replaced various kinds of outdoor events with similar rolling parades this year. For those in one of the "critical categories" at high risk catching Covid, she urged people to stay home and watch the event on the internet, since it'll be livestreamed and broadcast after the fact by cable access TV.

"Let's keep the holiday spirit and make people smile and laugh for a while," Clemence added. "Hopefully, next year we'll be able to get back to the traditional tradition."

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@ gmail.com.

ARRESTS

continued from page **A1**

apprehended by Trooper Latino as well as Troopers Amy Waterman, Robert Faguendes and Michael Baroni and Charlton Police Officers. The officers also received assistance from Trooper Kurt D'Angelo of the State Police K-9 Unit and his partner Kody who discovered evidence along the escape route of narcotics. Trooper D'Angelo was led to a cylindrical package wrapped in tape inside a condom nearby where Crocker-Carter has been apprehended. The substance inside was believed to

be approximately 80 grams of cocaine. Police later confirmed that Crocker-Carter had intended to deliver the drugs from New York City to a local

Thornton, who suffered minor injuries, was charged with several offenses including failure to stop, speeding, marked lane violations, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of a crash that caused property damage, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, breakdown lane violations and disturbing the peace. Crocker-Carter was charged with disturbing the peace and trafficking cocaine.



Trooper Kurt D'Angelo and K-9 partner Kody hunt down 80 grams of cocaine dumped by suspects following a high-speed chase into Charlton.

NICHOLS

continued from page A1

many things, but it did not change our ability to conduct classes, whether remote or in person," said Mauri Pelto, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs in a memo to students.

Pelto added that none of the positive cases recorded at Nichols were the result of learning in the classroom, noting "This remarkable achievement indicates our classroom setup, combined with testing and contact tracing. has worked to keep us all healthy."

As for the spring, classes will mence on Feb. 1, while winter courses will be available from Dec. 28 through the end of January.

TOY DRIVE

Community

continued from page A1

Station and on the Southbridge Cops N Kids Facebook page. Please note that with the COVID disruption this year our applications for assistance are already surpassing last year.

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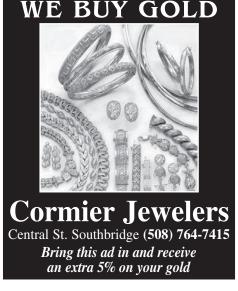


Giant soldiers dominate one vehicle in last year's parade.





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EDITORIAL

To infinity and beyond

On Nov. 15, the world watched as a Space X spacecraft blasted into space with four astronauts on board. As one news outlet put it, it was 'eight minutes of terror' as the fiery bullet took off. This title nailed it. As we watched the rocket take off, we were awestruck at how far mankind has come. The science and intelligence that is behind what was once unthinkable, is mind blowing.

Watching the takeoff on Sunday evening was just as exciting as it was nerve wracking. In 1986, while in school, we all watched as the Challenger met it's fatal fate after just 73 seconds after taking off. In 2003, the Columbia shuttle broke apart while attempting to renter the Earth's atmosphere, killing all seven crew members.

The crew, made up of Victor Glover, Shannon Walker, Soichi Noguchi (of Japan) and Michael Hopkins, traveled the 27 hours it takes to get to the International Space Station. As we write this, the crew is safely in orbit.

The launch was delayed from Saturday to Sunday due to bad weather from Hurricane Eta. The trek is historical in that it's the first fully operational mission for the private company, SpaceX, founded by Elon Musk. A test mission did take place this past spring with two test pilots, Robert Behnken and Douglas Hurley who successfully traveled to the space station.

The crew will remain in space for six months, where they will administer several experiments. One experiment includes how microgravity affects human heart tissue. Microgravity is defined as the condition in which people or things appear to be weightless. An attempt to grow radishes will also take place, which could lead to longer space missions.

In 2011, NASA did away with the Space Shuttle program. Since then the United States has used Russian spacecrafts to bring astronauts to the International Space Station. SpaceX created and developed the Crew

Dragon capsule.

In 1961, Russian Lt. Yuri Gagarin became the first person to orbit the Earth in Vostok 1. The flight lasted for 108 minutes, reaching an altitude of 202 miles. That same year, Alan Shepard became the first American to go to space. A year later in February, John Glenn became the first American to land on the moon. In 1969, Neil Armstrong was the first human to walk on the moon.

Some interesting facts about space are that it is completely silent. Because there is no atmosphere in space, sound has no way to travel. Astronauts use radios to communicate. In 1986, NASA discovered what could be fossils of microscopic living organisms on a rock brought back from Mars. Halley's Comet won't orbit by the Earth until 2061. A space suit from Nasa costs \$12,000,000. A research by Yale scientists suggests that there may be a planet made out of diamonds, that is twice the size of Earth and eight times greater. They say it's 40 light years away; however, it can be seen by the naked eye in the constellation of Cancer. The footprints left on the moon will last for 100 million years. One day on Venus is longer than one year due to a slow axis rotation which takes 243 Earth days to complete it's day. If two pieces of metal touch while in space, they will weld together. There is floating water in space. The moon was once a piece of the Earth. Scientists say that when Earth was young, it was struck by a giant object breaking a piece off that began to orbit the Earth due to gravity.

Sunday evening's excitement was a much needed break from the national news cycle. Listening to the ground crew at NASA headquarters was like listening to something out of a movie. It was a refreshing reminder that there are bigger, more positive things taking place in our lifetimes and for that, we are thankful.

OPINION

Viewpoints and commentary from the Tri-Community and beyond

Medicinal Seasonings Spice Up Holiday Recipes

With the holidays around the corner, the focus turns to homemade pies, cookies and other comfort food confections that conjure up fond holiday memories. One of the simple pleasures of churning out home baked goods this time of year is the unmistak-

able aroma of such spices as cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger. But the familiar aromatics of holiday fare are not simply tasty comfort foods, as it turns out, studies show popular holiday spices can benefit your health as well as your taste

The following yuletide-worthy recipes include generous doses of spices with impressive health benefits. Note: Data on treating ailments with spices is offered as information only; not medical advice. Do not ingest spices as home remedies without proper medical supervision as dangerous allergies and side effects can occur.

Nutmeg

Often sprinkled in a holiday eggnog or added to a meat pie, the nutmeg spice jar does duty beyond the kitchen cupboard, from halting a headache to promoting sweet slumber. Nutmeg is packed with antioxidants and anti-inflammatory properties that not only relieve headaches but help ease pain associated with injuries and wounds. The spice is also an antibacterial, which makes it a powerful weapon in healing oral maladies. A natural diuretic, nutmeg is beneficial to kidney health, with its powerful properties evenly hailed as a treatment to dissolve kidney stones. And according to the Encyclopedia of Healing Foods, a little nutmeg added to a glass of warm milk can lull you off to sleep in record time.

Candied Pecans: Traditional holidays include old fashioned recipes, and this simple candied nut recipe, featuring nutmeg and cinnamon, harks back to holiday snacks of yore:

Ingredients: one large egg white; ½ tablespoon vanilla extract; ½ tablespoon water; one cup sugar; ¾ teaspoon Kosher salt; ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon; ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg; one pound raw pecan halves

Directions: Preheat the oven to 250°F (121°C). Butter a baking sheet.

In a bowl, beat the egg white, vanilla, and water just until very frothy. In a separate bowl, combine the sugar, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Add the pecans to the egg-white mixture and gently toss to coat. Transfer the nuts to the sugar mixture and toss to coat. Spread the nuts evenly on the baking sheet.

Bake for 1 hour, stirring every 10 to 15 minutes. Watch the pecans carefully during the last 15 to 20 minutes of cooking for doneness. The nuts should be a lovely golden brown, crunchy, and evenly coated with the hardened sugar coating when they come out of the oven. Store the pecans in an airtight container in a cool, dry place for up to 2 weeks.

Cinnamon

Cinnamon, perhaps the most recognized holiday spice, is also one of the most powerful in health benefits. Helpful in reducing blood sugar levels in people with type 2 diabetes, cinnamon has been touted as an additional dietary supplement along with conventional medications to fight the disease.

In addition, studies revealed the spice reduced triglyceride, LDL cholesterol, and total cholesterol levels among test group subjects. Want more? Research from Copenhagen University showed a significant relief in arthritis pain when patients were given half a teaspoon of cinnamon powder combined with one tablespoon of honey every morning for a week. And another study found that the mere act of smelling the spice can boosts cognitive function and memory!

Cinnamon FYI: Microbiologists at Kansas State University found that adding small amounts of cinnamon to samples of apple juice contaminated with E. coli bug killed most of the bacteria. Just one teaspoon of cinnamon killed 99.5 percent of the bacteria after three days at room temperature.

Holiday Cinnamon Snickerdoodles: This recipe, from the spice company McCormick, is a nostalgic family favorite to bake up during the holidays.

Ingredients: 2 3/4 cups All Purpose Flour; 2 teaspoons Cream of Tartar; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 3/4 teaspoon salt;

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1 3/4 cups sugar, divided; 1 cup Butter Flavor All-Vegetable Shortening; 2 eggs; 2 tablespoons milk; 2 teaspoons pure Vanilla Extract; 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon. Directions: Preheat

oven to 400°F. Mix flour.

cream of tartar, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Set aside. Beat 1 1/2 cups of the sugar and shortening in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs, milk and vanilla; mix well. Gradually beat in flour

mixture on low speed until well mixed. Mix remaining 1/4 cup sugar and cinnamon. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in cinnamon sugar mixture to coat. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets.

Bake 7 to 8 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool on baking sheets 2 minute. Remove to wire racks.

Ginge

Ginger bread and ginger snaps are familiar holiday treats, but did you know ginger has long been hailed for its power to tame a tummy ache? It's also a well-known home remedy to treat motion and sea sickness. In fact, in one study, ginger was shown to be superior to a commonly used over-the-counter and prescription drug for motion sickness, reducing dizziness, nausea, vomiting, and cold sweats. It's also claimed that ginger can aid in relieving arthritis and sciatica pain. Or, some people simply eat several pieces of crystallized ginger to help relieve joint and nerve pain.

Old Fashioned Gingerbread: King Arthur Flour offers this classic holiday favorite that recalls happy childhood memories.

Ingredients: 2 1/4 cups King Arthur White Whole Wheat Flour, or 2 cups King Arthur Unbleached All-Purpose Flour;1/4 cup granulated sugar; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 1/2 teaspoon salt; 1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger; 1 teaspoon cinnamon; 1/4 teaspoon each cloves and nutmeg; 1/2 cup (8 tablespoons) unsalted butter, melted; 3/4 cup molasses; 1/4 cup water;1 large egg;1 cup buttermilk;1/2 cup diced crystallized ginger (optional)

Instructions: Grease and flour a 9% square pan. Preheat the oven to 350° E.

Allspice

Christmas pudding, mincemeat and pumpkin pies all benefit from the addition of allspice, but did you know your health can too?

Allspice is famous for its ability to relieve muscle aches and pain when applied topically. To make an allspice poultice, mix ground allspice with water to form a thick paste. Apply it to the body, cover with gauze and relax for 15 to 20 minutes. Sipping tea made from the spice can also be helpful in relieving menstrual cramps and headaches. Allspice berries can also be used to temporarily relieve toothache pain. Simply chew one allspice berry for quick relief.

Allspice Recipe: No allspice on hand? No worries. To whip up one teaspoon of Allspice, combine the following: 1/2 teaspoon of ground cinnamon, ¼ teaspoon of ground cloves and ¼ teaspoon of ground nutmeg.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol. com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

Financial moves for the recently divorced



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Divorce is common in our society, but that doesn't make it any easier to navigate. If you've recently finalized a divorce, you've likely been coping with uncertainty and tension, but you can still avoid turning an already difficult situation into one that's even more challenging. How? By making the right financial and investment moves, including the following:

Establish your separate financial presence. Even when you were married, you and your spouse might have maintained some separate accounts. But if you only had joint accounts, now is the time to open your own checking, savings and credit accounts.

Update your budget. It's likely your budget needs updating. Your household income may be lower or may need to be adjusted for alimony or child support (paid or received). Additionally, your living expenses may have shifted, either higher because you're no longer splitting expenses such as housing or utilities, or possibly lower because you're no longer supporting your ex's spending habits. Understanding your new budget will help you feel better informed about your financials options and more in control of your new situation.

Prioritize emergency savings. Divorce is expensive and may have depleted your savings. To get back on your feet, you may want to build an easily accessible source of funds for unexpected drops in income and/or spikes in expenses. If you're not retired, you may want to keep three to six months' worth of expenses in emergency savings, although even much smaller amounts can boost your feelings of financial security.

Evaluate your retirement plan contributions. When you were married, you may have been counting on sharing resources and expenses with your spouse in retirement. But now, you may be solely responsible for your retirement, so if you can afford it, you may want to ramp up your retirement plan contributions. You may want to consult a financial professional about setting and achieving new goals.

Think about Social Security. Your divorce could play a role in the benefits you can receive. Once you are eligible for benefits, if you were married at least 10 years and you haven't remarried, you might be able to receive up to 50% of your ex-spouse's benefits, offset by your own benefit. If your ex passes away and you haven't remarried (or you remarry only after age 60), you could receive 100% of their benefit in place of your own. This could be beneficial if your ex-spouse had a higher income or spent longer in the labor force. Since rules can be complicated, contact your local Social Security office to better understand your situation, and keep a record of your ex's Social Security number.

Review your beneficiary designations and legal documents. You'll likely need to revise the beneficiary designations on your retirement accounts and life insurance policies. These designations carry a lot of weight and can even supersede the instructions in your will. And, speaking of your will, you'll likely need to revise it too, along with other legal documents, such as a living trust. Consult with your legal professional to make these revisions.

It can feel like a long road to stability after a divorce – but by following the above suggestions, you may be able to make the trip a little less bumpy – and hopefully shorter – as well.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.



Helpful bints for barvesting deer



THE GREAT OUTDOORS RALPH **TRUE**

day Opening of Massachusetts shotgun deer season is scheduled to open on Nov. 30. This year, sportsmen that harvest a deer during the first week of the shotgun deer season, are not required to bring the animal to a check station as in previous years, due to the Covid-19 outbreak. You are required to register the deer online. A lot of deer, some of which were very impressive, were harvested during the archery deer season. Last year's numbers of harvested deer during the archery season were high, and I would not be surprised that the numbers will be even higher this year. In fact, last year, archers harvested more deer than hunters during the shotgun deer season in Massachusetts!

Many deer hunters are trophy deer hunters, and often pass up a shot at a doe or small buck. The excitement of harvesting a trophy deer gives the hunter bragging rights for many years. If you are looking for some good eating venison, the younger deer are the best, not to say that some big buck do not have the flavor of a

vounger deer. Many times, it depends on the food the deer were eating, that make the difference in flavorful meat. Proper field dressing also has a large effect on the taste of the deer, as the meat can be tainted with the deer's urine if it is broken during the field dressing process.

A quick clean kill can also make your harvested deer meat taste a lot better, than if you need to track the deer any length of time. The adrenalin of the deer has a tendency to stiffen up the body of the deer and effects the meat when it is cooked. Also, making a bad shot and locating the deer the next day, is another thing that you do not want to happen. These are some of the reasons that many people do not like eating venison. If the deer is quickly killed and properly field dressed, they would change their way of thinking.

If you are hunting private property, you need to make sure that you have permission from the landowner. If you harvest a deer, be sure to share some of the venison with him or her. It could go a long way in keeping his property open in the coming years. Leaving your trash behind is another way to get the property closed. When possible, you should try to remove the body parts that are removed from the animal during field dressing. It does draw coyote and other wild animals to the kill site to eat

Photo Courtesy The 16 year old son of Sean Haaynes harvested this 16-point buck in Spencer during the archery

the body parts, which may be an unwanted visit by the farmer or property owner.

Tautog fishing remained pretty good last week in Rhode Island, but boaters needed to go a bit further out to deeper water. Shore fishing anglers have had to work a bit harder to catch a couple of keepers. Seabass fishing has also slowed in the area around Point Judith light.

Ice fishing anglers are hoping for some ice this year, but if you listen to some of the long range forecast, it does not look too good. Many anglers are still fishing from their boats in local waters, catching some impressive trout and largemouth bass.

Hoping everyone stays safe and has a happy Holiday, even though it will not be like previous years. New Englanders are tough, and we will all survive the pandemic if we social distance and wear masks. We will get back to normal soon. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all that have lost a loved one to the Covid-19.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Winter care for trees, shrubs and perennials in containers

As you prepare your landscape for winter don't overlook the trees, shrubs and perennials you have growing in containers. These need a bit of extra protection to help them survive cold winter temperatures.

The small amount

of soil in container gardens does not always provide sufficient insulation. The roots are more exposed to temperature extremes than those of their counterparts growing in the ground. Extremely cold temperatures can damage or kill the roots and even the plant.

Plants rated at least one zone hardier than your zone can usually survive when left outside for winter. Just make sure your containers will also tolerate the challenging winter weather.

Here are a couple strategies for helping your other containers through the winter. Select the one that best fits your landscape space and gardening style. Those in apartments or with limited space may need to enlist the help of their gardening friends.

Move containers to a sheltered location. Place them close together for added insulation. Then surround this with annual pots of flowers and vegetables to further insulate the roots. Wait until spring to empty and compost the annual plants. Or cover the pots with woodchips or surround

GARDEN Moments **MELINDA MYERS**

them with bags of leaves, potting mix or bales of straw. Add another layer of insulation by piling snow that is free of deicing salt over the pots throughout the

Any plants growing in nursery pots

or plastic containers can be overwintered in a vacant section of the garden. Sink the pots in the ground and make sure the pot is covered with and surrounded by soil. Water if needed. Then lift the plants in spring and set them in a decorative container to enjoy throughout the growing season.

An unheated garage also provides a suitable location for overwintering container gardens. Heated garages are usually too warm and plants will begin to grow. With a lack of sufficient sunlight, they usually struggle through the winter and often die.

Place the plants away from the overhead garage door. Add a bit of insulation such as packing materials, bagged soil or other potential insulation you probably have in your home or garage. This protects the roots when the temperatures plummet. Water your stored containers whenever the soil is thawed and dry. A scoop of snow that is free of deicing salt works well. Just toss a scoop on each pot. When the temperatures rise the snow melts and waters



Moving containers to a sheltered location and placing them close together for added insulation is one strategy to help them survive cold winter temperatures.

the pots. Dry soil during a winter thaw is the usual cause of death when pots are stored this way.

If space allows, you may decide to plant those trees, shrubs and perennials growing in containers into the garden each fall. You will eliminate this overwintering task and have a great excuse for buying new plants next spring.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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OBITUARIES

Evelyn V. (Bartlett) Renaud, 101

SOUTHBRIDGE- Evelyn V. (Bartlett) Renaud, 101, of W. Main St., passed away on Monday, Nov. 16th, in her home surrounded by her family.



Her husband, Frank E. Renaud, passed away in 1992. She leaves two daughters, June E. Renaud and Yvonne G. Dalton, both of Southbridge; seven grandchildren, Clint Renaud of Longmont, CO, Philip

Renaud of Woodstock, CT, Steven Renaud of Southbridge, Gary Renaud of Woodstock, CT, Michelle Andujar of Dudley, Jess Dalton of Woodstock, CT and Leslie Heenan of Spencer; 15 great grandchildren; and 15 great great grandchildren. Evelyn was predeceased by three of her children, Francis E. "Pete" Renaud in 2018, Diane L. Renaud in 2018 and Harry G. Renaud in 2019. She was also predeceased by her brother, Alfred "Babe" Bartlett. She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Wildie and

Eva (Belanger) Bartlett.

Evelyn worked at the American Optical Co. in Southbridge for many years, retiring many years ago. She was a member of Notre Dame Parish (now St. John Paul II Parish) in Southbridge and was a member of St. Anne's Shrine in Sturbridge. Evelyn enjoyed puzzles, candlepin bowling and loved to travel. She was also a great cook. Most of all her greatest love was for her family.

Her family would like to thank the staff from Overlook Hospice for all of the care and compassion they gave to Evelyn during her illness.

Evelyn's funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21st at 10:00am in Notre Dame Church of St. John Paul II Parish, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial will follow in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. There are no calling hours.

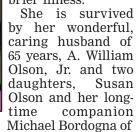
The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Julia A. Olson, 96

SOUTHBRIDGE- Julia A. (Liro) Olson, 96, of Dennison Dr., passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 18th, in the Harrington Memorial Hospital,

Southbridge, after a brief illness.



Shrewsburyand Judy Olson of Dudley; and many special nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her two brothers, Mitchell Liro and Stephen Liro and her five sisters, Katherine Domijan, Stephanie Wojciechowski, Adele Ostrowoski, Florence Gajewski and Irene McNeese. She was born in Southbridge on July 1, 1924, the daughter of the late Joseph and Victoria (Ziemian) Liro and was a lifelong resident of Southbridge.

Julia was employed as a service representative in the business office of New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. for many years. In her junior and high school years, she

followed in the footsteps of her older sisters, playing basketball and field hockey. Later she joined a golf league and a bowling league. During World War II she volunteered as a nurse's aide at the Harrington Memorial Hospital.

Her family would like to thank the staff of Harrington Memorial Hospital for their exceptional and kind care in Julia's last days. They would also like to thank her many wonderful, caring aides from the Care Central VNA and Tri-Valley Elder Services.

A Funeral Mass for Julia will be held on Saturday, Nov. 28th, at 10:00am in Notre Dame Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Southbridge, will be held at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Special Olympics Massachusetts, 512 Forest St., Marlborough, MA 01752.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Gilbert Ovila Lamarre, 90

KENNEBUNKPORT, ME: Gilbert Ovila Lamarre, 90, of Kennebunkport, Maine, formerly of Longmeadow, Massachusetts, passed away on November 9, 2020.



He leaves a daughter, Martha Lamarre McCoy (Andrew); two sons, Mark Lamarre (Victoria) and David Lamarre; four grand-Olivia, children, Emily, Jack and Elise Lamarre; two brothers, Clement Lamarre

(Brenda) and Andre Lamarre (Mindy); and numerous other relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 52 years, Ruth (Hefner) Lamarre, his parents, Venelda and Ovila Lamarre, and five sisters.

Gil was passionate about education and literacy and earned his Doctorate in Education from Boston University. He was a dedicated teacher and mentor to thousands of students and other educators. His varied career included service as principal of the U.S. Air Force school in Misawa, Japan, consultant for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, school principal and Director of Reading for the Longmeadow school system, assistant professor of education at various colleges, and president of regional reading and teachers' associations. His devotion to his students and his energy, sense of humor and enthusiasm were legendary.

Born to French-speaking parents in Sanford, Maine on January 17, 1930, Gil raised his family in York. Maine and Longmeadow, Mass., eventually retiring to Kennebunkport. A man of many talents and interests, he had a beautiful singing voice and read widely. He particularly loved ice hockey and skating, and devoted countless hours to crafting an ice rink for his children every year. In retirement, he enjoyed puzzle-making, volunteering with the Kennebunkport Historical

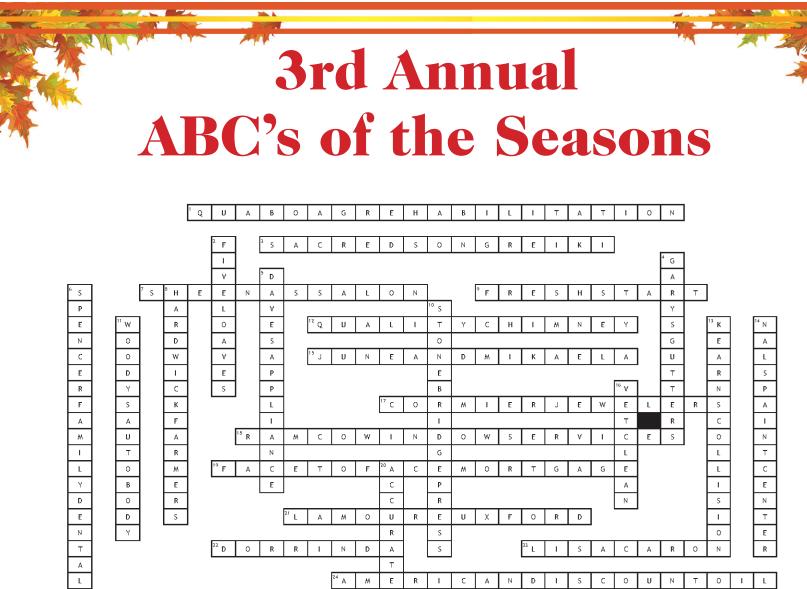
Society, sports and bird-watching, and eventually arrived at an uneasy truce with the local squirrels.

Gil was laid to rest alongside Ruth on November 13 in the New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gil's memory to: Louis T. Graves Memorial Public Library, P.O. Box 391, Kennebunkport, ME 04046 or online at: https://graveslibrary.org/ support/

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing local arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com



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We hope you enjoyed our 3rd Annual ABC's of the Season crossword puzzle. The randomly chosen winner of all the correct entries for a \$25 gift card is Rose-Marie Kupiec of Charlton, MA.

Please continue to support these and all of your local businesses. Our next ABC's of the Seasons will be our Winter Edition, coming out on January 31st. Attention Businesses... If you'd like a letter for an upcoming season, please check with your sales representative below for what's available. Once you have a letter, it's yours for as long as you want!. Thank you to all the ABC businesses and to those who completed our puzzle!

June - jsima@stonebridgepress.news Spencer New Leader, Charlton Villager, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Auburn News -508-909-4062

Mikaela - mikaela@stonebridgepress.news Southbridge New, Sturbridge Villager Webster Times - 508-909-4126

Pizza ... a circle of life

My mother taught me many things. She gave me the gift of curiosity. She questioned everything and encouraged her children to do the same. She spent her early teen years as a short order cook and waitress. With her experience she taught me to cook and enjoy the creativity of the process.

In 1943, Mom moved from Sapulpa, Oklahoma to Oakland, California to work in the shipyard to support our war effort. There, she was introduced to her first pizza. It was love at first bite. She later passed her love of the pie to her children and today, we are all pizzaholics. And why not? What's not to love about pizza? She used to make it. We didn't have much money when I was a kid, so I've had pizza made from Bisquick, ketchup, cheddar cheese slices and sliced hot dogs. It wasn't good, but sometimes even bad pizza is better than no pizza at all. I've learned that it's maybe not the taste of the pizza, but the role it plays in American life.

Growing up, a great thrill was being told the pizza delivery man was coming. It was a rare treat but when it happened, it was pure delight. It

was like waiting for Santa, but instead of us feeding him cookies, he's bringing a pizza!

Pizza has become a national celebratory food. When something good happens, we order a pizza. It's easy to order, readily available anywhere, and compared to most foods, inexpensive. It's a food for the common people. When our doorbell rings with unexpected guests, I immediately think about ordering a pizza.

Do you know what cheese said the first time it met sausage? It's Slice to Meat you!

In a nation where regional food has now been homogenized and can be found everywhere, pizza seems to remain regional. I'll show my bias by claiming Chicago is the pizza capital of the world and boasts the best pizza on the planet. Chicago has the extremes from its deep-dish delights to the thin and crispy treats. All of it good. I do enjoy New York style pizza but have found two regions of pizza that I don't love ... yet.

Before I go on ... How do you fix a broken pizza? With tomato paste!

Tim, a close friend, is from suburban Detroit and raves



Positively SPEAKING

about Detroit style pizza and he couldn't wait to show me. But upon arrival in Levonia. Michigan, I was served something that seemed like a flat and square loaf of heavy bread with a little sauce drizzled over it and covered in cheese. It wasn't bad ... it wasn't round ... it wasn't what I perceive as pizza.

And just for a little background ... what's the difference between a columnist and a large pizza? At least the pizza can feed a family of four. (Ouch!)

Then there's Southern California. I love the weather, landscape, and beach. As for their pizza ... I searched far and wide and thought it was all awful. I think if you put avocado on it ... it's no longer pizza. California Pizza Kitchen does offer a great Thai Chicken Pizza, but in general, I find SoCal is a pizza desert ... at least so far?

Hey ... did you hear about the Hawaiian chef who burnt his pizza? He should have baked it on Aloha tempera-

Pizza is as diverse as the people who eat it.

Originally from the Chicago area, I like my deep-dish pizza with cheese and a flat, thin sheet of Italian sausage that spans the entire pie. I like my thin crust with pepperoni and onion. I prefer my sauce to be on the sweet side and my crust not to be soft and soggy

Did you hear about the pizza chef with the terminal illness? He pasta'way. Now he's just a pizza history.

Writing this column, I'm reminded of a scene in Forrest Gump where Bubba is telling Forrest of all the ways to make shrimp. "There's thick crust pizza, thin crust pizza, sausage pizza, BBQ chicken pizza ..." I'm guessing the list could go on forever.

Aside from the silliness of this column, here's what's important.

When we gather around pizza, people smile. It's not just another dining experience to provide nourishment, but

an activity that has become a prominent thread in the fabric of our American tapestry. The enjoyment isn't just in the consumption, but the idea that pizza is a gathering point ... a touchstone that brings us together. And we all know in this time of intense national anxiety, we must find something we can agree upon. I believe conservatives and liberals alike can still sit around a pizza and find some common ground ... and maybe laugh together ... and just maybe ... begin to heal our American spirit.

The election is over. Can we all order a pizza and smile? Can we enjoy the companionship of those we may disagree with politically and eat a pizza together? Isn't it time to try?

P.S. - I'd tell more pizza jokes, but they're all too cheesy!

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

LEGALS

TOWN OF STURBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Sturbridge Conservation Commission, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, §40, and the Town of Sturbridge Wetland Bylaws, will hold the following virtual Public Hearing relating to work within a wetland, waterbody, or resource area and/or within the 200-foot buffer zone to a wetland, waterbody, or resource area on December 1, 2020 at 6:30 PM.

This Public Hearing is in regards to a Notice of Intent submitted by P. Parent, Applicant; for a municipal parking lot located at 501 Main Street, Sturbridge,

Sturbridge Conservation Commission elect, consistent with Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20", to hold the public hearing virtually. Details regarding how to virtually access a meeting can be found here: https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtural-meeting. For those unable to participate virtually, written comments will be accepted in advance of the public hearing.

A copy of the site plan and application can be inspected on the Sturbridge Town Website at

https://www.sturbridge.gov/conservation-commission/pages/recent-filings or arrangements can be made to view the application packet by contacting the Sturbridge Conservation Department at (508)347-2506 or by email at ecarson@sturbridge.gov. Any person interested or wishing to be heard on this petition should appear virtually at the time and place desig-

Submitted by: Ed Goodwin, Chairman STURBRIDGE CONSERVATION **COMMISSION** November 26, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO20P3163EA **CITATION ON PETITION FOR** FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of:

Ronald E Trudeau, Sr. Date of Death: 09/07/2020

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Ronald E Trudeau, Jr. of Waltham MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Ronald E

Trudeau, Jr. of Waltham MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsuper-

vised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/15/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 10, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

November 26, 2020

CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION Public Hearing Notice

A Public Hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 821 2295 6777 and password 016630 at 7:20 PM on 12/2/2020 to consider a Request for Determination of Applicability for John Shi for the property Located at: 17 Hanson Road, Charlton,

For the construction of a driveway in close proximity to two 100'ft BZ

This is a Public Hearing under the requirements of G.L. CH. 131 §40, as amended. Plans are available at the Town of Charlton website - Conservation Commission

November 26, 2020

Town of Holland Public Hearing

In accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a public hearing will be held by the Holland Conservation Commission for review of a Notice of Intent filed by Green Hill Engineering on behalf of Brandon Goodwin for the project located at 332 Mashapaug Road, Holland, MA for repair of a septic system.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall, 27 Sturbridge Road. Holland Conservation Commission

November 26, 2020

THE COMMONWEALTH **OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket Number: 19 SM**

000067 **ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO: Thomas J. Granger and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq): Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Trustee for MASTR Asset Backed Securities Trust 2005-OPT1, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-OPT1 claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Sturbridge, numbered 60 Main Street, given by Thomas J. Granger to Option One Mortgage Corporation, dated December 27, 2004, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 35386,

Page 375, and now held by the Plaintiff

by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 1/4/2021 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 11/17/2020

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder 19347

November 26, 2020

Public Meeting Notice

In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm to review a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) permit application submitted by James Hills to determine if the proposed work to remove several hazardous trees at 21 Sixth Street in Brimfield, MA 01010 (Assessor's Map 5B-B-6) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act (as amended). The work is proposed within the 100-foot buffer zone to Bank of Little Alum Pond.

Project location: 21 Sixth Street in Brimfield, MA 01010 (Assessor's Map 5B-B-6)

Public Participation will be via Virtual Means Only - Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Brimfield Conservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. The public may participate in this meeting via Remote Participation: A website for the meeting will be provided on the Conservation Agenda posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Copies of the Request for Determination of Applicability may be examined electronically by contacting the Conservation Commission at conservation@brimfieldma.org. Roger deBruyn & Michele Restino,

Co-Chairs

November 26, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO20P3211EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION **Estate of:**

George A Morey Date of Death: 06/19/2020

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Robert Ingle of Wellesley MA

requesting that the Court enter a for-

mal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Robert Ingle of Wellesley MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/15/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 13, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

November 26, 2020

CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION Public Hearing Notice

A Public Hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 821 2295 6777 and password 016630 at _7:30 PM on 12/2/2020 to consider a Notice of Intent for William & Lori Fontaine for the property

Located at: 19 Pineland Drive, Charlton, MA

For the construction of a single family This is a Public Hearing under the re-

quirements of G.L. CH. 131 §40, as amended. Plans are available at the Town of Charlton website - Conservation Commission November 26, 2020

CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION Public Hearing Notice

A Public Hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 821 2295 6777 and password 016630 at 7:25 PM on 12/2/2020 to consider a Request for Determination of Applicability for John Walker for the prop-

Located at: Boucher Road, Parcel 40 B3.3 & B3.1 Charlton, MA 01507 For the removal of exotic invasive

plants

This is a Public Hearing under the requirements of G.L. CH. 131 §40, as amended. Plans are available at the Town of Charlton website - Conservation Commission

November 26, 2020



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HOLDEN — 315 Holden St! 6 Rm Ranch! Meticulously Maintained! 2 Spacious Bdrms, Full Tiled Bath & 1 Car Garage! Move In Ready! Granite Oak Cabinet Kit w/Tiled Back Splash & JennAir Stove! Frplc Liv Rm! Fam Rm! Gleaming Hrdwds! Perfect Yard w/Major Landscaping this Year! New Roof 2019! \$344,900.00





SHREWSBURY – Waterfront – Flint Pond w/Direct Boating Access to Lake Ouinsigamond! The Quiet of Flint, All the Action of Quinsig! Privacy Galore on Sargents Island -4.27 Acres - 2,000' Waterfront! Beautiful Sunrises & Sunsets! Looking for a Getaway, Principal Residence or Second Home, Winters in Florida, Summers on the Island! Tons of Potential, Do a Little or Do a Lot! 4+ Rm, 1 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath "A" Frame with the Ability to Finish the Walk-out Lower Level, add a Family Rm, Bdrm, Bathrm! Nature Abounds, Visited by Deer, Fox, Eagles & More! In Time for Summer! \$579,900.00



GRAFTON - 168 Brigham Hill Rd! 8 Rm Garrison Colonial set on 1.3Acres! Refinished! Spacious Kit w/Lunch Counter! SS Appliances w/Gas Cook-Top! Grand Dining Rm for Family Gatherings! 19x26 Living Rm w/Pellet Stovel Master Bdrm w/Dble Closets & Hot Tub! Bright & Airy Mudroom out to the 2 Car Garage! Furnace & Hot Water Tank 5 Years Young! Radon tested at 2.5! Newer Roof on Garage & Breezeway! New Well Water Tank Installed! Title V is heal! Best About Parks 1 Store 1 in-hand! Property Abuts Grafton Land Trust - Hiking Trails Right Out Your Back Door! Convenient to Routes 90, 9 & 20! Immediate Occupancy! **\$449,900.00**























WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Fir to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! \$2,499,900.00



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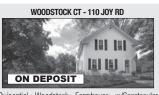
WEBSTER - 11 PERRYVILLE ROAD

Beautiful Split entry home, situated on 1 acre, nicely landscaped aded on I acre, nicely landscaped lot! Vaulted ceiling! 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, Fire-place! Central Air - 2 Zones! Covered deck. All town servic-es! 2 car garage under. Shed! \$289.900.



car garage with storage! Eat-in kitchen. Fieldstone Fireplaced Living Room! 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Remodeled bathroom! Lower Level fieldstone walls/ ON DEPOSIT fireplace! In-ground pool! Recent Boiler, NEWPRO windows, roof, leaf gutters, pool liner! land - 3.58 ACRES

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Brian Bohenko



Quisential Woodstock Farmhouse w/Spectacular views of Pond. Detached Studio Building! 2.5 Acres. Prof. Landscaped. 5 Bedrooms. Fireplaced Dining. library/Music room. Master Bedroom, 2 Full Baths! Renovated Kitchen. Upstairs, 4 Bedrooms w/Full



One level living with added 35 x 18 finished walkout lower level. Cathedral ceilings, skylight dining, hard-wood flooring and central air. Stainless appliancesW/large double oven. Over-sized 30 x 14 deck. quiet cul-de-sac!



Condominium - Living leisurely! 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath (including master suite) home. Freshly painted! Recessed lighting, gas fireplace, and sliding doors, to beautiful balcony. Walkout basement! built-in outdoor grilling spot. Easy access to 1395.



Young ranch with heated 2 car garage, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Efficient Propane heat, central air! Open floor plan! gas fireplace! Master Suite w/bathro Master California Closet! assisted sale \$279,900.



AGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RITE 193 ANA THOMPSON ROAD.
STRATEGICALLY NESTLED BETWEEN TWO (2) 1-936 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF.
RAMPS! PROPERTY DIRECTLY ABUTS 1-939. 487880' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING, 7,880 STTOTALI FULL LOWER LEVEL USE & BUTWE IN GARAGE DOOR! HIGH TRAFFIC - HIGH
EXPOSURE! WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?! \$800,000.



Beautiful home set back off road providing privacy and oversized yard. Kitchen w/granite counters & abundance of cabinets. Ca-thedral ceilings kitchen, dining and living room. Open floor plant large deck with large backyard through sliders in dining room. Hardwood floors! Tile baths. Master bedroom/master bath! Finished walkout lower level w/bar! 2 car garage. Extras: above

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD LOCATION, LO-

CATION! Scenic



Lake! Main level has 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm. Common Bathrm. Master Bedroom & Master Level,1/2 Bath, Laundry, Large room W/Pellet Stove & Direct Garage Access! Tiered deck, w/Screened porch, leads directly to your "Salt water" Inground

WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY SORRY, SOLD!

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. NEW PRICE \$115,000. Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Each \$24,500.

Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900 Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+/- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family!

SORRY SOLD! \$70,000. Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! off Ridge Dr. Will not last! SORRY SOLD! \$50.000

WEBSTER - 52 CUDWORTH ROAD



PORTUNITY TO LIVE & WORK FROM HOME! Amazing 1790 Antique Colonial! Undergone major updates & renovations, maintaining Antique Charm! Great Room graced by an Open Hearth Stone Fireplace! Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! \$499,900.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 100 LAKESIDE AVE



WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180'+/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining , formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/ private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! Remember, Timing Is Everything

LAKE SHIRLEY - 647 RESERVOIR RD



Lakefront! Lake Shirley! Modern Flare on a Lakefront Co-Ionial! 1st level Formal large entry foyer, living room, gas fireplace, chef kitchen, Impala black granite, center island, 3 season porch, overlooking the lake. 1st FL bedroom suite w/ shower and jacuzzi tub. 2nd floor Master Suite! Lower level Summer kitchen, full bath, game room. Crown moulding & hardwood floors throughout, wired sound system, radiant floors. oversize 2 car garage. Additional Guest House!

assisted sale \$1,040,000.

Bill Labich appointed to Norcross Wildlife Foundation Board of Directors

WALES — The Norcross Wildlife Foundation (Norcross) is pleased to announce that at its October Board of Directors meeting, Bill Labich was voted in as a new member of the

The Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors who oversee its operations and ensure its financial and legal health.

Board Chair, Liz Austin, of South Hadley states that "We are very pleased to welcome someone to the Norcross Board who brings such depth and breadth of experience in conservation work. Bill Labich's election is a big step forward in Norcross's mission to protect and conserve natural land and protect wildlife."

Labich is a resident of Holyoke, and works as a Senior Conservationist for the Highstead Foundation, a regional conservation non-profit based in Redding, Connecticut, dedicated to increasing the pace of land protection in New England and beyond through science, sound stewardship and collaboration with diverse partners. He leads Highstead's Regional Conservation Program with the goal of advancing the pace and practice of collaborative landscape conservation.

His work there has raised \$23 million for regional conservation since 2009, and Bill is recognized as a national expert in collaborative landscape conservation. He received a Master's degree in Regional Planning from The University of Massachusetts, Amherst, worked for seven years for the New England Forestry Foundation and for eight years as a regional planner for the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (Franklin County, Massachusetts), before joining Highstead.

Labich is the author of several articles relevant to land conservation, including the 2015 Regional Conservation Partnership Handbook and he is a co-author of the influential 2017 publication Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and Communities: Broadening the Vision for New England.

He is a long-time member of the volunteer leadership team at the Eagle Eye Institute, based in Peru, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering youth from underserved communities, especially youth of color, to play an active role in caring for our environment.

Labich already has a close work-

ing relationship with Norcross Wildlife Foundation's new Executive Director, Ed Hood, who for six years has been coordinating the MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership which Bill helped to found in 2007. Ed, and Norcross Board Member and former Chair, Charlie Baeder, have worked with Bill as part of the Regional Conservation Partnership Network that Bill coordinates.

Norcross has been engaged in protecting rare and endangered species of wildlife for more than 50 years with a focus on its 8,000 acres of conserved land, most of which is centered around its core wildlife sanctuary in Wales, Massachusetts. The Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary has nature trails open to the public spring through fall, and environmental education programs for over 6,000 participants and school children a year. Although its work is focused on New England, Norcross has supported conservation work across the U.S. and continues to seek new ways to carry-out its mission of protecting rare and endangered species, particularly plants.

The Board of Directors includes a diverse group of individuals from the Northeast who are all personally



Bill Labich

committed to the Foundation's core mission of preserving wildlife, caring for the Wildlife Sanctuary, and providing environmental education. Labich brings a strong skill set to this work and shares the priority of engaging with and including more people of color in the work of environmental conservation.

CCUMC to host virtual Christmas Fair

CHARLTON — COVID-19 can't cancel our Christmas spirit, nor it can it stop the CCUMC annual Christmas

Charlton City United Methodist Church hopes you join us for our annual silent auction, This year, we're going virtual! Bidding starts Nov. 29 and runs through 2 p.m. Dec. 5.

We thank our donors for a wide assortment of items for participants to bid on. You can get a sneak peek, at https:// bit.ly/CharltonCity but please keep in mind that new items are being added frequently.

As always, our auction will be a place to find great bargains on items donated by members and many local businesses, like gift baskets and

gift certificates. This year's chairperson, Judy Fortin, is working with a wonderful committee to present an auction that has something for everyone.

The virtual fair will help us to raise funds to continue our ministries! God bless!





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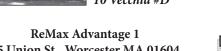


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103 Beacon Park- \$324,900



Oxford: 1 acre Oversized 2-car garage, Vaulted ceilings, in kitchen, dining & living

room, 3 bedroom, 1.5 Baths, Hardwood floors, Finished lower level, Craft room, 2

22 Whiting Rd- \$389,900



Dudley: Survey completed, needs some cosmetics, 3-4 bedrooms, garage, in-ground

11A Paglione Dr- \$239,900

QCC doesn't just talk turkey this Thanksgiving

COLLEGE'S FOOD PANTRY PROVIDES HOLIDAY MEALS TO STUDENTS IN NEED

- Quinsigamond Community College is out on the frontlines helping to make Thanksgiving a little bit better for its most vulnerable students. Recently, the college's Food Pantry and Resource Center provided turkeys with all the fixings for 40 students in need. The holiday meals were distributed to students in a safe, contactless way. Those students in need who did not get a turkey were given \$40 gift cards to Market Basket.

QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja took part in distributing the food and said he was humbled by the students' need, as well as their grati-

"Within the first 35 minutes of opening we distributed all

W O R C E S T E R 40 turkeys and a total of 49 students were served in one hour. The students were so thankful for the assistance and said it would make such a difference for them and their families," Dr. Pedraja said. "Prior to the pandemic, we found 49% of our students were hungry and many were not sure where their next meal would come from. Today, we are seeing firsthand this need increasing and we are doing everything we can to help mitigate it."

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Advisor Bonnie Coleman, who is one of the weekly QCC volunteers, said she was the last person the students saw as they left with their holiday meals.

"After the students picked up their turkeys and other food

they stopped and thanked me. So many said 'God bless you for doing this,'" Ms. Coleman said. "It was heartwarming to see that we are able to make a small difference in the lives of students who are working so hard for a better life for themselves and their families."

To date, 409 students have signed up to use the food pantry and with the cold weather and holidays, the college anticipates that number to continue to increase. Since the start of the pandemic, QCC's Food Pantry partnered with the Worcester County Food Bank to deliver 2,000 pounds

"We are helping feed our students, as well as hundreds of family members. The word community in our college name is no accident. We are part of the community and as such, we will do everything we can to help our most vulnerable," Dr. Pedraja said.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin,



Quinsigamond Community College Foundation President Dr. Linda Maykel braves the cold as she helps distribute turkeys to QCC students in need.

Director of Institutional 7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass. Communications at 508-854-

QCC's GivingTuesday campaign launches early due to increased student need

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College is asking for the support of the community in helping its students during a time when their need is greater than ever before. The College has rolled out an aggressive fundraising campaign with the goal of raising \$30,000 in honor of its alumni, in conjunction with the national campaign GivingTuesday. QCC is an integral part of the City of Worcester and has well over 30,000 alumni, with close to 7,000 who live in Worcester.

donating QCC's GivingTuesday campaign, you are helping a friend or a neighbor who may be one of the many frontline workers helping to keep us safe and our essential businesses operating," said Associate Vice President for External Affairs, Dr.Viviana M. Abreu-Hernandez.

Donors can specify where they want their donations to go to such as the QCC Foundation's Student Emergency Fund, the QCC Food Pantry and Resource Center or student scholarships.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, student need at QCC has greatly increased as jobs have been lost or severely cut and students have been struggling to make ends meet. While the college received CARES Act funding like most in the country, the stipulations for students to receive aid precluded many, due to their part-time status or other disqualifiers.

"Many of our students were unable to access the CARES Act aid; thankfully the QCC Foundation began a Student Emergency Fund before the CARES Act was even being considered in Congress. This has already helped well over 500 students," said President Dr. Luis Pedraja. "As the pandemic deepens and we enter the colder months the need continues to

A survey of those who received Student Emergency Fund aid noted that 47 percent of working students lost their jobs, 72 percent of working students had a reduction in their working hours, and 33% had out of pocket medical expenses related to

"If all of our alumni and everyone in the community who knows a QCC alumnus were to make a donation, we would more than hit our goal," Dr. Abreu-Hernandez said, adding, "QCC is not a just college in Worcester, QCC is Worcester's college and by supporting our students you are supporting the community."

QCC's GivingTuesday campaign is running through the month November and culminates on GivingTuesday, December 1. To be a part of QCC's GivingTuesday initiative, visit www.QCC.edu/QCCGives.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.





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AROUND 45 MILLION OF THESE ARE CONSUMED EACH THANKSGIVING.

ANSWER: TURKEYS

What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



is on drawer in back pumpkin in back 3. Turkey wing missing 4. Handle Answers: I. Extra grapes on left 2. Missing



- 1520: PORTUGUESE NAVIGATOR FERDINAND MAGELLAN TRAVELS THROUGH THE STRAIT THAT NOW BEARS HIS NAME.
- **1925**: THE *G*RAND *O*LE OPRY PREMIERES AS WSM BARN DANCE ON WSM RADIO, NASHVILLE.
- 1990: BRITISH PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER RESIGNS AS LEADER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY AND STEPS DOWN AS PM.



PILGRIM

a person who travels on long journeys



ENGLISH: Corn

SPANISH: Maíz

ITALIAN: Mais

FRENCH: Maïs

GERMAN: Mais



TURKEYS THAT ARE BRED FOR THE DINNER TABLE ARE NOT ABLE TO FLY. HOWEVER, WILD TURKEYS CAN FLY, BUT ONLY LOW TO THE GROUND FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME.

Answers: A. trivia

 \mathcal{B} .

skill

C. compete D. winner





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

YN2MEK: bnwbkin bie

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

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to games & puzzles. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: **11 = I)**

19 11 21 11 13 Α.

Clue: Pieces of information

5 2 11 22 22 B.

Clue: Ability to do something well

4 20 16 15 26 9 26 C.

Clue: Strive to gain or win

17 11 18 18 26 19 D.

Clue: Person who comes out on top

SUDOKU

4			Spanon		5			
	3	6	9					8
2	9		6					
		9800000					4	9
			4	5				
							3	
3		9		8			5	
				6			2	ngpomon
5						8		7

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The

Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

L	6	8	Þ	annah	ε	2	9	g
and	N	ε	6	9	9	8	ţ	L
ţ	G	9	L	8	2	6	sandh	ε
Ğ	3	andh.	9	6	L	¥	S	8
9	8	2	mak	9	Þ	ε	Z	6
6	Þ	L	E	2	8	manash	9	9
S	nada	t	8	L	9	G	6	S
8	L	ç	5	Þ	6	9	ε	ecods.
2	9	6	ç	S	manik	L	8	Þ

ANSWER:

Woman's Club to hold holiday music program

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Woman's Club will hold a Holiday Music program. Tammy Casavant will entertain with her selections of holiday music. The program will be held

on Dec. 11 at noon at the Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center. There will be a \$5 gift exchange.



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Architect: The Architectural Team

Accepting Applications:

December 01, 2020 10:00am - 12:00pm. Location: 80 Marcy Street Southbridge, MA Construction Office located on site

Contacts: Nick Faillace, Project Manager

Keith Construction, Inc. is pleased to accept employment applications for all construction trades including, laborers, carpenters, painters, floor layers, plumbers and electricians for the exciting upcoming Wells School Apartments project. The anticipated start date is December 2020 and anticipated completion is December 2021.

General Scope of Work:

The project is the new construction of 62 residential units, and will include site-work, landscaping, paving, fencing, concrete, masonry, misc. metals, all carpentry trades, siding, roofing, doors & hardware, gypsum wall board, flooring, painting, signage, appliances, elevators, plumbing, fire protection, mechanical, electrical, lighting and fire alarm.

NOTES:

Due to COVID-19, Applications will be collected and applicants will be contacted individually. No on-site gathering allowed

- 1. Applicants must be 18yrs. of age and have a reliable means of transportation.
- 2. All applicants must be able to meet the physical requirements of the job.
- 3. Please specify construction work experience and list any applicable construction licenses and/or certifications you may have.
- 4. Filling out an application does not guarantee employment. Keith Construction will provide all applications to our subcontractors performing the work on this project.
- 5. Keith Construction Inc. and its subcontractors are EEO Employers.
- 6. Applicants must be willing to submit to a background check.
- 7. Local residents are encouraged to apply. 8. Final job application review and selection
- will be by our individual subcontractors and not Keith Construction.

Thank you for your interest!

KEITH CONSTRUCTION, INC. 3000 Davenport Ave., Canton, MA 02021 781-828-8474 FAX 781-828-0010

TOWN OF SPENCER - Position Open

Town Planner- Office of Development & Inspectional Services:

The Town Planner position is responsible for providing professional and technical support in the evaluation of land use, demographic, economic and other data relating to the built and natural environment, as well as application review for the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Successful candidates will have at minimum a Bachelor's degree in planning and/or land use, economic development, or a related field; five years' experience in professional planning, preferably in local government; AICP certification preferred; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. This is a fulltime position with a salary range of \$72,424 - \$79,115 DOQ.

Visit https://www.spencerma.gov/home/pages/employment-opportunities for additional details. Submit letter and resume to Town Administrator, Town of Spencer, 157 Main St., Spencer, MA 01562, or email tgregory@spencerma. gov. AA/EOE

Webber to be appointed Cornerstone Bank President on Jan. 1

WORCESTER — Effective Jan. 1, Randal D. Webber will be appointed President at Cornerstone Bank. Currently, Webber serves as the Bank's EVP, COO and Chief Lending Officer.

"Randy has contributed enormously in helping Cornerstone honor our commitment to enhancing the vitality of local communities and the well-being of all of our customers" states Cornerstone Bank President and Treasurer Todd Tallman, who will assume the role of CEO on January 1. "His strategic and managerial skills go far beyond the lending discipline. I've found his insights on retail and digital banking to be invaluable—not only in relation to our products and services, but also the professional development of our team members.'

After joining SpencerBANK in 2009 as SVP, Chief Risk Officer Webber served in increasingly responsible positions until his promotion in 2012 to EVP, Chief Lending Officer. When SpencerBANK and Southbridge Savings Bank created a merger of equals in 2016 to form Cornerstone Bank, Webber was named EVP, Chief Operating Officer. In this Executivelevel role, he has helped facilitate significant growth of the Bank's commercial and retail service and operations, particularly within its commercial portfolio. He currently serves on the Board of the Worcester State University Foundation.

In a related development, SVP and Senior Commercial Officer Michael J. Quink will be promoted on Jan. 1, 2021, to EVP, Senior Commercial Officer. Prior to his current role, Quink was SVP, Commercial Division Manager at SpencerBANK. He is a Board member of the Horace Mann Education Foundation.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster, and Worcester, along with a Loan Center in Westborough. Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender, and SBA Preferred Lender. For more information, visit online at cornerstonebank.com, on Facebook, or call 800-939-9103.



Randal D. Webber

Bay Path LPN lands "dream job" with Day Kimball Hospital

CHARLTON — As the former Student Representative for Practical Nursing Class of 2018, Reagan Gosselin, LPN of Charlton is accustomed to moving fast. Even so, she was surprised by how quickly her nursing journey is turning up roses! Gosselin landed her dream job at Day Kimball Hospital at the Putnam Pediatric Center.

Gosselin entered the tenmonth, full-time practical nursing program at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in the Fall of 2017. She managed her studies alongside her role as a Student Representative, member of the UNICEF Club, her job as a Dietary Aide at Harrington Hospital, and part-time Night Secretary for the Bay Path Adult Evening School. She was hoping to pivot into her nursing career that would align more closely with her passion for working with children. Within a short time, she achieved just that.

"I accepted a full-time position at Day Kimball Hospital at their Putnam Pediatric Center," says Gosselin. "It's my dream job."

As an LPN Gosselin previously worked at The Overlook in Charlton, Brookhaven Rest Home in West Brookfield (as Medical Coordinator), Lincoln Hill Manor in Spencer (as Patient Care Assistant).

Gosselin said, "when I decided to start my nursing journey, I knew I wanted to work with children. I have four siblings that I adore and dedicated my nursing career to. I'm excited to start working in pediatrics and further my career." Gosselin is currently taking courses at Quinsigamond

Community College towards her BSN and hopes to one day work at the Boston Children's Hospital. Gosselin attributes her success to her strong family support and adds, "thank you to the amazing faculty at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy for setting me up for such success!"

About Bay Path RVTHS **Practical Nursing Academy**

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Visit us online at www. baypath.net.



Photo Courtesy

Reagan Gosselin and her family.

Walmart Giving grant presented to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy recently received a Walmart Giving grant from the Walmart Foundation to help support the PN Class of 2021 with NCLEX-PN

preparation. Evalyn Njoroge of Southbridge, a member of the PN Class of 2021 is the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Liaison and communicated with the Walmart Branch in Sturbridge. Njoroge and her sons Jayden and Kevin, made a special trip to Walmart at 100 Charlton Road, Sturbridge to extend the PN Class of 2021's gratitude for Walmart Giving's generosity. Nioroge met with Team Lead Devvi. Njoroge is a member of the UNICEF Club and regularly shops at Walmart. "My son Kevin and I were scheduled to visit Walmart, my other son Jayden wanted to be in the pictures" said Njoroge.

Gretheline Bolandrina MSN, Ed, RN, CRRN Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director said "as members of the Southern Worcester County community we appreciate organizations such as Walmart and we are excited for the continued collaboration. Being supported by Walmart with much needed funds is an important and fundamental piece in our work to produce real world ready, Licensed Practical Nurses. Bolandrina added, "this education grant will assist Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy PN Class of 2021 in addressing systematic inequities and barriers that prevent them from taking an NCLEX-PN Live Review Course and eventually taking the NCLEX-PN exam and passing on their first try. The enrollment and attendance to the Hurst Live NCLEX Review will greatly improve the PN Class of 2021 NCLEX success rate, overcome the social and environmental challenges in their practical nursing journey."

About Walmart

Walmart Inc. (NYSE: WMT) helps people around the world save money and live better- anytime and anywherein retail stores, online and through their mobile devices. Each week, nearly 275 million customers and members visit our more than 11,300 stores

under 58 banners in 27 countries and eCommerce websites. With fiscal year 2019 revenue of \$514.4 billion. Walmart employs over 2.2. million associates worldwide. Walmart continues to be a leader in sustainability, corporates philanthropy and employment opportunity. Additional information about Walmart can be found by visiting http://corporate.walmart.com.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical

Nursing Academy

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Visit us online at www.baypath.net.





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Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center

Happy Thanksgiving from all of us at Quaboag Rehabilitation

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"One of my favorite things about working at Quaboag is that you can tell the staff is here because they care about the patients. I have also found that my supervisor and administrator are very approachable when I have any concern. There are a lot of places where someone in a supervisor position is not that approachable.

- Nicole F. (CNA)

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Nicole V. (LPN)

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