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Friday, November 12, 2021

Charlton to hold Fall Town Meeting Monday

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - The town of Charlton will hold a fall town meeting on Monday, Nov. 15, where 12 articles will be discussed over the course of the night, some housekeeping items and others larger initiatives pertinent to the future of the town.

The first five articles of the night are considered housekeeping measures. Town officials will address any unpaid bills, interdepartmental transfers, budget amendments, and capital improvement project discussions that have come to light since the annual town meeting in May. Article 6 is where most of the meat of the meeting will begin. That article will seek to appropriate \$425,000 to replace Tanker 2 for the Charlton Fire Department and discuss whether or not the appropriation would be raised through borrowing or other means. Article 7 is another borrowing article which will seek the appropriation of \$2 million to cap the old town landfill. After voting on whether or not to transfer monies to the town stabilization find, Article 9 will seek to rescind unissued borrowing authorization of \$72,000 for the South Charlton Dam Project. This was voted under Article 19 of the May Annual Town Meeting in 2018.

The final three articles of the evening may garner the most discussion. Article 10 will seek to establish a spe-

cial act to remove police officers in the town from civil service. If approved, the move would allow for a more competitive hiring process rather than being tied down to assessment centers to pick qualified candidates. Charlton previously removed the Police Chief position from civil service in 2019; however, an article to remove the lieutenant position from civil service failed at that same meeting.

Article 11 should be no surprise to Charlton citizens, as the incoming Amazon project on Sturbridge Road has been the talk of the community for months. The article on the fall meeting warrant will seek a tax incremental financing agreement (TIF) with Amazon. TIF agreements are usually defined as partnerships that subsidize companies by refunding or diverting a portion of their taxes to help finance development of their project with the expectation that the partnership will help pay for a variety of improvement projects in town. The details of the agreement are expected to be presented at the meeting. The final article of the night will address a zoning change on Old Worcester Road from agricultural to community business.

The fall town meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 15 starting at 7 p.m. un the Charlton Middle School at 2 Oxford Road. A full warrant and documents pertaining to individual articles are available on the Town of Charlton

School District seeks options to keep lacrosse program alive

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

effort to keep the district's lacrosse program alive the Dudley Charlton Regional School District is exploring adding eighth graders to the fold as well as potentially combining the program with other local communities.

District Superintendent Steven Lamarche discussed the proposal with members of the regional school committee at the end of October where he stated that the district's athletics department started looking into options for lacrosse last year. The decreasing interest from local students has left the department looking for ways to continue to offer the sport and increase student involvement rather than cutting it

Please Read LACROSSE, page A7

Bay Path student receives grant to pursue nursing career



Photo Courtesy

Sarah Garcia with her baby daughter between three members of P.E.O. Chapter R: Pamela Thomas-Nielsen, Georgeanne T. Roe, and Jane Flynn.

CHARLTON — Sarah Garcia, a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Charlton, Massachusetts, awarded P.E.O. a Program for Continuing Education Grant from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was sponsored by P.E.O. Chapter R, Worcester.

Garcia, a resident of Charlton, Massachusetts, is pursuing a Certificate in Practical Nursing as a stepping stone to reach her ultimate goal

Please Read GARCIA, page A9

Minutemen fall to Uxbridge in State Tournament opener



Hailey Cournoyer of Bay Path, left, stretches in an attempt to get the ball away from an Uxbridge player.

UXBRIDGE — Coming off a 9-4-3 regular season slate, the Bay Path Regional girls' varsity soccer team earned the No. 26 seed in the MIAA Division 4 State Championship bracket. They tangled with No. 7 Uxbridge High in a Round of 32 contest, played on Thursday, Nov. 4.

And the Minutemen hung tough in the first half of play, trailing by a manageable 1-0 score. But the Spartans' Kathryn Cahill, who scored the goal in the first half, added four more in the second half as she singlehandedly led Uxbridge to the 5-0 victory.

Bay Path finished its season 9-5-3, while the Spartans (8-5-4) were set to tangle with crosstown rival No. 10 Northbridge High (8-6-3) in the Round of 16 after press time.

Bay Path boys' also fall: On the same day, the Minutemen's varsity boys' soccer squad partook in the MIAA Division 4 State Championship Tournament. Bay Path, seeded 33rd, took on No. 32 Ipswich High in a preliminary round game. Unfortunately for the Minutemen, they lost a 2-0 decision and finished the year 8-6-3.

More photos on page

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School District prioritizing safety upgrades

BY JASON BLEAU

DUDLEY/CHARLTON - The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee's Capital and Safety Subcommittee has laid out its priorities for the district after meeting in late October.

Subcommittee chair and School Committee member Jamie Terry provided an update during a school committee meeting on Oct. 27 where she stated that they met with the district's facilities manager and a representative from Unibank Fiscal Advisory Services to sort through the absolute needs of the district and contemplate strategies to help pay for needed improvements.

The top priorities are the roof at CMS, the roof at DMS, and the bleachers at Shepherd Hill Regional High School. Each of these items that is listed is a dire need for this district. Both roofs are under constant care and repair from our dedicated custodial staff. These repairs are no longer enough and the rain this year has continued to solidify how much each of these schools needs

a new roof," Terry told the committee. She added that there have been discussions about purchasing or renting

bleachers especially since a repair was needed to prevent the seats from being considered a major safety hazard, noting "The age of these rental bleachers and the cost associated with renting them has provided reason that this item has become front and center in our safety plan."

It was noted later in the meeting that the cost of installing new bleachers is much higher than previous quotes, more than twice as much in fact from \$1.1 million to \$2.4 million. This new price is considered more realistic considering the ADA compliance and added facilities that would be part of that plan.

Other needs revealed included upgrades to fire alarms and suppression systems in several schools and a districtwide need for improved camera and communication technology. The final need Terry brought forward was to have a study done to assess the architecture within the district to assess all remaining structural issues on any of the district's schools.

"We are proposing an architectural review of each school building with the exception of Shepherd Hill and the reason for that is because we're hoping that it will fall under the Massachusetts

Bay Path PN

students receive Worcester

School Building Authority application. This review will provide a true understanding of where we are at for each of our buildings in order to continue our path and trajectory for a living and breathing five-year plan for our district which will help inform our Board of Selectmen and Finance Committees in each community as we make decisions and a well-informed committee, including the School Committee, can make solid recommendations and decisions regarding the building needs in the district," said Terry.

With the understanding that these improvements will, of course, cost money in a time when the district and towns are trying to manage budgets as carefully as possible the subcommittee had also met with David Einsenthal, Vice President Unibank Fiscal Advisory Services, who provided some guidance on how the district could move forward and finance these upgrades over the next few years. Terry did not provide specifics on that conversation during her report. The school committee did not act on any of the recommendations as this was merely an update for officials to consider in the months and vears to come.



ACCURACY WATCH

The Charlton Villager is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely

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Women's Leadership Conference scholarships CHARLTON — Five Bay Path Practical Nursing (PN) students —Rachel Carr of Thompson, Conn.; Jaelynn Colon of Southbridge; Darcey Howe of

Palmer; Rebecca Lorre of Oxford; and Melanie Pariseau of Ware — are winners in this year's prestigious 2021Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and Worcester Women's Leadership Committee scholarship. Stefanie Silva, Programs and Events Coordinator

reached out to the PN students with a congratulatory email with the admission to this year's event. 'Our generous sponsors have offered the tickets. . . to those who applied for a waitlist scholarship,'

for Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce.

stated Silva. The \$250 value event scholarship is a wonderful opportunity for the PN students to expand their network and leadership skills.

"Rachel, Jaelynn, Darcey, Rebecca and Melanie present the best of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and we had the great pleasure to work with caring students who ultimately will have extraordinary careers that will increase the reputation of Practical Nursing," stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN CRRN, Director

at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy. The Worcester Women's Leadership Conference was held Thursday, October 28, 2021, at the DCU Center Ballroom in Worcester. Keynote speaker included Cynt Marshall who the PN students had the great opportunity to mingle with.

About the Worcester Women's Leadership

Now in its 12th year, this one-day leadership conference attracts upwards of 700 attendees, primarily female professionals. The conference is designed to offer attendees incredible opportuni-

ties for business networking, professional development, and personal growth. This is achieved by bringing women together to learn and address issues that are important to both their personal life and professional career. For more information visit https:// www.worcesterchamber. org/worcester-womens-leadership-conference/



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Position open until filled. The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE

Nichols College promotes two to associate dean

DUDLEY — Nichols College has named Robin Frkal, PhD, to the position of associate dean for the Graduate School of Business and Professional Studies, and Allison McDowell Smith, PhD, to associate dean for the Graduate School of Liberal Arts.

Frkal, associate professor of human resource management, has been at Nichols for three years. She is program chair for the BS in human resource management and has been the director of the Master of Science in Organizational Leadership (MSOL) program. In her new role, she will oversee three of the four Nichols master's programs: MBA, MSOL, and Master of Science in Accounting.

"Our current graduate business programs bring exceptional ROI for students. I look forward to working with staff and faculty to continue to innovate our graduate programs and get the word out that Nichols is the business school of choice," said Frkal.

Prior to joining the Nichols faculty, she was an assistant professor of management and directed the MBA program at Assumption University. Her research has focused on why women opt out of corporate leadership and on women's leadership development programs. Understanding the critical career moments and underlying themes behind women's decisions to leave corporate leadership has practical human resources value for organizations focused on retaining female talent.



Robin Frkal

A resident of Dudley, Frkal holds a BA in foreign affairs from Assumption, an MS in communication from Clark University, and a MS and PhD in human and organizational systems from Fielding Graduate University. She also has a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate.

McDowell-Smith, associate professor



Allison McDowell Smith

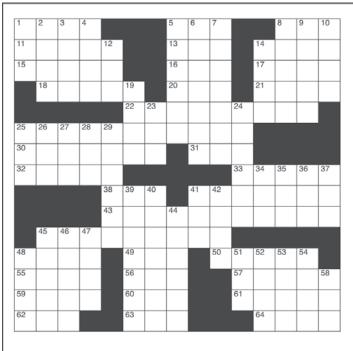
of criminal justice and counterterrorism, will oversee the Master of Science in Counterterrorism (MSC) Program. She has been at Nichols for seven years, serving as the program chair for the BA in criminal justice and BS in criminal justice management and the founding director of the MSC Program, the first graduate program in the U.S. with a

focus on violent extremism and leadership.

"As an interdisciplinary researcher and educator, I strive to identify and advance criminological approaches that may be relevant to violent extremist and terrorist thought and violence, offering unique perspectives on the often-overlooked relationship between the two," said McDowell-Smith. She has spearheaded pioneering innovative approaches to shape understanding of violent extremism and terrorism globally while pursuing data-driven policy security solutions and tackling unique proficiencies needed to understand the field of study at both private and public

A resident of Ashford, Conn., She holds a BS in criminal justice from Rochester Institute of Technology, a MS in criminal justice administration from Niagara University and a PhD in business administration with a concentration in homeland security, leadership, and policy from Northcentral University.

McDowell-Smith is the co-founder and deputy director of the American Counterterrorism Targeting and Resilience Institute (ACTRI), a cross-disciplinary, nonprofit research organization focused on the broad spectrum of transnational extreme-right, extreme-left, and militant jihadi political violence. She is also a contributor to Homeland Security Today.



CLUES ACROSS

- 5. Mega energy unit (abbr.) 8. Single-strand break
- 11. Combinations of countries Cutting tool
- 14. Small bay in Gulf of Maine
- 15. Actress Lathan
- 16. Chatter incessantly
- 20. Woman (French)
- 21. Abnormal rattling sound
- 22. Able to change
- 25. Future butterfly
- 30. Used in cooking and medicine
- 31. A street for nightmares 32. French modernist painter
- 33. Dishonors
- 38. Integrated data processing
- 41. Frameworks
- 43. Apply new materials
- 45. Where merch is displayed
- 48. American figure skater Lipinski
- 49. Cycles per second
- 50. Oohed and
- 17. Energy, style and enthusiasm 55. Dark olive black
 - Peyton's little brother
 - 57. Plant in the bean family 59. A wife: __ covert
 - 60. Born of

 - 61. Arranges balls on the pool table 62. Title of Italian monk
 - 63. Tooth caregiver
 - 64. American feminist poet

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Dan Rather's old network 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- fide (Latin) 4. Sign of healing
- 5. Warm-blooded vertebrate
- 7. Of or relating to plants
- 8. Plant of the heath family 9. Where to weigh something
- 10. Internal structure
- 12. __ Paulo, city 14. South Slavic person
- 19. A way to record 23. Have already done
- 24. As much as one can hold
- 25. Auburn legend Newton
- 26. Comedienne Gasteyer

28. Midway between east

and southeast

- 27. Beloved dog Rin Tin _
- 29. Call it a career 34. Former CIA
- 35. American time
- 36. Confederate general
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Travel downward 40. Made red-blue
- 41. Vietnamese revolutionary Le Duc
- 42. Capital of Italy 44. Small bunches of flowers
- 45. Calvary sword
- 46. A distinctive, pleasant odor 47. A well-defined track or path
- 48. Cereal used to make flour
- 51. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- 52. Grayish white
- 53. Engrave
- 54. Famed men's basketball program
- 58. Midway between south and southeast

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DA announces drug related arrest Force; the State Police Tactical

REGION - Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., is alerting the public about a recent drug arrest in the county and a new overdose risk.

In September and October, investigators from several agencies worked in the Blackstone and Woonsocket, R.I., area to address a rash of counterfeit pills. As a result, roughly 750 counterfeit Oxycodone tablets containing fentanyl, along with more than 100 grams of cocaine, were recovered.

The investigation was a joint action conducted by State Police detectives assigned to the Worcester County District Attorney's Office; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Blackstone Valley Drug Task

Diversion Squad; the Blackstone Police Department; and the Woonsocket Police Department. The investigation resulted in

one arrest on the charge of trafficking in fentanyl. More than 10 grams were seized. Officials say the investigation highlights the potential lethal dangers of fentanyl that many

area residents don't know much

about. "This recent arrest highlights one of the changes we're seeing in the drug market in Worcester County and nationally," Early said. "We want to warn people that the pills they buy on the street are often cut with fentanyl and can be just as likely, if not more, to result in a deadly over-

dose as heroin."

In 2020, there were a record 93,000 overdose deaths in the United States. According to experts, fentanyl is the driving force behind overdose death increases in recent years.

Looking ahead, local officials aim to continue cracking down on dealers, but they want residents to be aware of the dangers of fentanyl.

"I'm proud of the work our State Police Detective Unit and local police are doing to combat this influx of fentanyl and its distribution in all forms. It's important that the public be aware and take caution with all different types of drugs," Early

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· Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. www.fedchurchcharlton.org

· Charlton Baptist Church, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, www.charltonbaptist.org, Sunday worship 10 a.m.

 Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org Sunday worship and Children's church 10am • St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248-7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m., Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday LifeTEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.

 Hope Christian Fellowship, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144 · Assemblies of God Southern New England

District Headquarters, Route 20, 248-3771, snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Living Word Church of Charlton, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton,

Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349

Sunday Service 10:00am. www.livingwordhcarlton.com info@livingwordcharlton.com • New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel,

307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA,

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

POSTSEASON SCOREBOARD Local teams compete in State Tournaments

The following are local results from teams that competed in MIAA State Tournament games

week: Wednesday, Nov. 3
Division 2 Volleyball
Preliminary Round

(34) Chicopee Comp 3, (31) Shepherd Hill 1 — The Rams reached tournament play thanks to a Top 32 power ranking, but they were unable to defeat Chicopee Comp. Shepherd Hill finished its year with a record of 6-13. Division 4 Volleyball

Round of 32

(14) Malden Catholic 3, (19) Bay Path 0 — Although the end result wasn't what the Minutemen wanted, they still finished off an impressive season at 13-6. Saturday, Nov. 6 Division 2 Boys' Soccer

Round of 32 (11) Oliver Ames 2, (22) Shepherd Hill 1 — The Rams competed in postseason play for the first time in the seniors' careers, but in their first round matchup they fell one goal short. The Hill fin-



ished 11-4-2.

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CCUMC hosts virtual **Holiday Silent Auction**

CHARLTON — After a very successful transition to a virtual holiday auction last year, CCUMC will again host our annual fundraiser online for

City Charlton United Methodist Church hopes you will join us from Sunday, Nov. 28 through 2 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 4. Virtual bidding will take place the entire week - check often to ensure you have the winning bid!

As always, we are incredibly grateful for the wide array of donors this year, both within the church membership and the businesses of our surrounding communities. You can sneak a peak at the fantastic auction items ahead of the fundraiser by going to https://bit.ly/ CharltonCity or by searching for our auction on BiddingOwl.com. Items will continue to upload throughout November.

Stay ahead of potentially sluggish holiday shipping times this year and get your shopping



done early! Some of the items up for bidding are: Family Pass to Old Sturbridge Village, 2-Person Pass to Southwick's Zoo, Cormier's Jewelers gift certificate, gift baskets, handmade wares, and much more!

A share of the proceeds

will directly go to support the Charlton REAS Foundation, which will support eligible senior citizens to off-set their heating/cooling costs during the winter season. Give back this holiday season and support a great cause! God bless!

Nichols College names endowed professor of data science and emerging technologies

DUDLEY — Nichols College Provost Nocivelli, DBA, has announced the appointment of Kevin D. Mentzer, PhD, to the new endowed position of Trustee Professor of Data Science and Emerging Technologies.

Mentzer, who most recently served as associate professor at Bryant University, teaches in the fields of data science, business analytics, and management information systems. He will develop a curriculum to advance the competencies of Nichols students in the new technologies that are transforming business.

"At Nichols College we partner with industry to ensure our curriculum is aligned with the demands in the marketplace.

Today, every student needs data science education, and we are thrilled Dr. Mentzer will join us in preparing our students for the explosive demand in all fields associated with data science,' said Dr. Nocivelli. "He brings exceptional experience in the field and as an educator, and we expect him to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration to benefit our students and industry partners."

Mentzer is co-author of the book "Movie Analytics: A Hollywood Introduction to Big Data" and several journal articles and has presented internationally. He is co-founder and co-leader of the Analytics without Borders conference and serves as mini-track chair for

Data Analytics, Data Mining, and Machine Learning for Social Media at HICSS.

An experienced information technologist, he has served a variety of professional roles at Energy Services Group Inc., Blue Cod Technologies, CounterPoint Technologies Corp., Progress Software, and the Hanover Insurance Group.

A resident of Holden, Mentzer earned a BS in business administration at Bryant University, and an MS in information technology and a PhD in business with a concentration in business analytics at Bentley University. He is also a certified blockchain solution architect.



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to us.

Serve up some spice



Indian cuisine is known for being spicy. While not all regions of India prepare meals that make diners sweat, those that do tend to inspire devotion among foodies who want to test the limits of their spicy food tolerance.

Vindaloo is one dish that fans of Indian cuisine know can be very spicy. Those who want to try their hands at this popular dish at home can prepare the following recipe for "Pork or Lamb Vindaloo" courtesy of Madhur Jaffrey's "Quick & Easy Indian Cooking" (Chronicle Books).

Pork or Lamb Vindaloo Serves 3 to 4

11/2 tablespoons grainy mustard (Pommery Moutarde de Meaux)

teaspoons ground cumin teaspoons grounder turmeric

to 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper

teaspoon salt teaspoon red wine vinegar 1 tablespoons vegetable oil 3

small onion (about 4 ounces),

peeled and cut into fine half rings large cloves garlic, peeled and

crushed to a pulp pounds boned shoulder of pork or lamb, cut into 1-inch cubes

cup canned coconut milk, well 2/3stirred

Combine the mustard, cumin, turmeric, cayenne, salt, and vinegar in a

cup. Mix well. Put the oil in a large, nonstick frying pan and set over medium-high heat. When the oil is hot, put in the onion. Stir and fry until it is medium brown. Put in the garlic. Stir and fry for 30 seconds. Put in the spice paste. Stir and

fry for a minute. Put in the meat. Stir and fry for about 3 minutes. Then add the coconut milk and 23 cup water if you are cooking continuously in a pressure cooker, or 1 cup water if you are cooking in the frying pan. (Transfer to a pressure cooker at this stage if that is your intention.) Cover and either bring up to pressure, or bring to a boil if you are using the frying pan. Lower the heat to a simmer and cook for 20 minutes in the pressure cooker and 60 to 70 minutes in the frying pan. PC183825



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Frank G. Chilinski

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE EDITOR

The origins of Veterans Day

We would like to begin this Editorial by sharing words of gratitude to our veterans. Thank you for your valor, your sacrifices and your courage to defend our rights and to keep us safe.

In honor of all those who have served our country, past and present, we thought we would share some history behind how Veteran's Day came to be.

The Great War was officially over when the Treaty of Versailles was signed in June of 1919, in France. Actual fighting ended seven months earlier between Germany and Allied nations, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Since then, Nov. 11, 1918 is known as "the war to end all

In 1919, President Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. Wilson stated, "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations."

In June of 1926, Congress officially recognized the end of WWI, passing a resolution. Part of that resolution stated, "Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples."

In 1938, Nov. 11 became a legal holiday to celebrate all veterans in WWI and WWII. Armistice was replaced with Veterans. In 1954, Veteran's Day would honor all veterans in all wars.

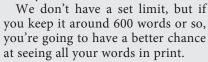
LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It! We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us! Mail your letters to the Charlton Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stone bridgepress. news

You'll need provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.



If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/ or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

Views and commentary from Charlton, Charlton City, Charlton Depot and beyond



This week's picture shows a Bonito taken last week in front of the lighthouse at Point Judith,

Deer season in full swing

Deer hunting is in full gear, with archers harvesting numerous big bucks in the last couple of weeks. The rut is now entering its peak time, and should provide archers with some great opportunities to bag a big buck prior to shotgun season. The shotgun

season in Massachusetts opens on Nov. 29, and will close on Dec. 11, with primitive arms season opening Dec. 13 and closing on Dec. 31. During the first week of the shotgun deer season, all deer must be brought to a Mass. official checking station within 48 hours of the harvest. For the remainder of the deer hunting seasons, they must be registered within 48 hours online.

Antlerless deer permits for zones 13 -14 are still available for \$5 each, and can be purchased on line at the Web site MASSFISHHUNT. Zones 13-14 have an extremely high population of deer in them and often require land owner permission to hunt them. Keeping a legal distance from an occupied dwelling is the biggest challenge. Bow hunting these areas is the best way to harvest a deer.

During the youth hunt held on Oct. 2 of this year, 76 deer were recorded with MFW. Youths ages 12 - 14 could hunt deer with an adult that had a valid hunting license. The youth were also required to have a valid youth permit for the one-day hunt. What a great way to start a youngster to enjoy the sport of hunting!

Although Mass. Fish & Wildlife failed to pass a crossbow permit for hunters, the sales are going through the roof. Most states allow the use of a cross bow for hunting, and sportsmen are flocking to the nearby states to use them. Keeping a good inventory of crossbows in their sports section has been a bit hectic, especially for some of the high-end bows like the Raven. The Raven is extremely accurate up to 100 yards. Crossbows also required extreme caution when THE GREAT **OUTDOORS**

RALPH TRUE

using them. They should never be dry fired (firing them with-out an arrow in them). That goes for any The bow strings need to

be constantly inspected for wear, and sporting goods stores that carry the new crossbows are seeing a lot more wear on the new

bows because of the extreme pressure that the bows are under.

One bow hunter was using his cross bow for the first time, when the bow exploded as he was resting the bow alongside his leg. The bow suddenly exploded and caused severe damage to his leg. It may have been damaged previously, but the crossbows are at an extremely high pressure, and need to be used with the utmost caution. A warning from some of the companies that manufacture the cross-bows state that they should not be left cocked for more than six hours. You should have your crossbow checked by a dealer every year, to make sure that they are safe to use.

Goose hunting in the valley area has been good for hunters that had private corn fields to hunt. A lot of flight birds were observed by hunters, and if they were hunting the day that the birds were passing through the had the opportunity to harvest a couple of the migrating birds. Snow geese are often accompanying the Canada geese as they migrate south giving the hunter an opportunity to harvest a few of them also. Fifteen snows are the daily bag limit. Goose hunting ends Nov. 27, and reopens Dec. 13.

Wild Turkey hunting in the fall is a real challenge. Their eye sight is amazing, and sneaking up on one to shoot is not easy. During the spring hunting season, they are receptive to turkey calls, and are a lot more exciting to hunt. Basically, you need to ambush the bird which is not easy.

Trout fishing has been great for most anglers that have not put their boats into

Advent

BEYOND THE PEWS REV. JOHN H.D. LUCY CHARLTON CITY **UMC**

Advent is soon approaching. It's important to highlight and emphasize because it's usually forgotten as a season, especially in secular culture but even in churches. After Halloween, or if we're lucky after Thanksgiving, many will start talking about "Christmas' season. The season of Advent is not Christmas; Christmas songs technically should not be sung. Christmas has its own twelve-day season, from Dec. 25 to Jan. 6.

Advent is a form of preparation for Christmas. We prepare not only for Christmas, though—we prepare also for a life of faith afterward. Advent is all about living in an "already, not yet" of fulfilled promises. Like the Israelites prior to Jesus's birth, who knew God but were waiting for the promised Messiah, we know Jesus was born, dead, and raised, but we are still waiting for the fulfillment of the kingdom Jesus proclaimed and of which he is lord. How do we live in the meantime, in that "already, not yet?" That's the question of Advent; it's the question of faith.

It makes sense, then, that Advent is traditionally the start of a new year for Christians. We begin our year, every year, rejoicing over how God has worked in our lives but acknowledging that our hopes haven't been met. hear the refrain of John the Baptist, the main character of Advent, "Repent!" and spiritually set goals of faith for the new year and reaffirm our trust that God has worked and will work on our behalf, even if we can't yet see how.

Since there is already joy but not yet fulfillment, it's as good a time as any in the midst of the holiday (holy day) bustle to ask ourselves some questions: How have I lived so as to prevent the coming kingdom in my soul or in my community? How can I better align with the promised kingdom? How have I ignored the spiritual or physical plights of my neighbors? Advent is a time of sorrowful joy: yes, Jesus is coming, but I have a lot of work to do until

winter storage. Shore fishing anglers are also catching some impressive trout.

Veterans day will be celebrated this coming Monday by thousands of people paying respects to the fallen, wounded veterans and those who served in our armed forces. It is because of them we get to enjoy our freedom every day. A big thank you to all those that celebrated this special day, and to all of our veterans.

Take a Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Positively SPEAKING

TOBY

MOORE

Everybody loves a good story about an underdog- who overcomes impossible odds. Many movies are made with the central character as the underdog. This is the accepted structure of most screenplays in Hollywood today. The protagonist must be up against impossible odds, facing a literal or a figurative giant.

Real-life underdogs include George Washington, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, King David, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, and Gandhi, to name a few.

Only a tiny percentage of us want to slay giants. If you are called to battle giants in a given industry or profession, learning lessons from those who have done the same will be necessary.

Arreguin-Toft is a political scientist who calculated the odds of weaker countries winning wars against stronger countries. He found that when weaker countries fight by the same rules as the stronger countries, they only win 28% of the time. When they fight using unconventional methods, they win 64% of the time.

Vivek Ranadive never played or coached basketball before. In his first year as coach of his twelve-year-old girl's basketball team, he brought his inexperienced team to the national championships and almost won. How

Giant killers

was this possible? He refused to play the traditional game of basketball. Instead, he taught his girls to play using unconventional methods.

George Washington sometimes fought the British using conventional warfare but often used guerilla tactics to win. If he had fought only using Europeanstyle tactics, he wouldn't have won.

Never play by the Giant's rules.

My favorite underdog is King David of ancient Israel. He was unappreciated by his family and considered unworthy of greatness. Until he decided to become a giant killer, he spent most of his time alone in the pastures tending his father's sheep.

During this time, the Israelites were at a standstill against the Philistine army and were powerless to stop a giant named Goliath, nine and a half feet tall.

Every day Goliath emerged from his tent, dressed in armor, carrying a spear, a sword, and a weapon slung on his back. Daily he terrified the Israelites and challenged their best soldiers to face him in battle. Nobody was up to the challenge.

One day, David was called out from the fields and sent to bring food to his brothers. When he arrived, he learned of Goliath's challenge and accepted. He was mocked and made fun of, but David paid them no mind. He prepared him-

self for the fight of his life. The Israelites tried to outfit David with traditional battle weapons like heavy armor, a sword, and a spear. They wanted to get him to fight the way

Goliath wished to fight. David found the weapons awkward; it was then he decided he wasn't going to play by Goliath's rules. David opted to use a sling and a stone.

Slings in David's time weren't like the slingshots we used as kids. Ancient slingers could defeat infantry armed with swords and armor most of the time. A good slinger could penetrate the skull of his enemy.

When the contest began, David didn't hesitate. He sprinted to the fight, quickly finding a few smooth stones; swinging his sling, he released the rock and sunk it straight into Goliath's forehead. David walked over to Goliath and chopped off his head using Goliath's

This was a great victory that cemented David's position as a giant killer, and he went on to become the greatest king in Israel's history.

How did David win? He refused to play by the giant's rules. Indeed if David had approached Goliath dressed in full armor and armed with a sword, David would have lost his life.

Giant killers in modern times won't be using slings, swords, and spears. Our weapon will be the knowledge of the giant's weakness and a refusal to play the game the way the giant wants

If you choose to be a giant slayer, then remove all doubt and replace it with faith. People will laugh at you but do not pay attention. Sprint into battle, knowing your victory is secure.

Halloween Leftovers = Post Holiday Treats



TAKE THE HINT **KAREN TRAINOR**

Halloween has come and gone and if you find yourself with a few perfectly good pumpkins and an accumulation of candy bars, read on for some creative ways to enjoy the post holiday leftovers without waste!

If your kids took home a huge Halloween haul, here are some "repurposing" ideas to save the sweets for later!

*Small, hard candies such as Jolly Ranchers and other bright treats are ideal to stow away to use for holiday gingerbread house decorations. Best of all, even stale candy works

*Collect plain Hershey bars and mix with chocolate melting wafers to make holiday bark and other seasonal chocolate confections

*Individual bags of Skittles, M&Ms and other small candies can all be opened and tossed into a candy jar for a colorful candy dish medley to put out during the holidays.

*Even boxes of raisins, mini bags of nuts, and teeny chocolate buttons can be put to good use when mixed into a wholesome trail or granola mix.

Butterfinger Brownies

Butterfingers are one of the most popular candy bars in trick or treat bags. Instead of sending kids into sugar overload, save some of the sweets to make these impressive Butterfinger Blondie Brownies.

Ingredients: 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour; 1 teaspoon baking powder;1/4 teaspoon salt; 3/4 cup butter; 2 1/4 cups light brown sugar; 3 large eggs; 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract; 4 regular-sized or 12 fun size Butterfinger candy bars, crushed

Directions: Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour a 13x9-inch baking pan. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder and salt; set aside. In a medium bowl, with electric mixer at medium speed, combine butter and brown sugar. Beat in eggs and vanilla until smooth.

Stir in flour mixture and 1 cup of crushed butterfingers. Spread in prepared pan. Sprinkle remaining crushed Butterfinger bars over top of batter. Bake 30- 35 minutes, or until brownies are a bit firm to the touch. Cool completely before cutting into bars. Makes one dozen brownies.

Candy Bar Cookies

What could be better than an assortment of fun size chocolate bars? How about melting them into a cookie! This recipe uses up candies big and small:

Ingredients: 1/2 cup brown sugar; 2 eggs ; 2 tsp vanilla shopping;1 tsp salt;1 tsp baking soda; 1 1/3 cups flour; 2 cups quick oats; 2 cups of chopped up candy bars (Milky Way, Snickers, Kit Kat, M&Ms, peanut butter cups, etc. all work).

Directions: Cream together sugars, butter and shortening. Add in eggs and vanilla. In a separate bowl mix together dry ingredients add into mix. Stir in candy. Drop by tablespoons onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 10-12 minutes.

Repurposing Pumpkins: Whether leftover pumpkins were used as harvest decorations, or just never ended up making the grade as Jack-O-Lanterns, the big question is: What to do with these perfectly good pumpkins? Freezing cooked, pureed pumpkin is a favored way to preserve the taste and texture of pumpkin. Sugar or pie pumpkins are ideal candidates for freezing as the pulp is thicker and firmer. To easily prepare a pumpkin for pureeing, simply place the whole fruit in the microwave for about a minute or so to soften the skin. This will make the pumpkin much easier to peel. Cut the pumpkin in large slices, peel the skin and remove the strings and seeds. Then cut the slices into smaller pieces. Boil the pumpkin pieces until tender, then mash or process the pumpkin pulp until it forms a smooth, thick puree.

Pumpkin Hummus: Pureed sugar pumpkin adds just the right flavor to this hummus.

Mix together in a food processor until smooth: two cups pureed sugar pumpkin; one 15 oz can of garbanzo (chi chi) beans; one tablespoon tahini, two teaspoons vegetable oil; one teaspoon cumin; one teaspoon salt; one eighth teaspoon cayenne pepper; one crushed garlic clove, and three tablespoons of water. Adjust thickness by adding a little water if it is too thick. Makes two cups. Serve with pita bread or crackers.

Perfect Pumpkin Seeds: Roasting up a batch of pumpkin seeds is not only an annual treat, it's a great way to use up every bit of the vegetable: To properly toast pumpkin seeds, remove all pulp and clean strings from the seeds. Place seeds in a bowl and stir in melted butter or olive oil and salt to coat the seeds. Spread seeds on a cookie sheet and bake in a 275 degree oven for about an hour or until the seeds are golden brown and crisp.

tion of unscented dish-

washing soap. Wash

the inside and outside

of the feeder, perch-

es and feeding ports.

Once cleaned, rinse

with clear water and

Provide some shel-

ter from wind, snow,

rain, and predators

dry before refilling.

Avoid overcooking as seeds can become hard and tough. Prefer crisper seeds? Prior to toasting boil the seeds in salted water for about ten minutes, drain and prepare for roasting.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House - Contest has resumed!

Your tips can win you a great three course 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.

Gift ideas for bird watchers and gardeners

GARDEN

MOMENTS

MELINDA

MYERS



Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Roosting pockets provide some needed insuand exit.

Give a gift that provides beauty, entertainment, and health benefits throughout the year. With the recent increase in people gardening and bird watching, what could be more perfect than a gift that supports both inter-

Birds visiting feeders, munching on the coneflower seeds in the garden and perching in the shelter of evergreens help brighten the long, often dreary days of winter. Just like gardening, bird watching helps us connect with nature, reduces stress, and elevates our mood. Plus, the gardeners on your list will appreciate the help birds provide managing insect pests. Proteinrich insects and spiders are an essential part of the diet of 96 percent of North American terrestrial birds.

Growing a landscape filled with plants that provide seeds, berries and shelter is a great way to attract these welcome guests to our gardens. Providing additional sources of food, water and shelter can increase the number and diversity of the winged visitors.

Help your gift recipient create a bird feeding station so they can easily watch the birds and enjoy their songs. Include a variety of feeders suited to the birds they want to attract. Select feeders

that are easy to fill and clean and protect seed from weather and squirrels.

You'll attract a wide range of birds with tray and platform feeders. Look for ones like the Gardener's Supply Twigs Platform Bird Feeder which has a cover to protect the seed from rain and snow and a removable mesh floor for easy cleaning. Platform feeders like this, with excellent drainage, help minimize the risk of wet seed sprouting or supporting bacteria and fungi that can harm the birds. Help keep seeds safe and fresh with regular cleaning and by only providing enough seed for a day or two.

Hopper or house feeders protect seed against the weather and bird droppings. But if the seed gets wet, the closed environment is perfect for bacteria and fungi to thrive. Plus, they are more difficult to clean.

Tube feeders are cylinders with perches and feeding ports. Those with perches above the openings attract birds like goldfinches and chickadees that can feed upside down. Those with small perches discourage large birds from feeding. Select tube feeders with small ports for smaller seeds like Nyjer thistle and ones with larger openings

for large seeds. Look for ones with wire surrounds to keep out squirrels and those that are easy to clean like the Gardener's Supply Cleaver Clean Tube Feeder with a removable bottom. Reduce problems on other tube feeders by blocking the bottom of the tube that extends below the lowest feeding port. Seed and water can collect there, increasing

the risk of fungi and bacteria. Clean feeders regularly with a 10% non-chlorine bleach solution, commercial birdfeeder cleaner or mild solu-

(gardeners.com) are attractive, easy to hang, provide some needed insulation and are easy for birds to enter and exit. Make sure to provide water throughout the year. Those in colder climates will need to add a heater, bubbler, or aerator to prevent the water from freezing. Providing fresh water reduces the calories and body heat a bird uses when melting snow and ice.

side year-round to avoid cracks and MelindaMyers.com. leaks as water freezes and place it in

for birds spending the winter in your

landscape. Supplement what trees and

shrubs provide by including a few

roosting boxes and pockets. Gardener's

Supply fair trade roosting pockets

a sunny area. Add a few stones so the birds can take a sip without getting totally wet. Keep these clean just as you do during warmer months.

Looking for more ideas? Help your favorite birder prepare for the nesting season with a gift of one or more birdhouses. These make attractive additions to any landscape while providing more homes for visiting songbirds.

When selecting the right gift for your favorite bird watcher or gardener consider creating or expanding your own bird-friendly landscape. A small investment in creating a bird habitat reaps wonderful benefits all year round.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and 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 & Select a birdbath that can be left out- Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.

LACROSSE

continued from page **A1**

altogether. The department requested permission from the committee to seek an MIAA school waiver for the Dudley and Charlton Middle Schools that would allow for eighth graders to participate in the program at the high school level and a co-op waiver that would allow the district to explore a partnership with other communities.

We are looking to continue to offer that as a comprehensive competitive program and this is the first step to make sure that we have enough participants to (play) in the boys and girls lacrosse at Shepherd Hill Regional High School," Lamarche stated. "The numbers have been waning over the past few years. I've been working with Athletic Director Jim Scanlon and secondary principals to ensure we keep this program and keep it competitive.

If successful the waivers would not only allow the district to add eighth graders to the team, but also work with other local communities to combine lacrosse programs to be more competitive. Lamarche stressed that they have not made any pending agreements with other districts and only wanted the waiver so that they could start to consider the option. Responding to questions from the school committee Lamarche noted that adding middle schoolers to teams and creating crosstown programs has become increasingly popular for many sports due to decreasing student involvement in the

"It's actually been more common than you think across our state because the numbers have waned for certain sports. The numbers I can think of the most are football and hockey. It's more common than you might think," said Lamarche.

It also wouldn't be the first time the Dudley-Charlton district has allowed younger students to compete on the high school level or teamed with another town to keep a program alive. In the past both seventh and eighth graders have been included in varsity sports and the district currently has a hockey partnership with Auburn. The school committee unanimously approved seeking the waivers which will be the first step in helping enter a new era for the district's lacrosse program.

* * Friday's Child



McKenzi Age 15

Hi! My name is McKenzi and I love to swim!

McKenzi is a creative, kind teen of Caucasian descent. She loves to cook, swim, paint, and watch television. McKenzi describes herself as a funny child who is also a good friend. She is very loyal to those she cares about, and she remains dedicated to her interests and passions. Those who are close to McKenzi note that she is hard-working, caring, and a good role model to others. She is very resilient and does not give up easily! Her teachers report she does well in school and works at grade level. Her favorite subjects are art and

Legally free for adoption, McKenzi's ideal family would consist of one or two moms, with no other children in the home. Because McKenzi's social worker believes she could thrive in any type of fam-ily, she will consider all families who express interest. McKenzi's one wish is that her future family be caring and understanding. They should also be willing to abide by the Open Adoption Agree-ment with her birth parents, and also maintain contact with her siblings who are placed separately.

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; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

Financial tips for new veterans



FINANCIAL Focus JEFF BURDICK

On Veterans Day, we honor the men and women who have served in our armed forces. If you've recently separated or retired from the military, or you will be leaving soon, you can be proud of the service you've provided to your country. But once you're a veteran, away from the structure and imperatives of the military, you may need to take greater control over managing your finances and protecting your

For starters, consider housing. When you were on active

duty, you may have moved around frequently and found it more convenient to rent, but you may now want to purchase a house. Assuming you meet the eligibility requirements, you could apply for a VA loan, which typically does not require a down payment and is usually offered at a favorable interest rate. Make sure that you only take out a mortgage you can afford – you don't want to become "house poor."

You'll also want to save and invest for retirement. While on active duty, you could invest in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), but when you separate from service, you can no longer contribute to it. Now, if you get a job in the civilian sector, you may have access to a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, and you might be able to roll your TSP balance into your new employer's plan. If you become self-employed or open your own business, you may be able to choose from several retirement plans, including a SEP-IRA, a SIMPLE IRA or an "owner-only" 401(k). But no matter what plan you have, try to contribute enough to meet your income needs in retirement, which could last two or three decades.

Furthermore, once you become a civilian, you may need to consider two topics that have special importance to you and your family: health and life insurance. Regarding health insurance, you should be able to get coverage through TRICARE and/or the Veterans Administration, but you also may want to take advantage of employer-sponsored health coverage. As for life insurance, you will lose the coverage offered by the military (Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, or SGLI) shortly after you separate from active duty, so you'll want to consider your options for your SGLI, such as converting it to either Veterans' Group Life Insurance or a civilian policy. Your new employer may provide some form of insurance as an employee benefit, but it might not be sufficient for your needs. In any case, if you have dependents, it's essential you don't lose life insurance coverage, even for a short time.

Finally, be prepared for one negative aspect of becoming a veteran: fraud attempts. It's unfortunate, but scam artists frequently target veterans. Scammers may tell you that you qualify for "secret" government programs, but you must first pay a fee or provide

personal information, which can then be used for identity theft. Or they might try to charge you for access to your service records, even though you can get them free from the Department of Veterans Affairs. As a general rule, be suspicious of anyone you don't know who seems overly eager to help veterans.

Entering a new phase in your life can be exciting and rewarding – and you'll enjoy it even more when you get comfortable with your new financial arrangements.

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.





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Sticking to a diet while eating out

What to do when dining out is a chalheavy gravies or cream-based sauces lenge dieters know well. It's easy to control ingredients and portion sizes at home, but not nearly as easy when dining out.

Harvard Health Publishing says the average American eats out about five times a week, and that means figuring out how to stick to diets. Rest assured there are plenty of ways to socialize and enjoy meals away from home without compromising a diet.

· Do your research. Many establishments post their menus online and dieters can use that to their advantage. Prior to booking a reservation, review a restaurant's menu online to ensure there's something on there that won't compromise your diet. If you need further clarification, call the restaurant and see if substitutions can be made.

· Have a go-to dish. Many restaurants offer at least one diet-friendly item like a Cobb salad. Dieters can choose a go-to healthy dish that won't compromise their meals and then look for it when dining out.

· Drink water. Don't drink your calories. Alcoholic beverages or sweetened soft drinks can be heavy in calories. Instead of using your calorie allotment on liquids, save these indulgences for

· Look for healthy cooking methods. Scan the menu for foods that are steamed, grilled, baked, and stir-fried. These cooking methods generally use very little oil or butter. Steer clear of

as well. If there is a sauce, ask for it on the side.

· Choose the right food order. According to BodyBuilding.com, eat protein first, followed by vegetables, and leave carbohydrates for last. The protein and vegetables should slow down digestion, leaving you feeling fuller, faster. That means you'll be less likely to overindulge on bread, potatoes or a sugary dessert.

· Be forthright with dietary needs. Share with your server or party host what you can and cannot eat. Most establishments or individuals are happy to help customers stick to a particular diet. You're not being "a pain" or "picky" by being frank about what you need to eat to be healthy.

 Check out favorite dishes. You may not know what you're eating unless you investigate. U.S. federal law now requires all restaurants with more than 20 locations to provide nutritional information for menu items. Search CalorieKing for data on foods from hundreds of popular nationwide chains.

· Snack before you leave home. Don't arrive at a restaurant feeling famished. Eat a small snack before leaving home or bring a few safe items you can use as backups so you'll have something to eat if the menu does not have much healthy

Dieters can employ various strategies to stick to their diets while dining out.

www.StonebridgePress.com

Socially Speaking...

This feature is for schools, churches, senior centers, libraries, or other civic organizations who have events coming up.

Call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news (Charlton Villager); or Mikaela Victor at 508-909-4126 or email Mikaela@stonebridgepress.news (Sturbridge Villager)

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LEGALS

Attorney General's Notice Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, as amended by Chapter 299 of the Acts of 2000 Town of Wales-- Case No. 10300 **Annual Town Meeting of May 19,**

Article # 25

Attorney General's Limited Authority to Waive Procedural Defects in the Notice of the Planning Board Hearing Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32, as amended by Chapter 299 of the Acts of 2000, if the Attorney General finds there to be any defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment of any zoning by-law relating to the form or content of the notice of the Planning Board hearing prescribed by G.L. c. 40A, § 5, or to the manner or dates on which said notice is mailed, posted or published as required by that section, then instead of disapproving the by-law or amendment by reason of any such defect, the Attorney General may elect to proceed under the defect waiver provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32. Under those provisions, the Attorney General is conditionally authorized to waive any such defect.

Defect Determined in Notice of Plan-

ning Board Hearing

The Attorney General has determined that the planning board hearing notice relating to the above Article failed to comply with the notice requirements for such hearing established by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. Section 5 provides in part (with emphasis added):

No zoning...by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a...town has...held a public hearing thereon...at which interested persons shall be given an op-

portunity to be heard.... Notice of the time and place of such hearing, of the subject matter, sufficient for identification, and of the place where texts and maps thereof may be inspected shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the...town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication to be not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing, and by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the...town hall for a period of not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing. Notice of said hearing shall also be sent by mail, postage prepaid to the department of housing and community development, the regional planning agency, if any, and to the planning board of each abut-

ting city and town... Based on the materials submitted to this Office, we have identified the following defects: (1) the Planning Board hearing notice was not mailed to the planning boards of the abutting cities and towns; (2) the Planning Board hearing notice was posted on May 5, 2021 for a hearing to take place on May 17, 2021 and thus it was not posted for at least fourteen days prior to the Planning Board hearing; and (3) the Planning Board hearing notice that was posted did not include a statement where the text (and map, if any) of the proposed amendment may be inspected, all as required by G.L. c. 40A § 5. Apart from these defects, the notice appears to satisfy the requirements of the statute.

Attorney General's Election to Proceed Under the Waiver Provisions of

G.L. c. 40, § 32 The Attorney General has elected to proceed under the limited defect waiver authority conferred by G.L. c. 40, § 32, as amended by Chapter 299 of the Acts of 2000.

Suspension of Review of Zoning By-Law Amendments

The 90-day period prescribed by law for the Attorney General's review of local by-laws is therefore suspended in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32, as amended by Chapter 299 of the Acts of 2000.

Posting and Publication of This Notice The Town Clerk shall post a true copy of this Notice in a conspicuous place in the Wales Town Hall for a period of not less than 14 days and shall publish a copy once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Wales.

Filing of Claim That Defect in Notice Was Misleading or Otherwise Preju-<u>dicial</u>

Within 21 days of the date on which this Notice is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Wales, any resident of the Town of Wales, or the owner of any real property in the Town of Wales or any other party entitled to notice of the planning board hearing may file with the Town Clerk a written statement that the notice defect was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. The statement must include the reasons supporting the claim that the defect in the Planning Board Notice was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. This statement must be actually on file with the Town Clerk not later than 21 days from the date on which this Notice is published in the newspaper.

Town Clerk's Certification of Compliance with This Notice After the expiration of the 21-day period, the Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General a true copy of this Notice with a certification of compliance with the publishing and posting requirements of the preceding paragraph, and a certification that either (a) no claim was filed within the 21-day period, or (b) one or more claims were filed within the 21-day period. The Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General true copies of any such claim(s). Resumption of Attorney General's

Upon receipt of one original copy of this Notice with the Clerk's certification, the 90-day period provided for the Attorney General's review under G.L. c. 40, § 32, shall resume. If no claim is made,

the Attorney General has the discretion to waive any such defect; if any claim is made, however, the Attorney General may not waive any such defect. Note: By not filing a claim under this provision, a person shall not

be deprived of the right to assert a claim of invalidity arising out of any possible defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment, as provided in G.L. c. 40, § 32, and in G.L. c. 40A, § 5.

Date: November 1, 2021 Very truly yours, MAURA HEALEY ATTORNEY GENERAL By: Nicole B. Caprioli Assistant Attorney General Municipal Law Unit 0 Mechanic Street, Suite 301 Worcester, MA 01608 cc:Town Counsels Lauren F. Goldberg November 12, 2021

Minutemen fall to Uxbridge in State Tournament opener



Bay Path's Sophia Ballestracci has a half-step advantage on her Uxbridge opponent while on the pursuit of the ball.





Photos Nick

Bay Path's Kailey Jones runs up to the ball before making a play on it. Sandwiched between two Uxbridge players, Kayla Nguyen of Bay Path plays a loose ball while on the attack.

GARCIA

continued from page A1

of being a registered nurse. Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Gretheline Bolandrina, Academy Director, is a part of the Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational Technical School District, whose mission is to provide students with the life-long learning skills that will enable them to become contributing members of the community

The P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education was established in 1973 to provide need-based grants to women in the US and Canada whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to support themselves and their families.

Chapter R has been a part of the Greater Worcester community since it was organized in 1958.

Georgeanne Roe, chair of the PCE committee, stated, "We are proud to assist Sarah as she advances through the Bay Path program. She is focussed and determined to succeed in her chosen career."

P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational

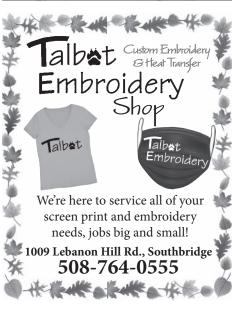
Organization) has been celebrating women helping women reach for the stars for more than 150 years. Since its inception in 1869, the nonprofit organizations has helped more that 116,000* women pursue educational goals by providing over \$383 million* in grants, scholarships, awards and loans. The Sisterhood also owns and supports Cottey College. Through membership, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than half a million women in the United States and Canada who are passionate about helping women advance through educa-

tion, while supporting and motivating them. In addition to the educational philanthropies, the P.E.O. Sisterhood provides a framework of support and community for all members.

What started with a bond of friendship among seven women in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, in 1959 is now one of the oldest women's organizations in North America with close to 6,000 chapters. To learn more abut P.E.O., its powerful educational philanthropies and see stories of women who have benefited from the programs, visit peointernational.



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Jeff Burdick, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Sturbridge, is supporting both a
Thanksgiving can drive and Toys for Tots by using his office as a drop-off location for a canned goods and unwrapped toys drive.

Canned items in need are stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, pickles, canned vegetables, canned fruit, and instant potatoes.

Residents may help support this effort by bringing in items to the Edward Jones branch office during the hours of 9am-4pm from November 8th to December 9th. The branch address 419 Main St, Sturbridge Mass.

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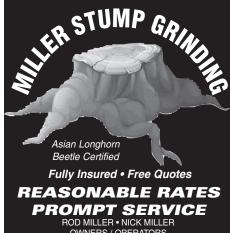


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DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 12/11/2021. You must set your appointment by 11/26/2021 and purchase by 12/11/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 24 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0 interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 11/1/2021 and 12/11/2021. 40% off windows and entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 11/26/2021 and purchase by 12/11/2021. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is winved if the purchase amount is paid before the seed on a programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. @2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved.





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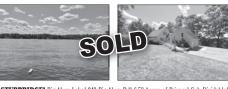
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WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9.822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck! with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet/ Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage!



STURBRIDGE! Big Alum Lake! 243 Big Alum Rd! 6.58 Acres of Privacy! Sub-Dividable! West Expo — Beautiful Sunsets! 3,313° 10+ Rm Cape w/3 - 4 Bdrms & 4 Baths! Features Applianced Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar & Tile Fir! Frplcd Din Area! Din Rm w/3 Walls of Glass & French Dr to the Deck! Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm w/Hearth & Wood Stove & Wall of Picture Windows! Spacious Liv Rm w/Pine Flr! Office! Full Bath w/ Laundry Closet! 1st Flr Master w/Slider to the Inground Pool, Walkin Closet, Marble Bathrm w/Separate Tub & Shower & Dble Vantises! 2nd Flr w/S Spacious Bdrns, Lots of Closet Space & Pine Flrs! Full Hall Bath! Lower Level w/Game Rm, Wine/Root Cellars! Utility & Storage! 2 Car Attached Garage w/Office/In-Law Suite Above! New Driveway Access needs to be Installed! Cosmetic Repairs Needed! \$679,900.00



WEBSTER - 6 Slater Street! Professionals DUDLEY - 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 5/5/4 Rms! 2/2/1 Bedrms! 2/2/1 Bathrms! Investors Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1St Floor wWaiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! Washer & Dryer Hookups in the Basement Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdwd Flrs! 2nd for Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Rath and additional office/bedroom! C/ Desirable School System! \$349,900.00 Air! C.Vac! Security System! \$349.900.00



DUDLEY - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131 Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w Guest Closet! SS Applianced Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Fir, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Fir & Chair Raill Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6X27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Fir Laundry! The 2nd Floor w4 Bdrms! Spacious Master wWalk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner — Pride of Ownership! **\$570,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! \$979,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE – 50 Laurelwood Drive! 90' Waterfront! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! Half Acre, 22,729', of Natural Privacy! 6 Room Custom Built Cedar Home with 2 Car Attached Garage! Dining Area and Fireplaced Living Room with Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! First Floor Master Bedroom with Full Bath! 2 Second Floor Bedrooms and Second Full Bath, Large Second Floor Expansion Area! Additional Garage Space Under! Lighting Strike Fire Damage Repair Required! Tons of Potential! \$889,900.00





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Featured New Listing! WEBSTER - 10 THOMPSON RD

2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CON-SIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEB-STER BUSINESS DISTRICT! A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14.875 SF/0.34 ACRE, 9 Rooms. 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE.

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



beautini family notice: 3 beautions, 2 lui batris, newer woods. & heating system. Mini split system. Hardwoods. Lg eat-in kitchen / Corian counters & Island! Warming fireplace with handsome mantel. Generous dinning room, spacious enough for your family gatherings. lower level fireplace family room, Harmon pellet insert! 2 car garage. Reduced **\$340,000**. WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3.012 Sf+/- living area. 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 updated Baths. 2nd Flr - Granite Countertops! High ceilings & Hardwood Floors, Modern Kitchens, Manicured 13,525 SF Lot with a Hip root \$439,900 **WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET**



A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE AVERAGE~TOP NOTCH~HIGH QUALITY~TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED! Apt# 2 - 1,536 SF+- & 3 BRs, 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF+- & 2 BRs -1st floor. Oil & Natural Gas Heat, Hardwood firs! granite tops, Enjoy the I ered Farmers Porch! Level Lot!

WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE



LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE, HUMBLE ABODE, THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK? Convenient Location, corner lot! 1288 SE+-, 4 BRS w/1st Flr Mstr BR, Half Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combi Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Part finished walk-out bsmnt

WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



Included seperate Building - Studio/Store both situated on 2.5
Acres Professionally Landscaped! 5 Bedroom, Lg Living room, Fireplaced Dining room, Library, Master Bdrm, Renovated

Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island



Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/ dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY!

WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic, Center Island Kitchen, 6 Rooms, 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

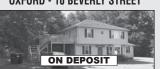
Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80 +/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton! Great Location for Horses ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided!

WERSTER - DOUGLAS BD 26 ACRES on SUGARLOAE HILL, 1000+/- ft of frontage! SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer

OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET



2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS =16.224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper!! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting!

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg





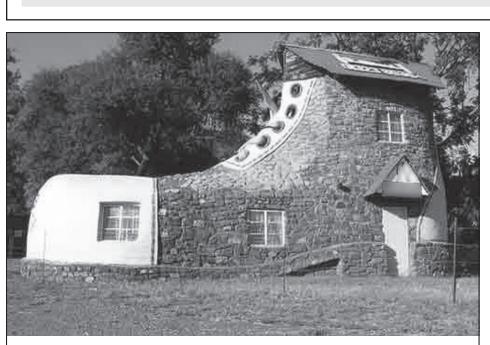
Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! A WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle, you won't want to miss! Offers a prime waterfront location! 64' of water frontage and a gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! Nicely arranged floor plan. 5 rooms 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lowerlevel to nice size patio! Garage.



WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area. Hardwood Floor & Carpet. Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master

Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach! \$439,000.



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OBITUARIES

Armand "Sparky" Leclaire Jr, 80

Charlton – Armand "Sparky" Leclaire Jr, 80, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving wife and son on Friday October 22, 2021.



landscaping business prior to his retirement. Sparky very much enjoyed good times spent on Pierpoint Road in Dudley; he loved dogs, there was always one by his side.

Sparky leaves behind his soulmate

of fifty-four years, Cynthia (Brown) Leclaire; their loving son Alan Leclaire, with whom Sparky loved spending time fishing; his caring sister Barbara O'Toole and her husband Robert of Webster; his grandchildren: Emily and Elizabeth; his great-grandchild Paisley; his close friends Jim and Fred, with whom he shared an interest in meteo-

A Celebration of Armand's Life was held from 6:00 - 7:00 pm on Friday November 5, 2021 at the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA.

A guest book is available at www. shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Sparky.

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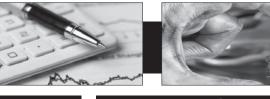
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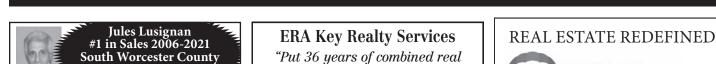
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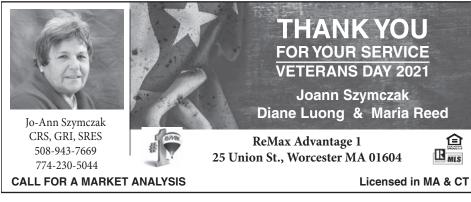


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Spencer - Smithville Road — Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom antique farmhouse offers lots of rustic appeal with chestnut beams and wide plank pine flooring. Features a detached 2 car garage and 10 nicely sized rooms. Just a minute away from shopping, parks, walking trails. \$309,000



North Brookfield - Gilbert Street - Lovely, move in ready ranch in a great location. This home has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and 2 fireplaces. Includes a full, walkout basement with lots of space that could easily be finished. This home has everything you need! \$289,900

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 breathing. Each number corresponds to a letter.

(Hint: 13 = E)

14 7 17 15 25

Clue: Organs in chest

11 6 13 9 26 B.

Clue: Air in and out of lungs

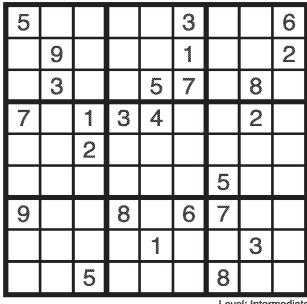
17 21 **25** 13 C.

Clue: Protrusion in center of face

21 20 16 15 13 17 D.

Clue: Life-supporting element in air

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nose D. oxygen

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6	9	8	ţ	S	L	ç	2	oooda
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3	6	unado	8	2	ç	2	9	†
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ques	8	6	L	G	9	Ţ	3	S
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9	L	ħ	3	6	2	8	done	ç

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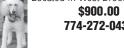
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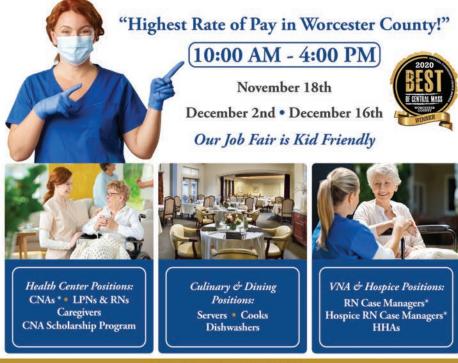
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