



Amazon announces plans for Charlton warehouse



Courtesy Photos

An artist's rendering of the proposed Amazon warehouse in Charlton.

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Charlton residents now have a definitive answer of the anonymous company seeking to build a substantial warehouse project at 53 Sturbridge Rd.

Less than a month after voters overwhelmingly approved Article 17 on the Annual Town Meeting warrant that expanded the height limits of buildings in business enterprise park zones, the name of the company proposing a project that required the zooming amendment was finally unveiled on June 1. Amazon is proposing a 634,000 square-foot multi-level warehouse that would cost more than \$300 million. The project, billed as one of the larger types of Amazon project, called a robotic sortable facility, would bring at least 1,000 jobs to the region according to estimates from Amazon representatives.

In April, the project was presented to town boards by law firm Fletcher and Tilton with the tenant remaining unnamed. The lack of information about the tenant led both the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen to votes in separate 3-2 tallies against supporting the proposed zoning change on the town meetings warrant on May 17, but voters overwhelmingly approved the measure in a 119-19 vote. Amazon's name wasn't used during the meeting, but it was implied, but never confirmed, to be the applicant. On June 1, the rumors were confirmed, and Amazon's name was officially attached to the project as Selectmen hosted a reveal on the town's Facebook page. The announcement included a 45-minute conversation and presentation by Bluewater Property Group, a development partner working with Amazon.

Brad Griggs, a senior manager of Amazon's economic development team who leads the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic expansion effort of the company, spoke on Amazon's behalf and compared the project to the North Andover facility. He explained that the jobs provided would all start with benefits comparable to his own in management with a minimum starting wage of \$15 per hour.

"There's the auxiliary benefits that come

Grant supports Youth Opportunities Unlimited program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – The Worcester County District Attorney's Office recently received a state grant to help juvenile offenders stay out of jail.

The \$36,000 grant will allow Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Inc. (YOU, Inc.) to continue its facilitation of the Juvenile Diversion Program. The program is run in partnership with Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early's office.

The program, the first of its kind in Massachusetts, allows juveniles charged with domestic assault to avoid detention and a criminal record while helping the victimized family heal. Participants will also have access to Recreation Worcester programs, offering curriculum-based learning focused on athletics, arts, and academics.

"We not only want to reduce crime, but resolve the underlying issues. This grant will offer case management, direct support, intervention, and referrals for services to address the unmet needs of the youth and their families," District Attorney Early said.

The program boasts a 90 percent successful completion rate, with a recidivism rate under 5 percent. The pandemic has provided several challenges, but program leaders have been able to overcome them over the last year through Zoom and other virtual platforms.

"It is astounding how effective the program has been, despite the global pandemic. I regularly connect with others via Zoom, assisting them in becoming more effective communicators, empathic family members, and stronger advocates for their needs," said local diversion coordinator Ivette Reyes, a regular member of the program.

In recent years, state officials have focused heavily on increasing programs and resources for juvenile offenders. The goal is to prevent them from winding up in adult institutions.

"Our juvenile court is, in many ways, our most important court. We can try to prevent a lifetime of involvement with the criminal justice system for these kids," Early said. "It is crime prevention at its best."

The program operates in all five juvenile courts in Worcester County (Worcester, Milford, Leominster, Fitchburg, and Dudley). The diversion program serves local youths ages 12-17 who are charged with assault and battery on a family member or a caregiver.

Individuals qualifying for the program can have their arraignments postponed for up to three months while the family is connected with services. If the service plan is being followed for each step, the charge will ultimately be dismissed prior to arraignment and the juvenile will avoid having a criminal record.

Commonwealth earns highest score to date on Women's Leadership Index



Nichols College Associate Professor of Communication and Marketing Jean Beaupre, EdD, is lead researcher for the MWLI.

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has received a score of 45 out of 100 in the latest version of the Massachusetts Women's Leadership

Index (MWLI) according to Nichols College. The Institute of Women's Leadership at Nichols College announced the release of the fourth edition of the MWLI on June 1, a biannual report that assesses the status of women in power in the commonwealth examining representation in political, corporate, and nonprofit leadership roles statewide. The score is the highest for the commonwealth since the index was established with previous scores of 36 in 2015, 39 in 2017, and 40 in 2019.

Jean Beaupre, EdD, an associate professor of communication and marketing at Nichols College and lead researcher on the MWLI, commented on the increase in score over the years indicating that a rise in female CEOs and public and elected officials were main drivers for the new score. However, she also noted that the number in the 2021 MWLI doesn't reflect the full impact of the pandemic where women lost more jobs than men and, for those still working, faced burnout and increased working hours remotely. In some cases, this has even led to women with young children considering leaving the workforce. At the time of the MWLI publication, women's representation in the workforce was at its lowest since 1988 according to Beaupre. The report also indicates that the wage gap remains significant between genders at 81 percent.

"This past year has seen layoffs, stalled careers, and stress for all workers, but more so for women," said Beaupre in a statement release by Nichols College. "Given

Cornerstone Bank holds successful Young Professionals Day



S T U R B R I D G E – Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, held a Young Professionals Day on May 1 at the Bullard Tavern at Old Sturbridge Village. This event was geared towards people starting or changing their career, looking to network, opening a small business or seeking a better work-life balance.

"This event was a tremendous success, gathering college seniors, recent graduates and other job seekers all in one place to collaborate and learn together," said Cornerstone Bank CEO

Todd Tallman. "This was our first networking event since the pandemic began, and it felt so good to be engaging with one another and creating new relationships again. We look forward to hosting more events like this in the future."

Participants were able to partake in a TEDx presentation on money and relationships, a panel-led discussion about health insurance and benefits options, interactive budgeting activities and an overview of the best-selling talent assessment tool, CliftonStrengths.

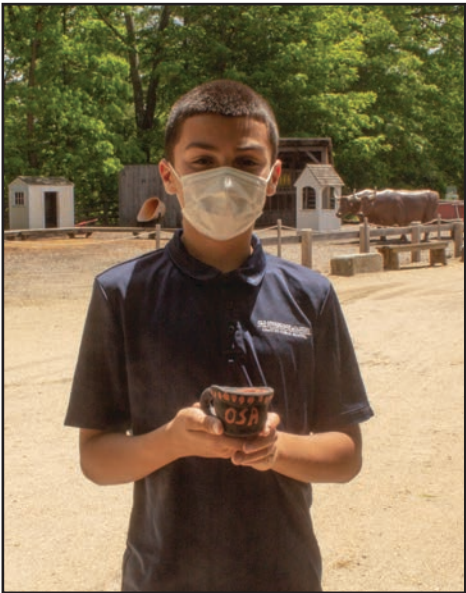
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for future entrepreneurs to hear from those who have 'made it,' learning how they got their start and continue to be successful," Tallman said. "Our team at Cornerstone Bank especially enjoyed their time on the panel, discussing their roles as well as open positions within the bank."

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving residents, businesses and communities throughout Central Massachusetts. Our customer promise, Built on Trust, is

Old Sturbridge Academy opens student exhibit



STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School (OSACPS) has announced a student exhibit opening in the former cabinet-making shop on the campus of Old Sturbridge Village. The Academy has had a management partnership with the Village since 2017 when it opened.

Over the 2021 school year, the 6th-grade students of Old Sturbridge Academy engaged in a hands-on, project-based, and arts-infused exploration of archaeology and the ancient world. Students created Grecian-style vessels out of clay that was then fired in the

Old Sturbridge Village kiln, located adjacent to the pottery shop. Taking inspiration from classic red-figure and black-figure techniques, students painted their own stories onto the vessels. Students crafted short stories, poems, and journal entries that correspond with their pottery to tell the audience what life was like for a 6th grader in the 2020-2021 school year. Their stories and pottery will appear in tandem in the exhibit.

“One of the hallmarks of our curriculum is ‘Expedition,’ a long-term and

in-depth study embedded in real-world applications of learning that builds both character and academic skills,” said sixth grade teacher Olivia Wandelear. “Students are deeply engaged in problem-solving, critical thinking, case studies, and literacy skills through the meaningful exploration of history, science, and other disciplines.”

Old Sturbridge Village has worked with students at the university level to create small case exhibits in the past.

“The partnership with Old Sturbridge

Academy has pushed the Village to expand the student-led exhibits created at the museum also to include a broader range of students,” said OSV’s Director of Collections and Research, Derek Heidemann.

Although Old Sturbridge Academy will close out the school year on June 22, the art exhibit will remain open throughout the summer. Old Sturbridge Village is open to the public Wednesday – Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gardner Clubhouse receives accreditation

WORCESTER — Crystal House Clubhouse, a service of Open Sky Community Services, recently received notification of accreditation by Clubhouse International, according to Clubhouse director Tamela Deveikis. Crystal House, located in Gardner, is a community dedicated to the rehabilitation of adults recovering from mental illness. Through a variety of meaningful and engaging tasks, members have the chance to develop or refresh employment skills, explore educational opportunities, and participate in social activities. Members work together with clubhouse staff in all areas of the club’s operation.

The accreditation process included an extensive self-study as well

as a visit from faculty of Clubhouse International. A letter from Executive Director of Clubhouse International Joel Corcoran that accompanied the accreditation report cited the warm, caring nature of the relationships at Crystal House and described the club as a community dedicated to offering the best possible opportunities to its members. The report also identified areas in which the Crystal House could improve, and the club will be working to implement these changes.

Open Sky President and CEO Ken Bates noted that this is a significant milestone for the program and for Open Sky.

“Accreditation of our Clubhouse is a huge achievement, and although we

have more work to do, this is indicative of the outstanding quality of support the Clubhouse is providing for its members,” Bates said.

Open Sky Board Member Michael Kilcoyne, who is also a member of Genesis Club in Worcester, was particularly pleased by the outcome of the accreditation process.

“I would like to congratulate Crystal House; I know that a lot of hard work by members and staff working side by side went into accomplishing this goal,” said Kilcoyne.

For more information about Crystal House, visit <https://www.openskycs.org/crystalhouse>.

YOUR TEETH MATTER

JUNE IS ORAL HEALTH MONTH

Our next Your Teeth Matter is running on October 15 for National Dental Hygiene Month. Hope you’ll join us.

Visit one of these Professionals to improve your family’s oral health.

Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.

Dental hygiene is about more than just your teeth



Individuals tend to learn about dental hygiene at an early age. On the recommendation of their children’s pedia-

tricians, parents may begin brushing their youngsters’ teeth the moment the first tooth breaks through the gums. While proper dental hygiene is vital to oral health, it also can have a profound effect on the rest of the body.

According to the Mayo Clinic, poor oral health might contribute to various diseases and conditions. Periodontitis is a severe yet preventable gum infection that can lead to tooth loss if left untreated. But the threat of periodontitis doesn’t end in the mouth. The American Academy of Periodontology notes there’s a connection between periodontitis and several other diseases. While bacteria was long suspected to be the link between periodontitis and other diseases in the body, the AAP notes that recent research points to inflammation as the culprit that connects periodontitis with diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Diabetes
The AAP notes that people with dia-

betes are at increased risk for periodontal disease, speculating that diabetes patients’ risk is higher because people with diabetes are more vulnerable to infections than those without diabetes. While that suggests periodontal disease is a byproduct of diabetes, the AAP notes that research points to the relationship being a two-way street. Periodontal disease may make it more difficult for people with diabetes to control their blood sugar, making dental hygiene an especially vital component of routine healthcare for people with diabetes.

Heart disease
The AAP notes that research indicates periodontal disease increases a person’s risk for heart disease, with the inflammation caused by the former leading to the latter. People with existing heart conditions also may find that periodontal disease exacerbates those conditions. The Mayo Clinic notes that the link between heart disease and peri-

odontal disease is not fully understood, but enough studies have been conducted for scientists to support the notion that the two are connected.

Can periodontal disease be prevented?
Periodontal disease is preventable. A daily dental hygiene regimen that includes brushing after meals, flossing at least once per day and swishing with mouthwash are some simple, healthy habits that can prevent periodontal disease. In addition, the AAP recommends that people at increased risk for periodontal disease, including the elderly and smokers, should discuss their risk with their dental professionals.

Dental hygiene can do more for individuals than produce a mouthful of pearly white teeth. In fact, people who prioritize dental hygiene may lower their risks for various diseases.

When can children brush their own teeth?

Parents quickly learn that their children go through a transition marked by a desire to be more independent. They’re picking out their own mismatched clothes and no longer want any help when solving puzzles or complex toys. That newfound independence signals getting older and can be a healthy thing to nourish. But what happens when a youngster suddenly believes he or she is capable of brushing his or her teeth without assistance?

Parents wrestling with their kids’ can-do attitude and if it’s wise to allow them to brush their teeth unassisted can familiarize themselves with certain guidelines to determine their youngsters’ readiness. According to Scripps

Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics, most kids are at least six years old before they have developed the finesse and dexterity to handle a toothbrush in a manner that will effectively remove plaque. Dentists also may ask if the child can tie his or her own shoes, which can serve as a barometer of readiness to wield a toothbrush without assistance.

Pediatricians and pediatric dentists recommend that children visit a dentist as soon as a child’s first tooth starts to appear. This also is when parents should begin to clean their children’s teeth. As a child ages, the natural proclivity to want to take charge of brushing teeth takes hold. The child may not yet have the manual dexterity to brush

alone, but parents can encourage the child to brush and then go over the teeth as a “double check.” This helps foster independence while also ensuring teeth are fully cleaned.

Flossing may require even more dexterity than brushing, but it is essential for sloughing off plaque that accumulates between teeth and below the gum line, according to Parents magazine. Moms and dads can introduce their children to pre-threaded Y-shaped flossing tools, which are easier to handle than loose floss.

Parents will have to check on children even as they age to be sure they are practicing good oral hygiene. Parents who are in doubt about their children’s

readiness can work with dentists or dental hygienists to assess skills and get other pointers.



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Bay Path LPN reflects on becoming a school nurse



Kalie Hernandez

CHARLTON — When Kalie Hernandez, LPN of Southbridge participated in the School Nurse Observation as part of her Clinicals for Term 2, Medical-Surgical Nursing at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy back in 2017, becoming a school nurse was the farthest in her mind!

School nurses keep students and faculty safe and healthy, a role that Hernandez thought was not her cup of tea. After graduation, she initially worked at the Family Health Center of Worcester then as a field nurse with the Aveanna Healthcare in Shrewsbury concentrating on pediatric home care including providing care in school. Since August 2020, she has been with the Holyoke Public Schools providing care within the classroom to medically fragile students. She has come to the realization that all this time her nursing journey has led her to become a school nurse!

"I do remember my school nurse

observation experience and the wonderful RNs at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School," stated Hernandez. "I just didn't think it was for me."

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the school nurses across the country have taken on more responsibilities that are far beyond the call of duty. During an ordinary school year being a school nurse is challenging enough. Hernandez is grateful for her career which is anything but ordinary. The school year has been a whirlwind for Hernandez who has been meeting added challenges despite strict yet ever-evolving guidelines and restrictions. Hernandez takes pride in the work she does at the Holyoke Public Schools and credits her training and education at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy especially her School Nurse Observation experience in her success. She remains connected with Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy serving as an active member of the Advisory Committee, volunteering as a mentor, speaking at information sessions, and most recently participating in the Mock Code Team preparation day. Hernandez has formed a tight bond with the Bay Path Community that has allowed her to work cohesively with faculty, staff, students, and fellow alumni.

"Kalie's been active with the Advisory Committee since she was a student representative, she does a wonderful job of maintaining relationships and anticipating what needs to be

done at the Academy," said Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN. "She notifies me of job opportunities for our graduates. We continue to work together on Practical Nursing Education related things and LPN- to- BSN Academic Progression."

Bolandrina says that alumna like Hernandez who constantly gives back to the Bay Path community is a god-send.

"We're on the phone together via text or email and always checking in. Kalie offers help with current students to make sure they are successful. She is also on the ball with the Advisory Committee schedule," said Bolandrina. "So, we stay pretty close in touch."

Hernandez arrived at the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in the fall of 2016. She was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society and was a member of the UNICEF Club. Hernandez participated in the admissions panel interviews and competed in SkillsUSA earning a Silver Medal at both District and State level for the Practical Nursing category.

"I am honored and grateful for the opportunities and experiences. I thank Bay Path for always supporting me in my professional growth," concludes Hernandez.



ACCURACY WATCH

The Auburn News 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 manner.

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress.news during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

CMS Chamber to present ribbon cutting ceremony at Heal, Inc.

STURBRIDGE — All are invited to a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to officially welcome Heal, Inc., cannabis dispensary to Sturbridge on Friday, June 18 at 11:30 a.m. Join the Chamber of Central Mass South, local dignitaries, our neighbors and guests as we offer Heal, Inc., our new Member, a warm welcome to Sturbridge!

Heal opened its doors for business on May 21, but now it's time to snip the red ribbon and make it official. The management of Heal, Inc. are thrilled to join a vibrant Sturbridge business community as active and beneficial members. Heal, Inc. is an adult-use cannabis dispensary carrying premium products from the best producers in the state. With a warm and welcoming store and staff, Heal is here to provide the finest cannabis as well as the knowledge and information to choose what is right for you.



Courtesy

Heal Inc., cannabis dispensary is open for adult-use at 660 Main St. in Sturbridge.

Meet the team at Heal, Inc. and tour the dispensary on June 18th! There will be light refreshments and gift-card raffles from local businesses. Bring any questions you may have about Heal, cannabis and their plans for the future. The ribbon cutting event is free of charge and no RSVP is required. Just swing on by their Sturbridge location at 660 Main St. Ample free parking is available. Contact Heal, Inc. by phone at 508-492-2010. Visit online for operating hours, more information, and to book your appointment

at www.Healmj.com.

If it is time for you to grow your business and join a dedicated and passionate business community, visit the Chamber of Central Mass South online at cmschamber.org.

Friday's Child



Zuleika
Age 13

Hi! My name is Zuleika and I want to be a singer when I grow up!

Zuleika is an active, intelligent, and inquisitive girl of Hispanic descent. Her favorite activities include playing with dolls, doing arts and crafts, singing, and dancing. She also enjoys imaginary play. In her current foster home, Zuleika is known to be friendly, mature, and a good helper. She also loves to play with the family dog. Zuleika hopes to be a singer when she grows up.

Zuleika enjoys going to school. While she sometimes needs prompting from adults to do her homework, she does well academically once she puts her mind to it.

Zuleika will do best in a family consisting of a male and female parent, two female parents, or a single female parent. Her social worker is open to families with no other children or with children who are older than Zuleika.

Zuleika is legally freed for adoption. **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.mare-inc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



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Feel free to mention certain grads that may be working for you!

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

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Lender. To learn about Cornerstone Bank’s personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Old Sturbridge Village celebrates 75th anniversary

STURBRIDGE — This week, Old Sturbridge Village (OSV), the largest living museum in New England, will kick off a year-long celebration comprised of events honoring 75 years of historical interpretation, education, inspiration and innovation. Known for its excellent programming, OSV is certain to deliver events and experiences guaranteed to entertain and educate all who participate.

The calendar of events is comprised of new exhibits, programs, and interpretation for the coming year, concluding with a formal gala in June 2022. Some of the planned activities and events include:

- Exhibits at the Printing Office, Richardson House, Fitch House, Grismill, and the Blacksmith Shop.
- New museum tours, which

will provide an in-depth look at how the Village came to be and how it has evolved over the past 75 years.

- A new cabinetmaking shop will be installed in fall 2021, the first interpretative building to be added to the Village Common in over forty years.

- Publication of “New England on Parade” in partnership with author Jane Nylander, which will pair with an exhibit at the book launch on September 11.

- In conjunction with the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism Recovery Grant and the Sturbridge Group Tour Alliance, the Village will encourage visitors throughout New England to visit and support the local businesses and organizations throughout the summer months.

- Special commemorative items and re-creations made by OSV artisans.

In 1925, Old Sturbridge Village founder A.B. Wells began collecting “primitive” antiques that showed how everyday people lived a century before.

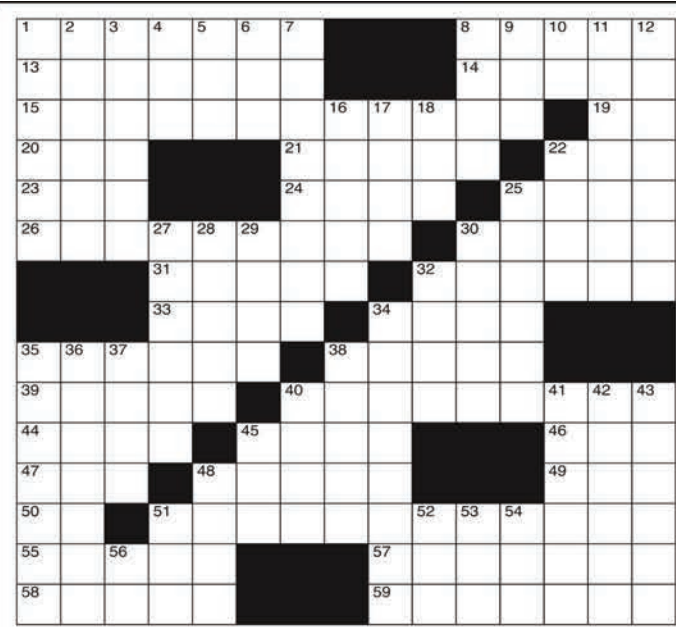


He became enraptured with collecting these tools, simple furnishings, and gadgets, and his collection proliferated. A.B. dreamed of having a gallery to display his collection. In 1936, his son, George, convinced him to move beyond his hobby of collecting and dreaming of a gallery and working towards creating “a live village, one with different

shops operating.” On June 8, 1946, Old Sturbridge Village opened to the public for the first time and welcomed eighty-one visitors. The Village has become a beloved staple of New England, expanding the resources, programming, and collection of the living museum to over 250,000 annually in recent years. In 2017, Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School opened in partnership with the Village, followed by a management agreement in 2020 with Coggeshall Farm Museum in Bristol, R.I.

Old Sturbridge Village has always been more than a museum, and it continues to be an educational resource for exploring historical life in New England for all ages; inviting each visitor to find meaning, pleasure, relevance, and inspiration through hands-on, real-life encounters with artisans, interpreters, and craftspeople.

Anyone interested in staying up-to-date with the 75th-anniversary events should visit OSV’s Web site, www.osv.org, Facebook, and Instagram.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Most courageous

8. Insurance giant

13. Small trace left behind

14. In a way, signals

15. The same letter or sound at the beginning

19. The Great Lakes State

20. Engage in a contest

21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)

22. Manpower

23. Undivided

24. Strong, magnetic metal

25. People of Tanzania

26. Sorts

30. Cop car accessory

31. Trade

32. Sullen and ill-tempered
33. Distinctive practices

34. Motor vehicles

35. Electrodes

38. Polish river

39. Human feet

40. Make very hot

44. Toppin and Kenobi are two

45. Blackbird

46. One point west of due south

47. Large beer

48. Third stomachs

49. Rare Korean family name

50. Hectoliter

51. Aquatic invertebrate

55. Where we live

57. Poked holes in

58. Partner to ways

59. __ Ann

CLUES DOWN

1. Expressions of approval

2. Replace the interior of

3. Not awake

4. Roman numeral 7

5. Sun up in New York

6. Institute legal proceedings against

7. Bugs homeowners don’t want

8. Maltese-Italian composer

9. Very long period of time

10. Touchdown

11. Agents of downfall

12. Complacently or inanely foolish

16. Argentina capital Buenos —

17. County in New Mexico

18. An electrically charged atom

22. New Zealand conifer

25. Type of brandy

27. Comments to the audience
28. Tears down

29. Gifts for the poor

30. More painful

32. Good friend

34. Lying in the same plane

35. Line in a polygon

36. Clouds of gas and dust

37. Norse god

38. Health care pro

40. Close tightly

41. One’s holdings

42. Became less intense

43. Wilco frontman

45. Woman (French)

48. Expresses delight

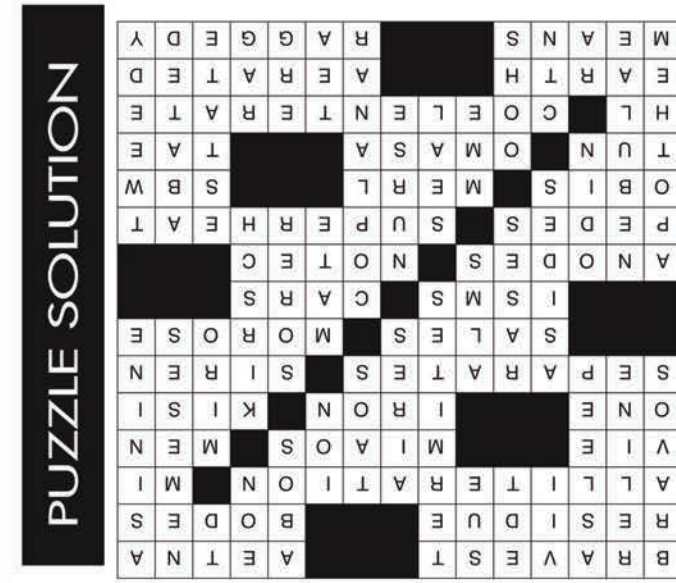
51. TV channel (abbr.)

52. Beverage

53. Unit of work or energy

54. Cleaning accessory

56. Dorm worker



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AUBURN NEWS PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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THE AUBURN NEWS (546-680) is published weekly for \$45 per year (in county) by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Out of county rate is \$56 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Southbridge. To subscribe call (800) 367-9898. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Auburn News, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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\$580,000, 27 Bridle Path, Ogrady, Fergus P, and Ogrady, Margaret M, to Venuti, Jessica.

\$440,000, 7 Meadow St, Sullivan, Richard R, to Dumphy, William B.

\$415,000, 15 Marilyn Dr, Marvill, Joshua, and Marvill, Kerrilyn, to Pierzga, Tahni.

\$415,000, 46 Lorna Dr, Derosier, Ashley C, and Derosier, Walter A, to Labonte, Kanha.

\$410,000, 229-A Hampton St, Ghansah, Kwame M, to Mkhwanazi, Andrew.

\$392,000, 5 Cranberry Ln, Powers James R Est, and Powers, James E, to Kane, Cheryl.

\$307,100, 1 Pinehurst Ave, Venuti, Jessica, to Liseno, Kyle M, and Liseno, Vanessa E.

\$240,000, 7 Aurilla St, Murad, Lynda, to Lopez, Cristian.

\$150,000, 22 Lorna Dr, Nicholson Roberta Est, and Macintire, Karen E, to Nicholson, Richard.

\$55,000, 707 Oxford St S, Johnson, John E, to Manfron, Valdete K.

QCC ANNOUNCES DEAN AND MERIT LISTS

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has released its Spring 2021 Semester Dean and Merit Lists. A total of 483 students were named to the College's Dean's List and 977 students were named to the Merit List.

QCC's Dean's List Spring 2021

Students who meet the criteria below and have earned 12 or more credits in a given semester are named to the Dean's List:

- All grades must be "C" or higher. (No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted).
- Semester QPA must be 3.50 or higher, and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher.
- All courses must be college level

Auburn: Casey Clouthier, Andrew Coccio, Gracie Curtis, Ezekial Diaz, Kelly Do, Jason Henry, Luke LaBonte, Quinne Masiello, Katelyn Pike, Ricardo Rodrigues, Meloney Thapa, Makenzie Ward

Blackstone: Cassidy Tellstone
Brimfield: Lyndsey Gamache, Jonathan Rubio

Brookfield: Abigail Burgener, Peyton Fellmeth, Shawn Greenwood

Charlton: Rasa Auskalnyte, Matthew Beals, Elaine Bond, Lauryn Dawson, Johnson Ebe, Maureen Jones, Vitor Kuhn Scariot, Alexandria Macaruso, Kassidy Robertson, Maxwell Taylor

Cherry Valley: Joseph Pauplis
Douglas: Alorian Orcutt, Daphne Sevilla

Dudley: Mia Bohanan, Nikolina Chludzinska, Tiondra DeBoise, Emma Dix, Tracy Donais, Parker Filo-Loos, Joseph Guaragno, Veronica Helock, Montana Josey, T'Leah McQuade, Baker Meece, Aidan Murray, Anthony Rivera, Jade Shultz, Auguste Valley

East Brookfield: Nicole Boucher-Eccleston, Caitlin Charpentier

East Douglas: Adam Gaulin, Joshua Gopin, Garrett Grann, Sage Hurteau, Rheianna Messier, Nathaniel Paine, Michael Purvis

Fiskdale: Lauren Augustine
Grafton: Alison Burrough, Ryan Davidson, Christina Duggan, Olivia Lee, Brianna Mishado

Holland: Emma Bullock, Audrey McCracken

Leicester: Owen Boisvert, Richard Cehon, Kristen Johnson, Austin Le, Meaghan St. George, Lindsay Tucker

Milford: Courtney Antalek, Shawn Amiel Arquillano, Angel Campos-Castellanos, Thiffany De Castro, Xianglin Zou

Millbury: Brenna Berube, Kyle Boria, Elizabeth Chagnon, Kennedy Day, Ivie Lapointe, Brianna Poske, Sydney Westerlind, Sarah Yates

Millville: Margaret Boone

North Brookfield: Cailyn Beamenderfer, Jillian Peterson, Jillian Quigley

North Grafton: Jessica Bancewicz, Sarah Bianco, Jenna Boisvert, Jermel Lyons, Maria Nieves, Kali Sage, Kelvin Virak

Northbridge: Giovan Panzanella
Oxford: Micaela Christenson, Wilfrid Fotso Tasse, Blake Lentine, Nicholas McElroy, Denise Otano

Paxton: Alexander Riopel, Anthony Riopel

Rochdale: David Lavallee, Haley Levins, Tyler McKay, Kiara Valdes

Southbridge: Rayann Carl, Caiden Ellis, Karl Ghosn, Tashleanna Moncada, Justin Santiago, Cody Wood

Spencer: Stacey Arsenault, Carli Kerns, Magdaline Kiarie, Ashley Leighton, Tonya Morrill, Madison Paquette, Brian Payson, Dustin VanDyke

Sturbridge: Colleen Blackmore, Jason Hastings, Bonnie Hensley

Sutton: Aliyssa Courville, Catherine Forde, Lindsay Houlihan, Disha Khanna, Talia Markarian, Avery Morway, Alexandra Richard, Matthew Thurber

Uxbridge: Anthony Abate, Jason Baillargeon, Erika Ethier, Olivia Powell, Emily Taylor

Webster: Tom Bednarz, Abigail Biernacki, Audrey Ducharme, Amber Hallaman, Nikita Igoshin, Anna Israelian, Klarissa Johnson, Antonia Lopez, Makenzie MacGregor, Anne Marie Markiewicz, Nickolas Maxwell, Joe Ramos

West Brookfield: Ashley Leger, Dallas McDonnell, Jon Rimmer

Whitinsville: Vivian Adams, Brianna Brothers, Isabel Carroll, Jessica Duda, Jennifer Flanagan, Cora Gauthier, Travis Gould, Stephanie Lombardi, Melissa Lozeau, Charlotte Murphy, Khadija Ouagri, Bishoy Soliman Hanna

QCC's Merit List, Spring 2021

Students who meet the criteria below and have earned six or more credits in a given semester, but fewer than 12 credits, are named to the Merit List:

- All grades must be "C" or higher. (No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted).
- Semester QPA must be 3.50 or higher, and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher.
- All courses must be college level

Auburn: Zahraa Alshammari, Gabriella Amoros, Adriana Bennett, Dawn Bombard, Elizabeth Burch-Elder, Conor Carlson, Madison Cove, Lyndsey Delorto, Adam Eastty, Katherine Farfan, Michael Flannery, Rebecca Forrett, Dawson Gemme, Sara Gutierrez, Isabella Haigh, Lucas Lima, Brian Lynch, Indra Nagassar, Alexis Rodney Chretien, Brian Smith, Jonathon Wambach, Liana Williams

Blackstone: Alexa Boyt, Jonathan Budnick, Colin Johnson, Eric Lawler, Malysa Reese

Brimfield: Alexis Fluegel, Jennifer Polesnak-Custance, Vanessa Sarver

Brookfield: Thomas Furtek, Hailey Myers, Shawna O'Day Kida, Angela Palmere, Elise Wilbur, Grace Wilbur

Charlton: Yanellie Andino, Samantha Balko, Leslie Chaves, Morgan Doucimo,

Riley French, Victoria Gaspar, Cheyenne Kelly, Lucas Lanier, Karina Lareau, Paige Leite, Sophia Lynch, Gareth McCullough, Ryan O'Bara, Jeffrey Pearlstein, Brianna Ramsden, Halle Sanchez, Gabriel Varner

Charlton City: Robin Georgio
Charlton Depot: Kayla Simons

Cherry Valley: Krissy Lindner, Rosa Velez

Dudley: Trinity Battista, Shawn Coltran, Melissa Edmonds, Samantha Gevry, Alexandra Jones, Madeleine LaBrec, Heather Lamprey, Hannah Lombardo, Melissa Mantia, Derrek Matthews, Julie Milner, Abigail Northrop, Paige Oliver, Katelyn Prince, Cassandra Smeltzer, Kayleen Viner

East Brookfield: Keyonzia Gagne-Lamoureux, Cailin Shea

East Douglas: Katelyn Ballou, Louis Kell, Earl Parfitt, Bessie Trinidad-Jeanot

Fiskdale: Brianna Lawrence, Victoria Masse, Phillip Sipe, Meaghan Stearns, Warren Zelenak

Grafton: Haley Becotte, Andrea Carenzo, Jack Cosseboom, Charlotte Jordan, Matthew Lazaro, James Lippincott, Rabia Mateen, Christopher Nolan, Debokhawe Pannasiri, Bradley Sylvestre, Lauren Wareham

Holland: Zachary Hamel, Julie Schutz
Leicester: Amy Carr, Bruce Durand, Alyssa Durham, Sherri Frotten, Kristina Jarobski, Cole Keeton, Olivia Macaruso, Dagan Mott, Christina Penney, Tanya Raskett, Maria Rosado

Milford: Christina Brady, Mildred Castanos, Danielle Cerqueira, Maria DosReis Soares, Edgar Falfan Barreto, Kathleen Gray, Nadine Ladeau, Jake Mastrianna, Zachary Morrison, Lia Mucera, Minelli Orellano, Adriana Pereira, Jessica Pye, Rhaira Schaper-Boyer, Amanda Silva

Millbury: Alician Berenson, Jacob Brodeur, Shannon Castro, Stefanie Cerrone, Gina Chionchio, Kyliegh Corey, Tara Cudmore, Christian Donaldson, Miles Fiore, Michael Lirange, Grace Malone, Brianna Manzella, Patrick Moriarty, Alyssa Newman, Ronald Polomski, Lusi Sit, Jala Tadros, Marissa Vaillancourt

Millville: Elizabeth Correia, Austin Gagnon

North Brookfield: Harold Burroughs, Rebecca Field, Dawn Holmes, Jessica Lisi, Nathan Sullivan

North Grafton: Fadi Alkoht, Sarah Aziz, Emma Boggess, Luis Dejesus, Thomas Hamilton, Kyoko Ibaraki, Amanda Johnson, Alexa Kallio

North Oxford: Antony Bradford, Salvatore DeMalia, Julianna Marcoux

Northbridge: Jacquelyn Barber, Kyrin Bishop, Krystal Bonafilia, Sarah Catlin, Randall Cranshaw, Meredith Mendoza, Miranda Monaghan, Andrea Place, Amaya Williams, Derek Zahoruiko

Oxford: Gabriella Blackwell, Kianna Brennehan, Kayla Brodeur, Tommy Estevez, Ariana Gelardi, Katie George, Elijah Gray, Kelsie Guarente, April

Kennedy, Luke Knowles, Jacob Laplante, Amanda Listewnik, Mi Meh, Maxwell Principe, Jessica Rucho, Ethan Smith, Felecia Violette, Frederick Yeboah

Paxton: Juliette Berryman, Ewa Golemo, Rochelle Hodges, Kadife Kuka, Laura Lee, Kailey Pelczarski, Brian Quinn, Peter Roberts, Ariola Sheme, Vy Vu

Southbridge: Amanda Alicea, Ceasar Alvarado, Amanda Bass, Karl Benkert, Valerie Bomba, Gabriela Cancel-Rivera, Matthew Caranci, Michaela Carl, Viviana Carpio, Jenna Casine, Phillip Cepeda, Jacquelinet Conde Arias, Lisa Dennis, Ashley Deorsey-McNeaney, Amanda Ellis, Maria Hernandez-Santos, Jennifer Lang, Travis McDonald, Courtney Menard, Devin Molina, Caleb Powell, Mariana Powell, Lisa Renaud, Shantell Ritchotte, Nicholas Rodriguez

Spencer: Draven Casey, Jacob Cormier, Nicole Dayutis, Andrew De Klerk, Melissa Groccia, Brittany Huard, Jennifer Jarmulowicz, Shadia Kousi, Raven Martin, Erin McTiernan, Kara Pranaitis, Danielle Provencher, Mark Robillard, Whitney Simonovitch, Seth Williamson

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Sutton: Joanna Brown, Kelly Clark, Natasha Colon, Hunter Dansereau, Francesca De Mora Ocana, Sarah Elkin, Scott Gressak, Kayla Kachadoorian, Miranda Lemoine, Ashley Medina Cardenas, Kailey O'Neil, Patricia Rumford, Mackenzie Sobaleski

Upton: Robin Jokela

Uxbridge: Kayla Brooks, Kelley Crosby, Rachel Demrest, Kara Hamm, Benjamin Landry, Ashley Lasinski, Edrick Pereira, Mariangela Pereira, Michaela Randall, Alyssa Sylvia, Alexandria Touhey, Katie Vautrain

Wales: Liana Bourque, Noah Jacob

Webster: Lamidi Akibu, Katelyn Allain, Ava Boucher, Natalya Cazarreal, Casmere Cournoyer, Amllayree Davila, Lynn Fellman, Jessica Floran, Jennifer Gardner, Madeleine Grillo, Trevor Jutras, Hakim Kasozi, Letecia Lopez, Lisa McCool, Mackenzie Mountain, SherryAnn Potenti-Crumbliss, Mariah Rivera, Alicia Rogalski, Peter Tadros, Brian Tvelia, Apryl Vancellette, Maria Verdejo, Orion Walker, Nekelle Waskiewicz, Rachael Watterson

West Brookfield: Emily Barrett, Jacob Gorham, Karen Laprise, Anibelka Reyes

West Upton: Samantha Volpicelli

Whitinsville: Jocelyn Arriaga, Alexandra Clauss, Jason Doyle, Taylor Fisher, Rachel Fremeau, Nikole Kamishlian, Savannah Louischarles, Rebecca Malo, Karissa Nordstrom, Catherine Peak, Joshua Poquette, Rachel Robbins, Anastasia Robinson, Allison Salamack, Susan Searles, Shaylene Silva, Samantha Tackett-Marvill




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Shepherd Hill graduates Class of 2021



Graduates Nick Whitley and Robert Cruz prepare for Shepherd Hill's 2021 graduation.

Jason Bleau Photos

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The Shepherd Hill Regional High School Class of 2021 is certainly a special one. They endured a pandemic both as juniors and as graduating seniors experiencing numerous different learning formats ranging from online to in-person and hybrid and experienced a year of cultural division on the national stage which will demand their input and participation as they enter their young adult years.

As the 272 members of the class prepared to take their walk across the stage on June 6 as the first, and potentially only, Shepherd Hill graduating class to ever hold their ceremony in the main arena of the DCU Center in Worcester the knowledge of the world they lived in and the one they are entering as adults weighed heavily on everyone's mind bringing with it a sense of optimism, but also an urgency to be the change they want to see in the world around them.

Several speakers took the stage over the course of the evening's festivities with most of them putting a focus on the perseverance of the graduates to push

through the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic and asking them to continue that resilience into their adult years. Kenneth Laferriere, a Shepherd Hill graduate from the Class of 2002 and the chair of the district's School Committee, commended the class for everything they've endured and feels that the Class of 2021 is more prepared than any before them to take on everything the world has to offer.

"Words cannot adequately describe the events of our world these past 15 months. As we reflect on all that has happened this past year it gives us all great pride to see our graduates here today. We are all thankful to be here with you. That moment alone deserves some recognition," Laferriere said. "The challenges brought about due to the worldwide pandemic were second to none. The ever-changing plans throughout the year kept everyone on their toes, most especially you, our students. The trials and tribulations this year will only make you stronger."

Later in the evening student speaker Henry Weiland gave a student perspective of what impact the pandemic and the changing culture of the world has left on the graduates. He spoke of want-



Madison Bosowski, Nathan Miglionico, Eniya Santos, Hannah Hutchinson and Haley Sautter pose for a photo prior to becoming Shepherd Hill graduates.

ing to leave behind a more inclusive environment for the incoming students and to inspire them to do the same as they progress through their high school years. An advocate for social change, even starting a club at Shepherd Hill to help inspire his fellow students, Weiland said the Class of 2021 learned from the challenges of the pandemic and everything that came with it on the larger world stage.

"Though we never obtained the idyllicism that is the promise of the normal senior year, we learned far greater than any normalcy could ever teach us that strength lies in the resolve of the whole. That even though our world can come crashing down as we know it, as long as we endure together in common bonds, hope and solidarity that there will be an optimum future. For as much as COVID took from us we gained maturity and courage that will indeed transcend anything we lost," Weiland said. "Above all, COVID taught us all that we must seize the world and truly make it our own because, frankly put, we never know what tomorrow will hold. Therefore, there must come a time when we are honest with ourselves and the matrix for which we endure for it is not enough to let our lives pass by without making it our own."

Class Valedictorian Serena Veilleux joked that her speech would be shorter than her fellow speakers, but her words of wisdom to the graduating class were no less poignant. She praised the myriad of teachers who have made a difference in the lives of graduates over their four years noting that every student had at least one educator who truly helped them grow as individuals. Most of all though she wanted her fellow graduates to understand that their mistakes will not define them, it's the memories and accomplishments that will live forever.

"I think I speak for all of us when I say our high school experience wasn't what we expected it to be, but in spite of all the difficulties we faced we made it and we should be proud," Veilleux said. "It's (the memories) that I am thankful for, and it's moments like these that are going to stick in our memories. Not the grades we got on the silly mistakes that we made."

With that the Class of 2021 took to the stage crossing into the next stage of their lives as Shepherd Hill graduates leaving behind a legacy that will truly remain unique as they take on new challenges and a changing world that await them.

LEGALS

TOWN OF AUBURN PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Auburn, acting by and through its Town Manager, is seeking proposals to purchase a parcel of vacant land for the siting of a new Police/Fire and Ambulance Public Safety Complex ("Public Safety Complex") in the Town of Auburn. Owners of real property within the Town of Auburn, which meets the minimum and mandatory criteria of this Request For Proposal ("RFP") are invited to respond.

A Highly Advantageous offer of real estate will include a parcel of property that: (1) contains 4.5 acres or more of usable acreage; (2) is located between 366 and 676 Southbridge Street; (3) is free and clear of exposed ledge; (4) does not contain a significant change in grade; (5) is free of utility and/or other easements; (6) is not situated in a FEMA floodway, flood zone or in a flood plain with an impediment or encroachment; (7) and is free of vernal pools, excessive wetlands, intermittent streams, or similar environmental conditions.

Property that meets the minimum and mandatory criteria, but which is not classified as "Highly Advantageous" will also be considered and proposals for such property are welcome.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) is available in the Town Manager's Office, 102 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501 or by calling the Town Manager's Office at 508-832-7720.

Sealed bids will be received at the office of the Town Manager, Town Hall, 102 Central Street, Auburn, Massachusetts until **12:00 p.m., on Wednesday, June 30, 2021** and at that time will be publicly opened and read.

A pre-proposal briefing session will be held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 10:00 AM in the Board of Selectmen's Room, 2nd Floor, Town Hall, 104 Central Street, Auburn, Massachusetts, for all parties interested in submitting a proposal.

This will be an opportunity for the Town to answer questions or make clarifications to the RFP. Any questions after the pre-proposal briefing must be made in writing to Julie A. Jacobson, Town Manager.

This procurement is subject to the requirements of G.L. c.30B, the Uniform Procurement Act. The Town of Auburn reserves the right to waive any informality, reject any and all proposals, negotiate with any and all proposers, or to accept a proposal deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Auburn. Proposals are welcome from women minority businesses.

Julie A. Jacobson
Auburn Town Manager
May 28, 2021
June 11, 2021

LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY DEAN S LIST

WORCESTER — Assumption University has announced those students who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters. Local students include:

Emma Halloran of Auburn, Class of 2021

Alicia Murphy of Auburn, Class of 2021

Madison Kapulka of Auburn, Class of 2022

Cameron Carpenter of Auburn, Class of 2023

Molly Lovely of Auburn, Class of 2023

Philip Benvenuti of Auburn, Class of 2024

Jocelyn Nguyen of Auburn, Class of 2024

"These students demonstrated

incredible resiliency amid the challenges posed by COVID-19 during the previous academic year and remained committed to their programs of study," said Assumption University President Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. "Assumption is proud of these students for excelling in the classroom as they immersed themselves in the University's liberal arts curriculum, steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition, and their majors preparing them for meaningful lives and careers after graduation."

Assumption University provides students with a comprehensive, Catholic liberal arts experience through curricular and co-curricular programs, including internship opportunities, recreational activities, and more than 60 on-campus clubs and organizations. An Assumption education forms graduates both intellectually and spiritually, inspiring wonder and purpose as they discover their vocation.

For more information, visit assumption.edu.

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England's premier university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.

Curry College inducts Auburn resident into Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society

MILTON — Curry College is proud to announce that Marisa Day, of Auburn has been inducted into Pi Lambda Theta (PLT), one of the nation's most prestigious education honor societies.

Founded in 1910, Pi Lambda Theta has a mission to honor outstanding educators and inspire their leadership on critical education issues. The most selective society of its kind, PLT extends membership to students and professionals who satisfy academic eligibility requirements and have demonstrated characteristics of scholarship, leadership, and service.

In order to qualify for Pi Lambda Theta at Curry College, a student must be an Education major who has earned at least 60 credits with a minimum 3.5 GPA. Inducted students have exceeded the stringent criteria set by the honors society and demonstrate promise in the field of education.

About Curry College

Curry College, founded in Boston in 1879, is a private, co-educational, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Massachusetts. The College extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth. The College offers 22 undergraduate majors in specialized and liberal arts programs, as well as graduate degrees in accounting, business, education, criminal justice, and nursing to a combined enrollment of nearly 2,500 students. The student body consists of 1,700 traditional students and nearly 800 continuing education and graduate students. The College offers a wide array of co-curricular activities ranging from 15 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre and fine arts program. Visit us on the web at www.curry.edu.

Bay Path LPN named to Fitchburg State's Dean's List



Elizabeth Mirekuua Lartey

FITCHBURG — Elizabeth Mirekuua Lartey, LPN, of Worcester, has been named to the Fitchburg State University (FSU) dean's list for academic achievement during the spring 2021 semester.

The designation is awarded to full-time students who have earned at least a 3.2 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, achieved no grade below a B, and received no failing grades in enrolled, credit/no credit, or pass/fail courses. Lartey's FSU transcript will indicate "Dean's List" status for the semester.

Lartey is completing the

LPN to BS in Nursing Bridge Program. The LPN to BS in Nursing Bridge Program is designed to transition the traditional or military trained Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to the role of baccalaureate prepared Registered Nurse. The LPN to BS in Nursing Bridge Program is a unique and accelerated curriculum. Lartey is an alumna of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in Charlton with the Practical Nursing Class of 2018. While at Bay Path Lartey was inducted to the National Technical Honor Society and was a district competitor for SkillsUSA for CPR/First Aid. Lartey was an Officer for the UNICEF Club and was certified in Infusion Therapy/Central Line Care and Dementia Care. She volunteered for multiple Blood Pressure Clinics and represented Bay Path at educational events at Framingham State University. Lartey continues to volunteer at Bay Path as a mentor and inspirational speaker to current Practical Nursing Students.



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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

United we stand, divided we fall

In the 6th century B.C., Aesop shared a fable about the Lion and The Four Oxen. The story, if you have not heard it, goes like this:

A lion used to prowl around a field where four oxen dwelled. Several times he would try to eat them but whenever he approached the four oxen would back their tales up to each other with their bodies pointed outward in different directions. No matter what direction the lion approached, he was met by the horns of one of them and could do nothing. Finally, the oxen began quarreling amongst themselves and so each went off to a pasture of their own in a separate corner of the field. Then the lion attacked them one by one and soon made an end to all four.

The moral to Aesop's tale has become one of the most well known sayings of our time — United we stand, divided we fall. President Abraham Lincoln parroted the sentiment in his acceptance speech, during this same month in the year 1858: "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

As of late, it seems the division amongst the country and even in our small communities has grown deeper. What this Editor noticed, however, is that most well minded, kind, compassionate, intelligent people all want the same things. To be happy and successful. The arguments ensue, when people have different ideas on how to reach such a state of success in our government, and even in our own lives. When one person thinks we should reach A by doing x and y, and another thinks we should reach A by doing z, tempers flare. We want to remind you, that there is no reason to get heated when talking to a friend or colleague. Getting heated at a stranger is even more inappropriate. It's ok if someone disagrees with you. Remain calm.

What needs to unfold, is the ability to hear each other out with a listening ear. Where one person's experience ends, another's begins. Solutions always appear in that middle area, where compromises are made.

To be steadfast in your beliefs is important, but it's even more important to exercise some flexibility, that is where growth takes place. This is where we can learn from someone who doesn't think the same way we do. It does not make a person weak, when there is a mind shift. It makes them smart.

We're seeing a lot of arguing on social media, people publicly going back and forth, and the thread never ends with any real change being made. If you want to have a meaningful, productive conversation with someone online, take it to a private message, where the world isn't watching. In the public eye, we all can be defensive.

Now, there are extremists on both sides of any argument, in those cases, there's not much you can do. There are people who want to see things through one lens and one lens only. Fine, let them. You will also see ignorance and evil come flying out of the mouths of those you never thought capable, fine let them. Remember that the majority of the people in this country want to unify. It comes down to common sense. United we stand, divided we fall. That statement could not ring truer.

Be strong enough in character, where you are a leader, whether that be in your own community, at work or in your own family. Unity should always be the end goal. Therefore, if you see someone that disagrees with you, and you want to unify, have a conversation that will do just that.

Sometimes, try simply saying, "Hey the country is really divided right now, how can we start to unify on a small scale?" That question puts both people in a position to come up with a solution that works for everyone. Then the domino effect takes hold. Then unity happens, then change, then success.

"None of us is as smart, as all of us."
Ken Blanchard

A Roundup of Timely Tips for Summer

The "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" will soon be here - if you know some tricks of the trade to make your warm weather activities less of a hassle! The following timely tips are a roundup of seasonal hints geared toward care-free summertime living.

Yard & Garden Tips:
*Citronella candles can be costly! Make your own economical citronella candles to protect your patio or deck from insects by drilling a one inch hole near the wick of an ordinary thick candle.
Fill the hole with citronella, cover with melted wax and pocket the savings!
*Tis the season of poison ivy! If you find some of the pesky plant in your yard, here's an environmentally safe way to bid the stop the poisonous pest in its tracks. Mix together three pounds of regular table salt with a gallon of soapy water. Spray the solution directly on the plant's leaves and stems. It works for mere pennies a treatment.

*Bug repellents are costly, but not if you cut out the fluff and buy the active ingredient in expensive commercial formulas. The Center for Disease Control recommends "Repel" as a safe and effective mosquito repellent. Before you run out to buy a pricy pump bottle of the stuff, stock up on its main ingredient, lemon eucalyptus - and save a bundle!

*Who wants to spend money on a new garden hose? Extend your leaky hose to the end of the season this way: Insert a toothpick into the hole, just penetrating the hose wall. Cut off the toothpick flush with the surface of the hose. Wrap the hose with duct tape that covers the toothpick plus two inches on each side of the repair. As the water flows through the hose, the toothpick will swell and fill up the hole and making a tight seal.

Valuable philosophy of an old coal miner

On May 31, 1975 at 1:15 p.m., I was sitting with my friend Rob at the Sunshine Tap in Traer, Iowa, eating a hamburger, fries and washing it down with a Pepsi. I was wearing cut off blue jeans, an old white t-shirt with Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps emblazoned across my chest, and sandals.

Around the corner and across the street in Taylor Park, there was a hundred or so people beginning to gather for a wedding that was set to begin at two o'clock ... a mere 45 minutes later.

The bride's father was nervous and pacing in his tux. With each passing moment he'd check his watch, look out across the park, and mumble something inaudible.

I asked for the check, paid the tab, then Rob and I began our short walk to the park.

As we crossed the street, I saw the father of the bride rushing towards us. "I can't believe this!" He growled as he approached. "I didn't think you were going to show."

I looked at Rob. "Doesn't it begin at two o'clock?" I asked.

"Where's your tux?" He demanded with increasing anger.

"In the car. I'll get dressed now." I quickly walked away to my 1972 green Pinto and dressed outside the car. I was half amused and half intimidated, but at two o'clock sharp, I was there as promised and waiting at the alter for Arlene.

That was over 46 years ago, and we are still married. Her dad grew to forgive my casual approach to the beginning of my life with his daughter, thankfully. Fast forward forty-six years ...

Three grown children, two grand kids, and a life together has passed before the blink of our eyes. How can this be? Where does the time go?

Aging and a bad health diagnosis has me pondering what this life is all about. I keep coming up with this ...

"Life is about who we love, who loves us in return, and what we build together."

What else is there? An accumulation



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

Produce Pointers:
*Bananas give off a gas called ethylene. If you want to speed up the ripening of other fruits place them next to your bananas.

*When green grapes have a yellow tinge to them they are at their sweetest.

*Never store tomatoes in the refrigerator. Besides losing their nutritional value, they will also lose their flavor. Store tomatoes above 55F.

*Washing produce is a necessary chore, but you can save money if you whip up this homemade version of the pricey commercial brand for pennies: In a spray bottle, mix two tablespoons of baking soda with one cup of water. If you want add a tablespoon of lemon juice. Spray veggies, let sit for a few minutes and rinse!

* To make a homemade "fruit fresh" clone, dissolve two vitamin C tablets in a large bowl of water. Dunk in the fruits or vegetables to keep them fresher longer.

Vacation Tricks:
*Going on vacation? You can keep your house plants watered for up to a month by watering the plant well and then placing it (pot and all) in a clear plastic bag. Tie it securely on the top and bottom. Place the plant in northern light. When you return, simply untie the top and let the plant adjust to room air for a day or two before removing the plastic completely. Or, if you have several smaller plants, simply place a thick, wet towel in the bottom of the bathtub and place pots on top of the towel for the duration. The plants should remain moist for about a week.
*Planning a road



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
GARY W. MOORE

trip? Make up economical freezer packs to keep cooler foods chilled while you're on the road. Mix one part rubbing alcohol with two parts water & freeze in a gallon size ziplock bag. The bag will be pliable enough to conform to soda cans, fruits or other cooler items. Just re-freeze and use over and over again. This same formula made up in a smaller batch also works great as an icebag to sooth injuries. Just be sure to put a damp cloth between the skin and the icepack to prevent frostbite.

*Always toss several ziplock storage bags in your luggage. They can be used to stow wet swimsuits, dirty socks, sandy seashells, and have dozens more impromptu vacation uses! When you pack, toss a tablespoon or so of baking soda into a large ziplock bag to prevent wet bathing suits from getting mildew on the trip home.

Win Dinner for Two
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 cours dinner for two at the renown 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 publications? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail kdrr@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

of stuff? Accomplishments? Money? It all seems so important at the time but as time passes and we look back on it all, it's meaningless. Who we love, who loves us in return and the life we build together is everything.

I believe too many marriages begin without commitment. "If it doesn't work out, there's always divorce," I heard a bride say a few years ago. Yes, it's easy to give up and move on. It's harder to stick with it, push through the problems and make it work. And yes, I understand there are some relationships that cannot be fixed and it's necessary to move on from violence and abuse, along with a few other reasons, but I believe most divorces are premature and often unnecessary.

My grandfather was a coal miner. He had a saying, "Stick and stay and make it pay." I asked him what it meant, and he said, "Young men often quit after their first day or two in the mine. Fear of a shaft collapse or just the sickening experience of breathing the thick black dust often cause them to quit. Stick and stay was the advice the old timers would give."

I realize that advise is applicable to almost everything in life, including marriage. If you loved each other enough to get married, love each other enough to stick with it and make it work. Don't give up.

Our marriage has been far from perfect, but we stuck with each other. We committed to building a life and family together. We smoothed out the rough edges over time. Mistakes were made, worked out and we learned from them and here we are forty-six years later, married, and happy.

Maybe life really is only about who we love, who loves us in return and what we build together. And you know what? I think it's more than enough.

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.

Even "singles" need estate plans



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If you don't have a spouse or children, you might think you don't need to do much estate planning. But if you have any assets, any familial connections, any interest in supporting charitable groups – not to mention a desire to control your own future – you do need to establish an estate plan.

In evaluating your needs for this type of planning, let's start with what might happen if you die intestate – that is, without a last will and testament. In this scenario, your assets will likely have to go through the probate process, which means they'll be distributed by the court according to your state's intestate succession laws, essentially without regard to your wishes. Even if you don't have children yourself, you may have nephews or nieces, or even children of cousins or friends, to whom you would like to leave some of your assets, which can include not just money but also cars, collectibles, family memorabilia and so on. But if everything you own goes through probate, there's no guarantee that these individuals will end up with what you wanted them to have.

If you want to leave something to family members or close friends, you will need to indicate this in your last will and testament or other estate planning documents. But you also may want to provide support to one or more charitable organizations. Of course, you can simply name these charities in your will, but there may be options that could provide you with more benefits.

One such possibility is a charitable remainder trust. Under this arrangement, you'd transfer appreciated assets – such as stocks, mutual funds or other securities – into an irrevocable trust. The trustee, whom you've named – in fact, you could serve as trustee yourself – can then sell the assets at full market value, avoiding the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold them yourself, outside a trust. Plus, if you itemize, you may be able to claim a charitable deduction on your taxes. With the proceeds, the trust can purchase income-producing assets and provide you with an income stream for the rest of your life. Upon your death, the remaining trust assets will go the charities you've named.

Aside from family members and charitable groups, there's a third entity that's central to your estate plans: yourself. Everyone should make arrangements to protect their interests, but, in the absence of an immediate family, you need to be especially vigilant about your financial and health care decisions. And that's why, as part of your estate planning, you may want to include these two documents: durable power of attorney and a health care proxy.

A durable power of attorney lets you name someone to manage your finances should you become incapacitated. This arrangement is especially important for anyone who doesn't have a spouse to step in. And if you become incapacitated, your health care proxy – also known as a health care surrogate or medical power of attorney – lets you name another person to legally make health care decisions for you if you can't do so yourself.

Estate planning moves can be complex, so you'll need help from a legal professional and possibly your tax and financial advisors. You may not have an immediate family, but you still need to take steps to protect your legacy.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com.

In search of porgies



Courtesy

Nine-year-old Leah Varney fishing with her dad Matt at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club last week.

As fishing heats up on the saltwater, anglers are catching a lot of fish on most fishing trips, either on a charter or on a private vessel. Striper fishing has been very good on the Providence River until my brother and myself made a trip last week. Reports were good prior to our fishing trip last Wednesday, launching just above the Bold Point boat ramp. It was a beautiful day with light winds. The sun was just coming up, and the tide was going out for a few more hours. Striper fishing is crazy, and you never know when they are going to be feeding or just become lazy, making for a slow day of fishing. The heavy rain prior to our trip cooled the water down by a few degrees. That is all it takes sometimes.

To make a long story short, we fished for four hours without spotting a single (porgy) baitfish. Unable to catch some fresh for bait, we had us settle for trolling large rebels which produced a single hit, but was lost halfway in. We watched numerous anglers land stripers using porgies, but most were undersize and had to be released. This week, I talked to the owner of Archie's Bait Shop in Providence, R.I., and he revealed the following information. The day we were there, everyone that was looking for the porgies to snag for live bait had a very hard time locating them. The stripers were not driving the baitfish to the



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top, and when they stay near the bottom, they are hard to snag. Tides make all the difference in stimulating the stripers to feed, and sometimes, it is the incoming or outgoing tides that are best. Stripers do not like the sun, and are often slow in there feeding habits, especially in shallow water. It is not always the case, but more often than not, I find it is the norm, at least for me. Last week, when we were on the Providence River, we fished in four to six feet of water hoping to find some bass and bluefish feeding near the top. In the past, many fish would swirl near the top as the boat approached. That is the time to use surface poppers. Anyway, we had no luck and decided that we had enough, and headed for home.

As we passed the area that has a few windmills on the south shoreline, I noticed a half dozen boats fishing close to it. Slowing the motor to get a better look at what was going on, my hunch was right. A school of baitfish were on top, and anglers were snagging them. We quickly grabbed our rods equipped with snagging hooks and were pleasantly surprised at the dozen of bait fish we snagged in 10 or 15 minutes.

"If only we could have had some of these earlier," I remarked to my brother.



An unidentified angler fishing for bass in his Kayak last Saturday, at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club.

The tide had just changed, and the porgies were driven to the top by feeding fish below, but not many anglers were catching fish, and of those that were, the stripers were small with most being released.

It was now 11 a.m., and I had had enough fishing. It was time to head for home and catch a nice nap. I used to fish both tides in my younger years, but now one is enough. It is just nice to go fishing at age 82 with my brother Ken and talk about the good old days. "Just wait till next week, when we return to try our luck again on the Providence River!" Vengeance is sweet. The following week, Archie's Bait & Tackle shop in Providence reported on a couple of anglers catching up to 14 stripers in the Providence River which all were released but one, because they were too big!

Anglers continue to catch some nice seabass and scup in Massachusetts! Oops! Last week's report stated that Massachusetts was closed to seabass when, in fact, they are open and Rhode Island is closed until the 24th of June, opening with a three fish limit. Just another senior moment. Anglers should always check their abstracts for fish limits and regulations. It is crazy that both states cannot agree on season dates and limits!

Numerous kayaks were observed in the Providence River, and are a very

common sighting of these seaworthy fishing watercraft. I sure wish they were around in my younger years. Some are equipped with a small electric motor, while others are powered with foot pedals, or the old fashion paddles. Standing up in the kayaks are also easy for the younger generation, but not for me! Whatever your preference is for fishing, getting out there and enjoying the great outdoors will keep you young and healthy, and the rewards of catching a striper to bring home for the table is like icing on the cake. Grab your fishing rod and your family and go fishing!

June 5-6 is Massachusetts freshwater free fishing weekend. Take advantage of the free fishing weekend, and you may just get hooked on fishing.

This week's picture shows nine-year-old Leah Varney, fishing with her dad Matt at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club last Saturday. They had caught one trout, and were given two more by another member fishing at the pond, giving them enough trout for the supper table. The second picture shows an unidentified member in their Kayak, fishing for bass at the Uxbridge pond. The quiet and peaceful surroundings was sure relaxing, away from the crazy, dangerous world around us.

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MYERS

Always protect yourself whenever outdoors. Cover as much of your skin as possible with loose fitting, light colored clothing. Mosquitoes are less attracted to the lighter colors and cannot readily reach your skin through loose clothing.

Further protect yourself by using a personal repellent approved by the EPA. For those looking for DEET-free options, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has approved products with the active ingredient picaridin, IR3535, and the synthetic oil of lemon and eucalyptus. Check the label for a list of active ingredients and safety recommendations when shopping for mosquito repellents. Avoid products that contain both sunscreen and insect repellent since you need to apply sunscreen more often than the repellent.

Spending more time outdoors is good for our mind, body, and spirit. Using a combination of mosquito-managing tactics will allow you to enjoy and benefit from your time outdoors.



Melinda Myers

Scatter citronella oil and candles throughout outdoor entertainment areas and within a few feet of guests for short-term relief from mosquitoes.

Melinda Myers has written 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 colum-

nist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

Screened-in porches add a layer of protection but only when they are intact and properly sealed. The same applies to your home. Check screens and seals around doors and windows to help keep these pests from entering your home.

Use bug lights in light fixtures by entryways and in outdoor entertainment spaces. These emit yellow light that is not as attractive to mosquitoes and other insects. Bug lights will not eliminate every unwanted insect but will reduce the number visiting your lights at night and finding their way into your home.

Enhance the ambience and reduce mosquito issues when entertaining outdoors. Use a fan to create a cooler space and keep these weak flyers away. Provide fragrant subtle lighting with citronella oil and scented candles. Scatter them throughout the area and within a few feet of the guests for short-term relief.

Reduce the overall mosquito population in your yard by eliminating their breeding grounds. Empty water that collects in items left outside. Change the water in your birdbath at least weekly or whenever you water your container gardens. Add a bubbler or pump to keep water moving in fountains and ponds so mosquito larvae cannot survive.

Toss an organic mosquito control like Mosquito Dunks and Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) in your rain barrel, pond, or other water feature. Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population, while the Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control. The active ingredient is *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, a naturally occurring soil bacterium that kills the mosquito larvae but is safe for children, fish, pets, beneficial insects, and wildlife.

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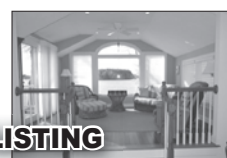
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Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE.
\$115,000.
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res!
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# of Homes Sold	16	21	▲
Avg Days on Market	20	19	▼
Month Supply Inv.	.8	.49	▼

WEBSTER

	May 2020	May 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$279,500	\$298,500	▲
Market Volume	\$2,766,000	\$6,044,200	▲
# of Homes Sold	10	16	▲
Avg Days on Market	34	22	▼
Month Supply Inv.	1.68	.67	▼

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AMAZON
continued from page A1

along with a project of this size and the capital investment from the different jobs, the indirect employment and most of these numbers that we're talking about right now where we're at in our initial due diligence fazes related to this project are pretty conservative floors," Griggs said. "These are conservative baseline numbers. We realize if this project moves forward it's going to be a long-term investment in the community and a long-term investment in the region. We want to make sure that the numbers we're talking about here today are a baseline that we can begin these conversations. If anything, they'll only grow larger."

Near the end of the presentation Selectman David Singer brought up his decision to side with other selectmen against Article 17 prior to the annual town meeting stating that there was some confusion among members of the public about why Amazon's name couldn't be divulged prior to the vote. While Singer made it clear he wasn't against the project calling it "a good opportunity for both Charlton and Amazon" he sought an answer for the lack of transparency leading up to the vote. "There have been comments made at town meeting and online. I'm hearing from some people that there was a con-



The proposed location of Amazon's new warehouse on Sturbridge Road in Charlton.

fidentiality agreement or nondisclosure agreement which is why we couldn't find out before now who it was. I'm hearing from others there was no confidentiality agreement. This has nothing to do with Amazon or (Bluewater Group), this is purely on the town side. There's a lot of confusion," said Singer. "To me, honesty and transparency for our residents is paramount and I just want to clarify and eliminate the confusion." John DiCola of Bluewater Group admit-

ted that there was no confidentiality on nondisclosure agreement that prevented them from including Amazon's name in town discussions. He said this was a decision made by several parties to avoid making the vote about Amazon itself. "In reality, we were eager to introduce Amazon prior to the vote on Article 17. We had no intention, and it wasn't a concern about introducing Amazon to the community that prevented that from happening. What we were trying to

abide by was that this was one site of a number of sites for which Article 17 governed and it was not appropriate for us at that time to make Article 17 about this particular property only or about our intended development and the occupancy of Amazon. It would have been inappropriate for us to do that ahead of Article 17 being voted upon as agnostic to anything other than whether the community was open to these type of economic development projects being considered," said

DiCola. Selectman Steven Koronis made a point that even without Amazon's name attached voters approved the article showing an interest in economic development in Charlton. "Keep in mind that the town meeting vote, whether or not we knew who it was, it was (decisively) in the positive," said Koronis. "The town sent and overwhelming message that, yes, we are looking for development, we are looking for something like this, so let's

learn about it. That was the message." Selectman Singer followed up Koronis's comment stating that while the selectmen may disagree on the significance of transparency in this particular case, Singer was "glad" the voters approved the Article and allow Amazon to come forward with a potential opportunity for growth in Charlton. If the project goes through Amazon expects to open the facility as early as the summer of 2023.



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THOMPSON, Conn. — Below are the students who have earned their place on the Trimester 3 Honor Roll at Marianapolis Prep School

Head of School List

Olivia-Mae Acquaaah-Harrison, Charlton; Oyetola Ajayi-Obe, Worcester; Abigail Alicandro, North Oxford; James Alves, Uxbridge; Kaitlin Baca, Webster; Greyson Baldaro, Oxford; John Barnwell, Danielson, Conn.; Lillian Belsito, Millbury; Callista Bibeau, Danielson, Conn.; Abigail Boria, Charlton; Benjamin Bouchard, Douglas; Celia Bouchard, Douglas; Samuel Bouchard, Douglas; Vincent Bourgeois, Thompson, Conn.; Campbell Braun, South Grafton; Stephen Canavan, Ashford, Conn.; Dominika Chmielewski, Webster; Lauren Conde, Danielson, Conn.; Xander Cook, Uxbridge; Sidney Corriveau, Brimfield; Spencer Courville, Charlton; Anna Czechowski, Webster; Giana DeCesare, Chepachet, R.I.; Alexandra Delano, Charlton; Joseph DiPietro, Worcester; Fiona Doiron, Charlton; Ava Fabiano, Killingly, Conn.; Chiara Faiola, Auburn; Nicholas Fennelly,

Charlton; Felicia Fongemie, Ashford, Conn.; Barbara Forgues, Shrewsbury; Fabian Gabriel, Zlin, Czech Republic; Alexandra Giorgio, Millbury; Ashley Giorgio, Millbury; Xiayuan Gong, Wuxi, China; Madelyn Grundstrom, Moosup, Conn.; Emily Hammond, Sutton; Angelina Hargrave, Charlton; Sofia Hargrave, Charlton; SophieHendrick, Willimantic, Conn.; Philip Heney, Douglas; Juliana Hernandez, Deptford, N.J.; Garret Hippert, Brooklyn, Conn.; Thu Hoang, Hai Phong, Vietnam; Maura Hoban, Millbury; Kaylynn Horan, Putnam, Conn.; Nghi Huynh, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Mackenzie Jutras, Greenville, R.I.; Ethan Kalmin, Dudley; Claire Kelleher, Auburn; Avery Kurzontkowski, Shrewsbury; Kate Landis, Brooklyn, Conn.; Molly Landis, Brooklyn, Conn.; Linh Le, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Abigail Leahy, Leicester; Juhyoung Lee, Seoul, South Korea; Lauren Lemire, Southbridge; Chengxun Li, Xiamen, China; Zachary Litke, Brooklyn, Conn.; Alana Lorusso, North Oxford; Sydney Lundt, Woodstock, Conn.; Bridget MacDonough, Grafton; Kiera MacKenzie, Woodstock, Conn.; Szymon Mamro, Webster; David

Mankarios, Webster; Remonda Mankarios, Webster; Delia Marchand, Holden; Wednesday Maskova, Sestajovice, Czech Republic; Tessa McCabe, Douglas; Benjamin McGarry, Thompson, Conn.; Conner McLeod, Foster, R.I.; Keegan McLeod, Foster, R.I.; Emma McQuiston, Webster; Katherine Melnick, North Grosvenordale, Conn.; Sara Michailides, Chepachet, R.I.; Ayame Mizuno, Nagoya, Japan; Charles Mukweva, Harare, Zimbabwe; Luciana Najjar, Northborough; Michael Nespala, Celakovice, Czech Republic; Abbie O'Brien, Dayville, Conn.; Hayley O'Connell, Webster; Collin O'Connor, Sutton; Declan O'Connor, West Boylston; Riley O'Connor, Dudley; Jenna Olivieri, Douglas; John Perveiler, Pomfret Center, Conn.; Long Pham, Hanoi, Vietnam; Katrina Piekieniaki, Dudley; Morgan Polinski, Webster; Wiktor Potem, Webster; Jill Reardon, Fiskdale; Brianne Rett, Uxbridge; Grace Rhoads, Stafford Springs, Conn.; Lucas Rhoads, Stafford Springs, Conn.; Olivia Richardson, Lincoln, R.I.; Thomas Santos Soares, Porto Alegre, Brazil; William Savoie, Northbridge; Colby Scanlon, Fiskdale; Trinity Semo, Dudley; Emily Shamback, Sterling, Conn.; Andrew Shultz, Oxford; Zachary Stoddard, Pomfret Center, Conn.; Maya Summiel, Dayville, Conn.; Christian Terwilliger, Lebanon, Conn.; Lily Tessmer, Lancaster; Matthew Tomasino, Leicester; Violeta Torres, Plainfield, Conn.; Thang Tran, Da Nang, Vietnam; Daniel Twohig-Mann, Douglas; Rachel Ullstrom, Auburn; John Vigliotti, Worcester; Caroline Vigneault, Southbridge; Caroline Villa, Auburn; Tram Vo, Phan Thiet, Vietnam; Emily Walsh, Thompson, Conn.; Yunpeng Wang, Shenzhen, China; Kyle Woodruff, Southbridge; Wenyang Yuan, Beijing, China; Abdullah Zameer, Woodstock, Conn.; Yutian Zhu, Hangzhou, China

Dean's List

Samuel Balzanka, Banska Stianica, Slovakia; Grace Booth, Webster; Jamie Calkins, Charlton; Jessie Calkins, Charlton; Hansen Cao, Shenzhen, China; Shaylan Cashman, Charlton; Zuzana Cejkova, Jindrichuv Hradec, Czech Republic; Jasmine Creighton, Webster; Danielle Doiron, Charlton; Sydney Duby, Worcester; Benjamin

Duquette, Webster; Yifei Fang, Shanghai, China; Courtney Fleming, Douglas; Isabella Gonzalez, Plainfield, Conn.; Audrey Hammond, Sutton; Lily Hayes, Danielson, Conn.; James Hoban, Millbury; Patrick Hoban, Millbury; Thomas Kennison, Somers, Conn.; Zachary King, Plainfield, Conn.; Ayana Kobayashi, Nagoya, Japan; Haruna Kobayashi, Nagoya, Japan; Kaya Lukasek, Webster; Yihui Luo, Lian Yun Gang, China; Sophia Maloney, Sutton; Peyton Manyak, Douglas; Kylie Miller, Webster; Zaire Moore, Thompson, Conn.; Marilyn Oly-Alawuba, Victoria Island, Nigeria; Luis Arturo Perez Povedano, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; Linh Pham, Hanoi, Vietnam; Elena Polsky, Thompson, Conn.; Alek Popovich, Charlton; Sophia Rabitor, Dayville, Conn.; Emma Raps, Webster; Morgan Royston, Oxford; Emma Russell, Brooklyn, Conn.; Anthony Russo, Brooklyn, Conn.; Kailey Russo, Brooklyn, Conn.; Cassidy Semo, Dudley; Cadence Stawiecki, Webster; Chinh Tong, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Owen Trainor, Brooklyn, Conn.; Ashley Vandenbrouck, Oxford; Isabella Vigliotti, Worcester; Maggie Vo, Worcester; Elizabeth Walker, Thompson, Conn.; Wondimu Weinberg-O'Brien, Worcester; Tyler Whiteley, Foster, R.I.; Anna Wildes, North Uxbridge; Kang Xu, Xi'an, China; Zhihe Ye, Beijing, China; Yang Zhang, Yuxi, China; Boning Zhu, Shanghai, China; Xingyu Zhu, Wenzhou, China; Anthony Zurowski, Plainfield, Conn.

Honor Roll

Isata Bah, Shrewsbury, United Kingdom; Emma Blanchard, Dayville, Conn.; Rayliana Bonnell, Oxford; Mwewa Chiwaya, Moosup, Conn.; Claire Crossman, Oxford; Timothy Hall, Plainfield, Conn.; Son Ho, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Caroline King, Rochester; Nicholas LaFlamme, Woodstock, Conn.; Camille Larson, Charlton; Sydney Lavallee, South Grafton; Michael Levesque, Narragansett, R.I.; Alexander Litke, Brooklyn, Conn.; Jorge Axel Mena Munch, Merida, Mexico; Andrew Peck, Paxton; Dominic Penny, Charlton; Ione Roundy, Marlborough; Jessica Wright, Millbury

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continued from page A1

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the many positive impacts that female leaders have on their organizations and staff, it is in the best interest of all that we maintain and strengthen our focus on developing and supporting women.”

According to the report women comprise 51.5 percent of the state's population with only 31 percent servicing in the state legislature, 8 percent being corporate CEOs, 24 percent on board seats for companies, agencies or organizations, and 26 percent are nonprofit CEOs.

Retiring Nichols College President Susan Engelkemeyer, PhD, who helped found the Institute for Women's Leadership in 2013, said the increase score is enlightening but there's still plenty of room for improvement.

“Women striving for leadership roles have and continue to face both challenges and opportunity in the workforce,” said Engelkemeyer. “The Massachusetts Women's Leadership Index is a valuable point of reflection and this year, we saw a rise in representation, with an increased aggregate score of 45/100. But as we look to the future, much work remains.”

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