

Bay Path students military-bound



CHARLTON — Among the senior Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School students who have made a commitment to the military next year are Kurtis Dominick Davis, Chloe Elizabeth Jordan, and Alex Hunter Gilfoy (pictured left to right in the photograph).

Kurtis Davis, who has chosen to enlist in the Army, stated that he wanted to follow in his grandfather's footsteps.

Davis referred to a quote he once heard that made an impact on him: "Some kids are college material and others are born soldiers."

He added, "to be honest, I'm not a fan of school. Plus, it's a life-long dream."

When asked about what he hopes to gain from his experience, Davis said, "memories...and to keep everyone in my family safe back home."

In reflecting on his experience at Bay Path, Davis

said that he is grateful for the many friends he has made and will remember football camp particularly well. After he finishes his military service, he hopes to open up a motorcycle shop in Florida, continue on with his military career, and join either the SWAT or the police force.

Chloe Jordan stated that what motivated her to join the Air Force was her family: "I come from a military family. My dad and almost every male in my family has enlisted."

She stated that her father was a chief in the Air Force and served for 26 years. Jordan mentioned that she would be the fourth generation on his side of the family in the Air Force.

What Chloe hopes to gain from her experience is "knowledge...and a criminal justice and criminology degree at some point in my career."

Being captain on the varsity girls' volleyball team is something Jordan will remember well from her time at Bay Path. After her time in the service, she would like to be a detective for domestic abuse and sexual assault crimes, "as well as work as a sex/domestic crime detective full time."

Alex Gilfoy said that he decided to join the United States Navy reserve so he could serve a purpose higher than himself while also being supported with benefits. He wants to serve his country while also having opportunities to travel.

Gilfoy stated that he "hopes to get skills and experience that will help me succeed in whatever I choose to do with my life."

About his experience at

Please Read **STUDENTS**, page **A3**

DESE lifts mask mandate for schools

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Following a recent authorization from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), local students are looking forward to learning without having to be masked in school.

After consulting with medical experts and state health officials, DESE Commissioner Jeffrey Riley announced earlier this month that he will not renew the state mask requirement for school buildings after it expires on Feb. 28.

"The Commonwealth's high vaccination rates and widespread availability of COVID-19 testing for school personnel and students support this decision," said Riley, whose decision was backed by Gov. Charlie Baker.

Although local students are thrilled by the announcement, officials remind families that "March Maskless"—as some have begun calling it—doesn't apply to all aspects of the

school day. Masking continues to be required of individuals while riding on school buses, per federal order.

Meanwhile, students and staff members who prefer to continue wearing masks at school are able to do so.

"DESE and DPH strongly recommend students and staff continue to follow the DESE-DPH protocols for responding to COVID-19 scenarios," read a statement released by the DESE. "Any individual who wishes to continue to mask, including those who face higher risk from COVID-19, should be supported in that choice."

Additionally, the DESE and DPH strongly recommend unvaccinated individuals to continue wearing masks in school settings.

"The Commissioner will continue to monitor public health data, consult with medical experts and state health officials, and issue further guidance and/or requirements as needed," the DESE statement read.

Locally, students and staff members are looking forward to seeing each other without masks in class for the first time this year. School officials remind parents and students to continue complying with the federal mask mandate for buses.

"Until the federal govern-

ment has lifted the requirement for buses, we ask that our parents and families continue to put their children on our buses with masks," said Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Superintendent Paul Haughey.

More than 40 schools statewide have already received approval from the DESE to remove the indoor mask requirement after reaching a vaccination threshold. Now, beginning next week, students across the state can join them.

Even though COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have sharply declined since the holidays, school officials urge students and staff members to keep following basic safety protocols. These include frequent handwashing, using sanitizers when possible, and staying home from school when sick.

"DESE continues to recommend that districts and schools adopt a layered approach to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in school settings," Riley added. "DESE and DPH continue to strongly urge all eligible individuals to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and booster, and continue to support schools with vaccination clinics."

To learn more about state recommendations, visit www.mass.gov.

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McKenna, Frost recognize Oxford Project Success students



OXFORD — On Thursday, Feb. 10, Rep. Joseph McKenna (R-Webster) visited Oxford High School's Project Success classroom to offer a congratulatory citation from himself and Rep. Paul Frost (R-Auburn) in recognition of their work to provide care packages to Veterans serving abroad.

The students have sent several packages to troops of the 1st-101st Field Artillery Regiment stationed at Al Asad Air Base in Iraq; under the command of Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Cesaitis, whose nephew is part of Project Success. The packages included one at Halloween, a Christmas package with 90 cards, and a similar Valentine's package.

"When Rep. Frost and I learned about the selfless work these students were doing to send a little bit of joy and comfort to our Veterans serving across the world we wanted to make sure their generous efforts were recognized!" said McKenna.

"It's terrific these students took on this task to send mem-

bers of our armed forces care packages as they are stationed overseas," added Frost. "I know this gesture will raise their morale and will let them know they are appreciated back home for their service to our country."

McKenna, who was joined by Superintendent of Oxford Schools Michael Lucas, presented a Congratulatory Citation from the House of Representatives from himself and Rep. Frost, who was attending session at the State House. The citation reads in part:

"Be it hereby known to all that the Massachusetts House of Representatives congratulates Oxford High School — Project Success in recognition of your selfless commitment to others, working tirelessly to bring joy and comfort to US service members by creating and sending care packages."

In addition to the House Citations, the students were honored to have an American Flag flown over Al Asad Air

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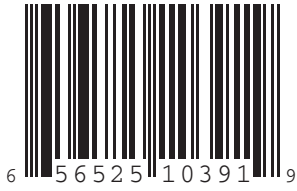
Auburn Historical Society to host spaghetti dinner

AUBURN — The Auburn Historical Society is holding its Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, April 9 at the Pakachoag Church, 203 Pakachoag St. in Auburn. It will be a Take-Out Meal only with pick up times from 4:30 – 6 p.m. There will also be 50/50 and basket drawings.

Advance tickets for the supper are required and may be purchased for \$15 each at the Auburn Historical Society Museum at 41 South St. on

Tuesdays or Saturdays between 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. or by calling the museum at 508-832-6856.

Donations of baskets or gift cards for the drawings are welcome. Baskets will be displayed, and drawing tickets can be purchased, at the museum the morning of Saturday, April 9. They will also be available at the Pakachoag Church during meal pick-up times. Please let the Auburn Historical Society know if you are interested in donating to the drawings.



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BAY PATH HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

Grade 12

High Honors: Connor Barton, Justin Barton, Hayden Bourgeois, Alexia Brown, Catalina Burden, Dylan Butkus, Diego Canovas, Isabella Capuano, Jackson Chaffee, Anaya Compres, Dylan Cotton, Carter Coughlin, Marisa DeJesus, Chloe Dexter, Erin Donahue, Marlee Donohoe, Lillian Dunkerton, Adelina Giaquinto, Ashley Hamel, Zachary Hinan, Nicholas Hunter, Tiffany King, Cole Komssi, Bethany Lasell, Madigan McManus, Amber Mercon, Jovanni Morales, Aidan Oosterman, Paige Osche, Aaliyah Perez, Jacqueline Ross, Luzvyvette Sagastibelza-Lopez, Jayna Schmohl, Anthony Seymour, Ethan Shanbaum, Daniel Sibert, Sarah Simpson, Olivia St. Germain, Isabella Tanacea, Scarlet Taveras, Mackenzie Tupaj, Tyler Verrier, Mateusz Zych

Honors: Lana Antocci, Thomas Becker, Thomas Benoit, Sadie Bickford, Brian Bonnette, Rebecca Boutillette, Patrick Campbell, Andrew Cannon, Graham Carbonneau, Jayden Caribo, Adriana Carignan, Gabriella Carlin, Stephanie Chege, Aiden Chernisky, Abby Christian, Izabella Coughlin, Halley Cournoyer, Chad Cutroni, Anthony Defilippo, Lillian Dolan, Cody Douglas, Nathan Dreitlein, Nathan Dubeau, May Emisranunt, Johnathon Ferreira, Colin Gagne, Danielle Gautier, Isabella Gervais, Gavin Gillet, Genesis Gonzalez, Nicholas Gosselin, Julia Graveson, Nathan Gulkin, Cameron Hafner, Logan Johnson, Molly Johnson, Kira Kalwarczyk, Lucas Kaufman, Wyatt Kelly, Ryan Kempskie, Kevin Kilcourse, Ryan Komssi, Andrew Leach, Jacob LeBrun, William LeCuyer, Marguerite MacKenzie, Anthony Martins, Alannah Matthews, Allison Maynard, Richard Menard IV, Aaron Mitchell, Olivia Morin, Samuel Murillo, William Ofori, Angelina Ortiz, Gabrielle Packard, Ilias Perez, Jackson Philion, Hunter Pocis, Krystal Quadarella, Lukas Rafferty, Evanie Rodriguez, Keith Royewicz, Alex Saad, Zachary Sargent, Kristina Scott, Caroline Soucy, Kyra Stevens, Francheska Toribio-Polanco, Camden Towns, Aaliyah Tremblay Collins, Jared Tucker, Rohan Vaidya, Kyle VanCott, Adriana Vazquez Gonzalez, Isaac Vieira, Aleix Westmoreland

Principal's List: Nathaniel Anderson, Dominic Benvenuti, Jayde Berthiaume, Kylie Bouchard, Harmony Caranci, Tinaya Chauvin, Connor Clardy, Jonathan Colon, Chynna Cote, Nathan Cuff, Harmony Desrosiers, Laura Featherstone, Austin Fish, Brady Garabedian, Amie Grenier, Aidan Hall, Haevyn Hazzard, Julia Higgins, Chloe Jordan, Jason Kozlowski, Taylor Labrecque, Cody LaMonda, Lexie MacDonald, John Marchetti, Emma Marcotte, Brandon Martocci, Evan O'Malley, Elijah Paddock, Michael

Pashoian, Michael Riberdy, Carlos Rosado, Jack Sansoucy, Keaghan Spring, Isabella Strzelecki, Jalissa Torres, Jomar Torres, Aaron Trahan

Grade 11

Sincere Bailey, Olivai Beaudette, Miranda Burden, Cheryl Dolson, Brenna Donohue, Elizabeth Dretilein, Jayden Flanders, Tori Fontaine, Evan Gelineau, John Guerin, Emma Hasselton, Samantha Inangelo, Grace Jones, Hunter Kelley, Aidan LaFrance, Joney Lamontagne, Jaysi Miller, Mackenzie Morrissey, Merissa Murray, Gabrielle Oikle, Michaen Pacheco, Wyatt Sadusky, Jazlynn Santana, Arminda Simoes, Terry Simon, Jacob Thomas, Jonathan Young

Honors: Jake Aho, Samuel Audunsson, Lukus Bachand, Haven Banks, Quinn Beck, Alexander Besaw, Samuel Boria, Andrew Bottcher, Aleana Brayton, Dennis Brunelle, Connor Burke, Matthew Casati, Daniel Chaffee, Michael Chansignavong, Amanda Christianson, Isabella Coleman, Makayla Collins, Anthony Comforti, Caleb Jude Corpuz, Ryan Davis, Cam'Ron Desrosiers, Ronald Desrosiers, Gabriel Espinosa, Zachary Finizza, Evan Frost, Aiden Gelardi, Emily Gelineau, Noah Gilspin, Adrian Gonzalez, Osiris Gonzalez, Julius Guillen, Barry Hanson, Luke Hill, Rebeka Janusz, Tatyanna Johnny, Matthew Kallgren, Nakia L'Ecuyer, Anna L'Esperance, James LeProhon, Gianaleze Lopez, Yamilisha Machado, Judy Maignan, Michael Mallette, Jaime Marrero, Alyssa Masciarelli, Connor McCarthy, Rachel McMenemy, Erika Melendez, Trinity Mercier, Dylan Morrison Ilvonen, Stephen Ngaruiya, Jonathan Nussey, Joelle Peluso, Kiyana Perez, Amelia Peterson, Damon Provencal, Timothy Putnam, Hilary Queirolo, Emma Rannikko, Sabrina Rodrigues, Abraham Routhier, Nolan Sharry, Sawyer Smith, Evan St. Cyr, Emma St. Francis, Gavin Suprenant, Damion Szafaraowicz, Alexzander Tetreault, Lucas Welton, Emily Westwell, Jacob Wilga

Principal's List: Ryan Brown Herraiz, Arriana Cabana, Julia Canty, Anthony Catino, Yhandell DeJesus Baez, Ty Dupuis, Amanda Englund, Alexis Fleck, Nathan Goozey, Devon Goulet, Lauren Hennessy, Matthew Hoyt, Olivia James, Mason Jordan, Delaney Kirkorian, Madison Lamica, Robert LeBlanc, Julianna Loconto, Augus Mackenzie, Matthew Marchetti, Matthew Marhsall, Dylan McDonald, Jayme Melanson, Jonathan Norman, Tessa Olejniczak, Trevor Phillips, Madison Poirier, Ariane Ramos, Jenisey Ramos, Evan Rivera, Kieya Santerre, Ronin Smone, Naomi Soriano, Sean Sweeney, Brayden Therrien, Taylor Tremblay

Grade 10

High Honors: Sophia Balestracci, Ryan Bray, Riley Caruso, Meredith Clark, Kirsten Congdon, Mariselle Cosme, Dylan DeJesus, Jonathan Forget, Jenna Gajewski, Simon Greening, Lucas Hafner, Tristan Hanson, Carly Impey,

Sarah Martin, Shaun McLaughlin, Jenna McLeish, Maggie Mullaly, Adrianna Navarro, Kayla Nguyen, Peter Nhan, Madison Nolin, Nason Omasta, Peyton Paretie, Noalani Perez, Emily Quental, Wendy Ramirez, Cody Savary, Amanda Seidler, Catherine Sirard, Jacob Sirard, Adriana Stanley, Alysha Szafarowicz, Victoria Tinsley, Jack Ugrinow, Hailey Williamson, Gabrielle Zopatti

Honors: Alexander Adkins, Aidan Anderson, Jacob Anderson, Kaidra Anderson, Alyesia Bellamy, Hailey Benoit, Alex Beshiri, Luke Boliver, Alec Borelli, Samuel Brill, Vincent Brink, Samantha Buchanan, Caitlyn Burke, Rachel Carpenter, Olivia Carrier, Petru Cojocar, Yanieris Colon Vega, Shane Conti, Zachary Cournoyer, Peter Courville, Kyleigh Czechowski, LeeAnn Dagnese, Daniel Daige, Wyatt Daoust, Pedro Augusto Dasilva, Emma Davidson, Emma DeJong, Sean Derenas, Andrew Dip, Jayden-James Dunston, Noah Dupont, Jibril Erraihani, Jared Evora, James Ferreira, Kacey Flanagan, Robert Fleck IV, Ethan Gallant, Giovanni Garcia, Devin Gavaletz, Rachel Gormley, Makayla Graham, Kendal Griffin, Renee Hallaman, Bridget Hast, Riley Heenan, Alba Henriquez Baez, Isabelle Herholz, Valerie Hernandez, James Heywood, Derek Hosley, Ian James, Stanislaw Janusz, Eva Jerez, Jadyn Katz, Abigail Kibaru, Jordan Kippax, Madisyn Kozlowski, Alyssa Kutzko, Matthew Lach, Julianna Laforce, Benjamin LaTour, Anna Lehtola, Emma Levasseur, Kristina Liberty, Albert Luciano, Catherine Magnusson, Marissa Masciarelli, Matteo Mastrototaro, Logan McCann, Vincent Messier, Cole Mitchell, Leah Monti, Dorina Muska, Christian Nguyen, Megan O'Shea, Noah Okolita, Vanessa Paddock, Gianna Pantalone, Brayden Parente, Esteban Primental, Colin Plante, Laci Pollone, Nicholas Pollone, Jared Powell, Logan Powers, Evan Provost, Wyatt Rafferty, Jayden Remillard, Nayeli Rodriguez, Daniel Russell, Liam Ryan, Paige Seymour, Sydney Seymour, Gerald Splaine, Ashton Stockenberg, Alan Suklis, Colton Tittle, Jeralys Torres Soto, Landon Walker, Timothy Welch, Thomas Wilk, Charlotte Worster, Stone Zink

Principal's List: Jacob Alden, Kasey Babkauskas, Caroline Bogeson, Andrew Bousquet, Jesse Catino, Evan Chase, Evan Crhistiano, Matthew Conway, Richard Corriveau, Nyasia Delgado, Marissa Dumas, Abigail Egan, Carmine Giaquinto, Kayli Haskins, Abigayle Linde, Kai Lukasek, Hannah Luukko, Ryan McCormack, Dominic Pigeon, Harrison Renaud, Victoria Roberts, Samantha Russell, Ryan Sinkewich, Ryleigh Warchal, Ryley Williams

Grade 9

High Honors: Kaelen Anderson, Noah Brown, Jonathan Burke, Joshua Chumsae, Catherine Comeau, Ryan Dawson, Carly Donohue, Bryce Dube, Midrose Freeman, Reyna Gonzalez, Noah Goulet, Matthew Guerin, Kayah

Jadcza, Leah Johnson, Anya Kittredge, Samantha Landgren, Lillian Maglich, Ayla McGrail, Jersey Mejias, Cheyene Monsen, Julian Mucci, Maya Ortiz, Raegan Perreault, Willis Perreault, Melany Rebeiro, Savannah Steiner, Madison Teal, Cassandra Tinsley, Manaali Vaidya, Angelica Vega, Adrian Vitkos, Alison Welton

Honors: Nicholas Adler, Rima Al-Dulaimi, Dominic Balducci, Connor Belanger, Hope Belford, Briana Berrios, Cherise Berthiaume, Joshua Blackwell, Zachary Bogar, Kendall Bond, Lake Boucher, Camden Bousquet, David Boyce, Kendra Brooks, Jason Brum, Julia Burgus, Aidan Carpenter, Johnaton Carter, Hannah Cavan, Matthew Chatterton, Jason Checka, Nathan Clemence, Mikayla Clyne, Noah Cournoyer, Mikayla Crocker, Travis Cronin, Mariah Cutroni, Adison Daoust, Philipe Dasilva, Jenna Defosse, Jasai Diaz, Madison Dolan, Owen Donofrio, Gregory Downie, Braelyn Dunn, Emma Dwyer, Logan Edwards, Michael Enetzelis, Claire Farrar, Connor Gadbois, Erin Gallant, Avery Gifford, Anthony Gonzalez, John Gordon, Alicia Graveson, Keegan Hall, Daniel Harris, Joshua Hemingway, Valerie Hilner, Bryce Hutchinson, Ava Iozzo, Elene Jerez, Jacob Jonson, Jacob Jurado, Eliza Kalwarczyk, Emma Knott, Samuel Lamont, Katherine Landgren, Hayden Larson, Nathan Lashua, Emma Leclair, Logan Letourneau, Benjamin Lombardi, Eva Lombardi, Miranda Magalhaes, Joseph Mancini, Nicholas Marchessault, Dominic Marino, Kyle Mazur, Aiden McCarthy, Isabel McLam, Emma McLaughlin, Jed McManus, Callie Merchant, Ava Millette, Zachary Moody, Jacob Morello, Sullivan Morse, Camron Mortell, Ava Murray, Kayleigh Norris, Ashlyn Olejniczak, Julia Osche, Alaina Pafume, Dominic Paldino, Jonathan Pemberton, Brad Piekarczyk, Gabriel Prado, Noah Racinos Rodgren, Casey Renaud, Nevin Rivera, Lilianna Rockwood, Luzmarienne Rodriguez Cririno, Joseph Roman, Jennalee Rousseau, Brayden Ryan, Kaden Sandgren, Jeisery Santiago Martinez, Dominic Schoff, Nash Sicari-Swinimer, Aysel Silva Nieves, Ed Simon, Abigayle Simpson, Benjamin Streeter, Zaydyn Streeter-Wornham, John Sullivan, Kathryn Szretter, Hailie Tod, Matthew Twombly, Vincent Van Dam, Nayelix Vega, Dayzyah Wintzel Neely, Cayden Young

Principal's List: Christopher Aguilar, Jessica Benoit, Teah Boyd, Brea Brunelle-Jacoby, Jameson Burke, Reilly Chouinard, Olivia Collins, Jacob Delvalle, Jaden Fall, Ian Farber, Hailee Gelin, Abigail Haynes, Albert Ingram, Molly Isaacs, Dylan Kasprzycki, Sarah Kempskie, Austin Kravitz, Megan Kunst, James MacConnell, William Nixon, Dales Nussey, Morgan O'Malley, Jordan Packard, Isabella Pettinelli, Emerson Pitz, Shayanne Plaisance, Lexiana Resto-Nichols, Benjamin Soobie, Isabella Tolomino



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Selectmen debate continuing ARPA grant program

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The Charlton Board of Selectmen solidified a recently established grant program despite opposition from board members who felt that the money could be used in a more effective manner.

In the fall of 2021, Charlton's selectmen decided to use \$200,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funding to establish a business and nonprofit grant program to be overseen by the Economic Development Commission. On Feb. 8, the Board of Selectmen was to act on the recommendations of the EDC to award the first round of funding with a maximum award of \$20,000. However, the announcement of the first grant winners was accompanied by a recommendation from Selectman David Singer who, despite wanting to support businesses in town, felt that the \$200,000 would be better used on other projects considering discussions about capital improvement needs at board meetings over the past two months.

Since the announcement of the grants in November the School Committee has presented a long-term capital improvement plan and the Council on Aging brought forth a proposal to purchase a building for a new senior center. Singer argued that with the benefit of hindsight these investments would be a more responsible use of the funds.

"This is almost \$200,000 that we were looking to give out as grants. We have now since heard not only about the senior center but the leaky school roofs and a lot of other serious needs that \$200,000 could actually go toward which could help alleviate the burden of the taxpayers. I think

that, to me, should be the primary use of these monies, to lower the potential ask to taxpayers," Singer said. "It's almost a quarter of a million dollars which would go a long way toward helping the actual urgent needs that we didn't know about when this was conceived."

Singer made sure to point out that he wasn't trying to take away from local businesses and organizations and indicated that the recommendation is not one he took lightly. His argument was simple: how can the Board of Selectmen ask taxpayers to pay for big projects when they are giving out money through the grant?

"I don't see how we have any chance in hell of asking the taxpayers for any money for a school, or for anything else, if we can give away even almost \$100,000 in grant money to help small businesses, which I want to do, and we all want to do. We all know we have capital needs that we can't fund. I think to me, as much as I want to (award the grants), there's no way I can go to the taxpayers with a clear conscience," Singer said.

The opinions of Singer's fellow selectmen were divided. Some argued that it would be wrong to go back on offering the grants after they promised the prospect of multiple rounds of funding which could have affected when some businesses and organizations would apply. Others felt there was a compromised, to award the current round of grants then pause or end the grant program after one round.

Selectman Barbara Zurawski had with mixed feelings on the situation.

"I don't want to be the person who promised something and then just rescind," she said. "I get what Mr. Singer is saying. I would be going with maybe rescinding

rounds two, three and four, but maybe not the first one because people put a lot of effort (in the grant application). We have already kind of promised at least a shot."

Several motions were put forth for consideration. Singer made a motion to completely suspend the grant program entirely, including canceling round one of the funding, which failed with Singer as the only vote in favor. A second motion was made and approved 4 to 1, with Singer as the lone decider, to approve the first round of grant funding totaling \$58,000. The initial grants are \$10,000 to the REAS Foundation, \$8,000 to the Dudley Charlton Educational Foundation, \$7,500 to CrossFit 1977, \$5,000 to Charlton Youth Soccer, \$7,500 to CrossFit Charlton, and the maximum grant award of \$20,000 to the Charlton Beagle Club.

A third and final motion was made to see the grant program through its remaining three rounds as planned. Selectmen Singer and Bill Borowski voted against the motion while Selectmen Zurawski, Stephen Koronis and Patsy Rydlak voted in favor of keeping the grant program intact for the time being.



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.

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PET of the WEEK



Nova ~ 1 - year-old, Male

Our man Nova is out of this world! This young man traveled all the way from Florida to find his family. He is a rocket of energy who loves to play with both his human and canine friends alike. Here is some more information on our handsome man:

- Nova would be over the moon to find a family to channel his brilliance and teach him all kinds of fun tricks (he's already got a few up his sleeve).
- He wants you to know that he's already really good at giving kisses and snuggles too. He's been practicing lots at the shelter while he waits for his new home.
- Nova enjoys playing with his dog friends and exploring new spaces!
- A plus for him would be a home with lots of room to run around (and tons of squeaky toys too).

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Haley Burek named to the President's List at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) is pleased to announce that Haley Burek of Auburn has been named to the President's List for the Fall Semester 2021. Burek is one of over 500 students to achieve this mark of academic excellence. Students are named to the President's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

A model for the "New Traditional University," Western New England University is among just 13 percent of private (5,000 students or less) institutions ranked among US News and World Report «National Universities» and a «Top 100 Engineering Program.» WNE enrolls 3,690 students, including 2,552 full-time undergraduate, in bachelors, masters, and

doctoral degrees at its Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy & Health Sciences, and School of Law.

Burek is working toward a Doctor of Pharmacy.

A WNE education provides career-span agility through a curriculum grounded in professional/experiential studies, enhanced by the liberal arts, and enriched by mentored research that equips graduates to adapt and succeed in the workplace of the future.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern

College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including more than 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its more than 90 undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30 percent remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

Historical Society to host first ever Parking Lot Craft Fair

AUBURN — The Auburn Historical Society & Museum will be hosting the First Annual Parking Lot Craft Fair on Saturday, Aug. 27, at 41 South St., Auburn. It will be held 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. Vendors can reserve a 10 by 15-foot space for \$15. Vendors will be responsible for bringing their own table(s). Food selling will be restricted.

For more information or to reserve a space, contact Helen at the Auburn

Historical Society & Museum at 508-832-6856, by email at auburnmuseum@verizon.net, or come to the museum on Tuesday or Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Put your reservations in early.

A Step Ahead Family Child Care Center

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STUDENTS

continued from page A1

Bay Path, Gilfoy said it was positive: "I came here knowing very few people being socially awkward. Through the discomfort I began to grow. I realized that staying in my comfort zone offered nothing for me."

When asked about his ultimate goals, he stated that he would like to be a police officer or "do something that allows me to help people in my community."

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Friday's Child



Photo by Shaanon Cabral.

Dasanee
Age 14

I am a talented singer and dancer!

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles/gallery/child/6545>

Dasanee is an active young lady of African American descent. She is reserved, quiet, and shy at first, but once she gets to know you, then she becomes very outgoing and talkative. Dasanee is naturally athletic, and she enjoys staying very active. Some of her favorite activities include playing soccer, basketball, swimming, and jumping on her trampoline. She is also musically inclined and is starting to recognize this newfound talent. She recently started taking trumpet

lessons and knows how to play the piano and sing.

Legally freed for adoption, Dasanee would do well in a two-parent family who can provide her with the affection, stability, and structure she needs to thrive. She would very much love for there to be other children in the home, and possibly some pets. Interested families must be willing to help Dasanee maintain her relationship and visits with her brother and Aunt.

Can I Adopt?

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. As an adoptive parent, you won't have to pay any fees, adoption from foster care is completely free in Massachusetts.

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.



Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy student qualifies for the National Technical Honor Society

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy student Eunice N. Kamau of Worcester will be inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) at an in-person ceremony to be held in the Spring. The outside event will mark the 7th annual induction ceremony for the Academy.

From 2021 to 2013, Kamau was a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at the Kindred Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. She became a direct support staff at BAMSI from 2013 to 2015, and a supervisor at the Advocates, Inc. from 2013 to 2015. She is certified in Dementia Care, completed a course on domestic violence, and is Mental Health First Aid certified.

Kamau believes that nursing is a noble profession “that focuses on patients and families’ well-being in all aspects includ-

ing but not limited to emotional, physical, spiritual, and psychological.” She is inspired to make a difference in people’s lives and looks forward to helping people regardless of geographical boundaries and abilities.

“Compassion is one of the most important attributes a nurse should possess,” stated Kamau, “along with empathy, and providing care in a dignified manner.”

Eligibility for induction to the NTHS is based on a minimum 3.0-grade point average, faculty recommendation, character, leadership, involvement in extracurricular activities, and clubs. These characteristics reflect the member attributes of the National Technical Honor Society which are skill, honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership.

According to Academy Director, Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, practical nursing students eagerly look forward to the NTHS induction ceremony each year. “Making it through nursing school is an achievement, being inducted into the NTHS is another feather in their cap! The PN students juggle school, work, and family life, it is quite a feat to be inducted to the NTHS,” said Bolandrina, who has been organizing the induction ceremony for the last 6 years.

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

Bay Path offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June.



Eunice Kamau

Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. For more information, visit www.baypath.net.

Bay Path alumna completes Associate’s Nursing degree at QCC

CHARLTON — Kiana McDonald, of Worcester (formerly of Southbridge) is one of the newest graduates of Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) Associate Degree Nursing Evening Program where she has been named on the dean’s list due to her excellent academic performance.

The QCC Associate Degree Nursing Program recognized the Class of 2021 graduates with a nurse pinning ceremony held on December 22, 2021. The graduates received an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and are eligible to sit for NCLEX-RN. McDonald celebrated her degree completion with the

Practical Nursing class of 2022 at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. Most recently McDonald hurdled the NCLEX-RN and passed the first try!

“It is wonderful that Kiana shared with the Bay Path community her academic progression and success with NCLEX-RN,” said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director. “She persevered and graduated during a pandemic!”

McDonald earned her ADN through the LPN to RN bridge pathway at QCC where she joined the esteemed Phi Theta Kappa. The recognition included a membership packet containing a certificate, pin, and other benefits. Membership to Phi Theta Kappa allows McDonald to build job skills, challenging academic pro-

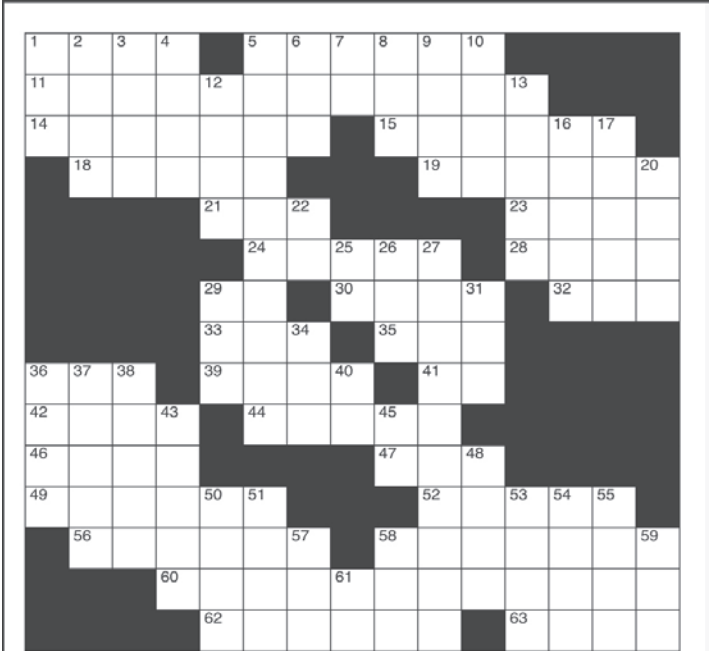
grams, scholarships, transfer support, and more. The mission of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize the academic achievement of college students and to provide opportunities for them to grow as scholars and leaders.

“I’ve gotten to know Kiana over the years and recognize her compassionate heart and servant leadership,” said Bolandrina. “Now, her perseverance and courage inspire and reassure me, she will continue to be a healthcare hero.”

McDonald received her Certificate in Practical Nursing at Bay Path Practical Nursing in 2017 and was inducted to the National Technical Honor Society. She has volunteered as an inspirational speaker to undergraduate classes and as skills laboratory assistant.

McDonald is working on

further academic progression towards her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the College of Our Lady of the Elms with an expected completion in 2023. McDonald is a 2013 Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School graduate. She is a State Bronze Medalist and District Gold Medalist for SkillsUSA both for Medical Terminology. She was a recipient of the \$500 Bay Path RVTHS Health Occupations Graduate Award and was an officer of the UNICEF Club. McDonald is Mental Health First Aid Certified. After her role as a charge nurse at the Webster Manor Rehabilitation and Health Care Center from 2017-2020, McDonald is currently with Maxim Healthcare as a staff nurse.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Constrictors

5. Abounding in rocks

11. Speed

14. German city

15. Lacking sympathy

18. Visionaries

19. Wastes away

21. One precursor to the EU

23. Nursemaid

24. Unconsciousnesses

28. Baby’s word for father

29. Equal to 64 US pints (abbr.)

30. Senses of self-importance

32. Midway between south and southwest

33. When you hope to get there
35. Electronic data processing

36. Passports and drivers’ licences are two

39. Fishes

41. Air Force

42. Personal computers

44. Ecological community

46. Wings

47. Halfway

49. Cool, calm and collected

52. Jewelled headdress

56. Musical composition

58. __ Falls

60. Repeating remarks

62. Periods in one’s life

63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

1. __ Humbug!

2. Devices that alert pilots (abbr.)

3. Grocer

4. One point east of southeast

5. Subjects to hostility

6. Work unit

7. Atomic #56

8. British thermal unit

9. “Elusive Butterfly” singer

10. Egg part

12. Device

13. Rechargeable power source

16. Ancient sage

17. Consist of two elements

20. “Pygmalion” writer

22. “The Centennial State” (abbr.)

25. Of I

26. Get older

27. Brotherhoods

29. Buzzing insect
31. Sunscreen rating

34. Brew

36. Leader

37. Indigo bush

38. Burn with a hot liquid

40. Junior’s dad

43. Horse mackerels genus

45. Morning

48. Unit of linear measurement (abbr.)

50. Double curve

51. Small, twisted bunch

53. Developed

54. Mars crater

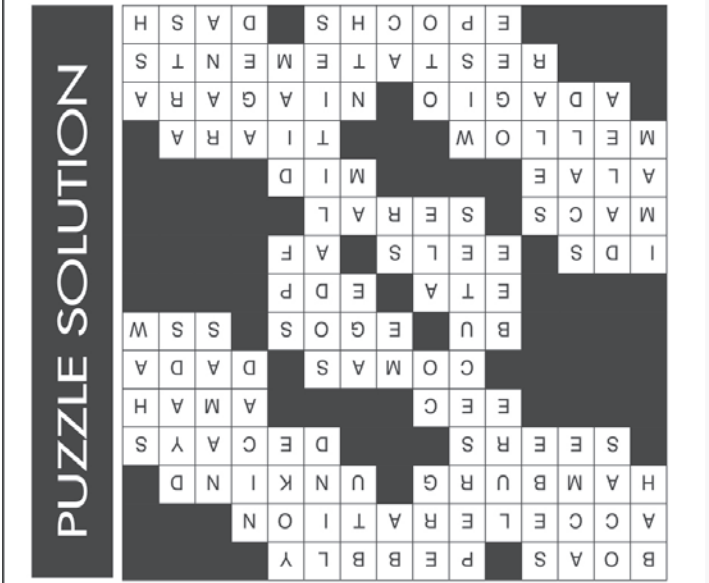
55. Humanistic discipline

57. Word element meaning ear

58. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series

59. Wood residue

61. It cools your home



Oxford Lions Club hosting membership drive

OXFORD — The Oxford Lions Club is part of the Lions Club International, the world’s largest service organization of men and women. As dedicated Lions, we are committed to serving the needs of our Oxford community. We have, since 1945, honored our commission from Helen Keller who challenged all Lions to be

the “knights of seeing and hearing impaired.”

The purpose of any Lions Club is to help all individuals in their community who do not have the money or finances to adequately address their issues with sight or hearing related problems.

The Oxford Lions Club meetings are held on the following days and times:

The First Monday evening of each month at 6 p.m. is a dinner meeting at Pine Ridge except during the winter.

The third Monday evening of each month at 6 p.m. is just a meeting at the Oxford Police Station.

for further details.

We appreciate donations at any time of the year. You may send your donations to: The Oxford Lions, P.O. Box 212, Oxford, MA 01540.

Local residents named to Clark University’s Fall 2021 Dean’s List

WORCESTER — The following local residents were named to Clark University’s Fall Dean’s List:

Meghan T. Hines, of Auburn was named to first honors.

Zoe E. Picard, of Auburn was named to second honors.

Daniel Alexander Mojica, of Auburn was named to first honors.

Neil T. Wykes, of Auburn was named to first honors.

Ashley D. Hayes, of Auburn was named to second honors.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow’s most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

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SUCCESS

continued from page A1

Base in their honor on Nov. 5, 2021.

Project Success, led by teacher Julie Tremblay and teacher’s aides Missi McConnell, Lisa Greene, Wendy Ceppetelli, Joyce Belvery, and Lori McCambridge, is a program at Oxford High School which provides hands on classroom work to children with various special needs. There are currently nine students from 8-12 grade who were excited to participate in this care package project, which doubled as a lesson on kindness and empathy for others. What began as a one-time project quickly turned into a favorite of the students, who plan to continue to build and send care packages.

The message from the teachers was one they say often: “We love what we do and our kids truly are the best!”



Felisters Mburu

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN said, “Feedback gathered from alumni especially the PN Class of 2021 was instrumental in shaping the decision to accept the invitation by Kristy Mannion, RN, Director of Nursing at MCI-Concord and North East Correctional Center and Wellpath at 954 Elm St., Concord’s medical and mental health facility.”

The establishment of a clinical obser-

vation agreement was seamless because of the assistance and enthusiasm of Director Mannion, the faculty and staff at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, and the support of the Superintendent’s office at Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District.

“It’s a win-win” said Bolandrina, who oversaw the year-long clinical observation design agreement and establishment.

The Corrections Nursing Observation, which was started on Term 2 in January 2022, drew the interest and participation of the entire 2022 cohort.

“Now, eight weeks into the 2022 cohort’s corrections nursing observation, the practical nursing students’ feedback are coming in positively,” said Bolandrina.

“The employment of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy alumni at the Department of Corrections right-ly engaged the PN Class of 2022 with

the best-practice approaches to corrections nursing,” Bolandrina said. “The Corrections facility is perhaps the best new example of other opportunities for the new LPNs and in meeting the needs of our population in these unprecedented times.”

The corrections nursing clinical observation involves required evidence-based research readings on corrections nursing, two full days of observation precepted by licensed corrections nurses, a meeting with Kristy Mannion, RN, Director of Nursing, and reflection paperwork to be submitted by a predetermined due date.

“What I heard from several PN students, was, ‘What a wonderful learning opportunity and gives us a chance to be even more successful.’” Bolandrina said. “Role modeling, seeing LPNs in the workplace. Our students are seeing our graduates. We are giving them a good glimpse of work in a correction setting.”

Bolandrina adds that the new corrections nursing clinical observation, “opens up new doors in our LPNs’ nursing journey. With correctional health nursing committed to the health and well-being of incarcerated individuals, I am excited for our LPNs to shine.”

According to Practical Nursing student Felisters Mburu of Shrewsbury, “Working as a correction nurse is a unique calling and it was my pleasure to interact with the whole team!”

After two days of observation and Mburu stated, “in the correction facility. . . the nurses have a responsibility for positively impacting lives despite the resource and security concerns for incarcerated patients.”

Further, Mburu adds “Effective care delivery implies that nurses must be compassionate to endure understanding and empathy to their patients. Such measures promote trust, ensure better outcomes, and promote job satisfaction for the correction nurses.”

Keeping the Commandery Sword in the family

SOUTHBIDGE — On Monday, Feb. 7, our monthly meeting was a memorable evening. The highlight of the evening was a visit by our most recent Past Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Masonic Lodge of Boston, he also is a 33rd degree Mason, and the Illustrious Deputy for the Massachusetts of the Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite, the Right Worshipful George Hamilton. Accompanying the Right Worshipful was his father, Bro. George Hamilton. Bro. George (the father) is a very young 94-year-old Master Mason, who

just finishing his degree work and has been raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason at the Grand Lodge of Boston 1 day class, this past October of 2021.

The reason for this trip out to Quinebaug Lodge by our two Brothers was to visit our own Past Master, Worshipful Harry Penniman. Bro. Harry is related to the Hamilton’s by blood, and he is related to Right Worshipful George Hamilton mothers, first cousin. This wasn’t any ordinary visit. The Brothers Hamilton visited Quinebaug Lodge for the purpose of making a presentation

to Wor. Penniman. In their possession was a very, very old Commandery Sword engraved with the Name of Harry Moore,

Turn To **MASONS** page **A14**

Photo Courtesy

Left to right: Wor. Master Bill Belanger of Quinebaug Lodge, Wor. Harry Penniman with his uncle’s shiny Commandery Sword in hand, the Right Worshipful George Hamilton Illustrious Deputy for Massachusetts Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite, and his very young 94-year-old father recently raised new Master Mason Bro. George Hamilton.



ABC’s of the Seasons ~ WINTER EDITION ANSWERS ~

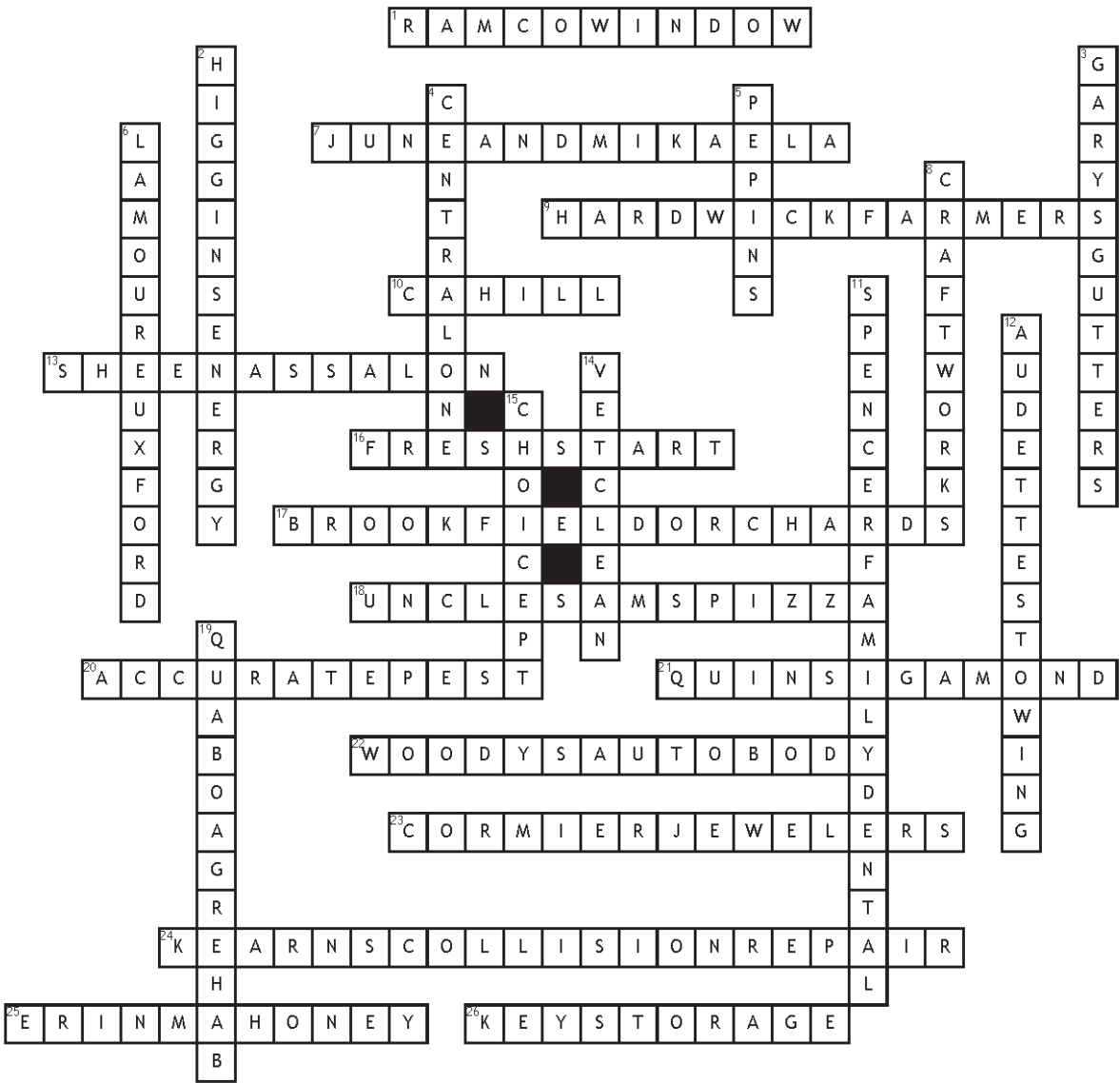
We hope you enjoyed our Winter ABC’s of the Season crossword puzzle. The randomly chosen winner of all the correct entries for a \$25 gift card is **C. Graves of Charlton**

Please continue to support these and all of your local businesses. Our next ABC’s of the Seasons will be our Spring Edition, coming out on April 29.

Thank you to all the ABC businesses and to those who completed our puzzle! If you would like a letter for spring, please contact your sales representative to see what is available.

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Blackstone Valley Tribune
Auburn News
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Mikaela
Southbridge News,
Sturbridge Villager
Webster Times
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- 7. Hopeful and confident about the future
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- 10. Big or small we do it all!
- 13. Valentine’s Day Gift Certificates
- 16. USDOT# 2407387
- 17. (closed for major snow storms)
- 18. Monthly specials
- 20. Call us for your free quote!
- 21. Apply Today!
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- 23. re-open at our new location 152 Main Street
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- 25. miketoomerealestate.net
- 26. Newly Opened!

DOWN

- 2. Wood heat is more affordable than you think
- 3. Cleaning ~ Repairs
- 4. Apply online or in-branch today
- 5. Winter Special
- 6. 366 E. Main Street, Rte. 9, East Brookfield
- 8. Full-Service Yarn Shop
- 11. Most insurances accepted
- 12. 24 hr. Roadside Assistance
- 14. scuffs & paintless dent removals
- 15. Free injury evaluation
- 19. Check out our team on Facebook

OBITUARIES

Catherine R. “Kay” (Cerrone) Lemerise, 103

Catherine R. “Kay” (Cerrone) Lemerise, 103, of Auburn and Lighthouse Point, Florida, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 with her loving son, Gary, at her side.

She was born and raised in Worcester daughter of the late Antonio and Teresa (Marcoccio) Cerrone. Kay lived in Worcester for many years before moving to Auburn in 1952 where she and her husband raised their two sons.

During World War II, Kay had worked at Norton Company. She later worked for thirteen years at the former Yankee Drummer Inn and retired from T.J. Maxx in Auburn after fourteen years of ser-

vice to that company.

While Kay lived in Auburn, she was a member of Saint Joseph’s Church and its former Women’s League. She also was a member of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Lighthouse Point, FL. While her husband was living, Kay was an active member of the Cherry Valley American Legion Auxiliary #443 and the Disabled American Veteran’s Auxiliary #4. She also loved being on the former Auburn Knights of Columbus Bowling team with Arthur.

She spent the snowy winters in Florida and the beautiful summers boating with her son Gary on Webster Lake in Webster, MA since 1993. Kay enjoyed playing bingo and cards with her friends, and loved watching the Red Sox and Patriots games.

Kay’s beloved husband of 45 years, Arthur A. Lemerise, died in 1992. She leaves her loving son and caretaker, Gary A. Lemerise, of Lighthouse Point, FL; three grandchildren, Shawn M. Lemerise and his wife Reka Salgunan, of Ardsley, NY, Mark R. Lemerise and his husband Morgan Suckow, of NYC, and Sarah A. Lemerise, of Boston; two great-grandchildren, Kiran and Karthik Lemerise, of Ardsley, NY; a sister, Natalie Aspero, of Shrewsbury; her sisters-in-law, Janet and Anna Cerrone, to whom she remained very close; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. Besides her husband Arthur, Catherine was also predeceased by a son, Dennis R. Lemerise, in 2009; her daughter-in-law, Patty Lemerise, in 1998; two brothers, Albert and Anthony Cerrone; and two

sisters, Mary Breault and Helen Tyan.

Her family would like to thank the many doctors over the years who cared for Kay, as well as to thank the VITAS Hospice Team, the caregivers who work for them, and, especially, to Emma and Priscylla for their loving care.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday, February 19, 2022 in Saint Joseph’s Church, 189 Oxford Street North, Auburn. Burial followed at Hillside Cemetery, Auburn. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Disabled American Veteran’s Association (www.dav.org).

To leave a note of condolence for Kay’s family or to share a fond memory, please visit <http://brittonfuneralhomes.com>



BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – As the country nears the two-year anniversary of the dawn of the COVID-19 pandemic the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee made the announcement on Feb. 9 that masks will no longer be mandated in schools starting on Feb. 28.

Following the declaration by DESE Commissioner Jeffrey Riley and Gov. Charlie Baker, the Dudley Charlton School Committee and Superintendent Steven Lamarche confirmed support for the move on that same evening. The Committee followed suit with countless other school districts across the region and tri-state area by officially announcing that as of Feb. 28, masks will be optional for students in school and for anyone attending School Committee meetings. However, Lamarche acknowl-

edged this is not a complete departure from COVID norms. While masks in schools will be optional, there are still some limits that students will have to follow.

“There are some details that we’ll send out to the community that are still requirements. One of them is the federal mandate (to wear masks) on school buses. The other is if you are positive coming back to school for the subsequent five days you have to wear a mask, but I think the overall sentiment is the important one,” said Lamarche.

While the announcement was met with applause from parents in attendance, the displeasure with the implementation of a mask mandate remained for some parents and member of Charlton Dudley United, an organization of parents who have come together to denounce the school committee’s inaction on numerous issues since 2021.

Timothy Paquette, one of the most vocal parents at school committee meetings month after month, shared his

frustration despite the welcome news of the expiring mask mandate.

“No more mask mandates, no more testing, no more vaccine requirements. Freedom of choice has to be the only way forward, and this absolutely absurd abuse of our children can never happen again,” said Paquette.

Kate Berry, a parent from Charlton, was pleased to hear that the mask mandate would end but also felt that damage had already been done to children’s mental health.

“I am happy (the children) will get to exchange smiles with their friends again and start to repair the damage that has been done,” said Berry. “The real pandemic now lies with their mental health. Our children need to stop thinking of themselves as vectors of disease obsessed with masking, hand sanitizer, and zombie like walking to ensure proper distancing from the child in front of them. Simply, the masking of healthy children has created unhealthy minds. The virus has never

been a threat to our children. They have always been the least at risk, yet they have borne the burden since March of 2020 for the adults who have made this about politics and not about health.”

In accordance with the announcement by DESE, the lifting of the mask mandate also eliminates the requirement for districts to request a waiver from DESE to remove masks in schools buildings where 80 percent of staff and students are vaccinated. DESE said that “masking will be a community choice in schools across the Commonwealth, regardless of vaccination rates within a school” however districts will be allowed to establish their own local requirements. Judging by the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee’s announcement, it does not appear there will be no district-specific requirements to continue requiring masks outside of federal mandates in the foreseeable future.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Mary J. Amaral to Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, a subsidiary of IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., dated March 28, 2007 and registered at the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry District of the Land Court as document number 92126, and noted on certificate of title number 15549 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (“MERS”), its successors and assigns, as nominee for Financial Freedom Acquisition LLC, registered on November 25, 2009, Document No. 96802, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 15549 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (“MERS”), as nominee for Financial Freedom Acquisition LLC, its successors and assigns to CIT Bank, N.A., its successors and assigns, registered on October 29, 2015, Document No. 107908, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 15549 CIT Bank, N.A. to Mortgage Assets Management, LLC, registered on November 30, 2018, Document No. 113385, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 15549 Mortgage Assets Management, LLC to Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Mortgage Assets Management Series I Trust, registered on October 18, 2019, Document No. 114930, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 15549

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 4:00 PM on March 4, 2022, on the mortgaged premises located at 6 George Street, Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT: The land with the buildings thereon in Auburn, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: Northerly by George Street one hundred seventy-one and 17/100 (171.17) feet; Easterly by lot Q as shown on a plan hereinafter described twenty-nine and 88/100 (29.88) feet; Southeasterly one hundred six and 54/100 (106.54) feet, and Southerly ninety-eight and 03/100 (98.03) feet by lot P-4 on said plan; and Westerly by 11 P-8 on said plan one hundred (100) feet.

All of said boundaries are determined by the Court to be located as shown on sub-division plan 1154-23 drawn by H.B. Cullinan, Surveyor, dated August 1947 as modified and approved by the Court, filed in the Land Registration Office, a copy of a portion of which is filed with Land Registration Certificate 3553. Being lot P-9 on said plan. The land above described is subject to and has the benefit of the provisions of the deed from John Stone et al, to Josiah H. Chaffee dated August 16, 1875, recorded with Worcester District Deeds, Book 958, Page 496. Being the premises conveyed to Mary J. Amaral by deed dated June 28, 2005, recorded as document number 88382 certificate number 15549. For mortgagor’s(s’) title see deed registered with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 88382, as noted on Certificate of Title No. 15549. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale. BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST Present holder of said mortgage By its Attorneys, HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C. 150 California St. Newton, MA 02458 (617)558-0500

10946
February 11, 202
February 18, 2022
February 25, 2022

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Amy B. Hasting and Marc A. Messina, to Bank of America, N.A., dated October 4, 2007, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41910 at Page 335, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment from Bank of America, N.A. to Green Tree Servicing, LLC, dated January 14, 2014, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51963, Page 104; by assignment from Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green Tree Servicing, LLC to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF10 Master Participation Trust, dated October 30, 2018 recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 59619, Page 86; by assignment from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but solely as Trustee for LSF10 Master Participation Trust to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Igloo Series IV Trust dated October 16, 2020, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 63739, Page 126; and by an assignment from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Igloo Series IV Trust to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Bungalow Series IV Trust, dated January 8, 2021, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 64264, Page 356, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 2:00 P.M. on the 14th day of March 2022, at 4 Vincent Street, Auburn, MA 01501, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, To wit:

Property Address: 4 Vincent Street, Auburn, MA 0 1501
Tax Assessor’s Information: Map 12 Parcel 150
The following land with the buildings thereon in Auburn located on the southerly side of Vincent Street, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the southerly line of Vincent Street, One Hundred Fifty (150’) feet easterly from the easterly line of Oxford Street; Thence running southerly by Lot Number 15 on a Plan of Prospect Heights

House Lots, Worcester District Deeds, Plan Book 24, Plan 57, One Hundred Two and Six Tenths (102.6’) feet to land now or formerly of the Stoneville Company; Thence easterly by land of said Company Seventy One and One Hundredth (70.01’) feet to a point; Thence turning at right angles and running northerly One Hundred Three and forty-nine Hundredths (103.49’) feet, more or less, to the said line of Vincent Street; Thence running westerly by said line of Vincent Street, Seventy (70’) feet to the point of beginning, and being Lot Number 16 and a portion of Lot Number 20 as shown on said plan. For title reference see that deed of Daniel M. Hastings, Mary Ann Ulevich, Terrence J. Hastings, John J. Hastings, Michael R. Hastings to Amy B. Hastings and Marc A. Messina, deed dated 5/1/1998 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds on 6/18/1998 in Book 20076, Page 387. Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Demerle Hoeger LLP, 10 City Square, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Bungalow Series IV Trust, Present holder of said mortgage, By its Attorneys, Demerle Hoeger LLP 10 City Square, 4th Floor Boston, MA 02129 (617) 337-4444

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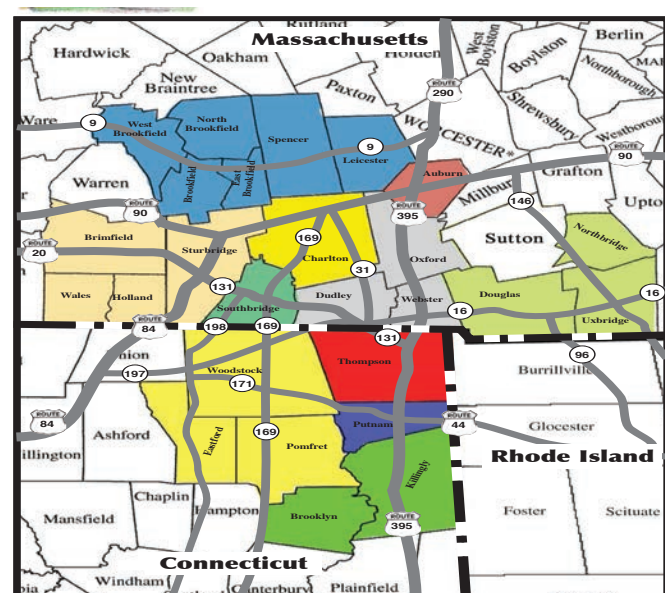
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OPINION/COMMENTARY



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Leave the phone ‘til last in the morning

Most weeks, our Editorial space is typically something our staff is curious about. While the subject of cell phone and screen addiction comes up often, this week, there was a noticeable shift in our view on the topic after receiving a wise tip.

That tip was to ignore your phone, don't even look at it, until 30 minutes after you wake up. In that time, sit down, have your morning coffee and read a book. When you start to scroll on your phone just after waking up, you put yourself into what's called a passive scrolling phase, which can derail your entire day and ward off productivity.

A few days into following this new advice, and there is a noticeable sense of comfort and relaxation that can carry you throughout your day. It's like taking 30 minutes every morning to get back to the basics and recall simpler times.

Most people feel like they are in control of their phone use, but are you? How can you determine if you have a phone addiction, or are just part of the modern era grind? We've said it before, and we'll say it again, nothing beats the days of watching Jeopardy uninterrupted, without the pressure of responding to a ding from your phone.

In 2011, only 35 percent of the population owned smartphones, now 81 percent do. It is our main form of communication, so much so that now there is a term called nomophobia, or the fear of going without your phone.

Excessive cell phone use is a huge problem for many. As far as addiction goes, some experts say the dopamine connection the phone offers can be linked to something akin to a drug addiction. The triggering of that chemical in your brain, reinforces compulsive behavior. When we can't predict when we will receive a text or a "like" on social media, we check our phones more often.

Adolescents are more vulnerable to this problem than any other age group. Excessive use in that age group is such an issue that most teenagers never turn off their phones. Experts say that the younger a child has access to a phone, the sooner the problems begin. Problematic cell phone use is linked to low self esteem, low impulse control, depression and anxiety.

Signs you may have a phone addiction could be that you reach for your phone if you're bored, you feel anxious or upset if you can't get to your phone, you wake throughout the night to check it, or your phone has caused you to get into an accident. Other signs could be that you spend most of your waking hours on your phone, and that it interferes with personal relationships or work.

When trying to focus on work, or any task, you are significantly disrupted and your concentration is thrown off.

Ways to break the addiction in order to fix your relationships, your health and other responsibilities include figuring out if there is a larger issue as to why you're using your phone so much. Are you avoiding something else bigger? Resolving the larger issue at hand, could cause a decrease in phone use.

Change your settings to remove notifications and other alerts, set your screen to dark mode at night, keep your phone out of sight and never charge it in your bedroom. After a certain time, set your phone up so that only emergency contacts can get through to you, everyone else can wait. Try replacing games on your phone with real in person games, or develop a hobby you've been wanting to try. Too much cell phone use can develop into a loss of control.

There have been some experiments where people have gone two days without their phones. Some people choose to give up their phones all together, while others make significant changes to reduce use.

The potential risk of depression, insomnia and lack of productivity just isn't worth it. Think back to pre cell phone times. While there are safety benefits to having a phone, we don't need to be connected 24/7, and we don't NEED to respond or answer our phones just because they ding.

Your responsibility is to yourself and it's wild how much you can get done if you just unplug. Take a breather, shut your phone completely off for 15 minutes and see how you feel. If you do try this trick, send us an email and let us know what you find.



Should you restore your antiques?

Most clients I meet are aware that they shouldn't try to clean, polish, shine or refinish antiques and collectibles. However, there are times when this typically taboo antique practice is actually acceptable, and even encouraged.

Despite a recent drop in antique furniture prices, period pieces from the early 1800s and prior, mid-century modern furniture and Mission oak are three types that still sell well. As you might expect, there are often issues with old furniture from the late 1700s or early 1880s. Many years of use, along with the natural drying of the wood, can cause cracks, breaks and splitting. With valuable pieces, it is best to hire a restoration company that specializes in restoring antiques. With other less valuable pieces, people often repair, restore or modify them to suit their taste. If you have furniture where a piece has broken off and you want to repair it, wood glue is preferable to Gorilla glue, especially if there's a chance you may resell it in the future.

When refinishing, it's best not to strip the piece so much that you've gone through all the layers and it looks like new wood. Unless you plan to paint it, that is. Once again, you should confirm that pieces aren't valuable before you make any of these changes.

Antique paintings are another item that often need restoration. If you like the painting and are keeping it for yourself, it may not matter to you whether it's valuable or not. But if you have a valuable painting by a listed artist, you may want to have it relined, a process where a second canvas is attached to a weak, old canvas. It is used when the



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
• • • • •
WAYNE TUISKULA

painting is deteriorating or damaged. Some restorers prefer not to reline paintings though and instead try to only repair tears or other damage. Inpainting is another method used by restorers to paint the areas where paint is missing. If you are planning to sell your painting, my advice is to sell it as is and let the buyer do whatever restoration they'd like.

While some people suggest using various cleaning methods to clean coins, they are the one collectible I always suggest leaving as is. If you decide to sell them, the buyer will probably leave them alone, but can clean them with a method of their choosing if they want. It's also important to note that oils from skin can damage coins, so it's best to hold them by the edges. Gloves can also be used for added protection. Coins that haven't been cleaned will put more change in your pocket when you sell them.

We are still accepting consignments for our spring multi-estate auction. Registration is currently underway for my "Evaluating your antiques" class at Bay Path's adult evening school on Wednesday, March 23. More auctions and other events are also being planned. Please see our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> to join our email list or follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on auctions and other events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula
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Flower Power Part II

The months of February and March, bring with them the anticipation of sunny days to come. And for New Englanders, the long awaited warm weather promises a new season of flowers. Last week, this column featured information on how flowers have the power to alter moods. This week, we'll explore how certain blooms effect our energy and emotions, as well as delve into some intriguing legends and superstitions of days gone by.

Need a nudge to bring more flowers into your life in 2023? Read on for round two of the virtues of flowers!

*** * ***

Beneficial Blossoms

"Flower Power" takes on new meaning when you understand fresh flowers have the capacity to alter our energy and emotions. Why not take the benefits of the flower garden one step further and plant specifically to improve both body and soul?

*** Lavender:** Want to relax? Plant lavender. The scent of lavender prompts calmness. Studies report that the smell of lavender triggers alpha waves in the part of the brain associated with a relaxed state.

*** Roses:** No flower is more sentimental than the romantic rose. And it's no wonder. The scent of roses evokes nostalgia, which can recall happy memories from the past.

*** Violets:** Research shows violets enhance learning speed by 17%, and also improve concentration when used in study rooms.

*** Lilies:** Need an energy boost? The scent of Lily has been proven to increase wakefulness and help you stay alert.

*** * ***

Legends and Lore of the Blooms

Flowers have long played a role in our everyday lives and according to folklore, perhaps even our futures. The "magical" power of blooms is legendary, as the following superstitions suggest:

Romance:

Daisies: Perhaps the most familiar floral "predictor" of love is the daisy. Plucking



TAKE
THE
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KAREN
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off petals one by one while reciting "He (or she) loves me, he loves me not," has long served as an amusing indicator of requited love.

*** * ***

Bachelor Buttons: Folklore may explain how these bright blue and purple cornflowers earned their name. Legend has it that young suitors would place freshly picked flowers in their pocket while courting. If the "bachelor buttons" remained fresh and unwilted for the duration, it was a sure sign the relationship is on a steady course of success!

*** * ***

Roses: Romantic lore claims rose petals helped young ladies of earlier eras choose between two or more suitors. Writing the name of each prospective husband the petals and tossing them to the wind, it is said the last petal to hit the ground holds the name of the one she shall marry.

*** * ***

Luck:

Primrose Etc.: Superstition has it that bouquets of flowers should always contain an odd number of blooms, lest bad luck be lured. This belief especially applies to primroses, as the English believed the flowers should be only be brought into the house in groups of 13 to ensure good fortune.

*** * ***

Daffodils: Perky yellow daffodils can be an instant mood booster, but according to Welsh folklore the flower can also bring wealth. It is said the first person who spots a spring daffodil will be rewarded with prosperity throughout the year!

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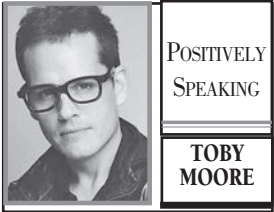
Roses: To bring good luck into a home in days of yore, rose leaves were tossed into the fireplace flame.

*** * ***

Superstitions for Health and Well Being

White Flowers: White blooms are beautiful, but they can carry a melancholy

Switch your focus



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

TOBY
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I talked to a close friend the other day, and when I asked him how he was doing, he declared, "I'm terrible." He went on to say how awful his life was. It didn't matter what he talked about; he had a negative take on it. I asked him if he was pursuing his dreams, and his response was, "I don't have time." he proceeded to give me a list of excuses as to why he wasn't able to follow his dreams and pursue anything worthwhile. He felt trapped; he felt like he was going nowhere.

I just listened and tried to share a few laughs. I've learned that people don't always want a pep talk; some people want to be in a dark place, and any positive thought to the contrary seems like a fairy tale.

When he described his life, I saw all the reasons why his situation was perfect to follow his dreams, but he could only see why it wasn't. Granted, I'm not in his shoes, and I'll never know what he's going through. While that is true, we only need to look at history to see that people have lived in much worse situations than most modern-day Americans and still have gone on to achieve unbelievable victories.

It boils down to what you concentrate on and what you think about most.

When you see a giant standing in your path and want to defeat it, do you focus on how big and strong it is? Or do you focus on how slow it is and how hard it's going to fall?

So many of us overlook the good stuff and only see the bad. We only see the evil in the world, and we rarely recognize the good.

If all you think about is the problems, the obstacles, the barriers, the stumbling blocks, and why you cannot overcome them, then you never will; you won't even try.

On the contrary, if you think of victory and why you can rise above circumstances, new possibilities will emerge, and opportunities will arise that you otherwise wouldn't have noticed. What you choose to focus on is probably the most crucial factor in accomplishing your dreams.

What you believe about your future is everything. What you think about your future usually results from focusing on victory or defeat.

Some would argue that our thoughts have nothing to do with the outcome of a situation. It seems to me they have everything to do with it. If you don't believe you can accomplish what you want. You'll become a victim of circumstance and be blown by whichever direction the wind blows.

When you go through your day feeling frustrated, stressed out, constantly complaining, and thinking about all your problems, you won't imagine the possibilities. If all you do is amplify the negative, you'll never live with faith. When you cannot live in faith, you aren't living up to your potential.

When you're having trouble believing, think of this quote by Napoleon Hill, "What the human mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve."

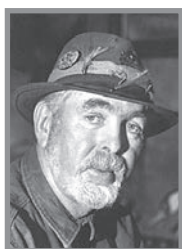
When you begin to believe, motivation will come, inspiration will take hold, you'll become a more dynamic person, you'll start to realize all the reasons why you can, and you'll begin to move towards the life you want.

When you venture into the land of giants intending to take their land, you must only focus on all the reasons why you can defeat them. Never think of why you cannot. Your mind is where you'll fight the most significant battle.

Although it can be difficult to stop focusing on the negative in your life, it's not as difficult as you think. It's as easy as changing your mind. We all change our minds every day. When you change your mind to the positive and leave the negative life behind, you've changed; you've changed the structure of your brain and have started to walk down the path of becoming a different person.

When the sun rises again tomorrow, you have the chance to change your expectations and the way you think. You'll have the opportunity to think of all the reasons you can. When you do that, you will be moving in the right direction.

Eastern States Exposition Sportsmen's Show opens today



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The Eastern States Exposition Sportsmen's show will open its doors this Friday Feb. 25, at noon at the Big -E in Springfield, Mass.! The show will be a great place to be for outdoors men and women after the stresses of the Covid virus. Doug Sousa, promoter of the show, is as excited as sportsmen are to once again meet exhibitors and the general public, to what is going to be a great show, with many exhibitors demonstrating and selling their newest products during the three-day event.

Numerous outfitters will be taking reservations for hunting and fishing trips for the 2022 season. The latest in fishing equipment will also be on display for all in attendance. See you there! Check out their web site for all of the events planned for this year's show. Be sure to bring the whole family for a fun day!

The Marine Fisheries proposal to cut the days or limits for catching seabass in both Massachusetts & Rhode Island, has many anglers upset. Recreational fishing limits and size requirements for numerous species of fish in saltwater is crazy, and politics is what is driving both the recreational and commercial fishing limits to a breaking point. Party boats and six pack boats are going to be put out of business, if the current poli-



Photos Ralph True

Big bear at last year's show at the Big -E.

cies continue.

Ice fishing is coming to an end on local ponds and lakes, if the present weather conditions continue. Hazzard ice on many ponds is downright dangerous, and only seasoned anglers should attempt to continue fishing. Many local ponds and lakes needed to be navigated with extreme caution this past week, with wood planks being used to get to safe ice for the first few feet or more. With school vacation starting, parents need to warn their children about the hazards of thin ice, and for them to stay off the ice without adult supervision. Every year, some family loses a child to hazardous ice condi-



This week's second picture shows my brother Ken with Bigfoot at last year's show, at the Big E.

tions. Do not let it be yours.

The Whitinsville Fish & Game Club is planning a corned beef and cabbage supper on March 19. You are advised to get your tickets early, as only 80 tickets will be sold. The Whitinsville club and the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club sold all of their wild game supper tickets early, with many being left out this year. The popular suppers are getting harder to acquire tickets for every year. Most Rod & Gun Clubs have some excellent cooks, and the meals are delicious.

Deer sightings are being reported every day with a group of at least 12 deer being observed at a local building

sight one morning, as the work crew entered the fenced in premises. After numerous attempts by some of the deer to clear the fence, they all escaped unhurt, but it was a bit chaotic for a few minutes. Fortunately, they all ran off into the woods, and not across the road which was nearby. Fisher Cats are in their breeding season, and sightings are being reported almost every day. Their populations are growing every year in the valley.

This year, I solved my mouse problem in my sheds in the back yard. I took a five-gallon pail and drilled two holes in the top rim directly across from each other. Next, I took a wire coat hanger and straightened it out and inserted one end into one of the top holes, and pushed it through to the other hole. I then drilled two holes in a soda can, one on each end and inserted the wire through the can so that it would spin on the wire. I bent the wire on each end so that it could not fall off. I poured approximately one-half gallon of window washer into the pail. Next, I smeared a coating of peanut butter on the can.

I then took a piece of plywood to make a ramp from the floor to the ridge of the pail and secured it with a couple of screws. Placing a small amount of peanut butter on the ramp from bottom to top, and I was ready to test the contraption out. Within two days, I had at least a dozen mice in the bottom of the pail. When they tried to eat the peanut butter on the can, it would spin knocking them off, and into the bottom of the pail. No more poison and mouse traps for me. Give it a try! It works.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



GARDEN
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Raise your garden to new heights for easier access and greater productivity. Raised beds allow you to overcome poor soil by creating the ideal growing mix. They also make gardening more comfortable thanks to less bending and kneeling.

Whether you purchase a kit or build your own, there are a few things to consider when creating a raised bed garden.

Locate the garden in a sunny area if possible. Most plants require at least six hours of sun, and vegetables like tomatoes, peppers and melons produce best with a full day of sunlight.

Select a long-lasting material such as interlocking block, field-stone, plastic lumber or naturally long-lasting wood like cedar. The material selected will influence the shape and size of your garden. Some materials allow for curved beds while others are limited to squares, rectangles, and other angular shapes.

Design your raised bed to fit your space and your needs. A three- or four-foot width makes it easy to reach all parts of the garden for planting, weeding, and harvesting. Raising your

planting bed at least eight to twelve inches improves drainage and provides an adequate space for most plants to root and grow. If you want to minimize bending, go higher. Add benches to increase your gardening comfort and ease.

Roughen or loosen the existing soil surface if your bed is built on compact, slow-draining soil. This will allow water to readily move from the raised bed into the soil below. Cover the bottom of the bed with newspaper or cardboard, if needed, to suffocate existing weeds and grass.

Line the bottom of your raised bed with hardware cloth to reduce the risk of animals burrowing into your garden. Lay the hardware cloth over the ground and bend it up along the inside of the raised bed walls.

Fill the bed with a quality growing mix that is well drained but also able to retain moisture and nutrients. This may be a mixture of quality topsoil and compost, a high-quality potting mix, or a planting mix designed specifically for raised bed gardens.

Grow any plants that you normally would grow in ground. Just make sure the

plants are suited to the growing conditions – sunlight, heat, and wind – in your area. Since the soil mix and drainage is ideal in a raised garden, you will be able to grow more plants per square foot. Just be sure to leave sufficient room for plants to reach their mature size.

Keep your plants healthy and productive with proper watering. This is critical for growing any garden, but even more crucial in a fast draining raised bed. The simple act of raising the garden height increases drainage, and a raised bed filled with planting mix means more frequent watering. Consider using drip irrigation or soaker hoses for watering ease. Always water thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry.

Add some mulch to help reduce watering and the need for other garden maintenance. Spread a layer of evergreen needles, pine straw, shredded leaves, or other organic matter over the soil surface. This helps conserve moisture, suppresses weeds and adds nutrients and organic matter to the soil as it decomposes. You'll spend less time watering and weeding throughout the season.

Add an organic fertilizer at



Photo Melinda Myers

Raised beds provide gardeners the opportunity to overcome poor soil, resulting in more productive gardens.

planting if your planting mix does not already contain one. Apply again mid-season if the plants need a nutrient boost. Always follow the label directions on the fertilizer container.

The time and effort invested in creating raised beds will be returned many times over with years of healthy and productive gardens.

Melinda Myers has writ-

ten more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* 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 & Blooms* magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

TRAINOR

continued from page A8

message, according to age old folklore. Think twice before you send a bouquet of white flowers to a sick friend in the hospital as legend claims whites with a strong fragrance can worsen a sickness! Ditto for white flowers that show signs of wilting. And never pair white and red flowers in a bouquet for a sick person, as according to Victorian superstition the combination is said to bring bad luck.

**

Day Lilies: These bright orange flowers, common to the New England landscape, were considered a lucky health charm when worn. It was believed wearing a lily would lighten one's worries and lessen distress.

**

Poppies: While wearing a poppy in the lapel on Veteran's day has long been a tradition to honor those who served and died for their country. Poppies were also worn in the belief they help dispel worries and anxiety.

**

Upcoming Holiday Flowers:
St. Patrick's Day: Green Carnations

A bouquet of green carnations symbolizes and celebrates the Luck of the Irish! Considered the St. Patrick's Day flower (the shamrock is the St. Pat's

plant), green carnations are a common sight in the lapel of proud Irish celebrants. Not only worn as a boutonniere, a single green carnation (which signifies friendship and admiration) has also been associated with social fondness. In bygone days, it was common for students in the Northeast to gift each other the flowers during the Irish holiday.

Paired with seasonal greenery, the colorful green carnation is a popular St. Patty's Day centerpiece.

**

Easter: The Lily

The Easter Lily symbolizes innocence, purity and virtue as the gorgeous white flowers reflect the spiritual aspect of Easter. Legend tells of lilies growing in the garden of Gethsemane – springing up where Christ's drops of sweat fell during his final agony. Each year at Easter, pots of white lilies grace the alters of Christian churches. While the Easter Lily is a symbol of the holiday, the seasonal perennial flower can be planted and enjoyed for years to come. To do:

After the plant is done blooming, trim off dead foliage and plant it outside when ground is thawed. Lilies like a sunny area with well drained soil. Give the plant plenty of water and add an all purpose fertilizer. It probably won't flower again until the next

year, but replanting the Easter Lily rewards the gardener with years of beautiful blooms!

**

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.

BAY PATH STUDENTS SUPPORT VETERAN BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Photo Courtesy

Students in Rick Carrero's history class have been working to help a local World War II veteran memorably celebrate his birthday. JoAnn Bucko Frizado recently announced on Facebook that she was hoping to collect 102 birthday cards for her father, Joseph Bucko, who would be celebrating his 102nd birthday in March. Pictured are stu-

dents in Mr. Carrero's class helping achieve this goal. Student Julian Mucci stated that, "Writing a letter to a veteran for his birthday feels special because I write my grandpa a card every Veteran's Day. The thing I like about writing the most is it really gets your brain working, thinking about how to word things properly and not send the wrong message. Reaching out to really anyone on their birthday just makes you and the other person feel well." Another student, Ryan Dawson, said "I am honored that I got to make a birthday card for a veteran. My great, great-grandfather served in World War II, and my grandfather served as well, and it feels good to do something for someone who has done so much for others." Pictured are students Marishka Piltzecker, Julian Mucci, Reyna Gonzalez, Ryan Dawson, Evan Gunnard, and Matt Chatterton.

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SPORTS

Resilient Rockets battle until final second in loss to Northbridge

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

NORTHBRIDGE — Having buried a staggering nine 3-pointers at Veterans Memorial Field House on Monday, Feb. 21, Auburn High's Logan Bostock was certainly feeling it from distance. But Bostock needed one more to keep the Rockets alive in their game against the Northbridge High boys' varsity basketball team.

Trailing by four points with 4.8 seconds showing on the clock, Auburn's Owen Fitzgerald went to the free throw line. He made the first foul shot and purposefully missed the second. Fitzgerald gathered his own miss and passed the ball out to Bostock. From there, Bostock took a step backward — to beyond the 3-point arc — and heaved a desperation 3-point attempt with a hand in his face at the buzzer.

The shot didn't drop, and the seventh seeded Rockets went home losing a 63-60 decision to the second ranked Rams in

the quarterfinals of the Large School Division of the Central Mass. Boys' Basketball Classic, in lieu of the cancelled Clark Tournament.

"It was an awesome, great, tightly-contested old-school battle. Credit to Northbridge, when they had to make a couple plays they made them and we came up a little bit short at the end," said Auburn head coach Dan Koen. "We can definitely use this as a learning moment — have the confidence to shoot and we just have to make those little plays at the end."

This can be a learning moment for the Rockets because their season isn't over. Having gone 10-10, they have automatically qualified for the upcoming Division 3 State Tournament.

"We were 3-8 and went 7-1 in our last eight games," Bostock said of the team's turnaround before turning attention toward his personal play. "Through the season my confidence went up."

Bostock hit one 3-point-er in the first quarter ver-



Auburn's Owen Fitzgerald has a half-step on Northbridge's Cam Boucher on his way to the basket for a layup.

sus the Rams and then buried four more in the second. Bostock then scored eight points in the third quarter — on a pair of 3-pointers and a basket from the interior — before netting two more treys in the final frame. He finished with a game-high 29 points.

"I felt pretty confident.

It was a playoff game, so it was pretty big for me," said Bostock, whose nine 3-pointers was a career high.

"This was his first big-time basketball and you can see that Logan can shoot with the best of them," added Koen.

Fitzgerald (15 points) and Jordan McFadden



Logan Bostock of Auburn stops in transition before firing off a shot.

(12 points) also had strong games against Northbridge, and Koen is proud of his group for battling back in the middle of the season to reach the playoffs.

"COVID and injuries kind of hit us a little bit, so it took us a little to find our stride. In the past three weeks, maybe, the COVID ran through

us and the injury bug escaped us, and we have a bunch of hard-working kids. They improved and it meant a lot to us," he said. "When we were losing those games, we kept our heads up. We knew it was a long season and knew that we had some talent."



Auburn's Jordan McFadden simultaneously drives and dishes the ball to the outside.

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SPORTS

Minutemen take lessons from late season loss to strong Monty Tech squad

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

CHARLTON — Sure, no high school basketball team hopes to lose late in the regular season with the playoffs looming. But for Bay Path Regional, the girls' varsity squad is taking lessons learned from a 59-31 setback to a strong Monty Tech team back on Wednesday, Feb. 16.

"We've got to move the ball a little bit better," explained John Selen, head coach of the Minutemen. "We get stuck with the dribble a few times when we get focused on trying to execute a play, when really it's a lot of ball movement and trying to extend the defense to try to get an easy shot."

Bay Path opened the game against the Bulldogs on a 5-0 run — "We came out and were looking pretty good," Selen acknowledged — but from there Monty Tech took over. Ari Saladini scored 13 points in the opening quarter, and at the end of the frame the Bulldogs pulled ahead, 18-9.

"They're a real good team. They've got their star player, she got her 1,000th point a few weeks back. She's an all-around player. She's tough, she's big, and she hits the 3s," Selen said of Monty Tech and Saladini. "We tried every single defense that we had other than a box-and-one. They have enough outside shooters where if we went to a box-and-one they would have torched us."

The Minutemen didn't employ the box-and-one defense on Saladini because teammate Bailey Tammamaro was a more than capable scorer. She finished with 19 points, includ-



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Kendall Bond (24) and Bethany Lasell tightly defend Monty Tech's Jayda Decarlo.

ing a trio of made 3-pointers. And Saladini — with the size of a forward plus the handles and shooting of a guard — finished with a double-double of 24 points, including four made 3-pointers, and 11 rebounds.

Monty Tech (13-5) led at half-time, 30-13, and through three quarters, 43-21, before winning by 28 points.

The loss dropped Bay Path to 13-6 and they lost the following night in its regular season finale versus Worcester Tech, 53-50. The Minutemen will take their 13-7 record into the Division 4 State Tournament, which

gets underway next week. And although his team won't square off with the Bulldogs — Monty Tech will compete in the Division 3 State Tourney — Selen knows that Bay Path will be matched up against another quality opponent in the playoffs.

"We're just on the cusp of being in, so we're going to be playing a team like this," he said, as the Minutemen's current power ranking is No. 35.

Selen noted that his three freshmen starters of Alison Welton, Kendall Bond and Hannah Cavan will need to rely



Alison Welton of Bay Path avoids contact from a Monty Tech defender and puts up a shot.

on their recent playing experience when competing against bigger, more tournament-tested teams.

Against Monty Tech, Bond

scored 11 points and pulled down 11 rebounds, Welton scored 10 points and collected five boards, and Cavan corralled five rebounds.

Murphy shines, but Auburn falls short in Lady Rocket Classic final

AUBURN — Auburn High's Hanorah Murphy elevates to shoot up and over the Leicester High defense while in traffic. Murphy shined for the Rockets when taking on the Wolverines in the final of the Lady Rocket Classic on Thursday, Feb. 17, scoring a game-high 31 points and pulling down eight rebounds, but

Leicester prevailed by a final of 64-44. Isabella Doyle corralled 10 rebounds for Auburn (5-12), who reached the championship game by defeating Quaboag Regional two days prior, 49-33, in the first round of the tournament.

Nick Ethier photo



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MASONS
continued from page A5

which was Worshipful Harry's favorite uncle. This was the man he was named after and grew up spending much of his younger childhood years with. The look on Wor. Harry's face was priceless when he was presented his uncles sword. Yes, Wor. Harry had a hard time speaking at first and was all choked up and very emotional. There was a lot of moisture around his eyes and very quiet, trying to keep his composure and was practically speechless. What an exciting surprise to receive the Commandery Sword his favorite uncle once held and used and now passed down to his nephew Wor. Harry to be used and kept in the family. The evening personified how great it is to be a Master Mason and will be remembered by all for quite some time. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org and to find a lodge nearest you.

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