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Friday, August 28, 2020

Trinity looks forward to Sept. 8 reopening

SOUTHBIDGE — The history of Catholic Education in Southbridge reveals persistence through tough times for more than 150 years. The current pandemic is yet another opportunity to build the strength of Catholic Education in Southbridge for the years to come.

Principal Josie Citta of Trinity Catholic Academy has defined the re-opening plan for the private school in accordance with the guidance put forth from the Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Worcester.

“Across the Diocese, Catholic school leaders have spent the summer months carefully reviewing Mass. Department of Education (DESE)



Trinity Catholic Academy's Class of 2020 poses for a photo following their graduation ceremony in June.

File Photo

Southbridge pursues grants for AO redevelopment

SOUTHBIDGE — Over the last couple of weeks, the Council has vetted and unanimously approved seeking a state MassWorks grant for one of the largest redevelopment proposals Southbridge has seen in many years.

Tagged at roughly \$8 million total, \$4 million of it to be covered by MassWorks (if that's approved by Boston), the plan calls for completely revamping the infrastructure of the former American Optical campus. Among other things, over the next few years, it would repave streets, install lights and other infrastructure, and layout park and public access spaces including bike and walking trails in the backwoods.

Under the law, such assets must both be publicly accessible and help promote private development of business and/or housing. In this case, the plan calls for both. Some of the AO buildings have current businesses, but owner Charles “Chip” Norton of Franklin Realty hopes to rebuild the vacant buildings. Some, such as those on Case Street, are tabbed to become apartments, with 5-15 Case recently getting state approval to become a 40B “affordable housing” project. Others will revert to industrial uses. In one case, Norton said, he’s in talks with the state to potentially turn it into a public safety training site.

The plan requires no local tax funding, although it will require Southbridge and Franklin Realty to enter a 30-year covenant under which the town becomes de facto owner of the infrastructure, but Franklin agrees to maintain it.

The public might recall seeing one small part of the plan before. A few years ago, the council debated and narrowly rejected creating a roughly one-acre Riverside Park between the Rotary and Lensdale Pond (recently renamed Southbridge Pond). At the time, the majority of Councilors expressed concerns about the quality of that parcel, the cost to taxpayers, and safety of boaters near the old spillway,

Please Read **REDEVELOPMENT**, page A7

COVID guidance. In safeguarding the wellbeing of students and staff alike this 2020-2021 academic year. The DESE guidance is based upon state-wide data as gathered by the Mass. Department of Public Health (DPH), the Governor’s Office, national public health agencies such as Centers for Disease Control, and the Mass. chapter of American academy of Pediatrics,” said David Perda, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Worcester.

A survey was sent to TCA parents by the school to hear what parents’ concerns and preferences were for this fall’s school year. The survey overwhelmingly indicated a preference for in-person learning. Trinity administration dedicates themselves to the effort of a safe return to the classroom on Tuesday, Sept. 8, not the original start date of Aug. 26.

“From the start, the health and safety of students and staff has been paramount. Informed by the American Academy of Pediatrics which advocates for an in-person educational setting, our Catholic Schools have worked towards this goal. Health experts and layperson mutually agree on

the holistic benefits of in-person education,” said Perda.

Principal, Josie Citta, and her staff are fully cognizant that if public health conditions related to COVID-19 take a downward turn, that the need to switch to remote learning once again may be required. Trinity has been proactive, taking the appropriate steps should such a scenario play out. Improvements built on the already effective learning that was in place this past spring can only increase the learning experience. The additional options for “hybrid” and “remote” learning are situations Trinity is ready for if needed with an adaptive transition built into the plan.

TCA Classroom student size has been redefined according to state guidelines. Since TCA was originally built to house high school students, the physical classroom size can effectively include a student/teacher ratio of 14:1 keeping with the six-foot distance guideline. With opening day just a few weeks away, ordering of supplemental PPE, cleaning supplies, chrome books and more is in place for preparedness, along with profession-

Please Read **REOPENING**, page A7

Green Gold Group gearing up for adult use sales

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – After nearly a year of serving Charlton customers as a medical marijuana dispensary, the Green Gold Group is preparing for the next step in its growth as it will soon become

an adult use sales site pending approval on the state level this fall.

James McMahon, the Corporate Council for the Green Gold Group, said the company was incorporated in 2015 and added a dispensary location in Charlton in November of 2019 which caters to medical use customer only. However, the group holds certificates that allow them to have automatic rights to convert facilities to adult use which will allow them to add new products to Charlton in the coming months.

“We had gotten those provisional certificates for our medical operations prior to the cutoff date that the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) had set. We actually were qualified to have an automatic right to convert all of our facilities over to adult use. So we’re just following that right of conversion. We’ve gotten phenomenal feedback from our patients. They love our product and we’ve been working on the wholesale market. Adult use customers are purchasing from some of our partners and love our product as well. We’re looking forward to being able to bring our flagship location to Charlton,” McMahon said.

McMahon clarified that no production will be taking place at Green Gold Groups Charlton facility on Worcester Road. The building is dedicated to sales only. While medical marijuana purchases require a recommendation from a doctor, adult use products are limited to only customers over the age of 21 with regulations similar to alcohol sales. Medical patients are also allowed access to higher purchasing and dosage limits while adult use sales are much stricter. The addition of adult use products will also increase the company’s financial contributions to Charlton. Currently Green Gold Group contributes 3 percent of their medical fees to the town. However once adult use sales begin Charlton will receive an addition 3 percent from recreational sales and a 3 percent recreation sales tax.

If all goes well, McMahon predicts Green Gold Group could be selling adult use products as early as September.

“I’d say the process is about 99 percent complete. We’re really just waiting on the CCC to approve us. We’ve had a host community agree-

Please Read **GREEN GOLD**, page A7

Curaleaf donates for suicide prevention

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON / OXFORD — According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 47,173 Americans killed themselves in 2017, the most recent data on the agency’s website.

To Brake the Silence, that’s 47,173 too many, and last week Curaleaf agreed, to the tune of donating \$8866.20.

Curaleaf Medical Team lead Courtney Thacker said the funds came from customer donations based largely on having “a snippet on our donation jar, a little biography of what you do.”

“Everybody was really personally touched by the foundation,” she added, noting one client kicked in \$500 person-



Kayla Kimball, Courtney Thacker, Darlene Tully and Eric Tully show off Curaleaf's big donation check last week.

Gus Steeves

ally.

Brake the Silence is in its seventh year of advocating for better

mental health care and reducing the stigma all-too-often thrown at people who attempt to

take their own lives. Normally, the group hosts its major fund-

Please Read **DONATION**, page A7

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BRIMFIELD
\$170,000, 58 Warren Rd, Johnson, Leif R,
and Johnson, Catherine M, to Kirkpatrick,
Douglas M, and Kirkpatrick, Melinda A.

HOLLAND
\$197,000, 16 Lake Dr, Maple Ledge Assoc Inc,
to Storer, Christopher H.

STURBRIDGE
\$725,000, 365 Main St, M&R Enterprises
LLC, to 365 Main Sturbridge LLC.
\$450,000, 12 Newton Pl, Perreault, Cecile, to
Lemovitz, Sarah, and Lemovitz, Michael.
\$415,000, 193 Fiske Hill Rd, Struck, Matthew,
and Nemeskal, Meridith, to Porter, Mary C.
\$365,000, 13 Hillside Dr, Palmerino, Linda
M, to Marcus, Rebeka.
\$365,000, 37 Woodlawn Dr, Tsongalis,
Achilles J, and Tsongalis, Theresa J, to
Schneider, Cory, and Lawatsch, Cassandra.
\$358,000, 49 Whittemore Rd, Lemovitz,
Michael, to Snow, Derek W, and Snow,
Cristina L.
\$310,000, 7 Hillside Dr, Gunderman, Timothy,
and Gunderman, Sandra E, to Gunderman,
Kaila, and Gunderman, Rachel.
\$285,000, 8 Bentwood Dr #8, Bonja, Colleen J, to
McGlone, John M, and Rivera, Elsa M.
\$106,330, 168 Shepard Rd, Hand Christine M Est,
and Hand, Ian, to Turning Point Investments.
\$100,000, 26 South Rd, Mitchell, Jennifer, to
Bender, Derek M, and Bender, Leah B.

From jail to table

Senior Center receives delivery from organic farm at House of Correction

AUBURN —
For the past
ten years, the
Worcester County
Jail & House of
Correction has
been home to the
largest working
organic farm locat-
ed at a correction-
al facility in the
Commonwealth.
Tended to by
inmates who qual-
ify and volunteer
for the program
and by mainte-
nance staff at the
jail, the fifteen
acre farm grows
bell peppers, cab-
bage, celery, corn,
green beans, zuc-
chini, squashes,
eggplant, tomatoes
and in the fall a
bumper crop of
pumpkins.
"The mission of
our farm is to feed
both our inmate
population and to
help feed the hun-
gry in our commu-
nity," said Worcester County Sheriff
Lew Evangelidis.
During the harvest season, the jail
donates and delivers on average three
hundred to five hundred pounds per
day of fresh organic vegetables to
food pantries, meals programs, veter-
ans' groups and community centers
throughout Worcester County to help
those who struggle with food inse-
curity. On Wednesday August 12th,
the Sheriff's Department farming staff
dropped off freshly picked prison pro-
duce at the Grafton Senior Center.
Both have nutritional outreach pro-



Courtesy

More than 100 pounds of fresh organic produce grown at the jail farm in West Boylston were donated and delivered to the Auburn Senior Center by Sheriff Evangelidis on Wednesday, Aug. 12. Pictured from left to right are: Auburn Senior Center Staff Member Usha Verma, Assistant Director Cheryl Westerman, Director Jean Boulette, Sheriff Evangelidis, WCSO Officer Shaun Mullaney and WCSO Community Outreach Staff Member Joseph D'Ambr.

grams that help feed the community and the elderly. Each location received approximately one hundred to two hundred pounds of fresh organic produce grown at the jail.

"Especially during this challenging time, we appreciate all that the Sheriff's Department does to help the community. We receive many calls here for different kinds of assistance and that can include access to proper nutrition. This generous donation of organic vegetables from the Sheriff is greatly appreciated. It's wonderful nutrition and nature's medicine for our seniors," said Auburn Senior Center Elder Affairs Director Jean Boulette.

"We are proud to be home to the region's largest working organic farm at a correctional facility. This farm gives back in many ways; helping our inmates with the dignity of work while acquiring the skills and patience of farming all while knowing they are helping so many folks in need in our community," Evangelidis continued.

"Last year, our farm fed both our inmate population and over thirty thousand pounds of fresh produce was donated to help feed the hungry. So far this growing season mother nature has been very kind and we are on track for an even more bountiful harvest," said Evangelidis.

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Charlton residents to participate in Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk

CHARLTON — Two residents from Charlton will choose their own route on October 4th for the annual Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. Participants are encouraged to walk wherever they choose: around their neighborhood, a local hiking trail, a treadmill, or anywhere else they are comfortable.

Emily Clifford and Jamie Zeveska, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in virtual programming during the Walk that aims to recreate the most inspiring elements of Walk day. While the event will not physically bring walkers together along the famed Boston Marathon® course, it will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The event has raised more than \$145 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in its 30-plus-year history.

"While we can't see everyone in person this year, we are excited for the virtual programming which will give participants the opportunity to support breakthroughs in cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute," said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. "Together, from a safe distance, we will take critical strides in the journey to conquer cancer."

This year's event will have a lower fundraising requirement (\$100 for adults and \$25 for those 12 years old and younger) and everyone will pay just a \$5 registration fee. Each walker

who registers will receive a bib, and medal and the first 5,000 walkers to register will receive a commemorative Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

Anyone interested in additional information can reference the Jimmy Fund Walk: Your Way frequently asked questions or can send an email to JimmyFundWalk@DFCI.harvard.edu. Funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Boston Athletic Association has supported the Jimmy Fund Walk since 1989, and Hyundai has been the presenting sponsor since 2002.

To register to walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. You can also download The Jimmy Fund Walk App in Charity Miles. The app will allow you to track the miles you walk leading up to, and on Walk day, create a team and walk with your friends, family, and teammates, share your miles and activities via social media to boost fundraising, and see important Walk day news, content, training and fundraising challenges. Download the app here.

About the Jimmy Fund

The Jimmy Fund, established in Boston in 1948, is comprised of community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and

groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children's Charity of New England. Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide. Follow the Jimmy Fund on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @TheJimmyFund.

About Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is one of the world's leading centers of cancer research and treatment. Dana-Farber's mission is to reduce the burden of cancer through scientific inquiry, clinical care, education, community engagement, and advocacy. We provide the latest treatments in cancer for adults through Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center and for children through Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. Dana-Farber is the only hospital nationwide with a top 10 U.S. News & World Report Best Cancer Hospital ranking in both adult and pediatric care.

As a global leader in oncology, Dana-Farber is dedicated to a unique and equal balance between cancer research and care, translating the results of discovery into new treatments for patients locally and around the world, offering more than 1,100 clinical trials.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

Rachel Godek named to Union College Dean's List

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. — Rachel Godek, of Wales, was named to the 2020 Dean's List at Union College.

Godek is a member of the Class of 2022 majoring in Biochemistry.

Comprised annually, the Union College Dean's List honors students who have a grade point average of 3.5 for the entire academic year and meet certain other requirements.

Union College, founded in 1795 as the first college chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, offers programs in the liberal arts and engineering to 2,100 undergraduates of high academic promise and strong personal motivation. Union, with its long history of blending disciplines, is a leader in educating students to be engaged, innovative and ethical contributors to an increasingly diverse, global and technologically complex society.

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Clothes, Books, Electronics,
Teaching Supplies, Household
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Laliberte promoted to Unit Manager at Life Care Auburn

AUBURN — Tasheena Laliberte, LPN of Worcester has been promoted to Unit Manager at Life Care Center of Auburn.

Laliberte is a graduate of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. She brings a well-rounded clinical and academic experience to her new role helping to oversee the clinical care provided to patients across the health care continuum.

In congratulating Laliberte, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN said, "Tasheena brings a wealth of real-world experience to the nursing leadership team, as a Practical Nursing student she was actively involved with the UNICEF Club and was a lead volunteer for Health Fairs. I am positive she will engage staff in the provision of safe, and high-quality health care."

Laliberte graduated with the PN Class of 2019 where she received her certifications in Dementia Care, Mental Health First Aid, Infusion Therapy/Central Line Care, and SafeTALK."

Additional experience includes Leader/Volunteer at Paxton Senior Health Fair, volunteer at the Charlton




Tasheena Laliberte

Senior Center Blood Pressure Clinic, and attendance to the "Innovation Summit" at Northeastern University in Boston. Laliberte was a competitor for District SkillsUSA representing the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy for the Medical Terminology category. Most recently, she assisted the PN Class of 2020 as a volunteer assistant at Simulation

Laboratory. She worked directly with practical nursing students practicing skills and many students expressed their appreciation for Laliberte's inspirational ways.

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

Friday's Child




Ruth
Age 13

Hi! My name is Ruth and I have a good sense of humor!

Ruth is a playful and fun girl of Hispanic descent. She has a great sense of humor and loves to play games, both indoors and outdoors. She loves to dance and has taken dance lessons in the past. Ruth has also participated in horseback riding, where she was described as being a natural. Ruth is also described by her teachers as being very bright academically.

Legally freed for adoption, Ruth would thrive in a family of any constellation, with or without older children. An ideal family should be open to helping Ruth keep in contact with her older sister, with whom she currently visits monthly.




DON'T TEXT AND DRIVE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ TOURISM COORDINATOR TOWN OF STURBRIDGE

The Town of Sturbridge is seeking applicants for the position of Economic Development/Tourism Coordinator. Ideal candidates will have proven economic development experience and will work to promote tourism in one of the premiere tourist towns in Central Massachusetts. Experience in economic development, tourism promotion, event planning and execution, and strong social media skills are a must.

The Town of Sturbridge offers an excellent benefits package and a salary range for the position is between \$47,015 and \$50,135 per year. For a full description, go to the vacancies link at www.town.sturbridge.ma.us. Submit resumes immediately to: The Town Administrator's Office: 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566. Or email to: amensen@sturbridge.gov. Position open until filled, first review September 15, 2020.

The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE.





GIVE SAFETY A Green Light.

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

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

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



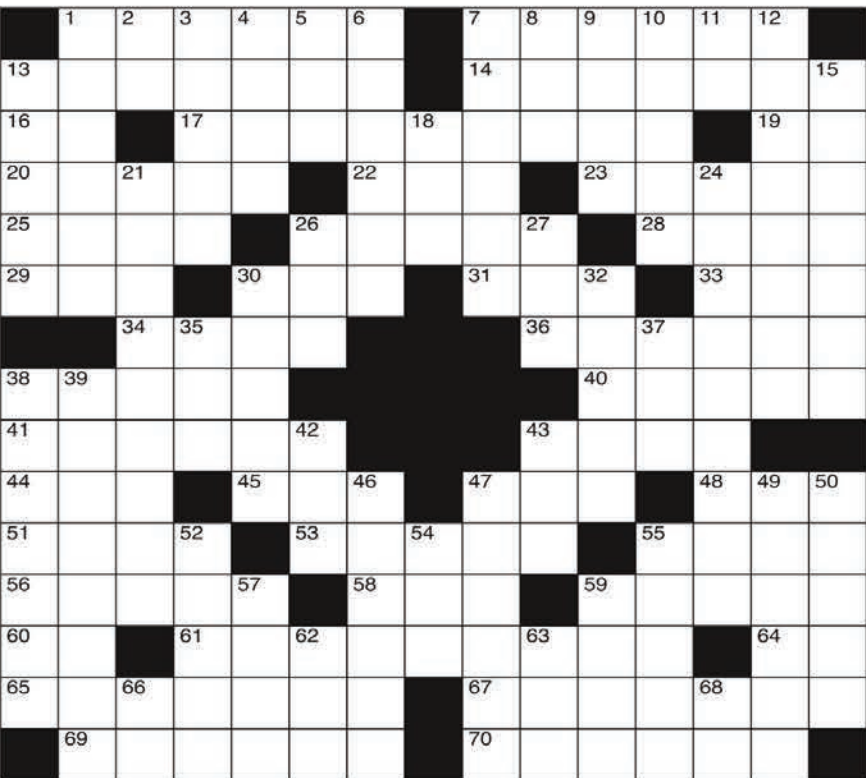
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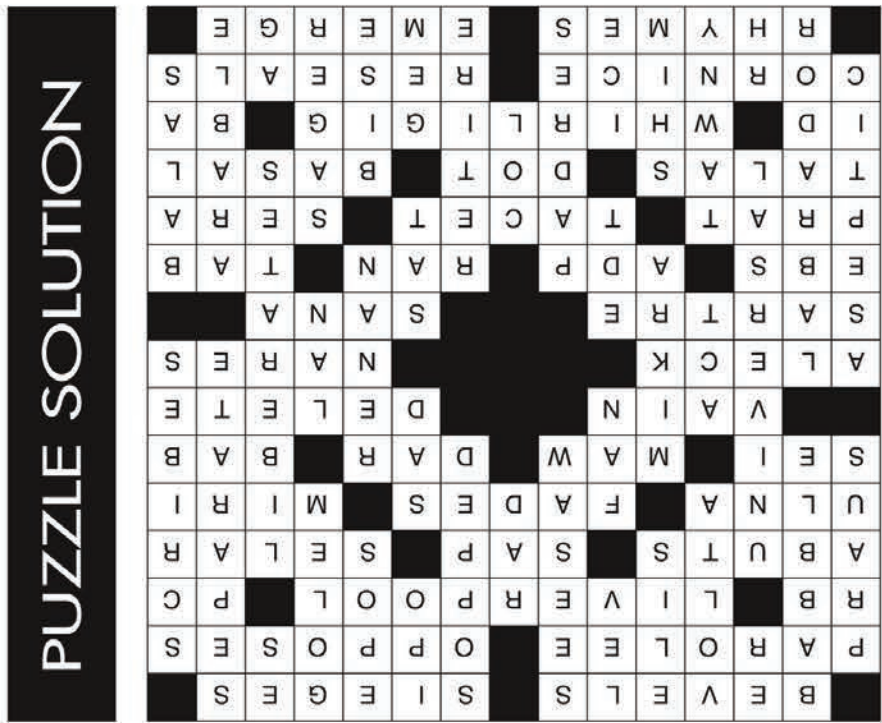


CLUES ACROSS

1. Slopes
7. Attacks
13. One who has left prison
14. Goes against
16. Atomic #37
17. Home of The Beatles
19. Mac alternative
20. A common boundary with
22. Fluid in a plant
23. Genus that includes scads
25. Longer of the forearm bones
26. Gradually disappears
28. AI risk assessor
29. Type of whale
30. Jaws of a voracious animal
31. Patriotic women (abbr.)
33. Ancient Egyptian God
34. Obsessed with one's appearance
36. Erase
38. A type of smartie
40. Nostrils
41. Influential French thinker
43. Popular K-pop singer
44. One point south of due east
45. Payroll company
47. Moved quickly on foot
48. Bar bill
51. An idiot
53. Indicates silence
55. Protein-rich liquids
56. Rhythmic patterns
58. Scatter
59. Belongs to bottom layer
60. Impulsive part of the mind
61. Carousel
64. Type of degree
65. Ornamental molding
67. Locks in again
69. Sounds the same
70. Come into view

CLUES DOWN

1. Speak rapidly
2. Trauma center
3. River in W. Africa
4. Ancient Greek district
5. Bulgaria's monetary unit
6. Children's ride
7. Absorbed liquid
8. Markets term
9. Retail term recording sales
10. Automaton
11. Spanish form of "be"
12. Divide
13. Malaysian sailing boat
15. Writers
18. Cool!
21. Popular tourist attraction studio
24. Sets free
26. An enthusiastic devotee of sports
27. Unhappy
30. Alternate term for Holy Scripture
32. Influential French scholar
35. What thespians do
37. Local area network
38. Free from contamination
39. Coastal region of Canada
42. Sun up in New York
43. High schoolers' exam
46. Fathers
47. Call it a career
49. Suitable for growing crops
50. Rose-red variety of spinel
52. Orange-brown in color
54. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
55. Late TNT sportscaster
57. A way to wedge
59. Cold, dry Swiss wind
62. Hockey players need it
63. Something highly prized
66. Atomic #45
68. Top lawyer



Tips for planting fall vegetables



Tending to backyard vegetable gardens can fill many hours of enjoyable downtime in the great outdoors. What's more, the bounty produced by such gardens provides healthy, fresh foods to gardeners and their loved ones.

Although spring and summer are widely seen as the peak of gardening season, the mild temperatures of autumn can be a prime time for planting vegetables as well. Certain late-season treats like carrots, kale, spinach, and turnips can thrive in fall gardens. Many different foods are quick crops that can go from seed to table in about six weeks.

When sown in early fall, these vegetables will be ready to put on the table for mid-October feasts. Beets, green onions, broccoli, and cabbages can be planted in late summer for fall harvest. Gardeners who live in hardiness zones eight through 10 (the southern portion of the United States) can plant fall vegetables as late as December. Many of these plants can tolerate light frost, which may even help sweeten the vegetables.

A handful of unique factors need to

be taken into consideration when planning fall vegetable gardens.

- The summertime location of the garden may still be adequate, but be sure to choose a location that gets eight full hours of sunlight per day.
- If using an existing garden site, clear out any detritus from summer plants and any weeds that have sprouted. If you are planting a new garden, remove any turf before tilling the soil.
- Amend the soil with sand, compost, manure fertilizer, and any other nutrients needed depending on the types of vegetables you intend to grow.
- While fall vegetables can be grown successfully from seeds, it may be more time-friendly to work from larger transplants, advises the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension.
- Some plants may need a little protection as they grow if temperatures begin to dip. Cover with a blanket, cardboard box or plastic tunnel to insulate.

Remember to water according to the vegetables planted and to keep an eye on readiness for vegetables. Turnips, beets, rutabagas, and carrots can be dug out when the roots are plump and crisp.

Vegetable gardens need not cease when the last days of summer vanish. Fall produce is delicious and can be easily planted and harvested even after the first frost.

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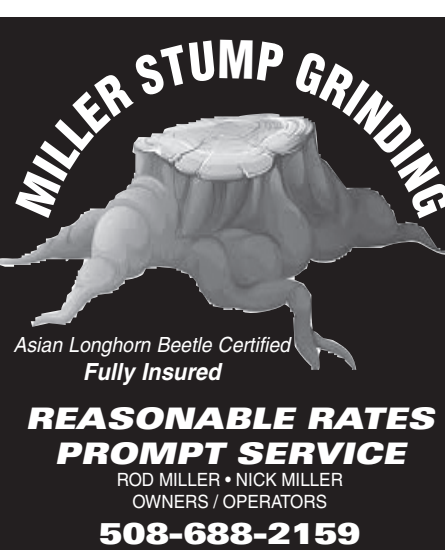
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This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

Now may be the time to sell gold and silver

An article in the July issue of Forbes was titled “Gold And Silver Are Just Getting Started.” With gold recently rising above \$2,000 per ounce for the first time in history and silver nearing the \$30 per ounce mark, we have been receiving many emails and calls to auction precious metals.

All silver has been selling well, but older pieces typically command the strongest prices. Coins are one example. Silver coins are popular with both collectors and investors. Silver coins may have numismatic value (value to coin collectors) above the silver’s worth. The age, condition, and rarity of the coin can make coin values soar. Dimes, quarters, half dollars, and dollar coins from 1964 or earlier were made with 90 percent silver and are worth at least the silver bullion value. Rare ones bring much more. A 1795 three leaves flowing hair silver dollar in fair condition sold for \$4,500. An 1893-S (San Francisco mint) Morgan silver dollar in extra fine condition



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went for \$6,900.

Along with coins, many people are looking to sell their sterling silver flatware and hollowware services, especially with fewer people holding formal dinners than in the past. The good news is that there are still plenty of buyers for sterling. A Georg Jensen sterling ornamental mustard

pot with liner and acorn design spoon sold for \$1,000. A vintage Stieff floral repousse (hammered into relief from the reverse side) rose pattern sterling silver coffee pot went for over \$1,000. A Wendt sterling silver Medallion pattern flatware 79-piece service dinner sold for \$13,500. A Tiffany Co. Japanese pattern ster-

ling silver flatware 57-piece service picturing Audubon birds brought \$36,500.

As you might imagine, gold coins are also selling very well. For investors, even modern coins like American Gold Eagle or American Gold Buffalo coins are desirable. A 2019 MarketWatch article wrote “gold and other precious coins are the easiest collectible item to trade, whether you are investing in bullion coins as a hedge against inflated stock and bond prices or if you’re interested in building a special collection of rarities.” If you have older gold coins, they may have numismatic value well above what the gold is worth. For example, an 1827 Capped Bust Gold Quarter Eagle \$2.50 coin sold for \$7,700 and a 1907 St. Gaudens gold coin went for over \$15,000 at auction recently. The condition and rarity of the coins made them sell for much more than just the value of the gold.

Antique gold “estate jewelry” also has been bringing strong results at auction. An Edwardian (Edwardian period was 1901 to 1910) sapphire and diamond ring set in gold and platinum recently fetched over \$8,400. A Black Opal Engagement 14K Yellow Gold ring described as either Art Nouveau (Art Nouveau period was 1890 to 1910) or Art Deco (1920’s and 30’s) recently sold for \$8,000. An antique openwork (metal work with holes, typically in aesthetic patterns) pearl cuff bracelet 18-karat yellow gold reached \$6,050. Pieces with quality diamonds or gemstones increase value. A recent BusinessWire article titled “Reduced Diamond Supply Lifts Polished Prices” said that diamond prices are also on the rise. In this current market, silver, gold, and diamonds are all shining.

Our Oct. 29, multi-estate online auction will include a large amount of sterling silver and gold. We are now accepting bids for our Warren, R.I. online estate auction. There will be a preview on September 12th in Warren with bidding ending on Sept. 16. Please keep checking www.centralmassauctions.com for information on upcoming events.

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REDEVELOPMENT*continued from page 1*

although most also liked the concept of promoting public access to the river. The current plan still aims to make that a park with kayak access to the pond, which now has three fountains in it, but the public will be able to use both sides and walk to other parts of the campus.

Norton said he's owned the property since "the mid-2000 range." Today, about 550,000 square feet are occupied and 650,000 remain to be renovated. As the project goes forward, he predicted it will generate about \$100 million in private development funding, 250 construction and 350 permanent jobs, and around \$1 million a year in local tax revenue when complete.

"We've been working on this master plan internally for about a year," Norton said.

Aug. 28 is deadline for MassWorks, but Norton also plans to seek a federal Economic Development Administration grant for the other \$4 million for this phase of the work. This phase mostly covers roads, sidewalks, lights and the "public realm." Phase 2 (\$3.7 million) will replace the Optical Drive bridge. Phase 3 (\$3.3 million) will improve the Case Street bridge and possibly redesign the intersection with Route 131. An additional \$1.2 million will come from private sources for landscaping and other amenities for the residential buildings.

Project designer Bill Gizness said pedestrians can get on the property in four locations, with "new or existing pathways that will be developed and signed" plus bike paths, "Several kayak and canoe launches will occur" plus "pocket parks." Right now, he said, Optical drive is in "good condition" but needs some signs, crosswalks and handicapped accessibility. He noted the police and fire departments have also requested installation of emergency equipment in the public areas.

"That will be the vocabulary we extend through the rest of the site," he said.

Beyond the bridge, there's more need for paving and other road work, plus various waterfront improve-

ments on both sides of the river and "a large menu of ideas for that area."

Norton noted the Common was donated by AO to the town in 1996, and he sees the riverfront park as essentially being an extension of the Common. Next to it, nearer the hotel, will also get new landscaping, a walkway and a gazebo for weddings and similar gatherings controlled by the hotel, Gizness said.

"We're in the process of studying a new way to get onto East Main Street that will be better to go both directions, to enter and exit off of East Main Street," he said.

In previous presentations and at Zoning Board hearings for the 40B project, people raised concerns about the Case Street intersection being potentially dangerous because of its angle and slope plus the fact the intent was to have residents park across Route 131.

Norton said he aims to "meet the guidelines" regarding sidewalks and road widths where there's space, but will have to work out alternatives for some areas. He said he sees no problem meeting regulations for "stormwater, lighting and all of that," though.

Julie Holstrom of Worcester Business Development Center said the current plans are about 15 percent complete and noted the EDA application will qualify as "the match that further helps the competitive nature of the MassWorks application." She expects to hear from both agencies in late September or October. If MassWorks falls through, she added, their team is pursuing a state transportation bond bill earmark.

"We're trying to work on dual paths here, while also pursuing federal funds," she said.

Norton noted design work would take 3-6 months, with the goal of completion around April. Construction of Phase 1 is targeted to start by next summer and be complete by the end of 2021. In the process, Norton pledged to "absolutely" tap Southbridge people and Central Massachusetts contractors for jobs, and "preference will be given to local people" for the housing units as well.

the whole time that we've been in town. The town is very much knowledgeable of what we're doing up there and I think they're looking forward to it," McMahon said.

REOPENING*continued from page 1*

al development programs for staff before they can welcome their students on the first day, Sept. 8.

Other details worked out in the 're-opening plan' include staggered arrivals & dismissals, temperature check upon arrival and much more. Trinity Catholic Academy's full Re-opening plan (25 page) is

DONATION*continued from page 1*

raiser in August – a regional motorcycle ride – but that was canceled due to the pandemic this year. But BTS will still be outside the Beagle Club on Bond Road in Charlton this Saturday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. selling clothing and bracelets.

"This is going to help a lot with teaching, educating and supporting families," said BTS board member Darlene Tully of Charlton, who added that suicide was once "the untalkable thing," but people have been opening up in recent years.

Tully noted their events usually include a "memory board" on which participants post pictures and comments regarding loved ones they lost.

One person directly affected was Curaleaf's Brendan Hughes, who said his brother attempted suicide three years ago. He's still around, largely because of strong support from the community, he said.

BTS was Oxford Curaleaf's first local charity, and it drew a huge response. "Everybody knew about it," he added.

A CDC report published Aug. 14 looked at links between the pandemic's physical distancing and stay-at-home orders and mental health. It found that "40.9 percent of respondents at least one adverse mental or behavioral health condition" – mostly anxiety and depression. Among them, 10.7 percent "reported having seriously considered suicide in the 30 days before completing the survey," and that rate peaked in the 18-24 age range at 25.5 percent.

"Community-level intervention and prevention efforts, including health communication strategies, designed to reach these groups could help address various mental health conditions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic," the report stated.

Longer-term CDC data shows that the suicide rate nationwide has been

available on their website for more details.

While these may be uncertain times we live in, commitment to your children's education is not.

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rising since 2000. Then, it was 10.4 incidents per 100,000 people; in 2017, it was 14.0. The latter figure is more than twice as high as the homicide rate, and slightly below the annual death rate from influenza and pneumonia. The suicide rate is far higher among men (22.4) than women (6.1), and is higher in the white community than among other ethnic groups.

For BTS, changing that has been the goal all along. The group is in its second year of funding a scholarship for area high school students. Currently, it's given to kids at Shepherd Hill and Bay Path, but Eric Tully noted it's "catching on," and they'd love to expand to other schools if the funds are available. They also provide brochures to those schools and others on the issues.

"It's been really nice to see the response," he said. "... We're seeing the stigma dropping."

Beyond that, they're collaborating with Worcester's Shine Initiative (www.shineinitiative.org), which has youth suicide prevention efforts in at least 40 regional schools aimed at providing what it calls "youth mental health first aid" and support. It trains people to assess suicide and self-harm risk, listen nonjudgmentally, reassure, and encourage both professional help and self-support.

Kayla Kimball said they teach kids to talk about this issue and recognize "it's OK to feel." That's particularly important because suicides are happening among younger and younger people.

Kimball noted BTS is also running an Educate the Educator project for teacher in-service days that serves a similar purpose of showing them the signs to look for in their students.

"They think it's fantastic because they know there's so much of a need," she said. "Mental health is so poorly funded."

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

GREEN GOLD*continued from page 1*

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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A hard-fought right

Women acquired the right to vote on Aug. 18, 1920. It's amazing to think that there are individuals born during that time are still with us today, bringing into light that it wasn't long ago that women were given the right to take part in the democratic process.

The 19th Amendment stated that citizens could not be denied the right to vote based on sex. Because of loopholes, many African American men and women were not permitted to vote pending literacy tests and the inability to pay poll taxes leaving the group disenfranchised. That same year some states, such as Georgia, had a law requiring people to register to vote six months in advance, which meant that many were turned away from the polls. In states such as California, New York and Illinois, women were permitted to vote before the 19th Amendment was ratified.

In 1915, a group of 25,000 women marched in New York City, demanding the right to vote. During that time, the New York Times printed an article against the women's cause, stating, "If women vote, they will play havoc for themselves and society and that if granted suffrage they would demand all the rights that implies. It is not possible to think of women as soldiers and sailors, police patrolmen or firemen, heavens think of the chaos!" The National Women's Party began to picket the White House in 1917, for the entire year despite weather. Some women were arrested and sent to work camps as punishment.

This month, National Women's Suffrage Month, commemorates the turning point in American history as well as the founding of the League of Women Voters. Women began requesting the right to vote in the 1600's. Second lady Abigail Adams wrote to her husband in 1776, "Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember, all Men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies, we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice or Representation." Adams would never cast a ballot.

In 1848, the cause picked up, after a women's rights convention in New York with Elizabeth Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Lucy Stone spearheading the group of 300 women. Supporting Stanton, was abolitionist Frederick Douglas. After 70 years, with the last 20 packing a powerful punch, public sentiment changed and women were eventually heard and supported.

This year, when at the polls, let us remember the women who were imprisoned, marched in treacherous weather, went on hunger strikes and dedicated their lives so that the women of the future could have a voice.

Congress designated August 26 'Women's Equality Day' in 1973.

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OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

Finding love and service in pickles and an ironing board

We all have hobbies and passions in life. Some like to do woodworking while others may love to garden. Some activities are common and others unique and unusual. There are more hobbies and passions than I can think of and list on this page, but almost everyone has something. I love to cook for friends and family. When we have company, I'm up early and working in the kitchen. My skills are limited. I have no professional training. I just know what I like and share it with others.

I've often wondered about my cooking obsession and I now realize it is just a way that I enjoy serving others. I love to eat, and I seem to have a creative gene that encourages me to try new recipes. It makes me feel good knowing that cooking for others makes them happy. It's a positive activity that provides a basic human service for people I care about and love.

Through the years I've developed a few recipes that I'm proud of. I grow pickling cucumbers in my garden and make what I call "Lemony Dill Pickles." I've never canned them because they are eaten as fast as I can make them. It's a citrusy twist to traditional dill pickles by replacing half the vinegar with lemon juice. I thinly slice the cucumbers and put them in a bowl. I never measure anything ... but I put in roughly 40 percent distilled or filtered water, 35 percent white vinegar, 25 percent lemon juice, salt to taste (I like salt), dill, garlic, and black pepper cloves. I let it marinate for twenty-four hours and enjoy. I also thinly slice an onion and put into the mix. I'm sharing this with you as I don't want my recipe lost.

Please let me know if you try this. Play with the mixtures to suit your taste buds. I'd love to know what you think. I also make a killer Barbeque Sauce and a unique recipe of mashed potatoes I'll share later. I love working to please others through my cooking.

When my grandkids were younger, I bought a Mickey Mouse pancake maker that made pancakes in the shape of Mickey. They became known in our family as "MouseCakes." The most common question from my Facebook friends was "Are they made out of real mice?"

My grandkids enjoyed them, until they didn't. Now, my "MouseCake



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
GARY W. MOORE

Maker" sits in a cabinet hoping for another grandchild or six.

Cooking isn't an unusual hobby, but my next passion is. I love to iron my children and now grandchildren's clothes. I don't iron on schedule but only by request. "Dad, I'm running late to school. Can you iron this for me?" My daughter would often say as she tossed her shirt down the stairs. I'd sometimes try to resist, but the joy I found in doing this was surprising. I have ironed for everyone but there is a special "ironing bond" I have with my daughter, Tara Beth. Before school ... later in life, before dates or even a job interview, I loved hearing her voice ask me to iron.

One of the things I like about ironing is that it is an anonymous activity. No one ever compliments you on your ironing skills. You've never been asked, "Wow, who ironed your pants? They did a great job!" I like the feeling of doing something for no credit nor attention but something that is appreciated by the recipient. Does that make sense? It does to me.

I've shared this in the past, but the most memorable ironing experience was on her wedding day. By this point in life, she realized the satisfaction I received by providing this service for her. The morning of her wedding she walked down the stairs with her wedding dressed draped over her arms. All she said was "Dad ..." and I eagerly took it from her and quickly turned away so she would not see the emotion I felt bubbling up. I took my time, as it was the most complex garment I had ironed, but also the most meaningful. My emotions flowed and dotted her perfectly white dress as I ironed my tears into the fabric. It was both a sad but immensely joyful moment that I'll never forget.

So, now you know a little bit more about me and I'm guessing I'm the first person you've met who finds ironing joyful.

Until next week ... try my pickles!

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

Fall Planting for Spring Blooms

Following a long New England winter, few signs of spring are more welcome than the first sprouts of green popping up in a barren garden. The promise of a season of beautiful blooms, the tiny shoots are the gardeners reward of a past autumn spent preparing and planting. Experts agree fall offers ideal conditions to plant perennials. In fact, autumn is the preferred time to plant spring blooming bulbs. The following is a beginner's guide to preparing, planning and planting bulbs now for a flourish of flowers come spring.

Choosing Choice Bulbs

If you are selecting bulbs in bulk, such as loose bulbs offered at discount garden centers, it's important to follow a



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

few rules of thumb. Typically, big bulbs produce the largest blooms and may yield more flowers, therefore, it may be worth the cost to pay a bit more for good sized, healthy bulbs. However, if you are on a budget and have the time to wait, smaller bulbs will eventually increase in size and bloom each year. When choosing a bulb, look for those that are firm and plump. Hold them in your palm and select bulbs that feel heavy for their size. Avoid bulbs with bruises, spots or signs of mold. And steer clear of soft, mushy and lightweight bulbs. Sprouting bulbs may indicate a bulb that has been in storage for a long time.

Planning a Flower Garden

A little thought and preparation go a

Turn To **TRAINOR** page **A9**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COVID and cancer

To the Editor:

Cancer doesn't stop for a pandemic. Every day, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) continues its lifesaving work to fight cancer through public policy.

My husband is a cancer survivor, diagnosed a year before we were married. His story compelled me to become part of the ACS CAN team, and further their lifesaving mission. Right now, due to COVID related fundraising declines, that mission is being threatened like never before.

The good news is, there are generous families and organizations out there stepping up to help ACS CAN during this difficult time. I want to thank the Cambo and Cimini families, both with Sturbridge roots, for coming on as Gold Level business sponsors for ACS CAN's "Lights of Hope Across America" event, taking place in communities coast to coast on

September 12.

Thanks in part to their generous support of their businesses, Northern Tree, Inc. and Austin Liquors of Shrewsbury & Natick, hundreds of luminary bags will be displayed across Massachusetts to honor cancer patients and survivors, and ACS CAN is armed with additional resources to advocate for cancer research funding, access to healthcare, and other priorities.

If cancer has also touched your life, you can make a difference. If you or your business would like to help fund the fight against cancer, please contact amber.herting@cancer.org or visit <http://action.fightcancer.org/goto/andersonevangeline> to make a donation.

Sincerely,

AMBER HILLMAN HERTING
STURBRIDGE

Get the most from your 401(k)

You won't see any greeting cards celebrating it, and it's not likely to be on your calendar, but in just a few weeks, National 401(k) Day will be observed. And this type of recognition may be warranted, too, because 401(k) plans have become key building blocks for a big part of people's lives – a comfortable retirement. Are you making the most of your 401(k)?

Of course, during the past few months, you may have had mixed feelings about your 401(k). After all, at the beginning of the coronavirus, when the financial markets tumbled, the value of your account probably fell significantly, although it has likely regained some ground since the initial drop.



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

Nonetheless, the recent market volatility and its short-term effects on your 401(k) should not unduly influence your decisions about this important retirement account. After all, a 401(k) is truly a long-term vehicle, in every sense – you contribute to it for decades while you're working, and you can draw on it, along with other sources of income, for decades during your retirement. Consequently, you'll want to consistently review your account to ensure it is working hard for you.

Here are a few suggestions:

Get the match. At a minimum, put enough into your 401(k) to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. While employers can set their own rules, a typical match is 50% of what you put in, up to 6 percent of your salary. So, if you don't contribute the amount needed to earn the match, you are essentially "leaving money on the table." (Be aware, though, that some employers have temporarily suspended matching contributions in response to the economic slowdown during the pandemic.)

Give yourself regular "raises." Every time your salary goes up, increase your annual contributions. Most people typically don't come anywhere near hitting the maximum annual 401(k) contribution limit (which, in 2020, is \$19,500, or \$26,000 for those 50 or older), and you might not, either, but try to put in as much as you can afford. Not only will you be building tax-deferred resources for retirement, but you'll be giving yourself a big tax break, because the more you contribute each year, the lower your taxable income (unless you have a Roth 401(k), in which case your contributions aren't deductible, but your earnings can grow tax-free).

Invest for growth. Because your 401(k) is designed to help fund your retirement, which could last 20 years or more, you'll want to build the biggest account possible. That means you'll need to include investments designed to provide growth within your 401(k), subject to your personal risk tolerance.

Be careful about loans. You can take out loans from your 401(k), but it's not always a good move. You'll have to pay yourself back, and if you leave your job, either voluntarily or involuntarily, the repayment may be due at an inconvenient time. (However, as part of the CARES economic stimulus act, many 401(k) loan repayments are being suspended for up to one year.) Furthermore, by taking out money from your account, even temporarily, you can slow its overall growth potential. So, you may want to look for other sources of income before tapping into your 401(k).

National 401(k) Day is just that – a day. But by taking the appropriate steps, you can help ensure your own 401(k) gives you many years' worth of benefits.

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

GOOD NEWS

Saltwater fishing heats up



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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RALPH
TRUE

Saltwater fishing is heating up for numerous species of fish. Yellow fin tuna in the 50 to 60-pound class were reported by anglers fishing out to the canyon. This writer was heading out to do a bit of fluke fishing in Galilee Rhode Island when I spotted a group of three anglers rushing to get there 25-foot boat in the water. The rods on board were positively identified as tuna rods. The two 200 hp outboard motors on the back of their boat, are what is needed to travel to the canyon. Reports of numerous shark species on their last trip to the canyon was also good news for the group of anglers. Fluke fishing remained strong again last week in the waters around Carpenters Beach and the Breachway. Many fish were just shy of the 19-inch size limit, but we man-

aged a few 20-inch fish & a few nice seabass. Catching our own mummies and Silversides also helped this writer & my boat captain Matt to catch our targeted fish. The silversides were a few inches long which were affixed to our hook. Threading the silversides on the hook like you would a nightcrawler worked very well, and stopped the short misses. Anglers were spotted chasing a few small schools of Bonito and False Albacore last week around Point Judith light. Upstate New York anglers fishing Lake Ontario are catching numerous King Salmon on the lake but River fishing is still slow. Lack of water flow in the river, and warm temperatures have played a huge role in this year's late migration of King Salmon. Fat Nancy's Bait & Tackle shop in Pulaski New York ,reported the slow fishing in the river which is expected to blow wide open in the next week or two. Local bear hunters are excited about the bear hunting in Maine which is slated to open on Aug. 31. Hunting over baits is allowed during the Black Bear season in

Maine. Numerous local hunters travel to Maine every year to hunt bear, and the reports of numerous large bears hitting the baits prior to the season is good news. If bear hunting in Maine over baits was not allowed, very few bears would be harvested annually causing a bear population explosion. Most Field days at Rod & Gun Clubs this year have been canceled because of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Whitinsville Fish & Game Club recently canceled their Field Day after reconsidering their options. The first priority is keeping everyone safe until the virus is brought under control! A few local saltwater anglers fished areas around Block Island for stripers this past Friday and were rewarded with a few monster stripers. Unfortunately, they could not be retained and were quickly released. This week's picture shows Jim Lavallee with a 40-pound striper! Some of the stripers were caught using tube & worm and others were caught using live eels. Hopefully, the slot limit placed on stripers this year in Massachusetts & Rhode Island will not carry



over to next year's fishing. One group of striper anglers reported seeing a monster striper floating by their boat. It was still alive, but was surely a recently released fish. Just one of the many released stripers that succumbed to the new slot limit regulations. What a waste. NOAA Fisheries enacted Final interim Rule in Mass. extending Recreational Gulf of Maine Cod and Haddock seasons. The bag limits however

have not hanged. The one cod daily limit remains the same, as well as the daily bag limit of haddock. A complete listing on the new ruling can be found on the NOAA Web site. Fishing at the canal this past week was extremely slow according to reports of local anglers. That could change quickly by the time you read this column. *Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!*

Give your landscape a late summer facelift

Whether it is the hot weather, the age of your landscape or simply the need for change; a late summer makeover can help you increase your landscape's beauty. Put the "wow" back into your garden with a few new plantings, garden art, or other simple improvements.



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Many established landscapes have a few or many overgrown plants. Sometimes the plants you purchase perform better than expected or oftentimes we try to squeeze too many plants into a garden or too large of plants into small spaces. Remove overcrowded plants that have outgrown the space or lost their ornamental appeal. Replace these and other unsightly plants with those more suited to the growing conditions, your landscape design, and available space. Now is a good time to plan and fall is a great time to plant trees, shrubs and perennials. The soil is warm and air cool, making it less stressful on new plantings. Phase in removals and replacements over time. This is easier on your budget, back, and will keep your

landscape looking robust. And be sure to properly space plants to avoid overcrowding in the future. Check plant tags for the plant's mature size and plant accordingly. Fill in the voids between new plantings with annuals and perennials. As your shrubs increase in size, you will need fewer annuals each year. Move perennial flowers and grasses to a new garden as your shrubs reach full size. Perennials are much easier to move than an overgrown shrub. A bit of pruning may be all that is needed to bring back the beauty and reduce the size of overgrown plants. Make a note on your calendar to do a bit of pruning at the right time. Prune spring flowering shrubs right after they bloom. They have already set their flower buds for next spring and pruning now will eliminate the spring floral display. You can prune summer flowering shrubs during their dormant season from fall through spring. Prune evergreens in colder climates in late winter or early spring once the worst winter weather has passed. Fall



Courtesy

Garden art can fill in late summer voids or create a focal point in the garden.

pruning where winters are brutal can lead to an increase in winter damage. Replace tired annuals in the garden and containers with fresh plants suited to the upcoming fall season. Don't be afraid to add dried materials to existing planters for added color and texture. Or create new container gar-

dens to set by the front door and welcome guests. These also make great fillers in the garden. Just place the container in a spot where an existing plant has failed. You will benefit from the instant color and extra time you gain to plan for a permanent replacement. Garden art is another option for filling those late summer voids in the garden. Or use it to create a focal point, drawing attention to areas that are looking their best. Adding a few new cushions on your outdoor furniture can further enhance your landscape's appeal. It is an easy way to change things up with minimal investment of time and money. Big or small, a few changes can make a big difference. Tackle a few of the easier ones or those with the biggest impact first. Once you get started, you will not want to quit.

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

TRAINOR

continued from page A8

long way in reaping the benefits of a successful spring and summer flower garden. The planning you take time for in the fall will be apparent when the flower garden plantings burst with color and texture next year. Know your flowers before you plan to plant. While most bulbs require an area where there is full sun, other varieties such as the iris and crocus enjoy some shade after blooming. For best results select a location in full sun or sun with morning shade only. Well drained soil is a requisite for flower bulbs. If you have poor soil, raised flower beds may be an effective alternative. **

For best results, design your garden with pen and paper first, mapping out the size of the beds and the flowers to scale. Keep in mind color, texture and fragrance are all important factors when deciding on a particular flower garden plan. Plotting a garden plan is an exciting chore, and there are some basic rules that ensure a pleasant mix of color for a showy display. Notice how a clump of daffodils and tulips are much more charming than a tidy row of the spring-time flowers. The eye is drawn toward the burst of color when these flowers are situated in generous groups of plantings. Be sure to take an accurate bulb count of such large splashes of plantings. Your layout plan should also include using flower bulbs as accents in perennial beds, or to fill in rock gardens or as an interesting border to greenery. Be sure to plan for extra bulbs to fill in areas or to add as landscape accents. **

For an interesting mix, merge short plants with tall specimens to give variety and depth as well as differing textures. And don't underestimate the power of fragrance. Nothing is more delightful than a pathway of floral scents welcoming visitors to your door! You should also decide if you want to plan out every aspect of planting a semi formal garden, or if you choose instead to toss convention and bulbs to the wind, planting bulbs the natural way, thus creating a natural sprinkling of blooms. Scaling plants to the bed is another important factor when plotting your plan. A simple rule to follow is to keep in mind the tallest plant in an island

flower bed should have a mature height that is equal to about half the width of the bed. Place these plants in the center, so they can be viewed from all sides. Also remember to take into account plants that grow and expand quickly. **

Color is another major consideration when planting your bulbs. If you want your garden to be a showcase all season, select a variety of bulbs that flower during early, middle and late spring and summer for a continuous burst of color. Just as in the home, in the garden bed cool colors seem to recede and warm colors appear to come forward. To make a small garden area appear larger and more spacious, plant flowers in cool, light colors. As a general rule white goes a long way in a garden bed, but if you use a lot of white flowers in an area, consider adding a dramatic splash of bright red or bright pink or purple for visual contrast. And, remember, if you are growing flowers to cut and bring the blooms indoors, choose colors that will go with the decor of your home, as well as harmonize with one another in the garden. Gardens, in fact, are often planned around color. The ambience of your outdoor living space is determined by color and your choices decide whether your garden flowers contrast or complement each other which can result in either a subtle hue of color or a spectacular show of brilliant blooms. The former, which relies on soft pastels to make a statement in the flower garden, is often achieved through monochromatic planning. Choosing flowers of all the same color family may offer a soothing garden setting. Interest is accomplished by providing varying textures and flower heights in monochromatic pastel gardens. For a more showy garden, eye catching bright reds, yellows, purples and whites take center stage in a flower bed. Such contrasting colors can be often be achieved with little effort simply by matching up opposite colors on the standard color wheel. **

Planting Prep: Planting time varies depending on location, but here in the Northeast it ranges from September until as long as the soil can be worked, usually around the end of October. Prepare your bed by making sure soil is properly fertilized. Be sure to dig out the soil to the proper depth. Loosen the soil and if you choose, add a bulb booster to

the soil. Bulbs should be planted with pointed side up. Place them firmly, yet gently, into the ground. Cover the bulbs loosely with soil, water lightly and add a layer of mulch. Typically, bulbs should be planted three times as deep as the bulb is wide. In sandy soils, you can plant a little deeper, and in heavy soils you can dig a slightly shallower hole. Bulbs should be spaced approximately a width twice the diameter of the bulb. Note: Tulips should be planted one inch deeper than indicated if the soil is not too heavy and their location is permanent as deep rooting can prolong the effective life of the tulip bulb. **

Forcing bulbs indoors allows the impatient gardener to enjoy springtime blooms during the winter season. Certain bulbs, such as the narcissus and hyacinth lend themselves to forced budding.

To do: Drop a bulb into a glass jar and fill with water and small pebbles until the water level reaches the base of the bulb. Position the jar in a sunny window. Water must remain at the same level, so add moisture as needed. To prevent mold, change the water periodically. **

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

LEGALS

BAY PATH REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL NOTICE OF DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS

Parents, guardians and former students are hereby notified that all special education records within the possession of the Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District/Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School will be destroyed, pursuant to 603 CMR 23.06, 7 years from the date when the student is no longer eligible for special education, graduates, moves or transfers to another district or completes his/her educational program. These records from the 2012 – 2013 school year will be destroyed effective September 30, 2020. Eligible students, parents or guardians may receive the student's special education records prior to the destruction date by submitting a written request to: Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Attn: Student Support Services 57 Old Muggett Hill Road Charlton, MA 01507 August 28, 2020



Tax Savings Event on windows!

We’re celebrating our **Tax Savings Event** all month long!

Through August 31st only, **save \$330 on every window** and **save \$725 on every patio and entry door**, and **get 6.25% off your entire project** with **\$0 down, 0 monthly payments and 0% interest for one year!**¹

- From last year we know that these appointments fill up quickly; call today
- This Tax Savings Event is **even better than last year’s!**



Save
on every
window!



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on every
door!



Must call by August 31st, 2020

1

SAVE \$330
on every window¹

SAVE \$725
on every patio and entry door¹

Minimum purchase of four.

AND

2

6.25% OFF
your entire project¹

No minimum purchase required.

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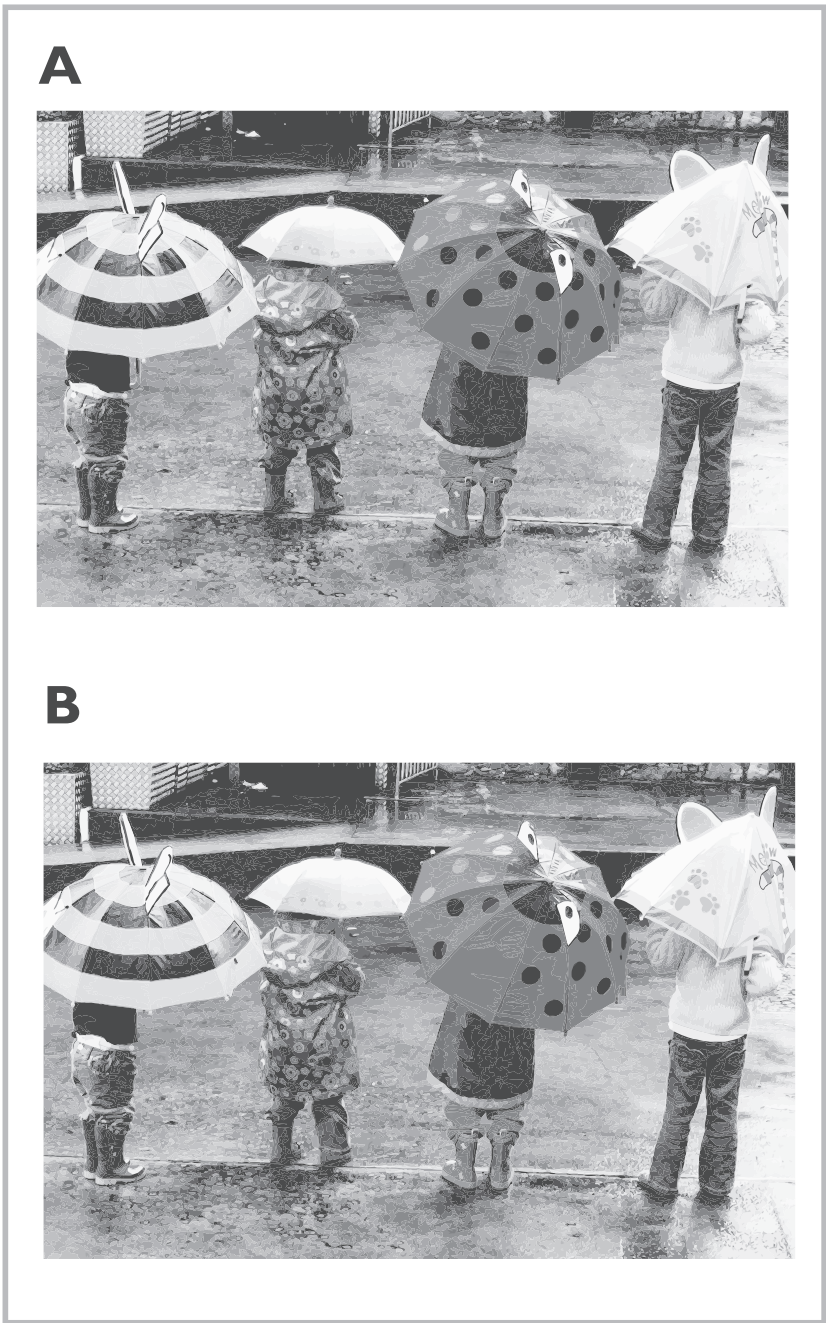
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¹DETAILS OF OFFER – Offer expires 9/19/2020. You must set your appointment by 8/31/2020 and purchase by 9/19/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$330 off each window and \$725 off each patio/entry door and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio/entry doors between 8/1/2020 and 9/19/2020. Additional 6.25% off your entire project, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 8/31/2020 and purchase by 9/19/2020. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. “Renewal by Andersen” and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *See limited warranty for details.



What’s the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. Polka dots missing 2. Extra paw print pulled down 3. Left umbrella handle missing 4. Jeans leg

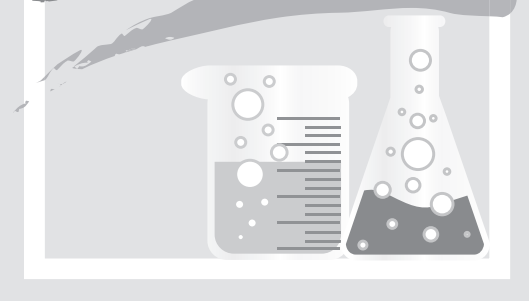
THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1609: GALILEO GALILEI DEMONSTRATES HIS FIRST TELESCOPE TO LAWMAKERS IN VENICE.
- 1875: MATTHEW WEBB BECOMES THE FIRST PERSON TO SWIM ACROSS THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.
- 1950: PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN ORDERS THE SEIZURE OF U.S. RAILROADS TO AVERT A STRIKE.

SCIENCE FACT!



THIS ELECTRICAL CHARGE IS MOST OFTEN LIMITED TO CLOUDS AND ONLY RARELY REACHES THE GROUND.

ANSWER: LIGHTNING

New Word

CURRENT

a flow of electricity

How they SAY that in...

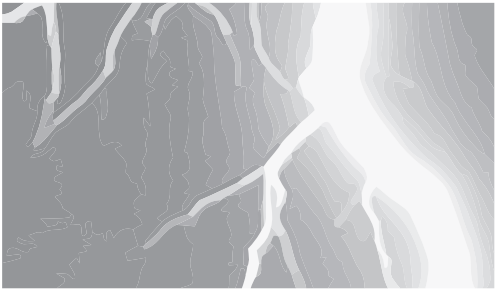
- ENGLISH: Storm
- SPANISH: Tormenta
- ITALIAN: Tempesta
- FRENCH: Orage
- GERMAN: Gewitter

Did You Know?

LAKE MARACAIBO IN VENEZUELA IS RECEIVES MORE LIGHTNING STRIKES THAN ANY PLACE ON EARTH. THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF STRIKES CAN OCCUR IN ONE NIGHT.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LIGHTNING STRIKE

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to water quality. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 1 = T)

A. 1 22 20 15 23

Clue: Poison

B. 9 2 25 16 15 1 12

Clue: Standard of something

C. 1 6 18 1 15 23 21

Clue: Measures performance

D. 26 25 14 1 15 8 2 16 25 1 6

Clue: Minute separate particles

Answers: A. toxin B. quality C. testing D. particulate

SUDOKU

		4	8	9	6	1		
							9	
		1				5		4
	5			1		6		
			3		5		7	
			7					9
	4	8					6	
3	9	2			1			8

Level: Intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

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

8	5	2	1	7	5	8	3	9
7	4	8	5	2	9	3	6	1
6	1	5	7	8	3	4	2	9
1	8	6	3	4	5	9	7	2
4	3	9	6	7	2	8	1	5
2	5	7	9	1	8	6	4	3
9	6	1	2	3	7	5	8	4
8	7	3	1	5	4	2	9	6
5	2	4	8	9	6	1	3	7

ANSWER:

What to do to prepare your garden for winter

Gardens provide an idyllic escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In fact, many gardening enthusiasts typically cannot wait for the spring thaw so they can spend the next several months tending to their plants under the warm sun. But a gardener's work is never truly done, and the work to make gardens stun in the spring actually begins during the preceding fall.

Preparing gardens for winter is an important step that can help homeowners ensure their gardens return to full strength in the spring. The tasks necessary to prepare gar-

dens for winter may depend on what homeowners are planting, but the following are some general maintenance suggestions that can keep gardens safe this winter.

- Remove weeds and debris. Weeds and debris are unsightly and detrimental to plant life in spring, but they also can be harmful in the winter. Weeds and debris left to linger in gardens through the winter provide overwintering spots for insects and can contribute to disease. So it's imperative that weeds and debris are removed before the ground hardens in winter. Don't wait until the ground



hardens, as that can make it hard to remove the roots of weeds, adversely affecting the garden as a result.

- Prepare the soil. The Farmer's Almanac advises homeowners to gently till the soil in their gardens so they can expose any insects before they settle in for the winter. Once garden soil is exposed, add a layer of compost, leaves, aged manure, and, if necessary, lime, gently tilling it into the soil. According to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension, the only accurate way to determine if lawn or garden soil needs lime

is to test it. Lime makes soil less acidic and reduces soil pH. Low soil pH makes it hard for certain plants to grow, but acidic soil is ideal when growing blueberries. Test the soil for lime and amend it depending on what you hope to grow in the spring so it's ready to thrive when winter ends.

- Remove dead or diseased plants. Dead or diseased plants should not be left in the garden through the winter. These plants can attract insects and are vulnerable to disease, which can make it hard for the garden to thrive in the spring.

- Protect fruit trees. If you have fruit trees, install mouse guards around the base to prevent mice and voles from killing the trees over the winter. If left to their own devices over the winter, mice and voles may eat the bark of fruit trees, killing the trees as a result. The Farmer's Almanac notes that mouse guards made of fine mesh hardware cloth can effectively protect fruit trees from hungry mice and voles over the winter.

A gardener's work is never done, and the work to create beautiful spring gardens begins in the fall.



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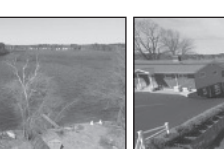
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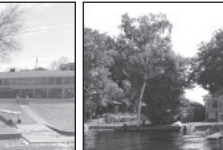
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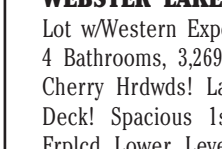
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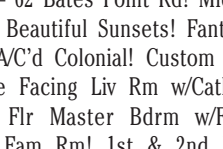
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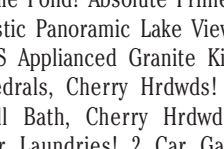
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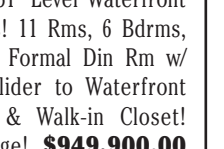
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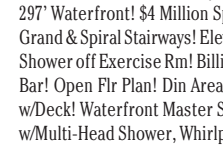
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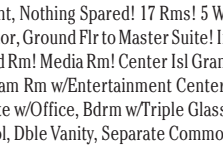
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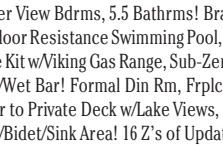
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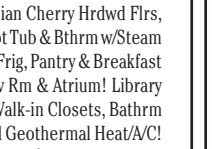
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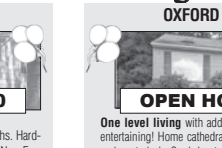
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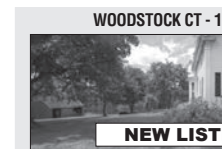
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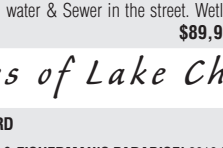
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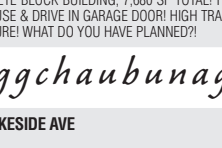
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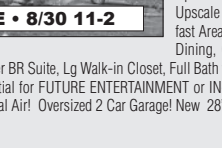
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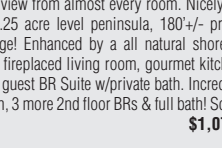
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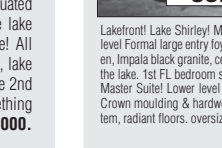
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How to recognize when you can stop mowing

Each weekend in spring, summer and fall, millions of homeowners fire up their mowers and cut the grass in their yards. A few hours spent mowing the lawn can be a great time to get some sun and some exercise in the great outdoors.

As fall gradually transitions to winter, homeowners may wonder when to stop mowing their lawns. Each lawn is different, and when to stop mowing may depend on a host of factors, including local climate and the type of turf. In addition to climate and turf, homeowners can keep an eye on these conditions to determine when the time is right to put their mowers away for the winter.

- Frost: Warm-season grasses typically go dormant after a couple of significant frosts. Homeowners can jot down each frost during fall. Frosts are most noticeable in the early morning hours, so be sure to check lawn conditions each morning as the weather begins to grow cold. Frost may be noticeable without even going outside, but homeowners may need to go outside to check on chilly mornings or on days when the previous night was especially cold. If you must go outside, stay off the grass to protect it. Two or three frosts might be enough to make warm-season grasses go dormant for the winter. Cool-season grasses may keep growing and require moving



even after a few frosts, so it's imperative that homeowners determine which type of grass is in their yards.

- Soil temperature: If it's hard to determine if frosts have occurred, homeowners can try checking the temperature of their soil to decide if they need to keep mowing. The lawn

care experts at Pennington recommend homeowners continue mowing warm-season grasses so long as they keep growing. Lawns may not grow as quickly in fall as they do in spring or summer, and growth may not be as visible to the naked eye during this time of year as it is in other times. Homeowners can routinely check soil temperature to determine if their grasses have stopped growing. Warm-season grasses tend to stop growing once the soil temperature is consistently at 55 F or below, while cool-season grasses tend to stop when temperatures are 45 F or lower.

Falling leaves have long been a barometer used by homeowners to determine if they need to keep mowing their lawns. That's not necessarily a reliable metric, as grass can still keep growing even if leaves have been falling for weeks. In addition, using a mulching mower when leaves begin falling is a great way to provide the lawn with nutrients it can use throughout the winter. Some trees shed their leaves more quickly than others, but it's a good rule of thumb that lawns will need to keep being mowed if trees are still retaining more than half their leaves.

A host of factors can help homeowners determine when it's safe to put their mowers away for the winter.

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Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254
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Investors

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The Page position is a 12 hr/wk position. Responsibilities include basic library services and clerical work. Salary is 12.75/hr. Please submit the required Application for Employment, found at www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources.

Please send to Lynn.Dyer@townofcharlton.net. Position will remain open until filled.

The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.

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Mechanic / Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO):
The Town of Spencer seeks qualified applicants to fill the HEO/ Mechanic position in the Highway Department. This position is responsible for the repair, retrofit and service of Highway Equipment and Vehicles, including welding and fabricating steel components. The position also is responsible for operating of heavy and light equipment, plowing and salting, repairing and maintaining stormwater systems, repairing streets and sidewalks, debris removal and other tasks assigned by the Foreman or Superintendent. The position is expected to perform skilled labor duties, be able to lead the repair activities and be the OSHA Competent Person on site. This highly responsible position is subject to emergency call-ins to respond to emergencies. High School diploma or GED, plus five years of related experience in operating heavy equipment, a Mass CDL Class B, and Hoisting 2A are required, additional license and certifications beneficial. Base pay for this position ranges from \$23.12 to \$28.49 and includes a generous benefits package, including clothing allowance, continuing education, and license cost reimbursement.

Submit resume and standard Town application (available at www.spencerma.gov) to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer MA 01562. Subject to Union Rules and Regulation, EEO Employer.

Light Equipment Operator (LEO):
Town of Spencer seeks applicants to fill the Light Equipment Operator position in the Highway Department. This position is responsible for the operation of light equipment, snowplows, motorized and non-motorized hand tools. The work involves repair and maintenance of highway infrastructure including but not limited to roads, sidewalks, stormwater systems and street signs, vegetation control, snow plowing and sanding, maintenance of parks, cemeteries, and grounds. This highly responsible position is subject to emergency call-ins to respond to emergencies. High School diploma or GED plus a Mass CDL Class B are required, additional license and certifications beneficial. The willingness to be trained and increase skills and licensing is required to succeed in this position. Pay for this position ranges from \$20.95/hr. to \$25.03/hr. and includes a generous benefits package including clothing allowance, continuing education, and license cost reimbursement.

Submit resume and standard Town application available at www.spencerma.gov to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer MA 01562. Subject to Union Rules and Regulation, EEO Employer.

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Seeks PT (22hr) Kitchen Assistant/Cook
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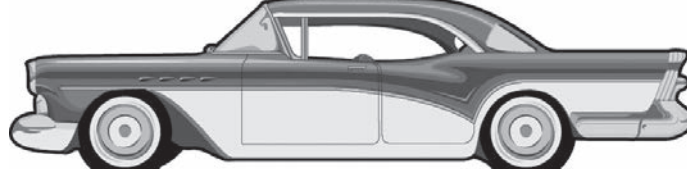
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