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Friday, April 3, 2020

Charlton Sewing Center producing masks for health workers



Courtesy Photos

An example of the N95 mask covers being made by local sewing enthusiasts



A collection of masks made by local sewing specialists. The Charlton Sewing Center reports over 1,000 masks have been made to date.

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – As COVID-19, or coronavirus, continues to leave an impact nationwide and locally, several businesses, organizations and groups are coming together to be part of the solution and make a difference in these unsure times.

One business doing its part is the Charlton Sewing Center, with owner Cathy Racine providing kits to create cover masks for the N95 respirator and surgical masks utilized by medical personnel to prevent themselves from catching the coronavirus while working with patients. To date, the Charlton Sewing Center and its customers have produced more than 1,000 masks to doctors and hospitals from Southbridge, Worcester, Boston and beyond with hospitals like Tufts Medical Center and Harrington Hospital benefitting from the effort.

Countless local sewing specialists and even hobbyists have helped make the effort a success. Racine said she isn't surprised to see the turnout as her clients and customers are always ready to jump on any opportunity to give back to their community or those in need.

"All the supplies they need are inside the kits and we have a tub outside my shop, two tubs

outside Christ Episcopal Church and I believe an additional church at Grace Episcopal Church in Oxford. People can just drop off their finished masks. We have very little contact with people. We just keep putting kits in plastic tubs and people are just cranking these out," Racine said. "I'm overwhelmed. Every time I've made a request of the local sewing community, they've stepped up and they don't disappoint. This has been an incredible effort."

The covers may not serve as a perfect replacement for the N95 masks that have been in short supply as the nation works to up production to combat the virus, but they are a powerful tool to help provide medical personal at least some kind of barrier when dealing with infected patients. Medical personnel have used the masks as either an add on to the N95 for extra protection or as a mask unto themselves with the often vibrant and welcoming colors and patterns often being more welcoming and calming for patients than the N95 masks.

Racine said the idea of making the masks was sparked by a phone call she received from a nurse

Turn To **SEWING CENTER** page **A4**

Charlton confirms second COVID-19 case, launches hotline

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – A week after confirming its first case of COVID-19, the town of Charlton announced a second confirmed case of the virus and while increased cases might be cause for concern for many Charlton's Town Administrator says this unfortunate reality was expected. The goal now is to keep the case numbers as low as possible.

Town Administrator Andrew Golas explained that while it is unfortunate that two Charlton residents have been stricken with COVID-19 the town knew it was a matter of time before local cases came to light and the focus has not changed. The goal was never to completely avoid the fast-spreading virus, but to manage its spread as effectively as possible.

"This is kind of what we expected. We didn't expect to see zero cases. We knew we'd probably have a few. We're hoping that with the social distancing guidelines put forward by the state we would maybe see, at most, one a week. We don't want to see these cases start to come around in bunches of five or ten at a time. Obviously, any case we get is unfortunate, but hopefully we can keep them low and keep them slow coming in," Golas said.

With that in mind, the confirmed cases have not stopped the town from performing business as usual, with the town hall still operational but closed to the public. Meetings are also continuing among boards and commissions with the Board of Selectmen moving to an online format using Zoom, a popular app and Web site that many groups have turned to under the new "work from home" guidelines.

"We've been trying to keep to business as needed rather than business as normal. Our first (online) meeting went off without a hitch. We had participation from both State Rep. Peter Durant and Sen. Anne Gobi. It was good to have their input on the situation. We also got an update from the Board of Health," Golas said.

That meeting also revealed a major, unprecedented change for Charlton as both the annual town meeting and town election, which were both scheduled for May, have officially been postponed to a yet-to-be-

Turn To **COVID-19** page **A5**

United Way receives \$49,000 donation from Cornerstone Bank & Employees



Courtesy Photo

Featured here with Cornerstone Bank employees are representatives from the United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Charlton (UW SSC). From left: UW SSC Executive Director Mary O'Coin and UW SSC 2019 Campaign Chair Dawna Dagenais, Cornerstone Bank President & Treasurer and Chairman of the Bank's Charitable Donations Committee Todd M. Tallman; UW SSC Board President April Parzych; and Cornerstone Bank VP/Controller and UW SSC Treasurer Scott M. Dungey

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank is pleased to announce its recent donation of \$49,312 to three local United Way organizations. This donation reflects an employee gift of \$24,656, with a matching contribution from the Bank.

The United Way is a nonprofit

organization dedicated to supporting the educational, economic and healthcare needs of people worldwide. The \$49,312 donation raised through the Bank campaign will support three different United Way organizations: United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Charlton; United Way of Webster

and Dudley; and United Way of Central Massachusetts.

"I am extremely proud to be associated with both organizations," stated Cornerstone Bank VP/Controller and UW SSC Treasurer

Turn To **CORNERSTONE** page **A5**

A Note to Readers

This week's edition of the paper might seem a bit smaller than you are accustomed to, but rest assured, this is only temporary. Due to the unique circumstances we are all living under at the present time, local sporting events and community activities have wisely been canceled as we all try to stay closer to home and practice social distancing.

As we ride out this temporary interruption of life as usual together, we urge you to continue supporting the local businesses that advertise in your newspaper. They have always been here for you through good times and bad, and now, more than ever, they need you to be there for them in any way you can.

Amid this temporary absence of local events and municipal meetings, we are also looking to celebrate the many quiet heroes in our communities who have gone above and beyond to make this situation easier for those most affected by it. Let us know if there is someone in your community who you think should be recognized by e-mailing news@stonebridgepress.news.

Above all, know that we have been your trusted source for local news for generations, and we plan to be here for you to generations to come, in print and online at www.stonebridgepress.com.

Calendar of events suspended

With many local groups and organizations wisely canceling planned events due to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak, we have temporarily suspended publication of our weekly calendar of events. Once the current situation settles down, we will return to being your go-to source for the area's most comprehensive listing of local events and activities.

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How to practice social distancing during a pandemic

As COVID-19 continued to spread across the world, it quickly became evident that the public would have to take drastic measures to slow the transmission. In addition to practicing generalized sanitation and good hygiene, people in some of the hardest-hit clusters were advised to take additional, more aggressive measures. Quarantines and travel restrictions were implemented, and the term “social distancing” became a buzzword.

Social distancing involves people keeping a physical distance from each other during disease outbreaks in order to slow transmission rates. Social distancing also is employed to lessen the impact of the disease on the medical care system, which quickly can become overwhelmed with a high number of cases presenting in a short period of time. In best-case scenarios, social distancing also may enable a few people to avoid infection until a vaccine is available.

So how can people socially distance themselves? Here are some of the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization and other leading health groups.

- Opt out of group events. Steer clear of events, whether meetings, sports games, conferences, and other gatherings.

Turn To **SOCIAL DISTANCING** page **A5**

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We are doing everything recommended and required by the CDC and then some to keep us all safe.

For our elder community members a few things that you can do at home to keep yourselves safe...

- Restrict visitors – Visit loves ones through the window, outside while remaining at least 6 feet apart or video chat when possible.
- Call your local senior center or Tri-Valley Elder Services if you need help with services or obtaining groceries/meals.
- Call your local grocery stores to find elder shopping hours and only shop during that time period.
- Wash your hands frequently with hot soapy water.
- Stay home as much as possible.

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Massachusetts launches COVID-19 text message notification system

BOSTON – The Baker-Polito Administration today announced the launch of a new text-based notification system to deliver important information about the Commonwealth’s COVID-19 response to Massachusetts residents.

The new messaging tool called “AlertsMA” will allow residents to subscribe to real-time notifications by texting the keyword COVIDMA to 888-777. After signing up, state and public health officials can send short messages and links to information directly to a resident’s cell phone or other mobile device.

The AlertsMA notifications can be used to share news, prevention information, and help connect residents to information that they are looking for through other public information channels, such as the state’s Information line, 2-1-1, and Web site searches on Mass.Gov.

The Commonwealth’s Executive Office of Technology Services and Security partnered with Everbridge, whose platform powers AlertsMA, to bring the notification service online during the COVID-19 response. Everbridge is a Massachusetts-based company located in Burlington. The company’s notification service is assisting the public health response around the country, including New York City, San Francisco, and Houston.

The Commonwealth will promote the service on Mass.gov, through digital displays and billboards at the MBTA, via MassDOT, and through social media. For additional information please contact Rep. Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2100.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

Escape the Pike invites you to unlock the identity of the Zodiac

STURBRIDGE — Escape the Pike is launching a contest — can you decode a cipher and puzzle out the identity they have assigned to the Zodiac Killer? If you can, you could be the sole winner of two free Private Game gift certificates to Escape the Pike.

The prize, valued at \$400, will accommodate as many as eight players per escape room game and can be redeemed for current or future games, birthday parties, corporate team-building, or other special events. The “Name the Zodiac Killer Contest” and prize are being offered to announce the opening of “Son of the Zodiac”- the long-anticipated third escape room game to be offered at the business which is located in Sturbridge.

In the 1960s and ‘70s, The Zodiac Killer was infamous for releasing a series of messages and ciphers that dared people to uncover his identity as a means to end a serial killing spree. Although a few individuals, over the course of five decades, have claimed to uncover the identity of the killer, no translations of his second cipher have been accepted as the correct solution by the case investigators. His identity has remained a mystery. Those who enter into the story line of Escape the Pike’s “Son of the Zodiac” game have identified who the Zodiac Killer is, inadvertently making them a target of his son’s wrath- from whom they must escape. The game is a horror-thriller not suitable for children. Players are immersed in an environment meant to saturate the senses with that which evokes slight fear- darkness, confinement, musty odors, and dampness.

Escape the Pike, for the fun of their contest, has assigned an identity to the Zodiac Killer that escape room enthusiasts can attempt to uncover. Anyone who wishes to enter the contest has 20 days to decode a cipher, solve the puzzle, and submit their entry. Escape room players are accustomed to getting clues from their Game Master to help them successfully overcome challenges. Those who wish to enter the contest can access three clues on the contest Web site if they need help. The cipher, clues, entry form, and contest rules and directions can be found at www.escapethepike.com/zodiac-contest. The contest will run from April 4- 24, 2020.

Escape the Pike will announce the winner of the contest in a live video on their Facebook page at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25th. On the same day, they will open “Son of the Zodiac” to the general public. Those interested in playing may pre-book their game at www.escapethepike.com throughout the duration of the contest.

Escape the Pike currently offers two other escape rooms: an apocalyptic-themed bunker game called “Podunk” and a magical King Arthur- themed game called “Merlin’s Vision.” Games can be booked online or by calling (774) 241-0508. For more information, Escape the Pike can be found on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and at www.escapethepike.com. Escape the Pike is located at 179 Main St., Sturbridge.

Bay State Savings Bank purchases horse for Friends of the Mounted Police Unit – Worcester

WORCESTER — Bay State Savings Bank has recently announced their purchase of a 1,300 pound Draft Cross horse named Hank, whom they have gifted to the Friends of the Mounted Police Unit – Worcester. Hank is originally from Northfield, is seven years old, and will be the newest horse on the Unit.

Internally, the horse will still go by Hank; however, externally, both Bay State Savings Bank and the Friends of the Mounted Police Unit – Worcester would like the public to help officially welcome Hank to the city by giving him a new name. More information regarding the horse, as well as how to participate in the Naming Contest can be found on the Bank’s Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages.

Bay State Savings Bank of Worcester has been a mutually owned community savings bank since it was founded in 1895. In addition to its main office, Bay State Savings Bank has branches in Auburn, Holden, and Worcester. For additional information, visit www.bay-statesavingsbank.com.



Courtesy Photo

Bay State Savings Bank has recently announced their purchase of a 1,300 pound Draft Cross horse named Hank, whom they have gifted to the Friends of the Mounted Police Unit – Worcester.

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🌿🌿🌿 Friday’s Child 🌿🌿🌿



Hi! My name is Yomiah and I love to jump on the trampoline!

Yomiah is an elementary school aged child who demonstrates strong intuition when interacting with others. Yomiah generally appears happy and loves spending time outside on the swings, going for walks, and bouncing on his trampoline. Yomiah likes to explore his surroundings. He loves sensory items and responds well to the caregivers he has involved in his life. One of Yomiah’s favorite foods to eat is bananas. He loves to listen to Christmas music, country music, and songs by Mariah Carey and Taylor Swift! He is currently learning American Sign Language in school and is learning to read Braille.

Yomiah
Age 9

Legally freed for adoption, Yomiah could be placed in a two-parent family of any constellation that could meet his needs. Caregivers who are patient, nurturing, affectionate, and strong advocates would be the best match for him.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



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Sex: Neutered Male

Age: 1 Year



My name is Theo. I was found as a stray in a local town. The shelter staff tells me that my friendly personality matches my good looks (nice compliments). I just got a clean bill of health from the veterinarian and was neutered (ouch). I am very outgoing and love attention. I don’t understand why my former family abandoned me but I have lots of love to share with my new family.



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~ Marc, Jessie, Alex, Kyle,
and Cormier’s Staff

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“American Pickers” to film in Massachusetts

REGION — Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz, and their team are excited to return to Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont! They plan to film episodes of the hit series “American

Pickers” throughout your area, potentially this summer. We understand that with the proliferation of COVID-19, we are all facing very uncertain times, and everything is changing daily. We at “American Pickers” are taking this pan-

demically very seriously and will be adjusting our schedule accordingly for the safety of those who appear on our show and our crew. We won’t be picking until everybody is safe, so if we cannot make it this summer, nobody’s time is wasted as we will re-schedule to a date

when conditions allow filming. However, we are excited to continue to reach the many collectors in the area to discuss their years of picking!

“American Pickers” is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique “picking” on History. The hit show follows Mike and Frank, two of the most skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America’s most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind them.

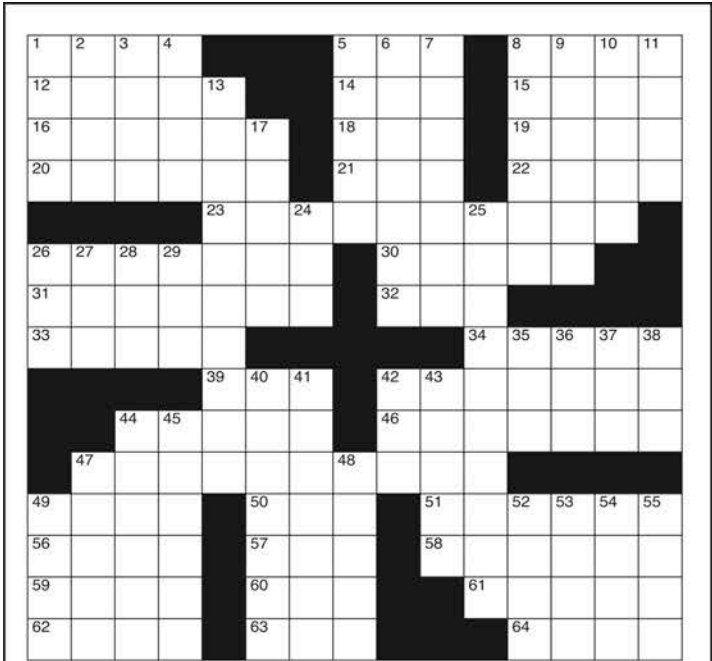
As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, the Pickers want to meet characters with



remarkable and exceptional items. The pair hopes to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America’s past along the way.

Mike and Frank have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they’ve never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

“American Pickers” is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send us your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cinetflix.com or call 855-OLD-RUST.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Bond villain Mikkelsen

5. A team’s best pitcher

8. French river

12. Mountain nymph (Greek)

14. City of Angels airport

15. Military force

16. Scrawny

18. Value

19. One billionth of a second (abbr.)

20. Highly seasoned sausage

21. Trouble

22. Prong

23. Showing varying colors

26. Cloaked

30. Renters sign one

31. Acquires

32. Type of language (abbr.)

33. Partner to pains
34. Third portion of the small intestine

39. Excessively theatrical actor

42. Infraction

44. Classical music for the stage

46. Slogged

47. One who terminates

49. Breakfast is an important one

50. Moved earth

51. Medical procedures

56. Genus of clams

57. Not well

58. Comparative figure of speech

59. Covered thinly with gold

60. Principle underlying the universe

61. A parent’s sisters

62. Professional engineering group

63. Coniferous tree

64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

1. Female parents

2. Region

3. Transaction

4. Heroic tale

5. Of algae

6. Luminous intensity unit

7. Uncovers

8. French commune name

9. Poisonous gas

10. Pearl Jam’s bassist

11. Horse groom in India

13. Destroyed

17. A way to alter

24. Promotional materials

25. American state

26. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand

27. “Modern Family” network

28. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
29. Exercise system __ -bo

35. Type of bulb

36. Opposite of beginning

37. Utilize

38. Type of student

40. Deficiency of moisture

41. Areas of the eye

42. Select

43. Sheets of floating ice

44. Priests who act as mediums

45. Roof of the mouth

47. Unnatural

48. Illuminated

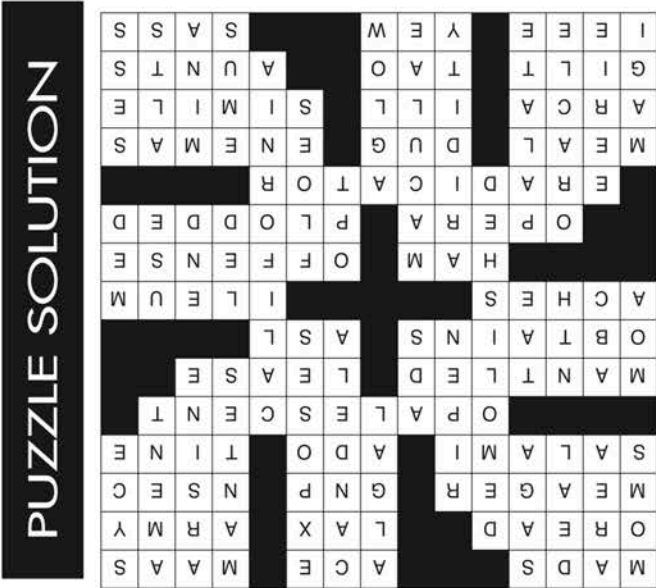
49. There are three famous ones

52. Large, fast Australian birds

53. “Dracula” heroine Harker

54. Substitutes (abbr.)

55. Tax



Local attorney announces candidacy for Governor’s Council

WORCESTER — Worcester attorney Padraic Rafferty has officially announced his candidacy for the vacant seat on the Governor’s Council for District 7.

Rafferty, a democrat, leans on his significant litigation practice in multiple courts throughout the Commonwealth, as he is the only candidate with substantial courtroom and trial experience for a position that approves or rejects gubernatorial nominations for lifetime Clerk Magistrate positions and State Court Judgeships, which includes the Industrial Accident Board.

“This position is something I am very passionate about and my vote for a candidate will be

for one who applies the law, protects the community, and exhibits compassion to every person involved with each case, whether a victim, complainant, or defendant,” Rafferty said. “I understand who is qualified because I’m in the courtroom every single day.”

A lifetime resident of Worcester County, Rafferty is a graduate from Oakmont Regional High School and Wentworth Institute of Technology. Rafferty then worked fulltime while attending Suffolk University Law School, being the first ever evening student at Suffolk to simultaneously graduate with a law degree (J.D.) and Masters in Tax Law (LL.M.) in its history. Upon graduation, Rafferty worked as an Assistant

District Attorney in Worcester for several years handling hundreds of cases at a time.

Rafferty now is an attorney at Eden & Rafferty practicing criminal, administrative, and probate law. Additionally, he continues to serve as a special prosecutor for District Attorney Joe Early.

“I am proud to have represented the people of Worcester County in a variety of manners and I’m bringing such understanding of this district to this position,” he said.

Rafferty is engaged and has a nine-month-old son with his fiancé. For more information, visit www.padraicrafferty.com or contact 978-895-3552.

Girl Scouts offer virtual programming

REGION — Aligning with the growing trend of taking programming virtual, the program team at Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) have begun offering digital opportunities normally offered at their leadership centers and camps, a perfect solution for families wanting to stay connected to Girl Scouts and continue their badge work.

Each week, GSCWM program specialists will be releasing digital activities, one focusing on a badge and the other will be a fun activity or patch program. There will be activities available across all six Girl Scout age levels. Additional virtual resources will be available for Girl Scouts and their families, including content from other councils across the country.

To learn more visit www.gscwm.org/virtual and please let me know if I can connect you with someone from GSCWM for more information.

SEWING CENTER

continued from page A1

looking for material and reporting that nurses were wearing bandanas and ripped up fabric pieces to compensate for the lack of masks. Racine’s company joined many across the nation coming together to help provide an important tool for keeping medical professionals safe and reducing the spread of the pandemic.

“This has nothing to do with politics or race or religion. These are people getting together who have such phenomenal respect for the medical community and think it’s outrageous that there’s not enough masks and that we came into this so unprepared. They want to step forward and make a difference and they truly are,” Racine said.

The Charlton Sewing Center isn’t slowing down, either. As of this report, the company was continuing to provide masks to hospitals almost daily and is expanding their project seeking volunteers to help make 70 masks for children in the Boston area as well as masks for elder residents of rest homes.



CHARLTON ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

CHARLTON

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\$199,000, 74 Number 10 Schoolhouse Rd, Devries, Darlene A, to Pinheiro, Lucas P.

\$185,000, 66 Osgood Rd, McGuiness, Kathy L, to Connor, John F, and Connor, Diane D.

\$162,000, 24 J Davis Rd, Szczygiel, John, to Young, Lynette.

\$108,000, 6 Peaceful Ln, Ramsdell, Joan M, and Ramsdell, Alan J, to Ramsdell, Joan M.

\$70,000, McIntyre Rd #2, Tiny House RT, and Camosse, Henry J, to Foksett, Lisa.

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Support for community a top priority at Edward Jones

STURBRIDGE — In today’s challenging times, Edward Jones financial advisors are thinking about the health of their clients, their families and their colleagues, what’s happening in their communities and the effect of Covid-19 on the markets.

Local Financial Advisors Jeff Burdick & Trevor Nielsen are taking steps to protect the health and well-being of clients, associates, families and communities. To help mitigate this crisis, they are suspending face-to-face visits with clients, holding virtual meetings and training sessions and ensuring office spaces are sanitized and disinfected.

Of course, people’s financial situations also weigh on their minds. The current market sell-off is certainly concern-

ing, but it seems to be driven more by fear and panic than by economic or financial reality.

Monetary and fiscal policy are necessary, but at the end of the day, it will be the medical progress that will dictate the timeline for reducing market volatility and the ultimate rebound in stocks.

Edward Jones expects daily volatility to persist until new virus cases begin to slow, but investors should find optimism in these facts: prior to the epidemic, unemployment was near a 50-year low, with solid wage growth; there was an uptick in the housing market, which may accelerate due to declining mortgage rates; and the Federal Reserve has cut short-term interest rates back to near 0 percent.

Furthermore, the drop in investment prices may indicate that the financial markets have already “priced in” the likelihood of a short-term recession. This could mean that investors have already endured much of the stock market pain. Yet, even a short recession is of concern since it’s likely to bring at least a temporary disruption to an otherwise strong labor market.

For investors wondering what to do now, Jeff Burdick & Trevor Nielsen offer these suggestions:

First, remember why you’re investing. With the market decline, people will be tempted to change their investment strategies. But they need to keep in mind that most of their financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement are long-term in nature - a lot longer-term than the shelf life of the coronavirus. If investors have established a long-term strategy that’s appropriate for their needs, they should stick with it regardless of today’s headlines.

However, individuals who are particularly concerned over the current results of their investment statements might want to evaluate their risk tolerance. For those who may be losing sleep over what is going on in the markets, it is possible the portfolio is positioned too aggressively for the amount of risk that feels comfortable. In that case, investors are advised to work with their financial advisor to consider adjusting the investment mix to include more fixed-income securities, which can provide some downside protection; but there is a trade-off because this might be affecting long-term growth potential.

Finally, now might actually be a good time for investors to consider actually adding to their portfolios. Right now, many stocks are at their best values in more than a decade. For those needing to rebalance a portfolio, this could be a good time to do so.

Ultimately, investors need to realize that, while these are somewhat uncharted times, the temptation to panic should be fought. Emotions are running high right now, and while everyone’s top priority should be to protect themselves, their families and their communities, it is still important not to lose sight of their financial well-being. For that, the best thing to do is look past short-term downturns and maintain the discipline to keep investing in all types of markets.

Edward Jones, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in St. Louis, provides financial services in the U.S. and, through its affiliate, in Canada. Every aspect of the firm’s business, from the investments its financial advisors offer to the location of its branch offices, caters to individual investors. The firm’s 18,000-plus financial advisors serve more than 7 million clients and care for \$1.3 trillion in assets under management. Visit our website at edwardjones.com and recruiting Website at careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.

COVID-19

continued from page A1

announced date. The state legislature had previously implemented a special act that allowed towns to move their annual meetings and elections to avoid forcing large groups to gather during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Board of Selectmen are expected to discuss

the tentative new dates during their meeting on April 14 which will also be streamed online.

Another new update concerning the COVID-19 virus is a hotline that Charlton has set up as an added resource for residents and those in self-quarantine during this difficult time. The goal of the hotline is to help bridge and gaps that residents might find difficulty maneuvering in terms of accessing food or any kind of information related to

the virus. It will also serve as a way for those who want to provide assistance to get in touch with those most in need.

“We launched this number for people who are looking for resources or might have resources to offer. That way we can anticipate questions from citizens who can’t leave their homes or are looking for a specific resource. We want to connect those in need with the resources available in the town as best we can, whether or not that’s let-

ting people know about Instacart and the ability to purchase groceries online and have them delivered or connecting them with Chip-In, the local food bank, if they’re in need of food and might not have food stamps or have a cash flow problem,” said Golas.

Those who wish to utilize the public assistance hotline only need call 508-248-2366 or they can email assistance@townofcharlton.net.

CORNERSTONE

continued from page A1

Scott M. Dungey. “Cornerstone Bank has such caring and generous employees and the corporate match demonstrates the Bank’s commitment to giving back to the community. With being on the United Way Board of Directors, I know these funds are being stretched as far as they can to touch as many people in our community as possible.”

“United Way has been helping people in need for such a long time, its reputation and charitable services are impeccable,” commented Cornerstone Bank President and Treasurer Todd M. Tallman. “Cornerstone Bank is pleased to play a role in supporting its efforts, and I am so proud of all the people here who were instrumental in making this happen.”

For more information on the local United Way organizations, please visit www.unitedwayssc.org, www.unitedwayofwebsterdudley.org and www.unitedway-cm.org.

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

SOCIAL DISTANCING

continued from page A1

ings where large amounts of people congregate together.

- Stick to non-contact greetings. Avoid hugs, kisses and handshakes. Substitute a smile, a wave or a bumping of elbows, instead.
- Practice remote learning. Students who attend large schools, such as high schools, universities and colleges, can continue their studies via remote learning and virtual classes instead of gathering in classrooms.
- Work from home. Many companies are now equipped to allow employees to work from home all the time or a portion of the time. Businesses can encourage employees to stay home and utilize the internet to get their work done.
- Stagger commute times. Commuters in urban areas can consider staggering work hours so that they help curb



Social distancing protocols encourage people to avoid crowds, such as those at concerts and sporting events.

crowds on public transportation.

- Alter shopping schedules. Try to visit stores in the early morning or late at night when they are less likely to be crowded.
- Make changes in worship practices. Celebrants may have to make modifications to the way they worship. The Catholic Diocese of Trenton, NJ, recently advised all diocesan churches to halt the distribution of the most precious blood (wine) from communal chalices; encouraged clergy and eucharistic ministers to sanitize their hands before distributing the eucharist; and parishioners to avoid contact during the sign of peace.

Common sense is key to stall disease transmission, and social distancing can be an important public health measure.



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LEARNING

Schools closed through April

NICHOLS TO REMAIN ONLINE ONLY THROUGH SEMESTER

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – As a result of the continued COVID-19, or coronavirus, pandemic local students will be removed from school facilities longer than anticipated or, in the case of Nichols College, will spend the rest of the semester online.

After initially expecting schools to reopen in late March or early April, Gov. Charlie Baker announced on March 25 that he was ordering all schools and childcare programs to remain closed until at least May 4. The extended closure now puts the potential return to classrooms beyond spring vacations. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has asked educators to continue their work developing remote learning activities and programs through at least the month of April. Locally this order effects the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, Bay Path and Nichols College with the two high schools now expected to continue their school year in May but Nichols officially moving all learning online and closing its campus to student residents.

Nichols College President Susan West Engelkemeyer released updated details on the college’s plans following the Governor’s order confirming the change to online learning for the remainder of the Spring, 2020 semester. Class times will remain consistent with their previous on-site scheduled with

Zoom being utilized as the main video conferencing format for professors and students.

“Students have received additional information via email from Academic Affairs with helpful hints and instructions on how to move to an online format. Patience will be needed on both sides of this equation as we traverse this work-around solution. We are extending the last day to withdraw from classes to April 7. First year students should reach out to their advisor with questions, all other students and families should reach out to Academic Affairs directly,” President Engelkemeyer said.

As for student residents, the college halls have been closed and beginning Wednesday, April 8 all students will have the opportunity to move off campus. Students are required to make a “move-out appointment” between April 8 and April 18. The college is currently working on pro-rated room and board credit for students which could take as long as six weeks to iron out. Finally, the commencement ceremony, which was scheduled for May 2, has been postponed. The college plans to hold a virtual event on May 2 to celebrate the graduating class with further details to be released in the coming weeks.

On the high school level both Bay Path and the Dudley-Charlton schools will remain closed until further notice. As of this report officials from Bay Path had yet to release updated statements concerning the Governor’s latest order, but on March 14 the school announced

all field trips through the end of April had been cancelled and the school was making every effort to keep the health and safety of students and staff in mind.

“The school is and will continue to work closely with the local Board of Health, as well as, state and federal health and education agencies. It is impossible to know the future path of the virus and its effect on Bay Path and public acceleration. I can assure you that we are working diligently to incorporate all health and safety recommendations into our policymaking. The safety of our students, staff and community are in the forefront of our actions. We will keep you informed of changes and decisions as they are made in the coming weeks and months,” Bay Path Superintendent-Director John A. Lafleche said in a release.

The Dudley-Charlton Regional School District has also confirmed its plans to remain closed under the Governor’s order with Superintendent Steven Lamarche releasing an updated plan on the district’s Web site. The current plan calls for the continuation of grab-go meals, the coordination of an IEP Team meeting for Special Education Coordinators using telecommunication or video chat, and the waiving of all standardized testing which was passed down to all school districts by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. The extended wait time to return to school will result in more online learning which Superintendent Lamarche said was a work in progress.

“With the lack of specific guidance, the DCRSD is moving from the currently provided learning opportunities to more enhanced learning opportunities,” Superintendent Lamarche said in a press release.

He confirmed the plan was to roll out the new program on March 30, noting “The main goal is to increase student engagement and create greater opportunities for students to connect to their classroom and special education teacher. This should be recognized as a next step to take us further but know pending guidance may change or alter our plan - please note that our teachers and staff are doing everything they can to collaborate, build grade level consensus and provide meaningful opportunities for student engagement. Our need for your assistance is still high with this plan as this is not the perfect situation for everyone. While we do not know the circumstances in each household, our staff can empathize as they are sheltering in place with their children and loved ones. We are all limited in our ability to see a finish line, but we can try to stay connected through this shutdown.”

All schools have indicated a dedication to keeping students, parents and the general public involved as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. As details and plans can change daily all are encouraged to monitor school Facebook pages and Web sites for more information.

A Mix of Tips

Going through my accumulated tip file (or I should say pile!), I often find an array of hints without a common theme. Therefore, these stray hints occasionally comprise a “mix of tips” column. Read on for an assortment of tips geared to tackle the little hassles in everyday life – especial-



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

ly now when we are hunkering down.

Are you getting a little stir crazy at home? Why not send in your favorite tips to be in the running for dinner for two at the Publick House? Above all, stay safe.

**

With shopping trips reduced, it’s good to know household products can do double duty around

the house. It goes without saying that hydrogen peroxide is an effective germ killer, but did you know one cup of hydrogen peroxide to one quart water creates a safe bleach substitute for fine washables? Want to keep your overload of household trash deodorized until pickup day? Simply pour some kitty litter in the bottom of the trash pail to dispel lingering odors.

**

If you ran out of decaf tea, you don’t have to go without. Did you know you

can decaffeinate regular tea quickly and easily? Just steep it for about one minute, then pour off and discard water then add water to re-steep. This method releases up to 90% the caffeine, yet retains all the taste and most of the antioxidants!

**

More than ever, cooking has become a favorite “in house” activity! To duplicate the fluffy omelets you find in the best restaurants, add a pinch of powdered sugar or cornstarch to the egg mix before cooking. Here’s a hot tip from a steak house: Reduce meat shrinkage by pouring a little liquid over steaks throughout the cooking time!

**

Stressed out? Who isn’t! How about some therapy - music therapy that is. To relieve stress, take a 20-minute “sound bath.” Lie in a comfortable position and listen to music with a slow rhythm, slower than the average heartbeat, which is about 72 beats per minute. As the music plays, breathe deeply and allow the music to ease away the stress.

**

Pile on the pasta to relieve stress! Studies show pasta, which is rich in complex carbohydrates can help relieve anxiety and help fight depression.

**

Garlic is praised as a natural antibacterial, anti-viral and anti-fungal remedy. But before you gorge on garlic, take note: Garlic must be fresh for optimal benefits. Garlic’s active ingredient is destroyed within an hour of smashing the clove. So eat fresh garlic, or run it through a juicer in a vegetable drink for best results.

**

If you’re choosing this time at home to spruce up your house with paint, choose warm dry mornings to start the project. Cold weather retards drying of paint and the dampness will spoil the gloss. And avoid using paint directly from the can as this may cause contamination and prematurely age the paint. Pour the amount you expect to use in 30 minutes into a separate container.

**

Revamping your house with color? When painting new plaster, or other porous surfaces, paint on a solution of water mixed with PVA glue first. This will seal the surface and stop the paint from soaking into the plaster. Not only does it give a much better finish, but, as a bonus, the paint will go further too!

**

We’re spending more time with our feline friends, and do you ever wonder what your pet is thinking? Why not take cues from cat’s body language? A cat’s tail acts as an indicator of its mood and as a warning of intention. Broad swishing of the tail indicates annoyance. Severely agitated cats will move their tails rapidly back and forth from the base. The larger and more rapid the swish, the more upset the cat.

**

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Fishing may offer a cure for cabin fever

By now, most people are feeling the effects of cabin fever. Fortunately, we are dealing with this terrible situation during the warmer weather, and not in the middle of winter. It has also brought families closer together. Families are actually sitting down to the table together and enjoying a meal. Trout fishing at recently stocked trout waters has many families fishing, and it is also being enjoyed by many other senior residents.

Wallum Lake opening day for fishing is expected to take place as usual on April 11. A call to the state park this past weekend revealed plans to keep the Douglas State Park open. Unfortunately, there will be no restrooms open. Visitors to the park are asked to take home all of their papers and containers. Carry it in, carry it out! There is substantial parking at three different sites. The lower parking lot is reserved for boat trailers only. Keeping a safe distance from each other is number one. All of this could change if the virus spreads, and we are told to «Shelter In Place» and it is mandatory.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun stocked their club pond this past weekend with some real impressive trout, and opened it up to members for fishing immediately. With the country going through a



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

pandemic the clubs fish chairman Ed Gervei hoped that fishing would give their members something to do! Saltwater fishing is expected to open as usual with some of the following recreational 2020 regulations for Massachusetts & Rhode Island: Massachusetts & Rhode Island striped regulations have a slot limit this year that allow only fish 28 to 35 inches legal to keep. Fish over 35 inches must be released. The Massachusetts Marine fisheries received word that a rumor about striped fishing being closed this year is indeed a rumor!

Massachusetts seabass become legal on May 18, at 15 inches and a daily bag of five fish. Massachusetts Tautog fishing opens on April 1, with a 16 inch three fish daily limit.

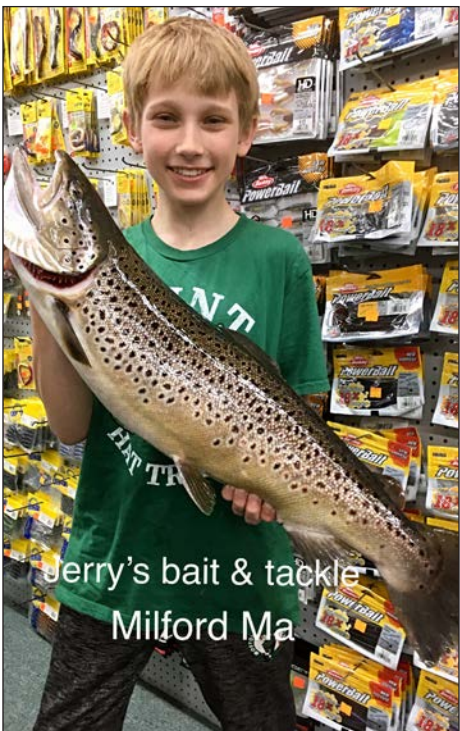
Massachusetts Fluke fishing will open on May 23, with a 17 inch length and five fish daily bag limit.

Rhode Island seabass open June 24 with a 15 inch size limit and three fish daily bag limit. Summer flounder regulations in Rhode Island are enough to «Make You Sick.» The season opens on May 1, with a (19 inch size limit) and six fish daily. Tautog fishing starts on April 1, with a 16 inch size limit and



three fish daily.

This week's picture shows a young old angler with his nine pound, four ounce Brown trout caught recently at a local reservoir. The second picture shows a young man with a four pound, six ounce, white catfish caught last week at a secret fishing hole. The state of Massachusetts has been stock-



ing some large fish in local ponds and reservoirs, but local rivers and streams had not been stocked, despite rumors of them receiving trout at the time of this publication.

God Bless America.
Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

The best dahlias for a backyard cutting garden



Courtesy Photo

For bright, energetic bouquets, grow an assortment of red, orange, and yellow dahlias.

Dahlias are bold and beautiful flowers that are easy to grow in any sunny garden. They are also spectacular in summer flower arrangements. With just a few dahlias, you can enjoy picking your own fresh-cut flowers every day from July through September.

These spring-planted tubers make gorgeous additions to flower beds and even the vegetable garden. If space allows, the very best way to grow dahlias for bouquets is in a cutting garden. A backyard cutting garden doesn't need to be large. Even a three-by-six-foot raised bed will give you plenty of space for six to eight full size dahlia plants. Planting dahlia tubers in rows lets you get maximum productivity with minimal maintenance.

When choosing dahlias for a small to medium size cutting garden, start by narrowing your choices. Select colors that you can imagine looking great together in a vase. This will make it easy to create lots of creative combinations on the fly.

Choose red, orange, and yellow flowers if you like energetic arrangements that mimic the colors of late summer and fall. Blossoms in cool colors and pastels, such

pink, lavender and violet, will be softer and more soothing. Include purple and burgundy flowers to add drama and help unify warm and cool colors.

Floral designers know that combining flowers with different shapes and sizes makes arrangements more interesting. Dahlias offer many options and it's one of the reasons they are such a popular cut flower.

Ball dahlias have tightly curled petals and dense, perfectly round, three-to-four-inch flower heads. Varieties such as Sylvia and Jowey Mirella are perfect for adding repeating bursts of color. Decorative dahlias have the classic dahlia look, with four-to-six-inch wide, open-faced blossoms and orderly layers of petals. American Dawn and Great Silence are two reliable and versatile, decorative dahlias.

The flowers of dinner-plate dahlias can measure eight to 10 inches across and these enormous blossoms make it easy to make stunning summer bouquets. Popular varieties for cutting include Café au Lait, Penhill Dark Monarch and Otto's Thrill. Add texture and movement to your arrangements with cactus dahlias. Varieties such as Yellow Star and

Nuit d'Ete have tightly rolled petals that give the flowers a spiky appearance.

Single and peony-flowered dahlias are seldom seen at the florist or even in farmer's market bouquets because they don't travel well. But home gardeners can enjoy growing varieties such as scarlet-red Bishop of Llandaff or the melon and burnt orange flowers of HS Date. These plants tend to be compact and rarely need staking.

Don't let the many options overwhelm you. Consider starting with an assortment such as the Flirty Fleurs Sorbetto Collection (longfield-gardens.com). It includes five varieties of pink and burgundy dahlias, specially selected by an experienced floral designer.

Most cutting garden flowers are picked before they are fully open. But dahlias should not be harvested until they are fully open and in their prime. To avoid crushing the stems, make your cuts with a sharp knife rather scissors.

If you want your dahlias to have nice, long stems, take a cue from cut flower farmers. When harvesting for market or removing spent flowers, they always remove



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

the entire stem, cutting right back to a main stalk. Though this means sacrificing some buds in the short term, the next round of flowers will have noticeably longer stems.

When selecting plants for this year's flower garden, be sure to include plenty of dahlias. These spring-planted, summer-blooming bulbs will take your homegrown flower arrangements to a whole new level.

Melinda Myers has written numerous 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 was commissioned by Longfield Gardens for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

TRAINOR

continued from page A6

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 renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic

Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them

with readers of Stonebridge Press 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.



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EDITORIAL

When you're on your own, we are there for you

Rarely in our nation's history has any phenomenon overtaken our society so quickly or caught us so completely by surprise as the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Amid this atmosphere of uncertainty, it has become more important than ever for you to have access to an accurate and balanced portrait of how the outbreak is affecting your community, and we want you to know that as your local newspaper, we are here for you — and with you.

As the ongoing pandemic continues to make its way through our region, we will be there to keep you up to speed on how the community we share is handling the situation, from its effect on the local business community, to the steps being taken by local officials to combat the spread of the virus, and most importantly, how readers like yourself are facing the challenge of not just staying healthy, but adjusting to life under the new social distancing restrictions we have all been forced to adapt to.

There is another side to this story, however. There are quiet heroes throughout our community taking extraordinary measures to help their neighbors and spread some positivity in the midst of all this fear and anxiety — business owners who, even amid their own hardship, are stepping up with donations for those in need; nursing home residents sewing homemade protective masks for health care workers; postal workers offering to deliver food and supplies to elderly, high-risk residents on their routes; and of course, the health care workers on the front lines of the crisis — and we are committed to bringing you their stories as well.

Whatever happens, wherever and whenever it may happen, we will be there at your side, helping you maintain perspective on this situation and helping you navigate your way through it. Our country, and our community, have faced down horrific events before, from terrorist attacks to natural disasters, and emerged on the other side stronger than ever, and we will survive this outbreak with the same grit, determination, and commitment to one another that has seen us through in the past. More than any of the political or societal divisions that too often separate us, what defines our character is our resiliency. We have built this unique and vibrant community together, and as long as we continue to support one another, we will get through this. Together.

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM CHARLTON, CHARLTON CITY, CHARLTON DEPOT AND BEYOND

Local legislators offer guidance and assistance during COVID-19 outbreak

As our Commonwealth, and our nation, grapples with the COVID-19 outbreak, it is more important than ever that we, as your state legislators, remain connected to you during these unprecedented times.

Information is changing quickly so it is difficult for us to write a “timely” message. Some of what we describe about the outbreak may be outdated by the time you read this but one message will not change: We are here for you.

As of last Monday morning, Gov. Baker had declared a state of emergency and issued five additional emergency orders. Subsequent orders and news about legislation will follow, likely daily for a while. For now, we'd like to make sure you know that public and private schools are closed for at least a three-week suspension. All bars and restaurants in Massachusetts are currently shut down to on-premise consumption. Gatherings are limited to crowds of 10 or fewer. Please stay up to date with these and future emergency orders by visiting [mass.gov/covid19](https://www.mass.gov/covid19)

Throughout this health emergency, we will continue to be guided by actions that will ensure our resources are dedicated to responding to this epidemic in a fair, timely and effective way. We have already introduced and/or are supporting legislation related to extending and increasing unemployment insurance, moratoriums on evictions and foreclosures during the time of the Emergency Order, increased funding for our regional transit authorities, deferral of payment of hospitality-related taxes, and providing assistance to public institutions of higher education and their host communities.

Our colleagues from around the state are frequently taken aback by the collegiality practiced in our counties. They admire how well our businesses and non-profits seamlessly engage with one another for the betterment of all communities. They marvel at how county lines disappear so that municipalities can support each other and advance solutions that serve the entire region. The reality is that we do not have the luxury of doing otherwise. We know we are strongest when we work together and that has never been as true as it is right now.

In this time of uncertainty, know that each one of us is working to ensure that we all have the most timely and accurate information pertaining to the COVID-19 virus. We encourage you to be in touch with us and have included our contact information below. Even if we don't know the answer to your question right away, we will get you the information as quickly as we can.

If you can, please join us in practicing social distancing which at this

time includes staying home as much as possible, working from home, and abiding by the emergency order banning large group gatherings. This is not only for your health but it is designed to stop the spread of the infection. Stopping the spread of infection at this time is about protecting both the health of vulnerable neighbors and the health care system upon which we all rely. But there is more we can all be doing: Let's check in with our neighbors by phone. Contact your local council on aging to see if there are seniors alone in the community in need of a phone call. Make a financial donation (online) to a local food pantry if you can. Continue washing our hands and practicing good personal hygiene. Take care of yourself. And, reach out if you need assistance.

We want to thank all public officials, boards of health, medical providers, first responders, public safety personnel, school staff, transit authorities, small business owners, and everyone charged with the care and well-being of Commonwealth residents.

We stand with you. Today and always.

As we continue to learn more about this virus, improve testing and gather data, the situation may get worse before it gets better. But it will get better. We have already seen so many beautiful examples of individuals in our communities reaching out to support one another. Let's continue to support each other in the coming days. In this time of social distancing, know that we are not just here for you - we are here with you.

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Harriette Chandler
State Senator

Dean Tran
State Senator

Susannah Whipps
State Representative

Todd Smola
State Representative


Natalie Blais
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State Representative

Brian Ashe
State Representative

Five keys to navigating market pullback



FINANCIAL FOCUS

JEFF BURDICK

As an investor, you constantly want to see your portfolio move just one way — up. But that's not possible, because the financial markets will always fluctuate. So, if you're going to invest for many decades, you need to be prepared for many ups and downs. Still, the recent market pullback from record highs, caused largely by the coronavirus, may have you particularly concerned. How can you navigate this environment?

Here are five suggestions:

Avoid the temptation to panic. This pullback, while unsettling and unprecedented because of its speed, won't last forever. And when it ends, you'll still want to be invested in the financial markets, because the biggest gains usually occur in the earliest stages of a market rally. Of course, there are no guarantees in the investment world, but we've seen many examples of this pullback/rebound pattern throughout history.

Measure your progress against your goals. In the midst of a market downturn, it's tempting to look back longingly at the peak value of your portfolio, and that's especially true these days, when that high point may well have been just a couple of months ago. But this isn't a good “measuring stick” of your financial situation. Instead, consider the overall progress you've made toward your long-term goals since you first started investing. If you've been at it for quite some time — at least a decade — you'll probably see that you've actually come a long way, despite what's happened lately. So, if your goals haven't changed, your strategy to achieve them shouldn't either.

Put time on your side. If you are investing for goals that may be two or three decades away, you have the advantage of time to overcome market downturns, even severe ones. After all, you weren't going to be cashing in long-term investments now, anyway. That's not to say this pullback is irrelevant, of course — it may indeed slow your progress toward your goals, but it still shouldn't stop you from achieving them. Here's another point: If you need money from your portfolio for short-term goals, such as a wedding or a long vacation, you should keep those funds in investments that offer greater protection of principal — such as high-quality bonds and government securities — and are far less susceptible to fluctuating financial markets.

Benefit from diversification. The headlines show how much the major stock market indexes, such as the Dow Jones Industrial Average, have fallen. But if you've built a diversified portfolio, containing a mix of stocks, bonds and other investments, your own results, while not great, are probably much better. Although diversification can't always prevent losses or guarantee profits, it can help reduce the impact of volatility on your holdings and smooth out returns.

Go “against the crowd.” When prices are falling, it's not hard to join the crowd and start selling, in an attempt to “cut losses.” But cutting losses really means locking them in. Right now, prices of quality investments are lower than they've been in years, which can make for compelling buying opportunities for those investors willing to go against the crowd.

Even by following these moves, you can't eliminate all the effects of the market drop — but you may be able to create a softer landing for yourself.

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.

Being optimistic in a Covid-19 world

I was recently asked, “How is it possible to remain optimistic when the entire world is falling apart?”

My response is simple. “No, the entire world isn't falling apart.”

I understand that many of us are frightened, and that fear often brings out an exaggerated feeling of gloom and doom. Yes, depending upon our age and underlying health situations, we are all at risk, but if we willingly act with health officials, shelter in place, practice social distancing and wash our hands, we can dramatically cut our risk of contracting this virus.

If you defy all the guidelines designed to keep us safe, being optimistic is foolish. However, if you are willing to cooperate, you'll potentially save lives ... and maybe your own. Think about the common sense of it all. If you shelter in place, and if you have the virus, you will not pass it to others. If you don't have it, others cannot pass it to you.

The word contagion has taken on such

POSITIVELY SPEAKING

By GARY W. MOORE

a negative meaning, and there's not much we can find positive about this virus. But let me share a few other things that you can 'catch.'

Kindness, patience, empathy, enthusiasm, love and optimism are also highly contagious. I not only hope you'll catch these. I pray you'll expose everyone you encounter and become a carrier.

And if you look for the positive, you'll find it.

I believe as we come out the other side of this pandemic, we'll be better people and see better government. I'm watching on the news as some Republicans and Democrats are working together, and even complimenting each other for their efforts. When was the last time that happened?

And yes, there are some hardliners out there shaking their fingers at the cameras and accusing others of inaction or even causing this current crisis. All I can say to them is “Shame on you!”

Rather than pulling together to be part of the solution, they are using this sickness and death to try and achieve political gain. I hope we all remember who they are at the ballot box. They should be given no power, ever.

I'm seeing a great unmasking of so many problems that most Americans weren't even aware existed.

Did you know most of our pharmaceuticals are manufactured in China? That's a national security issue, plain and simple. I believe now that citizens are aware, and we've experienced this pandemic, lawmakers will work quickly to bring the manufacturing of essential products for our health and security back into our country, along with the jobs.

So yes, be optimistic! This is not the end of the world, but also remember the lessons we are learning. Americans have had a short memory in the past and it's only been national tragedies such as Pearl Harbor and 9/11 that have

Turn To **MOORE** page **A11**

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SPORTS

Worcester County Senior Golf Club
welcomes new members for second season



Courtesy photos
From left, Tom Lisi, Joe Condelli and Dick Lisi of the Worcester County Senior Golf Club hope for a fun second season.



Dick and Tom Lisi welcome Worcester County Senior Golf Club members to the sign-in booth at last year's event at Shining Rock Golf Club.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Dick Lisi, originally from Providence, and Joe Condelli, who grew up near Boston, officially met one another on a golf course during the 2018 season as part of a traveling social group, the Safari Club. After a fun experience, the two Central Mass. residents and now friends (who learned that they both attended the Lowell Tech Institute — now UMass-Lowell — together in the early 1970s and probably walked down the hallways together) figured they should bring the same experience around this region.

“Dick and I were playing at a club in the Western part of the state and we became friendly. We were talking one day and thought it’d be a good idea to have a similar club for the Central part of the state. Last winter we met a few times and came up with a name for the club and our mission,” said Condelli, of Auburn.

“Our idea was to play some of the premium courses in Central Massachusetts at a discounted rate, so that’s where we set our focus on,” added Lisi, of Sturbridge.

The Worcester County Senior Golf Club was formed, and their first experience where strangers could now become golf buddies and new friends was at Heritage Country Club in Charlton last May.

The club, with members hailing “from Brimfield to Whitinsville,” according to Lisi, opened with 34 players teeing off at Heritage.

The once-a-month club also played at Blackstone National Golf Club in Sutton, Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in Boylston, Shining Rock Golf Club in Northbridge, Green Hill Golf Course in Worcester and Pleasant Valley Country Club in Sutton.

“We started with 34 golfers at Heritage in May and we finished with 66 at Pleasant Valley in October,” said Lisi. “Seeing our numbers increase, that was very satisfying. It meant that people liked what we were doing.”

“I think for our first year and for flying by the seat of our pants, we did a nice job in getting some nice courses,” added Condelli. “I’d say overall we had a pretty happy group. We did a quick survey after one of our events and asked about playing different courses. It’s difficult to get a bunch of people to agree, but overall we didn’t have a lot of negative feedback.”

Please Read **GOLF CLUB**, page **A16**

SPORTS BRIEFS

Charlton Youth Basketball to sponsor college scholarship

Charlton Youth Basketball proudly sponsors a scholarship program for four Charlton high school seniors accepted for enrollment at a university or college for the 2020-2021 academic year. The applicant for this scholarship must be a Charlton graduating senior who has participated in Charlton Youth Basketball for a minimum of two years and completed the application and typed an essay (250-word minimum) describing how playing Charlton Youth Basketball has had a positive impact on my youth. The due date is May 1, and four \$500 scholarships will be presented by Charlton Youth Basketball upon review of all applications.

Along with the essay, please provide your name, address, telephone, email, number of years playing Charlton Youth Basketball, grades participated, additional involvement (coaching, refereeing, volunteering, etc.), names of coaches from your experience, high school, college/university attending, and a signature. Please mail to: Charlton Youth Basketball, PO Box 811, Charlton, MA 01507.

Shepherd Hill athletes named Midland-Wachusett League All-Stars

The following Shepherd Hill Regional student-athletes were recently named All-Stars in the Midland-Wachusett League for their respective sports:

Boys’ Basketball
Danny Brooks (Academic Award)

Girls’ Basketball
Emery Mullen
Kerry Greenough (Academic Award)

Boys’ Indoor Track
Gabe Dos Santos
Matthew Gard
Kobe Jean-Guillaume
Eli Harmon
Henry Weiland (Academic Award)

Girls’ Indoor Track
Madi Marsh
Eliza Quinn
Emma Sullivan
Riley Marengo (Academic Award)

Wrestling
Ethan Ayotte



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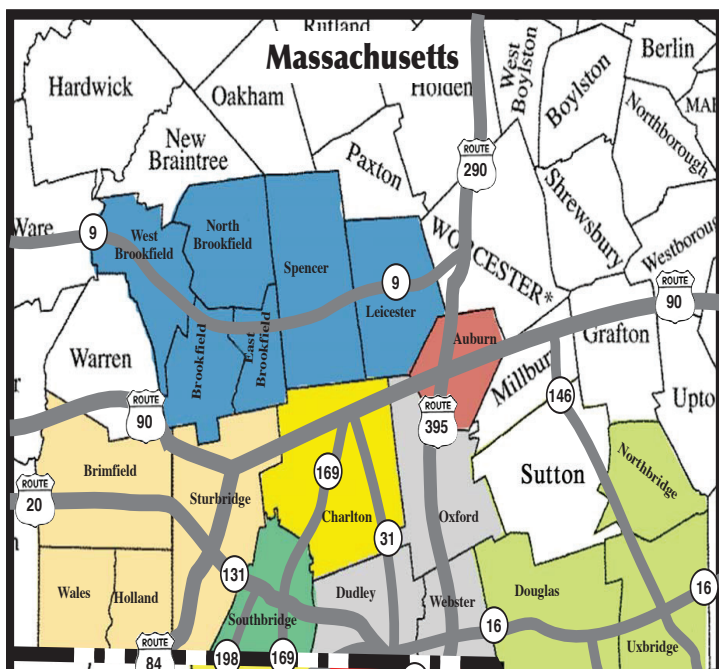
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OBITUARIES

Robert J. ‘Robbie’ Miller, II, 47



WEBSTER- Robert J. ‘Robbie’ Miller, II, 47, passed away Friday, March 27, 2020 in the comfort of his home, with his loving Mom and Dad by his side. He fought the good fight, was always planning and looking forward to doing things, especially doing his yard work, that he enjoyed, his homemade crafts, and organizational talents that were extraordinary, he even had instructions in “The Book” as to his wishes for his final journey and chores for us to follow. He even in his last week with us, wrote Thank You notes to friends. He thought of everything. Robbie enjoyed his friends and family and was the Life of the Party. He worked as a supervisor for several years at Home Depot in Worcester, and during his short time with us, also worked for other retail stores such as Versace and others and also helped his father at the family funeral homes. He was a mentor to many, and Loved by All. Robbie was born in Southbridge, January 3, 1973, son of Christine M. (Choiniere) and Robert J. Miller and lived in Webster for many years, he also lived in the Newport and Boston areas. Hewas a graduate of Bartlett High School and attended Becker Junior College. Robbie enjoyed the arts, and at his last birthday, he donated to the Worcester Art Museum and became a benefactor at the Museum. He leaves his parents; Christine M.

(Choiniere) Jacob and Robert J. Miller and his wife Iwona of Webster, his paternal grandmother, Theresa D. Miller, all of Webster, several aunts, uncles and cousins, and numerous friends, who will all miss him dearly. Robbie was predeceased by a sister, Francine M. Miller, his maternal grand- parents; J. Arthur and Dorothy M. Choiniere and his paternal grandfather, Robert G. ‘Rocky’ Miller. The family would like to Thank the VNA of Southern Worcester County and Central Mass. Hospice for the compassionate care that they gave Robbie to make him as comfortable as possible. The family would also like to Thank the hundreds of family, friends and acquaintances that have reached out with condolences, messages and phone calls, this means so much to us, THANK YOU ALL. As per Robbie’s wishes, and written in ‘The Book’, there are no calling hours, his graveside services will be Private in the Choiniere family lot at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Webster. He also instructed that flowers be omitted and Memorial Contributions be made to: The Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA. 01609. The ROBERT J. MILLER FUNERAL HOME, 366 School St., is heartbroken to be directing services, but realizes that Robbie wants us all to continue our lives and go on with our families and friends , and even perhaps, do a good deed or thought for someone. Please leave an on-line message of condolence or Share a Memory of Robbie, visit: RJMillerfunerals.net Love You Son, Mom & Dad Miss You.

Elaine Sullivan Lane, 85



N O R T H B R O O K F I E L D / CHARLTON- Elaine Sullivan Lane, 85, passed away peacefully on March 24, 2020 in UMass Memorial Health Center. She leaves 4 children Jeanne Sullivan of Spencer, John Sullivan and his wife Evelyn of Palmer/Lakeland FL, Barbara St. Germain & her husband Kenny and Larry Sullivan of Charlton; 3 stepchildren Steve Lane of North Brookfield, Jeff Lane & his wife Sheila of Los Angeles, CA and Pam Tully and her husband Ben of Strubridge; 11 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; a great great granddaughter; 2 brothers and 3 sisters. She was predeceased by her husband James L. Sullivan; her second husband John “Buddy” Lane; a son Paul Sullivan; 2 brothers and a sister. Elaine was born in Worcester February 4, 1935 the daughter of Thomas and Sylvia (Mondor) Burns and was a graduate of Charlton High School. She worked at the Rochdale Mill until moving to Boston when she married the love of her life. Before starting her fam-

ily Elaine also worked at Woolworths. Elaine was a stay at home Mom who was involved in scouting and baseball. She was also an award winning Mary Kay Consultant and sold Avon. Elaine played softball, bowled for many years and was an avid traveler. Her faith in god led her to much volunteer work at her church. Her greatest pride was being a communicant of St Josephs Church. She served on the bereavement committee, prayer groups and sang in its choir. Elaine was one of the kindest people you could ever meet. She loved her family and friends and no one was ever a stranger to her. She will be forever loved and missed. The family would like to thank the staff and administration of Fieldstone at the Overlook Masonic Home in Charlton for their love, devotion & great care for the last 3 years. Funeral service with burial in Walnut Grove Cemetery in North Brookfield will be private for the family. Pillsbury Funeral Home 44 Gilbert St. North Brookfield is directing arrangements. Donations may be made in her name to Operation Smile po box 5017 Hagerstown, MD. 21741.

Lucille Steibel, 96

CHARLTON- Lucille (Bodiford) Steibel, 96, passed away at the Masonic Overlook Health Center on March 28, 2020; She is survive by her husband William Steibel and her daughter Melanie Levine. Lucille was born in Columbus, Georgia on December 28, 1923, daughter of the late Bennie and Mae Lilly (Purvis) Bodiford; she was a teacher for many years, prior to her

retirement. Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Lucille.

TRIPS OFFERED

The “Trips Offered” section is for non-profit organizations and will run as space allows. Mail your information to Trips Offered, c/o Brendan Berube, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550; fax to (508) 764-8015 or e-mail to news@stonebridgepress.news.

BAY PATH ADULT EVENING SCHOOL

Wine Country Pacific Coast Cruise
9 days/8 nights April 6-14, 2020
What’s included: Roundtrip Motorcoach transfers, roundtrip airfare from Logan Airport, one night pre-cruise stay in Los Angeles, 8 day/7 night cruise on board Princess Cruises-The Star Princess, visiting Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Astoria Oregon, Victoria, B.C., Vancouver, B.C., winery tours, all meals on board ship, and more!
*A valid passport is REQUIRED for this trip
Prices starting at \$2,499pp double occupancy (plus tax, transfers & government fees)
For a brochure and complete itinerary, please contact Lori Douthwright at (508) 248-5971, ext. 1715.

The Boston Red Sox vs The Baltimore Orioles
3 Days/2 Nights August 21 – 23, 2020
What’s Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging, breakfast at hotel, lower reserved seating to 2 ballgames, The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Guinness Brewery & More
\$549pp Double Occ. - \$679pp Single Occ. - \$539pp Triple Occ. - \$539pp Quad Occ.

For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact
Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

September 11th Museum & Memorial in NY City and West Point Academy
2 Days/1 Night May 14-15, 2020
What’s Included: Roundtrip motor coach, dinner lodging, two (2) meals (1 breakfast & dinner theatre show), touring the Hudson River Valley & dinner theatre show and so much more!
\$399 pp Double Occ. - \$499 pp Single Occ.
For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact
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Penn Dutch Country with the New Hit Show Queen Esther
3 Days/2 Nights September 23-25, 2020
What’s Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, ticket to “Queen Esther”, touring and More!
\$499pp Double Occ. - \$599 pp Single Occ.
For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact
Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

Nova Scotia w/Tattoo Fest featuring The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo Bay of Fundy, Halifax, Saint John, Annapolis Valley
5 Days/4 Nights June 29-July 3, 2020
What’s Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging – Marriott Saint John – New Brunswick, 2 nights lodging – Westin Nova



DUDLEY - Steven P. Ide, 62, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 after a long, courageous battle with Pancreatic Cancer. He was constantly surrounded by his loving family and friends. Born in Southbridge on December 16, 1957. He leaves behind his best friend and wife of 32 years, Marilyn (Sims) Ide. His 5 children, Son Steven Jr. and wife Tracy of Dudley; Daughter Melissa Daniels and partner Bill of Rochdale; Son Timothy Magierowski-Howe and husband Nick of Leominster; Daughter Rebecca Ide and partner Bruce of Thompson, CT; and Daughter Samantha Ide and partner Keith of Southbridge. His grandchildren, Adam and Tommy Ide, Maddi and Jordan Daniels and Alice Myotte. He also leaves his companion Margie, the cat who kept him company throughout his days homebound. She gave him great comfort and never talked back. He also leaves behind his 4 brothers and 5 sisters, Brenda Allen of Charlton, Eugene Ide Jr. and wife Brigid of CA, April Laughlin and husband Ed of FL, Christine McTigue and husband David of Charlton, Jeffrey Ide and partner Marcy of Webster, Jodi Sawyer and husband Paul of W. Brookfield, Roxann Tetreau and husband Jim of Dudley, David Ide and wife Jaimie of AL, and Max Rockatansky and wife Tena of CT. Many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and cousins. His lifelong friends Dan Hebert, Terrence Miner, Jack Kavorkian, Scott Gale and Jimmy Williams. His longtime dear friend, ex-wife, Colleen O’Neil and partner Rick Fontaine. He also leaves behind his large “family” of close friends – too numerous to mention but you know who you are!! He truly loved and cherished each and every one of you. Steve graduated from Shepherd Hill

Regional High School in 1975 with the “Highest Temperature” in his class! He has worked in the vending business for over 40 years, starting with Stevens Automatic Sales and ending with Brightside Amusements, becoming partners with friends Brian Stone and Peter Camasso, and would like to thank them for all the love and support they have given throughout this battle. He serviced juke boxes, pinball, video games and pool tables. He loved his work and made many wonderful friends throughout the years. Steve played softball for 35 years in the Southbridge and Spencer Leagues. He was a proud member and Past President of the Southbridge Lions Club for 16 years and truly loved all his brother Lions. We would like to thank the Southbridge Lions for all the love, support, kindness, generosity and friendship of all the Lions and their partners. Steve was predeceased by his loving parents Eugene H. Ide and Josephine H. (Porter) Ide. In luie? louie? Oh, “What the Dickens”....In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation to the Southbridge Lions Club, Charity Account, PO Box 622, Southbridge, MA 01550. The family would like to thank Dr. Seidler and all the wonderful staff at the Southbridge Cancer Center, Dr. Bathini and staff at UMass, the Trial Team of Dr. Andrea Bullock, Laura and Shelby at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston, and the Hospice nurses Tara and Holly for their care and support. A special heartfelt Thank You to Ruben Rios for the countless trips into Boston and staying by his side the whole day during his treatments. Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA is handling arrangements. Due to the current precautions, services will be private. The family would like you to pay your respects by sharing your condolences and memories online at sansoucyfuneral.com.

MOORE

continued from page A8

indelibly burned the lessons into our minds. Let this pandemic and the lessons we learn be also forever engraved into our hearts and memory.

Can worry solve anything?

The obvious answer is no... but understanding that worrying solves nothing doesn’t necessarily keep us from worrying. I find comfort in ancient scripture, as recounted by Matthew.

“Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?”

“Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?”

“Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?”

“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or


‘What shall we wear?’”

So, when does it all end? I think the answer lies within us. If we are willing to make the sacrifices asked by health officials, I believe we can slow or even stop the wave of tragedy that may have otherwise killed millions.

Be vigilant. Cooperate. Be kind. If you have more than you need, share. If you are so inclined, pray for government leaders, health care workers and each other. If not, send out positive thoughts and let’s pull together, not apart.


My prayer for you this week is that you remain healthy and safe, while also finding your peace. We are truly all in this as one nation and one world. Let’s fight this with all we have, and we’ll come out the other side together, a stronger world and better people.

Will you join me? I’m optimistic. How about you?
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 @ GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.



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Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
to Obits@stonebridgepress.news

In Loving Remembrance on your Birthday



David Anthony Powell
4-3-70 to 8-7-10

*Happy 50th Birthday in Heaven
Sweet Child of Mine
Each day as evening starts to set*

*The ache builds in her chest
She knows that she must go to bed
And try to get some rest
She hugs her tearstained pillow close
When no one is around
And cries for one she loved and lost
And screams without a sound
Others see her in the day
And think she’s doing well
But every day as evening sets
She enters her own hell
Time hasn’t healed her pain at all
Or quieted her fears
So every night, alone in bed
She sheds those silent tears*

*Love, Mom, Dad,
Judi, Chloe, Ty, Emme,
Michael & Chris
1-4-3*

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Patio Door Special! Window Special!

Special ends on May 2nd

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on windows¹
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SAVE 20%
on patio doors¹

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PLUS AN ADDITIONAL

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your entire project¹

Minimum purchase of four.

WITH

\$0 0 0% FOR 1
Down Monthly Interest YEAR¹
 Payments

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.



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- We handle the entire process—from selling to installation to the warranty—on our windows and patio doors, so if you ever have an issue, you’re covered

We handle every part of the replacement process

Sell

Custom-Build

Install

Warrant

“ The entire experience was great. The installation crew was fantastic. They arrived on time and worked efficiently. They were all master craftsmen who were extremely knowledgeable about the product they were installing and the end-to-end installation process. They were courteous, professional and left our house very clean after each day of work. ”
– Heather S., Renewal by Andersen customer, Holliston, MA

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by Andersen

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725 AUTOMOBILES

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Stonebridge
Press

A black and white photograph of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a light-colored button-down shirt. She is holding a newspaper open with both hands and looking at it with a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of surprise or excitement. The newspaper shows some headlines and photos, though they are not clearly legible. The background is plain white.

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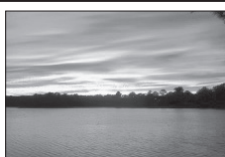
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OXFORD – 377 Main St! 9 Rm Center Hall Colonial! .59 Acre Corner Lot! Charm of Yesteryear! Eat-In Frpld Granite Kit w/Updated Cabinets, Frpld Din Rm w/ Built-in China Cabinet & Butler Closet! Gracious Foyer! Spacious Frpld Liv Rm! Breezeway to a Home Office or an Unfinished Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm or Craft Rm! Sit on the Front Porch and Enjoy Morning Coffee or Evening Tea! Huge 2-Car Garage w/Loft-Storage Area! Mature Tree Studded Yard! **\$349,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 9 Pebble Beach Rd! Middle Pond – Winter Cove! Private Peninsula Protected from the Storm – Safe Harbor! Custom 3,179' 8 Rm Contemp Ready for Your Immediate Enjoyment! Grand Entry Foyer! Ideal Open Flr Plan w/Sky Lighted Cathedral Ceilings, Tall Windows & Hrdwd Flrs! Beautiful Applianced Custom Granite Kit w/ Center Isl! Formal Din, Fireplace Liv Rm w/Water/Estuary Views! 1st Flr Laundry! Second Floor Master Suite, Ideal Full Bath, Huge Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full & 2 Half Baths! Walk-out Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm! Buderus Oil Heat! C/Air! Oversized 2 Car Garage! **\$779,900.00**



OXFORD – 10 Huguenot Rd! 8 Rm Colonial! 1.36 Acres! Country Setting! Country Kitchen w/Bay Window Overlooking Back Yard, Front to Back Living/Dining Rm w/French Doors to Deck! Office! Side Entry Breezeway! 3 Bdrms Plus a Study/Craft Rm on the 2nd Floor! 1 Car Detached Garage w/Workshop! Easy Access to Shopping and Highways! **\$179,000.00**

DUDLEY – 38 Pine St! 5 Rm Ranch! Original Owner! Quiet! Eat-In Kit! Formal Din Rm! Spacious Liv Rm w/ New Picture Window! Fam Rm w/ Views to Private Back Yard! Mudrm! Huge Deck! Buderus Oil Heat! 2 Car Garage! New Septic! Vinyl Sided! Newer Windows! Solar Panels! **\$239,000.00**

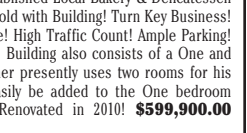
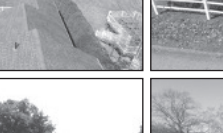
DUDLEY – 9 Nellies Way! TOBIN FARM ESTATES! 10 Rm Colonial Set on 1.2 Acres! Applianced Dine-in Granite Kit! 3 Season Sun Rm off Kit! Din Rm, 2 Story Fam Rm w/Pellet Stove, Bdrm, Full Bath w/Laundry & Gleaming Hrdwds Round Out 1st Flr! 2nd Flr Features an Open Balcony to the Liv Rm! Plenty of Space for an Office, Playroom or Reading Area, Use Your Imagination! Master w/Tray Ceiling & 3 Closets! Master Bath w/Dual Sinks, Shower, Whirlpool Tub & Makeup Counter! 2 Additional Bdrms & Full Bath! Huge Finished Walk-out Lower Level Perfect for Entertaining! Wet Bar w/Wine Cooler & Fridge! Half Bath w/Tile Flr! Irrigation! Shed! JD Riding Mower! Don't Miss Out! **\$469,900.00**

DUDLEY – 7 – 9 West Street! Brick 4 Family plus a 2 Family! Side by Side! All with 5 Rooms and 2 Bedrooms! Gas Heat! All Separate Utilities! 2 Car Detached Garage! The 4 Family with Beautiful Natural Woodwork! All Apartments are Empty and Work is Needed in Several Apartments! Excellent Potential! Will be a Good Investment for the Right One! **\$399,900.00**

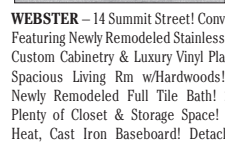
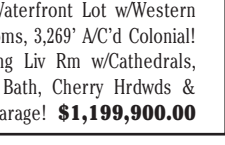
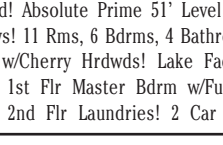
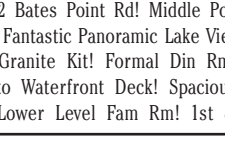


WEBSTER – 9 Lake Parkway! Extremely Conveniently Located just off Exit 1 of 395! Loads of Potential! 6 Rm Cape! Applianced Kit! Din & Liv Rms w/Wall to Wall over Hrdwds! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! 1st Flr Bdrm w/Commode Closet! Recent Furnace! Recent Roof! **\$169,900.00**

WOODSTOCK – 9 Pawtucket Rd! Renovated 4 Rm Townhouse! New Granite Kit w/SS Appliances! Kit & Liv Rm w/Hrdwds! 2 Comfortable Bdrms w/New Wall to Wall! New Full Bath! Freshly Painted Throughout! Lower Level w/Laundry & Storage, Able to Finish Additional Living Space! 2 Parking Spaces! **\$129,900.00**



DUDLEY – 132 Southbridge Rd! 5 Rm Bungalow! 2.21 Acres! Enjoy Nature and Kayak right from your Backyard! Eat-In Kit w/Pantry! Frpld Liv Rm w/Hrdwds & Bay Window! Din Rm or Fam Rm w/Hrdwds & Ceiling Fan! Full Tile Bath w/ Tub/Shower Combo! Master Bdrm w/Wall to Wall Carpet! Second Bdrm w/ Wall to Wall & Ceiling Fan! Walk-up Attic w/Potential for Additional Living Space! 3 Season Porch w/Natural Woodwork! Recent Roof! Recent Oil Steam Heat! New Septic & being Well Installed! Plenty of Parking! **\$179,900.00**



CHARLTON – GLEN ECHO LAKE! 3 Sunset Dr! Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic 105' Waterfront! Ideal 15,941' Gently Sloping Lot! Comfortable 9 Rm Ranch! Stainless Appliance Eat-in Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Panoramic Water Views! 4 Bdrms, 3 Lake Facing including the Spacious Master! Full Hall Bath! Enjoy the Sun Rm w/Lake Views! 32' Walk-out Lower Level Frplce Fam Rm w/Wet Bar & Convenient Half Bath! Nicely Landscaped Front & Back! Lake Level Deck, Dock & Rear Shed! Benefitted by Town Sewer! Start Packing! **\$499,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 50 West Point Rd! Kildeer Island! 4,700' Entertainers Dream! Magnificent Sunsets! Built 2016, Has It All! 2 Story Foyer! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, Dble Oven, High End Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! Din Rm w/ Wet Bar, Sliders to 14x30' Deck! Bright & Airy Liv Rm w/Lake Views, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc! 1/2 Bath w/ Laundry! An ELEVATOR to Service All 3 Floors! Upstairs leads to 3 Spacious Bdrms each w/Private Baths! Master w/ Tray Ceiling, Walk-in Closet & Private Balcony! Master Bath, Soaker Tub & Large Tile Shower! Walk-up Attic w/Expansion Possibilities! Lower Level w/Full Kit, 1/2 Bath, Lake Facing Fam Rm, Media/Exercise Rm + Lake Facing Bdrm w/Frplc & Private Bath! Slider to Patio! 13 Zones! Oversized 2 Car Garage! Loaded w/Quality & Detail! **\$1,175,100.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 68 W Point Rd! Western Exposure - Spectacular Sunsets! 75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views! 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Kitchen w/ Custom Cabinetry & Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring! Formal Dining w/Hardwoods! Spacious Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 2 1st Floor Bedrooms w/Hardwoods! Newly Remodeled Full Tile Bath! 2nd Floor w/2 Bedrooms w/Hardwoods, Plenty of Closet & Storage Space! Updated Second Full Bath! Recently Oil Heat, Cast Iron Baseboard! Detached Garage! Corner Lot! **\$279,900.00**



CHARLTON – 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing = Fantastic Sunrises! Custom 9 Rm Colonial! Beautiful 1/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Flr Plan! Applianced Granite Kit w/IsL, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water View! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sink! 2nd Flr w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Master w/Cathedrals, French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walk-in Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes **NEW A/C SPLIT SYSTEM!** Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! **\$524,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond – South Facing – Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home this 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You! You'll Appreciate Its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Island, Dining Area, Lake Facing Fireplace Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/ Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flag Stone Patio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! **\$624,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 506 Beacon Park! 1,280' Custom WATERFRONT Townhouse, Ideal End Corner Unit w/Panoramic Lake Views! Overlooks Lakeside Pool & Sandy Beach! From the Private Entry this Unit is Like No Other! Being Sold Fully Furnished & Appointed! 1st Flr w/Beautiful Maple Hrdwds! SS Applianced Silestone Kit! Recessed Lighting! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Tile Baths! Recent A/C & Heat! Garage! **\$369,900.00**



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THOMPSON, CT - 6 LILLIAN AVE, LOT #1



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SOLD!**

There is **No Place Like Home!** - beautiful newly constructed home! Split level style home has an attractive modern flare! Open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, tile floored baths, & master full bath w/extra wide shower & walk in closet, plus 2 more spacious BRs & a full hallway bath. 24' lower level family room, half bath w/laundry hookups! Two car garage! Central AC. **\$299,900.**

WEBSTER - 8 MAPLE ST



**SORRY,
SOLD!**

2 Family - 1st Floor 6 Rooms, 3 bedrooms. 1 Full Bath, open Kitchen, Fully Applianced, New Carpeting, Hardwood Floors. 2nd Floor - Open Kitchen with Gorgeous Kitchen Cabinets - 6 Rooms, 3 Bed, 1 Full Bath Hardwood Floors, New carpeting. Each Apartment has 1,200+ sq ft plus. Oil Heat. Off street parking. Town Water & Sewer, 3rd Story Unfinished. **\$237,500.**

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Possible potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer, City Gas! Nice level lot. **\$70,000**
Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2 2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest **\$132,900**
Webster - Potential 6 Buildable Lots! Water/Sewer Access **\$129,400.**
Webster - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake, 1+ acre, artesian well, Septic Design, Etc. **\$130,000**
Oxford - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Highly possible to be subdivided. **\$99,900**

WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD



**SORRY,
SOLD!**

Estate like long paved driveway! 3158 Sq Ft Colonial! Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout! Granite and s/s applianced kitchen! Large master bedroom, coffered ceiling, master bath, W/Jetted tub! Walk in closets. Two car garage. Radiused catwalk on upper level! A walk up attic. Walk out lower level! The third garage is accessed from the lower level. Generator hookup. One beautiful property! **\$499,900.**

WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD



**2 BUILDABLE
LOTS**

Potential from 10,000+ sq. ft. Lot. Need to be divided. Town Water/Sewer. Zoned Lake Res. **\$24,500. Each = Total \$49,000**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



WEBSTER - 28 BLACK POINT RD

2019 CUSTOM BUILT WEBSTER LAKE (WATERFRONT ACCESSIBLE) CONTEMPORARY CAPE! Sunrise (E) & Sunset (W) Exposure! 2,600+ SF, 11 Rms, 3 BRS, Loft, & 2 Full Baths. Open Flr Plan, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone-faced Fireplace, Upscale Gourmet Kitchen w/Huge Island, Sunny Breakfast Nook w/Built Ins, Formal Dining, Office, Laundry Rm, Mudroom & Coat Closet, 2 Main Level BRs & Full Bath. 2nd Flr Private Master BR Suite w/Private Bath & Walk-in Closet! Central Air! Cavemous 1,500 SF+ Unfinished LL plumbed for a Bath, Oversized 2-3 Car Att'd Garage! Corner Lot, 12,599 SF (29 Acre), of Land plus BOAT DOCK. **\$699,900.**



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE – 32 JACKSON RD

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Dick Lisi offers a pre tee-off pep talk at last season's Worcester County Senior Golf Club event at Blackstone National Golf Club.



Before Worcester County Senior Golf Club members take part in the Cyprian Keyes Golf Club event, Dick Lisi offers words of encouragement.

GOLF CLUB

continued from page A9

One may notice how nice — and expensive — these particular courses can be. But one of the main benefits of playing as part of the Worcester County Senior Golf Club is the ability to play with multiple people at a discounted rate.

“We’re a traveling social golf group of men and women 60 and over. We play one Thursday a month, usually starting around 9 to 9:30 in a modified shotgun start,” explained Lisi. “We just wanted to get people together, go out and have a good time.”

Condelli noted that the senior golf group is helping the course out, while in

turn the course is helping the group out.

“We basically try to tell them we can bring X amount of players and since it’s a weekday the courses aren’t as busy,” said Condelli.

The modified shotgun start allows players to tee off at the same time, finish their round at the same time, and then enjoy food and beverages together.

The group will continue to grow, as Condelli noted that they currently have 101 contacts through phone numbers and email addresses.

“We’d like to continue to grow the club, but we don’t want to grow unmanageable where it doesn’t become fun,” said Condelli. “We’re more of a social club instead of a competitive club, so we invite all people.”

To inquire about joining the

Worcester County Senior Golf Club — and foursomes, threesomes, twosomes and singles are welcomed — please email wcsrgolfclub@gmail.com or call Lisi at (508) 410-1332. There is also a Facebook group at Worcester County Senior Golf Club.

A few dates and locations have already been established for this season. The group begins May 14 at Raceway Golf Club in Thompson, Conn., continues June 11 at Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge, travels back to Shining Rock on July 9 and returns to Heritage on Aug. 6. The September and October dates and locations are still to be determined.

“One of the things we decided is we’re not going to have a membership fee, but in lieu of a membership fee they make a \$25 donation to the Shriners Children’s Hospital in Springfield,” said Condelli.

“We donated over \$1,300 last year,”

added Lisi. “It’s a voluntary, one-time donation.”

In addition to the actual golf on the course, the group also offers cash prizes.

“We collect a \$5 prize fee and we divvy it up between the closest to the pins on the par-3s, we have a putting contest and a cash prize for anyone that chips in off the green. We keep it competitive and rewarding,” said Condelli. “Some people were even nice enough when they won their cash winnings, they even donated that.”

One thing the club can’t predict is the pace of the coronavirus outbreak. For this, Condelli offered assurance.

“Our club is going to take members’ safety into consideration. Hopefully we will get off on time, but things are kind of variable right now as far as this virus is concerned,” he said.



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