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Historical Society member receives Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award

AUBURN — On Dec. 8, the 2020 John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award was presented to Sari Bitticks of the Auburn Historical Society & Museum. Bitticks also serves on the town's Historical Commission and Cemetery Commission.

It was noted that Bitticks is very dedicated to Auburn's history, and gives historical talks to many organizations including senior centers, historical societies, and other civic organizations.

The award ceremony was held at the Historical Museum on South St., with Select Board chairperson Doreen Goodrich and Town Clerk Deborah Gremo doing the presentation. Citations from the town board of selectmen, Massachusetts State Senate, House of Representatives, and Governor Baker were also given to Sari.

The Riley award is given in honor of John and Ethel Riley. John and Ethel lived in Auburn for 66 years with

John serving the town for 53 of those years. In those years John was town clerk, town accountant, clerk to the Board of Selectmen, registrar of voters and town civilian defense chairman. Ethel served for 45 years as John's assistant. The John E. and Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Award was established in their honor after his retirement as town clerk in 1975.



Courtesy

On Dec. 8, the 2020 John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award was presented to Sari Bitticks of the Auburn Historical Society & Museum.

Thrive to expand family support services to Worcester region

MARLBOROUGH — Thrive Support & Advocacy, a nonprofit empowering youth and adults with developmental disabilities including autism, today announced it will expand its family support services, effective Jan. 1 to the city of Worcester and seven surrounding towns under a state contract with the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services, ultimately serving more than 600 families.

Starting in January, Thrive will operate a Family Support Center at 100 Grove St. in Worcester, and will provide client-centric support services to individuals and their families from Auburn, Boylston, Holden, Leicester, Paxton, Shrewsbury, West Boylston and Worcester. Supports will include connecting individuals and families to available services and resources, social and recreational experienc-

es for youth and adults, information and referral resources, and educational workshops and trainings.

"Thrive has nearly half a century of proven success in delivering compassionate, flexible, and individualized supports, and we are excited to bring our mission and commitment to the Worcester region," said Sean M. Rose, President & CEO of Thrive Support & Advocacy. "As many families struggle to

access the appropriate resources for their loved one with IDD, or on the autism spectrum, we look forward to guiding

them on their journey to reach their unique potential."

Thrive's downtown Worcester location will

provide easy access for families traveling by car or public transit, as

Turn To **THRIVE** page **A10**

Walmart Giving grant presented to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

Sheriff's Department announces promotion of Auburn's Bryan Doray



Courtesy

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis presenting newly promoted Capt. Bryan Doray of Auburn with insignia gold bars signifying his promotion to the rank of Captain.

WEST BOYLSTON — Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis announced he has promoted Lt. Bryan Doray of Auburn to the rank of Captain.

"The Worcester County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce the promotion of Lieutenant Bryan Doray to the rank of Captain. Captain Doray will immediately begin serving in this important role and leadership position at our correctional facility. All promotions at the Worcester County Sheriff's Office are based on merit, work ethic and a dedication to

duty. Congratulations to Captain Doray as he represents the best in the field of corrections today and will work hard to make us a better department," said Evangelidis.

Doray, a 16-year veteran of the department, started his career with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office in November of 2004, was promoted to Sergeant in

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy recently received a Walmart Giving grant from the Walmart Foundation to help support the PN Class of 2021 with diversity and inclusion projects.

The photo above shows Brianna Cloutier of Charlton, a member of the PN Class of 2021. She is the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Liaison on diversity and inclusion projects and communicated with the Walmart Branch in Whitinsville. Cloutier made a special trip to the Walmart Supercenter at 100 Valley Parkway, Whitinsville to extend the PN Class of 2021's

gratitude for Walmart Giving's generosity. Cloutier met with the branch's assistant manager Michele. Cloutier was presented with an oversized check, a mock-up representation of the \$1,500 grant.

Gretheline Bolandrina MSN, Ed, RN, CRRN Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director said "as members of the Southern Worcester County community we appreciate organizations such as Walmart, and we are excited about the continued collaboration. Being supported by Walmart with much-needed funds is an important and fundamental piece in our work

to produce real-world ready, Licensed Practical Nurses.

Bolandrina added, "This diversity grant will assist Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy PN Class of 2021 in projects with a diversity focus that involves current students and alumni participation. The project is focused on the promotion of diversity in nursing and the elimination of bias. Diversity refers to all manner including gender, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and any other unique attribute."



Chip-In holds annual holiday distribution

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The Charlton Chip-In Food Pantry held its annual Christmas season distribution on Saturday, Dec. 19 providing food and gifts for local families during possibly one of the most challenging years in modern history.

With around 150 clients served every month, most of those families were blessed with a ham, a box of food and access to toys for the holidays as Chip-In set up two trucks behind the Charlton Town Hall for its annual holiday event. Pantry Director Darlene Emco-Rollins said the event took place outdoors due to the closure of the town hall to the

public as a safety precaution during the COVID-19 pandemic, but Chip-In was ready for the new format as they had been working all year to perfect outdoor service since the pandemic began.

“For the first three months, when we started in the spring, we had to move our operation outside and we had to work through snow and rain. The

police and volunteers helped us out a lot and we did what we had to do. We took all the lessons learned from those distributions and we adapted them to this one which is one of our most important services of the year. We want to keep people fed and every month we get more and more clients calling us for help,” Emco-Rollins said. “We are essential, so we could have had people come in one at a time, but this was much easier to serve people outside. We had Santa there to greet the kids and it was all socially distanced. One of the big trucks had the boxes of food and another trailer was filled with tables of toys with one child at a time going in with an elf to pick out whatever they wanted.”

Emco-Rollins said the need is greater than ever in 2020 as many families have lost their livelihoods due to the closures implemented due to COVID-19. In her 25-years with the pantry, she said she had never seen a year where families were more in need and she was happy that Chip-In was there to provide for them and keep the joy of the holidays alive.

“For the kids to see Santa and pick out toys and feel a little joy in their life and for the families to know they were going to have food for Christmas, it means a lot to us no matter how hard we had to work at it,” Emco Rollins said. “It is so important for everyone to feel something normal, something joyful for the holidays. It’s hard, but we hope this little bit of Christmas cheer helped them.”

She added a special thank you to the public who turned out in droves leading up to the event to donate everything from food and toys to gift cards to help the elderly, either with food or medical expenses. Emco-Rollins said the support the community showed in 2020 was humbling, and that while the pandemic has certainly provided plenty of sadness and anxiety it’s also brought out the best in people driving them to help those most in need in their local communities.



Courtesy

Boxes of food are prepped for the Dec. 19 Christmas distribution at the Charlton Chip-In Food Pantry.

School District to maintain hybrid learning model

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee took no action on a recommendation sent to school officials requesting a post-holiday two-week remote learning period to help offset any threat COVID-19 might have to students and staff.

In a letter dated Dec. 23, the Boards of Health of both Dudley and Charlton sent a recommendation to the Dudley Charlton Regional School District that all schools in both towns move to full remote learning until Jan. 19 to prevent the potential for a COVID-19 outbreak as numbers continued to rise in both communities and beyond leading up to the holiday season. On Dec. 29 the school committee met with representatives of both boards to discuss the proposal eventually deciding not to move on the request at all, effectively keeping the hybrid format intact for students’ return following the holiday break.

Leader of both Boards of Health took time to justify the recommendation which was made following a joint meeting of both boards on Dec. 22. Jennifer Cournoyer, the Chair of Dudley’s Board of Health, said that while both health boards appreciate the significance of classroom learning the decision was made in consideration of the second wave of the pandemic which was expected to become even more impactful following holiday gatherings.

“As a board, we definitely feel that the children need to be in school. It is very important. This was not an easy decision to make. We were just asking for two weeks to be remote and going back on the 19th. We understand

it’s going to difficult. You can’t prove in-school transmissions one way or the other. There’s a lot of gray areas, it is extremely difficulty. It’s not just about proving in-school transmissions as the reason why we felt it was necessary going to additional weeks remote. It’s the number of staffs and students that have been quarantined over the time where you have multiple teachers out, classes being handled by different people. That’s a lot of disruptions for the students as well. We understand it’s a pandemic, it can’t be helped. Those are things that if you had the two weeks of remote it would help to stop the spread,” Cournoyer said.

Charlton Board of Health Chair Kathleen Walker also stated that the decision was not an easy one, but the recommendation was what they felt was best for the safety of the students, staff and the community as a preemptive measure against a potential local outbreak.

“We had a long talk. Everybody expressed their point of view. We’re all volunteers except for the two Health Directors. We all wear different hats, but the one hat that we all have in common is the Board of Health hat and when everybody got a chance to express where they were coming from, and there were eight different points of view, we all came to the same conclusion that we needed to do a two-week reset. We didn’t think that was onerous or too hard,” Walker said. “We’re very concerned. We’ve been in the red, both towns, for many weeks now and we feel very strongly that given this two weeks, especially after the holidays, will give everybody a chance to either recover or not bring the virus into the schools.”

The request received mixed responses

from both school committee members and the public with some feeling the two week remote learning wasn’t a bad idea while others felt the data showed that in school learning was not only safe, but beneficial to the emotional and mental wellbeing of the students. Committee member Stephanie Reed was one who was against moving forward with the recommendation.

“Our own superintendent has stated in his emails that it is not being spread in our schools. Children are allowed to go to friend’s houses and also are allowed to play in sports tournaments in other states and not wear masks. The data shows that following the protocols works and in schools they need to wear masks, they need to do their hands, they need to clean their surfaces, but they always need to wear their masks,” Reed said. “The letter from the Boards of Health is a recommendation, not a mandate. For the social and emotional health of the students in our district it’s best to stick to the hybrid we are doing and instead of moving backwards that we should start looking at how to get students in our schools for full days of learning.”

Committee member Jordan Willow Evans acknowledged that mental and emotional health is also one of her priorities for the students, but said she saw value in the recommendation put forth by the health officials.

“The two-week reset makes a lot of sense because it’s not that we’re concerned about what’s in our schools, it’s what’s been happening outside of our schools and being brought into them. That two-week reset can make a lot of sense in that what’s being going on outside of schools, we have no control over that and that guarantees us that safety

net,” Evans said.

Opinions remained mixed among committee members with most admitting there were plenty of “gray areas” that made the decision more complicated than it seemed on the surface. In the end, no motion was made effectively leaving the recommendation on the floor and allowing the district to proceed with return to school as planned for the second half of the school year.

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AUBURN

\$589,900, 3 Fenwick Cir, Midura, Lawrence E, and Midura, Linda M, to Campbell, Brennan, and Campbell, Kate E.

\$585,000, 30 Walnut St, Bushe, Sean D, and Bushe, Erika, to Smalls, Dominique.

\$360,000, 420 South St, Naleski FT 2011, and Naleski, Victor J, to Moss, Stephen, and Moss, Carolyn.

\$310,000, 101 Old Common Rd, Sarli, Gerardo A, to Dellarocca, Richard, and Langley, Meghan R.

\$308,000, 10 Thayer Ave, Gabriel, Julian R, to Poulin, Chelsey R.

\$300,000, 73 Pakachoag St, Fannon, Adrian, and Lee, Jasmin, to Ballard, Ryan.

\$287,400, 70 Shore Dr, Simpson, Erin E, to Monahan, Bradley J, and Alvarado, Roxanne.

\$100,000, Willis St #2, Russo, Anthony, to Griffin Homes LLC.

\$865,000, 200 Southbridge St, PLC Realty LLC, to Gervais Realty Group LLC.

\$615,000, 26 Hilltop Farm Rd, Carbonneau, Jody P, and Carbonneau, Brenda M, to Abderrazzaq, Andrew, and Abderrazzaq, Brittney.

\$390,000, 174 Auburn St, Morrissey Joann M Est, and Oleary, Patricia, to Alzuhairi, Kathreen, and Alzuhairi, Mohamad.

\$386,000, 2 Hanna Dr, Sigel, John J, to Naco, Edi, and Naco, Karen L.

\$380,000, 11 Deerfield Cir, Knowlton, Patricia, to Marchand LT, and Marchand, Wayne.

\$342,000, 196 Prospect St, Levine, Joanne, and Daigneau, Jeanne E, to Semis, Alexsandra.

\$325,000, 156 Bryn Mawr Ave, Gauthier, Karen T, to DeFreitas, Brenda L.

\$270,000, 9 Inwood Rd, Stodolski, Ashkey, to Condon, Brittany, and Condon, Timothy R.

\$255,000, 165 Leicester St, Almstrom, Deborah A, and Tomlinson, John L, to Revicki, Ann M.

\$250,000, 12 Clark St, Stearns, Annette E, to Medina, Carmen L.

\$225,000, 2 Tuck Farm Rd #5, Aubry-Obas, Francesca, and Obas, Jean J, to Kelosis, Rachel L.

\$40,000, 31 Walsh Ave, Pechie, Paula A, to Luong, Huy, and Nguyen, Thi.

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QCC's Practical Nursing students help administer first round of COVID-19 vaccines



Courtesy
On Dec. 18, eight practical nursing students along with their instructors Margaret “Meg” Yoder, professor of Nurse Education, and faculty member Christian Ilustre helped administer approximately 100 COVID-19 vaccines to Harrington Hospital employees at the Southbridge Armory.

S O U T H B R I D G E — Quinsigamond Community College practical nursing students are now part of history. On Dec. 18, eight practical nursing students along with their instructors Margaret “Meg” Yoder, professor of Nurse Education, and faculty member Christian Ilustre helped administer approximately 100 COVID-19 vaccines to Harrington Hospital employees at the Southbridge Armory. They worked with over a dozen Harrington nurses who also included a couple of QCC graduates, according to Professor Yoder. Healthcare workers are the first to be vaccinated in the U.S. and Harrington employees who were vaccinated included doctors, nurses and other frontline workers at Harrington Healthcare and Harrington Physician Services.

“Our entire college community feels tremendous pride knowing our nursing students are playing such a vital role in our nation’s history,” said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “So many of our students are

frontline workers who are essential to the safety and well-being of our community. They emulate what it means to be a Wyvern - QCC’s mascot that is a symbol for community guardianship.” “This is our community and having the opportunity to engage the practical nursing students in this historic moment, serving our community is immeasurable,” said Professor Yoder. “The practical nursing students of the Class of 2021 are experiencing many firsts that will provide them with a resiliency unlike any other.” The QCC students not only administered the vaccine, they performed intake assessments, gave educational information, and observed vaccine recipients post vaccination. This type of hands-on training enables students to stay current with workforce needs and makes them valuable employees when they enter the workforce because they require less training. “Clinical experiences and opportunities are so important for all of our healthcare students. Harrington Hospital has been one of our most valuable partners

during these past several months and we are honored to have been asked to assist at their COVID vaccine clinics,” said Dean of the School of Healthcare, Pat Schmohl. “Our practical nursing students are learning firsthand the importance of community-based public health initiatives. We have procedures in place to keep our students safe while they are participating in these critical in-person clinical opportunities.” “At a time when clinical placements are difficult to find, Harrington Hospital has remained committed to providing QCC students with face-to-face opportunities. We could not be more grateful,” Professor Yoder added. QCC students will continue to assist with the vaccination process throughout the remainder of the year and through April. “Encouraging service to our community is an integral piece of living QCC’s mission, one of our core values. Today was just the beginning. All of our students will be provided with this opportunity. In the future, we will be administering the vaccine

to front line workers, EMTs, police and fire, and high risk vulnerable populations,” Professor Yoder said, adding that the students were excited to be part of this historical moment. “When the practical nursing students were presented with the opportunity, they echoed resoundingly... ‘Thank you!’” Formoreinformationabout QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.



ACCURACY WATCH

The Auburn News is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner. If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress.news during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

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Meaghan Contois of Auburn named to UVM Dean’s List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Meaghan Contois, Class of 2023, has been named to the dean’s list for the fall 2020 semester at the University of Vermont. Contois, from Auburn, is in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. To be named to the dean’s list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in

their respective college or school. About UVM Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research and teaching, UVM professors -- world-class researchers, scholars, and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in

Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation’s most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,700 undergraduate students, 1,627 graduate students, 776 certificate and non-degree students, and 478 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine.

Friday’s Child



Photo by Mike Ritter

Nyla
Age 10

Hi! My name is Nyla and dancing and singing make me happy!

Nyla is a very friendly girl of Hispanic descent. Her nationality is Dominican and Puerto Rican. She can be cute and sassy! Her favorite color is blue, and she likes cats and dogs. Her favorite hairstyles are half up and half down and space buns. For coping strategies, Nyla uses an oatmeal bath when upset. She states that it makes her feel good, clean, and relaxed. Nyla’s favorite food is lasagna and her favorite games are Sorry, Skip-bo, and Mancala. She also likes to create fidgets. She loves to be around others and is very social. A few of Nyla’s talents are dancing, swimming, drawing, and making jewelry. Nyla also likes music and enjoys singing along to it. She is very artistic.

Nyla is very intelligent, motivated to learn, and especially enjoys reading and math. She is very bright and excels in and loves school. There are no concerns about Nyla’s behaviors in school. She states that she’d like to be a cosmetologist when she is older. Her clinician describes her as hilarious and explains that spending time with her always includes a lots of laughter. Legally freed for adoption, Nyla will thrive in most any family constellation with older children or no other children in the home. Families interested in starting a relationship with Nyla as a visiting resource with weekly visits will certainly be consider and encouraged. Nyla resides in Eastern MA. Her new family should be willing to help her visit with her biological siblings on a regular basis and possibly her maternal grandmother who lives in Western Massachusetts. There is an open adoption agreement in place for three visits per year with her birth mother.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you’re at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples. The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for. To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

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OBITUARY

Algirdas Augustinas “Al” Sinkis, 88



2 PICS
OXFORD / WORCESTER – Algirdas Augustinas “Al” Sinkis, 88, of Oxford and formerly of Worcester, passed away peacefully in the comfort of his home on Monday, December 21, 2020.
Born, raised, and educated in Lithuania, Al was one of three children born to the late Gustaf and Kunigunda (Pinkus) Sinkis. He emigrated to the U.S. and enlist-

ed in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict, and was honorably discharged in January of 1955. On July 4th that same year, Al married the love of his life, Shirley Ann (Petit), and settled in Worcester to raise their family.
He worked for Morgan Construction, as a machinist, for several years, prior to beginning a decade-long career as a Supervisor at DePaul Plastics.
In his free time, he enjoyed gardening, boating and deep-sea fishing, vacationing in Maine with all his family, especially boogie-boarding with his grandkids, western movies, and rooting for the Red Sox and Bruins. Al was proud of his Lithuanian heritage, and being a member of Maironis Park Lithuanian Club in Shrewsbury. He

was also a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
Along with his beloved Shirley, Al is survived by his loving children: Sandra Conway, of Charlton, Donald Sinkis, of Oxford, and Stacy Riendeau, of Hudson; six grandchildren: Russell Conway and his wife Christine, of Holden, Tara Bachand and her husband Andrew, of Wales, Matthew Sinkis, Caitlin Sinkis, and Alyssa Conway, all of Oxford, and Jennifer Riendeau, of Worcester; seven great-grandchildren: Hailey, Hayden, Elizabeth, Austin, Chloe, Owen, and Cheyanne; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, friends from OHA, and a close family friend, Donna Plasse, of Oxford. Al was also predeceased by his brothers, Benas “Ben” Sinkis, of Auburn,

and Chester Sinkis, of Oxford, and his faithful Chihuahua companion, Papito.
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Veterans Inc., 69 Grove Street, Worcester, MA 01605 (www.veteransinc.org/donations/).
Burial, with military honors, will be held at a later date in Notre Dame Cemetery, Worcester. To leave a note of condolence for his family, or to share a fond memory of Al, please visit www.brittonfuneralhomes.com



LEGALS

MORTGAGEE’S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Thomas Michniewicz and Carly J. Gustafson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc., its successors and assigns, dated October 26, 2005 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 37651, Page 16 as affected by a Loan Modification recorded on January 14, 2015 in Said Registry of Deeds at Book 53262, Page 352, subsequently assigned to New York Community Bank by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc., its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 51751, Page 37, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for Towd Point Master Funding Trust 2017-PM13 by New York Community Bank by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 59067, Page 335, subsequently assigned to FirstKey Mortgage, LLC by U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee for Towd Point Master Funding Trust 2017-PM13 by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 61620, Page 25, subsequently assigned to Towd Point Mortgage Trust 2019-3, U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee by Firstkey Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 61620, Page 28 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on January 29, 2021 at 56 Barnes Street, Auburn, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit: The land with the buildings thereon situated in Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the southerly side of Barnes Street, bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the premises herein conveyed on the southerly side of Barnes Street at a drill hole in a stone wall; THENCE N. 80° 08’ 30” E. by the southerly side of said Barnes Street, one hundred sixty (160) feet to a point; THENCE S. 9° 51’ 30” E. by Lot No. 2, as shown on the plan hereinafter mentioned, two hundred sixty (260) feet to a point; THENCE S. 80° 08’ 30” W. by land now or formerly of George E. Kowszik et al, one hundred fifty-three and fifty hundredths (153.50) feet to a point; THENCE N. 11 deg. 17’ 30” W. following a stone wall and land of owner

unknown, two hundred sixty and eight hundredths (260.08) feet to the point of beginning.
Containing according to said plan 40,761 square feet, more or less. Being shown as Lot 1 on a “Plan to show division of property in Auburn and Millbury, Massachusetts, owned by George and Anthony Kowszik, dated 12 April 1967, by Kenneth Shaw” recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 318, Page 53.
Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagors by deed dated 16 September, 2005 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 37651, Page 14.
The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney’s fees and costs.

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A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer’s check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer’s check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee’s attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee’s attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.
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January 8, 2021
January 15, 2021
January 22, 2021

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Partner to “oohed”
- 6. Relaxing places
- 10. Humorous monologue
- 14. Simple elegance
- 15. Bearable
- 17. Disobedience
- 19. Express delight
- 20. Gov’t attorneys
- 21. Wake up
- 22. A type of band
- 23. Remain as is
- 24. Turfs
- 26. Battle-ax
- 29. Volcanic crater
- 31. The mother of Jesus
- 32. One’s life history
- 34. “Rule, Britannia” composer
- 35. Doubles
- 37. Jacob __, American journalist

- 38. House pet
- 39. S. African river
- 40. Broad sashes
- 41. Establish as a foundation
- 43. KGB double agent Aldrich __
- 45. Part of a book
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Train group (abbr.)
- 50. Frames per second
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal from a federation
- 58. Guitarist sounds
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Helps escape

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Currency exchange charge
- 2. River in Tuscany
- 3. Breakfast dish
- 4. Defunct European currency
- 5. Upper class young woman
- 6. Part of a purse
- 7. Self-contained units
- 8. Boxing’s GOAT
- 9. Legislators
- 10. Flightless birds
- 11. U. of Miami’s mascot is one
- 12. Floating ice
- 13. Low, marshy land
- 16. Seldom
- 18. Lyric poems
- 22. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)
- 23. Full extent of something
- 24. __ Claus
- 25. Naturally occurring solid material
- 27. Acquired brain injury behavior science (abbr.)
- 28. Thirteen
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 30. Member of a Semitic people
- 31. One thousandth of an inch
- 33. Former CIA
- 35. Most lemony
- 36. Engage in
- 37. Small Eurasian deer
- 39. Provisions
- 42. All humans have them
- 43. Swiss river
- 44. Storage term (abbr.)
- 46. Famed Broadway lyricist Sammy
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish
- 49. Egyptian sun god
- 50. Flute
- 51. Flew off!
- 52. Scottish tax
- 53. Young women’s association
- 54. Populous Brazilian city
- 55. Malaysian Isthmus
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

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Charlton Lions help spread Christmas cheer

CHARLTON — The Charlton Lions Club has fundraisers throughout the year so it can support worthy causes and help those in need in Charlton. The year, with the coronavirus having such a devastating effect on everyone, the need at Christmas is even greater. For over ten years the Charlton Lions have been supporting families in Charlton with gift cards they can use at Christmas to help with presents, or to put a special Christmas dinner on the table.

Don Fortin, President of the Lions Club, said

“This year the Club recognized the even greater need to help out the Town. Making donations at Christmas time is one of the Club’s top priorities, and this year we stepped up to give even more. All our Club members agree, helping families at Christmas is one of the most rewarding things we do.”

This year, the Lions again donated Walmart gift cards to the Principals at the Elementary School, Heritage and the Middle School. The Lions exceeded their past donations by providing each school

with ten \$50 Walmart gifts cards.

Steve Doucette of the Lions delivered the cards to the principals, commenting “We all knew that we had to add a little extra this year, and when I gave the Principals the gift cards, they were delighted. These gift cards would allow them to help thirty families in town. They already had a list of families that needed help, and the Principals were so thankful that these cards gave them a little something extra to share.”

The Lions will also con-

tinue its tradition of visiting with the residents at the Charlton Manor, but this year because of the pandemic, they’ll be singing Christmas carols from the driveway. For more than 20 years, the Lions have visited the Manor with Santa and Frosty the Snowman. This year, because the COVID restrictions make it difficult to give gifts to the residents, the Lions will be donating money to the Manor for activities and special events for the residents.

The money for these great Christmas tradi-

tions comes from all of our Charlton friends who support our fundraisers, year in and year out.

Don Fortin said, “It is because of the great people of Charlton that the Lions are able to help our fellow Charltonians at Christmas. Every year you support us, so we in turn can support some of our citizens in need during the holiday season. So, the Charlton Lions would like to thank all of you.”

This year, as we think about all of our good fortunes, please take a minute to pat yourselves on

the back, for your kind and generous donations to the Lions Club has meant a better holiday season for so many of members of our Charlton family.

If you’re interested in learning more about what the Charlton Lions Club does for our Town, or perhaps if the Lions Club could help you, please visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/CharltonLions/, or email us at charltonlions.org., or call Steve Doucette at (508) 248-4411. Be Part of Something Great – Become a LION.



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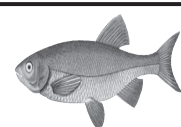
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Cheers to 2021

The past year has been challenging, and the months ahead only look slightly different as far as the pandemic is concerned. The rollout of the vaccines does, however, offer some promise in getting our lives back to normal.

It's been discouraging; however, to see people behave so unkindly towards one another. Not so much on the local level — here, we are fortunate. But nationally, the temperature has been turned up for far too long. When did it become 'cool' or 'macho' to behave with such hate towards another person, simply because you disagree? Why are so many individuals filled with so much hate that they take it out on complete strangers? We remind everyone, that when it comes to national politics, listen to several news sources, and not a passing meme on social media. Too many uninformed people are acting out, when if they truly were aware of how things work, beyond just a talking point, they may see things a bit more clearly. Again, we have faith that in the months ahead, the climate will become one of which we can all be proud. It's ok and actually a good thing to question and even disagree with others if it's how you feel. It is not OK when decency, lack of respect and kindness falls by the wayside. It is possible to disagree and yet still be kind and helpful to each other. The constant chest puffing on social media and on national news is just, well, sad. You get more bees with honey.

On another note, as we sit and reflect about how much time has been spent apart as a society, we do need to give a nod to solitude. Extroverts across the globe, just want their social lives to be in full swing again. Heck, even introverts do as well. Being social is an important part of our existence. As things move in that direction, we want to remind everyone that there is a benefit to having some much needed alone time. Something we all don't get very often.

Life in normal times can move very swiftly. We're always looking ahead at what needs to be done next, planning, over thinking and stressing about the future. Studies show that when you stop and enjoy some alone time, your brain will rest. Overstimulation can have adverse effects on our well-being. Take time to detach from the internet, television even music.

When we're alone, our parasympathetic nervous system, that relaxes us, is triggered. Alone time relaxes your muscles, lowers your blood pressure and slows your heart rate. Time alone is a great way to prevent burn out. Burnout can cause us to go about our days in an inefficient manner.

Another check mark in the 'pro' column of solitude is that we become more creative. Our minds are free from distractions. Spending time solo can reduce the chance you'll suffer from vital exhaustion which can lead to increased anger and heart trouble.

One analogy that makes sense regarding solitude, is that it gives you time to get a bird's eye view of your life — the bigger picture, instead of feeling stuck in the day to day sometimes mundane activities.

In the New Year ahead, we wish you all health and happiness. As always, take care of each other.

How will you make this new year different from the last?

If you are to only read one of my columns this year and take it to heart ... make it this one.

A new year is upon us and I couldn't be happier. I don't think that in my lifetime I've been more relieved to see a year end and a new year begin.

With that said, there is nothing magical about turning the page on a calendar. If magic is to happen, it happens in our heads and hearts by creating an optimistic view of what is to come and taking positive actions that make our optimism real.

I'm optimistic that 2021 will be a better year. This isn't wishful thinking. We have two new vaccines that are now approved and being administered. I'm hearing that a third and maybe a fourth could be approved early this year. The news is promising, and 2021 will be a positive year of turnaround and renewal.

So, we're upon a new year. Now what?

My dad used to always say, "If you always do what you always did, you'll always get what you always got." That's true for everything we do, including how we approach this new year. Our happiness and success can be determined by an optimistic approach to 2021. In other words, you have the power to be the change you wish for your life. And why not?

The difference with last year was that there was so much out of our control. A pandemic of the size and scope of Covid-19 changes everything. Losses of life, jobs and personal freedoms are beyond our ability to control, so 2021 can lead to a new and better season.

I believe that almost every successful person will begin this year with



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

the idea that "This year will be a better year than last, and I have the power to make it so."

I already know that a large group of Americans have decided to have a bad year. Pessimism with some abound as they find it difficult to see the brightness ahead. That is a choice they make based on opinion and not fact, and it will drive and guide the results of their new year.

For me, and hopefully you, the voice of truth tells us a different story and that truth is that 2021 will be a year of tremendous positive turnaround. Again, the vaccines alone are a game changer. As the vaccines continue to be administered, I believe our economy will begin opening and our personal freedoms restored. Could the news be more positive?

So, we have a choice to make. We can wallow in the past pain of 2020 or rejoice and celebrate the brighter days ahead in 2021. Optimism is a choice for happiness and success, while pessimism is a choice for misery and failure. Which will you choose?

I already hear a response of "Yeah, but ..."

But what? The choice could not be clearer and there really are only two choices. Some may say "wait and see" which is also a choice, but I believe that is a choice for pessimism. The wait and see crowd always get what's left over as the optimists act quickly and seize the day. What if we instead said, "yeah, and..."

In other words, we can grieve and lament 2020, and we can be hopeful and optimistic for 2021.

"Yeah, and."

Optimism takes no more energy than pessimism and studies show that optimists are both happier and achieve more in life. How can someone purposely choose pessimism?

I've said it over and over ... and will say it again. Your belief system creates a mind/heart conspiracy to make what you believe will happen, come true.

Napoleon Hill said, "What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve." I don't believe truer words have ever been spoken, yet so many purposely avoid optimism. Please ... don't let this be you. Choose a better year for you and your family.

I'm out of space for now but will continue next week. Please consider the power of your belief system in creating a better year. Optimism is a choice to be happier, healthier, and more successful. Why would you choose otherwise?

Until next week, consider this ancient wisdom from Marcus Aurelius. "You have power over your mind, not events. Realize this and you will find strength."

You hold the key to your own magic. It's a new year. I'm choosing to optimistically make 2021 my best year, ever. You can too.

Will you join me?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMOore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

Avoid tapping Into 401(k) early



FINANCIAL
FOCUS

DENNIS
ANTONOPOULOS

If you've been contributing for many years to your 401(k) or similar retirement plan, it may be your largest pool of money. So, if you are facing a financial need, you may think about tapping into your account. After all, it's your money — why not use it?

But touching your 401(k) before you retire may not be a good idea, as it can lead to some unwanted consequences.

First, taking funds out of your 401(k) now could increase the risk of running out of money during retirement, which could last for decades.

Also, withdrawals taken from your 401(k) before age 59 and a half may be taxed as ordinary income and are generally subject to a 10 percent penalty for early withdrawal, although there are some exceptions. And a sizable taxable withdrawal from your 401(k) could bump you into a higher tax bracket.

Therefore, if you are facing a financial crunch, you may want to explore some options before tapping into your 401(k). For starters, see if you can cut your expenses where possible and explore financial assistance programs that service providers, such as utility companies, might offer.

Also, if you have an emergency fund, now may be the time to use it. For most folks, it's a good idea to keep three to six months' worth of living expenses in such a fund, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. But even smaller amounts can help in a financial crunch.

You might also find another source of cash in your taxable investment accounts. Any uninvested cash in these accounts is an easy place to start. You might also look at selling investments to free up some cash. However, before making this decision, you may want to consult with a financial professional to discuss the pros and cons.

Another cash-generating option is a 401(k) loan, assuming your plan permits such loans. Unlike a direct withdrawal, a 401(k) loan is not taxable if it's repaid on time. (If it isn't, you could also incur penalties.) And, although the loan may have some fees, the interest on it will be paid to your account, rather than to a bank. However, you won't earn investment returns on the loan balance, because you can't use this money to invest. And if you leave your job before you've fully repaid the loan, you'll likely have to come up with the remaining balance quickly.

You could also consider using your credit cards to generate cash, but these types of loans or advances can be quite costly. Instead, you may want to look at other possibilities, such as a home equity loan, the cash value of a life insurance policy, the "margin" on your investment accounts or a personal loan. Again, you should talk to a financial professional to discuss the tradeoffs of taking out these loans and to develop a payoff strategy, if you decide to use any of them.

Your 401(k) is a long-term investment designed to meet a long-term goal: your retirement. So, if you think you might require these funds before retirement, explore all alternatives first to find the right decision for your needs.

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



Antiques, collectibles, and auctions in 2021



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

2020 was a difficult year for everyone, and antique collectors and dealers were no exception. I am a member of several auctioneer and estate liquidator groups and have the chance to hear from other business owners across the country. Some members have lost family to COVID, most have struggled financially, and all have had to adapt to working in this new environment. Locally, it has also been a challenge for auctioneers, antique dealers and estate sale companies with regulations constantly in flux throughout the year. With the recent approval of vaccines, there is optimism that 2021 will be a much better year for those buying and selling antiques and collectibles.

As the New Year begins, some auction houses running live auctions are extending preview hours and offering previews on multiple days to ensure there won't be a large number of bidders gathering together at once. Some auctioneers are allowing only a small number of bidders to attend the auction in person. Other bidders are required to leave absentee bids or bid by phone.

When the warm weather returns this spring, I expect we will see auctioneers return to outdoors sales, like some did during the summer and fall of 2020. Many other auction houses (like ours) have switched to all online auctions. When the situation improves, auctioneers will have to determine whether they want to switch back to live auctions this coming year or to continue running auctions online.

Some estate sale companies continue to run live estate sales by limiting the number of people who can enter the estate, requiring masks, social distancing and offering hand sanitizer. Many other estate sale companies have switched to online auctions instead of traditional estate (tag) sales. Others are offering items from estates online with fixed prices. You can purchase items outright and then make arrangements to pick up your



items(s). Some estate sale companies may also reevaluate how they've done business in the past and determine how to move forward in 2021.

How things will change in 2021 is partially dependent on the distribution of the COVID vaccine. The Massachusetts timeline for COVID vaccinations shows that Phase One is taking place now through February, Phase Two from February to April, and Phase Three from April to June. Connecticut plans to offer vaccinations for members of the general public early in the summer.

This timeline gives us hope that we may be able to walk the fields of Brimfield in September, possibly even by July. In what may be another promising sign for us, the Malvern Flea Market recently opened in England. It is scheduled to run on weekends throughout 2021. The distribution of the new vaccine and the good news from our friends across the pond should provide optimism to antique fans throughout New England. Thank you for reading my column in 2020. Happy New Year to all as we look forward to a better 2021!

The first session of a huge toy collection, all from one estate, is taking place online now. We are currently selling the diecast cars. Most are unopened and in their original boxes. Vintage and antique toys will be sold in later sessions. We will be offering the equestrian and other paintings from artist Fay Moore's estate in another online auction soon. Keep watching www.centralmassauctions.com for details.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com.

Time to get back on the ice

The cold weather is her to stay. Hopefully! Checking your ice fishing gear should be done by now. Checking your line and hooks are very important. Ice fishing tilts or tip ups, as the new generation calls them, are becoming very expensive. This writer prefers the older ice tilts that work very well, and are easy to repair. Because of the rain that was predicted this past Friday, ice conditions have deteriorated, and very few ponds are safe for ice fishing locally.

Anglers wanting to do some ice fishing, may need to travel North and West of the valley area, or even consider Maine and New Hampshire. Ice conditions were a lot better last week, as the temperatures dropped to -10 degrees in those states. First ice is extremely dangerous and should be navigated with extreme caution. Checking the ice with a hand chisel and striking it into the ice as you navigate across a frozen pond, is extremely important. Remind youngsters about the dangers of unsafe, ice and tell them to stay off of the ice without parental supervision.

This writer has been fishing on ice for most of my life, and has found jig fishing as being the most fun and most productive. A simple jig stick equipped with a small reel loaded with 10-pound test braided line and four feet of six-pound test monofilament as leader, equipped with a Swedish pimple jig, and baited with a perch eye, is deadly for bottom feeding fish. Back during my younger years, I used a hand chisel to cut my holes for jigging, sometimes cutting as many as 100 or more a day when the ice was six inches or less thick. The method was called spudding! The hole was only a couple of inches around, enough to accommodate the lure, or a small perch. We had no reel on the jig stick, which was called dead sticking.

When a large fish was hooked, we often had to call a buddy to chop the hole larger, while the

fish was held just under the ice. A small hand gaff was used to hold the fish, until the hole was large enough to pull the big fish through. Most often I fished for yellow perch and calico bass, but we often encountered a largemouth bass. While fishing for perch, catching as many as 10 or more from one hole was not uncommon, and catching 100 or more in a day, was also not uncommon. The best eating size was 8-to-10-inch fish, although numerous perch well exceeded the 12-inch size. Pan fried in a mixture of ground cornmeal & flour in a pan of oil and a quarter pound of butter can provide some great eating.

When ice fishing on the Cape in the town of Carver, we found a pond that was loaded with pickerel, back a number of years ago. While fishing with the late Dick Blanchard of Uxbridge we caught a couple of limits of the extremely boney fish. Dick convinced this writer to retain a few, as he was going to find a receipt for pickling the fish. A few weeks later he dropped of a jar of pickled pickerel for me to try. It was great. Every year after, Dick always made a few jars of the tasty fish which consisted of pickling salt, raw onion rings, pickling spices in a combination of two thirds white vinegar, and a third water. The pickling process softened the bones of the pickerel, making for a great appetizer on our future fishing expeditions.

Deer hunters were happy to see the snow of two weeks ago, resulting in some great tracking conditions. Numerous deer were harvested in the last two weeks of the Black Powder season, some of the bucks carrying only one antler. Every year the bucks shed their antlers and grow new ones for the following year.

Duck & goose hunting opened



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
• • • • •
RALPH
TRUE

on Dec. 14, and provided some great shooting opportunity's after the recent snow and cold weather. The freeze and snow drove the birds into major rivers and unfrozen ponds. A lot more mallards and a few wood ducks that lagged behind from their annual migration, provided some great shooting. The final season ends on January 4, 2021 in the Central District. Sea duck hunting in Massachusetts ends on Jan. 25.

Now that I have compiled more information on the dissolved Sea Scouts organization, the following information from my memory, and from Elvin Winchell of Grafton is as follows: Back in the '50s up until the '70s or so, the Sea Scouts had a clubhouse on the shores of Meadow Pond in Whitinsville. Tom Frieswick, Mr. Cahill were scoutmaster for many years getting the young generation ready for the draft. The scouts also had a large Dory, 20 feet plus, and the scouts were often observed rowing the Dory across the Meadow Pond a few times a week. Pete Opperswall, Jack Cunningham, the Baldwin brothers, Jim Bouley are only a few of the original Sea Scouts. Elvin Winchell was a bit younger than the scouts, but still hung around with the group, later joining the Sea Scouts.

After their rowing work out, they cruised into the boat wharf at Joe Tops bar and Grill. All of the rowers held there oars up in a vertical position, as the helmsman navigated the boat alongside the wharf. There was also a candy shop on the side of the bar, that sold them soda and potato chips before they headed back out. Harding's Boat House and Bait Shop was also a stopping off spot to get fresh bait for fishing.

The clubhouse burned down



Courtesy

This week's picture shows Dan Southwick with a 9.15-pound largemouth bass.

around the '80's, but the Sea scout's organization continued to meet weekly. They also spent many days fishing, which was one of the top activities back in the day. You could say that the Meadow Pond was a popular playground for many residents of the Village in Whitinsville years ago. My generation sure lived in the best years, although our parents had little money, and worked hard to raise us.

It was a time that people went to their local Fish & Game Club to play cards and bingo, and enjoy a dinner of Racoon and Ham, beans, & potato. Tickets were a mere \$2 each, which was a lot of money back then. Raffle's and other entertainment were

enjoyed on weekends ,and then they got ready to return to work on Monday, with most residents in the valley working at the former Whitin Machine Works.

The incredible Dan Southwick landed another whopper a couple of weeks ago, as this week's picture shows. The largemouth bass weighed in at 9.15 lbs. and was caught in a neighboring state. Nice fish!

Happy New Year! Hoping everyone had a very Merry Christmas and good health!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Easy Indoor Plant Project for the Kids

With COVID restrictions keeping people close to home, and students learning remotely, it can be a challenge to find new (and fun) projects for the kiddos. So how about getting a jump start on the gardening season, by recycling foods in your refrigerator? All it takes is a little soil, sunlight, and some common produce to grow a wonderful windowsill garden. Best of all, planting with kitchen castoffs is great fun for all ages. The next time you need a lesson on the fly, just open up the refrigerator or kitchen cupboard and make these plantings a family project. To personalize the project and encourage responsibility for young children, allow each child to choose their own fruit or vegetable, and allow them to "tend" to their plant on their bedroom windowsill. Chances are the gardens may not serve as anything more than a houseplant for the indoor duration, but by the time they die out or are ready to be replanted, spring will be around the corner!

* New England boiled din-



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

ners are comforting fare for winter weekends. The next time you are preparing parsnips to drop into the bubbling pot, save one or two to "plant." Parsnip is a good first choice because it grows quickly, allowing impatient children to witness the fruits of their labor in almost no time! How to do: First, choose a deep planter. You can recycle a child's summer sand pail, or even use an old plastic container embellished with felt tip marker designs. Scrub parsnips thoroughly under water and dry. Cut off a piece of the parsnip and place it cut side down into your container filled with a standard potting soil mix. Leave about an inch of the parsnip visible above the soil. Water lightly and place in sunlight. After leaves sprout, a spiked flower will appear. Keep soil moist,

but not soggy. After a week or two feed every couple of weeks or so with a stick fertilizer (cut it in thirds and work up to half, then a full stick).

* Make a lush hanging plant from . . . soybeans! Believe it or not, the soybean plant boasts purple or white self-pollinating flowers that are as pretty as any mainstream houseplant. To do: Soak soybeans overnight. Then place wet beans into a wide mouthed mason or mayonnaise jar (beans will expand as they sprout). Cover jar with cheesecloth and secure with an elastic band. The next day, drain off any water and lay the jar on its side in a warm, dark location. Keep adding water a couple of times a day, shake jar to rinse the seeds, and drain. Place jar back on its side. Beans should not sit in water too long or be allowed to dry out. Germination will occur in about four days. When they sprout to about 4 inches, plant in a hanging pot with standard potting soil and place in the sun. Feed with a commercial plant food and soon you'll have

a beautiful houseplant!

* If you are really ready to take on a challenge, why not try your hand at growing a peanut plant? Because peanuts are great fun to watch grow, choose an old Mason jar or mayonnaise jar so the kids can view the miraculous growing process. To do: Start with unprocessed peanuts in a shell (no salt). Shell three or four peanuts and place them on their side in a four-inch container filled with potting soil. Cover the peanuts with a thin layer of soil and keep them in a warm location. Water lightly. The peanut will germinate in about a week, forming a sprout. Soon after leaves will form. Keep moist and transplant when plant is about 8 inches tall. If you are patient, yellow flowers will develop above the soil. When peanuts begin to set, the plant will die back. You can either dig up the peanuts and eat them, or leave them in the soil where they will sprout again.

* Here are some other plants you can grow with pantry groceries:

* Radish plants are easy to grow and the salad fixings are quickly harvested, even in a windowsill garden. Kids love the almost-instant results they see before too long! Choose a firm radish and wash under running water, pat dry. Place root side down into standard potting mixture. Like parsnip, you should leave an inch of the radish above the soil. Place in good light and water when needed. Don't over-water or the plant will rot. Radish leaves will grow in about 6" of soil, so you can really use your imagination when selecting a suitable growing container.

* Garlic is quick and easy to grow. And the garlic plant does not give off an odor, so plant away! Save a clove from a garlic bulb and remove all the skin. Plant pointed end up in a container with soil to which you've added a layer of pebbles for drainage. Feed with fish emulsion every couple of weeks. Keep the soil moist and in a sunny area, and in about four weeks your plant will be nearly a foot tall!

**

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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



GARDEN
MOMENTS
• • • • •
MELINDA
MYERS

Holidays are filled with new plants and decorations that often find our houseplants relegated to any out of the way available space. Be sure to keep your houseplants looking their best with proper winter care.

Make sure houseplants receive sufficient light now and throughout the winter. The shorter, often gray days of winter mean less light reaches our plants. Start by moving plants to the sunniest available window. A south-facing window is usually best, but if it is obstructed by trees, awnings or shears it may

be no better than an unobstructed window facing another direction.

If brightly lit locations are limited in your home, try rotating plants between high and low light areas. Switching plants every few weeks usually keeps them growing healthy. Give the pots a turn every few weeks to ensure each side of the plant has time facing the light. This encourages even growth and discourages stems stretching toward the light.

Consider supplementing natural light with artificial light when light is limited. Newer styles that clip onto pots, are mounted on the wall, or tucked into furniture grade stands make them attractive and easier to

use. And now LED plant lights are more affordable, longer lasting and use less energy.

Humidity is the other winter stress. Many of our houseplants are tropical and require higher humidity than our homes provide. As we turn up the heat, the humidity declines.

Boost the humidity around your plants by displaying them together. As one plant loses moisture, the others will benefit. Add a gravel tray for additional humidity. Fill a tray or saucer with pebbles and water. Then set the plant on the pebbles elevated above the water. As the water evaporates, it increases humidity around the plant.

Adjust your watering schedule to fit the conditions in your home.

Winter care for houseplants

Always water thoroughly but only as needed. Use your finger to check the soil moisture below the soil surface. Water moisture-loving plants, like Moon Valley Pilea, when the top few inches are barely moist. Allow the top few inches of soil to dry for cacti and succulents. And always pour off excess water that collects in the saucer. Or use gravel trays to capture the excess water, eliminating this task.

Most houseplants do fine in the same temperatures we prefer. They do not tolerate drafts of hot air from heat vents or cold air from windows and doors. Move plants as needed to avoid drafty locations.

Never trap houseplants between the curtain or blinds and the window.

The temperature can be significantly colder, resulting in injury and even death of some plants. Place plants on a table near the window or windowsill extension, leaving room to close the window coverings at night.

Wait until spring to fertilize. Plants do not need as many nutrients when their growth is limited by less-than-ideal winter conditions. As the outdoor growing conditions improve with longer days and brighter light, so do those indoors.

You will be rewarded with healthier, more attractive plants when giving them the care they need this winter. And as you tend your indoor garden, you will help fight the winter blues.



Melinda Myers

Moon Valley Pilea is a moisture-loving plant that prefers high humidity but will tolerate average home humidity.

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

DORAY

continued from page A1

June of 2013, Lieutenant in 2015 and most recently to Captain.

Doray most recently served as Lieutenant of Inmate Special Management. He will now serve as Captain of the modular housing units. With the rank of Captain, he will also

be responsible for commanding and supervising lieutenants, sergeants, correctional officers and staff under his charge as well as monitoring the care, custody and control of inmate activity ensuring the safety of both staff and inmates.

Capt. Doray also serves in the WCSO Honor Guard, Special Operations Group and

Military Peer Support Group.

The Worcester County Jail & House of Correction located in West Boylston is responsible for both pre-trial detainees and inmates sentenced to two and a half years or less. The correctional facility houses up to 1,000 inmates and has a staff of more than 600.

THRIVE

continued from page A1

it is served by two bus lines. It will also offer a centrally located base of operations for staff who will work throughout Worcester and the neighboring towns to assist the newest members of the Thrive community.

“The Grove Street location will offer convenience for those we sup-

port and those who work for us. It positions us in the heart of an increasingly vibrant neighborhood, and we hope to contribute to that vibrancy,” said Rose.

About Thrive Support & Advocacy

Thrive Support & Advocacy has been empowering youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead active and

self-directed lives since 1973. The Marlborough-based nonprofit supports over 500 individuals and families living in 46 eastern and central Massachusetts communities through recreational and social initiatives for youth and adults, community residences, and individual and family supports. For more information, visit www.ican-thrive.org.





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WEBSTER – 6 Nicholas Circle! 8+ Rm Center Hall Colonial! 1.22 Acres! Sought After Neighborhood! Great Commuter Location Accessible to Many Major Routes! Spacious Stainless Steel Appliance Cabinet Packed Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining Rm! 23 x 24 Frplce Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceiling & Slider to the Huge Deck! Front to Back Living Rm! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! The 2nd Floor You'll Find the Comfortable 12X17 Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2 Additional Bedrooms plus an Office/Nursery/Bedroom all w/Ample Closets! 2nd Full Bath off the Hall w/Linen Closet! 2.5 Total Baths! Lower Level Ideal for Storage or Future Expansion! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers w/Dble Door Entry to the Basement for Moving Larger Items aka Boys Toys! 2 Z Oil Heat, 2 A/C, Separate Oil Water Heater! Irrigation! Don't Delay! **\$418,900.00**



DOUGLAS – 102 SE Main St! Start Packing! Spacious 9 Rm Colonial! 2.23 Acres! Center Island Granite Kit w/Soft Close Cabs, SS Appliances! Slider to 24' Deck! Open Floor Plan! Hickory Wood Floors throughout the Kit, Din & Liv Rms, all w/Recessed Lighting! 1st Flr Office or Possible 4th Bdrm w/Oak Hrdwd Flr! Full Bath in the Hall! 2nd Flr w/Full Dble Vanity Bthrm & 3 Comfortable Bdrms, all w/Beautiful Wood Laminate Flrs! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Skylight, Ceiling Fan, Bay Window overlooking the Back Yard and a Master Bath! Lower Level w/2 Finished Rms, Utility Rm w/Laundry and Half Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Recent C/Air, Heat & Roof! 2x6s 2 Car Detached Garage! Huge Shed! Nearby Nature Trails & Walum Lake Beach! **\$379,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**



WEBSTER – 55 Hillside Ave! 7 Rm, 4 Bedroom Cape! Great Highway Access! Walk to Memorial Beach! View July 4th Fireworks from Your Backyard! Liv Rm w/Hrdws, Ceiling Fan & Pellet Stove! Eat-in Kit! Fan Rm! Full Bath! 1st Flr Master w/Hrdws & Ceiling Fan! Oil Heat! Vinyl Sided! Younger Roof! Replacement Windows! Town Services! Fenced Yard! 1 Car Garage! **\$239,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 20 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Western Exposure w/Panoramic Lake Views! Beautiful Sunsets! 7 Rms, 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths! Recently Renovated from Top to Bottom! Move-in Ready! Professionally Landscaped! Exterior Stonework Front & Back! Open Floor Plan! 1st Level w/Huge Family Rm w/Lake View & Access out to Stone Patio, 1/2 Bath & Laundry, Travertine Tile Throughout! 2nd Level w/Custom Granite Kitchen w/Stainless Steel Appliances, Center Island w/Seating & Large Pantry! Spacious Living Rm w/Sliders to 14X34 Composite Deck! Dining Area w/Water Views, Hardwood Floors Throughout, Bath w/Tiled Shower, Guest Bedroom or use as Office! Lake Facing Master Bedroom w/Walk-in Closet & Private Deck! Bathroom w/Double Sinks, Tiled Shower & Separate Tub! Comfortable 3rd Bedroom w/Lots of Storage! Level Lot w/Room for Entertaining and Enjoying All The Lake has to Offer! **\$749,000.00**



CHARLTON – 74 Daniels Road! Completely Renovated 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Gambrel w/Attached In-Law Apt! Picturesque 3.39 Acres! Deeded Water Rights to South Charlton Reservoir! Extensive Updates! House w/New Roof, Siding, Kit, Bthrms, Windows, Int Doors, Electrical, Flooring, R60 Insulation in Attic, Water Heater, Well Pump & More! In-Law w/Open Flr Plan, Kit, Bdrm w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Laundry! Both Fully Appliance! 2 New Driveways, Irrigation, AG Pool! Shed! Security! Generator Hookup! **\$489,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 103 Upper Gore Rd! Estate LOCATION, LO-CATION! Scenic Upper Gore Rd! Amazing View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Main level has 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Common Bathroom, Master Bedroom & Master Bath - Fireplaced Living Room! Finished Lower Level, 1/2 Bath, Laundry, Large room w/Pellet Stove & Direct Garage Access! Tiered deck, w/Screened porch, leads directly to your "Salt water" Inground Pool! **\$319,900.**



LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS
Oxford - 4 Leisester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided **\$99,900**
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE **NEW PRICE \$115,000.**
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access, Zoned Lake Res! **Each \$24,500.**
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900**
Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+/- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family! **SORRY SOLD! \$70,000.**
Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! Off Ridge Dr. Will not last! **SORRY SOLD! \$50,000**



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WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



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LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS
Oxford - 4 Leisester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided **\$99,900**
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE **NEW PRICE \$115,000.**
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access, Zoned Lake Res! **Each \$24,500.**
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900**
Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+/- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family! **SORRY SOLD! \$70,000.**
Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! Off Ridge Dr. Will not last! **SORRY SOLD! \$50,000**

OXFORD - 4 SPICEBUSH LANE



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SOUTHBRIDGE - 14 SERVANT WAY



SORRY, SOLD!

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OXFORD - 115 CHARLTON ROAD



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WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY



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NEW TO THE MARKET! Custom Sprawling Split 2800+ SF! Central Air! Kitchen, Dining Room, Cathedral Ceiling Living Room, 3 Bedrooms! Granite Counters & New Flooring! New Boiler - Hot Water Tank - Oil Tank! FULL finished Lower Level w/ Full Bath & Laundry! THERE'S MORE! 2 Car Garage, renovated to include Hydro Heat, AC & 1/2 Bath! Great for Fitness Studio, Game Room or Home School! Over 1.4 Acres! **\$360,000.**

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Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



SORRY, SOLD!


WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180' +/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining , formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/ private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! Remember, Timing Is Everything! **\$1,075,000.**

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Market Volume	\$5,326,050	\$9,592,900	▲
# of Homes Sold	17	24	▲
Avg Days on Market	41	32	▼

DUDLEY			
	December 2019	December 2020	Trend
Median Price	\$282,000	\$323,000	▲
Market Volume	\$2,302,400	\$3,167,400	▲
# of Homes Sold	8	10	▲
Avg Days on Market	32	30	▼

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ON DEPOSIT

Webster: Condo, 2 bdrm, totally redone
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Real Estate Market is still HOT!

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Bay Path nurse alumna pinned amid pandemic

CHARLTON — “It’s official! I’m getting pinned on Friday!”

These are words on a text message sent by Marina Daniels, LPN, the newest graduate of Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) Associate Degree Nursing Evening Program Class of 2020 to her mentor Gretheline Bolandrina, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN.

The QCC Associate Degree Nursing Program recognized the 51 Class of 2020 graduates with a Zoom virtual nurse pinning ceremony held on Friday evening, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. The graduates received the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and are eligible to sit for NCLEX-RN.

“I knew six years ago when Marina was in Clinicals that she would seek academic progression in the future,” said Bolandrina. “She has done with her class what no other cohort has ever done since, persevere and graduate during a pandemic!”

Bolandrina, the Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy was Daniels’ professor and clinical instructor in 2014. She received the statement of

gratitude from Daniels: “I just wanted to say thank you for being a consistent mentor to me the past six years. . . And here I am on my way to take the NCLEX for my RN. Thank you for all the continued support!”

Daniels, of Webster, was proudly pinned on camera by her boyfriend, Andrew Robert of Pawtucket, R.I. Her parents and sister participated in Zoom to view the virtual ceremony. Daniels earned her ADN through the LPN to RN bridge pathway. Much like the traditional pinning, Daniels had the pin placed on her lapel on camera to mark the progression of her nursing career. Despite the virtual setting, Daniels recognizes the honor and significance of the ceremony and wore her professional apparel on camera. With the pandemic Daniels is poised to re-enter a health care world few can imagine.

“I’ve gotten to know Marina over the years and recognize her leadership skills and compassionate heart,” said Bolandrina. “Now, her courage and perseverance inspires and reassures me, she will continue to be a healthcare

hero.”

Daniels received the Community Service Award in 2017, the first alumni recipient to do so at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy for her volunteer work as a speaker for Information Sessions and as inspirational speaker to undergraduate classes. Daniels served as a volunteer Skills Laboratory Assistant, TEAS Proctor, and a member of the Admissions Committee. Prior to receiving her practical nursing certificate at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Daniels completed General Health Care Studies at QCC. She is certified in Dementia Care, Mental Health First Aid, and Infusion Therapy/ Central Line Care. She is currently connected with the Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center as a Nursing Supervisor. Daniels represents the courageous health care workers caring for patients in the COVID-19 pandemic.

“You persevered,” Bolandrina told Daniels. “I’m so proud of you.”

Courtesy

Pictured: Marina Daniels, LPN, and Andrew Robert.



Golas reflects on challenges, growth in 2020

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The year 2020 will go down in infamy as one of the most trying years the world has seen in quite some time. As states and nations shut down to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic, communities across the nation were forced to evolve and adapt with the times balancing budgets, ever changing safety protocols and public forums.

Officials in Charlton, like many towns, found themselves in a position of trying to juggle state mandates while

still providing the expected services to members of the community. If you ask Town Administrator Andrew Golas, Charlton adapted well and did their best to grow and learn as the pandemic took its toll.

Golas had a unique perspective to many town leaders in the region. He began serving the town of Charlton just before the pandemic hit, making his first full year as Town Administrator a unique and trying experience. Through it all though he feels Charlton has persevered as he and other town leaders took the pandemic in stride and got to

work doing what they could to continue to serve the people while also keeping public health and safety in mind.

“Starting to serve a community at the beginning of a pandemic definitely wasn’t the ideal situation but I am lucky to work with a resilient group that has continued to adjust to the ever-changing situation,” Golas said. “The community has been very understanding regarding the adjustments that we have needed to make temporarily but look forward to days that we are fully open to the public again. We are looking forward to taking lessons learned during this period to

improve the delivery of services long term such as improving the ‘remote’ access to Town Hall experience.”

The challenging times caused town meeting to move to an online format utilizing Zoom, Facebook and YouTube to allow citizens access to public forums. Golas said this was an additional challenge but it has opened up a new path for public participation that may be adapted to future meetings. He further complimented all of the town departments for being willing to evolve and adapt where necessary to the limitations imposed due to the pandemic.

“The departments overall have seen some significant changes over the past year. I believe this has been a challenging time because departments need to work so close together and virtual meetings are not full replacement for in person interaction,” said Golas. “We have found ways to adapt and continue to work together as a team, however it has been challenging staying on the same page when the one thing that you can’t do is get together.”

Golas said the town learned a lot from adapting to the COVID mandates and they will continue to follow necessary protocols into the early half of 2021 with the town hall set to remain open by appointment only until the current spike in COVID cases subsides. However, the pandemic has not stopped officials from looking to the future as well, not just to more positive times but also growth of the community. Municipal facilities will be a heavy focus for the new year especially the ongoing discussion regarding a new fire station after 2020 saw the proposed Public Safety Building shot down for a second time. The project is being downsized to serve as a fare station only with a new committee kicking off the planning process this month. Golas is also looking forward to working with Charlton’s reconstituted Economic Development Committee which will put a renewed focus on prioritizing local economic growth.

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