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Friday, September 18, 2020

# Rotary honors CFC Head Gardener

STURBRIDGE — At a recent meeting held via Zoom, the Sturbridge Rotary Club hosted Co-Director of the St. John Paul II Food Pantry, Roberta Watson. Watson spoke about the impact felt at the Pantry as a result of the Coronavirus. She cited statistics of household, individual and senior use at the Pantry pre-Covid compared to what the statistics are today. While the use of the Pantry was higher pre-Covid, participation decreased considerably and only recently has it started to increase. Watson particularly expressed her concern for reduced use of the Pantry by seniors and checked with them as to their needs and/or concerns.

Watson also serves as head gardener at the Community Food Collaborative (CFC), another volunteer position she holds. Following her presentation, Club co-President Ken Jones presented Watson with a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow recognition for her untiring work not only at the garden but at the Food Pantry as well. Watson feels very strongly about providing quality products and dignity to all clients at the Pantry as well as growing quality products and showing respect to and welcoming all volunteers at the garden. Not only does she work hard in both volunteer positions, she does so with a smile and genuine concern for everyone. She's patient and very willing to educate volunteers concern-



## Old Sturbridge Village announces new hours, operational changes

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) is deepening its focus on its mission and visitor-driven experience - to provide meaning, relevance and inspiration to all through the active exploration of history - as it announces new hours and operational changes taking place throughout the month of September. Amidst the major updates, the Village will operate on a new fall schedule, unveil new seasonal programming and promotions, close its lodging and suspend all event and banquet operations, due to the ongoing regulations around the COVID-19 pandemic.

Starting this week, Old Sturbridge Village will be operating under a new schedule, open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and during the Columbus Day holiday on Monday, Oct. 12. In late October and November, the Village will close an hour earlier, at 4:00 p.m.

"Leaning into the weekends and holidays in the fall will align to visitor trends we saw over the summer and will allow us to put our best foot forward every day that we are open," says Jim Donahue, President & CEO of Old Sturbridge Village.

These new hours will allow the Village to plan and deliver impactful programming, demonstrations and historic interpretation to visitors of all ages, including exciting plans in the works for harvest season, Halloween and Christmas.

"The restrictions of COVID-19 mean we are unable to host The Sleepy Hollow Experience at the Village this October," says Donahue. "Fear not, though - we are working on some Halloween ideas that we plan to bring to life in October that will provide a safe and fun experience for everyone. We are also working on the details for an amazing holiday program in December. We know that almost 25,000 people visited the Village last Christmas as part of their family's holiday tradition - and we want you to be able to enjoy Christmastime with us

Please Read OSV CHANGES, page A6

ing plants, plant pests, and the fine balance between soil and water needs for various types of plants.

Because Watson's recognition was given via Zoom, co-President Klaus Hachfeld volunteered at the next garden work session and personally presented the award certificate and pin to her. The recognition is a way of honoring an individual who goes above and beyond what is expected, and in this case, not only for

the Pantry and the CFC garden, but in her everyday life.

The Sturbridge Rotary Club donated \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation in Watson's name in order to honor her with the Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

Watson stressed, "While I'm honored and proud to be given this recognition, the dedicated volunteers I work with both at the Pantry and the CFC garden collectively get the job done and for that, we all need to be thankful."

## Primary sets the stage for November contests

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Rotary Club has been awarding scholarships each year to local students for the past 47 years. The first scholarship was for \$500 and the amount awarded has steadily increased over the years. This year, Sturbridge Rotary awarded scholarships of \$1,000 each to six students from Tantasqua Regional High School. Cumulatively, Rotary is proud to have awarded more than \$214,000 in local scholarships.

The scholarship committee chose the following students based upon the Club's criteria of personal and scholastic achievement, participation in school activities including sports as well as community service through work and volunteering.

This year's recipients of Sturbridge Rotary Scholarships are Jennifer Collins, Olivia George, Jordan Lapiere, Erin Shae McCarthy, Brian Daniel Riel and Leia Krans. Leia Krans also received the \$500 "Wendall Wright Memorial Award." Wendall was an

educator and long-time supporter of Rotary.

Additionally, a one-time \$3,000 "Phil Carlson Memorial Award" was received by Arianna Renee Taft. Phil was a 50-year member of Rotary and served as Scholarship Chairman for many years.

Sturbridge Rotary Club is one of 35,000 clubs worldwide providing humanitarian service as members of Rotary International. Beyond the local and international help that we provide, we are most proud of our support of educational programs for youth such as sponsoring students to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Award program as well as awarding scholarships to the young men and women that we recognize here. These students will receive their funding upon completion of their first semester. To learn more about Sturbridge Rotary, please visit us at [www.sturbridgerotary.org](http://www.sturbridgerotary.org) or [www.facebook.com/sturbridgerotary](http://www.facebook.com/sturbridgerotary).

# Churchgoers bid farewell to beloved minister

BY JASON BLEAU  
 VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — After 28 years, the Federated Church of Charlton is saying goodbye to its long-time minister, Rev. Jim Chase. An active member in the larger community serving as the fire Chaplain for the town and a devoted believer in his faith who helped with the recover following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Rev. Chase leaves behind a legacy that has made him a highly respected member of his community and his church family.

The reverend was honored during a special virtual honorific service on the morning of Sunday, Sept. 13 where numerous speakers from throughout his life shared memories of their time with Rev. Chase and his contributions for their lives and the world around him. The service began with prayer and a video featuring numerous members of the Charlton Fire Department who thanked Rev. Chase for his devotion and for his words of wisdom during both times of crisis and peace. Charlton Fire Chief Ed Knopf capped off the video with a personal message thanking the reverend for also being a good friend.

"I hope these small 'thank you's' give you an indication of just how important you were to this department," Knopf said. "I want to thank you for being that



Courtesy

Rev. Jim Chase smiles as guests to a special virtual honorific service recall memories of his 28 years with the Federated Church of Charlton

sounding board, for listening to me complain, being that chief lunch date, and for most importantly being a friend."

Among other speakers were David Ware, Jr. who the reverend served beside while helping with the recovery following the attacks of the World Trade Center in 2001. Ware called the reverend and "great friend" who was a great spiritual leader whose heart has always been "full of love." Bob Lamprey, a long-time travel partner of the reverend on missions, called the reverend and "inspiration" and thanked him for his dedicated service.

The morning also included a statement from Reverend Don Remick, ridge Conference Minister of the Southern New England Conference, who congratulated Rev. Chase on his retirement, but assured him that his good works are not yet done.

"Retirement of course is not an end to your ministry. It only takes on a new shape and form as you enter this next chapter, not because you have work to do but because that gift and call of ministry is deeply woven into the fiber of your soul. Your presence brings the spirit of God wherever you go," Rev. Remick said.

Finally, the kind words of James Moran, who led the service, that recalled how Rev. Chase had once

Please Read CHASE, page A6

# Inspiring reading through little libraries

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Even though the Charlton Public Library has reopened in a limited capacity, the COVID-19 pandemic caused libraries across the country to close down for months leaving a gap that one local high schooler decided to fill for young readers in the town.

Since the beginning of the pandemic Ivy Dowdle, a resident of Pheasant Lane in Charlton and a sophomore at Woodstock Academy in Connecticut, has been restocking the local little library on her road hoping to keep youngsters in town reading through the pandemic even without access to hard copy literature.

“I know it’s really hard during the pandemic to get anything physical in your hand and with the libraries shut down kids especially around town and in my neighborhood haven’t been allowed to get any books they would otherwise have in normal times,” Dowdle said. “When I was little my mom would always take me to the Charlton Public Library. It was a really big part of my childhood. Just in my neighborhood alone we have a lot of young kids who have moved into the area and I really wanted to return the favor and pass on that appreciation



Courtesy Photo

(Left) Ivy Dowdle of Charlton makes her latest donation for a little library on Pheasant Lane.

donated some books that she herself grew up reading she also gets literature from a used book website that allows her to add variety to the local little library to serve kids with all different interests and tastes.

“I have some favorites from when I was younger, and I really want these kids to appreciate them as much as I did so sometimes I will just put in books I’ve had at a younger age. Mainly the books come from a website called Thrift Books which offers lightly used books in good conditions and you can search for specific titles,” said Dowdle. “I try to select what I donate carefully so I can make sure all the kids are represented and have something to read.”

In the end Dowdle just wants kids to have an opportunity to embrace their inner reader even during such an unsure time as a pandemic. If she can inspire or help even a few young locals read and gain a love for books she considers her mission a success.

“I think when kids are reading what they like and can relate to these books that’s when they can enjoy it and not view it as a chore. I just want kids to get in touch with their inner reader and have fun with it,” Dowdle said.

Two local little libraries can be found at the Pheasant Lane Children’s Library at 17 Pheasant Lane in Charlton.

for books and reading that I grew up with.”

Dowdle’s parents, who both work as teachers, raised her with an

appreciation for education and reading which is part of her passion for sharing that love of literature with other local kids. While Dowdle has

## Bay State Savings Bank’s Maria A. Heskes-Allard receives New England Women in Banking Award

WORCESTER — Bay State Savings Bank is proud to announce SVP - Senior Lender Maria A. Heskes-Allard has been awarded among 2020’s New England Women in Banking by Banking New England Magazine. New England Women in Banking honors the most talented, ambitious, innovative, and philanthropic women in the New England



Courtesy

Maria Heskes-Allard

banking industry.

Mrs. Heskes-Allard, of Princeton, holds more than 30 years of experience in Commercial Lending in Central Massachusetts. Currently, as SVP - Senior Lender, she leads Bay State Savings Bank’s retail and commercial loan departments. Mrs. Heskes-Allard joined the Bank in 2016 as Senior Vice President of Commercial Lending and was promoted to SVP - Senior Lender in 2018. Prior to joining Bay State Savings Bank, she served as Senior Vice President of Clinton Savings Bank in Clinton.

Over four years, Mrs. Heskes-Allard has helped to grow Bay State

Savings Bank’s Commercial and Retail Lending Departments, resulting in a 22 percent increase in total asset size, and 29% increase in the loan portfolio. Earlier this year, she was instrumental in guiding Bay State Savings Bank through the Paycheck Protection Program, overseeing the submission of more than 350 loans totaling in more than \$29 million in funds for business owners who were affected by the economic impact of coronavirus.

Mrs. Heskes-Allard holds an Associate Degree from Becker College, a BS from Southern New Hampshire University, a Certificate in Real Estate Finance from Boston University, and a Finance MBA from Assumption College.

Currently, Mrs. Heskes-Allard serves as a Greater Worcester Community Foundation board member and is a member of its Scholarship Committee. She also serves on the Llewellyn Evans Scholarship Committee for Becker College.

Read more about Mrs. Heskes-Allard in her feature on New England Banking’s Web site.

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# Engelkemeyer announces retirement plans

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Nichols College President Susan West Engelkemeyer has announced she will retire in 2021 completed nearly a decade of leadership at the Dudley campus.

Nichols College made the announcement in a press release on Sept. 9 that Dr. Engelkemeyer will retire in June at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 academic year. Engelkemeyer became the seventh presidents in Nichols College history in 2011. The departing president said her decision was based on a desire to explore the next chapter in her life and to spend more time with her family.

“These years have been the highlight of my professional career in so many ways, and I am truly grateful to the Nichols community for your partnership, your support, and your commitment to our mission, and to our incredible students who are at the center of all we do,” said Dr. Engelkemeyer.

While the current year will be her last at Nichols, Dr. Engelkemeyer expressed optimism for the future of the school and a commitment to helping the college endure through the unsure times of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“While the global pandemic has slowed our pace as we work to actualize our vision to become ‘a college of choice for business and leadership education,’ I am confident that we will quickly regain our footing and emerge stronger than ever,” she added.

Dr. Engelkemeyer’s tenure at Nichols College has seen many improvements including a 20 percent increase in enrollment, 30 percent increase in retention, and a 50 percent graduation rate. She also helped oversee a \$45 million comprehensive campaign and saw the number of endowed scholarships increase from 21 to 81. Dr. Engelkemeyer herself even established her own scholarship.

Nichols Board of Trustees chair John H. Davis commended Dr. Engelkemeyer as a visionary who



Susan Engelkemeyer

helped provide powerful leadership to the school helping advance Nichols College through “one of the toughest periods in higher education.”

“Her dedication to this institution is matched only by her genuine

affection for the students it serves, and Nichols will long benefit from the foundation she has set for our continued success,” said Davis.

The Board of Trustees has formed a Presidential Search Committee to lead a nationwide search for Nichols College’s eighth president.

Courtesy



## ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

## Gove Law to open new office in Sturbridge

STURBRIDGE — Gove Law Office is happy to announce it will be opening a new office location in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. The new office, located at 135 Main St., Suite 4, is conveniently located between Sturbridge and Southbridge centers, and five minutes from the I-90 / I-84 interchange.

The new Sturbridge office will be staffed primarily by Atty. Brian Roode, of Wales, and paralegal Tammy Gamache, of Monson, though all employees will be available to meet with clients as needed for any services.

The Gove Law Office, with offices in Ludlow, Northampton, and Sturbridge, has attorneys licensed in Massachusetts and Connecticut who provide practical, solutions-oriented guidance to clients in the areas of residential and commercial real estate, estate planning and administration, family law and mediation, business representation, and commercial lending. For more information, visit [www.govelawoffice.com](http://www.govelawoffice.com).

## QCC’s TRIO Program awarded grant to support students

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College was awarded a TRIO Student Support Services Grant of \$1,309,440. This is a five-year grant distributed in yearly increments of \$261,888.

QCC’s TRIO Student Support Services program is a federally-funded program that provides support and services to first generation and economically disadvantaged students, and students with disabilities. The program began at QCC in September 2010 with 120 student participants and is currently serving 150 students.

“This grant award will allow us to serve more of our most vulnerable students by providing them with a high level of support services,” said QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja. “Low-income, first-generation and students with disabilities can sometimes need additional assistance in completing their certificate or degree programs. This grant supports our community by increasing access and equity to college and career pathways that might otherwise be out of reach for these students.”

As a large inner city college, QCC has a diverse population that draws from all sub-communities within Worcester and its surrounding communities, with 21 percent of students identifying as Hispanic, 14 percent as Black/African American, 5 percent Asian, 4 percent other and 3 percent multi-racial/cultural. More than 74 percent of students rely on Pell grants and other financial aid to supplement their education and expenses. More than 30 percent of students work an average of 30 hours a week, and have family obligations.

At QCC, TRIO staff members meet regularly with students to review and support a career and academic plan, to

help them complete a program of study at QCC and/or transfer to a four-year institution. Services are designed to be hands-on with individual and small group tutoring, intensive advising, financial aid counseling, transfer assistance, discussion of academic goals, assistance planning class schedules, assistance with early registration and guidance throughout the semester. Students are also taught about social service and giving back to their community.

According to Joseph Adams, project director for the college’s TRIO program, the chances of TRIO students succeeding goes up 50% once they enter the program and in some cases that number may even be higher depending on their interaction with the program. The results of the program show it is working.

“QCC’s TRIO alumni have gone on to graduate from many 4-year schools, such as Cornell University, UMass, Mass College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences University, Clark University, and many more,” he said, adding, “The program also had its first graduate from UMass Medical School in May and is currently doing his residency in Pittsburg, Pa.”

“Helping students achieve their goals and realize their dreams is what we are all about at QCC. By supporting those who have historically been disadvantaged and underserved, we are also helping our entire community,” President Pedraja said.

Visit [www.QCC.edu/TRIO](http://www.QCC.edu/TRIO) to learn more about the QCC TRIO Support Services program.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508.854.7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu)

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## Friday’s Child



Bryson and Cayden  
Age 10 and 13

Hi! Our names are Bryson and Cayden and we are ready to find a family we can call our own!

Bryson and Cayden are an outgoing sibling group! Older brother Bryson is of African American and Caucasian descent. Some of Bryson’s favorite activities include playing outside, playing video games and football, drawing, and making storybooks. Bryson is known to be a kind, caring, friendly child who enjoys socializing with his peers. He is also considered a protector as he enjoys taking care of pets and younger children.

Cayden is a kind and caring boy of African American and Caucasian descent. Like his brother, Cayden is very considerate of others. Cayden loves to draw, read, play outside, and ride his bicycle. He also likes to play

with Legos and build different types of structures with them. They boys have an older teenage brother whom they are close to and will need to maintain contact with on the South Shore of Massachusetts.

Bryson and Cayden look forward to being placed together in a loving, permanent home. Their social worker is open to exploring one or two-parent families with or without other children. They are legally freed for adoption and will need to maintain contact with members of their birth family once their placement is identified.

### 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 617-6273 or visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



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ESSENTIAL local NEWS



# Worcester Art Museum will reopen to public Oct. 7

WORCESTER — The Worcester Art Museum, which has been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic since March 13, announced today that it will reopen to the public on Wednesday, Oct. 7. In addition to a series of special exhibitions and presentations, the Museum also announced that several free virtual programs, including Zip Zoom Tours, Arms and Armor Presentations, a Fall Community Day, and Master Series Third Thursday

Art Talk, will be held throughout the fall. Dates, details, and links to participate will be posted on worcesterart.org. In addition, the Museum is offering a variety of online studio art and art history classes for adults and youth. Class and registration information is available at portal.worcesterart.org/classes.

The Museum will be open to the public on Wednesdays from noon – 4 p.m., Thursdays – Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4

p.m.; and third Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Museum also will be open to the public on Columbus Day, Monday, Oct. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“We are very grateful to our members, sponsors, donors, and foundations—and our generous Worcester community—for supporting us during our closure,” said Matthias Waschek, the Museum’s Jean and Myles McDonough Director. “While visiting this fall and winter will look and feel different in order to keep everyone safe, the Museum’s phenomenal collection of art and its power to heal and comfort, will be here for all to enjoy. We have been waiting for this day for nearly six months and can’t wait to see our community here again!”

To ensure a safe, enjoyable experience, the Museum is implementing a number of safety protocols following state and local guidelines, and asks that all visitors adhere to these policies as they plan their visit.

- Entry to the Museum will be timed, with all members and visitors required to reserve or purchase tickets in advance. Tickets will be made available for specific entry times between 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and between 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Tickets will be available online after Sept. 21.

- The maximum group size is five visitors.

- As mandated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, all Museum staff and visitors (age five and older) are required to wear a mask or cloth face covering for the duration of their time in the Museum.

- While inside the Museum, visitors must observe six feet of physical distance between themselves and others outside their party, including Museum employees.

- Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout many areas of the Museum, and all public areas will have enhanced cleaning schedules.

- All visitors to the Museum must enter and exit through the Salisbury Street Entrance, which is fully accessible. Please note that no more than 5 people may enter the Museum at the same time.

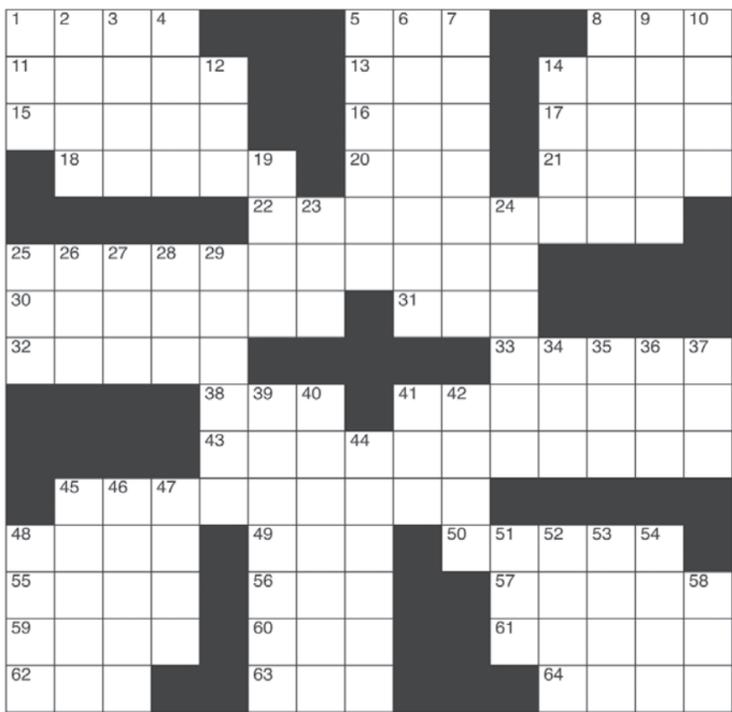
For full information on new safety policies, how to plan a visit, and to purchase tickets, all WAM visitors are asked to visit worcesterart.org. Timed tickets will be available for purchase after Sept. 21.

## About the Worcester Art Museum

The Worcester Art Museum creates transformative programs and exhibitions, drawing on its exceptional collection of art. Dating from 3,000 BCE to the present, these works provide the foundation for a focus on audience engagement, connecting visitors of all ages and abilities with inspiring art and demonstrating its enduring relevance to daily life. Creative initiatives—including pioneering collaborative programs with local schools, fresh approaches to exhibition design and in-gallery teaching, and a long history of studio class instruction—offer opportunities for diverse audiences to experience art and learn both from and with artists.

Since its founding in 1896, the Worcester Art Museum has assembled a collection of 38,000 objects: from the ancient Near East and Asia, to European and American paintings and sculptures, and continuing with works by contemporary artists from around the world. WAM has a history of making large scale acquisitions, such as its Medieval Chapter House, the Worcester Hunt Mosaic, its 15th-century Spanish ceiling, and the Flemish Last Judgment tapestry. In 2013, the Museum acquired the John Woodman Higgins Armory Collection, comprising two thousand arms and armor objects. It continues to commission and present new works, such as 2017’s installation of the immersive Reusable Universes sculptural series and Organic Conceptenvironment by Shih Chieh Huang. For more information about the Worcester Art Museum, visit worcesterart.org.

The Worcester Art Museum, located at 55 Salisbury Street in Worcester, MA, is open to the public Wednesday from 12 to 4 p.m.; Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and the third Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Museum is open for Members only on Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$8 for children 4-17, \$14 for seniors 65+ and for college students with ID. Admission is free for Museum Members and children under age four. On the first Sunday of each month, admission is free for everyone. Museum parking is free. All visitors are asked to enter the Museum through the Salisbury Street entrance. For more information, visit worcesterart.org.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Greasy powder (abbr.)
- 5. Rural Free Delivery (abbr.)
- 8. Amount of time
- 11. Greeting
- 13. Form of “to be”
- 14. Israeli diplomat
- 15. Outfit
- 16. The 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 17. Deceptive movement
- 18. Anxious
- 20. Popular Letterman guest
- 21. Saints’ signal caller
- 22. Intoxicate
- 25. Relationship
- 30. Ask for one’s hand in marriage
- 31. Popular Will Ferrell film
- 32. Gargle
- 33. Warning sensation before migraine
- 38. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 41. Erases
- 43. At ease
- 45. Small branch of an artery
- 48. Mother of Hermes
- 49. Body part
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 55. Wellness chants
- 56. Helps little firms
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Peep
- 60. Nellie \_\_, journalist
- 61. Spiritual leader
- 62. Doctor of Education
- 63. Affirmative
- 64. Cheek

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Popular kids’ game
- 2. Away from wind
- 3. Round water pot
- 4. Drink quickly
- 5. A simple type of jet engine
- 6. Something for nothing
- 7. Painkiller
- 8. Siskel’s pal
- 9. Strong spirit distilled in Turkey
- 10. Again
- 12. Imitate
- 14. Icelandic poems
- 19. Jacob \_\_, American journalist
- 23. No (Scottish)
- 24. Newborn
- 25. Credit term
- 26. Nonprofit research group in CA
- 27. Male offspring
- 28. Important baseball stat
- 29. A way to compel
- 34. Fiddler crab
- 35. Jewish equivalent of “Sir”
- 36. Every
- 37. Midway between east and southeast
- 39. Anti-slavery treaty
- 40. A friendly manner
- 41. Military figure (abbr.)
- 42. Area units
- 44. Sudden incursions
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Covered with hoarfrost
- 47. Job
- 48. Donkey
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Light dry-gap bridge (abbr.)
- 58. Criticize

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	R	E	A	B	S	R	A	E		A	I	A	M		
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# Bay Path alum named Unit Manager at Odd Fellows Home

WORCESTER — Lauren Pellett, LPN of Norwich, Conn. was promoted to Unit Manager at the Odd Fellows Home of Worcester.

The position gives Pellett, a former 911 Dispatcher and a novice LPN, plenty of responsibilities. She oversees all nursing staff at the unit, including para-professionals. Pellett has the distinction of the first in the class of 2020 to be hired as an LPN while still completing her academics. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit the region, the state of emergency added a few more responsibilities to Pellett.

"I am responsible for the 40-bed unit and to ensure that we are adapting to all guidelines to meet CDC standards," she said. That means taking all COVID precautions to protect both the patients and staff that works there.

It was because of Pellett's work at the Odd Fellows Home as an undergraduate and her dedication in managing remote learning while being gainfully employed that she was selected and approached to be honored with the promotion As a 2020 graduate of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Pellett had the following accolades:

Certified, Mental Health First Aid (National Council for Behavioral Health Mental Health First Aid)



Courtesy

**Lauren Pellett**

Certified, Dementia Care Attendee, Stop The Bleed Course (American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma)

Member, UNICEF Club Mentor, Class of 2021

Nominee, Feed Inc., Kindness Award Nominee, Kate Spade Hero Recipient,

**Yasso Game on Hero Award**

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Nominee, Clinical Excellence Award "During remote learning, I missed being in school and having more interaction with the patients. To help, I assisted my mom in making fabric masks. I learned a lot through kind

interactions," she said. "I enjoyed helping and building relationships with our patients."

She added that she had always wanted to be a nurse and her favorite thing about being a nurse is being able to help her patients, family and friends. "I take care of all living things."

"I love taking care of the elderly, I want to make the rest of their lives happy and peaceful," she said.

**Brimfield resident takes top honors in design competition**

BRIMFIELD — Joseph Leaming, son of Harold and Pamela Leaming of Brimfield, was awarded First Place in The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) 2020 Here & Now: A House for the 21st

Century, International Student Design Competition.

Joseph graduated from Pratt Institute in May 2020 with a Bachelor of Architecture degree and a minor in Construction Management.

**Police Department accepting applications for dispatcher**

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Police Department will be accepting applications for a full-time civilian dispatch position.

This position handles several emergency duties, including receiving 911 calls; dispatching EMS, fire, and police resources; assisting the general public; and maintaining computer-related functions. Candidates must be able to work well under pressure,

multitask, and communicate clearly.

Candidates must be at least 18 years old, possess a high school degree, and undergo an extensive background check. The following additional qualifications are preferred but not required: NG911, EMD certified, and APCO PST1.

Shifts include nights, overnights, weekends, and holidays. The salary range is \$20.80-\$26.33 hourly, depending on experience.

Interested candidates may send a cover letter, resume, and application to SPD Lead Dispatcher Barbara Boiteau (Sturbridge Police Department, 346 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA, 01566). You can also email your materials to Barbara.boiteau@sturbridgepd.com.

The application deadline is Sept. 18. A review of candidates will begin shortly thereafter, and the position will be filled this fall.

**OSV CHANGES**

continued from page 1

again."

In keeping with the Village's vision to provide a robust and impactful experience moving forward, OSV has also extended its "Kids FREE" promotion through Nov. 28. Under the promotion, up to three kids age 17 and under can visit the Village for FREE when accompanied by an adult paying full standard daytime admission rates. The promotion will help families discover a fun and immersive historical experience during the fall, when many children will continue learning in a remote schooling environment.

Among the other changes at the Village comes the temporary closure of its banquet division. The banquet division of Old Sturbridge Village is responsible for the booking, planning, catering and overall logistics of all meetings, special events and wedding functions that take place at OSV. Under current state guidelines, the division has not been able to resume normal operations or host events in 2020. To-date, the division has proactively refunded all deposits from events booked now through

2022.

On-site accommodations at the historic Oliver Wight House and at the Reeder Family Lodges have also been suspended temporarily.

"These tough decisions allow us to refocus and concentrate our efforts on the core mission of Old Sturbridge Village - preserving history and telling our story," says Donahue. "Old Sturbridge Village has been the site of important events and key moments in people's lives, and it has been an honor to both create and preserve history in so many ways. We've had to make some difficult decisions over the past several months, but each choice ensures that we are able to keep the Village strong as our region and our nation emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic."

For the full letter and remarks from President & CEO Jim Donahue on updates being made at Old Sturbridge Village, visit: <https://www.osv.org/covid-related-village-updates/>. For questions about events, new hours, programming or visitation information, go to: <https://www.osv.org/plan-your-visit/>.

**Historical Society season postponed**

STURBRIDGE — It is with great regret that the Sturbridge Historical Society announces that its 2020-21 season of programs has been postponed until further notice in order to ensure the safety of our members and guests.

**CHASE**

continued from page 1

considered leaving Charlton for bigger opportunities but destiny kept him around and over the years he transformed the ministry into what it is today and helping change lives as not just a religious leader, but a friend to all who needed one.

"Jim, as fire Chaplain, would literally dress for action in the middle of the night he would venture out to give solace and comfort to those who suffered from a fire or were injured in an accident. Jim was a powerful presence to those who suffered that pain and loss here in Charlton but also in New

York, Africa and other faraway places. Jim was a great comfort not just to the victims, but also to those first responders," Moran said.

Before the closing of the service Rev. Chase added his own humble comments saying he is thankful for the time he has had as reverend and is truly blessed that life led him in that direction.

"I can't tell you what a wonderful gift it's been and I'm just so thankful that you put up with all my shenanigans for all these years," the Reverend said to those present. "This is where God called me. This is where he wanted me for all those years. It's been an incredible blessing."

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# Robbins to retire as Cornerstone Bank CEO

WORCESTER — After 34 years of dedicated service at Cornerstone Bank, K. Michael Robbins will be retiring as the Bank's CEO on December 31, 2020; Mike will continue to serve as the Bank's Chairman. The announcement was made by Cornerstone Bank President Todd Tallman.

"Mike has been a committed, loyal member of our family for so long, his name is practically synonymous with Cornerstone Bank," states Tallman. "He has always put the needs of customers first, and diligently worked to ensure that everything Cornerstone did was for the well-being of the community and its residents. In fact, Mike considered support of our community to be his greatest responsibility."

After serving in various senior level positions at Spencer Savings Bank from 1986 through 2003 and President & CEO at Spencer Savings Bank/SpencerBANK from 2003 through 2017, Robbins assumed the roles of Chairman & CEO at Cornerstone Bank. Under Robbins' leadership, SpencerBANK's total assets grew from 250 million to 600 million dollars. In 2016, SpencerBANK and Southbridge Savings Bank created a merger of equals forming Cornerstone Bank



Courtesy

Michael Robbins

with total assets today of 1.3 billion dollars. His professional affiliations include Chairman of the Board at COCC, a financial technology company serving financial institutions, as

well as Finance Committee Member at Harrington Hospital. Robbins is also a Board Member of the Worcester Club and the Worcester Research Bureau and is supportive of the Juvenile

Diabetes Research Foundation.

"Knowing Mike, he'll continue to be very active," adds Tallman, who will replace Robbins as CEO. "Between golf, antique cars and traveling, he'll be as busy as ever. I learned a great deal from Mike and we developed a very deep and lasting friendship. I wish him and his wife Cathy all the best in the years ahead—and every happiness in the world."

### 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.

## Bay Path Practical Nursing student receives scholarship

CHARLTON — Amanda Wonderlie of Webster, a full-time Practical Nursing (PN) Student with PN Class of 2021 at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, received the Shawna Jean Larassa (S JL) Memorial Scholarship Fund, valued at \$500.

Wonderlie is a dedicated and hard-working client care specialist at Herb Chambers Infiniti (Westborough) seeking to leverage her more than five years of experience and journey into the nursing profession. She had previously taken courses at Bridgewater State College and Quinsigamond Community College prior to being admitted to the rigorous ten-month Practical Nursing program at Bay Path. She is certified in Dementia Care and Basic Life Support (BLS) for Health Care Professionals through the American Heart Association.

Wonderlie received the scholarship directly from Mr. George Larassa who mentioned that "it has been 11 years this year!" referring to his daughter, Shawna's sudden and untimely death. Shawna was a graduate of Bartlett High School Class of 2008. She completed her

freshman year at Johnson and Wales University in Providence, RI where she was a business and criminal justice major. Mr. Larassa stated that the S JL Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2009 to perpetuate the memory of Shawna Jean.

"I get why people need help, especially with education expenses," explained Larassa.

"Nursing means something to us, the 11 hours we spent with Shawna at the hospital, and the care she received from the doctors and nurses," he reminisced. "Bikers are very giving people, we do S JL ride, motorcycle rides, events, in memory of Shawna," he added.

Larassa then concluded, Shawna's life "was lived experiencing new adventures and she was dearly loved, and in her memory, we are honored to provide scholarship assistance to young individuals determined to live life to the fullest."

**About Bay Path RVT HS Practical Nursing Academy**  
Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through

Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing 239 Causeway Street Boston, MA 02114 617-973-0800 www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education 840 Roswell Road Building 300, Suite 325 Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 www.council.org Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges 209 Burlington Rd, Suite 201 Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022 www.neasc.org

Donations may be made to the Shawna J. Larassa Memorial Scholarship Fund Inc., 122a Mechanic St. Marlborough, MA 01752 or visit www.shawnalarassa.com



Courtesy

Amanda Wonderlie

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The Pumpkins are Coming!  
The Pumpkins are Coming!  
Spread the word that the best place to get your fall decorations is the **Sturbridge Federated Church in Sturbridge**, where the finest pumpkins and gourds will be on sale from September 26th – October 31st. Proceeds will benefit various local and regional charities as well as the Navajo Indian Reservation. Wearing face masks and social distancing will be required of anyone entering the Pumpkin Patch.

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# OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

## EDITORIAL A taste of autumn

While there are plenty of topics to discuss this week on the local and national level, we decided to keep things light, and to do our best to foster a sense of unity among our readers.

One quick note to share this week is a story of two neighbors, with opposing political signs on their yards, having a thoughtful conversation. Yes, this actually happened. The two neighbors sat side by side in their vehicles and after about 20 minutes of a calm, respectful conversation, learned that they had more in common than they didn't. Sometimes that's all it takes, is an open mind and a mature outlook. This is a story we can appreciate.

Hanging heavily on our hearts, though, is the absence of the yearly fall fairs that take place all around New England. While we understand the circumstances that led to several cancellations, it still doesn't make us miss it any less. With that said, we decided a fun idea would be to have a Fair night at home.

Who says you can't blast Tim McGraw or Garth Brooks in the back yard and have a complete meal of fair food for a night? There are simple games you can set up at home as well, including water balloon pop, pick a duck (all you need is a few rubber ducks and a bucket or pool of water), water coin drop, and the bean bag toss to name a few. Get creative with your prizes depending on who is in attendance.

There are homemade recipes for all of your fair favorites as well. Soft pretzels, fried dough, apple crisp, steak and cheese, corn dogs, nachos with melted cheese whiz, French fries with malted vinegar or ketchup and a bloomin' onion with ranch for the win.

A family fair night is one way to keep the tradition alive. If you want to go a step further, there are plenty of farm stands and pumpkin patches still in operation to get that downhome feel. In addition, a drive to a local farm for kids of all ages to see cows and horses is an easy field trip.

We decided to include recipes for our top three fair food picks.

**Fried Dough:**  
 2 cups unbleached flour  
 1/2 cup nonfat dry milk powder  
 3 teaspoons baking powder  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 4-1/2 teaspoons shortening  
 2/3 to 3/4 cup water  
 Oil for deep-fat frying  
 Butter, honey and lemon juice, optional

**Directions**  
 Combine flour, dry milk powder, baking powder and salt; cut in shortening until crumbly. Add water gradually, mixing to form a firm ball. Divide dough; shape into 12 balls. Let stand, covered, for 10 minutes. Roll each ball into a 6-in. circle. With a sharp knife, cut a 1/2-in.-diameter hole in center of each. In a large cast-iron skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Fry dough circles, one at a time, until puffed and golden, about 1 minute on each side. Drain on paper towels; if desired, serve warm with butter, honey and fresh lemon juice.

**Caramel apples:**  
**Ingredients**  
 Heavy Cream  
 Light Corn Syrup  
 Brown Sugar  
 Butter  
 Salt and Vanilla Extract  
 First, rinse and dry the apples.  
 Pull out the apple's stem and insert a caramel apple stick.

For the caramel, cook the first five ingredients on the stove until the candy reaches 235°F (113°C). Reaching 235°F (113°C) should take about 15 – 20 minutes.

Remove caramel from heat, then stir in the vanilla. Allow caramel to cool for a few minutes, then dip your apples. Let the excess caramel drip off, then place on a nonstick surface such as a silicone baking mat lined baking sheet.

Once set, you can wrap the caramel apples in cellophane.

**Bloomin' onion:**  
 Combine mayonnaise, sour cream, horseradish, ketchup, paprika, garlic powder and cayenne pepper. Chill this while you prepare the onions.

First, cut the onions. Cut a small flat spot on the none root end of the onion. Then remove any dried or damaged peels. Place the onion flat side down on a cutting board (root side up). Using a sharp knife starting about 1/2 inch from the root make a clean slice downward. Next turn the onion one quarter turn and make another clean slice downward. Follow that with two more quarter turns and two more clean slices downward. You should have four clean slices down on the onion equally spaced apart. Now cut three to four equal spaced cuts downward in each of those four sections. Then turn the onion root side down and gently fan out those sections.

First in a large bowl big enough to hold the onion whisk together the milk and eggs. Then in another large bowl combine the flour, paprika, cumin, oregano, thyme, salt, cayenne pepper, black pepper and garlic powder. Then put one of the cut onions in the flour mixture. Using your hands coat the onion with the flour mixture spreading and separating the onion to make sure that it all gets breaded. Next dunk the onion into the egg mixture. Then back into the flour mixture using your hands to coat the onion.

Use a heavy pan like a dutch oven and heat the oil to 375 degrees. Using a skimmer ladle or tongs slowly place the onion root side up in the hot oil. Fry for about six minutes or until a deep golden brown. Next remove the onion to paper towels to drain.

## It's Apple Season!

It's apple season and apple offerings are plentiful in our area. New England grown apples have been pleasing the palate since the 1700s. The area's hot summers, cool fall days, and rocky soil are credited with the production of big, red apples with a unique mix of sweet and tart flavors. Read on for a lesson on "apple-ology!"



TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

If the various varieties of apples have you confused, the following guide identifies some of the most popular regional apples:

**Native New England Apples:** New England apples boast a unique blend of sweet and tart flavors, attributed to the region's long, hot summers and crisp fall days. About 40 varieties of apples are commonly grown in New England apple orchards. The most popular today are McIntosh, Cortland, New England Red Delicious, Macoun, Empire, and Rome. Other favored New England varieties include Crispin, Mutsu, Gala, Golden Delicious, IdaRed, Jersey Mac, Jonagold, and PaulaRed.

**Historic Heirloom Apples:** Apples have a long and vital tradition in New England. Many varieties were discovered here, or go back centuries. A commercial apple-growing region since the 1700s, New England is still known for its distinctive varieties, particularly the McIntosh, which accounts for two-thirds of the region's crop. Other classic New England varieties are the Macoun, Cortland, Empire, Eastern Red Delicious, and Rome. New England orchards are also keeping alive heirloom varieties like Northern Spy, Baldwin, Pippin, Roxbury Russet and Red Gravenstein.

**Pick the Correct Apple:** While all apples are delicious and refreshing, some strains of apples are better for cooking than others. Here's the rundown: According to expert chefs, the following apple varieties are excellent choices for baking: Cortland, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Jonagold, Jonathan, Rome. Good varieties for baking include: Braeburn, Empire, Fuji, Gala, Ginger Gold, HoneyCrisp, Newton Pippin.

Since competition for blue ribbons is fierce at annual apple pie contests, the heads up on the best baking apples may give you the edge. Here are some excellent pie apples: Cortland, Golden Delicious, Jonathan, Newton Pippin, Rome. Also good for pie baking: Braeburn, Empire, Fuji, Gala, Ginger Gold, and Jonagold.

**Looking for a great applesauce apple?** A general rule is any apple but Red Delicious is acceptable, but here are the top choices. Cameo, Cortland, Gala, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, HoneyCrisp, Jonagold, McIntosh, Newton Pippin, Rome. These apples also work well for applesauce: Braeburn, Empire, Fuji, Ginger Gold, Jonathan.

**Perfect Picks:** When buying or picking apples, choose ones that are firm and bruise free. Typically the smaller the apple, the stronger the taste, as large apples have more water content. To retain their flavor and crispness, apples should be chilled if not eaten right away. Did you know apples that are refrigerated can last up to ten times longer than those at room temperature? And for best taste, store apples away from strong odors, which can be absorbed.

**Apple Fun Facts:** Did you know? Apples are a member of the rose family.

The most popular variety in the United States is the Red Delicious. Fresh apples float because 25 percent of their volume is air.

Apple trees take four to five years to produce their first fruit.

It takes the energy from 50 leaves to produce one apple.

It takes about 36 apples to create one gallon of apple cider.

Apples are the second most valuable fruit grown in the United States. Oranges are first.

Newton Pippin apples were the first apples exported from America in 1768, some were sent to Benjamin Franklin in London.

Archeologists have found evidence that humans have been enjoying apples since at least 6500 B.C.

There are more than 7,000 varieties of apples grown in the world.

Almost one-half of the U.S. apple crop is processed into apple products, such as apple juice, applesauce, apple pie filling, and canned apple slices.

Presidents George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were apple growers. They traded apple wood with one another for grafting purposes.

**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 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.*

## A new season of opportunity and happiness

Today, I'm in my home working on the final column that I'll pen from this location. Next week, I'll write my first column from our new home.

We are in a season of change and transition.

I've written some part of my books or columns, from every space in this home. As I walk from room the room, the memories of children, now adults, are overwhelming. I remember our first night here and how we all ended up in one bedroom as the noises of the new home settling were a bit unsettling to our senses, but our first experiences hearing a pack of coyotes howling in our front pasture sent everyone scrambling in terror into our bedroom.

Pictures taken at our front door of our children's first day of school ... a house full of their friends scrambling in after classes to snack and unwind.

I remember every Thursday night, how our home would fill with over sixty high school students, craving mac and cheese, and chili dip. Arlene was Director for our local high schools "Campus Life / Youth for Christ" program. I remember the laughter of these wonderful students still echoing through the entire place. This home has touched many lives through these last twenty-six years.



POSITIVELY SPEAKING  
GARY W. MOORE

A friend that I met on several of my book tours, as I was on his radio show, on KSFO in San Francisco, Rabbi Daniel Lapin, once said, "I believe the lives of people leave an imprint on this earth. I feel and sense them as I travel to new locations. Important events remain. You must open your heart and mind to feel them."

I know he is right. I feel the imprint of our lives together permanently imprinted onto this home and forty acres. I hope the new owners will be open to feeling the joy left behind.

A new beginning!

We'll move on Tuesday and Wednesday. As you read this, the transition from old to new will be in motion or already in place. Decisions will be made about where furniture will fit and how our new routine will flow in this unfamiliar space.

The late-great Zig Ziglar famously said, "The greatest successes in life often happen when we change locations." I agree. Old habits are broken, and we look at life through fresh eyes. A new perspective reveals new experiences and opportunities. Arlene and I are enthused about our new life prospects.

We've loved our lives here and will leave with a touch of sadness but enter this new season of our lives with opti-

Turn To **MOORE** page **A9**

## Open enrollment choices can have big financial impact



FINANCIAL FOCUS  
JEFF BURDICK

It's that time of year again, where, if you work for a medium-to-large employer, you've got some decisions to make because it's open enrollment time. Of course, depending on your situation, you may have been working remotely for a while, but, even so, you will likely have the opportunity to review your benefits package and make changes. And you'll want to make the right moves, because your choices can have a big financial impact on your life.

So, take a close look at these key areas of your benefits program:

**Health insurance** – Think about your health care needs over the coming year – will you or someone in your family be coping with a chronic illness or facing a surgery? Will you need to at least consider testing and possible treatment for COVID-19? In any case, make sure you're choosing the right plan for your needs. And pay close attention to any changes in your health insurance, such as whether the plan's provider networks have changed – you may want to make sure your own doctor is still in-network. Also, check to see if you can reduce your health care premiums by taking part in a wellness program or health-risk assessment.

**Life insurance** – Your employer may offer a group life insurance policy for free, or for a small amount. It's probably worth your while to take this coverage, but it may not be enough for your needs. If you only had this group policy, but your family situation has recently changed through marriage or the addition of a new child, you may well need to add some private insurance.

**Disability insurance** – In addition to offering group life insurance, your employer may provide short-term disability insurance as an employee benefit. Like group insurance, this disability coverage may not cost you anything, but it may not be adequate – typically, short-term disability only replaces part of your income for three to six months. And while you may never need to miss work for an extended period of time, you never can tell – after all, more than one in four 20-year-olds will become disabled before they retire, according to the U.S. Social Security Administration. You may want to consider purchasing your own long-term disability policy on top of the coverage offered by your employer.

**Retirement plan** – You can probably make changes to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan at any time, but why not look at it now, when you're reviewing all your benefits? If you can afford to increase your contributions, you probably should, because a 401(k), with its tax advantages and ease of contribution through paycheck deductions, is a great way to save for retirement. At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer's match. You'll also want to review your 401(k)'s investment mix. Is it still providing you with significant growth potential within the context of your individual risk tolerance? Over time, you may need to make some adjustments, either because an investment is underperforming or because you're getting close to retirement and you need to reduce your risk exposure. In any case, it's a good idea to check up on your 401(k)'s investments at least once a year.

Your employee benefits are an important part of your overall financial picture – so do what you can to get the most from them.

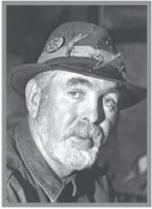
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# It could happen here



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The California wildfires continue to burn, costing the lives of residents and wildlife in California and surrounding states. The dangerous smoke conditions are affecting air quality, and will continue to impact the planet. Loss of homes and property in the area is catastrophic, and we need to step back and take a moment to reflect on the people that have been impacted by these terrible events that seem to have no end in sight, and are being blamed on global warming. Battling the pandemic and wildfires at the same time is unimaginable.

Then my thoughts go to the loss of wildlife, and all of the horses, cattle, birds and all other living creatures that are being killed or injured due to the wildfires. I rarely hear of the states controlled burning program, that can reduce the spread of wildfires. Even in this state, we could see wildfires start to pop up in the coming weeks and months if we do not get a substantial rain fall soon. Anyone using the outdoors in the coming weeks need to be exceptionally careful with camp fires, smoking, etc.!

Nine Blackstone Valley residents recently returned from a bear hunt in Maine. Everyone harvested a bear except one hunter. That is darn good for a group of nine hunters. The only one that did not harvest a bear, never



Courtesy

This week's second picture shows a happy angler with his first King salmon of the year. Photo courtesy of Fat Nancy's Tackle shop in Pulaski, N.Y.

even saw one during the six-day hunt. Wait till next year!

Upstate New York Salmon River started to see King Salmon being caught at the mouth of the river last week. Action should start to blow wide open this week. They need water badly. Once the flow of water increases, and we have a few cool days to lower the water temperature, fishing on the river should be great, and will last for several weeks.

The states fall trout stocking should

start as soon as the water temperature cools down. Low water in some ponds need an inch or two of rain to make them suitable for trout stocking this year. Some Rod & Gun Clubs will also hold off on their fall trout stocking because of low water.

Reports of slow action on the Canal by some anglers last week could change any day now. A lone angler fishing the canal at night using eels reported catching some decent strippers last week at the canal. There are a good number

of serious striper anglers that do their homework, whether it is on the canal, fishing at Block Island and other hot spots in both Mass. & Rhode Island.

Very few reports of local anglers harvesting geese last week, but that to will change quickly when farmers start to harvest their corn crops. The humid weather of last week also kept goose hunters away.

*Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!*

## Trend-setting daffodils for gardens and bouquets



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Daffodils are having their day. Floral designers are opening our eyes to a world of gorgeous daffodils that extends far beyond the iconic yellow trumpets. These unexpected varieties include doubles, bi-colors and split cups, in colors such as creamy white, peach, pink, gold and orange. Plant the bulbs in fall to see these beauties emerge in your spring garden. Then enjoy how they elevate all your spring bouquets.

A benefit of planting some of these more unusual varieties is being able to stretch the daffodil season. Be sure to include some early bloomers such as miniature Tete a Tete. Another early bloomer is Barrett Browning. This heirloom variety's orange-red cup has a yellow halo at the base, set off by bright white petals. Silver Smiles is a subtle beauty. A cluster of two or three little flowers tops each stem. Greenish-white petals surround a pale-yellow cup that fades to buff and then white.

Pink-cupped daffodils have been around for almost 100 years yet are still relatively unusual. Grow them in filtered sunlight to accentuate the color. Blushing Lady has yellow petals and a flared, salmon-pink cup. Turn up the pink even more with Pink Pride. Another early-blooming variety, it features a ruffled cup that opens apricot and gradually turns coral pink.



Courtesy

then enjoy the new opportunities brought on by the change. To do otherwise only brings on sadness and depression.

I choose optimism and happiness in this new season of my life. Won't 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 @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.*

**Delnashaugh is one of the most impressive double daffodils with its frilly petals, while early blooming Pink Pride has ruffled cups that start off apricot and gradually turn coral pink.**

As early daffodils begin to fade, mid-season varieties take center stage. This is the time for split corona and double daffodils. Both types work well with the more traditional daffodils, while adding flair to gardens and arrangements.

Instead of a trumpet, the cup of a split corona daffodil is split into sections. These split cups may be ruffled or pleated and often lay flat against the outer petals. One of the showiest split

cup daffodils is Cum Laude. Its white petals frame a frilly, peachy-yellow cup with a green eye. Include other split-cup varieties such as Cassata, with a delicate ruffled yellow split cup and white petals, or Lemon Beauty with a star-like yellow cup set against white petals. Can't decide? Plant a split-cup assortment to find your favorites.

Close out the season with double daffodils. Their fluffy flowers resemble roses, and most varieties are fragrant. Delnashaugh (longfield-gardens.com) is one of the most impressive doubles. Its enormous, 4" flowers feature layers of frilly white and peach-pink petals. Tahiti is just as large, with soft yellow petals and red-orange ruffles.

Two of the latest bloomers are also two of the most fragrant: Cheerfulness and Yellow Cheerfulness. Each stem is topped with a mini bouquet of three or four little rose-like flowers, each the size of a cherry tomato. They are incredibly beautiful and extremely long-lasting.

In a vase, daffodils can essentially arrange themselves. The more flower forms and colors you include, the better. Have a little more time? Add a few stems of forsythia or curly willow and some other spring favorites such as bleeding heart, tulips and hyacinths.

The stems of freshly cut daffodils release a clear sap that can shorten the life of other flowers. Conditioning your daffodils is easy and eliminates this risk. Cut the stems to the final length and stand them in a clean container of cool water for four to six hours. After that, they can be combined with tulips and other blooms. Just remember to not recut the stems.

Nothing says spring like a yellow trumpet daffodil. But with so many other flower styles and colors to choose from, why not stretch your boundaries and discover some new favorites?

*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. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.*

### MOORE

continued from page A8

mism.

As the old hymn proclaims, "it is well with my soul."

What is the moral to this story?

Embrace change with enthusiasm. We can't fight the aging process and the inevitable transition in our needs. Life is always shifting and evolving. Nothing stays the same. Embrace the change and be creative. Be optimistic. Believe the best is yet to come. Seek out and find the good,

## LEGALS

### TOWN OF STURBRIDGE

The Town of Sturbridge Board of Selectmen in accordance with MGL Ch. 148, Section 13, hereby give notice that a public hearing will be held on October 5, 2020 at 6:35p.m. for the application of Sail Energy, LLC for a license for storage tanks for flammable materials located at 59 Technology Park Road Sturbridge MA, 01566. This hearing will be held at Veterans Memorial Hall, Sturbridge Town Hall, 308 Main Street Sturbridge, MA. The Sturbridge Board of Selectmen elect, consistent with Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, 20", to hold the Public Hearing virtually. Details regarding how to virtually ac-

cess a meeting can be found here: <https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtual-meeting> September 18, 2020

### TOWN OF STURBRIDGE

The Town of Sturbridge Board of Selectmen in accordance with MGL Ch. 148, Section 13, hereby give notice that a public hearing will be held on October 5, 2020 at 6:45p.m. for the application of Porchlight III Investors, LLC for a license for storage tanks for flammable materials located at 420 Main Street Sturbridge MA, 01566. This hearing will be held at Veterans Memorial Hall, Sturbridge Town Hall, 308 Main Street Sturbridge, MA. The Sturbridge Board

of Selectmen elect, consistent with Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, 20", to hold the Public Hearing virtually. Details regarding how to virtually access a meeting can be found here: <https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtual-meeting> September 18, 2020

### PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch 40A §10 & §11, the **Wales Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on September 24th, 2020 at the Wales Town Offices at 6:00 PM**, on the application of Mark & Michelle Daricek of 20 Sichols Col-

ony Rd. For a special permit in terms of the Town of Wales Zoning By-law Sec. 4.2.2. The Town of Wales Zoning By-Law Sec. 4.2.2 states "A pre-existing non-conforming use or structure may not be extended, altered, or changed except by special permit..." Specifically, the applicant wishes to build a front porch along the front of the existing house. Any person interested and wishing to be heard on this application should refer to the town website ([www.townof-wales.net](http://www.townof-wales.net)) under zoning board agenda for the above date to participate virtually. If you have any questions or concerns please email [planning@townofwales.net](mailto:planning@townofwales.net) September 11, 2020 September 18, 2020





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**OXFORD** – 377 Main St! 9 Rm Center Hall Colonial! .59 Acre Corner Lot! Charm of Yesteryear! Eat-In Frplcd Granite Kit w/Updated Cabinets, Frplcd Din Rm w/ Built-in China Cabinet & Butler Closet! Gracious Foyer! Spacious Frplcd 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! **\$339,000.00**

**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! 24x26 2 Car Detached Garage! Huge Shed! Nearby Nature Trails & Wallum 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**

**HOLDEN** – 315 Holden St! 6 Rm Ranch! Meticulously Maintained! 2 Spacious Bdrms, Full Tiled Bath & 1 Car Garage! Move In Ready! Granite Oak Cabinet Kit w/Tiled Back Splash & JennAir Stove! Frplcd Liv Rm! Fam Rm! Gleaming Hrdwds! Perfect Yard w/Major Landscaping this Year! New Roof 2019! **\$344,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT** – 3 Lakeview Rd! Middle Pond – Reid Smith Cove! Ideal Summer or Yr Round 6 Rm Ranch! Western Expo – Beautiful Sunsets! Near All the Excitement that "Indian Ranch" provides, Dining, Concerts & the Indian Princess! An Arched Bridge to Your Own Private Island, a Great Place to Enjoy the Lake from! Open Fr Plan! Being Sold Fully Furnished! Recent Kit w/Quartz Counters, Breakfast Bar, SS Appliances, Tile Flr & Recessed Lighting! Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr, 6x14 Lake Facing Picture Window & Stone Frplcd! 3 Remodeled Bdrms w/Ceiling Fans & Hrdwd Flrs! Master w/Bath & Laundry Closet! Screen Porch w/Lake Views! Dock! Carport! Shed! Still Time for this Summer! **\$579,900.00**

**GRAFTON** – 168 Brigham Hill Rd! 8 Rm Garrison Colonial set on 1.3Acre! 4 Comfortable Bdrms & 2 Full Bthrms! Freshly Painted, Floors Recently Refinished! Spacious Kit w/Lunch Counter! SS Appliances w/Gas Cook-Top! Grand Dining Rm for Family Gatherings! 19x26 Living Rm w/Pellet Stove! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closets & Hot Tub! Bright & Airy Mudroom out to the 2 Car Garage! Furnace & Hot Water Tank 5 Years Young! Radon tested at 2.5! Newer Roof on Garage & Breezeway! New Well Water Tank Installed! Title V in-hand! Property Abuts Grafton Land Trust - Hiking Trails Right Out Your Back Door! Convenient to Routes 90, 9 & 20! Immediate Occupancy! **\$449,900.00**



**WEBSTER LAKE** – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$949,900.00**

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**WEBSTER LAKE** – 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Fr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplcd Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,900.00**

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**Thompson - New 5+ Acre waterfront land listing on Little Pond! Private, pastoral setting, open field surrounded by tree line. Plan of land and septic design in hand!**  
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