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Friday, August 27, 2021



Photo Courtesy

Beast Mode Baseball recently competed in the 12-year-old Cooperstown All-Star Village Tournament. The team consisted of, from left, (front row) Jake Ramsey, Preston Enberg, Matte Gale, Chase Morin, Grady Green, Joe Ricardi, (back row) Coach Green, Caden Green, Adam Phaneuf, Coach Ramsey, Kenny Bergeron, Nolan Barton, Alex Croteau, Coach Morin.

Beast Mode Baseball enjoys Cooperstown All-Star Village Tournament

CHARLTON — Beast Mode Baseball, based out of Charlton, a travel team consisting of players from Charlton, Webster, Worcester and Paxton, recently competed in the 12-year-old Cooperstown All-Star Village Tournament from July 31 through Aug. 6. Many of the athletes were asked to play on the 2020 team, but a last-minute cancellation from the state of New York because of COVID uprooted those plans. Luckily, the kids were able to enjoy the tournament this time around. The team consisted of the following:

Jake Ramsey, Charlton
Alex Croteau, Webster
Caden Green, Charlton
Grady Green, Charlton
Preston Enberg, Charlton
Chase Morin, Charlton
Matte Gale, Charlton
Joe Ricardi, Charlton
Nolan Barton, Charlton
Adam Phaneuf, Paxton
Kenny Bergeron, Worcester
Coach Ed Ramsey, Charlton
Coach Jared Green, Charlton
Coach Kevin Morin, Charlton
Founder Julianne Ramsey, Charlton

Charlton seeks applicants for talent bank

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The town of Charlton is establishing a talent bank of interested individuals who can fill vacancies in town boards, committees and commissions should the need arise. Town officials have released a form on the Town of Charlton website giving citizens an opportunity to express their interest in volunteering for a variety of elected and appointed bodies in town government including opportunities for both registered and non-registered voters in town. The form asks voters to select boards, commissions and committees

they are interested in and provides descriptions and insight into what each committee does. Among the opportunities for registered voters are the Conservation Commission, Council on Aging, Cultural Council, Economic Development Commission, Historical Commission, Personnel Board, Registrar of Voters, and Zoning Board of Appeals. Non-registered voters are limited to the Activities Council, Boston Post Cane Committee, Bylaw Advisory Committee, Cable TV Advisory Committee, Dam Monitors, Lakes & Ponds Task Force, Memorial Day Committee, Old Home Day Committee, and Technology Committee. Registered voters can also

express interest in any of these committees and any applicant can list their interest in other parts of town government not listed on the form. The talent pool will be used by the Board of Selectmen to appoint members to fill any vacancies should members leave or there is a lack of candidates for local elections. The Charlton Talent Bank Form is available on the town's website, www.townof-charlton.net. The completed form should be returned to the Selectmen's Office at 37 Main St. in Charlton or faxed to (508) 248-2374. The form can also be emailed to Mary Devlin at mary.devlin@townofcharlton.net.

Hernandez receives Community Service award

CHARLTON — Kalie Hernandez, LPN of Southbridge, a member of the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2017, received the 2021 Community Service Award at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. The award was granted in recognition of Hernandez's volunteer work creating critical partnerships between the Academy, the Bay Path community and the Worcester County. The Community Service Award was developed to honor a person who is making significant contributions to the Bay Path Practical Nursing community through their time, actions, talents and dedication through any volunteer work done. The honoree selected serves as a role model for compassion, service, giving back, and striving to make the world a better place. Hernandez's passion is in helping others. She has made important contributions to the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. She remains connected with Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy serving as an active



Photo Courtesy

Kalie Hernandez and her daughter receiving award from Professor Lindsay Guertin, BSN, RN.

Turn To **HERNANDEZ** page **A16**

Charlton officials to Study Stafford Street traffic concerns

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Board of Selectmen has greenlit a study that they hope will provide clearly direction in creating solutions for traffic concerns along Stafford Street. The Stafford Street corridor connects Route 20 and Center Depot Road and has been a source of concern among citi-

zens for some time. Selectman Bill Borowski said he has personally received communication from residents seeking solutions for that roadway which sees commuters traveling at high speeds. "The catalyst for this is, I think, anyone who has lived in town for any amount of time realizes that Stafford Street and the Center Depot Road area inclusive of the straightaways that turn them

into speedways cause a lot of issues. I received a bunch of phone calls. I went out and took a bunch of pictures. We tried to cut down some shrubs to make it look a little better. It's a constant source of contention," Borowski said. The study, which will cost no more than \$10,000 coming from the town's contractual obligations line item in the budget, will provide some clarity on potential solutions for

that roadway especially with upcoming developments only potentially making traffic even worse through that area. "The reality is, with Route 20 getting developed with multiple distribution center, that's going to turn into a cut through," said Borowski. "I hear tons of suggestions. Some of them sound good, some of them don't, but I think we need someone who really knows what they're talking around to

actually take a look at this." Borowski also reached out to the office of Sen. Ann Gobi to inform her of their intentions to improve that roadway in case the need arises to seek out state funding. The Board of Selectmen approved going ahead with the study sticking to the \$10,000 limit with the hopes that it will bring new data not previously divulged through previous studies by the Department of Transportation.

Local resident to lead QCC at Southbridge



Geraldo Maldonado

SOUTHBIDGE — Quinsigamond Community College at Southbridge has named local resident Geraldo Maldonado as its new Site Leader.

Mr. Maldonado is a longtime QCC adjunct faculty member, alumnus, and is one of 50 QCC Guardians. Guardians are alumni of the college who have made significant strides in their personal life and in their community.

“I’m excited to welcome students to our Southbridge location this fall. It’s truly incredible to have QCC in Southbridge. It’s a needed element for

the community,” Mr. Maldonado said. “While people sometimes still think of QCC as the campus in Worcester, we have full services right in Southbridge at QCC’s new location in the Southbridge High School.”

For the past 15 years, QCC has had a presence in the Southbridge community. In the summer of 2020, QCC’s Southbridge location moved from 5 Optical Dr. as a way to offer greater access to higher education not only to Southbridge, but also to all communities in the South County area.

Additionally, Southbridge High School students now have easy access to QCC’s Early College Program and their family members can also take advantage of the college’s academic and workforce development offerings.

Mr. Maldonado and his family have a long and storied history with QCC and Southbridge. Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, he and his family moved to Lowell when he was six before moving to Worcester three years later. In the ‘70’s, his mother began attending QCC, where she took English classes and earned her GED. This began a family legacy with the college, and when Mr. Maldonado was in his late 20’s and a parent, he too began taking classes at QCC.

“It was a little scary coming back to school as an adult with children. I was working a full-time job, a part-time job, and taking two to three classes per semester,” he said. “I needed the flexibility QCC offered.”

In 1995, he graduated with an Associate Degree in Business Administration Transfer, going on to earn a Bachelor’s degree from Worcester State University and a Master of Business Administration from Anna Maria College.

His daughters also are QCC alumnae. His older daughter Kristina decided to do the paramedic program at QCC, while his younger daughter Aimee took a longer journey to QCC. She began at UMass Lowell as an Engineering major; however, it was not a good fit and she struggled.

“She took a couple of Business classes at Lowell and seemed to do OK,” Mr. Maldonado said. “She came home, still not sure what she was going to do and

I suggested she take classes at QCC in Southbridge due to its very convenient location.”

His daughter Aimee took classes for a year at QCC’s Southbridge location where she excelled. She graduated with her Associate Degree in Business and went on to Nichols College where she received scholarships based on her high grades. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Accounting and her Masters in Accounting, before attending Penn State Dickinson Law. In 2020, she graduated with her law degree, passed the Bar Exam on her first attempt by scoring in the 99th percentile, and today works in the District Attorney’s Office in Hampden County.

“Definitely a very good Quinsigamond success story,” he said.

Having the Southbridge location at Southbridge High School opens many doors for students and the community, according to Mr. Maldonado.

“This benefits high school students who can see firsthand how accessible college can be and they can take advantage of the Early College Program. Instead of taking college equivalent classes students can actually take college classes for college credit,” he said. “I hope that people will see QCC at Southbridge as the college of choice for the Southwest corner of Worcester County.”

To learn more visit www.QCC.edu/Southbridge.

For more information on QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

Town of Brimfield, MA Employment Opportunity

ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Statement of Duties: The employee is responsible for providing a wide range of administrative and clerical support services to the Select Board as well as supporting other Town functions.

Hours: 35 hours per week. Monday – Thursday with 2 evening meetings per month. Salary \$49,301

Education and Experience: High school education or further with a minimum of 3-5 years administrative work experience preferably in municipal government and dealing with the public and the required knowledge, ability and skill to perform the essential functions of the position in an effective manner.

Thorough knowledge of office practices and procedures; working knowledge of department operations and functions. Working knowledge of the Uniform Procurement Act, M.G.L. Chapter 30B; M.G.L. Chapter 4 and Chapter 66 (Public Records Law); M.G.L. Chapter 268A (Conflict of Interest Law); and, all town bylaws and State statutes relevant to matters of the office and position.

A full job description can be found at www.brimfieldma.org under Board of Selectmen. Interested individuals are asked to apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Board of Selectmen, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010, or to selectmen@brimfieldma.org. Position will remain open until qualified candidate is chosen. **Posted 8/17/2021.** The town of Brimfield is an equal Opportunity provider and employer.



REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

CHARLTON

\$550,000, 37 Colicum Dr, Walker, John T, and Walker, Jan E, to Healy, Austin R.

\$485,000, 35 Jennings Rd, Lemoine, Kevin M, and Lemoine, Melissa R, to Sprino, David A.

\$440,000, 72 Bond Rd, Farrar, Anthony L, and Farrar, Kristen M, to Mazza, Joseph, and Shertick, Robert.

\$385,000, 149 Berry Corner Rd, Mariacher, Heather, to Northrop, Kenneth, and Northrop, Natalie.

\$330,000, 79 Brookfield Rd, Hawley Theodore H Est, and Hawley, Jayson T, to Fernandes, Kayla, and Desouza, Emanuel.

\$325,000, 371 Worcester Rd, Parenteau, Jaquelynn M, and Lorditch, Jacob M, to Ayemoba, Dominic.

\$310,000, 8 Worcester Rd, Lotter, David B, and Lotter, Melissa S, to Santaana, Sandra I, and Pacheco, Daniris.

\$100,000, Jennings Rd, Howard, Amber, to Gair LLC.

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


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

Bailey R. Ross, of Charlton, was named to first honors.

Erin C. Hynes, of Uxbridge, was named to first honors.

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

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



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• AGRICULTURAL DISPLAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

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• FRIDAY: BALKUN BROTHERS - 3:30 & 7PM

• SATURDAY: COLD TRAIN - 2 & 7PM

• ROC-KIN'-ON! - 5 & 8:30PM

• LINDA RONDSTADT EXPERIENCE - 4 & 8:30PM

• SUNDAY: AMONG THE ACRES - 2 & 7PM

• MONDAY: FRANKIE JUSTIN - 11AM & 2PM

• VINTAGE SKYNYRD - 4 & 8:30PM


• THE RUSTLERS BAND - 12:30 & 3:30PM

On the South Stage

• OLD TIME FIDDLERS • MYCHAEL DAVID BAND • COUNTRY KARAOKE • EAST WOODSTOCK CORNET BAND • DYNAMITE RHYTHM BAND • SENIOR GRAPEFRUIT BOWLING • DONUT EATING CONTEST • FLAP JACK TOSS • YOUTH AND ADULT PIZZA EATING CONTESTS

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10 PROPERTIES

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Massasoit Art Guild Call for Artists

18th Annual Art Show & Sale

Sat & Sun, Oct. 16 & 17 • Spencer Town Hall - 10am-4pm

Artist Reception & Award Ceremony with entertainment by Tim Loftus on Saturday from 1:00-3:00. Over \$1000 in prizes.

Judge: Award winning artist Charlotte Wharton

Deadline for artist entry - September 25, 2021

For complete details, show guidelines, membership and entry forms visit the website at massasoitartguild.com. Contact at massasoitartguild@gmail.com.

Visit us on Facebook & Instagram

 *CDC Covid-19 will be followed

UMass Memorial Health-Harrington welcomes new hematologist/oncologist

SOUTHBIDGE — Andrei Bandarchuk, MD has joined UMass Memorial Health - Harrington, providing Hematology/Oncology care at The Cancer Center at Harrington, located in Southbridge.

Dr. Bandarchuk brings more than 20 years of broad medical experience to The Cancer Center at Harrington, having specialized in Internal Medicine, General Surgery and Hematology/Oncology.

Dr. Bandarchuk treats patients with cancer as well as anemia and bleeding and clotting disorders. He is also experienced in performing bone marrow biopsies.

Most recently, Dr. Bandarchuk provided Hematology/Oncology care to patients at MetroWest Medical Center – Framingham Union Hospital in Framingham, Massachusetts. Prior to that, he served as Chief Fellow of the Department of Hematology/Oncology and Chief Resident and Attending Physician in the Department of Internal Medicine at Brookdale Hospital Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Dr. Bandarchuk is Board Certified in Hematology/Medical Oncology and Internal Medicine, and is a member of the American Society of Hematology, American Society of Clinical Oncology and the American College of Physicians. He received his medical degree from Belarusian State Medical University in Belarus and completed his residency at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Dr. Bandarchuk joins Drs. Jeff Gordon, along with Donna Kentley, PA-C, and Courtney Kotfila, NP at The

Cancer Center at Harrington, located at 55 Sayles Street in Southbridge. To learn more about The Cancer Center at Harrington and to request an appointment, visit harringtonhospital.org/cancer or call (508) 764-2400.

UMass Memorial Health – Harrington provides outstanding health care to patients in more than 25 communities throughout South Central Massachusetts and Northeastern Connecticut. We are dedicated to our role as the health and wellness partner of the people in our communities and we are relentless in the pursuit of healing. Our comprehensive array of health care services and locations provides our patients with unparalleled access to care. Harrington Hospital in Southbridge provides medical and surgical inpatient care, 24-hour emergency services, inpatient adult psychiatry, an intensive care unit and comprehensive outpatient services. Harrington Hospital at Webster, Harrington at Charlton, Harrington at 169 and Harrington at Sturbridge offer primary care and specialty physicians, diagnostic imaging and more. Harrington Physician Services is our primary care and multi-specialty physician group, UrgentCare Express at Harrington in Oxford serves as a walk-in medical center for non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries, and the Cancer Center at Harrington in Southbridge allows patients to receive advanced, local oncological and hematology care. Visit www.harringtonhospital.org.

CORRECTION

DUDLEY — The Ivascyn family of Charlton has brought to our attention that in selecting a photo to run with a press release published last week concerning the establishment of a scholarship in the name of Daniel Ivascyn, we inadvertently chose a photo of his son, who shares his first name.

Pictured here is the Daniel Ivascyn for whom the scholarship was, in fact, named.

Stonebridge Press deeply regrets any confusion that may have resulted from this unintentional error.





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ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

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Friday's Child



Hi! My name is Charissa and I love to sing!

Charissa is an engaging girl of African American and Caucasian descent who enjoys performing and being in the spotlight. Charissa is bilingual and speaks English and Spanish. She is also funny and sociable! She describes herself as playful and lovable. Charissa enjoys telling jokes, singing, dancing, watching TV, painting, and drawing. Charissa loves learning how to play instruments and can play the violin and piano beautifully.

Charissa shares that her favorite class is gym and her least favorite is history. When Charissa grows up, she has expressed interest in becoming a social worker to help others. Charissa has shared that she is proud of herself for reaching her goals. Charissa relates her experiences in life to climbing a mountain and not stopping until she reaches the stars.

Charissa is legally freed for adoption. When thinking about what she wants in an adoptive family, Charissa has expressed that she would like to have her own bedroom, to be able to go for walks in the community, to spend time with friends, go shopping, and work out at the gym. Charissa would like a potential family to know that when meeting someone new, it will take time for her to open up. Charissa has great relationships with her visiting resources and would like to stay connected to them.

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.

Baker defends stance on school mask policies

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Facing increased pressure as the school year looms and the Delta variant spreads, Gov. Charlie Baker recently defended current policies.

During a press conference on Aug. 16, Baker said there are no imminent plans to alter masking recommendations statewide. Even with the nation’s steady rise in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations over the last month, Baker believes Massachusetts is in a far better position than other states in the battle against the virus.

“I’m not considering changing the mask guidance at this time. We pay a lot of attention to the data associated with case counts, hospitalizations, and the tragic loss of life,” Baker said. “The fact that so many people in Massachusetts have been vaccinated has put us in a dramatically different place than many other states across this country.”

Baker also supported the joint deci-

sion from the state’s Department of Public Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to leave masking policies up to individual school districts for the fall of 2021.

Statewide, each school committee has voted on policies that will determine how to address the highly contagious Delta variant in the classroom this fall. Information on policies has been mailed out to families.

“Giving the locals the opportunity to own the decisions they make is a big and important issue,” Baker said. “If you look at what has played out in other states where the government has taken away the authority for locals to make their own decisions, that’s not the right way to play this game.”

Several local students, parents, and educators agree with the Governor’s current handling of the Delta variant. Others fear that his hands-off approach is a dangerous gamble. As of last week,

every county in the Commonwealth had reached a threshold of COVID-19 transmission that automatically triggers a CDC recommendation for public indoor masking, regardless of vaccination status.

During his Aug. 16 press conference, Baker reiterated his recommendation that students in grades K-6 continue to wear masks indoors.

“We’ve made a very strong recommendation to our colleagues in K-6 education. Because there is not a vaccine currently available for that population, we recommend that those kids should be masked up until they have an opportunity to be vaccinated,” Baker said.

State officials also recommend that unvaccinated students in grades seven and above, as well as unvaccinated staff members and visitors to schools, wear masks indoors. Additionally, any individual at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, or with a household member who is at high risk, is encour-

aged to mask indoors regardless of vaccination status.

Looking ahead, Baker hopes the Commonwealth continues to serve as an example to states that are lagging behind with vaccinations.

“I hope that many other states move as aggressively as the people in Massachusetts have moved to get vaccinated,” Baker said. “Vaccinations are the pathway out of this pandemic – period. I can’t tell you how grateful I am that so many people see that and have gotten vaccinated.”

As the start of school rapidly approaches, state officials continue to promote vaccine clinics for eligible students. Governor Baker said Massachusetts is a national leader among young people ages 12-19 getting vaccinated.

To learn more about the state’s efforts to combat the virus, visit www.mass.gov.

End of an era for local business

REGION — What began as a chance encounter in January 2002 led to a business partnership which at one time had grown to more than 40 retail stores throughout New England. On Aug. 1, this chapter came to an end as Mark Amadio and Kyriakos “KK” Konstantakis have just sold their remaining five locations of AMCOMM Wireless and enabled a respected industry peer to enter the New England market.

“Our initial stores were in West Boylston and Sturbridge,” said Amadio, “and shortly thereafter we grew to stores in Worcester, Webster, and Fitchburg before expanding throughout New England. We began paring down three years ago, selling twenty-five locations to Go Wireless. KK and I moved the corporate office to Charlton, and we retained five retail stores in New Hampshire, all of which will now be sold to BeMobile. While not an easy

decision, he and I knew it was the right one for us at this time in our lives.”

“We genuinely embraced each other’s strengths, maintained a win/win philosophy and a passion for our work. This provided the synergy to help us drive through adversity and celebrate our successes. This, along with the opportunity to leverage the power of the Verizon brand as an Authorized Retailer, enabled the AMCOMM team to provide the best in technology-based mobile and IT solutions. “We partnered with the right company at the right time as cellular service burgeoned,” remarked Konstantakis.

“We are proud of the success we’ve had,” added Amadio. “Our mission was to deliver an exceptional customer experience and to be a vital part of

the communities we serviced. We are proud to have accomplished that goal.”

Over the years, Amadio and Konstantakis have employed hundreds of people and created relationships with industry partners, vendors, and consultants.

“Having had the opportunity align our passion and our careers has been truly rewarding. We are proud of the lives we’ve changed through AMCOMM and grateful for those that changed our lives by helping AMCOMM succeed. These individuals know who they are and have left a permanent mark ... period,” added Konstantakis.

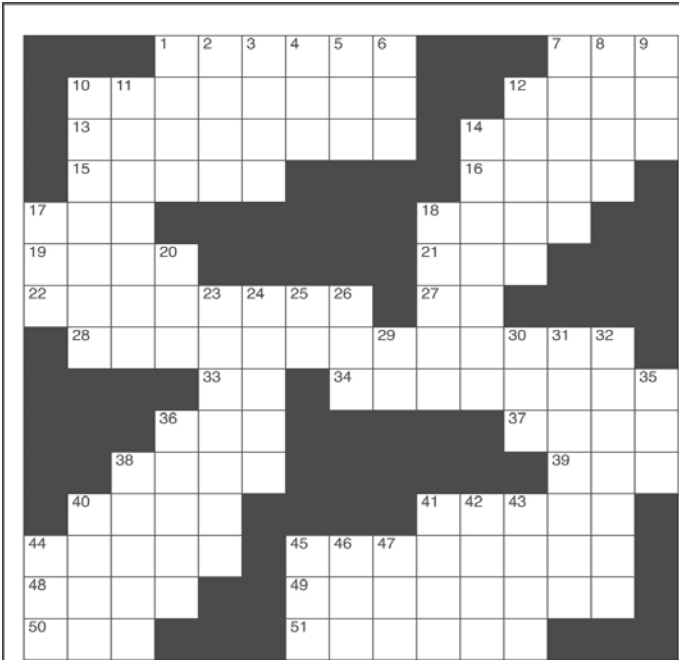
“While the sales team and technical teams drove growth and revenue, the back-office team was the glue that held it all together. KK and I were

blessed to have had the best of both. Of course, the support of our families, friends and key mentors and advisors played a strategic role in the success of our business,” Amadio paused to smile then added, “and our sanity.”

So what’s next for this dynamic duo? “More time with our families, certainly,” said Amadio. “It’s time to figure out what I want to be when I grow up,” he joked. “Seriously though, I will say this: Our partnership is not over.”

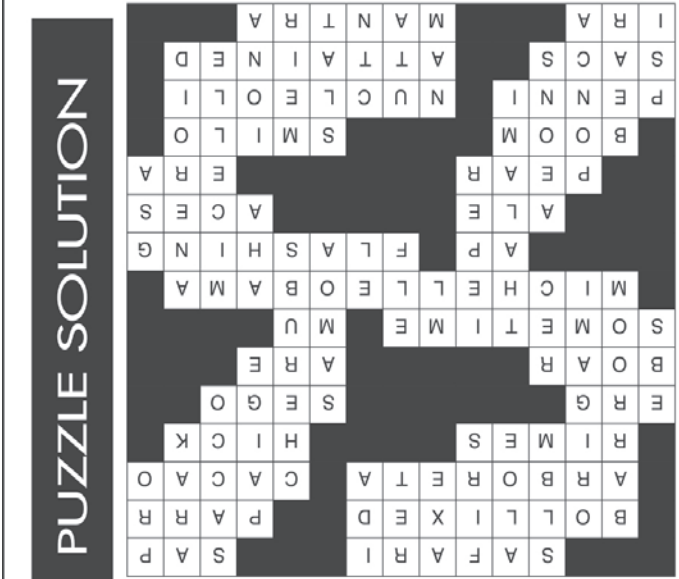
“The next venture will be a bridge between our past and future,” added Konstantakis.

When pressed as to what that next venture might be, Amadio remained coy, stating “As they say in your business, ‘Watch this space!’”



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Nature expedition
 - 7. Take the energy from
 - 10. Bungled
 - 12. Young salmon
 - 13. Botanical gardens
 - 14. Source of chocolate
 - 15. Country singer LeAnn
 - 16. Yokel
 - 17. Unit of energy
 - 18. Plant of the lily family
 - 19. Tusked wild pig
 - 21. Form of “to be”
 - 22. Formerly
 - 27. Letter of the Greek alphabet
 - 28. Former First Lady
 - 33. News organization
 - 34. Shining brightly and intermittently
 - 36. Brew
 - 37. Teams’ best pitchers
 - 38. Edible fruit
 - 39. Pitching stat
 - 40. ___ or bust
 - 41. Baby product manufacturer
 - 44. Monetary unit of Finland
 - 45. Small spherical structures in cells
 - 48. Pouches
 - 49. Reached
 - 50. Investment account
 - 51. Oft-repeated slogan

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Nuclear undersea weapon
 - 2. Helps the skin
 - 3. Evergreen coniferous trees
 - 4. Relieve of employment
 - 5. A way to drench
 - 6. Journalist Tarbell
 - 7. ___ and Venzetti
 - 8. Alcoholic liquor
 - 9. An athlete who plays for pay
 - 10. Where to get drinks
 - 11. Japanese art form
 - 12. Baseball great Satchel
 - 14. Winged angelic beings
 - 17. One point south of due east
 - 18. Group of islands in Polynesia
 - 20. A place to play: ___ center
 - 23. Masses of gray matter in the brain
 - 24. Belgian city (alt. sp.)
 - 25. Millilitre
 - 26. Beloved Will Ferrell film
 - 29. Railway above ground
 - 30. Satisfaction
 - 31. Aggregate of molecules
 - 32. Type of barometer
 - 35. Type of college teacher (abbr.)
 - 36. Long periods of time
 - 38. Native people of Nebraska and S. Dakota
 - 40. Deliver
 - 41. Thin, narrow piece of wood
 - 42. Modern Israel founder
 - 43. Small NY college
 - 44. Pounds per square inch
 - 45. Veterans battleground
 - 46. Hollywood talent agency (abbr.)
 - 47. Popular kids’ channel



QCC announces Super Saturday registration event

W O R C E S T E R — Quinsigamond Community College is hosting two “Super Saturday” registration events before the fall semester begins on Sept. 8.

An in-person “Super Saturday” event will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28, at QCC’s Welcome Center, 670 West Boylston St., Worcester, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Students can save time waiting in line by scheduling an appointment through the College’s new virtual waiting line service, Easy Queue (EZQ), www.QCC.edu/EZQ.

“These events are designed for students who

are unable to register during the week, or who prefer to get their registration needs taken care of remotely,” said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “At QCC, we are doing everything possible to remove barriers that prevent students from attaining a higher education.”

To learn more about QCC’s Super Saturday events, visit www.QCC.edu/saturday

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.



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CHURCH LISTINGS

- **Charlton Federated Church**, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. www.fedchurchcharlton.org
- **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, www.charltonbaptist.org, Sunday worship 10 a.m.
- **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org Sunday worship and Children’s church 10am
- **St. Joseph’s Church**, 10 H. Putnam Ext. 248-7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m., Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday Life/TEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.
- **Hope Christian Fellowship**, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144
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- **Living Word Church of Charlton**, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am. www.livingwordcharlton.com info@livingwordcharlton.com
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Greater Worcester Community Foundation awards more than \$600,000 in college scholarships

WORCESTER — The Greater Worcester Community Foundation (GWCF) recently awarded over \$680,000 in college scholarships to local students for the 2021-22 academic year. More than 400 students were awarded scholarships ranging from \$300 to \$5,000 to assist them in beginning or continuing their college education this upcoming fall.

“With help from the Foundation, our scholarship program is an important investment in the future of our next generation,” said GWCF President and CEO Carolyn Stempler. “By removing some of the financial pressure off of students and families, we can help build a greater sense of belonging and motivation to ensure a more rewarding and impactful college experience.”

Since 1978, nearly 9,000 Worcester County students have received more than \$13.3M in scholarship awards from the Foundation. Each scholarship is endowed by local donors with eligibility criteria that reflects various interests. Over 900 applications were received and reviewed by more than 85 dedicated volunteers.

“Our scholarship program ensures that no one should have to limit their education due to financial barriers,” said Jacob Vazquez, Philanthropy Officer for GWCF’s Scholarship Program. “With our support, we’re helping to ensure a brighter future for the leaders of tomorrow. That increases the value of our program two-fold.”

Recipients were selected through a highly competitive process based on merit, financial need, and special criteria established by Foundation donors. Through GWCF’s scholarship program, college-bound high school seniors can qualify for multiple scholarship opportunities through the Foundation’s single online application. The next application cycle will open in January 2022.

Students from the following high schools will be receiving scholarships for the 2021-22 academic year:

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School
Acton-Boxborough Regional High School
Advanced Math and Science Academy
Algonquin Regional High School
Ashland High School
Assabet Valley Regional Vocational High School
Auburn High School
Bancroft School
Bartlett High School
Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School
Bedford High School
Bellingham High School
Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School
Burncoat High School
Claremont Academy
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Narraganset Regional High School
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Nashoba Valley Technical High School
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North High School
Northbridge High School
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Oakmont Regional High School
Oxford High School
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Quaboag Regional Middle/High School
Shepherd Hill Regional High School
Shrewsbury High School
South High Community School
St. John’s High School
St. Paul Diocesan Junior-Senior High School
Sutton Memorial Jr./Sr. High School
Tahanto Regional High School
Tantasqua Regional High School
Tri-County Regional Vocational High School
University Park Campus School
Wachusett Regional High School
Walpole High School
Wayland High School
Wellesley High School
Westborough High School
Westford Academy
Worcester Technical High School

For more information, please contact Philanthropy Officer for Scholarships, Jacob Vazquez at jvazquez@greater-worcester.org.

About the Greater Worcester Community Foundation

Greater Worcester Community Foundation (GWCF) is central Massachusetts’ leading community foundation dedicated to improving the quality of life in the region by connecting donors to high impact non-profits and community partners. The Foundation employs its expertise and resources to address the region’s most urgent needs. Since 1975, GWCF has worked in partnership with donors to build a \$163 million endowment and awarded close to \$125 million in grants that have helped transform communities and build a strong and vibrant region. We apply our knowledge, relationships, and resources to our work every day, combining passion and discipline to pursue a vision of Worcester’s success that works for everyone. For more information on GWCF programs and how to give, please visit www.greater-worcester.org.



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School days, school days...

It’s that time of year again, when back to school photos will infiltrate your social media feeds. We love this time of year when a more structured schedule takes hold; however come June, we are ready for the daily routine to be a bit more relaxed.

We always consider late August into September to be a new year. Yes, the actual new year begins on Jan. 1; however, the start of a new school year always brings a clean slate, and who doesn’t love that?

This time of year brings with it memories for all of us, even if we are not headed back into the classroom. We recall in the height of the ‘80’s when Trapper Keepers were all the new rave (a release of the vintage originals can now be purchased online). Back then, anyone who walked into a drug store would be greeted with a wall of the colorful organizers, with notebooks and pencil cases to match.

Having a brand new Trapper Keeper with pencils neatly tucked away the night before school started was step one. Next, the perfect outfit would have to be picked out, after all, the first day outfit set the standard for the rest of the year. During these first few days of school, the excitement was always at an all-time high. It’s the famous week three, when things start to settle, and the groove of the school routine has become the norm, once again.

As with most things, we enjoy tracking history. The drastic changes that have occurred over the years are quite interesting, so we thought we would share our findings.

During the 1800’s, a typical rural area would have one room schoolhouses, with one teacher for grades first through eighth. The younger students would sit in the front of the classroom, with the ‘big kids’ seated in the back. Memorizing lessons was the priority back then, where students had to recite what they had learned. Paper bags and lunch boxes were not used for lunch, instead children would pack a lunch and carry it to school in a tin bucket.

During the early 1900’s, only half of the children between the ages of five and 19 attended school. This was during the Industrial Revolution where children were needed at home to help work the farms or were put to work in factories. One study reports that in the present, 264 million children are still not educated.

We’ve heard it all before, but it’s true, most students would walk or ride their bikes to school in all kinds of weather up to five miles away. Today, most students take the bus or are dropped at school by their parents. In some areas, there have been initiatives taken to promote the ‘old school’ way of transporting kids via bike or walking.

Way back when, if a student misbehaved, they were placed in a corner and had to wear a dunce cap. Discipline has changed quite a bit, however; we remember a slew of kids standing along the brick wall during recess in the 1980’s at a New Jersey elementary school. Some students may have had to stand against the wall for not returning a permission slip, or for talking in class, but we won’t mention any names.

Home Economics classes have been replaced with a more modern swing than when they first emerged in the 1950’s and lasted through the ‘70’s. Back then, students, mostly female, were taught how to cook and sew. In the late 80’s, those classes saw more male students as it became a requirement for all. We remember sewing ‘Nerd’ (as in the candy) stuffed animals and Oreos cookies in our class. When it was time to cook, we have fond memories of baking a holiday cake and forgetting to add baking powder, or was it flour? Either way, that cake took on a life of its own, we fondly remember taking red icing and writing ‘Scrooged’ over it.

Industrial Arts classes are few and far between, however are still offered in some places with a more technological twist. Back in the day, students would take large pieces of wood, run it through a planer, sand it, stain it and create all sorts of things from entertainment centers to cut out wooden apples using a jigsaw. We remember leaving notes for our friends in the afternoon class. We would slip them in the lockers and hope we remembered whose locker belonged to who. No texting back then.

Cursive writing was always fun. It was a great feeling when you made that lower case ‘j’ just right. Who knew that years later, hand writing would happen less and less and our cursive

OPINION

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

Celebrating Apple Season

Here in “apple country” we welcome in the harvest season each year with apple fairs, apple festivals and various apple theme parties. Going to the country on a weekend afternoon to pick fresh apples from the trees has become a tradition for many New England families. And coming home to steam fresh applesauce, bake sweet pies, and candy coat apples is a delightful autumn ritual anticipated all year long!

In celebration of apple season, this week’s column will feature some interesting apple ideas and recipes. And remember readers, send in your best apple recipes and you could win a three course dinner for two at the Publick House!

Pleasures of Picking: If you’re picking apples off the trees, don’t pluck or pull! Twist the apple firmly yet gently and the apple will come off the branch with the stem intact - picture perfect!

Perfect Pick: Can’t make it to the orchard to pick your apples? In the store, look for apples are firm with an even color and smooth skin. Apples with a green stem means they’ve been freshly picked and not stored away. And if the apple has a blossom, it should be green.

Chill Out: Always refrigerate your apples. An apple at room temperature spoils ten times faster than if its refrigerated. The optimum temperature to keep apples at their best flavor is about 35 to 38 degrees. While refrigerators aren’t typically that cold, be sure to keep apples in the chilliest area of your refrigerator. To further extend the freshness of apples, store them in a perforated plastic bag in the refrigerator. With this method apples can last up to four weeks, depending on the apple and how ripe it was when picked..

Frozen Assets: Did you know you can freeze apples? Simply peel, core, slice them and seal in heavy-duty zipper freezer bags.

Easy as Pie: To make quick work of apple pie preparation, freeze prepared apples in a metal pie tin. When frozen, pop out and transfer to a ziplock freezer bag. When you want to make a homemade apple pie, simply transfer the frozen apple filling into a pie crust and follow your favorite recipe.

A is for Apple: Cornell University researchers reported in the journal Nature in 2000 that one apple packs more cancer-fighting antioxidant capability than a 1,500-milligram dose of vitamin C.

Food for Thought: Research from the University of Massachusetts Lowell suggests that apple juice may protect against oxidative damage that contributes to age-related brain disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease. And it may also help to maintain brain performance.

Superior Strains: Studies show apples are not all alike when it comes to health benefits. In fact, Red Delicious apples, which account for 27% of U.S. apple production, have two times more antioxidant activity than Empire apples, according to a Canadian study. Northern Spy came in second; followed by Cortland, Ida Red, Golden Delicious, McIntosh, Mutsu and Empire.

Coffee Cider

Apple cider is at its best this time of year, and coffee cider merges the fresh New England cider taste with classic coffee. This hot drink is a favorite at fall get togethers. Here’s how you can make



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

it easily in your drip coffee maker:

Place one quarter cup of coffee grounds and one quarter teaspoon ground cinnamon into the brew basket of coffee maker. Then place one quarter cup brown sugar or honey and one cup of apple cider in the bottom of the pot. Add three cups cold water to the coffee maker and brew. When brewing cycle is complete, stir until well mixed. Serve in mugs with cinnamon sticks. A quick note: The glass pot and brewing basket may require a little more cleaning after this recipe, but it’s worth it!

Guilt Free Baked Apples

On a diet? You can indulge in this sweet treat - sans the guilt!

Ingredients: Six firm apples; granulated sugar substitute; raisins; butter (optional)

Directions; Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Peel six apples and core, leaving about an inch at the bottom. . Mix together cinnamon and about a cup of granulated sugar substitute to taste. Arrange apples in a glass baking dish. Fill each apple with the cinnamon mixture. Add a dot of butter or butter alternative to each apple. Sprinkle raisins on top. Pour about a half cup of hot water into the bottom of the pan. Cover loosely with tinfoil and bake for about 45 minutes or until apples are softened but not overcooked.

Note: New England apples popular for baking include Cortland, Rome, Jonagold, Gala, Golden Delicious, Northern Spy, Ida Red and Braeburn.

Shrunken Apple Heads

Made from apples, these hideous heads are sure to be the hit of your Halloween party!

Materials: whole apples, whole cloves, rice, lemon juice, salt.

Instructions: Peel a large apple and brush with a mixture of lemon juice and a couple of teaspoons of salt to prevent browning. Use a vegetable peeler or sharp knife to carve out eyes, nose, mouth and ears. Don’t be too fussy, as details won’t show once the apple has dried. Some suggestions: Poke whole cloves in eye sockets; place raw rice in the mouth for teeth. Allow apples to dry in a warm, dry place for two weeks. To expedite the drying process, place apples in the oven at lowest temperature for several hours, then allow to sit at room temperature for a few days. Shape the faces as they shrink and harden.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

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

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

Start thinking about your retirement income plan



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If you’re getting close to retirement, you’re probably thinking about the ways your life will soon be changing. And one key transition involves your income – instead of being able to count on a regular paycheck, as you’ve done for decades, you’ll now need to put together an income stream on your own. How can you get started?

It’s helpful that you begin thinking about retirement income well before you actually retire. Many people don’t – in fact, 61 percent of retirees wish they had done better at planning for the financial aspects of their retirement, according to an Edward Jones/Age Wave study titled Retirement in the Time of Coronavirus: What a Difference a Year Makes.

Fortunately, there’s much you can do to create and manage your retirement income. Here are a few suggestions:

Consider ways to boost income. As you approach retirement, you’ll want to explore ways of potentially boosting your income. Can you afford to delay taking Social Security so your monthly checks will be bigger? Can you increase your contributions to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, including taking advantage of catch-up contributions if you’re age 50 or older? Should you consider adding products that can provide you with an income stream that can potentially last your lifetime?

Calculate your expenses. How much money will you need each year during your retirement? The answer depends somewhat on your goals. For example, if you plan to travel extensively, you may need more income than someone who stays close to home. And no matter how you plan to spend your days in retirement, you’ll need to budget for health care expenses. Many people underestimate what they’ll need, but these costs can easily add up to several thousand dollars a year, even with Medicare.

Review your investment mix. It’s always a good idea to review your investment mix at least once a year to ensure it’s still appropriate for your needs. But it’s especially important to analyze your investments in the years immediately preceding your retirement. At this point, you may need to adjust the mix to lower the risk level. However, you probably won’t want to sell all your growth-oriented investments and replace them with more conservative ones – even during retirement, you’ll likely need some growth potential in your portfolio to help you stay ahead of inflation.

Create a sustainable withdrawal rate. Once you’re retired, you will likely need to start taking money from your IRA and 401(k) or similar plan. But it’s important not to take too much out in your early years as a retiree, since you don’t want to risk outliving your income. A financial professional can help you create a sustainable withdrawal rate based on your age, level of assets, family situation and other factors.

By planning ahead, and making the right moves, you can boost your confidence in your ability to maintain enough income to last throughout your retirement. And with a sense of financial security, you’ll be freer to enjoy an active lifestyle during your years as a retiree.

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

EDITORIAL
continued from page A6

skills would be a thing of the past. Handwriting is, however, making a comeback in some schools.

We think it goes without saying, that the best memories involve a good old fashioned pencil sharpener. Trying to get the pencil as small as possible in one go, meant that you were talented. If that pencil still had a full eraser, you were batting a thousand. It was an even better day if you could get your hands on an electronic sharpener.

Cheers to a new school year, and to new memories.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you’re important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

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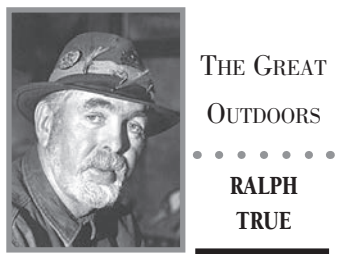
We don’t have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you’re going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

Changes in the weather



Mother Nature has decided to send a hurricane with wind & rain into our week at a terrible time, as many families and friends take vacation days, hoping to enjoy the outdoors. We cannot complain too much though as our neighbors to the West and South are enduring fires, mudslides and flooding for months. Global warming is real, and the change in our weather is only going to get worse. There are still many non-believers on global warming, and I do not know what it will take to convince them that it is real.

Fresh water bass fishing continued to provide some great fishing last week ,with

one youngster catching a three-and-a-half-pound small-mouth bass. Heavy rain causes a lot of high water on lakes and streams, but sometimes it improves fishing for some species on lakes and ponds. Back in 1954, Hurricane Carol hit New England and dumped a large amount of rain causing floods and devastation to the area. After a few days, anglers were fishing the Arcade Pond in Whitinsville using shiners for bait, and the action was great. Huge pickerel and largemouth bass were caught during a week or more at the culvert on Main Street that once allowed water to flow into the Blackstone River. The area is now a parking lot!

A few local anglers fished aboard the Yankee Fleet in Gloucester, and had a great day of fishing, catching numerous Haddock, Cod, Cusk and pollock. Unfortunately, all of the cod had to be returned back to the ocean because of the closure of cod on all of the Gulf Coast. Starting in September

anglers can retain one cod daily on the Gulf Coast.

Striper fishing on the Cape Cod Canal provided sporadic action for some anglers last week. Reports of great strip-er fishing in Rhode Island with many large fish being caught. Just about any strip-er baits and jigs are producing fish ,including umbrella rigs , live eels and jigs. There are a lot of school stripers in the bays which are also holding some legal-size fish. Fly fishing anglers are enjoying some great fishing.

Reports of some great fishing for fluke around the Five Cottages area was good news last week with numerous keeper fluke. The Snug Harbor fishing report stated that eight- and nine-pound fluke were caught last week at areas around Block Island. Seabass fishing is also very good around the rocky bottom areas.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Antique and vintage cars selling well

Before I dive into today's topic of collect-ible cars, I have some exciting baseball card news to share. The T206 Honus Wagner card that I thought might set an auction record did just that on Aug. 16. It's now the highest priced base-ball card ever sold, hit-ting a home run when it went for \$6.6 million.

America is said to have a love affair with cars. Some believe the love affair ended many years ago as styles have changed. The muscle cars of the 1960s have been replaced with today's SUVs. But many baby boomers and middle-aged buyers want to own cars from the era when they grew up, or even from before they were born. Past columns have discussed automobile memorabilia like advertising signs and gas pumps. I'll focus on the cars themselves in this article.

The New York Times reported that the pandemic did not hurt the col-lectible car market. In fact, the Times reported that "rather than back away from classic automobiles because of the pandemic, buyers flocked to them, sometimes in stunning numbers." The New York Times noted that collectors were "choosing to quarantine them-selves in what some might consider the ultimate safe distancing bubble — the cockpit of a classic car."

There are a few examples of older cars selling well at auction over the past several years. When they were first produced, Model Ts were mass-pro-duced and therefore affordable. They were manufactured from 1908 to 1927. A 1910 Ford Model T Touring car sold for \$35,000 at auction in 2019.

ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

WAYNE
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Cars that you may have seen on local roads in the 1960s and 1970s are also bringing phenomenal sums at auction.

Here are some 2020 auction results:

- 1958 Chevrolet Apache 32 Napco Pickup - \$68,200
- 1971 Dodge Charger R/T - \$86,900
- 1955 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible - \$88,000
- 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 Skyliner - \$99,000
- 1963 Lincoln Continental Convertible - \$106,700
- 1970 Plymouth Road Runner - \$176,000
- 1970 Ford Mustang Boss 429 Fastback - \$225,500
- 1970 Plymouth Superbird - \$151,800
- 1962 Chevrolet Corvette Convertible - \$242,000
- 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle Convertible - \$154,000
- 1963 Chevrolet Corvette Split Window Coupe - \$151,250
- 1968 Mercury Cougar GT-E 1 of 101 Produced - \$132,000
- 1969 Chevrolet Camaro RS/SS Pro Touring - \$126,500
- 1968 Ford Mustang GT500CR Fastback - \$225,500

And here are some auction results from this year:

- 1963 Corvair 95 Pickup - \$49,500



1958 Chevrolet Impala Resto Mod Convertible - \$253,000

1971 Plymouth Cuda Convertible - \$962,500

1967 Chevrolet Chevy II Hardtop - \$132,000

1968 Dodge Hemi Charger R/T - \$231,000

1957 Ford Thunderbird F-Code - \$203,500

As for more recent models, CNBC reported that a 1995 McLaren F1 race car recently sold at Monterey Car Week for \$20.5 million. It was the "most expensive car to sell at auction since 2018." Hopefully, it's good on gas.

We will be offering a 1962 Corvette as well as other Corvettes in an online auction that will end on October 13th. There are also vintage boat motors, bicycles and other estate items in that sale. Our next online model railroad and die-cast car auction is underway. I'll be appraising items virtually for the Townsend Historical Society on Nov. 13. My "Evaluating your Antiques" class will take place on Nov. 10 at Bay Path Evening School in Charlton. Please visit our website for more details on upcoming events: <https://centralmassauctions.com>

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

Put kitchen scraps and landscape trimmings to work in the garden

Convert landscape and garden trim-mings into valuable compost. Incorporate this soil amendment into garden soil to improve drainage in clay soil and increase water-holding ability in fast draining sandy soils. It also promotes healthy plant growth more resistant to insect and disease problems and keeps plant-based kitchen scraps and garden waste out of landfills.

Composting is as simple as placing disease- and insect-free plant debris into a pile and letting it rot. Don't add meat, dairy, or fat that attracts rodents or weeds that have gone to seed, inva-sive plants or perennial weeds that can survive the compost process and end up back in the garden.

You can enclose the pile in a bin to keep the process neat, tidy, and out of sight. Some gardeners prefer tumbler composters for added ease when it comes to loading, unloading, and turn-ing the pile. Dual bin tumblers allow you to stockpile the raw materials in one bin while actively composting in the other.

Always check with your municipali-ty first. Some have restrictions on the type of bins that are acceptable while others may offer them at a discount.

Start your pile in an accessible space hidden by nearby plantings, fences, or decorative bins. Turn the pile fre-quently, moving the more decomposed materials in the center to the outside

GARDEN
MOMENTS

• • • • •

MELINDA
MYERS

and less decomposed to the center.

Speed things up by mixing nitrogen and carbon rich plant debris, topping with soil or compost, and adding a bit of fertil-izer. Including equal parts of nitrogen rich (green) materials like herbicide-free grass clippings, fruit wastes, vegetable clippings and manure with carbon rich (brown) cornstalks, evergreen needles, straw and fall leaves will speed the process. But don't let this recipe prevent you from composting. All plant waste will eventually decompose as weather, insects and micro-organisms digest the materials over time.

Start with an eight- to 10-inch layer of garden trimmings. Cover with an inch of soil or compost and sprinkle with fertilizer to help speed things along. Repeat until the pile is at least three feet tall and wide. Moisten the pile to a consistency of a damp sponge.

Turn the pile as time allows or fre-quently for faster results. Move the more decomposed materials from the center to the outside of the pile. It's a great work out and speeds up the decomposition.

The more effort you put into com-posting the sooner you will have rich organic matter for your garden. But even casual composters end up with a wonderful amendment for the garden.

Compost is ready when it is brown and crumbly. Mix finished compost



Photo Melinda Myers

Composting can be as simple as collecting disease- and insect-free plant debris, placing it in a pile and letting it rot.

into potting mixes for containers, work it into garden beds or spread a one-inch layer over the soil surface of perennial gardens every other year.

Start putting your landscape trim-mings in a heap and watch the magic happen.

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

Give it your all!

Last week, I wrote about following your dreams and not listening to the naysayers.

I believe this with all my heart, and at the same time, I know that often the naysayers can be correct. Why? Lots of reasons. No matter how hard I tried, I didn't have the physical ability to be an Olympic swimmer. I gave it my all, but it wasn't in the cards; there were those around me who knew it.

If the naysayers are correct, don't let it be because you didn't try.

Some people are afraid of failure; for me, failing isn't the worst outcome. Failing because I didn't try, failing because I didn't care enough; That's the worst outcome! How do I know? I've done it; I've wept the bitter tears.

Knowing that I did everything I could to accomplish a

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dream is a great comfort.

John C. Maxwell said, "Dreams don't work unless you do."

Mahatma Gandhi said, "All good thoughts and ideas mean nothing without action."

People often fail in their dreams because they don't try, don't care, make excuses, and procrastinate.

What is belief? If you believe in something, doesn't that mean you live in a manner consistent with that belief? If you aren't doing the action if you aren't taking the necessary steps, is it possible that you never truly believed in it in the first place?

The ancient disciple James said, "Faith without works is dead."

If you're starting a business, but you're not writing down the goals, putting the business

plan on paper, going to school, reading the books, building the team, raising the money, and executing the program, do you believe?

Jim Rohn said, "Ideas without labor never become tangible; they never become real."

Procrastination is a killer of dreams. That bears repeating; procrastination is a killer. Years can be wasted, and a whole lifetime can be wasted procrastinating. Everyone sometimes procrastinates; at times, I've been a great procrastinator. I could write a book teaching you how to be a better procrastinator!

What are some potential causes of procrastination?

Excuses can cause procrastination. "I can't go for my dreams until I lose weight."

"I can't work towards my dreams until I get a new job." "I can't try for my dreams until I get out of debt." "I can't go for my dreams until my kids grow up."

The excuse maker says, "First let me focus on this other thing, and then after it's finished, then I can go for my dreams." Next week comes, and a new excuse is made; it can go on forever.

A lack of passion can cause procrastination. I've seen many actors who wanted to make it in Hollywood, but they weren't into the art of acting. They never took the classes, they never sought the auditions, if they did get auditions, they didn't rehearse.

They weren't passionate about what mattered. They pursued the lifestyle, but they didn't seek what makes the lifestyle sustainable. They majored in the minors, and they minored in the majors.

Drugs and alcohol can cause a lot of problems and are considerable procrastination. Many competent people cease to be competent when using drugs and alcohol. If you want to accomplish a dream,

quitting the addiction can sometimes be the difference between success and failure.

Fear of failure can be a cause of procrastination. Sometimes the most successful people have failed the most, but they succeed because they keep trying; they never give up. Not pursuing a dream because you're afraid to fail is a failure in itself.

Some say Thomas Edison failed 10,000 times while trying to invent the lightbulb. That wasn't his perception; he is quoted, "I have not failed; I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

I've been told that perception is everything. If you've tried 10,000 ways to accomplish your dream and haven't achieved it yet, but you keep on trying, have you failed?

Don't be afraid; put yourself out there. You are capable of great things!

Physician Services welcomes sports medicine specialist

SOUTHBRIDGE — Edward Appelbaum, D.O. has joined Harrington Physician Services Orthopedics practice. Dr. Appelbaum provides orthopedic care for all ages and specializes in sports medicine, which provides care for the prevention and treatment of injuries related to sports and exercise.

Dr. Appelbaum is board certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Orthopedic Surgery and is a member of several orthopedic and sports medicine professional associations and societies, including the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine, the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons and the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics.

He also has experience providing sports medicine care for athletic teams, including Worcester State University Football, the University of Maryland Football and Competitive Cheer teams, the Atlantic Coast Conference Track and Field Championships, and several high school football teams. In 2012, he founded 1,000 Miles for Kids, a 1,604-mile bicycle ride from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)

to Disney World to benefit the Children's Miracle Network.

Dr. Appelbaum earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed an Orthopedic residency at Rowan University/Inspira Health Network in Vineland, New Jersey, where he served as chief resident and received the Inspira Orthopedic Surgery Residency Program Directors Award. He completed an Orthopedic Sports Medicine Fellowship at the University of Massachusetts in Worcester.

Dr. Appelbaum joins orthopedic specialists Samantha Chase, MD, Russell Donnelly, MD and Young-Ho Oh, MD at the Orthopedic specialty practice located at 94 South Street in Southbridge. To learn more about orthopedic and sports medicine care at Harrington, and to request an appointment, visit harringtonhospital.org or call (508) 764-2772.

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Individuals served by Open Sky participate in Worcester Bravehearts Pen Pal program

WORCESTER — Thirteen individuals served by Open Sky Community Services had the unique opportunity of getting to know Worcester Bravehearts baseball players this season through the team's Pen Pal Program. The summer-long program culminated with a cookout at Fitton Field on Aug. 11 where the pen pals were able to meet in person.

The Community Membership team at Open Sky coordinated with Dave Peterson, Bravehearts General Manager, and Nate Gonelli, Director of Sales, to connect individuals served by Open Sky with Worcester Bravehearts players. The pen pals corresponded back and forth through a journal over the course of the summer to help the Bravehearts players feel welcome in Central Mass.

The individuals served by Open Sky who participate in the program had intellectual/developmental disabilities, mental health challenges or brain injury. This was an opportunity for them to be a part of the community

and form a connection with the players.

At the season-ending cookout, individuals from Open Sky gave baseball caps with the agency's logo to their Bravehearts pen pals and in return received signed books, baseball cards and Bravehearts baseball caps. Peterson welcomed the individuals from Open Sky, and Matt Small, COO of Open Sky was in attendance as well. Everyone had a chance to talk, get autographs and take photos. Several of the pen pals exchanged information and plan to stay in touch even once the season has ended. The individuals from Open Sky attended the game that evening and Lori Holden, an individual served by the agency, got to take home a pop-fly ball after it landed near her and a kind baseball fan helped her grab the ball.

Open Sky is proud to partner with several local sports teams to ensure that the individuals served by the agency have every opportunity to be a part of the Central Mass community.

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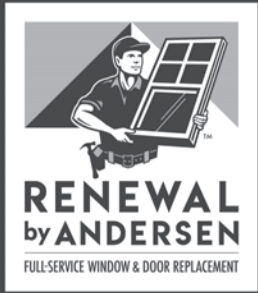
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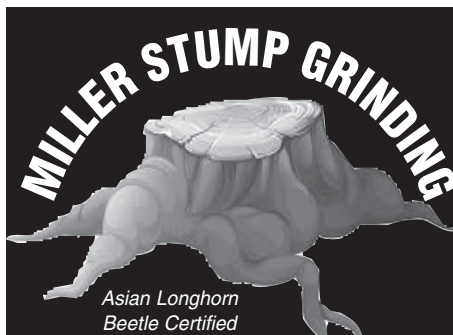
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This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

Cornerstone Bank donates \$5,000 to Quinsigamond Community College Student Emergency Aid Fund

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has donated \$5,000 to Quinsigamond Community College's (QCC) Student Emergency Aid Fund, which was established in March of 2020 to help offset tuition costs for students at risk of having to drop out of school due to financial hardships.

"One of our major charitable goals revolves around access to education," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "This past year and a half has proven difficult for so many people,

and QCC has found a way to help their students stay enrolled and finish their degrees despite sudden financial hardships. We hope our contribution can help students continue to work towards their graduation goals."

The Student Emergency Aid Fund has helped almost 600 students stay in college, with 90 percent of those who received aid not having to drop a class. QCC serves about 10,000 students every year with the vast majority coming from low- to moderate-income families. More than 80 percent of QCC students receive some form of financial aid.

"During the pandemic, 72 percent of students at QCC had a reduction in their working hours and almost half lost their jobs," continued Tallman. "Even in our newfound normal, many of these students are struggling to pay their tuition. We are committed to helping ensure that students who wish to continue their education have the opportunity to do so."

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving residents, businesses and communities throughout Central Massachusetts. Our cus-

tomer promise, Built on Trust, is not just a brand, but also a corporate focus. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone Bank rests on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. 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. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Ladies Auxiliary of Quinebaug Lodge to host Craft Market



Photo Courtesy

Just one example of the craft tents set up by Norah's Fabric Creations that will be at Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge on Sunday, Aug. 29.

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Sunday, Aug. 29, the Ladies Auxiliary of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge, located on Route 131 at 339 Ashland Ave. in Southbridge, will be hosting a Craft Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This Craft Market offers a great opportunity to find all kinds of unique gifts and crafts for your home or anyone on your shopping list. Everything from

hand sewn items, crochet items, candles, signs, soaps, jewelry, active wear, kids and women's clothing and much, much more. All Covid-19 Guidelines would be greatly appreciated.

Some Vendors including, but not limited to are, Little Hearts Custom Creations, Norah's Fabric Creations,

SOR Creations, Matilda Jane, Jackson's Creative

Worcester Academy congratulates graduates

WORCESTER ±Worcester Academy held its 187th Commencement Exercises June 4 with 129 seniors graduating. Commencement speaker was WA alumnus and Billboard-charted American jazz performer, Victor Fields, Class of 1971.

Among the graduates were:

Owen Hughes of Charlton

Isabella Nascimento of Charlton

In addition to Fields, speakers included the Academy's Class of 2021 valedictorian Zoe Alpert of Southborough and salutatorian Ava DeAngelis of Shrewsbury. Worcester Academy Board of Trustees President James Pietro officiated,

About Worcester Academy


Worcester Academy, founded in 1834, is an independent day and boarding school for boys and girls in grades 6 to 12 (and postgraduates). Located in the thriving city of Worcester, the Academy provides an exceptional educational experience that fosters personal growth, nurtures a sense of belonging and well-being, and develops intellect and understanding through authentic community engagement and real-world experiences. Students define what it means to "Achieve the Honorable" and are equipped to honorably impact the world wherever they go.

Bay Path LPN named CNA Instructor

NORTH GRAFTON — Kellsey Tillotson, LPN of Spencer was named Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Instructor at Grafton Job Corps in North Grafton. She plays a key role in the planning, selection, preparation, and implementation of learning activities to meet the course objectives of CNA students. She delivers instruction using active learning techniques to different learning styles and abilities. She assists in building healthcare knowledge and developing clinical skills of the CNA students aimed at obtaining their certification.

Tillotson is an alumna of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, PN Class of 2018. While a student at Bay Path she was a SkillsUSA District Champion earning a gold medal for competition in Medical Math. Tillotson was an officer of the UNICEF Club, spearheading many successful fundraising activities benefitting children. She volunteered for FAFSA Day, Blood Pressure Clinics at the Charlton Senior Center, and the Site Mobile at Paxton. Tillotson is certified in Mental Health Care, Dementia Care, OSHA10, OSHA 30, BLS Provider CPR and AED. In 2017 she completed the Medical Assistant Certification Program at Grafton Job Corps.

The appointment of Tillotson as CNA



Kellsey Tillotson

Instructor comes at a very challenging time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Before joining Grafton Job Corps, Tillotson has held clinical positions with Washburn House and CareWell Urgent Care both of Worcester. As a novice nurse educator Tillotson is excited about her work and loves it.

Charlton resident named 10 Under 10 Honoree

DUDLEY — Amber Tariq, a Charlton, a resident and Senior Accountant with UMass Memorial Health, is named a 10 Under 10 honoree by Nichols College. This year, the 10 Under 10 Award was created to recognize GOLD graduates (Graduates Of the Last Decade) for outstanding accomplishments in leadership, service, career and character. Our first class of leaders includes a police officer, entrepreneur, business owner, national security analyst, and a VIP executive

with the Boston Celtics. Awardees were honored in a virtual ceremony on July 29.

Tariq was a standout student during her time at Nichols College, an honors student, member of the Accounting Club, and teaching assistant. She also worked in the accounts payable department and held two internships. Her hard work and good nature have served well, rising to a senior accounting role at the region's premier medical center.

Tariq commented,

"I started out in public accounting after graduating; last year I transitioned to the healthcare industry. One of my professional goals has always been to work in an industry where I can see the positive impact that our organization has on our society, and I feel that is exactly where I have landed at UMass, especially given the circumstances of this last year. I wouldn't be here I am today if it wasn't for Nichols."

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SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! **\$549,900.00**



DUDLEY - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/Guest Closet! SS Applianced Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6x27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$570,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 305 Beacon Park! Lake View 1,280' 5 Rm Townhouse - 10 Acres Park Lake Grounds w/Panoramic Lake Views! Yr Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Move-in Condition! Applianced Kit! Din Rm w/Slider to the Composite Deck! Frp'd Liv Rm w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & French Dr to the Deck! Updated Half Bath! Spacious Master w/Wall of Closets & Full Bath w/Recent Sky Light! 2nd Bedroom w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & Full Bath just outside its Door! 2 Bdrms & 2.5 Updated Baths! Garage w/Opener! Lakeside Heated Pool & One of the Best Sandy Beaches on the Lake! Canoe Rack! Rented Boat Dock through 2022, Longer Possible! Great Fireworks Viewing! **\$335,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Applianced Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! C/Vac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! **\$400,000.00**



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DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD

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WATERFRONT THOMPSON - BECOLA RD



SORRY, SOLD!

5+ Acre Waterfront Land On "Little Pond/Schoolhouse Pond. Private Setting. Open Field. 250+ feet Waterfrontage. Dead end road! **\$179,900**

WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3,012 SF +/- living area. 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 updated Baths. 2nd Flr - Granite Countertops! High ceilings & Hardwood Floors, Modern Kitchens. Manicured 13,525 SF Lot with a Hip roof 3 car garage! **\$439,900**

WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET



SORRY SOLD!

A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE AVERAGE-TOP NOTCH-HIGH QUALITY-TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED! Apt# 2 - 1,536 SF +/- & 3 BRs, 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF +/- & 2 BRs - 1st floor. Oil & Natural Gas Heat. Hardwood flrs! granite tops. Enjoy the L-Shaped Covered Farmers Porch! Level Lot! **\$399,900.**

PUTNAM CT - 89 PERRY ST UNIT# 250



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Heritage Pines Condo Town House - Everything one would expect and then more! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, all Hardwood floors, granite, stainless steel appliances. central air, 2 decks, 2800 sq ft +/- of finished living area., and so much more! **\$319,900.**

WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



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WELCOME TO MIDNIGHT FARM! 1876 Antique Colonial. Included separate Building - Studio/Store both situated on 2.5 Acres Professionally Landscaped! 5 Bedroom, Lg Living room, Fireplaced Dining room, Library, Master Bdrm, Renovated Kitchen! 3 Stall Garages! Picturesque Location! **\$455,000.**

FEATURED ISLAND LISTING! WEBSTER LAKE - 22 LONG ISLAND



Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY! **\$389,900.**

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LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE, HUMBLE ABODE, THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK? Convenient Location, corner lot 1288 SF +/-, 4 BRs w/1st Flr Mstr BR, Hall Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combination! 3-Season Porch, 2nd Flr - 3 BRs, Reshingled Roof, Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Paint finished walk-out bsmt! Garage! **\$215,000**

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Webster - Douglas Rd (Rte. 16) 26 ACRES on Sugarloaf Hill. 1000 +/- ft of road frontage

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Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$89,900**

Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. **\$115,000.**

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **ON DEPOSIT! Each \$24,500.**

WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



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large 3 Family- a rare find! 1st Floor spacious 2 bedroom apartment. 2 - 2nd floor, 3 bedroom apartments Walkout basement to off street parking. **\$289,900.**

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Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! A WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle, you won't want to miss! Offers a prime waterfront location! 64' of water frontage and a gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! Nicely arranged floor plan. 5 rooms 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lowerlevel to nice size patio! Garage. **\$650,000.**

WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



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THOMPSON CT:
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ON DEPOSIT
WEBSTER: 2 bdrms
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Signs your gutters are in need of repair

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundation if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

- **Gutters hanging off the home:** Gutters were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Gutters hanging off the home need not necessarily be replaced, but rather secured to the home, ideally with hanger brackets instead of spikes. Brackets hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home. A professional who specializes in gutter repair can perform this task

relatively quickly, and it's an inexpensive yet highly effective solution.

- **Gutter separation:** Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive fix.
- **Peeling exterior paint:** Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.
- **Basement flooding:** Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters. That's because deteriorating gutters sometimes allow water to leak near the foundation of a home, contributing to basement flooding.

Fall is an ideal time to inspect gutters and have any issues fixed before leaves begin to fall or harsh winter weather arrives.



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60 Main Street
sgl fam, 862 sf liv area, 0.33 ac lot, 4 rm,
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TERMS: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder. No CASH. No personal checks will be accepted. Cashier/certified checks should be made out to whomever is going to bid at the auction. The balance to be paid within thirty (30) days at the law offices of Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851, Attorney for the Mortgagee.

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TOWN OF SPENCER – Minutes Clerk

The Town of Spencer seeks a Minutes Clerk (12 hours/month) to transcribe minutes for the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals. Position requires three years of clerical experience, excellent writing and typing skills and proficiency in Microsoft Office applications

Submit resume and standard town employment application form, available at www.spencerma.gov to the Office of Town Administrator, Town of Spencer, 157 Main St., Spencer, MA 01562. Starting salary is \$ 16.50 per hour.

EEO Employer. Position will remain open until filled.

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Town of Douglas Meeting Minute Recorder

The Town of Douglas is seeking an individual to provide part-time (30 - 50 hrs/mo) assistance to the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Building Facilities Construction Committee, and the Capital Improvements Committee by recording meeting minutes. Organizational, interpersonal skills, and proficiency in computers is essential. Ability to take shorthand is preferable. Availability to view remotely, online, up to 10 meetings per month is required. Upon demonstrated ability of efficiency, accuracy and reliability the possibility of transcribing some meetings from recordings may be possible. Compensation will be in the range of \$14.96 - \$16.00/hour, depending on qualifications. Send resume to Matthew J. Wojcik, Town Administrator, 29 Depot Street, Douglas, MA 01516. Position will be open until filled.
The Town of Douglas is an Equal Opportunity Employer. AA/EOE.

Administrative Assistant - Building Department Town of Charlton

The full-time Administrative Assistant performs clerical and administrative duties in assisting the department in the daily operations. Associates degree in business or related field; a minimum of five years' experience in a municipal position; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Please see job description for complete list of qualifications and responsibilities. Hourly rate: \$22.76 (union position).

Please apply online at <https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources>
no later than August 25, 2021

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Long-term challenges related to the pandemic

Vaccines have enabled some parts of the world to regain a sense of normalcy after more than a year of living under restrictions instituted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The challenges individuals faced in that time, including staying healthy, dealing with the consequences of social distancing and virtual schooling, may be subsiding. But various long-term challenges could affect businesses for years to come.

Consumer trust and loyalty
Businesses spend years developing trust in their brands and services. Businesses that were forced to close or limit their offerings during the pandemic may need to start rebuilding the trust and loyalty of their customers all over again. One factor that could make that a bigger challenge after the pandemic is how businesses that remained open handled restrictions. Those that insisted customers wear masks in their stores and establishments may not be quick to regain the trust and loyalty of customers who disagreed with those practices. That could prove especially challenging for small businesses that work on thin margins.

Reduced demand
A 2020 survey of leading European companies conducted by the European Central Bank found that reduced demand for products and services is a significant concern for business owners going forward. Roughly 30 percent of survey respondents cited reduced demand as one of the foremost consequences of the pandemic for their businesses. More than 20 percent indicated lasting changes in the structure of demand will prove challenging in the years ahead. That change in the structure of demand, which includes increased consumption online, could force business owners to make potentially costly adjustments to how consumers access their products.

Staffing
Businesses may find the competition for talent is especially competitive after the pandemic. Workers who worked remotely during the pandemic may be reluctant to leave their jobs if they're allowed to continue working remotely as economies reopen. That means fewer qualified candidates for open positions, especially if those positions do not offer the remote work option. In addition, firms based in large cities may not have as many applicants for their openings in the immediate aftermath of the pandemic. A June 2020 study from the Pew Research Center found that 28 percent of the 10,000 adults surveyed who relocated during the pandemic did so because they feared getting COVID-19. Cities where maintaining distance from others was difficult were viewed as riskier than less populous areas. It might be some time before people who left cities or planned to move to cities prior to the pandemic are comfortable living in such crowded places again. That could make it more challenging for city-based businesses to attract qualified job applicants.

Businesses could face some new, long-term challenges as the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Welcome to our 3rd Annual ABC's of Summer Scramble!

The Winner of a random drawing of all entries is
Julia A. of Webster, MA

Thank you to all who entered our Scramble Contest
and to all of our ABC Businesses.

Hope you will join us again in the Fall!

ABC'S OF SUMMER SCRAMBLE ANSWERS

(These are not in alphabetical order)

1. VUTAREDEN TURSO FO NEWRRA Adventure Tours of Warren	14. BAUGOAG TIAIANROIEBHTL Quaboag Rehabilitation
2. SBEN LTAECK HPSO Bens Tackle Shop	15. OSETINEDGRB SPESR Stonebridge Press
3. ATKL OF EHT NWOT Talk of the Town	16. CRANEMIA DTCINSOU OLI American Discount Oil
4. NCEPRES LFYMIA DETANL Spencer Family Dental	17. SNAL PIANT TCREEN NALS Paint Center
5. ERIN OYMANHE Erin Mahoney	18. MOARC OWINWD SVEIRECS INC Ramco Window Services Inc
6. LRUAUMXOE DORF Lamoureux Ford	19. NGSIIHG NEYERG ITEVALNESATR Higgins Energy Alternatives
7. SYAGR TETGSRU Garys Gutters	20. TDEAUTE GOTNIW AND VYCEOERR Audette Towing and Recovery
8. AWKRHCDI RERMSFA VEOA-REOCIPT Hardwick Farmers Co-operative	21. DOYSWO TAUO ODBY Woodys Auto Body
9. CCTTRUEAA TPES OCNTRLO Accurate Pest Control	22. CHIOCE TP AHPLCSIY ARYPTEH Choice PT Physical Therapy
10. RERMICO WSEREJLE Cormier Jewelers	23. CULEN SAMS PZZAI Uncle Sams Pizza
11. ERSKAN OCINLLISO Kearns Collision	24. ENATLEVC VetClean
12. RCATNLE ONE LEFDEAR ECDRIT Central One Federal Credit	25. NAHSSEE OLSAN DAN PAS Sheenas Salon and Spa
13. SEHFR ASTRT ETH NOGMVI WREC Fresh Start The Moving Crew	26. HLICAL RTIE DNA UATO VEREICS Cahill Tire and Auto Service



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HERNANDEZ

continued from page A1

member of the Advisory Committee, volunteering as a mentor, speaking at information sessions & workshops, and participating in the Mock Code Team preparation day.

While a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Hernandez was voted as a student representative.

She was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society and was a member of the UNICEF Club. Hernandez participated in the admissions panel interviews and competed in SkillsUSA earning a Silver Medal in both District and State level for the Practical Nursing category.

Hernandez takes pride in the work she does

at the Holyoke Public Schools and credits her training and education at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy especially her School Nurse Observation experience in her success. Hernandez has formed a tight bond with the Bay Path Community that has allowed her to work cohesively with faculty, staff, students, and fellow alumni.

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