



Firefighters plan their next attack to control a blaze at 209 Center Depot Road in Charlton.

## Fire levels Charlton home

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Multiple departments responded to a fire incident in Charlton in the early morning hours of Wednesday, Jan. 5, where a massive blaze leveled a two-story home.

Charlton Fire Chief Ed Knopf said calls came in at around 3:06 a.m. reporting a fully involved fire at 209 Center Depot Rd. in Charlton. Responders arrived on scene to find the home fully engulfed. Engine 3, with a crew of four personnel, was the first on the scene, and by 3:11 a.m., a second alarm was struck, and work began to manage the blaze.

“We had nine fire towns and Webster EMS came in to help. As we continue to learn in our area, we rely very heavily on our mutual aid companies to come in and assist us when we need it,” Chief Knopf said. “Our first due engine was out the door in three minutes, and they were on arrival within, I think, seven. They made good time. The rest of us were coming from home. It’s just waiting for the out-of-town units to get there so we can establish the water supply because we’re using their water and manpower as well, but everyone responded well.”

The fire was deemed under control by 4:40 a.m., and the scene cleared before 9:30 a.m. with Auburn, Brookfield, Dudley, East Brookfield, Leicester, Oxford, Spencer, Southbridge and Sturbridge assisting in fire suppression while Webster EMS provided an ambulance. The Charlton Department of Public Works was also called in the assist with the icy road conditions and demolish a standing chimney that was deemed a potential hazard. Chief Knopf confirmed there were no injuries at the scene and that local police helped evacuate the residents.

“Two residents were able to get out with the assistance of Charlton police. They did a very nice job. Weather was a factor. Once the water got flowing roads got slick and surfaces got a bit tough. We had to cut through some ice at a pond down the road in order to get into a water supply so that caused some minor delays, but once we got water flowing everything went as planned,” said the chief.

Some witnesses had reported sounds of



Courtesy — Dudley Police Department

A fire on Center Depot Road lights up the street in Charlton. Nine different departments and other agencies were called in to help fight the blaze.

explosions or loud “booms” at the scene on social media. Chief Knopf said this was likely due to pressurized gas containers in the garage or underneath the home releasing pressure due to the fire. As of this report the exact cause of the blaze was under investigation by the District 7 Fire Investigation Unit. Chief Knopf did confirm that the fire was believed to have originated from the basement of the home.

The building was deemed a total loss with an estimated value of \$165,000. The American Red Cross is working with the residents to provide assistance and a GoFundMe page was set up for the residents as well.

## Mask mandate in effect at Sturbridge town buildings

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE – A brief selectmen’s meeting Jan. 3 led to a unanimous vote to impose a mask mandate for town buildings through Jan. 18, “to be reconsidered at that time.”

The idea was sparked by a letter circulating from Auburn to various nearby towns that sought what they were doing, Interim Town Administrator Robert Reed said.

“About half of them are closing town buildings,” he observed, adding, “none of those who responded didn’t have a mask mandate for town buildings.”

He noted those did not refer to public spaces that weren’t municipally owned.

At that time, he added, the Senior Center and library had already decided not to hold programs, although the latter was still letting people browse the stacks and take out books.

Mary Dowling said she thought the idea was necessary because “our numbers are higher because we just had New Year’s and Christmas. It’ll hopefully go down after two weeks.”

Back in October 2020, the Journal of Clinical Microbiology (<https://journals.asm.org/doi/10.1128/mSphere.00637-20>) published an experiment looking at how well masks work. Using a

simulator, researchers led by Hiroshi Ueki found “cotton masks, surgical masks, and N95 masks all have a protective effect ... and that the protective efficiency was higher when masks were worn by a virus spreader.” Specifically, N95s caused 80-90 percent reduction in virus transmission, while cotton and surgical masks blocked about half when worn by an infected person and 20-40 percent if just worn by the other person. They also found “a synergistic effect when both the virus receiver and virus spreader wore masks.”

The board also plans to look into buying “a few hundred” rapid test kits with American Rescue Plan Act funds for free distribution to residents. Dowling said the state recently announced it had a contract with three manufacturers to offer tests at a discount to communities, but there was no press release regarding it on the state’s covid website as of last Saturday.

Dowling noted they normally cost \$14-\$25, but Robin Chrabascz said the discount rate is \$9 each or \$2700 a case. Dowling noted she wants to see people do it on “a little bit of the honor system,” and not take free ones if they can afford them.

A more recent preprint study

Turn To **MASKS** page **A16**



## Warrior Yoga to Calligraphy: Hitchcock Academy hosts it all

BRIMFIELD — Find out if the pen is mightier than the sword, or if the yogi is as mighty a warrior as a fencer as you try out Calligraphy, Warrior Yoga, or Fencing this winter, and celebrate your victories with a slice of gorgeously decorated chocolate cake. Hitchcock Academy, a community center in Brimfield, is rolling out a cavalcade of classes for all ages and interests, including several new and unique offerings.

The center’s longtime Pilates instructor Karen Larsen is teaming up with Fencing instructor Andrew Bloch to offer a new Warrior Yoga class in February. Warrior Yoga is an adventurous style of yoga for the advanced-beginner that incorporates a blend of slightly more intense Yoga poses mixed

with some Martial Arts forms. This more athletic style of Yoga will take participants through poses of power and strength with the transitions of flow. It will be offered on Thursdays from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. starting Feb. 3.

Fencing will also continue with its next session beginning on Jan. 13, and Pilates’ next session starts on Feb. 2.

On Jan. 20, armed with felt tipped pens and paper, participants will be guided by Christine Ohristo in an introduction to the age-old craft of Calligraphy. The two-hour evening workshop will present the opportunity for each student, after demonstration and instruction, to create a card or

Turn To **HITCHCOCK** page **A10**

## Charlton to host multi-town CERT Team training in March

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The town of Charlton will host a series of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trainings beginning in March where participants will learn how to help in the case of an emergency situation.

Glen LePage, Team Leader of the Charlton CERT Team, said the event is being sponsored by the Tri-EPIC Regional Emergency Planning Committee, a group composed of several local communities that each have their own CERT Teams. The train-

ing includes eight towns: Brimfield, Charlton, Douglas, Dudley, Oxford, Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Webster. Those who participate will commit to a 12-week course that will teach them everything they need to know to perform the duties of a CERT Team member.

“They will learn some light search and rescue, first aid and CPR, shelter work and all kinds of different functions that would potentially be needed in a natural disaster to support the community,” said LePage.

While CERT Team members do help in the case of major weather events like tornadoes

and flooding, they also play a part in other local emergencies. LePage said each town handles their CERT Teams differently and each is affiliated with different local agencies. He further explained that CERT Teams are more than just extra helping hands in the case of a natural disaster. Charlton, for example, works with the local fire department often helping check vitals and keep firefighters hydrated on scene. Sturbridge assists their local police department through roles like traffic control.

Turn To **TRAINING** page **A3**

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# State officials hold firm against school closure requests

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Despite pleas from the Massachusetts Teachers Association, state officials have remained firm in their decision to keep schools open full-time coming out of the holiday break.

Prior to schools reopening on the first Monday of the new year, Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) President Merrie Najimy issued an urgent request to state leaders.

“After consulting with our Environmental Health and Safety Committee and public health experts, the Massachusetts Teachers Association is calling on state Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley to keep all schools closed on Monday [Jan. 3], except for staff COVID-19 testing,” Najimy said. “To protect the public health and the safety of our communities, it is urgent to allow districts to use Jan. 3 for administering COVID-19 tests to school staff and analyzing the resulting data.”

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley and Gov. Charlie Baker were in agreement to hold classes state-

wide on Jan. 3, with no days off for testing. Even with the surge of Omicron cases resulting from the holidays, state officials said they are not considering a return to remote learning. Both Riley and Baker emphasized the importance in-person learning plays in students’ educational and emotional wellbeing.

“Kids need to be in school—school is safe,” Baker said. “There’s an overwhelming amount of evidence out there that keeping kids out of school, keeping them away from one another, keeping them away from trained and caring adults, did terrible damage to kids all over the country. It’s not going to happen in Massachusetts.”

State officials said the combination of vaccine availability, mask mandates in schools, and other safety protocols should be enough to ensure that students are safe in class without needing to return to remote learning.

But the MTA and thousands of educators and school staff members across the state contend that schools are not currently safe with COVID-19 cases surging.

The MTA has long demanded greater access to COVID-19 tests, officials said. Earlier this month, the Department of

Elementary and Secondary Education announced the arrival of 200,000 tests for school staff, but MTA leaders said that number isn’t nearly enough for continued testing.

As of last week, the nation was averaging over 500,000 new COVID-19 cases per day. Reports have widely suggested the Omicron variant may be less severe than previous variants, but daily COVID deaths in the U.S. have frequently exceeded 2,000 since the start of January.

On multiple days last week, new daily cases surpassed 700,000 nationwide. In Massachusetts, the surge has caused thousands of teachers and other school staff members to be out of work due to positive tests.

MTA officials said they agree with state leaders that in-person education is vital, but they said more needs to be done to ensure it happens safely for students, staff, and visitors.

“The MTA is committed to making sure that in-person learning continues as long as it is safe—and that students, school staff, families, and communities are protected as the new year begins to unfold,” Najimy said.



### ACCURACY WATCH

The 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](mailto: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.

## TRAINING

continued from page A1

“If we don’t have any major catastrophes so to speak, we do also get involved in a lot of community support activities,” said Lepage. “An example is the Charlton and Sturbridge CERT Teams were heavily involved with the Harrington COVID clinic that they had out at the Southbridge Armory for most of last year. The CERT Team in Charlton did over 2,000 hours of volunteer time with them. We do a lot of other community events like road races where we provide first aid and traffic control and race path monitoring. We get into a bunch of different things above and beyond an actual emergency.”

Applications for the free CERT training will be accepted until Jan. 30. Participants will leave with hands on experience and a gear bag full of equipment for them to use when duty calls. Interested parties should contact their respective CERT representatives. A list of CERT representatives and their contact information can be found on the Charlton Fire Department Facebook page.

# Green Meadows now serving medical cannabis

SOUTHBIDGE — Green Meadows, a vertically integrated cannabis company based in the heart of Southbridge, Mass., is now serving medical patients in its Southbridge dispensary located at 64 Mill St.

“Helping the veteran community is core to who we are as a company and acquiring our medical license was an important step to ensuring we are able to meet the needs of those who served,” said Chris Zawacki, cofounder and CEO, Green Meadows. “We’ve assessed medical programs across Massachusetts and we’re proud to offer the most competitive veteran discounts in the state.”

Medical discount program for veterans

Green Meadows has rolled out its new medical patient discount program, which includes the most competitive veteran discounts in Massachusetts. Qualified veterans will now enjoy a 30% off discount every day and a 40 percent discount twice a month, every month on the 11th and 22nd.

“The 11th of each month is meant to

align with Veterans Day in November and serves as a way to celebrate Veterans Day every month, while the 22nd of each month relates to a widely circulated statistic from Veteran Administration that 22 veterans commit suicide each day,” said Zawacki. “Military suicide awareness is an incredibly important cause to us.”

Other medical discounts include:

- New Patient Program - All new patients at Green Meadows receive a total of \$200 off medical cannabis product purchases, which is facilitated via four \$50 “new patient” coupons applied to patrons’ Medical profile and can be used as part of the first four transactions at Green Meadows. Note: The same discount would apply each year for patient renewals.
- Financial Hardship – 15 percent discount (an individual with verified financial hardship includes: (1) a recipient of MassHealth; (2) a recipient of Supplemental Security Income; or (3) an individual with an income that does not exceed 300 percent of the Federal

Poverty Level, adjusted for family size.)


- Cannabis Industry Employee – 10 percent discount
- Southbridge Resident – 5 percent discount
- Birthday - \$1 for a regular 1g preroll
- Senior Citizen (65+) – 10 percent discount
- Two For Tins and Tops Tuesdays – Buy \$200 worth of product and get 1 Tincture and 1 Topical for \$2.
- Students (21+) – 10 percent discount with proof of enrollment

Green Meadows customers will be able to stack multiple discounts up to a maximum of 40 percent. In addition, Green Meadows has a robust referral program for all of their medical patrons. Individuals can also receive rewards for referring new medical patients to Green Meadows.

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**Christopher**

**Age: 13**

**I love to build things!**

Christopher “Chris” is a twelve year-old boy of bi-racial descent who loves to be active and is described as playful. Christopher has many positive relationships with the peers and adults in his life. He is very active and enjoys climbing, building, playing outdoors, and going on outings in the community. Christopher also loves playing video games and building Legos and can entertain himself with them for hours.

Chris is in the 6th grade and continues to make good progress at school. He loves his school and has many positive relationships with his school staff. Chris continues to receive educational support and would do well with a family who can continue to advocate for his needs at school.


Legally freed for adoption, Christopher has a great relationship with his younger brother who he sees at least monthly. A family will need to be open to continued visits with his sibling. He also has an uncle that participates in these visits and is a support to him and would like to remain involved in his life. Christopher has reported that he’d like to live in a house with a mom, a dad, and some pets. He would do best in a flexible, playful home. A family could have no children or significantly older children than Christopher. While Chris’ social worker is ultimately seeking a permanent family for him, Chris would also benefit from forming relationships with other caring adults and would benefit from a Visiting Resource. Anyone interested in this opportunity should inquire about Chris.


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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](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.





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# Stewing Over Mysteries event postponed to April 6

STURBRIDGE — Due to the recent suspension of indoor programs and events for the Joshua Hyde Public Library, the Library’s annual Stewing Over Mysteries event, originally scheduled for Jan. 19, has been moved to Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m.

For anyone who has already purchased tickets, please feel free to hold on to those tickets for the new April date (refunds are available upon request). Otherwise, tickets for this event can be purchased for \$16 per person in the Library or through

PayPal on the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library Web site, [www.sturbridgelibraryfriends.org/stewing-over-mysteries](http://www.sturbridgelibraryfriends.org/stewing-over-mysteries). The event will be hosted at the Publick House Tap Room as we stew over mysteries with Sarah Stewart Taylor, author of the Sweeney St. George series and the Maggie D’arcy series. Your ticket purchase comes with entry into the event, as well as a delicious beef stew dinner, rolls, coffee, & dessert.

Taylor grew up on Long Island, and was educated at Middlebury College in

Vermont and Trinity College, Dublin, where she studied Irish Literature. She has worked as a journalist and writing teacher and now lives with her family on a farm in Vermont where they raise sheep and grow blueberries. While two of her books will be available for purchase at the event, you can save \$3 by purchasing your ticket and her newest book, “A Distant Grave” in hardcover as a bundle on the Friends of Joshua Hyde Public Library Web site (listed above) to be picked up at the event or at the library. The second book, “The

Mountains Wild” is now in paperback and can only be purchased at the event. Make sure to reserve your spot early, this event sells out every year.

For future updates and/or cancellations, please call the library. This event is sponsored by the Friends of Joshua Hyde Public Library.

For questions or more information on the event, please visit [www.sturbridgelibrary.org](http://www.sturbridgelibrary.org) or call 508-347-2512.

# Charlton adds IT improvements to ARPA list

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Charlton’s Board of Selectmen has added a few more priorities to its Phase 1 use of American Rescue Plan Act funds after a brief discussion with the town’s Information Technology Director Jeff Sorel on Dec. 14.

As the town moves ahead with the first phase of the spending, which will use about half of the \$4.1 million allocated to the town, an amendment was approved last month authorizing \$90,000 for public safety core network improvements.

“We had been looking at appropriating some money toward IT infrastructure,” Town Administrator Andrew Golas told selectmen. “We think that

this is the best initial use of some of it.”

IT Director Jeff Sorel laid out details of the planned investment noting a good deal of the improvements will be focused on enhancing communication between first responders and the town.

“The core updates to the police and fire will facilitate a few things and solve a few problems. One is to upgrade the connection between buildings. It will be ten times increase of speed. Also, with the new radio system that’s going to be implemented it’s going to help with that. It includes cyber security and a second backup fiber connection between the police department and fire together rather than a hub from town hall to each building,” said Sorel.

Selectmen agreed to add the projects as part of phase one.

Upgrades to police and fire radio sys-

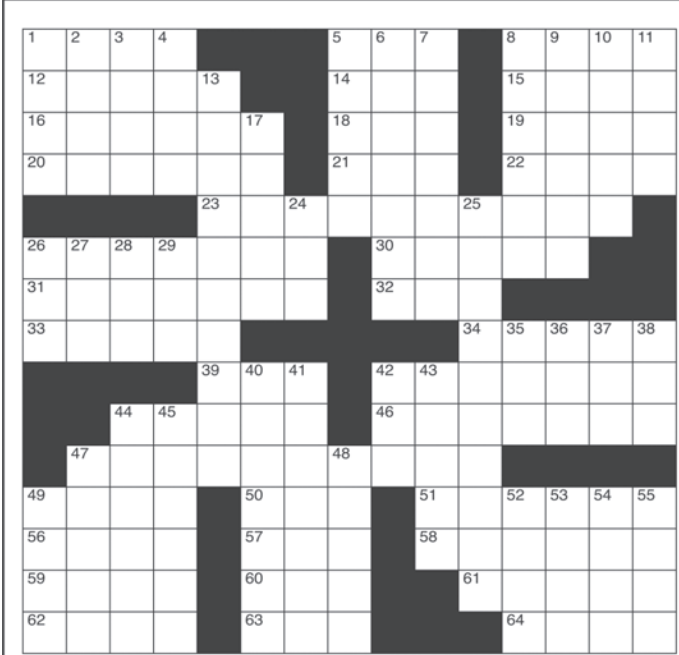
tems was included in the initial proposal for the American Rescue Plan Act phase one spending in November. Other projects included in phase one are an engineering study for a three-phase water and sewer upgrade, COVID mitigation, a feasibility study for a potential relocation of the Department of Aging, finishing the town’s water line connection to the police department, and a business and nonprofit grant program to be overseen by the Economic Development Commission. Digital archiving was also included in that list. Town Administrator Golas also announced that Charlton was earmarked for \$50,000 in the Massachusetts Legislature American Rescue Plan Act bill to implement a paperless document management system.

# Program suspension, new COVID protocols at Joshua Hyde Public Library

STURBRIDGE — Beginning Jan. 11, due to the rise in local COVID cases, the Joshua Hyde Public Library will be temporarily closed to the public. The Library will maintain regular hours of operation, but will only offer curbside pick-up to all patrons. The Library will also offer curbside copying, printing, and faxing services.

Additionally, all in-person programs, events, and use of the library meeting room to the public has been suspended. Story Times will be conducted virtually through pre-recorded videos accessed via a link on the Library website or on the Library Facebook page.

For updates or more information, please visit the Library website at [sturbridgelibrary.org](http://sturbridgelibrary.org), their Facebook or Instagram pages at @sturbridgelibrary, or call direct at 508-347-2512.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Requests
5. Calendar month
8. Invests in little enterprises
12. Bird sound
14. S. American plant cultivated for tubers
15. Car
16. Bullfighter
18. Hill (Celtic)
19. Strong criticism
20. Detector
21. When you hope to get there
22. Having the skill to do something
23. Legendary MLB broadcaster
26. Vulcanite
30. C. Asian mountain range
31. In a way, healed
32. Midway between east and southeast
33. Small appendages of insects
34. \_\_ Greene, “Bonanza” actor
39. A place to bathe
42. Postal worker accessory
44. Classical music
46. A way of wrecking
47. Terminator
49. You eat three a day
50. Pointed end of a pen
51. NATO official (abbr.)
56. Genus of clams
57. Boxing’s “G.O.A.T.”
58. A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel
59. Covered thinly with gold paint
60. Bachelor of Laws
61. Red fluorescent dye
62. Engineering group
63. Female sibling
64. Adjacent

CLUES DOWN

1. What a thespian does
2. Footwear
3. Adjust spacing between
4. Witnesses
5. Who shows excessive fondness
6. Distinct form of a plant
7. National capital
8. Hunting expedition
9. Related to medulla oblongata
10. European country
11. Cola
13. Excluded from use or mention
17. Speak
24. Bloodshot
25. Make better
26. Keyboard key
27. Type of degree
28. Paddle
29. Peacock network
35. Not young
36. Baseball stat
37. One’s grandmother
38. Breakfast food
40. Bathroom features
41. Disease-causing bacterium
42. NY ballplayer
43. Got up
44. Prophet
45. Part of the mouth
47. Unnatural
48. Acronym for brain science study
49. Three are famous
52. Languages spoken in Patagonia
53. Freedom from difficulty
54. Widely used OS
55. Many people pay it

PUZZLE SOLUTION

J	X	E	N			S	I	S		E	E	E	I		
N	I	S	O	E		B	T	T		L	T	I	G		
E	N	V	H	L	E		I	T	V	V	C	H	V		
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K	V	T	E		H	O	L		O	H	E	H	O	L	
O	L	P	V		V	C	O		D	E	E	H	C		
C	I	B	S		C	E	D			S	K	S	V		

# REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

**BRIMFIELD**  
\$425,000, 1450 Dunhamtown  
Brimfield Rd, Padden, Henry L, and Padden, Deborah, to Mason-Wilbur, Christie Y, and Wilbur, Trevor E.  
\$75,000, E Hill Rd, Sardinha, Beverly, to Black Diamond RT, and Cournoyer, Arthur W.  
\$30,000, E Hill Rd #10, Pelletier, Henry L, and Pelletier, Patricia G, to Freeman FT, and Freeman, John W.  
\$30,000, E Hill Rd #16, Pelletier, Henry L, and Pelletier, Patricia G, to Freeman FT, and Freeman, John W.

**HOLLAND**  
\$335,000, 6 Hamilton Dr, Curving Joyce M Est, and Curving, Douglas, to Dodge-Robinson, Dorian, and Robinson-Mrotek, Sharon.  
\$225,000, 28 Craig Rd, Sullivan, Jean M, and Koomey, Mark, to Mccaull, Joseph B.  
\$135,000, 27 Ardmore Rd, Giguere, Michael A, and Giguere, Shelley, to Cook, Kara N, and Gregoire, Leo P.  
\$17,280, 9 Overlook Rd, Holland Town Of, to Watras, James.  
\$17,280, 9 Sandy Beach Rd, Holland Town Of, to Watras, James.

**CHARLTON**  
\$500,000, 162 Center Depot Rd, Dolphin, Anthony F, and Dolphin, Stephanie, to Vail-Jackman, Shanna J, and Sawash, Timothy M.  
\$380,000, 99 Muggett Hill Rd, Anthony L Garcia 2018 RET, and Garcia, Anthony L, to Porter, Eric J.  
\$325,000, 2 Cranberry Meadow Shore Rd, Fierro, Tina, to Mckinstry, Erin M.  
\$282,000, 198 Daniels Rd, Anderson, Russell H, to Gwaltney, Rebecca I, and Kelly, Charles P.  
\$265,000, 132 Dresser Hill Rd, Ceccarini, Deborah A, to Brown, Nicole.  
\$230,000, 85 Park Rd, Ashe, Jennifer M, to Fisher, Justin E.  
\$69,000, Major Hill Rd, Garry, Steven, to Leblanc, Ronald.

**STURBRIDGE**  
\$1,100,000, 258 Main St, 258 Main Street LLC, to Plava LLC.  
\$949,000, 203 Podunk Rd, 203 Podunk Road RT, and Geyer, Anne E, to Green, Sarah E.  
\$565,403, 15 Putnam Rd, G Lussier Builders LLC, to Punderson, James B.  
\$456,500, 562 Haynes St, Silver Tree Realty LLC, to Cardoso-Dacruz, Alison, and Yahia, Lina.  
\$400,000, 113 Brookfield Rd, Mann, Danyelle M, and Pingree, Jaime, to Hurton, Matthew, and Mascitelli, Abigail.  
\$311,000, 89 Allen Rd, Wayne G Fuller T, and Richardson, Shari A, to Ko-Dalessandro, Grace, and Dalessandro, Matthew.

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CHURCH LISTINGS

- **Charlton Federated Church**, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. [www.fedchurchcharlton.org](http://www.fedchurchcharlton.org)
- **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, [www.charltonbaptist.org](http://www.charltonbaptist.org), Sunday worship 10 a.m.
- **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: [CharltonCityUMC.org](http://CharltonCityUMC.org) Sunday worship and Children’s church 10am
- **St. Joseph’s Church**, 10 H. Putnam Ext. 248-7862, [www.stjosephscharlton.com](http://www.stjosephscharlton.com), Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m., Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday LifeTEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.
- **Hope Christian Fellowship**, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144
- **Assemblies of God Southern New England District Headquarters**, Route 20, 248-3771, snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **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.livingwordhcharlton.com](http://www.livingwordhcharlton.com) [info@livingwordcharlton.com](mailto:info@livingwordcharlton.com)
- **New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel**, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
- **Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale**- 8 Maple St. Sturbridge, 774-304-1021 [www.sturfed.org](http://www.sturfed.org) Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

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# Joshua Hyde Library reschedules Frank Capra Film Series for 125th Anniversary celebration

Joshua Hyde Library resched-  
ules Frank Capra Film Series for  
125th Anniversary celebration  
STURBRIDGE — Due to the  
recent suspension of indoor pro-  
grams at the Joshua Hyde Public  
Library, the Frank Capra Film  
Series which was originally  
scheduled for January have been  
moved to new dates in March  
and April.  
In celebration of the Library’s  
quasiquintennial anniver-  
sary, the new dates for the Frank  
Capra (born 1897) 125th-inspired

film series are as follows.  
“Mr. Smith Goes to  
Washington” (1939), on March  
the 9th.  
“It Happened One Night”  
(1934), on March 16th  
“Lost Horizon” (1937), on April  
6th  
“You Can’t Take It With You”  
(1938), on April 13th  
All movies will begin at 12:30  
p.m. on the Wednesday dates  
above.  
Plan to join-in to contin-  
ue a year of celebrations with

fun events and displays in the  
library. For any future updates  
and/or cancellations, please  
call the library. Sponsored by  
the Friends of JHPL. Masks are  
required for everyone ages five  
and up for the event.  
For more information on this/  
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please call 508-347-2512. You can  
also visit the library Web site  
at [www.sturbridgelibrary.org](http://www.sturbridgelibrary.org), or  
on facebook and Instagram: @  
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## Nearly 2,500 make Dean’s List at CCU

CONWAY, S.C. — Nearly  
2,500 undergraduate students  
at Coastal Carolina University  
were named to the Dean’s List for  
the Fall 2021 semester. Students  
who make the Dean’s List have  
achieved a grade point average  
between 3.5-3.99 for the semester.  
Students recognized include:  
Emily Dodos, a Special  
Education Multi-Categorical  
Pre-Major major of Charlton  
Kira Sullivan, a Psychology  
major of Uxbridge  
Caleb Visbeek, a Exercise and  
Sport Science major of Uxbridge  
Isabella Huckins, a Marketing  
Pre-Major major of Wales

Nicholas Lawrence, a  
Intelligence & National Security  
Studies major of Fiskdale  
Lauren Scioletti, a  
Communication major of  
Sturbridge  
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hensive liberal arts institution  
located in Conway, located just  
minutes from the resort area of  
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CCU offers baccalaureate  
degrees in 95 major fields of  
study. Among the University’s  
graduate-level programs are 27  
master’s degrees, two educa-  
tional specialist degrees, and

the doctorates in education and  
in marine science: coastal and  
marine systems science. CCU  
boasts a growing array of intern-  
ship, research, and international  
opportunities for students, as  
well as numerous online pro-  
grams through Coastal Online.  
More than 10,400 students  
from across the country and  
around the world interact with  
a world-class faculty, and enjoy  
a nationally competitive NCAA  
I athletic program, an inspiring  
cultural calendar, and a tradi-  
tion of community interaction  
that is fueled by more than 180  
student clubs and organizations.

### RUTH WELLS CENTER TO HOST KIDS ART CAMP



Photo Courtesy

The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts, located at 111 Main St. in Southbridge, will be offering a Kids Art Camp Feb. 21-25 for two groups. Ages six to 10 will meet at 9am, while ages 11-16 will meet at 10:30 a.m. Under the direction of local artist Simone Germain, kids will explore art in many forms, and have a fun and instructive week The Camp will end with an open house exhibit on Sunday, Feb. 27. Class size is limited, and registration is required.

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# NEWS BRIEFS

## Troy Reed accepted into competitive interdisciplinary science program at UMass Amherst

AMHERST — Troy Reed, Fiskdale, is one of 73 undergraduates recently selected for the newest class of the Integrated Concentration in Science, or iCons, program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

More than 175 first and second-year students applied for one of the iCons spots through a process open to roughly 5,500 undergraduate students in business, science, technology, engineering and math.

The current iCons cohort, the 12th to participate, is the largest and most diverse in the program's history. The iCons Program builds on students' course of study by providing them with further skills needed to enter the modern workforce. Diverse teams of students collaborate, identify, and study innovative solutions to real-world global problems.

## Alexis Plumley earns dean's

## list honors at College of Saint Rose

ALBANY, N.Y. — Alexis Plumley, of Brimfield, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2021 semester at The College of Saint Rose. Plumley is majoring in Forensic Psychology.

Full-time undergraduate students who complete a minimum of 12 graded credit hours and who achieve a semester average of 3.5 without a D, F, or Incomplete are eligible for the dean's list.

The College of Saint Rose (www.strose.edu) is a dynamic, progressive college in the heart of New York's capital city where teaching is the first priority. The Saint Rose experience empowers students to improve themselves and the world around them.

## Kaylie Gonya of Uxbridge named to Lasell University dean's list

NEWTON — Kaylie Gonya, a Lasell University student from Uxbridge, was named to the dean's list for their academic performance in the fall 2021

semester.

Students who receive this honor have completed at least 12 credits as a full-time student and have achieved a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.

## UConn announces Fall Dean's List

STORRS, Conn. — The University of Connecticut congratulates the following students on being named to its Fall 2021 Dean's List.

- Auburn**  
Grace Foulkrod, Lexis Johnson
- Blackstone**  
Aaron Bolduc
- Douglas**  
Mary Foley, Matthew Lathe
- Dudley**  
Grace Gavin
- Grafton**  
Olivia Rice, Lindsey Sawtelle
- Sturbridge**  
Cameron Dungey
- Sutton**  
Julianna Cushner, Annika Haerle
- Upton**  
Ryan Conrad, Jonathan Romine, Tessa Stewart
- Uxbridge**  
Kieler Langemo
- QVCC announces Fall 2021 Dean's List**
- DANIELSON, Conn.** — Quinebaug Valley Community College has announced the names of 178 students named to the Fall 2021 semester dean's list.
- Charlton**  
Caitlin Baer, Johnathan Tucker
- Dudley**  
Molly Castano, Brett Spiewakowski
- Southbridge**  
Jourhana Colon

# 7 things to know before replacing windows

The decision to replace windows often comes down to aesthetics and necessity. Drafty windows can reduce energy efficiency in a home, requiring HVAC systems to work harder to keep interiors comfortable. The harder the HVAC must work, the more homeowners will pay in energy costs.

Old windows also may be points of entry for water and insects. Despite the importance of windows, Money magazine advises that new windows make up only a fraction of the home's total exterior "envelope," resulting in only about 5 to 15 percent of total energy savings.

But there are still plenty of reasons to invest in new windows.

1. Vinyl or aluminum may be best. Lumber is farmed rather quickly today and solid wood products may not stand up to elements as well as wood used a half-century ago. To avoid rot, vinyl windows often are an affordable and durable choice.

Homeowners also have the option of wood windows with aluminum cladding, which are long-lasting.

2. Moisture problems indicate windows need to be replaced. Condensation that shows up as fogging between double-pane windows or on the inside of windows indicates that the windows are starting to fail. If installing a vapor barrier in the basement or crawl space, ventilating properly when showering or cooking, or using a dehumidifier indoors does not remedy the situation, it might be time to replace windows.

3. Windows add curb appeal. Beyond functionality, replacement windows immediately update the look of the home and can improve curb appeal since they are one of the most prominent features on the exterior of a home. If a house needs an update, replacing windows and can be a quick and affordable update.

4. Consider other energy-efficient upgrades.

Sometimes older windows can be salvaged, especially if they are not damaged and only moderately drafty. Replacing panes, sash cords, weather stripping, and even glazing may be less expensive than replacing a window. Plus, older homes with attractive windows complement one another. To keep energy bills down, think about adding insulation to the attic and basement — which is a good idea even if you are replacing windows.

5. The wrong windows can adversely affect home value. The National Association of Realtors says homeowners get about 73 percent of their replacement window investment back when they resell a home. But choosing the wrong windows might lower the value of the home. It's important to match the look of the original windows, including window material and the divided light pattern (the number of panes in each window) with the original windows.



6. Think about soundproofing, too. When upgrading windows, also think about how certain windows can cancel out noises and make homes more soundproof. Some windows can help reduce outdoor distractions like leaf blowers or lawn mowers.

7. Proper installation is key to longevity. Replacement windows are only as good as their

installation in many cases. Poor installation and orders of standard rather than custom sized windows could result in poor fitting and seals. Homeowners should carefully vet and review window replacement contractors to find the best professionals for the job.



Do you suffer from anosmia? It's not a loss of memory — that is amnesia. However, anosmia does involve the loss of something else, namely your sense of smell.

Chances are at some point in your life you have experienced a period of anosmia, which is the partial or complete loss of smell. Few people give thought to what loss of sense of smell

means until they are nose-deep in that loss. Anosmia can be permanent or temporary, and various things could be behind it.

**Allergies or a cold**

A cold or allergies are two conditions that irritate the delicate lining inside of the nose, interrupting olfactory receptors. In addition, swelling of the nasal membranes

likely also plays a role in loss of smell, which is common with respiratory illnesses and allergic rhinitis and chronic sinus infections, according to Healthline.

**Head trauma**

The Monell Center, which studies and treats issues related to taste and smell, says that between 20 and 30 percent of head trauma patients have some type of problem with smell. Olfactory nerves pass through small openings in the cribriform plate, a honeycomb-like bone between the nose and the brain. These nerve fibers can be crushed or severed when the force of a head injury causes the brain to

collide with the skull.

**COVID-19**

Anosmia has been identified as a side effect of the COVID-19 virus. In fact, temporary loss of smell is the main neurological symptom and one of the most commonly reported early indicators of the disease, says Harvard Medical School. Research teams found infection of nonneuronal cell types — those that support neurons — are responsible for anosmia in COVID-19 patients. The good news is the neurons are not affected, so sense of smell can recover over time.

**Other causes**

There are other medically sound reasons why loss of smell

may occur. These range from exposure to chemicals that burn the inside of the nose to an underactive thyroid to long-term alcoholism. Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease also have been linked to anosmia. However, there are many other conditions that obstruct the nasal passages or cause damage to the brain or nerves involved in sense of smell.

Anyone who experiences loss of smell should consult with a doctor, especially if a COVID-19 test comes back negative. Such a loss could indicate a minor situation or be a symptom of a more serious illness.



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# Baby, it’s cold outside

Newsflash: it’s cold. Our little neck of the woods here has finally hit frigid sub-zero temperatures. Folks may be running low on fuel, or even running empty, causing frozen pipes to burst. Fuel companies are scheduled two weeks out in some cases, and several customers are feeling stressed due to the financial burden this cold weather brings. Our only advice is to hold on tight and think about how toasty things will be when temperatures soar into the teens and low 20s again.

The winter solstice on Dec. 21 has passed, and the days are getting longer... and, we hope, sunnier. One perk to this post-New Year’s time is that, well, the holidays are over. The hustle and bustle starts in late November and doesn’t calm down until the week following New Year’s. Is it overrated? Maybe. We hope you are all able to relax in the days ahead.

When weather hits sub-zero, it’s hard to remember why we live here. We live in New England because winter, for the most part, is fun and manageable. We love our snow sports, the smell of wood stoves cranking and the beauty of the snow-capped mountains.

Some of you may think of our ancestors who had to cut chords of wood by hand all year long just to prepare for the harsh New England winters. Houses way back when had no insulation or the walls were stuffed with straw and mud. Common houses were much smaller; therefore easier to keep heated with one wood stove. The fireplace was the focal point of a colonial home and was the place where family members would talk and work on small projects during the evening. The average size of a house according to today’s standards is about 2,600 square feet. A home of that size hundreds of years ago was often occupied by the wealthy, who were able to afford to put a wood stove in each room of the house. Children often slept in lofts where the heat would rise and often shared a bed with siblings, using body heat to keep warm.

In days of old, people used thick curtains and down comforters to keep the heat in. Before bedtime, many would use a bed warmer; which was a brass pan with a long handle that was filled with hot rocks. Foot warmers were popular as well. These fancy contraptions were made of a wood framed tin box also with heated rocks that would be placed by the feet under the comforter. This heating method was used for trips in the horse and buggy as well. Church goers would bring their own boxes of heat and blankets to keep warm during a Sunday service.

Important to note is the fact that over the years humans have increasingly adapted to warmer weather as a result of modern technology. Our ancestors were able to withstand much colder temperatures and remain more comfortable in colder temperatures than we do today. All of that aside, we are pretty lucky to have the conveniences we do during these cold blasts.

Since winter is not nearly over; here are a few tips with regard to winter survival. Avoid frost bite and frost nip at all costs. When the water molecules in your skin cells freeze, they die. Once this happens, they can cause damage to your muscular and nervous systems. Exposed skin can develop frostbite within 30 minutes with winds of 10 mph and a temperature of -5 degrees. If you are outside and find your hands freezing, the warmest place for them to go is under your armpits, the warmest part of your body.

Another culprit is hypothermia. When your body hits 95 degrees you’re entering the danger zone. When your organs start to drop in temperature they begin to shut down. If you notice yourself shivering or lacking coordination, it’s time to get warm fast. Other more severe symptoms include low energy, difficulty speaking, a weak pulse and the cessation of the shivers. It’s important to stay well nourished during any time spent outside, as your body needs that energy to stay warm. Always have a Snickers bar or something similar handy just in case. Staying hydrated is a must as you need water to keep your nervous system running properly. One rule of thumb is to never eat snow while trying to survive in frigid temperatures. Your body will be forced to warm it from the inside which wastes energy and can cause hypoglycemia. Try to keep your heart rate up as cold temperatures cause your heart rate to decrease. A higher heart rate will generate heat within your body however be sure not to do so much that you start to sweat, cold and sweat are never a good combination.

We hope none of you ever find yourselves in a situation where you need to implement any of the information above, however knowledge is power. Stay warm, summertime is just about six months away, where we will of course crank the air conditioning and complain about the heat and humidity.

# OPINION



## Latest antique news

I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and a great start to the new year. It’s been several weeks since my last antique news update and there is much to report on.

There was big news out of England at the end of 2021, when research found that a United Kingdom-based antiques dealer’s 2019 auction purchase was actually a very valuable historic relic. Dealer Paul Fitzsimmons spotted a gilded oak bird at an English auction. Although it was covered in soot, he “instantly realized that it was a valuable object,” according to Smithsonian Magazine. Although he didn’t then know that the bird was the badge of Anne Boleyn, he “knew that it had some sort of royal connection because it had the crown and scepter, and it was a royal bird.” Anne Boleyn was Henry VIII’s second wife, whom he beheaded in 1536. Boleyn had begun to use the falcon and roses badge around the time she married Henry VIII. It’s believed that the falcon and roses were part of the palace’s decorative scheme at the time. After her death, Henry VIII tried to remove all traces of Boleyn, including the falcon and rose badges. It’s believed that the wooden falcon was in Boleyn’s private quarters and had been stashed away by one of her supporters. Fitzsimmons paid \$101 for it at that 2019 auction. It’s estimated to be worth \$270,000. He plans to offer it on long-term loan to Hampton Court Palace.

Elsewhere, a Massachusetts estate sale find is also making news in England. “The Art Newspaper” reported that an Albrecht Dürer sketch was purchased from a Concord, MA estate in 2016. They write that “The Virgin and Child with a Flower on a Grassy Bank”



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

was in the collection of architect Jean-Paul Carlhian. A man who wishes to remain anonymous purchased the sketch for \$30 from Carlhian’s daughters at an estate sale of his belongings. The buyer and seller didn’t believe that it was an original work, and the buyer stored it in his home. Clifford Schorer of Agnews Gallery in London heard of the sketch when visiting Boston in 2019 and arranged to see it. Schorer told “The Art Newspaper” that when he first saw the piece he thought, “it was either the greatest forgery I have ever seen—or a masterpiece.” Experts have examined the piece more carefully and found that there are two attributes that seem to prove it is in fact authentic. His signature (initials) and the ink used match those that appear in more than 200 of his other sketches. It is believed that the sketch may be worth \$50 million. Now that’s a stroke of good luck.

Our fifth online auction session of model railroad, die-cast cars, and models will begin next week. We are still accepting consignments for our next online multi-estate auction. It will feature coin collections from multiple estates, gold estate jewelry, a large sports card collection and a wide range of other items. Contact us by email or phone if you have items you’d like to include. Please see our Web site <https://centralmassauctions.com> to join our email list and keep up to date on auctions and other events.

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## The kindness of strangers

I spent the New Year celebrating with my girlfriend in a beautiful, small, old town in northwestern Illinois named Galena. We had a wonderful time.

Our dinner reservations were at the very historic Desoto Hotel, and to our surprise, nobody was there! People celebrated in the hotel outside of the restaurant, but the restaurant itself was empty. I asked the waitress, “where is everybody?”, she responded, “A big winter storm is coming!”

After dinner, we walked down Main Street and commented on how calm the weather was. There wasn’t a storm.

New Year’s Day was sunny and cold. The weather was nice, so we decided to stay longer and visit some shops we hadn’t seen. By mid-afternoon, the clouds rolled in, accompanied by heavy snowfall.

One of the locals cautioned us from driving home; we thanked her and explained how we had to get back home and go through the blizzard.

I felt confident; I’d driven through many snowstorms all over the nation. I figured we could make it home in seven hours, moving slow.

From the start, many times, I almost went off the road. Carefully, I pressed forward; every mile seemed to be more dangerous. I said to myself, “they will put salt on the roads; there will be snowplows...” But I saw no sign of a snowplow.

Suddenly I felt the car being pulled to the right. I turned to the left to steer the vehicle back on course, but I drove into a ditch four to six feet deep. The snow piled so high in the ditch, it appeared even with the road, and looked as if there was no ditch at all. Within a couple of seconds, my car was deep in a pile



POSITIVELY SPEAKING  
TOBY MOORE

of snow. My girlfriend was understandably upset. “It’s no big deal!” I reassured her as I called AAA roadside assistance. To our surprise, the weather was so bad they shut down service for this part of the country; nobody was coming to save us.

The roads were empty. We were in the middle of nowhere with nothing but the heavy snow on a dark winter’s night.

It’s been such a mild winter this year, I didn’t bring the proper clothes with me. I didn’t have a pair of gloves, a winter jacket, a stocking cap let alone a shovel. It was about 17 degrees, and there wasn’t much I could do. I tried to calm my panicked girlfriend.

About 30 minutes later, we noticed a light in the distance. The light became brighter and brighter, and it turned out to be a big white pickup truck. The driver slowly pulled up and shouted, “Do you need help?” My girlfriend noticed I was playing it cool, so before I could answer, she was yelling, “Yes! Help us, please!”

After about 15 minutes of shoveling and clearing snow out from under my car, he found where he could hook a chain and try to pull us out. Within 30 seconds, my car was pulled right out of the snow and back on the road.

My girlfriend jumped out of the car, and we both thanked him profusely. I didn’t have any cash on me; all I had was a bottle of wine leftover from the New Year celebration. I insisted he take it; we also offered to send him cash through an online app, but he refused. He helped us simply because we needed help.

As we drove home, my girlfriend cried tears of joy. We were blown away by his

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

## Snow Facts and Trivia



TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

The Old Farmer’s Almanac predicts frigid temperatures and overall average snow for the region this winter. However, the tried-and-true guide warns of more storms and snowfalls this month, and perhaps a big post Valentine’s Day storm in February.

But this should come as no surprise to hardy New Englanders who have had plenty of practice battling Old Man Winter through the years. Hot on the heels of last week’s snowstorm, this column will feature a roundup of informative and interesting snow facts and trivia:

### Timeless “Snowisms”

Snow has always been a common topic of conversation for New Englanders, and in 1896 Hadley, MA native Clifton Johnson of nearby Hadley, MA, put together a volume of collected proverbs titled, “What They Say in New England - A Book of Signs, Sayings and Superstitions.” Read on for his entertaining musings on snow:

\*If the breast-bones of the Thanksgiving chickens are light in color; there will be a good deal of snow in the winter following. If the color is dark, there will be little snow.

\*If the snow on the roof melts off, the next storm will be rain. If it blows off, you can calculate on snow.

\*The day of the month on which the first snowstorm comes gives the number of storms you can expect in the following winter.

\*If the ice on the trees melts and runs off, the next storm will be rain. If it is cracked off by the wind, the storm that comes next will be snow.

\*Snow that comes in the old of the moon is apt to last. Snow that comes in the new of the moon is apt to melt quickly.

\*When it begins to snow, notice the size of the flakes. If they are very fine, the storm will be a long one; if large, the storm will soon be over.

\*\*

### Snow or No?

Old New Englanders often used nature to predict whether or not a winter will be particularly snowy. Here are some examples that are signs snow will be abundant:

\* Squirrels begin gathering food in September

\*Black bugs crawl about in the fall.

\*Hogs gather sticks, straw, to make a bed.

\*Birds eat up all the berries early

\*Birds huddle on the ground

\*Muskrat houses are built big.

\*Beaver lodges have more logs and the north side of a beaver dam is more covered with sticks.

\*Squirrels’ tails grow bushier

\*Fur or hair on animals such as horses, sheep, mules, cows, and dogs is thicker than usual

\*Squirrels build nest low in trees.

\*An ant builds its hill high

\*Hornets and yellow jacket nests heavier

\*More than usual amount of caterpillars

\*Caterpillars have heavy coats

\*You see a caterpillar crawling before the first frost

\*Crows gather together

\*\*

Know Your Snow: Are we having a storm? Maybe a squall? Perhaps a flurry? Here’s help on ID-ing the white stuff.

Snowstorm: When large amounts of snow falls.

Flurry: Snow that falls for short durations and with varying intensity; flurries usually produce little accumulation.

Squall: A brief, but intense snowfall that greatly reduces visibility and which is often accompanied by strong winds.

Snowburst: Very intense shower of snow, often of short duration, that greatly restricts visibility and produces periods of rapid snow accumulation.

Blowing Snow: Airborne snow particles raised by the wind to moderate or great heights above the ground; the horizontal visibility at eye level is generally very poor.

Drifting Snow: Snow on the ground that is blown by the wind to a height of less than 1.5 to 2 meters (5 to 6.5 feet) above the surface.

### Resources

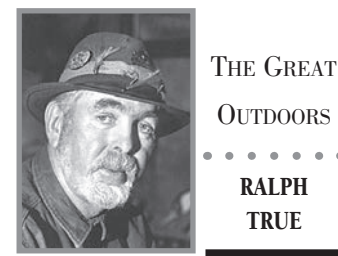
\*The Weather Channel

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Turn To **TRAINOR** page **A10**



THE GREAT  
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Old Man Winter arrived this past week, and made a lot of anglers very happy with the first safe ice of the season. Extreme caution needs to be practiced on the first ice of the season, as not all areas on a pond or lake are safe, or have the same thickness as others. It is best to check first ice with a chisel cutting a small hole in the ice as you navigate the pond or lake you are fishing to ensure it is safe .

Jig fishing is the most productive way to catch fish especially yellow perch. Cutting a few holes with an ice auger is a

# Old Man Winter brings safe ice

lot easier way to fish than chopping holes with an ice chisel.

Back in my younger days, very few anglers had a power auger to cut holes, and we had to chop holes in the ice before fishing. There were more anglers jigging through the ice than people using ice fishing tilts. There were many Swedish people from Worcester that only used homemade jig sticks and lures to catch fish.

The homemade fishing rods were called dead sticks, as no reel was attached to the stick. When a large fish was encountered, they would ask their fellow fishing buddy to cut the hole larger in order to land the fish. The fish was held with a small gaff under the ice until the hole was cut larger, enabling the fish to be brought threw the hole.

Because the fishermen would sometimes cut more than 100 holes a day, they would cut the holes very small, just large enough to bring a perch through. The Swedish fishermen also made their own fishing lures which were often made out of brass and lead. They were extremely well made and lasted for years if they were not lost to a big fish. The Meadow Pond in Whitinsville was a favorite pond to fish for perch, and anglers could catch as many as eight or ten perch from one hole. When the action stopped another hole was cut in an effort to stay with the school of perch. Cutting holes every few minutes kept the fishing hot. The Meadow pond is still a great pond to ice fish today providing an abundance of four- and five-pound bass annually, but fishermen need to keep the ice free of junk. If you bring it in, be sure to bring it out. More on ice fishing next week!

This past week, the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club lost a longtime member & friend Wilhelm Huber. “Willie,” as most of us knew him by, was kitchen chairman for many years, but also worked daily to keep the club clean. The late Joan St. Andre, former board of health chairman, stated that the kitchen was the cleanest and most up to date that she had inspected annually, during Willie’s tenure. The coffee pot

was always full with fresh hot coffee for members that attended the daily conversations at the club, as Willie often was the first to open the club at 4 a.m.! He loved the club and the members, and often made soup or some other form of food for members to eat. Because of failing health, his annual chicken soup was not available this year for deer hunter to enjoy after daily hunts . He will be sadly missed by all that knew him. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends. Funeral services will be private!

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

# Make gardening your New Year’s resolution



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
\*\*\*\*\*  
MELINDA  
MYERS

The New Year is filled with resolutions that usually involve dieting and exercise. Gardening is a great way to help accomplish these two resolutions, while also improving your mood, reducing blood pressure, maintaining flexibility, burning calories and much more.

Resolve to grow your own vegetables and eat healthier in the New Year. Get your family and friends involved in planning ways to include gardening into your lives.

Explore ways to incorporate vegetables and herbs into your landscape. Vegetable gardens are not the only option. Tucking vegetables into flowerbeds, mixed borders and container gardens can expand your planting space. Look for new compact and colorful vegetable varieties that fit nicely into small spaces, planters, and ornamental gardens.

Take an inventory of any leftover seeds and make a list of those seeds and any plants you need to purchase. The earlier you order, the more likely you are to obtain the items on your list.

Don’t wait to start your year of healthful gardening and eating habits. Start by growing microgreens in January. They are quick, easy and require no special equipment. Plus, recent research found that many contain as much as 25 times

more nutrients than the leaves of the full-grown plant.

Organize a seed swap with family and friends in winter. It is a great way to extend your plant budget and experiment with new seeds. Turn old seeds that are no longer viable into artwork with sheets of paper or small pieces of wood, glue, and some creativity.

Start vegetable, herb, and flower seeds indoors in late winter through mid spring. Check the seed packet for timing and planting directions. Create a seed starting chart or mark planting dates on your calendar to ensure seeds get planted at the recommended time.

Monitor the weather and follow the recommended planting dates for sowing seeds directly in the garden and moving seedlings outdoors. Use homemade or DIY cloches, floating row covers and cold frames to jump start the season. These capture warmth near the plants for an earlier start in the garden. They can also be used to extend the end of the growing season.

Start removing weeds as soon they appear throughout the season. These unwanted plants compete with desirable plants for water and nutrients, and many are host to disease and insect pests. Pulling weeds is also a great way to reduce stress while improving the health and beauty of your garden beds.

Harvest flowers to enjoy in summer bouquets and arrangements. Pick a few extras to share with friends. Research has found immediate and long-lasting benefits generated from the gift of fresh flowers.

Pick vegetables regularly when they are at their peak for maximum productivity, flavor, and nutritional value. Share extra produce with family,



Photo Melinda Myers

Compact vegetable varieties can be tucked into ornamental container gardens if space is an issue.

friends, and the food insecure – many of which are children – in your community. Contact your local food bank, food pantry or Feeding America to donate garden fresh produce.

Cap off your efforts with a garden party. Invite fellow gardeners to bring a dish to share that incorporates homegrown vegetables. Share recipes, garden success stories, and begin planning for the season ahead.

For the recommended timing to do these and other gardening projects, check my monthly gardening checklists.

*Melinda Myers has written more than 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-syndicated 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.*

# What should you know about investment risk?

When you invest, you incur risk – there’s no avoiding it. But the concept of “risk” may be more expansive than you realized. And by understanding the different types of investment risk and how these risks can be addressed, you can improve your skills as an investor.

The most common perception of investment risk is simply the risk of losing money. When you invest in stocks and stock-based vehicles, such as mutual funds, there are no guarantees that your principal – your initial investment amount – will be preserved. Generally speaking, if you hold stocks or mutual funds over a period of years, and even decades, you can reduce the likelihood of sustaining losses that could send your investments’ value to zero. Hopefully, the value of your investments will rise over time. And it’s worth noting that, since the Great Depression, U.S. stocks have averaged 9.59 percent annual returns, according to Morningstar Direct, an investment research service. However, past performance can’t guar-

antee future results.

In any case, this type of risk is real, and it’s a factor to consider when making your investment decisions. But you can’t avoid all risk by avoiding stocks and putting your money into other types of investments. Consider bonds, for example. When you purchase a bond, you typically receive regular interest payments and you get back your initial investment when the bond matures, provided the issuer doesn’t default. But if interest rates go up and you want to sell your bond before it matures, you’ll have to offer it at a “discount,” because no one will pay the full price for your bond when they can buy new ones at a higher rate.

You can help manage this type of interest rate risk by owning a variety of bonds with different maturities. When interest rates are rising, you can reinvest your short-term bonds at the new, higher rates. And in a falling-rate envi-

ronment, you can still benefit from your longer-term bonds, which typically pay higher interest rates.

Foreign or international investments also contain specific risks. When you purchase foreign stocks, you’ll find that fluctuations in the value of currencies relative to the U.S. dollar can affect your returns. Also, international investments may carry political risk, since some foreign governments and political systems may change in ways that work against businesses in those countries. To contain these types of risk, you’ll want to maintain an appropriate allocation of international holdings and diversify across regions.

Ultimately, your most broad-based defense against all types of risk is to build a diversified portfolio containing U.S. stocks, international stocks, corporate bonds, mutual funds, government securities and other investments.

Diversification works because it helps reduce the impact that market volatility can have on your portfolio if you only own one type of asset, such as domestic stocks. (However, diversification can’t guarantee profits or protect against all losses.) And you’ll also want your portfolio to reflect your individual tolerance for risk.

By being aware of the different types of risk, and taking steps to mitigate them, you can create a strategy that offers the potential to help you achieve your important goals, such as a comfortable retirement. And by doing so, you’ll avoid the greatest risk of all: not investing for your future.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com.*

**MOORE**  
continued from page A8

kind nature and how willing he was to help. We talked about it the whole way home.


Last week, I wrote about how one of my new year resolutions was to help people more. This man who helped us left a significant impact on me. People need help sometimes. It meant so much to us that he took the time to help while his family waited patiently in the car. I want to say thank you again, kind stranger.



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OBITUARIES

Roger R. Roy, 89

Southbridge: Roger R. Roy, 89, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 5th, in his home surrounded with family and friends after a long illness.



His beloved wife of 63 years, Marcella C. (Rannigan) Roy, passed away this past May 18th.

He leaves his son, Michael R. Roy and his wife Betty Morse of Sturbridge; his daughter, Michelle A. Roy of Holland; his beloved granddaughter and the sparkle of his eye, Aemilia Desy and her husband Bryce, US Army Chief Warrant Officer II.

He has a sister, Rita Laliberte of Florida and he was predeceased by his two brothers, Gerard Roy and Robert Roy. Roger was born in Pomfret, CT the son of Lionel and Henrietta (Morissette) Roy. He was a US Army Veteran who

served in the Korean War.

Roger worked as an electrician for General Motors in Framingham for 30 years, retiring many years ago. He was a member of the United Auto Workers Union and served as Shop Steward while at General Motors. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Detriana Council 199 in Southbridge. Roger was an avid outdoors-

man, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, his home and spending time with his family.

His funeral service and burial will be private. There are no calling hours.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Robert Mandeville, 87

A. Robert Mandeville, 87

Sturbridge: A. Robert Mandeville, 87, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 6th, in the UMass Memorial – Harrington Hospital, Southbridge, after an illness.



He leaves his wife of 66 years, Jeanne L. (Metras) Mandeville; his three sons, Michael R. Mandeville of Dudley, Paul J. Mandeville and his wife Tina of Charlton and Brian A. Mandeville and

his wife Jennifer of Southbridge; his two daughters, Diane J. Beaudry of Southbridge and Carol A. Poirier and her husband Robert of Woodstock Valley, CT; his 10 grandchildren, Dawn Mederios and her husband Rob, Adam Beaudry and his wife Tara, Scott Beaudry, Kevin Mandeville, Eric Mandeville, Garrett Mandeville, Brynne Mandeville, Kyle Morrill and his wife Kate-Lynn, Matthew Morrill and his wife Kathryn and Aaron Mandeville; and 4 great grandchildren. He was born in Southbridge the son of Eugene and Celina (Girouard) Mandeville. Bob was a graduate of the former Cole Trade High School in Southbridge and was a US Air Force Veteran of the Korean War.

Bob owned and operated Universal Tag since 1957 located in Sturbridge and later Dudley, retiring several years ago. Bob was a charter member of the Franco-American Veterans in



Southbridge. He was very active in sports throughout his life, playing baseball, basketball, softball and bowling. He was an avid golfer and was a longtime member of Cohasse Country Club.

While at Cohasse Bob was very involved with Jimmy Fund Charity Tournament held at the club helping to raise over \$1,000,000 throughout the years.

A funeral Mass for Bob will be held on Saturday, Jan. 15th, at 11:00am in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 247 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial in St. George Cemetery, Southbridge will be held at a later date. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Jimmy Fund Dana Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Local students named to Stonehill Dean's List

EASTON — To qualify for the Dean's List at Stonehill College, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered. The following students have met these requirements.

Rahni Bussiere of Charlton

Ariel Goharzadeh of Charlton

Gwyneth Gould of Charlton

Arianna Lester of Sturbridge

Rory Paul of Uxbridge

Sophie Psuik of

Uxbridge

Brooke Riccitelli of

Uxbridge

Megan Vanelli of

Uxbridge

Matthew Worthington

of Uxbridge

About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a

Catholic institution of

higher learning, was

founded by the

Congregation of Holy

Cross in 1948. Located

on the beautiful 384-

acre campus and former

estate of Frederick

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Easton, it is a community

of scholarship and faith,

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the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for more than 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

Devon Gokey named to President's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Devon Gokey of Uxbridge has been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Fall 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Gokey is a Cell and Molecular Biology major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University  
Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by

transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

Sturbridge Historical Society meets Jan. 27

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Historical Society will meet on Thursday, Jan. 27 at The Publick House Historical Inn on Sturbridge Common. Our speaker will be Stan Komor.

Komor is the Commanding Officer of USS Constitution's 1812 Marine Guard, and will be speaking about the history of The USS Constitution "Old Ironsides." His unit represents US Marine Corps of the early 19th century for the USS Constitution and educates the active

duty navy crew and public about marines of the period, and are volunteer members of the USS Constitution's crew.

Komor is a former active duty US Marine which is where he gained his love of sea service history. Through his work with historic Marine Education Inc, the parent organization of the 1812 Marine Guard, he has become an expert on the USS Constitution and The Marine Corps of The War of 1812ar of 1812 era.

Historical Society meetings are free of

charge with dessert and meeting room provided by Michael Glick, Publick House Innkeeper. Our sincere thanks go out to Mr. Glick.

Meetings are held September through May on the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December. November meeting is held the first Thursday in December.

All meetings start at 7 p.m., and the public is welcome.

HITCHCOCK

continued from page A1

poem of their own calligraphy artwork, and perhaps for a new hobby to carry forth.

For those looking to master a new instrument, Guitar is offered monthly in four weekly Wednesday sessions by Reese Crosby.

The center's longtime Martial Arts Club run by Israel Lopez is offering a steal in January for those interested in

trying the sport. While an annual membership fee still applies, tuition is waived for the month for all students, existing and new. That's a dozen opportunities to try a sport that promises to increase your balance, strength, and confidence. Judo is offered to both an All Ages group on Wednesdays and Fridays 4:30 to 6 p.m. and an Adults group Mondays and Fridays 6 to 7:30 p.m.

For the pups in the family, Laurie Merritt continues her popular series of Dog Training classes on Jan. 19, and

those interested in K9 NoseWork can look forward to another session coming soon.

Let's Cake Decorate continues its series of playful decorating workshops with a For The Love of Chocolate & Roses cake on Sunday, Feb. 13, the eve of Valentine's Day, for anyone looking to treat themselves or someone special to a sweet confection for the holiday.

Yoga will be offered online for the session that is underway, but a new session anticipated to resume as an in-person

ward. Committed to both research and teaching, UVM professors - world-class researchers, scholars, and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,700 undergraduate students, 1,627 graduate students, 776 certificate and non-degree students, and 478 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine.

Serena Veilleux named to UVM Dean's List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Serena Veilleux, Environmental Engineering major, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2021 semester at the University of Vermont. Veilleux, from Charlton, is in the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

About UVM  
Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind for-

class will begin on March 7.

"That's ten invitations to enrich your winter," says Executive Director Cindy Skowrya. "We look forward to welcoming friends new and old, young and young at heart, human or canine. All are welcome, and we've got something for everyone."

For more information or to register, visit www.hitchcockacademy.org. Hitchcock Academy is a community center enriching lives through educational, recreational and cultural programs for all ages and serving Brimfield, Sturbridge, Holland, Wales, The Brookfields, and beyond. Hitchcock is located at 2 Brookfield Rd. in Brimfield.

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TRAINOR

continued from page A8

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.*

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For J.D. Power 2021 award information, visit [jdpower.com/awards](http://jdpower.com/awards). <sup>1</sup>DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 1/31/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 1/1/2022 and 1/31/2022. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$50 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 1/31/2022. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Source LLC. All rights reserved.

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**WEBSTER** – 20 Scenic Ave! Views of Webster Lake! 7 Rm Colonial! Work-in Appliance Kit! Dining Area w/Cathedral Ceiling! Living Rm w/ Pine Flooring, Hearth & Woodstove! 1st Flr Bdrms, 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full Baths! Expandable Walk-out Lower Level! Buderus Oil Heat! Recent Roof & Siding! **\$299,900.00**

**WEBSTER** – 8 Riverside Dr! Super Convenient 9 Rm Colonial! Work-in Appliance Kit w/Granite Island & Dining Area! 24' Living Rm w/Laminate Wood Flooring, Slider to Composite Deck! 3-5 Bdrms Total! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths Total! Finished Lower Level! Oil Heat! Roof 2019! **\$399,900.00**



**DUDLEY HAYDEN POND WATERFRONT** – 48 Hayden Pond Rd! Recently Renovated, beautifully appointed, 5 Rm Waterfront Ranch! Enjoy sunsets, fishing & all water sports! Vinyl Composite decking & vinyl railings! Open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings w/skylights! Din Rm w/slider to covered deck! Kit w/quartz counters & SS appliances! Liv Rm w/stunning views of the Pond! Comfortable Master w/generous closet & half bath! 2nd bedroom or office! Full bath w/washer/dryer hook ups! Full basement for storage or additional living space! Floating Dock! Shed! **\$439,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 701 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Lake Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$299,000.00!**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 50 Laurelwood Drive! 90' Waterfront! Western Exposure – Beautiful Sunsets! Half Acre, 22,729', of Natural Privacy! 6 Room Custom Built Cedar Home with 2 Car Attached Garage! Dining Area and Fireplaced Living Room with Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! First Floor Master Bedroom with Full Bath! 2 Second Floor Bedrooms and Second Full Bath, Large Second Floor Expansion Area! Additional Garage Space Under! Lighting Strike Fire Damage Repair Required! Tons of Potential! **\$889,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! **\$949,900.00**

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### Featured New Listing!

WEBSTER - 17 BROUDER AVENUE



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**RARE FIND** – SPRAWLING 2,200 SQFT+ RANCH HOME! GARAGE. Situated on a Level 1/2 Acre Lot! FOUNDATION IS IN, CONTRACTOR IS READY TO GO! Very private backyard. GREAT LAYOUT! Grand Formal Entry Foyer. OPEN FLOOR PLAN. Living room w/Cathedral Ceiling. SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORS THROUGHOUT! IF YOU NEED ONE LEVEL LIVING & ALWAYS WANTED A NEW HOME. THIS COULD BE THE HOME YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! PERFECT TIME TO MAKE IT YOUR OWN! **\$659,900.**

#### DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautiful family home! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, newer widows & heating system. Mini split system. Hardwoods. Lg eat-in kitchen /Corian counters & Island. Warming fireplace with handsome mantle. Generous dining room, spacious enough for your family gatherings. lower level fireplace family room. Harmon pellet insert! 2 car garage. Reduced **\$340,000.**

#### WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



SORRY, SOLD!

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 - 10 THOMPSON RD



SORRY SOLD!

2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEBSTER BUSINESS DISTRICT! A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14,875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE. **\$195,000**

#### WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE



SORRY SOLD!

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, Half Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combination! 3-Season Porch. 2nd Flr - 3 BRS, Reshingled Roof, Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Part finished walk-out bsmt! Garage! **\$215,000**

#### THOMPSON CT - 15 WAGER RD



SORRY SOLD!

Cape with 3 bedrooms, gleaming hardwoods, stone fireplace. Septic (2019), replacement windows, family and dining room, fresh paint throughout! Generator hook up, and updated Buderus boiler with holding tank. Garage under. This one maybe for you! assisted sale **\$279,900.**

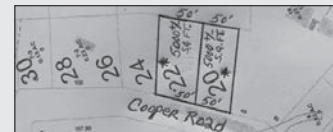
### Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island



SORRY, SOLD!

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.**

#### WEBSTER - 20 & 22 COOPER RD



LAND with Sewer & Water access! Excellent Opportunity for New Homes! Boat Ramp Near by! **\$24,500., each.**

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Webster - DOUGLAS RD 26 ACRES! on SUGERLOAF HILL 1000 +/- of frontage! **SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000.**Webster - COOPER RD - 2 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & SEWER Access. Zoned Lake Res.! **\$24,500. Each**

#### OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS = 16,224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper!! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting! **\$449,000.**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

#### WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.



SORRY, SOLD!

**Killdeer Circle!** Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**

#### TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO



SORRY, SOLD!

**Unit 1404 Marina side!** of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**

#### WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND



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WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Hardwood Floor & Carpet, Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural! Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**

#### WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



SORRY, SOLD!

Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms. 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**



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**Dudley:** 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, gas heat

17 Nelco Avenue ~ **\$345,000**

#### SZYMCHAK SELLS



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**Oxford:** 3 bedrooms, 2 Baths, sided, great location

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SPORTS

Entire roster contributes for Warriors, who upend Auburn

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

STURBRIDGE — Just by looking at the game day rosters, one could tell that the Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team had more depth than Auburn High when the two met on Monday, Jan. 3. The Warriors were equipped with 15 players, while the Rockets dressed 10.

And that depth showed from the opening tip until the final buzzer, as 12 Tantasqua players scored at least one basket, whereas Auburn was limited to five players scoring. The Warriors continued to wear the Rockets down and won a 57-29 decision.

"That's one of our weapons, is that we have 10 kids that can play," said Tantasqua head coach Tony Giuggio. "So, we just keep running numbers at people. That's why we press and run."

The Warriors' full-court press was particularly effective in the second quarter. After winning the first frame by a 16-12 count, Tantasqua pulled away by taking the second quarter 18-4 to lead by 18 points (34-16) at the half. A certain sequence saw Auburn inbound the ball, the Warriors create a turnover on the press, and Gabby Scanlon can a 3-pointer. Another press and turnover immediately followed, and Dayna Lorenz finished off a floater. In fact, Tantasqua went on a 13-0 run until 2:38 remained in the quarter when Hanorah Murphy of the Rockets made a free throw.

"In the second quarter we switched our press. We had a little bit more energy, we turned them over and we got easier baskets," Giuggio explained.

Auburn head coach Nicole Pingitore was pleased with her team's first quarter performance before things went downhill.

"I was happy with how we played in the first quarter. I told them to be excited for themselves," she said. "I feel like we were handling [the Tantasqua press] in the first quarter and then all of a sudden I'm not really sure what changed. In the second quarter we got more



Tantasqua's Dayna Lorenz surveys the court and looks for a teammate to pass the ball to.

nervous with the ball in our hands.

"What was hardest to take was they were getting layups," Pingitore continued. "They were getting easy buckets underneath. And that's something defensively we've got to work on."

Giuggio liked how his team's offensive possessions usually saw all five players on the court touching the ball until a teammate became open.

"We have eight or nine kids that can score, so we don't want one person handling the ball. We want to move the ball and get open shots," he said.

The Warriors then limited Auburn to 13 points in the second half. They also limited the scoring of Murphy, who finished with a game-high 19 but saw 10 of those points drop in the opening eight minutes.

"Our whole thing was don't let her score. If she gives up the ball, don't let her get it back," said Giuggio, whose

team improved to 4-0.

With Murphy scoring 66 percent of the Rockets' points, Pingitore is hoping for more optimism from the remaining players when clutching the basketball.

"It comes from a place of confidence. [Murphy's] such an unselfish player even though she's our leading scorer. Her teammates constantly look to her to score. And I want them to have confidence that [Murphy] believes in them that they can score if she passes the ball to them," said Pingitore.

Auburn, now 2-3, saw Isabella Doyle score 4 points and add a game-high 12 rebounds.

Sophie Law (11), Lorenz (9) and Nicole Vejack (7) were Tantasqua's leading point producers.

Tantasqua's Sophie Law dishes a pass up and over the reach of an Auburn defender.



Lizzy Thompson of Tantasqua stops in the paint and releases a jump shot.



Auburn's Brianna Cote releases a free throw in second quarter action.

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Tantasqua Swimming Results

Wednesday, Jan. 5  
Westborough 107, Tantasqua 65 — Max Sullivan (200 freestyle, 100 freestyle), Ethan Korenda (200 IM, 100 breaststroke), Eben Mazeika (500 freestyle) and Adam Mazeika (100 backstroke) were proven winners for the Warriors in their boys' swim meet versus the Rangers, but it wasn't enough as Westborough's numbers played a factor:

Tantasqua is now 2-2.  
Westborough 121, Tantasqua 43 — Much like in the boys' meet, Tantasqua's girls' swim team, now 2-2, couldn't keep up in numbers with the Rangers. The Warriors' winners were Zoey Zhu in the 200 freestyle and Kira Dambly as a double winner in the 200 IM and the 100 backstroke.

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**MASKS**  
continued from page A1

(https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.01.04.22268770v1) found some of those tests give false negatives for the first two days of infection. A team led by Blythe Peterson studied 30 people who got infected in December and whose working situation required them to be regularly tested by both PCR and rapid antigen methods. All of them did not test positive on the rapid tests for at least two days after testing PCR-

positive, despite the fact some had viral loads high enough to transmit Covid to others and all showed symptoms within those first two days, they wrote. “We found that rapid antigen tests lagged in the ability to detect Covid-19 during an early period of disease when most individuals were infectious with Omicron and four transmissions were confirmed. The policy implication is that rapid antigen tests may not be as fit-for-purpose in routine workplace screening to prevent asymptomatic spread of Omicron, compared to prior

variants....” they wrote. The testing proposal came up during a discussion of appointing people to the town’s ARPA subcommittee, which will vet numerous suggestions the board’s already received and make recommendations. During it, they opted to take both department heads who applied – Health Agent Ken Lacey and Chrabascz – and seek a citizen member. “We’re trying to get advice to spend money,” Dowling said. “I’d think people would get behind that.” Speaking of money, Chair Mary

Blanchard announced the finance department had calculated the cost of the upcoming senior center renovation project. For a median-value home (\$341,829), taxes peak in fiscal 2026 at \$229.93 above the current amount and slowly fall from there until the debt exclusion is paid off in fiscal 2045. That project faces a special election ballot vote Jan. 24, with the polls being held at Town Hall. Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



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