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Friday, July 3, 2020

# Traffic concerns remain focus in Charlton

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The longstanding concerns over traffic safety in Charlton have endured into the new decade even as the town has made efforts to address the rate of vehicle-related incidents in the community over the past several years.

During a livestreamed meeting of the Board of Selectmen on June 23 and former Charlton Civilian Traffic Commission member David Smolski spoke during citizens comment saying he felt “compelled” to address a recent accident at the intersection of Center Depot Road and City Depot Road which resulted in a rollover. Although he didn’t personally witness the accident Smolski said it served as a reminder

to the town that more progress has to be made.

“Reading about a rollover I’m almost certain that speed was a factor,” Smolski said. “I’ve said for years that collisions at dangerous intersections should be as equally alarming as drivers’ unsafe behaviors leading to and from those intersections.”

Smolski, who vacated his role on the Civilian Traffic Commission last month, shared statistics he researched from June of 2019 which he said were gathered using town monitoring equipment. The numbers showed that more than 20,000 vehicles traveled by his home in a week’s time and fewer than 2,500 followed the 35-mph speed limit posted. He further revealed that the data showed that more than 40 percent of those vehicles traveled 6-mph

or more above the posted limit with the fastest car clocked at 74-mph.

“Here I am citing statistics that are a year old on the heels of a horrible accident and that’s because I remain convinced that unsafe speed and driving behaviors are leading indicators that are contributing to accidents on our town roadways,” Smolski told selectmen. “I still firmly believe there are two critical things that need to be done. First, we need to research what it takes to conduct and fund a formal traffic study at the very minimum for the areas that are the most dangerous in our town - The second piece, if the Board of Selectmen are serious about having Civilian Traffic Commission you need to enable the commission and empower them to take action and make a difference when it comes to safety on

the roadways.”

Smolski revealed that the Traffic Commission had not met since October largely because they are waiting for the Board of Selectmen to address topics in a pair of letters sent to board for review. Those documents are slated to be discussed during the Board of Selectmen’s upcoming meeting on July 7 with representatives of the police department also expected to attend to discuss new data or initiatives in the works to help further address traffic problems.

Selectman David Singer, in his final meeting as board chair, said he hopes to see progress made in the upcoming meetings.

“The only way anything is going to

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## Spiewak to chair select board

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The Charlton Board of Selectmen has officially reorganized following the town’s annual election in June, installing a new chair, vice chair and clerk for the five-member board.

After serving the last year as chairman, Selectman David Singer willingly gave up his seat at the head of the table following a nomination from Selectman Bill Borowski for Vice Chair Karen Spiewak to be promoted to lead the board. Borowski said his nomina-

tion of Spiewak was due to his belief that the position of chairman should rotate between the selectmen and commend both Singer and Spiewak for helping lead the selectmen and Charlton through a tumultuous year. Singer himself agreed with Borowski that the position should change hands during reorganization.

“I wholeheartedly agree in that no one person ever should be the chair repeatedly or any officer position,” said Singer. “It’s important that those roles move and change.”

Spiewak was elected chair unanimously while Singer

remained the chairman for the duration of the June 23 meeting where the reorganization took place. He presided over the remaining nominations as well where Selectman Borowski made two more recommendations for freshmen selectmen Patricia Rydlak and Steve Koronis to serve as vice chair and clerk respectively. Both received unanimous votes of approval from the rest of the board. Rydlak and Koronis were elected to the board in early June with the departures of John McGrath

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### SUMMER SENDOFF



Photo Courtesy

Erin Messier (pictured here) joined other faculty and staff members at Charlton Middle School for a “Drive-by Goodbye” celebration last month, congratulating students on completing a challenging year and wishing them a safe but fun summer. Photo courtesy of the school’s Twitter feed.

### THE CLASS OF 2020



Photo Courtesy

Members of Shepherd Hill’s Class of 2020 are all smiles as they collect their diplomas during a recent parade celebrating the end of their high school careers amid unprecedented challenges. Photo courtesy of the school’s Twitter feed.

## Shepherd Hill NHS recognized as “Commended Chapter”

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Over the last year, the Shepherd Hill Regional High School National Honor Society has strived to become an even larger part of the local community by enhancing and expanding their commitment to those in need. Even though the 2020 school year was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic the NHS still managed to leave its mark earning itself recognition from the Massachusetts School Administrators Association (MSAA) as a National Honor Society Commended Chapter.

Shepherd Hill English Teacher and NHS advisor Corey Stefan said the award is presented to NHS schools that have made a significant impact through community service. Recognizing his students’ commitment to helping those in need he applied for the award and a letter detailing their projects during the year. As a result, Shepherd Hill was honored with the recognition for the first time in its history.

While Stefan said the students don’t perform good deeds with the intent on receiving anything

in return, he still sees the award as a fitting reminder of the hard work and commitment of the NHS membership to the towns of Dudley and Charlton.

“When we look at all the good and all the altruism that the students have done, they don’t do that for the recognition. They do it because it’s embedded in their integrity and their character. The opportunity for the students to receive the acknowledgement of not just academic excellence but also recognition for their character as people meant a lot to me. Shepherd Hill is known for a lot of different things, but the quality of the students as people themselves is what’s really important and what makes it a special place,” Stefan said.

Catherine Fengler, who graduated with the class of 2020 from Shepherd Hill but served as NHS President during her senior year, said that the students were thrilled to hear they earned the recognition. She noted that high school is a tough experience by itself, but for the NHS members they went the extra mile to serve their communities beyond the

Please Read **NHS**, page **A7**

# Remote voter system debuts at Town Meeting

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Citizens in Charlton were introduced to a new way of voting during the town’s Spring Annual Town Meeting on June 15 with the use of a remote system making its debut.

Before the meeting, voters who signed in were each given a device to be used to cast their votes on the various articles. The votes would be tallied through a program on a computer to determine the results without voters raising their hands or using their voices, thus making all decisions

at the meeting private votes. While the system’s debut was meant to take place indoors with a screen presenting the citizens with a display of the article they were voting on and a visual representation of the results the town had to make do after the COVID-19 pandemic forced the spring annual

town meeting to be held outdoors for the first time. Even without the visual display Town Administrator Andrew Golas said the system worked perfectly, and he believes it to be a welcome change to the town meeting process.

“I thought it was very beneficial,” Golas said. “I think it

made people a lot more comfortable in voting how they feel. I think a lot of times when there’s a raised hand vote or a voice vote a lot of people might be more apt to vote with the majority than if they knew they were the only ones who

Please Read **VOTER**, page **A2**





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**VOTER**  
*continued from page A1*

knew how they were voting. I think that people almost felt more comfortable participating this way. That's some of the feedback I have gotten on it."

Once meetings are allowed to be held indoors again, Golas expects the system to be utilized in full with visuals for all meetings going forward. He called is a "pretty simple" system that may enhance the democratic process by eliminating fears of judgement for those who want to speak or vote against hot button

issues. However, he admits that the system will make getting through less divisive articles a little more tedious.

"The only downside is that you have to sit there and wait for the votes to be counted. With some of the more administrative type articles that you know are fairly easy to pass you have to wait for that vote to come in before you go to the next agenda item. In that respect if it's really just administrative stuff it can slow things down a little bit. If you get to a more contested vote however it makes it a lot clearer as far as the final determination

of a vote," said Golas.

The new voting system was funded through an appropriation approved during a town meeting in 2019 after it was put on a warrant as a citizen petition article. When asked if Charlton is exploring any other ways to improve the town meeting process Golas said town officials are content with the remote voting system for now but they are not closing the door on exploring other ways to enhance the meeting process in the future if opportunities or ideas present themselves.

**TRAFFIC**  
*continued from page A1*

happen is if we bring the two groups together which hopefully we can do," Singer said referring to the Civilian Traffic Commission and the Board of Selectmen. "Hopefully (on June 7), everyone is together in one virtual room and we'll be able to actually have the conversation to say 'okay this is what's happened, this is where we are, what can be done while we're all together.'"

Recently elected Selectman Patricia Rydlak said the traffic concerns should be considered for the upcoming annual

goals meeting which determines the primary focus items for the town and selectmen during the next calendar year.

"All you hear if you're on social media, if you're talking to the residents, they're constantly complaining about how dangerous our roads and intersections are, how many accidents there are. The safety of our residents should be one of our main priorities," Rydlak said.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is scheduled for Tuesday July 7. Further details about the meeting and how to tune in through livestream will be made available on the Town of Charlton Web site.



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- **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, [www.charltonbaptist.org](http://www.charltonbaptist.org), Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.
- **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: [CharltonCityUMC.com](http://CharltonCityUMC.com), Sunday worship 10:30 am, Sunday School 9 am.
- **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 Life/TEEN 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](http://snedag.org), Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Jehovah's Witnesses**, Route 169, 765-9519
- **Lambright Christian Church**, 37 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Rev. Stephen Wade, (774) 452-2393 - Pastor's Cell. Sunday Service 10:30am. [www.visitlambright.com](http://www.visitlambright.com)
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# Massasoit Art Guild is not cancelled

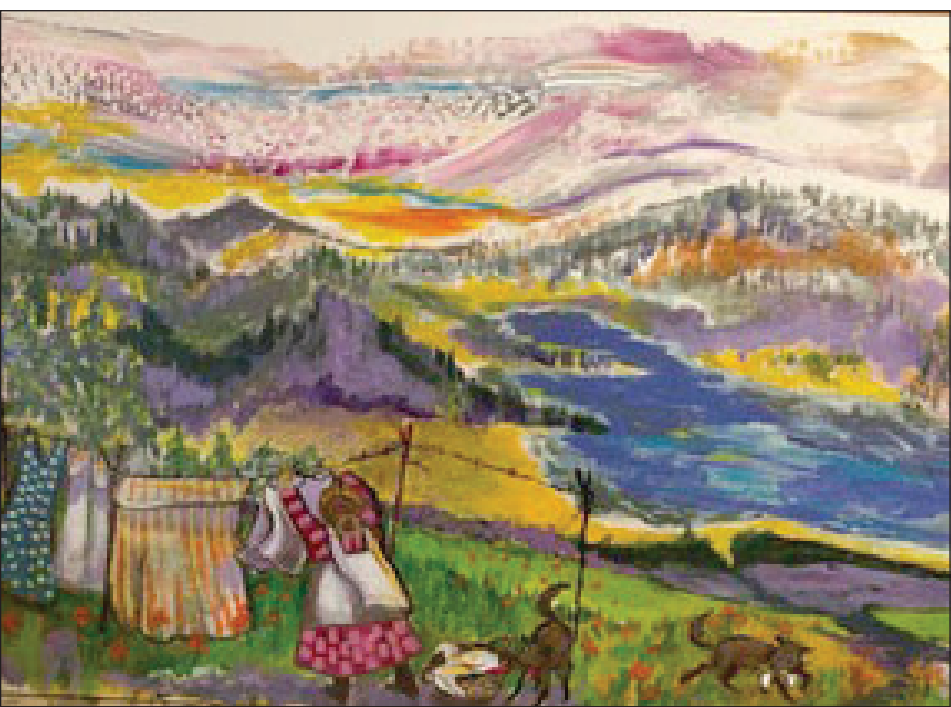
REGION — Like everyone else effected by the Covid-19 Pandemic, The Massasoit Art Guild has had its challenges to remain active and engaging for its members and the community. We have, like many organizations, have had to find ways to do continue to preserve our mission of being a place where artists and photographers can grow and feel enriched and supported in their varied artistic pursuits.

Although we have been unable to meet at our Studio in East Brookfield, Guild members have been meeting virtually since April via Zoom for Open Studio. While we paint together from our homes we enjoy the support and companionship of other artists while we create. In addition, our Photography Group has been virtually meeting monthly to continue to engage with each other and share creative work.

Our Facebook Page has had an ongoing virtual art and photography show entitled “Art is Not Cancelled,” where members have been exhibiting work created during this unprecedented time in our lives.

We have also had our Featured Artists and Photographers exhibiting their work on our website at massasoitartguild.com in lieu of the local venues that have always been so open to exhibiting our members work. We look forward to the day we can return to these wonderful businesses with fresh new artwork for their walls.

Due to the ongoing uncertainty of Covid-19, The Massasoit Art Guild has



“Hanging Out” by Nancy McBride. Acrylic on Canvas.

Photo Courtesy

decided to change the format of our Annual Art Show and Sale this October from a public show to a Virtual Show and Sale on our website for 2020. There will be more information to come on the show in the months ahead, but we are excited as always to have our annual show and to showcase the enormous

amount of talent in our Guild community.

For more information about the Massasoit Art Guild visit us on our website, Facebook Page and our Instagram Page. Our Email is [info@massasoitartguild.com](mailto:info@massasoitartguild.com).



## ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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## SPIEWAK

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and Deborah Noble who did not seek reelection.

Selectmen Singer and Borowski will continue to serve as the final two members of the Board of Selectmen solidifying the board's hierarchy for the next year. Singer closed the reorganization thanking the board for their support over the last year and praising the potential of the new board to continue to do great things for Charlton.



# Worcester Polytechnic Institute announces Spring 2020 Dean’s List

WORCESTER — The following local residents were among 1,749 students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) named to the university’s Dean’s List for academic excellence for the spring 2020 semester.

Tyler Lizotte of Charlton, is a member of the class of 2022 majoring in aerospace engineering.

Brittany Jette of Charlton is a member of the class of 2021 majoring in biology and biotechnology.

Emily Frick of Uxbridge is a member of the class of 2023 majoring in biomedical engineering.

Eric Himebaugh of Charlton is a member of the class of 2021 majoring in chemical engineering.

Christopher LaFortune of Charlton is a member of the class of 2022 majoring in chemical engineering.

Marissa Allegrezza of

Uxbridge is a member of the class of 2020 majoring in chemistry.

Samantha Morton of Uxbridge is a member of the class of 2021 majoring in mechanical engineering.

Bailey Savage of Charlton is a member of the class of 2022 majoring in mechanical engineering.

The criteria for the WPI Dean’s List differs from most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean’s List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

“WPI’s academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses. WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real”

said dean of undergraduate studies Arthur C. Heinricher. “Some of this nation’s best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the Dean’s List have excelled in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students.”

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation and Technology Education, WPI’s pioneering proj-

ect-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor’s,

master’s, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing

challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. [www.wpi.edu](http://www.wpi.edu)

# University of New Hampshire announces Dean’s List

DURHAM — The following students have been named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Hampshire for the spring 2020 semester.

Aaron Kearnan of Uxbridge for earning Highest Honors. Kearnan is majoring in Environmental Engineering.

Francesca DeLuca of Uxbridge for earning Highest Honors. DeLuca is majoring in Psychology.

Hope Anderson of Uxbridge for earning Highest Honors. Anderson is majoring in RMP:Program & Event Management.

Students named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a

possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

The University of New Hampshire is a flagship research university that inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top ranked programs in business, engineering, law, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. UNH’s research portfolio includes partnerships with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, receiving more than \$100 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

To learn more about the opportunities at the University of New Hampshire visit: [www.unh.edu](http://www.unh.edu).

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**Hi! My name is Francisco and I like to make people laugh!**

Francisco is an intelligent, creative young man of Hispanic descent who speaks both English and Spanish. He is fun, full of life, and very compassionate. He also enjoys playing basketball and video games, drawing, and trying new things.

In school, Francisco enjoys art and always looks forward to attending that class. At this time, Francisco attends a vocational high school with a focus on working in sheet metal. He and others in his sheet metal class are currently working on making signs for local businesses as well as traffic signs for the school's parking lot. He feels that working in sheet metal may be his future career. Francisco is also a money manager and spends and saves his money wisely.

Legally freed for adoption, Francisco would like to be placed with a two-parent family. He is also open to a single male parent. Francisco will need a family who will provide him with love, stability, and a safe environment in which he can grow to his fullest potential. The family will also need to understand that it will take time for Francisco to build trust and feel safe. Francisco would like the family to know that he does enjoy his privacy. Francisco will need to maintain contact with his siblings who reside in Virginia.

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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 617-6273 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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# Friendships, career advice and more with QCC’s mentoring program

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College’s Mentoring Program connects students with staff, faculty, industry, and community members to create one-on-one relationships that help students in their academic life and with their future career goals and objectives. Yet often what happens is mentors and mentees find more than just a collaborative, working relationship, many times they find an enduring friendship.

This was the case with recent graduate Bobby Kapel and retired military professional Kevin Campbell. The duo are a part of the college’s mentoring program and while the two are generations apart, from different countries, cultural backgrounds and career fields, the partnership is one that has flourished. Mr. Campbell is a QCC alumnus (1973) and was one of QCC’s first mentors. He said he learned of the program after reading about the need for mentors and then meeting with QCC’s President Dr. Luis

Pedraja.

“I wanted to give something back,” he said.

Mr. Kapel emigrated from Liberia in 2012, living first in Pennsylvania before moving to Worcester in 2016 and working in the human services field. In 2017, he came to QCC to realize a dream of furthering his education and bettering his future. In his homeland of West Africa, he had taught high school for a couple of years and saw firsthand the need for support and guidance from mentors. When Mr. Kapel came to QCC, he saw the college’s mentoring program as a pathway to success in life.

“I saw this as a big opportunity and way to keep on track. I never had a mentor,” he said.

Both mentor and mentee said it has been a fulfilling and advantageous partnership based on mutual respect. On the first day the two met, Mr. Campbell said he knew it would be a fruitful union.

“The key thing on day one, I could see in Bobby that he

was committed in what he was doing, committed to his studies. I could tell right away how serious he was about his education and achieving his goals,” he said.

The two men have consistently met throughout the year, transitioning to calls and Zoom meetings during the pandemic, and Mr. Kapel said the advice he has gotten from Mr. Campbell has been invaluable. In May, Mr. Kapel graduated from QCC and in the fall will be heading to Assumption University. He said his mentoring experience has been such a positive one, and hopes to become a mentor and be a valued resource for others, the way Mr. Campbell has been to him.

“I admire Kevin for his service in the Army and also his service in the community. He is always willing and available to help,” he said, adding that he considers him his role model.

According to QCC Mentoring Director Gabriel Santner, the program has been a huge success, since its inception in the

fall of 2018. This year alone there have been 135 successful matches, with the assistance of a core group of four community partners: AbbVie Biopharmaceuticals, The City of Worcester, University of Massachusetts Memorial Healthcare, and Hanover Insurance. These core community partners committed to having 10 mentors from their organization participate in the mentoring program. Additionally, there are mentors from over 20 additional companies throughout Central Massachusetts.

“Being a mentor is really a grassroots way of helping people find their own way. This is a great way to help young people achieve their goals. The feedback you get and the things you learn about the struggles they face, I think makes you a better person,” Mr. Campbell added.

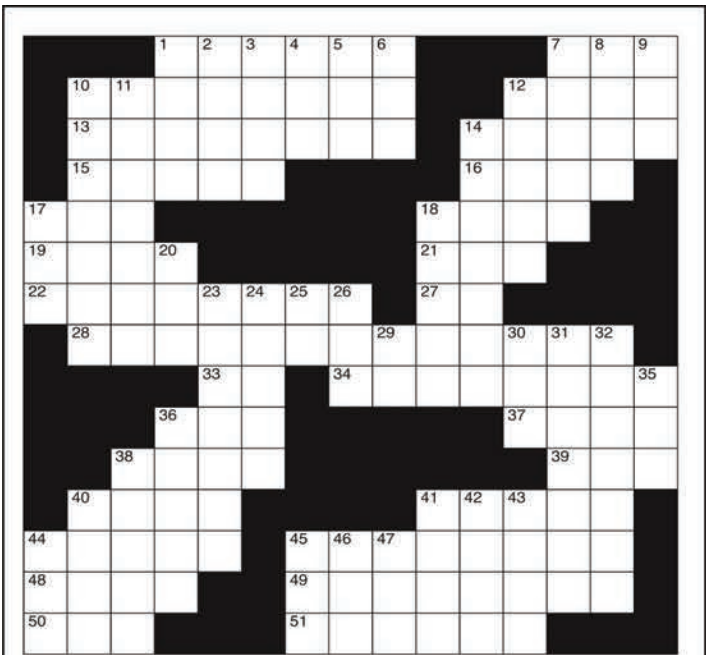
Even with the pandemic and recent inability to meet face-to-face, mentors are still volunteering to be a part of this

transformative program.

“At first, I was very worried about shifting over to virtual mentoring. I believe that in-person meetings are so valuable, yet we had no other choice. However, as our whole society shifted to Zoom meetings and FaceTime, I found that mentors and mentees were much more comfortable with the idea than I thought,” Mr. Santner said. “Now I am signing up new mentors virtually. In fact, we are able to bring new mentors into the program who live outside of Worcester, and liked the idea of virtual mentoring.”

Anyone interested in being a mentor can reach out to Mr. Santner at [gsantner@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:gsantner@qcc.mass.edu). For more information, visit [www.QCC.edu/services/mentoring](http://www.QCC.edu/services/mentoring) for information on the program.

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




CLUES ACROSS

1. African nation
7. \_\_\_ fi (slang)
10. Not arranged according to size
12. A demand for a show of hands in a card game
13. Having a play of lustrous rainbowlike colors
14. Panama has one
15. Taking legal action
16. Top of the body
17. Part of (abbr.)
18. Soul and calypso song
19. Murres
21. Irish river
22. Accepts as true
27. The Bay State
28. 1950s Hollywood icon
33. Blood type
34. In a way, became lost
36. Large primate
37. A spongelike cake leavened with yeast
38. Mama \_\_\_, folk singer
39. Visual metaphor (computers)
40. Trim by cutting
41. Small group of people
44. Pulitzer-winning scientist
45. Unique S. American mammal
48. Energy, style and enthusiasm
49. One who works for you
50. Snakelike fish
51. Consumers

CLUES DOWN

1. Cylindrical sacs
2. Extinct North Germanic language
3. Late rocker Allman
4. Word element meaning ear
5. Amino acid (abbr.)
6. Promotions
7. Actress Lathan
8. Clothed
9. Unwell
10. Loosen
11. Cephalopod mollusks
12. \_\_\_ at Obdurate: Harmful papal bull
14. Musical composition
17. Irish bar
18. Greek island
20. Afflict
23. Goes by
24. Ambience
25. Video game manufacturer
26. Surplus Marketing Administration
29. Football position
30. Electronic musical style (abbr.)
31. Furniture with open shelves
32. Clouds of gas in outer space
35. Indian midwife
36. Packers’ signal caller
38. Secret political clique
40. Cry weakly
41. Gomer \_\_\_, marine
42. Academic Bill of Rights
43. Negatives
44. Hip hop icon Kool Moe \_\_\_
45. Soul singer \_\_\_ Lo
46. Doctors’ group
47. Parts per thousand (abbr.)





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## Local residents receive degrees at WPI

WORCESTER — Late this spring, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) celebrated the Class of 2020 with a socially distanced commencement season in place of its traditional 152nd Commencement exercises.

Robert Wondolowski of Uxbridge was awarded a bachelor of science degree in actuarial mathematics with high distinction.

Kyle Suchanek of Uxbridge was awarded a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering with high distinction.

Jonathan Benoit of Charlton was awarded a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering.

Nicholas Ostrowski of Charlton was awarded a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering with high distinction.

Timothy Cotter of Uxbridge was awarded a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.

Brent Whitlock of Uxbridge was awarded a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.

Justin Carbonneau of Charlton was awarded a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering with distinction.

Eric Hensel of Charlton was awarded a master of mathematics for education degree.

Alexander Kuros of Uxbridge was awarded a master of science degree in biomedical engineering.

Since the Class of 2020 was unable to receive diplomas in person this year, they instead received personal commencement packages, mailed to their home, that that included their diplomas, commencement regalia, and other items to celebrate their successes, as well as a congratulatory video message from President Laurie Leshin. In total, WPI awarded 1,043 bachelor’s degrees, 674 master’s degrees, and 54 doctoral degrees.

In her video message, Leshin made the traditional Commencement walk to the WPI’s iconic Earle Bridge, which students walk over during New Student Orientation and then again when they graduate. She then stopped, turned, and told graduates, “You should be here. But make no mistake: Today is still **your** day. You’ve walked this bridge together once, and you will walk it again. I can’t wait to see you do just that. Until then, it’s my honor to wait for you.”

WPI plans to hold in-person undergraduate and graduate Commencement ceremonies in the future, at a date to be announced.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI’s pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. [www.wpi.edu](http://www.wpi.edu)

## Bay State Savings Bank appoints Joyce B. Shand VP, Credit Administration Officer



Joyce Shand

WORCESTER — Bay State Savings Bank is proud to announce Joyce B. Shand has been appointed Vice President - Credit Administration Officer at the Bank’s 28 Franklin St. location in Worcester. In this role, Mrs. Shand oversees underwriting and credit risk management functions of the Bank’s commercial loan portfolio in support of lending activities.

Mrs. Shand bears more than 25 years of banking experience. Previously, she served as Vice President at Cobblestone Management in Brockton, Senior Credit Risk Analyst at Commerce Bank & Trust Company in Worcester, Vice

President of Financial Business Training at Marine Midland Bank in New York, N.Y., Credit Department Manager at Freedom National Bank in New York, N.Y., and Credit Risk Management Specialist at the Department of Treasury’s Office of the Comptroller of the Currency in New York, N.Y. She also holds an A.B. in Ethics and Political Philosophy from Brown University.

Currently, Mrs. Shand is involved in various community outreach and youth programs at Worcester Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Previously, she has served on the Board of the Multicultural Wellness Center in Worcester and the New Dawn Integrated Behavioral Health Center in Leominster.

Mrs. Shand resides in Worcester with her husband Devon and her two daughters, Ashley and Elena.

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# Charlton Resident Eric Himebaugh completes intensive research project

WORCESTER — Eric Himebaugh of Charlton, a member of the class of 2021 majoring in chemical engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense research project titled Assessing the Feasibility of Chemical Recycling for Plastics in Copenhagen.

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to addresses an important societal need or issue. Nearly 90% of students typically complete a project in collaboration with partners in communities across the country and around the world, through the university's 50-plus project centers. Students usually travel to the project center for seven-week terms; this spring, however, due to the global coronavirus pandemic, they worked remotely, using video conferencing and other technology to complete their projects. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to

apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives and make a difference before they graduate.

"The WPI project-based curriculum's focus on global studies brings students out of their comfort zones to apply their knowledge to solve real problems for people in communities around the globe," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, interim dean of the WPI Interdisciplinary and Global Studies Division. "Students have the opportunity to learn about a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university

founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. [www.wpi.edu](http://www.wpi.edu)

# Central Massachusetts Small Business Emergency Assistance Grant Program

WORCESTER — The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) has announced that they will be administering a grant assistance program to small businesses in Central Massachusetts impacted by the closure and losses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant program is funded by the Massachusetts Office of Attorney General Maura Healey, through the Small Business Relief Partnership Grant Program. CMRPC was awarded \$45,000 to distribute funds to small businesses in Central Massachusetts.

"This has been a trying time for small business owners in Central Massachusetts," said Janet Pierce, Executive Director of CMRPC, "We hope that these grants will provide much needed relief to assist in their recovery."

CMRPC will award grants up to \$2,000 to small businesses, for eligible business expenses related to COVID-19. Grants of less than \$2,000 will be considered. Awards will be limited to one per business. Multiple businesses may apply in a single joint application; however, the total award will be limited to \$5,000 per joint application. Businesses that apply as part of a joint application shall not be eligible to apply separately.

To be considered for the grant, businesses must meet the following criteria. Any for-profit business or non-profit organization with a physical place of business within one of the forty (40) communities within the CMRPC service area with twenty (20) or fewer employees prior to Governor Baker's state of



emergency declaration. All applicants will be required to demonstrate a direct or indirect financial hardship resulting from COVID-19.

The grant is intended to provide emergency support to vulnerable businesses directly impacted by COVID-19. Priority will be given to owner-operated, minority and/or women-owned businesses, particularly those that are located in low- to moderate-income census tracts.

The application period will run from June 22 until Sept. 1, or until funds are depleted, whichever is sooner.

For more information regarding eligibility requirements and to apply, please visit: <https://www.cmrpcregionalservices.org/aggrant>.



## Family Dining & Gift Guide

Check with your favorite local restaurants frequently to see if their opening status has changed. Some may be open for outside dining and others may be opening soon!

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*Sarah & Jeremy*



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# Cancer hasn’t stopped, and neither has Relay For Life

REGION — While there has been much uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, what has been certain this month is neighbors across central Mass. continuing to fight for cancer patients, who are some of the most at risk of serious illness from the virus, with the Relay For Life of Southern Worcester County. The annual fundraiser benefitting the American Cancer Society shifted to a virtual format and an accompanying car parade on June 20 in lieu of its annual walk at McMahon Field at Southbridge High School.

The event saw nearly 100 participants raise more than \$33,000 for the fight against cancer, and donations are still be accepted. Details are online at <http://relayforlife.org/SWC>.

Would you please consider a news brief and/or stand-alone feature photo(s) about this event?

Attached are photos you are welcome to use. They are:

RFL SWC 1 – Relay For Life of Southern Worcester County Team SCHOTT for a Cure members, left to right, Jim Gareau, president of SCHOTT

North America and vice president and general manager Lighting and Imaging in Southbridge, and Susan Gauvin and her son Nathan Pickett prepared for the June 20 car parade celebrating cancer survivors and honoring those lost to cancer.

RFL SWC 2 – Members of Team SCHOTT for a Cure prepare for the Relay For Life of Southern Worcester County car parade on June 20.

RFL SWC 3 – Members of Team Bizzee Beez, left to right, Betty Mongeon and Sharon McDonald Livernois prepare for the Relay For Life of Southern Worcester County car parade on June 20.

RFL SWC 4 – Neighbors across central Mass. decorated their cars for the Relay For Life of Southern Worcester County driving parade on June 20 which celebrated cancer survivors and honored those lost to cancer.

RFL SWC 5 – Luminaria on Southbridge Common were illuminated on June 20 in honor of cancer survivors and in memory of those lost to cancer as part of Relay For Life of Southern Worcester County



## Trinity Catholic Academy enjoys virtual retreat!

SOUTHBIDGE — Trinity Catholic Academy’s eighth Grade Annual Retreat, usually held in Pomfret, Conn., was held by Zoom this year so that this much anticipated ‘rite of passage’ at Trinity Catholic Academy would not be missed. The theme of this year’s retreat was “To Wander” -not all who wander are lost!

Canvas bag (pictured) contained their Palanca bags that were filled with letters from family, friends, kindergarten buddies, faculty and Alumni. The “Give Back” retreat bags were filled by students with donations for the food pantry.

The TCA class of 2020 spent the day doing activities, attending a special mass online celebrated by Fr. Ken of St. John Paul II Parish. Later in the day pizza was delivered to each eighth graders home for a zoom group dinner. They watched a movie relative to this year’s



## Local residents named to Dean’s List at Saint Anselm

Local residents named to Dean’s List at Saint Anselm

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Saint Anselm College has released the Dean’s List of high academic achievers for the second semester of the 2019-2020 school year. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.3 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a

letter grade. A total of 879 students representing 26 states and 6 countries received this honor.

Mark W. Cronin, Dean of the College, announced that Meaghan R. Daniels and Mikhaela E. Daniels of Charlton have been named to the Dean’s List for the spring 2020 semester at Saint Anselm College, Manchester.

About Saint Anselm College = Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a four-

year liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in southern New Hampshire near Boston and the seacoast, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, a highly successful nursing program, a legacy of community service and a commitment to the arts.

### NHS

continued from page A1

walls of the school with the intent of thoroughly expanding on the good deeds the NHS has done for years.

“As high schoolers, there’s a lot of pressure that we’re facing, and we work really hard even when things sometimes seem like they don’t pay off. That’s why when we do local community service it’s so important for us to see the direct effects of what we do,” Fengler said. “I think this recognition reaffirms the fact that we are making a difference in our community and we’re doing what we can.”

Among the biggest initiatives the NHS took part in over the last year was a Thanksgiving meal program and a pie-the-teacher event to benefit one of their own. During the Thanksgiving holiday the NHS members held a food drive encouraging members to attend athletic games to collect items and donations and then senior students personally bought and dropped off meal packages to families from Dudley and Charlton. Fengler said this event truly “united the council.”

The second event saw the NHS sponsor a week-long event where students could pie teachers or prominent school figures for a small price with the money being used to help an NHS member’s father with medical bills following a cancer diagnosis. These projects were just a couple highlights from a year where the NHS tried to up their game.

“At the beginning of the year, we made it very clear that we were going to take it up a notch and be even more involved in our communities,” said Fengler. “We’ve seen so much need so when we decided we were going to be a more active council we got so much feedback from the community and sometimes it was difficult to meet all of those goals but when you understand how much need is out there it makes you work even harder. We worked well off one another to recognize where we could help people and how much it actually means to them.”

Stefan said one of the most important lessons he hopes the NHS graduates take from such a productive year is that they have the power and ability to enact change and make the world a better place. They used that power successfully over the last year earning state recognition as a result, and now he wants them to continue to be empowered to give back to their communities.

“It’s becoming incredibly important to acknowledge that those who have power need to use it to empower others. I think that was our goal from the beginning,” Stefan said. “We needed to do everything we could to use our combine strengths to help those we could. I think ultimately what we saw, especially with this recognition, was that our efforts were appreciated throughout the community. It left us feeling fulfilled and reaffirmed that the good we are doing needs to continue to be done.”

With the 2020 school year now come to a close, Stefan said he has been in touch with the new senior officers of the

National Honor Society imploring them to continue to live up to the standards set by the outgoing class and help the NHS be even more committed to its goals. For Catherine Fengler, her farewell to the NHS may have been bittersweet but she made a point to try and empower the new leaders of the organization to continue the momentum in the new year.

Local Development & Projects

FOUND HERE!

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD  
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS CUSTODIAN

Qualified individual shall be responsible for non- specialty maintenance and repairs to town buildings (excluding elementary school). It does include custodial cleaning.

- Examples of work include, but not limited to:
- Cleaning of offices, hallways, conference room, and bathrooms at the Town Hall, Town Hall Annex and Library.
- General painting of buildings, interior and exterior
- Minor plumbing repairs (i.e., toilets, faucets)
- Landscaping to include mowing, trimming, mulching
- Snow removal to include sidewalks, ramps stairs, and parking lots
- Move furniture and other heavy items
- Repair or replace damaged exterior and interior doors
- Organizing of storage areas
- Gutter cleaning
- Planning of future capital improvements
- Implementing a maintenance schedule

Position pays \$20.40 for 35 hours a week. Work schedule is negotiable and possibly more hours in the winter months. High school diploma or General Education Degree (GED) and the possession of a valid driver's license is required. Position is subject to CORI check annually and will report to the Highway Surveyor and Assistant to the Board of Selectman. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Brimfield is an EOE.

Please send letter of interest and resume to:

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34B Wales Rd, Brimfield, MA 01010  
[Highway@Brimfieldma.org](mailto:Highway@Brimfieldma.org)

FIRE CHIEF  
Position Posting

The Town of Brimfield Massachusetts (population 3,609) is seeking a qualified individual to fill the part time position of Fire Chief of the Brimfield Call Fire Department.

**Summary of Duties**

As specified on the attached Job Description, serves as chief administrative and supervisory director in the operation of the Fire Department for the protection of life and property and in the prevention and suppression of fire within the community; performs duties requiring a high degree of judgment and initiative in planning, organizing, and directing the work of the Fire Department and in the enforcement of applicable law and regulations including departmental rules and regulations and Town By-Laws. This position to be an active, working Fire Chief at fire scenes and where applicable for training.

**Supervision Received**

Under the general direction of the Board of Selectmen on major policy matters, exercises wide discretion and independent initiative in the conduct and completion of duties.

**Eligibility**

This position is restricted to current members of the Brimfield Fire Department with 10 or more years of service with an organized municipal Fire Department.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest with a summary of fire service experience (with dates of service), education/training that is relevant to the position of Fire Chief, and emergency firefighting operational experience.

**Instructions to the applicant**

Applicants must provide a narrative that describes how their experience, education, and training addresses the requirements outlined on the attached job description and has prepared them for the position of fire chief. At a minimum the narrative should address fire department administration, command and control of emergency operations (including development of strategy and tactics), fire department training, and fire prevention.

Candidate should submit the above required materials and contact information for work related references to: Select Board, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or via email to the Board of Selectmen at [selectmen@brimfieldma.org](mailto:selectmen@brimfieldma.org). Full job description can be found out [www.brimfieldma.org](http://www.brimfieldma.org)

Application deadline is July 10, 2020

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# OPINION

Views and commentary from Charlton, Charlton City, Charlton Depot and beyond

## Our nation afraid ...

## Some fun facts about the Fourth

One of our favorite holidays to write about is Independence Day. We all know the stories of our Founding Fathers — John Adams, Sam Adams, George Washington, Paul Revere, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton, to name a few. However, the history is endless. We thought we would shine a light on aspects surrounding Independence Day that aren't commonly known.

The famous painting that depicts the signing of the Declaration of Independence isn't exactly an accurate portrayal. All of the delegates were never together at the same time in Philadelphia. The final signing took place roughly a month later on Aug. 2. The Declaration was formally dated and adopted by Congress on July 4; however, Congress voted for independence on July 2.

Celebrating their new independence, soldiers along with civilians tore down a statue of King George III and melted it into bullets. In Georgia, people burnt the King in effigy and even held a faux funeral service. In Philadelphia, the King's coat of arms was burned in a bonfire. Massachusetts was the first state to recognize July 4th as a holiday in 1781.

In 1777, fireworks could be seen in the sky and the ringing of bells rang through the night in Philadelphia. Ships were decorated and lined the coast and streamers could be seen flying in celebration everywhere. The oldest annual parade takes place in Bristol, Rhode Island. 2020 will be the city's 235th consecutive celebration since its start in 1785.

In New England, dining on salmon became tradition. The story behind the popular cuisine, is due to the influx of salmon that summer. Along with the salmon, people had peas and turtle soup.

One common fact, is that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams both died on July 4, 1826. James Monroe also died on the fourth of July in 1831. President Calvin Coolidge was born July 4, 1872.

Left out of mainstream history was the story of Crispus Attucks, the first to die in the patriot cause. Attucks was a black/native American patriot who was shot, and the first to fall during the 1770 Boston Massacre. Attucks was a runaway slave who was a rope maker and sailor. History says he was shot by two musket balls to the chest. In 1778, it became legal in Rhode Island for free and enslaved blacks to serve the cause, with freedom as part of their payment.

Educated by her owners, Phillis Wheatley was a well known poet during those times. Wheatley was kidnapped in West Africa and brought to America. At the age of 20, in 1773, she became the first African American and third female to publish a book of poetry. She eventually became free. She also advocated for independence, writing in support for George Washington's Revolutionary War in her poem, "To His Excellency, General Washington." Washington, impressed by her talent invited her to a meeting.

In 1958, when Alaska and Hawaii were on deck to become states, a history teacher assigned his class to design a flag, depicting the two new states. Sixteen-year-old Robert Heft, received a B- on the project. Unhappy with the mark, Heft sent the flag to Dwight D. Eisenhower. After the flag was chosen, Heft had his grade changed to an 'A.'

Another fun fact is that Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration on what was referred to as a laptop. A writing desk that could fit over a person's lap.

In 1778, Washington ordered a double ration of rum for soldiers to celebrate with.

In 1776, there were roughly two and a half million people living in America. The current population is now 325.7 million.

Wearing an American flag, whether it be on a tee-shirt, headband, towel or shorts is in violation of the Flag Code. The code says that you are in violation if you sell or display any "article of merchandise, upon which shall have been printed, painted, attached, or otherwise placed a representation of [the flag... in order to] advertise, call attention to, decorate, mark, or distinguish the article or substance on which so placed." The code, however, has long since been deemed unenforceable due to the logistics involved. Good news indeed for all of us who love to let our patriotism shine at this time of year.

Most of what we fear in life never becomes true. As children we were afraid of the shadows in our bedroom and that the Boogeyman would come and take us away. As adults, most of our fears switch to lack of security. Fear that our home would be broken into, our family will be harmed, or fear of lack of financial security. Regardless of what frightens us, most of us will admit we're living with some form of fear and/or anxiety.

Fear of sickness from Covid-19, fear of job loss or economic collapse, fear of racist cops, fear of rioters, looters on the streets that are openly committing harm to property or others. If you believe cable news, there is much to be afraid of ... and we are.

Gun dealers across the country are selling their shelves empty. Citizens are stocking up on toiletries and food supplies, buying guns at a record pace and loading up on ammunition. What's driving these actions?

Fear. Fear is a healthy sensation, as it can keep some of us from what I'll call the "Oh yeah? Hold my beer" syndrome. Fear kept our early ancestors from being eaten by sabre-tooth tigers. I can go on, but you get the picture. However, fear can also make you react irrationally at times where rational thinking is needed. Fear can negatively impact your health and ruin your life.

I grew up in an anti-gun family. My dad didn't like guns nor want one in the house. For most of my life, I never wanted a gun, but 25 years ago we moved out onto 40 acres and coyotes where everywhere. I still didn't buy a gun as I felt the coyotes had just as much of a right to be here as I did. But as our two beloved dogs began to age, the coyotes would try to lure them away from the house and we had our clash with nature ... so I bought a shotgun. Mostly for the noise, I thought I'd scare they coyotes off and did.

Now, as I age, I began worrying about being out and away from civilization and bought my first hand gun. A Smith & Wesson 357 magnum now sits on my nightstand next to me as I sleep. Rational? I think so. But at what risk?

Last night, the dreaded intrusion happened. I was asleep and heard a commotion on our side deck. Our door was open and only the screen separated us from the apparent intruder that began pushing on the screen. I rolled out of bed, grabbed my handgun, crawled to the screen and there he was. The biggest Opossum I'd ever seen. He growled at me, then slowly walked away, never knowing that all three of us, me, Smith & Wesson, were poised to send him to Opossum heaven. He was just a friendly neighbor out for a walk. I recognize that I moved into his neighborhood. He isn't trespassing in mine. I also realize fear almost caused me to pull the trigger. It was a wake-up call for me. Relax.

I think in normal times, I'd have sleepily gotten out of bed, walked to the door, looked, smiled, said a friendly word to a curious visitor and climbed back into bed ... but something has changed.

Before we start shooting each other ... Lets' take a breath. Relax. Step away from our fear and understand what's driving our anxiety.

The news is frightening. A bad cop murdered a relatively harmless suspect on television. Statues being torn down, stores looted and burned. Innocent civil-



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GARY W.  
MOORE

"Show me where it says public protest should be peaceful!" Well ... Look no further than the First Amendment.

"... the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

I think peaceably is a key word here. I'm mailing Chris Cuomo at CNN a copy of our Constitution, with the First Amendment tagged to make it easy for him to find without having to read too much. I highlighted the word "peaceably" in hopes he might understand.

And it's not just CNN. Fox photo shopped images allegedly depicting "CHAZ/CHOP" to escalate fear. MSNBC is full of fearmongering. There is not much real news on cable, especially after 8 p.m. EST. Only ideological agendas designed to frighten us.

My longtime friend, Tim Duggan's says, "This is all driven by a 24-hour news cycle, that is driven by ratings, which networks found can be driven by fear." He's right. Fear is an effective ratings tool.

There is a drive, which I agree with, to license police officers. Maybe there should be the same for political pundits and politicians. I get the feeling lately that most have little knowledge of civics or American history. If a pundit, while on the air, is encouraging others to commit crimes, shouldn't he or she be charged with a crime? I think it's largely our political pundits on cable news driving much of the fear and anxiety on both sides.

I'm not talking about prohibiting free speech. I am recognizing that screaming "fire" in a crowded theater where there is no fire is prohibited. Promoting and encouraging others to commit crimes, using your platform on an international cable show is even more dangerous. Why is it not prohibited?

"Common Sense Americans" need to relax and be more discerning about what voices we allow into our heads and hearts. The nation is in turmoil. We have problems that must be addressed but we cannot allow a group of irresponsible talking heads on cable news to drive us over the edge ... and they are working overtime to do so. They are mixing news of the day with "False Evidence Appearing Real (FEAR)" to drive their political agenda. And make no mistake about it. There is little real news available to us on television. It's all sensationalized to drive an ideology. Do you still wonder why we are afraid?

What can we do to relieve this fear and anxiety?

Let's start with recognizing that an Opossum is just an Opossum. Maybe our fear is misdirected. Is it possible that sensationalized media is the true source of our national fear and not each other?

Shut them out. Turn them off. We are smarter and better than this.

*Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @ GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.*

## Managing withdrawals carefully can protect retirement income



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Throughout much of your working life, you contribute to your 401(k), IRA and other investment accounts to help ensure a comfortable retirement. However, once you do retire, you'll need to shift your focus somewhat from building these investments to using them — in other words, you'll have to start withdrawing from your portfolio to meet the costs of living. How can you be sure you're not taking out so much that you risk outliving your resources?

First of all, you need to establish a proper withdrawal rate — the percentage of your portfolio's value needed for one year's worth of retirement expenses. Ideally, if you were to stick with this rate, your portfolio would last as long as you do. Your withdrawal rate should be based on a number of factors, including your age, amount of assets, portfolio mix and retirement lifestyle. A financial professional can help you determine the rate that's right for you, but it's important to understand that this rate is a starting point since you will want to review your withdrawals each year to ensure they are still appropriate.

If the financial markets performed smoothly and predictably, year in and year out, any adjustments you make would likely be more modest. But, as you know, and as we've all been reminded the last several months, the markets are neither smooth nor predictable. Rather than constantly trying to change your withdrawal rate and spending in response to movements in the markets — which may be challenging if you have grown accustomed to a certain standard of living — you might be better off adopting a more conservative rate at the beginning of your retirement. For example, if you are in your mid-60s, you could start at a withdrawal rate of about 4%, which also assumes an increase in withdrawals (a "raise") of approximately 3% each year to incorporate inflation. By starting at a more modest withdrawal rate, you would have some flexibility for those years in which the market drops significantly. And you could increase your chances of extending the lifetime of your portfolio.

But even if you started out with a conservative rate, you may need to review it during periods of extreme market movements. If, for instance, your portfolio were to fall 20 percent in one year, the 4 percent you had planned to withdraw would actually become 5 percent because you're taking out the amount you had planned, but now it's from a smaller pool of money. If this happens, should you consider making an adjustment?

There's no easy answer. The amount you withdraw from your portfolio has a major impact on how long your money lasts. You'll improve your likelihood of success if you are able to be flexible and make some spending adjustments — spending less on some of your discretionary items, for example, or not taking a "raise" until your portfolio recovers. Importantly, your financial advisor can help run different scenarios to determine if adjustments need to be made to ensure you remain on track.

In any case, think carefully about your withdrawal rate. By managing it carefully, and reviewing it over time, you can take greater control over your retirement income.

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

## Tips to Clean Vintage Wares

Collecting, whether for business or pleasure, is one of today's most popular pastimes. From rooting out attic relics to buying at high end antiques stores, stumbling upon a vintage "find" can be an exciting challenge. While aged wares often boast plenty of charm, the vintage goods also come with imperfections. Thankfully, all it often takes is a bit of elbow grease to bring a beloved piece up to par. With this in mind, this week's column will review some suggestions from experts on proper cleaning for specific antiques and collectibles.

\*Note: The above information is offered as a guideline only and not meant as instructional. Any application applied is strictly at the user's own risk and responsibility.

Textiles: From ornate Victorian textiles to simple childhood aprons, vintage linens are one of the most favored collectibles. While old fabrics can be

TAKE  
THE  
HINT

KAREN  
TRAINOR



especially beautiful, they are also often very delicate, especially after years of use or storage. Washing aged pieces can be a challenge. First you must assess the situation carefully as textiles are not always as strong as they may appear. If you are not willing to risk damage with a water wash, do not take chances. Instead, seek professional cleaning advice. Once you have decided to wash your textiles by hand, proceed with caution. If you are attempting to clean dirty or grimy fabrics, first lightly shake the item, then vacuum (with a nylon stocking over the hose) the surface to simply remove any tiny particles that could damage the piece. Many sturdy linen items can tolerate a warm wash with gentle soap. For best results, only wash one piece or two small pieces



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# Help your pets beat the heat



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
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RALPH  
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With the recent stretch of warm, humid weather a week ago, my thoughts are that another stretch of hot, humid weather during July and August is more than likely. A lot of dog owners keep their hunting dogs outdoors and need a lot more attention during these hot summer days. Daily exercising during the early morning and early evening hours will help to keep your hunting companion healthy & in shape for this year's hunting season. Making sure that your dog has plenty of cool fresh water daily and has a cool shaded spot for the hot weather which will help keep them in good health.

If the temperature is in the 90-degree range and you have a cool spot for them in your home, they should be brought in. If not, they should have their kennel in the shade with comfortable bedding. Feeding twice daily, with short exercising in the yard if possible, should keep them healthy. The late veterinarian Dr. Fenzell of Douglas always told me never to feed my dogs any animal bones, and I do not; however, I do feed them the Milk Bone treats that are made in the USA.

People often feed their dogs scraps from the table which you need to be careful with. Hotdogs and cold cuts are something you should not feed your dogs, to mention a couple. A good diet of dry dog food like Purina is all that they need to stay healthy. Do not wet the food prior to feeding. They will drink the necessary



water as needed.

Heartworm and Lyme disease prevention should always be administered monthly. So far, tick populations have been low in the areas that I run my dogs daily, but other areas are not as lucky. Losing a dog to Lyme disease or heartworm, can be prevented with a monthly pill. Owning a dog or two is not cheap, but they are worth every penny.

My nine-year-old Labrador hunting dog Twig was always outside because of the heavy shedding, but after the passing of my wife, I brought her into the house after learning how to run a vacuum cleaner. Both dogs get along great, but Molly is the alpha of the two dogs. Molly also has a bit of my wife in her, and lets me know when I get out of place. I cannot imagine being without these two dogs in the house. Molly has her place at the end of my bed, and Twig sleeps on the side of my bed.

With the increased population of cottontail rabbits this year, Molly has taken more interest in them. Last week, she

spotted a rabbit in the back yard and started to vocalize, as most beagles do. I also spotted the rabbit and quickly opened the gate. The chase was on! The rabbit must have found its hole in a clump of brush after a few minutes, and the hunt was over almost as fast as it started. Sure did sound great to hear her trailing the often-elusive cottontail rabbit.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will hold there 3-D archery shoot this Sunday July 5. The public is invited to attend the event that had more than 80 archers enjoying the shoot last month. Masks and social distancing are encouraged. The kitchen will be serving a light breakfast, which can be enjoyed in the club's pavilion.

This week's picture shows a Virginia man with a striper he caught weighing in at a cool 81.88 pounds, creating a new world record. Some local anglers doubt the striper was that big, and that anything you see on the internet needs to be checked out for being authentic. I agree.



The absence of local freshwater bass tournaments this year, because of the pandemic has not stopped local bass anglers from fishing. Families and friends are still fishing, but hope that things will change in the coming weeks.

Local Rod & Gun Clubs are open to trap & skeet shooting. Uxbridge, Whitinsville and Wallum Lake ranges are open on weekends and some weekdays. For a complete list of shooting opportunities, go to their Web sites. The public is invited to attend most shooting activities, including shooting on their pistol ranges. Check them out!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

You plant and tend your garden hoping to enjoy a bountiful harvest and beautiful blooms. Despite proper planning and planting, insects can move in and wreak havoc on your garden. The good news is, you can manage problem pests without harming the pollinators that are so important to your gar-

## Safely manage insect pests in your gardens

den.

Start by reviewing the care your plants need to thrive. Make sure you are watering thoroughly and only when needed. Consider mulching the soil with shredded leaves, evergreen needles or other organic material to conserve moisture, moderate soil temperature, suppress weeds and improve the soil as they decompose.

Only fertilize if needed. Over fertilization, especially with high nitrogen and fast release products, can stimulate lush,

succulent growth that is more susceptible to insect damage. Let your plants, not the fertilizer label, be your guide. Pale plants and those not performing as expected may need a nutrient boost. Consider a low nitrogen, slow release fertilizer that won't stimulate lush, succulent growth or damage the plants when the weather is hot and dry.

Tolerate a bit of damage and wait for the songbirds and beneficial insects, like lady beetles and green lacewings,

manage these pests for you. If the damage is more than you can tolerate, consider using an eco-friendly control product.

One you may not be familiar with is lightweight horticulture oil, like the OMRI-certified Summit Year-Round® Spray Oil (YRSO). This can be applied to garden plants during the growing season to manage insects such as aphids, mites, adelgids, scale, leafhoppers and whiteflies. Horticultural oils have been used for many years because they are low risk

and effective against a variety of pests.

Horticulture oils kill insects by blocking the air holes through which they breathe. This makes them effective against all stages of the insect's development from egg through adult.

The oil must contact the insect to be effective. If a beneficial insect lands on a treated plant, it will not be injured. Avoid treating plants when bees and other beneficial

Turn To **MYERS** page **A11**



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# Zachary Flowers of Charlton makes Dean’s List at RIT

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Zachary Flowers of Charlton was named to the Dean’s List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2020 Spring Semester. Flowers is in the microelectronic engineering program.

Degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean’s List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of “Incomplete”, “D” or “F”; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 19,000 students in more than 200 career-oriented

# Springfield College recognizes Dean’s List students

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield College recognizes Dean’s List Students for the 2020 Spring Semester.

Springfield College has named Danielle Donnelly from Charlton to the dean’s list for academic excellence for the 2020 spring semester. Donnelly is studying Athletic Training.

Springfield College has named Amelia McKenzie from Charlton to the dean’s list for academic excellence for the 2020 spring semester. McKenzie is studying Communication Sciences and Disorders.

Springfield College has named Allison Prew from Uxbridge to the dean’s list

for academic excellence for the 2020 spring semester. Prew is studying Health Science/Occupational Therapy.

Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit, coeducational institution founded in 1885. Approximately 4,100 students, including 2,500 full-time undergraduate students, study at its main campus in Springfield, Mass., and at its regional campuses across the country. Springfield College inspires students through the guiding principles of its Humanics philosophy - educating in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others.

# Charlton Helping Hand Society announces Summer Sale

C H A R L T O N — Something new for the Helping Hand Event Calendar and for yours at The Dodge Chapel, 81 Hammond Hill Rd., Charlton.

Beginning Monday, June 29, we will offer a twice weekly “Summer Sale” on every Monday

from 6 to 8 p.m. and every Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. The last date will be Monday, Aug. 31. Then we will hold a Yard Sale on Sept. 11 and 12 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. New donations are arriving and will be accepted through the summer. Come to shop, come to

donate - either way the support will continue to “Help Us to Help Others.” All state mandated orders will be observed. Please wear a mask and be patient if there happens to be a short wait.

# Spring Dean’s List announced at Dean College

FRANKLIN — Dean College is pleased to announce the students that have earned a place on the Dean’s List for the Spring 2020 semester. These students have demonstrated serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

Kristen Gonzales of Uxbridge  
Jordan Marrier of Charlton  
Ryann Leaming of Uxbridge  
Founded in 1865, Dean College is

a private, residential college located in Franklin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.

# 2nd Annual ABC’s of the Seasons ~ Spring Edition

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# Latest antiques, collectibles, and auction news

It has been nearly three months since our last update on antiques, collectibles, and auction news. Much has occurred since my last report, beginning with some valuable antique eyeglasses that were saved from destruction.

The rare pair of eyeglasses were saved by a knowledgeable employee of a second-hand store before they were buried in a New Zealand landfill. They were recently sold in an online auction according to UPI. The Martin's Margins style glasses were designed by optician Benjamin Martin in 1756. According to UPI, "the unusual thick-framed look of the glasses results from Martin's belief that exposure to sunlight would cause damage to eyeglass lenses." The glasses sold for \$5,282.

A 1933 "The Invisible Man" movie poster went on the auction block in March according to the Antique Trade Gazette. The one sheet "Invisible Man" poster (two feet, three inches by three feet, five inches) starred Claude Rains in the title role as a scientist. The film was based on a novel by H.G. Wells. This "Type B" version of the movie poster sold for \$152,000.

A valuable baseball card collection is currently being sold in an online auction.



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

According to ESPN, the "Uncle Jimmy" collection belonged to James Micioni of Boontown, N.J. ESPN reported that "he never married, never became a father and never owned a car. He walked to nearby jobs as a high school custodian and a chemical-factory worker." He only left his small town to serve in World War II. He was a fan of the Yankees and Jackie Robinson. ESPN reported "experts believe to be one of the most extraordinary private collections in the hobby's history." When he passed the cards were willed to his nieces and nephews who consigned them to an auction house. The cards have been grouped into 2,000 lots and are being auctioned in 3 sessions. Six 1933 Goudey Babe Ruth cards alone are expected to sell for \$1 million.

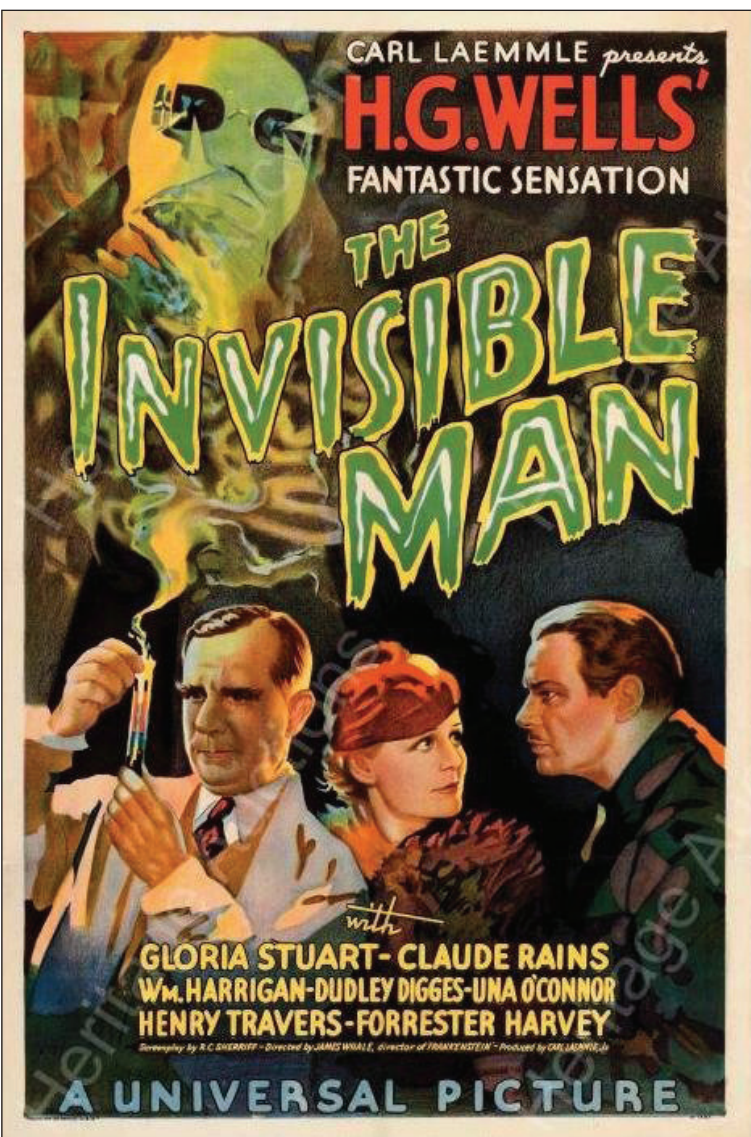
A 1959 Martin D-18E guitar that had been modified to accommodate the left-handed Kurt Cobain recently set an auction record according to the Rolling Stone magazine. Cobain played the guitar in Nirvana's iconic 1993 MTV Unplugged performance. It sold for slightly over \$6 million. The winning bidder was identified as Peter Freedman. Freedman plans to include the guitar in worldwide exhibitions that he is planning to benefit the arts. The Rolling

Stone reported "the previous record was \$3.95 million for a Black Stratocaster owned by Pink Floyd's David Gilmour."

Food and Wine magazine reported that an over 250 year old bottle of cognac recently set an auction record. The 1762 bottle of Gautier Cognac was said to be the oldest bottle ever sold at auction. There are believed to be only 3 bottles of this vintage that still exist. The bottle with its original label sold for a little over \$144,000. There was no information on whether the winning bidder planned to sample any.

I'll be presenting a webinar on June 8 at 2 p.m. in conjunction with Worthpoint.com "Don't Give Away Your Valuables. Get the Most for Your Estate Contents." There is a link to register on our Web site. We are also cataloging items for an online estate auction in Warren, R.I. and are planning to run an estate sale in Auburn, MA this summer. Bidding was strong during our recent online only antique estate auction. We are accepting quality consignments of smaller, high value items such as jewelry, sterling silver, coins, paintings, vintage comic books and sports memorabilia for our next auction. Please watch our website or sign up to be on our email list for updates on future events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for



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## MYERS

continued from page A9

insects are present, so you do not accidentally spray them with the oil.

YRSO horticulture oil (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) can also help reduce the incidence and spread of aphid-transmitted viruses. It interferes with insect feeding which helps reduce the transmission of the virus by the insect.

Lightweight horticulture oils have a minimal waiting period between the last application and harvest. Always check the label before using any product whether organic, natural or synthetic. You will find valuable information on the label, including application rates and directions to help you attain the best results.

You may also find some added benefits when reviewing the label. Horticulture oils can help in managing powdery mildew on plants like beebalm, phlox,

peonies and cucumbers. Some can be applied when plants are dormant to smother and kill overwintering mites and aphids as well as egg masses of pests like the gypsy moth.

Monitor your garden throughout the summer. You will enjoy watching your plants grow, make timely harvests and discover insect pests when the populations are small and much easier to manage.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers's Web site is www.melindamyers.com.



Photo Courtesy

Lightweight horticulture oil can be applied to garden plants during the growing season to manage insects like these leafhoppers.

## TRAINOR

continued from page A8

at a time. Do not rub the fabric and never scrub. Simply swish by hand to agitate the piece in soapy water. Never rub the fabric. Swish it around in the soapy water. (You may decide the piece needs soaking; if so, rinse off soap and soak only in clear water). When it is time to wash out the soap, rinse very carefully, in a tub of clear water or under a soft stream of water. Repeat rinse at least two times. Do not wring, instead gently pat the water out. Lay textile on a towel to absorb water and allow to dry flat in well ventilated area. Or if is safe for the fabric, place it over a hanger padded with a towel to dry. Many sturdy linens such as sheets and pillowcases will benefit from a line dry in the sun to freshen and remove stains. If your item cannot tolerate the stress of line drying, you might want to try laying out the item on a towel in the sun. Keep in mind sunlight can fade and damage bright colors and wools. If a hand wash and soak fails to remove common yellow stains from white linens, experts recommend soaking items in sodium perborate. This is available at some drug stores and is the main ingredient in common washes sold to soak vintage quilts.

Keep in mind, proper storage of textiles can often prevent dirt and damage. When storing vintage textiles, do not iron them first. And never place fine linens in plastic bags, which can damage fibers by not allowing them to breathe. Also avoid folding, as creases can cause the fibers to break down and this practice can lead to yellow fold lines common to stored linens. Some experts roll flat linens on wide cardboard tubes laying down acid free tissue paper between layers of fabric. If storing vintage textiles, always wrap items in acid free tissue to prevent decomposition. Never pack linens for storage in plastic tote boxes. Archival storage boxes with lids are a safe choice and they are available at art supply or specialty stores.

Ceramics and Glass: Although ceramics are generally considered to be stable materials, a certain amount of caution must be used when cleaning them. According to the Henry Ford

Museum in Dearborn, Michigan the majority of ceramic items can be successfully cleaned provided that a few basic instructions are followed, as recommended by the museum:

Some antique ceramics contain fragile painted or gilded surface decoration which can be removed or damaged by harsh cleaning solutions. It is important to use only dilute cleaning solutions, applied with soft cloths during cleaning. Antique ceramics should never be soaked in any liquid. Prolonged soaking and uneven drying can lead to staining of ceramics. This is particularly probable in items that are chipped, scratched or that have cracked glazes. Lastly, automatic dishwashers should never be used to clean antique ceramics. Recommended materials for cleaning ceramic objects include mild detergents in water. The detergents used at the Henry Ford Museum are Triton X-100, Vulpex and Orvus. All three products are available from Conservation Resources International L.L.C. A mixture of ethanol (ethyl alcohol) and water at a ratio of one to one can also be used for cleaning. Before proceeding to clean an object, it is important to inspect and test the object to make sure that no elements will be removed or damaged during cleaning. Once it has been determined that it is safe to proceed with cleaning, the cleaning solution should be tested in a small inconspicuous area to insure that decorative designs will not be damaged.

Dilute detergents (approximately 1% in water) should be applied using a soft cloth or cotton balls. The residual detergent should be removed by rinsing with distilled water applied also with a cloth or cotton balls. In both instances, the cloth should be damp not wet. The object should then be allowed to air dry.

Glass can be cleaned in much the same manner as ceramics...with the addition of dilute ammonia as a cleaner.

Coin Collections: The golden rule for cleaning coins is "don't!" When it comes to caring for coins, many a novice collector has learned the hard way that cleaning or even polishing a coin can cause its value to plummet. The first rule of coin collecting is never clean a coin unless it is done professionally, as cleaning damages the coin's natural "toning," which may takes decades to acquire. While commercial dips and

such may make a coin shine like new, the chemicals not only remove the tarnish, they remove the luster and can damage the surface. In fact collectors advise to never clean a coin you cannot afford to lose.

That said, if you have a less valuable coin that desperately needs a "wash" and are determined to clean it up, you may want to try careful rinsing with a gentle hand soap to remove grime. Or some collectors simply soak coins in water to loosen surface dirt. Others have reported success by soaking coins in olive oil. Drying can be tricky however, as rubbing can cause surface abrasion, so be sure to pat coins dry. As they say, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and this rings true when it comes to keeping coins clean and free from preventable damage. While the tendency for beginning collectors is to collect favored coins in a jar or container, it is better to prevent further scratches by storing collectible coins properly. This can be accomplished economically if you store coins in approved Mylar "flip" coin holders, coin albums, or individually in envelopes that are of archival quality. Some serious collectors invest in a specialized wooden coin cabinet to store their valuable collection. A coin collection should not be stored in damp, humid spaces as these conditions encourage corrosion.

Proper handling of a coin is also important. When working with a col-

lection, cover work surfaces with a soft material such as velvet to avoid scratching. Collectible coins should be handled only by its edges. The face of the coin is adversely affected by skin oils and therefore rare or valuable coins should only be touched while wearing soft cotton gloves.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

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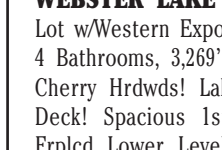
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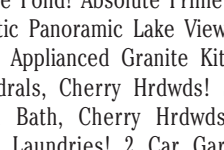
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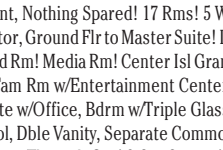
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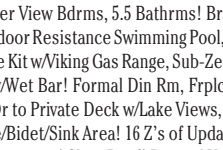
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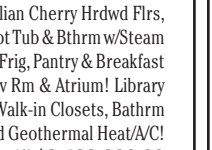
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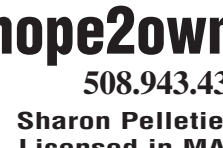
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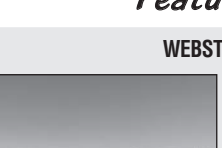
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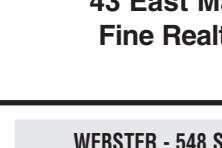
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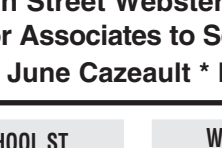
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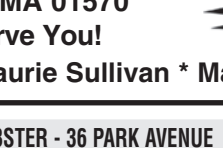
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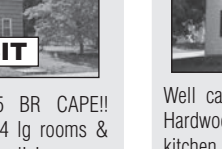
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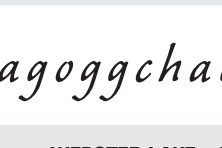
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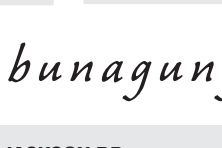
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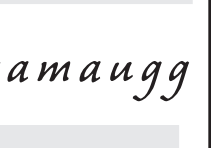
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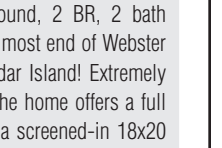
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home.. A sun room off the dining room and leading to the deck adds additional "get away" space and and overlooks a private, wooded, back yard. This is a property that will give you living options for formal and informal living. Roof was replaced in 2014, and property is easy to finance under low down payment programs. 7 Joseph St ~ \$319,900

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# Reneldine Plymouthe named to Dean’s List at American International College

SPRINGFIELD — Reneldine Plymouthe, of Charlton, has been named to the Spring 2020 Dean’s List at American International College (AIC). Dean’s List students are full time students who have achieved a 3.3 to 4.0 GPA. The College commends the extraordinary achievement

and commitment of this scholar’s accomplishment during an unprecedented time. Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, compris-

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