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CHARLTON - Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN is pleased to share the commencement of the PN Classes of 2020 and 2021.

The graduation and pinning ceremony took place Friday, June 25, at the Lakeside Pavilion of Indian Ranch, in Webster, MA along the shores of Lake Chargoggag-oggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg.

"We are proud of our graduates, both from PN Class of 2020 and PN Class of 2021 who worked hard amid the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic," Bolandrina said. "Each student graduating the rigorous program at Bay Path had undergone a stringent admission process, qualified, and has proven to have met and some have exceeded the academic and clinical learning objectives to be equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitude of a prudent nurse. Our faculty and staff have demonstrated tremendous dedication, leadership, and resilience. I am touched by all the support and lasting impact each contributed to our graduates' success.'

The ceremony included a processional with faculty and staff in full academic regalia, welcome address from Bolandrina, an inspirational speech from Donna Pope, LPN of Southbridge (PN Class of 2017), a speech from Amanda Wonderlie voted Class Speaker. presentation of certificates and pins, presentation of The Virginia Dockstader Academic Excellence Award to Grace Mwangi of Worcester, Clinical Excellence Award to Khamphan Houatchanthara of Southbridge, and the Community Service Award to Kalie Hernandez, LPN (Class of 2017) of Southbridge, reciting the Practical Nursing Pledge led by Monique Bull of Worcester, and a recessional.

Of the 25 graduates from PN Class of 2020, the following attended the joyful event with their loved ones, Kristin Bates, LPN of Charlton, Robin Peters, LPN of Douglas, and Sikorrya Seguin of Dudley.

The following is a list of the Practical Nursing Class of 2021 graduates:

Auburn- Angela Letourneau, Meghan Reidy Brookfield-Brianna Pincince-McLeish Charlton-Brianna Cloutier Cherry Valley- Carolyn Jenkins Manchester, CT- Isabella Boateng Oxford- Tianna Welcome* Southbridge- Khamphan Houatchanthara, Angeley Santa, Sonya Ugrinow

Spencer-Julia Martinez, Ashley Winters

Webster-Brianna Laforest, Elizabeth Larson, Stefanie Lauretano, Risper Wanjiru*, Amanda Wonderlie

Worcester- Monique Bull*, Loise Kamero*, Beatrice Kamunyu, Luz Mercado, Grace Mwangi*, Digmary Sanchez

Living The Dream!!



Brethren from through- trical. R.W. Chris is rest is history as R.W. out Massachusetts, and presently employed by Karl Storz Endoscope in Charlton. R.W. Chris first started to show interest in Freemasonry back in 2006. He saw the Benjamin Franklin commercials on T.V. asking,

over a 150 Master Masons where he took up elec- folks as you can see the Chris moved up in the fraternity that he loves and is dear to his heart. R.W. Chris took the first step in Freemasonry towards the end of 2006. In March of 2007 after he finished his degree work, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. R.W. Chris did not stop there he wanted to learn more and started going through the officer chairs in the lodge and was involved in the 24th Masonic District from 2007-2011 was the (DDGM) District Deputy Grand Master Awareness Officer. In 2012 he became one of Quinebaug

Worcester Polytechnic Institute Announces Spring 2021 Dean's List

WORCESTER, MA (06/24/2021) -- 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. The following undergradutes were named to the Spring 2021 Dean's List:

Elizabeth Butler of Auburn, MA class of 21 majoring in Biomedical Engineering

Paul Mara of Auburn, MA class of 21 majoring in **Computer Science**

Eliana Palumbo of Auburn, MA class of 22 majoring in Biomedical Engineering

Jackson Sypek of Auburn, MA class of 23 majoring in Mathematical Sciences

Dayna Tang of Auburn, MA class of 23 majoring in Environmental Engineering Sandra phan of Auburn, MA class of 24 majoring in

Mathematical Sciences

Caleb Scopetski of Auburn, MA class of 24 majoring in Computer Science

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 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 17 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

R.W. Christopher St. Cvr Junior Grand Warden Grand Masonic Lodge of Boston

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

On Saturday June 19th

beyond gathered at the Worcester Masonic Building for a ceremony gathering that was postponed 17 months due to Covid-19 and restrictions that were put into place by Governor Baker. Now that the restriction, have been lifted brethren came to celebrate a presentation of the Junior Grand Wardens "Jewel" to Right Worshipful Christopher St. Cyr Junior Grand Warden Grand Masonic Lodge of Boston Massachusetts.

R.W. Chris grew up and lived in Southbridge and Charlton and is a graduate of Bay Path Regional Vocational High School

"IS THERE GREATNESS IN YOU? "and was fascinated with the Knights Templar. He took the next step and called the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge and left a message on the answering machine. He was contacted by the Lodge Ambassador Brethren George Makara and came to the lodge for a tour and was given a little history on Freemasonry. Well

Turn To MASONS page A11

New summer series launches July 8 with free *concert by the Brubeck Brothers Quartet* Venues in July include the Riley-Pappas Pavilion in Auburn, INDIAN RANCH IN WEBSTER, & THE HANOVER THEATRE IN WORCESTER.



Music Worcester begins its first summer series of concerts, Summer @ MW, on Thursday, July 8 with a free presentation of the Brubeck Brothers Quartet, the sons of legendary Dave Brubeck, in Auburn, MA. Two other concerts later in the month bring the Hot Sardines to Indian Ranch

in Webster, MA on July 22, and the Gospel choir Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar to The Hanover Theatre in Worcester on July 25. This inaugural Summer @ MW season will continue through early September, with additional concerts being announced very soon.

"As Music Worcester started planning to emerge from this emerge recent pandemic, virtual season of programming, it became apparent that we could move somewhat quickly and bring back our live music presentations to Greater Worcester far earlier than our usual October

season opener," noted Adrien Finlay, Executive Director. "We are extraordinarily excited to add summer programming to our annual activities from this point forward, which will allow us to explore new venues and welcome even more var-

Turn To CONCERT page A11

Households In Need Encouraged To Apply To Good Neighbor Energy Fund In Anticipation Of End To Moratorium On Shut-Offs

CANTON, MA, June 24, 2021 - Due to the end to the moratorium on home energy shut-offs for customers of investor-owned utilities not on protected status next Thursday, July 1st, 2021, the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund's sponsoring energy companies are encouraging those in need to apply for assistance as soon as possible by visiting their local Salvation Army Corps Community Center. If unsure of where the nearest Community Center is located, please visit www.magoodneighbor. org

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is often the last resort for families who are in temporary financial difficulty and do not qualify for federal and state fuel assistance programs such as LIHEAP. The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division pays the energy provider directly for households whose gross income falls between 60 and 80 percent of the state's median

income levels. For example, a household size of 4 would need to have a total gross yearly income of between \$75,202 and \$100,268 to qualify. This campaign vear's Fund disbursement is \$300 per eligible household per heating season.

'Once the investor-owned utilities' moratorium on energy shut-offs ends there is often a spike in the urgency of need for energy assistance," said Marie McCabe, Chairperson of the 2021 Good Neighbor Energy Fund campaign and Customer Service Representative at North Attleborough Electric Department. "With this in mind, households who are having trouble making ends meet due to the pandemic or another crisis shouldn't delay in looking to the Fund as a potential source for help." McCabe added that the easiest way to determine if a household qualifies is to visit the Fund's website at www.magoodneighbor.org.

The Fund's distribution award

letter will also serve as qualification for the Mass Save Enhanced Insulation Incentive for customers of a Massachusetts investor-owned utility. Specifically, the offer provides qualified customers with no-cost insulation, as well as other no-cost energy savings measures

The Fund's 35th annual "Give The Gift of Warmth" campaign is a cooperative effort between the Fund's 19 sponsoring energy companies, the general public and the corporate community to raise \$500,000 and help an anticipated 1,500 households. The campaign relies on the generosity of individuals, families, local corporations and foundations for support and has raised more than \$22.5 million and assisted over 91,250 households since its inception in 1985.

Massachusetts residents and businesses that wish to donate to the Fund are encouraged to use the green Good Neighbor Energy Fund donation envelope found as an insert in monthly energy bills. Some energy companies offer an 'add a dollar' program which allows customers to contribute on their monthly bill payment by one dollar or more. Anyone can also donate with a credit card online at www.magoodneighbor.org. Donors can also simply mail a check payable to "Good Neighbor Energy Fund", c/o The Salvation Army, 25 Shawmut Road, Canton. Massachusetts 02021-1408. Participating energy companies support their respective customers' generosity through various giving programs.

For more information about how to apply for the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund, visit your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center or call 800-334-3047 if you live in area codes 508, 617, 781 or 978 or 800-262-1320 if you live in area code 413. Web: www.magoodneighbor.org.

Sarah J. Daigle, DPM Named Medical Director of the Wound Care Center at Harrington

CHARLTON0

Harrington HealthCare System has named Dr. Sarah J. Daigle, as Medical Director of the Wound Care Center at Harrington in Charlton.

Located at 10 North Main Street, the Wound CareCenteratHarrington provides state-of-the-art treatment for non-healing and chronic wounds resulting from a variety of conditions such as diabetes, circulatory issues, surgery, or trauma.

Dr. Sarah J. Daigle joined Harrington Physicians Services Orthopedic practice in 2018, and specializes in foot and ankle medicine and surgery. She has completed research for the American Podiatric

* * Friday's Child

Medical Association and the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, both organizations of

which she is a member. "I am happy to be able to have the opportunity to serve my community in a new capacity. The wound care center is a great resource for this area," said Dr. Daigle. "Not only are we healing

in the second

wounds, but by doing so, we are preventing infection and amputation."

Care The Wound Center at Harrington providers a comprehensive care plan with supportive services for patients including, diabetic education, nutritional management, specific individualized dressing selections, hyperbaric therapy, and more. Patients who have a wound that has not begun to heal in two weeks or is not completely healed in six weeks are encouraged to contact the Wound Care Center at Harrington for an appointment.

about the Wound Care Center at Harrington or to schedule an appointment visit: https://www. harringtonhospital.org/ services/wound_care/

Harrington HealthCare System is a comprehenregional healthsive care system serving more than 25 communities across south central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut. The system includes Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, Harrington HealthCare at Webster and three additional major medical office build-

Harrington ings: HealthCare at Charlton, Harrington HealthCare at 169, also in Charlton, and Harrington HealthCare at Sturbridge; Harrington Physician Services, our primary care and multi-specialty physician group; UrgentCare Express at Harrington in Oxford; The Cancer Center at Harrington in Southbridge, the and region's largest Behavioral Health programs for mental health and substance use.

www.harringtonhospital.org



Hi! My name is Henry and I love sports!

Henry is an outgoing teen of African American descent who enjoys being active, whether he is playing outside or engaging in sports-related activities. He has a natural athletic ability. Some of Henry's other interests include listening to music, dancing, and playing video games. His teachers report he is doing well in school. He has a great sense of humor and

For more information

Rebecca Feeney Named to Dean's List at Ithaca College

ITHACA, NY (06/24/2021)-- Ithaca College student Rebecca Feeney of Auburn (01501) was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester. About Ithaca College

Founded in 1892, Ithaca College is a residential college dedicated to building knowledge and confidence through a continuous cycle of theory, practice and performance. Home to some 5,000 students, the college offers more than 100 degree programs in its schools of Business, Communications, Humanities and Sciences, Health Sciences and Human Performance, and Music.

Henry Age 13

loves to joke around.

Legally freed for adoption, Henry would thrive in a permanent family as the youngest or only child. It would be ideal for his future family to initially

serve as a visiting resource, and build a relationship with Henry over time. One he is placed in his permanent home, Henry will need to maintain contact with his birth mother and his siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

the time time time time time time time

Students, faculty and staff at Ithaca College create an active, inclusive community anchored in a keen desire to make a difference in the local community and the broader world. The college is consistently ranked as one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright scholars, one of the most LGBTQ+ friendly schools in the country, and one of the top 10 colleges in the Northeast.

St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church announces Raffle Winners

St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church announces the winners of their raffle held on Sunday,

June 27, 2021.

First Prize: \$1,500 Cash , James Walckner Port St. Lucie, FL

Second Prize: \$700 Cash, Alex George; Avon, CT

Third Prize: \$300 Cash, Jorgjeta Bukli; Holden, MA

Fourth Prize: \$300 Lottery Tickets, Rob Pano; Sutton, MA

The Church appreciates the support of everyone who helped to make it a success.

UT Student Emma Gervais, of Auburn, Massachusetts, Earns Dean's List Honors

TAMPA, FL (06/28/2021)-- Emma Gervais, of Auburn, Massachusetts, earned dean's list honors at The University of Tampa for the Spring 2021 semester. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean's list.

The University of Tampa is a private, comprehensive university located on 110 acres on the riverfront in downtown Tampa. Known for academic excellence, personal attention and real-world experience in its undergraduate and graduate programs, the University serves approximately 10,000 students from 50 states and most of the world's 195 countries.



Governor Baker launches VaxMillions Giveaway program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS NEWS STAFF WRITER

REGION – Just in case getting protected against COVID-19 wasn't incentive enough, the Baker-Polito Administration recently added over five million more reasons for residents to schedule their shots.

In a partnership with the Massachusetts State Lottery, Governor Baker and his team announced last month the launch of the VaxMillions Giveaway program. All Massachusetts adults who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are eligible to enter for a chance to win one of five separate \$1 million cash prizes.

Additionally, fully vaccinated residents between 12-17 years of age may enter for the chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants.

Although Massachusetts ranks third in the nation in vaccine rate, (59.76-percent of the population), state officials are determined to raise that number even higher.

"The VaxMillions Giveaway is one of the many ways our administration is encouraging people to get the vaccine, and we are grateful for the partnership of Treasurer Goldberg and the Mass. State Lottery in developing the program," said Governor Charlie Baker.

Eligible residents will be able to enter the drawing on July 1. Drawings will be held once a week for five weeks, beginning the week of Monday, July 26, and continuing through the week ending Friday, August 27.

"Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID," said Lt. Governor **Karyn Polito.** "We are hopeful that this new initiative will encourage even more residents to get the COVID vaccine and help return our Commonwealth to a new normal."

Added State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, "The Massachusetts State Lottery is proud to join Governor Charlie Baker and the Department of Public Health to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of every person across the Commonwealth. The Lottery has decades of experience and know-how to hold drawings with integrity, and our team is excited to fulfill an essential role in this initiative."

The Commonwealth is launching the VaxMillions Giveaway as one of many strategies to increase awareness of the availability and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines. Beginning July 1, Massachusetts residents will be able to enter the VaxMillions Giveaway online. If you do not have access to the internet or require assistance, there will be a call center available. Signup information and call center contact info and hours will be made available prior to July 1.

"We greatly appreciate the trust that Governor Baker, his administration, and Treasurer Goldberg have in the Mass. Lottery to assist in the implementation of this important public health initiative," said Michael Sweeney, Executive Director of the Massachusetts State Lottery. "The Mass. Lottery has worked diligently to build a reputation as one of the most successful lotteries in the country, and it is an honor to be entrusted with this responsibility." Massachusetts residents 18 years of age and older who have received two doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, will have a chance to win.

Massachusetts residents between 12-17 years of age who have received two doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will have a chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants via a 529 College Savings Plan managed by the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA). Funds in a 529 Plan can be applied to cover tuition, room and board, and related expenses at any college, university, or technical or trade school, or another post-secondary educational institution eligible to participate in a student aid program administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Winners with a qualifying disability may elect instead to receive an equivalent financial contribution to a special needs trust or federally qualified ABLE account to cover qualified expenses.

Only lawful, permanent residents of Massachusetts who are fully vaccinated can apply. Residents must have received their vaccine doses within Massachusetts. Residents must be fully vaccinated prior to submitting their entries.

There are over 900 vaccination locations across the Commonwealth, with appointments and walk-ins widely available. Residents seeking a vaccine can visit www.mass.gov/COVIDVaccine.

For more information on the Mass. VaxMillions Giveaway, visit mass.gov/ VaxMillions.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

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Ribbon Cutting Celebrated at Summit Agency

A ribbon cutting celebration to announce the opening of Summit Health & Wellness Center and Summit Campus for children and young adults with Autism and related diagnoses took place on Thursday, June 17th.

Thursday night's ribbon cutting was a celebration of the addition of the Summit Campus and Health & Wellness Center which was a natural progression of the Summit Agency's mission. Their goal is to support this vulnerable and underserved population in the Worcester community, and the surrounding areas.

This comes at a good time as the prevalence of ASD (Autism Spectrum Diagnosis) and related diagnoses are on the rise. According to the CDC 1 in 54 children are diagnosed with ASD. In the US alone there are roughly 550,000 children with ASD who will be transitioning into adulthood over the next decade, and it is expected that approximately 45 percent of these emerging adults will enroll in a university, college, or technical/vocational school in the coming years. Springer's Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. (January 2018) The Summit Health & Wellness Center and Summit Campus ribbon cutting took place on Thursday June 17th, 2021 from 5pm - 7pm outdoors at the corner of Fruit Street and William Street in Worcester. The Summit Health and Wellness Center will be opening July 1st, appointments can be made now by visiting the website: www.summitagencyma.com or by calling 774-701-0670.

Guests at the ribbon cutting included: Senator Michael Moore, Worcester Councilor-at-Large, Kathleen Toomey, Worcester District 2 Councilor, Candy Mero-Carlson, and Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce President, Tim Murray. Summit Agency was recognized by the State of Massachusetts with an Official Citation.

"Think back to 20-30 years ago and the services that were available for young adults who had intellectual or developmental disabilities, we were just learning, we were just providing services in K-12, we were beginning inclusive enrollment legislation to provide more services for this demographic in colleges and universities; so I think it is great that we've been able, through your advocacy, and grassroots efforts and getting the attention of legislators and other policy officials to tell us what your children need to be successful and have a good quality of life." stated Senator Michael Moore. There were over 70 guests, and the celebration included a tour of the facilities,

refreshments and hor d'oeuvres, along with raffles for a Worcester Railers Gift Basket and gift cards to Wings Over Worcester, Smoke Stack Urban BBQ, 'Olo Pizza and Meze Estiatorio.

The Summit Health & Wellness Center will offer the following clinical modalities that include: psychiatric services, behavioral services, counseling services, and general health & wellness practices with Dr. Oliver Joseph, as the Agency's Chief Medical Officer. Many are excited to begin making appointments. It will serve both the Summit Campus residential students and the Worcester ASD community.

Summit Campus, which is accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year, is a residential program providing a dormitory experience for college students with autism. Summit Campus was created to provide



QCC is a Vaccine Champion College

WORCESTER, MA— June 23, 2021—Quinsigamond Community College has joined President Biden's COVID-19 College Vaccination Challenge. Colleges across the country are being asked to commit to taking actions that will engage their college communities and encourage everyone to get vaccinated. Statistics show that a significant portion of the older population have been vaccinated; however, the younger generation is lagging behind. Colleges and universities offer a significant opportunity to reach that younger generation.

"We are committed to keeping our college community, our city, and the Commonwealth safe. The best way to do this is by getting vaccinated," said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. "This is a challenge I hope all colleges and universities will stand behind so that we can put an end to this global health crisis."

QCC has taken a visible role in COVID-19 community outreach. The College developed a comprehensive, COVID-19 vaccination webpage offering vaccination information through public service videos in multiple languages, along with fact sheets in multiple languages, a link to vaccination locations and a link to the Massachusetts COVID-19 information website.

QCC has already hosted two Moderna Vaccine Clinics on its campus (670 West Boylston, Street, Worcester) for the QCC community, as well as faculty, staff and students from Assumption University, Anna Maria College and Becker College. Approximately 90 people were vaccinated at each clinic.

"Spreading the word about the importance of getting vaccinated has been a priority at QCC. Offering information that is easily accessible, in multiple languages, enables us to reach more in our community," President Pedraja said. "By hosting vaccine clinics, we are providing easier access for our students, their families, as well as QCC employees, which enables more in our community to be vaccinated."

President's Biden's goal is to have 160 million Americans being fully vaccinated by July 4.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications

at 508.854.7513 or jmartin@qcc. mass.edu

Quinsigamond Community College provides community the with high quality, affordable higher education in Worcester County. As a regional leader in education and workforce development, QCC serves the diverse educational needs of Central Massachusetts by providing affordable, accessible, and high quality programming leading to transfer, career, and lifelong learning.



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students attending any of the consortium colleges and universities in Worcester.x



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Meet Haley! This sweet girl is ready to meet her new family. Haley is new to Baypath, so we are still getting to know her. She is extremely playful with toys and loves to walk. While Haley can have dog friends, she is looking to be the only dog in her home. We are not sure how she would be with cats. Haley is happiest when she is with her people. We think she would do best in a home with adults or kids over 13. If you think Haley could be for you, please email adopt@baypathhumane.org today!

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Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

Bring your furry friend along on your next trip to MFB for a treat from our drive-up tellers, or stop in any branch and bring home a treat from our complimentary doggy treat bar.

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OBITUARIES

Linda Sue Wilmot, 73

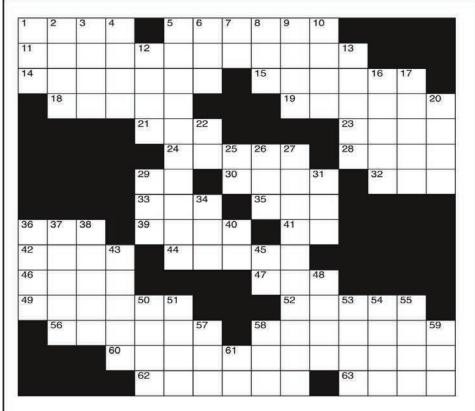
Linda Sue (Robinson) Wilmot, 73, passed away April 9, 2020 at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, CT from complications of pneumonia. Daughter of William A. and Mary (Agee) Robinson, Linda was born and raised in North Hollywood, California. She attended Fort Wayne Bible College in Indiana, graduating in 1968. Linda lived in the Midwest for 25 years, primarily in Richmond, IN where she started her family and met husband Bill Wilmot.

In 1990 Linda completed her long journey eastward when she moved to Pomfret, Connecticut. Living in an 18th-century home in New England let her pursue a longtime interest in historic restoration. She loved music, antiques, and gardening, passions she expressed through business while owning an antique store in Centerville, IN in the 1970s and running A Cottage Garden, a Pomfret nursery.

Linda was possessed of a kind heart and determined spirit. Living with MS

for 30 years, she met her many difficulties with courage and grace. Devoted to her family, she knit it together with bonds of concern and love. Her absence is deeply felt by those who survive her: sons Jeffrey Alexander of Philadelphia, PA, Ryan Alexander of Upton, MA William Wilmot of Belmont, MA, and Gregory Wilmot of Pomfret, CT; daughters-in-law Dyna Alexander, Cindi Alexander, and Elizabeth Gray; grandchildren Kylie, Adam, Juliet, Calder, Rowan, August, and Noah; and Howard & Karen Wilmot of St John, IN. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Willard J. Wilmot, and brothers Wade Norman and Don, Billy, and James Robinson.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 10, 2021 at 10 AM at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock in Woodstock, CT. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the National MS Society.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Absence of difficulty
- 5. Preserve a dead body
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. The act of coming together again
- 15. More cushy
- 18. Visionaries
- 19. Fish-eating bird
- 21. Indicates near
- 23. NY Mets legend Tommie
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop

- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Driver's licenses and passports
- 39. Snakelike fishes
- 41. Military flyers
- 42. Raincoats
- 44. Type of community
- 46. Feature of worm's anatomy
- 47. In the center
- 49. Laid back
- 52. Jewelled headdress
- 56. In slow tempo
- 58. Falls

Youthful Rockets gain playoff experience while advancing to Central Mass. Division 3 Quarterfinals

BY KEN POWERS SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

HUDSON — While the 2021 high school baseball season did not result in another Central Mass. or state title for the Auburn Rockets, it did provide other benefits, most notably valuable playing time for the 17 underclassmen on coach Eric Swedberg's roster, 12 of whom will be seniors next season.

Auburn, the No. 11 seed, opened the Central Mass. **Division 3 Tournament** with an impressive 7-4 road win over sixth-seeded Nipmuc Regional in a first-round game played Monday, June 21. With the win the Rockets advanced to play third-seeded Hudson in the quarterfinal round on Wednesday, June 25 at Riverside Park. The Hawks, taking full advantage of several Auburn errors. defeated the Rockets 8-1.

Offensively, against Hudson, Auburn (8-7) was led by Mike Nadeau (two hits), J.B. Whittemore (double), and Joe Valone (single, RBI).

"We gave them lots of extra outs, there's no doubt about that,' Swedberg said after the season-ending loss. "We gave them way too many outs. You can't do that against a team like Hudson."

Three of those errors occurred in the first three innings and allowed Hudson (12-4) to jump out to a 4-0 lead. Swedberg said he thought nervousness may have been a factor in the Rockets' uneven start against the Hawks, who were greeted by a large and loud crowd was similar to when we which included a very vocal student section.

"Other than the Nipmuc game (two days earlier), none of the guys on this team had any playoff experience,' Swedberg said. "They've never played under the lights in a tournament game with fans like Hudson had. I think, really, that all played into (the rough start).'

Auburn, which would have had 21 seniors on the 2020 team. had the season not been cancelled due to COVID-19 and the global coronavirus pandemic, had four upperclassmen on this year's squad --Nate Archambault, Rob Beaudin, Nolan Daoust and Connor Nordman.

"We came into the season with zero varsity experience on this team; we were a young, inexperienced team,' Swedberg said. "So, to go out and beat Grafton (7-6, on Wednesday, May 26), and then beat Oxford at Oxford (5-1, on Thursday, June 3), that was huge for this team.

"Then, to go into the tournament and beat Nipmuc; that was big, too," Swedberg continued. "Nipmuc, I think, is a better team than us on paper, but we played well against them. We were solid.'

Two postseason games certainly qualify as a heaping helping of experience for the Rockets.

"That's super valuable for us," Swedberg said. "We came into the tournament working with the guys on what a district game looked like. It

started the season when we were taking the kids through what a varsity high school baseball game was all about. Now they have two district games under their belt; I'm delighted."

The Rockets rebounded from a 3-5 start, which included a three-game losing streak, winning four of their last five to finish the regular season with a 7-6 record.

"We played well in the second half (of the season) after figuring things out during the first part," Swedberg said. "They ended up where we wanted them to be, which is great.

Underclassmen on this year's team expected back for Auburn's 2022 season include juniors Nadeau, Whittemore, Valone, Brayden Dacri, Gavin Dacri, Dan Flamand, Anthony Govoni, Zach Handfield, Owen Fitzgerald, Nate Jette, Luis Roman, and Turnbull Sturgis. The lone sophomore on this year's team was Tom Lutz. The freshmen on the Rockets' playoff roster were Ryan Hunter, Jeremiah Murphy, Ryan Sullivan and Isaac Swedberg.

Fitzgerald, Handfield, Jette, Lutz, Nadeau, Sturgis, Valone and Whittemore were all in the starting lineup against Hudson, while Murphy came on to pitch in relief during the game. Leading hitters this year for Auburn included Nadeau, who batted .379, and Fitzgerald (.370).

Springfield College Recognizes 2021 Graduates

SPRINGFIELD, MA (06/25/2021)-- Springfield College Recognizes the following local 2021 graduates:

- 29. Hammer is one 30. Senses of self-esteem
- 32. Trigraph
- 33. Not around

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Body part
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Expel or eject
- 4. Sea eagle
- 5. Subdivision of cenospecies
- 6. Dialect of Chinese
- 7. Mr. T's character on 'The A-Team"
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. NFL great Randy
- 12. Ireland
- 13. Palm trees
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Willis and Jerry are two
- 20. Affirmative!

н S A D

22. Potato state

ZZLE SOLUTION

- 25. "The First State"
- 26. A way to develop
- 27. Associations

60. Saying things again 62. Periods in history 63. Hyphen

29. Woman (French

31. Sunscreen rating

37. Indigo bush

40. Jr.'s father

36. Mosque prayer leader

38. Burn with a hot liquid

34. Brew

Tayla Foulkrod of Auburn, MA has earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in Physical Therapy.

Christopher Brodeur of Auburn, MA has earned a Master of Science degree in

ALMANAC **REAL ESTATE**

AUBURN

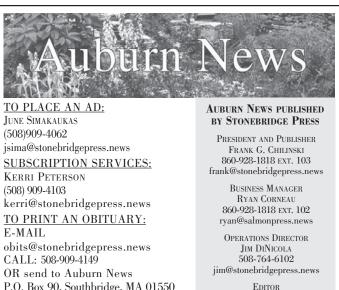
\$1,500,000, 113 Washington St, Eagle Acorn Acres LLC, to Acorn Acres Man Hsng Cmnt.

\$789,900, 234 Millbury St, Daly, Alice J, to Karlgren, Dana P, and Karlgren, Juliane M.

\$330,000, 9 Warren Rd, Coffin, Jason A, and Birri, Maegan E, to Zink, Ashley, and Stephens, Joseph.

\$190,000, 11 Sunrise Ave, Nieber Irene Y Est, and Harmon, Doris M, to Tahir, Syed M.

\$190,000, Cemetery Rd, Nieber Irene Y Est, and Harmon, Doris M, to Tahir, Syed M.



P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550 TO SUBMIT A LETTER

TO THE EDITOR: E-MAIL:

news @ stone bridge press.newsOR send to Auburn News P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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julie@villagernewspapers.com

Physician Assistant. Luccia Feraco of Auburn, MA has earned a Master of Science degree in

Physician Assistant. Springfield College concluded its 2021 Commencement Weekend ceremonies with eight separate in-person ceremonies at Stagg Field on the Springfield College main campus, four on Saturday,

May 15 and four on Sunday, May 16. "To the Class of 2021, I congratulate you and I thank you, you have made us proud in more ways than we can count." said Springfield College President Mary-Beth Cooper. "Please remember to stay connected to us and to each other. Through the Springfield College network, great things can be accomplished. And remember to come back and visit us. You will always have a home here. All the best as you continue your journeys.'

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 cam-

pus 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.



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43. Scad genus 45. Morning 48. Length of a straight line (abbr.) 50. Double curve 51. Small thin bunch

- 53. Worn by exposure to the weather
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Of the ears
- 58. "To the degree"
- 59. Residue
- 61. It keeps you cool

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Worcester County Overdose Response Program Sees Successes in First Year



WORCESTER – More than half of those offered services following an overdose accepted treatment as part of a program launched last year by District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. and all 60 police departments in Worcester County.

Critical Incident Management System (CIMS) launched in March 2020 and was used by police departments in all of Worcester County's cities and towns over the last year to collect overdose data and respond to non-fatal overdose victims to offer services. The response visits were performed with a plainclothes police officer and a recovery coach usually within 48 hours of an overdose incident.

Data from the last year shows that on 52 percent of the follow-up visits, individuals accepted services. In another 9 percent of instances the individuals were already seeking services. "These are

"These are encouraging numbers," said Mr. Early in a press conference today. "It was a challenging year to launch this program with the roadblocks presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. These numbers are a promising start. Any time we can help even one person get access to treatment is a life that is being saved."

The District Attorney's office purchased the CIMS software for \$40,000 using drug forfeiture funds in 2019 from developers Kelley Research Associates. The implementation of CIMS was a successful partnership between the District Attorney's Office, local police departments and municipalities. "By getting the names

of the folks who've had the non-fatal overdoses and by giving the opportunity for the follow up... what you've done is open the door. You've made the connection. You've provided an opportunity for that person when they're ready to take advantage of the treatment options that are available to them," said Worcester City Manager Edward Augustus.

CIMS allows police departments to share information, as well, so that when a person overdoses outside of their hometown they are still receiving a follow up visit.

"Addiction has no jurisdictional boundaries," said Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest Martineau, former President of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association. "When there's no boundary for that, there can be no boundary for helping people. And that's what this does. It connects 60 cities and towns police departments in responding and helping."

"The beauty of CIMS coming on board is now we have a centralized database that's tracking and we get an alert when we have to go offer up services. And the other thing that we were missing was when people were outside of Webster having an overdose, we never knew. Now with CIMS, we can follow up with them. It's a really integral part of getting these people the help

they need," said Webster Police Chief Michael Shaw. Webster's responses to those in need are assisted by a partnership with Opening the Word Recovery Center, run by Rev. Janice Ford, which opened in June 2020 and served more than 2,000 people.

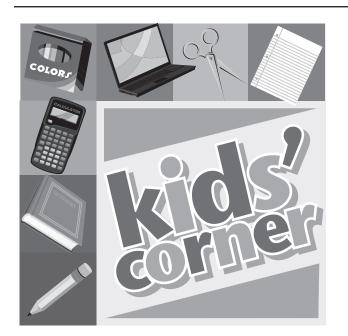
In fall of 2020, the District Attorney's office was awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the federal Department of Justice-Bureau of Justice Assistance to fund recovery coaches that will respond with police to follow up and offer services after an overdose.

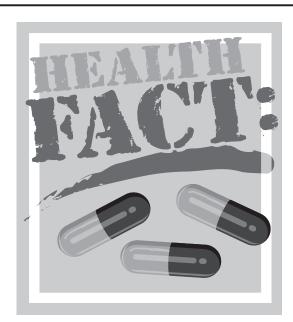
Mr. Early was also joined at the press conference by Worcester Police Chief Steven Sargent, current President of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association and Southbridge Chief Shane Woodson, Dudley Police Chief Steven Wojnar, and Worcester Fire Department Deputy Chief John Powers.



Your locally-owned hometown







RESEARCH SAYS THE OIL FROM THIS POPULAR FLOWER MAY HELP TREAT AN ASSORTMENT OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS.

ANSWER: ROSE



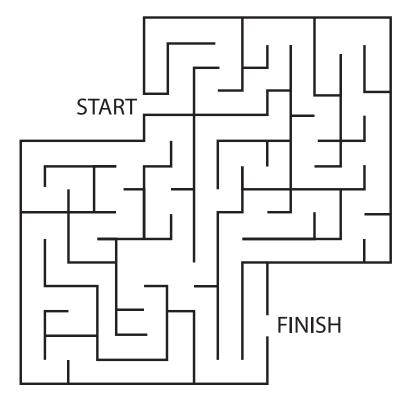
ENGLISH: Petal

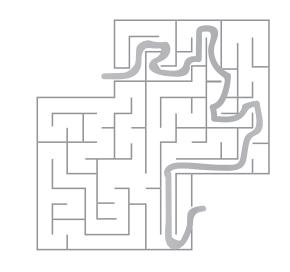
SPANISH: Pétalo

ITALIAN: Petalo



Can you find your way through the maze?



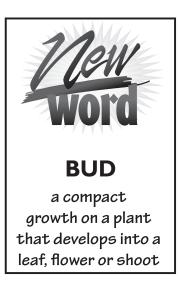


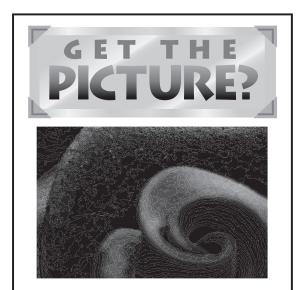


• 1613: LONDON'S GLOBE THEATRE BURNS DOWN DURING A PERFORMANCE OF SHAKESPEARE'S HENRY VIII.

• 1915: EDMONTON IS RAVAGED WHEN THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER FLOODS.

• 1995: THE SHUTTLE ATLANTIS DOCKS WITH THE RUSSIAN SPACE STATION MIR, FORMING THE LARGEST MAN-MADE SATELLITE EVER TO ORBIT EARTH.







ROSES LACK THE SPECIFIC GENE THAT HAS THE ABILITY TO PRODUCE A "TRUE BLUE" COLOR. BLUE ROSES ARE ACTUALLY MADE BY DYEING WHITE ROSES.

FRENCH: Pétale

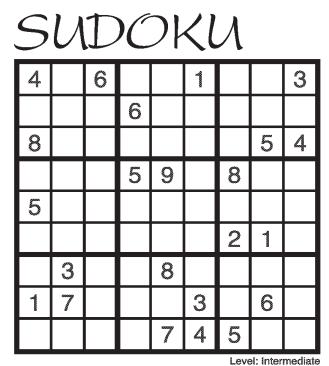
GERMAN: Blatt



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: FONDANT ROSE





Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Friday, July 2, 2021 • THE ABRINE • 7









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

PINION/COMMENTARY



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

> **BRENDAN BERUBE** EDITOR

"What would Barry say?"

When sitting down to write this Editorial, this Editor had heavy on her mind her old mentor from the radio days, Barry Lunderville who has since passed on, or as he called it "taking a dirt nap". Barry owned radio stations in NH and worked for CBS out of Boston. He was especially great to talk to when discussing small town politics and joked, "Well between us girls," During one particular time of discord, he passed this poem along and it is one that is read often, especially when thinking, "What would Barry say?"

IF BY RUDYARD KIPLING

If you can keep your head when all about you

Are losing theirs and blaming it on you

If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,

But make allowance for their doubting too:

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting

Or being lied about, don't deal in lies, Or being hated, don't give way to hating,

And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;

If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;

If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster

And treat those two impostors just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken

Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,

Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,

Which antiques and collectibles are bot now?

It's been over five years since I shared my top-10 list of hot selling antiques and collectibles. Many of the items from that column are still doing well over five years later. Some have even gained in value while others have dropped. There are also many other items that have become valuable in the years since.

Here's my list from 2015:

1. 1960's and earlier toys, comic books and other collectibles

2. Early Chinese and other Asian antiques

Mid-20th century 3. Scandinavian and other modern design art and furnishings

4. Arts and crafts and art deco design furnishings

5. 1960's and earlier baseball and other sports memorabilia 6. Advertising signs, posters,

and displays 7. Gold coins and jewelry - sil-

ver coins, flatware, and hollow

8. Important historical memorabilia

ware

9. Antique and classic automobiles and motorcycles

10. Paintings by listed artists

In recent columns, I've shared WAYNE TUISKULA how hot baseball and other sports cards currently are. They would

certainly move up from the No. 5 spot if I wrote the list today. Gold coins and jewelry would also move up the list. Gold prices averaged \$1,158.86 per ounce in 2015 Gold is close to \$1,800 per ounce as I write this column. Silver also took a big jump from when it averaged \$15.66 in 2015. It's at \$26.10 as I write.

1950s classic cars are items that have dipped in value since my original top-10 list. Hagerty.com's index of collectible American cars of the 1950s shows that classic 1950s cars were averaging around \$105,000 in 2015. The average is now well under \$100,000. This isn't a huge drop in price but is noteworthy.

A search of recent online auction results shows items selling for huge sums that I never could have imagined would be



so popular when I wrote my list back in 2015. For example, a box of O-Pee-Chee Canadian Star Wars bubble gum cards with 36 wax packs recently sold for over

\$8,400. A Super Mario 64 factory sealed 1996 first print Red Label video game went for \$16,000 in May. That same month, a 1985 pair of Air Jordan 1 size 13 sneakers in used condition sold for \$24,000. In April, a 1985 Topps Garbage Pail Kids First Series # 1a Nasty Nick graded PSA # 9 brought \$50,000. A Magic the Gathering Beckett graded and authenticated 8.5+ grade Alpha Mox Ruby card went for nearly \$100,000. In a March online auction, a sealed Fossil 1st edition mint English Pokemon cards Wizards of the Coast booster box sold for \$1.3 million. Looking back even further to when I started selling antiques over 30 years ago, I could have never imagined that

I might see 18th century high boy chests selling for under \$1,000 while a 20-yearold game card brought \$100,000. I will be updating the top-10 list in a future column.

Our next online auction of model railroad trains, die-cast cars, and model kits will begin soon. We will be offering more 1950s sports cards in another online auction later this summer. Other events are also being planned. Visit our website for details on upcoming events: https://centralmassauctions.com

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

Plant Roses in Honor of National Rose Month



Don't Let Investments Go On Vacation



Now that we've gained at least some space from the COVID-19 pandemic, summer travel is heating up. But while you might be eager to hit the road, you won't want your investments to take a vacation – you need them to work hard for you consistently. But how can you make this happen?

Here are some ideas:

Know your destination. "If you don>t know where you want to go, then it doesn't matter which path you take." This bit of wisdom, paraphrased from the classic children's book, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, may be appropriate for, say, hikers exploring a new landscape. But as an investor, it matters a great deal which path you take. If you only dabble in investing, occasionally putting some money into one investment or another, it will be difficult to build a portfolio that's consistently working in your best interest. It's important to create a longterm investment strategy based on where you want to go in life that is, how long you plan to work, what sort of retirement lifestyle you envision, and so on.

Match goals with investments. Some investments are designed to achieve certain goals. To illustrate: When you contribute to an IRA and a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan, you're investing for one specific, long-term goal: a comfortable retirement. While you can tap into these accounts for other purposes - though doing so might incur immediate taxes and penalties they are designed to provide you with income during your retirement years. Similarly, you may have other investments for other purposes, such as a 529 education savings plan. Here's the key point: Goals-based investing, by its nature, can help ensure your port-



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES



And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings

And risk it on one turn of pitch-andtoss

And lose, and start again at your beginnings

And never breathe a word about your loss

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew

To serve your turn long after they are gone,

And so hold on when there is nothing in vou

Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,

Or walk with Kings-nor lose the common touch,

If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt vou.

If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,

And-which is more-you'll be a Man, my son!

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It! We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor. But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Auburn News, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.news .

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

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

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

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

MelindaMvers.com

The Carefree series of shrub roses, like this Carefree Spirit rose, are repeat bloomers, hardy, and disease resistant.

Celebrate National Rose Month (June) by adding a rose or two to your garden or containers this month. Now it is easier than ever to enjoy their beauty and fragrance thanks to lower maintenance and disease resistant varieties.

Many gardeners have switched to hardier, more pest resistant shrub roses for just this reason. The Earth-Kind roses are among the easiest

and most environmentally friendly roses for all to grow.

The goal of the Earth-Kind program was to help gardeners enjoy roses while limiting the use of fertilizers, pesticides and water. The Texas Agrilife Extension Service started the program by conducting field trials of 100 rose cultivars for at least four years. They evaluated the roses for outstanding performance, superior pest resistance and tolerance of a wide variety of soils from acid to alkaline and sand to clay. To earn the Earth-Kind designation, roses also needed heat and drought tolerance once established.

The effort has expanded and now the National Earth-Kind research study includes test sites throughout the United States and several countries.

A few popular roses you may recognize carry this designation. The Fairy is a dwarf polyantha shrub rose covered with bouquets of small pink roses throughout the summer and is hardy in zones 4 to 9. Carefree Beauty, hardy in zones 4 to 9, has fragrant double pink roses all season long on 5 feet tall and wide plants. It's no surprise the popular Knock Out[™] rose with its raspberry red flowers and glossy green leaves, hardy in zones 5 to 9, received the Earth-Kind designation in 2004.

Evaluations continue and the list of Earth-Kind roses grows. You are sure to find one suitable to your garden design and growing conditions.

Repeat blooming, hardy and disease resistant shrub roses are another group to consider. This group of species, hybrids and varieties tend to be hardier, tolerant of a wider range of soil conditions



with greater disease resistance. Bonica and the Carefree series are two that have been gracing

planted,

doors in the garden and indoors in a vase. Proper harvesting and deadheading will keep your repeat blooming roses beautiful throughout the season.

Cut roses for arrangements in the morning just as the top of the bud is starting to open. Make the cut above an outward facing, five-leaflet leaf. Cut flowers back to a three-leaflet leaf on young plants that may not tolerate or be large enough for more severe pruning. Remove the lower leaves, recut the stem on an angle and place it in a vase of fresh water.

Keep your plants looking their best and encourage new blossoms by removing faded flowers. Deadhead single-flower roses back to the first five-leaflet leaf to encourage stouter and stronger stems. Remove only individual flowers as they fade from roses that bloom in a cluster. Once all the flowers in the cluster are done blooming you can remove the flower stem back to the first five-leaflet leaf. Always leave at least two, five-leaflet leaves attached to the plant.

Start looking for a few sunny spots in your landscape to fill with easy care roses. They are sure to boost your landscape's beauty and your enjoyment for years to come.

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

folio is always working on your behalf, in the way you intended.

Invest for growth. Ideally, hard work produces results, and one of the main results you want from your investments is growth - that is, you want your investments to appreciate in value so they can eventually help you meet your goals. But if you are overconcentrated in vehicles such as certificates of deposit (CDs) and government securities, you may end up lowering your growth potential. That's not to say that CDs and Treasury bills are in some sense "lazy." They can provide you with income and help you reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. But to achieve most of your goals, you'll need a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments working for you, with the exact percentage based on your needs and life stag-

Check your progress. How else can you ensure your investments aren't just taking it easy? By checking up on them. If you follow a buy-and-hold strategy, your portfolio shouldn't require many changes if it already reflects your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. Too much buying and selling could jeopardize your ability to follow a consistent, longterm strategy. However, "buy and hold" doesn't mean "buy and forget." By reviewing your portfolio at least once a year, you can determine if your investments are performing as they should. If they're not working for you as you'd like, you may need to make some changes.

If you're traveling this summer, relax and enjoy yourself-but keep those investments working hard.

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

gardens for years. Newer introductions are continually being introduced, expanding your planting options.

Once enjoy your roses out-

Dying in public

I'm asked lately why I'm still writing. My answer is, "it's what I do. I'm a writer." For me, not writing is like not breathing. Something occurs to me, and my mind and heart conspire to create the words that come out on paper. It's just what I do and it's who I am.

Then I'm asked the question, "How can you write and speak so openly about your death?" That's a different question with a different answer. I write openly about my upcoming death in hopes of helping others deal with the inevitable. We are all going to die, and I don't believe death is something to be feared, but even welcomed.

Then there are those who are left behind and there will be grief, but I also hope to help my loved ones joyfully celebrate with me as I pass.

Then of course there are 'Death and Taxes.' I've been too sick to properly deal with my taxes, and I'm currently on an extension. I think it's weird that in my last days I'm more concerned about the IRS than dying. I understand they can't chase me into heaven, but they can pursue my family. A simple flat tax could solve it all but that won't happen in my lifetime. And besides, it would end an entire unnecessary industry, so this week is "tax week."

What's so interesting about dying? First and foremost, it's what we don't know that stirs the mind ...



We are glued to stories about near death experiences (NDE's are highly debated, by the way), only because we all want to know what it will be like when we ourselves die. As consumers, we are obsessed with reviews before eating at a restaurant or purchasing a product. There is no "Yelp" for death. We read reviews because we want to know if the purchase is worth it, and we want to know what it would be like to have said product. But when it comes to death, we don't really get to read reviews. We also don't get a choice. We will all die, and no one really knows exactly what to expect. I won't know how it will be experienced, but I do trust in the heavenly promise. I do trust God is and will be present every breathing moment.

I find it fascinating, the small daily changes in my body. I'm not really experiencing much pain. My lungs become a little more congested daily. I see my family slowly coming to terms with the impending reality, which is what I hope for. I'm told my kidney and liver function is weakening. Death may not come easy but easier is always better.

I still have not given up. I serve the Great

Tips for Skill at the Grill

Physician ... my God of Miracles and Wonders. I do not understand His plan. but I'm confident that whatever it is, it serves the greater good. As much as I'd prefer to live, I submit my life to His will.

My greatest prayer is not for me, but for my family. I know there will be grief even though I pray for joy. Where there will be sadness, I pray for celebration of a happy life. The best I can hope for is an understanding that those I love are still loved and know and pray that I carry my concern as an eternal devotion to them with me to the grave.

And finally, I pray the words to this old country and western song over all those whom I love and

love me in return ...

"Will the circle be unbroken, by and by lord by and bye? There's a better home there waiting in the sky lord in the sky."

Yes, I believe with all my heart that I will soon return to my eternal home, prepared for me by my Lord and Savior where I'll spend eternity with my loved ones surrounded by peace and joy

May God bless you all.

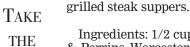
Garv W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @ GaryWMoore721 and at www.garywmoore.com

Backyard grilling has become much more than a casual and tasty cooking technique. Today, serving up creatively prepared foods grilled to perfection has been elevated to a fine culinary art. The good news is you don't have to be a

cooking school graduate to earn your BBQ apron. Whether you're striving for the title of neighborhood grill master or simply want to receive rave reviews for supper, the following strategies are sure to earn you top chef status behind the grill this season.

Tenderizing Techniques: Great grilling starts with meat preparation. Taking the time to tenderizing tough cuts of meat can make the difference between grilling success or failure. While the goal is to break down the muscle fibers in the meat, there are a few standard methods that have been proven successful. The manual method employs the use of a kitchen mallet, which is used to "beat" down the fibers in raw meat. Also, there are several meat tenderizers available on the market that can be sprinkled onto the meat before cooking. Perhaps the most popular tenderizing option is the use of marinades, as these liquids not only make the meat tender but impart an important boost of flavor too. Add the fact overnight marinating can reduce cooking time by up to 35%, and it's no surprise the marinating method is a top choice.

BBQ experts recommend tender cuts f beef marinate for just a couple of hours, while tougher cuts may require overnight soaking. Keep in mind marinating should be used with zippered plastic bags or glass or plastic bowls as the acids in some marinades can react with metal. After marinating, be sure to pat the meat dry with paper towels to ensure it cooks evenly on the grill.



HINT

KAREN

TRAINOR

Ingredients: 1/2 cup Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce; 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar; 1 1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard; 1/2 teaspoon pepper.

Instructions: Combine all ingredients. In large, shallow non-aluminum

baking dish or plastic bag, pour marinade over steaks; turn to coat. Marinate in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Remove steaks; discard marinade. Grill or broil steak to preferred doneness.

No Fail Marinade This unconventional recipe from the retro era promises taste and tenderness.

Ingredients: one third cup steak sauce; one half cup packed brown sugar; one twelve ounce can 7Up or Sprite; one half cup melted butter; four tablespoons red wine vinegar; one quarter teaspoon each onion powder, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Instructions: Combine all in a bowl or zip lock bag. Allow meat to marinate in mixture for at least an hour, or as long as overnight.

Hot off the Grill: Gauging Doneness

Gauging meats grilled to perfection can be a tricky challenge. Beyond checking the temperature of the meat, backyard chefs have learned to rely on a few "rules of thumb" to test for doneness.

*This "old school" chef trick is still a reliable way to gauge your meat without cutting into it. To test doneness by "feel" this method compares your hand and fingers to the firmness of the cut of meat. Pressing on the middle of the steak, a rare steak should feel the same as the heel of your hand (the fleshy area between your thumb and wrist) when hand is relaxed; a medium rare steak should feel like the heel of your hand when you press your thumb and forefinger together (which is firmer); a medium rare steak will feel as firm as the heel of your hand when you touch your middle finger to your

thumb (firmer yet); and medium well should feel as firm as the heel when you press your ring finger and thumb.

*Another common "rule of thumb" for doneness is the inch method is to cook by thickness of the meat. For a one inch thick steak, cook seven minutes for rare; nine minutes for medium; and 11 minutes for well done.

* When using an internal thermometer: a rare steak should be cooked to 125-130 degrees; 130 to 140 degrees for medium-rare; 140 to 150 degrees for medium, 150-160 degrees for medium-well or 160 to 170 degrees for well done.

BBQ Basics

•As a general guide, when you grill with charcoal, it takes about 30 minutes for coals to reach a medium temperature and become ash covered.

•For gas grills, allow about 15 minutes for the grill rack to preheat properly.

*To increase the heat on a charcoal grill, simply push the coals together, add more coals as needed lower the grilling surface, or fan the fire and tap the ashes from the coals.

•Steaks best for grilling without the need to tenderize, are such cuts such as Ribeye, Filet Mignon, T-Bone and Porterhouse..

•For best results cook pork on direct heat to seal the juices. Then finish it with indirect heat to ensure the center is completely cooked. Just be sure to preheat the grill so it will seal in the juices quickly.

*Fish should be from one to one and a half inches thick to prevent drying out.

•Always apply sweet basting sauces made with sugar, honey or syrup during the last few minutes of grilling only to prevent burning.

•When cooking steaks on the grill don't season the meat until each side has browned to keep the cut tender.

•When using a dry rub during barbecuing, always allow the meat to cook for approximately one third to one half of the total time before applying any basting sauce. This allows the meat to become warm and start absorbing the dry rub seasonings.

•If you are marinating meat, you'll need one to two cups of marinade for every one and a half to two pounds of food. You want enough marinade to completely surround the food.

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

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

Do you have a helpful hint or handy



Certified Angus Beef Signature Steak Marinade

This recipe from the country's premiere beef brand is a tasty tribute to

•Cooking for a crowd? To ensure even grilling, meats should be placed about three quarters of an inch apart on the grill rack.

•Does your fish dry out and break up when you cook it on the grill? Brush it with lemon juice while cooking to keep it moist.

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

"Look Both Ways" PSA to Promote Road Safety

PSA CHALLENGES MASSACHUSETTS DRIVERS TO BE AGGRESSIVELY NICE

AND BOSTON WEBSTER - Fundación MAPFRE and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation today announced a new public service campaign to engage people in changing their behavior on the roads. The campaign is part of an effort to reduce road-related injuries and fatalities, particularly as pandemic restrictions are lifted and people get back on the roads for summer travel

The PSA, launched in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Fundación MAPFRE, challenges the

stereotype of a typical "Massachusetts driver" by encouraging people to be "aggressively nice" on the road. https://youtu. be/xIvlTmiycz8

"We are pleased to support our Goal Zero vision to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries, with our new Look Both Ways program this year," Jaime Tamayo. said Chief Representative of Fundación MAPFRE in the United States and Chief Executive Officer of MAPFRE USA. "As more people hit the roads this summer, it is important to encourage drivers, passengers and pedestrians to think twice about their behavior and look out for each other. Fundación MAPFRE is proud to work with MassDOT to

help share this important campaign and message."

"MassDOT's first priority is ensuring that members of the public safely reach their travel destinations," said MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "We are happy to partner with MAPFRE Foundation on the Look Both Ways PSA to improve safety and reduce injuries and fatalities on our roadways."

MassDOT encourages anyone looking for information about crash data to check out the MassDOT IMPACT dashboard at https://apps.impact. dot.state.ma.us/cdp/ home.

In addition to the PSA, Fundación MAPFRE is planning a Look Both Ways Road Tour, bringing an interactive road safety program to high schools, colleges and public events across Massachusetts and Connecticut. The program features React Challenge, a digital gaming experience that tests users' reaction time when faced with obstacles on the road. The tour also includes a custom art installation by Jason Tetlak. The PSA and interactive campaign aim to change people's behavior on the road by changing their perspective, using a unique combination of education and empathy

Details about Look Both Ways, including the PSA, React Challenge and road safety resources, can be found at lookbothwayssafety.org.

Look Both Ways sup-

ports Vision Zero, a global initiative to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, a cause Fundación MAPFRE has long-championed internationally.

According to a study conducted by the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, with support from Fundación MAPFRE, the most common cause of unintentional injury death among children 1-14 years of age (49 percent) was transportation-related, including children as passengers in cars, on motorcycles and bicycles, and as pedestrians.

About Fundación MAPFRE

Fundación MAPFRE is a nonprofit organization created by MAPFRE in 1975 to promote the well-being of society and citizens across the company's footprint. Active in 30 countries, Fundación MAPFRE focuses on five areas: Road Safety and Prevention, Accident including fires, mishaps at home and drownings; Insurance and Social Protection; Culture; Social Action; and Health Promotion. Please visit https://www.fundacionmapfre.org/en/ for more information about Fundación MAPFRE.

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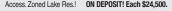






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MASONS

continued from page A1

Masonic Lodge Youngest Worshipful Master. This is an exciting and extraordinary accomplishment for a young man to go thru all the officer chairs and get voted into become Master of the Lodge. He was hooked and wanted more. Due to his personality, outgoingness, and the fact he is a chatter box, his thirst for knowledge and love for Freemasonry continue his move up in the 24th District and became the DDGM Marshal from 2014-2015 and 2015 Grand Steward to the Grand Lodge in Boston. He has so many more accomplishments that there are too many to mention.

The Grand Masonic Lodge in Boston took note of this young upcoming Master Mason and was picked to become the 24th District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) and served 3 terms from 2016-2018. During his

time as DDGM R.W. Chris loved to travel. He visited Lodges thru out his District and throughout the State of Massachusetts. He became so well know and popular he was nominated as a candidate in summer of 2019 for the position of Junior Grand Warden from the Grand Masonic Lodge in Boston and in December of 2019 won the election and voted into his new appointed position. This young man mentioned to me that he is "Living His Dream", a worthy man, a humble young man, who will continue his dream as a Freemason. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonary.org and find a lodge nearest you. Members of the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge are immensely proud of this young man's accomplishments and his drive to continue to do more for his fellow man and Freemasonry.



Photo of Group: Center with Colonial black gold trim hat is Most Worshipful Richard Maggio Grand Master of Boston and to his right is R.W. Christopher St. Cyr Junior Grand Warden along with Master Masons from all over the State of Massachusetts and beyond.

CONCERT

continued from page A1

ied artists and ensembles to the region." The concerts at Indian Ranch and The Hanover Theatre will feature seating sections where distanced "pods" of seats will be available for patrons who prefer or need such an option, general admission seating with available elsewhere at both venues. Calendar listings for July: Quartet Brubeck Brothers

Thursday, July 8 at 6pm Riley-Pappas Pavilion, Auburn, MA Free, open to the public Sardines Hot Thursday, 22 at 6pm July Indian Ranch, Webster, MA \$35+, tickets required, limited distanced seating available TreyMcLaughlin&TheSoundsofZamar Sunday, 25July at 6pm The Hanover Theatre, Worcester, MA adults. \$35+ \$25 students; tickets required, limitavailable ed distanced seating

About Music Worcester: Music Worcester, Inc., originally known as the Worcester County Music Association, for years ran the Worcester Music Festival. Current programs reflect the merger in the mid-1990s of the Festival with International Artists Series and the MA Jazz Festival. Great performances by world-renowned orchestras and guest soloists, chamber music, ballet, world music and dance, jazz and choral masterworks are hallmarks of Music Worcester's annual operations. Multiple educational programs currently serve youth and families of greater Worcester: masterclasses by visiting artists, Tickets to Opportunity, in-schools residencies, and the Young Artist Competitions. The 2020-2021 virtual season has featured violinist Joshua Bell, pianists Asiya Korepanova and Simone Dinnerstein, the vocal ensemble Chanticleer, folk musician Rhiannon Giddens, and The Worcester Chorus. WWW.MUSICWORCESTER.ORG

YMCA of Central Massachusetts Water Safety Tips

As temperatures begin to rise in the northeast, the number of drownings will likely rise with it.

Over one weekend in June there were five tragic drownings involving both minors and adults, bringing the total to ten drownings in Massachusetts since May. The majority of these deaths are preventable through age appropriate swim lessons, or at the very least, knowledge about how to be safe around water. Each year there are nearly 3,600 fatal drownings — about 10 deaths per day — in swimming incidents. Even more alarming, drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged 1-4, and about one in five people who die from drowning are children aged 14 and vounger. The best way to prevent drowning is to learn basic swimming - knowing how to float and move

through the water — at an early age.

As "America's Swim Teacher," the YMCA of Central Massachusetts teaches 7,500 people, both children and adults, to swim each year. However, since pools were closed for a portion of the pandemic, many children and adults did not have the opportunity to learn to swim. With that in mind, the YMCA of Central Massachusetts is now offering swim les-

Teach your children that they should only swim in locations where lifeguard is on duty.

Supervise your children whenever they're in water. Whether it's bath time or taking a dip in a pool or lake, make sure your children are within an arm's reach of you at all times.

Don't engage in breath holding activities. Children shouldn't hold their breath for a prolonged amount of time while swimming, as this can cause drowning and has several other severe physical side-effects.



"We have seen an increase in drownings all over the state, as well as in our area, and now that our Y is fully open, we are in a unique position to offer critically important swim lessons and safety around water courses," said David Connell, President and CEO.

sons year round.

Here are just a few simple water safety tips from the YMCA that can help save a life:

Never swim alone.

Wear a life jacket. Inexperienced or non-swimmers should wear a Coast Guardapproved life jacket.

Don't jump in the water to save a friend who is struggling in deep water. If a child finds their friend in deep water unexpectedly, their natural reaction may be to jump in the water to try to save them. Even if a child is a great swimmer, a panicked person will overpower them, pulling them underwater with them. The Y teaches the "reach, throw, don't go" concept of using a long object to reach for them and pull them to safety. By using this technique children can help their friend without compromising their own safety. While swimming lessons alone will not prevent all tragic drownings, it is important for more people to have the

knowledge and skills nec-

essary to move through

the water safely and with

confidence.

The YMCA of Central Massachusetts is committed to helping you and your family be safe around water. Please contact us at 508-755-6101 or www.ymcaofcm.org for more information on water safety and swimming lessons.



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MassBay Community College Dean's List, achieving outstanding academic honor for the spring 2021 semester.

- * Robert Russell of Auburn (01501) studying cyber security
- * Sean Wheeler of Auburn (01501) studying general studies
- * Cailan Bennett of Holden (01520) studying general business
- * Alexander Reitz of Holden (01520)
- * Gemima Augustin of Millbury (01527) studying surgical technology
- * Keri-Ann Dayhoff of Oxford (01540) studying computer tomography
- * Minhchau Phan of Worcester (01608) studying general studies
- * Nicole Hoxworth of Worcester (01608) studying interior design
- * Cassandra Pires of Worcester (01609) studying paramedicine
- * Brittany Curry of Worcester (01610) studying general studies
- * Njideka Omasan Unokesan of Worcester (01610) studying general studies * Robert Yawlui of Worcester (01610) studying general studies
- * Hajarah Shakir of Worcester (01602) studying radiologic technology

Merk (01602) Taylor Worcester of To be eligible for the MassBay Dean's List, students must com-plete at least six credits of college-level courses, be in good standing with the College, and earn a grade point average of 3.500 or higher. The spring 2021 semester Dean's List includes 930 full- and part-time students.

To learn more about MassBay visit www.massbay.edu.

MassBay Community College is the most affordable higher education option in MetroWest Boston, offering a robust portfolio of courses and more than 70 associate degree and certificate programs with flexible day, evening, and weekend classes in Ashland, Framingham, Wellesley Hills, and online. MassBay students receive an unmatched educational value by earning stackable credits that transfer to bachelor's degree programs, and workforce-ready skills necessary to advance careers in high-demand fields such as health and life sciences, automotive technology, engineering, business, cybersecurity, and the humanities. MassBay's Associate Degree in Nursing (RN) and Practical Nursing (LPN) programs were both ranked as the #1 Nursing Program in Massachusetts in 2020-2021 by national nursing advocacy organizations RegisteredNursing.org, and PracticalNursing.org. Since its founding in 1961, MassBay has been accredited by several governing bodies and remains firmly committed to its mission of meeting the needs of the diverse local communities it serves. We value the intrinsic worth of all individuals, collectively in pursuit of inclusiveness and prioritize our work towards achieving equity within our community and beyond.

University of New Hampshire's Dean's List for the Spring 2021 Semester

DURHAM, NH (06/24/2021)-- The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the spring 2021 semester.

Gwenyth Lutz of Auburn, MA for earning High Honors

Emma Jette of Auburn, MA for earning Honors

Town-to-Town

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.

Local Residents Earn Dean's List Honors from MassBay Community College WELLESLEY HILLS, Mass. - The following local students have been named to WellesLey HILLS, Mass. - The following local students have been named to MassBay Community College Deaple List achieving audients have been named to

The year 2020 is one few people will soon forget. Life changed dramati-cally and perhaps forever in 2020, when the outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 forced billions of people across the globe to make sacrifices in an effort to prevent the spread of the potentially deadly virus.

sacrifices The made in response to COVID-19 are per-

haps most noticeable on holidays, when people accustomed to gathering with family and friends were unable to do so, or only able to do so on limited terms.

Despite those restrictions, people continued to celebrate on holidays like Easter and Memorial Day, and the Fourth of July does not figure to be any different. Fourth of July celebrations often take place in the backyard by the grill, and this year marks a perfect opportunity to expand your culi-nary repertoire. This recipe for "Best Burger With Blue Cheese Butter" courtesy of Eric Treuille and Birgit Erath's "Grilling" (DK Publishing) offers a new take on a backyard barbecue staple.

Best Burger With Blue Cheese Butter Serves 4

- pound ground chuck steak
- $\mathbf{2}$ teaspoons salt 1

1

teaspoon black pepper

1/2-inch slices blue cheese butter (see below)

sesame hamburger buns, 4 halved

Combine ground steak with salt and pepper. Divide into 4 equal-sized pieces and gently shape into 4 burgers about 1-inch-thick. Grill burgers and warm buns according to instructions below. Top burgers with butter and serve hot in sesame buns.

Outdoor cooking:

Grill over hot coals for 3 minutes per side for rare, 4 minutes per side for medium rare, or 5 minutes per side for well done. Place buns cut side down on grill until warm and lightly golden, 1 minute.

Indoor cooking:

Preheat a ridged cast-iron grill pan



over high heat. Cook for 3 minutes per side for rare, 4 minutes per side for medium rare, or 5 minutes per side for well done. Place buns cut side down on grill pan until warm lightly golden, 1 minute.

Blue-Cheese Butter

Makes 15 servings

 $\mathbf{2}$

16 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened

4 ounces (1 cup crumbled) blue cheese

teaspoons black pepper

Place ingredients in a food processor or blender; pulse until well blended. Wrap in foil. Place in the freezer until hard, about 45 minutes. To serve, roll back foil and cut into 1/2-inch slices. When slicing from frozen, warm the knife under hot water first. After slicing, always tightly rewrap the unused flavored butter roll in the foil before returning to refrigerator or freezer.

Best Burger Variations

· Herbed Burger: Add 2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves or 1 teaspoon dried thyme, 1 crushed garlic clove and 1 tablespoon finely chopped onion to the ground steak.

• Spicy Burger: Add 1/2 teaspoon tabasco, 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce and 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard to the ground steak.

Think ahead:

Shape burgers up to 1 day in advance. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate. Cooks' Note: Overhandling the meat

when shaping will result in a tough, dry burger. To guarantee a juicy burger, handle the meat as little as possible.

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TOWN OF SPENCER

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Ken Bates named to Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP) Board



Ken Bates

Worcester, MA –Ken Bates, President &CEO of Open Sky Community Services, has been named to the Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers

(ADDP) Board of Directors.

ADDP is a state-wide association that focuses on issues relating to developmental/intellectual disabilities, Autism and brain injury services. They provide financial and political advocacy for their over 130 member organizations and also offer professional development opportunities.

According to the ADDP website, their mission "is to promote and ensure strength of community-based providers so provider members can be successful in improving quality, access and value of services in the community."

Bates has served as President & CEO of Open Sky since its formation in 2018 and oversaw the affiliation of The Bridge of Central Massachusetts and Alternatives Unlimited. Prior to his position at Open Sky, he served as President & CEO at The Bridge of Central Massachusetts and as Executive Director of New Business and Financial Growth for the Commonwealth Medicine at UMass Medical School. He has also served as Vice-President of Behavioral Health at Advocates, Inc. and as Director of Outpatient Services at Spectrum Health Systems.

He received his undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from Worcester State University and his Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Assumption University. In 2021 he was awarded an honorary Ph.D. from Assumption University.

Bates currently serves as Vice Chairperson on the Board of the Association of Behavioral Healthcare of Massachusetts and as a Corporator for Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

About Open Sky Community Services Open Sky Community Services is dba for Alternatives Unlimited, Inc and The Bridge of Central MA. Open Sky offers a wide range of services for adults, adolescents, and children with mental health challenges, developmental and intellectual disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other challenges throughout Central Massachusetts. Open Sky Community Services has over 1,300 dedicated employees and an annual budget of \$89M with more than 100 programs throughout the region. For more information, please visit www.openskycs.org

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"I am Definitely glad to be a part of the team as well. I feel like I'm home and everyone has been wonderful." — Nicole V. (LPN)

"In the time that I have been working at Quaboag I have witnessed the well-being and comfort of the residents as the main priority of the facility. The facility is centered around patient care and is designed in the best interest of the residents."

– Lynnea T. (CNA)

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For more information please contact: Julie Stapleton at 508.867.7716 Or apply online at: quaboagonthecommon.com