

Auburn News

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Friday, May 29, 2020

Newsstand: 75 cents

Baker unveils phased reopening plan

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Gov. Charlie Baker unveiled his multi-phased plan for reopening the state last week, announcing several requirements needed for certain businesses to return.

Local business owners were hoping for a quick return to work following the Governor's May 18 announcement, but several businesses will have to remain closed for now. The Governor's latest guidelines, dubbed as a "safer at home" policy, only allowed places of worship, construction sites, and manufacturing businesses to immediately reopen on May 18.

But just because certain sectors of the state are reopening, the Baker Administration continues to advise residents to stay at home as much as possible. This is no time to start heading back out in large groups, the Governor warned.

"The goal of this phased reopening plan is to methodically allow businesses, services, and activities to resume, while avoiding a resurgence of COVID-19 that could overwhelm the state's healthcare system and erase the progress made so far," Baker said.

Manufacturing facilities, construction sites, and places of worship reopened last week under strict guidelines. Additionally, hospitals and community health centers can begin to provide high priority preventative care, pediatric care, and treatment for high-risk patients.

Under a staggered approach, additional Phase 1 sectors of the economy were permitted to reopen on May 25. These include the following:

- Lab space
- Office space
- Limited personal services, including hair salons, pet grooming, and car washes
- Retail (remote fulfillment and curbside pickup)
- Beaches and parks
- Drive-in movie theaters
- Select athletic fields and courts
- Most fishing, hunting, and boating activities
- Outdoor gardens, zoos, reserves, and public installations

Each reopening phase will last a minimum of three weeks and could last longer before moving to the next phase. State health officials will be keeping careful watch of the metrics as new sec-

tors reopen.

"If public health data trends are negative, specific industries, regions, and/or the entire Commonwealth may need to return to an earlier phase," Baker said. "If we all work together to defeat COVID-19, we can proceed through each phase."

Success in earlier phases will determine criteria for future phases, state officials said. This will include travel regulations, sizes of permitted gatherings, lodging and accommodations, arts, entertainment, fitness centers, museums, youth sports, and other activities.

Baker also addressed business owners who feel unsafe about reopening and potentially endangering employees and customers.

"Businesses are not required to reopen, and may not do so if they are unable to follow safety protocols," the Governor said. "The Baker-Polito Administration has developed specific guidance so that each industry reopens as safely as possible. Businesses are expected to implement these protocols in addition to the more general mandatory workplace safety standards."

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Courtesy

PEEK-A-BOO

A bear was able to sneak through a hole in a fence near Interstate 290 recently, creating quite a stir until it was safely tranquilized and returned to safety.

Charlton adapts governor's reopening approach

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – With Gov. Charlie Baker announcing a four-phase plan to re-open the Commonwealth of Massachusetts over the next several months, local communities are now beginning to assess how each step of this process will affect them as the world seeks a return to normality following the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Charlton, Town Administrator Andrew Golas said the town has had to implement a stricter approach to reopening the town hall over the course of the next month. The town had originally planned its own phased approach to reopening, but now that the governor

has issued a statewide strategy Charlton will be adjusting its approach accordingly.

"At first, we had a little bit more of an aggressive re-opening plan, where we were hoping to open up to residents by appointment. When the governor's orders came out, they were a little unclear as to how they truly affected us. After getting a little bit more guidance from the Massachusetts Municipal Association, we basically had to make the determination that we weren't going to be allowed to have residents in the building until at least Phase 2 from the state level commences," Golas said. "Right now, we're basically planning that starting at the end of May

offices will have two staff members at the most per office with some rotating staffing on site. A lot of the actual services will still be provided remotely."

Golas said there are still plenty of unanswered questions that need to be resolved before Charlton fully re-opens and allows residents to enter the town hall. The plan right now is to follow state guidelines and re-open small parts of the town as allowed.

"We don't want to be too aggressive, and we're trying to figure out how everything fits with Charlton," Golas said. "As outdoor recreation opens up, we'll be looking to open the playgrounds and other facilities back

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Recycle your electronics May 30

AUBURN — An electronic recycle day and bicycle collection will be held Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Faith Church, 22 Faith Ave., Auburn.

It's time to recycle all those old electronics! All towns welcome. No resident requirements. Clean out your basement or garage and bring your items to the church parking lot! The following is a list of recyclable items, including, but not limited to:

Computer towers, laptops, VCRs, copiers, DVD players, stereo equipment, microwaves, dehumidifiers, radios, small electronics of any kind,

lighting, vacuums, any appliance such as stoves, washers, dryers, etc. Exercise equipment, lawn mowers, snow blowers, small engine items, empty propane tanks \$10.

TVs up to 18 inches \$15 each; TVs 19 to 24 inches \$20 each; TVs 25 to 31 inches \$25 each; TVs 32 to 35 inches \$30 each; TVs 36 inches and larger, wood console and projection TVs \$40 each.

CRT monitors \$15 each; flat panel monitors \$15 each, AC units and dehumidifiers, \$15; Microwaves \$10 each; Small dorm refrigerators, \$1; Washers, dryers, stoves, \$20 each; Large refrigerators, \$25; Lawn

mowers, ride on included, snow blowers, \$20 each; Grills \$10 each; Any kind of exercise equipment, \$10 each, treadmill \$20 (rain or shine) (cash or check).

Keyboards, car batteries, cell phones, circuit boards, no cost; any questions: J.wood36@yahoo.com.

Bicycle Recycle same day and time. Please bring any and all unwanted or under used bikes to the parking lot. We will be accepting any model of bike: mountain, road, BMX, etc., in any condition. Our aim is to keep bikes from being thrown out when they can be reused.

Field of Flags Campaign honors veterans, essential workers

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Village's annual Field of Flags Campaign, which honors military service members through the planting of American flags, is expanded this year to recognize and support the essential workers whom our country has relied on throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The beloved tradition will be on display at two locations – the first along Route 20 across from the Village's entrance starting on Memorial Day,

and, for the first time, at OSV's partner organization, Coggeshall Farm Museum in Bristol, R.I. as soon as the farm reopens.

Friends and family can commemorate a loved one, or even a stranger, who is currently serving or has served in the U.S. military, or who is caring for our nation as an essential worker, with just a \$25 donation. Every gift of \$25 will add a flag to one of the two Field of Flags locations of the donor's choice, which will serve as a tangible reminder of the service and sacrifice of these American heroes, and a physical expression of gratitude. A flag can also be sponsored in memory of a loved one or a military veteran. Each flag

donation provides year-round complimentary admission to OSV and Coggeshall Farm for military families, and this year only, for essential workers from the time the museums reopen through Thanksgiving.

"Our Field of Flags display has always been a favorite of our visitors and local community, a moving and beautiful showcase of pride and an acknowledgment of the sacrifice of our fellow citizens," said OSV President Jim Donahue. "We're delighted to expand this year's program to include the heroes on the frontline of the COVID-19 fight, while also physically expanding the display to

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QCC's Wyvern graduates ready to change the world

WORCESTER — While the words may have been sent remotely, the sentiments were the same for the more than 1,400 2020 graduates of Quinsigamond Community College. Amid an ongoing pandemic, the College held its first virtual Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, May 21.

QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja told graduates of the amazing legacy they are leaving for others and of the power that each one of them wields as they enter the next chapter in their lives.

“One day people will look back on this time and wonder how we did it. We know why. We are a community college. We are a community and we know how to beat the odds and emerge successful,” he said.

“You have reached the mountain top, but don’t stop here, there are many more mountains to conquer. Be brave, be courageous, and look back on what you’ve accomplished and take strength from it, and transform our world into a better place.”

Student Government Association President, Jorgo Gushi, encouraged his fellow graduates to be proud and mindful of this moment in time.

“The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match and each one of you is the fuse. Take pride in how far you’ve come, have faith in how far you can go and don’t forget to enjoy the journey,” Mr. Gushi said.

Commissioner of Higher Education for Massachusetts, Carlos Santiago sent remote greetings to the graduates, acknowledging the unprecedented virtual commencement, yet focusing on their accomplishments and successes, particularly as they navigated remote learning in their last semester.

“I can guarantee when you look back on this many years from now, this will be the most celebratory experience you will remember,” he said. “We need you to help rebuild our society and our country, not with a vision of returning to the past, but rather creating a new future. One that must be created on mutual respect, valuing all members of our society.”

QCC Psychology Professor Colson told students of the pride both she and her colleagues felt for the Class of 2020 as they overcame barriers, brought on, or exacerbated by the global pandemic.

“Know this, the Class of 2020 will forever be an inspiration for faculty,” she said. “I hope you understand how inspiring you are to others

who are just starting their journey in these uncertain times.”

Mr. Gushi’s impassioned speech compared his long flight overseas from his homeland of Albania with his academic and personal journey at QCC.

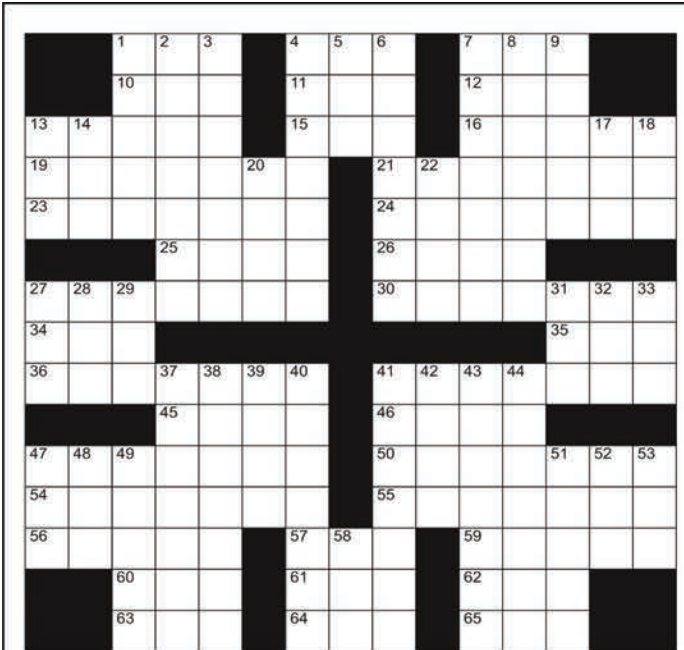
“When I started at QCC I made my name ‘George,’ because I was uncomfortable in my own skin, unsure of who I was and wanted to be. My classmates, professors and coworkers built the confidence in me to finally start referring to myself as ‘Jorgo,’ my true self,” he said. “At QCC, our perspectives, our talents, our histories and our voices were accepted, fostered and supported. We found our true selves.”

President Pedraja said he felt that in spite of the challenges today due to the pandemic, he sees a bright future because of these graduates.

“Our mascot, the wyvern, is a mythical guardian of the community. This has been even more evident these past few weeks with many of our current students and alumni serving our community in its hour of need. Now as graduates, you will go on to be guardians of our community and of our world. Today more than ever our world needs more wyverns. Go and change the world,” he said.

To view QCC’s Virtual Commencement Ceremony, visit www.QCC.edu/commencement. Public access station WCCA-TV, Worcester Cable Channel 194, will replay part one of the ceremony next Friday, May 29 and part two, Saturday, May 30, both at 9:30 p.m. For photos and messages from QCC graduates, visit [#Quinsig2020](https://www.facebook.com/Quinsig2020).

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



CLUES ACROSS

1. It's now called Experian
4. You can draw it
7. Very fast aircraft
10. Go quickly
11. Fifth note of a major scale
12. Biochemical abbreviation
13. Make somebody laugh
15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
16. City in NE Morocco
19. Colorless gas
21. NE football player
23. A snake is one
24. Small spot
25. Inform
26. Republic of Ireland
27. Large statues
30. Documents about an individual
34. Helps little firms
35. Namibia's former name
36. Large insects
41. Thirsty
45. A well-defined track or path
46. One who utilizes
47. Plant-eating mammals
50. Not in tip-top shape
54. Alternate names
55. A part of a broadcast serial
56. City in central Italy
57. LOTR actor McKellen
59. Trees provide it
60. Men's fashion accessory
61. Type of screen
62. Snake-like fish
63. Possesses
64. When you aim to get there
65. Tooth caregiver

CLUES DOWN

1. Hit heavily
2. Italian rice dish
3. Some are cocktail
4. A citizen of Israel
5. Read-only memory
6. Passed by
7. Northern diving ducks
8. References
9. Iranian language
13. Swiss river
14. Woman (French)
17. Gov't department (abbr.)
18. Consumed
20. Ailments
22. Balkan Jewish appetizer
27. Reciprocal of a sine
28. Skywalker mentor ____-Wan
29. Resinous secretion of insects
31. Similar
32. Female sheep
33. Cool!
37. Borders the Adriatic Sea
38. Flowers
39. It's sometimes upped
40. Immobile
41. Female body parts
42. Common request
43. Made a second thrust
44. Fell into deep sleep
47. Subway resident
48. Brew
49. The event of being born
51. Aspirations
52. Doctor of Education
53. Punk musician ____ Dee Ramone
58. A subdivision of a play



Special Ed department receives high marks in audit

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

D U D L E Y / CHARLTON – The Dudley Charlton Regional School District’s special education department earned high marks during a recent review by the Department of Secondary Education. So high, in fact, that the district was one of several communities exempt from the customary site visit after exceptions had to be made in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

District Director of Pupil Personnel Services Lorinda Allen gave a brief presentation during a livestreamed School Committee meeting in mid-May explaining that the “audit” was conducted as part of the DSE’s annual tiered review. In the past, the

DSE has conducted a full coordinated program review every few years but that approach has since evolved into a tiered process where every year a single department is audited and reviewed for compliance. This past year, the special education department was audited which included examining communication, timelines and paperwork, regulations and the creation of individualized education programs among other areas. Allen said the schools passed with flying colors and, due to the national health crisis and the district’s high marks, the site visit that normally follows the reviews was canceled.

“Our staff did a great job getting everything they needed collected last spring and over the summer uploaded to the site for their

review. Typically (the DSE) would also follow up with a site visit. Our site visit was due at the end of March so given the extended closure they have determined that with districts that were not at any type of an intervention risk that they would forgo those site visits for this particular year. They notified us a few weeks ago that our site visit was not going to happen. They felt they didn’t need to do one and they have enough documentation that we had submitted,” Allen said.

The Dudley Charlton Regional School District hit “met requirements” for all categories, the top tier for every section of the review. This means the district’s special education program was deemed efficient enough to be within state standards and requires no changes or

recommendations from the DSE. Allen credited the staff and program and school leaders for helping maintain a program that could reach such high marks.

“I think that’s a great credit to our administrators, to our special education coordinators and our special education staff and to our teachers who really, in addition to caring for the kids, are conscientious about those timelines and the legal requirements as well. I think we have a great department to be proud of for all their work on behalf of the students,” said Allen.

While the School Committee were quick to compliment Allen on her contributions to the success of the department she humbly stated that it was a “team effort.”

Local students graduate from College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER — A total of 707 students received bachelor of arts degrees from College of the Holy Cross during a virtual celebration of the Class of 2020 on May 22.

The live video program, during which graduates received electronic diplomas, featured a special message from director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and Holy Cross alumnus Dr. Anthony Fauci ‘62.

The virtual celebrations will be followed by an in-person commencement ceremony for the Class of 2020 to be held in spring 2021.

The following local students earned degrees:

Dominic Elia, of Auburn
Alexis Fairbanks, of Auburn
Catherine Villa, of Auburn
About College of the Holy Cross
The [College of the Holy Cross](https://www.holycross.edu/), in Worcester is among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

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THE AUBURN NEWS (546-680) is published weekly for \$45 per year (in county) by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Out of county rate is \$56 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Southbridge. To subscribe call (800) 367-9898. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Auburn News, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

Auburn News

AUBURN NEWS STAFF DIRECTORY

EDITOR BRENDAN BERUBE (508) 909-4106 news@stonebridgepress.news	LOCAL NEWS AND ADVERTISING Phone: (508) 764-4325 Fax : (508) 764-8015
To PLACE A RETAIL AD JUNE SIMAKAUKAS (508) 909-4062 jsima@stonebridgepress.news	

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PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER FRANK G. CHILINSKI (508) 909-4101 frank@stonebridgepress.news	BUSINESS MANAGER RYAN CORNEAU (603) 677-9082 ryan@salmonpress.news
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR JIM DiNICOLA (508) 764-4325 EDITOR BRENDAN BERUBE (508) 909-4106 news@stonebridgepress.news	PRODUCTION MANAGER JULIE CLARKE (508) 909-4105 production@stonebridgepress.news

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Federated Church services to continue online

STURBRIDGE — The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale has announced that its Meetinghouse at 8 Maple Street, Sturbridge will remain closed to the public until its reopening committee has completed its work.

In an email to Church Members on May 21, Executive Board President Leigh Darrin told Members of the congregation that “in spite of Governor Baker’s permission for places of worship to reopen at 40 percent capacity, the Executive Board of Sturbridge Federated Church has voted to follow the recommendations of our umbrella denominations and we will not be resuming in person worship at this time.”

Pastor Gretchen Switzer has been streaming weekly 9:30 a.m. services from the Church on Facebook Live since March 29 with a skeleton crew, with follow-up video posts on the Church’s Web site and YouTube channel. Sunday services will continue in the online forum for the immediate future, according to Darrin.

Darrin said the Church has appointed a five-member reopening committee representing the worship team, choir and music interests, trustees, the faith formation team, and members at large.

“The goal of this committee is to have a reopening framework in place by June 15th. This does NOT mean we will resume worship services and all of our other activities on that day,” said Darrin. “It just means we hope to have a roadmap in place to safely and responsibly reopen the Meetinghouse to aid us in service to our God when the time is right.”

When the Church does reopen, in order to respect the 40 percent capacity guideline, Darrin says services will continue to be streamed online. “Members and friends who are not feeling well, are at particular risk for contracting COVID-19, or simply not yet comfortable assembling with a group will be encouraged to join us through the online service.”

The Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale has remained vibrantly active throughout the pandemic, especially through its mask-making project that resulted in the donation of more than 2,400 masks to Harrington Hospital, along with various nursing homes, group homes, restaurant and convenience store employees, and other individuals throughout the community. The project, led by Holice Turnbow and Barbara Stietzel, was supported by more than 25 members of the Church and the Sturbridge Senior Center.

The Church also remained open for weekly meetings of the local Alcoholics Anonymous chapter, provided a weekly meal to the guests at St. Luke’s Guest House in Southbridge, and supported local food pantries through its missions program. Local residents in need of assistance during this pandemic should call the Church office at (508) 347-9980 or email Pastor Gretchen Switzer at Switzer7743@gmail.com.



Jo-Ann Bussiere

bankHometown appoints new Oxford branch manager

OXFORD — bankHometown recently appointed new branch managers of its Lancaster, Oxford, and Sturbridge

locations.

Jo-Ann Bussiere of Stow was recently promoted to assistant vice president and was named branch manager of the bank’s Oxford home office. She previously was branch manager of the bank’s Lancaster branch. Bussiere has more than 30 years of banking experience, joining bankHometown in 2016. Prior to that, she was vice president and branch manager at Cambridge Trust Company and an assistant vice president and branch manager at TD Bank. Bussiere attended Monroe Community College and is involved in her community, having volunteered at events and efforts for Women Build with Habitat for Humanity, Operation Playhouse, Wheat Community Services, and the Nashoba Rotary Club.

About bankHometown
Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, and has \$1.0 billion in assets and 15 branches located throughout central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut. Through its sponsorship and charitable giving program, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2019, the bank and foundation donated more than \$368,000 to nearly 270 organizations. Over the last four years, the program has donated more than \$1.1 million. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.

Teachers Association announces scholarship recipients

CHARLTON/DUDLEY — The Dudley-Charlton Teachers Association is excited to announce the annual scholarship recipients from Shepherd Hill Regional High School’s Class of 2020.

Two scholarships are presented annually to students who will be entering the field of education.

We would like to extend our “Congratulations” to Adam Ide and Andrew Stefanik as the recipients from the Class of 2020. They will each receive a \$1500.00 scholarship to support their journey in education.

We are proud of their accomplishments and wish them the best as they begin their college education.

PLAN

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In order to reopen, businesses must develop a written COVID-19 control plan outlining how their workplaces will prevent the spread of coronavirus. Required materials are located on www.mass.gov/reopening.

Notably absent in the Governor’s reopening plan was a specific timetable for when restaurants can begin to return to in-person dining. Restaurants were not included in the first phase of Baker’s reopening plan, and officials predict it will be at least three weeks until they can consider returning to in-person dining service.

Local restaurant owners continue to thank patrons for their support

throughout the crisis. Owners have relied on deliveries and takeout to stay afloat over the last two months.

“We’ve really been picking up on deliveries, and we’ve gotten great support from people,” said Matt Bluyus, the owner of Uncle Sam’s Pizza in East Brookfield.

Local officials ask residents to continue supporting area businesses while maintaining social distance and wearing masks. Patrons are urged to not become complacent once the summer arrives and more businesses reopen.

Meanwhile, additional guidance in the Governor’s updated plan is available below:

People over the age of 65 and people who have underlying health conditions should continue

to stay home, except for essential errands such as going to the grocery store

All residents are advised to leave home only for healthcare, work, shopping, and outdoor activities

Don’t participate in close contact activities such as pick-up sports

All residents are required to cover their faces when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public

Parents should limit play dates for children

Refrain from visiting nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, or other residential care settings

Use remote modes of communication like phone or video chat instead of visiting friends or family who are at high risk for COVID-19

FIELD

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Coggeshall Farm through our new partnership with the museum.”

This year, all gifts made to Field of Flags in May and June will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 by an anonymous donor.

The list of honorees will be posted on the Village’s website beginning Memorial Day and will be updated regularly. To make a gift today in honor of an American hero, visit www.osv.org/field-of-flags/.

About Old Sturbridge Village

Old Sturbridge Village,

first opened to the public in 1946, is one of the country’s oldest and largest living history museums, celebrating life in early New England from 1790-1840. It is the largest living history museum in the Northeast. Each year, more than 250,000 visitors interact with costumed historians, experience up-close demonstrations of early American trades, and meet heritage breed farm animals. Situated on 200 scenic acres, the Village is a collection of more than 40 historic buildings - including homes, meetinghouses, trade shops, working farms and three water-powered mills - restaurants, shops and the Old Sturbridge Inn and Reeder Family Lodges. Old Sturbridge Village is normally open

year-round but is currently closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Village will welcome visitors back when it is safe to do so. Learn more about the Village and stay updated regarding re-opening plans at www.osv.org.

In 2020, Old Sturbridge Village entered into a partnership with Coggeshall Farm Museum, incorporated in 1973 in Bristol, R.I., which preserves and interprets life on a 1790s Rhode Island salt-marsh farm. It serves the local community and beyond as a living museum and vital educational resource through demonstration of daily farm activity and honest interpretation that reflects its historical, multicultural influence.

CHARLTON

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up to the public. We haven’t set any recommendations other than asking citizens to observe the social distancing practices and wear facemasks where social distancing can’t be achieved.”

As far as the town election and spring annual town meeting are concerned, both are still set to be held on Saturday, June 13 and Monday, June 15, respectively. The election will be held indoors with new precautions put in place to protect the safety and health of workers and voters, while the annual town meeting will be held outside for 2020.

“We’re going to be hav-

ing the election still at the Heritage School with some safety precautions put in place. We’re making final determinations on that,” Golas said. “The game plan for the town meeting right now is to hold it outside in front of the Charlton Middle School in the parking lot. We’re also hammering out some of the details on that. We’re hoping for good weather and if there is inclement weather we’ll hold it the next day.”

As the state begins to reopen, Golas said he and others in the town are looking forward to a return to normalcy. The town employees are eagerly awaiting the day when they are able to return to in-person

interactions to serve the townsfolk to the best of their abilities. Golas said while things may be starting to trend in a more positive direction it’s important to remember those who have worked hard to keep Charlton operating and safe. The Town Administrator commended town employees and first responders, the Board of Health for their “heroic” efforts, the Charlton Sewing Center for providing a large and continuous supply of masks to those in need, and completed the local senior housing facility The Overlook for maintaining a coronavirus-free environment for residents throughout the pandemic.

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OBITUARIES

Eleanore R. (Bagdis) Akstin, 95

AUBURN-Eleanore R. (Bagdis) Akstin, 95, died Monday, May 18, 2020 at Lifecare Center of Auburn. She was born in Worcester, daughter of Gabriel and Martha (Jarvis) Bagdis. Eleanore worked for various Insurance agencies throughout her career. She was predeceased by her husband

Francis W. Akstin in 1998. Funeral services will be held privately and Eleanore will be laid to rest with her husband Francis at Notre Dame Cemetery. Arrangements are in the care of Callahan, Fay & Caswell Funeral Home, 61 Myrtle Street, Worcester.

William J. Dion, 71



OXFORD – William J. Dion, 71, formerly of Spruce Street, died Friday, May 22, 2020, at St. Francis Home in Worcester, after a long illness. He is survived by his brother, Robert E. Dion Jr. and his wife Kathleen of Auburn; his sister, Christine A. Zorn of Oxford; two nephews and two nieces, David, Matthew, Jennifer, and Dawn; several great nieces and nephews, Parker, Camden, Phalen, Charlotte, Saya, and Amanda. He was predeceased by his beloved dog, Rotknee. He was born in Worcester, son of the late Robert E. and Elizabeth D. (Robillard) Dion, and was a lifelong resident of Oxford. He graduated from Oxford High School in 1966

and received his bachelor's degree in biology from Worcester State College in 1970. He played baseball for Worcester State College. Mr. Dion worked at Sweet Life in Northboro for many years, retiring in 1992. He also worked at several local supermarkets. He served two tours in the Peace Corps in Malaysia. He loved fishing and was happiest when he was on the lake. He enjoyed tropical fish and spending time at the casino. A private graveside service will be held at St. Roch's Cemetery in Oxford. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverly Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA 02452. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements. paradisfuneralhome.com

Patricia M. "Sullivan" Brown, 82



LEICESTER - Patricia M. "Sullivan" Brown age of 82 passed away Thursday morning May 14th., 2020 at the Life Care Center of Auburn due to complications with Covid-19. Pat leaves a devoted daughter Karen E. "Brown" Hills of Leicester and a loving son Steven A. Brown of Mansfield. Pat lived with her daughter and son in law Thomas A. Hills Jr., loving granddaughter Eleanor M. Hills and special blessing great-granddaughter Kelsy Marie Hills-Witkowski. Pat was born on March 16,1938 at Mass Memorial in Boston MA. She was the daughter of Edward G. and Lillian "Caswell" Sullivan and sibling of seven. Pat was a graduate from Mount Auburn High School of Belmont MA and a long time book keeper for Hewlett Packard in Waltham. Pat was married, raised her 2

children in Natick Mass and retired as a bookkeeper of former Windy-Lo Nursery in So. Natick. Patricia was one of seven fantastic Sullivan children. Edward, Gloria, Jack, James, Thomas, Patricia and Lillian were a loving family with many years of special gatherings. Tom and Pat were the glue to keep the 25 nieces and nephews together to keep the family tree blossoming! My mother loved family, friends and will forever be a special symbol in our lives. Anyone who was ever in her presence was warmly included and for that we were truly blessed! A private memorial mass will be held at St. Joseph/St. Pius X Church, in Leicester followed by Burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery, Natick MA. MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester is assisting the family with arrangements. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to obits@stonebridgepress.news

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE RELEASES LIST OF GRADUATES

W O R C E S T E R — Quinsigamond Community College has released its 2020 list of graduates. On Thursday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m. QCC graduates will take part in a virtual commencement ceremony. To view the ceremony, visit www.QCC.edu/commencement .	Adeyinka, Agbanyo	Felicia	Dziedzinski, Shyllynn	Stuller, Gabriela Toribio, Melodie Vazquez	Chuan-Kai Kuan, Abigail Lloyd, Alyssa Ramos, Roque Ramos, Steven Reese, Michelle Sarfo-Adu, Andrew Sprague, Scott St. Jean, Scott Williams	Alano, Patrick Canney, Melanie Crowell-Meleski, Sean Hallihan, Daniel Hogan, Kayla Kimball, Keith LaFountaine, Michael Mielinski, Jennifer Plunkett, Stephen Porth, Christopher Rapoza, Jameson Rotondo, Erin Scanlon, Robin Schofield, Kaitlynn Small, Abigail VanDeMark, Izabela Warnajtyś
Associate in Applied Science	Douglas: Victoria Flinton	Victoria	Paxton: Jaclyn Renshaw	Whitinsville: Zeeny Ahmed-Sharif, Alexandra Clauss, Matthew Curley, Lilian Hall, Caitlin Plant, Marie Soliman	Blackstone: Sarah Fagan, Alyssa Herrick	Cherry Valley: George Nganga
Auburn: Par Kyar	Dudley: Rebecca Geller	Rebecca Geller	Rochdale: Katie Barriere, Thomas McGinn	Woodstock Valley: Marcus Trudeau	Brimfield: Amber Beaulieu, Steven LaRocco, Michele Moseley, Kaitlen Olszta, Shane Raney, Nicole Reed	Clinton: Brian Charette, Jeremiah Dayata, Reyna Lynch,
Uxbridge: Andrew Finn	East Douglas: Bethany Buller, Holly Callahan, Jenna Glode, Jonathan Paine	Bethany Buller, Holly Callahan, Jenna Glode, Jonathan Paine	Southbridge: James Barter, Mackenzie-Lynn Beeso, Kevin Brady, Emily Brogna, Isaiah Dottin, Leah Gallipeau, John McHugh	Associate in Science	Brookfield: Quintin Aubin	Turn To QCC page A15
Whitinsville: Andrew de Vries	Grafton: Kayla Behymer, Brodniak, Corinne Stephanie	Kayla Behymer, Brodniak, Corinne Stephanie	Spencer: Francisca Avina, Courtney Barry, Shelby Brooks, Madison Gallagher-Gould, Meghan McCaffrey, Justice Minka, Kayla Morrison, Samantha Olsen, Jasmine Ortega, Tobias Simonovitch, Kristi Tharp, Savannah Vangel, Logan White	Auburn: Casey Ackerman, Shawn Brooks, Amanda Ciejkka, Sarah Creelman, Anna Donohue, Allison Foskett, Helen Hatzopoulos,	Charlton: Christopher	
Associate in Arts	Holland: Shannon Hamel	Shannon Hamel	Sturbridge: Victoria Boulay, Nathan Cooper			
Auburn: Brighid Campbell, Kali Daniels, Nancy Gatui, Nicholas John, Stephen John, Lauren Lizotte Webb, Yasmine Museme	Leicester: Julie Carr, Cameron Goodney, Alexander Madonna, Jacob Morrow, Christopher Rumbaugh, Brian Winslow	Julie Carr, Cameron Goodney, Alexander Madonna, Jacob Morrow, Christopher Rumbaugh, Brian Winslow	Sutton: Emily Perry, Mateusz Poluha			
Brimfield: Kenneth Farrell, Samantha Frost	North Brookfield: Jacob Goodrow, Jessica Hanam	Jacob Goodrow, Jessica Hanam	Uxbridge: Calvin Aia, Alexander Blair, Ellie LaPan			
Brookfield: Jordan Krans, Julia McElroy	North Grafton: Andrea Sivakova	Andrea Sivakova	Wales: Serena Blasco			
Charlton: Danielle Cadarette, Caitlyn Dalbec, Donald Mahan, Billie Porter, Erin Scanlon, Amanda Smith, Megan Vezina	North Oxford: Thomas Delaporta, Stefanie Weaver	Thomas Delaporta, Stefanie Weaver	Webster: Sherie Armstrong, William Bartlett, Krystle Bedrick, Maikael Gwargious, Katelyn Holden, Evan Maniatis, Victoria			
Cherry Valley: Kailey	Northbridge: Kathryn Mellor, Mackenzie Tougas	Kathryn Mellor, Mackenzie Tougas				
	Oxford: Samantha Carey, Marissa Denham, Austin Dickhaut, Nichole Donahue, Kori	Samantha Carey, Marissa Denham, Austin Dickhaut, Nichole Donahue, Kori				



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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

A most solemn holiday

As many events over the past few months have been cancelled in an attempt to flatten the Coronavirus curve, Memorial Day celebrations were not exempt. Typical ceremonies were altered as a way to honor those lost serving our country while still maintaining safety.

When Memorial Day was first celebrated, it was known as Decoration Day following the Civil War. Youngsters would place flowers in cemeteries while they sang songs and honored those lost due to war. The Civil War, which ended in 1865, took the lives of more people than any other war in the history of the United States; the estimate is roughly 620,000, with the Union losing 365,000 and the Confederacy 260,000. History says that more than half of these losses came as the result of disease. As a result, the first national cemeteries were created.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans called for a nationwide day to honor fallen soldiers. General James Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery on the first Decoration Day and the more than 5,000 people in attendance decorated more than 2,000 graves, both Union and Confederate.

The holiday, as we all know, is celebrated on the last Monday in May, and became an official holiday in the year 1971. Parades across the country take place, and people visit cemeteries where family members who have served in the military have been laid to rest.

At 3 p.m. every year, a moment of silence takes place across the country. In December of 2008, President Bill Clinton signed the “National Moment of Remembrance Act” which designated the time be at 3 p.m. In 1966, the government marked Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, every business in town would shut their doors and owners would venture out to decorate graves with flags as well as flowers.

Originally, Decoration Day was intended to honor those lost in just the Civil War. After the First World War, America felt the need, and rightfully so, to honor all those lost serving their country. In WWI, 116,516 Americans died at war, and 405,399 were lost during WWII. The Korean War took 36,574 lives, and the Vietnam War cost 58,220 lives. A total of 4,411 were lost in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 73 in Operation New Dawn, 2,346 as the result of Operation Enduring Freedom, 48 in Operation Freedom’s Sentinel and 61 in Operation Inherent Resolve.

We hope that our readers, and all Americans, took a moment at some point over the long weekend, even in the midst of our current circumstances, to pause and remember the reason for this most solemn of holidays.

LETTERS

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

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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!

The Rx Garden: Growing Medicinal Plants

For centuries plants have been grown for medicine, and in modern times “medicinal” herbs such as lavender, garlic and chamomile have long been familiar sights in a backyard plot. With the current focus on natural remedies, gardeners are rediscovering the healing varieties of plants and herbs – and expanding their gardens to plant specifically to treat common maladies. Whether you want to halt a headache or boost your brain power, chances are the solution is as easy as plucking a plant from your backyard garden (or windowsill).

The following roster of remedies highlights some familiar plants and their medicinal uses.

Note: Information is offered for general interest only and should not be taken as health advice. Contact your physician before ingesting or applying any herbs or plants.

Headache
Clematis: This flower has been known to work wonders on migraine headaches. Simply chew the petals or steep them into a tea.

Feverfew: Use the leaves and flowers of this medicinal herb for teas; chew leaves to ease headache pain (including migraines). It’s also been shown to provide relief for arthritis, and skin conditions.

Insomnia
Lemon Balm promotes sleep as it acts as a very mild sedative. It is also helpful in treating stress and nervous headaches. To make a fresh Lemon Balm tea: steep one teaspoon of fresh leaves in one cup of boiling water. Steep covered for ten minutes. Strain and enjoy.

Chamomile: A common garden herb, Chamomile is a muscle relaxer that has mild sedating properties. Chamomile tea has long been used to relieve stress and promote sleep. It is also used to treat anxiety in sufferers young and old.

*Please keep in mind those who have allergies to ragweed, chrysanthemums or asters, should not use Chamomile.

Anxiety
Lavender: Want to relax? Plant lavender. The scent of lavender prompts calmness. Studies report that the smell of lavender triggers alpha waves in the part of the brain associated with a relaxed state.

Lemon Balm: Lemon Balm made into a tea is a relaxing tea that reduces restlessness, anxiety and irritability. And it’s also used to treat anxiety that causes digestive problems.

Skullcap: Is an anti anxiety herb with few side effects, Skullcap helps calm the “worrier” who has racing thoughts and constant fret. This herb is useful for all types of anxiety but has also been hailed as an aid for stress caused by hormonal imbalances in women.

Digestion
Dill: The dill plant, long used as a natural cure for baby colic, is an herb that’s known for its ability to aid digestion. Brewing as a tea or simply chewing on several seeds after eating can help natural digestion and prevent tummy troubles. For tea, crush dill seed and add a tablespoon



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

to a cup of boiling water. Strain to pour a clear tea.

Lemon verbena: An herbal tea aids digestion and helps calm intestinal cramps and gas pains.

Peppermint: For a tummy soothing tea, pour boiling water over freshly picked peppermint leaves and add a teaspoon of honey for flavor.

Lemon Balm: A tea made from Lemon Balm relieves abdominal pains and cramps.

Detoxing Agent
Cilantro: Eaten fresh (as in a salad or steamed), the tasty herb binds to toxic metals that accumulate in the organs, aiding the body in disposing of them.

Pansies: The flowers with the “faces” have been touted as a valuable detoxifying. Pansies grown without pesticides can be enjoyed in their natural state, simply washed and tossed in a salad or cold drink.

Garlic: Fresh garlic contains compounds that help flush heavy metals out of the body.

Anti Inflammatory
Marigolds: Marigolds have anti inflammatory properties also aid in treating minor cuts and abrasions. Marigolds are also used to soothe and heal such skin ailments as burns and acne. Simply make a poultice from the flowers and apply to the area to be treated.

Pansies: Pansies act as an anti inflammatory. The flowers may be made into a healthful tincture or tea.

Brain Boosters
Lemon Balm: Taken as a tea, Lemon Balm is hailed as an herb that sharpens the mind and improves mental performance and memory.

Rosemary: The tasty spice herb has long been used as a remedy for age related memory loss.

Sage: Two university studies showed that those given Sage performed better in a word recall test. Experiments also revealed Sage can boost the same brain chemicals that decrease with Alzheimer’s Disease.

Skin Care
Dandelion: Although you won’t want to plant dandelions, a plentiful supply of the weed is likely available. The yellow flowers, when made into an infusion can aid in reducing both large pores and age spots. Steep fresh blossoms in boiling water, allow to cool and apply to skin. The sticky liquid in the stems is used to shrink warts.

Pansy: The pansy is beneficial in treating eczema. To make a pansy poultice for external skin application to treat eczema and impetigo, simply add two tablespoons of pansy petals to two cups boiling water. Allow to steep for about 20 minutes and cool. Soak clean cloth in mixture and apply to skin.

Sage: Drinking sage tea can prevent and treat

fever blisters and cold sores. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over edible sage leaves and a small piece of ginger root (or substitute ginger powder). Steep, cook and drink two to three cups of hot sage tea everyday to get rid of fever blisters.

Lemon Balm: Lemon Balm can speed up the healing of cold sores. Simply make a Lemon Balm tea with up to four tablespoons of the herb per cup of boiling water. Allow to cool, then apply with a cotton ball to cold sore several times a day.

Antioxidant
Oregano: Packed with antioxidants, the herb is also very easy to grow. FYI: In a USDA study, oregano demonstrated 42 times more antioxidant activity than apples, 30 times more than potatoes, 12 times more than oranges and four times more than blueberries! Just one tablespoon of fresh oregano was found to contain the same antioxidant activity as a medium-sized apple.

Tomatoes: It’s been well publicized that tomatoes are rich in lycopene, a powerful antioxidant, but tomato is also one of the top five food sources of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin E, potassium and fiber. Tomatoes are also excellent sources of phytochemicals, polyphenols and carotenoids. And research shows tomatoes an aid in lowering blood pressure. According to an Israeli study, adding tomatoes to a diet can reduce systolic blood pressure by 10 points and diastolic pressure by four points. The secret weapon once again, is the tomato’s high concentration of lycopene. The recommended dosage is whole tomatoes daily, which is easy during peak season. Off season, use chopped and canned garden tomatoes in chili, tomato sauces and soups to reach your daily dose.

Rosemary: Laboratory studies reveal the popular spice herb Rosemary has antioxidant properties that neutralize free radicals

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.

Remaining optimistic in a negative media world



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
GARY W. MOORE

I have written on this subject before, but as this current election cycle is beginning to heat up, I hope to pre-empt the anger and vitriol with what I think is basic common sense.

If you believe the 24-hour news channels, the sky is falling. Chicken Little, in the form of talking heads, would have us believe that the end is near. As I mentioned in a column a few months ago, it’s good business for the TV and AM radio talkers to have us frightened of the impending doom. Whether it’s the danger of a pandemic or the upcoming election, their fearmongering causes us to keep coming back for the next news alert, so we can learn how the end will be delivered and by whom. Don’t allow them to pull you in.

Politics are a nasty business. Plato warned us, “Never give power to those who seek it.” Our democratic form of government seems to only reward power to those who seek it with a vengeance ... and lots of cash.

George Washington was the perfect leader. He did not seek power and in fact, gave it up twice. After he led us to victory against the British in our war for independence, there were those who wished to make him king, yet General Washington refused and retreated to the solitude of Mount Vernon, his estate on the Potomac. Several years later, he was drafted to become our first President. He resisted but did not refuse his call to duty and served two terms. Again, the people wished to make him our permanent ruler. In his humble wisdom, once again, the “Father of Our Country” gave up power and returned to life at Mount Vernon. I believe George Washington to be the greatest American President and one of the world’s greatest leaders.

The mission of my column is to help my readers to be positive, uplifted, encouraged and optimistic in a world that is increasingly pessimistic and negative. It really doesn’t matter which way you lean. Sean Hannity and Rachel Maddow, for example, could not be more different in rhetoric and beliefs, but are opposite sides of the same coin. As I have said here several times before, they, and others like them, are a major part of the problem in our country. If you think you are turning on the evening television to get the news, forget it.

There is a big difference between opinion and hard news. Hard news, and there’s not much of it on television or talk radio, is found more frequently in your local newspaper ... this newspaper, in fact ... and a few trusted national sources. What we are tuning into at night on television is opinion and commentary. It is purely a left or right leaning person telling you what is going on in the world based on their personal bias and agenda. Both sides are guilty. What is masquerading on nighttime television as news is nothing more than propaganda mixed with entertainment.

Where is our George?

I don’t believe we’ll find a George Washington today because we are currently too angry and divided to listen to reason. Washington would appeal to very few voters in this environment. If we believe our side is good, the other side must be evil. If you aren’t with us, you must be against us. If I am right, you must be wrong. This kind of thinking has me asking ... “Where do we go from here?”

Turn off the noise and get back to “Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness!”

Let’s all pull together this election season, regardless of where you lean and not allow the anger and vitriol to pull us under. Half of my friends lean left, and I love them. The other half lean right, and I love them too. I’m going to encourage you to love your friends and neighbors regardless

Searching for stripers

BY RALPH TRUE, SR.

The weather is finally warming up, and so is fishing, if you have the proper gear and a boat to locate the fish. One local angler fished in Buzzards Bay last week and were targeting haddock. Fishing in 50 feet of water, the pair had lock and load cod fishing that lasted some time before they decided to leave the area in search of some haddock. All cod that were caught were released because of the closed cod fishing in all of the Gulf of Maine. They never did find the haddock fishing that they were looking for.

Another pair of anglers were fishing in Buzzards Bay and caught numerous seabass, large sculpin, fluke, & stripers. This writer made my first trip to the saltwater with my granddaughter Andrea and her son Logan. I had reports of some school stripers in the Providence River, as well as some schools of porgies, and decided to give it a try. When we arrived at the boat ramp at Hanes Park, I quickly realized that the reports of fish in the area were unsubstantiated. There was not a single car or boat trailer in the entire parking lot. "This does not look good" were the first words out of my mouth.

We were not looking for large stripers, just a little action with school stripers for my great grandson and granddaughter Andrea. We quickly launched the boat, packed in our gear and I slowly maneuvered the boat past the marina. As we entered the open water, the wind was light and the sun was partially hidden in the clouds. On our way out, we had to pass by one of my favorite fishing spots for tautog, but because there was no crabs available at a local bait shop we were forced to go fishing without them. It was high tide and it was a perfect time to fish for tautog, as the tide was about to start going out.

All we had to fish with was plastics and hardware. Attaching a small rapala lure to the first rod, I handed it to Andrea to start fishing as I slowed the motor to trolling speed across the open water. Before I even had the next rod ready for fishing Andrea reacted to



a sudden bump on her rod. "Wow, I had a good hit Pop!" Right then and there, I felt we were going to catch a lot of fish! That was it for the next few hours.

We tried going deep and everywhere in between. No fish. That is stripster fishing! Very little signs of fish on the fish-finder, and we never saw a single fish breaking the surface water as we trolled for hours. It was still a great day on the water with some of my family, and the little guy (five year old Logan) stayed busy watching the water and eating , and helping me steer the boat as the second picture shows. After returning to the boat ramp Andrea and Logan



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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RALPH
TRUE

went looking for seashells on the beach area as I prepared the boat for the journey home. Logan was fast asleep in his car seat not long after we headed home. That darn Covid-19 is sure going to change all of this for many families in the coming months and years.

Trout anglers are still enjoying some great fishing for Brown trout at Ashland and Hopkington Reservoir! A few large trout were caught on shiners as well as the old reliable power bait. Another trout angler told me about deep trolling for trout at Wallum Lake in Douglas, down 45 feet of water! Numerous rainbow trout were caught on his second trip to the lake. He



reported that only a couple of other boats were observed fishing, which is more than likely because of the virus .

This week's picture shows Samantha Johnson with her first Wild Turkey she harvested this spring. Last week's picture was of poor quality, and hopefully, this week's picture of her is a lot better. Nice bird!

This is the time of year that all residents need to be extremely careful when enjoying the outdoors. Ticks, wasps, yellow jacket bees and mosquitoes can cause serious problems for adults and children. Be sure to use the proper sprays and check your family daily, especially for ticks.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Boost your landscape's curb appeal in one weekend

Create a front garden that is sure to boost your mood and welcome visitors all year round. All you need is one weekend and a bit of paint, flowers, décor and edging material to boost your landscape's curb appeal.

Add a splash of color by painting your front door. Look for colors that complement your home's siding and the surrounding landscape. Then add a seasonal wreath or other door decoration. A wreath of seed packets in the spring, succulents or silk flowers in summer, dried materials in fall and greens in winter add seasonal interest to your home. Visitors will look forward to the change of seasons marked by your door's décor.

Add a few containers at the front entrance. Select a color and size that complements your home's size and architecture style. Reduce maintenance with self-watering containers that extend the time between watering. Further your enjoyment with solar-illuminated planters powered by the sun to add a magical glow to the landscape as the sun sets.

Define planting beds and create a finished look with edging. Use a sharp shovel to dig a V-shaped trench around small garden beds or employ the help of an edging machine for larger areas. Fill the trench with mulch to create a

mowing edge and keep weeds out.

Or boost the aesthetic appeal and further define the space with edging materials like the Stomp Edge. This easy-to-install edging material is made from recycled rubber and only requires a few hand tools and minimal time to install.

Keep unruly plants out of the lawn or off walkways while defining the garden space with decorative garden edging. You can keep it simple with Gardener's Supply Company's Stratford Edge Irons that mimic the edging found in Shakespeare's garden in Stratford England. Or add an artistic flare with a more decorative edging like the Nocturne Border Edging.

Weed garden beds to improve the overall appearance and health of garden plants. Weeds not only compete with your desirable plants for water and nutrients, but many are hosts for insect pests and diseases that can harm your desirable plants.

Once weeded, spread a one- to three-inch layer of organic mulch like shredded leaves, evergreen needles or woodchips over the soil surface. The finer the material, the thinner the layer of mulch needed. Organic mulch helps conserve moisture, suppress weeds and improve the soil as it breaks

down. Select a mulch that is aesthetically pleasing and won't overwhelm the beauty of the plants.

Keep mulch off tree trunks, shrubs, stems and crowns of perennial and annual plants. Covering stems and plant crowns can lead to root rot and other problems that can negatively impact the plants' health and longevity.

Freshen existing wood mulch by lightly tilling or raking, so the darker mulch below the surface moves to the top. Avoid over mulching. It is a waste of money and can be harmful to your plants.

Make it a fun weekend by mixing in some tasty treats or a barbecue once the work is done. As you enjoy the benefits of your weekend's efforts, you'll be anxious to start tackling those bigger landscape tasks.

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 Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardeners Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Courtesy

Define garden spaces with decorative garden edging while keeping unruly plants out of the lawn and off walkways.

POSITIVE

continued from page A8

of political leanings. Do not get into ideological arguments on social media, but if you do, please don't unfriend your friend! Just ignore them until the dust clears. Remember, they are a friend for a reason ... keep them as a friend after the election.

Don't let this election cycle define you as a person.

Trust me ... regardless of who wins in November, the sun will rise the next morning. These United States of America will remain a beacon of democracy in a world looking to us for leadership. Rejoice in the fact we live in a

country that allows "We the People," the common citizen, to choose. I love my life in the greatest nation in the history of mankind. Please rejoice with me in the realization that no matter who wins or loses, the USA will continue to thrive.

May God continue to bless The United States of America

Gary W. Moore is a syndicated 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.

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WEBSTER – 9 Lake Parkway! Extremely Conveniently Located just off Exit 1 of 395! Loads of Potential! 6 Rm Cape! Appliance Kit! Din & Liv Rms w/Wall to Wall over Hrdwds! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! 1st Flr Bdrm w/Commode Closet! Recent Furnace! Recent Roof! **\$169,900.00**

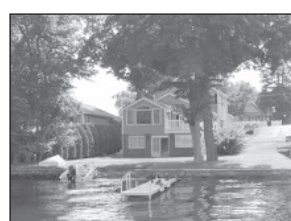
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ON DEPOSIT



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WEBSTER LAKE – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$999,900.00**



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WEBSTER LAKE – 23 Beacon Rd! Killdeer Island – Middle Pond – Southern Exposure – Full Day Sun! Level 90' Waterfront Lot w/11,011 Square Feet! Meticulously Maintained 5+ Rm, 2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Home w/Room to Expand! Soaring Cathedral Ceiling Family Rm w/Stone Fireplace Opening to the Maple Cabinet Kit & 4 Season Sunroom w/Anderson Slider to the Expansive Deck! 2nd floor Lake Facing Master w/Master Bath, Huge Closets & Slider to It's Lake Facing Deck! C/Air! 2 Car Garage! Lake Living at its Best! Listed by Another – "SOLD" by Century21 Lake Realty! **\$645,000.00**



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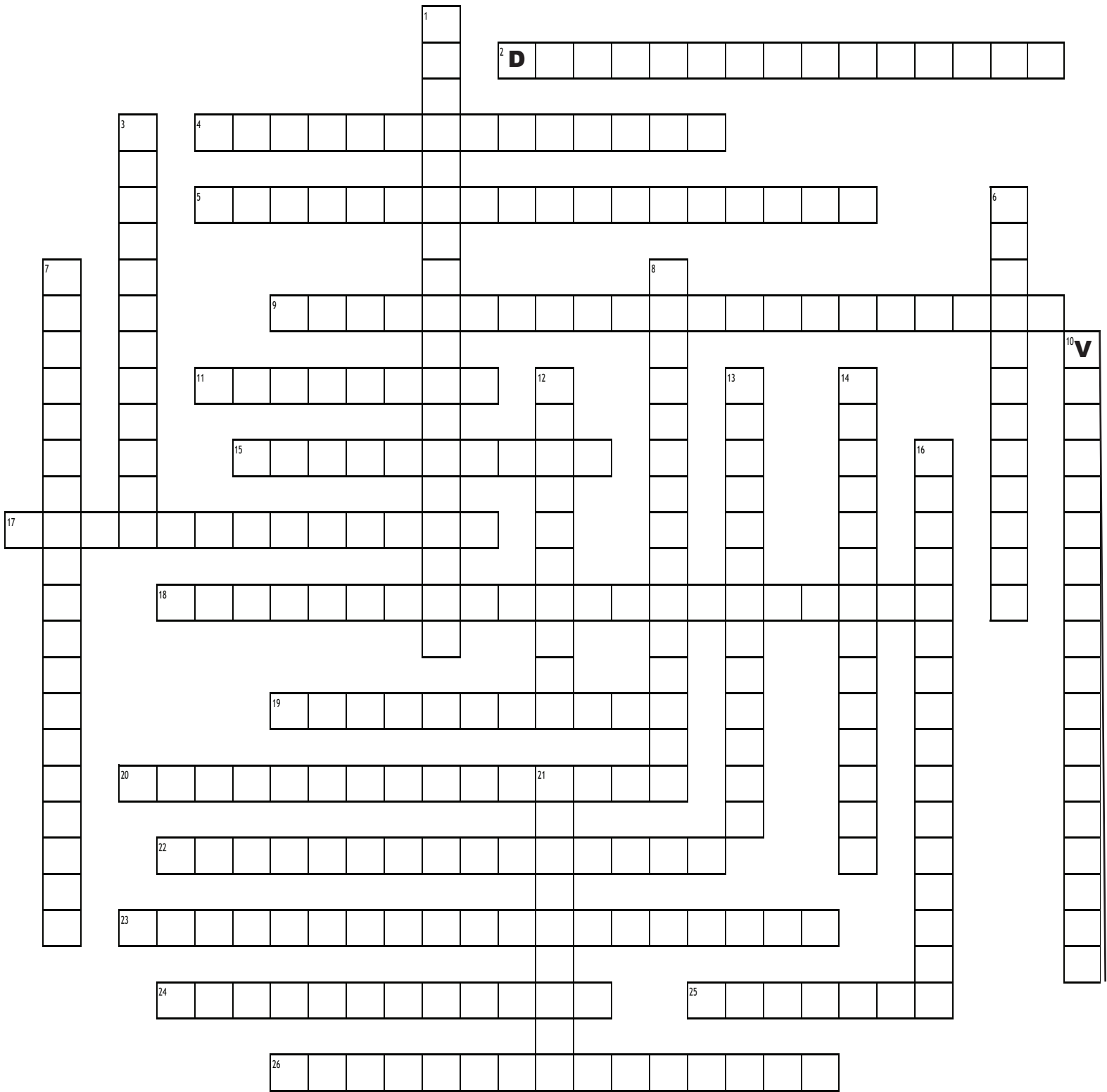
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2nd Annual ABC's of the Seasons

Spring Edition

Please find the answers to this crossword puzzle on the ABC's Page



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- 4. Helping You Get Back Home.
- 5. Official Sponsor Of The Boston Bruins
- 9. We Are A Deficiency Free Community Facility
- 11. Breakfast \$9
- 15. \$25 Dinner For Two
- 17. Outside Seating Now Open!
- 18. Experience, Education, Enthusiasm. It Makes A Difference!
- 19. Free Oil Change To Any Doctor Or Nurse
With Valid Hospital ID
- 20. Engagements, Weddings, Birthday, Anniversaries,
Or Just Because
- 22. White's Landing
- 23. 1182 Park St., Palmer, Ma 01069
- 24. 50% Off Leaf Guards With Gutter Installation
- 25. Hair Lashes Waxing Skincare Facials Massage
- 26. Find Our Bogo Coupon On Our Website

2nd Annual ABC'S OF THE SEASONS, SPRING EDITION

Hint... answers don't always include the entire business name.

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Address: _____

Circle which paper you found this in: *Spencer New Leader, Webster Times, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Auburn News, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Southbridge News*

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Comments: _____

Please find the answers to this crossword puzzle on the ABC's Page. Enter to win a \$25 gift card to a local business by mailing in your completed crossword to ABC Crossword Puzzle, Stonebridge Press, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 OR scan & email or take a picture and email it to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by Friday, June 26th. Random-drawing for winner of all correct entries to be announced in the July 3rd issue. One entry per person. Please support these ABC's businesses and tell them you saw their ad in your local paper! Good luck!

QCC
continued from page A7

Karen Ortega, Helenny Robles, Sean Sargent, Joshua Talavera, Matthew Tufo, Sebastian Villacorta

Dudley: Jacqueline Coggans, Etleva Doko, Sean Ebbeling, Hayley Hagopian, Glenn Levasseur, Nicholas Sheehan, Matthew Souza, Meroon Zahrah

East Douglas: Amy Ackerman, Natalia Podstawka, Lindsay Silva

Fiskdale: Benjamin Lacaire, Leann Ritchie

Grafton: Elisabeth Haynes, Brandon Lee, Alexander Reno, Callum Smith

Holland: Hunter Boudreau, Jessica Folger

Leicester: Anastasia Cichowski, Jacob Holland, Danielle Larson, Scott Merrell, Courtney Millett, Robert O'Hearn

North Brookfield: Cassandra Chouinard, Melissa Fontaine, Travis Fuller, Tracey Mannix, Dylan Masiello, Christopher Moore, David Vincent

North Grafton: Devin Brite, Allison Chase, Heather Dozois, Taylor Dufault, Jennifer Garlick, Christopher Johnson, Allison Sheridan, Erica Widen

North Oxford: Austin Edwards, Kelly Green, Kaylie Mauch, Rebecca Smith

North Uxbridge: Sarena Gervais

Northbridge: Trevor Gosselin, Kathleen Mendez, Nicholas Payne, Matthew Rattray, Donovan Tames

Oxford: Richard Audette, Kylie Brenneman, Jill Brien, Rachael Cormier, Vu Ho, Tammy LaFleche, Alexander Polis, Eric Quitadamo, Donel Rostand Tamokwe Tokam, Leslie Tyrrell, Corissa Walls

Paxton: Cameron Greiner, Christopher John, Evan Parker, Danielle Prifti, Lindsey Renshaw

Rochdale: Peter Brennan, Margaret Kennedy

Southbridge: Michelle Arrastia, Javier Ayala, Krista Buchanan, Dimayra Colon, Awtumn Courville, Antonio De Los Santos, Marie Djiondo, Ruth Gurney, Megan Hufault, Galen Kerr, Savannah LeBoeuf, Sean Moynagh, Nathan Pruitt, Erika Quesada, Tanner Renaud, Dalizbeth Rivera-Szczypien, Alex Rodriguez, Clarissa Rodriguez, Helen Salce, Orlando Santos, Natyarie Villanueva, Jaime Winetrout, Nicholas Wojciechowski, Casey Wood

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Lochner, Melissa Luukko, William Marrier, Luz Mejia, Tanairy Mulero, Camella Sherry, Richard Whigham, Zachary White

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Whitinsville: Adam Dullea, Julia Klisiewicz, Phillip Maher, Emily Miller, Katie Sansoucy, Scott Santurri

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We are currently hiring. Our open positions are:

FT 3p-11p & 11p-7a CNAs	FT 7p-7a Nurse
FT 3p-11p Nurse	FT RN Sub-Acute Manager
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Please contact Julie Stapleton at: (508) 867-0626 or email your resume to JStapleton@QOTCMA.com



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