



**WE NOW OFFER IN-HOUSE DENTAL INSURANCE**

Wishing you bright & healthy smiles for the new year & always from our family to yours!

**SPENCER FAMILY DENTAL**

Gentle Caring State of the Art Dentistry For The Whole Family

New Patients Welcome

Cosmetic Dentistry • Restorative Dentistry • Preventative Dentistry

We Strive For Painless Dentistry

**Dr. Nasser S. Hanna**

Conveniently Located On Route 9 • (Corner of Greenville St. & Main St.)  
284 Main St., Spencer **508-885-5511**

Free by request to residents of Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland and Wales

# Old Sturbridge Village hosts first virtual fundraiser

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) hosted their first ever virtual fundraiser, “Before and Beyond: A Virtual Fundraising Celebration of Where We’ve Been and What Comes Next!” on Thursday evening, Dec. 3.

The Village had 150 attendees from 16 states, including Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New York, Maine, California, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia,

Michigan, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Delaware. The event was free to attend but donations were encouraged. Those that donated were entered into different raffle drawings that took place throughout the evening. The event included 24 raffle items unique to the Village in addition to autographed materials and prerecorded greetings from Norm Abram, of the TV show “This Old House” and documentary filmmaker, Ken Burns. All donors of \$25 or



Courtesy

A scene from Old Sturbridge Village’s ongoing Christmas By Candlelight celebration.

more received an Old Sturbridge Village ornament in the mail.

Attendees heard from key staff on Old Sturbridge Village's pandemic response, how COVID-19 brought about innovation to the Village, and where program is headed in the future. Donors were given the opportunity to honor a person of

their choosing by making their gift in honor or memory of someone. Names of those honored were read out and listed on the screen during the event. Included were memorials to former Old Sturbridge Village staff members, volunteers, and sup-  
.....

Turn To **OSV VIRTUAL**, page **A6**

## Holland Assessors’ office announces abatement/ exemption procedures

HOLLAND — The Assessors’ office is closed to the public, and Fiscal Year 2021 third quarter Actual tax bills will be mailed at the end of December. This Assessors’ office wants to be sure residents and taxpayers still have access to information and forms.

Any property owners wishing to apply for an abatement or an exemption of their Fiscal Year 2021 real estate or personal property tax can obtain the form several ways.

Download the forms from the Assessors’ page on the Town of Holland Web site.

Send an email to [assessor@hollandma.org](mailto:assessor@hollandma.org) to request a form be emailed to you.

Call the Assessors’ office 413-245-

7108, ext. 106 and request a form be mailed to you, be sure to say your address including the zip-code.

Real Estate and Personal Property Abatement Applications are due February 1, 2021. Abatement applications are filed when the property owner disagrees with the property value.

Exemption Applications and due April 1st, 2021. Exemptions applications are filed by certain veterans, elderly, blind or surviving spouses. See the Assessors webpage or call for information.

For exempt organizations, the 3ABC form is due March 1, 2021.

If you have any questions, please call the Assessor’s office 413-245-7108, ext. 106.

# Wreaths Across America event to take place with modifications



Courtesy

To ensure the continuance of this year’s program in Holland, modifications have been made to ensure the continuance of National Wreaths Across America Day. Photo Courtesy of the event’s Facebook page.

HOLLAND — The Wreaths Across America mission to Remember, Honor, Teach, is the foundation behind all the organizations efforts. Throughout the year, local volunteers have been tirelessly working to make certain that families, loved ones and heroes get honored and remembered for the holidays. However, the challenge was doing so in a way that is consistent with safety and in compliance with local COVID-19 recommendations and mandates.

To ensure the continuance of this year’s program in Holland, modifications have been made to ensure the continuance of National Wreaths Across America Day – Saturday, Dec. 19 – and more importantly to show the families of our nations heroes just how much we appreciate their ultimate sacrifice.

The decision to amend this year’s traditional wreath laying was not made lightly and have gone great lengths to address public safety while maintaining the best interests of families whose loved ones are interred here.

Modifications include:

- Wearing masks
- Wearing gloves
- Socially distancing
- Private ceremony

These continued efforts prove our resolve and tell the story of our commitment to our fallen veterans while demonstrating our appreciation for everything they have done to preserve the freedom

Turn To **WREATHS**, page **A6**

## Baker orders rollback of COVID reopening process

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION – With COVID-19 numbers heading in the wrong direction, Gov. Charlie Baker announced last week a statewide reversion to a previous reopening threshold.

As of Dec. 13, all towns in Massachusetts were required to return to Phase 3: Step 1 of the Commonwealth’s reopening plan. The mandate also reduces indoor capacities across a broad range of sectors of the economy.

Baker announced the rollback in response to a sharp increase in new COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations since Thanksgiving. State officials are worried that a continued escalation of cases through the holiday season could cause many hospitals to reach capacity for ICU beds.

“More people are suffering from severe COVID-related illnesses and need urgent care. This sharp increase is putting a strain on our health system and healthcare workers,” Baker said. “Hospitals are short on critical staff because many people are either in quarantine or they themselves have been infected with the virus.”

The return to Step 1 requires the closure of certain businesses, including indoor performance venues and high-contact indoor recreational businesses. In addition, capacity limits will be reduced to 40 percent statewide for most industries, and the limit on outdoor gatherings will be reduced statewide from 100 persons to 50 persons.

The Baker Administration also announced additional guidance for certain sectors, including restaurants, office spaces, and gyms. Moving forward, all hosts of outdoor gatherings featuring more than 25 people will be required to provide advance notice of the gathering to their local board of health.

Meanwhile, indoor theaters and performance venues will be closed until further notice.

Restaurant-specific guidance includes the following:

- Patrons must wear masks at all times, except when eating and drinking
- Restaurants must seat no more than six  
.....

Turn To **ROLLBACK**, page **A6**



# 'TIS THE SEASON TO SHOP LOCAL

Gifts, Gift Cards & Gift Certificate Ideas from these local businesses.

**SHOP LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON! RUNNING THRU DEC. 18**

Call June at 508-909-4062 or email [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news) to advertise on this page

Now more than ever, it's important to Shop Local!

Let us take the **stress out of moving during the holiday season!**

**FRESH START**  
THE MOVING CREW

**CALL US TODAY**  
**508-868-4291**

[www.FreshStartMovingCrew.com](http://www.FreshStartMovingCrew.com)

MDPU# 31690 | USDOT# 2407387 | MC# 828326

Here's to a community that *knows the meaning of support!*

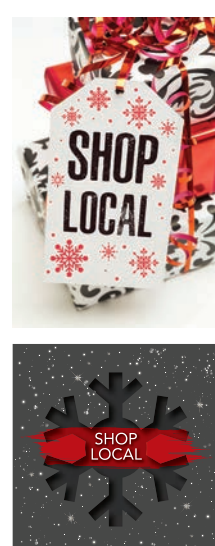
Bring this greeting in through the month of January for **21% OFF** the regular price of any item.

Have a holiday season filled with good health, gratitude, and hope!

*your HEALTH matters*

Bedrock Plaza • 139 Main St #131  
Sturbridge, MA 01566  
(774) 241-3383  
[yourhealthmatters15@gmail.com](mailto:yourhealthmatters15@gmail.com)

Tues-Fri 10am-6pm • Sat 10am-5pm



**Daughter for Hire and DO IT 4 U**

Would like to wish you a very Blessed Christmas! And don't forget, we're here to help you live your best life NOW!

Melanie Silva at 774-200-6840.

**ZUMBA**  
fitness

**Do It 4 U Studio**

We are still collecting for the **Spencer Food Pantry** for a Christmas donation. Please follow us on Facebook, MS Zumbateer for class schedules and updates.

**369 Main Street, Ste 5  
Spencer, MA 01562 (508) 864-9224**

**Pakachoag**  
Music School of Greater Worcester

**GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC!**

**4 WEEK LESSON SPECIAL: \$160**

A Savings of \$40. In-person and remote options available, as circumstances permit.

Ages 6 and Up

[www.PakMusic.org](http://www.PakMusic.org)  
info@pakmusic.org 508-791-8159

**Dankee Diner**

16 Worcester Rd., Charlton, MA 01507  
**Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner**

**PRIME RIB** DINE-IN or TAKE-OUT  
All day Thursday only starting at noon while it lasts till 8:00pm

Petite Cut 10 oz. \$19.95  
Large Cut 14 oz. \$24.95  
w/ baked potato & garlic green beans

~ GIFT CERTIFICATES ~

Call ahead for take-out 508-434-0358  
Breakfast served all day • Cash only – ATM inside  
Mon - Sat 7am-2 pm; Thurs & Fri till 8pm; Sun 7am-1pm  
(Face mask required to enter)

## Shop Local this Holiday Season!

Not sure what to buy?

A gift card makes a great gift!

Free gift wrapping, and select items discounted 25-50%!



## Cormier Jewelers & ART GALLERY

A Family Business Since 1949  
136 Main Street • Spencer • 508-885-3385  
[cormierspencer.com](http://cormierspencer.com)

**Extended Holiday Hours:**  
Dec. 17 & 18 10-7; Dec. 19 & 20 10-4; Dec. 21-23 10-7  
Christmas Eve 10-3

## TALK OF THE TOWN

85 Main Street Ware Ma. 413-858-5172

A Unique Destination Experience

### Health Food & Products

Crystals & Gemstones, Gifts, Books, Cards, Jewelry, Essential Oils, Soap & So Much More!

For our Current Hours and Events  
[Facebook.com/TalkoftheTownWareMA/](https://www.facebook.com/TalkoftheTownWareMA/)

FINE CRAFTSMANSHIP • EXPERIENCED DESIGNERS • CUSTOM FRAMING  
OUTSTANDING PRINT SELECTION • PHOTO RESTORATION

**Handmade gifts from local artisans**

We have a variety of ready-made frames, prints, pottery, wooden bowls & wood carvings from local artists.

**THE FRAMER'S GALLERY**  
Heritage Mall • 567 Southbridge Street, Auburn, MA 508-832-6111  
[FRAMERSGALLERYMA.COM](http://FRAMERSGALLERYMA.COM)  
Walk-ins Welcome or by Appointment

**OPEN 24/7**

**Great Gift for the Holidays**

**Pepin's Auto Wash** *Totally Automated Car Wash*

Purchase Gift Cards Online  
VIP Fleet Cards

Route 9 • 1500 Main St., Leicester, MA 508-769-6604  
Leo Pepin Jr. • Chantelle Pepin  
[pepinsautowash.com](http://pepinsautowash.com)  
[pepinsautowash1@verizon.net](mailto:pepinsautowash1@verizon.net)

**Higgins Powersports**

We've got toys to please kids of all ages: electric bikes, electric skateboards, and more to check off your list! Plus check our Facebook for our "Deals of the Week" through Christmas.

OneWheel® Skateboards As Low As \$50/month  
Giant® E-Bikes on clearance!  
Stacy® Mini E-Bikes As low As \$50/month

978-355-6343 • Rt. 122, Barre MA • [www.higginspowersports.com](http://www.higginspowersports.com)

**five loaves** bakery & cafe

**Gift Certificates**

**Let Us Host Your Holiday Party!**  
Assorted pies, cheesecakes, breads, pastries, cookies & bars for the Holidays  
Sandwich Party Platters • Pastry Platters  
Christmas Party Office Luncheons & Hostess Platters

**BYOB** 13 Mechanic St., Spencer, MA 01562  
508-885-3760 • [fiveloavesbakery.com](http://fiveloavesbakery.com)  
Tues 10-3 | Wed & Thurs 10-7 | Sat 10-8:30 | Dinner: Fri & Sat Reservations Only

**WE MAKE OUR OWN BREAD!**



**GIFT CARDS**  
Great Gifts & Stocking Stuffers!

**DQ Grill & Chill**

**\$3.00 OFF ICE CREAM CAKE**  
Any 8" or Larger

Limit One coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 12/31/20

Route 9, Spencer  
**508-885-2748**

Accepting Debit & Credit Cards

**shop Chevere** Boutique Gift Shop  
Beads & Boutique

For a personal shopping experience with the convenience of online, join us **January 6 at 7pm** for our Facebook Live event.

Gift Certificates Available  
CBD Products Available  
Clothing | Jewelry | Candles  
Cold Weather Accessories | And More!

[www.shopchevere.com](http://www.shopchevere.com) 508.278.5566 336 N. Main St., Uxbridge Tues-Fri 10a-6p / Sat 9a-3p

**Thibault's Country Store**  
Shop Unique & Local for the Holidays  
Come experience a **REAL Country Store!**

Local Maple Syrup • Jams and Honeys  
Ornaments • Greeting Cards  
Fresh Ground Coffee Beans  
Farm Fresh Eggs • Penny Candy  
Cookies, Fudge, Cupcakes  
Local Grass Fed Beef & Pork from Crooked Creek Farm • Unique Gifts • Handmade Canvas & Leather Bags  
Pottery • Toys • Handmade Jewelry

Pick up your large animal, pet feed, bird seed and supplies, shavings, hay and pellet bedding next door at **Thibault's Poultry, Inc.**

92 North Spencer Road, Spencer • 774.535.1147  
Hours: Thurs - Sat 10-6 • Sun 10-5  
[thibaultscountrystore.com](http://thibaultscountrystore.com)

**DECK THE WALLS with a FREE Benjamin Moore® Pint Sample!**  
BRING IN THIS COUPON

**NAL'S** PAINT CENTER  
Auburn  
Worcester - Leominster  
Shrewsbury - Westborough

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

One coupon per person. Cannot be duplicated or reproduced. Exp. 1/31/21  
SKU: 523906009096



Give The Gift Of Delicious Food & Drink  
**GIFT CERTIFICATE**

**308 LAKESIDE**

CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY

**WEEKLY SPECIALS**  
\$6.99 East Brookfield Burgers  
Monday thru Thursday during Lunch hours. (11 to 4)  
\$10.99 Meals (Entree and Salad)  
Monday and Tuesday Dinner (4 to Close)  
Italian Night \$10.99 Italian Specials with Salad  
Wednesday Dinner (4 to Close)

Open 7 days a week Sun - Thurs 11-8 • Fri & Sat 11-9  
Please visit our website or Facebook page for our full menu.  
308 MAIN STREET, EAST BROOKFIELD  
774-449-8333 308 LAKESIDE.COM

Please call 774-449-8333 for reservations, take-out or reserve online [308lakeside.com](http://308lakeside.com)

Family Owned Since 1962

**Guzik Motor Sales Inc.**  
"Car buying the way it should be!"

**Deck Your Driveway with a New Vehicle!**

**Jeep RAM DODGE**

**2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata RF**  
Grand Touring Coupe, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 7,586 miles  
Stk 3658um **\$27,995**

No misleading ads - No Gimmicks  
The Lowest Interest Rates - Free Loaner Cars

We're with you every step of the way! Before the sale, During the sale, and After the sale!

**95 E. Main St., Rtes. 9 & 32, Ware**  
Just Over The West Brookfield Line 413-967-4210 or 800-793-2078  
Come in and visit or browse our lineup at: [www.guzikmotors.com](http://www.guzikmotors.com)



Member DIF



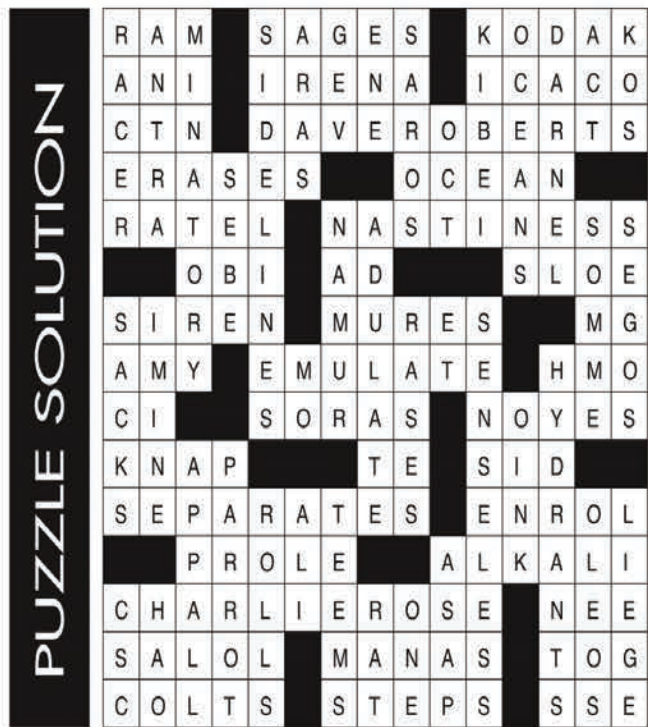


CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular pickup truck  
4. Profoundly wise men  
9. Camera company  
14. Folk singer DiFranco  
15. Passerine birds  
16. Plum-shaped fruit used for preserves  
17. Popular kids channel  
18. Dodgers' skipper  
20. Removes  
22. The Atlantic is one  
23. Badgerlike mammal  
24. Foulness  
28. Luke's mentor \_\_-Wan  
29. Commercial  
30. A type of gin  
31. Temptress  
33. Shuts in an enclosed space  
37. Milligram  
38. Actress Adams  
39. Strive to equal or match
41. Health insurance  
42. A detective's source  
43. Small American rails  
44. Alfred \_\_, Brit. poet  
46. Crest of a hill  
49. Atomic #52  
50. \_\_ Caesar, comedian  
51. Breaks apart  
55. Register formally (Brit. sp.)  
58. Worker  
59. Chemical compound  
60. Disgraced newsman  
64. Born of  
65. Chemical substance  
66. Supernatural powers  
67. Clothes  
68. Indy footballers  
69. Moves forward  
70. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

1. Driver  
2. Bone cavities  
3. Menacing  
4. Where coaches patrol  
5. Greek mythological figure  
6. War-based board game  
7. Midway between northeast and east  
8. 18-year period in astronomy  
9. Mid-century term used to describe Japanese-Americans  
10. Large bodies of water  
11. Eurasian ryegrass  
12. Perform on stage  
13. Greek island  
19. 10th month of the year (abbr.)  
21. One point east of southeast  
24. Belgian city  
25. Praise excessively  
26. River in France
27. Edible lily bulbs  
31. Quarterbacks take them  
32. Organic compound  
34. Tears down (Brit.)  
35. Beloved Hollywood alien  
36. Unconscious  
40. Missouri  
41. Firemen use them  
45. Pig noise  
47. Greatly dismay  
48. Imitator  
52. Moves by turning over  
53. Boxing's GOAT  
54. Swarms with  
56. Margarines  
57. Feudal superior  
59. As fast as can be done  
60. Reciprocal of a sine  
61. Chinese city  
62. Tell on  
63. United



# Big Brothers Big Sisters host successful virtual event

REGION — Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest (BBBS) found themselves three weeks away from their largest fundraiser of the year, The Big Celebration, when everything came to a halt due to Covid-19. The Mayor of Marlborough, Arthur G. Vigeant, alongside Bob's Discount Furniture's Executive Chairman, Ted English, both committed to being Honorary Chairs of the event. The decision was soon made to postpone the event that was scheduled for April 4, 2020. The BBBS staff and event committee pivoted and began planning for their first-ever, virtual event, The Big Night In which was held on Oct. 29.

Unsure what to expect, the team at BBBS re-evaluated their event budget and goals before forging ahead. The team worked closely with an event planning company out of Newburyport called Ember and a skilled audio-visual team at Blackstone Productions located in Uxbridge.

"Everyone has had to learn how to work differently. Whether you are a teacher and learned how to work remote, a store owner who had to find a new way to reach consumers, or an event planner in a world where events do not exist - we are all adapting to make the best out of a situation. Working with the team at Ember and Blackstone Productions on The Big Night In provided our agency with a new capacity which ensured that we offered the best possible virtual event experience for our supporters," said Lindsay McCarthy, Marketing and Special Events Manager at BBBS.

The Big Night In featured an online auction and a live-streamed event which was broadcasted from the AC Hotel in downtown Worcester on October 29th. During the event,

former WCVB news reporter, Susan Wornick, announced that BBBS of Central Mass. & MetroWest was one of 15 Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies from across the nation selected to receive a \$50,000 matching gift from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. BBBS used this donation to drive donations during the event and will continue raising funds which will be matched by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, up to \$50,000 throughout the giving season.

"We are so thankful and gratified by the support of our entire network during this challenging year," said Jeffrey Chin, CEO for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest. "Our supporters, and especially our staff and legions of volunteers, have shown how much of an impact we can have when we adapt and continue to provide mentoring to children facing social isolation and uncertain conditions."

The event can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/bbbbscmw](http://www.youtube.com/bbbbscmw). Thanks to sponsorships, auction sales, and donations, BBBS of Central Mass & MetroWest raised over \$130,000. Top sponsors were The Hanover Insurance Group, TJX Companies, Bob's Discount Furniture, and Avidia Bank.

## About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass. & MetroWest

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass. & MetroWest is to create professionally supported mentoring relationships, empowering youth to realize their potential and build brighter futures. Children's lives are enhanced when they have a mentor in their lives to celebrate their successes. To learn more about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest, please visit [www.bbbbscm.org](http://www.bbbbscm.org).

# Harding Trust supports Wales food pantry

BRIMFIELD — Brimfield's Harding Trust Fund has given a \$2,500 grant to the Wales Community Pantry for Christmas meals.

In November, the Food Bank provided meals to 631 individuals in Brimfield, Holland, and Wales.

The Harding Trust Fund was founded in 1919, and is funded by donations. This year, the Trustees ask that donations be sent directly to the Wales Community Pantry, as it is not a merry Christmas for those with an empty plate.

Family Health Center

of Worcester, Inc.

FAMILY HEALTH CENTER  
OF WORCESTER, INC.

Quality primary care, dental care, and health benefits assistance for the entire family.

Hablamos Español.

Free Health Insurance Assistance

Are you uninsured?  
Do you have questions about health insurance?  
We can help.  
Talk with one of our Health Benefits Navigators today.

Open Enrollment ends January 23rd!

32 Orchard Street, Southbridge, MA 01550  
(508) 860-7935  
Open weekdays 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
[www.FHCW.org/Southbridge](http://www.FHCW.org/Southbridge)

26 Queen Street, Worcester, MA 01610  
(508) 860-7700  
Open weekdays 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Open Saturdays 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
[www.FHCW.org](http://www.FHCW.org)

NEWS

ESSENTIAL local NEWS

Don't Wait.

Communicate.

Make your emergency plan today.

Visit [Ready.gov/communicate](http://Ready.gov/communicate)

Ad Council

Ready

FEMA

How to Use

**TO PLACE A RETAIL AD:**  
ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE  
MIKAELA VICTOR  
(508) 909-4126  
[mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)

**TO FAX THE STURBRIDGE VILLAGER:**  
(508) 764-8015

**TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:**  
E-MAIL: [obits@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:obits@stonebridgepress.news)  
CALL: 508-909-4149

**SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:**  
**SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:**  
KERRI PETERSON  
(508) 909-4103  
[kerrip@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:kerrip@stonebridgepress.news)

**TO SUBMIT CALENDAR OR AROUND OUR TOWNS ITEMS:**  
E-MAIL: [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

**TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:**  
E-MAIL: [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

**TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:**  
(800) 536-5836  
[Classifieds@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:Classifieds@stonebridgepress.news)

OFFICE HOURS:  
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY  
8:30AM-4:30PM

**VILLAGER STAFF DIRECTORY**  
**EDITOR**  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
(508) 909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)  
**SPORTS EDITOR**  
NICK ETHIER  
(508) 909-4133  
[nick@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:nick@stonebridgepress.news)

**GOT A NEWS TIP, AND IT'S AFTER 5 P.M. OR A WEEKEND?**  
CALL A REPORTER'S LINE,  
OR SIMPLY DIAL  
(800) 367-9898  
AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.

**A STONEBRIDGE PRESS PUBLICATION**  
**PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER**  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
(508) 909-4101  
[frank@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:frank@stonebridgepress.news)  
**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
RYAN CORNEAU  
(603) 677-9082  
[ryan@salmonpress.news](mailto:ryan@salmonpress.news)  
**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**  
JIM DINICOLA  
(508) 764-4325  
**EDITOR**  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
(508) 909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)  
**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
JULIE CLARKE  
(508) 909-4105  
[production@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:production@stonebridgepress.news)  
The *Sturbridge Villager* (USPS#024-955) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Sturbridge Villager, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550



# LPN to RN

## *Dream comes true for Gitaka-Muchiri family*

WORCESTER — Husband and wife John Muchiri and Esther Gitaka, both of Worcester, agree and understood the importance of education. Both completed high school overseas (Kenya), he at Dandora High School and she at Mugoiri High School. Both also completed the rigorous practical nursing program at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in Charlton then bridging to the LPN to RN program at Quinsigamond Community College earning their Associate Degree in Nursing. Both passed the NCLEX-PN and NCLEX-RN take one, the first try! Both were LPNs first then both became RNs!

Their other dream came true recently — purchasing their new home in Worcester which they now enjoy with their three children.

As children themselves growing up overseas, both John and Esther admired “helpers” in their lives. They observed how compassionately healthcare workers dealt with the community, how kind the nurses are. John first applied to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and graduated in 2015. He took the NCLEX-PN the same year and passed on his first attempt. He completed his Associate Degree in Nursing at Quinsigamond Community College and became an RN. His previous work background includes Mental Health Counselor at Advocates Inc., in Framingham (2007-2013); a nurse at Beaumont at the Willows in Westborough (2015-2016), at Pivot Point Home



Healthcare in West Boylston (2016-2018); and at Holy Trinity Nursing And Rehabilitation Center in Worcester (Jan. 2019 -April 2020). Since February of 2020 he is an RN at the Adcare Hospital in Worcester providing direct nursing care, a frontline worker! Esther completed her Practical Nursing Certificate at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in 2016. Her background as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA since 2013) helped tremendously. With her excellent academic performance Esther was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). She also completed her Associates Degree in Nursing at Quinsigamond Community College and became an RN. Her work experience as a nurse includes Beaumont Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center in Worcester (2016-2017), Christopher House Skilled Nursing Facility in Worcester (since April 2017) and Seven Hills Foundation also in Worcester (since November 2019).

Both pursued a nursing career where they can hone their strong clinical judgment, excellent physical assessment skills, good communication skills, but also, provided financial security. Both John and Esther agree that they have the best of both worlds, as healthcare work-

ers and have economic security for their family.

“Choosing Nursing and Bay Path was one of the best decisions I have ever made,” said John. “I have had the opportunities and experiences that have made all the difference.”

“I knew Bay Path’s program would help me achieve my dream,” Esther said. “The Practical Nursing program gave me countless opportunities and exposure, which prepared me for success in my nursing career.”

Read on to learn about Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, visit [www.baypath.net](http://www.baypath.net). The program is a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing ([www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn)) and is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education ([www.council.org](http://www.council.org)). For more information visit [www.baypath.net](http://www.baypath.net).

## VILLAGER ALMANAC

### OPEN TO CLOSE

**HOLLAND:** 413-245-7108

Mon – Thurs 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**FISKDALE:** 508-347-6486

Weekdays 9:00-4:30 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

**STURBRIDGE** 508-347-6463

Weekdays 8:30 – 5:00 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

**BRIMFIELD:** 413-245-3451

Weekdays: 9:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

**WALES:** 413-245-9808

Weekdays 8:30 – 12:30 and 2:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00 – 12:00

### REAL ESTATE

#### BRIMFIELD

\$336,000, 19 Brookfield Rd, Cheney, Robert C, to Samuel, Anthony C, and Samuel, Dawn S.

#### HOLLAND

\$550,000, 19 Island Rd, Les, Paul J, and Les, Theresa A, to Ernest M Riley T, and Riley, Ernest M.

\$531,500, 53 Mashapaug Rd, Digeronimo, Steven M, and Digeronimo, Jeffrey W, to Kogan, Howard, and Goldberg, Annette. \$280,000, 112 Wales Rd, Ledger, Casey A, to Marino, Patrick.

\$267,000, 19 Forest Dr, Ortega, Mandi L, to Obrien, Sean J.

\$235,000, 10 Hisgen Rd, Johnson, Theresa, to Tavernier, Joseph, and Tavernier, Kelli.

\$229,900, 168 Stafford Rd, Wilson, Joel, to Grimes, Adam D.

\$201,000, 5 Birch Dr, Brown, Betty A, and Lynn, Barbara H, to Coolins, Joseph T.

#### STURBRIDGE

\$299,000, 45 Old Farm Rd, Mills, Lucille I, to Tran, Khanh-Huong, and Armer, Andrew.

\$271,000, 88 Fiske Hill Rd, Baystate Prop RE LLC, to Matthews, Kolin R, and Matthews, Jennifer L.

\$225,000, 45 Betsy Ross Cir #45, Bromberg, Inez, to Derepentigny, Susan.

## Shopping All Day?

Save yourself some time,  
Let us do the cooking!

### NOW OFFERING COMPLETE CHRISTMAS DINNERS

**Call or stop by for more details.**  
Rt. 20, 630 Main St. • Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077  
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm – **ENTRANCE IN BACK**  
[hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com](mailto:hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com) • [hearthstonemarketandcatering.com](http://hearthstonemarketandcatering.com)

# HOLIDAY APPLIANCE SALE

## LOWEST PRICES OF THE YEAR

**OPEN DEC. 24 8AM-8PM**  
**GIANT TOY DEPT.**

### MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN Reg. \$299 **NOW \$219<sup>99</sup>**  
FULL Reg. \$499 **NOW \$299<sup>99</sup>**  
QUEEN Reg. \$599 **NOW \$349<sup>99</sup>**

### 1000s OF APPLIANCES

IN STOCK FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY

### SLEDS TOBOGGANS ICE SKATES

<b>FREEZER SALE</b> 20 CF UPRIGHT (reg. \$1199.99) <b>\$999<sup>99</sup></b> 10 CF CHEST <b>\$399<sup>99</sup></b> 7 CF CHEST <b>\$299<sup>99</sup></b> 5 CF CHEST <b>\$229<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR</b> Reg. \$799 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>DELUXE TOP LOAD WASHER</b> Reg. \$499 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$479<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>GE DELUXE GAS STOVE</b> Reg. \$799 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>LG FRONTLOAD WASHER</b> <b>\$749<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>TV SALE</b> 86" LG Reg. \$1999.99 <b>\$1599.99</b> 75" LG Reg. \$999.99 <b>\$799.99</b> 65" LG Reg. \$649.99 <b>\$549.99</b> 55" Smart TV <b>\$299.99</b> 43" Smart TV <b>\$239.99</b> 32" Smart TV <b>\$159.99</b>
	<b>FAMOUS MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE</b> Reg. \$499 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$449<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>KITCHENAID DISHWASHER</b> Reg. \$999 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$799<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>MAYTAG TOP WASHER</b> Reg. \$699 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$649<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>GE SELF CLEANING SMOOTH TOP STOVE</b> Reg. \$649 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$599<sup>99</sup></b>	
	<b>SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR</b> Reg. \$1099 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$1099<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER</b> Reg. \$499 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$449<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN</b> Reg. \$218 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$188<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>DELUXE DISHWASHER</b> Reg. \$399 <sup>99</sup> <b>\$379<sup>99</sup></b>	

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST  
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000  
Check [www.whitcosales.com](http://www.whitcosales.com) for special coupons

# WHITCO

**HOURS:**  
9am - 9pm Mon - Sat | 10-7 Sun  
140 Main St., Spencer, MA  
**508-885-9343**

WISHING YOU THE

# Happiest and HEALTHIEST HOLIDAYS

#wevegottyou | [southbridgecu.com](http://southbridgecu.com) | 888-599-2265

**Southbridge credit union**



# Bay Path LPN gets accepted into Laboure College's ASN Program

CHARLTON — Although she always planned on academic progression with her career path, Ashley Rivera, LPN of Southbridge did not think it would come so soon! Yet here she is, ready to embark on another academic adventure.

Rivera received her acceptance notification into the highly respected Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program at Laboure College. To be considered for the Laboure College's ASN program (LPN to RN Advanced Placement track) candidates must meet application requirements for all programs, the general admission criteria for all programs, be an LPN with a current license in good standing and meet the program-specific criteria based upon the candidate's level of education.



Courtesy

Ashley Rivera

Some candidates will be required to take the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) on campus at no additional charge for acceptance or for course placement. Since Rivera graduated from Bay Path Practical Nursing

Academy, which is an accredited, post-secondary institution, recognized by the Department of Higher Education and fully approved by the board of registration in nursing, she is eligible for advanced placement.

Justin G. Roy, Vice President of Enrollment and Marketing in his letter to Rivera commended her for her personal and academic accomplishments. Rivera completed her practical nursing education at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in 2019. She was an officer for the UNICEF Club and competed for SkillsUSA district and state championship where she garnered a silver and gold medal respectively in the Health Knowledge Bowl category. She attended the Innovation Summit at Northeastern University in Boston. Rivera was a volunteer at the Paxton Senior Health Fair. She participated in "SafeTalk" developing suicide alertness and safety connection skills resulting in in-depth skills to recognize signs of suicide. Rivera also received certifications in Dementia Care, Mental Health First Aid (National Council for Behavioral Health), and Infusion Therapy/Central Line Care (Intravenous Edu).

Rivera said she has always wanted to be a nurse since she provided direct support at Jefferson Rehabilitation Center in Watertown, N.Y. in 2015-2017.

"I've always thought about being a nurse," Rivera said. "I love to help people and I like doing different things.

Nursing is the best fit."

Rivera does not have second thoughts about picking rehabilitation nursing and home care. She has been with Webster Manor Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center (July 2019 to present) and Accessible Home Health in Auburn (September 2019 to present). Rivera, who is bilingual, (English and Spanish) is humbled by being called a healthcare hero amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The world needs more nurses like Rivera to care for patients or clients either in the rehabilitation or home health setting. Some nurses are willing to combine specialties, but only a handful do it. Rivera does it and does it with passion!

At Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, the program is a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing ([www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn)) and is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education ([www.council.org](http://www.council.org)). For more information, visit [www.baypath.net](http://www.baypath.net).

## OSV VIRTUAL

continued from page A1

porters; and tributes to current staff.

President and CEO, Jim Donahue welcomed the attendees of the event sharing, "We are busy working on programs and ideas of the future for Old Sturbridge Village as we prepare to launch into 2021 when we will celebrate our 75th year."

Donahue went on to thank all those in attendance for their unwavering support of Old Sturbridge Village not just during 2020 but throughout all the years. Special thanks to Savers Bank for sponsoring this first virtual event.

## LEGALS

### Wales Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch 40A §10 & §11, the **Wales Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on December 29th, 2020 at the Wales Town Offices at 6:00 PM**, on the application of Kevin Jegelewicz of 93 Union Rd, for a special permit in terms of the Town of Wales Zoning By-law Sec. 4. 2.. The Town of Wales Zoning By-Law Sec. 4.2.2 states "A pre-existing non-conforming use or structure may not be extended, altered or changed except by a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals." Specifically, the applicant wishes construct a 5'x 9' porch onto an existing structure. Any person interested and wishing to be heard on this application should refer to the town website ([www.townofwales.net](http://www.townofwales.net)) under zoning board agenda for the above date to participate virtually. If you have any questions or concerns please email [planning@townofwales.net](mailto:planning@townofwales.net)  
December 18, 2020  
December 25, 2020

## ROLLBACK

continued from page A1

patrons per table

- Restaurants must impose a 90-minute time limit on tables
- Musical performances at restaurants will no longer be permitted
- Food court seating must be closed in malls

Restaurant patrons are encouraged to dine only with members of the same household. As much as possible, utilize take-out or delivery services to help minimize risks.

"These new measures are designed to prevent infection and viral spread,

especially in indoor settings," Baker said. "They will create stronger mask compliance, more social distancing, and limits to the time spent with people outside of your immediate household."

The Baker Administration also announced new guidelines for workplaces and gyms. In offices, employees must wear masks at their place of work when not in their own workspace. Employers are encouraged to close down or limit the use of break rooms.

"We continue to encourage all employers to offer teleworking to their employees when possible," Baker said.

Patrons must wear masks at all times in gyms.

During the latest weekly state report, Leicester, Spencer, North Brookfield, and several other area communities were listed in the state's "red zone" for COVID-19 transmission risk.

Local officials remind residents to wear masks in public at all times and avoid large private gatherings.

The Worcester field hospital at the DCU Center has already begun accepting patients. A second field hospital was set up in Lowell.

For more information on statewide efforts to combat COVID-19, visit [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov).

## WREATHS

continued from page A1

that we all enjoy today.

Wreath sponsorships are only \$15, and can be sponsored directly at [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/MAHHDC](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/MAHHDC)

"Every \$15 wreath sponsorship is a meaningful gift from a grateful American who knows what it means to serve and sacrifice for the freedoms we all enjoy," said Karen Worcester, executive director of Wreaths Across America. "Whether the wreath is placed this December, or next, know

that your gift will be honored. We are so grateful to the good people of this great nation for participating in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach."

To stay informed about changes to Wreath Day events in your community or to sponsor a wreath for a local hero, please visit [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/MAHHDC](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/MAHHDC)

### About Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual

wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester in 1992. The organization's mission – Remember, Honor, Teach – is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington, as well as at thousands of veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

This year's National Wreaths Across America Day is Saturday, Dec. 19. For more information or to sponsor a wreath, please visit [www.wreathsacrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org).

## LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



**AUTO SERVICES**

Master Technicians  
Over 28 Yrs.  
Experience

**ASE**  
AUTOMOTIVE  
SPECIALTY

All Repairs Welcome

**Desmarais Auto Repair**

Free Diagnostics  
While-you-wait

All Repairs Guaranteed  
24 mos. or 24,000 miles

1067 Stafford St. • Rochdale, MA

(Across from Rochdale Park)

**508.892.9800**

**APPLIANCES**

Family owned & operated.  
Servicing household appliances since 1978.

**Complete Line of  
NEW APPLIANCES**

All Major Brands

6 & 12 Months  
Financing Available

Instant Credit • In -shop Repairs  
Delivery, Installation & Removal

**Dave's Appliance Inc.**  
**508-867-3122**

Parts Hotline 888-229-1027  
42 W. Main St., Brookfield, MA  
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-6 • Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-3

**LANDSCAPING & TREE**

**ORLOFF**  
LANDSCAPING  
& TREE

Local,  
Licensed  
and  
Insured!

Tree removal/Trimming  
Wood chipper rental  
Land clearing • Excavation • Lawn care

**Call 508-320-9080  
for a free estimate!**

**CATEGORY OF YOUR CHOICE**

**Your Ad Here  
Call Today!**

**PLOWING/SANDING**

**HARRISON  
LANDSCAPING AND  
JON'S LAWNS  
& PLOWING**

Plowing &  
Sanding

Call Frank 508.248.5488

Charlton/Sturbridge Area  
Experience • Insured • Dependable  
[www.harrisonlandscaping.com](http://www.harrisonlandscaping.com)

To advertise in The  
Local Service Provider  
Directory

Contact June  
at 508-909-4062  
[Jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:Jsima@stonebridgepress.news)

**ROLL OFF DUMPSTERS**

**PEPIN**  
WASTE SERVICE  
Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

**Weekend  
Special** **\$275**  
10 yd. Rental 1 Ton  
3 sizes available. Call for pricing.

**Roll Off Containers**  
Weekend Dumpsters  
for the Homeowner  
Houses • Attics • Cellars  
Construction Sites

10-15-20 Yd.  
**508-892-4193 • 508-769-6603**  
Leicester, MA  
Fully Insured



Merry Christmas  
to all from all of us at the



43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570

**hope2own.com**

**508.943.4333**

*Lori Johnson-Chausse*

*William Hilmon*

*Vanessa Marie Hoerig*

*Bryan Pelletier*

*Matthew & Ross*

*Brian Borenko*

*Sharon Pelletier*

*Laurie Sullivan*

*Jane Austin Casault*

*We are proud to be an American!*  
*God Bless the United States*  
*of America!*







Serving Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland and Wales

PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550  
Telephone (800) 367-9898  
Fax (508) 764-8015  
www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

### *We all share responsibility for protecting the vulnerable*

Something we've been hearing over the past few months with regard to COVID-19 deaths is the downplaying of elderly victims succumbing to the virus. When we look at the data and have conversations about the infection rate, and the numbers of those who actually pass away as a result, it seems to be dismissed in cases where the person is over the age of 65. "Well, they are old anyway, and in that age bracket" is often overheard.

What an awful world view. True, when we hear about an older person passing, we can find some sort of solace knowing that they were able to live for a fairly long time and enjoy life as such. However, isn't the point to try to live as long and healthy as possible? Many of these elderly individuals who have fallen victim to this virus, would still be alive today, had COVID not come into all of our lives.

This outlook is a dangerous viewpoint to have, especially amidst a pandemic. Of course the younger, healthier population is less at risk; however the responsibility falls on all of us to protect the vulnerable, regardless of our odds of contracting a severe case ourselves. We may be fine if we catch it, and may decide not to take precautions, telling ourselves "I'll be fine." However, walking around asymptotically may infect someone who might not be OK. As a society of neighbors, co-workers, family and friends, it should always be our job to look out for each other. Despite our differences, we must always put humanity first and take care of one another. Whether that looks like helping someone with a flat tire, pulling someone out of a ditch who's car slid off the road, helping someone in need with groceries, or taking precautions during a pandemic to keep each other safe, it's our duty as decent human beings to do the right thing, not for ourselves but for each other.

In overhearing such statements regarding the elderly, we want to remind those that need to hear it, that these long lived lives are just as important as they always have been. Being elderly shouldn't mean we are automatically dismissed as a member of society. The golden years should be protected as best they can as we all age, and we all will.

Our elderly community are just as valuable now as they were when they were in their twenties. Remember that senior citizens still pay taxes, grocery shop, take care of family members including grandchildren. It is our grandparents that make up the highest number of child care providers, allowing their own children to continue to work, which in turn boosts the economy.

Our elderly population provides friendship and support to everyone around them. In addition, the highest number of volunteers come from the senior citizen population. Again, this in turn helps to contribute to our economy.

It doesn't seem like any of this hits home for some individuals, until they are affected personally. If you are not close with someone who is elderly, remember that many of us are. It is important to continue to value and protect the most vulnerable among us.

In an attempt to bridge recent political division, we want to remind everyone to look out for each other, despite your differences. What matters in the end is community and how we operate in our own small circles.

We have seen refreshing occurrences of both Republicans and Democrats, locally, who have joined forces to make our communities a better place... individuals who have not lost sight of what really matters in life.



# OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### TCA is thankful

To the Editor:  
Trinity Catholic Academy would like to take this opportunity to thank the area community for their most recent support of their first time "online" Giving Tuesday event assisting TCA to obtain Chromebooks.

Key support of matching gift opportunities offered by the Hyde Dexter Foundation; a Local Community Partner & the TCA Board were truly instrumental in the success of this campaign offering the ideal incentive tool to obtain the results that exceeded our goal!

Thank you to Rita's Country Primitives, Oakridge Creations, Toni Perkins, LMT for supplying gifts from

their businesses and thanks to all that invested time in the short Campaign. Your support added fun and interest as progress was made toward the goal.

We cannot forget the parents, past parents and grandparents and alums who participated with gifts and spreading the word. Your participation revealed a great benefit to reach new donors.

TCA is truly grateful to all that participated individually monetarily or "in-kind." We are truly blessed.

On behalf of Trinity Catholic Academy,

DIANE PERRY  
ALUMNI LIAISON

## *Are we still a beacon of democracy?*

I'm a lifestyle columnist that promotes optimism and positivity in our daily lives. I'm not a political pundit. Occasionally a subject arises that connects the two areas of positivity and politics and I feel it's important to address. We have a problem.

Depending on which poll you believe, almost 40 percent of all Americans believe our recent election was either dishonestly counted or was unfair, while seventy-seven percent of Republican voters say their candidate was fraudulently defeated. There has never been so much distrust in our voting system.

Former US Congressman and retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Allen West is now floating the idea of secession for those states who feel election laws were broken to elect Joe Biden.

This was an unprecedented election, with new rules and extreme methods, designed to accommodate voters due to our current Covid-19 pandemic. Former President Jimmy Carter, a long-time global advocate and judge for free elections, a Democrat, says that mail-in ballots are wrought with the opportunity for fraud. Never in our history have we had the massive number of vote-by-mail ballots as we did in this 2020 election.

The Beacon of Democracy? The Land of the Free and Home of (because) of the Brave now floating a break-up of our Union?

Yes. I believe our Union is at risk, but let me be clear. I do not advocate overturning the recent election. I accept the results based upon the election rules that were in place. The problem I see, and it should disturb both sides, is that the looseness of rules, methods, techniques, and monitoring of the last election places our democracy at risk. This isn't about Trump or Biden. This is about election security. We can and must do better.

You may say Allen West isn't representative of most voters on the right, but I'd say you may be wrong. This shouldn't be a left or right issue, it's an American issue. We should be united in preserving the integrity of our elections.

I'm born and raised in Illinois, and for as long as I can remember, there has been, and continues to be, a desire for the Illinois "outside of Chicago" to separate from the Windy City. The Chicago Machine rules Illinois with an iron fist and has for almost one-hundred years. Look no further than the 1960 presidential election if you want to understand the power of the machine and how a small dishonest group can impact an entire nation.

There has been a movement over the last few years for the vast expanses of red California to break away from the influence and control of blue Los Angeles and San Francisco. And red Western Washington and Oregon could not be more polarized from their fellow statesmen in Seattle and Portland. They are now discussing breaking away and joining Idaho. Then back to Texas, there's been a group calling themselves the "Republic of Texas" that has been pushing secession from the U.S. for years. And now a former congressman, retired Lt. Colonel (Army) and head of the GOP in Texas, calling for a discussion of secession.

The secession movement is growing and gaining momentum. It's fueled by a large minority (upwards of forty percent) that believe their candidate



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

GARY W.  
MOORE

was cheated and the rightful winner was denied. Yes, the country is divided almost perfectly down the middle by a different ideology but that alone isn't enough to fuel a dissolution of our Union that has lasted since 1776. A lack of trust in our elections... just might be. If we believe our elections are not honest and fair... how can we possibly be the Beacon of Democracy? Why should we vote if every legal vote isn't counted? It is a National dilemma.

To those calling for secession, let me remind you how well it worked for our nation last time this idea reared its ugly head. The southern states paid a devastating price, while the whole nation suffered the massive losses of our civil war. I cannot believe anyone would want to risk a second American Civil War, but there are those who do, and the numbers are growing. Ideology alone will not cause this break-up, but a lack of a reliable, honest, and trustworthy voting system can and maybe will.

If we want to secure our Union, we must secure our voting system.

How do we do it?

We must show picture identification for many less important reasons in our states and our nation. What's more important than voting? Picture ID must be shown to vote. And no... this is not voter suppression but reasonable election security.

Absentee ballots must be used for legitimate reasons for being absent on Election Day and should not be available to the masses because they don't want to vote in person. If you care about the future of your nation, show up at the voting booth, show your ID and vote. How is this asking too much?

Counting of every single vote must be done with poll watchers from each party. Any vote that is illegally counted under the view of only one side must be either thrown out or counted again, with proper witnesses.

As for voting machines and the allegations they are easily open to fraud, I don't know enough to comment, but I've heard enough to believe they must be examined before they are used again.

Then you have our tech giants who I believe clearly favor one side over another and influence voters by their bias. Why is this allowed and how do we stop this?

Want to preserve our Union? Secure our elections. Taking the steps to secure our elections is not voter suppression but election security. Without election security, everything we say we stand for is a lie.

I love my blue friends and love my red friends. If we love our Union, we must join hands and engage in election systems we can all trust. The risk of not doing so is unfathomable.

My prayer for our nation this Christmas is that we can come together and reflect the values that have held us together for almost 250 years. If we only agree upon one thing, let's agree that our United States of America is worth preserving and saving. Imagining the world without our influence creates a frightening picture. Let's set aside our political and ideological differences and preserve our nation.

God bless America, and may God save and preserve our troubled Union.

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

## Are you still planning to retire early?



Have your retirement plans changed because of COVID-19? If so, you have plenty of company. Nearly 40 percent of those planning to retire say the pandemic has disrupted their intentions, according to the Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New

FINANCIAL

FOCUS

JEFF  
BURDICK

Retirement study. You might have been thinking about retiring early – can you still do so?

Even without a crisis, it's not a bad idea to review your important life goals from time to time. So, in thinking about the possibility of early retirement, consider these factors:

Your retirement lifestyle – Your ability to retire early depends somewhat on what sort of lifestyle you're anticipating during your retirement years. If you think you'll be traveling extensively or pursuing expensive activities, you might not be able to afford to retire as early as someone with more modest ambitions. Of course, there's no "right" or "wrong" way of living in retirement – we all have our own dreams and preferences. But be aware that different lifestyles do carry different price tags – and have different effects on when you can retire securely.

Sources of retirement income – Obviously, a key factor in knowing whether you can retire early is the amount of retirement income you can rely on. So, you'll have to assess all your sources: Social Security, any other pensions you might receive, and your investment portfolio, including your 401(k) and IRA. The amounts you receive from these sources will depend on a variety of factors.

For Social Security, the longer you wait until collecting, the larger your monthly payments (although they will "top out" when you reach 70, excluding cost-of-living adjustments). In regard to your investments and retirement accounts, you'll need to establish a withdrawal rate that's appropriate for the length of time you expect to be retired. So, by adjusting these variables – taking Social Security earlier or later, taking more or less money from your retirement accounts – you can help determine if the retirement date you had in mind is viable.

Your feelings about work – Your goals are not static – they can change in response to any number of reasons, both external and personal. When you first decided you wanted to retire early, you might have been motivated by, among other things, a weariness of your current job. But has that changed over time? Have you found new challenges that interest you at work? Or, if you were forced by the pandemic to work remotely, did you actually enjoy the arrangement and want to continue it?

After all, many employers have found that their workers can be just as productive working at home, so, even when we've gotten past COVID-19, we might see a sizable shift in the geography of the workplace. In any case, if your feelings about work have changed in some way, leading you to think you could work longer than originally planned, you'd likely gain some financial advantages. You'd make more money, for starters, but you'd also keep building your 401(k) and IRA, and you could even possibly delay taking Social Security.

The pandemic may lead to a reevaluation of many financial goals – and taking early retirement might be one of them. By thinking carefully about your situation and your options, you can come up with a course of action that's right for you.

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



# Brothers on the hunt

The final day of the Massachusetts shotgun season was a good one, according to hunters that I spoke with. The weather was perfect during the morning hours. It was comfortable to sit on a deer run that had high hopes for this writer and many others. I hunted with my brother Ken, as I do every year. We both drew a doe permit for Zone 8, so we hunted in the town of Douglas. I met Ken at our usual spot at 8 a.m., which is a bit late because of our elderly status.

We do not hunt hard, and often have one of us take a stand on a good deer run, that also showed signs of deer activity like acorn feeding. My brother decided on taking a slow walk through the area, hoping to push a deer to my stand. I sat comfortably on my hotseat up against a large oak tree, waiting for my brother to come through. As I waited, I was being entertained by a couple of gray squirrels scampering across the ground, looking for acorns to sustain them through the winter months.

A couple of times one of the squirrel's scampered down a small log that was only a few feet from me, when he noticed something wrong. He let out a loud screeching noise, alerting every form of wildlife in the area of my presence. A few red squirrels also joined in with their chatter. I spotted my brother walking towards me, and I slowly lifted my ageing body off from the ground, with the help of the large tree, and a couple of smaller trees. After we discussed the situation, we decided to hunt the lower part of the property,



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH  
TRUE

where I had left one of my tree stands that I no longer use. I left Ken on the ridge and headed down to my tree stand to sit on the lower part. At least I could get up to shoot if the situation arises. I slowly walked down to my tree stand, but needed to cross the small stream to get to where I was going. Lucky I had my Muck boots on. I found an old stick that was laying on the ground, and used it to steady my ageing body, hoping to navigate the water without falling in. "Whew!" "I Made it." I slowly walked over to my tree stand and placed my cushion on the lower part before I sat down. "This is a lot more comfortable." There were all kinds of fresh deer sign in the area, and I just felt sure I was in a good spot. I called my brother on our two-way radio and told him to take a slow walk through the brush towards my position. I watched the area pretty good for a while, and then suddenly out of nowhere, this huge deer came gliding through the brush in slow but huge jumps. I quickly stood up and took aim at the large deer, but it disappeared into some thick brush. I spotted the deer again and let one round go on my 12-gauge shotgun. The discharged shell echoed through the woods. I waited a few minutes to stop my heart from racing and to let my brother know of the situation. He stayed where he was because the deer could very well circle and head back in his direction. I was not so sure about my shot being productive, but I spent a while making sure there was no blood trail. It was as I had



Photo Courtesy

This week's picture shows Ken & Mark True ice fishing on one of our favorite spots in years past. We are all hoping for some ice this year.

figured. A clean miss! I guess I will need to borrow some venison from one of my buddies again this year! We worked our way back to the car and headed for the nearest coffee shop. There is still black powder season that ends on Dec. 31 in Massachusetts! But I am not to encouraged about scoring on some venison this year. With Christmas only days away, we need to brace ourselves as families, that it will be like no other Christmas that we have ever encountered. That does not mean as families that the cele-

bration cannot be meaningful as it has always been; it is just that the celebration should be done in smaller groups of family members & friends. We all need to hope and pray that the recently approved vaccine to combat Covid-19 is safe, and will work to eradicate this terrible disease that has cost thousands of lives, and threatens thousands more. Our faith is being tested, and we better be ready. God bless!  
  
*Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!*

## What makes estate personal property valuable?



There are many components of estate assets, with home and land typically being the most valuable. Stocks, bonds, or bank accounts may be worth more in certain situations. Personal property is typically the least valuable, but there are times when there are some very desirable items in the estate. Being an antique estate auctioneer, I focus on antiques, collectibles and other estate personal property and will explain in this column what we look for in determining whether estate contents are potentially valuable. One factor is how long the family has been in the country. We've handled at least one estate where the family came over on the Mayflower. There were books and documents dating back to the 18th century. In an estate where items have been passed down through generations, you can usually expect to find some valuable objects. The family's wealth is another important factor. Some families have the financial means to buy Rolex instead of Timex watches and to buy large sterling silver flatware sets instead of silverplate or stainless steel. Even though formal dining isn't as popular today, sterling silver flatware can be worth thousands. One of the rules that most collectors follow is to collect what you like. Collectors typically don't look at their collections as an investment. However, when the collection is auctioned and converted to cash,



ANTIQUES,  
COLLECTIBLES  
& ESTATES  
.....  
WAYNE TUISKULA

having collected popular items will benefit the collector or their heirs. Some common collectibles like coins, 1960s and earlier baseball and other trading cards, and comic books can be worth a considerable amount. We recently sold a collection of mainly gold and silver coins that brought nearly \$40,000 and sold a baseball card collection a few years ago that sold for over \$20,000. The time period that the person collected their items also impacts the value of personal property. Over 20 years ago, we were contacted by a woman who had a large collection of Barbie dolls and other toys. She was at the age where she could've begun collecting when some of the first Barbies were manufactured and we had high hopes for selling her items after our conversation with her. Unfortunately for her and us, she collected all of her toys later in her adult life and they had little value. When you've collected something in your youth, you don't have to worry about fakes and reproductions in your collection that have become more prevalent now. Many people are uncomfortable when we first meet if the estate they are handling is packed with items. I assure them that there are never too many items as far as an auctioneer is concerned. Even if there aren't a lot of valuable objects, sometimes the sheer volume of items can make an auction or estate sale profitable. Around 15 years ago, we auctioned a collection of items from the 1920s through 1960s that a collector had

acquired over many years. There was enough material to fill a box truck. Although there weren't any big-ticket items, 1950s hair dryers, 1940s household items and even circa 1930s rolls of toilet paper combined to bring in tens of thousands for the consignor. We have a small online auction taking place with items from a Worcester estate. Included is a commercial tractor, dump truck, motorcycles, other vehicles, a large Coke sign and Ford Mustang pedal car. The first session of the large toy col-

lection from a West Boylston estate will soon be ready for online bidding. Session I will contain diecast toys. Antique and vintage toys will be in later sessions. You will also be able to bid online for equestrian and other paintings from artist Fay Moore's estate after the holidays.  
  
*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.*

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

**Samantha  
Age 14**

**Hi! My name is Samantha and I want to be a singer when I grow up!**

Samantha is a creative teenage girl of Caucasian descent who wants to be a singer when she grows up. Those who know Samantha say she is a smart, resilient, empathetic child who truly cares about the well-being of others. She is also athletic, very practical and a strong advocate for herself. She is able to express her needs without any prompting. Samantha has been very interested in trying out new hair styles and those who are close to her say she is extremely stylish. Samantha likes school, particularly writing and recess. She is a great problem solver who works hard to achieve desired outcomes.

Legally free for adoption, Samantha would do best in a home with a single mom or a two-parent family. If there are other children in the home, they should not be close in age to Samantha. Samantha would thrive in a family that could give her a lot of attention and help her reach her fullest potential. A pre-adoptive family will need to maintain contact with Samantha's relatives and her visiting resource through phone and visitation. Samantha would like a family with pets (maybe a dog) and older 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 617-6273 or visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

**Place Motor Inc.**

Thompson Road, Webster, MA 508.943.8012

Massachusetts oldest family owned Ford Dealer – since 1923

[www.placemotor.com](http://www.placemotor.com) • "Like Us" on Facebook

*The "Right Place" since 1923*



# Dress up your landscape with winter-inspired container gardens



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Clear out your fall containers and make room for some winter greenery. These planters are sure to brighten those dreary winter days and add life to your landscape.

Transform weatherproof summer and fall containers for winter. Fiberglass, plastic, cement and wood will hold up to the cold, ice and snow. Don't subject terra cotta and glazed pots to the harsh elements that can cause them to crack. Remove faded fall flowers and add a bit of potting mix to fill the container within two inches of the top. Or select a new weatherproof container and fill it with potting mix.

Consider your overall landscape design and other outdoor winter decorations when creating or purchasing a holiday planter. Place a couple of winter planters on your front steps or dress up your patio, deck or balcony and enjoy the view from the comfort of your home. Don't overlook those hanging baskets. Fill them with winter greenery to elevate your winter containers to a fun new level.

Fresh-cut needled evergreens like spruce, white pine, fir and broadleaf



Winter container gardens brighten up the landscape all season long.

Photo Melinda Myers

with a bit of paint and glitter. Just make sure your materials will hold up to the winter weather.

Once your arrangement is complete, water thoroughly. The moist soil helps keep greenery fresh and in place. Once the soil is frozen you can stop watering. The cold weather will help keep your greens looking good throughout the holidays and beyond.

Extend the life of your greenery with an organic biodegradable antitranspirant. These materials help seal in the moisture, delaying the browning of cut greens. Always read and follow label directions carefully. Most need to be applied to evergreen boughs outdoors and allowed to dry before bringing it indoors or beginning your arrangement.

For additional ideas and a bit of inspiration, watch my Create Beautiful Outdoor Evergreen Containers video. You will find more ways to enhance your landscape with winter containers.

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](http://www.melindamyers.com).

## Strategies for “Living by the List”

Few simple tasks bring order to chaos better than making a list. Creating a list of “pros and cons” vividly illustrates points for contrast and evaluation, while crossing off a daily list of accomplishments (no matter how mundane) can be a powerful motivator. In fact, most avid list makers take great satisfaction in viewing their options and/or daily successes literally laid out before them.

Numerous studies reveal lists can greatly benefit the writer far beyond short term satisfaction. Writing a list not only has the power to help save time and money, but the act of “listing” has been shown to aid memory, prevent procrastination and boost decision making skills.

Whether you want to pay down debt, tackle a new project or just lay out the pros and cons of an issue, making a visual list sorts it all out for easy review and action. The following listing strategies, ideas, and suggestions reveal how list making list (and maybe even checking it twice) can be a valuable tool to everyday success.

Writing it Out: While today's world offers an abundance of internet downloads and phone applications to help us track our accomplishments and



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

look, consider white birch branches and stems of red twig dogwood, corkscrew willow or contorted hazelnut. Add a bit more color with berry laden winter holly branches and dried seed rudbeckias, allium, and coneflower seed heads or hydrangea flowers. Finish off your arrangement with a few evergreen cones and a bow.

Or add a bit of glitz with painted and glittered cones, twigs, ornaments, or other holiday adornments. You can purchase these or create your own

get our lives in order, perhaps none is more practical and effective than the old fashioned pen and paper list. The advantage over electronic apps is that you can simply jot down a list whenever and wherever the mood strikes. Not to mention a paper list can be folded and tucked away for easy retrieval and review.

If checking off a completed task in a “to do” list is a satisfying act, crossing it off in a big, bold way is even more effective. To make an impressive visual impact, line out items on a written list with a bright

red marker. Or, make a list on a wall size whiteboard and check off items with a thick black marker. These “in your face” visuals of tracking each accomplishment throughout the day serve to motivate.

For those who need a jump start to begin a manual list, a few simple tracking tools may be all it takes to inspire “listing.” Some people enlist the help of a day planner or other calendar based notebook to record daily diet, fitness or work goals. A fresh legal sized pad or lined notebook also inspires pen to paper as do long, narrow pads of paper made for listing. A good, comfortable pen is another

Turn To **TRAINOR**, page **A14**

## FAMILY DINING & GIFT GUIDE

Visit these fine local establishments for great gifts, food, beverages & take-out too!

To advertise on this page, contact June at [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news) or 508-909-4062

Call to inquire about our Gift Certificate Special!

### Spencer Country Inn

Buy Entire Get 1 1/2 price (dine-in only) Cannot be used on holidays or private parties With this ad. Exp 1/31/21

Reservations accepted. Nightly dinner specials.

**SUNDAY BRUNCH** 10am-1pm (plus tax & gratuity)  
All You Can Eat \$15.95

**Fish N' Chips To-Go - Fridays Only \$11.95**

500 Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-9036  
[www.spencercountryinn.com](http://www.spencercountryinn.com)

**HOURS**  
Lunch: Thur, Fri, Sat 11:30-2:00  
Dinner: Thur, Fri, Sat 5:00-Close  
Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm

**GIFT CERTIFICATES**

~ Function Rooms 10-250 Guests ~

### CHARLIE'S

Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions

**WE ARE RE-OPENED FOR INDOOR DINING!**

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

Friday & Saturday Night After 5:00

**Stuffed Cod over Risotto**

**Prime Rib**

Full Menu - Take out still available

5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562

**Gift Cards** 508-885-4033 [www.charliesdiner.com](http://www.charliesdiner.com)

Hours: Sun, Mon & Wed 8-8 • Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-9

### CHARLIE'S

Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions

Merry Christmas to all and thank you for your support during this past year. May 2021 bring us all the best of health, an abundance of joy and prosperity, and may we continue to enjoy delicious food and drink at Charlies!

~ Steven, Emily, chefs, bartenders, and waitstaff

### Salem Cross Inn

RESTAURANT & TAVERN

260 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

**Experience Salem Cross Inn...**  
history, charm, elegance, and culinary delights  
Dine with us or Take Out  
Reservations required if dining in

**For more info visit [www.salemcrossinn.com](http://www.salemcrossinn.com) (508)867-2345**  
Hours: Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 4:00-8:00; Sunday noon-6:00 pm

Salem Cross Inn Gift Certificates!  
WHAT A GREAT IDEA!  
For friends, family, & business associates

**WE ARE RE-OPENED FOR INDOOR DINING!**

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

Hours: Sun, Mon & Wed 8-8 • Thurs, Fri, Sat 8-9

5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562

**Gift Cards** 508-885-4033 [www.charliesdiner.com](http://www.charliesdiner.com)

ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL ~ [StonebridgePress.com](http://StonebridgePress.com)



# 48 HOUR PRICE QUOTE

**“How much will new replacement windows & doors cost me?”**

**Renewal by Andersen has a phone line dedicated to that question.**

Call our 48 Hour Price Quote line at 1-800-209-2746, and **we'll provide a quote within 48 hours of your call.** Most other companies take weeks to produce their estimate. Within 48 hours, a Renewal by Andersen Project Manager will precisely measure your home's windows and doors, help you choose your window styles, colors, grilles and hardware, and **then we'll provide a down-to-the-penny price quote that will be good for one full year.** No hidden charges and no more wondering, *“How much will new windows and doors cost?”*



**Get a FREE price quote within 48 Hours!**  
**Call 1-800-209-2746**  
**to schedule your FREE in-home visit**



**Call before December 31<sup>st</sup>!**

**SAVE 20%**  
**ON WINDOWS<sup>1</sup>**

**SAVE 20%**  
**ON ENTRY DOORS<sup>1</sup>**

**SAVE 20%**  
**ON PATIO DOORS<sup>1</sup>**

**WITH**

**\$0**  
**DOWN**

**0**  
**MONTHLY**  
**PAYMENTS**

**0%**  
**INTEREST**

**FOR 1 YEAR<sup>1</sup>**

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.

**Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen Windows,** so everything we do is held to the same standard of excellence that Andersen has lived by for 117 years. And know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the **safest** way possible.

**Make your home more secure. Book a Virtual or In-Home Appointment.**

**Renewal by Andersen.**   
**WINDOW REPLACEMENT** an Andersen Company  
 The Better Way to a Better Window™

**MILITARY DISCOUNT**  




Renewal by Andersen is the only brand to win both J.D. Power awards for Windows and Patio Doors in 2020

**1-800-209-2746**

For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit [jdpower.com/awards](http://jdpower.com/awards). <sup>1</sup>DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 12/31/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 20% off your entire purchase and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 11/28/2020 and 12/31/2020. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.





# Community Connection



570 MAIN STREET • RT. 20 • FISKDALE, MA  
TEL: 508-347-0116 • FAX: 508-347-6985

**SPECIALS GOOD 12/21- 12/27**

LAND O' LAKES AMERICAN CHEESE \$4.99 lb.	CERTIFIED ANGUS FRESH GROUND CHUCK \$3.99 lb.	FRESH EXPRESS GARDEN SALAD 2/\$3.00
RED & GREEN SEEDLESS GRAPES \$1.99 lb.	Holiday Hours Christmas Eve 7:30-5 Closed Christmas Day	ZUCCHINI & SUMMER SQUASH .99¢ lb.

Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 7:00 • Sat. & Sun. 8:30 - 6:00  
We reserve the right to limit quantities



Grab 'N' Go Home-style Lunch, Dinner, and Tasty Treats  
**Catering Available!**

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566  
508-347-7077

Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm  
hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com  
hearthstonemarketandcatering.com

**New Low Auto Rates From National Carrier!**

Ask us about it!  
**Call or email today**



We offer policies for  
AUTO  
RENTERS • HOME  
BUSINESS  
LIFE  
DISABILITY  
MOTORCYCLE  
BOAT

*You'll have peace of mind knowing our Insurance Professionals have your back!*



**BAIR INSURANCE AGENCY**

[www.bairinsurance.com](http://www.bairinsurance.com)  
[edwardbair@bairinsurance.com](mailto:edwardbair@bairinsurance.com)

**~ Online Quotes ~**

*Serving area towns since 1980*  
**58 A.F. Putnam Road**  
**Charlton, MA 01507**  
**p: 508-248-4204 f: 505-248-1199**  
*Conveniently located near scenic Buffumville Lake*









The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

**WE BUY GOLD**

**Specializing in Custom Designs**  
**All types of Jewelry Repairs**

MASTER JEWELERS™  
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®



409 Main St. Southbridge, MA  
[morinjewelers.com](http://morinjewelers.com) • 508-764-7250  
Located at CVS Plaza



508-248-9797

**Don't Pay Too Much for Propane**

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL.	Tanks Filled to 80%
75-150	\$2.20	
150-300	\$1.85	
300-500	\$1.65	Driver Discretion
500 PLUS...	CALL OFFICE	

**DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!**

- Monday price 12/14/20 was **\$1.88** per gallon\*  
100 gallon minimum
- Call for the most up to date daily price or visit us at [www.charltonoil.com](http://www.charltonoil.com)

**"Call Us First!"**  
\*prices subject to change



**Merry Christmas**



**Jeff Burdick, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor

419 Main Street  
Sturbridge, MA 01566  
508-347-1420  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

**Edward Jones®**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

MKT-5894K-A      Member SIPC

**StonebridgePress.com**

**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & Happy and Safe New Year!**





**NEW LOCATION:**  
1009 Lebanon Hill Rd., Southbridge  
508-764-0555

**Got Space? we do.**

**Contact Your Sales Representative Today.**  
**508-764-4325**



**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & Happy and Safe New Year!**



**NEW LOCATION:**  
**1009 Lebanon Hill Rd., Southbridge**  
**508-764-0555**







TRAINOR

continued from page A10  
er valuable aid. In the home office or gym, a white board calendar that displays daily, weekly and monthly goals, commands attention and successes can be easily checked off when achieved.

Free List Maker Software: If you prefer to “type it out,” there are many applications that support making, sharing and prioritizing lists. Here are some free ones to check out:

- Google Docs is perhaps the most familiar way to make everything from simple, personal lists to multi-level lists you can share and use as business task tools.
- Online list maker Scribbles.com is another free and easy list maker to build lists to share with your friends and family.
- iPhone apps to help you organize and create lists are plentiful online. Some are free, such as Remember the Milk, a capable to-do-list app with some sharing options included at no cost, making it good for household use.
- For serious list makers, a social network for goal achievers, www.mylifelists.org, offers an interactive web destination that challenges people to fulfill their major aspirations by creating a life list. Through the website, members can create a life list, and are motivated to take action and encouraged to inspire others by sharing their successes through sto-

ries, photos and video.

Rx for Brain Clutter: Research reveals lists can relieve stress by organizing items and/or tasks. Listing items into order not only calms mental clutter, but cuts tasks down to a manageable size.

Making a list can also be good news for procrastinators as a list can be valuable call to action. From tracking a diet program to monitoring career success, listing can break down goals into workable segments. “Listing out” is often all that’s needed to jump start a bigger project.

Studies show writing and using lists exercises the brain and builds memory. In today’s busy world, trying to remember everything is stressful! Placing items from your mental memory to a list alleviates stress and offers peace of mind that the important issues are “backed up” on paper (or computer).

According Cynthia R. Green, PhD, a nationally recognized clinical psychologist and brain health/memory fitness expert, making and using a list is a memory tool that can “save your brain.”

“Using lists, just like using any technique to boost your brainpower, will focus your attention more actively on the information you need to remember. Why? When we work with information, we pay closer attention to it,” she said.

In addition, Ms. Green notes that making a list is good for overall well being:

“Lists help us feel better. When we are organized we forget less and do more and generally are more effective and productive. Feeling effective is important to our self-esteem, since we feel better about ourselves when we see ourselves as capable. Being more productive means we are making the most out of our time, so we have more time to do things we really want to do. This is how list making can help us.”

From Grocery Lists to Bucket Lists: Lists can serve as great organizers. Whether you want to recall past accomplishments for a resume, or simply need to write a weekly grocery shopping list, a simple list is a clear and concise tool to get the job done.

Those who “live by the list” advise making both short term and long term lists. Short term lists, which are completed daily or within a week include grocery lists, daily “to do” lists, diet meals, exercise tracking, etc. Long term lists typically include “bucket lists” of future accomplishments, work projects, home improvement plans, career goals, etc.

When writing a list, it’s important to keep an open mind. While creating a list can boost enthusiasm, it’s important not to get carried away and “overlist.” For example, when making a pros and cons list, each point should be short and concise. Stick to basic positive and negative points only, to keep it simple and clear.

When making a “to do” list avoid listing more than can be accomplished. List only tasks that are manageable in the time allotted. It’s often better to complete a shorter list than to carry over an uncompleted one. That said, a list is a tool to get jobs done, so don’t be tempted to undercut the tasks. “To do” lists should be challenging, but do-able!

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 renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I’m in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I’m counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

REAL ESTATE



508-943-9306



Jules Lusignan T.A. King Maureen Cimoch Ellen Therrien John Kokocinski Adrienne James



SMART MLS

www.LakeRealty.net • www.WebsterLake.net

111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444

Licensed in MA & CT

Seasons Greetings - Happy Holidays - The Best of New Years!



**WEBSTER** – 20 Kunkel Ave! SUNNY SHORES! First Time Offered! 8 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bath Colonial! Featuring an Appliance Eat-in Cabinet Packed Kitchen! Formal Dining Room! 1st Floor Family Room w/Hardwood Floor! 1st Floor Half Bath w/Laundry! Gleaming Hardwood Staircase to the 2nd Floor w/4 Bedrooms! Master w/ Master Bath & Walk-in Closet! Many Recent Updates including Roof, Central Air, Hot Water Heater, Dishwasher & Refrigerator! Back Deck Overlooks Large Fenced Yard! 7 Zone Irrigation System! Farmer's Porch! Shed! 2 Car Garage w/Openers! This Home has Everything You Need and Then Some! Expandable Basement! Desirable Neighborhood w/Webster Lake Beach & Boat Ramp Access Nearby! Convenient to Route 35! **\$369,900.00**

**WEBSTER** – 6 Nicholas Circle! 8+ Rm Center Hall Colonial! 1.22 Acres! Sought After Neighborhood! Great Commuter Location Accessible to Many Major Routes! Spacious Stainless Steel Appliance Cabinet Packed Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining Rm! 23 x 24 Frplace Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceiling & Slider to the Huge Deck! Front to Back Living Rm! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! The 2nd Floor You'll Find the Comfortable 12X17 Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2 Additional Bedrooms plus an Office/Nursery/Bedroom all w/Ample Closets! 2nd Full Bath off the Hall w/Linen Closet! 2.5 Total Baths! Lower Level Ideal for Storage or Future Expansion! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers w/Double Door Entry to the Basement for Moving Larger Items aka Boys Toys! 2 Z Oil Heat, 2 AC, Separate Oil Water Heater! Irrigation! Don't Delay! **\$418,900.00**



**WEBSTER LAKE** – 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**

**WEBSTER** – 55 Hillside Ave! 7 Rm, 4 Bedroom Cape! Great Highway Access! Walk to Memorial Beach! View July 4th Fireworks from Your Backyard! Liv Rm w/Hrds, Ceiling Fan & Pellet Stove! Eat-in Kit! Fam Rm! Full Bath! 1st Flr Master w/ Hrds & Ceiling Fan! Oil Heat! Vinyl Sided! Younger Roof! Replacement Windows! Town Services! Fenced Yard! 1 Car Garage! **\$239,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 20 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Western Exposure w/Panoramic Lake Views! Beautiful Sunsets! 7 Rms, 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths! Recently Renovated from Top to Bottom! Move-in Ready! Professionally Landscaped! Exterior Stonework Front & Back! Open Floor Plan! 1st Level w/Huge Family Rm w/Lake View & Access out to Stone Patio, 1/2 Bath & Laundry, Travertine Tile Throughout! 2nd Level w/Custom Granite Kitchen w/Stainless Steel Appliances, Center Island w/Seating & Large Pantry! Spacious Living Rm w/Sliders to 14X34 Composite Deck! Dining Area w/Water Views, Hardwood Floors Throughout, Bath w/Tiled Shower, Guest Bedroom or use as Office! Lake Facing Master Bedroom w/Walk-in Closet & Private Deck! Bathroom w/Double Sinks, Tiled Shower & Separate Tub! Comfortable 3rd Bedroom w/Lots of Storage! Level Lot w/Room for Entertaining and Enjoying All The Lake has to Offer! **\$749,000.00**

**CHARLTON** – 74 Daniels Road! Completely Renovated 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Gambrel w/Attached In-Law Apt! Picturesque 3.39 Acres! Deeded Water Rights to South Charlton Reservoir! Extensive Updates! House w/New Roof, Siding, Kit, Bthrms, Windows, Int Doors, Electrical, Flooring, R60 Insulation in Attic, Water Heater, Well Pump & More! In-Law w/Open Flr Plan, Kit, Bdrm w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Laundry! Both Fully Appliance! 2 New Driveways, Irrigation, AG Pool! Shed! Security! Generator Hookup! **\$489,900.00**

Home Town Service,  
**Town-to-Town**

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**1-800-536-5836**



Place your ad today!





**LIVE BAIT FOR ICE FISHING**  
Open 24/7  
**Spencer**  
508-885-5416



**FIREWOOD**  
Cut, Split & Delivered  
Green or Seasoned  
**Call Paul**  
508-769-2351



**WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED:**  
**WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!**  
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Rags, Uniforms, etc.  
Over 40 years' experience.  
**Call David**  
(508) 688-0847.  
I'LL COME TO YOU!

**LOOKING FOR**  
1 Bedroom apartment in Webster  
Will consider surrounding towns  
**Call**  
508-461-6219

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
**BROOKFIELD**  
1 BR, 2ND Floor  
Off street parking  
Available NOW  
Electric or Gas Heat  
**\$580/mo**  
Has all appliances  
No Dogs  
**Call Dave**  
413-262-5082

**LEE'S COINS & JEWELRY**  
\$ BUY & SELL \$ ALL GOLD & SILVER ITEMS Specializing in NUMISMATIC COINS, Bullion Items, gold & silver of any form!  
Qualified with over 30 years experience & a following of many satisfied customers. We also sell a nice selection of fine jewelry, antiques & collectibles. Bring in your items & see what they are worth. You won't leave disappointed. Honesty and fairness are our best policies!  
Lee's Coin & Jewelry, 239 West Main Street, East Brookfield (Route 9-Panda Garden Plaza) 508-637-1236 or call: 508-341-6355

**MACHINIST/ MILLWRIGHT POSITION**  
**Gavitt Wire is looking to hire a machinist/millwright.**  
Person must be trained in running a manual lathe, Bridgeport milling machine, interpret blueprints, and have mechanical ability. You would be responsible for making tools and other machined parts to support production. Monday thru Friday, 7:00am - 3:30pm.  
  
Any questions, please ask for Tom or Ray.  
508-867-6476.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**  
**CHARLTON**  
3 room, 1 BR  
country apartment for rent, 2nd floor, \$900/mo, heat included  
508-769-6031

**FIREWOOD**  
3/4 Seasoned/standing dead hardwood custom cut to your specs. Delivered to your home.  
**12"-14" \$300 per cord.**  
**16-18" \$260 per cord.**  
**Call: 508-282-0232**

StonebridgePress.com





## MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 1-800-367-9898 or email [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news)

Wishing you all a very  
Merry Christmas and a Happy,  
Healthy and Prosperous New Year  
from all of us at



### Chauvin Excavating LLC

Quality work since 1986

82 Dresser Hill Road, Charlton, MA 01507  
Ph: 508-248-5772 • Cell: 508-922-0041  
Email: [bernie@chauvinexcavating.net](mailto:bernie@chauvinexcavating.net)  
TITLE FIVE INSPECTION SERVICES



Lisa Caron,  
full-time  
Broker  
Associate  
GRI, ABR, LMC,  
CDPE, SRS,  
SRES, PSA, MRP



Call: 508-341-8299

42 West Main Street  
Brookfield, MA

Hours: M-Th 9-6, Fri 9-5  
and by appointment

~ Notary Public ~

~ [www.lisacaron.com](http://www.lisacaron.com) ~



### Why call the Michelle Terry Team to sell you home?

**We have a great marketing plan that includes:**

- Home staging services
- Home warranties
- 3D videos
- Professional photography
- Ramped up open houses!
- And so much more...



**YOUR LOCAL  
REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS**

130 W. Main Street  
Spencer, MA 01562  
Michelle Terry • Broker /Owner  
[michelleterryteam.com](http://michelleterryteam.com)

**Give us a call today! 508-202-0008**



### ERA Key Realty Services

"Put 36 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"



Donna Flannery  
508-885-6665  
[donnaflannery.com](http://donnaflannery.com)  
[donnaflann@aol.com](mailto:donnaflann@aol.com)



Kayleen  
Flannery-Sauvageau  
508-612-9843  
[Kayleen00@aol.com](mailto:Kayleen00@aol.com)

415B Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562



Jules  
Lusignan  
Owner  
Broker  
Founder

**Jules Lusignan  
#1 in Sales 2006-2020  
South Worcester County  
\$156,908,380.00 SOLD**



A  
41 Year  
Company!

**111 East Main St., Webster, MA  
Thinking of selling? Call 1-800-552-7444  
[www.Century21LakeRealty.com](http://www.Century21LakeRealty.com)  
[www.WebsterLake.net](http://www.WebsterLake.net)**

My properties are selling!  
Yours could be NEXT  
if you put with me! Call me and  
let's put SOLD on your listing!



Buy with Confidence. Sell with Success.  
[DorindaSellsHomes.com](http://DorindaSellsHomes.com)



Dorinda O'Keefe - Shea  
Realtor  
[dorinda@c21lovett.com](mailto:dorinda@c21lovett.com)

**CENTURY 21**  
NORTH EAST



OFFICIAL SPONSOR  
OF THE BOSTON BRUINS  
978.434.1990

**FREE  
OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS  
when you advertise  
in this section**

### Webster Lake Million Dollar Views



Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044  
Diane Luong 774-239-2937  
Maria Reed 508-873-9254

Beacon park unit w/options to  
buy boat slips. View from living,  
dining, bedroom & deck. 1.5  
Baths, 1200 sq.ft. garage  
**Beacon Park #103~ \$324,900**



**ReMax Advantage 1**  
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604



CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT



**PUT YOUR TRUST IN US  
TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE**

Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044  
Diane Luong 774-239-2937  
Maria Reed 508-873-9254

**ReMax Advantage 1**  
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604

CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT



### CENTURY 21 XSELL REALTY

#### Century 21 XSELL Realty

**Auburn Dudley Worcester**  
**(774) 772-7072 (508) 461-7550 (508) 795-3880**

#### Novembers' Single Family Homes Real Estate Market

##### DUDLEY

	November 2019	November 2020	Trend
Median Price	\$244,950	\$297,450	▲
Market Volume	\$2,583,300	\$3,133,407	▲
# of Homes Sold	10	10	►
Avg Days on Market	73	25	▼

##### AUBURN

Median Price	\$259,000	\$339,000	▲
Market Volume	\$4,008,000	\$7,929,500	▲
# of Homes Sold	14	24	▲
Avg Days on Market	48	28	▼

Contact us to find more about your neighborhood market & what your home is worth!  
Happy Holidays from our family to yours!



Juliana Danquah  
(508) 335-5339



Angela Clark  
(508) 410-1319



Jillian DeGrace  
(860) 315-3636



Doreen Gagliastro  
(774) 757-2313



Mary McCarthy  
(978) 270-1401



Diane Strzelecki  
(508) 335-2384



Johnny Wariebi  
(508) 335-5076



Antonia Vaughan  
(617) 373-0053

**Our Commitment to you ♦ Integrity ♦ Hard Work ♦ Excellent Service**

**Make the move!**  
*Find the homes of your neighborhood*



### SOUTHBRIDGE 14 ACRES



Picturesque and serene this staycation home has more amenities than you could hope for. 14 acres w/ 1300 square foot building ideal for car collector, business, or hobbies. Grounds include a small pond w/ cabin & outdoor pizza oven. Custom Built 2800 sq. ft. cape with 4 bedrooms and four full baths. Second level sitting room or office overlook a living room w/ gas fireplace & hardwood floors. A view of the grounds from the cherry cabinet kitchen with eat-in area overlooks the pond and woods where wildlife wanders about. There is a formal dining room and a first floor Master Bedroom Suite with a rear deck with a window to nature. The lower level offers a grand surprise: a wine tasting room and saloon with wooden floor, bar, and wood ceiling. What a hand to be dealt...comfort and additional living area including another bedroom, bath, and family room. Need a private workspace, the 1300+sq.ft. heated building perfect for office or business. Enjoy fishing you're just steps from your pond.

**268 Dresser Hill Rd ~ \$729,900 • Shown by appointment only.**

## GOT A HOUSE FOR SALE?

This is the place to sell it! Your ad will be mailed to  
50,000+ households throughout Southern Worcester County.

To advertise on our real estate section,  
please call your local sales representative at  
1-800-367-9898







# Fall Home

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

Call 508-764-4325  
or email [ads@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:ads@stonebridgepress.news)  
for more information

# & Auto

## AUTO BODY / REPAIRS

**KEARNS**  
COLLISION REPAIR

Since 1969  
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal  
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services  
Warranted Work & Repairs  
Diagnostics • A/C Repair  
Tune Ups & Engine Repair  
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS  
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop  
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)  
Northbridge, MA 01534  
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231  
[www.kearnscollision.com](http://www.kearnscollision.com)  
Fully Certified • RS# 2678



## BEST WINDOW COMPANY

**KUBALA**  
HOME IMPROVEMENT  
The Door and Window Experts

MACSL100114 | MAHic150118 | CTHic0619712

Award Winning  
High Performance  
Windows & Doors

100% FINANCING  
AVAILABLE | Lifetime  
Warranty

**508-784-1550**

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ f

## BUILDER

**Todd A. Ethier**  
**TAE**  
B•U•I•L•D•E•R  
INCORPORATED

**Remodeling Expert**

- ◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS
- ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ GARAGES
- ◆ SIDING ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS
- ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS
- ◆ KITCHEN ◆ BATHS

Quality Building Since 1985  
Licensed & Insured  
**508-764-2293 • 774-230-3967**

Advertise on this page  
for one low price!  
Get 7 papers.  
Call 508-764-4325

- Spencer New Leader
- Webster Times
- Sturbridge Villager
- Auburn News
- Charlton Villager
- Blackstone Valley Tribune
- Southbridge News

## Granite & Marble

**SHREWSBURY**  
MARBLE & GRANITE, INC.

Buy Factory Direct & Save HOLIDAY SALE

50 COLORS • \$39 per sq. ft. Installed  
(40 sq. ft. or more) Cannot be combined with other offers.

Biggest Selection of Marble,  
Granite & Quartz of ANY Fabrication Shop  
300 Colors To Choose From  
Please call for appointment 508-523-3769

508-842-9800 • [shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com](http://shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com)  
620 Boston Turnpike (Rte 9 E), Shrewsbury, MA  
(1/4 mi. east of Home Depot – Big Blue Bldg)  
Mon-Thurs 8-5, Fri & Sat & 9-4

## Oil & Propane

**AMERICAN DISCOUNT OIL & PROPANE**

Need propane or oil right away?  
Call American today!

**OIL PROPANE**  
**10¢ Off 20¢ Off**  
PER GALLON (125 GAL MIN) PER GALLON ON YOUR NEXT FILL UP (MIN 75 GAL)

With coupon. One coupon per customer. Exp 12/31/20. Cannot be combined with any other offer or on previous purchases or fuel assistance program.

Order online  
[Americandiscountoil.com](http://Americandiscountoil.com)  
**413-289-9428**  
1182 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069



## WASTE REMOVAL

**TOM BERKOWITZ**  
~Est. 1980~

**TRUCKING INC.**

- Residential • Commercial
- Hauling • Recycling
- Demolition • Transfer Station

**Northbridge, MA**  
**508-234-2920**  
[tomberkowitztruckinginc.com](http://tomberkowitztruckinginc.com)

**CHIMNEYS**

**CHIMNEY CLEANINGS ONLY \$99**

ALL KINDS OF  
MASONRY &  
CONCRETE WORK

New & Repairs, Repointing,  
Rebuilding, Re-lining,  
Waterproofing, Foundation  
& Chimney Repair, New  
& Stair Repair, Concrete  
Walkways, Stonewalls,  
New Roofs, Construction  
& Carpentry.

Need to get it done?  
Call me!

-FREE Estimates-  
Quality Chimney  
(508)752-1003

**ELECTRICIAN**

**ALDEN**  
Electrical Contractors, Inc.  
LICENSED ELECTRICIAN

New Construction  
Remodelling  
Kitchen & Bath  
Service Updates

W. Brookfield, MA  
**1.774.230.9606**  
[Talden1987@gmail.com](mailto:Talden1987@gmail.com)

**Fully Insured**  
Accepts credit card  
payments & free online  
bank transfers  
Licenses:  
MA-13705-21777A,  
NH-13932M, RI-B013781

**Electrician**

**BRIAN WOOD**

Master Electrician  
Residential • Commercial  
o: 508.764.3925  
c: 508-505-0111  
35 Years of Experience  
Lic#15885A | 29931E

Fully insured  
I specialize in:  
New Construction  
Renovations  
Pools and Hot tubs  
Lighting (int. & ext.)  
Repairs and Maintenance  
Electrical Panel upgrades  
[Bpwelec@gmail.com](mailto:Bpwelec@gmail.com)  
Facebook:  
Brian Wood Electrician

**ELECTRICIAN**

**TNT ELECTRICAL SERVICES**

Timothy N Tripp  
Licensed  
Electrician

67 Hillcrest Drive  
Southbridge, MA  
01550  
**508.909.5114**  
**774.601.3107**  
[Tntelectricalserviceinc@gmail.com](mailto:Tntelectricalserviceinc@gmail.com)  
MA#100257JR  
NH#17425J

**Handyman**

**No Job Too Small**  
Home Improvement

-Insured-  
MA Reg #174661

- General Carpentry
- Laminated Floors
- Remodeling
- Kitchen, Bath & Cellar
- Painting
- Handyman Services
- Floor Leveling
- Power Washing and MORE!

See Our Work Online  
[nojobtoosmallhomeimprovement.com](http://nojobtoosmallhomeimprovement.com)  
Tel. 508.414.7792  
Sturbridge, MA



**HEATING**

**PELLET STOVE**

REPAIR  
INSTALL

VENTING IS  
ESSENTIAL

**CHIMNEY & FIREPLACE**

MA CLE #094542  
MA HIC #144152  
**508-248-3733**  
TOM GIRAS

**PAINTING**

**Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS**

Finest  
Craftsmanship  
Since 1979

Interior-Exterior  
Paints, Stains,  
Wallpaper and  
Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction  
Guaranteed

Free Estimates  
**774.452.0321**



**Pest Control**

**ACCURATE PEST CONTROL**

Full Pest Control  
Services

Over 28 yrs.  
experience

Reasonable Rates  
Owner Operated

**508-757-8078**  
Ask for  
David or Jason  
Hight  
Auburn MA

**Plastering**

**Glenn LeBlanc Plastering**

Specializing in  
small  
plastering jobs;  
ceilings,  
additions,  
patchwork and  
board hanging

Over 30 Years  
Experience.  
3rd generation.  
CALL  
**508-612-9573**

**PLUMBING**

**JOHN DALY**  
Plumbing

Water heaters, Faucets,  
Toilets, New pex water piping,  
Outside hose connections  
replaced or added,  
Dishwashers, Garbage  
disposals, Water filters,  
Tub & shower valves,  
Tub & shower replacements  
Any repair or  
replacement needed.

Buy your own fixtures &  
faucets, or I will supply.  
Serving all of  
Worcester County  
Lic.#MPL-21763  
Since 1988  
Call John 508.304.7816

We are home owners'  
plumbers!  
[jdman714@aol.com](mailto:jdman714@aol.com)

**Roofing**

**SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING**

When you need a roof,  
hire a roofing company,  
that's what we do!

Call Bill Toll-Free  
**1-866-961-Roof**  
**508-765-0100**

Lifetime material warranty  
& 25 yr. labor warranty  
available  
MA Reg #153955  
CSL #095459  
CT-HIC #0638641  
Fully Insured,  
Free Estimates  
Family Owned and Operated  
Now Accepting All  
Major Credit Cards

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

**ROOFING**

**David Barbale**  
**ROOFING**

Roofing/Gutters  
Repair Work

Fully Licensed  
and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127  
MA HIC LIC #1079721  
INS. #CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709  
O: 508-248-6709  
[davidbarbale.com](http://davidbarbale.com)

**Roofing**

**SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING**

When you need a roof,  
hire a roofing company,  
that's what we do!

Call Bill Toll-Free  
**1-866-961-Roof**  
**508-765-0100**

Lifetime material warranty  
& 25 yr. labor warranty  
available  
MA Reg #153955  
CSL #095459  
CT-HIC #0638641  
Fully Insured,  
Free Estimates  
Family Owned and Operated  
Now Accepting All  
Major Credit Cards

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

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



WESTVIEW HEALTH CARE  
CENTER *of*  
*Excellence*



5-Star Quality Rating:  
HEALTH INSPECTIONS, STAFFING,  
& QUALITY MEASURES



Ranked a CMS 5-Star Facility

**12**  
Consecutive  
**YEARS!**

Source: [medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare](https://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare)

Only one of 7 Among 15,500 Nursing Homes  
Nationwide to Achieve this Status.

Source: [medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare](https://www.medicare.gov/nursinghomecompare)

Ranked America's Best in Connecticut  
by U.S. News & World Report



# Santa's New Ride

Your sweetheart would love this too!



## 2019 BMW 430i xDrive

I-4 cyl, AWD, "Hard Top" Convertible, 19" Wheels, Navigation, Neck Warmers, LED Lighting and more...  
Original MSRP was \$63,110.  
Stk CU9467

**\$46,999**

Please see salesperson for details on: 0% for 72 months on many new 2020 models PLUS BIG rebates!  
Large Selection of Pre-Owned vehicles at HUGE SAVINGS!

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*  
*from all of us at*

QUALITY SELECTION • QUALITY SERVICE • QUALITY DEALER

# LAMOUREUX



366 E. Main Street, Rte. 9 East Brookfield  
877-LAM-FORD or 508-885-1000  
~ SALES HOURS ~  
Monday-Friday 8:30am-6pm • Saturday till 2pm  
~ SERVICE HOURS ~  
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm • Saturday till Noon

Visit us on-line at [www.lamoureuxford.com](http://www.lamoureuxford.com)



A business built on **hard work**.  
A reputation built on **quality**.  
**Sturbridge, MA & Surrounding**



**Merry Christmas**  
AND  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**YOUR EXCAVATION, CONSTRUCTION & SEPTIC SYSTEM SPECIALIST**

- Land Clearing & Site Development
- Septic Systems
- Excavation & Foundation Work
- Water & Sewer Tie-ins
- Underground Utilities
- Driveways & Parking Lots
- Custom Home Builds




**59 YEARS OF TRUST**  
**508-765-9003**  
[www.hiresoper.com](http://www.hiresoper.com)



# Quaboag

Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center



5 out of 5 Stars  
★★★★★  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
Rating system for: Health Inspections, Staffing and Quality Measures.

**FOR A LIMITED TIME:**  
We have CNA scholarships available to the right applicants. Please inquire for further information.

**Happy Holidays from all of us at Quaboag Rehabilitation**

We are grateful to be a part of this wonderful community.  
Thank you for "social distancing" to keep us all safe.  
We hope you'll consider Quaboag as your next career move.

**Positions Available**

**Assistant Director of Nurses**  
**Wound Care Nurse • Evening Supervisor**

<b>FT 7p-7a Nurse</b>	<b>FT 3p-11p Nurse</b>
<b>FT 7a-3p CNAs</b>	<b>FT/PT RCAs</b>
<b>Maintenance Worker</b>	

**New Higher Rates!**

**What our employees have to say...**

"One of my favorite things about working at Quaboag is that you can tell the staff is here because they care about the patients. I have also found that my supervisor and administrator are very approachable when I have any concern. There are a lot of places where someone in a supervisor position is not that approachable." — Nicole F. (CNA)

"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)

**We offer Great Benefits!**

- Health and Dental • Flexible schedules
- **SIGN-ON BONUS (\$5000 SIGN-ON BONUS FOR 7P-7A NURSES FOR A LIMITED TIME)**
- Referral Bonus (for when you bring a friend)
- Education Reimbursement

**We are a Deficiency-Free community facility in a beautiful small town with a family feel.**

For more information please contact:  
Julie Stapleton at 508.867.7716  
Or apply online at: [quaboagonthecommon.com](http://quaboagonthecommon.com)