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Friday, June 18, 2021

Bay Path Practical Nursing students donate old textbooks



CHARLTON — The PN Class of 2021 at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy strengthened a noble initiative started in 2016, wherein outgoing students donate their used textbooks. Such initiative comes in handy for several needy students in this time of the pandemic.

Conceptualized in 2016, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN had asked the graduating class to donate their used textbooks. While doing this the incoming students will save money, given the fact that prices of the books go up almost every year. Donating used textbooks also made for environment conservation as printing fewer books would mean cutting fewer trees, the Academy Director explained.

"The initiative received a great response not only for the outgoing class but also for the incoming practical nursing cohort," said Bolandrina.

"It has been helpful for a lot of students, especially those who are not from well-off families. 'However, most graduates hold on to their Medical-Surgical Nursing textbook because they need them for NCLEX-

Please Read **BOOKS**, page **A6**

Charlton taking new approach in gas contract

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Board of Selectmen took care of some housekeeping business during a meeting on June 8, selecting the winning bids for the towns fuel services for the new fiscal year.

Charlton participated in the Fiscal Year 2022 regional fuel procurement program through the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission selecting Charlton Oil to provide heating oil and propane for the town and Dennis K. Burke, Inc. for unleaded gas and diesel fuels. According to Town Administrator Andrew Golas, the selections came after Charlton had to rebid the contracts due to the recent cyber-attack again Colonial Pipeline caused prices to change.

"Due to the recent fluctuation in market prices surging and rates now being at higher than last year we actually had to do a rebid. Our first bid actually came in right during the shutdown of the pipeline down south so that was right in the middle of the surge," Golas said.

The result saw the town sign on with Charlton Oil at a cost of \$2.35 per gallon for heating point and \$1.65 per gallon for propane. The gas contract works a bit different this time around. The agreement with Dennis K. Burke will see the town charged at 45.22 cents above market rate price for unleaded gas and diesel as opposed to a fixed rate.

Golas said this partnership will allow the town's gas costs to fluctuate properly with the market itself, adding "This is different than last year's fixed price. It will be based off of what the best available market rate is of the day with a markup."

According to Golas the new gas deal would be based on when they request fuel and whatever the market value is on that particular day or month. The town may save money one month but have to pay more in a different month where prices fluctuate upwards. Heating and propane will remain locked into a guaranteed rate for the next year.

This new approach to the gas prices intrigued several selectmen. Board Chair Bill Borowski said he wasn't opposed to it and was interested to see how it would change the town's costs.

"You're dealing with mark-up minus as opposed to that fixed cost which obviously depends on variables," Borowski said.

Selectman Stephen Koronis also thought it was an interesting approach feeling it put more pressure on the town than the supplier.

"It takes the risk off the vendor and puts a little more on us. But if we ask them for a fixed price right now, they're going to pitch high," said Koronis.

Borowski and Koronis were joined by Selectwoman Barbara Zurowski in approving the bids. Their fellow selectmen David Singer and Patsy Rydlak were not in attendance for the meeting.

Police thank community members for enhancement projects

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Police Department is sharing its gratitude for several individuals who have helped the department overcome financial struggles to resolve some issues at its headquarters on Masonic Home Road.

Chief Daniel Dowd sent a letter to be read at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen on June 8 where he credited several members of the Charlton community and town staff for numerous projects at the department. In his notice Chief Dowd thanked the Department of Public Works and Gerry Foskett for patching the department's parking lot, Town Administrator Andrew Golas and Building Commissioner Curt Meskus for helping replace a hot water heater and a rotting metal door that was considered a security concern, Jeff Sorel and Ken Hahn for helping transition the department's security cameras to digital, and Peter Starkus for helping replace deteriorating cell toilets.

"I don't think I could have financially accomplished all of these projects if not for the assistance of the aforementioned individuals," Dowd said through the letter to selectmen.

Even with some of these smaller projects completed the department it's

clear to Charlton officials more of an investment needs to be made in maintaining and upgrading the current police headquarters especially with the recent lack of support of a public safety facility. Golas told selectmen that officials are examining connecting the department to a town water source as one potential upgrade.

"Curt (Meskus) and I and the Water and Sewer Commission are working together to look at the feasibility with McClure Engineering to tie the police department into the water line, so that's something we're currently working on, and hopefully it's another issue we can check off the box," said Golas.

Selectman Bill Borowski praised those in the community who came together to help enhance the police department but acknowledged there is a long way to go and the town is going to have to start making some decisions about how they will maintain the department in years to come.

"It goes to show that even though our community pulls together when necessary to make these types of improvements, clearly we have to continue to do capital investments within them," said Borowski. "One of the things I'm thinking around is what is going to need to be done in October when we think around free cash. That might be something that this board may want



to start to think around both for the police department as well as the fire department knowing the current sta-

tus of the fire department being a no go. We do have to find ways to appropriation money to make all this happen."

Final registration for Youth Football and Cheer Saturday

CHARLTON — Charlton Dudley Youth Football and Cheer is accepting final registration for the 2021 season.


Registration is Saturday, June 19, from 9 a.m. to noon at Maynard Field, 11 Dresser Hill Rd., Charlton. Registration paperwork can be found on our Web site, www.cdrams.com. Please print and complete before arriving to ease the process.

Charlton Dudley Youth Football and Cheer offers Grade based football and cheering for Pre-K (at least five years old) through eighth grade


boys and girls in Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge and Thompson, Conn. We compete in the Central Mass Youth Football and Cheer conference, covering primarily Central Massachusetts.

Registration is \$150 per player/cheerleader (\$110 for each additional family member). VISA and Mastercard are accepted. All participants will also be required to sell 10 raffle tickets.

For more information, please visit www.cdrams.com.



...from all of us at the Charlton/Sturbridge Villagers and Stonebridge Press & Villager Newspapers, and from these local businesses. We are so proud of how resilient you’ve been to succeed despite the many challenges you’ve had to face this past year. May these times inspire you to find the strength to reach your goals in spite of adversity, and to find your purpose in life with love, happiness, and respect for all.



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Congratulations Class of 2021!



Congratulations to the Class of 2021!

You are moving on to a new and exciting chapter in your lives. I wish you all the best for the future that lies ahead. Believe in yourselves and great things will follow.

– Senator Anne Gobi





Here's to

NEW BEGINNINGS

FOR THE CLASS OF 2021

You are the future. As you begin to write this new chapter, we’d like to congratulate you for everything it took to get here. In the midst of a pandemic, your strength and resolve to move forward will define this next generation. We’re inspired by what you have achieved and are excited to see what’s next.

No matter what the future holds, we’ll always be here to support you.

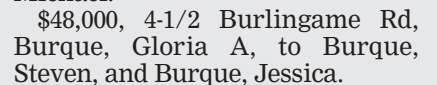
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A group of 13 graduates, including students and faculty, are posed on the stone steps of a building. They are wearing white and blue graduation gowns and caps. The group is arranged in two rows, with some individuals standing on the steps and others on the ground. The building features large stone columns and a dark, ornate door in the background.

the most meaningful award bestowed on a graduate at TCA, awarded to a student whose actions, attitude, and words truly exemplifies what it means to be a student at TCA. Luisa Henao Suzanne Casey Spirit of Volunteerism Award: Student: Summer Hudson Francis Casey Memorial Scholarship: continuing to Catholic high school: Luisa Henao. Patricia A. Power Memorial Scholarship: continuing to Catholic high school: Luisa Henao, Ava Simon, & Havish Swadia. Trinity Catholic Academy 8th grade graduates will continue their education at Catholic High schools, Bay Path RVHS, or their public high schools in their respective communities. "Trinity Catholic Academy, a Pre-K to Grade 8 school, promotes academic excellence, athletics, and the arts with respect, compassion, and service among our diverse family, inspired by the communion of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit." www.trinitycatholicacademy.org



QCC invests in community by eliminating student debt

WORCESTER — Today, Quinsigamond Community College announced it will use more than \$2.5 million of the institutional portion of the Federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds it received in May to erase college-held debt for students. The debt relief program is exclusively for those students who were enrolled in credit degree or certificate programming during the start of the pandemic

(March 13, 2020) through the end of the current Spring 2021 semester.

“Our goal with this initiative is to remove the financial barrier of institutional debt that keeps many students from completing their education and achieving their goals in life. The under-privileged and under-served in our community were hit hard by the pandemic. These students are often unable to continue their

education due to the debt they are carrying. By choosing to invest in our students by removing this barrier, we are investing in our community and strengthening our workforce,” said QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “We are leveling the playing field for our students so that they can succeed. This enables our students to realize a better future for themselves and their families, and in doing so, increases our community’s economic prosperity.”

The College is taking this unprecedented approach to eliminate the number one barrier in students’ achieving their goals for a higher education. This program will help put skilled workers into the

workforce, assisting companies that are struggling to find qualified employees. The funding will assist 1,687 students, with an average amount of \$1,525 of institutional debt forgiveness per student. Furthermore, this program is helping those affected the most by the COVID-19 pandemic. Students eligible for debt forgiveness through this initiative represent 52 percent students of color, 58 percent are female, and 48 percent are Worcester residents.

“We know education is the greatest equalizer, lifting people out of poverty and making lasting and positive change to our communities and our nation. By eliminating this debt, we are taking an equitable approach to higher education.

We find that students with debt are less likely to enroll or stay in college. This eliminates that barrier,” President Pedraja said, adding, “As we recover from the pandemic, we want to give our students in need a fresh start to a better life and a way to enter the workforce with the skills and knowledge they need, and our businesses need, in today’s new world. “

QCC will be notifying students on their debt relief eligibility and is asking that students not reach out to the College directly.

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



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QCC receives \$25 million bond investment for creation of I3Q Center

WORCESTER — The Baker-Polito Administration today announced that Quinsigamond Community College has received \$150,000 and a total state bond investment of \$25 million for a renovation to create an innovation center for advanced manufacturing and robotics.

The investment will allow the College to upgrade and expand its current Athletic Center to Showcase and highlight advanced manufacturing, robotics, artificial intelligence, and hospitality programming. These programs will help address a significant workforce and regional economic development need.

Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D., QCC President said, “This investment from the Commonwealth is another validation of the amazing work that our faculty and staff perform to ensure that our students are being trained not only for the jobs of today, but for the jobs of tomorrow. I thank

the Governor, Lt. Governor, and their entire administration for the faith they have in us to continue meeting the needs of our students and our community.”

When completed, QCC’s new I3Q Center will provide state of the art training for the following high growth, high demand disciplines:

- Robotics/Advanced Manufacturing
- Advanced manufacturing
- Artificial intelligence
- Drone training
- Robotics
- Mobile app development
- e-Gaming testing lab
- Website design & usability
- Hospitality and
- Foodservice

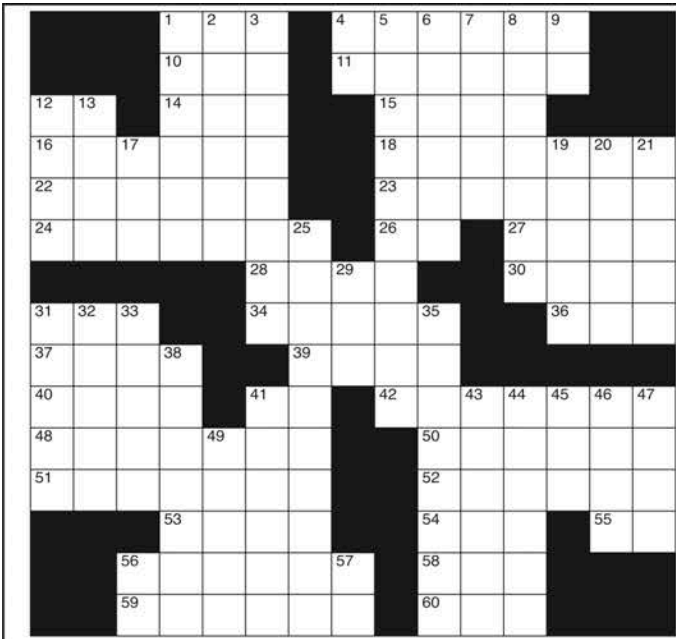
The I3Q Center will also provide flexible space for students, faculty, staff and the community to gather to share ideas, networking and mentoring opportunities, receive counseling and

wellness services and attend training conferences and workshops.

As a renovation/expansion of the College’s existing Athletic Center, the I3Q Center will also house Wyvern Athletics inter-collegiate sports teams as well as a full health and wellness center for the college and the community.

“This is an exciting day for the future of QCC and for our entire community,” said Dr. Pedraja. “I thank our entire QCC Family for their hard work and vision in developing a proposal that will ultimately come to fruition to enhance the workforce development and advanced training of our region.”

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



CLUES ACROSS

1. “Sleepless In Seattle” actress Ryan

4. One of Santa’s reindeer

10. Before the present

11. Type of butter

12. Location of White House

14. Motion

15. Tree part

16. Regions around the North Pole

18. Fits on a boat’s gunwale

22. Discuss after it’s happened

23. Milk substitute for coffee

24. Describes one who believes in supreme being

26. Equally

27. Famed director Forman

28. Popular apartment style

30. British School

31. Advanced degree
34. Order of architecture

36. Investment account (abbr.)

37. Snakelike fishes

39. Children’s tale bear

40. Norse personification of old age

41. Atomic #58

42. Moving your head

48. 1878 Kentucky Derby winner

50. Frankfurter

51. Small, seedless raisin

52. Device in papermaking machine

53. Go

54. Open payment initiative (abbr.)

55. “Westworld” actor Harris

56. Saturated with salt

58. Marry

59. Report on

60. Midway between north and northeast

CLUES DOWN

1. Rays

2. Self-centered person

3. One you look after

4. Prosecutor

5. Portion

6. Speaks ill of

7. Formal system for computer programs

8. To make angry

9. Rural delivery

12. Group of languages

13. Large First Nations group

17. Circulating life force in Chinese philosophy

19. Excludes

20. Body cavity of a metazoan

21. Swedish monetary unit
25. Works with

29. Partner to “to”

31. Rewards (archaic)

32. One of Caroline Islands

33. Type of alcohol

35. Eat a lot

38. Nuns

41. Dog

43. Become more serious

44. Choose

45. Newspapers use it

46. World’s longest river

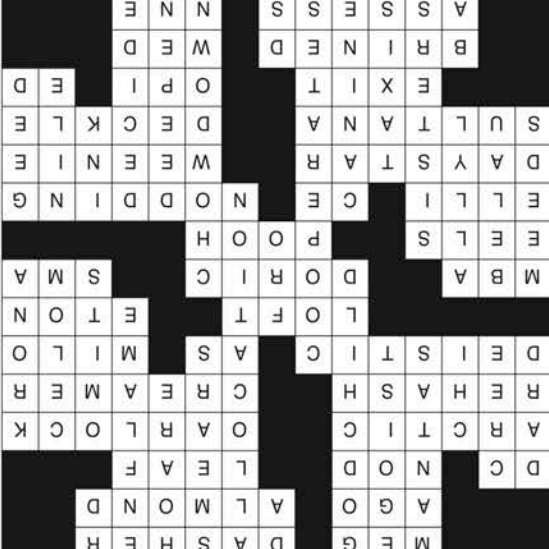
47. Commanded to go faster

49. Cabs

56. Mr. T’s “A-Team” character

57. Document signed (abbr.)

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Charlton resident Marc D. Widing, Jr. graduates from Westfield State

WESTFIELD — On Friday, May 14, Marc D. Widing, Jr. graduated from Westfield State University summa cum laude.

Marc received his Bachelor’s degree, double-majoring in both Criminal Justice and in Spanish.

He is a proud member of Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminal Justice Honor Society) and Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish National Honor Society).

Additionally, Marc received the Westfield State University Academic Excellence award for Excellence in Spanish.

Kaylie Gonya of Uxbridge named to Lasell University Dean’s List

NEWTON — Kaylie Gonya of Uxbridge was named to the Lasell University Dean’s List for their academic performance in the Spring 2021 semester.

To be named to the Dean’s List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

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

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CHARLTON VILLAGER
PUBLISHED BY
STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
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The *Charlton Villager* (USPS#024-954) 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 Charlton Villager, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

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Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical

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CHURCH LISTINGS

• **Charlton Federated Church**, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.

www.fedchurchcharlton.org

• **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond

Hill Road, 248-4488, www.charltonbaptist.org, Sunday worship 10 a.m.

• **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford

St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org

Sunday worship and Children’s church 10am

• **St. Joseph’s Church**, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248-

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snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30

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• **Living Word Church of Charlton**, 10 Main

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www.livingwordcharlton.com

info@livingwordcharlton.com

• **New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel**,

307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA,

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Distinguished guest speaker commands Masons' attention

SOUTHBIDGE — On Monday, June 7, Quinebuag Masonic Lodge in Southbridge had an exciting and distinguished guest speaker, fellow Master Mason Bro. Reed V. Hillman of Sturbridge.

Bro. Reed is a graduate from Suffolk Law School, and became a Massachusetts State Trooper. He moved up the ranks to become one of the highest-ranking State Police officers. He was appointed Colonel Commander of the Massachusetts State Police appointed by Governor William Weld from 1996 - 1999. He retired from the Mass State Police with 25 years under his belt in law enforcement. He decided to go into politics and ran for State Representative for the Hampden District and won.

After being a politician, he decided to go into teaching and became Chair at Mount Wachusett Community College, Criminal Justice Program. Bro. Reed had his audience at the lodge in awe with his explanation of the criminal system, DNA profiling and much, much more. Some of the stories he was telling as his time as a state trooper had everyone laughing. This man is like the energizer bunny. He really knew how to speak and keep the audience's attention, from talking with his hands, moving from one end of the room to the other, and telling us a story about when he was involved with Ex- President Bill Clintons security team when he came to Massachusetts.

After his speech he had a standing ovation. Brethren approached him and thanked him for his service

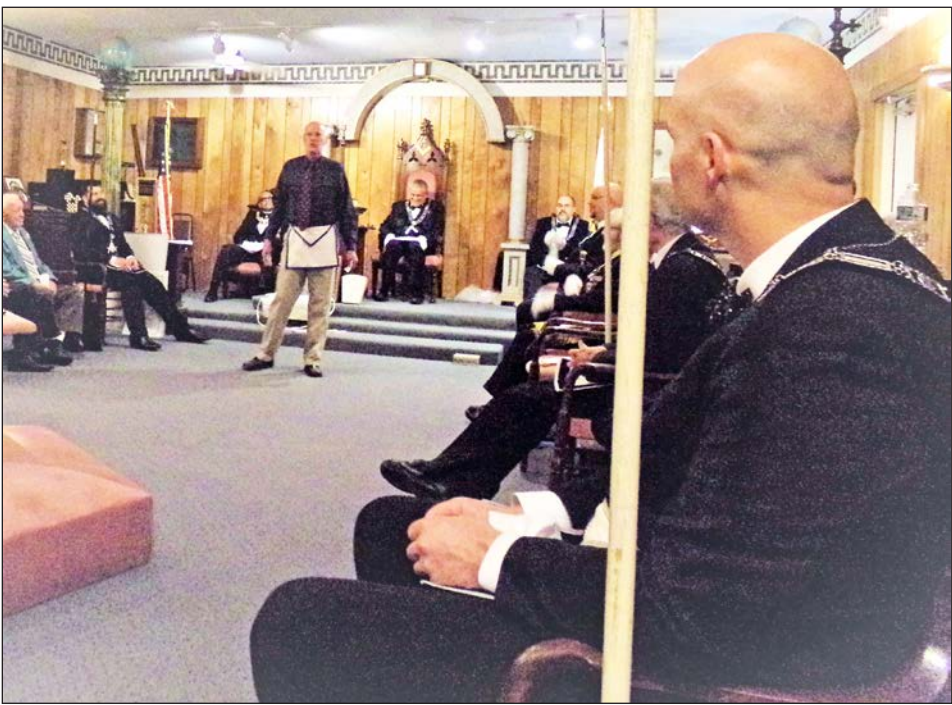


Photo Courtesy
Standing in Center of room Retired Massachusetts State Trooper Colonel, Bro. Reed V. Hillman with full attention of his fellow brethren of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge.

and spending time to give the members information about the Criminal Justice Program and his time as a State Trooper.

Nichols College students
named to Spring 2021
Honors List

Alexander
Martellio named
to Castleton
University
Dean's List

DUDLEY — Many hard-working students at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass., have achieved Dean's List or President's List honors during the spring 2021 semester.

The Dean's List and President's List give recognition to those students who achieve high grades during a single semester. In order to be included on the Dean's List, a student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and must have received no grades below B- during the semester. Students whose semester grade point average is 3.85 or higher for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and no grades below B- will receive President's List honors.

Adam Warnajtyś of Charlton receives President's List honors
Julia Blauvelt of Charlton receives President's List honors
Arslan Chaudhry of Charlton receives President's List honors

President's List honors
Zachary Davey of Charlton receives Dean's List honors
Dylan Delaney of Charlton receives President's List honors
Anthony Detarando of Charlton receives Dean's List honors
Hannah Vangel of Charlton receives President's List honors
Jacob White of Charlton receives Dean's List honors
Cameron Lanier of Charlton receives President's List honors
Summer Lieberman of Charlton receives Dean's List honors
Andrew McCarthy of Uxbridge receives Dean's List honors
Michael Zanca of Charlton receives Dean's List honors
Zachary Nussbaum of Charlton receives Dean's List honors
Jason O'Regan of Charlton receives Dean's List honors

Christopher Rapoza of Charlton receives President's List honors
Thomas Steiger of Charlton receives Dean's List honors

About Nichols College
Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

CASTLETON, Vt. — Alexander Martellio of Uxbridge was recently named to the Castleton University Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2020-21 academic year.

To qualify for this academic honor, students must maintain full-time status and a semester grade point average of 3.5.

About Castleton University
Castleton University is small enough to be a community where every student matters, yet large enough to offer more than 75 programs of study for undergraduate and graduate students, 28 varsity sports, and over 50 clubs and organizations. The university stresses experiential learning through internships, community service and research opportunities provided by more than 400 community partnerships. For more information, visit castleton.edu.



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Fitchburg State University announces Dean’s List

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University congratulates the following students on being named to the Dean’s List for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

Auburn
Nicole A. Fancy, Emma M. Ganley, Brandyn J. Geldart, Cameron J. McGrath, Riley J. Millay, Lucinda J. Orne
Cherry Valley
Colleen M. Lamprey, Ingrid Y. Maravilla
Douglas
Ashley E. Deluca, Aubrey M. Harris, Kosmo J. Symock
Dudley
Hannah M. Volpe
Grafton
Sean M. MacDonald
Groton
Jesse A. Dutile, Matthew S. Gingras, Brecken R. Gingras Jodice, Heather K. Holmes, Jared R. Lelievre, Mishayla S. Silver
Holland
Angela G. Gonzalez, Kymberly Sneade Leicester
Miranda A. Gustin, Madison C. Hippert, Robert G. Kemp, Jack W. Larson
Milford
Leah R. Gorham, Kaitlyn M. Mobilia,

Hannah R. Ramuta, Nicholas J. Taylor
Millbury
Samantha A. Bernard, Corrin C. Marchetta, Mikaela R. Mitchell
Millville
Madalyn A. Rafus
Northbridge
Chrissa A. Gannon, Martha Garley, Elijah V. Perron, Susan M. Timmons
Oxford
Suzannah R. Lambert, Alexis F. Stitisit, Kaylyn N. Violette
Southbridge
Joseph R. Postale, Ryan P. Pratt
Spencer
Lauryn M. Hines
Sturbridge
Michelle D. Gunton-Lamothe, Victoria R. Messina
Sutton
Abigayle K. Menzdorf
Upton
Cameron M. Bern, Noah A. Charron, Toros J. Matellian, Ashley E. Porter
Uxbridge
Lorenzo G. Demalia, Kailyn M. Lachapelle, Neve E. Palmieri, Katyana M. Russin
W Brookfield
Chase W. Carlson, Hannah J. Niemiec
Webster
Sophia M. Gardner, Maikael Y. Gwargious, Allison M. Zopatti

Corey Smith named to the Curry College Dean’s List

MILTON, Mass. — Curry College is proud to announce that Corey Smith of Uxbridge has been named to the Deans List for the Spring 2021 semester. Smithmajoring in Business Management, is among the roughly 1,000 students that have received the distinction, a marker of academic excellence and high achievement.

To earn a place on the list, full-time undergraduate students - those who carry 12 or more graded credits per semester - must earn a 3.3 grade point average (GPA) or higher.

About Curry College
Curry College, founded in Boston in 1879, is a private, co-educational, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Massachusetts. The College extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth. The College offers 22 undergraduate majors in specialized and liberal arts programs, as well as graduate degrees in accounting, business, education, criminal justice, and nursing to a combined enrollment of nearly 2,500 students. The student body consists of 1,700 traditional students and nearly 800 continuing education and graduate students. The College offers a wide array of co-curricular activities ranging from 15 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre and fine arts program. Visit us on the web at www.curry.edu.

Caleb Visbeek earns spot on President’s List at Coastal Carolina University

CONWAY, S.C. — A total of 898 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the President’s List for the Spring 2021 semester, including Caleb Visbeek, a Exercise and Sport Science major from Uxbridge.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, located just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

CCU offers baccalaureate degrees in 95 major fields of study. Among the University’s graduate-level programs are 27 master’s degrees, two educational specialist degrees, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs through Coastal Online.

More than 10,000 students from across the country and around the world interact with a world-class faculty, and enjoy a nationally competitive NCAA I athletic program, an inspiring cultural calendar, and a tradition of community interaction that is fueled by more than 180 student clubs and organizations.

Visit coastal.edu for more information.

Kayla Marie Roach named to Husson University’s President’s List

BANGOR, Maine—Uxbridgeresident Kayla Marie Roach has been named to Husson University’s President’s List for the Spring 2021 semester.

During the spring semester, Roach was enrolled in Husson’s Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science/Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Students who make the President’s List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.80 to 4.0 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.

For more than 120 years, Husson University has shown its adaptability and strength in delivering educational programs that prepare future leaders

to handle the challenges of tomorrow through innovative undergraduate and graduate degrees. With a commitment to delivering affordable classroom, online and experiential learning opportunities, Husson University has come to represent a superior value in higher education. The hallmarks of a Husson education include advanced knowledge delivered through quality educational programs in business; health and education; pharmacy studies; science and humanities; as well as communication. According to a recent analysis of tuition and fees by U.S. News & World Report, Husson University is one of the most affordable private colleges in New England. For more information about educational opportunities that can lead to personal and professional success, visit Husson.edu.

Dean’s, President’s List students named at UA

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — A total of 11,813 students enrolled during the spring 2021 term at The University of Alabama made the Dean’s List with academic records of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale), or the President’s List with academic records of 4.0 (all A’s).

The UA Dean’s and President’s lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or to undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.

For more information visit news.ua.edu.

Faith Adam of Uxbridge was named to the Presidents List.

James Stark of Uxbridge was named to the Presidents List.

The University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state’s flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service. With a global reputation for excellence, UA provides an inclusive, forward-thinking environment and nearly 200 degree programs on a beautiful, student-centered campus. A leader in cutting-edge research, UA advances discovery, creative inquiry and knowledge through more than 30 research centers. As the state’s largest higher education institution, UA drives economic growth in Alabama and beyond.

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Job Posting – Town of Brimfield CONSERVATION COMMISSION/CLERK

The Town of Brimfield Conservation Commission seeks a clerk to assist the Commission. This is a part-time position for 10 hours a week at \$16.98/hour.

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Attending two meetings per month, usually the second & fourth Wednesdays, taking notes and then producing accurate minutes for the Commission’s approval;
- Interacting with the public and other Town officials and employees through phone conversations, intake of wetlands filings, input of wetland filings into the database, and filing completed forms.

Minimum Qualifications: Proficiency with office computer functions including Microsoft Office Suite, email, and other office technology. Excellent organizational skills. Good interpersonal communication skills are essential. Detail oriented. Ability to respond to time sensitive issues, and a willingness to attend relevant trainings.

Helpful Qualifications: Knowledge of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and local environmental conservation issues.

Please apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Conservation Commission, Town of Brimfield, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 1010, or conservation@brimfieldma.org no later than June 30, 2021.

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BOOKS
continued from page A1

PN,” she added.

The Practical Nursing Faculty and Staff are also engaged in sensitizing the practical nursing students to take good care of their textbooks so that these may be used by others as well.

“Retired textbooks are a different story, but we’ve found a great partner in www.better-worldbooks.com,” said Bolandrina.

Better World Books is an American online bookseller of used and new books, founded in 2002 by students at the University of Notre Dame, Ind. Textbooks with copyright 1998 or newer are accepted. The socially responsible bookseller offers free shipping that donates a book for every book sold. This year, Isabella Boateng of Manchester, Conn. graciously took multiple boxes of textbooks for donation. Although this is a voluntary decision at the Academy and the students as more become aware of the importance of donating, this concept has started yielding positive results every year, to everyone and the environment, added Bolandrina.



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Some words of advice for new graduates

Students around the region are flipping tassels this week, participating in a traditional rite of passage, generally symbolizing their transition to adulthood. With more and more people becoming vaccinated, ceremonies are looking a bit more traditional than they did last year.

Many seniors and their underclassman counterparts have faced big changes as they navigate the world amidst a global pandemic. This time in a teen's life is still quite pivotal.

Students will be bombarded with advice and speeches as these final weeks unfold. Our favorite bit of advice, however, is the following: 1. Don't smoke; 2. Drink plenty of water every day; and 3. Wear sunscreen (your 40-year-old selves will thank you). 4. Spend as much time as humanly possible outside; and 5. Watch the "Back to the Future" trilogy.

The most important thing you can do, however, is to find out who you are. From there the entire world opens up. Do not limit your lives to the same scene and same people you have always surrounded yourself with. This doesn't mean you need to forget people or places, it simply means that now is a great time to branch out. The more people you meet in different places, with different experiences will shed light on who you really are.

Always remember your roots. These are what has shaped you and prepared you for your next chapter. Remember how important your community has been to you, and remember to always give back.

Always practice kindness, even when it's hard. The world can aggravate and frustrate the most mellow of us. Anger is a normal human emotion, however it's what you do with it that really matters. If you have disagreements or you think the way you feel about a certain issue is correct, remember to not let your anger take you over. It never feels good, plus harboring too much anger and discontent ages us, plus it's really no fun. The more fun and kindness you have in your life, the happier you are. Try to find balance between your work and your leisure time. Spend time doing the things you love, and never forget what those things are, despite how busy your life may become.

As you go through life, you will make mistakes. None of us are perfect and mistakes can actually define who we become if we learn from them. The best formula for mistake making, is to own up to them, have some self-awareness, be gentle on yourself, learn, then move on. Simple.

Remember to follow your own gut, always, no matter what. This is your life, and that means you need to make it what it is and what it will be.

Congratulations to the class of 2021!

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

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

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Charlton Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.



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

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

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

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

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM CHARLTON, CHARLTON CITY, CHARLTON DEPOT AND BEYOND

Not my favorite column

I love spontaneity more than the average person – whether it be a spontaneous vacation or party. This last weekend has been a weekend of spontaneous fun, celebration, laughter, eating, and story-sharing. More than a hundred people have poured in and around my home, patio, and family room over the last three days for what has felt like a non-stop celebration. My two sons, Toby and Travis, and my son-in-law, Jeff, all worked hard to take the mantle of master grill and made my special barbecue ribs better than I could have ever done. I've savored every conversation, hug, moment, and memory. By now, you might be wondering why it's been a non-stop party in my own home. Well, I will tell you why, but it is perhaps the scariest yet most courageous sentence I'll ever write to my readers.

I am dying.

I believe transparency is an important component in relationships. Whether it's between husband and wives, parents and children, teachers and parents and parents and students. Anywhere a relationship exists, transparency is important. Transparency must always lead to vulnerability, and that is always a terrifying experience. In the beginning of the Bible, we read about Adam and Eve discovering their vulnerability in their nakedness, and they were ashamed and hid. I don't feel shame and I don't feel afraid to die but being transparent and vulnerable about this reality is hard.

"Vulnerability is not winning or losing. It's having the courage to show up when you can't control the outcome." — Brene' Brown

Most of you know, I've been fighting Stage 4 Stomach Cancer for years. There is no cure. I've been working with a brilliant young oncologist who is a world leader, Dr. Pashtoon Kasi at the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa Hospitals. My treatment has been cutting edge, and has extended my life by at least nine months.

Unfortunately, every treatment works until it doesn't, and my chemo that was eating my cancer began eating healthy tissue and organs, and we had to stop.



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We tried another but it also failed. At the same time, I was being fed through a feeding tube and my body began rejecting the food. I have been removed from all treatment and placed on hospice care.

What does it mean? It means to some that I am off treatment and being kept comfortable until I die. But I am not a "go quietly in the night guy," I refuse to give up or give in; If I am breathing, I am fighting. If a new option or treatment becomes available, I'll be the first in line. Fighting also means doing everything that I love – spontaneous parties into the night, being with the people I love, endless trays of food, laughing, and being present in every single waking moment.

You are now wondering how much time? I've been given estimates of six days up to a month. But a month is generous. My daughter bought me a bracelet that says in morse code, "Never Give Up!" I'll fight to be present; I will fight to be with the people I love until my last breath.

My daughter, who is a pastor, continues to remind me that this is a sacred and holy journey as I cling to the hope of the future. I do believe in God's promises. I believe in the God of resurrection, and though I will someday die, I also believe that I will be raised to new life. I believe that someday I will join the great cloud of witnesses and experience an inextricable joy that I've never before known. I am at peace.

In the meantime, I will continue writing this column until I'm gone. You will know I'm gone when my daughter publishes my final column, which has already been written.

My relationship with you is precious to me. I'm grateful for your love and loyalty, and I cherish every note of encouragement. I'm not planning on checking out of here soon, but when I do, I will miss you. Cling to hope, dear friends.

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 @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

June is National Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Month

Fresh fruits and vegetables from the backyard garden are a summertime treat like none other. So what's the next best thing to a homegrown crop? Try "pick your own" at area farms and look for weekly Farmers Market events to ensure the freshest picks. How to choose fabulous fruits and vegetables at an outside market or grocery store? The following tips can help you pick perfect produce!

Beans, snap: Look for small seeds inside straight, fleshy pods. If you can see large seeds through the skin than the beans are probably too old. Avoid beans with dry-looking, rusty, wilted or damaged pods.

Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower: Look for tightly compacted flower clusters on broccoli and cauliflower, and compact, uniform sprouts. Avoid wilted, yellow, or dirty heads, and avoid loose, open sprouts or those that are yellow or pale green.

Cabbage and head lettuce: Look for firm compact heads that are heavy for their size. On leaf lettuce, choose unwilted, compact, crisp-looking compact plants.

Carrots: Look for deep orange colored and smooth skinned roots. Avoid carrots with purple or green shoulders or pale in color, or ones with forked or crooked roots. Oversized roots usually mean they are woody. If tops are still attached on carrots, they should be fresh.

Celery: Choose large, firm stalks with uniform stalk and a white bottom. Avoid spindly, wilted stalks.

Chard: Look for fresh, dark green leaves with bright, tender stalks. Avoid wilted, poorly colored leaves.

Collards and kale: Check for tender, green, full-sized leaves with tender tips; avoid wilted, tough or overly large leaves.

Corn on the cob: Choose for well-filled cobs with plump, straight rows of kernels. Avoid large, wrinkled kernels.

Cucumbers: Pick long, slender cukes that are medium to dark green.

Peppers: Look for firm, darkly colored fruit with uniform size, color, and number of lobes. Avoid wrinkled or shriveled ones or fruits that are sunburned (con-



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

trasting color spots).

Radishes: Choose medium-sized, firm, crisp roots. Avoid wilted or soft roots or those with growth cracks or insect damage. Oversized roots will be pithy. Sunburned crowns are also not desirable.

Summer squash:

Choose ones that are uniform in size, color, and shape. Avoid large fruits (over mature) or ones with scarred skins, missing stems, or that are soft or wilting.

Tomatoes: Look for smooth skinned, firm fruits with uniform color. Avoid fruits with growth splits, sun scald, or overripe (soft) fruits. Apples: Choose firm, well-colored fruit that feels crisp. Blueberries: Pick plump, firm, deep blue berries with their natural waxy silver coating.

Cantaloupe: Look for a smooth shallow base; thick, coarse, corky netting that stands out from skin. Should yield slightly when pressed on non-stem end and have the slight scent of cantaloupe.

Cherries: Should be dark in color, glossy, plump, with fresh looking stems.

Mangos: Pick fruit that has plump, smooth, dark green skin with patches of red, yellow, or orange color; should be slightly soft.

Nectarines: Fruit should be plump, slightly soft along "seam"; either orange-yellow or greenish between red-blushed areas depending on variety.

Oranges: Choose firm oranges, heavy for its size; smooth-textured, with bright-looking skin.

Peaches: Should be somewhat firm, becoming slightly soft; red with creamy, orangy base color.

Pears: Look for firm fruit, just barely beginning to soften. Bartlett's: pale to rich yellow; Boscs: green to brown yellow.

Watermelon: Should be symmetrical with bright green rind with a creamy yellow underside. Choose a watermelon that's heavy for its size.

Even "singles" need estate plans

If you don't have a spouse or children, you might think you don't need to do much estate planning. But if you have any assets, any familial connections, any interest in supporting charitable groups – not to mention a desire to control your own future – you do need to establish an estate plan.



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In evaluating your needs for this type of planning, let's start with what might happen if you die intestate – that is, without a last will and testament. In this scenario, your assets will likely have to go through the probate process, which means they'll be distributed by the court according to your state's intestate succession laws, essentially without regard to

your wishes. Even if you don't have children yourself, you may have nephews or nieces, or even children of cousins or friends, to whom you would like to leave some of your assets, which can include not just money but also cars, collectibles, family memorabilia and so on. But if everything you own goes through probate, there's no guarantee that these individuals will end up with what you wanted them to have.

If you want to leave something to family members or close friends, you will need to indicate this in your last will and testament or other estate planning documents. But you also may want to provide support to one or more charitable organizations. Of course, you can simply name these charities in your will, but there may be options that could provide you with more benefits.

One such possibility is a charitable remainder trust. Under this arrangement, you'd transfer appreciated assets – such as stocks, mutual funds or other securities – into an irrevocable trust. The trustee, whom you've named – in fact, you could serve as trustee yourself – can then sell the assets at full market value, avoiding the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold them yourself, outside a trust. Plus, if you itemize, you may be able to claim a charitable deduction on your taxes. With the proceeds, the trust can purchase income-producing assets and provide you with an income stream for the rest of your life. Upon your death, the remaining trust assets will go the charities you've named.

Aside from family members and charitable groups, there's a third entity that's central to your estate plans: yourself. Everyone should make arrangements to protect their interests, but, in the absence of an immediate family, you need to be especially vigilant about your financial and health care decisions. And that's why, as part of your estate planning, you may want to include these two documents: durable power of attorney and a health care proxy.

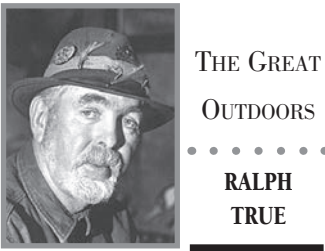
A durable power of attorney lets you name someone to manage your finances should you become incapacitated. This arrangement is especially important for anyone who doesn't have a spouse to step in. And if you become incapacitated, your health care proxy – also known as a health care surrogate or medical power of attorney – lets you name another person to legally make health care decisions for you if you can't do so yourself.

Estate planning moves can be complex, so you'll need help from a legal professional and possibly your tax and financial advisors. You may not have an immediate family, but you still need to take steps to protect your legacy.

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



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THE GREAT
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RALPH
TRUE

Last week’s archery shoot sponsored by the Boston Archers drew a large turnout to enjoy the day at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club. Two hundred fifty chicken dinners were sold prior to the event, and were cooked by the Uxbridge club members, with bake master Steve Bedard cooking has famous fried potatoes, and barbecued chicken. It was the largest outdoor event held at the club since the pandemic. The raffle had a huge array of hunting related items like the club had never seen, and were all donations from various archery and sporting goods stores, which are too numerous to mention.

Seabass fishing in Buzzards Bay continued to provide some great fishing for this writer, and my fishing buddy Matt Foutain last week. Striper fishing in the bay was a bit slow on the canal, but should pick up any day now. The Providence River is also producing stripers, and striper fishing in other Rhode Island waters has been improving daily, if you do not mind doing catch and release of large fish. Water temperatures were around the 60-degree mark last week. Most recreational anglers that target fluke, are waiting for the opening of seabass in Rhode Island waters. It is slated to open June 24, and anglers are hoping to catch a limit of three seabass, and possibly catching a doormat fluke or two to take home for dinner. Many recreational anglers are not happy with Rhode Island’s 19-inch minimum length this year, including this writer.

Fly fishing can become a great way to fish if you are properly taught by an experienced fly-fishing angler. I bumped into one of my students from a fly-fishing class I held at the Uxbridge high school many years ago. Myself, along with Dave, a master fly fishing angler and fly tier from the New England fly Tyers Association, had a class of approximately 15 adult students enjoy a number of weeks tying flies, and teaching the art of fly fishing. We went to Wallum Lake to try our luck at catching a few trout. We were pleasantly surprised with a good number of trout being caught by the students. The trout were retained and cleaned which were cooked at our next and final class at the high school in Uxbridge.

This past week, I bumped into one



This week’s picture shows Kevin Poulos and his friend Pat Trinor after they shot the archery course at the Boston Archers shoot last Saturday.

of the students from our fly-fishing class while attending the service at the Fairlawn church. and was happy to hear that he is still enjoying fly fishing as often as he can. This writer had the late William Todd as a foreman on department 426, at Whitin Machine Works, back when I was 17 years old. He did a lot of fly fishing for trout at Riley’s Pond, on Castle Hill Road, in back of the former WMW. He often fly fished after work, along with his friend’s the late Richard Bosma and Horace Bassett. They often fished at the back section of the pond, using waders to navigate the somewhat shallow water. One day, Bill asked me if I would like to learn fly fishing. “You bet I would!” I replied.

The next day, he brought along a Heddon Black Beauty seven-and-a-half-foot fly rod equipped with a Martin reel and fly line. He invited me into his office and showed me the fishing rod.

“Meet me at Riley’s Pond after work!” he stated. “I will show you the basics, and then it is up to you!”

As soon as the whistle blew to end the work day, I was on my way to Riley’s Pond. I cannot tell you how Mr. Todd influenced my life, with the simple gesture of kindness. I am not positive, but I think I paid him \$20 for the outfit. Fly

fishing for trout over the years has left me with a lot of great memories, and I try to pass it on.

Bill also gave me the opportunity to become a machinist, basically running engine lathes and cylindrical grinders, which became my way to earn a living the rest of my life! The good old days! I still have the fly rod Bill sold me, but I accidentally slammed it in the door of my car one day, and made the rod a wall hanger!

Saltwater fly fishing has also become a great way to enjoy the ultimate experience in catching these hard fighting fish. Purchasing saltwater fly’s is a bit expensive, costing almost or as much as a saltwater fishing lure. Another reason to learn the art of fly tying. Catching a striper on a fly that you created yourself can give the angler the ultimate satisfaction when saltwater fishing. There are not many local stores left that sell fly tying equipment. Only the big retailers like Cabela’s and Bass pro have a large array of fly-tying equipment. You can also buy it online! Check the Web site of New England Fly Tiers, and attend their classes this coming fall. They are a group of dedicated anglers that are eager to make you a great fly tier and fly fisherman or woman.



This week’s second picture shows Steve Bedard, bake master Richard Baker, and Ralph Goudin checking the rack of barbecued chickens at last Saturdays Boston Archers shoot.



This unidentified snake handler at the Boston Archers shoot last Saturday sure gave me the Willies.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Back to summer antique shows

Last summer, the COVID-19 pandemic caused all three Brimfield antique shows to be canceled. Sadly, these cancellations were widespread and there were very few shows for antique collectors and dealers during the summer of 2020. Luckily, there will be many more opportunities available for antique enthusiasts this summer. I am pleased to report that the July 13-18 and Sept. 7-12 Brimfield shows are scheduled to run this summer.

Apart from Brimfield, there are plenty of other shows taking place throughout New England. Locally, Walker Homestead’s Antiques & Primitive Goods Show takes place this weekend on Saturday, June 19th. It will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 19 Martin Rd., Brookfield. According to their Web site, 40 dealers will offer wares “on the grounds of our 1698 colonial saltbox.” Also on June 19, The Dover Antiques Show & Vintage Market will take place at 282 Durham Rd., Dover, New Hampshire from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. On June 24, fields open at 9:00 AM for The Flying Pig Antiques Tailgate show at 867 Route 12 in Westmoreland, New Hampshire. If you’re looking to travel even further now that the country is opening up again, on Sunday, June 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Wells Antiques Show & Sale “will be held under the tents and barn” at the Wells Reserve at Laudholm Field, 342 Laudholm Farm Road, Wells, Maine.

July looks to be a good month for



antiqueshowsas well. On July 10, the 61st Boothbay Region Antiques Show & Sale takes place on the Boothbay, ME Common from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. On July 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 25 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the 40th Camden-Rockport Historical Society Antiques Show is scheduled at the Camden-Rockport High School in Camden, Maine. A little further south, the 52nd New London Garden Club Antiques Show & Sale will be held on July 31 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the New London Historical Society Grounds,



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

WAYNE
TUISKULA

179 Little Sunapee Rd. in London. And we can’t forget about the return of the famed Brimfield Antiques show, beginning on July 13 at 6 a.m.

As the summer winds down, there are also shows scheduled for August. The 40th Annual Maine Antiques Festival runs Aug. 6 through the 8th. Friday’s opening early bird admission of \$25 gets you on the grounds from noon to 5 p.m., and allows readmission the rest of the weekend. On your way back from Maine, you can stop at The Americana Celebration Antique Show, which

will be held at the Douglas Everett Arena, 15 Loudon Rd. in Concord, New Hampshire. It will be held on Aug. 10 with early buyers admitted at 8 a.m. and general admission from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The 64th Annual New Hampshire Antiques Show will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton in Manchester, New Hampshire from Aug. 12 through the 14th. It will run from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. the first two days and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 14. Be sure to check on the status of shows you plan to attend before traveling, but it looks to be a nice summer for antiques, and life in general, as our country continues to move forward.

Here at Central Mass Auctions, we are also returning to live events. I will be appraising items for the public at the John B. Gough House at 215 Main St. in Boylston. The event will be held on Aug. 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are also still running online auctions. Our sports and non-sports cards online auction ends on June 23. Check our Web site for other upcoming events: <https://central-massauctions.com>.

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

TRAINOR

continued from page A8

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

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

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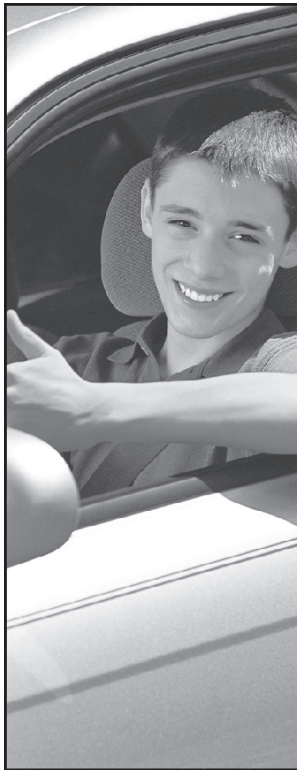
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School at Western New England University, earning awards for her work in trial methods and juvenile justice before graduating in 2010. Upon graduation, she worked as a family law attorney in the Worcester area for several years before opening her own firm in 2016.

Attorney Murray is a fierce courtroom advocate when appropriate, and zealously represents her clients' interests in the Worcester Probate and Family Court. She employs the use of collaborative techniques and dispute resolution methods to work toward case settlement when the situation allows.

Attorney Murray serves as ARC counsel for the Worcester Probate and Family Court, representing children in divorce and custody disputes. Attorney Murray also serves as a conciliator for the Worcester County Bar Association.

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Friday’s Child



Caleb
Age 12

family constellation. He has nine siblings who live in western MA with whom he should have continued contact. His new family should have patience, preferably some parenting experience, much love to give, and the ability to keep him active. A family with an older boy in the home who would set a good example for Caleb would be beneficial for him.

Hi! My name is Caleb and I like to build creative devices!

Caleb is a very mature boy of Hispanic descent. Thoughtful and intelligent, Caleb enjoys playing basketball, video games, and also has the ability to build very creative structures. He attends a S.T.E.M. school focused on science and math. He does well in school with some additional help to stay focused. Caleb has an engineering brain and loves to take things apart and put them back together. He also is very interested in electronics. A structured school environment works best for Caleb. In his current foster home, Caleb gets along well with his older foster brother.

Legally freed from adoption, Caleb would do well in most any

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

Grow an abundant harvest with some timely garden care. Arm yourself with a few basic tools, a bit of time and regular visits to the garden throughout the growing season to keep plants healthy and more productive.

You don’t need to invest in every garden tool on the market. A shovel, trowel, weeding tool, gloves and kneeling pad are the basics. If your budget is tight, ask gardening friends and family if they have extras to spare or lend.

Now you are ready to get started. Weed control is an ongoing task. Working in a few minutes of weeding time as your schedule allows makes this a much less overwhelming task. Keep a bucket with your favorite weeding tool, gloves, and kneeling pad by the door. Anytime you have a few minutes between other activities pull a few weeds.

If tools are handy, you spend less time looking for them and more time accomplishing the task. Consider keeping all your tools conveniently stored and ready for the garden in a mobile tool storage caddy (gardeners.com). It has room for short and long handled tools, a bucket for gathering weeds plus wheels and a handle for easy maneuvering.

Spread a layer of shredded leaves, evergreen needles or other organic matter over the soil surface surrounding your vegetable plants. This layer of organic matter helps conserve moisture so you will need to water less often. It also helps suppress weeds and improves the soil as it decomposes.

As your seeds sprout and begin to grow, you will need to do a bit of thinning. Remove extra plants, leaving enough space for those remaining seedlings to reach full size. The seed packet recommends the proper spacing for the vegetables you planted. Good news, some seedlings like radishes, beets and spinach are edible so think of this as harvesting instead.

Once you make your first harvest, leaving space in the garden, fill it with another planting. Succession, also called relay planting, allows you to grow several different vegetables in the same space. Just make sure the second planting has time to reach maturity and produce before the end of the season. Seed packets and plant tags contain information on the number of days from planting to harvest.

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Pick up maps on the Town Common
\$1.00 donation beginning at 7:45am.
Rain or Shine

DOUGLAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CUSTODIAN POSITIONS

2 Full-Time Custodian positions
High School (2:00 PM - 10:00PM)
Primary/Middle Schools (10:00AM - 6:00PM)
Hours & school building are subject to change.
Positions are open til filled. Interested candidates
should send a letter of interest, resume, and three
recent letters of recommendation to:
Jeffrey Kollett, Facilities Manager, 21 Davis Street,
Douglas, MA 01516
We are also looking for substitute custodians on
an as needed basis
All appointments are conditional based on a
satisfactory CORI and SAFIS Background check
per 603 CMR 51.00. The Douglas Public Schools
is committed to maintaining a work and learning
environment free from discrimination on the basis
of race, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy,
gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil
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THE BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail) O most
beautiful flower of Mt. Car-
mel, fruitful vine, splendor of
Heaven, Blessed Mother of
the Son of God, Immaculate
Virgin, assist me in this my
necessity. O Star of the Sea,
help me and show me where
you are my mother. O Holy
Mary, Mother of God, Queen
of Heaven and Earth, I hum-
bly beseech thee from the
bottom of my heart to succor
me in my necessity, (make
request). There are none that
can withstand your power,
O Mary, conceived without
sin, pray for us who have re-
course to thee (three times).
Holy Mary, I place this cause
in your hands (three times).
Say this prayer for three con-
secutive days and you must
publish it and your request
will be granted to you. N.F.L.

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Senior Clerk: The Town of Spencer seeks a Senior Clerk (31.5 hours/ week) to provide a wide range of clerical support for the Office of the Treasurer / Collector. Position requires from one to two years of bookkeeping experience and proficiency in Microsoft Office applications. Complete job description and application available at www.spencerma.gov. Experience in a municipal or customer service setting is preferred. Starting salary is \$21. 78 per hour. Submit resume and standard town employment application form, available at www.spencerma.gov by June 25th to the Office of Town Administrator, Town of Spencer, 157 Main St., Spencer, MA 01562, or fax to 508-885-7528. Subject to Union Rules and Regulations. EEO Employer.

The Spencer Housing Authority
is seeking candidates for the position of
Executive Director.

The Spencer Housing Authority is seeking an experienced administrator for leadership and management of its programs, properties, and contracts.
The Authority manages 177 state aided elderly/handicapped units, 8 family units, and an 8-unit Department of Developmental Services home. The agency also administers 51 AHVP (Alternative Housing Voucher Program) vouchers and 5 MRVP (Massachusetts Housing Voucher Program) vouchers.
Minimum requirements: A minimum of five years' experience in housing management, community development, public administration, or a closely related field. Knowledge of the principles and practices of housing management, finances, and maintenance systems in public and private housing. Excellent written and verbal communication skills required. Knowledge of laws regulating State housing programs. Experience working with people of various socio-economic backgrounds. Certification as a Public Housing Manager is desired or to be obtained within one year of employment.
The salary range is from \$76,887.60 to \$90,456.00 depending on experience and certifications and in accordance with the DHCD Executive Director Salary Schedule/Calculation worksheet. The work week is 37.5 hrs. per week with full benefits.
To apply please submit cover letter and resume to charlene.kaiser@spencerhousing.org, addressed to the Spencer Housing Board of Directors. A full job description is available upon request. at this email address.
The deadline for resumes is July 9th by close of business day. Late applications will not be accepted.
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SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/ Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! **\$549,900.00**



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ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 12 Susan Drive! Ideal 7 Rm Split! Beautifully Landscaped 18,615' Lot including a Heated In-Ground Pool w/Pool House! Fully Appliance Kitchen w/Corian Counters, Island, Hrdwd Floor & Door to the Deck! Dining Rm w/Hrdwds & Slider to Deck overlooking the Pool! Living Rm w/Bay Window, Brick Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert & Fujitsu Wall Mount A/C Split Unit! 3 Comfortable Bdrms all w/Double Closets, Spacious 12x16' Master! Halfway Full Bathrm w/Skylight & Door to the Master! Lower Level 13x24' Family Rm w/Recessed Lighting! Convenient Half Bath! 2 Car Heated Garage! Many 2018 Updates - Roof, Siding, Windows, Buderus Furnace, Hot Water Super Store, Oil Tank & Pool Liner! Out Back a Garden Area & Storage Shed! Town Services! Won't Last! **\$377,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

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Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



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WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 end unit. Year round enjoyment! Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms Appliance Kitchen. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area. Hardwood Floor & Carpet. Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Central Air! Central Vac! Very efficient natural gas heat & hot Water! 2 Boat Slips D10 & D11 in the Private Marina. Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach!
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Long-term challenges related to the pandemic

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Vaccines have enabled some parts of the world to regain a sense of normalcy after more than a year of living under restrictions instituted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The challenges individuals faced in that time, including staying healthy, dealing with the consequences of social distancing and virtual schooling, may be subsiding. But various long-term challenges could affect businesses for years to come.

Consumer trust and loyalty
Businesses spend years developing trust in their brands and services. Businesses that were forced to close or limit their offerings during the pandemic may need to start rebuilding the trust and loyalty of their customers all over again. One factor that could make that a bigger challenge after the pandemic is how businesses that remained open handled restrictions. Those that insisted customers wear masks in their stores and establishments may not be quick to regain the trust and loyalty of customers who disagreed with those practices. That could prove especially challenging for small businesses that work on thin margins.

Reduced demand
A 2020 survey of leading European companies conducted by the European Central Bank found that reduced demand for products and services is a significant concern for business owners going forward. Roughly 30 percent of survey respondents cited reduced demand as one of the foremost consequences of the pandemic for their businesses. More than 20 percent indicated lasting changes in the structure of demand will prove challenging in the years ahead. That change in the structure of demand, which includes increased consumption online, could force business owners to make potentially costly adjustments to how consumers access their products.

Staffing
Businesses may find the competition for talent is especially competitive after the pandemic. Workers who worked remotely during the pandemic may be reluctant to leave their jobs if they're allowed to continue working remotely as economies reopen. That means fewer qualified candidates for open positions, especially if those posi-

tions do not offer the remote work option. In addition, firms based in large cities may not have as many applicants for their openings in the immediate aftermath of the pandemic. A June 2020 study from the Pew Research Center found that 28 percent of the 10,000 adults surveyed who relocated during the pandemic did so because they feared getting COVID-19. Cities where maintaining distance from others was difficult were viewed as riskier than less populous areas. It might be some time before people who left cities or planned to move to cities prior to the pandemic are comfortable living in such crowded places again. That could make it more challenging for city-based businesses to attract qualified job applicants.

Businesses could face some new, long-term challenges as the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

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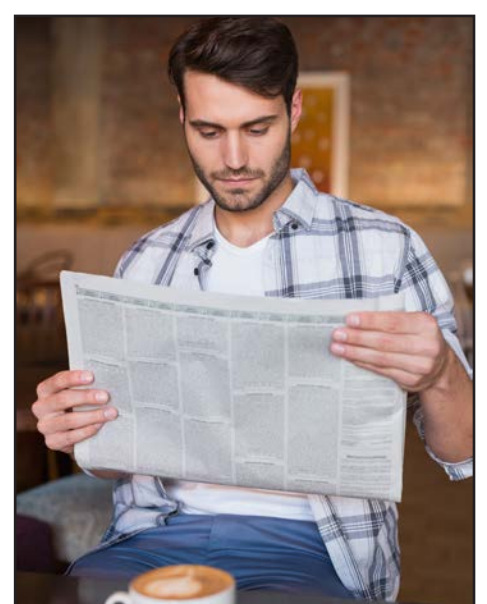
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