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Friday, March 20, 2020

# Community adopts proactive stance toward coronavirus

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – While the town of Charlton has been relatively untouched by the national COVID-19 or coronavirus pandemic town leaders are taking steps and making recommendations in hopes of keeping it that way as long as possible.

Following suit with other

communities both regionally and nationwide, the town of Charlton is implementing new practices for the time being meant to curb the spread of novel coronavirus including embracing social distancing and closing both the town's library and senior center. These measures were implemented following a joint meeting between town and school

officials from Dudley and Charlton and are meant as a proactive approach to fighting the virus before it impacts the region beyond its current scope.

Dudley Board of Health Chair Matthew Gagner said the mentality of the town right now is that it's better to prepare for something that might not be a problem than regret preparation if the problem were to persist.

"The town is taking a strong, proactive approach to trying to prevent this disease in our community," said Gagner. "At this point, we're not infested with COVID-19. It's all around us, but it's not in Charlton. It's not here yet. From what we've been seeing in China and how South Korea has responded,

and then now Italy, we feel that now is the time to think ahead and take an approach to prevent it from happening to us. If we isolate to a certain degree, then maybe we can prevent the

spread of this."
Gagner said he of course supports any of the health practices being advertised by the CDC and other agencies on a

Turn To CORONAVIRUS page A2



courtesy Photo

# QUINEBAUG LODGE PRESENTS LOCAL MAN WITH SERVICE AWARD

On Monday night, March 2, Quinebaug Masonic Lodge was open to family and friends. A Local man, Vincenzo "Jimmy "Falzone was presented the Robert Johnston Service Award. This award is granted and presented once a year by the Worshipful Master of the Lodge and is signed and presented by the (DDGM) District Deputy Grand Master of the 24th Masonic District. This award is to be given to the unsung Brother of the lodge working behind the scenes who goes above and beyond of what's expected of a Freemason. This brother may be unnoticed to some but not all. Jimmy volunteered and worked behind the scenes to inform the public of the past/present events and goings on about Freemasonry at Quinebaug Lodge. Jimmy spread the good deeds and doings of Freemasonry from Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in the local newspapers. Falzone was given this service award for his dedication and commitment to the lodge and Freemasonry.

# Local schools work to address coronavirus

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – As the coronavirus pandemic becomes a more prevalent issue, locally the Dudley Charlton Regional School District was one of the first entities impaired by the national health emergency.

It all started Monday, March 9, when Superintendent Steve Lamarche learned of a parent in the district who was being tested for COVID-19, also known as the novel coronavirus. Lamarche released a notice to parents and citizens indicating that the parent has been given permission to send her kids to school and that, at the time, results of the test were pending.

"In the late morning, we learned of a Charlton parent who returned from an overseas trip this weekend. She did not feel well and went to Urgent Care. Urgent Care tested her for COVID-19. The family stated that the Urgent Care Doctor advised them that it was okay to send their students to school today at the Charlton Middle School and the Heritage School. Upon learn-

Turn To **SCHOOLS** page **A6** 

# Bolandrina inducted into National Society of Leadership and Success at University of Phoenix

PHOENIX. Ramos-Gretheline Bolandrina of Douglas, a Doctor of Health Administration dent at the University of Phoenix and the Academy Director for Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in Charlton (since 2015), has been inducted into The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), Sigma Alpha Pi University of Phoenix chapter for the Spring Semester, 2020. Bolandrina's membership is the result of her outstanding academic achievement, the accomplishment of 3.86 GPA. Bolandrina was given the distinguished honor of



Gretheline Ramos-Bolandrina

the NSLS, Sigma Alpha Pi Presidential membership

The National Society of Leadership and Success, Sigma Alpha Pi, is the largest collegiate honor society in the United States. In addition to honoring excellence, Sigma Alpha Pi distinguishes itself by providing members access to a five-step leadership program to develop skills that will drive success beyond the classroom and into the next phase of professional career or as a graduate student.

Also, recently, Bolandrina was inducted to the University of Phoenix Chapter of the Upsilon Phi Delta Society and is duly enrolled in this honorary health care leadership Society.

Turn To **BOLANDRINA** page

# Nichols holds Third Annual Relay for Life

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDEN

DUDLEY – While most towns will celebrate Relay for Life in the spring, Nichols College hosts one of the first such events each year, bringing together the college community to help raise money to fight cancer and awareness of the many forms the disease can take.

The college, located on Center Road in Dudley, hosted their third annual Relay for Life on Sunday, March 8, continuing a modern tradition started by former student Nicholas Anderson who brought his passion for the Relay to Nichols after getting his high school involved in the cause years prior. Nichols holds one of the first Relays New England each year in order to accommodate other campus programs and spring break and to



Jason Bleau Photos

Walkers complete a lap during the third annual Relay for Life at Nichols College.

avoid impacting finals. However, unlike other Relays the Nichols event is much shorter lasting six hours instead of the traditional 24-hour peri-

Nichols sophomore Torey Lussier is the President of Nichols College Against Cancer, the group responsible for organizing the Relay each year, and said the event has become a passion project for everyone involved.

"We get a lot of people who come to help out and be a part of this. It's a community event and everyone comes together to make it happen," Lussier said, acknowledging that holding the event

Turn To **RELAY** page **A3** 



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# Bay State Savings Bank donates \$1,200 to Mustard Seed

WORCESTER — Bay State Savings Bank donated over \$1,200 to Worcester soup kitchen Mustard Seed Catholic Worker. The organization, which offers food and shelter to local homeless, will use the Bank's donation to replace ceiling tiles in its rooms used for meetings, food, and clothing storage.

Bay State Savings Bank staff raised money by allowing employees who donated to the Mustard Seed to participate in a dress down day.

"We are so grateful for the ongoing support," said Annie Doyle, member of the Mustard Seed Board of Directors. "A new ceiling will surely refresh and brighten up the basement. Additional food for the Food Pantry will help to feed dozens of families and individuals in

The funds raised were also in support of a capital campaign by the Family Health Center of Worcester, an organization which currently runs a clinic at the Mustard Seed for homeless in need of medical care.

"It all makes a difference." said Mike Boover, cofounder of the Mustard Seed's Piedmont Street location in Worcester. "How happy we are to have the good folks at Bay State befriend us. With their help... new initiatives have been undertaken by the Catholic Worker Community to better serve the many guests who come to us for refuge.'



# Roger Williams University announces Fall 2019 Dean's List

BRISTOL, R.I. — Select students have been named to the Fall 2019 Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester. The following students have been recognized for this achieve-

Drew Abbott, of Uxbridge Jaylin Bodell, of Uxbridge Alexandra Bombard, of Charlton

Haley Reese, of Uxbridge Nathan Tetreault, Charlton

About RWU: With campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I., Roger Williams University a forward-thinking private university committed to strengthening society through engaged teaching and learning. At RWU, small classes, direct access to faculty and guaranteed opportunity for real-world projects ensure that its nearly 4,000 undergraduates - along with hundreds of law students, graduate students and adult learners - graduate with the ability to think crit-

ically along with the practical skills that today's employers demand. Roger Williams is leading the way in American nigner education, confronting the most pressing issues facing students and families increasing costs, rising debt and job readiness.

#### **CORONAVIRUS**

continued from page A1

national scale which include 20-second hand washing, avoiding larger groups and keeping a six-foot buffer between individuals, an act coined "social distancing" by officials.

'At this point, the state is allowing the local health boards to try and determine the best course of action. It's a lot because in the role of public health and safety you have to balance that proactive approach because if you're not proactive and the outbreak happens, then what? If you are proactive and nothing happens, then maybe it actually worked. You never know. Better to be on the side of caution," said Gagner.

Town Administrator Andrew Golas said he does not foresee any major interruptions to town services, but confirms that the town hall and employees are taking precautions and embracing changes that keep everyone's health and wellbeing in mind.

"From the town hall perspective, we haven't done much as far as changing our operations,' said Golas. "We're leaving it to the boards themselves to make the decision whether or not to cancel or postpone meetings. We've been doing a lot more cleaning and disinfecting daily. That's basically what our custodian has been dedicating his time toward. Our operations have not changed as of yet, but we are working to implement anything we can to mitigate interaction between our staff and the public without damaging public services. Practicing social distancing is a big part of that."

Any information regarding further changes to Charlton's resources, meeting schedules or public services will be communicated through social media and the town Web site.

## **BOLANDRINA**

continued from page A1

Upsilon Phi Delta is the national academic honor society for students in healthcare administration in the United States. The organization was formed in 1965 to further the profession of health administration and the professional competence and dedication of its members. It is administered by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. The name of the society is derived from the Greek words for «health,» «care,» and «administration.» Its official colors are crimson red and cobalt blue and its official flower is the rose. The mission of the Upsilon Phi Delta Honor Society is to recognize, reward, and encourage academic excellence in the study of healthcare management and policy. Upsilon Phi Delta membership is an earned honor reserved for students in the top third of their cohort with a cumulative GPA of 3.8. After years of hard work, Bolandrina is set to complete her doctoral degree in Health Administration from the University of Phoenix at the end of 2020. Her dissertation work is on the academic progression of male LPNs. She obtained her Master of Science in Nursing Education, also from the University of Phoenix in 2013 and was inducted in the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau (STTI) Iota Phi-at Large Chapter. She obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the University of Santo Tomas, Manila Philippines.

It is the Mission of Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School to facilitate current, integrated, and rigorous academic and technical vocational programs that prepare students for the ever-changing world of employment and post-secondary education; to provide a school culture that meets the diverse needs of our student body for safety and mental wellness; and to foster student confidence, professionalism, and life-long learning skills that will enable them to become contributing members of our communities.



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#### Church Listings

· Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St. Pastor James Chase, 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 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

• Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.com Sunday worship 10:30 am, Sunday School 9 am • St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248 7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m. Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday LifeTEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.

Hope Christian Fellowship, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144

 Assemblies of God Southern New England District Headquarters, Route 20, 248-3771 snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

• Jehovah's Witnesses, Route 169, 765-9519 · Lamblight Christian Church, 37 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Rev. Stephen Wade, (774) 452-2393 Pastor's Cell. Sunday Service 10:30am. www. visitlamblight.com

• New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

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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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# Overdose tracking and response program implemented in Worcester County



WORCESTER — Police departments in all 60 of Worcester County's cities and towns will begin tracking overdoses in real-time today thanks to a new program implemented by a partnership between District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr., the Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police, local hospitals and medical providers, Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and recovery community partners.

Incident Critical The Management System (CIMS) allows law enforcement to collect overdose data and make it available in real-time to all police departments in the county. The information is then used to have a plainclothes police officer and a recoverv coach reach out to the non-fatal overdose victim and offer services within 48 hours. The program allows police to identify those with substance use disorder who are most at risk and offer them treatment.

CIMS was developed by Kelley Research Associates in partnership with law enforcement and the District Attorney's office in Plymouth County.

2017, Plymouth County had a 26 percent reduction in overdose deaths in 2018. CIMS is in use or being implemented in Bristol, Essex, Middlesex and Norfolk counties, as well.

The District Attorney's office purchased the software for \$40,000 using drug forfeiture funds.

"I am proud that we are bringing the CIMS program to Worcester County,' said Mr. Early. "This model has proven effective in Plymouth and we hope to see the same success here. I'm glad to partner with so many who are helping us address this deadly disease. We are stepping out of our silos to use a model proven effective in another part of our state. It is exciting."

Central Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association President and Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest F. Martineau has worked to get all of the departments in Worcester County signed up to use the

"Critical Incident Management Systems have shown to make substantial gains with providing hope for those After implementing the program in suffering with addiction," said Chief

Martineau. "Positive reductions to overdoses have been reported in Plymouth County and that same technology is soon to be a reality in Worcester County. CIMS will break down the silos and allow law enforcement to effectively collaborate its response. CIMS was developed by police for police."

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis has also agreed to partner on this program by identifying those reentering the community who may be at a high risk for overdose.



#### ACCURACY WATCH

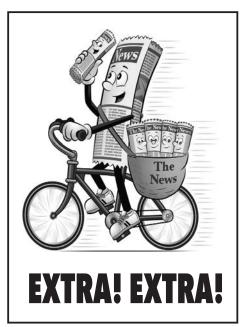
The Charlton Villager is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

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

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



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Liam ~ Age 3

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Liam is a happy, easy going toddler of Caucasian descent. He is described as a very busy boy who loves to play outside and explore. He also enjoys climbing, drawing and trying to open doors! Liam is enrolled in daycare where he is currently doing well. His daycare providers have said they really enjoy having Liam in the classroom. Liam enjoys playing independently

but is starting to play near his peers at daycare. He is often around younger babies and is very gentle towards them, but it would be beneficial for Liam to be exposed to peers his age in order to continue building his social skills.

Liam is legally freed for adoption and can be placed in a single or two parent family, with or without other children. Interested families should be open to maintaining monthly visits with Liam's birth mother, grandmother and sister. They should also be able to work with Liam's team of providers to address his developmental delays and ongoing medical needs. Most importantly, Liam needs a family that is committed to ensuring he receives the appropriate supports to best foster his development.

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

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





To sponsor Friday's Child call Patricia at 508-909-4135 x321 or email patricia@stonebridgepress.news

#### **RELAY**

continued from page A1

at a college comes with its own complications when compared to a traditional Relay. "I think it is a bit tougher for a college atmosphere because you have to take into consideration what everyone likes and everything else that goes on around campus. Having to adapt it to a college community can be a little tricky. We had it on a Saturday last year and realized that didn't grow as much so we tried Sunday this year."

The 2020 edition of the event included vendors, all-day activities, raffles and more and saw participants pacing the indoor gym of the college rather than the outdoor track. While the 2020 event didn't garner as many participants as the 2019 event Lussier still called it a great success that has helped contribute tens of thousands of dollars to the cause.

'We've raised just around \$50,000 for the past three years. We have both teams

individuals and around a hundred people signed up this year. We had around 150 last year so the participation has been pretty consistent," Lussier said.

goal of The Nichols College Cancer Against is to see the event continue to grow in the coming years and become and larger tradition for the college and students. Upperclassmen especially working hard to include incoming freshmen in the Relay knowing that their involvement is essential to the continuation of the event to helping raise awareness and funds for the fight against



Visitors to the Nichols College Relay for Life partake in a raffle including sports-themed prizes and more.



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# Landscaping expert advocates 'planting native'

BY GUS STEEVES

WALES – Right in time for the opening of a gardening season that might be the earliest in years, Dan Jaffe Wilder brought his ideas of landscaping to a crowd of dozens Saturday at Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary. They centered on three main words: "plant native plants."

Oh, and three others: "kill your lawn.'

"I'm always thinking ecologically," he said. "I want my landscape to be more than just

Specifically, Wilder notes many of the standard "rules" he and many others learned about landscaping are "stupid," and exactly the opposite of what Nature actually does. Commercial landscapers often plant with lots of space, cut back perennials routinely, use lots of wood mulch (often falsely colored) that sits for years, and plant foreign species and/ or grass that require a lot of maintenance via watering, pesticides and fertilizers. Nature, by contrast, wants to fill in that space so there's almost no visible dirt, lets perennials be perennial, uses "mulch" that breaks down rapidly (as in last fall's leaves and small living plants), and very often repeats itself, using native plants adapted to whatever the area's water conditions are.

'Right plant, right place" is his mantra. Wilder said many plant types have multiple species that have evolved to

grow in different conditions of water, soil, temperature, etc, and cites Vibernum as one. Almost always, Nature can provide something that will grow where the professionals claim nothing can grow. A case in point is Diaspensia, a tiny flower that grows "in some of the most inhospitable climates on Earth," including atop Mt Washington and the Arctic.

"A plant that's going to perform well always supports more ecological function than one that's struggling," he said. ... We have some fantastic plants that grow in poor soils."

Among other things, Wilder encourages people in most places to eliminate their traditional short grass lawns in favor of a very native groundcover that also provides food wild strawberry. Whatever you use, he urges growers to think in layers, planting groundcover, herbaceous plants, shrubs, subcanopy (short trees) and canopy (taller trees). Doing so creates the broadest range of ecological niches for plants, insects, birds and animals.

In a related vein, when removing invasive plants such as Oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose or Japanese barberry, Wilder recommends filling the vacant soil with something native that fills a similar ecological niche. If not, Nature will do so, probably with another invasive. As an example, plant grape vines where bittersweet was, or sumac where buckthorn was.

'We normally think of inva-

sives as having the competitive advantage, but we can flip that around" by "plant[ing] your landscape as full as you can,' he observed. "...There's nothing wrong with plants touching one another.'

He recommended taking what the label says for planting distance and cutting it in half or a third. Doing so will "allow these plants to fill in and cover the whole area."

One fairly simply way to "save thousands of dollars in poorly-selected plants" is to invest in soil testing, then select plants based on the soil qualities. Several places do it, with UMass Extension Service being the least costly (\$20), and others ranging up to \$100 or so, with some differences in what

Regarding repetition, Wilder said he sees the "one of everything syndrome" more often than unused space, and urged people to give some plants to friends and replace them with several of one species that can tie everything together. In Nature, that's often seen in meadows that are dominated by one or a few plant types; he showed a scene with two major species that supported 300 species of bees, 200 species of butterflies and many birds and animals.

One of them was goldenrod, which has 50 species from "hard-to-grow" to "extremely vigorous" and suited to a wide range of habitats. That has a bad rap - it's often accused of causing hayfever, but does not. Its "heavy, sticky pollen" requires insects to pollinate it; the real culprit is ragweed.

'Goldenrods support more wildlife than any other herbaceous species," he said, later noting number two in that category is wild strawberry. That plant, he notes "can handle abuse. ... My chickens can't kill it."

To some people, many native plants are weeds, but his view is that weeds are "just plants out of place." In many cases, they're actually beneficial and beautiful; as an example, he points to black-eyed susans (Rudbeckia spp.), a short-lived perennial flower that produces lots of seeds and shows a lot of variety. Another is common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca), which grows almost anywhere and has several less common, more specialized cousins. It's

Dan Jaffe Wilder talks to an audience member after his talk Saturday at **Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.** 

most famous for being essential for the life cycle of monarch butterflies, but has also been used to provide insulating fibers for clothing (fullsized pods) and even food (very young pods).

Other suggestions Wilder made included using natural materials for accents, keep downed wood on site, "prune with the plant's natural form in mind" while leaving younger stems and cutting older ones periodically, "avoid sharp edges and straight lines," and don't do fall cleanup, since the downed leaves and standing dead stems provide soil nutrients, protect various insects, and feed birds and animals,

among other things. When Q&A time came, one of the first was on ticks. Wilder said they're mostly found in "edge habitat" (where one habitat transitions to another) and are "thought to do extremely well in a changing climate." Eliminating barberry can help control them, since research has linked barberry with both increased tick numbers and increased percentage infected with the Lyme bacteria, although it's not clear why. Killing barberry is difficult; small patches can be dug up and burned with the roots smothered. He suggested using ramboard (big rolls of cardboard on which people layer soil, mulch and more ramboard to create a new planting area. The ramboard eventually decays into the soil.)

Regarding switching from lawn to native gardening, Wilder simply recommends starting small. Pick a section and use seeds since they're far less costly than whole plants; he mentioned the Wild Seed Project website as listing many species that grow easily from seed.. Best choice for plants are those you can later split and

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Currency of Guinea
- 10. Sounds
- 12. Immediate dangers 14. Legendary Tar Heels coach
- 16. Californium
- 18. Work standards government
- dept. (abbr.) 19. Coastal Scottish town
- 20. Triangular lower back bones
- 22. Trouble
- 23. A way to smile
- 25. Something that is not what it seems
- 26. Of she
- 27. Temporary living quarters 28. Bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- 30. Indicates near
- 31. Spiritual leader 33. Soup dish

- 35. Philippine island
- 38. Peaks 40. Alabama football team
- \_ King Cole
- 42. Digital audiotape
- 44. Open trough
- 45. The woman
- 48. Cools down
- 50. Turkic language 52. Body part
- 53. Pulse steadily
- 55. Embedded computer hardware company
- 56. Indicates shape 57. Thou (plural)
- 58. Odd and remarkable
- 63. An evening party
- 65. National capital of Zambia
- 66. Tantalizes

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Not naturally outgoing 2. Exclamation of pain
- 3. Polynesian garland of flowers
- 4. Surrounded by water 5. Church towers
- 6. Hot beverage
- 7. Body parts 8. Travel documents
- 9. Railway 10. Gradually wear away
- 11. Measuring instrument
- 13. Minor dust-ups 15. Strongly alkaline solution
- 17. Extreme scarcity of food 18. Dash
- 21. Philly culinary specialty
- 23. Popular lager \_\_ Adams
- 24. Snitch
- 27. Trimmed

- 67. Dark brown or black
- 29. Greek god of desire
- 32. Take to the limit 34. Cool!
- 35. Sound mental health
- 36. Native American group
- 39. Test for high schoolers
- 40. Rocky peak
- 44. Bother

- 54. Italian Seaport
- 60. Where to bathe
- 61. Equal, prefix
- 64. Denotes openness

43. Preferences 46. Call attention to (slang) 47. Snake-like fish 49. Bulgarian capital 51. Don't know when yet 59. Brooklyn hoopster 62. Beverage container 3 3 Я 0

# Charlton resident arrested for enticing minors

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - A Charlton resident has been taken into custody on the strength of numerous outstanding arrest warrants involving sexual advances with minors.

On Thursday, March 5, the Coventry, Conn. police department released a statement noting the arrest of 25-year-old Zachery Vannais, a resident of Charlton and former resident of Coventry. Vannais was the subject of a lengthy criminal investigation revealing that he has contacted children utilizing various social media accounts posing as a teenager. Police allege that Vannais then attempted to entice these children to engage in online sexual relationship. Vannais was not registered as a sex offender in either Massachusetts or Connecticut prior to his arrest. Vannais did reportedly couch youth baseball while residing in

Coventry, resigning in January of this year.

Vannais was taken into custody with the help of Connecticut State Police Troop C and held on a \$60,000 court set bond. He

was charged with numerous violations including four counts of risk of injury, five counts of enticing a minor, five counts of disorderly conduct, and five counts of misrepresenting age.



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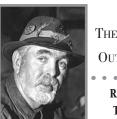
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# Family fishing memories

Friday, March 20, 2020



THE GREAT OUTDOORS RALPH TRUE

Freshwater fishing in local ponds and on Cape ponds was enjoyed by many anglers trying to catch some of the recently stocked trout this past week. Anglers fishing local ponds needed to spend a number of hours fishing to catch some trout, but the final results had many anglers catching their limit. Freshwater bass anglers were also catching some nice largemouth bass at Webster Lake, with a few small mouth bass also being caught. Some of the larger bass were being caught on shiners.

By the time you read this column, some of the local streams and rivers should have had a stocking of trout, as rivers and streams are ideal this year because of the lack of substantial rainfall, which normally happens this time of year.

younger In my years, I enjoyed some stream fishing in Whitinsville and Sutton! Prentice Brook and Purgatory Brook were my favored trout streams for catching some native brook trout. Our dad had us fishing every year on opening day, catching a stringer of 10 - 12 inch brook trout. Spring was a great time of year back in my younger life for fishing. Growing up in Whitinsville in the late '40's and '50's I

had some great fishing on the Meadow Pond & Arcade Pond which were essentially in my back yard. My dad kept a small row boat on Meadow Pond which was used daily by my brother and I. weekends, my dad

would get us up early to go fishing in the boat to catch some fish for my dad to make a big fish chowder.

My brother Mel and I would use a spinner and worm to fish on both sides of the boat, as my dad rowed. It was not long before we had a good stringer of fish which included Bass, perch, pickerel, bluegills and more. On one early morning, we were trolling and my brother Mel asked my dad to stop rowing. He claimed he was hooked on the bottom. Within seconds, the line started peeling from the reel. Mel had a big fish on! Rowing in reverse to get some line back from the long run of the big fish, it was finally brought to the side of the boat. It was a huge largemouth bass. We sure had a fish story to tell everyone in the village.

Back in the day, my brother Mel and I fished almost every day. We would grab our fishing rods after school and go fishing. Our grades on our quarterly report cards suffered badly, as we rarely did our homework. Our parents tried to have us finish our homework before we could go fishing ,but it rarely worked. Leaving school to start working at age 16 in the Whitin Machine works was great. Now I had some money to

buy a car and meet the girls. Purchasing a 1939 Chevrolet car for \$15 from one of the Ebbelings on Sutton street back in the day, had me leaving fishing and meeting girls.

I soon found my wife Judy, and we got married at 18 years old. Everyone thought we were nuts. Our parents needed to sign for us to get married. It was not easy being married that young, but we worked through it for more than 61 years. Unfortunately, she passed away last year. Bringing up two boys Ralph and David, I soon found myself back fishing a lot more, so I purchased a 14 ft boat that was used for fishing at Wallum Lake and Webster Lake. boys loved fishing and it stayed with them to this day. Unfortunately, David passed a few years ago, but the memories of us fishing remain.

The terrible mess that this country is going through today will hopefully pass soon, and we can all get back to our normal lives. Spending time fishing and enjoying the outdoors with family is the best way to stay healthy.

This week's picture shows Kurt Salvis fly fishing at the Uxbridge Club Pond last week. He caught numerous trout using a Woolly Bugger

The Rhode Island saltwater fishing show has been canceled due to the virus. Many more events will be canceled in the coming weeks.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



# Early spring preparation for a beautiful summer garden



Courtesy Photo

When pruning, start by removing the damaged and diseased stems of shrubs and roses and wear heavy duty gloves to keep yourself free from scratches.

As winter fades into spring, gardeners can't wait to get busy in the garden. Pruning, cutting back perennials and ornamental grasses and preparing the garden for spring planting are just a few

of the tasks. Keep yourself and the pol-

linators overwintering in your garden

safe as you start the cleanup process. Always prune with a purpose. Start by removing any damaged and diseased stems from shrubs and roses. Watch for insects like swallowtail butterflies that overwinter in protective cocoons and the egg masses of some like the hairstreak butterflies. Prevent problems by destroying overwintering non-native pests like the gypsy moth. Search the internet and insect books for help iden-

tifying the good and bad guys you may find in your landscape.

Additional pruning may be needed to manage the size and shape or encourage better flowering and bark color. Wait to prune spring flowering shrubs like lilacs and forsythia if you want maximum flowering. Prune these shrubs right after flowering before they set their floral buds for next spring.

Keep yourself safe by wearing safety glasses and gloves. It's too easy to focus on the task and end up with a stick in the

eye. Heavy duty gloves protect and support your hands, allowing you to garden longer with less stress, scratches and bruises. Consider synthetic leather gauntlet style gloves like Foxgloves extra protection gloves (foxglovesinc.com) that protect hands and forearms from harm yet are supple enough to allow

you to work efficiently. The breathable fabric is durable, machine washable and puncture resistant.

Lightly rake any debris off the lawn and add it to the compost pile. Check for damage and lightly tamp any disturbed areas back in place. Reseed bare spots so grass, not weeds, fill in these spots.

Brush leaves off the crowns of perennials but leave the rest in place for insects that spend winter or summer in the leaf litter. Plus, the leaves help preserve moisture, suppress weeds and improve the soil as they break down.

Pull mulch away from tree trunks and shrub crowns that may have shifted over winter. Keeping mulch off the stems reduces the risk of future problems that can lead to decline and even death of the plants.

Leave perennials and grasses stand as long as possible since many are homes for beneficial insects. Bundle grasses for easy cutting and removal. Once cut,

GARDEN MOMENTS MELINDA **MYERS** 

loosely stack or stand perennial stems and grasses at the edge of the garden or es. This allows any insects still present to safely emerge when it's time to move to

their summer homes. Plus, birds will appreciate the easy access to nesting material.

Enjoy the changing of the seasons and the beauty of nature hidden among the plants in your garden. Protect yourself when preparing the garden for spring so you won't lose time recovering from injuries. And keeping the pollinators and other beneficial insects safe will improve your garden's health and productivity throughout the growing sea-

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

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# **CALENDAR**

#### Friday, March 20

SIGHT & SOUND THEATER'S "JONAH THE MUSICAL": 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall, Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale, 8 Maple St., Sturbridge. Sponsored by Faith Formation Ministry.

#### Saturday, April 4

ANNUAL BRIMFIELD COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT: 2 p.m., First Congregational Church of Brimfield, 20 Main St. Bring a basket and come prepared for a community Easter Egg hunt. The Easter Bunny traditionally has made an appearance. Games and snacks included.

"ROARING '20S MOM PROM: The MOMS Club of Charlton Area will host "A Roaring '20s" Mom Prom on Saturday, April 4, from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Auburn South County Worcester Elks #2118, 754 Southbridge St. (Route 12), Auburn. This evening of dinner and dancing will benefit two organizations, the John Paire Student Support Fund, which helps kids in the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District have access to a well-rounded educational experience, and the Kennedy-Donovan Center of Southbridge, a nonprofit organization in Southbridge that supports people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges. Grab your spouse, friends and family members, and join the MOMS Club for the second annual Mom Prom. It's not just for moms, but all guests must be 21-plus. Early-bird tickets are \$45 per person until Feb. 14 and \$50 per person after that date. The MOMS Club, a chapter of the International MOMS Club, is a nonprofit group that provides support for stay-at-home and working mothers. Membership is open to moms in Charlton, Dudley, Webster and Southbridge. For additional information about the Mom Prom or the club, please email charltonmomsclub@ gmail.com, or purchase tickets at http:// bit.ly/MOMPROM2020. The Mom Prom name and logo are registered trademarks of founder Elizabeth Crapps and used under license.

Tuesday, April 7

TANTASQUA AND UNION 61 DISTRICT ART SHOW AND HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR: 5:30-8 p.m., Tantasqua Regional High School, 319 Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale. Join us to see what our district's children are learning as they explore the arts and sciences. Explore the halls of the high school to view the artwork of our district's children in grades K-12. Tour the art studios to purchase high school students' artwork, snacks, or drinks to support the art department. Art includes ceramics, jewelry, prints, and more! Enjoy presentations by Tantasqua students displaying their independent research projects in science and engineering as part of the science fair.

#### Saturday, April 18

FOXWOODS FUNDRAISER: Relay for Life will host a fundraising bus trip to Foxwoods, with the bus leaving from JC Penny in Sturbridge at 3 p.m. and returning from the casino at 11 p.m. \$30 per person. You will receive \$10 in free play and a free buffet meal. To reserve your seat, contact Elizabeth Mongeon at (413) 436-9383.

#### Saturday, April 25

CHARLTON HELPING HAND SOCIETY ANNUAL YARD/TAG SALE: 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Dodge Chapel, 81 Hammond Hill Rd., Charlton. Our always generous donations from our members and community make this a 'something for everyone' event. Come early, stay late and enjoy the variety of bargains and fellowship!

#### **ONGOING**

THE STURBRIDGE FARMER'S MARKET is held every Sunday through Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Town

CHARLTON AMERICAN LEGION POST 391 meets every fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Charlton Grange Hall. All veterans are welcome. We'd love to see you. We sponsor Boy Scout Troop 165, as well as three Boys Staters & assist young men interested in attending the State Police sum-

mer school. We also assist the Charlton Little League financially, as well as other things such as veteran's wakes & funerals. There's plenty we can still do to help our community.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Please come join us for a fun evening of exercise and basketball at the Heritage School gym in Charlton. We play pickup basketball from 7-9 PM every Monday evening from September to June based on the school schedule. There are no set teams and participation is free for women 18 years and older. Please contact Deb at 508-248-3600 for more information.

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

St. Joseph's Church in Charlton is sponsoring a Pilgrimage Sept. 29- Oct. 9, 2019 to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje with Fr. Robert Grattatori. The cost is \$4,599; 11 days includes 4-5 star hotels, airfare, luxury transportation, and breakfast/dinner daily. A \$500 deposit is due at the time of registration. Please contact parishioner Dr. Karen Zaleski for trip details at karenzaleski42@ gmail.com or you may call Proximo Travel directly for information and to register at 1-855-842-8001, or 508-340-9370.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: First and third Thursday of each month. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Vista Adult Day at The Overlook. Loved ones welcome to join Vista Program with prior screening. Contact Kathleen Walker at (508) 434-

Grief Support Group: at Overlook Hospice, Charlton: Have you recently experienced the loss of a parent, child, sibling, friend or spouse? We are here to help. Join a safe, supportive and caring group to share your stories and support others who are learning to live again after the death of a loved one. Drop-in group for adults meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 1-2:30 p.m. Contact Susan Fuller at (508) 434-2200.

NUMISMATICS: Southbridge Coin Club meets on the third Friday of the month (except July and August). The doors open by 7 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Collectors of all ages are welcome. The meetings include raffle, auction, and show and tell. Light refreshments are served. The meetings are held in the community room at the Southbridge Savings Bank at 200 Charlton Rd. (Route 20), Sturbridge.

ANONYMOUS: ALCOHOLICS Traditional open AA meetings in a friendly setting. Come early to chat and share in refreshments. Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Hitchcock Academy, Brimfield.

K9 NOSE WORK: A sport open to all breeds of dog and their people Saturday Academy in Brimfield starting Jan. 19. Progressive training levels offered. Fee:

\$145 per dog, per session. Instructor: Laurie Merritt, M.Ed., CPDT-KA, CNWI, Certified K9 NoseWork Instructor -National Association of Canine Scent

SEN-I JUDO CLUB: This course runs all year long on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield, and is well suited for all levels of practitioners, including beginners! Call Sensei Israel Lopez at (413) 279-4330 for more information.

WEIGHT WATCHERS: Traditional Weight Watchers Meetings Monday evenings at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield. Times: WeighIn/Registration 5:30 p.m., meeting 6 p.m. Leader: Angela Kramer. Visit www.weightwatchers. com to become a member or to learn more about Weight Watchers.

YOGA: Hatha Yoga benefits are stress-relieving. Relax & rejeuvenate with postures & guided meditation to restore the body. Bring a mat and wear comfortable clothing. All levels welcome. Six weekly classes held on Monday nights at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield from 7:15-8:45 p.m., beginning Jan. 21.

FENCING: Fencing is a sport of combat that originally started as practice for dueling with swords. Since that time, it has grown into a modern sport while maintaining those virtues that made it great: honor, valor, and grace. Bring a water bottle, sneakers and comfortable clothing. Youth and adult classes with Andy Bloch at Hitchcock Academy. Fee:

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS: Is food a problem for you? Have you been worried about the way you eat? Do you resolve to go on a diet tomorrow, only to fail again and again? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? You are not alone. Overeaters Anonymous can help. No dues, no fees, no weighins. Meetings are held Sundays in Worcester (St. Michael's On-The-Heights, 340 Burncoat Street) at 7 p.m., Mondays in Auburn (Bethel Lutheran Church, 90 Bryn Mawr Ave.) at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays in Putnam, Conn. (Day Kimball Hospital, 320 Pomfret Strett) at 6 p.m. Want more information? Call or text Bruce P. (508) 864-0593, email him at brucep.oa@charter.net or visit oa.org.

MASSASSOIT ART GUILD OPEN STUDIO: The Massasoit Art Guild would like to announce the addition of new Open Studio hours. Starting on Saturday, Jan. 11, we will be holding Open Studio time from 9:30 a.m. to noon each Saturday. The Current Wednesday morning Open Studio will continue to meet. Open Studio is a time to bring your current work in progress, start a new project, receive critiques if desired, pick up new skills and techniques and be with other artists for support and encouragement in an open and friendly environment. Membership is required. Please visit our Web site massasoitartguild.com for more information!

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

# \* \* Triday's Child \* \* \*



Marissa Age 13

Hi! My name is Marissa and I love running cross country!

Marissa is an energetic girl of Caucasian descent. Marissa enjoys playing tennis and running cross country and track. She also enjoys music. Marissa loves to have her hair and nails done. Marissa is a brilliant girl with a bright academic future. She has tested and considered into one of the one of the top exam schools in the city.

Marissa is legally freed for adoption. She would thrive in a home where she is the only child or

with children close in age. She will need a family that can provide her with attention and patience. Marissa shares a close relationship with her younger sister and they hope to be able to continue to see each other at least monthly. The best family for Marissa would be a local family that is able to visit with her as a visiting resource initially.

#### Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



#### **SCHOOLS**

continued from page A1

ing such, we contacted the Charlton Health Director, Mr. James Philbrook, and we had been instructed to have the students dismissed until we have a confirmation either way. The family complied," Superintendent Lamarche said in a press release.

In the days that followed, the parent was cleared of the COVID-19 virus thanks to a negative test result, but the scare served as sharp dose of reality for a town that had yet to see a single confirmed case of the virus. Three days after that notice on March 11 the district released follow up communication to parents, staff and citizens of the district informing them of the cancelation of the Global Awareness International Trip, the scheduled trip to Florida in April, and a moratorium on all field trips outside of Worcester County. All major en masse events, such as concerts and performances, were also canceled or set aside for rescheduling. However, it would not be long before the district followed suit with nearly every other school in the region, and hundreds across the United States, by shutting its doors for two weeks.

"After participating in state, local and regional conference calls, this decision is being made in conjunction with the Dudley-Charlton Town Administrators, Health Directors, Board of Health members and Emergency Personnel. This was not an easy decision in light of the mixed messages and decisions being made around us from the state level and neighboring communities. As this is unprecedented, we are working on additional communications for you in the coming days," Lamarche said.

His announcement confirmed that schools throughout the district would be closed from Friday, March 13 through Friday March 27 while extensive cleaning took place.

The Dudley Charlton School District was joined by other area schools in this decision. Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School also announced social distancing practiced on March 12 and suspended large gatherings and external field trips as of that day. A day later it was confirmed that the school will be closed until March 20 as a precaution against the coronavirus pan-

"It is impossible to know the future path of the virus and its effect on Bay Path and public acceleration. I can assure you that we are working diligently to incorporate all health and safety recommendations into our policymaking. The safety of our students, staff and community are in the forefront of our actions. We will keep you informed of changes and decisions as they are made in the coming weeks and months," Superintendent-Director John A. Lafleche said in a press release.

Finally, Nichols College has decided to move all of its classes online from Monday, March 23 through Friday, April 3. The college also announced that residence halls will remain open for students who want to access the campus. Large on-campus events have also been

postponed during this time. "Nichols College recognizes that its strength lies in the personal engagement our students receive from faculty and fellow learners. For this reason, we are still hopeful that given more time that we will be able to open our classrooms up again to finish the semester. However, we must also prepare and be transparent that this may not be possible. We will continue to assess this decision in the coming days and weeks. This reality is painful to us all, as we agree whole-heartedly that the level of engagement and personal touch, we pride ourselves on is the very substance that makes Nichols College Nichols College," President Susan West Engelkemeyer said in a press release. "However, it would be irresponsible given the uncertainty of the current state of national affairs to continue to think that we can conduct business as usual. Therefore, we do believe that giving students two weeks of online instruction following spring break is now the most prudent action for the campus to take.'

All updates concerning the Dudley Charlton Regional School District, Bay Path and Nichols College can be found on their respective websites as national, state and local health organizations continue to generate plans of action against

the virus outbreak.

## TRIPS OFFERED

The "Trips Offered" section is for non-profit organizations and will run as space allows. Mail your information to Trips Offered, c/o Brendan Berube, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550; fax to (508) 764-8015 or e-mail to news@stonebridgepress.news.

#### **BAY PATH ADULT EVENING** SCHOOL

Wine Country Pacific Coast Cruise 9 days/8 nights April 6-14, 2020

What's included: Roundtrip Motorcoach transfers, roundtrip airfare from Logan Airport, one night precruise stay in Los Angeles, 8 day/7 night cruise on board Princess Cruises-The Star Princess, visiting Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Astoria Oregon, Victoria, B.C., Vancouver, B.C., winery tours, all meals on board ship, and more!

\*A valid passport is REQUIRED for this trip

Prices starting at \$2,499pp double occupancy (plus tax, transfers & government fees)

For a brochure and complete itinerary, please contact Lori Douthwright at (508) 248-5971, ext. 1715.

The Boston Red Sox vs The Baltimore Orioles

3 Days/2 Nights August 21 – 23, 2020 What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights hotel lodging, breakfast at hotel, lower reserved seating to 2 ballgames, The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Guinness Brewery & More

\$549pp Double Occ. -\$679pp Single Occ. - \$539pp Triple Occ. - \$539pp Quad

For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact

Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

September 11th Museum & Memorial in NY City and West Point Academy 2 Days/1 Night May 14-15, 2020

What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, hotel lodging, two (2) meals (1 breakfast & dinner theatre show), touring the Hudson River Valley & dinner theatre show and so much more!

\$399 pp Double Occ. - \$499 pp Single Occ.

For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact

Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

Penn Dutch Country with the New Hit Show Queen Esther 3 Days/2 Nights September 23-25,

What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, ticket

to "Queen Ester", touring and More! \$499pp Double Occ. - \$599 pp Single

For a brochure and complete itiner-

ary please contact Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

Nova Scotia w/Tattoo Fest featuring The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo Bay of Fundy. Halifax,

Saint John, Annapolis Valley

5 Days/4 Nights June 29-July 3, 2020 What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging - Marriott Saint John - New Brunswick, 2 nights lodging - Westin Nova Scotian - Halifax, breakfast each morning (4), 2 scrumptious dinners, 1 lobster luncheon, guided tours each day and more!

\$1499pp Double Occ. - \$1899 pp Single

For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact

Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

#### Montreal & Quebec Getaway 4 Days/3 Nights August 18-21, 2020

What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging - Marriott in downtown Montreal, 1 night lodging - Quebec City, four meals (4), 5 meals, guided tours each day and more!

\$849pp Double Occ. - \$1159 pp Single Occ

For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact

Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

#### CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

TRIPS w/Charlton Senior Center 2020 Our new Trip Coordinator is Mary Lou Lepko.

A few things to know:

Sign up at the center, or call 508-248-2231, or email: charltontrips@yahoo.

Please put your full name and phone number on sign-up sheets

Trips are open to the public

Flyers available at the center or online at www.townofcharlton.net. Click on Government, then Council on Aging/Senior Center

Mail payments to: Charlton Senior Center Trips, 37 Main St., Charlton, MA 01507 or bring into center and give to Elaine or Katherine. Please be sure to make checks payable to the company stated below.

You will be notified of pick up time & location

Bus pick up will usually be at St. Joseph's Church 10 H Putnam Rd. Ext.

in Charlton April 17— FOXWOODS \$34 includes transportation, buffet or \$10 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Make checks payable to: Fox Tours (payment due 3/17)

May 19 — CAROLE KING TRIBUTE \$94 includes transportation, Luncheon, meal tax w/gratuity and Show ticket. Driver gratuity not included. Make

checks payable to: Best of Times (payment due 4/17)

– GLOUCESTER HARBOR July 28 LOBSTERBAKE transportation, Beauport includes Princess Cruise, Lobsterbake buffet, Entertainment & Dancing. Driver gratuity not included. Make checks payable to: Best of Times (payment due 6/25)

September LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE CRUISE & CASTLE IN THE CLOUDS \$129 includes transportation, Lake Cruise, Luncheon, Visit to Castle in the Clouds. Driver gratuity not included. Make checks payable to: Best of Times (payment due 7/30)

November 17 — YESTERDAY ONCE MORE w/The Carpenters, ABBA, 5th Dimension, The Mamas & The Papas all in one show! \$92 includes transportation, Luncheon, meal tax w/gratuity and Show ticket. Driver gratuity not included. Make checks payable to: Best of Times (payment due 10/15)

 ${\rm Dec}\ 4\text{-}7 - {\rm A}\ {\rm COUNTRY}\ {\rm CHRISTMAS}$ IN NASHVILLE, TN. Gaylord Oprey Hotel! 4 days/3 nights. Call for more

#### DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

For reservations contact Jan Caouette at (508) 887-2215. Make checks payable to Bernadette Circle #709 and mail to Bernadette Circle #709, PO Box 201, Webster MA 01570. The Daughters of Isabella is a nonprofit and charitable Catholic women's organization

#### **DOUGLAS SUNSHINE CLUB**

Sunny Portugal next April. The Douglas Sunshine Club is planning a trip to sunny Portugal April 21-30, 2020. This trip is with Collette Travel. An informational meeting is planned for Wed. June 12th at the Douglas Senior Center, 331 Main St., Douglas, at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in the trip, this is a great opportunity to get a description of the travel arrangements and itinerary with a representative from Collette Travel who will also answer any questions you have about the trip. For more info call 508-476-4474.

#### **DUDLEY SENIORS**

Dudley Seniors present a Pigeon Forge and the Smoky Mountains Show Trip. It will be 7 days and 6 nights from Sept. 20, 2020 through Sept. 26, 2020. The price per person/ double occupancy is \$689 and will include motorcoach transportation from Dudley, 6 nights lodging, 10 meals, admission to Titanic: the world's largest museum attraction, 2 dinner shows, 2 evening shows, one morning show, free time in downtown Gatlinburg and a guided tour of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

For more information, please call Evelyn at (508) 764-8254.

FRIENDS OF THE STURBRIDGE SENIORS

The Friends of the Sturbridge Seniors are happy to offer the following 2020 Trips to the General Public. Beginning on Thursday March 12th, join us as we travel by Deluxe Motorcoach on an appproximately 60 minute ride to the Fabulous Venus DeMilo in Swansea, Ma. To see Ireland's Most Exciting Young Tenor, Emmet Cahill. Emmet is the Star of PBS Phenomenon Celtic Thunder. Hear Emmet perform many of the Irish Classics as well as some of your Favorite Broadway Hits. He will be joined by the Emerald String Quartet, who are four young Ladies creating the Sweetest Sounds from their String Instruments. And let's add the All Male Dublin City Dancers who will shake up

the Audience with their high stepping dance numbers. For 92.00 everyone will have a Plated Lunch of Corned Beef and Cabbage or Baked Haddock, Venus DeMilo's Famous Minstrone Soup, Vegetables, Breads, Dessert, Coffee and Tea, Bus Transportation and this Fabulous Show.

On Thursday, July 16, come with us for a Lobster Bake at Foster's Clambake in York, Me. For 99.00 enjoy a 1 1/4 Boiled Lobster, Clam Chowder, Steamed Mussels, Fresh Steamed Maine Clams, Corn on the Cob, Potatoes and Onions, Blueberry Cake and a Beverage. Also available is 1/2 Barbecued Chicken in place of the Lobster. Now let us add the Ultimate Jimmy Buffett Tribute Show featuring Jimmy and the Parrots. They are the most requested Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band in the Country and they were also nominated as Band of the Year by Trop Rock Entertainer. Hear them play the favorite songs of Jimmy Buffett as well as songs by The Beach Boys, Paul Simon, Harry Belafonte, Bob Marley and many others. Included is Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Lunch and the Show.

On Tuesday August 18 to Friday August 21st, have your Passport ready for a Spectacular 4 Day/3 Night Motor Coach Roundtrip visit to Beautiful Montreal and Quebec Canada. For 849.00 pp Double or 1159.00 pp Single Occupancy. Included are 3 Nights Hotel Lodgings, 4 Meals, touring as described in your travel Brochgure, Best of Times Travel Tour Director and all gratuities except Motorcoach Driver, gratuity are included. In Montreal take in a guided visit of Norte-Dame Basilica, the Botanical Gardens, the Biodome, enjoy time at Montreal Casino plus even more. In Quebec, visit the Basilica of Saint-Anne de Beaupre, Montgomery Falls, guided Tour of the beautiful Citadelle featuring the Changing of the Guard, the Royal Regimemnt Museum plus some Free Time to enjoy Quebec on your own.

On Thursday August 20th, get ready for the 10th Anniversary Tour of The Texas Tenors. These 3 very Handsome, Classically Trained Men have performed over 1300 Concerts with Headliner Shows in Las Vegas, China, the United Kingdom and accumulated 3 EMMY AWARDS. The Texas Tenors will sing many of the Broadway Show Classics as well as many of your favorite Pop Songs. They were honored to be included among the Top 50 Acts in the World. This could be the Best Concert that you will see this year. We are traveling approximately 60 minutes to the Venus DeMilo in Swansea, Ma.. For 99.00 included is Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Plated Lunch of either Chicken Parmesan or Baked Scrod, Venus DeMilo's Famous Minnestrone Soup, Vegetables, Breads, Dessert, Coffee and Tea.

Joinus on Wednesday, September 2nd on our day trip to Lake Winnipesaukee for a scenic cruise out of Weirs Beach taking in the remarkable scenery of the Western end of this magnificent lake. We will also visit the spectacular Castle in The Clouds a turn-of-the-century sixteen room mansion with its breathtaking mountaintop views overlooking Lake Winnipesaukee. Enjoy a delicious full course luncheon at Harts Turkey Farm in Meredith, NH. Famous and renowned for their turkey dinners you are sure to delight in this bountiful luncheon. All for just \$129.

We had 34 people travel to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country 3 Day/2Night Trip this past December and they had such a Great Time that many of them asked to go back again this September 23-25th. We will see the New Show "Queen Esther". One of the very most riveting Bible Stories of the Old Testament that comes to life in the Magnificent Sight and Sound Theater which incorporates Live Animals, Secial Effects and Jaw Opening Stage Sets. Ask anyone who has seen a Show at the Millenium Sight and Sound Theater and they will tell you this is a Must See. in your lifetime. Now let's add a

2nd Show called "Saturday Nigh Fever" at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, a Backcountry Tour of the Dutch County Farmlands, enjoy your luck at the Sands Casino and more. Prices are 499.00 pp Double and 599.00 Single Occupancy and include 2 Nights Lodging, 4 Meals, Tickets to the 2 Shows,

Touring as Described and Tour Director Gratutites. Last years Trip sold out early so don't get left behind

Have you ever thought about visiting Nashville? Come along on a 4 Day/3 Night Trip December 4th -7th. Included are Roundtrip transportation to Logan Airport, Roundtrip Airfare to Nashville, 3 Nights of Premium Lodging, 7 Meals including a Sunday Brunch, An Exclusive Dinner Show featuring the Oak Ridge Boys, Ticket and Show at the Grand Ole Opry, plus a Tour of the Grand Ole Opry, Admission to Country Music Hall of Fame, a River Cruise aboard the General Jackson Showboat, Tickets for a Holiday Show at the Opry House, Admission to ICE at Gaylord Opryland, a visit to Historic Studio B and a Guilded Tour Of Nashville. WOW!! Prices are 1949 pp Double and 2349 pp Single Occupancy which includes Tour Guides and Bus Drivers Gratuities as well.

Contact Sturbridge Recreation Department 508-347-2041, email recreation@sturbridge.gov for more information

For additional information on these Wonderful Trips, please contact Linda Fortier at 508 347 1452 or by email at bestoftimes2020@aol.com

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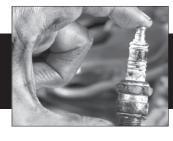
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**EDITORIAL** 

# A time for hope, not hoarding

Life as we know it is changing — at least for the near future, only temporarily; however, this unchartered territory has left many questioning what exactly is happening. The new coronavirus designated COVID-19 has now infiltrated the country, causing the closure of schools, restaurants, bars, sporting events, concerts and any gathering with more than 50 people in attendance.

The next Democratic Presidential primary is coming up, and there is now a question as to how much the outbreak will affect the outcome. Could a mandatory two-week quarantine be implemented? We will soon find out.

In the midst of all this uncertainty, panic buying has commenced. Stores shelves are becoming more and more barren, with canned goods, milk and paper products hot commodities. Some stores have even been forced to implement a quota on how much a person can purchase.

Panic shopping is a natural response in the face of a crisis, but all of us need to step back and realize that as a result, price gauging can put much needed supplies out of reach for those on fixed incomes, and in this instance has created a situation in which medical supplies that are necessary for the protection of health care workers on the front lines of the crisis, such as face masks, are so scarce that hospitals have instructed doctors and nurses to ration them.

We understand the fear that underlies the 'grab everything you can while you can' mentality in situations like this outbreak, but overburdening the chain of the very supplies we need to get through this is not helping anyone. This is a time for calmness, not crazed

Just one example we recently encountered of the fallout from all this unnecessary hoarding particularly touched our hearts. While out shopping ourselves, we met an elderly woman who made a trip to her local grocery store needing a loaf of bread. She had no idea what was going on, and seemed visibly stressed to find the bread aisle so completely picked over.

Instances that have induced fear and panic are nothing new in our national experience. In 1962, the Cuban missile crisis caused Americans to stock their basements with bottled water and dry goods in the case of an atomic bomb. The Y2K scare at the turn of the millennium and the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 generated a similar atmosphere of fear that we had arrived at the End of Days, but cooler heads eventually prevailed, and in each instance, our society soldiered on, as it doubtless will once this outbreak winds down.

Remember that we are all in this together. It may feel lonely to think about staying home and not interacting with the world around us for a long stint, but as has been the case demonstrated throughout history, we will all take care of each other. Family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, healthcare providers, town officials and law enforcement personnel are always there to help in times of need. Those supports will provide comfort just like they do any other day.

"I am a firm believer in the people," Abraham Lincoln once wrote. "If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts.'

**DON'T MISS A BEAT CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!** 

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

# Am I supposed to be buying toilet paper?

I spent a fun week with my daughter and her family, and was oblivious to what was happening in the news. I caught bits and pieces on the 'Net, but was enjoyably disconnected. I was surprised at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) how many people I saw walking around

wearing face masks. I was aware of the coronavirus, but really missed out on the last eight days of developments.

We landed in Chicago, grabbed our luggage and headed for home when my sister called from North Carolina and asked, "Do you have enough toilet paper?"

I don't think anyone had ever asked such a random question of me before.

"Enough for what?" I asked. "To be guarantined for three to four

I immediately began scrolling through the newsfeed on my phone, frantically trying to figure out what was causing the TP emergency. I laughed aloud as I thought. "Bernie Sanders with his push for socialism hasn't been elected yet and the stores are already out of TP?" I ran across a posting that said, "Almost all the major grocery chains are out of bread, milk and toilet paper." I saw another that said, "Someone is on eBay selling cases of TP for \$2000 each and has more buyers than inventory.'

Arlene and I decided we better rush to the store before we got home and see if we could get some TP. We parked, ran into our local grocery store and headed to what we were convinced would be empty shelves. Imagine our shock when the shelves were full of every brand of toilet paper. We checked milk and bread to only find the same.

What's going on? I'd call this something between an overreaction to mass hysteria. As for me, I found it to be funny. Don't get me wrong, there is nothing funny about a communicable illness that is spreading around the world. We all must be vigilant and take the advice from healthcare professionals. Wash your hands often. Don't touch your body above your shoulders. Use hand sanitizer and carry a few sanitizing wipes wherever you go. On our flight home we used wipes to our seats and trays on our airplane moore.com.

seats. It also never hurts to have a supply of essentials **POSITIVELY** on hand at home, but to **SPEAKING** rush out and buy a year's supply of canned goods and By Gary W. to lock yourselves behind the doors of your homes at MOORE this point, may be giving

> Be vigilant. Listen to government officials but avoid unsubstantiated rumors on the internet or you may end up spending two grand for a few rolls of toilet paper. When you see that Abraham Lincoln is assuring you that if it's found on the internet it must be true . think about it first!

into mass hysteria.

Relax. Be prudent about the sources of information you use to make your decisions. Then act wisely.

Thank you!

Thank you all for your prayers, emails and cards. I am grateful. I shared with you that I had been diagnosed with a rare affliction called Neuroendocrine Tumors. I travelled to one of the world's leading clinics for this disease at the University of Iowa Hospital. While there I received the surprising news that I had been misdiagnosed and did not have Neuroendocrine Tumors. Instead, I learned I have Stage IV Stomach Cancer. It's not the news I expected nor wanted to hear but I am positively fighting this cancer with everything I have. I am optimistic of my outcome.

Don't misunderstand. I do not believe by being positive and optimistic alone can magically heal you. There are some medical realities that attitude will not overcome. But I know my chances of beating this illness are greatly enhanced by being positive.

There is a great blog I would encourage you to read. It's entitled, "At a Cellular Level, Every Single Human Depends on Positivity to Survive." It is authored by Jenn Maronek and can be found at www.blog.sivanaspirit.com I think you will find a few moments reading this useful and encouraging.

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 @

Nonetheless, you may have shorter-term goals - a wedding, down payment on a home, overseas trip, etc. - for which you need to save. For these goals, though, you wouldn't want to touch your IRA or 401(k), anyway,

But you might also have longer-term investments that may be somewhat or largely free of the effects of market volatility. For example, to supplement your retirement income, you might consider a fixed annuity, which can provide you with a guaranteed interest rate and, depending on how it's structured, an income stream you can't outlive.

Apart from the issue of when you might need money from your investment accounts, you might want to ask vourself another question: Just how much of my net worth is tied up in my portfolio? If you're like many people, you have other assets apart from your investments. If you're a homeowner, consider your house: Has it dropped in value at all during the recent market decline? Probably not. Do you still have just as much equity in it as you did a month ago? You might have even more. In other words, the value of your investments may have dropped a certain percentage, but the decline in your overall net worth may well be significantly smaller.

So, here's the bottom line: Large drops in the financial markets aren't much fun for investors - but that doesn't mean the bottom has dropped out on your financial future. Keeping things in perspective is a good move in all of life's endeavors - including

This article was written by Edward or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.

# Take Action against the Flu Virus

You can't look at the TV, radio or cell phone today without being bombarded with COVID-19 news, photos of bare store shelves, and extreme germ fretting! Add to that the highly contagious stomach flu virus going

around right now and it's no wonder many are in near panic mode right now!

But keeping yourself healthy comes down to common sense as has been repeated many times. Using caution and being diligent to avoid cold and flu germs is the golden rule. While this column addressed this subject earlier this year, read on for another round of tips to help you up your odds of staying healthy this season.

It's no secret the most common way to pick up and spread bacteria and other germs is by touching contaminated surfaces. Clean first, then disinfect.

For cleaning surfaces, use products that specify "disinfectant" on the label. For a homemade disinfectant, the CDC recommends mixing a quarter-cup of household chlorine bleach with one gallon of cool water. Be sure to rinse countertops and other surfaces after sanitizing.

While disinfecting wipes and sprays have been flying off the grocery store shelves, there's no need to worry if you can't get your hands on commercial products. Common products can do the job at a fraction of the cost:

Alcohol: Isopropyl (Rubbing) Undiluted alcohol (at least 70%) is effective against the COVID-19 virus. Alcohol has long been a frugal disinfectant used to kill common cold and flu germs. Simply wipe down surfaces with alcohol and it will immediately dry.

Hydrogen Peroxide (3%): Alcohol has



become scarce in some areas as people buy it up to make their own hand sanitizer, but again, don't fret yet as Hydrogen Peroxide can do the job. For ease in applying, pour undiluted H20 into a spray bottle and spritz it on household surfaces. Allow it to sit on the surface for several

minutes.

Note: Alcohol can discolor some plastics; H20 can discolor clothing and other soft surfaces.

Your cell phone is a magnet for germs. In fact, I just read your phone may have up to ten times more bacteria than a toilet seat! Here's how to sanitize it

Power off the phone. Using a disinfectant wipe (or alcohol damped cloth), gently wipe down the (non porous) surfaces of the phone, starting with the sides, then the back and front. Be careful not to allow any moisture to get into any opening. And most importantly, wash your hands immediately after washing the phone!

The World Heath Center offers these basic protective measures against the COVID-19:

Stay aware of the latest information on the COVID-19 outbreak, available on the WHO website and through your national and local public health authority. Most people who become infected experience mild illness and recover, but it can be more severe for others. Take care of your health and protect others by doing the following:

Wash your hands frequently: Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

and water or using alcohol-based hand

Why? Washing your hands with soap Turn To TRAINOR page A12

# How much will market volatility really affect you?

There's no way to sugarcoat it: If you're an investor, you haven't liked what you've seen in the financial markets recently. The effects of the coronavirus

FINANCIAL Focus BURDICK

triggered a market "correction" decline of 10 percent more more volatility is almost

certainly on the way. But instead of fretting over your investment statements, you could consider some more positive approaches to this situation.

For one thing, ask yourself this: When do you really need the money from your investment accounts, such as your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan? These are retirement accounts, so, depending on your age, you may not need to tap into them for 20, 30 or even 40 years. If so, your losses may be "paper" ones only for now and aren't subjecting you to imminent financial jeopardy. This isn't to minimize the effect this downturn will have on you, of course - it always takes time to recover lost ground, and there are no guarantees with investing. However, although past performance does not guarantee future results, it is useful to note that, over its long history, the U.S. stock market has typically trended in one direction – up – despite serious and sometimes lengthy declines such as we saw in the Great Depression and, to a lesser extent, the bursting of the "dot. com" bubble of the early 2000s and the financial crisis of 2008-09.

as you'd likely face taxes and penalties. Instead, you'll want your money invested in liquid, low-risk accounts that will be minimally affected, if at all, by declines in the financial markets. These vehicles might include Certificates of Deposit (CDs), money market accounts and even good old-fashioned U.S. Savings Bonds, all of which offer the protection of principal and can pay higher rates than traditional bank savings accounts. goals that can be addressed through

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



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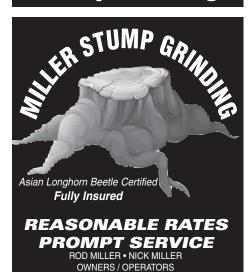
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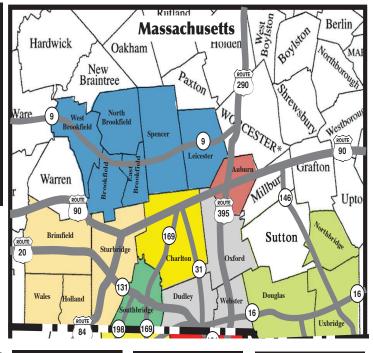


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# SPORTS

# New England Youth Tackle Football comes to Quaboag area

BY KEN POWERS SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WEST BROOKFIELD — The effects of the pandemic created by the outbreak of the coronavirus notwithstanding, spring football is headed to town.

New England Youth Tackle Football (NEYTF), a seven-team spring league that began playing games in 2018 in Lynn, has added an eighth team, the Quaboag Panthers, who will practice and play games at Callahan/Landers Field on Lakeview Avenue.

The program began practicing on Monday, March 9, but workouts were suspended after the second practice (Wednesday, March 11) due to health concerns related to the coronavirus. Practices are tentatively scheduled to resume on Monday, March 23 and a league-wide jamboree is scheduled for the end of March.

The NEYTF is open to boys and girls ages 6-14. There are four divisions of competition: six-, seven- and eight-year-olds play in the 8U division; nine- and 10-year-olds play in the 10U division; 11- and 12-year-olds play in the 12U division; and 13- and 14-year-olds play in the 14U division.

The general manager of the Quaboag Panthers, who will field teams in all four divisions, is Maurice Payne. Payne is a fixture in Quaboag Youth Football circles, having been affiliated with the program since 1996. Payne is also coach of the 14U team.

"I started the Quaboag Youth Football program back in 1996," said Payne, who grew up in Richmond, Va. "I used to coach in Belchertown when I heard that some kids from this area wanted to play football but couldn't because they didn't have any place to play. So, because kids from out this way wanted to play, I started a team in West Brookfield in 1996.



Image courtesy NEYTFootball.org

New England Youth Tackle Football is coming to West Brookfield this season.

"I raised the money to start the program myself," Payne continued. "An in-line skate company in West Brookfield donated in-line skates to the program and we sold them to raise money to start the team. I ended up raising \$80,000 in three months. Then I got skates donated to the Belchertown team I was a part of for six years and they raised \$65,000 for their team selling the in-line skates. I got Quabbin Youth football started the same way, too."

Payne said he found out about the NEYTF while surfing the internet one

"In December I was online and I came across the New England Youth Tackle Football league's website [www.neytfootball.org]. So, I reached out to the founder of the league, Joel Machado,

and he invited me up to Lynn to talk about the league. We talked and he ended up inviting me to join the league."

Payne said he has a 30-mile radius around West Brookfield to draw players from. And, even though this is just the first year Quaboag has participated in the program, Payne said the response to the new league has been great.

"Interest in the program just blew up," Payne said. "We have close to 100 kids in the program. They're coming from everywhere; Brookfield, North Brookfield, Warren, Spencer, Southbridge, Leicester, Sturbridge, Charlton, Barre, Springfield, Chicopee, Holyoke, Belchertown, Palmer, Monson and Worcester."

Quaboag Youth Football volunteer Maureen Roberts said included in the kids who have signed up are five girls who want to play the sport of tackle football.

There are seven teams currently in the NEYTF including three in Lynn—the Sin City Steelers, the Silverbacks and the Outlaws—as well as the Boston Titans, the Merrimack Valley Blue Devils, the Ocean State (R.I.) Ducks, and the Manchester (N.H.) Bird Gang.

Payne said there are still openings for kids interested in playing on the 8U and 12U teams. Roberts said the interest was so great for the 10U and 14U teams, that the league has created a waiting list for those divisions.

The cost to join the league is \$180, which includes a \$150 registration fee and \$30 for a game jersey that the kids get to keep.

"Parents interested in joining the NEYTF need to sign their son or daughter up through sportsid.org," Roberts said, "and there is a \$10 fee for that. Signing up includes downloading the player's birth certificate, a recent photo of the player and a report card."

#### SPORTS BRIEF

# Charlton Youth Basketball to sponsor college scholarship

Charlton Youth Basketball proudly sponsors a scholarship program for four Charlton high school seniors accepted for enrollment at a university or college for the 2020-2021 academic year. The applicant for this scholarship must be a Charlton graduating senior who has participated in Charlton Youth Basketball for a minimum of two years and completed the application and typed an essay (250-word minimum) describing how playing Charlton Youth Basketball has had a positive impact on my youth. The due date is May 1, and four \$500 scholarships will be presented by Charlton Youth Basketball upon review of all applications.

Along with the essay, please provide your name, address, telephone, email, number of years playing Charlton Youth Basketball, grades participated, additional involvement (coaching, refereeing, volunteering, etc.), names of coaches from your experience, high school, college/university attending, and a signature. Please mail to: Charlton Youth Basketball, PO Box 811, Charlton, MA 01507.

VIA 01507.

# Dudley Charlton Women's Basketball to hold pickup games

On Monday evenings at the Heritage School from 7-9 p.m., you will find women playing pickup basketball. We play every Monday from September to June based on the school schedule. There are no set teams or fees. Ages 18 and older are welcome. Come for some fun exercise. Contact Deb at (508) 248-3600 for more information.

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We will run select photos and submissions in your local sports pages!

# **OBITUARIES**

#### Francis G. "Frank" Jolin, 81



STURBRIDGE-Francis G. "Frank" Jolin, 81, of New Boston Rd., passed away on Sunday, March 8th, in his home after a long ill-

He leaves his son, Gerald Jolin of Sturbridge; his twin daughters, Dawn Jolin of Wales and Dorothy Sabolevski of Newfane, VT; two step daughters, Constance Lamoureux and Deborah Lamoureux; his four brothers, Paul Jolin of Charlton, Emile Jolin of Dudley, Marcel Jolin of Sturbridge and John Jolin of Sturbridge; his two sisters, Elaine Cardenas of Southbridge and Diane Gagnon of Brookfield; his two grandchildren, who he absolutely adored, Jesse Howard and his girlfriend Katie of Newfane, VT and Brittney Sabolevski of Newfane, VT; several step grandchildren and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his former wife Sylvia (Croke) Jolin in 1998. He was also predeceased by his three brothers, Eugene Jolin, Joseph Jolin and Philip Jolin and his sister, Betty Gaumond. Frank was born in Southbridge the son of Paul C. and Elizabeth B. (Favreau) Jolin. He served in the US Navy from

1955-1959, serving in the gunnery department of the USS Greenwich Bay.

Frank worked on drove heavy and equipment for numerous companies through the years. He at one time owned and operated Frank Jolin Trucking. He was a jack of all trades and there was nothing he

couldn't do. Frank loved working on and restoring his Farmall Tractors.

To his children and grandchildren he was the most adoring, hardworking father and grandfather anyone could

His family would like to thank the Overlook Hospice, the first responders from Sturbridge and Charlton, the office of Dr. Jeffrey Jones especially his Nurse Practitioner Kathy, and his nephew Tom Bonin, for all of the care and help during his illness.

His funeral was held on Monday, March 16th, at 11:00am in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial will follow in St. George Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Sunday, March 15th, from 4:00

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Overlook Hospice, 88 Masonic Home Rd., Charlton, MA 01507. www.morrillfuneralhome.com

#### Lazaraq L. Petro, 86



**TRIPS** 

continued from page A7

\$30 - 8 - AM bus.

Foxwoods at 2 PM.

buffet meal voucher.

buffet meal voucher.

SOUTHBRIDGE-Lazaraq L. Petro, 86, of High St., passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, March 15th, surrounded by his loved ones after a brief illness

His beloved wife of 60 years, H. Patricia "Patty" Petro died in 2018. He leaves a daughter, Christine Cloutier of Sturbridge; his three sons, Ronald Petro and his wife Stacy of Woodstock, CT, Joseph Petro of Southbridge and Gregory Petro of Charlton; his sister, Sandra Petro of Southbridge; his five grandchildren, Vanessa Cloutier, Mitchem, Tyler Petro, Alexa Walsh and Nikita Johnson; 9 great grandchildren, Avery Mitchem, Angelina Petro, Madeleine Gaumond, Jocelyn Gaumond, Jaden Mitchem, Emerson Walsh, Mia Johnson, Kaylee Walsh, Paisley Johnson and another

great grandchild due soon. He also

You will have a deluxe motor coach

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a

May 19, 2020 - Tuesday - Foxwoods

This one is for the bingo players and

all others that want to go. You will have

a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino.

You will have 5 hours at the casino to

gamble and shop. The bus will leave

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a

September 15, 2020 – Tuesday –

You will have a deluxe motor coach

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a

ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours

at the casino to gamble and shop. The

bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 PM.

Mohegan Sun \$30 - 10 - AM bus.

ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours

at the casino to gamble and shop. The

bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 PM.

buffet meal voucher. Filling up fast

leaves many cousins, nieces and nephews. Laz was predeceased by his brother, Andrew J. Petro.

Laz was born in Southbridge the son of Joseph Sifi and Marika (Elia) Petro. He graduated from Cole Trade High School in Southbridge. He served honorably in the US Airforce during the Korean War. Laz then started a family and worked at the American Optical Company and Schott Fiber Optics from where he retired from.

The family would like to thank the caring professionals from the Overlook Home Care Hospice for the compassion and support they gave us during our time of need.

Funeral Services for Laz were held on Wednesday, March 18th, at 10:00 am in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St. Southbridge. Burial followed in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Calling hours in the Southbridge. funeral home were held on Tuesday, March 17th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association.

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon senior center Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 AM or call 774 922 4049, or e-mail me jimtrips@yahoo.com

#### STURBRIDGE RECREATION

NYC Spring Bus Trip Saturday, April 25

Shopping & Sight Seeing Cost: \$50 Per Person, \*Driver Gratuity

Included Depart: 7:00 AM from Burgess Elementary School parking lot on your Lizak charter. A rest stop to be made

along the way. Arrive: Approx 10:30 AM for a day to do as you please in the wonderful Big Apple! Ice skating, shows, shopping, light displays, and more! Drop off will be as close to Rockefeller Center as

possible. Depart NYC: At 6:30 PM return to your Lizak Charter and enjoy a peaceful ride home. Arrive to Sturbridge by 10:00 PM.

UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE **CHAPTER 12** 

Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Chapter #12, Southbridge, is sponsoring a variety of excursions for all to enjoy in 2019. We are a non-profit family oriented Franco-American fraternal society since 1900. As always, you do not have to be a member to participate in any of the scheduled events. All are welcome. Gift certificates purchased in any amount can be used by the recipient to any event at face value. For information

#### Elizabeth A. "Betty" Knowles, 75



SOUTHBRIDGE-Elizabeth A. "Betty" Pkwy, Westwood passed away Thursday, March 12th, in her home after a long illness.

leaves her

husband of 56 years, James M. Knowles, Jr.; her three daughters, Denise A. Southall and her fiancé Henry Kramer of Sturbridge, Lisa M. Ide and her husband Brian of Charlton

She

and Laurie A. Alicea and her husband Edward of Southbridge; her five grandchildren, Deric Gendron, Justin Gendron, Joshua James Johnson, Brendon Alicea and Lauryn Alicea; and five great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her brother, Gordon A. Hackett. Betty was born in Southbridge the daughter of Howard and Mary E. (Curboy) Hackett.

Betty worked as a bookkeeper for Bousquet Auto Parts in Southbridge, Southbridge Radiator and Southbridge Sheet Metal before retiring several years ago. Betty loved Vermont and its mountains, the sunrise and sunsets in Maine and being by the lake. She loved to cook and enjoyed working around her home. Betty had a huge heart and was always there to help anyone in

Her funeral was held on Tuesday, March 17th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass a 10:00am in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 263 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial was in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Monday, March 16th, from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

#### Shirley J. Paulhus, 88



CHARLTON-Shirley J. (Julian) Paulhus, 88, of Masonic Home Road, passed away Monday, March 9th, in the Overlook Masonic Center, Health Charlton, after an illness

She leaves her beloved husband of 43 years, Robert H. Paulhus; her son, Bernard E. Tetreault and his wife Sandy of Sturbridge; a step son, Donald R. Paulhus and his wife Cindy of Brimfield; her daughter, Becky-Lynn Soules and her husband Michael of Dalton; her sister, Lucille Caron of CT; seven grandchildren, Scott, Sherry, Joel, Michell, Kristen, Rachel, and Liam; eight great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Shirley was predeceased by two brothers, Lenwood Julian and Ralph Julian; four sisters, Pauline Courtemanche, Virginia Fortier, Dolores Anger and Georgette Benoit. She was born in Sturbridge the daughter of Leodore and Edith (Clark) Julian.

Shirley worked for 28 years as a lens inspector for the American Optical Company in Southbridge before retiring in 1992. She was a member of the Quarter Century Club at the American Optical Company. Shirley enjoyed trips to Florida, Hampton Beach and Cape Cod. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother and truly loved her family.

Her funeral Mass was held Thursday, March 12th, at 10:00 am in St. Anne's Church, 16 Church St., Sturbridge. Calling hours were held on Wednesday, March 11th, in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery will be held at a later date.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,



Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to Obits@stonebridgepress.news

or reservations contact Ted at (508) 764-

#### **UXBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER**

All trips leave from the Whitinsville Walmart and the Stop & Shop at 32 Lyman St, Westboro. Make sure to include entree choice, phone # (esp. cell) and an emergency # when sending payment. "Like" us on FacebookThe Silver Club and The Uxbridge Senior Center. Please call Sue at (508) 476-5820 for more information.

The Silver Club BUS TRIPS for 2020 Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information.

The Uxbridge Senior Center is offering the following bus trips for 2020.

April 16, 2020 - Magic Wings Butterfly Gardens and Yankee Candle with lunch at the Golden Corral w/Fox Tours - \$71. April 27-29 Penn Dutch w/the new show Queen Esther at Sight and Sound -- (trip is full, sign up for the waiting list)-\$459. May 4 -- Granite State Chocolate and Wine Tour with lunch at Warren's

Lobster House -Fox Tours - \$91. May 9 - Albany Tulip w / C o n w a y Tours June 1 - Plymouth cruise on Pilgrim Belle with sightseeing tour and lunch at Hearth and Kettle Fox Tours - \$91 June 26 - July 3 --Atlantic Canada w/Conway Tours International Tattoo, ferry crossing, Hopewell Rocks, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, St. John, New Brunswick - 3 seats left - \$1899. 30 - 31 - Saratoga Racetrack w/Conway Tours - enjoy a race at Saratoga, a tour of the town, a tour of Haven Oaks Horse Farm, and drive up Prospect Mountain - \$329. Sept. 16 -18 - The Hamptons w/ Conway. Three day trip w/4 meals, guided tour of the "Rich and Famous," winery, ferry crossing, Old Westbury Estate & Gardens, Montauk Point Lighthouse, Sag harbor, etc. - \$579. Green Mt. Railroad Oct. 6 -w/Fox Tours Nov. 19 Newport Playhouse Tours w/Fox \$101. Dec. 7 & 8 -- Equinox Resort and Hildene, VT w/Conway Tours. Two day trip with elegant dinner & piano entertainment, breakfast, tour of Hildene, chocolate tasting, etc. \$379.

Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information or to be put on the emailing list.



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the deadline is Friday noon for the following week.

#### (Memoriams will run on the Obituary pages)

Ad prices are \$15 for a 2x3 (actual size 2.4" x 3") or \$25 for a 3x4 (3.7" X 4") or 4x3 (5" x 3"). You can add a photo at no additional cost.

To send by mail, please mail or drop off to June Simakauskas, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

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For more information, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news and she'll be happy to help!





October 13th - 20th 2020 - ALL INCLUSIVE ARUBA Happily Full - I am taking names for standby on this trip. This is an all-inclusive trip – all flights, transfers, meals plus snacks, nightly entertainment, and alcohol included.

November 12, 2020 - Thursday -

Foxwoods \$30 - 10 - AM bus. You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Foxwoods at 4 PM.

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a buffet meal voucher.

PAYMENTS DUE AT SIGN UP

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

#### **TRAINOR**

continued from page A8

rub kills viruses that may be on your

Maintain social distancing: Maintain at least 1 meter (3 feet) distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.

Why? When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing has the disease.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth Why? Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and can make you sick.

Practice respiratory hygiene: Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately.

Why? Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early: Stay

home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of your local health authority.

Here are a few tips to battle the common cold and flu this season:

The health virtues of garlic have been touted for generations. The book, "The Healing Power of Garlic," suggests garlic nose drops can kill the viruses that cause cold or flu. The book's instructions on concocting the drops: Crush some garlic to obtain juice, and add ten parts water and mix well. Apply as you would regular nose drops.

According to a home remedy, if you place a clove of garlic on each side of the mouth between the teeth and cheek, a cold will disappear within a day. It's worth a try!

Some Native American tribes treated a low grade fever with sage, as in this old time recipe. As a bonus, the dried peppermint supplies the tea with a soothing, cooling effect. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over two teaspoons dried, edible sage and one teaspoon dried peppermint. Steep. Strain, and sweeten with honey if desired. Slowly sip up to three cups a day.

One of peppermint's claims to fame is that it can alleviate the chills and aid with symptoms of fever and the flu. Try drinking a cup or two of strong peppermint tea made from fresh leaves to relieve cold and flu complaints. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over four to six peppermint leaves. Allow to steep for 15 minutes, strain and serve.

Flu season typically lasts from October to March. Here's something to keep in mind for the future: According to several Japanese studies, gargling with black tea twice a day from October to March, significantly improved participants abilities to fend off the flu bug.

Cold and Flu Facts

\*The word "influenza" comes from the Italian influentia because people used to believe that the influence of the planets, stars, and moon caused the flu.

.\*On average children get about six to ten colds per year.

\* Viruses are between 20 and 100 times smaller than bacteria and can be seen only through a microscope

\*During the flu season, 59% of surfaces in home can be contaminated with the flu virus.

\*Children are two to three times more likely than adults to get sick with the common flu, and children frequently spread the virus to others.

\*Flying when you have cold and flu congestion can temporarily damage your eardrums due to pressure changes. If you must fly, use a nasal spray prior to takeoff and landing. Also chew gum, and use a decongestant for symp-

\*There are over 200 viruses that cause the common cold

\*Colds are not caused by temperature or temperature changes. Despite what mother said, you can't catch a cold by going out barefoot or without a hat.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

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# When it can be smart to hire a painting pro

Few things can revitalize a home more readily than a fresh coat of paint.

Thanks in part to the affordability of paint and its ease of application, painting is something that even novice DIYers can typically handle. According to the marketing advice guru Brandon Gaille, it is estimated that residential interior paint only lasts around three years before it needs to be updated. Exterior paint can fade, chip and peel due to various environmental factors. As a result, many homes can likely use a fresh coat of paint in at least one room.

As DIY-friendly as painting can be, when attempting to paint the interior or exterior of their homes, homeowners may learn that some painting projects are best left to the professionals. Painting requires skill, patience and a knowledge of how various paints — including finishes for particular applications — will hold up. Novice painters may do more



harm than good by dripping paint on expensive carpeting or floors or fail to recognize the nuances that indicate a spot-on painting job.

Professional painters

have spent hours upon hours learning the ropes of what works — and what does not. Painters often understand that painstaking preparatory work is crucial to getting

pristine finished results. Walls and ceilings must be properly repaired and prepared even before a base coat is applied.

Professional painters also have an eye for

details. And because professional painters make a business out of doing interior and exterior surfaces, they understand which techniques can improve efficiency. That means a professional job can typically be completed much more quickly than a DIY project.

Even though some people think they'll save money by painting their own homes, that's not necessarily true. Professionals already have all the equipment necessary, unlike novices who may need to make repeated and potentially costly trips to the hardware store for supplies. Plus, if mistakes happen, DIYers have to spend additional time money fixing them.

Safety can be a large motivator for turning painting over to a pro. Navigating exterior areas or tall interior ceilings can be challenging and may require scaffolding or tall ladders DIYers do not have. Risk of falls or other injuries increase with lack of experience.

Painting can give a home a facelift, and oftentimes it is smart to turn the work over to professionals to ensure the job is done just right.



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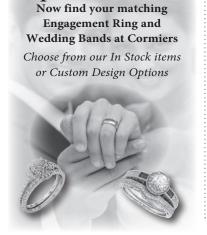
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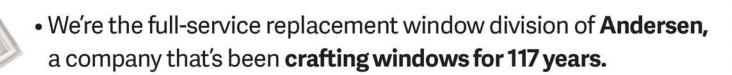
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**DUDLEY** – 132 Southbridge Rd! 5 Rm Bungalow! 2.21Acres! Enjoy Nature and Kayak right from your Backyard! Eat-in Kit w/Pantry! Frplcd Liv Rm w/Hrdwds & Bay Window! Din Rm or Fam Rm w/Hrdwds & Ceiling Fan! Full Tile Bath w/ Tub/Shower Combo! Master Bdrm w/Wall to Wall Carpet! Second Bdrm w/ Wall to Wall & Ceiling Fan! Walk-up Attic wPotential for Additional Living Space! 3 Season Porch w/Natural Woodwork! Recent Roof! Recent Oil Steam Heat! New Septic & being Well Installed! Plenty of Parking! \$179,900.00





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Back! Lake Level Deck, Dock & Rear Shed! Benefitted by Town Sewer! Start Packing! \$499,900.00





WEBSTER - 27 N. Main St! 3 Family! 5/5/3 Rms! 3/3/1 Bedrooms! 1st Flr w/ Eat-in! Liv Rm! 3 Bdrms! Updated Bathrm! 2nd Flr w/Kit w/Din Area! Liv Rm! 3 Bdrms Updated Bath! 3rd Flr w/Eat-in Kit! Liv Rm Bdrm! Full Bath! Long Term Tenants! Sep Utilities! Vinyl Sided! Laundry Hook Ups



AURIUM - 16 Lorna Dr. 7 Rm Split Entry Ready for the Next Owner! Located AUBURN — 16 Lorna Drl ' Rm Spilt Entry Ready for the Next Owner! Located on a Cul-de-sace! Many Recent Updates! Windows 2006! Roof 2010! Siding 2016! Water Heater, Garage Door & Opener 2017! Driveway & Deck 2018! Applianced Oak Cabinet Kit wTile Floor! Dining Rm! Spacious Liv Rm! Master Bdrm w' Hrdwds! 3 Comfortable Bdrms Total! Full Bath! Finished Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm wCustom Bar, Recessed Lighting & 2nd Bath! Screened-in Porch to a Private Yard wNew Pressure Treated Deck is Ready for Entertaining! Nicely Landscaped! 1 Car Garage! Shed! Ideal Commuter Location! \$325,000.00

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DUDLEY - 9 Nellies Way! TOBIN FARM ESTATES! 10 Rm Colonial Set on 1.2 Acres! Applianced Dine-in Granite Kit! 3 Season Sun Rm off Kit! Din Rm, 2 Story Fam Rm w/Pellet Stove, Bdrm, Full Bath w/Laundry & Gleaming Hrdwds Round Out 1st Flr! 2nd Flr Features an Open Balcony to the Liv Rm! Plenty of Space for an Office, Playroom or Reading Area, Use Your Imagination! Master w/Tray Ceiling & 3 Closets! Master Bath w/Dual Sinks, Shower, Whirlpool Tub & Makeup Counter! 2 Additional Bdrms & Full Bath! Huge Finished Walk-out Lower Level Perfect for Entertaining! Wet Bar w/Wine Cooler &





**WEBSTER LAKE** – 9 Pebble Beach Rd! Middle Pond – Winter Cove! Private Peninsula Protected from the Storm – Safe Harbor! Custom 3,179 '8 Rm Contemp Ready for Your Immediate Enjoyment! Grand Entry Foyer! Ideal Open Flr Plan w/Sky Lighted Cathedral Ceilings, Tall Windows & Hrdwd Flrs! Beautiful Applianced Custom Granite Kit w Center Isl! Formal Din, Fireplace Liv Rm w/Water/Estuary Views! 1st Flr Laundry! Second Floor Master Suite, Ideal Full Bath, Huge Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full & 2 Half Baths! Walk-out Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm! Buderus Oil Heat! C/Air! Oversized 2 Car Garage!







Side! All with 5 Rooms and 2 Bedrooms! Gas Heat! All Separate Utilities 2 Car Detached Garage! The 4 Family with Beautiful Natural Woodwork! All Apartments are Empty and Work is Needed in Several Apartments! Excellent





WEBSTER - 60 East Main St! Established Local Bakery & Delicatesser Specializing in Polish Foods being Sold with Building! Turn Key Business! Equipment to be Included with Sale! High Traffic Count! Ample Parking! Easy Access to Rear for Deliveries! Building also consists of a One and Two Bedroom Apartment! The Owner presently uses two rooms for his office and storage which could easily be added to the One bedroom Apartment! Building was Totally Renovated in 2010! **\$599,900.00** 





Featuring Newly Remodeled Stainless Steel Applianced Granite Eat-in Kitchen w Custom Cabinetry & Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring! Formal Dining w/Hardwoods! Spacious Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 2 1st Floor Bedrooms w/Hardwoods! Newly Remodeled Full Tile Bath! 2nd Floor w/2 Bedrooms w/Hardwoods Plenty of Closet & Storage Space! Updated Second Full Bath! Recently Oil Heat, Cast Iron Baseboard! Detached Garage! Corner Lot! \$279,900.00













WEBSTER LAKE - 50 West Point Rd! Killdeer Island! 4.700' Entertainers Dream! Magnificent Sunsets! Built 2016, Has It All! 2 Story Foyer! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, Dble Oven, High End Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! Din Rm w/ Wet Bar, Sliders to 14x30' Deck! Bright & Airy Liv Rm w/Lake Views, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc! 1/2 Bath + Tray Ceiling, Walk-in Closet + Private Balcony! Master Bath, Soaker Tub & Large Tile Shower! Walk-up Attic w/Expansion Possibilities! Lower Level w/Full Kit. 1/2 Bath, Lake Facing Fam Rm, Media/Exercise Rm + Lake Facing Bdrm w/Frolc & Private Bath! Slider to Patio! 13 Zones! Oversized 2 Car Garage! Loaded w/Quality & Detail! \$1,175,100.00







WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond - South Facing - Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home this 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You! You'll Appreciate its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Island, Dining Area, Lake Facing Fireplaced Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/ Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flat

tio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! \$624,900.00



**WEBSTER LAKE** — 68 W Point Rd! Western Exposure - Spectacular Sunsets! 75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views! 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Home! Renovate or Enjoy As 18! Open Fir Planl Applianced Cabinet Packed Kit! Lake Facing Din & Liv Rms w/Water Views! Sliders to Screen Enclosed Porch! Master w/Ceiling Fan w/Dble Closet! Full Bath off Hall! Fin ac Dipic Closest: Zino Burili Widole Closest: Pini Batti on Hall: Finished Walf-Sill Lower Level W25' Fam Rm w/Door to Lakeside Patio, Bdrm, Full Bath & Utility Storage Rm! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths Total! Oil Heat! Covered Entry Ramp & Electric Chair Lift! Shed! Dock! Summer Will Be Back - Don't Delay! \$499,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 506 Beacon Park! WATERFRONT Townhouse, Ideal End Corner Unit w/Panoramic Lake Views! Overlooks Lakeside Pool & Sandy Beach! From the Private Entry this Unit is Like No Other! Being Sold Fully Furnished & Appointed! 1st Flr w/Beautiful Maple Hrdwds! SS Applianced Silestone Kitl Recessed Lighting! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Tile Baths! Recent A/C & Heat! Garage! \$369,900.00

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**WEBSTER - 28 BLACK POINT RD** 2019 CUSTOM BUILT WEBSTER LAKE (WATERFRONT ACCES-SIBLE) CONTEMPORARY CAPE! Sunrise (E) & Sunset (W) Exposure! 2,600+- SF, 11 Rms, 3 BRS, Loft, & 2 Full Baths. Open Fir Plan, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone-faced Fireplace, Upscale Gourmet Kitchen w/Huge Island, Sunny Breakfast Nook w/Built Ins, Formal Dining, Office, Laundry Rm, Mudroom & Coat Closet, 2 Main Level BRs & Full Bath. 2nd Flr Private Master BR Suite w/Private Bath & Walk-in Closet! Central Air! Cavernous 1,500 SF+ Unfinished LL plumbed for a Bath, Oversized 2-3 Car Att'd Garage! Corner Lot, 12,599 SF (.29 Acre), of Land plus BOAT DOCK.

June Cazeault \* Laurie Sullivan \* Diane Strzelecki \* Matthew Ross \* Lori Johnson-Chausse \* William Gilmore II \* Brian Bohenko



4 BEDROOM COLONIAL! 2600 SQ FT, 2 FULL BATHS 2 FIREPLACES, 2 CAR GARAGE, ABOVE GROUND POOL, 1ST FLOOR BEDROOM, UPDATES INCLUDE - RECENT WINDOWS, ROOF, UPSTAIRS BATH, FHW GAS HEATING

# SORRY, SOLD!

**OXFORD - 47 HARWOOD ST** 

VERY Affordable 3 Bedroom RANCH Located on 8+ Acres Abutting the French River!! Great Spot for the Nature Enthusiast 3 bedroom, 1 bath, Fireplace, \$209,900.

### WEBSTER - 8 MAPLE ST 000

**ON DEPOSIT** 

2 Family - **1st Floor** 6 Rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 Full Bath, open Kitchen. Fully Applianced. New Carpeting, Hardwood Floors. **2nd Floor** - Open Kitchen with Gorgeous Kitchen Cabinets - 6 Rooms, 3 Bed, 1 Full Bath Hardwood Floors, New carpeting. Each Apartment has 1,200+ sq ft plus. Oil Heat. Off street parking. Town Water & Sewer, 3rd Story Unfinished. \$237,500

WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD @ III ) 

SORRY, SOLD! Estate like long paved driveway! 3158 Sq Ft Colonial! Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout! Granite and s/s applianced kitchen! Large master bedroom, coffered ceiling, master bath, W/Jetted tub! Walk in closests. Two car garage. Radiused catwalk on upper level! A walk up attic. Walk out lower level! The third garage is accessed from the lower level. Generator hookup. One beautiful property!

## **CHARLTON - 51 GALE RD** SORRY, SOLD!

Nice Country cape - with hugh attached 2 car garage! 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 Fireplaces, 3 seson sunroom with ateched deck Living room w/fireplace! 1st fir omce. Recent water filtration system, fumace, heater, and oil unk. Passed

Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq, Ft. Possible potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer, City Gas! Nice level lot. **Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-**2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest Webster - 3 Lots Cooper Rd. Attention Developers! 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots! water/sewer access Webster - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake. 1+ acre, artesian

Oxford - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage

well, Septic Design, Etc.

Highly possible to be subdivided.

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS There is No Place Like Home! ~ beautiful newly constructed home!

\$130,000.



**DOUGLAS - 14 MOUNT DANIELS WAY** 

NEW to Market! 4 beds, 2-1/2 baths, sunroom, Ig deck, central air, located on small cul-de-sac of 6 homes! Over 2 acres of privacy! \$409,000.



THOMPSON, CT - 6 LILLIAN AVE, LOT #1



cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, tile floored baths, & master full bath w/extra wide shower & walk in closet, plus 2 more spacious BRs & a full hallway bath. 24' lower Level family room, half bath w/laundry hookups! Two car garage! Central AC.

**WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD** 



Available 10,000 + sq. ft. of Land. Zoned Lake

Residential. Potential to divide into 2 Build-

able Lots. Town Water & Sewer Available.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

# SORRY, SOLD!

**WEBSTER LAKE - 118 POINT BREEZE RD** 

Excellent Opportunity to Finally Own Your Own Webster Lake Waterfront Property! Prime Location, 5,697+/- SF Lot, 50' Rd & Water Frontage at a Great Price! Contemporary Ranch offers 996+/- SF of living area w/2 BRs & 2 full baths. Plus, convenient, indoor access to Walkout Lower Level w/tremendous potential for additional living area. Main level features Open Floor Plan w/sliders to full front deck! Spectacular Westerly views across Middle Pond! Additional land & **NEW PRICE \$299,900** shore frontage available.



WEBSTER LAKE - 32 JACKSON RD

AN INTRIGUING OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN EXTREMELY UNIQUE 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened-in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds! New Price \$375.000

# 

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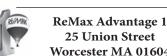


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windows

12 Mill Rd - \$304,900



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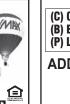
**Dudley:** New on the market – country setting! Convenient location! Fireplace, 2 full

baths, Hardwood floors throughout, 20'

living room, 23' family room, Formal din-

ing room, Eligible for VA, FHA, and USDA

Financing, Recent roof and replacement



# (T) Townhouse

(C) Condo (B) Business (P) Land

(X) Condex (U) Duplex (L) Mobile Home (M) Multi-Family (S) Single Family (A) Apartment

(D) Adult Community (W) Waterfront

**ADDRESS** 

STYLE TIME PRICE REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 21

**DOUGLAS** 

14 Mount Daniels Way S

Noon-2 \$409,00

Hope Real Estate Group

June Cazeault 860-377-2044

**DUDLEY** 

55+ Community

L/D 10-11:30

W

Re/Max Advantage Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 22

**DUDLEY** 

12 Mill Rd

Noon-2 \$304,900

11-2

Re/Max Advantage

WEBSTER

Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044

28 Black Point Rd

\$699,900

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To have your open house listed in this directory. Please contact Patricia Owens 508-909-4135



Dudley: 4.1 Acres, 2 bedrooms cottage with recent roof, windows and hardwood floors, foundation for garage or buildings strong possibility for additional lots.

71 Mason Rd. - \$319,900

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# Improve soil quality for a better lawn

mulates between the

grass blades and the soil.

Too much thatch can

hinder the movement of

water, air and nutrients

into the soil. According to

organic fertilizer compa-

ny Organo-Lawn, thatch

often occurs if the pro-

duction of dead organ-

ic material in the lawn

exceeds the ability of the

microorganisms in the

soil to break down that

organic matter. A half-

inch of thatch is normal.

If thatch gets too thick, it

will need to be removed.

The home improvement resource DIY Network

says dethatching can

take place in the summer,

fall and winter using a

A lawn aerator will cre-

ate holes in the soil. This

can improve drainage

thatching rake.



A lush, green lawn can vastly improve a home's curb appeal. Thick, healthy grass indicates that homeowners care enough about their properties to invest the time, effort and money to make them beautiful.

According to the landscaping tool company Troy-Bilt, soil fertility is the foundation of healthy lawns. In fact, the quality of the soil is essential whether one is growing acres of grass, potted plants or vegetable garden beds. No matter which type of soil a homeowner is working with, there are various ways to make it better.

Remove thatch

Thatch is a tightly knotted layer of leaves, grass roots, stems, and other debris that accuand encourage worms and helpful microorganisms that require oxygen to thrive in the soil. The Briggs & Stratton Company says the best time to aerate a lawn is during the growing season when the grass can heal and fill in any holes, such as spring and fall. Aeration can help develop deeper grass roots for a healthier lawn. Test and amend soil

A great lawn has loamy soil, which has a key ratio of clay, silt and sand. Silt is a granular material of a size between sand and clay that originates from quartz and feldspar. It is the most fertile of the three types of soil components. Sand does not retain water, but it helps to create spaces in the soil that permit air to circulate. Clay particles are small and bind together tightly, but clay is naturally nutrient-rich. The home improvement site BobVila.com says loamy soil should have equal parts sand and silt and half as much clay.

If the lawn is not yet established, loamy soil can be created and then the grass seeds planted. For established soil, after removing thatch and aerating, top-dressing the lawn can help. This involves adding a thin layer of soil over the lawn. It can improve the soil without killing the existing turf. Ideally, it should be done in early fall or spring, as this gives the grass time to grow through three to four more mowings before severe heat or cold sets in.

Healthy soil is vital to a lush lawn. It takes a little work, but improving soil can create vibrant, healthy, green grass.

# House powerwashing tips

Powerwashing, known as pressure-washing, utilizes a high-velocity water spray to remove dirt and residue from the exterior surfaces of a home. It is frequently used on vinyl siding, concrete and sometimes wood decks to treat mildew and other growth that accumulates over time.

Powerwashing can be a great way to remove grime without having to scrub by hand. But it requires a delicate touch to get it right. Sometimes it is best to leave the job to professionals. But homeowners willing to give it a go can try powerwashing themselves, as various stores rent power washers.

Thehomeimprovement website ImproveNet says that, until very recently, pressure washers were almost exclusively commercial machines sold to professionals or rented to do-it-yourselfers. Lately manufacturers have targeted homeowners looking to buy with lightweight options. For those who see powerwashing as a routine venture, purchasing a unit may be worth the investment.

It is important to exercise caution when operating a powerwashing machine. The high-velocity spray can tear through skin. It is key to get a feel for the washer, and try less pressure first to get a handle on the magnitude of the tool.

Don safety gear prior to using a pressure washer. Gloves, eye protection and ear protection can be handy. Most units will connect to a standard garden hose. Choose old clothing and expect to get wet. Never point a powerwasher hose at anyone and do not attempt to rinse feet or hands in the spray.

The renovation



Powerwashing the exterior of the home can be an effective way to clean it in the spring and fall.

resource The Family Handyman suggests starting with a wide-degree nozzle to test out the spray on the surface that needs to be cleaned. A 15- or 25-degree nozzle is usually the wand for general cleaning and paint stripping without damaging the surface of the home. Experiment with an optimal distance of the washer wand to get the desired cleaning effects without causing any damage. Work using a horizontal and slightly downward angle to avoid driving water up under

the siding of a home. Avoid spraying any electric wires or components on the home. Also, try not to spray upward, and angle the spray away

from doors, windows and vents.

Some washers have reservoirs that will hold a detergent solution. Choose the right detergent for the job. Keep in mind that cleansers containing bleach can damage surrounding plants, so they may need to be covered while the washing takes place.

Avoid the use of ladders when operating a powerwasher. The pushback from the wand can cause falls. Instead, opt for an extension wand to address the upper reaches of a home.

Powerwashing a home is an effective way to remove stubborn grime and refresh the look of a home's exterior.

# How to protect wood floors from inclement weather



Wood floors are a worthwhile investment that can improve the beauty and function of just about any room in a home. Even though wood floors are durable, and new protective treatments help seal out many of the things that may have damaged floors in the past, homeowners still need to prioritize protecting their hardwood floors.

Certain seasons of the year can be more harsh on wood floors than others. For example, seasons characterized by

moisture and precipitation, particularly the early spring, winter and fall, can be hard on wood floors. The experts at ServiceMaster Clean say that cold, snowy days can damage wood floors, and Lumber Liquidators agrees that winter weather can be harsh on floor-

Homeowners need not give up on hardwood if they live in an area that sees all four seasons. They just need to take a few steps to keep floors looking

· Clean up the salt. Salt that keeps sidewalks and streets clear of snow and ice inadvertently gets tracked inside a home. Hard chunks of salt can scratch wood floors, and, if left to sit, that salt can eventually cause white marks and other stains. Routinely vacuuming and sweeping up salt is necessary to protect wood floors.

• Invest in shoe storage. Wet or snowy boots can create puddles around the house. Have a special mat or tray by the front door where wet shoes can be kept. A nice bench in the entryway makes it easy for residents and guests to remove their shoes until it's time to go back outside.

water-wicking Homeowners will probably need a few extra mats around to tame errant drips and wipe shoes. Any entrance that might be used by people or pets should be protected. Try to avoid petroleum-based, rubber-backed mats, as they could discolor the wood floor.

Control humidity indoors. Cold, dry air in a home can be problematic because the moisture in the wood can eventually evaporate into the air. The heat will suck that moisture from the flooring, causing it to shrink, creak and splinter and become more brittle. Think about investing in an in-line humidifier for the home's HVAC system that can keep a moderate amount of humidity in the home. Hardwood floorboards are installed to accommodate minor temperature and humidity fluctuations. This is typically a range of between 60 and 80 degrees F with a relative humidity range of 35 to 55 percent, advises ServiceMaster.

· Use the right cleaning products. Avoid excessive water to clean wood floors, and select soaps that are specially designed for wood flooring. Consult with the flooring manufacturer for a list of detergents that are safe to use.

With proper care, hardwood flooring can survive rain, snow and cold weath-



**Publish Date:** May 8, 2020 Deadline date: Friday, May 1 @ 5 pm

We would like to honor all Mothers and Grandmothers in the May 8th issue. The deadline for honors is Friday, May 4 at 5 pm.

Cost is just \$20 per 2.4"x 2" B&W block. In the Spencer New Leader, Auburn News or Sturbridge/Charlton Villager

**SAMPLE: EXACT SIZE** 



Mom, Of all the moms in all the world, nothing brings me more happiness than to know you're ours.

With love from John, Mary, and Jennifer

Please email a photo and a special message or an In Loving Remembrance message if deceased to jsima@stonebridgepress.news; OR mail or drop off to June Simakauskas Stonebridge Press 25 Elm Street, P.O. Box 90 Southbridge, MA 01550.

All photos will be returned. Please write your name and address on the back of your photo.

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Please send to Lynn.Dyer@townofcharlton.net. Position will remain open until filled.

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# The Special Moments



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# VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS OMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT "Shining a light on community events"

#### March 20, Fri., Noon-7pm

Club 2087 will hold a Lenten Fish Fry, in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1017 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale. The menu: fish & chips (\$11); baked haddock (\$12); fried bay scallops or shrimp (\$13); fried clams (\$16); seafood platter (\$18). 860-923-2967, council2087@gmail.com.

#### March 20, Fri., 5-7pm

Please join us at the Lenten Fish Fry sponsored by Scout Troop 44 at the Trinity Church located at 7 Providence Pike, Brooklyn, CT. This fundraiser will held every Friday during Lent. The meal consists of fish, fries and coleslaw. The meal is take-out only and cost \$12. Please feel free to donate a canned good for the can drive to benefit our local food pantry. All proceeds benefit the Boy Scout troop outdoor activities and their chartered organization, Trinity church.

#### March 20, Fri., 10-3pm

Job Fair Hosted by Masis Staffing. Stop by the TEEG office (15 Thatcher Rd. No. Grosvenordale, CT) between 10:00-3:00 to speak with staff members from Masis staffing to see what job opportunities are available in the area. Free event with no registration required.

#### March 21, Sat., 7-8:30am

The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund (SSMF) assistance is available this Saturday and every Saturday morning, at the Pomfret Senior Center, 207 Mashamouquet Road (Rt.44) in Pomfret. Always free and confidential; call 860-928-2309 for questions. (The SSMF is administered by the American Legion to provide temporary financial assistance to qualified veterans.

#### March 21, Sat., 7pm

Mass Production Reunion Concert at Killingly High School. Local singers and musicians will perform a variety of new songs as well as favorite oldies in order to raise money for the Phil Janetatos music scholarship. Tickets are: adults \$15.00, Seniors \$13.00, children \$10.00.

#### March 22, Sun., 9am-3:30pm

The Art of Transition Retreat/Workshop @Block134, Putnam, CT. The new Connecticut business. Are you retiring, re-wiring, changing careers, changing relationships, planning to start a business? Savor Life Coaching is hosting a Retreat/Workshop most appropriate for, but not limited to, people in pre- and post-retirement, business launch or considering career change transitions. Join the Workshop led by James A. Weiss, Registered Life Planner with the Kinder Institute. Three experts The Workshop's goal is to help attendees clarify their vision and plan, for their future. Visit savorcoaching.com/workshops-retreats for registration details and/or visit the Facebook event page at: www.facebook. com/events/500004730705748/

#### March 26, thurs, 5-7pm

Best casseroles family dinner. Only \$10 per person. Kids under 10-1/2 price! There will be a variety of casseroles all you can eat, bring take out containers. Senexet grange 628 CT Rte169, woodstock, ct 06281. Reserve tickets by email at grange40ct@ gmail.com or 860-455-8844

#### March 27, Fri., Noon-7pm

Club 2087 will hold a Lenten Fish Fry, in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1017 Riv-

erside Drive, North Grosvenordale. The menu: fish & chips (\$11); baked haddock (\$12); fried bay scallops or shrimp (\$13); fried clams (\$16); seafood platter (\$18). 860-923-2967, council2087@gmail.com.

#### March 27, Fri., 5-7pm

Please join us at the Lenten Fish Fry sponsored by Scout Troop 44 at the Trinity Church located at 7 Providence Pike, Brooklyn, CT. This fundraiser will held every Friday during Lent. The meal consists of fish, fries and coleslaw. The meal is take-out only and cost \$12. Please feel free to donate a canned good for the can drive to benefit our local food pantry. All proceeds benefit the Boy Scout troop outdoor activities and their chartered organization, Trinity church.

#### March 28, Sat., 7-8:30am

The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund (SSMF) assistance is available this Saturday and every Saturday morning, at the Pomfret Senior Center, 207 Mashamouquet Road (Rt.44) in Pomfret. Always free and confidential; call 860-928-2309 for questions. (The SSMF is administered by the American Legion to provide temporary financial assistance to qualified veterans.

#### March 28, Sat., 5:30pm & 7pm

Dinner and bluegrass for march has been cancelled. Stay tuned for more info about April.. Bruce, 203-731-1750

#### April 3, Fri., Noon-7pm

Club 2087 will hold a Lenten Fish Fry, in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1017 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale. The menu: fish & chips (\$11); baked haddock (\$12); fried bay scallops or shrimp (\$13); fried clams (\$16); seafood platter (\$18). 860-923-2967, council2087@gmail.com.

#### April 3, Fri., 5-7pm

Please join us at the Lenten Fish Fry sponsored by Scout Troop 44 at the Trinity Church located at 7 Providence Pike, Brooklyn, CT. This fundraiser will held every Friday during Lent. The meal consists of fish, fries and coleslaw. The meal is take-out only and cost \$12. Please feel free to donate a canned good for the can drive to benefit our local food pantry. All proceeds benefit the Boy Scout troop outdoor activities and their chartered organization, Trinity church.

#### April 4, Sat., 7:30-10am

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. Senexet Grange-628 Route 169-Woodstock, CT. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bacon, homefries, coffee, tea, juice, milk. Kids activities and crafts \* bring your camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny. \$10 per person all you can eat

#### April 4, Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm

The St. Andrew Bobola Holy Rosary Sodality Easter Bake Sale . There will be Pierogi, Raffles, baked goods and more. See you there! 508-943-5633

#### April 4, Sat., 7-8:30am

The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund (SSMF) assistance is available this Saturday and every Saturday morning, at the Pomfret Senior Center, 207 Mashamouquet Road (Rt.44) in Pomfret. Always free and confidential; call 860-928-2309 for questions. (The SSMF is administered by the American Legion to provide temporary financial assistance to qualified veterans.)

This page is designed to shine a light on upcoming local nonprofit, educational and community events. Submissions are limited to 50 words or less and are FREE to qualifying organizations, schools, churches and town offices,

To submit your event contact: Paula at paula@stonebridgepress.news

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2019 FORD EDGE SUV

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2016 Mitsubishi



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2017 Ford Escape SE



\$19,925

2013 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara



SUV, Manual, 4WD, 82K miles LAW3150A \$22,925

2016 Ford Edge Sport



\$26,925

2012 Chevrolet Equinox 1LT



1LT SUV Auto, AWD, 109K miles LAW3118A \$16,925

2011 Jeep Wrangler Sport



\$16,925

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Lux Auto Plus

2017 Ford Escape SE



SUV, Auto, 4WD, 32K miles LAW3219 \$17,925

2015 Ford Edge Titanium



SUV, Auto, FWD, 54K miles LAW2198 \$19,525

2012 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sport



SUV, Manual, 4WD, 103K miles LAW1308A

\$21,925

2018 Dodge Journey Crossroad



SUV, Auto, AWD, 28K miles LAW3192 \$23,925

2017 BMW X3 xDrive35i



SUV, Auto, AWD, 36K miles LAW3090 **\$27,925** 

2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo



Auto, 4WD, 53K miles LAW3077A \$24,925

2015 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara



SUV, Auto, 4WD, 63K miles LAW3140A \$27,925

2014 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara



SUV, Auto, 4WD, 78K miles LAW1993

\$25,925

2016 Chevrolet Tahoe LTZ



SUV, Auto, 4WD, 32K miles LAW3072 \$43,925





5 STARS



5 STARS



4.9 STARS