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Friday, January 29, 2021

Superintendent's scholars named at BVT

Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick is proud to announce that Madison Gannon and Casey Goyette of Uxbridge are BVT's recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence. They are both in the Engineering & Robotics program at BVT. The commendation, also known as the Superintendent's Scholar Award, is presented to the two seniors who exemplify the school's commitment to cutting-edge career technical training and rigorous academics.

Presently, Madison Gannon is the Class of 2021 Valedictorian and a member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society. Her dedication to her academic and vocational studies was on display when she earned a bronze





Courtesy

Madison Gannon and Casey Goyette (left to right) of Uxbridge had been named BVT's recipients of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Award of Academic Excellence. They will graduate in May from BVT's Engineering & Robotics program.

SkillsUSA District competition in Robotics and Automation. Recognized as a National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student, Gannon is a scholastically talented student who, in addition to her academic success, also excels as a student-athlete on the track and field. She is the MVP and Captain of the Girl's Cross Country team for the last three years and is the school's record holder in the 800-meter race and 4x800 meter relay.

medal in 2019 at the

Gannon is analyzing multiple placement opportunities. She is interested in following a Biomedical Engineering pathway pursuing a bachelor's degree before acceptance into medical school, ultimately becoming a Pediatric Surgeon.

Casey Goyette is currently the Class of 2021 Turn To **SCHOLARS** page **A6**

Local businesses eligible for microenterprise assistance grant

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Grant awards of up to \$10,000 may be available to eligible Northbridge and Douglas businesses that have experienced financial loss due to COVID-19 and associated shutdown limitations on businesses.

Businesses located in Douglas, Northbridge, and Webster are now eligible to apply for a Massachusetts special funding round of the CARES Act of 2020 as part of a Regional Microenterprise Assistance Grant Program, where funds may be used for working capital to cover business costs.

The town of Northbridge has partnered with the towns of Webster (lead community), Clinton, Douglas, Dudley, Lancaster, and Sterling in a regional application to secure funding for businesses defined as micro-enterprises (those with five or fewer employees, including the owners) and funding to support public social service actives designed to assist persons who have been impacted by the COVID-19 virus.

"Awarded funds will be made available as a grant to eligible Northbridge micro-enterprises who have experienced adverse economic impacts from Covid-19," said Northbridge Town Planner R. Gary Bechtholdt II, adding that grant funds can be used to cover rent, staffing, utilities, insurance, and cost of goods, as well as purchasing personal protection equipment.

The maximum grant to a single business is \$10,000 with demonstrated cost greater than or equal to the amount requested. Grant funds may not be used for major equipment purchases, purchase of real property, construction activities, business expansion, or lobbying, according to a Northbridge statement.

Funding for this program is provided through a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development of CDBG-CV funds, which were allocated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development for distribution to small cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The Town of Webster's Office of Community Development will administer the grant program on behalf of Northbridge and its regional partners.

Those interested in learning more of this program are encouraged to visit the town of Northbridge Web page at www.northbridgemass.org.

"We are hopeful eligible local businesses apply for and receive needed grant funds to help with recovery efforts and bridge the gap they experienced due to business closure or loss of revenues during the pandemic," said Bechtholdt. "In total, \$40,000 has been allocated (budgeted) for Northbridge, where the local Northbridge Food Pantry will also receive \$4,000 to increase food purchases and to cover the cost of a standing freezer that will allow for the agency to save money through bulk purchasing of food."

Bechtholdt added that all paperwork needs to be submitted to the Town of Webster, as they are the lead community for this program. Questions may be directed to Carol Cyr, Director, Webster Office of Community Development at 508-949-3800, ext. 4004 or ccyr@webster-ma.gov.

Douglas library holds online winter book auction

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — Bidding for the Simon Fairfield Public Library's online "Winter Book Auction" begins on Monday.

Each year, the library usually holds two book sales: Memorial Day weekend and Oktoberfest. The events are hosted by the Friends of the Library. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the library has been unable to host its usual book sales and is "getting a bit crowded," according to Library Director Justin Snook.

"These sales give us a chance to find new homes for library books ready for retirement before we send them off for recycling," he said.

The auction inventory includes book bundles on which participants can bid, including: 63 adult

fiction bundles; 25 large print fiction bundles; 26 adult nonfiction bundles; 12 early readers picture book bundles; 13 middle grade fiction bundles; 4 middle grade graphic novel bundles; 27 young adult fiction bundles; and 14 young adult graphic

novel/manga bundles.
Bidding will start
on Monday, Feb. 1, and
run until Sunday, Feb.
21. The starting bid for
everything is \$1, and the
minimum bidding increment thereafter is also
just \$1, said Snook.

"Once the auction ends, winners will have two weeks to pick up their bundles before they are offered to the next highest bidder. Picking up items will be a simple matter of pulling up to the Library (front or back) and calling us on your cell or ringing the doorbell to let us know you are here," Snook said. "We'll bring

the books out to you and accept payment (cash or check) if you haven't already paid online via credit card."

All proceeds will go toward the library's interest-bearing building fund and building renovation project to create an accessible building entrance, code-complaint paved parking connected to the accessible entrance, an elevator, and an accessible public restroom.

"It is our sincere hope to one day–sooner rather than later–be accessible to all patrons. To that end, the Trustees of the Library began a capital campaign in 2020 with a goal of \$400,000."

Preliminary discussions estimate that this will be somewhere around a \$500,000 project, Snook said.

"What we want to avoid at all costs is a situation in which a significant

amount of money is spent to go through planning and proposal processes with no end-game funding strategy besides a debt exclusion article on the ballot," he said. "As Library director, I am strongly advocating that we collect enough capital to see the project through before committing further funds to planning and design. Once we have enough funds to reasonably guarantee the project will reach fruition, we can proceed with confidence that resources are going to a good use instead of out the win-

The auction will be held online at charityauction.bid/librarybooksale. Participants may register at that website. For more information about the library, the Friends of the Library, or the building renovation project, visit www.mysfpl.org.

Whitinsville Christian School completes health and wellness upgrades



WHITINSVILLE — On Aug. 25, WCS opened its doors for the current school year for on-campus education, five days per week. By implementing a rigorous Health, Safety, and Wellness Plan, in cooperation with

parents and students, the first semester of in-person education was completed on Jan. 22. With waiting lists in many elementary grades, WCS is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year for PreK through

12th grade. Please visit whitinsvillechristian.org for more information.

As 2020 came to an end, an additional step in the Health, Safety, and Wellness Plan was finalized.

ed. "WCS has recently completed the installation of the cutting-edge Plasma Air ionization systems throughout the school. This is a similar system as those installed at many of our country's top colleges and universities, as well as major hotel chains and airlines," said Rick Lukianuk, Head of School.

Bipolar ionization, according to the manufacturers, releases charged ions that damage the surface of bacteria, viruses, and particulate matter which inactivates them. They may also bind with virus aerosols, causing them to fall or be more easily filtered out.

"We are grateful to our families and staff for taking steps such as daily health screenings, monitoring of symptoms, and contact tracing. WCS has also invested significant resources into the Turn To UPGRADES page A6



Find the ABC's Crossword inside this issue.

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Uxbridge High School honor roll

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

High Honors: Ali Alomar, Maria Aprili, Hannah Benson, Elyse Bouchard, Arya Burke, Ava Chartier, Shayna Charles Criscola, Daniels, Maxwell Deary, Rogan Devlin, Timothy Devlin, Baily Dzivasen, Ewan Fortin, Alicia Gauvin, Addison Griffiths, Brady Hamm, Samuel Kirby, Isabelle Kling, Thatcher Kling, Sumeyye Koyuncu, Milla Mace, Tessa Masnyk, Alexis Morse, Darren Oliver, Natalie Orr, Brianna Pare, Diya Patel, Om Patel, Maxwell Roy, Stella Roy, Hunter Schiller, Dominic Silva, Phoenyx Silva, Michael Stark, Landon Sweet, Jake Vanderbrug, Denning Yoffe, Stephanie Zaitoun

Honors: Cate Bouvier, Christopher Bouvier, Thomas Carlson, Victoriana Chapman, Larissa DaSilva, Mason Dorr, Arianna Fortier, Shane Gilmore, Sofie Hall, Liam Kaferlein, Alexis Kammerer, Brendan Knox, Samantha Makynen, Macen Martone, Danielle Olson, Olivia Pirrotta, Rylee Spear, Sienna True, Caroline Usenia, Julia Wilczewska,

Honorable Mention: Ryan Amorim, Giana Bannon, Layla Bettencourt, Carson Denietolis, Hunter Fontaine, Lillyanna Gallant, Yasmine Graveson, Chase Henault, Shawn Lemovitz, Hunter Levesque, Brendan Magowan, Max Meagher, Abigaile Oliveira, Lily Ramage, Talen Rosborough, Alanna Russell, Bruno Sampaio, James Sanford, Jonah Scott, Madison Silbor, Colin Spencer, Ashton Watt

Honors:

High Honors: Rylie Beland, James Bernard, Aidan Blood, Luke Boisvert, Benjamin Bourgeois, Ashlee Brodeur, Braden Cammuso, Cameron Caso, Emma Demers, Matthew DiLibero, Syrianna Dousangsavanh, Luke Esposito, Madison Fairweather, Olivia Gray, Olivia Holden, Catherine Hughes, Kahlea Lachapelle, Kellen Lachapelle, Grace Linsley, Jessica Lutton, Brianna Moss, Samuel Noel, Shane Okenquist, Ella Pezzullo, Phetmany Phianesin, Cooper Phoenix, Avari Powers, Liam Rigney, Benjamin Roerden, Payson Roy, Lincoln Schiller, Christopher Szajna, Siobhan Twohig-Mann, Emma Walker, Zoe Wojnowski Evan Arsenault, Tyler Bergman, Kathryn Cahill, Jalyn Gingras, Brianna Hughes, Samantha Jones, Cassidy Leach, Kamryn Leroy, Aiden Marquez-LeRoy, Jack Nummela, Sean O'Day, Mikayla Ouellette, Jack Phoenix, Lukas Ritacco, Bradley Sadd, Mason Sanford, Iris Standifer, Brayden Wilcox

Honorable Mention: Mason Baptista, Luke Bergeron, Lucas DeFreitas, Brynn Doherty, Andrew Flynn, Nathan Fuoss, Hailey Kinyanjui, Amber Kosiba, Luke McCuin, Sophia Mone, Sara Morton, Gage Nichols, Frank Osimo, Samuel

Grade 10

High Honors: Maren Anderson, Lily Brayman, Kelsey Brooks, Victor Cardoso-Collins, Julie Compston, Sophie Compston, Myah DeLang, Jessie DeMalia, Jason Fontes, Carl Nathan Gallawan, Tanner Gauthier, Drew Gniadek, Evan Grube, Avery Guillette, Samantha Hinchcliffe, Paige Irving, Eleanor Kimball, Lex Lovell, Alan Mages, Patrick McDonnell, Isabella Nolan, Matthew O'Neill, Grace Orr, Morgan Ouellette, Kylie Paul, Julia Philbrook, Audrey Phillips, Olivia Phillips, Casey Prior, Tyler Richardson, Makayla Ross, Aidan Russell, Abigail Sanches, Sadie Schultzberg, Meghan Smith, Jack Tasick, Sabrina Tibedo, Madison Tousignant, Lindsay Vario, Coral Young

Bruce. Alberto Alicea Honors: Dominick, Emma Brothers, Nathan Cole, Sean Costa, Joshua Cristina, Domenic D'Araujo, Dylan Donahue, Logan Donnelly, Tyler Erickson, Briana Hawes, Tia Jacobs, Sameer Khan, Ethan Linsley, Zachary Oliveira, Alexandria Patterson, Theodore Rigney, Isabella Ristaino, Troy Spencer, Braeden Watt, Megan Wingfield

Honorable Mention: Anthony D'Araujo, Maximus Martone, Tyler McIsaac, Jack Trask.

Grade 11

High Honors: Madison Arsenault, Peyton Bly, Grace Boisvert, Madison Departie, Saige Frazier, Guillette, Matthew Healey, Jeremie Charlotte Johndrow, Zoe Hodgdon, Jones, Chloe Kaeller, Madigan Lame, Alison Langemo, Bethany Loach, Maria Lowandy, Macarious Mansour, Maegan Morrissey, Gracie Nummela, Andrew Oliveira, Cristian Oliveira, Jessie Paxton, Jaymee Peloquin, Jack Polando,

Natasha Prachith, Madison Ramage, Angelina Rodriguez, Madison Ryan, Jack Sander, Cecilia Schleinitz, Liam Sweeney, Ava Turner, Emily Westberg, Keku Wheelock, Alexandra Wojciechowski

Honors: Mya Asante-Opoku, Brian Babin, Brooklyn Chludenski, Paul Elhajj, Maia Harris, Maya Henry, Lindsey Labossiere, Makayla Lehtola, Luke Little. Thomas McCarthy. Hannah Nordstrom, Marcus Oliver, Dylan Pono, Audrey Tanner, Anthony Venuti, Samuel Walton

Mention: Dylan Honorable Beaudette, Alexander, Sebastian Destiny Berthiaume, Abigail Deary, Trevor Eason, Hunter Fabri, Jude Goncalves, Briana Joyce, Brandon Morton, Mia Volpe, Liam Zuffoletti

Grade 12 High Honors: Anastasia Achiaa, Nicholas Allegrezza, Thomas Haley Archambault, Samantha Arroyas, Aiden Ayers,

Andolina, Hailey Bergman, Borjeson-Bella Troupe, Kayla Brooks, Jeremy Bullock, Connor Chartier, Joseph Sydney Costa, Costa. Elise Maline Croteau, Demers, Ella DiMarco, Ashley Jonathan Dube, Acadia Fabian. Farrell, Nicholas Fernandes, Drew Gauthier, Lindsey Gay, Devon Gokev. Shavlin Gonya, Ramsha Gul, Jocelyn Hinchcliffe, Hogan, Sallie Anna Horne, Sarah Johnston, Samantha Kauzens, Wiley Kimball, Cassandra LaBaire, Allen Lamphere, Eilish Linnehan, Jackeline Lopez, Madison Manning, Mikenna Manz, Jeremiah Morgan, Ella Moscatelli, Brenna Neill, erem y Okenquist, Rory Paul, Valasi Petri, Braden Pomeroy, Colleen Prior, Redgate, Daniel Kiley Robertson, MarthaAnn Rolandelli,

Honors: Lilvanna Bain, CoĬin Caso, Kelsey Desroches, Liberty Lewis, Maeve Mahoney, Gabrielle Mateer, Karlha Mendoza-Ruck, Kelly Rush, Matthew Shelley

S t e p h e n Sanches, Thomas Schreiber, Jack

Streichert, Clarice

Stumpf, Brenden

Thompson, Carlee

Veinotte, Cayden Walker, Benjamin

Wiersma,

Benjamin

Wojciechowski

Honorable Mention: Emerson Blake, Aidan Joshua Grinnell. Grinnell, Loukia Koutroumanos, Emily Landini, Margaux Lewis, Jaeden Morales, Jack Morvan, Jared Peniche, Liam Russell



ACCURACY WATCH

The Blackstone Valley Tribune 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 A3 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.

UXBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS Taft Early Learning Center 16 Granite St., Uxbridge, MA 01569 (508) 278-8643

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It is the responsibility of the Uxbridge Public Schools Department to identify any child who is a resident of Uxbridge, who may have a disability, regardless of the severity of the disability. It is also the responsibility of Uxbridge Public Schools to evaluate those students to determine which are eligible for special education or related services under the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) or 603 CMR 28 (Massachusetts Special Education Regulations).

The Uxbridge Public Schools are committed to locating children before their third birthday in order to provide early intervention services for three and four year olds. Screenings will be conducted on Thursday, February 11, 2021 from 11:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child's development and would like to have him/her screened, please contact Laura Newhall, Preschool Coordinator or Christine Veneziano, Administrative Assistant at the Taft Early Learning Center at (508) 278-8643 to schedule an appointment.

If you or your pediatrician believes that your child should be evaluated to determine eligibility for special education services, please request this in writing. Include your child's name, address, date of birth, and telephone number with a brief description of your concerns to the Principal of your child's school.

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\$305,000, 14 Ledgebrook Dr #14, Mcmahon, Craig, to Rousseau FT, and Rousseau, Robert N.

\$280,000, 21 Ethel St. Ricci. Robert A, and Soave, Joseph, to Towne, Kristen, and Towne, Joshua.

DOUGLAS

\$425,000, 33 Brookside Dr, Haire, Colin, to Pierce, Evan C, and Pierce, Michele L.

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\$380,000, 64 Mumford St, Narducci, Derek D, and Narducci, Christine, to Labonte, Sanne.

\$380,000, 78 NW Main St, Percy, Donald A, to Sullo, Sabino, and Sullo,

\$309,000, 160 Main St, Ofcarcik, Janet A, to Sabatino, David F, and Sabatino, Cristin M.

\$235,000, 286 Webster St, Douglas Town Of, to Flying Goose LLC. \$232,500, 62 Peters Cove Rd,

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\$315,000, 183 Sutton St, Kaiser, Coryn M, and Kaiser, Chanel L, to Brownell, Jake.

\$275,000, 240 Heritage Dr #240, Mussulli, Michael, and Mussulli, Denise, to Roger-Carpentier, Isabell. \$230,000, 36-38 Upton St, Dupre,

Richard E, to On The Flip Side LLC. \$179,500, 16 Whitin Ave #16, Vanderbaan, Christopher J, and Vanderbaan, Lauralynn K, to Smith,

\$165,000, 179 N Main St #179, Leon, Brian, and Leon, Jessica, to Evans,

\$17,000, Prentice Rd #1, Decapua, Michael J, to Jasmin, Richard J.

UXBRIDGE

\$645,000, 76 Locust St, Koester, Amy M, to Bellavance, Nicholas C.

\$500,000, 104 Spring Hill Dr #104, Ohearne Forest Glen LLC, to Berry, James E, and Berry, Nancy.

\$453,000, 20 Country Rd, Bishop, Benjamin, and Bishop, Greer, to Pelletier, Heather D, and Pelletier, Gregory J.

\$415,000, 22 Park Ter, Norris, Scott, and Norris, Sheryll, to Meyers, Jeremy R.

\$275,000, 21 N Main St, Carey, Millicent, and Carey, Denise, to Art North Main Church LLC.

\$65,000, 84 Sutton St #2, DJLJ Realty LLC, to Knapik Builders Inc. \$20,000, High St (off), Uxbridge Woods RT, and Foss, Mark S, to Pro Storage Group Inc.

\$20,000, West St, Uxbridge Woods RT, and Foss, Mark S, to Pro Storage Group Inc.



PET



Small Shelter Big Heart Meet Houdini (7 y/o male). This big boy toys and will play with his friends (both has had a rough start and is looking for a people and other cats!) and by himself. home to spoil him. Houdini was found as He loves to be petted and lay in your lap. a stray and we believe he was hit by a car Houdini's New Year's resolution is to lose a and sustained some injuries to his face. few pounds. He loves his food and some-He has been treated for those injuries, is times does not know when to stop eating. slowly healing, but it has been a long road Because of this, he is a large boy. To learn Houdini more about Houdini his medi

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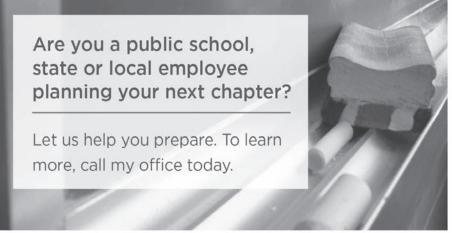
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Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Gather a harvest
- 5. Federal Republic of Germany
- 8. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 11. "The Little Mermaid"
- 13. The common gibbon 14. Volcanic island in Fiji
- 15. Mother of Perseus
- 16. Egg cells
- 17. Teams' best pitchers
- 18. Credit associations
- 20. Advance
- 21. Hair styling products
- 22. Benign tumors 25. Arriving early
- 30. Called it a career
- 31. Paulo, city
- 32. Avoid with trickery

- 33. Easter egg
- 38. Veterans battleground
- 41. Lack of success
- 43. Thing that causes disgust
- 45. Deep, continuing sound 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 49. You might put it in a fire
- 50. Partner to "oohed"
- 55. Actor Idris
- 56. Slippery
- 57. Plant of the bean family
- 59. One point north of northeast
- 60. Patti Hearst's captors
- 61. Places to hang clothes
- 62. Midwife
- 63. Of she
- 64. S. Korean statesman

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cool!
- 2. Amounts of time
- 3. Aboriginal people of Japan
- 4. Popular veggies
- 5. Wedding accessory
- 6. Deep, narrow gorges 7. Dry cereal
- 9. Cain and 10. Snake sound
- 12. Type of amino acid (abbr.)
- 19. Satisfy 23. Misfire
- 24. Nearsightedness
- 25. Indicates before
- 26. Increase motor speed 27. When you hope to get there
- 28. Indicates position
- 29. Where rockers perform
- 34. Substitute

ZZLE SOLUTION

- 35. juris: of one's own right
- 36. Earliest form of modern
- human in Europe: _ -magnon
- 37. Adult female bird
- 39. Do away with
- 40. Lens
- 41. Flattened appendage
- 8. Competitions that require speed 42. Post or pillar in Greek temple
 - 44. A medieval citizen of Hungary
 - 45. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 14. Pattern of notes in Indian music 46. Abba ___, Israeli politician
 - 47. Sew
 - 48. Evergreen trees and shrubs having oily one-seeded fruits
 - 51. Swiss river
 - 52. Grayish-white
 - 53. A way to illustrate
 - 54. College basketball superpower

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58. Midway between south and southeast

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Muradian maintains perfect voting record

BY KIMBELRY PALMUCCI

GRAFTON — State Rep. David Muradian, R-Grafton, maintained a perfect voting record for the 2019-2020 legislative session, participating in all 474 roll call votes recorded in the House of Representatives between January of 2019 and January of 2021.

"It has truly been an honor serving the residents of Grafton, Northbridge and Upton during this Legislative Session," said Muradian. "I hope this voting record can act as a positive influence on our community, and demonstrate the strong dedication and commitment I have to my constituents. Our district deserves full time representation, and it is truly an honor to be your State Representative.'

Muradian represents Worcester the 9th District, which includes the communities Grafton, Northbridge, and Upton.

Formal legislative sessions were extend-

ed last summer to allow the House and Senate to continue to meet and pass legislation to help address the many challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The last roll call of the session came in the early morning hours of Jan. 6. with the enactment of a \$626.5 million economic development bill to provide financial assistance to small businesses and to promote more affordable housing development in the Commonwealth, according to a press statement.

Muradian compiled a 100 percent voting record by casting votes this session on several key bills that were later signed into law, including a \$16 billion transportation bond bill; Breakfast After the Bell legislation providing students with access to expanded school breakfast options: and Nicky's Law, which authorizes the establishment of a statewide registry to track and prevent the re-hiring of caregivers who have been charged with abusing clients with intellectual disabilities.

Muradian ed the 2019 Student Opportunity Act, which creates strong accountability standards to help close student achievement gaps across the state and calls for a \$1.5 billion increase in Chapter 70 funding over the next seven years. He also voted to support legislation: expanding mail-in voting options for Massachusetts residents; addressing disparities in maternal health care; and requiring insurance carriers to provide telehealth coverage parity with in-person primary and chronic disease care for the next two years, as well as permanent coverage parity for behavioral health services delivered via telehealth.

Other major bills representative Muradian voted on during the 2019-2020 legislative session, according to the release, included proposals to: require prompt public notification of sewage discharges into public waterways, criminalize female genital mutilation, ban the use of cell phones while driving, except when used in hands-free mode, and more.

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"This project has been funded at least in part with Federal Funds from USDA.

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any goods, services or enterprises."

The Senior Center is closed to the Public.

While the building is not open to the public the Food Pantry at the

Millbury Senior Center

is available from 9am to

1pm Monday thru Friday by calling 508-865-9247 for an appointment our food pantry is fully stocked at this time tell us what you need and you can pick it up or we will deliver it.

We are still here to answer any questions you may have and we are available for your transportation to Doctors appointments or if you need to go to the drug store for your prescriptions, we will take you there. If you don't have a mask, we will give you

Also if you are in need of a home delivered meal give us a call and we will set you up t delivered to you.

Keep safe and remember to wear a mask if you go out and to wash your hands frequently.

Springfield College recognizes Dean's List students for the 2020 Fall Semester

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield College Recognizes Dean's List Students for the 2020 Fall Semester.

Springfield College has named Taevy Augusto from Northbridge to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2020 fall semester. Augusto has a primary major of

Springfield College has named Allison Prew from Uxbridge to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2020 fall semester. Prew has a primary major of Health Science/Occupational Therapy.

Springfield College has named Brynn Hurley from Douglas to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2020 fall semester. Hurley has a primary major of Health Science/Pre-physician Assistant.

Springfield College has named Devin Haire from Douglas to the dean's list for

academic excellence for the 2020 fall semester. Haire has a primary major of Health Science.

Springfield College has named Cassidy Clinton from Uxbridge to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2020 fall semester. Clinton has a primary major of Rehabilitation and Disability Studies.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the

Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit, coeducational institution founded in 1885. Approximately 4,100 students, including 2,500 full-time undergraduate students, study at its main campus in Springfield, Mass., and at its regional campuses across the country. Springfield College inspires students through the guiding principles of its Humanics philosophy - educating in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others.

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A Stonebridge Press publication TRIBUNE STAFF DIRECTORY

President & Publisher Frank G. Chilinski (508) 909-4101 frank@stonebridgepress.news

ryan@salmonpress.news OPERATIONS DIRECTOR JIM DINICOLA

(508) 764-4325

BUSINESS MANAGER

RYAN CORNEAU

(603) 677-9082

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PRODUCTION MANAGER Julie Clarke (508) 909-4105 production@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR

SPORTS EDITOR

NICK ETHIER

(508) 909-4133

nick@stonebridgepress.news

Brendan Berube (508) 909-4106 news@stonebridgepress.news

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Open Sky Community Services opens new Family Support Center

WORCESTER Open Sky Community Services,Inc. is opening the Blackstone Valley Family Support Center in Whitinsville in February 2021, according to agency President and CEO, Ken Bates. The Center will serve children and adults with Intellectual Disabilities and/or Autism and their fami-

"We are very pleased to have been selected the Massachusetts

Department Developmental Services (DDS) to operate this program in the Blackstone Valley," said Bates.

The Center will operate at 70 Douglas Rd. in Whitinsville, the site of the historic Alternatives Whitin Mill.

The Center will offer a wide range of services designed "to help individuals live, learn, work, play, have relationships and pursue their life's aspirations in the community," according to

Among others, services will include help in applying for DDS services and other benefits, trainings, information and referral, navigation of systems and community resources, social and recreational opportunities and connecting individuals and families with each other.

The Alternatives Whitin Mill is the perfect location for this service, according to Donna MacLeod -Prior, President

Developmental Services at Open Sky. "This site has long been a place where the community gathers for plays, concerts, gallery exhibits, and so much more. While these events are currently virtual, we look forward to welcoming our new DDS families and individuals to in-person events in the near future."

The Family Support Center will be staffed by a manager and service navigators and is expected to serve between 300 and 450 families once fully operational.

For more information, email familysupportcenter@openskycs.org.

For more information about Open Sky Services, Community contact Lorie

semester.

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Dudley

Oxford

Spencer

Sutton

Webster

R.

Postale

Joseph

Jillian E. Laabs

North Oxford

Southbridge

Fintan D. Neff

W Brookfield

Chase W. Carlson

Nichole M. Lambert

Jared S. Orrell

Bridget L. Richardson

Samantha K. Beauchamp

successive semesters.

Martiska, lorie.martiska@openskycs.org

Open About Community Services

Open Sky Community Services is dba for Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. and The Bridge of Central MA. Open Sky offers a wide range of services for adults, adolescents, and children with mental health challenges, developmental and intellectual disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other challenges throughout Central Massachusetts. Open Sky Community Services has more than 1,300 dedicated employees and an annual budget of \$83M with more than 100 programs throughout the region. For more information,

Students named to President's

List at Fitchburg State

announced the names of students included on the President's List for the Fall 2020

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University President Richard S. Lapidus has

The President's List honors students for consistently high academic achieve-

Fitchburg State University enrolls 7,000 day and evening students in more than

ment. A student is named to the list after achieving a 3.75 average in each of three

50 programs of study. The university was established in 1894.

Nicholas D. Bisceglia Jessilyn S.

Collette Sophia L. Laperle Mary G.

Brittney A. Dube Lauryn M. Hines

please visit www.openskycs.org.

The Bridge About Training Institute

The Bridge Training Institute is an industry leader in providing both theoretical and real-world training on evidence-based best practices for clinicians and school personnel. Offering over 20 trainings per year, the Institute features expert trainers from human services, education. professional practices and academia. Institute trainers have worked directly with leaders in the field such as Marcia Linehan, Aaron Beck, the BU Center for Psychological Rehabilitation and oth-

Students named to Dean's List at Fitchburg State

FITCHBURG — Fitchburg State University President Richard S. Lapidus has announced the students who qualified for inclusion on the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for the semester if an average grade of 3.20 or better is attained, and the student is attending the university full time.

Fitchburg State University enrolls 7,000 day and evening students in more than 50 programs of study. The university was established in 1894.

Breanna R. Benoit Gianna M. Bernier Ayva J. Borelli Nicole A. Fancy Emma M. Ganley Cameron J. McGrath Riley J. Millay

Blackstone

Claire A. Collins Isaiah R. Trumble

Charlton

Avalon M. Huber Jonathan M. Leduc

Douglas Ashley E. Deluca Sarah A. Haire Aubrey M. Harris Ryan M. Stickney Kosmo J. Symock

Dudley

Hannah M. Volpe Groton

Anthony M. De Freitas Matthew S. Gingras Brecken R. Gingras Jodice Zachary X. Harrison Heather K. Holmes

Jared R. Lelievre Brittney A. Mattson Curtis J. Monahan Mishayla S. Silver Andrew J. Wilson

Holland

Angela G. Gonzalez Sarina J. Johnson

Northbridge

Chrissa A. Gannon Elijah V. Perron Gabrielle K. Perron Susan M. Timmons Oxford

Suzannah R. Lambert Kaylyn N. Violette

Southbridge G. Colon-Morales

Gynariss Ryan P. Pratt

> Spencer Sarah E. Jewell Kathleen V. Ricard

Abigayle K. Menzdorf

Lorenzo G. Demalia Kailyn M. Lachapelle Neve E. Palmieri Katyana M. Russin

W Brookfield Hannah J. Niemiec

Webster

Sophia M. Gardner Brandyn J. Geldart Madison T. Podedworny Isabelle M. Sargent Elliot A. Zopatti

Roger Williams University announces Fall 2020 Dean's List

Engineering.

readiness.

BRISTOL, R.I. — Select students have been named to the Fall 2020 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 earned this achievement:

Jaylin Bodell of Uxbridge Cora McComiskey of Northbridge Sean Murphy of Douglas

Haley Reese of Uxbridge **About RWU**

With campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I., Roger Williams University is 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 critically along with the practical skills that today's employers demand. Roger Williams is leading the way in American higher education, confronting the most pressing issues facing students and families

- increasing costs, rising debt and job

Northbridge

residents named

to Dean's List at

Fitchburg State

FITCHBURG — Elijah and Gabrielle

Gabrielle is a freshman majoring

Perron of Northbridge have been named

to the Dean's List at Fitchburg State

in Graphic Design. Elijah is a junior

currently majoring in Electronics

University for the fall semester of 2020.

Lasell students named to Fall 2020 Dean's List

NEWTON — Lasell University students were recently named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List for strong academic performance, with a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher. Erin Correia of Douglas

Meagan Parker of Uxbridge

Peyton Young of Douglas

Kaylie Gonya of Uxbridge

Kaylie Silva of Douglas

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communi-

cations at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.



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BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, January 29, 2021

Planning a Therapeutic Backyard Garden

If you plan to have a spring or summer garden, these winter days likely find you plotting out a planting strategy. If your garden inspiration includes growing health promoting plants, read on. From flowers and herbs to vegetables and wild plants, nature provides a wide variety of natural healers that aid in everything from taming a tummy ache to fighting off a fever blister. Here are some garden favorites that offer the bonus of being beneficial health aids. Note: Information is offered for general interest only and should not be taken as health advice. Contact your physician before ingesting or applying any herbs or plants.

Calendula, with their bright yellow and orange hues, are not only lovely in the garden, they are useful, with their unique properties offering a variety of benefits. The Marigold not only repels mosquitos and other pests from the garden, its anti-inflammatory properties also aid in treating minor cuts and abrasions - and the flower may be antibacterial (it was used during the Civil War to draw out infection in wounds). Marigolds are also used to soothe and heal such skin ailments as burns and acne. Here's a recipe for



TAKE THE HINT **KAREN**

TRAINOR

Marigold Balm from Old Schoolhouse magazine's Homestead Newsletter: You will need: 1/2 cup dried calendula petals (available in bulk at a health food store or from your garden), one ounce beeswax, 1/2 cup olive oil, a sterile tin to hold your finished project Place the petals and oil into an oven proof dish. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees. Place the oil and herbs into the oven, then turn it off and leave for three to four hours. Remove from oven to cool for an hour or so on the counter. Once cool, strain out the herbs with cheesecloth. Add the beeswax to the remaining oil and put back into the oven (or you can use a microwave for this part). Heat just until the beeswax is almost melted. Stir until it is completely melted and combined. Pour into your prepared tins and let sit 15-20 minutes until cool. Makes two tins of balm, about two ounces each.

Many backyard gardeners grow tomatoes, and the season's first ripe, is a summer pleasure worth waiting all year for! Whether they are in a vegetable plot, container garden, or upside down planter, tomatoes are not only delicious and nutritious, they also offer an array of health benefits. In fact, it's been well publicized that tomatoes are rich in lycopene, a powerful antioxidant. But did you know the tomato is one of the top five food sources of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin E, potassium and fiber? Tomatoes are also excellent sources of phytochemicals, polyphenols and carotenoids. And research shows tomatoes an aid in lowering blood pressure. According to an Israeli study, adding tomatoes to a diet can reduce systolic blood pressure by 10 points and diastolic pressure by four points. The secret weapon once again, is the tomato's high concentration of lycopene. The delicious dosage? About four whole tomatoes daily. which is easy during peak season. Off season, use chopped and canned garden tomatoes in chili, tomato sauces and soups to reach your daily dose.

red tomato on the vine

The pansy is a common, easy to grow flower. With their colorful "faces" a plot of pansies add personality to a garden or window box, but the ancient, edible flower

is also a valuable detoxifying and anti inflammatory agent. In addition, its been claimed the pansy is also helpful in treating eczema, asthma and allergies. Pansies grown without pesticides can be enjoyed in their natural state, simply washed and tossed in a salad or cold drink, or the flowers may be made into a healthful tincture or tea. To make a pansy poultice for external skin application to treat eczema and impetigo, simply add two tablespoons of pansy petals to two cups boiling water. Allow to steep for about 20 minutes and cool. Soak clean cloth in mixture and apply to skin,

Growing garlic? The health virtues of garlic have been touted for generations. Here are a couple of garlic remedies to

*The book, "The Healing Power of Garlic," suggests garlic nose drops can kill the viruses that cause cold or flu. Here are 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 promoted by generations past, 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!

Tea Tonics Natural teas are used to treat many maladies. If you are growing these herbs, you already have the ingredients for some healthful healers!

*Fever Treatment Tea: 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.

*Cold Sore Drinking sage tea can prevent and treat fever blisters and cold sores. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over edible sage leaves and a small piece of ginger root (or substitute ginger pow-der). Steep, cook and drink two to three cups of hot sage tea everyday to get rid of fever blisters.

* Shoo Flu: One of peppermint's claims to fame is that it can alleviates 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

Win Dinner for Two at

the Publick House

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

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



Northbridge student named to Dean's List at University of Wisconsin

MADISON, Wisc. — The University of Wisconsin-Madison has named Alexandra Beckman of Northbridge to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2020-2021 aca-

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction. Most call the honor "dean's list", but some grant the

"Dean's Honor List" and "Dean's High Honor List." To view an online listing, visit http://registrar.wisc.edu/deans_list.htm. For questions or concerns about eligibility, please contact deanslist-registrar@

Here are the students from your circulation area who have received this honor.

Evin Pingalore named to Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic

PORT ORANGE, Fla. — Evin Pingalore of Douglas has been named to the fall 2020 quarter Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Florida campus in Port Orange, Fla.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, Calif.; and

* * Friday's Child



Bailey Age 13

Hi! My name is Bailey and I enjoy spending time with animals!

Bailey is a kind and creative girl of Caucasian descent. Bailey has many interests and hobbies such as playing outside, swimming, cooking and baking. She also enjoys playing imaginative games with her stuffed animals and dolls. She will often ask others to compete in a game of Uno, Candyland, or Connect Four with her. She is a competitive, playful child who is always willing to try new games and activities. Animals are also very important to Bailey and she enjoys going to farms to visit and interact with different types of animals.

Bailey is very eager to have good relationships with adults and peers in her life. She puts in a lot of effort

and energy into forming positive relationships. In the school setting, Bailey has been able to create and maintain friendships with several peers in her classroom.

Bailey has identified that she wants to be an only child in a family that will love her and keep her safe. She would also like to be in a family that has pets and shares her love for ravioli! Bailey's team would love to see her placed in an active two-parent family that has a strong support system and is very involved in their community. Bailey's future family should be willing to engage in services and maintain contact and visits with her birth parents and siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

UPGRADES

continued from page A1

safety of the building itself," Lukianuk added. "In addition to the new air system, two applications of Bioesq, a safe, water-based solution proven to kill viruses, have occurred. These significant upgrades to our facility have increased our ability to provide a safe environment for our students, faculty,

SCHOLARS

continued from page **A1**

Salutatorian and a National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society member. He has made the Commendation List every term of his high school career. His academic and vocational studies dedication was on display when he earned a Gold medal in 2020 at the SkillsUSA District competition in Urban Search & Rescue. In addition to being an Eagle Scout, Goyette enjoys reading, drumming, hiking, camping, and traveling. He is also the Chief Mechanical Officer of BVT's Robotics Club and participates in Model UN and SkillsUSA.

Goyette is also exploring placement opportunities. To strengthen his workforce entry opportunities, he wants to pursue a master's degree in Computer Engineering with a minor in Mechanical Engineering.

Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael

F. Fitzpatrick was joined by Assistant Superintendent-Director/Principal Anthony Steele and the BVT School Committee in congratulating Gannon and Govette on their awards, thanking them for their many contributions.

"As educators, it brings us great pride to work with students like Madison and Casev, who exemplify our school's commitment to cutting-edge career technical training and rigorous academics through their incredible drive, talent, and zeal for their futures," said Steele. "We are pleased to celebrate their accomplishments and wish them continued success with their future endeavors."

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville,

Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills. The school's Web site is www. valleytech.k12. ma.us.



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Frank G. CHILINSKI President & PUBLISHER

BRENDAN **BERUBE** EDITOR

Facts are stubborn things

John Adams was right when he said "Facts are stubborn things." It's pretty funny, albeit disturbing, to sit and listen to what some individuals believe to be true, not based on facts, rather hearsay. We've become a society where facts just don't seem to hold much weight anymore.

The sky is blue, grass is green, milk is good for your bones, helmets prevent head injuries in accidents, a cow has two eyes, and George Washington was our first President. All of these things we know to be true because we've either seen it with our own eyes, or trust the documents of history. grandparents tell us stories of days gone by about other family members and the way things were, and we sit and listen intently and enthusiastically, and while we take in this information, we know it to be true.

We can dig through old newspaper archives, old and current court documents, valid witness testimony, police reports, judges' orders, and we accept this information as fact. This isn't to say that certain things ought not to be questioned; however, when facts upon facts upon facts are staring you dead in the eye and you still believe them not to be true, well, that's simply dumbfound-

We know that surgeons wear masks to prevent infection. We know that vitamin C boosts our immune systems. We know what elements make up oxygen and water. We know that Ibuprofen is an anti-inflammatory. We know that too much alcohol can hurt our livers, we know that plants need sunlight and water to grow. We know all of this to be factual, because of science.

So now, when scientists express how important mask wearing is during a pandemic to prevent the spread of a deadly virus (a practice done even in 1919), we have some individuals who iust brush it off. It would be humorous if it wasn't so disturbing. The fact is, based on science, that proper masks prevent the spread of airborne viruses, ust like sunblock can prevent burn. Why is one scientifically proven technique widely accepted and the other not? Well, a sunburn has never been politicized. Science has been saving lives and keeping our parents, friends and family members alive for longer, since the dawn of time.

Enter the ever interesting topic of conspiracy theories. A conspiracy theory is an explanation for an event or situation that invokes conspiracy by sinister and powerful groups, often in political motivation when other explanations are based on actual, proven facts.

Such theories have been around forever. They are nothing more than fairytales. Recently, psychologists have begun to unravel why certain individuals are more likely to believe in conspiracy theories and what attributes about them, make them so gullible.

Experts have surmised that characteristics of those people who are likely to believe in conspiracy theories include distrust of others, low agreeability and Machiavelliansim (when a person is so focused on their own interests, they will manipulate, deceive, and exploit others to achieve their goals.)

Low agreeability is typically defined as someone who is not very kind, nor dependable or cooperative with others. People more susceptible to conspiracy theories are more likely to have lower levels of analytic thinking.

When a person who believes in nonsense, is presented with demonstrable, thorough, proven, hard facts, they are often responded to with even further out there thinking, and it is noticeable that there is very little critical thinking.

Further it has been discovered that conspiracy theories make a person feel special. Some individuals who need to feel unique but can't any other way, may fall prey. Conspiracy theories rely on 'secret information' which can give those believers a false sense of belong-

It has been discovered that those individuals also are narcissists with a grandiose idea of the self and a touch of paranoia. Further, those who fall prey are likely more alienated, powerless and socially isolated.

Remember, conspiracy theories are brought about by people, not actual facts. Take note that you cannot argue with those who believe in conspiracy because those beliefs are not rational.

The simple answer here is to not ignore the facts — wear your sunscreen, wear your mask, drink water, eat your vegetables, have some fun, laugh and be kind to one another.

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

Here is our amazing story. It's been one year since the first Corona virus case was reported in the United States on January 20, 2020, accord-

ing to the New England Journal of Medicine. It is the third date in America that will live in infamy (as President Roosevelt so aptly described the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941). The second is 9-11. Now we have 1-20-2020.

The very first case occurred in China sometime in December of 2019. Certainly, China did not tell the rest of the world until it was too late.

On Jan. 21, 2020, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, stated that "this [covid virus] is not a major threat to the people of the United States and this is not something that the citizens of the United States right now should be worried about." On January 26, Dr. Fauci, repeated: "The American people should not be worried or frightened by this. It's a very, very low risk to the United States...." Fauci is an infec-tious disease expert.

On Jan. 23, the World Health Organization (should be called the World Helpless Organization) declined to name Covid 19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, or PHEIC. On January 30, the WHO declared a PHEIC. On Jan. 31, 2020, someone in the United States stopped Chinese citizens from entering the U.S.

On Feb. 26, a Biogen international biotech conference at the Long Wharf Marriott Hotel started a

superspreader event and spawned 300,000 Covid cases scientists admit this may be an underestimate - in Boston and 25

other states.

A MOMENT IN

HISTORY

BEVERLY

GUDANOWSKI

UXBRIDGE

On March 20, 2020, President Trump initiated "Operation WARP speed" for a Covid vaccine.

On Dec. 14, 2020, U.S. officials shipped millions of doses of the first Covid vaccine and front line health care providers received their first inoculations on that day. A vaccine in under 10 months. Revolutionary. Unheard of.

Thank you to the medical high tech scientists who worked very hard on this. You should be proud. The doctors and nurses of 1918 bless you. Thank you, thank you, President Trump.

Now, we give additional, grateful thanks to those who never stopped working and never worked from home:

we thank the First, front line doctors, nurses, health care workers, laboratory technicians, and pharmacists who worked in hospitals and nursing homes since Jan. 20, 2020. They never stopped working despite the long hours, the masks and gowns, the exhaustion, the loss of patients, and the exposure to a frightening virus.

We thank the funeral home employees who also worked tirelessly and shifted to compassion and sympathy in an alien environment. Thank you for the United States Navy emblems and the brightly flying American flags on my Father's hearse. It was memorable, unforgettable, and patriotic.

Thank you to the grocery store employees, the farmers, the food factory workers, the toilet paper factory workers, and the intrepid truckers who literally fed and supplied us through 2020 and into 2021. Thank you to those who stocked canned goods and loaded lettuce and tomatoes on shelves and managed the cash registers and the flow of customers. Thank you simply for the jars of spaghetti sauce.

Thank you to the police and firefighters, the emergency medical technicians and ambulance drivers who continued to show up no matter vour emergency. Yes, the police showed up when someone knocked a telephone pole down in front of our house. Thank you to the firemen who showed up when an electric surge resulted in our house, causing smoke to pour from a socket.

Thank you to the oil delivery employees, the oil burner repairmen, the electricians, carpenters, and trades people who worked throughout the pandemic delivering, repairing, fixing and working so you and I could be warm and have lights.

Now we come to the people who deserve great thanks. The janitors, the cleaners, the laundry workers, the trash haulers and the medical waste companies. Without them, no hospital or nursing home or factory or grocery store could function. Cleaning is a necessity. Cleaning and cleaning again is essential. These folks never stopped working. Kind of like God.

Could you be a janitor or a cleaning person in a hospital or nursing home? Could you be this brave and keep our great country

How can new relief package help you?



FINANCIAL Focus

> **DARREN PARENT**

Now that the \$900 billion stimulus package has been signed into law, individuals and businesses affected by COVID-19 will receive some additional relief. How might you be helped?

Here are the key provisions of the new legislation, along with how they could affect you:

Stimulus payments to taxpayers If you had an adjusted gross income of up to \$75,000 (\$150,000 for joint filers and \$112,500 for heads of household), you're eligible for a \$600 payment, or \$1,200 if you filed jointly, as well as \$600 per child younger than 17. The payment amount is gradually phased out above certain income thresholds. By now, you may have already received your payment, especially if you had established direct deposit with the IRS. If you don't need the money to pay your bills, you could use it to help build an emergency fund or add to your IRA or other investment account.

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) The new legislation provides about \$285 billion in additional funding for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. If you own a business, you may be eligible for a PPP loan, even if you already received one from last year. The loan is forgivable if at least 60 percent of the money is spent on employee payroll costs, with the other 40 percent going for other allowable expenses. The new legislation expands the definition of allowable expenses for PPP loan forgiveness and clarifies that business expenses paid with PPP proceeds are tax deductible. Also, \$20 billion of new money has been allocated for Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) grants. Priority for second PPP loans and EIDL grants will be given to small businesses (with 300 or fewer employees) that had a significant decline in revenue. You can apply for a PPP loan through any existing Small Business Administration (SBA) lender or through a participating bank or credit union. To begin the application process, visit the SBA

Unemployment assistance The new legislation provides an additional \$300 per week to recipients of unemployment insurance for weeks of unemployment starting after Dec. 26, 2020, and ending on or before March 14, 2021. It also continues the expanded eligibility of benefits under the CARES Act and provides an additional 11 weeks of unemployment benefits through March 14, 2021, for those who remain unemployed after state employment benefits are no longer available. If you haven't already done so, contact your local unemployment office to apply for benefits.

website at sba.gov.

Rental assistance The relief legislation provides \$25 billion of rental assistance to state and local governments for paying rent, utilities and housing stability services. To find out if you're eligible for aid, contact your local Housing and Urban Development (HUD) office or visit the HUD website at hud.gov. The new relief package also extends the current eviction moratorium through Jan. 31, 2021.

Hopefully, 2021 will be the year in which we put the pandemic behind us. But in the meantime, you may get some valuable aid from the new relief package.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Darren Parent, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385

Managing a difficult insect pest on houseplants

A sticky substance on plant leaves, plant stands, and the floor are often the first clue alerting gardeners to a problem. If a closer look reveals bumps on the upper and lower surface of leaves and stems, it means scale insects have moved in to dine on your houseplants. Severe infestations can cause leaf yellowing, stunting and dieback of the plant.

If you have battled these insects, you know they can be challenging to control. Arm yourself with an understanding of their lifecycle and be persistent to successfully manage these pests.

Scale insects have needle-like mouthparts that allow them to pierce the leaf and stem surfaces. They suck plant sap through a tube-like structure just as if they were drinking from a straw. These are one of several insects that secrete drops of a clear, sticky substance, called honeydew, as they feed. A black fungus known as sooty mold may grow on the honeydew. It does not directly harm the plant, but it looks bad. In severe cases, sooty mold can prevent sunlight from reaching the leaves, causing them to yel-

Adult scale insects form coverings that protect them from adverse environmental conditions and most chemical controls. Eggs hatch under this protective covering and the immature scale,

called crawlers, emerge looking for a place to feed. Once settled, the crawler continues to grow, shedding layers of skin. These layers of shed skin, or waxy lavers, form their protective covering.

Isolate infected plants as soon as you discover the problem. This will reduce the

risk of this pest spreading to your other plants.

You can remove the adult scales with a toothpick, tweezers, or an old toothbrush. Repeat every few weeks until you have this pest under control. This may be sufficient to control small populations, but if you miss even one adult the problem persists.

The crawler stage is the most susceptible to chemical control. You will need a hand lens or magnifying glass to see these short-lived crawlers. Insecticides and washing small plants with a plantsafe soapy water solution can help manage small populations. Cover the pot and soil to prevent any scale knocked off



Melinda Myers

Scale insects may be dining on your houseplant if you notice a sticky substance on its leaves and bumps on the upper and lower surface of the plant's leaves and stems.

during the bath from crawling back onto the plant.

Increase your chance of success with the help of an organic insecticide like Summit Year-Round Spray Oil (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com). This lightweight oil suffocates and controls all stages of the scale insect, including the adult and eggs housed under the protective covering. Repeat applications are needed to get this insect under con-

This product is safe for people and pets while harmful to this and other house-

GARDEN

MELINDA

MYERS

plant pests. As always read and follow label directions for the most effective

MOMENTS Clean the pot, saucers, plant stands and the area around infected plants to

remove any honeydew and unseen crawlers. This along with proper control will reduce the risk of these insects infesting treated and nearby plants.

Continue to monitor all your plants for scale and other insects each time you water. It is much easier to manage small populations than larger infestations on more plants.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.melindamyers.

Anglers take to the ice

The old saying: if you do not like the weathin New England, just wait a day or Fishermen have been waiting or some safe ice, and it has finally happened. Numerous small ponds were safe this past weekend, but it was safe in some areas and not so safe in others. Caution still needs to be practiced as not all areas of the lakes and ponds are frozen equally. The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club had a few anglers catching some recently stocked trout this past Saturday, with Steve Bedard of Uxbridge landing a real impressive rainbow trout, as this week's picture shows.

Not all sections of the pond were safe, but anglers concentrated on the safe areas to fish. While some anglers fishing Steve were Bedard was busy cooking breakfast prior to his big catch. Waffles and eggs were great, according to



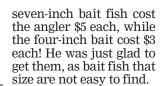
THE GREAT **OUTDOORS** RALPH TRUE

all in attendance. Steve loves to cook ,and does a pig roast for the club every year!

This past week, I visited Jerrys' Bait & Tackle shop in Milford to get the latest information on fishing conditions in other parts of the state. One angler that I spoke with did not want to be identified, but he did reveal some great information on his success fishing for Northern Pike in the Western part of the state the week before. Trophy fishing for pike can be a bit on the pricey side when it comes to purchasing live bait, as I quickly found out. You want to catch big fish, you need to use large bait! Six- and

He was smart enough commercial draggers.

keep their pets close to home and under their control at all times. The threat of losing them to predators is extremely high this time of year, and the other threat is to have them fall through thin ice. In the last few weeks, dog owners have had their pets fall through thin ice, but were lucky that they were rescued in time. Numerous deer are also falling through thin ice as they attempt to cross local ponds and



Even when you are tak-

ing walks with your dog

at this time of year, they

should be kept on a leash

when walking near ponds and lakes. A few years

back, I was taking my

dogs Molly and Twig for

a walk along the banks of

the Uxbridge Rod & Gun

Club, when my wife's beagle Molly spotted a

couple of mallard ducks

flying by. As soon as she

spotted them, she started

Not watching where

she was going, the ducks

banked to the right over

the pond. She followed

them and found herself

under a thin layer of ice.

I quickly jumped into the

water that, thankfully,

was not too deep. I could

see her swimming under

the coating of ice (about

an inch), and I managed

to break the ice and grab

her collar. I threw her

towards the shore as my

walking buddy looked

on. This happened prior

to my wife's passing, and

I knew that if I had gone

home without her, my life

would be hell! She suf-

fered no ill effects from

the ordeal, and I was

lucky the water was not

ily members about the

dangers of thin ice cannot

be stressed enough at this

time of year. They need

adult supervision at all

times, and some adults

need to be supervised by

their children!

Talking to young fam-

too deep.

to chase them by sight.

I asked the angler if he had any pictures of his fish from the prior week of fishing, and he was quick to show me one fish that was a monster Northern Pike. I asked him if he would allow me to use it for my next column? Sorry, I do not want people following me to my favorite fishing hole! I can understand, as one local angler that has some great fishing spots for Northern Pike had that happen to him. He found anglers parked down the road from his house, waiting for him to leave, and they would attempt to follow him to his fishing spot that morning.

to notice he was being followed, and managed to lose them on some of the back roads, prior to arriving at his destination. Deer hunters are also reluctant to disclose their trophy deer hunting spots for the same reason, and have gone through similar experiences. Is this what fishing and hunting is coming to? It also happens on the ocean. It makes reporting on trophy fish and deer success a lot harder. Oh, well! It is the world we live in today! I do not need to worry about anyone trying to follow me my hot spots, as they have been fished out by

Dog owners need to



Steve Bedard with a monster rainbow trout caught this past

to a warm place during extremely cold weather should be practiced, and there outdoor living quarters need to be clean, dry, with plenty of straw! They also need plenty of water at this time of year with plenty of high protein food.

The Massachusetts late Canada Goose hunting reopened on Jan. 15 in the Central District, and will remain open until Feb. 15, with a five-bird daily limit. Fortunately, the fields are absent of snow having numerous geese frequenting them on a daily basis. Unfortunately, most fields are now frozen

making food for the geese hard to get, and some fields that do have food and numerous geese in them, are off limits to hunting. Rivers should provide some great hunting opportunities to harvest a few geese before the season ends on Feb.

The 2020 black bear season in Massachusetts was a record year, with 325 bears harvested! The September season had 236 bear harvested, and the November season had five.

Take A Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Jim Lavallee & Steve Bedard ice fishing at the Uxbridge Club Pond this past Saturday.

How valuable is your antique painting?

We often find antique paintings in the New England estates that we handle. Prices vary greatly, as some paintings are worth little while others can be quite valuable. This column will offer tips to determine if that painting on your wall will help you with

your retirement fund. The first thing you should do is check to see if what you have is an actual painting. Prints can often look like paintings to the naked eye. If you check vour piece with a magnifying glass, you may find dots, the © copyright

mark and other indications that it is just a print. You may also see a number such as 246/500 signed in pencil along with the artist These name. markings are seen on limited edition prints or AP (artist proof) prints. They have some value, but typically are not as valuable as an original painting. There WAYNE TUISKULA are exceptions though. Nearly

20 years ago, we sold a group of prints that were signed by Andy Warhol. They brought around \$500 then and may be worth even more if they were auctioned today.

If you are certain you have a painting, there are other things you can check for or you can ask someone more knowledgeable to help you check it. Look at the painting detail. Do the details, such as hands in a portrait or items in the background of a scene, look like they are paint-



ed well? Try to estimate the age by examining the frame. If it is in an antique gold leaf frame, the painting could very well have been done in the 19th century. Also examine what material it was painted on. If the painting is on canvas, turn it around and check to see if the canvas has the discoloration

that you would expect with an older painting. Paintings on canvas are typically more valuable than those painted on board. Oil paintings typically bring more than watercolors or pastels.

makes a differ-

ence in value. An

artist may be well

known for their

subject

also

The

matter

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

seascapes, they could have also painted portraits or landscapes. The paintings that they specialized in are typically more valuable. Painting size is also important. Some painting appraisals are based on the price per square inch. Condition is another important factor. Holes, tears and repairs will detract from value. The provenance (definition according to Merriam Webster: "the history of ownership of a valued object or work of art or

literature") is important

with paintings, as with

other antiques. We sold an abstract painting by a French artist at one of our auctions. The winning bidder asked for the family name from the estate who consigned it so that he could track the provenance of the painting and prove it was original.

Lastly, look for the name of the artist and see if it is dated. When you have the artist name you can look it up in Davenport's Art Reference and Price Guide or an online database. Paintings that we found in local estates have brought five figures at auction. There are plenty more in this area that could bring six or seven figures. If you have a valuable painting, you can sell it and always replace the space on the wall with a reasonably priced limited-edition

Our current online auction features paintings by well-known equestrian artist Fay Moore from her estate. Bidding ends Feb. 17. We will soon be running our next auction of antique, vintage and more recent toy vehicles and trains. We continue to accept quality consignments of gold jewelry, sterling silver, paintings, coins, and better collectibles such as 1960s and earlier comic books and baseball cards for that sale. Keep watching www. centralmassauctions. com for more details on upcoming events.

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



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OBITUARIES

Gwendolyn Taylor-Newhall, 67



UXBRIDGE-Gwendolyn Taylor-Newhall, 67, passed away on Sun. Jan. 17, 2021 at her home in Plymouth, MA. after a two year battle with mesothelioma.

She is survived by her loving husband of 40 years Gary C. Newhall; her step-father John A "Jack" Sampson of Uxbridge; a sister Mary Boulanger of Millville; 2 brothers Joseph "Bobby" Taylor of Whitinsville and John A. "Del" Taylor of Upton.

She is also survived by 2 stepchildren; Stacy Kawalec of Coventry, CT and Kelly Singer of Brooklyn, CT; 3 grandchildren, Jenna, Jacob, and Samantha; and several nieces, nephews, and good friends. She was predeceased by her brother Francis H. Birrette-Taylor and her sister Sylvia Parsons.

Born on Nov. 15, 1953 in Milford, MA she was the daughter of the late Henry and Mary Alice (Birrette) Taylor. The family moved to L'Ardoise, Nova Scotia where Gwen was raised to age 12. The family then moved back to Linwood, MA. where she was educated in the Good Shepherd School and Uxbridge High School. Gwen graduated Uxbridge High School in the Class of 1972.She earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from Bryant University

She worked at several Boston area companies until she and Gary moved to Troy, Michigan in 1989 where they lived for more than 30 years. In Michigan she worked in Human Resources as a Benefit's Specialist for a number of Auto Parts Suppliers, retiring in 2015. Gwen loved her home in Michigan and made many great friends that became an extended family. She and Gary moved to Plymouth, Massachusetts in November, 2019.

Gwen enjoyed cooking, golfing, gardening, dining out and traveling. She loved to explore new places with Gary. She will be greatly missed by everyone she knew. She touched many lives with her loving, caring, kindness and positive attitude.

Because of Covid-19, Celebration of Life Service will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Brigham and Women's Hospital to support The Thornton House at the International Mesothelioma Program. Checks can be made payable to Brigham and Women's Hospital with "in memory of Gwen Newhall and in support for the Thornton House" in the memo line, and sent to: Brigham and Women's Hospital, Development Office, 116 Huntington Ave., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. To leave a condolence message for her family please visit http://www. Jackmanfuneralhomes.com

Dennis F. Daley, 91

UXBRIDGE- Dennis F. Daley, 91, formerly of Uxbridge, passed away on Sun. Jan. 17, 2021 at Liberty Commons Nursing Home in North Chatham where he had been a resident the past 2 years. He is survived by his adoring wife of 66 years, Evelyn (Rivernider) Daley, resident of Harwichport.

He is also survived by his son, Thomas Daley of South Harwich, daughter-in-law, Patricia (Gouin) Daley of Broomfield, CO; 5 grandchildren, Erika Daley of Seattle, WA, Allison Daley of Broomfield, CO, Seth Daley of New Bedford, Meghan Daley of Mattapoisett and Kevin Daley of Fall River, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son, Timothy F. Daley in 2016, his brother John B. Daley in 1993, his sister Mary Loretta Newell in 2011 and sister Anne Richard in 2006.

Born in Milford on April 20, 1929 he was the son of John E. and Mary J. (Casey) Daley and lived in Uxbridge most of his life. He graduated from Uxbridge High School, participating in athletics. He worked for Massachusetts Electric Company for 43 years retiring in 1990.

Dennis was a proud Korean War Veteran, enlisting in the U.S. Army and rising to the rank of Sergeant. He

was of the Roman Catholic faith and a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus. He was a Past Commander of the American Legion, Post #33. Before retirement, he was active in politics in

Massachusetts and held several elected and appointed offices.

In 1997 he graduated from Indian River Community College in FL and held a legal assistant degree. He also attended Quinsigamond Community College and Worcester Junior College in MA. He was certified by the Supreme Court of Florida as a mediator and was a member of the Alternate Dispute Resolution Program.

There will not be any services at this time but his cremation burial will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers per Dennis' request, donations in his memory may be made to: Our Lady of the Valley School in Uxbridge, in particularly to the G.R.A.C.E. center. The G.R.A.C.E. Center - Our Lady of the Valley (ourladyofthevalleyregional.com)To leave a condolence message for his family please visit: http:// www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com

Grace G. Nyenhuis, 95



WHITINSVILLE Grace G. (Jongsma) Nyenhuis, 95, went to be with the Lord on Monday January 18, 2021 while surrounded by family. She was married for 42 years to the late John Nyenhuis, who died

in 1989.

Grace was born August 19, 1925 in Whitinsville, the oldest child of the late Peter and Elsie (Oosterman) Jongsma. A lifelong resident of Whitinsville, she was a 1938 graduate of Whitinsville Christian School and a 1942 graduate of Northbridge High School.

Grace began her working career at Whitin Machine Works. After her children were born, she worked from home making hats for a local hat factory. She found her true calling when she began working at Sunshine Haven, a residential home for children with special needs. She spent over 35 years caring for and loving the children who lived

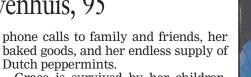
Grace was a lifelong member of Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church, where she was well known and loved by the congregation. She served on the bereavement committee, coffee break ministry, and in the nursery. She was an enthusiastic supporter of Whitinsville Christian School, where her children and several grandchildren attended. Grace had the gift of hospitality and opened her heart and home to others. She loved laughter and togetherness. She was known for her weekly baked goods, and her endless supply of

grandson, Neal Adams.

held at a later date.

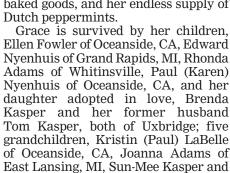
Arrangements are under the direction of the Buma Funeral Home, Whitinsville.

www.bumafuneralhome.com



Ellen Fowler of Oceanside, CA, Edward Nyenhuis of Grand Rapids, MI, Rhonda Adams of Whitinsville, Paul (Karen) Nyenhuis of Oceanside, CA, and her daughter adopted in love, Brenda Kasper and her former husband Tom Kasper, both of Uxbridge; five grandchildren, Kristin (Paul) LaBelle of Oceanside, CA, Joanna Adams of East Lansing, MI, Sun-Mee Kasper and Ariana Kasper, both of Uxbridge, and Madison Nyenhuis of Oceanside, CA; two great-grandchildren, Nathaniel LaBelle and Lillian LaBelle, both of Oceanside, CA; two brothers, Robert (Helen) Jongsma of Byron Center, MI and Rev. Allan (Joyce) Jongsma of Jenison, MI, dearly loved Nyenhuis brothers and sisters, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother, Harold Jongsma, and a

Please omit flower MA 01588 or to the Healing Hearts Hospitality House, 85 N. Lake Ave.,



Worcester, MA 01605.

Mary C. Connors



WHITINSVILLE-Mary C. (Rykoski) Connors, a longtime resident of Whitinsville, died on Friday, January 22, in Milford Hospital after a brief period of declining health. Her husband of 61 years,

John B. Connors, passed in August of

Mrs. Connors is survived by two sons, Kevin M. Connors and his wife Rosemary, of Douglas, and Michael J. Connors and his wife Susan, of Tewksbury, two grandchildren, Kelli Connor D'Amico and her husband Richard, of NY and Abigail Connors Aldrich and her husband Justin, of CT, two great-grandchildren, Valerie D'Amico and Julian Aldrich, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother, Richard, in 2000.

Born in Uxbridge, the daughter of Anthony J. and Julia M. (Cahill) Rykoski, Mrs. Connors was a graduate of Uxbridge High School and Becker College. She was employed by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company upon graduation as secretary to the district manager. She was also employed as

a secretary in the personnel depart-

FUNERAL HOMES Uxbridge • Whitinsville • Milford www.bumafuneralhome.com

ment of the former Bachman-Uxbridge Worsted Corporation in Uxbridge and then worked as a permanent substitute teacher in the business department of Northbridge High School. In later years she was a retail banking representative at the former Bank of Boston in Whitinsville until her retirement in

was a member of the Mary Whitinsville Women's Club, St. Camillus Hospital Guild and a volunteer for Tri-Valley Elder Services.

As a long time member of St. Patrick's Parish in Whitinsville, she attended Mass daily and in former years served on the bereavement and flower committees and as a lector. She was an avid sorts fan and enjoyed her children's and grandchildren's sporting

Mary was a devoted wife, mother and grand mother with an abiding faith and whose family was the heart of her life.

Mrs. Connor's Mass of Christian Burial at St. Patrick's Church and burial in St. Patrick's Cemetery are private. A celebration of Mary's life will be planned when her family and friends can safely gather. Carr Funeral Home, 24 Hill St., Whitinsville, is honored to assist with services. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to St. Patrick's Church, c/o the Bereavement Committee, PO Box 60, Whitinsville, MA 01588. To share a memory or condolence with the family, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550,

> or by e-mail to o bits@stonebridgepress.news. Deadline is Monday noon for Friday publication.

James G. Nydam, 93



UXBRIDGE - James G. Nydam, 93, of Uxbridge passed away on Saturday January 23, 2021 to be with his Lord, surrounded by his family at home. He was the devoted husband of the late Jean S. (Feddema)

Nydam who died in 2019. Mr. Nydam owned and operated Grand View Dairy Farm on Williams Hill in Uxbridge for many years.

He was born in 1927 in Uxbridge, the son of the late George and Marjorie (LaFleur) Nydam and attended and graduated from Uxbridge Public Schools. His love for working with wood, cutting and splitting it or making pieces of furniture for his family members started in his woodworking class in the high school.

Jim was a longtime member of the Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church in Whitinsville. He was a faithful volunteer at his church and the Whitinsville Christian School. He and his brother Al (among others) had the vision for the local Fairwoods Christian Recreation Center and enlist-Funeral services and burial will be ed their children into the clearing and private. A celebration of life will be sprucing up in that special place. He worked at the Uxbridge High School as a janitor after leaving the farm. He flowers, memorial donations may be was an Uxbridge School Committee made to the Whitinsville Christian member. He was a valuable volunteer School, 279 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville, that worked on projects at his church, Whitinsville Christian School or community; no job was too small for him. He donated many pieces of his woodwork to the WCS auctions. If Jim was outside, it would be on a tractor or cutting wood. He was loved for his quick smile and willingness to help anyone out. His joy showed in all that he did. He was deeply loved and will be sorely missed.

He is survived by five daughters, Ruth Bandstra of Uxbridge, Marilyn Nydam of Uxbridge, Rebecca A. Smith of Uxbridge, Susan and Randal Bol of Eastham and Laurelynn and Christopher Vander Baan of Uxbridge; a sister Nellie M. DeVries of Uxbridge; 18 grandchildren, and 31 great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by brother Albert Nydam and sister Joyce Buteyn. He loved having family all around on The Hill and enjoyed participating in celebrations. As a farmer, he was often teased about no sons on the farm. He never missed a beat in coming back with, "I have been blessed with five wonderful daughters.

Funeral services will be held private. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery, Whitinsville. There are no public visiting hours.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Whitinsville Christian School, James and Jean Nydam Scholarshin, 279 Linwood Whitinsville, MA 01588.

Arrangements by Buma Funeral Home. www.bumafuneralhome.com

Kathleen Johnson, 97



NORTHBRIDGE -Kathleen T. Egan Johnson, 97 yrs. old of Northbridge, MA formerly from Andover Twp., NJ passed away peacefully January 15, 2021. She was a resident of Andover Twp., N.J. for 51 yrs

before moving to MA. She was the former wife of the late Kennith C. Johnson. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y. to Irish immigrants. She proudly worked at American Safety Razor for ten years during World War II as a Rosie the Riveter. She drilled and inspected 20 mm shells for the war. She also made paper records on a Wilcox Gay machine for soldiers to leave messages to their families and friends. For 10 years she owned Stanton Bake Shop in Jersey City, N.J. before moving to Andover Twp. to raise her family. Employed by the Andover School District for 23 years, Kathleen worked as a dietary aid. For 8 years, she volunteered as a Girl Scout leader mentoring many girls in the area. She was a member of the Lake Iliff Community Club for 60 years and was one of the Club's oldest surviving members. She enjoyed sewing, cooking, drawing and the outdoors. She was the family historian, creative artist, good friend and an understanding mother with a sense of humor.

She is survived by her four children: Dr. Donna A. Johnson and her husband William Cox of Sun City Center. FL., Kennith C. Johnson and his wife Barbara Johnson of Demarest, N.J., Michael Johnson of W. Jefferson, N.C. and Dr. Margaret Mary Johnson and her husband Philip R. Cyr of Northbridge, MA. She is also survived by six grandchildren: Timothy Johnson, Nicole Johnson, Robert Johnson, Christopher Johnson Cox, Cailah DeRoo and Brendan DeRoo. She had one great grandchild Roselyn Johnson. She leaves many family and friends who will miss her.

Funeral services will be privately held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place. Memphis, TN 38105.

Arrangements by Buma Funeral



News, really close to home

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Richard P. Lotfy to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., dated May 12, 2006 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38967, Page 279 (the "Mortgage"), as affected by a Land Court Judgment dated June 26, 2018, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 59173, Page 102, which equitably assigns the mortgage to Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-4 of which mortgage Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-4 is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for IndyMac Bank, F.S.B. to IndyMac Bank, FSB as Trustee under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement Series BSALTA 2006-4 dated July 20, 2007 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 42172, Page 22, and Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as nominee for IndyMac Bank, FSB to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust 2006-4 dated July 23, 2010 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 46416, Page 361, and Order of the Land Court Judgment dated June 26, 2018 recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 59173, Page 102 which equitably assigns the mortgage to Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-4, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 145 Hazel Street, Uxbridge, MA 01569 will be sold at a Public Auction at 3:00 PM on February 11, 2021, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon, at 145 Hazel Street, Uxbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, situated on the north side of Hazel Street containing one acre, more or less and described as follows: Beginning at the southwesterly corner of the premises at land now or formerly on one Tommey; Thence N. 2 degrees 15' W., twenty (20) rods with the land of said Toomey northeast corner thereot; Thence S. 71 degrees E., Eight rods to stake and stones; Thence southerly with a line parallel with the first line, twenty (20) rods, more or less, to the northerly line of said street; Thence westerly with street, eight (8) rods, more or less, to the place of beginning. For title reference see Deed recorded herewith, Book 38967 Page 278.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38967, Page 278.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon accep-

tance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for Bear Stearns ALT-A Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-4 Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Lotfy, Richard P., 15-022588 January 15, 2021 January 22, 2021

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

January 29, 2021

Quaker Street, Premises:57 Northbridge, Massachusetts By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Meaghan C. Walsh f/k/a Meaghan C. Skaggs to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for HSBC Mortgage Corporation and now held by Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee for MFRA Trust 2014-2, said mortgage dated May 7, 2007, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 41142 at Page 235, as affected by Home Affordable Modification Agreement dated March 27, 2013, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 51337, Page 171, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated August 25, 2010, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 46231 at Page 5, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated July 29, 2013, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 51337 at Page 383, as affected by a Confirmatory Assignment of Mortgage dated June 15, 2016, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 55674, Page 199, as affected by and Assignment of Mortgage, dated July 24, 2015, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 54121 at Page 276, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated April 1, 2016, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 55202 at Page 40, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated May 3, 2019, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 60546 at Page 383, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on February 12, 2021, at 03:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with buildinas thereon, situated in the Town of Northbridge, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, situated on the easterly side of Quaker Street, and being shown as Lot #2 on a plan of land entitled, "Land of Roy C. Peterson, Northbridge, Mass., April 23, 1977, scale: 1"= 60', John R. Andrews, Jr. Registered Land Surveyor," which plan is recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 438, Plan 30, to which a more particular description may he had. The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 21, 2004, and recorded in Book 34909 at Page 77 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars

of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty five (45) days after the date of sale.

January 22, 2021

January 29, 2021 February 5, 2021

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE
TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 21 SM 000086
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Andrew Eagleson and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

U.S. Bank Trust, N.A. as Trustee for Cascade Funding Mortgage Trust 2017-1, A Delaware Statutory Trust claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Northbridge, numbered 898 Sutton Street, given by Andrew Eagleson to First Franklin a division of Nat. City Bank of IN, dated June 15, 2005, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36567, Page 201, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Service-members Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 3/8/2021 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 1/19/2021 Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder January 29, 2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO21P0137EA
Worcester Probate & Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Estate of:
Maura C O'Shea

Date Of Death: October 15, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Erin O'Shea Paudel of Uxbridge MA

Erin O'Shea Paudel of Uxbridge MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without sureties on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. January 21, 2021

anuary 21, 2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family
Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No.WO21P0155EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:
Michael P Schiappucci
Date of Death: 10/18/2020
To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Kelly A Schiappucci of Bellingham MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Kelly A Schiappucci** of **Bellingham MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/23/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 20, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

January 29, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L Ch 40A, Section 11, and Chapter 173, Section 48 of the Northbridge Zoning By-laws, the Northbridge Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 11**, **2021 at 6:35 P.M.** BY VIA ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/93058568076?pwd=K1hLQUFQcVhYaEtxQmphS2hscGVkQT09

1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: Meeting ID: 982 0677 1286

1286 Passcode: 160158

To consider the petition of Degmar Realty LLC, 95 A Turnpike Rd., Westborough, MA 01581 for a Variance (1-V-21) to construct a single family home on vacant land located on Hope Street, The lot has less than the required area as well as variances from the front and rear lot setback requirements, Article X, Table of Area Regulations 173-48, of the Town of Northbridge Zoning By-Jaws. The property, shown on Assessor's Map 23A as Parcel 146 is located in a residential -3 zoning district and is owned by Degmar Realty LLC.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide an opportunity for public comment. Anyone wishing to be heard regarding this matter should attend said meeting at the time and place designated. A copy of the petition is available for review at the office of the Town Clerk and Zoning Board of Appeals Office and may be reviewed during normal business hours.

January 29, 2021

February 5, 2021

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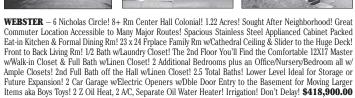


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WEBSTER LAKE - 124-2 Gore Road!1.68 Acres! Private Retreat Lot with 320' of Road Frontage and 200' of Waterfront! Located in North Pond! Beautiful Panoramic Views! Sucker Brook Cove! Lot has been split from a larger parcel! Survey, Home Rendering and Conservation Items Addressed - Order of Conditions Pending! This is the Opportunity to Build a Unique Home with Spectacular Views! Direct Lake/Boat Access! Water and Sewer in the Road! Walk to Restaurants! Surrounded by Wildlife, including Swans and Eagles! \$175,000.00



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



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









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



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- 3.58 ACRES includes extra lot.



Home "Sweet" Home! TOTALLY Ren-ovated! New Roof – Updated Electrical – New Heating System !! Bedroom, 1.5 Bath – 2 Story Conventional Home. Dead-End St. Rare find, Large Lot .77 Acre - Inside -Neutral Pal-ette of Complimentary Paint Colors throughout the Entire House! Loads of

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1.5 Bath - 2 Story Conventional Home. .Dead-End St. Rare find, Large Lot .77 Acre - Inside -Neutral Palette of Complimentary Paint Colors throughout the Entire House! Loads of Character \$319,000.



age Possible to be Subdivided! Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. \$115,000.

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res.! Each \$24,500. Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State



Cozy 2 Story House with 3 BIG Bonuses! #1. Land almost 1 ACRE! #2. Zoning is MR-12 - Possible Multi Family Use - Investment Opportunity?! #3. Large Over-sized 2+ Car Garage, Work Bench, Power & 2nd Floort Great Space for the Hobbyst, DIY or Contractor!1ST Floor-Living rm, Bedroom, Large Kitchen/Dining Area with Galley Parity & Full Bath! Zoff L. Bedrooms! All New Carpets - Recent Paint! Multi-Level Back Deck with Jacuzz! \$255,000.





Beautiful 2,422 Sq Ft Colonial! 4 Berdroom! 3 Bath! Fireplace, 2 Car garage! So much

assisted sale **\$415,000**



Beautiful home set back off road providing privacy and oversized yard. Kitchen w/granite counters & abundance of cabinets. Ca-thedral cellings kitchen, dining and living room. Open floor plant large deck with large backyard through silders in dining room. Hardwood floors! Tile baths. Master bedroom/master bath! Finished walkout lower level w/bar! 2 car garage. Extras: above



NEW TO THE MARKET! Custom Sprawling Split 2800+ SF' Central Airl kitchen, Dining Room, Cathedral Ceiling Living Room, 3 Bedrooms Grantle Counters & New Flooring! New Boiler - Hot Water Tank - Oil Tankl FULL finished Lower Level w/ Full Bath & Laundry! THERE'S MORE! 2 Car Garage, renovated to indude Hybr Heat, AC & 1/2 Bath! Great for Fitness Studio, Game Room or Home School! Over 1.4 Acres! \$360,000.



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Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180'+/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gournet kitchen, lake facing dining formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor quest BR Suite w/ private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! Remember, Timing Is Everything!

Lake Shirley - 647 Reservoir Rd



Lakefront! Lake Shirley! Modern Flare on a Lakefront Co-Ionial! 1st level Formal large entry foyer, living room, gas fireplace, chef kitchen, Impala black granite, center island, 3 season porch, overlooking the lake. 1st FL bedroom suite w/ shower and jacuzzi tub. 2nd floor Master Suite! Lower level Summer kitchen, full bath, game room. Crown moulding & hardwood floors throughout, wired sound system, radiant floors. oversize 2 car garage. Additional Guest House!

assisted sale \$1,040,000.

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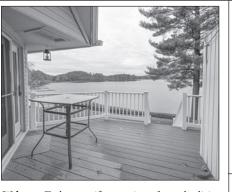
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The employee will work nineteen (19) hours per week. Annual salary \$28,636. Requirements: high school diploma or equivalent, ten (10) years of private sector management experience, no less than two (2) years of service on a public board or commission of the Town of Douglas. Must have ability to attend evening meetings with various town boards, and a valid motor vehicle operator license.

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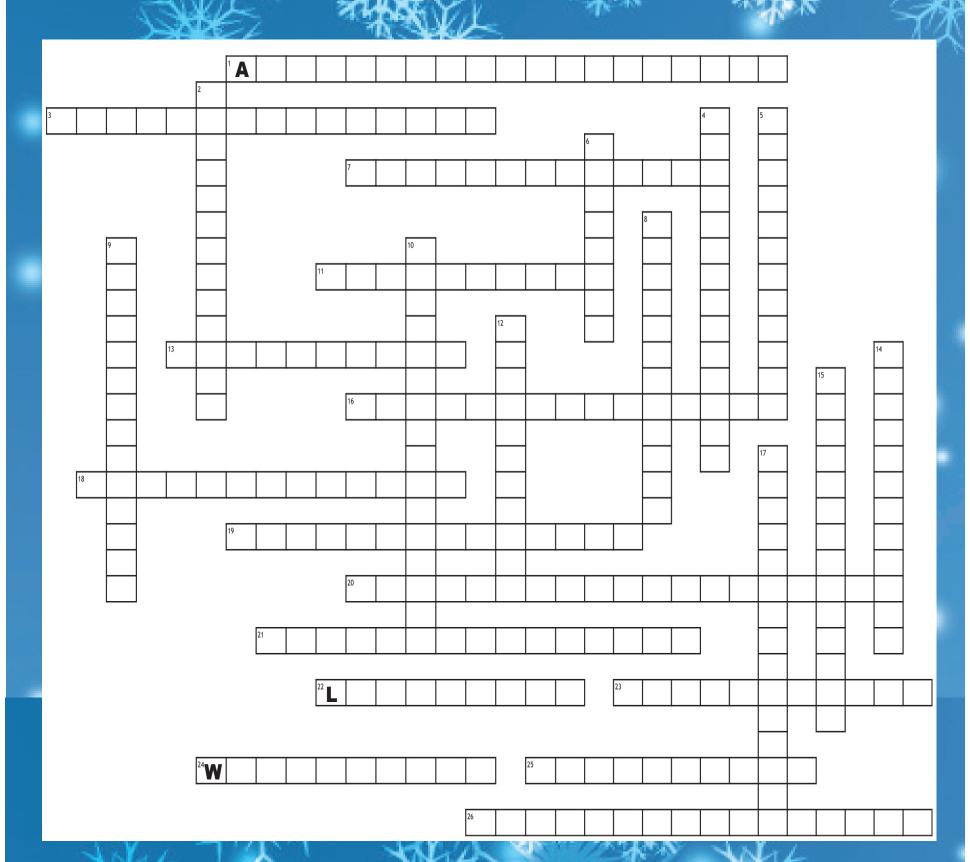
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3rd Ammual ABC's of the Seasons WINTER EDITION



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- 1. Family owned & operated since 1997
- 3. Find our BOGO Coupon on our Website
- 7. Crystals & Gemstones
- 11. Drive happier
- 13. MDPU# 31690
- 16. Winter clothing to cover you from head to foot
- 18. 45 years in business
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- 20. We treat chronic bad breath
- 21. Color matching specialists
- 22. 15 years Real Estate Experience
- 23. Foggy, cracked, or broken glass
- 24. ASE Certified Technicians
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- 8. Warm up to a new career
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- 10. We will be happy to assist you anytime
- 12. Family owned and operated since 1967
- 14. Give your sweetheart a gift certificate for Valentine's Day
- 15. 24 hr Roadside Assistance
- 17. Family owned for over 70 years

ABC'S OF THE SEASONS, WINTER EDITION

Please find the answers to this crossword puzzle on page 2 of this section. Enter to win a \$25 gift card to one of these local businesses by mailing in your completed crossword ABC Crossword Puzzle, Stonebridge Press, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA 01550

OR scan & email or take a picture and email it to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by Thursday, February 18.

Random-drawing for winner of all correct entries to be announced in the February 26th issue of the Express. One entry per person.

Please support these ABC's businesses and tell them you saw their ad in your local paper! Good luck!

The pandemic of pessimism vs. the opportunities of optimism

"The sky is falling! The end is near!" In a variety of words, we are hearing these dire warnings issued by the talking heads on television and on talk radio, daily. The fear then permeates into the minds and hearts of listeners who then spread to their friends, family, and coworkers. Yes, fear and pessimism can travel just like a virus. Washing your hands and

wearing masks won't help. Social distancing will, but it requires far more than staying six feet away. Avoid



SPEAKING GARY W.

Pessimism is a tendency to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen. Sound familiar? How many people do you know live this way? A pessimistic outlook causes lack of hope or confidence in the future. It's a terrible feeling to live without hope. Even worse,

the carriers of pessimism like the plague.

pessimism is a self-fulfilling prophesy. If you live your life believing the worst is coming, your mind and body conspire together to make it so. What you look for, you usually find.

> We speak often about optimism and the opportunities for a successful and happy life. But like the typical optimist, I usually avoid pessimism like a nasty virus.

> The typical pessimist doesn't realize he or she is a pessimist. They say things like, "I call them the way I see them," or, "I'm a realist." When you believe the worst is coming, what do you think you look for? And when you look at life through pessimistic eyes, everything looks negative. When you see the worst in situations and people, you respond in kind, while creating a negative and unhappy life.

> I spent a lot of years in leadership positions and as a CEO. In searching for future leaders, experience and education was always important but took a back seat to attitude and outlook. I always sought out the optimists. I wanted people who saw a successful and bright future at the helm. If they were optimistic about success, they were far more likely to succeed. No, optimism alone will not always win, but an optimistic person with the right experience and training will.

> > I've mentioned this before, but it's appropriate to mention again. On February 15, 2020, an oncologist told me that I had nine months to a year at the most to live. I was stunned, and asked, "so what's the plan?"

He shrugged and said, "We'll make you as comfortable as we can until the end."

"What are my other options?" I asked.

He looked confused, so I rephrased the question. "What is our plan to beat

this cancer?"

He said firmly, "You have stage four gastric cancer. It's inoperable and unbeatable. You need to get your life in order and enjoy what time you have left."

That type of pessimistic outlook just doesn't compute in my optimistic brain, so I decided to find a doctor more in line with my philosophy. I began my search for an optimistic physician who would fight with me and find a way to extend my life or beat this cancer all-together. I found Dr. Kasi at the University of Iowa, Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center and he said, "We'll explore every option and fight this cancer. There's a new treatment that's a combination of an immunotherapy called Keytruda and chemo that's creating promising results. I like our chances.

I thoroughly checked out his education and background and realized I had found the best physician for the job and he was an optimist. I'm past the ninemonth death prediction and I'll fly by the year. I promise you I'll be writing this column for years to come.

If you think optimism isn't important, think about this. If I were a pessimist, I would have accepted my first doctor's death proclamation and gone home to die. But the eternal optimist inside me screamed, "No way!" I searched and found a way, and today, I'm still living my life fully and making plans for the five-year anniversary party of my death proclamation and I fully expect to attend ... and you are invited!

No. Being an optimist will not cure cancer but being an optimist will push you to not give up. Your optimism will search for a positive outcome. Being optimistic doesn't always mean you'll find a solution, but it will give you a dramatically better chance than pessimism.

I'm roughly four weeks away from my projected "death day" and I believe I'm healthier now than I was a year ago. And that's not just optimism. My blood tests and scans agree.

So, what about you? There is a cure for the "Pandemic of Pessimism" and it's the choice to become an optimist. What is your picture of a happy and successful future? Believe the best is yet to come and go to work to make it so.

I'm optimistic that 2021 will be my best year ever. What about you?

Will you join me?

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



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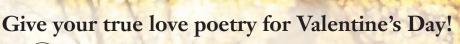
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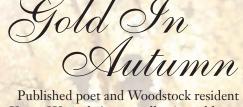
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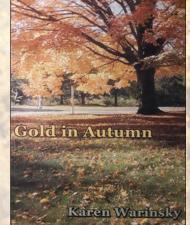
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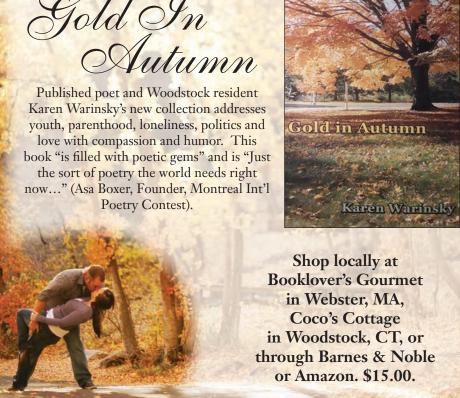
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