

TCA shares the Christmas Spirit



SOUTHBRIDGE — Trinity Catholic Academy was excited to share their Christmas Spirit in a beautiful Holiday Pageant held at Notre Dame Church on Tuesday, Dec. 22! The church was filled with family, friends, and community members to enjoy “Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child!” TCA is grateful for an amazing year of music led by Mr. Andrew J. Pariseau, music teacher/director holding rehearsals with the choir and drama clubs on Tuesdays and Thursdays since the beginning of the school year. Act I-A Joyful Prelude featured a performance from the

TCA Choir, along with Pre-K and Kindergarten students. TCA Choir: Colin Ladd, Aedyn Esser, Olivia Neuenschwander, Layla Beu, Anthony Postale, Sophia Gauthier, Joshua McManus, Ella Sawyer, Alexio Yacavace, Ainsley Heckendorf, Olivia Latour, Jameson Durocher, Matilda Paradis, Sofia Henao, Olivia Kentley Freeman, Celia Ladd, Carilynn Norris, Ayden Rodriguez, Jaliany Cruz, Evelyn Howard-Donlin & Vivian Nunez. Act II was a performance of Brentwood-Benson’s “The First Leon” led by Mr. Pariseau, Assistant

Director- Mrs. Jennifer Greffin (sixth grade teacher & literary specialist), Stage Manager- Cole Paradis, Stage Crew- Miah Carrascal. The First Leon Cast and Crew: David Gill, Sarah Clark, Noah Waterhouse, Olivia Neuenschwander, Aedyn Esser, Charles Morrison, Matilda Paradis, Alivia Gauvin, Isabella Lamica, Jameson Durocher, Sarah Norris, Sofia Henao, & Lilly Nellis. Finalized with the entire student body signing “Light of the World.”

TCA wishes all a very Happy New Year!

The Christmas spirit is alive and well in Southbridge

SOUTHBRIDGE — This Christmas season, the Southbridge Lions, along with the Southbridge Police Cops and Kids program, again worked together on The Steve Ide Memorial Toy Drive – Sponsored by Cops and Kids and the Southbridge Lions Club. This year, the Toy Drive serviced more than 150

families and 450 kids under the age of 16. Most were under the age of 10. This program would not be possible if it were not for the generosity of the Southbridge Tri Community area. Here is an attempt to thank the community.

To start with, the Toy Drive had a “Jolly” spon-

sor with The Southbridge Credit Union. Their support each year behind the scenes and their donations are very much appreciated. A special “shout out” goes to the Sturbridge Police Department as well, with their coordination of Stuff-a-Cruiser and collections of toys with our Southbridge Police

Department for this program.

We had collection boxes all over the area, including Cornerstone Bank, Big Bunny, Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center, SAVERS Bank – both Southbridge and Sturbridge loca-

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Southbridge looking at historic district

SOUTHBRIDGE – After a hiatus of nearly 20 years, Southbridge has resurrected the idea of a local historic district downtown.

“It’s a beautiful downtown, and there’s a lot of positive things in downtown,” said Local Historic District Study Committee Chair Steve Brady. “These positive things, including the historic character of downtown itself, should be protected.”

He spoke at Town Hall last month, making the committee’s initial presentation to several dozen people, many of them property owners in the proposed district. While most seemed supportive, at least two raised concerns about the impact on their properties.

One, who identified himself as Travis, said he did not want his home included in the district and had specifically bought it because such a district did not exist in town. He said he’s concerned creating a district would involve regulations preventing him and neighbors from doing what they want with their properties.

Brady, however, said the committee wants owners in the district to tell them what they want excluded from any such regulations. He noted the state law (MGL Chapter 40C) authorizing creation of districts allows things to be excluded, and the committee doesn’t want it to be overly restrictive.

He also said it does not change zoning or prevent internal changes; it only affects “anything that’s visible from a public way.”

At this point, the outreach part of the process is just beginning, although the committee has been meeting publicly since 2019. Brady said it plans to mail all owners in the proposed district surveys (they can also respond online) later this month, plus get input from other Southbridge residents. Over the spring, they’ll compile the answers, and, if responses are positive, bring forward a draft bylaw and preliminary study report. Those go to the Town Manager and Council, where they require a two-thirds vote and three bylaw readings, followed by the Attorney General’s approval and recording at the Registry of Deeds.

“There has to be buy-in from the property owner survey,” Brady said, noting those owners can reject a proposal even if the rest of the town wants it because it affects them most directly. “... If the majority [of

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Nichols College and Team Training Associates, LLC, create degree pathway in public safety leadership

DUDLEY — Nichols College has signed an articulation agreement with Team Training Associates, LLC (TTA) of Thompson, Connecticut, to streamline the transition to a bachelor’s or master’s degree program for TTA-certified public safety leaders.

Students who successfully complete the Public Safety Leadership Academy, and other cer-

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Courtesy

From left, sitting, Julie Rumrill, Senior Associate, and Eric Murray, President, of Team Training Associates LLC; Nichols President Glenn Sulmasy; standing, Nichols Associate Deans Tom Stewart and Allison McDowell-Smith.



Local business owners support Bay Path

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School recently received a generous donation of \$5,000 from local business owners Seth and Mary Chisholm. The Chisholms own and operate Skilled Trades Partners, or STP, based in Fiskdale.

Seth Chisholm, who considers himself a proud graduate of Bay Path's carpentry class of 1993, visited the school with his wife to speak with students about how the transferable skills he learned as a student at Bay Path helped make him successful in life.

When asked what motivated him to give back to the program, Chisholm alluded to his "great experience in the carpentry shop," also commenting on how much he enjoyed being on the school's football team. He elaborated by saying that with his business 'we hire all skilled tradespeople, are entrenched in the skills gap, and want to now support younger people in the trades.'

Chisolm said that returning to the school was a "great experience" for him, noting that he knew exactly where to turn in the building to get to the shop area, despite the updates and renovations that occurred since he was enrolled at the school and "even though it had been so long."

The Chisolms' donation and their



Courtesy

Bay Path Director of Career and Technical Education James Tripp Pockevicius, carpentry instructor Ron Johnson, STP co-owner Seth Chisolm, students Sabien Gonzalez, Jeffrey Denham, Ismael Porrata, Richard Corriveau, Margaret Russell, Emma Bransky, Bay Path Superintendent-Director Kyle Brenner, STP co-owner Mary Chisolm, and Bay Path Principal Cliff Cloutier.

visit to the school had a clear and positive impact on Bay Path students.

Student Shaun McLaughlin stated that "the generous gift to the Bay Path Carpentry program was a highlight in this trying year. It highlights the good and generosity of the Christmas spirit. Going back to his roots and giving back to the program that molded and shaped his future was a selfless act

that won't be forgotten."

Luke Wonderlie, another carpentry student, echoed this sentiment by saying "It was very cool that a former student wanted to give back to his roots. I like what he did because that is something I want to do someday. I was really appreciative of what he did for the carpentry group."

"What happened was so kind and surprising...carpentry is very grateful. Thank you, STP!" added student Emma Bransky.

'Proud to be able to do what he did for the school,' Chisholm mentioned that he and his wife are hoping to expand their outreach and support to other schools, states, and vocational programs.

PCE grant recipient, Bay Path LPN help to improve patient care

CAMBRIDGE — In many hospitals across the nation, entry-level nursing requires a Bachelor's in nursing degree. At Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Medical, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy alumna and PCE grant recipient Linda Chavez, LPN, class of 2019 is shining! MIT Medical provides further training which is encouraging for Chavez.

Working the front lines of health care, Chavez cannot help but remember how her nursing journey started. "I was working with the Chief Medical Director at Spectrum and

he suggested I become a nurse," said Chavez.

"He said it would be a good career change for me and that I would be great at it," Chavez added.

At the time, Chavez was at the Health Care System in various capacities. Her educational background was Sociology and administration of justice from Rutgers University. She had been a Correctional Recovery Academy Counselor, Medicated Assisted Treatment Case Manager, and Medical Coordinator. She was, however up for the challenge.

Chavez said, "Why not become a nurse? I highly respected all the nurses at my job and figured it would be a great opportunity."

She added enthusiastically, "The best decision I ever made!"

As a nursing student at Bay

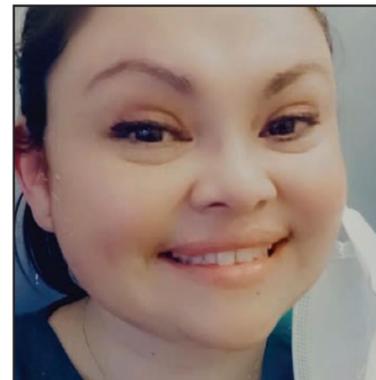
Path Practical Nursing Academy, Chavez was a PCE \$3,000 grant recipient, a volunteer for Medical Reserve Corps, an officer for the UNICEF Club, certified in Dementia Care, certified in Mental Health First Aid, and certified in Infusion Therapy/Central Line care. She was a District Champion in Medical Terminology earning a bronze medal at SkillsUSA.

As an LPN at MIT Medical, she is one of the nurses who can spot opportunities for improving medical devices or creating new ones. Like many health professionals, COVID-19 has impacted her work. In her own words, "having to help patients virtually and via telephone. . .at the beginning of the pandemic, the medical building closed for all services except urgent care, OB/GYN, and pediatrics. I had to learn new skills in other departments. I also covered the COVID hotline. I had to always be prepared with the latest information to give to patients. Doing the hotline helped me determine what questions to ask to get the information I needed from patients and how to better learn the computer system at work. I also had to develop a plan on how to better serve our patients in my department i.e., pertinent information was needed for the medical providers to have before each visual visit."

Chavez credits Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy for much of her success.

"Thank you, Bay Path Nursing Academy for helping me reach my goal. Every Nurse that graduated from Bay Path leaves with the skills necessary to be successful at any job," she said.

She further stated, "the education I received at Bay Path has helped me out so much in my career. The skills I



Linda Chavez

learned in clinicals, and labs are still used to this day. I learned time management and making time where there is none!"

With a smile, she expressed that "the professors at Bay Path empower their students and always encourage them to reach their goals. I remember that for one of my clinicals I had school nurse observation at Bay Path RVTHS. That is where I realized that I wanted to become a school nurse."

She explains, "and here I am working for one of the top colleges in the world in their medical department as a nurse!"

Chavez is grateful for the assistance she received from P.E.O. Chapter R.

"P.E.O. PCE grant helped me tremendously," said Chavez.

"The P.E.O. Chapter R ladies were so wonderful," said Chavez.

Chavez plans on continuing her education to become an RN. For aspiring nurses, Chavez's advice is to "always strive to reach your goals no matter how long it takes."

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Friday's Child

My name is Damien and I like to play basketball and flag football!

Damien is a smart and outgoing teenager of Portuguese descent. He likes making others laugh and has a great sense of humor. Damien does well with other peers and adults. He enjoys playing basketball and flag football. Damien also likes LEGOs, video games and magic cards. He does well in school with extra support. Damien's dream is to become a lawyer.

Legally freed for adoption, Damien would do best in a family of any constellation. He would prefer a two-parent household. He would do well as the youngest or only child in the home. He would like a family that would help maintain his connection to his birth mother and paternal aunt. Damien would benefit from caregivers that are patient and supportive.

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.

Town of Sturbridge — Part-Time Custodian

The Town of Sturbridge Facilities Department is currently seeking an individual for the part-time position of Custodian. The 18-hour per week, position reports to the Facilities Coordinator. Duties include cleaning of buildings and equipment, disinfecting, monitoring supplies and building conditions, and reporting to Facilities Coordinator. OSHA Training is a plus, but not required prior to employment. Candidates must be able to be flexible, work independently and as a team, follow strict cleaning protocols as necessary, and work up to 5-6 days per week at multiple buildings. Starting rate expected to be \$17.38/per hour.

See also job description for more details.

Sturbridge is a Drug-Free workplace and EOE. Applications can be downloaded on <https://www.sturbridge.gov/>. Please send letter and application to Town Administrator's Office, 308 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566 or email to mgarman@sturbridge.gov. Applications accepted until filled.

Town Of Brimfield - Town Job Posting

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND CEMETERY CLERK

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Works under the direct supervision of the Highway Surveyor and Cemetery Commissioners. Conforms to departmental regulations and professional standards.
- Skilled administrative and record keeping work in supporting the operations of the Highway Department and Cemetery including the processing of payrolls and payables on a bi-weekly basis.
- Maintains current budget to actual balances and communicates with the Town Treasurer and Accountant as necessary and prepares reports as requested.
- Orders general office supplies within budget guidelines.
- Communicates with vendors as required.
- Works cooperatively with Highway employees, Cemetery employees, other Town officials and the public.

This position will be compensated at a rate of \$19.37 per hour, 20 hours per week.

Minimum Qualifications: Proficiency with office computer functions including Microsoft Office, email and other contemporary office technology and demonstrated organizational skills. Good human relations and interpersonal communication skills and ability to coordinate individuals is essential. Two years' experience in general office and bookkeeping work or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Ability to apply knowledge and experience to highway office work and bookkeeping tasks. Ability to work independently on assigned tasks.

Interested individuals are asked to apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Highway Surveyor, Town of Brimfield, 34B Wales Rd., Brimfield, MA 01010 or, you may submit by email at Highway@Brimfieldma.org.

The Town of Brimfield is an equal opportunity employer.

Town Of East Brookfield

100th Anniversary

1920 - 2020

Calendar of Events 2022

JANUARY 22 • 6:00 PM

1920's Night at the Brewery - themed music and drinks
 Timberyard Brewery
FREE ADMISSION

FEBRUARY 5 •

"The Lake in Winter"
 2:30 PM Ice Harvesting Presentation
 Ken Ethier at Town Hall
 3:30 Ice Skating, bonfire & music
 Lake Lashaway Town Beach
 Free refreshments!

FEBRUARY TBD • 6 AM - 2 PM

Fishing Derby - Details to come!

MARCH 12 • 5:00 PM

Roarin' Twenties Dinner Dance
 Spencer Country Inn - \$35
 Tickets on sale online at
<https://tinyurl.com/EB100thGala>

MARCH 24 • 6:30 PM

Re-enactment of signing of town bill and unveiling of
 Anniversary Quilt
 Baptist Church • FREE

APRIL 9 • 11:00 AM

Hodgkins Bell Dedication Ceremony
 EB Elementary • FREE

APRIL 16 • 9:30 AM

Historical Talk - Ed Londergan - The First and Second
 Settlements at Brookfield
 Town Hall • FREE

APRIL 23 • 9:00 AM

Town Wide Clean-Up Day
 Meet at Town Hall • Lunch provided

APRIL 30 • 2:00 PM

East Brookfield Nature Walks at Pelletier Woods
 Howe Street • FREE

MAY 14 • 10:00 AM

7K Run and Fun Walk Timberyard Brewery
 \$30.00 adults / \$15.00 kids
 Tickets online - details TBD

MAY 28 • 9:30 AM

Historical Talk - Ed Londergan -
 Murder in the Brookfields
 Town Hall • FREE

JUNE 4 • 2:00 & 3:30 PM SEATINGS

History and Dessert at Podunk Chapel \$5.00 pp

JUNE 10 • 7:00 PM

Coast Guard Band
 EB Elementary • FREE (ticket required to enter)

JUNE 18 • 11:00 AM-3:00 PM

Open House at Camp Frank A. Day
 (archery, boating, basketball, mini golf, lunch)
 125 South Pond Road • FREE

JULY 9

Events for Independence Day proceed as usual
 Down Town Area • FREE

JULY 11

Summer Reading Kick Off - EB Library -
 continues for five weeks

JULY 23 • 9:30 AM

Historical Talk - Heather Gablaski - East
 Brookfield: 100 Years a Town
 Town Hall • FREE

JULY/AUGUST

Summer Concert Series continue as usual -
 every Thursday 6:00-8:00
 Connie Mack Field • FREE -
 Food and Drinks for sale

JULY/AUGUST TBD

Adaptive Water Skiing on the Lake
 Lashaway Lake Association
 Details to follow

AUGUST 13 • 2:00 PM

Luau at the Town Beach
 Town Beach • FREE

SEPTEMBER 17 • 9:30 AM -7:00 PM

Parade and Family Fun Event!
 Route 9 / Connie Mack Field • FREE

OCTOBER 29: 3:30 PM

Town and Cemetery Tour,
 dinner at Podunk Chapel / \$15.00 pp

NOVEMBER 5 • 9:30 AM

Historical Talk - Guy Morin- Central Massachusetts
 during the Revolution
 Town Hall • FREE

DECEMBER 10 • 9:30 AM

Historical Talk - Ken and Tina Ethier - "Trolley Talk"
 Town Hall • FREE

DECEMBER

Light the Town Event: Decorating Contest,
 Town tree lighting • FREE

For events requiring tickets: email EB100th@gmail.com or purchase at EB Public Library
 East Brookfield Historical Museum and Quaboag Valley Railroaders' Display are open
 the second Saturday of each month from 12:00-2:00 in the Hodgkins Building.

**Clip
 And
 Save**



**Save this calendar listing
 to keep track of upcoming
 Anniversary events!**

Town of East Brookfield, MA

EB
100th

1920 - 2020

Hitchcock Academy hosts holiday celebration



BRIMFIELD — As the sole bona fide community center serving the Sturbridge area, Hitchcock Academy is home to gatherings and groups for scouts, artists, painters, martial artists, yogis, and learners of all ages in numerous crafts, skills, and disciplines. A huge variety of activities have just one thing in common: each brings people together for shared experiences. And when it comes to creating a sense of community online, Hitchcock works to do that, too.

the nonprofit community center orchestrated a campaign of gratitude entitled #30DaysOfThanks, featuring community members daily who had made an impact on the organization in 2021, and united people in appreciation of those who had been generous.

On Dec. 11 and 12, the center welcomed the community at large for a two-day celebration of the holiday season at Christmas at Hitchcock. The event was all free of charge, offered as a gift to all who attended thanks to the generosity of volunteers and a local sponsor. Coming together in gratitude, in giving, and in gathering in celebration, are all three tenets of building community, and are all the more essential during trying times.

bringing people together to common ground, and that's what Hitchcock does. A sense of connection and community is something we all seek and need."

The #30DaysOfThanks Campaign was met with enthusiasm, seeing record levels of engagement for the organization and garnering a slew of comments cheering on the people who were recognized. The largest response was acknowledging one of Hitchcock's closest and dearest supporters, Mr. Jim Adams, 93, who joined in on a community clean-up of Hitchcock's tennis courts back in April, donning a pair of work gloves and joining a group clearing brush and sprucing up the area after another local resident suggested the initiative. A decorated vet born and bred in Brimfield, and an alum of Hitchcock during its long-ago tenure as a free high school, Mr. Adams is well-known in the community, and is heralded for grander achievements such as hiking the entire Appalachian Trail as much as his daily ones such as patiently maintaining his home and lawn, as he sets a fine daily example of civic responsibility, neighborliness, patience, and persistence.

Other honorees include Monson resident Derek Campbell who reached out to the organization out of the blue to help with its first annual golf tournament, ultimately securing a dozen raffle prizes and a number of players to participate, and Brimfield resident Ed Searah who volunteered his bucket truck to string up lights to decorate the tree in front of

Hitchcock, and also cleaned the gutters and tended to some other trees needing TLC free of charge while he was at it.

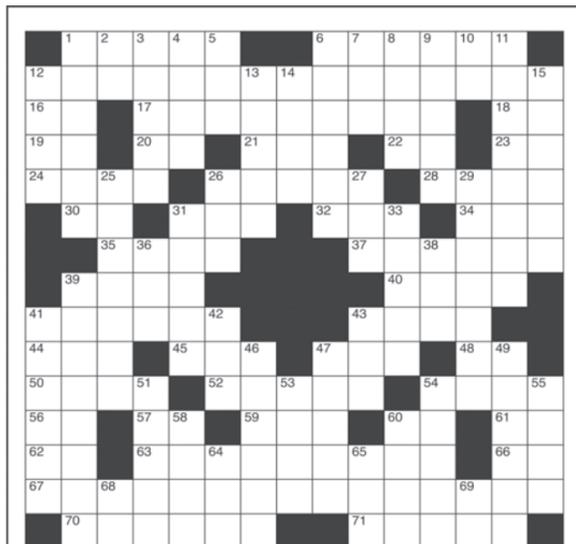
The organization highlighted many people who don't often receive public recognition, those who quietly give their time in support of community initiatives, such as Susan Desy, Mary Bernstein, Anna Ozolins, Charlotte and Bob Corry, Carrie Deltoro, Sharon Palmer, The Bolte Family, Karen Ballou, Linda Fuchs, Sue Gregory, Bob Clark, Lester Twarowski, Mark Carron, Cedric Daniel, and Les & Steven Skowrya.

The organization's feel good vibes went palpable at Christmas at Hitchcock, where attendees could enjoy live music, decorate Christmas cookies, make ornaments and swags, shop from local vendors, play games and watch ice carving, write letters to Santa and cards to vets, visit with Santa, and enjoy a special reading of "Twas The Night Before Christmas," all while sipping on complimentary hot cocoa and coffee. More than 200 people of all ages attended the event, and two days of festivities were offered free of charge, thanks to Hitchcock Pool Water's sponsorship of the event and a host of helpers, including all of the musicians who volunteered their talents, instruments, and time, like local favorite Livestock, Brimfield's bell ringers, Frozen Red, and Clark Howell of the Time Stretchers, among others.

"I watched strangers meet, get to know one another, and exchange contact information before leaving the event, and listened to kids giggle with glee in the presence of Santa, and we all sang along to Christmas carols together led by the members of 4-H Steerage Rock Riders (one of the many groups who calls Hitchcock home) at the end of the day on Sunday. If that doesn't lift your spirits, I don't know what would," says Skowrya. "There are lots of places to go with your friends, but Hitchcock is a place where we see a lot of people come in as strangers and leave as friends. It's wonderful to see."

Hitchcock's annual "Friends" Campaign has currently raised just over \$5,000 of its \$10,000 year-end goal. Donations can be made through Hitchcock's website (www.hitchcock-academy.org) or via cash or check on site. Donations can be made in memory or in honor of someone who inspired the gift, and each gift, no matter the size, will help to ensure that Hitchcock can continue its mission of building community through feel-good fun.

Through the month of November,



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Struck firmly
- 6. Shirt part
- 12. Nevertheless
- 16. Article
- 17. Adornment
- 18. Educator's helper
- 19. Healthcare pro
- 20. Atomic number 28
- 21. Extinct flightless bird
- 22. Mystic syllable
- 23. College sports decision maker (abbr.)
- 24. Edible mushrooms
- 26. Venerable English monk
- 28. Surrounded by
- 30. Forming fractional numbers from 4 onwards
- 31. Eastern France river
- 32. Short cry or yelp
- 34. Brew
- 35. Ornamental box
- 37. In a way, surfaced
- 39. Attired
- 40. Peculation
- 41. Netted
- 43. It shows you paid (abbr.)
- 44. Payroll firm
- 45. Antidiuretic hormone
- 47. Japanese classical theater
- 48. The first two
- 50. Ancient burial chamber
- 52. Type of card
- 54. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 56. Hectoliter
- 57. Morning
- 59. NYC subway dweller
- 60. Law enforcement
- 61. Sodium
- 62. Elevated subway
- 63. Facility where wild animals are kept
- 66. Integrated circuit
- 67. Seaman's tool
- 70. Drink to
- 71. Small group

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Poem
- 2. Everest is one (abbr.)
- 3. Olympic legend Jesse
- 4. Portable tent
- 5. When you hope to get there
- 6. Unwavering
- 7. Back muscle
- 8. Within
- 9. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- 10. Six
- 11. Involved as a necessary part
- 12. 2002 Liotta, Patric film
- 13. Living thing
- 14. Type of gin
- 15. Moved around in pursuit of fun
- 25. Makes light bulbs
- 26. Story of one's life
- 27. Small island in a river
- 29. A type of bliss
- 31. Genus of large herons
- 33. A way to make dry
- 36. One's grandmother
- 38. Vocal style
- 39. Pronunciation mark
- 41. American Indian chief or leader
- 42. Insecticide
- 43. Go bad
- 46. Capital of Zimbabwe
- 47. Polish river
- 49. Cast out
- 51. People of India and Sri Lanka
- 53. Cleaning fabrics
- 54. Very skilled
- 55. Pouches
- 58. Restaurant must-have
- 60. Native Americans from Arizona
- 64. Remaining after all deductions
- 65. Fleece
- 68. Dorm official
- 69. It cools your home

"In our current political climate, it's so important to create moments of connection, celebration, and gratitude," says Executive Director Cindy Skowrya. "There are so many invitations to be angry, to judge one another for our differences, and to be divided. We need to make sure we counteract that by

ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

TOWN HALL

Monday-Wednesday: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Thursday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

JACOB EDWARDS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tuesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 25 will be our last open Saturday until Labor Day) Sunday: Closed

Joshua Hyde Library continues 125th anniversary celebrations with Frank Capra Film Series

STURBRIDGE — Joshua Hyde Public Library invites the public to come and enjoy Wednesday afternoons this January in the library as they continue to celebrate their quasiquintennial anniversary with a Frank Capra (born 1897) 125th-inspired film series.

Each Wednesday in January, join us in the library meeting room at 12:30 p.m. for a different Frank Capra film, beginning with "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" (1939) on January the 5th.

Other films and dates to include:
"It Happened One Night" (1934), on Jan. 12
"Lost Horizon" (1937), on Jan. 19
"You Can't Take It With You" (1938), on Jan. 26

Plan to join-in to continue a year of celebrations with fun events and displays in the library. For updates and/or cancellations due to weather, please call the library. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL. Masks are required for everyone ages five and up for the event.

For updates and/or cancellations due to weather, or for more information on this/any 125th celebration event, please call 508-347-2512. You can also visit the library website at www.sturbridgeli.org, or on facebook and Instagram: @sturbridgeli-brary.

REAL ESTATE

SOUTHBRIDGE

\$649,000, 135 Lebanon Hill Rd, Clemence, Richard M, to Wood, Nicholas A, and Wood, Elpidia I.

\$380,000, 87 Maggie Ln, Wassarman, Ashley, and Wassarman, Aaron, to Sullivan, Edmund R, and Sullivan, Barbara J.

\$375,000, 20 Bristol Ln, Vazquez, Xiomara, and Ortiz, Edgar M, to Hernandez, Cheryl M.

\$352,500, 64 High St, Montani, Mark V, to Rodriguez, Priscila.

\$300,000, 27 Douty St, Barbosa, Luz I, and Barbosa, Luis A, to Konie, James, and Diaz-Rentas, Stephany.

\$257,000, 35 Arland Dr, Lavoie, Sean A, and Lavoie, Sean, to Orlandini, Pamela T.

\$385,000, 40 Cathy Ln, Tortis, Nicola, and Tortis, Yvonne, to Kersting, Robert C.

\$345,000, 48 Marc Ave, Lockwood, Steven E, to Powlowski, Aimee.

\$299,900, 243 Dresser St, Bysiewicz, Laurie S, to Chenier, Michael J.

\$275,000, 132 Chapin St, Rivera, Edwin, to StLaurent, Awilda, and StLaurent, Alicia.

\$170,000, 15 Dennison Ln, Dupis, David J, and Dupis, Rene, to 1106 Real Estate LLC.

SOUTHBRIDGE NEWS

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The Southbridge News (USPS 504-380) is published Fridays, by Stonebridge Press Inc., PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodicals postage paid at Southbridge, Mass. Postmaster: Send address changes to The News at address listed above. Friday delivery (in county) only for \$18.00 per year. Friday delivery (out of county) only for \$56.00 per year. Web only subscription \$15.00 per year. All mail subscriptions are payable in advance to The News.

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Charlton sees staying power of hybrid meeting model

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – In the nearly two years since the COVID-19 pandemic first forced a nationwide shutdown, countless entities have embraced online meeting rooms and livestreaming to get their business done. This includes towns and local governments who took to Zoom, Facebook, YouTube and other online video and meeting services to make sure business continues to take place with the public's involvement.

Over time, this approach has become more than just a temporary addition to the public meeting format as communities like Charlton have begun to embrace them as alternatives to attending live gatherings without actually replacing in-person meetings. Since town governments were forced to adjust to an online-only approach in early 2020, Charlton has begun streaming its major board meetings, most notably the Board of Selectmen, on Facebook and Zoom while also enhancing its previously existing video sharing resource, the TVCharltonMass YouTube page. Town Administrator Andrew Golas said Charlton has seen great benefits from embracing online meetings, specifically the hybrid format which has been utilized by the town's Board of Selectmen since in-person meetings were once again allowed.

"I think it's been very well received, and

I definitely want to try to make this a permanent fixture moving forward really for as many boards and committees as possible," Golas said. "We at least want to offer the hybrid version for meetings and public participation because we know that the ability for people to make a 5 or 6 o'clock meeting at the town hall on a Tuesday night, for example, is just not the same now as it was twenty or thirty years ago. I think this is a great tool for the general public to get involved in a way that doesn't have to be inconvenient for them. They can log in and participate in town government without making it to every meeting in person."

Hybrid meetings allow members of the public to watch meetings live online and also submit comments, either verbally or through a message board, for town officials to respond to in real time. The hybrid model has seen great success with the Board of Selectmen who have taken to broadcasting nearly every meeting on Facebook with a higher quality recording of the meeting later added to YouTube for citizens to watch at their leisure. While the selectmen are usually together in-person for their meetings, some boards still conduct all their meetings through online meeting rooms where those meetings are also recorded for posterity. Golas said this approach will continue for at least a few more months but doesn't expect an online-only format to be a perma-

nent model. "The ability to have the remote meetings is going to be allowed until at least, I believe, the beginning of April and then we could see some form of legislation that will allow it to continue beyond that to some extent," Golas said. "I think that the hybrid model of the majority of the boards meeting in person will definitely be a fixture, but I think it will be interesting to see how the legislature wants to treat fully remote meetings moving forward."

Golas clarified that the remote and hybrid models only apply to meetings of boards, commissions and committees and not to town meetings. Public gatherings like the annual town meeting are required to be in-person through state law and do not afford participation to those online as it would be difficult, if not impossible, to verify every online participant's residency in Charlton through an online method, something that is required for anyone to comment at a town meeting. Still, it looks like at least the hybrid board meeting model is here to stay and Golas hopes to see the system perfected enough to have a majority of the town's elected bodies participate in the format.

Those who wish to be a part of Charlton meetings online or remotely can do so in several potential ways. First, all boards and committees have links or details concerning livestreaming posted on the agen-

das for their upcoming meetings. Second, some meetings will be broadcast on either Facebook, YouTube or both, again

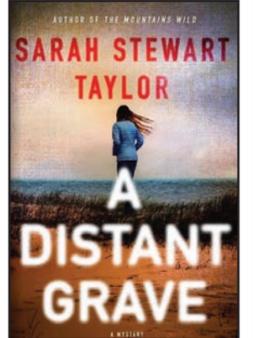
with confirmation posted on the agenda. All meeting agendas can be found by visiting www.townofcharlton.net and

clicking the "Agenda & Minutes" link on the homepage

Stewing Over Mysteries author event planned at Joshua Hyde Library



Sarah Stewart Taylor



STURBRIDGE — Joshua Hyde Public Library is pleased to host author Sarah Stewart Taylor for our annual Stewing Over Mysteries event on Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us in the Public House Tap Room for a fun night as we stew over mysteries with Sarah Stewart Taylor, author of the Sweeney St. George series and the Maggie D'arcy series. Sarah grew up on Long Island, and was educated at Middlebury College in Vermont and Trinity College, Dublin, where she studied Irish Literature. She has worked as a journalist and writing teacher and now lives with her family on a farm in Vermont where they raise sheep and grow blueberries.

Tickets for this event went on sale December 1st and can be purchased for \$16 per person in the Library or through PayPal on the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library Web site, www.sturbridgelibraryfriends.org/stewing-over-mysteries. Your ticket purchase comes with entry into the event, as well as a delicious beef stew dinner, rolls, coffee, & dessert.

While two of her books will be available for purchase at the event, you can save \$3 by purchasing your ticket and her newest book, "A Distant Grave" in hardcover as a bundle on the Friends of Joshua Hyde Public Library website (listed above) to be picked up at the event or at the library.

The second book, "The Mountains Wild," is now in paperback and can only be purchased at the event. Make sure to reserve your spot early, this event sells out every year.

This event is sponsored by The Friends of Joshua Hyde Public Library. For questions or more information on this event, please visit www.sturbridgelibrary.org or call 508-347-2512.



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GWCF grants \$1.9 million to 110 awardees

WORCESTER — The Greater Worcester Community Foundation announced the 110 awardees of its 2021 Community Grants: a total of \$1.9 million. Community Grants are made possible by people who have set up discretionary funds with the Foundation. This type of fund provides GWCF with the maximum amount of flexibility to grant resources where community needs are greatest.

“In the face of such demand for services, our local nonprofits are proving their dedication to serving others,” says Carolyn Stempler, Interim GWCF President and CEO.

Stempler also noted how other societal changes informed this year’s grant making, adding “Nonprofit organizations have a unique relationship with the community, partnering with individuals with lived experience to tackle the most pressing problems.”

In recognition of this, GWCF actively sought to support nonprofit organizations doing authentic work around increasing racial equity, centering community voice, and working to change systems.

For 2021, Community Grants set its focus on three strategic areas: Health & Wellbeing, Thriving Families, and Creative Worcester. In response, the Foundation saw its highest number of applicants, and was able to fund over half of them. The Foundation also increased its arts investment compared to previous years, and singled out a group of organizations working on advocacy and policy change.

Those organizations receiving funds for operating support this year are:

Abby’s House	Operating Support	\$30,000
African Community Education Program	Operating Support	\$50,000
Ansaar of Worcester	Operating Support	\$25,000
Apple Tree Arts	Operating Support	\$10,000
ArtsWorcester	Operating Support	\$17,500
Audio Journal, Inc.	Operating Support	\$7,500
Black Excellence Academy	Operating Support	\$25,000
Camp Putnam, Inc.	Operating Support	\$7,500
Catholic Charities of Diocese of Worcester	Operating Support	\$40,000
Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc.	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$15,000
Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$20,000
Community Harvest Project	Operating Support	\$10,000
Crocodile River Music	Operating Support	\$20,000
Dismas House of Massachusetts, Inc.	Operating Support	\$30,000
Dress for Success Worcester Inc	Operating Support	\$12,500
Edward Street Child Services	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$25,000
Genesis Club House, Inc.	Operating Support	\$30,000
Ginny’s Helping Hand, Inc.	Operating Support	\$5,000
Girls Incorporated of Worcester	Operating Support	\$20,000
Greater Worcester Land Trust	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$10,000
Growing Places Garden Project	Operating Support	\$10,000
Interfaith Hospitality Network of Worcester	Operating Support	\$15,000
Jeremiah’s Inn	Operating Support	\$25,000
Joy of Music Program, Inc.	Operating Support	\$15,000
Latino Education Institute	Operating Support	\$50,000
Legendary Legacies, Inc.	Operating Support	\$40,000
LGBT Asylum Task Force	Operating Support	\$20,000
Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester	Operating Support	\$20,000
Living In Freedom Together, Inc.	Operating Support	\$40,000
Main South Community Development Corp	Operating Support	\$50,000
Music Worcester, Inc.	Operating Support	\$20,000
NewVue Communities	Operating Support	\$25,000
North Star Family Services, Inc.	Operating Support	\$10,000
OurStory Edutainment	Operating Support	\$15,000
Pakachoag Music School of Worcester	Operating Support	\$15,000
Pathways for Change	Operating Support	\$15,000
Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.	Operating Support	\$40,000
Pleasant Street Neighborhood Network Center	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$10,000
Project New Hope	Operating Support	\$15,000
Rachel’s Table	Operating Support	\$10,000
Regional Environmental Council, Inc.	Operating Support	\$25,000
Render Creative Inc/Main IDEA	Operating Support	\$10,000
Rise Above Foundation	Operating Support	\$10,000
Southeast Asian Coalition of Central MA	Operating Support	\$50,000
Squares Squared, Inc.	Operating Support	\$10,000
Studio Theatre Worcester	Operating Support	\$10,000
The CASA Project	Operating Support	\$25,000
The Shine Initiative	Operating Support	\$20,000
The Village	Operating Support	\$15,000
Together for Kids Coalition	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$15,000
Tri-Valley, Inc.	Operating Support	\$10,000
WCUW Inc.	Operating Support	\$5,000
WICN Public Radio, Inc.	Operating Support	\$10,000
Worcester Anti-Foreclosure Team	Operating Support	\$7,500

Worcester Art Museum	Operating Support	\$10,000
Worcester Center for Crafts	Operating Support	\$15,000
Worcester Common Ground, Inc.	Operating Support	\$25,000
Worcester Community Housing Resources	Operating Support	\$20,000
Worcester County Mechanics Association	Operating Support	\$15,000
Worcester County Poetry Association	Operating Support	\$10,000
Worcester Cultural Coalition	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$15,000
Worcester Education Collaborative	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$15,000
Worcester Historical Museum	Operating Support	\$12,500
Worcester Interfaith	Operating Support	\$35,000
Worcester Regional Research Bureau, Inc.	Operating Support/Advocacy	\$10,000
Worcester Youth Center	Operating Support	\$20,000
Worcester Youth Orchestras	Operating Support	\$10,000
YWCA of Central Mass.	Operating Support	\$40,000

Those organizations receiving funds for projects this year are:

Angels Net Foundation Inc	Programs for Immigrant/Refugee Children and Families	\$15,000
Appalachian Mountain Club	Worcester Educators Outdoors	\$5,000
Ascentria Community Services, Inc.	Immigration Legal Assistance Program	\$15,000
Boys & Girls Club of Worcester	Learning Loss Recovery After COVID	\$20,000
Central Massachusetts Agency on Aging	Equitable Dental Care for Seniors	\$12,500
Children’s Friend	The Gender Wellness Initiative	\$15,000
Clark University	Photography as Tool for Social Justice	\$5,000
Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester	Trauma, Resiliency & Racial Equity Training Institute	\$10,000
Community Legal Aid, Inc.	Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project	\$15,000
Community Servings	Nutrition for Those Affected by Critical/Chronic Illnesses	\$10,000
Cultural Exchange Through Soccer	Youth Leadership Through Soccer	\$20,000
Dignity Matters, Inc.	Distribution of Free Menstrual Products	\$5,000
Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center	Preventative Dental Care at North High	\$10,000
Edward Street Child Services	Master Teacher Consultation Program	\$25,000
Family Health Center of Worcester, Inc.	Perinatal Group Programs	\$15,000
Friendly House, Inc.	Frances Perkins Transitional Housing	\$25,000
Friends of St Luke’s, Inc	St. Luke’s Guesthouse	\$10,000
Hope Coalition	Worcester Addresses Childhood Trauma	\$12,500
Ivy Child International	Youth Yoga/Mindfulness Teacher Training	\$10,000
Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts	ESOL and Basic Literacy Tutoring Program	\$10,000
Lovin’ Spoonfuls Inc.	Food Rescue in Worcester County	\$10,000
Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange, Inc.	Breaking Down Barriers to Adoption from Foster Care	\$5,000
MA Education & Career Opportunities	On Our Way	\$10,000
Montachusett Opportunity Council, Inc.	Youth Innovation Center After School Programs	\$10,000
New Hope, Inc.	Supervised Visitation & RESPECT	\$10,000
Notre Dame Health Care	ESOL/ABE at Educational Bridge Center	\$5,000
Open Door Arts, Inc.	Connecting/Creating Through the Arts	\$5,000
Open Sky Community Services	Safe Homes and Safe Homes North	\$15,000
Open Sky Community Services	South County Homeless Services	\$15,000
Our Father’s House, Inc.	Health & Wellness in Homeless Children	\$10,000
OurStory Edutainment	Kwanzaa Academy	\$15,000
Quinsigamond Community College Foundation	Student Emergency Aid	\$10,000
Reach Out and Read	Greater Worcester Rx for Success	\$5,000
Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center	Comprehensive Case Management	\$15,000
Rock of Salvation	La Cocina de ROCA	\$15,000
SEIU Education & Support Fund	MA Child Care Training Fund	\$7,500
Spanish American Center, Inc.	Nos Ayudando Mutuamente	\$10,000
Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice, Inc.	Expanding Access to Immigrant Justice	\$5,000
The Community Builders, Inc.	Family Self Sufficiency at Plumley Village	\$10,000
The Village	Afrocentric Saturday School	\$10,000
United Way of Central Massachusetts	YouthConnect	\$12,500
United Way of Tri-County	WHEAT Community Connections Meal Delivery	\$7,500
Wayside Youth & Family Support Network	PrideSide Charlton	\$7,500
Worcester Caribbean American Carnival Association	Carnival Outreach & Promotion	\$7,500
Worcester Center for Performing Arts (Hanover Theatre)	WYSH (Worcester Youth Speak Honestly) Project	\$10,000
Worcester Chamber Music Society	Neighborhood Strings	\$10,000
Worcester Earn a Bike Inc.	Transportation Equity & Alternatives for All	\$5,000
Worcester Education Collaborative	Woo-Labs: Reimagining/Amplifying Learning	\$12,500
Worcester Youth Center	Creative Leadership Institute (CLI)	\$10,000
YMCA of Central Massachusetts	Minority Achievers Program	\$10,000

SOUTHBRIDGE POLICE LOG

Friday, Dec. 24
 2:06 AM – Investigated suspicious activity, Cumberland Farms.
 11:08 AM – Took incident report regarding found/lost property, Green Ave.
 11:35 AM – Responded to landlord/tenant dispute, Walcott St.
 12:31 AM – Responded to unwanted person at Main & Elm.
 1:25 PM – Took incident report, Mill St.
 11:59 PM – Call to Whitford Building led to homeless man being aking into protective custody.

Saturday, Dec. 25
 6:56 AM – Rendered services for suicide threats, Tillyer Ave.
 11:30 AM – Took shoplifting report at CVS.
 1:18 PM – Emergency medical dispatch call, Worcester St.
 2:42 PM – Logged identity theft complaint, Paige Hill.
 3:04 PM – Logged larceny complaint, Paige Hill.
 5:21 PM – Responded to suspicious activity, West St School.
 11:58 PM – Logged suspicious activity, Harrington Hospital.

Sunday, Dec. 26
 2:03 & 7:47 PM – Responded to trespassing, Mechanic & Hamilton St.
 4:41 PM – Logged juvenile incident, Pine St.
 10:57 PM – Took report of juvenile incident, Cohasse St.

Monday, Dec. 27
 8:32 AM – Logged suspicious activity, Whitford Building.
 9:52 AM – Took incident report at Corner Pocket.
 10:29 AM – Incident at Catholic Charities led to arrest of Adam D Lucier, 42, of 52 Main St #3R, on a warrant for unauthorized credit card use.
 12:08 & 6:33 PM – Took incident reports for further investigation, Walcott St. & at hospital.
 12:22 PM – Rendered medical assistance, Ashland Ave.
 3:53 PM – Took incident report,

Alpine Drive.

Tuesday, Dec. 28
 3:32 AM – Traffic stop on Oliver St led to arrest of Anthony J Smith, 18, of 62 Plantation St, Worcester, for driving after suspension, refusal to identify self, and a lights violation.
 7:52 AM – Logged trespassing complaint, Whitford Building.
 9:37 AM – Logged landlord/tenant dispute, Alpine Drive. (Took incident report later.)
 10:53 AM – investigated general fire call, Dexter Russell.
 4:03 PM – Incident at Plaza Liquors led to arrest of Jessica Alicea, 40, of 41 Thomas St #1R. on a warrant for subsequent offense driving after suspension.
 7:25 & 10:12 PM – Took incident reports, Rosemeade and Eastford Road.

Wednesday, Dec. 29
 1:46 & 1:50 AM – Logged suspicious activity at Big Bunny and Green Ave.
 1:19 PM – Search warrant service on Green Ave led to local man getting a summons for possessing drugs for distribution [Class C (THC and psilocybin) and Class D], and failure to pay taxes as a drug dealer.

Thursday, Dec. 30
 6:01 AM – a search warranr at his home led to the arrest of Baron M Andrews, 54, of 16 Pine St #1, for subsequent offense possession of Class E drug (gabapentin) for distribution, a drug violation near a school/park, and

multiple firearms violations.
 3:05 PM – Took fraud report, Taft St.
 3:39 PM – Logged drug violation, Marcy St.
 5:10 PM – Took incident report, Goddard St.

Friday, Dec. 31
 9:13 AM – Referred auto theft to other agency, High St.
 11:23 AM – Took vandalism report, Pleasant St.
 11:52 PM – Responded to drug overdose, Elm St.

Saturday, Jan. 1
 2:11 AM – Traffic stop on Worcester St led to arrest of Andre Chevres, 21, of 15 Windsor Ct, for OUI, failure to stop for police, speeding, and negligent operation.
 11:27 AM – Responded to unattended death, Dresser Park Apts.
 11:38 AM – Logged burglary of vehicle, Colonial Drive.
 2:24 PM – Follow-up of previous incident at station led to a juvenile getting a summons for home invasion.
 3:44 PM – Officer wanted call to his address led to the arrest of Emmanuel J Ayuso, 33, of 42 Fox Run for trespassing.
 8 PM – Incident report taken at Empire Buffet.

Sunday, Jan. 2
 11:25 AM – Logged landlord/tenant dispute, Newell Ave.

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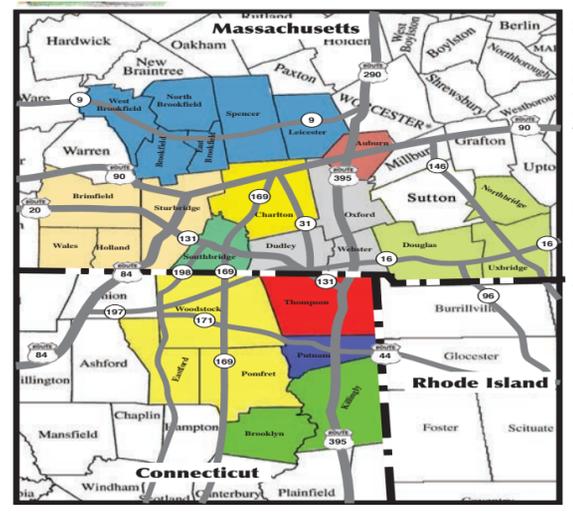
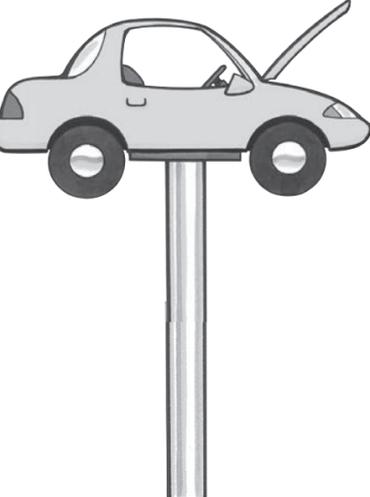
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EDITORIAL

Snowy weather is nothing new

The first big snow dump of the season has come and gone, leaving us with anywhere between three and eight inches of snow, depending on where you are.

During the winter of 1717, a storm dumped four feet of snow creating snowdrifts of up to 25 feet. Passing through the snow-covered roads was too much for a postman who traded his horse for a pair of snowshoes.

Streets had to be passable for wood and food deliveries. When the roads were not passable townspeople would gather together in large groups and dig out a path.

Fast forward to 1840, when the first snowplow patent came to be. It wasn't until 1862 that the first snowplow was put into use.

Typically, the use of the horse-drawn plow was only used to clear main streets, leaving side streets and sidewalks snowed in by large piles often blocking entrances to businesses.

The solution to that conundrum, was the hiring of snow shovellers to accompany the plow. The blizzard of 1888, however, was too much for the "modernized" plow, leaving many people trapped inside their homes.

The invention of the automobile brought with it a crutch and a new possibility as far as snow removal went. The crutch being that an entirely new method needed to be engineered and put into use.

It wasn't until 1959 when the weather was able to be predicted more accurately, allowing towns and cities to better prepare for any incoming storms.

Reading old diaries of our New England ancestors gives the perfect window as to what it was like to experience a bitter cold winter, prior to modern practices.

"All praise to winter; then, was Henry's feeling. Let others have their sultry luxuries. How full of creative genius was the air in which these snow-crystals were generated. He could hardly have marveled more if real stars had fallen and lodged on his coat.

The Flowering of New England, 1815-1865

OPINION

Viewpoints and commentary from the Tri-Community and beyond

Taking stock of 2021

Another New Year is upon us. It's amazing how the years keep slipping by, each year seemingly moving faster than the year before.

POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

those who haven't helped me. I want to become a blessing in as many people's lives as I possibly can.

can have everything in life you want, if you will just help other people get what they want."

As I think of those who harmed me in 2021...

I want to say thanks to you as well. Thank you for making me more robust, aware, flexible, and diplomatic. I'm tempted to feel anger and revenge, holding onto this poison forever.

I should feel satisfied with the goals I did accomplish in 2021. When I achieve a goal, the good feelings are quickly replaced by acknowledging that I'm still not where I want to be.

New Year is a mixed bag of emotions for me. As I reflect on 2021, I think of many things. I think of the people who helped me, I think of the people who harmed me, I think of the goals I gave up, and the goals I didn't give up.

As we move into 2022, I have to wonder, have I headed in the right direction? If not, how can I change course? Do I positively impact others? Am I surrounded by people who positively influence me?

I am thankful for those who helped me in 2021. Many positive things occurred this year that couldn't have happened without the help from friends, family, and strangers. Thank you all; you make me feel gratitude that should last a lifetime.

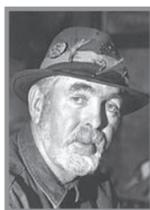
This year, I want to focus on helping those who helped me and

Deer season ends with some impressive harvests

Deer hunting improved dramatically last week, when a coating of snow fell in our area. Tracking deer helped numerous hunters bag a deer during the light snowfall, but it did not last long as the rain washed most of it away in the following few days.

News of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers show preparing for their event in Providence, R.I. in March was great news for local sportsmen. The event is a top rated must attend show, and if Covid is kept under control, it will hopefully happen.

Reports from Jerry's Bait & Tackle of anglers fishing rod & reel in freshly stocked trout waters & are catching some nice rainbow trout was good news.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS
RALPH TRUE

er weather soon, it will make for another short season locally. This is the time of year that I normally catch a good mess of yellow perch from the frying pan, but I am forced to eat some of my tautog and seabass that I caught this past summer.

The new Mass. Fish & Wildlife Web site has been a major problem for some sportsmen looking to purchase a hunting or fishing license as a Christmas gift for friends or family members and themselves.

complete their purchases. Deer permit zones required some sportsmen to get their licenses without completing the paperwork.

Now is a good time to check out your freshwater and saltwater fishing gear, and make all of the necessary repairs on rods, reels, etc. Tying fly's and repairing fishing lures, by applying a fresh coat of paint, and new hooks will insure you that you are ready for this upcoming fishing season.

This week's photo shows a youngster with his dad ice fishing at the Whitinsville Fish & Game club ice derby a year or two ago!

Wishing everyone a happy New Year!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



This week's photo shows a youngster with his dad ice fishing at the Whitinsville Fish & Game club ice derby a year or two ago!

What are your financial resolutions for 2022?



FINANCIAL FOCUS

TREVOR NIELSEN

As you know, 2021 was full of challenges. We were still feeling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic when supply chains shut down and inflation heated up.

Here are a few ideas to consider:

Prepare for the unexpected. If you haven't already created an emergency fund, now may be a good time to start. Ideally, you'd like to have three to six months' worth of living expenses in this fund, with the money kept in a low-risk, liquid account.

Boost your retirement savings. The pandemic caused many us to reevaluate our ability to eventually enjoy the retirement lifestyles we've envisioned. In fact, 33 percent of those planning to retire soon said they started to contribute even more to their retirement savings during the pandemic.

Reduce your debt load. The less debt you carry, the more money you'll have available to support your lifestyle today and save and invest for tomorrow. So, this year, resolve to cut down on your existing debts and avoid taking on new ones whenever possible.

Don't overreact to the headlines. A lot can happen during a year. Consider inflation - it shot up in 2021, but it may well subside in 2022. If you changed your investment strategy last year to accommodate the rise in inflation, would you then have to modify it again when prices fall?

These aren't the only financial resolutions you can make - but following them may help you develop positive habits that can help you face the future with confidence.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com.

Tips to Keep New Year Resolutions

Let's face it, New Year resolutions are difficult to keep. Even the firmest intentions can lose steam come March. So what's the secret to willpower longevity? The key factors to resolution success are attitude and commitment. Oftentimes New Year resolutions are self-improvements, and that requires a lifestyle change. Taking on the challenge with an eye to the future can increase the odds of your New Year resolution turning into a longtime success.

The following strategies are geared toward arming you with the tools to expand your January vows into lifelong achievements. Happy New Year!

A national study released by Retailmenot.com revealed the top seven resolutions for 2022. The survey found that 85 percent of consumers will set a New Year's resolution, and nearly half (49 percent) are likely to spend money to keep their resolutions.

According to the survey, Americans made the following New Year resolutions for the upcoming year:

Saving money 44 percent; Exercise more, 35 percent; Losing weight, 30 percent; Spending more time with family, 28 percent; Paying off debt, 27 percent; Reduce stress, 22 percent; Travel more, 19 percent.

While losing weight and saving money have long headed annual New Year resolution lists, spending time with family, reducing stress and traveling are also important goals for the coming year, no doubt influenced by the past two years of stress and

restrictions.

Rules from the Experts to Turn Annual Resolutions into Daily Habits

Rule #1: Stop Overachieving

Whittling your resolutions down from a top ten list to one or two increases the odds of long term success. With a focus on one main goal, your "eye is always on the prize."

Rule #2: Adjust your Attitude

So you hate working out? Resent pinching pennies? Can't bear to say no to sweets?

Remind yourself you are doing this of your own free will! Remember the "fake it till you make it" research that reveals even a forced smile boosts your happy genes, thus actually making you happier! The phenomenon is called "facial feedback," and according to Psychology Today, it works because the brain senses the flexion of certain facial muscles and interprets it as "Oh I must be happy about something."

No one is forcing you to get on the treadmill or give up your \$6 morning Latte – it is your choice. You are choosing to improve your life. Sometimes reminding yourself that you are willingly partaking in the sacrifice can get you through the tough times.

Rule #3 Be Accountable

Taking pen to paper or using a fitness or budget app can be powerful, and research repeatedly reveals that holding yourself accountable, be it via an exercise chart, daily



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

food or budget tracker, is very effective to making long term changes.

Rule #3: Break it Down

It sounds like common sense to break goals down into manageable tasks, but people don't always take the time to practice it. Make a plan with mini goals. When you achieve each goal, document it. Again, the power of the written (or typed) word solidifies the commitment.

Rule #4: Group Therapy

There's a reason why group programs are successful. Misery (and merriment) loves company. With plenty of support groups available online there is no reason not to seek out others striving for the same end results as you. Posting in a group that promotes healthy eating, frugality or even organization skills can boost your willpower and give you "shots" of encouragement. Not ready to join in a discussion? No worries. Just visiting a FB or other internet group with information and resources can aid you in your journey of improvement.

Rule #5: Make it Fun!

When's the last time you had fun achieving a goal? It's easier than you think to stay the course if it's a pleasant trip. Besides, who ever said a self-improvement

plan has to be grueling? For example, watch the Food Channel while you're on the treadmill. You will get your "food fix" virtually (and with no calories)!; Make a game of your budgeting: Challenge yourself to save a certain percentage at the grocery store each week, and up the ante when you reach your goal; Or simply play your favorite music while you are organizing that messy closet.

Rule # 6: Motivate Yourself

Motivational speakers spark results, but you can use simple tools to be a self-motivator. Look up inspirational quotes, and post them where you'll see them every day. You might also want to repeat an affirmation every day to solidify your vow. Research the habits successful people and take a cue from them on how to carry on and achieve success even after failures. Remember Thomas Edison's famous quote. After someone remarked his light bulb experiments failed, he said: "I have not failed 10,000 times. I have successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work."

Success Strategy

You've likely heard it before but here is some advice to successfully "break a bad habit": Experts agree that it takes a minimum of 21 days to change a behavior, so the first thing to do is count ahead 21 days and mark the day you'll be officially "home free" from your habit on a calendar. How to get through the 21 days? First write down

your goal and list the positive reasons you want to change your habit. These exercises will help build commitment. Next share your goals with your family and friends. Making a commitment public leaves little room to back out, plus you'll benefit from a support system. Each day review your list of reasons for quitting or changing. Reward yourself verbally, each hour if necessary, working up to a great treat at the end of a successful week. And remember if you fall off the wagon, jump back on immediately before you fall completely back into your old habit. It pays to remember research reveals only 40 percent of habits are broken on the first try. Besides, there's always next year!

(heading) Famous Quotes

Here's a dose of inspiration from successful people:

"If you set your goals ridiculously high and it's a failure, you will fail above everyone else's success." - James Cameron

"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them." - Walt Disney

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out." - Robert Collier

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary." - Vidal Sassoon

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going." - Jim Ryun

"You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it." - Margaret Thatcher

"Develop success from failures. Discouragement and failure are two of the

surest stepping stones to success." - Dale Carnegie

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will." - Vince Lombardi

"The successful warrior is the average man, with laser-like focus." - Bruce Lee

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

Your tips can win you a great three course 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.

Start seeds outdoors with winter sowing

Save money and indoor space used for starting seeds indoors with winter sowing. This easy technique allows you to start transplants from seeds outdoors without a greenhouse or cold frame.



GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS

usually a good guide.

Fill the bottom with moist potting mix. Plant seeds according to the package directions. Gently water until the excess runs out the bottom of the container.

Growing your own transplants from seeds can save you money and is often the only option for new, unique, and other hard to find plants. Not everyone has the time, equipment, and dedication to watering that's needed to start plants indoors.

All you need are flower and vegetable seeds, milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles, duct tape and a quality potting mix. Check the seed packet for information on planting details and timing. Winter sowing dates vary with the growing climate, individual gardener, and seed variety you are planting.

Try starting hardy perennials and self-seeding annuals sometime winter through early spring. Other flowers and vegetables seeds are typically winter sown about the same time

you would plant them indoors or a month or two before the transplants get moved into the garden. Keep a record of your planting dates and results to help you fine tune your planting schedule and increase future success.

Drill four to 12 small holes in the bottom of the jug for drainage. One winter sower fills the container with water and pops it into the freezer or outside in below freezing temperatures. Once frozen solid, he drills the holes into the container. The ice prevents the plastic container from collapsing during the process.

Next, partially cut the jug to create a hinged lid. Make your cut about three to four inches above the bottom, leaving the area by the handle attached so it forms a hinge. The bottom of the milk jug handle is

Fellow gardener, Patricia, uses rolled newspaper or the cardboard tubes from toilet paper to help space and eventually transplant her winter sown seedlings. She makes newspaper pots by wrapping 22 and a half by five inch strips of newspaper around a two and a half inch diameter by four inch tall jar. She folds the end to create the bottom for a three and a half inch tall pot. Secured with staples, she sets the pots or toilet paper rolls in the milk jug, fills with potting mix, tops them off with about half an inch of seed starting mix and then plants her seeds.

Label the inside and outside of the jug with a permanent marker. Close the lid and seal it shut with duct tape. Remove the cap before setting your milk jugs in a sunny location out-



Melinda Myers

Winter sowing allows gardeners to start transplants from seeds outdoors by repurposing milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles.

doors where rain and snow can reach it. Keep them handy to prevent waterlogged soil during extremely wet weather.

Water your outdoor seed starting chambers during snow-free and dry weather. This will be much less often than those seedlings growing indoors under artificial lights.

Your plants will be ready to move into the garden at the normal planting time. Just open the lids, harden off the plants and move them into the garden.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She

hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

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New Town Administrator lands in Sturbridge

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — The town goes into the new year with a new face at the helm — Robert Reed. Just before Christmas, the selectmen voted unanimously to offer him the interim town administrator's job for three months, with a possible extension if necessary, while they initiate a formal search for a permanent administrator. He comes in to replace Jeff Bridges, who resigned as of Dec. 21.

"Mr. Reed was the safest pick," said Jamie Goodwin on Dec. 20. Chase Kaitbenski agreed, noting Reed has "done it with seven different towns."

So did Chair Mary

Blanchard, who particularly liked the fact Reed has no interest in becoming permanent administrator. She noted "He knows what it takes to move on."

Reed, like several others who seek such interim jobs, is officially retired, thus limited in the number of hours he can work annually and still keep his pension under state law. His last full-time stint was as town manager in Leicester, where he retired in 2013. More recently, the Medway resident served as interim in Southbridge, Princeton, Upton, Rutland and Hopdale, among other places. The board approved his contract in an

eight-minute meeting Dec. 27, after ironing out an agreement with Reed on working hours. Regarding the ongoing search committee, the board appointed Kaitbenski to be its representative and Finance Director Barbara Barry to represent the department heads. But it still seeks "Three registered voters of the town at large not employed by the town" to round out the panel, according to the Charter Statements of interest are due to the board's office by Jan. 7 at 11 a.m., and can be submitted two ways: by email to selectmen@Sturbridge.gov or by mail to Board of Selectmen, 308 Main St., Sturbridge, MA 01566. The search faces

some competition. According to the Mass Municipal Association's job listing website on Jan. 1, 10 communities in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire have advertised for administrators or managers since the beginning of December. In other business, the board threw its support behind resident Steve Zoto's request to have the state Department of Transportation build "some form of noise protection" along the stretch of the Mass Pike that abuts the Walker Pond neighborhood. He told them the last time traffic and noise studies were done there were in 1988 and 1992, but speed has "increased substantially," especially since

the tolls went from cash to electronic. Zotos said he'd like DOT to also erect signs prohibiting the use of jake brakes in that area. This proposal is the first stage of a much larger request, he noted. Going forward, Zotos and others who signed his petitions also seek to have DOT and the town extend water and sewer lines to that area to address salt and other contamination. Doing so will require some significant planning and cooperation, since such services now end on the other side of the Pike, he noted. Additionally, the board approved a new police department policy by which illegal immigrants can report crimes

and work with the police without fear of deportation. Doing so will enable them to apply for a visa to stay. Chief Earl Dessert said it's modeled on state law passed last summer. It also approved using \$60,000 of the town's ARPA funds to continue covid-related nursing and contact tracing efforts. But it put a request to use funds for cleaning on hold to determine if doing so is legal. Selectmen recently received numerous proposals from departments and citizens on how to use such funding, and are reviewing them.

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

Senior Center project goes to ballot Jan. 24

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — Besides getting a new town administrator, Sturbridge voters will be called upon to decide the fate of a major town project this month. On Monday, Jan 24, the \$11.5 million expansion and renovation of the Senior Center goes to the ballot, with the town seeking a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion to do the work. Town Meeting approved doing so overwhelmingly back in late October. This vote, however, will be in an unusu-

al place. Because of expansion of the Old Sturbridge Village charter school, the town can't use Wight Tavern as a polling place anymore. Instead, it will happen in the Town Hall selectmen's meeting room, with the usual hours — 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. "We viewed many options such as Sturbridge Worship Center, the Hay Loft Steppers Barn, and 198 Charlton Road Office Building, which they offered their location for our elections going forward. However, ADA issues keep us from state

compliance with some of these locations," Town Clerk Lynne Girouard wrote in her formal letter to the selectmen informing them of the change. The new site is temporary, but still had to go through a state-reviewed process to ensure it does not "have a disparate, adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age," she added. The selectmen approved the ballot question on Dec. 20. Originally, they tried to include the cost in the

wording, but then-Town Administrator Jeff Bridges told them the town attorney and bond counsel advised against doing so on the grounds it would set a maximum limit that might not take into account changing interest rates. He admitted he was "surprised" at their recommendation, agreeing that he'd rather see the dollar figure there, too. "You know how much you're going to borrow, but you don't know how much you're going to pay," Bridges said then, noting they can also reduce the cost in various ways. The project calls for renovating the existing two-story building and

adding a one-story section behind it. Most of the offices will be in the former, with program, kitchen, game and exercise space in the latter, a new entrance on the side, and most of the green space around the building consumed by parking. Town Meeting voted in favor of that option 660-126, although attendees of public forums earlier in the year seemed inclined toward building a new center on property off Cedar Street. The latter died under fire from neighbors who objected to the traffic impacts it might have. At the same time, some speakers favored keeping the current location for its his-

torical value, noting the town would still have to do something with the building if it built anew. If the ballot question passes, it begins the detailed architectural design process, followed by actual construction, with both based on the proposal available on the town website. At that point, Senior Center programs may have to move temporarily. At the time, Bridges noted the cost will not hit the tax rate for about a year.

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

Baker urges masking, vaccination amid post-holiday surge

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Despite the surge of COVID-19 cases during the holiday season, Gov. Charlie Baker doesn't plan to reinstitute indoor mask mandates. The Baker-Polito Administration recently announced measures to address the statewide spike in COVID-19 cases, including an indoor mask advisory. Measures are also intended to ensure that hospitals have sufficient capacity to care for both COVID and non-COVID patients. "The Commonwealth's healthcare system is facing a critical staffing shortage, which has contributed to the loss of approximately 500 medical and ICU hospital beds," read a statement released by Baker. "Hospitals are also seeing a high level of patients, many due to non-COVID related reasons." Getting your COVID-19 vaccines and booster remain the most effective ways to protect against serious illness or hospitalization from the virus, officials said. In a report released last week by the Mass. Department of Public Health, data showed that 97 percent of COVID-19 breakthrough cases in Massachusetts

have not resulted in hospitalization or death. Moreover, unvaccinated individuals are five times more likely to contract the virus than fully vaccinated individuals, according to the DPH report. Massachusetts continues to be a national leader in COVID-19 vaccinations, with more than 94 percent of eligible residents having received at least one dose. Approximately 74 percent of the eligible population is fully vaccinated, and Baker's staff has opted to promote continued vaccinations rather than restore mask mandates. Additionally, the Governor activated 500 members of the Massachusetts National Guard to address the non-clinical support needs of hospitals and transport systems. Up to 300 of these Guard members will support 55 acute care hospitals, as well as 12 ambulance service providers across the Commonwealth. "DPH surveyed all hospitals and ambulance service providers, and in concert with the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association, has identified five key roles that non-clinical Guard personnel can serve in sup-

port of hospital operations for up to 90 days," read the statement issued by Baker's office. These roles include non-emergency transport between facilities; patient observation; security support; in-hospital patient transport services; and food service support. Guard personnel were deployed to the field on Dec. 27. State officials also released updated guidance to hospitals concerning nonessential elective procedures. Effective Dec. 27, all hospitals statewide are directed to postpone or cancel all nonessential elective procedures that are likely to result in inpatient admission. The goal of this order is to maintain and increase inpatient capacity, officials said. "Patients are reminded to still seek necessary care at their hospital or from their health-care provider," read the Governor's statement. Residents are reminded that people ages five to 17 can get the Pfizer vaccine. People over 18 can get any vaccine. To learn more about the latest state COVID-19 guidance and data, visit www.mass.gov.

Boating safety courses offered in February

MILFORD — The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Tri-State Flotilla, Massachusetts will be instructing two upcoming boating safety classes at Milford High School. They are scheduled as "in-person" unless further Covid restrictions move them to the Zoom video conference platform. Registration is managed through the Milford Community School Use Program, Adult-Boating, at <http://mcs.milford.ma.us> or (508) 478-1119 keeping in mind that availability is limited and you will receive course materials prior; covered by the registration fee if given on Zoom. Participants under the age of 16 must be accompanied in person, or online by a registered parent/guardian. Both courses will be offered again in March and April at this location as "in-person" or on Zoom platform. For additional USCGAux. information: phil.uscgaux@verizon.net or (508) 478-3778. Boat America Feb. 12 8 a.m. — 5 p.m. Register by Feb. 4 (\$75 fee-\$65 Milford residents) An in-person proctored exam is required for com-

pletion and will be given to students, in their vehicles, at the MHS parking lot on Sunday Feb. 13 at 10 a.m. if the class is done over Zoom platform. This is a one-day course developed to provide the skills and confidence needed to explore the coast and inland waters by boat. Basic knowledge and skills are needed to have safe and enjoyable boating experiences. This course is perfect for families that have just purchased any type of boat or are planning to in the future, and also for the boater keeping up with changes to boating regulations and laws. Successful completion of the course will certify any minor, from 12 to 16 years of age, to operate a powerboat, including a Personal Water Craft / Jet Ski (for 16 & 17-year-old operators), on all Massachusetts waters; in conjunction with the Mass. Environmental Police. Approved by NASBLA it will also cover the requirements to operate a vessel in most other states & many countries where boating safety education is mandatory. Most boating insurance companies offer a discount on premiums for success-

ful completion of this course. The Boat America course is limited to 20 students. Suddenly in Command Feb. 16 Wednesday evening: 6:30 — 9 p.m. Register by Feb. 14 (\$5 course fee, No exam) Imagine you are out on the water when the boat's captain somehow is incapacitated or falls overboard and can't swim back to the boat. Are you prepared to take basic actions to get help, stop or start the engine and take the helm? A little knowledge could save lives and make you feel more comfortable boating when you're not generally at the helm. Misfortunes can and do happen while on that fishing, diving, adventure, or party charter. Being out on your own boat with that significant other at the helm, or going out on a friends' pontoon boat can also turn to horror if the skipper is suddenly out of commission. This is a boating safety primer for those not generally at the helm but would like to know what to do, to be better prepared.



Courtesy Pictured: Tobe Gerard, Joe Morrison, Tara Fuery, Roseanne Waddick, Jim Waddick and Marc Peloquin.

HOLIDAY MEALS DELIVERED FOR BURGESS FAMILIES

STURBRIDGE — Southbridge Rotarians and Past Presidents Jim Waddick and Tobe Gerard, and their respective spouses Roseanne Waddick and Marc Peloquin, volunteered to deliver 90 bags of holiday food items to Burgess Elementary School in Sturbridge. The deliveries were gratefully accepted by Tara Surey, one of Burgess' nurses, and Joe Morrison, a member of Burgess' custodial staff. The Southbridge Rotary Club is committed to supporting the needs in the local community. If you would like to learn more and attend a Rotary Club of Southbridge meeting, they are held bi-weekly on Wednesdays at noon at the Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center. For more information about the club or membership, e-mail the club at SouthbridgeRotary@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page @SouthbridgeRotaryClub.

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For J.D. Power 2021 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 1/31/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 1/1/2022 and 1/31/2022. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$50 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 1/31/2022. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.



OBITUARIES

Grace Pierce, 95



STURBRIDGE-Grace Pierce, 95, of Sturbridge, Massachusetts, left us on December 23, 2021, passing peacefully in her sleep after a short illness.

Grace was predeceased by her husband, William; her parents Raymond and Gladys Lillie, and her brothers, Raymond, Stanley and Curtis.

She is survived by her sister Ruth Russo of Texas; her 2 sons William Pierce and his wife Yvonne of Bolinas, CA; Richard Pierce and his wife Geraldine of Boylston, MA; her daughter Elizabeth Ford of Egg Harbor City, NJ; her grandchildren Heather, Benjamin, Raury, Rebecca, Kelley, and William; her great grandchildren Leila, Kate and William; and her beloved and devoted furry friend, Buddy.

Grace was born in Abington, MA and was one of five children. As a child, Grace helped on the family's small farm, graduated high school and graduated business school in Boston. She then met her "Wild Bill", a Marine returning from a tour in

the South Pacific during World War II. They married shortly after the war. The couple moved to Virginia, had three children, then in the early 1960's moved to Sturbridge, MA where Grace designed and decorated her dream home and lived there for the rest of her life.

Grace was an avid gardener. She never met a lobster she didn't love and was an amazing crafts-woman. Grace loved her family and relished her time with her children and grandchildren.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, January 6th from 4 to 6 PM at Belanger Bullard Funeral Home, 51 Marcy Street, Southbridge, Massachusetts.

A private burial service will follow on Friday, January 7th at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam, MA.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Grace's name to: Big Hair Animal Rescue in Sturbridge, MA. at www.bighairanimalrescue.com

Belanger Bullard Funeral Home is directing arrangements.

An online guest book is available at BelangerFuneralHome.com

Jean M. Lamoureux, 76



Southbridge ~ Jean M. (Recore) Lamoureux, 76, died Monday, December 20, 2021, at UMass Memorial Health Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, MA, following an illness.

Jean was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Roger L. Lamoureux, who died October 30, 2017. She is survived by their children: Keith Lamoureux, Melissa Lamoureux, Shari Broga and her husband, James, and Marcia Leboeuf, and her husband, Jean Paul, all of Southbridge. 8 grandchildren; 2 step-grandchildren; 1 great-granddaughter; and 1 great-grandson; and her sisters, Karen Belanger and her husband, Joseph, of Holland, MA,

Sandra Garceau and her husband, Kenneth, of Sturbridge, MA, and Cheryl Hoinig and her husband, Thomas, of Maine. She was predeceased by her brother, Edward Recore.

Born October 20, 1945, in Malone, NY, Jean was the daughter of the late Reginald and Theresa (Reome) Recore. She graduated from Southbridge High School. She enjoyed cross stitching, knitting, crocheting, and researching her family's ancestry. Jean was a member of St. John Paul II Parish.

Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA, has been entrusted with Jean's private funeral arrangements. The family asks that you kindly consider making memorial donations in Jean's name to St. John Paul II, 279 Hamilton Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Roland G. Lavalley, 83



WEBSTER - Roland G. Lavalley, 83, died Thursday, December 30, 2021, at the Overlook Masonic Health Center in Charlton.

He was predeceased by his wife of 46 years, Barbara A. (Bardy) Lavalley of Webster who died in 2005. He is survived by his friend and caretaker, Sylvia Annese of Webster; three nephews and one niece, John, Jeff, Paul, and Christine. He was predeceased by two brothers, Normand Lavalley and Roger Lavalley, who both died in 2006; and his longtime friend William Annese who died in 2021. He was born in Webster, son of the late Theodore and Rita Rose (Cardinal) Lavalley, and lived most of his life in Webster. He attended Bartlett High School in Webster and was a member of the Army National Guard for 21 years.

Mr. Lavalley worked in the meat department at Shaw's Supermarket in Webster for 22 years, retiring in 2004. Previously, he worked at

Iandoli Supermarket in Worcester, Milford, Clinton, Southbridge, and Webster for 25 years. He also worked as a constable in Thompson, CT, for 9 years. Mr. Lavalley

was a member of St. Louis Church and the Knights of Columbus Council 228, both in Webster, for many years. He enjoyed traveling with his wife Barbara.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at St. Louis Church, 15 Lake St., Webster. Those attending are respectfully requested to meet directly at the church. Burial will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Webster. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Louis Church, 15 Lake St., Webster, MA 01570, or to the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 3, 357 Main St., Webster, MA 01570 (to support the Webster Police). Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

Mary A. Marino, 93



Southbridge: Mary A. Marino, 93, of Charlton St., passed away on Monday, Dec. 27th, in the Southbridge Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, after a long illness.

She leaves her sister, Anna Marino of Southbridge; her brother, James "Joe" Marino and his wife Ann Marie of Southbridge; and several beloved nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by four brothers, Albert Marino, Alfred Marino, Raymond Marino and Mario Marino and a sister, Lucy Giacobbi. She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Vincenzo and Antoinetta (Santelli) Marino.

Mary worked as a toll collector on the Massachusetts Turnpike for several years, retiring many years ago. She previously worked at the

American Optical Co. in Southbridge and at the former Lippe's Market in Southbridge. Mary was also a devoted caregiver to her mother Antoinetta. She was a lifelong member of St. Mary's Church. Mary loved to travel and traveled with her sister to Italy and Portugal. Mary loved her nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

Her funeral was held on Friday, Dec. 31st, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 11:00am in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 247 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Southbridge. A calling hour in the funeral home was held on Friday, Dec. 31st, from 9:30 to 10:30am, prior to the Mass.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. John Paul II Parish, 279 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA 01550 www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Ruth E. McDonough, 91



Sturbridge: Ruth E. (Hathaway) McDonough, 91, of New Boston Rd., passed away on Sunday, Dec 26th, in Overlook Masonic Healthcare Center, Charlton, after an illness.

Her husband, Edward M. McDonough died in 1986. Ruth is survived by her step-daughter, Judith Mariano of NH; many nieces, nephews, and good friends.

She was predeceased by a step-son, Martin McDonough; and two sisters, Helen Loven and Doris Poulin.

Ruth was born in Springfield the daughter of Herbert and Mabel (Burditt) Hathaway.

She worked at the William E. Wright Ribbon Factory in West Warren

for 8 years and then as a clerk for the American Optical Company in Southbridge for 31 years before retiring many years ago. Ruth enjoyed her home, flowers and loved her cat Maggie. She was involved with the cribbage program and many other activities at the Sturbridge Senior Center.

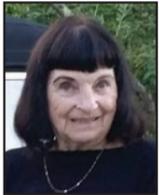
A graveside service for Ruth will be held on Saturday, Jan 8th, at 11:00 am in St. Anne's Cemetery, Arnold Rd., Sturbridge. There are no calling hours.

Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge is directing the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Second Chance Animal Center, 111 Young Rd., East Brookfield, MA 01515 or online at www.secondchanceanimals.org.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Taylor Benvenuti



Southbridge: Taylor (Edwards) Benvenuti, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 26th, in her home after a long illness.

Her husband, Deacon Edward Benvenuti, passed away in 2009. She leaves her son, Mark E. Benvenuti of Holliston; her two daughters, Bonnie Ann Baird of Southbridge and Cara Ann Simpson and her husband Ken of Southbridge; her three grandchildren, Sara Simon of Worcester, Scott Simpson and his wife Amanda of Hampton, CT and Evan Simpson and his wife Tiffani of Southbridge; and her two great grandchildren, Ava Simon of Southbridge and Belle Simpson of Hampton, CT. She was predeceased by her brother, Richard Edwards. She was born in Tuskegee, AL the daughter of Kathryn (Grimmett) Edward Kennedy.

Taylor worked for the War Department during World War II. She went onto a long career as a telephone operator beginning with New England Telephone. She then when on to work at the American Optical Co. in Southbridge and worked at the Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge for many years before retiring 4 years ago.

Taylor meant a lot of things to many people. She was fun-loving and

serious at the same time. She loved to dance and spent many years performing at the Debbie Sichol School of Dance in Southbridge. At work she was very thorough. She was fast-thinking and resourceful in her business of communicating. Perhaps some of her most important communications occurred with those workers younger than herself. She was a great mentor! She was straight on with meaningful, honest insight which helped many and resulted in a keen admiration for the person Taylor was.

As she approached semi-retirement she enjoyed trips to the local casinos and supporting her husband in his deacon ministry. She loved caring for her grandchildren. Nothing brought her more delight than doing for others!

A funeral Mass for Taylor was held on Thursday, Dec. 30th, at 11:00am in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 247 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Southbridge, will be held at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the ASPCA online at www.aspc.org.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Greater Worcester Community Foundation looks to support and recognize local artists in photography contest

WORCESTER — The Greater Worcester Community Foundation is redesigning its website and is looking to showcase the work of local Central Massachusetts photographers. The use of local artwork is in line with the Creative Worcester Initiative which seeks to support a strong and diverse arts and culture ecosystem in Worcester.

Photographers can begin submitting photographs starting Jan. 3 with the contest running until Jan. 14. All photographers (emerging and seasoned) are welcome. Artists are asked to limit submissions to four per person

and photos must be from different seasons. Entries must depict scenes of Worcester County and can be of outdoor themes (landscapes and close-up shots are acceptable) or groups of people/events. Individual photographs of people or household pets, as the primary subject will not be considered.

Artists must be 18 years of age or older to submit and each entry must be the work of the person submitting the photo. All images must be high-resolution digital images in jpeg format, with a file size of at least 500 KB and no greater than 3,000 KB. No prints or paper copies will be accepted.

Winners will be notified after Friday, Feb. 4. Those selected for the Greater Worcester Community Foundation Web site will be provided a \$200 stipend per photo selected.

To enter, submit digital image(s) to photos@greaterworcester.org. Please include your name and location of where the picture was taken.

The Greater Worcester Community Foundation reserves the right to use selected photos in ways it deems appropriate.

Jacques (Jake) Adrien Mathieu 87



Jacques (Jake) Adrien Mathieu 87, of Brimfield, MA, passed away December 24, 2021 following a two week hospitalization. He was born to Alphonse and Adrienne (Payant) Mathieu on

June, 2, 1934 in Holland, MA. Jake is survived by his brother Alphonse Mathieu of Ware, MA; his wife of nearly 63 years, Judith (Reid) Mathieu; brother-in-law Pete Lukesh of Vero Beach, FL; daughter Michelle Brooks of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; son Bernard Mathieu of Hayesville, NC; daughters Laurel (Mathieu) Prescott and her husband John, Jill (Mathieu) O'Day and her husband Darryl all of Brimfield; grandchildren: Christina Mathieu, Andrea Kaiser and her husband Tyler, Benjamin Keating and his wife Morgan, Hannah Prescott, Ian Prescott, Jonathan Balderelli and his wife Meghan, and Evan Balderelli; great grandchildren: Parker Logie, Harper, Kylie, and Kannon Kaiser, Charlotte Keating, Alexander and Caroline Balderelli.

He attended Cole Trade in Southbridge, MA before enlisting in the Army (Jan. 1951-Dec. 1953), where he served as a medic, based in Germany. Following his honorable discharge he became a skilled draftsman, methods engineer, and manager working for various manufacturing companies throughout his career. He owned A&W Sheet Metal in Southbridge before selling the business to work exclusively alongside his wife, Judith, her sister Jill (Reid) Lukesh and Jill's husband Pete Lukesh to own and operate J&J Promotions

at Auction Acres in Brimfield, MA (1975-2017).

Jake loved sports and played many throughout his life. As a younger man, he enjoyed competitive swimming in the Army, baseball and fastpitch softball, bowling, and in the late 1960's became, (in his own words) "addicted" to golf. His love of golf led him into the development venture with Scottish Meadows Golf Course between 2003-2012. He played golf and was a member at many local courses throughout the years. He cherished his many friendships, particularly those cultivated on the 19th hole.

Jake's strong spiritual beliefs were fulfilled by his long term participation in St. Christopher's Catholic Church in Brimfield, as a Eucharistic Minister, lector, and a deep clear voice in the choir.

Jake's most cherished moments were found in spending quality time with his family, friends and most importantly his wife, Judy. He will be forever in our hearts.

In consideration of health concerns, the family has requested a private funeral service and burial at this time. A celebration of life to be held at a later date.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made, in his name, to The Catholic Women's Club of St. Christopher's Church, Brimfield Ambulance Fund, or Tunnel to Towers Foundation. Please visit www.beersandstory.com for online guestbook

COVID, Amazon project highlight busy year for Charlton

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – It was a busy year in Charlton in 2021, as the community worked to continue reopening and adapting in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic while also making strides towards economic growth by welcoming in one of the biggest companies in the world.

Town Administrator Andrew Golas recounted the highlights of the last twelve months as Charlton looks ahead to more positives in 2022. Looking back on the past year, Golas said there are two major storylines that dominated the town, one very obvious worldwide issue and another more localized story involving one of the most recognizable names in modern business.

“One thing has been COVID and trying to get ourselves back to normal even though now this time of the year it feels like we’re taking a step back from that, but I think the town has adapted to some of the newer regulations,” Golas said. “The other side that’s been another big thing has really been economic development and what the future is going to be in Charlton.”

That economic growth involved Amazon bringing a new warehouse facility to the town which has certainly been one of the most talked about projects in the region since it came to light in the spring. Citizens approved zoning changes during the annual town meeting in May that allowed for large scale distribution centers setting the stage for Amazon to bring its project to Charlton. While the company wasn’t identified until a later meeting, the project eventually received citizens backing for a TIF agreement in the fall. Economic growth such as this is something Golas hopes will continue into 2022 and beyond and will also help with one of the biggest goals of the new year, putting a focus on updating and upgrading public facilities.

“We’re starting to look at the budget and I think that the next conversation that we as a community need to have is what we want to do about our public safety facilities and looking at public facilities as a whole understanding that the new Amazon project is going to bring in additional tax revenue,” said Golas. “There are going

to be some municipal challenges that we’re going to need to use that new revenue to address. We know that facilities improvements have been a need for a very long time and trying to leverage those new resources will also steady the tax base. We really want to focus on a timeline for addressing those needs. We’re also really hoping to continue to adapt to COVID and find out what the next phase is going to be.”

Other accomplishments Golas mentioned from 2021 include upgrading the remote and online experience for citizens which included launching new improvements to the town website such as an online permitting tracking system. Golas hopes that these small improvements will continue into the new year. He concluded by crediting the town and its citizens for their adaptability during the ongoing pandemic saying that Charlton will be looking for more clarity from the state and federal government as to how to proceed with keeping citizens safe while maintaining services in the new year.

Legacy Counsellors, P.C., Gove Law Office announce planned merger

STURBRIDGE — Legacy Counsellors, P.C. and Gove Law Office have announced the planned merger of their firms in order to expand the estate and tax planning and real estate services they offer to their clients. The Gove Law Office team completes the transition to join the existing Legacy Counsellors, P.C. firm in January 2022. This merger will also create the new division of Legacy Title & Escrow, to handle residential and commercial real estate transactions.

Legacy Counsellors, P.C., founded in 1994, focuses on helping clients protect and perpetuate their savings and assets. Their mission is to empower clients to preserve their legacy, through services including trust, estate, and asset protection planning, elder law and Medicaid planning, and probate administration.

Founder Kevin D. Quinn, J.D., says that this merger “will create more opportunity for the clients of both firms,” through the addition and expansion of resources, areas of practice and office locations.

“We are very excited about these additions to our firm, our improved offerings and the broader and deeper legal support from both the attorneys and support staff. What will not change is our commitment to service and can-do attitude,” Quinn said.

Gove Law Office has provided practical, solutions-oriented guidance to clients in the areas of residential and commercial real estate, estate planning, business representation, and family law since 2013. Their attorneys are committed to being responsive to client needs and efficient with their time.

Attorney Michael Gove states, “The merger strongly positions the combined firm to continue our commitment to being a valuable resource for our clients at many critical moments in their lives.

“The combination of Gove Law Office and Legacy Counsellors is a fantastic opportunity for both firms. For our clients who rely on us so thoroughly, we’ll be able to offer expanded services including varying levels of estate and tax planning, probate

and trust administration assistance, residential and commercial real estate transactions, and representation in family matters; for our team members and employees who are invaluable to our work, we’ll be better positioned to ensure enough staff coverage to fully assist our clients; and for our referral partners who place their trust in us every day, we’ll be continuing to provide educational opportunities to them and exceptional services to their clients.”

The expanded firm of Legacy Counsellors, P.C. and Legacy Title & Escrow includes four attorneys, along with paralegals and client services coordinators. Attorney Kevin Quinn will remain the President, with Attorney Michael Gove joining as Vice President and Partner. Its five office locations throughout Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, and Hartford counties, allow it to better serve clients throughout all of Massachusetts and Connecticut.

More information can be found at: www.legacy-counsellors.com.

LEGALS

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 138, Section 12 of Massachusetts General Laws of a public hearing to be held in the George Parent Meeting Room, second floor of the Town Hall, 41 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA, on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. during the regular scheduled Liquor Board Meeting in regard to the application for change of manager.

This hearing pertains to I.T.A. Inc., 20 North St., Southbridge, MA, 01550. Anyone wishing to speak will be given the opportunity to be heard. This notice is also published electronically on www.stonebridgepress.com and on www.masspublicnotice.org Town of Southbridge Liquor Licensing Board January 6, 2022

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Harold C. Peterson, Jr. to Option One Mortgage Corporation, dated March 18, 2004 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 33090, Page 383, subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee for ABFC 2004-OPT4 Trust, ABFC Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2004-OPT4 by Sand Canyon Corporation FKA Option One Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 61200, Page 393 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on January 27, 2022 at 87 Westwood Parkway, Southbridge, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit: That certain tract or parcel of land, situated in said Southbridge, designated as lot numbered twelve (12), as shown on a plan called “Revised Portion of Westwood Hills Owned by William D. Gremier Real estate & Development Co. And Charter Bros. Contractors, Southbridge, Mass. Scale 1”- 50’, Jan 1957, Benjamin F. Tully, Engr” and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 224, Plan 54 and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin in the ground on the westerly side line of Westwood Parkway Extension, said iron pin being three hundred fifty-four and ninety-six (354.96) feet N. 31° 18’ W. from a town bound in the ground at the northerly terminal of the 1941 layout of Westwood Parkway by the Town of Southbridge; Thence running N. 31° 18’ W., along the westerly side line of said Westwood Parkway Extension, sixty seven (67) feet, to a bound point; Thence running northerly and westerly on a curve, said curve having a radius of forty-nine and eighty hundredths (49.80) feet for a distance of seventy-six and forty one hundredths (76.41) feet, to a bound point on the southerly side line of a proposed street;

Thence running S. 50° 47’ W., along the southerly side line of said proposed street fifty-two (52) feet, to a bound point at the N.E. Corner of lot numbered thirteen (13) on said Plan;

Thence running Southeasterly along the easterly line of said lot numbered thirteen (13), one hundred fifteen (115) feet, to iron pin in the ground at the N.E. Corner of lot numbered seven (7) on said Plan and the N.W. Corner of lot numbered six (6) on said Plan; Thence running Southeasterly along the easterly line of said lot numbered six (6) one hundred (100) feet, to the iron pin in the ground at the point of beginning.

For title reference see Deed dated September 30, 1957 and recorded in Book 3895 at Page 132 also see probate File Docket No. 98PR3168-AD1 for Evelyn A. Peterson.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney’s fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer’s check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer’s check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee’s attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee’s attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee for ABFC 2004-OPT4 Trust, ABFC Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2004-OPT4 Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 19-008208 January 6, 2022 January 13, 2022 January 20, 2022

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket Number: 21 SM 000832 ORDER OF NOTICE

To: Melissa A. Carling

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

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Sturbridge, numbered 3 Gedeon Avenue, given by Melissa A. Carling to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Reliant Mortgage Company, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated November 22, 2013, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51779, Page 245, as affected by a Loan Modification dated November 29, 2018, and recorded in Said Registry of Deeds in Book 59932, Page 312, and now held by 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 Servicemembers 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 January 31, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on December 21, 2021.

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 20-003271 January 6, 2022

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 138, Section 12 of Massachusetts General Laws of a public hearing to be held in the George Parent Meeting Room, second floor of the Town Hall, 41 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA, on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. during the regular scheduled Liquor Board Meeting in regard to the application for a new all alcohol license.

This hearing pertains to Fins and Tales, 858 Main St., Southbridge, MA. Anyone wishing to speak will be given the opportunity to be heard.

This notice is also published electronically on www.stonebridgepress.com and on www.masspublicnotice.org Town of Southbridge Liquor Licensing Board January 6, 2022

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 138, Section 12 of Massachusetts General Laws of a public hearing to be held in the George Parent Meeting Room, second floor of the Town Hall, 41 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA, on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. during the regular scheduled Liquor Board Meeting in regard to the application for change of manager. This hearing pertains to Pilsudski Polish America Citizens Club, 18 Ballard Court, Southbridge, MA, 01550. Anyone wishing to speak will be given the opportunity to be heard.

This notice is also published electronically on www.stonebridgepress.com and on www.masspublicnotice.org Town of Southbridge Liquor Licensing Board January 6, 2022

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. WO21P4199EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Gloria T Proulx

Also known as:

Gloria Proulx

Date of Death: 11/18/2021

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **David C Proulx of Southbridge MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that

David C Proulx of Southbridge MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **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 01/25/2022**.

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: December 24, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

January 6, 2022

REAL ESTATE



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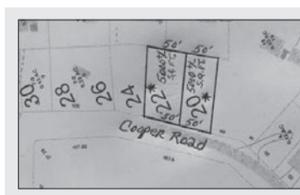
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<p>DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>Beautiful family home! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, newer windows & heating system. Mini split system. Hardwoods. Lg eat-in kitchen /Corian counters & Island Warming fireplace with handsome mantle. Generous dining room, spacious enough for your family gatherings. lower level fireplace family room. Harmon pellet insert! 2 car garage. Reduced \$340,000.</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3,012 SF +/- living area. 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 updated Baths. 2nd Flr - Granite Countertops! High ceilings & Hardwood Floors, Modern Kitchens. Manicured 13,525 SF Lot with a Hip roof 3 car garage! \$439,900</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 10 THOMPSON RD</p> <p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEBSTER BUSINESS DISTRICT A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14,875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE. \$195,000</p>	<p>WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE</p> <p>SORRY SOLD!</p> <p>LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE, HUMBLE ABODE, THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK? Convenient Location, corner lot! 1288 SF +/-, 4 BR w/1st Flr Mstr BR, Half Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combination! 3-Season Porch. 2nd Flr - 3 BRs, Reshingled Roof, Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Part finished walk-out bsmt! Garage! \$215,000</p>	<p>THOMPSON CT - 15 WAGER RD</p> <p>SORRY SOLD!</p> <p>Cape w/3 bedrooms, gleaming hardwoods, stone fireplace. Septic (2019), replacement windows, family and dining room, fresh paint throughout! Generator hook up, and updated Buderus boiler with holding tank. Garage under. This one maybe for you! assisted sale \$279,900.</p>
<p>Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY! \$389,900.</p>	<p>SOUTHBRIDGE - 140-148 HAMILTON ST.</p> <p>Multi-Families - 4 Buildings! 9 Occupied Residential Units! 1 Occupied Commercial Unit! Huge BONUS, Drive through Heated Garage, can accommodate up to 18 Vehicles! \$975,000.</p>	<p>LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD/CHARLTON</p> <p>Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80 +/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.</p> <p>Oxford - 4 Leicester St. - Approx. 8.47 Acres! River Frontage.</p> <p>NEW PRICE \$79,500.</p> <p>Webster - DOUGLAS RD 26 ACRES! on SUGERLOAF HILL 1000 +/- of frontage! SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000.</p> <p>Webster - COOPER RD - 2 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & SEWER Access. Zoned Lake Res.! \$24,500. Each</p>	<p>OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS = 16,224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting! \$449,000.</p>	

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SPIRIT
continued from page A1

tions, The Italian Club, Southbridge Fire Department, Harrington Hospital, Southbridge Town Hall, All Southbridge Credit Union Locations and the Southbridge and Sturbridge Police Departments. The Lions Club thanks you and your employees who were wonderful, helpful and a joy to work with for this program. The toy donations from the community into these collection boxes just amazed us this year. Thank you to the entire community.

We had donations this year from some local companies and organizations. Arland Tools, Southbridge Credit Union, Cornerstone Bank, Cohasse Country Club, Sturbridge Veterinary Hospital, Knights of Columbus 199, Ocean State Job Lot, The Cohasse Woman, The Red Men and the Southbridge Cops N Kids program. The Lions thank you all for your help this year.

We had monetary donations from individuals which were amazing and too numerous to list. This includes many of our own members that supported this effort with monetary contributions. Our elves went shopping with these donations to help the overall effort. The Lions thank you for your generosity.

The Steve Ide Memorial Toy Drive originated from the US Marine Toys for Tots drive that used to have a local presence here in Southbridge. When they closed and reorganized, leaving Southbridge behind, Steve Ide stepped up and had our local Lions Club begin to carry this torch. The Toy Drive began small back in 2016 partnering with the Southbridge Cops N Kids program to better support our local community. Each year the Toy Drive continues to grow. It is in the memory of Steve Ide that we push forward with his vision.

Southbridge should be very proud of its citizens and businesses. The Christmas Spirit is alive and well. The Southbridge Lions Club & the Southbridge Cops N Kids program thank all of you for another great year.

DISTRICT
continued from page A1

property owners] aren't for it, it won't happen."

As it is now, the town has about a dozen national historic districts, but those are only "paper designations" with no real legal influence except when public funds are used to demolish or renovate a property in such a district. The current proposal builds on a national district formed in 1979 along Main Street, expanding it to include all buildings from the rotary to the Vienna, plus those along Elm down to the Catholic Charities building and partway up Central and Hamilton streets. A smaller local district was proposed back in 2002, but died due to opposition from a few owners.

Brady is the only remaining member of the 2002 committee. The others this time are Gabriel McCarthy, Jim O'Brien, Melissa Hilli and

Francine Farland. McCarthy fills the seat reserved for a property owner in the district, although he is not a Southbridge resident.

Together, they aim to "save our architectural heritage in our town, which is unique to Southbridge," Brady said, shortly before diving into a picture-tour of that history. Many of the buildings the panel seeks to include date to the 1800s or early 1900s and are often associated with the early days of American Optical.

But committee members and others also cite a few that are at risk or have been lost in recent years as part of the impetus behind the proposal. Among those are the Southbridge Credit Union and Santander Bank sites (both now vacant), the Beechwood (demolished 2019), the Vienna (partly fire damaged), the Perrin Building (burned 2016), and the Mendez House (a pre-1840s Colonial demolished to make way for Cumberland Farms).

The Beechwood's fate prompted a question from audience member Helen Boyle, who wanted to know how a historic district would prevent such an issue and prevent projects like the Cumberland Farms. Brady said people could still buy the properties and convert them to any business the underlying zoning allows, but any visible changes "have to fit in to the current fabric of the district" appearance-wise, meeting historical guidelines set by the town and the federal Secretary of the Interior. The local district committee would be "the first place" any new construction or major alterations goes, "an extra step" before the Planning Board, Conservation, and other permitting bodies, he said.

McCarthy added that Home Depot and other major businesses have fit their franchises into existing Boston buildings.

PATHWAY
continued from page A1

tificate programs at TTA, can earn academic credit toward the Nichols College Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in criminal justice management or the Master of Science in Counterterrorism (MSC).

"This is a unique opportunity for the region's law enforcement and emergency response managers to increase their effectiveness as leaders and prepare for the future of these fields," said Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M, president of Nichols College. "At Nichols, they will build on the excellent leadership training offered by TTA to expand their understanding of and response to today's safety threats, including cyber-terrorism and violent extremism."

The Public Safety Leadership Academy is a five-day (40 hour) course covering a wide range of leadership topics, including self-awareness, effective communication, leadership ana-

lytics, wellness, and employee engagement.

Other eligible TTA programs include the Certificate of Supervisory Leadership (40 hours), Certificate of Strategic Leadership (40 hours), and the Public Safety Command College (80 hours). Each of these specialized programs includes rigorous curriculum requiring classroom participation, case study analysis, and comprehensive experiential learning components related to specific areas of professional development within the field of public safety leadership.

"The cadre at Team Training Associates are highly credentialed and experienced public safety practitioner scholars," notes Eric Murray, EdD, president of TTA who earned the Master of Science in Organizational Leadership at Nichols in 2009. "For over a decade, our team has helped public safety leaders throughout the country operationalize evidence-based strategies to improve their workforce. We strive to remain at the forefront of professional development and leadership training. Collaborating

with Nichols College is setting new standards of excellence and academic opportunities for our public safety clients."

The Nichols MSC is the only graduate program in the country to focus on violent extremism at home and abroad. The degree has provided a gateway to emerging careers as analysts and agents in agencies including the FBI, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and FEMA, and is viewed as a critical component in the training of the modern police force.

According to Allison McDowell-Smith, PhD, associate dean of the Nichols Graduate School of Liberal Arts & Sciences, "The combination of education between TTA certification programs and Nichols College graduate MSC degree can serve as a force multiplier for law enforcement as they are our first responders responsible for protecting our society. If they are able to lead others as to how to be proactive in regard to extremism threats, we can continue to make our communities safer."



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SPORTS

Rams find form in third quarter to take down Bartlett

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — After leading for much of the first half versus rival Bartlett High on Thursday, Dec. 23, the Shepherd Hill Regional boys' var-



Nick Ethier photos

Bartlett's Ethan Minarik drives the ball closer to the basket on a Shepherd Hill defender

a couple of shots. At halftime I told them we let them off the hook and let them back into the game. We always say, 'as long as we don't make the same mistakes twice, we'll be OK.'

And Shepherd Hill presumably did not make any mistakes twice, as they took the third quarter by storm. They outscored Bartlett in the frame, 20-7, to take a 42-30 lead into the final frame. And the Indians could never cut the deficit down to a two-possession game, as the Rams ultimately won a 57-46 decision.

"We're trying to get back to a more defensive mindset and we set a tone, we locked into the game plan that we had, and we were able to string together a few baskets and put them on their heels," Rapoza said of his team's second half performance.

Shepherd Hill's Ryan Brooks had a tremendous second half, pouring in 12 of his 16 points and grabbing 5 of his 9 rebounds over the final two quarters.

"This is the one team we don't want to lose to," Brooks said of playing Bartlett. "We're down one at halftime and we're all angry...and everyone came out firing."

When asked how his second half was so effective, Brooks' response was candid.

"I try and see in the first half what they do and how they react. In the second half usually people are more tired and you get to pick your spots more," he explained.

The Rams' strong third quarter included a 16-2 run. In the frame they also outrebounded the Indians by a 10-5 margin. They won the overall battle of the boards, too, 42-27.

Shepherd Hill was paced offensively by Alec Fasolo, who finished with 17 points, while Iverson Ramirez-Ruggles added 10 more.

Rapoza, who spent two years as the JV coach and is now in his first year at the varsity level, has his team at 3-1. The 2016 Shepherd Hill graduate — a four-year starter followed by four more playing years at Anna Maria — has fulfilled a dream of becoming a head basketball coach.

"It's the best. I'm very fortunate to have a team full of great kids. They come in every day and work hard. They come out every game and compete as hard as they possibly can. They make my job easy. It's a ton of fun," he said.

On Rapoza's coaching staff is

Anthony Grzembki, a Bartlett grad, so it was his first time coaching against his alma mater. And Grzembki's father, Ed, is a longtime assistant on the Indians' side, making the game a family affair.

"Having Ant on the coaching staff is so good for these guys, especially with me being a big man and he being a guard, it works really well," the 6-foot-6 Rapoza said of the 5-foot-9 Grzembki.

Bartlett, now 2-2, was led in scoring by Zach Dejesus (24 points, 10 rebounds) and Minarik (18 points).

Rockets rally to defeat Woodstock Academy in overtime



Jason Mckay photo

The Auburn High varsity ice hockey team celebrates its 3-2 overtime victory versus Woodstock Academy on Monday, Dec. 27.

AUBURN — The Auburn High varsity ice hockey team may have trailed in its game with Woodstock Academy at the Horgan Arena back on Monday, Dec. 27, but the rallying Rockets forced overtime and ultimately won a 3-2 decision.

Nolan White (Dillon Winkelmann assist) and Will Reece (Cooper C'Miel assist) both tallied second period goals to tie the score at 2-2 and, just 15 seconds into overtime, White scored again, and again from Winkelmann, as Auburn triumphed in victory.

The Rockets, a co-operative team consisting of athletes from Millbury High, Shepherd Hill Regional and Tantasqua Regional, in addition to Auburn High, improved to 3-2 after beating the Centaurs.

Greater Worcester Community Foundation accepting scholarship applications

WORCESTER — The Greater Worcester Community Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for high school seniors who live in Worcester County and are seeking college scholarships for the 2022 - 2023 academic year. One application opens the door to more than 130 unique scholarship opportunities.

Since the program's founding in 1978, over 9,000 students have been awarded scholarships and more than \$13 million has been distributed. Last year, GWCF awarded over \$680,000 to more than 375 local students. Now in its 44th year of awarding college scholarships, awards ranging from \$300 to \$5,000 will be made to students based on a wide variety of criteria including need, merit, career goals and activity involvement.

New to 2022 is the Harold R. Jensen Scholarship fund. This new scholarship fund will provide more than \$75,000 for renewable and nonrenewable awards to college-bound graduates of Worcester public and parochial schools. Mr. Jensen (1896-1980), a Worcester resident and worked for US Steel as an accountant. His desire to help children in the city that had been his home, led him to craft a trust that would provide scholarships to Worcester students. The Scholarship is for "high school graduates from the City of Worcester who have proven themselves by scholarship and character to be worthy of assistance for higher education."

Students may apply online by visiting www.greaterworcester.org. Scholarship applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1. Recipients will be announced July 2022. For more information, please contact Jacob Vazquez, Philanthropy Officer, Scholarship jvazquez@greaterworcester.org.

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Town of North Brookfield Water Department Employment opportunity

Title: Water Treatment Operator **Location:** North Brookfield Water Department

The Town of North Brookfield Water Department is seeking a candidate for the full-time position of Water Operator.

The North Brookfield Water Department provides drinking water to 80% of the population of the town, drawn from our surface water reservoir, Horse (North) Pond. This position requires operation of the Bell Hill Water Treatment Plant, a US Filter Microfloc package plant including upflow clarifiers run by the SCADA operating system. This position includes meter readings, replacement and repair as well as distribution system maintenance, construction and repair. Also included are lawn mowing, snow shoveling, general cleaning, brush cutting and all similar chores to maintain area in and around the treatment plant, raw water pump station, reservoir and distribution system. A complete job description is available upon request.

Requirements for the position of Water Operator include a high school diploma or GED; and 1T Massachusetts Drinking Water Operators License or a 1-T Operator in training. This is a 40 hour a week position, Sunday-Thursday, coverage on alternating holidays and on-call weekends. Interested candidate must have a valid Massachusetts's driver's license and must be available for overtime work when necessary. Training schedule will be Monday- Friday until successful candidate has met the requirements needed to assume this position schedule.

Starting hourly rate - \$21.65. Step one is an entry level pay scale with yearly potential increases to a maximum step 5 pay scale of \$28.43 over a five year period as duties, licensing, and experience expand.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume via email to jfnbwd@gmail.com or can be mailed to: North Brookfield Water Department 14 Bell Road, North Brookfield, Mass. 01535

Applications will be accepted until Friday January 28, 2022 for this position.

The North Brookfield Water Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Green Meadows brings organic cannabis to Central Massachusetts

SOUTHBRIDGE — Green Meadows, a cannabis company based in the heart of Southbridge, Mass., has brought organic cannabis to central Massachusetts, with its homegrown, organic cannabis products hitting the shelves of its Southbridge dispensary today, located at 64 Mill St., after completing final inspections on Thursday, Nov. 18. Soon cannabis consumers across the state will be able to enjoy Green Meadows organic cannabis via wholesale partnerships.

Green Meadows' organic cannabis is grown in its 35,000-square-foot cannabis production facility that sits in the same restored 19th century mill building as its dispensary, bringing a whole new meaning to locally grown. The large production space has been designed to deploy organic and environmentally responsible methods, which includes a patent-pending fertigation system to maximize purity and efficiency, integrated pest management program that exceeds Clean Green Certification standards, as well as new processes for fertilizer use, propagation and soil blending.

ganisms and plants to grow. Green Meadows leverages "living soil," which uses indigenous microorganisms (IMOs) and plants, animals, and minerals from the local environment for feeding cannabis plants. The end result? The richer the soil, the richer the flavor and aroma profiles of the terpenes, deepened distinction between strains, rich flavor that persists even at the bottom of the bowl.

"At Green Meadows, we are committed to natural, low-to-no chemical cultivation and extraction, which includes avoiding the potentially dangerous industry practice of using hydrocarbons for extraction, even though it makes cannabis products more expensive to produce," said Benjamin Bourque, EVP of Cannabis Production at Green Meadows. "This means our customers enjoy cannabis they can feel good about consuming and result in a better experience, too. Our organic, sustainable cultivation and processing methods result in richer terpene profiles, more robust flavors, smoother products and, for the flower, a cleaner, brighter, whiter ash."

Organic cannabis products available

Green Meadows organic Double Chocolate is now available in 3.5 ounce flower eighths, and will be available later this month as 1oz flower, pre-roll joints,

enhanced pre-rolls infused with concentrates, and soon will be developed into byproducts including bubble hash and pressed rosin. Bred with Coco Melon and an OG Chocolate Thai, this strain is doubled up on the heavy chocolate flavors and aromas from both parenting strains. Double Chocolate has mainly Sativa effects that can be beneficial to focus, concentration, creativity, and most social situations. Green Meadows' Double Chocolate testing confirmed 23.4% THC content.

Green Meadows' first limited release of organic, homegrown product, Larry Lovestein, sold out within the first 72 hours. The Larry Lovestein small batch strain is a smooth, earthy indica-leaning hybrid cross of Chem 4 and Larry OG. Reported effects include elevated mood and muscle relaxation, per guest reviews at Green Meadows. Keep an eye on Green Meadows social media channels and website for updates on the next release of Larry Lovestein and other organic products.

Now that it is vertically integrated, Green Meadows will activate its medical cannabis license and serve registered patients along with adult-use customers once its medical inspection is complete later this month.

The cultivation team at Green Meadows leans into the principles of Korean Natural Farming which strive to create an ideal environment for microor-

Bay Path nursing students help plant tulips



CHARLTON — And 25 bulbs were planted at the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy! In early November, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy was one of the 100 Organizations chosen to receive a bag of 25 premium tulip bulbs. The same bulbs sold online and planted on the Wicked Tulips farm (Johnston, R.I.).

According to Jeroen of Wicked Tulips Farm, "the fall is always a busy time." Jeroen and his team planted one million tulips and installed thousands of yards of deer fencing to protect the fields. Further, tulip planting is both an art and a science, and something Jeroen learned by working on his family's farm in the Netherlands. At the Wicked Tulips farm, Jeroen arranged the tulip beds to maximize bloom times. Certain colors and types with custom mixes of tulips are planted in alternate rows. Jeroen stated, "the choreography in planting means nearly every stretch of field will have vibrant colors in the spring!"

Dr. Ana Olivar (of Rutland) and practical nursing students who planted the 25 tulip bulbs expect to have tulips popping up at Bay Path the last week of April or at the beginning of May since the weather always factors into the bloom time. Joining Dr. Olivar in tulip bulb planting were Felisters Mburu of Shrewsbury, Luciane Lindvay of Spencer, Marites Skarlz of Southbridge, and Gearlyn Wetherbee of Charlton, all from the PN Class of 2022.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy: Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing 239 Causeway Street Boston, MA 02114 617-973-0800 www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education 840 Roswell Road Building 300, Suite 325 Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 www.council.org Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges 209 Burlington Rd, Suite 201 Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022 www.neasc.org

SPORTS

Minutemen explode early with plenty of points in romp over Tri-County



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Alison Welton looks to drive into the lane on Tri-County's defense.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Regional girls' varsity basketball team entered its holiday break in style on Wednesday, Dec. 22, easily dispatching Tri-County Regional 51-22 to improve to 4-0. The Minutemen won't play again until Jan. 3, after press time.

"We've got a real good unit this year with some really nice freshman, [including starters] Kendall Bond and Alison Welton," said Bay Path head coach John Selen. "We're really blessed with them coming in this year."

Both freshmen made an immediate impact in the Minutemen's victory versus the Cougars. Welton poured in two quick baskets to give her team a 4-2 lead, and Bond followed with a free throw and shortly thereafter a made jump shot as Bay Path surged to a 17-4 first quarter lead, which included a 14-0 run.

Welton added another two baskets in the second quarter and teammate

Amber Girard canned a pair of 3-pointers as the Minutemen held a sizeable 31-12 advantage at the halftime break.

"We're off to a real nice start and it's a fun team to coach," said Selen.

Welton showed a model of consistency in the third quarter, again scoring two baskets. In total, Bay Path won the frame 9-6 as they turned to the final quarter holding a 40-18 lead.

The Minutemen then won fourth quarter scoring 11-4 to account for the 51-22 final. And, you guessed it, Welton scored two more baskets in the frame to finish with a game-high 16 points. Bond had 5 points and secured a game-high 11 rebounds.

Selen said that he does not know the freshmen heading into Bay Path beforehand.

"You're just hoping for the best," he noted of first-day tryouts before saying, "It's like I just won the lottery, you know?" followed by a chuckle when thinking about his talented roster.

In the win over Tri-County (2-2), the Minutemen's Bethany Lasell scored 10 points, while Girard finished with 9 more on a tri of 3-pointers. Maggie Mullaly had 6 points and 9 rebounds as Bay Path won the battle of the boards, 44-30.

"It's a real good group of kids as far as the chemistry goes. They're all getting along and sharing the ball. It's a good team effort from us," said Selen. "What can you do to make your teammates better? That's what they really try to do on the floor — find the open person and do things when you don't have the ball."

The Minutemen also executed a strong fast break game plan, which will continue to be in store for 2022.

"The young kids are fast, so we're really trying to up-tempo it as much as we can and score the easy ones when we can," said Selen.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK — TANTASQUA SWIMMING RESULTS

Wednesday, Dec. 22

Tantasqua 109, Advanced Math and Science Academy 43 — The Warriors easily won their girls' swim meet, with the medley relay team of Kira Dambly, Emily Owens, Katie Wade and Makena Pentoney taking first. Other Tantasqua winners included Zoey Zhu (200 freestyle, 100 fly), Owens (200 IM, 500 freestyle), Wade (50 freestyle, 100 breaststroke), Mariana Gentile (100 freestyle), Dambly (100 backstroke), the 200 freestyle relay team (Zhu, Grace Chisholm, Tori Stendrup, Wade), and the 400 freestyle relay team (Zhu, Pentoney, Owens, Dambly). The girls are now 1-1.

Advanced Math and Science Academy 78, Tantasqua 75 — The boys' swim team from Tantasqua lost a very close meet, dropping to 1-1 in the process. The Warriors' winners were the medley relay team (Max Sullivan, Ethan Korenda, Eben Mazeika, Adam Mazeika), Jonah Scherer (200 freestyle), Korenda (200 IM, 100 freestyle), Sullivan (50 freestyle, 100 butterfly), and Eben Mazeika (500 freestyle, 100 backstroke).

ish of the day. Kira Dambly won the 200 freestyle, while Zhu also won 200 IM and the 500 freestyle. Other winners included Molly Bilodeau (50 freestyle), Wade (100 butterfly), Owens (100 freestyle, 100 breaststroke), the 200 freestyle relay (Dambly, Charlotte Ardis, Bilodeau, Owens), and the 400 freestyle relay team (Zhu, Bilodeau, Dambly, Wade).

Tantasqua 71, Monson 41 — The Warriors improved to 2-1 as the boys' swim team defeated Monson. The medley relay team of Zachary Hilborn, Jonah Scherer, Adam Mazeika and Cameron Giroux had the first victory for the team. Eben Mazeika (200 freestyle, 100 freestyle), Scherer (200 IM), Adam Mazeika (100 butterfly, 500 freestyle), the 200 freestyle relay team (Scherer, Max Pitcher, Cameron Grioux, Eben Mazeika) and the 400 freestyle relay team (Adam Mazeika, Pitcher, Hilborn, Eben Mazeika) were all winners.

Wednesday, Dec. 29

Tantasqua 102, Monson 50 — The girls' swim team won for the second time in two weeks, as the Warriors improved to 2-1. The medley relay team (Zoey Zhu, Emily Owens, Katie Wade, Kailyn McCarthy) had the first first-place fin-



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We know these are challenging times. Stand with us against COVID-19, so we can continue to provide you with the care you need when you need it.

Sincerely,



Eric Dickson, MD
President and CEO
UMass Memorial Health



Michael Gustafson, MD
President
UMass Memorial Medical Center



Shlomit Schaal, MD, PhD
President
UMass Memorial Medical Group



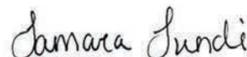
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