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Friday, January 24, 2020

# Public meeting to discuss Route 20 project

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON/OXFORD

- Residents of Oxford and Charlton are being called to a public meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 29 where the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) will provide updates on a proposed roadway project along Route 20 that would stretch 3.2

miles between the two towns.

According to a notice provided by MassDOT, the purpose of the project is to "improve the Route 20 roadway safety conditions in Charlton and Oxford through proposed modifications to roadway geometry, roadway widening, implementation of median barriers separating opposing directions of travel and enhanced traffic

operations at intersections."

In recent years, Route 20 has become a contentious topic of discussion as serious accidents, including fatal incidents, have plagued the roadway.

The proposed plan would see road reconstruction from Richardson's Corner in Charlton to Route 12 in Oxford to take place in late 2020 and early 2021. According to the MassDOT website, the project is being funded through the 2020 Transportation Improvement Program for the Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization with a construction cost of more than \$62.4 million. The project will also include rehabilitation of bridges that carry Route 20 over Little River in

Charlton and the French River in Oxford.

The Jan. 29 meeting will detail designs and specifics of the project after which the MassDOT will be accepting questions and comments from citizens. The meeting is slated to begin at 7 p.m. in the Oxford High School Auditorium at 495 Main St. in Oxford.



Courtesy Photo

# BIG BUNNY MARKET AND MICKNUCK'S FRESH MARKETPLACE SUPPORTS UNITED WAY!

During the month of December, customers were asked to either purchase a holiday tag or round up for United Way to support the many programs run by our member agencies. Store Manager, Jonathan Cournoyer presented United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge and Charlton 2019 Campaign Chairman Dawna Dagenais with a check in the amount of \$2,160. Top sales person, Matt DeAngelo, received a \$50 gift card for his great efforts. Pictured: Matt DeAngelo, Jonathan Cournoyer and Dawna Dagenais.

# Vaping laws postponed due to pending legislation

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – After initiating new local laws concerning vaping products last year, the town of Charlton has decided to hold off on expanding its limitations on the said products in the wake of new state legislation taking effect this year

The Charlton Board of Health debuted a new regulation in September of 2019 restricting all stores in town from selling or advertising flavored tobacco or vaping products. The regulation was one of the first local responses to the national outcry against vaping after several national news stories highlighted the risks of the practice has become a popular alternative to smoking among youth. The local regulations went into effect in November, but less than a month later, on Dec. 11, Charlton received a letter from Governor Charlie Baker's office detailing a new state law, An Act Modernizing Tobacco Control, which imposed even harsher limitations on flavored tobacco products including menthol. Rather than adding to the existing town regulations in place the Board of Health decided on Jan. 14 to hold off on expanding local rules and allow the state mandates to take effect in June.

"(The law) states that they can sell non-flavored electronic nicotine delivery systems with nicotine content of 35 milligrams or less per milliliter. Anything higher would have to be a vape shop," Health Director James Philbrook told the Board of Health. "The menthol will be banned in June and they've set up strict fines for them."

Beginning on June 1 of this year, sales of tobacco products that are characterized by flavors including menthol cigarettes, vape products and chewing tobacco will be restricted for only licensed smoking bars and may only be sold for on-site consumption at those facilities. The law will also impose a 75 percent excise tax on the wholesale price of nicotine vaping products.

Please Read VAPING, page A4

# Charlton to receive Community Compact IT grant

BY JASON BLEAU /ILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – After an incident in late 2019 that exposed holes in the town's Web site security, Charlton will now have some financial assistance to help take necessary steps in the form of a Community Compact IT grant.

The competitive grant is a state program geared towards helping communities improve their technology through investments in innovations and other initiatives. Awarded towns

were announced in early January, with State Rep. Paul Frost posting on his social media page that Charlton was among the towns earning money from the newest round of grants. Charlton will receive \$90,950, which Rep. Frost said will be a big help to the town in addressing its security concerns.

"The funding (will go) towards the implementation of a secondary data storage facility in town," Frost said. "The challenges to fend off and recover from internet hackers are difficult and this grant will help Charlton with those

challenges."

Charlton suffered a cyber attack in August of 2019 where "malicious software" infected the town's Web site, freezing documents, emails, and the main servers. The town was given ransom demands by the hackers in order to have the website freed. Town Hall staff worked throughout the Labor Day holiday in order to help resolve the situation and get the town's Web site back up and running. The FBI was also contacted to handle and investigation into the matter. It took Charlton more

than a month to get everything back up and running properly. The financial impact of the cyber attack has not been disclosed in a public forum.

In the wake of the incident, Charlton and other local communities have begun to examine ways to ensure documents and records are not compromised if another situation were to occur as well as increasing their internet security measures to prevent websites and other computer-based resources from being targeted in the future.

## Bay Path UNICEF Club holds baby bottle fundraiser

CHARLTON — The UNICEF Club at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy held a "Baby Bottle Drive" to raise money for children in developing countries.

The fundraiser, among other brilliant fundraising ideas were brain-stormed by UNICEF Club Officers Hannah Abubakar of Fiskdale, Kristin Bates of Charlton, Sikorrya Seguin of Dudley, Fjolla Shehu of Worcester, and Chelsea Still of Plainfield, Conn.

"We're glad to be able to think of ideas to raise money in ways as simple as putting your spare change in something as inexpensive as a baby bottle," said Abubakar. "We look forward for new fundraiser ideas of all kinds that will continue to raise awareness and raise money for UNICEF."

The baby bottles symbolized the children around the world who would receive aid from the drive.

Gretheline Bolandrina MSN Ed, RN, CRRN commended the UNICEF Club, its officers and club advisor, Professor Cheryl Cahill for holding multiple creative fundraisers for the academic year.

"The instructions were to take a baby bottle home, fill it with your loose change, your dollar bills, or a check if you want, and bring it back to the UNICEF Officers," continued Bolandrina. "In the end, the Baby Bottle Drive brought

in close to \$80 and making UNICEF Club's total close to \$500 to date."

All donations are remitted to UNICEF USA towards works for survival, protection and development of children worldwide.

"We want the activities of the UNICEF Club to inspire others to take action," said Bolandrina. "I am in awe and inspired by the UNICEF Club's education, advocacy, and fundraising efforts."

Courtesy Photo

The UNICEF Club at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy recently held a "Baby Bottle Drive" to raise money for children in developing countries.



# MOMS Club to host parent resource fair

**BY JASON BLEAU** 

CHARLTON - Local parents and guardians are invited to take part in an upcoming parent resource fair this February hosted by the Charlton Library and the MOMS Club of Charlton providing residents of Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge and Webster a chance to network with organizations, schools and other entities throughout the day.

Cara Holland, President of the Charlton chapter of the MOMS Club which works to provide support, resources, playdates and networking opportunities for local parents, said the event called S.O.A.R. to Success will include entities from all four local communities with the goal of sparking conversation and education concerning what opportunities parents and children have at their disposal.

"What we have done is gathered different organizations to represent themselves and offer information so that parents can come and one stop shop. There will be preschools, party and entertainment companies, extracurricular programs like martial arts and dance, the Charlton Activities Center will be there so it's a gamut of activities that people might not even think about for their kids," Holland said. "We want to focus on a few unique vendors or organizations like little league and help parents get the information for that. Maybe parents don't know what's available for them and we're trying to put them in touch with those resources.

The event is now in its second year after debuting in 2018. The fair was put on hold last year as the MOMS Club of Charlton explored the possibility of creating a permanent online resource center inspired by the event. In the end though Holland and other members found that online resources could not provide the same lasting impact as in person discussion.

"When you are engaging with people directly you can get a better sense of who they are and maybe glean some

information that you wouldn't be able to get from an online summary of these programs. I think sometimes you're more apt to get information you didn't even expect when you have that face to face interaction and conversation," Holland said. "We're also trying to make it a bit of an event, something fun that people can stop in to be a part of, socialize and network."

The S.O.A.R. to Success event will take place at the Charlton Library in Dexter Hall on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. No registration is required and it is a free event. For more information or to inquire as a vendor, please contact charltonmomsclub@ gmail.com.

## Springfield College recognizes Dean's List students

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield College recognized the following local students for making the Dean's List during the 2019 Fall Semester:

Danielle Donnelly from Charlton. Donnelly is studying Athletic Training. Amelia McKenzie from Charlton. McKenzie is studying Communication Science

and Disorders. Allison Prew from Uxbridge, Prew is studying Health Science/Occupational

Therapy.

Cassidy Clinton from Uxbridge. Clinton is studying Rehabilitation and Disability

Criteria for selection to the dean's list requires that the student must have a minimum semester grade point average of 3.500 for the semester.

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

#### Local students named to Fall 2019 Dean's List at Dean College

FRANKLIN — Dean College is pleased to announce the local students that have earned a place on the Dean's List for the Fall 2019 semester. These students have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

Kristen Gonzales of Uxbridge

Jordan Marrier of Charlton City Paige Souda of Charlton Ryann Leaming of Uxbridge

Founded in 1865, Dean College is a private, residential college located in Franklin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.

# Local residents named to Becker College Dean's List

WORCESTER/LEICESTER Becker College recognized the following local residents who were named to the dean's list for the fall 2019 semester. The Dean's List recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester - September through May) whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or

withdrawal/failing (WF) grades. Kyle Alger, of Uxbridge is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media Design, Game Design Concentration.

Katelyn Chalupka, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Jennifer Kindl, of Uxbridge is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media, Game Arts Concentration.

Abigail Leahy, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science, Pre-PT/Health Science Concentration.

Jacob Ledoux, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media Design, Game Development and Programming Concentration.

Megan Meisenheimer, of Charlton is

pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Jenna Savoie, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, Marketing Concentration.

Evan Shanks, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media, Game Arts Concentration.

Jesse Van Opijnen, of Uxbridge is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Integrated Graphic Design and Media.

Jamie Woods, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

Max Zielinski, of Charlton is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media Design, Game Audio Concentration.

Becker College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world live and learn on the College's Worcester and Leicester campuses. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.



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REAL ESTATE

#### **CHARLTON**

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\$330,000, 144 Burlingame Rd, Picard, Lynn M, to Muturi, Grace

E, and Kasper, Troy J. \$310,000, 8 Berry Corner Rd, Guittar, Christopher, and Guittar,

Jacqueline, to Andrade, Derek A. \$225,000, 204 Stafford St, Kay-Fredette, Susan, to Fredette, Keith R, and Fredette, Toni M.

\$170,000, 17-A Oak Ridge Dr, Zabinski, Hadley E, to Yaptenco, Enrique.

\$145,000, 260 Brookfield Rd, Jezerski John P Est, and Stewart, Jessica L, to Equity T Co.

\$90,000, Boucher Dr #8, Gunter LLC, to Shi, John S.

# Local couple's new book sets rules for a lasting relationship



Courtesy Photo

**Steven and Janet Hall** 

STURBRIDGE — For well over 40 years, through triumph and tragedy, success and failure, comfort and poverty, the relationship of Steven R. Hall and Janet C. Hall has endured and flourished when others have failed. How, you might ask?

According to the Halls, "We have lived by what we call our fifteen rules to live by. By practicing these, our relationship has flourished and continues to grow stronger every day."

In our society, almost half of all marriages end in divorce. That is why the Halls wrote their new book, "15 Rules For a Loving, Lasting, and Satisfying Relationship.

Mr. Hall says, "By sharing these

with you, we hope to help you with your own loving, lasting, and satisfying Relationship.'

The book is available on Amazon and other online retailers.

Today, the Halls are approaching their fortieth wedding anniversary, have two children - one passed away at age twenty-eight, and have five grandchildren.

Steven Hall says, "It all started with a Toastmasters speech I gave on the rules of a relationship. It was a big hit with other Toastmasters so after some encouragement, we decided to write this book to help others with their relationships.'

What makes this book special is

the down-to-earth, real-life relationship advice, infused with the Hall's humor. It seems that often you meet or hear about so-called (credentialed) experts who are divorced or on their second or third marriage.

"Being well educated ourselves, we understand the value of higher education, but valuable, real-world education," says Hall.

Locally, the Halls have teamed up with Simple Indulgence Day Spa at their Publick House location, 277 Main St., Sturbridge, for a Thursday evening, Feb. 6 5-7:30 p.m. book signing and Spa open house. Valentine's Day gift packages and books will be available for that special someone in your life, or for couples to enjoy together.

For more information, you can call Simple Indulgence Day Spa at 508-347-5505 or the Hall's at 508-344-5980.

Janet C Hall is a registered nurse and healthcare executive and is highly respected in her industry and responsi-

ble for the development of many healthcare-related policies. Steven R Hall is a healthcare executive, inventor, voice actor, and award-winning speaker who has been credited with helping to develop a ground-breaking healthcare management program and two healthcare safety devices.

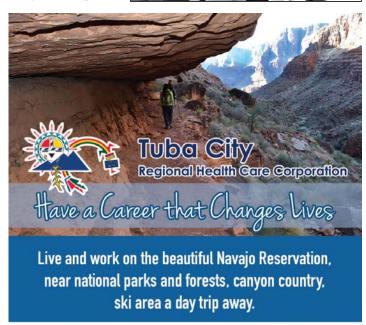


The Charlton Villager is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

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

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#### Local students named to Dean's List at **UConn**

STORRS, Conn. — The University of Connecticut congratulates the following students from central Massachusetts on being named to the Dean's List for the Fall semester of 2019.

**Blackstone** 

Madison Fernandes Charlton

Eric Lehmann

Cherry Valley

Samantha Laflash

Fiskdale Hope Frew

Groton Julianna Elmasri, Hanna Van Pelt

Sturbridge Chuck O'Coin

Sutton Annika Haelre, Henry Kulp

**Uxbridge** Grace Lemire,

Caitlin Spencer

at Charlton PD

Webster Christina Berthiaume

## **Charlton American Legion**

CHARLTON — The Charlton American Legion, Post 391, will meet on Monday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m.

for it's regular monthly meeting in the lower Grange Hall at #10 Main Street in the town of

Charlton. We welcome all veterans from the community to join us. The upcoming agenda to

be discussed will be Boy's State and Past Commanders banquet and a review of unfinished

and new busi-

# Wood named Sergeant

APPLICATION DEADLINE

**EBRUARY 14** 

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - The Charlton Police Department has hired a new Sergeant, bringing a very familiar name to the

higher ranks of the department. Charlton Police Chief Graham Maxfield and the Board of Selectmen welcomed Officer Gary Wood to a meeting on Jan. 14 where Wood was named the new Sergeant of the Charlton Police Department after having served the department since 1986. Newly promoted Sgt. Wood served the bulk of his career as a detective bringing a Bachelor of Science in Law Enforcement to his line of work. His expertise has assisted his outside of Charlton as a forensic scientist with the United States Army. Wood served as a battlefield instructor in Iraq and Afghanistan where he processed IED components.

Sgt. Wood was chosen from a pool of candidates who participated in an assessment center, an often-used form of hiring for local police and fire departments to seek out the top candidate. Wood tied for the top spot making him a prime candidate for the job. His record and seniority with the department led him to be picked for the position earning recommendation from Chief Maxfield and approval from the Board of Selectmen. Wood was to begin his term as a fulltime Sergeant immediately being presented his badge at the Board of Selectmen meeting.

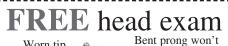




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& Inspection!

Charlton Police Chief Graham Maxfield presents Officer Gary Wood to selectmen as a candidate for Sergeant. Wood's promotion was approved.



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## **Give Your Child** A History-Making **Education!**

Old Sturbridge Academy is accepting applications for anticipated openings in grades K-6 for the 2020-21 school year.

Applications will be accepted beginning January 3, 2020. Go to www.osacps.org or call 774-922-1840.

All applications must be delivered in person or mailed to: Old Sturbridge Academy, 2 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge MA 01566 no later than February 14, 2020.

Application deadline is February 14, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Applications will not be accepted after this date and time. We cannot accept applications electronically.

Lottery will be held on February 29, 2020 at 10:00 am in the Stephen M. Brewer Theatre at Old Sturbridge Village Visitor Center.



# Breast Cancer Coalition exhibit now at Joshua Hyde Library

STURBRIDGE — The state's leading breast cancer prevention non-profit, Massachusetts Cancer Coalition Breast (MBCC), is pleased "Let's Talk announce the Prevention: Reducing Toxic Exposures" program tour will be on display at Joshua Hyde Public Library, 306 Main St., Sturbridge, during the month of January. For library information including hours of operation, please visit the Web site, https://www.sturbridgelibrary.org/.

The goal of this program is to reduce toxic exposures which have implications for reducing the burden and cost of all environmentally-linked diseases, including breast cancer. MBCC is dedicated to preventing environmental causes of breast cancer through community education, research advocacy, and changes to pub-

The "Let's Talk Prevention: Reducing Toxic Exposures' booklet for health professionals summarizes scientific evidence linking exposure and effect for many common chemicals of concern and suggests how to begin environmental health conversations with patients. The accompanying "Let's Talk Prevention: Reducing Toxic Exposures" patient brochure describes basic steps for individuals and families to reduce problematic exposures and choose safer alternatives to toxic products and is available in multiple languages includ-Spanish, Portuguese,

Mandarin, Japanese, and

Korean. Tour materials also

include a tip sheet highlighting

chemicals of concern, and a

newly create fact sheet on the

risks of PFASs, a class of high-

ly fluorinated chemicals found

products and drinking water supplies.

This program is in direct response to several federal reports, from the President's Cancer Panel, the Interagency Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Coordinating Committee, and more, which recommends increased attention to the link between environmental factors and disease, especially cancer. Additionally, information from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences supports actions to reduce toxic exposures. The burden of environmental linked diseases is often underestimated and not often discussed, even in medical programs.

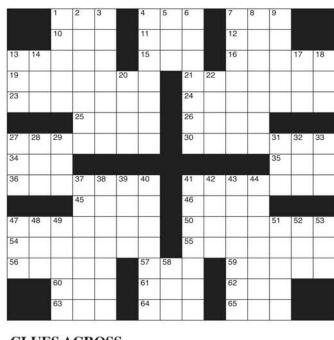
Dr. Michael Misialek, MBCC Medical Advisor and physician at Newton-Welleslev Hospital also had an opportunity to review the "Let's Talk Prevention materials" and said, "As a physician at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, specializing in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and a Board Member of Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition, I'm very pleased to see the Let's Talk Prevention: Reducing Toxic Exposures program develop as a resource for patient-doctor engagement. The value of such a program is not to be minimized. This program will provide much needed information about reducing toxic exposures in daily life to physicians and patients alike. I look forward to promoting doctor-patient discussions concerning the link between health and toxic chemical exposures."

As an extension of this program, MBCC has also developed an environmental health program for high school students called Let's Talk Prevention: Actions You Can Take. These standalone classroom modules can supplement science, health, or environmental studies curriculum by helping high school students understand the

impact of chemicals on disease risk. The classroom modules are free and downloadable from the MBCC Web site.

If a hospital, health center, community center, library, high school, college or private group has an interest in exhibiting the Let's Talk Prevention materials, hosting a presentation about toxic exposures reduction, and sharing the materials, please e-mail: mbcc. cyndiswan@gmail.com with the subject line: Let>s Talk Prevention Tour. The materials can be easily exhibited and displayed.

For more information to view when the Let's Talk Prevention tour will be coming to a location near you, to download the medical booklet for health professionals and the patient brochures, or to learn more about the new high school program, please visit www.mbcc. org and click on the Let's Talk Prevention tab.



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Public broadcaster
- 4. Hit lightly 7. Keyboard key
- 10. Grain
- 11. Make a mistake
- 12. To the \_\_ degree 13. Endure without complaint
- 15. Chinese-American actress Ling
- 16. Edible stomach lining
- 19. Sunrooms
- 21. Feared 23. Most eager
- 24. Excessive chatting session
- 25. MLB ace 26. Major Central European river 62. OJ trial judge
- Muscular weaknesses
- 30. Where seedlings germinate
- 34. Former monetary unit of the EU

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. English seaport 2. What's owed
- 3. Sound systems
- 4. Elections feature them 5. Southern constellation
- 6. London and Brooklyn are two 40. Cheekier
- 7. One-time Ugandan capital
- 8. Attacked with bombs
- 9. Rebuke
- 13. Expression of disappointment 44. Fill with air or gas 14. A way to work the soil
- 17. The human foot 18. Sun up in New York
- 20. A small island
- 22. Abnormal rattling sound
- 27. Make lively
- 28. A team's best pitcher 29. It goes on the floor

31. Not good

45. German city

35. Personal ads abbreviation

- 36. Mythical animal
- 41. Members of Orthodox Jewish sect
- 46. Algerian coastal city
- 47. Military men
- 50. Salt of sulfuric acid
- 54. Rhododendrons
- 55. Mixture
- 56. Recommended quantities
- 57. 007's creator 59. Men
- 60. Kids need it
- 61. Midway between east and east-northeast
- 63. Yes vote
- 64. USDA branch that manages

- the FCIC
- 65. Create with cloth

#### 32. Peyton's little brother 33. Barrier that holds back water

- 37. Move quickly 38. Deteriorate with age
- 39. Colorless crystalline compound
- 41. Expresses praise or joy
- 42. Famed boxing promoter
- 43. Cured sausages

- 47. Angry
- 48. Chemistry prefix
- 49. Practitioner of Jamaican religion 51. Softly bright or radiant
- 52. Buffer solution used to
- separate nucleic acids
- 53. First responder group
- 58. Defensive nuclear weapon
- 3 3 A A O G E R A S S DIM 1 9 8 SEED 3 S 3 7 0 G A B NESL D E DRE Я В 3 ٦ OHI A O N Я Я

#### **VAPING**

continued from page 1

The Board of Health agreed not to impose harsher town-specific regulations on retailers in order to allow this new, state mandated law to take effect in every town and avoid negatively

impacting businesses by forcing buyers into neighboring communities for the next few months. Once the law is active all stores in Massachusetts will have the same restrictions for flavored tobacco or vaping products and sets harsh fines for businesses that are found in violation of these laws. These fines include a \$1,000 fee for the first offence,

\$2,000 for the second offence and \$5,000 for each addition violation within a 36-month period.

"They're really coming through big time," Philbrook said. "Things we didn't ban will be banned by the state."

More information on the new state law can be found at mass. gov/VapingEmergency.

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

## Friday's Child



Age 16

#### Hi! My name is Makaila and I'll be happy to show off my dance moves. Makaila is a friendly and empathetic

teenager with a big heart and a warm smile. She enjoys playing sports, and being particularly tall for her age she loves basketball. She also enjoys taking dance classes and spending time with friends.

Makaila is social teen who enjoys engaging in lively conversation with others and exploring her community. She is thoughtful, reflective and is tuned into her emotions. She gets nervous easily but can manage strong feelings once she processes them. This thoughtfulness extends to others as well, and Makaila is generally caring, considerate towards

others and has a solid moral compass. Makaila puts a lot of effort into her studies and with the right supports in place she can be successful academ-

Legally freed for adoption, Makaila maintains regular contact with her birth parents through an open adoption agreement. A single or two-parent family with a female parent is preferred for Makaila. She will do well with other children in the home if they are older than her. She is in need of a compassionate family who will work with her as she processes her past losses. Most important to Makaila is having a family that is active and spends a lot of time together.

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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."



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# "Every Town Deserves a **Good Local Newspaper"**

# Jacob Edwards Library hosts soap making class



Gus Steeves Photos

Billy Bolster demonstrates proper use of safety gear while pouring lye.

BY GUS STEEVES

SOUTHBRIDGE — In some alternate universe, Jacob Edwards Library hosted a talk about "General Hospital," "Young and the Restless," and "Dallas" last Thursday.

But in ours, Billy Bolster and Kristen Celmer talked about the other kind of soaps, as in those you clean with. Despite what corporate America might want you to know (to keep you buying theirs), it's fairly easy to make if you're careful.

For Bolster, the quest for clean started a few years ago, when he "came across my grandmother's high school home ec notebook" from the 1940s. One page included her soap rec-

ipe.

"My father said 'Oh yeah, we used to save all the grease in the basement, and a couple times a year, Grammie went down and made soap," he told a small audience.

Bolster's own first batch was intended to make a few bars for his aunts, but in short order he had about 3,000 of them, and his husband John Polakowski made it clear he had to do something with them all. So he started Kleen Guys Soaps, and took them to craft fairs, house parties and various other venues.

He makes it the ancient way, using a recipe that has basically been the same for a very long time: mixone or more oils (fatty acids) with a strong alkali/base

(namely, lye) and some liquid (water, milk) and you get salts that are the essence of soap. There is no chemical difference between pure soap and bar shampoo, while liquid soap generally has added glycerine.

"The government has very strict regulations on what can be called soap," Bolster said. "Soap is lye and fat. ... Natural glycerine is still in these soaps. A lot of companies take it out and sell it back to you as 'conditioner."

Making it has to be done carefully, both in terms of safety and timing. While pouring and mixing the lye in, Bolster was wearing rubber gloves and goggles, and he noted the amount of lye determines how fast it will solidify. If you don't use enough, it'll stay "a big blob of grease," but use too much and "it'll stay lye" (and be dangerous). How much depends on what the oils are, since "every oil has its own saponification factor,' but the "general rule of thumb" is that you can deviate by 5-20 percent and it'll still work, he said.

Making the stuff is short work with a microwave and immersion blender (he made a batch in half an hour), but the soap needs to sit for at least a month to ensure the lye all reacts properly. His method is termed "cold-process soapmaking," where the liquid should be around 110 degrees.

In time, he teamed up with Celmer, who focuses on a different style of soapmaking to do classes. Instead of mixing the basic ingredients herself, she obtains premade soap base (often

simply glycerine), melts it and adds essential oils, colorants or other artistic features. With her system, you can use the bars as soon as they harden (about 24 hours) because the lye reaction is long over, and you can also remelt them if you need to as long as you haven't added essential oils or other ingredients.

Both of them note you should not use equipment for soapmaking you'll cook with, and it's generally not a good idea to use anything plastic. They advise glass, metal, ceramic or silicone.

With that in mind, she notes, "whatever you have, use everything you have. You don't need to buy stuff." As an example, she uses a left-over bamboo skewer to mix in an old coffee cup.

"It has endless possibilities of what you can think of" regarding decorations, scents and other variations, she added. "... There are lots of fun ideas. If you've got extra time, get crafty."

For Celmer, it's just a hobby; she uses what she makes and gives it as gifts, but doesn't sell

Soapmaking as a practice goes back thousands of years. According to the Open University website page on the subject, the earliest recorded use of something we'd recognize as soap was among the Sumerians before 3000 BCE. It began as "a slurry of ashes and water to remove grease from raw wool and cloth so that it could be dyed. ... Specific directions for making different kinds of soap solution have been found on cuneiform tablets." (Ashes are naturally alkaline, so they react with the grease to

make a form of soap that



Kristen Celmer shows off one of her finished soaps.

"then dissolves the rest of the dirt and grease," the site notes.)

It may in fact be far older than that.

"The pandemic need to find plants that work well as a soap, i.e. the ability to make lather and suds when agitated with water, has been pursued by most native cultures," Chuck Kritzen writes at the Primitive Ways website. "The experience of using various plants selected for their soap like properties led to the universal discovery that chemicals from these plants would also stun fish when used in a specific circumstance."

He cites its use among

California Indians, Australian Aborgines, South American tribes and others. Fishermen beat the plants to release the fluids into stagnant or slow-flowing water, and the fish float to the surface. He notes saponins are toxic only when introduced directly to the bloodstream (via fish gills, for example); they break down in the digestive system. But they often taste nasty, as anyone who's had their mouth washed out with soap will testify.

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

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**EDITORIAL** 

# Where does competitiveness come from?

With the match-up for Super Bowl LIV now decided, the mounting anticipation for kickoff between Patrick Mahomes' Kansas City Chiefs and Jimmy Garoppolo's 49'ers has had us wondering why fans in any sporting event are so fixated on getting the win. Why are humans so blisteringly competitive?

Granted, competition is fun in regards to sports and shouldn't be taken so seriously; however, things get quite serious when millions of dollars are at stake.

Human beings are not just competitive athletically, but in their careers as well. Why are we always trying to keep up with the Joneses? Is this a genetic trait or has our society created it?

In an attempt to be the best, an individual or a team only has to beat out their closest competitor, but for what gain? Money and social status. In the case where hard work pays off, it is only natural to feel self pride, and we think that is OK.

A study conducted in 1974 by economist Richard Easterlin discovered that as countries become wealthier, its citizens do not find more happiness or more riches. Easterlin found that happiness was based on an individual's wealth in comparison to others. Here in America, being competitive in the classroom as well as on the playing field has become a part of who we are and how we operate as a society. Experts say this could have been born because of our capitalist-driven society due to a limited amount of available resources.

The famous Charles Darwin explained the concept of the 'survival of the fittest' in "The Origin of Species." Darwin felt that proficiency in one's natural surroundings dictates a person's success. Co- operation and dependence on others were tactics Darwin also attributed to an individual's triumphs.

We're all competitive in our own way, and this is a good thing in that it can improve any given situation. Competition drives our passions and motivates us. When we observe what others are doing and how they're doing it, it can help us learn the ways in which we can become more efficient, smarter, wealthier, happier. Comparing yourself to another person is only OK if you can benefit from it. There are different styles of competitiveness, such as long-range competition or fast competition. When you find your style, your ability to excel will increase.

When we're competitive, dopamine circulates in our prefrontal cortex. This is the portion of the brain that handles thinking, adaptation, memory, rule-changing and high-lev-el planning. In her book, "Top Dog: The Science of Winning and Losing, author Ashley Merryman explains the difference be-tween a 'worrier' and a 'warrior' thusly: "Worriers have higher levels of dopamine, but in moments of stress, their brains get overloaded with it. Warriors, on average, don't have enough dopamine, and they are thus more lethargic and don't pay attention. But moments of stress and pressure bring dopamine to optimum levels in their brains, so they may need stress and pressure to perform their best."

While there may be biological imperatives that drive us to compete, however, we should also re-member that as reasoning beings, we have the ability to keep that competitiveness friendly and orderly. A little good natured trash talk before the big game can be fun, but when people surrender to their baser instincts and resort to violence and destruction of property in the wake of a win or a loss, as we saw in the streets of Philadelphia Sunday night, we need to stop and ask ourselves when competition crosses the line.

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

# I'm a lumberjack and I'm okay ...

**POSITIVELY** 

**SPEAKING** 

By Gary W.

MOORE

There are many things I enjoy in life. I'm a drummer and love to play music. I'm a fan of Drum Corps International and love keeping up with The Cavaliers, the corps I marched with in my teens. I love writing and I love splitting firewood. Surprised? Like the title

says, I'm a lumberjack and I'm okay.

Monty Python fans will immediately recognize the title of this column as also the title of one of Monty Python's most famous and enduring bits. At the time, it was very politically incorrect. Today, it seems quite in line with current sentiments. Go to YouTube and search, 'Monty Python Lumberjack song" and you will see what I mean. Regardless, I am not that kind of lumberjack.

There is something about going out into the woods and cutting lumber. We don't cut down trees but find fallen trees and chain saw them into sixteen-inch sections then split them into firewood. I cannot describe the enjoyment. We always split a few by hand, but quickly turn to a motorized splitter.

My friend Jeff, a local restauranteur, a former collegiate athlete is the strongest guy I know. He hooked me on splitting wood. When he picks up an ax, the wood trembles in fear and often splits itself. Me? The wood giggles behind my back and mocks me when I pick up my

2019 was a tough year for me. I have pushed through a few serious and quite unexpected health problems and am facing a couple of surgeries. One of them is this week on Monday. Jeff called my wife yesterday and asked her if he could come by Sunday and cut wood. He says he needs wood, but I know it is his way of helping me keep my mind off the surgery the following day. I'm grateful for his hidden act of kindness. Jeff knows that I love being in the woods. It clears

So, I put on my boots and red plaid shirt, pick up my ax and walk out of the garage. There is something that feels so manly about it. The only thing that rivals the feeling is picking up a baseball bat and walking to the plate. They are both incredible feelings. The truth is I was not a good hitter and probably a worse lumberjack, but that's okay. I enjoy it anyway.

Last winter, I decided to split some wood. I put on my lumberjack clothes,

picked up the ax (in this case called a rail-splitter) and walked out the door. Suddenly two women began screaming! They were lost and turned into my driveway. I live out on forty acres. When I walked out of the garage with an ax, they thought I was coming for them. Once I calmed them

down, they told me they were from the city and had never seen a man with a real ax before and asked if they could take my picture. My testosterone began to flow. They both got out of the car and took turns posing with me. They then asked if they could film me splitting a log. Proudly, I set up the log, pulled my ax over my head ... and with a mighty swing ... I missed the log completely and drove my ax into the dirt. Once again, I heard the muffled giggles of the log and now my visitors joined in. Oh well, it was all fun and games until I missed the log. I, unfortunately, revealed myself as only a lumberjack wannabe.

So ... as for my surgeries, no problem. The human body has five feet of colon. I won't miss the three feet they are removing. Maybe the missing parts will readjust my center of gravity and make me better with both my bat and my ax ... or maybe not. All I know is after the colon I have one more final surgery then I can pick up my ax and improve my aim. It's my goal to never miss the

Some guys enjoy golf and they don't understand why I don't. To each his own. All I know for sure is, if there is ever a contest between a man in plaid knickers holding a putter and a man in a plaid shirt holding an ax, I'm betting on the man with the ax every time.

I guess that splitting wood for me is not about doing but about being. I can buy a load of wood and save myself the trouble. It's not about doing the work but about being in the nature and being with a friend. I'll go into this surgery with the heart and attitude of a rail splitter, even if I don't have the aim.

I'm a lumberjack and I'm okay.

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

# your portfolio Focus



You're FINANCIAL probably aware this is election year. During the next several months, dates will dis-

cuss issues that should greatly interest you as a citizen. But as an investor, how concerned should you be with the results of the presidential and congressional elections?

Maybe not as much as you might think. At different times, the financial markets have performed well and poorly under different administrations and when different parties have controlled Congress. And after all the votes are counted, outcomes in the investment markets can be unpredictable. Consequently, you'll be helping yourself greatly by not making big moves in your portfolio in anticipation of new legislation or political moves down the line.

Of course, that's not to say that nothing emerging from Washington could ever have an impact on your investment decisions. For example, if a future president and Congress decide to change the capital gains tax rate, it could affect some of your choices, such as which stocks and stock-based mutual funds you should buy, and how long you should hold them.

Overall, though, your investment results will ultimately depend on actions you can take, including these:

- · Making changes for the right reasons - While the results of an election may not be a good reason to make changes in your investment portfolio, other factors can certainly lead you to take steps in this direction. For one thing, as you get closer to retirement, you may want to shift some - though certainly not all - of your investment dollars from more growth-oriented vehicles to more conservative ones. Conversely, if you decide, well in advance, that you might want to retire earlier than you originally thought, you may need to invest more aggressively, being aware of the increased risk involved.
- Following a long-term strategy In pretty much all walks of life, there are no shortcuts to success - and the same is true with investing. You need to follow a long-term strategy based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, and you need the patience and perseverance to keep investing in all markets - up, down and sideways.
- Avoiding mistakes Many people think of an investment mistake as failing to "get in on the ground floor" of some company that ultimately grew to huge proportions. But it's pretty hard to become an early investor in companies like these, many of which start out as privately held businesses without any stockholders. Furthermore, companies with shorter track records can be much more unpredictable investments. However, you do want to avoid some real mistakes, such as chasing "hot" stocks. By the time you hear about them, they may already be cooling off, and they might not even be appropriate for your needs. Another mistake: failing to diversify your portfolio. If you only own one type of asset, such as growth stocks, you could take a big hit during a market downturn. Spreading your dollars over a wide range of investments can help lower your risk exposure. (However, diversification by itself can't guarantee a profit or protect against all losses.)

After Election Day, regardless of the outcome, you can help keep your portfolio on track by not playing politics with it.

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

# Praising the Virtues of Popcorn

you National Popcorn Day was celebrated last week? Neither did I, thus the belated column to celebrate the pleasures of popcorn!

Whether popped in a kettle on the stove, zapped in the microwave, or pre popped in

bags, on average, each of us consume almost 70 quarts of popcorn each year! And it's no wonder America has a love affair with the native treat, after all, it's economical, easy to cook, high in fiber and low calorie (sans the butter).

Read on for some popcorn trivia, popping tips and even a recipe spotlighting the wholesome, economical grain.

Perfect Popcorn: Want to make positively perfect popcorn? Here's how: Heat a heavy pot on

the stove, and then add oil to cover the bottom of the pan. The best temperature for popping is

between 400 and 460 degrees, but oil burns at 500 degrees so be careful. Test the oil by dropping in a couple of kernels, if they pop, the temperature is right. Pour in just

enough kernels to cover the bottom of the pan. Cover the pan loosely to allow a bit of steam to

escape during popping. Shake the pan well and remove pan when pan fills up and popping slows considerably. Enjoy!

Keep Cool: It's important to store popcorn correctly. Kernels left uncovered on a hot day can zap the moisture and render them unpoppable. Even a one percent drop in moisture will affect the quality of the kernels. For best quality, store kernels in a cool place.

TAKE THE HINT

**KAREN TRAINOR** 

kernels within 18 months of purchase.

Water the Corn: If your popped corn is small or hully, it may be low on moisture. You can try to rehydrate the kernels by pouring them into a sealed jar with a tablespoon of water. Shake the jar a few times and in a day or so, the kernels should be up to par for popping.

While some advocate

storing ernels in the refrig-

erator, the fridge contains

little moisture and can

actually dry out the ker-

nels. For best results, use

Stall Salting: Did you know salting kernels toughens popcorn? Never add salt to the pan before

The corn has popped. Always add it to the popped corn.

Fine Finish: Finely ground salt sticks to the popcorn better than table salt. For a terrific taste,

grind kosher salt to a fine consistency. Or pound kosher salt in a ziplock bag with a rolling pin.

Tender Treat: Did you know chewy popcorn is often caused by leaving the lid on tight while

cooking? For tender corn, make sure the lid is slightly ajar.

Peeking: Pop corn in a pan with a clear lid so you can watch the action. It also helps you gauge when the popcorn is done.

Turn To TRAINOR page A9

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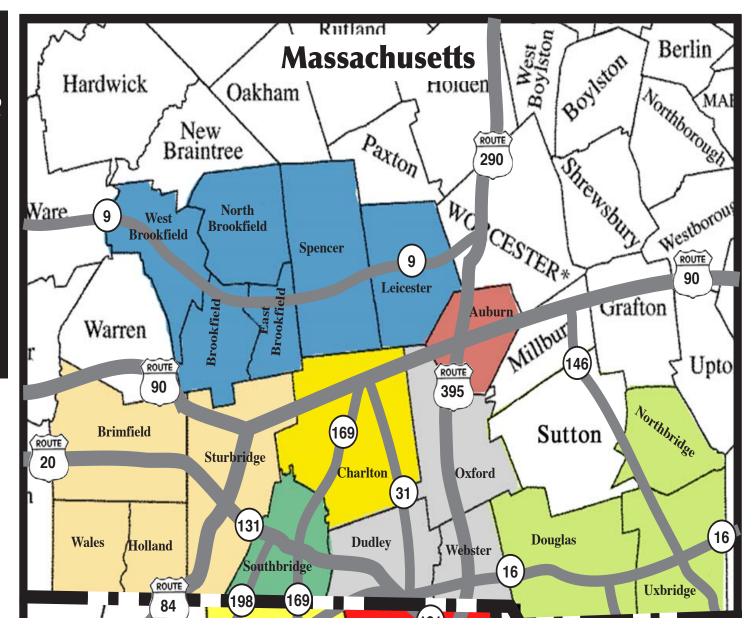
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# Remembering the founders of your Fish & Game Club



THE GREAT **OUTDOORS** RALPH TRUE

The Whitinsville Fish & Game Club held their annual Founders Day celebration with a Prime Rib dinner this past Saturday at their headquarters on White Court in Douglas! The large gathering of sportsmen & women held their annual banquet to recognize all of the past and future members and officers of the organization, which was incorporated back in the 1950's . The original site of the Whitinsville Club was located in Whitinsville on the shores of Meadow Pond on Main Street. At that time, some of the officers and members of the club included Robert Campo, Dick Bosma, Horace Bassett, Jack Cunningham, Bob Blackley, Fran Magowan, Pete opperwall , William Todd, and this writer, to mention a few. Their trout pond was located at Riley's pond on Castle Hill Road for many years. The pavilion that was built some years later was dedicated to the late Richard Bosma, for all of his years of service to the club.

The club was known for their great Ham & Bean suppers and their coon & ham suppers back in the day. Selling tickets to a ham and coon supper today

would not have a very large turnout, but back in the day, coon hunting was very popular among many hunters, and all of the meat was donated to the club. It was delicious. Murray Andrews, David Greno and their band of coon hunters hunted racoon a few times a week during the fall hunting season. At that time, the group of hunters harvested a few hundred racocon annually with the help of their expensive and well trained hounds.

The Blackstone Fish & Game Club was disbanding their club some years later, and joined forces with the Whitinsville Club. They brought along their savings, and with the help of all the members from both clubs, built a state of the art clubhouse that serves as the club's headquarters today. Because there were so many

sportsmen that owned Beagles back in the day, a group of rabbit hunters decided to start a club that is still in existence today called the Blackstone Valley Beagle Club. The club was organized as an affiliate of the Whitinsville Club, but later separated from the club and had their headquarters at the site of the WFGC today. Fortunately, Jack Cunningham of Douglas convinced the WFGC to purchase the property for taxes which included 80-plus acres of land. Jack also convinced the Beagle Club to purchase another large track of land in Douglas Mass. for taxes although it was landlocked. Only a few thousand dollars was paid for each



parcel of land.

Many club members thought he was foolish, but after many club meetings on the property, he convinced the club to make the purchase. After a right of way was established through the court system, Percy Giou Construction was hired to build a road to the property. It took a few years to complete, but when finished the club started to build the clubhouse. The road to the club was dedicated to the late Jack Cunningham, and is now known as Cunningham Way.

The bottom line is that sportsmen saw an opportunity to purchase land for a cheap price and seized the opportunity back in the day. It would be almost impossible to buy and build Rod & Gun Clubs today. Whitinsville Fish & Game Club along with other local clubs like Singletary Rod & Gun, Uxbridge Rod & Gun, Wallum Lake Rod & Gun, 200 Sportsmen's Club, to mention a few, were built on the backs of generations of sportsmen, and would not be here today if they did not take the opportunity to purchase and build ranges, clubhouse, ponds, etc.!

The next time you are out hunting on club property or using the ranges or just relaxing fishing at the club pond, take the time to remember those responsible for your club. You can help by keeping your club free of litter and signing up for work parties when needed. Enjoy!

This week's picture shows recently elected president Matt Burbank with a couple of the newly elected Board Of Directors, with the new sign that was painted by Sarah Marohn. Great job. Special thanks to Rick Cahn and his committee for putting on a great meal.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club's ice derby may not be held this week if ice conditions do not improve. Call the club for updates.

The Firearms, Knife show & sale will be held at the Marlboro Royal Plaza Trade Center this weekend Jan. 25-26.

The New England Fishing Expo will be held at Boxboro Regency also this Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Check it out on their Web site.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

> GARDEN Moments

**MELINDA MYERS** 

Potting mixes may be modified to accommodate the needs of certain plants. Orchid mixes often contain more bark for better aeration, cacti and succulent mixes have more sand or perlite for better drainage and African violet potting mix contains more organic matter to create a moist, rich growing

Organic potting mixes are also available if you prefer to know the ingredients are free of pesticides and other contaminants. Check for the word organic

Potting mixes may or may not be sterilized to kill weed seeds and pests. If it doesn't say sterilized, it probably isn't. As you narrow down your choices, continue checking the label for more

details. Potting mixes often contain a "starter charge" of fertilizer. This minimal amount of fertilizer is usually gone

after two or three waterings. Some include additional fertilizer that provides small amounts of nutrients over a longer period of time. The label may say controlled-release, time-release or slow release fertilizer, providing nutrients

and OMRI listed on the bag.

# Select a quality potting mix for gardening success



Melinda Myers Photo

Quality potting mixes should be light, fluffy and moist to keep plants, like this coleus, healthy.

Improve your indoor and outdoor container gardening success with a quality potting mix. This can be more difficult than it sounds since you can't see or feel the product you are about to buy. Ask your gardening friends for recommendations and once at the garden center, check the package, and compare label information before making a purchase.

You'll find a variety of bags labeled as planting mix, potting mix, container mix and more. Check the label to see what the bag contains and recommendations for its use. Look for mixes, we'll refer to as potting mixes, blended for growing indoor, ornamental and edible plants in containers. They are a mix of organic and inorganic materials that retain moisture while draining well. Some mixes include sand and mineral soil while many are labeled as "soilless." These lightweight mixes consist of peat moss, sphagnum moss and compost for moisture retention, vermiculite or perlite for drainage but do not contain mineral soils such as sand or clay.

for the allotment of time specified. Natural or synthetic wetting agents are often included to reduce the surface tension of water, so it's better able to penetrate and evenly moisten the potting mix. Organic mixes often use yucca extract as a wetting agent.

Potting mixes should be light, fluffy and moist. Avoid bags that are waterlogged and heavy. The mix can break down, become compacted and some of the slow release fertilizer may be pre-released and damage young seedlings when saturated with water.

Moisten the potting mix with warm water before potting your plants. This helps ensure even moisture throughout. If the potting mix becomes overly dry, you may need to do a bit more work to rewet all the mix in the container. Set the pot in a container of warm water and wait for the potting mix to rehydrate. Or water thoroughly, wait 20 minutes and water again. Repeat until you achieve success.

Take the time to do a bit of research before buying your next bag of potting mix. Your efforts will be rewarded with healthy plants, beautiful blooms and a bountiful harvest from your indoor and outdoor potted plants.

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

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## TRIPS OFFERED

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

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

Wine Country Pacific Coast Cruise

9 days/8 nights April 6-14,

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

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REQUIRED for this trip

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

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

#### **CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER**

Trip Coordinator Dotti Murphy - Please call 978-424-

Sign up sheets & flyers available at the Senior Center / Flyers also available on our web page www.townofcharlton.net Click on Departments then click on Council on Aging/Senior Center

Pick up is from St. Joseph's Church 10 H Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton

Please call Dotti Murphy at 978-424-7010 for details if interested in any trips.

#### DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

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

#### **DOUGLAS SUNSHINE CLUB**

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

#### **DUDLEY SENIORS**

Friday, January 24, 2020

Dudley Seniors presents a Branson Show Extravaganza, Saturday, May 2 through Sunday, May 10, 2020, \$905 per person, double occupancy. Incredible price includes motorcoach transportation, eight nights lodging including four consecutive nights in the Branson, Mo. Area, 14 meals (eight breakfasts and six dinners), admission to seven fabulous Branson shows, including New Jersey Nights, Amazing Acrobats of Shanghai, Doug Gabriel, Presley's Country Jubilee, "Noah the Musical," and the Hughes Show; and one dinner show on the Showboat Branson Belle. For pictures, video and information, visit www.GroupTrips.com/dudleyseniors. Departure point: Dudley Town Hall, 71 W. Main St., 8 a.m. Saturday, May 2,

2020.

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

#### FRIENDS OF THE **STURBRIDGE SENIORS**

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

Turn To TRIPS page A12

#### TRAINOR

continued from page A8

FYI: Native American legend has it that spirits lived inside each kernel of popcorn. Some tribes believed when the corn was heated, the disturbed spirits burst out of the kernel in a fit of anger.

In fact, it is said Native Americans brought popped corn to the first Thanksgiving. Back then, popcorn, which was cooked over the fire, was commonly eaten right of the cob. Natives in the

Americas were creative in their popcorn use, preparing such treats as popcorn beer and popcorn

soup. Once the colonists were introduced to the mysterious, fluffy food, they included it in their daily diet, even enjoying it in a bowl with cream for breakfast!

Do you ever wonder exactly what causes the corn kernels to burst? Each kernel contains a small drop of water stored inside a circle of soft starch. The starch is surrounded by the hard outer surface of the kernel. As each kernel heats up, the water expands and pressure builds against the hard starch. Eventually it gives way, causing the popcorn to explode. In order for popcorn to erupt

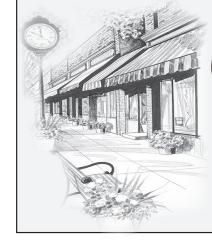
soft and fluffy, it should have a moisture content of about 14 percent. Any less and you will end up with half popped kernels and a pan full of "old maids.'

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not

inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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



# Community Connection



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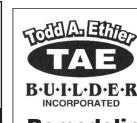
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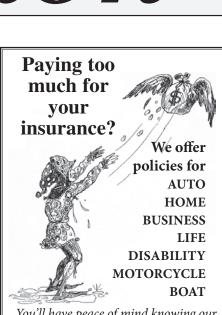


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## SPORTS

# Shepherd Hill, improving on daily basis, keeps it close in loss to Grey Ghosts



Jason Mckay photos

Shepherd Hill's Paula Barbale shoots the 3-pointer from the left corner.



Shepherd Hill's Emma Lanpher slices through Westford Academy's defense on her way to the basket.

BY KEN POWERS

DUDLEY — The 2019-2020 high school girls' varsity basketball season is not about wins and losses for the Shepherd Hill Regional Rams.

Sure, a few more W's would be nice — they have one so far — but head coach Maura Hackenson's main objective this season is to educate her three senior, five junior, four sophomore, one freshman team and get them all — especially the underclassmen — some much-needed playing experience against some top-ti-

That was certainly the case on Tuesday, Jan. 16 when Shepherd Hill hosted the Grey Ghosts of Westford Academy, a perennial Eastern Mass. powerhouse. The Rams, who trailed for much of the game, battled Westford throughout, cutting the Grey Ghosts' lead to three points with 97 seconds

to play.

Westford (5-5) had just a little too much at the end, however, and held off now 1-7 Shepherd Hill 48-41.

"We've made some vast improvements since the beginning of the season," Hackenson said. "We have a bunch of girls who really try hard and who want to be successful. We could play any girl on any given night and they're all going to give it everything they've got. The girls have been great all year. They've remained upbeat and positive. They have all bought into our system and they are proving it with games like this."

like this."

The Rams started slow and trailed by three after the first quarter, 13-10. It would have been a six-point deficit, but senior Grace Nellis' desperation 3-pointer hit nothing but net at the buzzer. Early in the second quarter Nellis (8 points) cut the Shenberd Hill deficit to

one, 14-13, with another trey

from almost the same spot.

The 3-pointer was really working for the Rams against the Grey Ghosts. They connected on nine of their attempts from beyond the arc and now have 35 for the season.

have 35 for the season.

Nellis, junior Emma Lanpher
(a team-high 11 points), freshman Emery Mullen (6 points)
and senior Paula Barbale (8
points) all hit on a pair of the
3-point shots. Senior Kerry
Greenough also hit on a shot

from distance.

"Three-point shooting is not part of our offensive philosophy; it just happens to happen. We do have a lot of girls who can shoot the 3 and they all have a lot of confidence in their shot," Hackenson said. "I would prefer the ball go down low more. I like driving and then dishing the ball back out or getting it in low to a player in the post and having her kick it out to an open shooter.



With no defenders in sight, Grace Nellis of Shepherd Hill lets go of a 3-pointer.



Triniti Sughrue of Shepherd Hill searches for an open teammate on the court while a Westford Academy defender pushes hard.



Sydney Fitzgerald of Shepherd Hill tries to muscle a shot up and over a Westford Academy defender.

"If the 3s are falling, then they're falling and I have to let them roll with that," Hackenson added. "We've had a few nights where they've hit some 3-point shots and they were hitting them tonight."

After taking the lead 6-5 with four minutes remaining in the first quarter, Westford led the rest of the way. The game remained close, however. The Grey Ghosts led 26-22 at half-time and 36-28 after three quarters. In addition, after giving up the lead, Shepherd Hill cut the Westford lead to one point on three occasions.

Trailing 42-34 with 3:48 remaining the game, The Rams scored five straight points to pull within three points, 42-39, with 1:37 to play. Junior Megan Burdett began the run with a free throw, Nellis followed

with a pair of free throws and sophomore Triniti Sughrue capped off the spurt with a putback of an offensive rebound.

Westford, which answered the Rams' run with a six-point run of its own, hit four of six free throws down the stretch to seal the victory.

"It's amazing to look back to the beginning of the season and see how much we've changed as a team," Hackenson said. "The team chemistry has improved, our basketball knowledge has improved and the whole team, especially the upperclassmen, have a willingness to play with our younger players. We had a bunch of sophomores playing tonight. The seniors leading the sophomores, that has been really beneficial for us."

#### SPORTS BRIEF

# Dudley Charlton Women's Basketball to hold pickup games

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

## SPORTS

# Auburn defeats Leominster, grabs important two points in process

AUBURN — Fighting to get back to .500 and on pace to qualify for the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament, the Auburn High boys' varsity ice hockey team hosted Leominster High at the Horgan Arena in a crucial contest on Wednesday, Jan. 15.

And the Rockets did just that, defeating the Blue Devils 3-1 to improve to an even 4-4-1.

Auburn, which includes student-athletes from Millbury High, Tantasqua Regional and Shepherd Hill Regional as part of its cooperative agreement, fell behind 1-0 on a first-period goal by Leominster's Jeremy Maillet. But

it would be the only goal allowed by Rockets' goalie Tyler MacKoul.

Auburn then rallied with a pair of second-period goals in a 1 minute, 7 second timespan. First, with 5 minutes to play in the period, Nic Spanos scored a power-play goal, with Dominic DiPadua recording the assist. Then, with 3:53 to go in the second, the Rockets recorded another power play goal, this one off the stick of Hakim Kagni. DiPadua had the assist again.

Auburn put the game away with 1:06 remaining in the third period when Joel Miller scored, with Matt Schirm assisting.



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, www.SeligerPhotograpy.com

Matt Schirm of Auburn controls the puck while a Leominster defender reaches in.



Auburn celebrates a goal on its way to defeating Leominster last Wednesday, Jan. 15.



Auburn's Caleb Bartlett skates around a Leominster defender while possessing the puck.



Goalie Tyler MacKoul of Auburn dips into the butterfly position to make a save versus Leominster.  $\$ 



Auburn's Dillon Winkelmann dumps the puck into Leominster's zone.



Joel Miller of Auburn skates after a loose puck.



Auburn's Hakim Kagni skates the puck down the ice and into Leominster's zone.

# "Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper"

# **OBITUARIES**

#### Robert B. Nelson, 79



WEBSTER- Robert B. Nelson, 79, of Webster passed away peacefully on January Sunday, 12th at the Brookside Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center after an extended illness.

Mr. Nelson is survived by his wife of 56 years, Judith M. (Girouard) Nelson; a daughter, Karen Griffin and her husband, T. Roger of Charlton; three sons, Erik Nelson and his wife, Kristen of Spanaway, WA, Steven Nelson and his wife, Laurie and Michael Nelson and his wife. Amy of Dudley: 8 grandchildren and many nephews and nieces.

Robert was born in Worcester, son of the late Vernon and Lucy (Blair) Nelson. He graduated from South High School in Worcester and also attended Worcester State Teachers College. Mr. Nelson worked for many years as a purchasing agent with Gessner, Curtis and Marble.

Robert could often be found working on model airplanes and listening to his polka music. He had a true love for polka music and also hosted a polka show on 91.3 WCUW for many years. He was also an active member of the Worcester Scale Modelers Association and some of his models can be found on the Battleship Massachusetts in Fall River, MA.

A funeral was held on Saturday, January18th, from the Alfred Roy & Sons Funeral Home 12 Hammond St. Worcester with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 AM in Saint Peter's Church 929 Main St. Worcester. Entombment will follow in Notre Dame Mausoleum, Worcester. Calling hours were held in the funeral home on Friday, January 17th from 5 to 7 PM.

To share a memory of Robert or to sign his online guestbook, please visit www.Royfuneral.com

#### **TRIPS**

continued from page A9

Ladies creating the Sweetest Sounds from their String Instruments. And let's add the All Male Dublin City Dancers who will shake up the Audience with their high stepping dance numbers. For 92.00 everyone will have a Plated Lunch of Corned Beef and Cabbage or Baked Haddock, Venus DeMilo's Famous Minstrone Soup, Vegetables, Breads, Dessert, Coffee and Tea, Bus Transportation and this Fabulous

On Wednesday July 15th come with us for a Lobster Bake at Foster's Clambake in York, Me. For 99.00 enjoy a 1 1/4 Boiled Lobster, Clam Chowder, Steamed Mussels, Fresh Steamed Maine Clams, Corn on the Cob, Potatoes and Onions, Blueberry Cake and a Beverage. Also available is 1/2 Barbecued Chicken in place of the Lobster. Now let us add the Ultimate Jimmy Buffett Tribute Show featuring Jimmy and the Parrots. They are the most requested Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band in the Country and they were also nominated as Band of the Year by Trop Rock Entertainer. Hear them play the favorite songs of Jimmy Buffett as well as songs by The Beach Boys, Paul Simon, Harry Belafonte, Bob Marley and many others. Included is Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Lunch and

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

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

We had 34 people travel to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country

Day/2Night Trip this past December and they had such a Great Time that many of them asked to go back again this September 23-25th. We will see the New Show "Queen Esther". One of the very most riveting Bible Stories of the Old Testament that comes to life in the Magnificent Sight and Sound Theater which incorporates Live Animals, Secial Effects and Jaw Opening Stage Sets. Ask anyone who has seen a Show at the Millenium Sight and Sound Theater and they will tell you this is a Must See. in your lifetime. Now let's add a 2nd Show called "Saturday Nigh Fever" at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, a Backcountry Tour of the Dutch County Farmlands, enjoy your luck at the Sands Casino and more. Prices are 499.00 pp Double and 599.00 Single Occupancy and include 2 Nights Lodging, 4 Meals, Tickets to the 2 Shows,

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

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

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

#### LEICESTER SENIOR **CENTER**

For trip information and reservations, please call Joan Wall at (508)

Friday, Jan. 17, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$10 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost is \$30.

Friday, Feb. 14, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$20 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost is \$30.

Friday, March 20, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$10 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost

#### MARY QUEEN OF THE **ROSARY PARISH**

SPENCER — Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish, 60 Maple St., Spencer, is offering the following trips. For more information, call Bernard Dube at (508) 885-3098.

> \*Japan: March to April 9, 2020 \*Japan with China extension: March 26 to April 22, 2020

\*USA: Wonders Northern California Redwoods, Oregon Washington: August 3-15, 2020

\*Spain Portugal: Sept.9-23, 2020

\*Galapagos Islands: Jan 4-13, \*Galapagos 2021 with extension to Peru (Machu Picchu): Jan 4-19,

\*Botswana, Zimbabwe and Victoria Falls: May 5-16, 2021

\*Alaska (land and cruise): early August, 2021

#### **PAXTON SENIORS**

Area Seniors are Planning Another Wonderful Trip

Our adventure will be an 11 day trip: River cruise on the Danube River plus couple of days on land. The trip begins on Thursday, Oct 8, when we will fly out of Boston.

Some details: 11 days- 24 meals, 7 day cruise on the Danube and 2 nights in Fussen( near Munich) Oner local tour from the Ship are included in each port. We fly into Budapest, Hungary and fly home from Munich.

Transportation from Paxton to and from Logan is included.

Four countries - Hungary, Slovakia, Austria and Germany

Cruise from Budapest to Passau, then coach to Munich/Fussen.

This is a wonderful trip and we sincerely hope that you can join us on December 3 and especially next October.

Bob Wilby, 508-792-4662 or rwilby@ charter.net

Please call or email me if you plan to come to the December 3 informational

#### **SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon Senior Center Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049 or e-mail jimtrips@yahoo.com.

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association, payment due at sign up:

#### **SOUTHBRIDGE** SENIOR CITIZENS TRIP **SCHEDULE FOR 2020**

March 24, 2020 - Tuesday - Mohegan Sun \$30 - 10 - AM bus.

You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 PM.

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

May 19, 2020 - Tuesday - Foxwoods \$30 – 8 a.m. bus.

This one is for the bingo players and all others that want to go. You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Foxwoods at 2 PM.

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

September 15, 2020 - Tuesday -Mohegan Sun \$30 - 10 - AM bus.

You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 PM.

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

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

November 12, 2020 - Thursday -Foxwoods \$30 - 10 - AM bus.

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

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

#### PAYMENTS DUE AT SIGN UP

Trips are open to the public!

Make checks payable outhbridge Senior to the Southbridge Citizens Association.

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

UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CHAPTER 12

Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Chapter #12, Southbridge, is sponsoring a variety of excursions for all to enjoy in 2019. We are a non-profit family oriented Franco-American fraternal society since 1900. As always, you do not have to be a member to participate in any of the scheduled events. All are welcome. Gift certificates purchased in any amount can be used by the recipient to any event at face value. For information or reservations contact Ted at (508) 764-

#### **UXBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER**

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

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

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

April 16, 2020 - Magic Wings Butterfly Gardens and Yankee Candle with lunch at the Golden Corral w/Fox Tours - \$71. April 27-29 Penn Dutch w/the new show Queen Esther at Sight and Sound -- (trip is full, sign up for the waiting list)-\$459. May 4 - Granite State Chocolate and Wine Tour with lunch at Warren's Lobster House - Fox Tours - \$91. May 9 - Albany Tulip Festival Tours w/Conway June 1 - Plymouth cruise on Pilgrim Belle with sightseeing tour and lunch at Hearth and Kettle - Fox Tours - \$91 June 26 - July 3 -- Atlantic Canada w/Conway Tours -- International Tattoo, ferry crossing, Hopewell Rocks, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, St. John, New Brunswick - 3 seats left - \$1899. Aug. 30 - 31 - Saratoga Racetrack w/Conway Tours - enjoy a race at Saratoga, a tour of the town, a tour of Haven Oaks Horse Farm, and drive up Prospect Mountain - \$329. Sept. 16 -18 - The Hamptons w/ Conway. Three day trip w/4 meals, guided tour of the "Rich and Famous," winery, ferry crossing, Old Westbury Estate & Gardens, Montauk Point Lighthouse, Sag harbor, etc. - \$579. Green Mt. Railroad Oct. 6 -w/Fox Tours \$101. -- Newport Playhouse Nov. 19 Tours w/Fox Dec. 7 & 8 -- Equinox Resort and Hildene, VT w/Conway Tours. Two day trip with elegant dinner & piano entertainment, breakfast, tour of Hildene, chocolate tasting, etc. \$379.

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

To place a Card of Thanks In-Memoriam, Birthday or Anniversary Greeting,

the deadline is Friday noon for the following week.

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

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

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

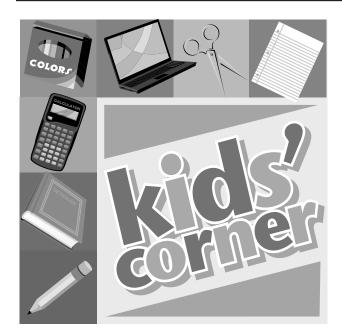
Personal checks, Visa, Master Card, Discover and AMEX are accepted.

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











THIS SNACK FOOD IS LOW IN CALORIES AND FAT AND HIGH IN FIBER, MAKING IT A NUTRITIOUS ADDITION TO ONE'S DIET.

**YNSMEK: POPCORN** 

#### What's the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?





3. Pickles next to burger 4. Pizza slice eaten Answers: I. Ketchup is mustard 2. Missing straw



- 1885: LAMARCUS A. THOMPSON OF CONEY ISLAND PATENTS THE ROLLER COASTER.
- 1964: THE BEATLES RELEASE THEIR FIRST ALBUM IN THE UNITED STATES.
- 1986: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, DAY IS CELE-BRATED AS A FEDERAL HOLIDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME.



#### KERNEL

softer, edible part of a seed or plant



**ENGLISH:** Corn

**SPANISH:** Maíz

**ITALIAN:** Granoturco

FRENCH: Maïs

**GERMAN:** Mais



NOT EVERY TYPE OF CORN CAN POP. A SPECIAL VARIETY THAT IS CALLED POPCORN, A FORM OF FLINT CORN, HAS THE RIGHT QUALITIES TO TURN THE KERNEL

Answers: A. artistic

 $\mathcal{B}$ .

ideas

?

D. innovative

INSIDE OUT AND POP.





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

**YNSMEK: BOBCOKN** 

⊙\*\* ĭ@ \* ~ • o < \ \* • × \* + ≈ \* ▲ ( \* ° \* ∞ † △ Ω ô A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

# CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to creativity. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: **25= i)** 

20 8 1 25 15 1 25 3 Α.

Clue: Natural skill

B. 25 2 16 20 15

Clue: Suggestions

3 8 20 6 1 C.

Clue: Activity involving a skill

D. 25 22 22 5 11 20 1 25 11 16

Clue: New methods

## SUDOKU

		5				4		
8					5		3	6
2	9	A		6				8
	6			7	Agoooo			
						9		
	oooook.		2		8			
		7					4	
5	2			3				

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

#### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	anda	8	L	3	17	9	2	G
ß	4	S	9	ഗ്വ	anda	L	8	6
L	G	9	œ	6	2	ω	h	Þ
- Anne	9	6	2	8	ε	Þ	G	2
Þ	2	G	- Anna	Z	6	8	9	Э
8	L	3	Þ	9	G	à	6	S
9	8	<b>L</b>	6	<b>▽</b>	9	2	3	Ψ.
9	ε	and	G	2	2	6	7	8
2	6	t	3		8	G	L	9

**ANSWER**:



Buy 1 window or patio door, get 1 window or patio door

of this sale before January 31st!

celebration going! Take advantage

40% OFF

Minimum purchase of four.

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Renewal by Andersen.

every window and patio door1

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down

monthly

payments

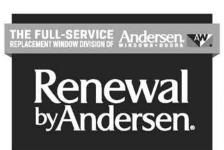
0%

interest

until 2021!1

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- With our special <u>Cold</u>
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   <u>Method</u>, our team
   works room by room,
   window by window,
   so your exposure to
   the cold weather will
   be minimal.
- Poor-quality vinyl windows can crack and cause drafts this time of year. Our windows' composite Fibrex® material is two times stronger than vinyl.
- We are the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, a family-owned American company that builds affordable windows for those with a <u>deep sense</u> of pride in their home.



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¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 2/8/2020. You must set your appointment by 1/31/2020 and purchase by 2/8/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or patio door, get one (1) window or patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 12/29/2019 and 2/8/2020. 40% off windows and patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or patio door in the order. Additional \$50 off each window or patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 1/31/2020 and purchase by 2/8/2020. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. @2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved.



# **CALENDAR**

#### Tuesday, January 28

ON THE TRAIL OF BONNIE AND CLYDE: Charlton Public Library, 40 Main St. Historian, Christopher Daley, will present a program that's part travelogue and part history that chronicles the story of Bonnie and Clyde-separating the reality from the myth. Much myth, conjecture and outright lies have sprung up about the 2 Texas bandits but when one delves into the true story of the two lovers a much more interesting and human story emerges; much better than Hollywood was able to depict. Register online at charltonlibrary.org or call 508-248-0452.

#### Saturday, February 1

CHARLTON LIONS MEAT RAFFLE: The Charlton Lions are hosting our famous Meat Raffle being held Saturday, Feb. 1 at the Heritage Golf Course at 85 Sampson Road in Charlton. There will be six tables of beef, pork and poultry to be won. The raffle begins at Noon with early bird tickets available to those who arrive before 1 pm. For more information, please email thecharltonlions@gmail.com. What a great way to start 2020 with filling your freezer with meat from Fairway Beef!! And remember...100 percent of what we raise goes back to the community. The Charlton Lions thank you for your continued support!

#### **ONGOING**

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

CHARLTON AMERICAN LEGION POST 391 meets every fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Charlton Grange Hall. All veterans are welcome. We'd love to see you. We sponsor Boy Scout Troop 165, as well as three Boys Staters & assist young men interested in attending the State Police summer school. We also assist the Charlton Little League financially, as well as other things such as veteran's wakes & funerals. There's plenty we can still do to help our community.

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

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorie

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

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: First and third Thursday of each month, 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass.org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or

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

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

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

K9 NOSE WORK: A sport open to all breeds of dog and their people Saturday mornings over six weeks at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield starting Jan. 19. Progressive training levels offered. Fee: \$145 per dog, per session. Instructor: Laurie Merritt, M.Ed., CPDT-KA, CNWI, Certified K9 NoseWork Instructor – National Association of Canine Scent

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

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

YOGA: Hatha Yoga benefits are

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

FENCING: Fencing is a sport of combat that originally started as practice for dueling with swords. Since that time, it has grown into a modern sport while maintaining those virtues that made it great: honor, valor, and grace. Bring a water bottle, sneakers and comfortable clothing. Youth and adult classes with Andy Bloch at Hitchcock Academy. Fee: \$99.

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

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



# FAMILY DINING & GIFT GUIDE

Visit these fine local establishments for great gifts, food, beverages & entertainment

To advertise on this page, contact June at jsima@stonebridgepress.news or 508-909-4062





- Function Rooms 10-250 Guests ~



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One offer per table or party. Not combinable withother offers or specials.

Offer expires 2/15/20



# TACO Tuesdays

Join us in our bar area, every Tuesday after 3pm, to enjoy hard or soft shell

Tacos for \$1.00

(with purchase of a beverage)

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117 Main Street, Spencer, MA ● 774-774-745-8200 41 Worcester Road, Webster, MA ● 508-461-5070 Sunday-Thursday: 11am-10pm ● Friday, Saturday:11am-11pm

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We are in the process of selling out some of our current stock to make room for new 2020 models. Because of this, we are offering savings throughout the store!

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WEBSTER — 27 N. Main St! 3 Family! 55/3 Rms! 3/3/1 Bedrooms! 1st Flr w/ Eat-inl Liv Rm! 3 Bdrms! Updated Bathrm! 2nd Flr w/Kit WiDin Areal Liv Rm! 3 Bdrms! Updated Bath! 3/rd Flr w/Eat-in Kit! Liv Rm! Bdrm! Full Bath! Sided! Laundy Hook Ups! Utilities! Viny! Sided! Laundyr Hook Ups! Freshly Painted Hallways! \$249,900.00





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Furnace, Gas Hot Water Heater, AC, Front Porch Windows, Door, Living Rm Floor, Skylights, Kitchen, Bath & Dining Rm Floors! 2 Bedrm's Wall to Wall Carpeting

& the Interior Freshly Painted 10/2019! Quick Closing Possible! \$269,900.00

THOMPSON - 299 Quaddick Rd! Beautiful Custom Cedar Log Home Privately Set on 5.47 Acres! Stone Wall Entry Leads Up the 700+\* Driveway! Nestled in the Woods! 6 Rms of Gorgeous Cedar! Applianced Granite Kit w/Soft Close Hickory Cabinets! Ideal Open FIr Plan w/Soaring Beamed Cathedral Ceilings w/Skylights! Gleaming Hrdwds! Liv Rm w/Spectacular Stone Frplc w/ Pellet Insert! 1st FIr Master w/Full Whirlpool Bath & Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms & 2.5 Baths Total! 3Z Buderus Oil Heat! 2 Car Garage! \$399.900.00



DUDLEY - 94 Tracy Road! 7 Rm 4 Bdrm Colonial On 1.24 Acres! Privacy! Many Upgrades! Hrdwds Throughout! Frplce Liv Rm w/Recessed Lights! Formal Din Rm! Eat-in Kit Updated in 2015! Cherry Cabinets, Granite Counters, Center Isl & SS Appliances! om w/Skylights, Hrdwd Flrs & Slider to Deck! 1st Flr 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2nd Fir Full Bath! Lower Level Game Rm/Office! Utility/Storage Rm! 16X21 Deck! Garage Under! Save on Your Electric Your Bills, 2015 Solar Panels! Level yard w/Shed! Call now! \$349,000.00



Beautiful 100' Waterfront Lot! Stainless Applianced Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets, Granite Counters, Hrdwd Floor & Dining Area w/Slider to Deck! Formal Dining Rm w/Hrdwds! Front to Back Living Rm Overlooking the Lake w/Cathedral Ceiling, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc & Hrdwds! 1st Flr Lake Facing Master Bdrm w/Slider to the Deck & Access to the Screened Hot Tub. wWalk-in Closet, Full Bath wWhirlpool Tub, Separate Shower & Commode Closet! 1/2 Bath & Separate Laundry Rm Nearby! Walk-out Lower Level w/Full Kitchen, 22' Lake Facing Family Rm w/Sliders to the Patio/Lake! 2 Lake Facing Bdrms w/Sliders to the Patio/Lake! Full Bath! Oversized 2 Car Garage! LP Gas Heat/Hydro Air! Generator! Private Boat Ramp! Docks! Don't Delay!







WEBSTER LAKE - 50 West Point Rd! Killdeer Island! 4,700' Entertainers Dream! Magnificent Sunsets! Built 2016, Has It All! 2 Story Foyer! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, Dble Oven, High End Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! Din Rm w/ Wet Bar, Sliders to 14x30' Deck! Bright & Airy Liv Rm w/Lake Views, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc! 1/2 Bath + Laundry! An ELEVATOR to Service All 3 Floors! Upstairs leads to 3 Spacious Bdrms each w/Private Baths! Master w/ Tray Ceiling, Walk-in Closet + Private Balcony! Master Bath, Soaker Tub & Large Tile Shower! Walk-up Attic w/Expansion Possibilities! Lower Level w/Full Kit, 1/2 Bath, Lake Facing Fam Rm, Media/Exercise Rm + Lake Facing Bdrm w/Frplc



**WEBSTER LAKE** — 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond — South Facing — Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home this 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You! You'll Appreciate its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Island, Dining Area,



75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Home! Renovate or Enjoy As Is! Open Flr Plan! Applianced Cabinet Packed Kit! Lake Facing Din & Liv Rms w/Water Views! Sliders to Screen Enclosed Porch! Master w/Ceiling Fan & Dble Closet! 2nd Bdrm w/Dble Closet! Full Bath off Hall! Finished Walk-ou Lower Level w/25' Fam Rm w/Door to Lakeside Patio, Bdrm, Full Bath & Utility. Storage Rm! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths Total! Oil Heat! Covered Entry Ramp & Electric Chair Lift! Shed! Dock! Summer Will Be Back – Don't Delay! **\$499,900.00** 



**WEBSTER LAKE** - 506 Beacon Park! 1,280' Custom WATERFRONT Townhouse, Ideal End Corner Unit w/Panoramic Lake Views! Overlooks Lakeside Pool & Sandy Beach! From the Private Entry this Unit is Like No Other! Being Sold Fully Furnished & Appointed! Ist Flr w/Beautiful Maple Hrdwds! SS Applianced Silestone Kit! Recessed Lighting! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Tile Baths! Recent A/C & Heat! Garage! \$369,900.00





CHARLTON - GLEN ECHO LAKE! 3 Sunset Dr! Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic

105' Waterfront! Ideal 15,941' Gently Sloping Lot! Comfortable 9 Rm Ranch! Stainless Appliance Eatin Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Panoramic Water Views! 4 Bdrms, 3 Lake acing including the Spacious Master! Full Hall Bath! Enjoy the Sun Rm w/Lake Views! 32' Walk.



**CHARLTON** — 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing = Fantastic Sunrises! Custom 9 Rm Colonial! Beautiful 1/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Flr Plan! Appliance Granite Kit w/lsl, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water View! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sinkl 2nd Flr w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Master w/Cathedrals French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walk-in Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walk out Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes NEW A/C SPLITS SYSTEM! Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! \$524,900.00





Lake Facing Fireplaced Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flag Stone Patio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! \$624,900.00



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Featured Open House! **SAT.** • 1-3 **WEBSTER - 5 SURREY LN** 

BRAND NEW TO MARKET\*FIRST TIME OFFERED! Welcome Home! RARE FIND!! Gently Used 5 Bdrm Co-Ionial, or 4 Bedrms & Game Room!! This 24 x 28 3 Car Garage HAS HEAT! Radiant Heat in Floor, 8' High Garage Doors. Open Concept Kitchen, Dining & Living Room, Full bath, Beautiful Granite Counters w Breakfast

Bar, Newer SS Appliances ~ Slider off Din Rm to Deck & Patio ~ Second Floor - 5 Over-sized Bdrms! Bath & Laundry Rm! Walk up Attic for storage! Bsmt is Plumbed & Wired for bath & Kitchenette!

#### **WEBSTER - 8 MAPLE ST**



Updated 2 Family - Vinyl Siding- 1st Floor 6 Rooms, 3 bedrooms. 1 Full Balh, open Kitchen. Fully Applianced. Washer & Dryer Included. New Carpeting, Hardwood Floors. 2nd Floor - Open Kitchen with Gorgeous Kitchen Cabinets - 6 Rooms, 3 Bed, 1 Full Bath Hardwood Floors, New carpeting. Earh Apartment has 1,200+ sq It plus. Oil Heat - 2 New Oil Tanks, Circuit Brækers. Oil street parking, Town Water & Sewer, 3rd Story Unfinished. Great Commuter Location. \$237,500.

#### **WEBSTER - 3 STEFANIAK AVE.**



Cute 2 Bedroom Ranch! All hardwood Floors, gas Fireplace living room! 2 baths. Appliances included. 2 zone heat. Large deck! Young asphalt roof. Walk out lower living level. Town Wa-\$219,900.

#### WEBSTER - 17 PINEWOOD DR



Location, Location, Location! Close to 1395. Split Entry with 6 rooms. 3 bedrooms & 1-1/2 baths. Many Updates! Fireplace living room. Wood floors! Recent Asphalt Shingled Roof & Solar Panels. assisted sale \$289,900

#### WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD 即 III ) SORRY, SOLD!

Estate like long paved drivewayl 3158 Sq F1 Colonial! Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout Grantle and s/s applianced kitcheni Large master bedroom, coffered celling, master bath, Wyldeted bulb Walk in closest. For oca grange, Radiused calwalk on upper levell A walk up attic. Walk out lower level! The third garage is accessed from the lower level. Generator hookup. One beautiful property!

#### **WEBSTER - 14 HIGHCREST #4**



Ready to move in! 2 bedroom 1& 1/2 bath condo. Large bedrooms with large full bath master bedroom private access. Skylight Hallway, extra large living area with separate dining! Access to private deck via sliders, fully applianced kitchen, loads of counter space, tons of storage. Full finished basement, brand new heat and a/

#### WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq, Ft. Possible potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer, City Gas! Nice level lot. \$70,000

Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest Webster - 3 Lots Cooper Rd. Attention Developers! 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots water/sewer access \$129,400 Webster - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake. 1+ acre, artesian

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

well, Septic Design, Etc.

Highly possible to be subdivided.

#### POMFRET, CT - 280 RIVER RD



1.7 acres. New kitchen cabinets w/granite counters and center island. New electrical/plumbing. Large Gambrel Post & Beam. 2 bay garage w/loft. New septic. **NEW PRICE \$244.900** 

#### **HOLLAND - 6 MAIDEN LN**



the lot to promote privacy on this .44 acre Lot! 6 room 2 bedroom 1-1/2 Bath. 2 brick fireplaces! Furnace and roof approximately 6 years old. Plus a guest house! assisted sale \$229,000.

#### **WEBSTER - 212 SCHOOL ST**



Large 4 Family! 3 car garage! Off street parking. 2 bedrooms each unit! Walk-up attic with a lot of potential! Solar panels!! Fully \$369,900.

#### **WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD**



**ATTENTION DEVELOPERS** 

Attention Developers! 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots! Lake Residential area, Water/Sewer access

#### On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



#### **WEBSTER LAKE - 118 POINT BREEZE RD**

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



#### WEBSTER LAKE - 32 JACKSON RD

AN INTRIGUING OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN EXTREMELY UNIQUE 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened-in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds! New Price \$375,000





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**Conrad Allen** (508) 400-0438









Look for that new home in our real estate section.





Donna Morin Flannery, Realtor, ABR 415B Main St., Spencer, MA 01562 c: 508-612-6771 f: 508-885-6047 DonnaFlannery@ERAKey.com www.DonnaFlannery.com

#### MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE AT PUBLIC AUCTION

#### Monday, January 27, 2020

12:00 PM-DUDLEY 51 Old Southbridge Road sgl fam, 1,728 sf liv area, 1.12 ac lot, 6 rm, 3 bdrm, 2.5 bth, Worcester(Worc): Bk 30636, Pg 70 2:00 PM-DUDLEY 177 Dresser Hill Road

sgl fam, 1,779 sf liv area, 7.78 ac lot, 6 rm, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bth, Worcester(Worc): Bk 45942, Pg 14

TERMS: \$5,000 cash or certified check at the time and place of the sale. The balance to be paid within thirty (30) days at the law offices of Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851, Attorney for the Mortgagee

Auctioneer makes no representation as to the accuracy of the information contained berein.

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

**ADDRESS** 

(X) Condex (U) Duplex

STYLE TIME

(L) Mobile Home

(M) Multi-Family (S) Single Family (T) Townhouse (D) Adult Community (W) Waterfront

(A) Apartment **PRICE** REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

#### WEBSTER

56 Chase Ave. Apt. #2

Noon-2 \$1100/Mo

Re/Max Professional Associates/ Patrick Sweeney 774-452-3578

5 Surrey Ln.

1-3

\$409,000

Hope Real Estate Group/

June Czaeault 860-377-2044



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## PENDING



OXFORD, MA - \$234,900 44 Depot Road 3 Bedroom, Ranch Recently Remodeled



STURBRIDGE, MA - \$299,900 234 Podunk Road Antique Colonial. 4 bed, 2 bath, Remodeled

FEATURE PROPERTIES



**DUDLEY, MA - \$248,500** 5 Fairview Ave Under Priced, Needs Work



WEBSTER, MA - \$288,900 90-A Sutton Rd. 3 Bedroom, Raised Ranch. Come

## **FOR RENT**



WEBSTER, MA - \$1100/mo 56 Chase Ave, Apt #2 2-Family, Completely Renovated



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



# Protecting private drinking water sources



People who live in homes serviced by private wells must test the quality of their water.

Many people do not give much thought to their drinking water or where it comes from, only paying mind if the color, taste or pressure is unusual or if warnings are issued in the event of a water main break or flood.

Water for homes and businesses is often sourced from municipal water sources, but private wells also provide water. According to the U.S. Census Housing Survey 2015, 13 million households in the United States rely on private wells to supply their water. Many of these homes are located in hard-toreach or rural areas where municipal water pipes do not travel.

Public water supplies are typically overseen by a governing body, such as the United States Environmental Protection Agency. However, these organizations may not regulate private wells, nor will they provide recommended criteria or standards for individual wells. As a result, it is up to individuals to make sure their well water is safe for consumption. Private well owners may be surprised to learn that, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, at least 20 percent of private wells contain contaminants, of which 23 percent have levels high enough to be a potential health concern.

Well water is groundwater found in subterranean aquifers. This groundwater comes from rainfall that is absorbed in the soil and slowly seeps downward through the dirt, rock and various underground spaces. Along this path it can pick up contaminants. Common sources of contaminants include farm waste, fertilizers and pesticides, chemical spills, poorly maintained septic systems, and seepage from landfills. Arsenic is also naturally occurring in groundwater, and in some areas the levels are above the EPA threshold for safety.

Unfortunately, many contaminants are undetectable to the eyes, nose and mouth. And unlike public drinking water systems, people with wells typically do not test their water as often as they should. The EPA says that well water should be tested annually for bacteria and nitrates. The environmental medicine experts at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey

suggest testing for lead, arsenic, radon, uranium, and other heavy metals every three to five years.

National The Groundwater Association says county health departments can conduct water tests for bacteria and nitrates. Those who want to test for other substances can get a list of state-certified drinking water testing labs. The Well Wise program is administered by the Ontario Ground Water Association and can provide water testing for consumers. This is a good place to start for Canadian residents. Learn more at http://www.ogwa.ca or in the United States at https://water.usgs.gov.

# HERE & THERE

### Local Events, Arts, and **Entertainment Listings**

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**

RAFFLE

BIG MEAT RAFFLE Spencer Fish & Game Club 2pm. Tickets \$1.00 6 Tables of all different kinds of

Door Prize. Food & beverages for sale. 155 Mechanic Street, Spencer, MA 01562

meat

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2



44TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL FISHING DERBY West Brookfield Boy Scout TROOP 118 Lake Wickaboag Public Boat Ramp, West Brookfield 7:30am-3:00pm. Trophies, Door

Prizes. Tickets \$1 by Scouts or

In remembrance of Mark Cook, Peter Coulthard, J. Irving England, Michael Higgins, and Dick Shepardson (No ice date February 16)

at derby

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

"THE LAKE IN WINTER" EVENT. 2:30: Ken Ethier: Presentation on Ice harvesting. East Brookfield Town Hall 3:30: Bonfire, Music, Skating and S'mores with DJ and concessions. Lake Lashaway Town Beach

FREE -snacks for sale

#### **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9**

6AM - 2PM FISHING DERBY -Details to come! See Facebook @EB100th or tinyurl.com/EB100th!



#### **SATURDAY, MARCH 14**

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/RR/Art Guild/ Boy Scouts) 108 School Street FREE 1:00-3:00

#### **TUESDAY, MARCH 24**

RE-ENACTMENT of signing of town bill and unveiling of Anniversary Quilt Senior Center, Pleasant Street. 6:30pm FREE

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 4,

ROARIN' TWENTIES DANCE at Sturbridge Host Hotel \$35, 5:00pm Tickets @EventBrite.com

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 11,

**OPEN HOUSE** 

at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 18,

HISTORICAL TALK - Ed Londergan -The First and Second Settlements East Brookfield Town Hall 9:30 FREE

#### **SATURDAY, APRIL 25**

TOWN WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY

#### Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall 9:00 SATURDAY, MAY 2,

EAST BROOKFIELD NATURE WALKS at Pelletier Woods

Howe Street, East Brookfield 2:00. FREE

#### SATURDAY, MAY 9,

at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR). 108 School Street, East Brookfield. 1-2:00 FREE

#### SATURDAY, MAY 16,

7K RUN AND FUN WALK Timberyard Brewery, East Brookfield 10:0am. \$30.00 adults, \$15.00 kids

#### SATURDAY, MAY 30

HISTORICAL TALK -Ed Londergan - Murder in the Brookfields (Spooner / Newton Murders) East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 6

HISTORY & DESSERT at Podunk Chapel, East Brookfield 2:00 & 3:30 seatings. \$5.00 pp

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 12

COAST GUARD BAND East Brookfield Elementary School, 7:00 FREE

**SATURDAY, JUNE 13** 

at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 20,

at Camp Frank A. Day (archery, boating, basketball, mini golf, lunch) Rain Date: June 21. 125 South Pond Road, East Brookfield. 11:00-3:00.

MONDAY, JULY 6 SUMMER READING KICK OFF -

#### EB Library - continues for five weeks.

East Brookfield Town Hall, FREE SATURDAY JULY 25

#### HISTORICAL TALK - Heather Gablaski -

East Brookfield: 100 Years a Town East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

#### SATURDAY, JULY 11

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION Parade & Fireworks Connie Mack Field East Brookfield

#### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 8**

OPEN HOUSE

at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

#### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

PARADE AND FAMILY FUN EVENT! Route 9, East Brookfield, 9:30 -7:00. FREE. Rain date Sept 13

#### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10**

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 3:30

BUS AND CEMETERY TOUR. ending in dinner at Podunk Chapel. Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall. \$15-\$20.00 pp

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

HISTORICAL TALK - Guy Morin- Central

Massachusetts during the Revolution East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30 FREE

#### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

HISTORICAL TALK -Ken and Tina Ethier - "Trolley Talk" East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

#### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 OPEN HOUSE**

at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

#### **ONGOING**

MARIACHI BAND First Thursday of the month 5-8 p.m. MEXICALI MEXICAN GRILL Webster location 41 Worcester Rd., Webster, MA 508-461-5070

TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS 7:00 p.m. register 7:30 p.m. start up HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB 325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA 508-892-9822

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN 260 West Main St., W. Brookfield, MA 508-867-2345 salemcrossinn.com

#### THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED

meets the first Monday of every month from September through May. We discuss a variety of conservation programs to improve the local cold water fisheries, local fishing opportunities. Our annual High School Fly Fishing Championship (open to all MA high school students) And our annual fund raising banquet. Auburn Sportsman's Club 50 Elm St., Auburn, MA

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES July/August every Thursday 6:00-8:00 Connie Mack Field East Brookfield. FREE - Food and Drinks for sale

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