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Friday, April 10, 2020

# Balmer Food Pantry seeking donations, supplies

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI

NORTHBRIDGE Before the worldwide COVID-19 outbreak, Northbridge's Balmer Elementary School food pantry assisted two or three families per week. Now, the food pantry is open to more families and seeing a steady increase of use, serving around twenty families per week—a number that is expected to rise.

"We're fortunate to have the support of our community to be able to help feed families," said Sharyn Tritone, the district's Title I Family Engagement Liaison. "These families are our neighbors, our friends, our teammates, our classmates—we rely on donations and the support so far has been overwhelming."

The pantry, which was established in 2016 after several students reported that food at home was limited, is typically available to families of students attending Northbridge Elementary School and Balmer Elementary School. Due to the pandemic, however, the pantry has expanded its reach.

"At this point in time, with support of the high school pantry, the Balmer pantry is serving all school-aged families from Northbridge,' Tritone said.

Food donations, supplies, and monetary donations are currently encouraged. Tritone said among the top needs are: breakfast foods, including cereal, oatmeal, and cereal bars; soaps, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, and paper towels; canned

meat products; shelf-stable milk; and gift cards so residents may purchase perishable items.

The pantry is also accepting cash donations and checks; checks should be made payable to Balmer Elementary School with the memo line noting Balmer Food Pantry.

"You can also help by just spreading the word and letting folks know that [the pantry] needs donations and that it's here to help," Tritone said. "Some families may just need to stop by once or twice, and other families may come consistently."

seeking to Those donate or utilize the pantry may contact Balmer Elementary Principal Karlene Ross and kross@ nps.org.



Jackson and Isabelle Bentley celebrate World Autism Day in honor of their cousin, Mackenzie. World Autism Day is April 2.

# Sutton police welcome new officer

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

SUTTON — The town of Sutton has recently welcomed a new face to its Police Department— Police Officer Alexander Sinni, who joins the department after serving three years with Warren

According to Sutton Chief of Police Dennis Towle, Sinni was hired recently and started last week in Sutton.

"He topped our application process and was highly regarded at Warren PD. We are happy to have him on board,' Towle said.

Sinni added that he has wanted to be a police officer since he was a child. Growing up, his father's best friend was a state police trooper and he had several friends whose

dads were officers.

"One thing they all had in common was that they loved their jobs," Sinni said. "That's probably one of the biggest reasons I wanted to do this—is because of my dad's friends saying they love going to work every day." Sinni began working

part time in Warren for about nine months and then full time for the department after graduating from the academy. As a Dudley resident, he said he is excited to be joining the Sutton department and being closer to home.

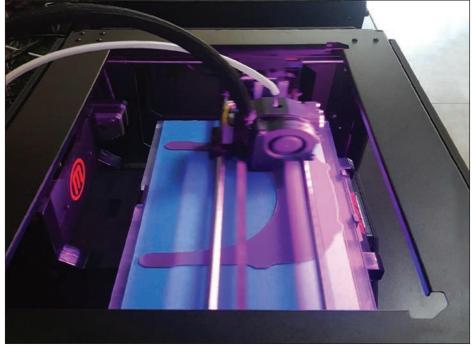
community. I'm really excited to get started. The community really seems to support its police department," he added.

other In news, Sutton police have also announced that they have implemented several social distancing protocols. If residents have an emergency at the Police Station, they are asked to ring the buzzer to speak with a dispatcher.

"The necessary emergency services require will be delivered to you as rapidly as possible," a department statement reads.

Routine services such as filing a police report, requesting a copy of a police report, or other general information should be fulfilled via phone. Residents may leave their number with the dispatcher utilizing the speaker system and an officer will contact them by phone. Or, contact the department at 508-865-4449 to speak with

# BVT staff prints face shields using 3D printers



BVT's sophisticated 3D printers are proudly printing face shield components to aid with the shortage of personal protective equipment across the Commonwealth.

UPTON – During this global COVID-19 pandemic, local hospitals are experiencing a shortage of supplies and have expressed concerns about running out of personal protective equipment (PPE) when the virus peaks in Massachusetts. The Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District, in partnership with other technical high schools, are answering the call to

aid with the shortage of medical supplies in their communities. In addition to their substantial donation of PPE to Milford Regional Medical Center

Turn To BVT page A7

# A Note to Readers

This week's edition of we urge you to continthe paper might seem a bit smaller than you are accustomed to, but rest assured, this is only temporary. Due to the unique circumstances we are all living under at the present time, local sporting events and community activities have wisely been canceled as we all try to stay closer to home and practice social distancing.

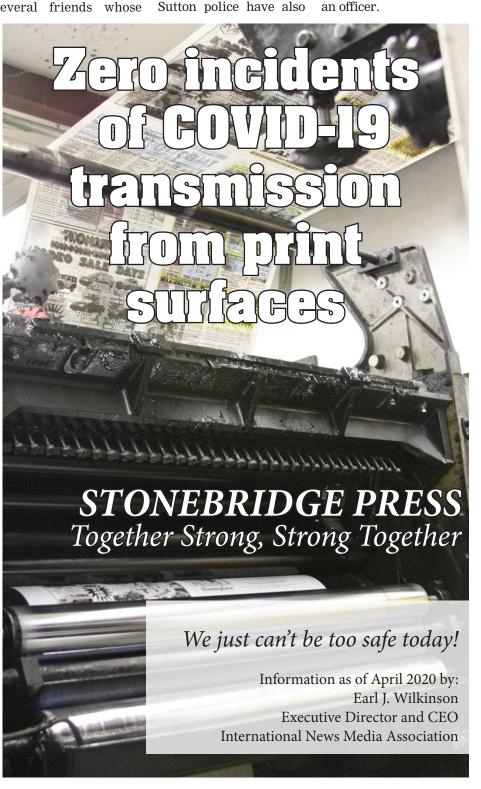
As we ride out this temporary interruption of life as usual together, ue supporting the local businesses that advertise in your newspaper. They have always been here for you through good times and bad, and now, more than ever, they need you to be there for them in any way you

Amid this temporary absence of local events and municipal meetings, we are also looking to celebrate the many quiet heroes in our communities who have gone above and beyond to make this situation easier for those most affected by it. Let us know if there is someone in your community who you think should be recognized by e-mailing news@stonebridgepress.news.

Above all, know that we have been your trusted source for local news for generations, and we plan to be here for you to generations to come, in print and online at www.stonebridgepress.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS SUSPENDED

With many local groups and organizations wisely canceling planned events due to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak, we have temporarily suspended publication of our weekly calendar of events. Once the current situation settles down, we will return to being your go-to source for the area's most comprehensive listing of local events and activities.



BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, April 10, 2020

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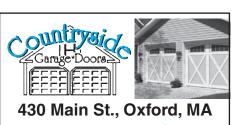
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# Treasury and SBA Begin Unprecedented Public-Private Mobilization Effort to Distribute Funds

President Trump's signing of the historic Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, SBA



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Administrator Jovita Carranza and Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin today announced that the SBA and Treasury Department have initiated a robust mobilization effort of banks and other lending institutions to provide small businesses with the capital they

The CARES Act establishes a new \$349 billion Paycheck Protection Program. The Program will provide much-needed relief to millions of small businesses so they can sustain their businesses and keep their workers employed.

"This legislation provides small business job retention loans to provide eight weeks of payroll and certain overhead to keep workers employed," said Secretary Mnuchin. "Treasury and the Small Business Administration expect to have this program up and running by April 3rd so that businesses can go

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to a participating SBA 7(a) lender, bank, or credit union, apply for a loan, and be approved on the same day. The loans will be forgiven as long as the funds are used to keep employees on the payroll and for certain other expenses.

"This unprecedented public-private partnership is going to assist small businesses with accessing capital quickly. Our goal is to position lenders as the single point-of-contact for small businesses - the application, loan processing, and disbursement of funds will all be administered at the community level," said Administrator Carranza. "Speed is the operative word; applications for the emergency capital can begin as early as this week, with lenders using their own systems and processes to make these loans. We remain committed to supporting our nation's more than 30 million small businesses and their employees, so that they can continue to be the fuel for our nation's economic engine.'

The new loan program will help small businesses with their payroll and other business operating expenses. It will provide critical capital to businesses without collateral requirements, personal guarantees, or SBA fees - all with a 100% guarantee from SBA. All loan payments will be deferred for six months. Most importantly, the SBA will forgive the portion of the loan proceeds that are used to cover the first eight weeks of payroll costs, rent, utilities, and mortgage interest.

The Paycheck Protection Program is specifically designed to help small businesses keep their workforce employed. Visit SBA.gov/Coronavirus for more information on the Paycheck Protection

• The new loan program will be available retroactive from Feb. 15, 2020, so employers can rehire their recently laidoff employees through June 30, 2020.

LOAN TERMS & CONDITIONS

· Eligible businesses: All businesses, including non-profits, Veterans organizations, Tribal concerns, sole proprietorships, self-employed individuals, and independent contractors, with 500 or fewer employees, or no greater than the number of employees set by the SBA as the size standard for certain industries

• Maximum loan amount up to \$10 million

· Loan forgiveness if proceeds used for payroll costs and other designated business operating expenses in the 8 weeks following the date of loan origination (due to likely high subscription, it is anticipated that not more than 25% of the forgiven amount may be for non-payroll costs)

 All loans under this program will have the following identical features:

Interest rate of 1% Maturity of 2 years

First payment deferred for six months

100% guarantee by SBA No collateral

No personal guarantees

No borrower or lender fees payable to SBA

Visit treasury.gov/cares for more information on SBA's assistance to small businesses.



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These are unprecedented times. But both our caregivers and our community are stepping up with unprecedented courage, commitment and compassion. We're grateful beyond words for your strength and support.

Your support keeps our caregivers going! Drop them a word of encouragement at: umassmemorial.org/everydaystrength



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# Quaboag

Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center 47 East Main St., West Brookfield, MA 01585

# **POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

FT RN Unit Manager FT 11p-7a CNA FT Speech Therapist FT 3p-11p Nurse **FT Maintenance position** FT 7a-7p nurse

Here at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center the health and safety of our residents, staff and community are very important to us. We are doing everything recommended and required by the CDC and then some to keep us all safe. For our elder community members a few things that you can do at home to keep yourselves safe...

Restrict visitors - Visit loves ones through the window, outside while remaining at least 6 feet apart or video chat when possible.

- Call your local senior center or Tri-Valley Elder Services if you need help with services or
- obtaining groceries/meals.
- Call your local grocery stores to find elder shopping hours and only shop during that time period.
- Wash your hands frequently with hot soapy water.
- Stay home as much as possible.

We want to thank all of our dedicated staff for taking care of our residents in every department. We appreciate you all so very much and are humbled by your dedication. #strongertogether

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BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, April 10, 2020 • 3

# Thomas Bartholomew of Bartholomew & Company named among nations top financial advisors

WORCESTER — Bartholomew & Company, a leading provider of financial planning and wealth management services in Worcester, Massachusetts, Thomas that Bartholomew, AIF® has been named to Barron's list of America's top 1,200 Financial Advisors for 2020. The list is published on barrons.com1. This is the seventh consecutive year that Mr. Bartholomew has been named to this

According to Barron's, a leading financial publication, the ranking reflects America's best financial advisors, organized by state.2 List makers are determined based on data provided by approximately 4,000 of the nation's most productive advisors. In its ranking, Barron's considers assets under management, revenue produced for the firm, regulatory record, quality of practice and philanthropic work.

"I am pleased to have been named to this prestigious list—a recognition that, to us, speaks to our firm's commitment to meeting the financial planning and investment needs of each of our clients," said Mr. Bartholomew. "I am grateful for the trust our clients place in us, and we remain committed to provid-



**Thomas Bartholomew** 

ing the guidance and support they need to achieve their unique financial goals."

About Bartholomew & Company Bartholomew & Company, has been providing individuals and organizations with financial guidance since 1994. Located at 370 Main Street, Worcester, MA, with branch offices in Chatham and Bedford, MA, Bartholomew &

Company's advisors pride themselves on crafting unique strategies for each client. For more information, please visit www.bartandco.com. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser.

To compile its annual list,\* Barron's, a leading financial publication, uses data provided by some of the nation's most productive advisors. Barron's takes a number of criteria into account for this state-by-state ranking, including assets under management; revenues generated by advisors for their firms; quality of practices, which includes examination of regulatory records; and philanthropic work. Overall, 4,000 advisors were considered, and 1,200 (30 percent of candidates) were recognized. The list includes both Registered Investment Advisers and Investment Adviser Representatives; some states may include more advisors than others, in proportion to state populations.

\*This award is not indicative of the wealth manager's future performance. Your experience may vary. Investment performance is not a criterion.



### ACCURACY WATCH

The Blackstone Valley Tribune is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page A3 in a timely

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

# Milford Regional X-Ray Site designated for patients without **COVID-19 symptoms**

MILFORD - Milford Regional wants to provide our patients access to x-ray services without the fear of exposure to COVID-19; therefore, effective Monday, April 6, Milford Regional's diagnostic imaging area in our Cancer Center (Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center) is providing X-ray services to patients without respiratory or COVID-19 symptoms.

Milford Regional encourages you to stay up -to-date on the Medical Center's response to COVID-19 by visiting milfordregional.org.

# Hydrant flushing scheduled for April 19

WHITINSVILLE — The Whitinsville Water Company (WWC) will commence flushing of water mains and hydrants the week of April 19. Flushing will take place weeks of April 19 to Week of May 24. Flushing will start in the western portion of Northbridge and Sutton and continue to move eastward through Town. Flushing is done during the night hours to minimize any inconvenience to customers. Both the Whitinsville and Northbridge systems will be flushed.

The mains and hydrants are flushed each year to clean the water mains and maintain water quality as well as to ensure that the hydrants are working properly. During the flushing, you may notice discolored water or air in your water. The degree of discoloration and amount of air may vary by location. This should dissipate shortly after the flushing.

If discoloration is noticed, it is recommended to refrain from laundry (especially white clothes) until

Thank you for your cooperation as we perform the necessary flushing program. We will use multiple media outlets (internet, TV, paper, R911) to provide notice as well as local signage. If you do have any questions, please contact our office at 508-234-7358.

# Uxbridge schools use engineering technology to produce PPE

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

UXBRIDGE — In a collaborative effort between the Uxbridge Public Schools, the Uxbridge Board of Health, and state emergency management, Uxbridge has deployed its school technology—as part of the engineering program—to manufacture personal protection equipment that will be used by health professionals and public safety employees in the ongoing

battle against COVID-19. "To have a student idea turn into something so authentic and real in terms of learning, and then to be able to have so many people step up and get the ball rolling, is incredibly humbling and inspiring," said Superintendent Dr. Frank Tiano.

The idea comes from Uxbridge sophomore Matthew Healey, who presented the possibility of using 3-D printing technology to Principal Michael Rubin based on some online research and technology he had at home. According to a district statement, a series of conversations between Tiano and Dr. Kristin Black, the school district's chair of the Board of Health, determined the next steps for the deployment of this technology. Engineering teacher Michael Smutok, in collaboration with his classes and students, started the process of printing face shields using the

school's technology, and each of the school district's printers is now being used to manufacture devices to be used by medical professionals and prison guards in high-risk situa-

"For us, it was a matter of taking a look at the program, looking at our materials, and connecting the dots for what people need," said Smutok. "We're just happy to help."

Smutok, in col-

SCOTLAND HARDWOODS

laboration with professionals from the engineering field, began printing using a design that would print four shields at once, which takes a few hours on the high school's machines. Students have the opportunity through remote learning to help with calculations, research and development, and prototype analysis, since the schools are closed until at least May 4. The high school's model and curriculum, including the code for the shields, is now being used by other schools across the country to deal with both the manufacturing of shields and the logistics of distribution. Additionally, other departments have worked on enhancing the model by making the earpieces more comfortable for the end user.

"Learning takes place everywhere," added Dr. Tiano. "For some students, it could be in the classroom, but for others, it is in the field of work. We have a real focus as a school district, for all of our schools, in providing real-world learning for all our students, this could not be any more realworld for our students."

The equipment used at Uxbridge High School was purchased as part of the school's Innovation Pathway program and in conjunction with Governor Baker's Skills Capital program, which puts industry-standard equipment in the hands UHS' start to the project, teachers Kara Ekstrom and Susan Dhosi and Whitin Intermediate also began contributing, and Uxbridge's partnerships with both AETLabs and the MassSTEMHub has brought additional raw materials and equipment to be used in the process and for additional staff and students to partici-

pate from home. "We get into the business to help inspire and support others," Rubin. "When we think about why we become educators, there's a part of us that never imagined doing this work and then we think this is exactly why we do this work."

The school district estimates being able to produce several hundred shields per week, with the possibility of expanding that number as additional equipment is deployed.

"First and foremost, to be able to contribute to the efforts of our first responders, the doctors and nurses, is just tremendous," said Dr. Tiano. "There is not a better life lesson for our students in terms of giving back not only to their own community but the rest of the Commonwealth. And for these educators, who are managing their classes. their own home lives, their own challenges with this to jump on board this quickly, speaks to their professionalism, commitment, and their desire to model some-

















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# BVT announces second trimester Commendation List

UPTON - Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick has released the following Commendation List for the second trimester of the 2019-2020 academic school year at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School. Now that the grade appeal process has concluded, the District can name the honorees. Students named to the Commendation List have met rigorous standards, including maintaining a grade point average of 88 percent or above in each technical, related, and academic course for the trimester. Students are listed alphabetically by last names and grouped according to grade and hometown.

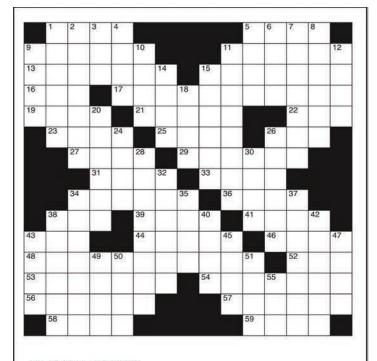
SENIORS (Class of 2020)

Bellingham

Ashley Cifizzari, Information Technology; and Ethan Levitre, Engineering & Robotics.

Blackstone

Aaron Bolduc, Information Technology; Kayla Briggs, Painting & Design Technology; Jessica Connolly, Business & Entrepreneurship; Abigail Cook, Health Services; Alyssa Davis, Painting & Design



### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Canadian law enforcers
- 5. Actor Idris
- 9. Cut or bruise
- 11. Vegetables
- 13. Aircraft delivery
- 15. To make obsolete
- 16. Things similar to those already noted
- 17. Columbus is a famous one 19. Age group
- 21. Denotes nature of sound
- 22. Klutz
- 23. Uninteresting
- 25. Computer manufacturer
- 26. 2,000 lbs. 27. Genus of seabirds
- 29. Emerges
- 31. Baseball stat
- 33. Witnesses
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Churned
- 2. Seal bottles
- 5. Within
- 7. Cries
- 8. About Andes
- 9. Fishermen use it
- 10. Expresses delight
- 11. Shouts
- 12. Feudal agricultural laborer 14. Sailboat
- 15. Small Eurasian willows
- 18. S. American native people 20. Extreme disgust
- 24. Nonsense (slang) 26. Produce male reproductive cells

- 34. Observed
- 36. Satisfy 38. Former OSS
- 39. Small Eurasian deer
- 41. Wife of Sparta's king
- Ballplayer accessory
- 44. Temporary cessation of breathing 46. Where construction workers ply their trade
- 48. Arguments that justify a
- religious doctrine
- 52. Thick cloud of tiny water droplets
- 53. Widens
- 54. Detection
- 56. Period of inactivity
- 57. Tomato and vodka are two 58. Greek war god 59. Urinates

28. Computes

30. Pop singer

34. Having two poles

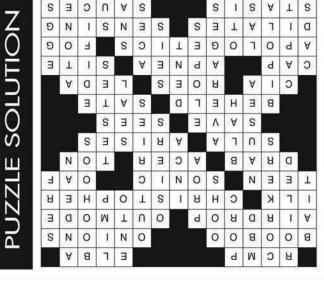
35. Yankee hero Bucky

- 3. Million barrels per day (abbr.) 32. Weds secretly
- 4. Meat from a pig (French)
- 6. Walk in a slow pace 37. Building

3 3

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- 38. Per \_\_, each
- 40. Six (Spanish)
- 42. Makes amends
- 43. Scoundrels
- 45. Baseball's best pitchers
- 47. Some are scrambled
- 49. Emit coherent radiation
- 50. Singer Redding
- 51. Break
- 55. Institute legal proceedings against
- 3 3 1 A S



Technology; Jared Loiselle, Construction Technology; Kaitlyn Osborne, Dental Assisting; and Carissa Penta, Business & Entrepreneurship.

Christina Aube, Drafting & Design Technology; Massimo Fontaine, Information Technology; Caroline Gallant, Engineering & Robotics; Kaylee Ide, Business & Entrepreneurship; Emily Losiewicz, Engineering & Robotics; and Gabrielle Muscatell, Health Services. Grafton

Katherine Joiner, Health Services; Daniel McDonald, Information Technology; and Cassidy Waldo, Engineering & Robotics.

Hopedale Chloe Pigeon, Dental Assisting.

Mendon

Sean Belland, Construction Technology; and Joseph Mendes, Health Services.

Milford

Olivia Cheschi, Painting & Design Technology; Brandon Kee, Engineering & Robotics; and Melissa Vieira, Health Services.

Millbury

Jacob Brodeur, Auto Technology; Olivia Corey, Culinary Arts; and Jennifer Dooley, Health Services.

Millville

Margaret Boone, Multimedia Communications.

Northbridge

Brianna Brothers, Business & Entrepreneurship; Isabel Carroll, Culinary Benjamin Hazerjian, HVAC/R; Christopher Hollenbeck, Information Technology; Megan Jacene, Engineering & Robotics; Ashley Minior, Health Services; Sean Naughton, Information Technology; and Sara Trenholm, HVAC/R.

Coby Asselin, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Adam Dickey, Engineering & Robotics; Hannah Giglio, Engineering & Robotics; Chloe Kessler, Engineering & Robotics; Jillian Napolitano, Health Services; and Mallory Rogers, Health Services.

Uxbridge

Kierra Kurtyka, Business & Entrepreneurship; and Keegan Tonry, Drafting & Design Technology.

JUNIORS (Class of 2021)

Bellingham

Gavin Bourre, Construction Technology; Nathan Dynko, Information Technology; Camryn Krusz, Health Services; and Jacob Krusz, Information Technology.

Blackstone

Jada-Jane Chapman, Auto Technology; Victoria Lemieux, Health Services; Cassandra Riordan, Dental Assisting; and Grant Van Dyke, Engineering & Robotics.

Douglas

Courtemanche, Lily Multimedia Communications; Giannah Dowen, Health Services; Ryleigh Flansburg, Dental Assisting; Daria Hamelin, Multimedia Communications; and Ryan Masoud, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication.

Emily Valoras, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication. Hopedale

Madison Deppe, Business &  $Entre preneurship; Tyler\, Doyle,$ Electronics & Engineering Technology; Rohit Kaushik, Technology; Information Madeleine Poitras, Multimedia Communications; and Vivian Staheli, HVAC/R.

Mendon

Abigail Murphy, Dental Assisting; Elizabeth Pontzer, Culinary Arts; Sadie Schmitt, Culinary Arts; and Lauren Testa, Health Services.

Milford

Bianca Sayuri de Oliveira Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication; Alaina Gobbi, Dental Assisting; Jacob Manor, Engineering & Robotics; Nickolas Montani, HVAC/R; Connor Murphy, Drafting & Design Technology; Ryan Shaw, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Maria Trettel, Culinary Arts; and Joseph Tutela, Culinary Arts.

Millbury

Evan Pariseau, Engineering & Robotics; and Nicole Rannikko, Health Services.

Millville

Nicholas Kirby, Engineering & Robotics; and Hayley Vecchione, Health Services.

Northbridge

Emery Amtmann, Health Services; Jacob Barber, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Grant Houatchanthara, Information Technology; Kaitlyn Manzi, Health Services; Matthew Trenholm, Engineering & Robotics; and Isabella Trombino, Dental Assisting.

Sutton Emily Devine, Painting & Design Technology; Erin Fitman, Dental Assisting; Jenna Jennison, Culinary Arts; Ava Larocque, Dental Assisting; and Johnathan Lukas, Construction

Upton John Lemieux, Electronics & Engineering Technology.

Uxbridge

Technology.

Gianna Bassignani, Manufacturing Advanced & Fabrication; Madeleine Bleyhl, Auto Collision & Repair Finishing; Nicholas Boisvert, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Thomas Breau, Information Technology; Madison Gannon, Engineering & Robotics; Casey Goyette, Engineering & Robotics; Khushi Patel, Health Services; and Matias Sanchez, Technology. Construction

SOPHOMORES (Class of 2022)

Bellingham

Sophia Aquilino, Health Services; and Lily Bartelloni, Dental Assisting.

Blackstone

Madison Abrants, Painting & Design Technology; Allana Atstupenas, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication; Kendra Atstupenas, Auto Collision & Repair Finishing; Jane Buteau, Health Services; Jon Cili, Information Technology; Leah Cook, Engineering & Robotics; Connor Matson, Plumbing; Kyle Penta, Business & Entrepreneurship; Katherine Rogers, Construction Technology; and Mandolin Simpson, Engineering & Robotics.

Douglas Alexis Levesque, Dental Assisting; James Perrotti, Electrical; and Bryan Wheeler, Engineering & Robotics.

Grafton Emma Conkey, HVAC/R; Baraka Consuegra, Engineering & Robotics; Andrew Corbett, Engineering & Robotics; Alexa Kallio, Business & Entrepreneurship; Harrison Linton, Drafting & Design Technology; Noelle McDonald , Construction Technology; Samaha Roban, Business & Entrepreneurship;

Allison Susi, Cosmetology; and Celine Vaz, Information

Hopedale

Technology.

Carter Beard, Culinary Arts; Anna Dykhoff, Drafting & Design Technology; Logan King, Painting & Design Technology; Carolyn Kivlehan, Drafting & Design Technology; and Kyla Nolling, Culinary

Mendon

Lillian Balocca, Health Services; Nicholas Ruggiero, Electrical; and Anastasia Siryk, Engineering & Robotics.

Milford

Morgan Allemao, Culinary Arts; Joel Awuku-Asante, HVAC/R; Sadie Desmond, Cosmetology; Connor Harrison, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication; Gianna Leet, Multimedia Communications; Megan Plante, Culinary Arts; Cameron Schermerhorn, Electronics & Engineering Technology; and Ines Taipina, Business & Entrepreneurship.

Millbury Julia Allain, Health Services; Emily Briddon, Electrical; Anthony Didonna, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Drapeau, Assisting; Madison Forget, Multimedia Communications; Jenna Kenary, Painting & Design Technology; Thomas Electronics O'Leary, Engineering Technology; and Isabelle Shum, Health

Millville

Services.

Myra Dehestani, Engineering & Robotics; Isabelle Hilditch, Painting & Design Technology; Logan Humphries, Plumbing; Camden Laforest, Information Technology.

Northbridge

Kai DePaula, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication; Kaia Dziekiewicz, Dental Assisting;

Fields, Dental Sabrina Assisting; Carmen Gray, Engineering & Robotics; Cullen Jacene, Engineering & Robotics; Olivia Lange, Dental Assisting; Mackenzie Malone, Health Services; and Lauren Rogozenski, Dental Assisting.

Sutton

Carley Capobianco, Multimedia Communications; Sarah Grant, Multimedia Communications; Camilla Moroney, Health Services; and Kaden Vincelette, Drafting & Design Technology.

Upton

Emma Ballard, Health Services; Rachel May, Engineering & Robotics; Amber Strapponi, Information Technology; and Emily Taylor, Cosmetology.

Uxbridge

Nolan Holt, Culinary Arts; Riley Holt, Engineering & Robotics; Makala McQueston, Culinary Arts; and Robert Mellen, Engineering Robotics.

FRESHMEN (Class of 2023)

Bellingham

Kaitlyn Mullen, Health Services; and Danica Rutkowski, Dental Assisting.

Blackstone

Mason Baldini, Engineering & Robotics; Evan Bouvier, Multimedia Communications; Daniel Cardone, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Nicholas Coppolino, Plumbing; Ella Leclaire, Construction Technology; and Sophia Mazzuchelli, Advanced Manufacturing & Fabrication.

Douglas Katelin Carlson, Health Services; Hunter Claflin, HVAC/R; Kyle Forget, Engineering&Robotics;Brooke Lukasevicz, Health Services; Brett Staples, Electronics & Engineering Technology; and Samantha Yanis, Painting & Design Technology.

Grafton Carroll, Health Jordvn Services; Juliana Errara, Health Services; Cameron

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### A STONEBRIDGE PRESS PUBLICATION TRIBUNE STAFF DIRECTORY

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

BUSINESS MANAGER

RYAN CORNEAU

(603) 677-9082

ryan@salmonpress.news OPERATIONS DIRECTOR JIM DINICOLA

(508) 764-4325

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PRODUCTION MANAGER JULIE CLARKE (508) 909-4105 production@stonebridgepress.news

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

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SPORTS EDITOR NICK ETHIER (508) 909-4133 nick@stonebridgepress.news

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# Second Chance founder publishes new book



Courtesy

Co-authors Sheryl Blancato and Joe Blancato,

EAST BROOKFIELD—Last Saturday should have been a night of support and

celebration for Second Chance. It was also to be the book launch of "Walking Off Leash" written by Sheryl Blancato and her husband, Joe Blancato, Sr. When the event was postponed in light of the current COVID-19 situation. the Blancatos decided to release the book online.

Joe Blancato began writing the book almost eight years ago to capture the stories that Sheryl told him throughout

"I don't think Sheryl ever fully understood the magnitude of all she has done," says Joe who notes that the Second Chance founder works round the clock in the name of animals and rarely has a moment to look back at her accomplishments.

Sheryl Blancato, a self-described "reluctant autobiographer" who is still surprised that anyone would want to read her story, only agreed to publish the book so she could donate 100 percent of the proceeds to Second Chance to help pets in need.

According to Sheryl, "Right now, the need is great. It's imperative that we keep our vet hospitals and our adoption center open for all the pets and pet owners who truly need help."

Sheryl hopes the book proceeds can help defray all the extra costs of keeping the doors open with mounting supply costs as a result of all the extra precautions put in place to safeguard the health of visitors and staff alike.

The book, subtitled "How Passion and Dedication Inspired an Animal Welfare Revolution" chronicles the nonprofit's evolution from a small, foster-based shelter to the animal welfare organization that serves as a role model across the country by focusing on the causes of animal homelessness instead of simply dealing with the aftermath. It begins

with the origins of Sheryl's love of animals in her early childhood and closes with a chapter entitled "The Journey Continues." In between, readers watch the small shelter grow and follow Sheryl on her heartbreaking rescue mission after Hurricane Katrina.

Second Chance board member Heather Gablaski helped pen the book's back cover to let readers know the book is about more than animal welfare. "It is the story of someone who didn't take 'no' for an answer and found she needed to travel 'unleashed' if she was going to accomplish her goal."

"Walking Off Leash" is available in paperback and eBook on Amazon. Signed copies will be available at Second Chance locations when it's safe to permit visitors back into buildings without restrictions.

# Local Assumption students spend Spring Break serving communities in need

WORCESTER — More than 40 Assumption students participated in a weeklong service immersion trip through the College's SEND program during spring break, which took place the week of March 9. Local students included:

Riley Bartolini of Northbridge, Class of 2022. Bartolini was a member of the group that traveled to Georgetown, Del., where students spent the week building homes for Habitat for Humanity of Sussex County, a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating homelessness by building adequate, affordable homes.

Stella Noecker of Douglas, Class of 2022. Noecker was a member of the group that traveled to Immokalee, FL, where students rehabilitated houses with Habitat for Humanity of Collier County and engaged with children at the Guadalupe Center and a Boys and Girls Club, an organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and improving life for families in the community. Throughout the service week, students learned about the various social justice issues involved with migrant farm working through action with the Student Farmworker Alliance and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers who work to raise awareness of worker rights and to build a vibrant

Fair Food community across the nation. They also learned about the long-term impacts of chronic stress on child physical and mental health when they met with the leading research psychologist during a visit to Florida State University's Immokalee campus.

The College's SEND Service Immersion Program, sponsored by the Office of Campus Ministry, offers nearly a dozen serving-learning trips throughout the year-during winter, spring, and summer breakin which students make a meaningful difference in the communities in which they serve. Reflecting the College's mission, the SEND Program provides students the opportunity to learn and grow in their faith while helping those in need.

During this alternative spring break, five groups of students volunteered in communities along the East Coast, working with local Habitat for Humanity chapters in Baltimore, Md.; Georgetown, Del.; Norristown, Pa.; and Immokalee, Fla., as well as Catholic Charities, Boys and Girls Club, and the Student Farmworker Alliance. Those students who ventured to Washington, D.C., worked with the City Service Mission organization.

Learn more about the SEND Service Immersion Program and Assumption's Campus Ministry program by visiting www.assumption.edu/campus-life/

campus-ministry.

Founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption in Worcester, Assumption College is a Catholic liberal arts institution that offers undergraduate students 33 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs-each through an educational experience that is grounded in the rich Catholic intellectual tradition. The curriculum enables students to gain a depth and breadth of knowledge that leads to professional success and personal fulfillment. Students-whether on the Worcester campus or at the College's Rome, Italy, campus-become engaged participants in Assumption's classic liberal arts education, exploring new ideas and making connections across disciplines. To prepare for the workforce, students learn cutting-edge theory and best practices, conduct innovative research, and develop excellent communication and critical-analysis skills. Assumption graduates are also known for their thoughtful citizenship and compassionate service to their community. For more information about Assumption College, please visit www.assumption.

### COMMENDATION continued from page A1

Electrical; Ladd, Lutjelusche, Hailey Engineering & Robotics; Mathieu, Owen HVAC/R; and Henry Warfield, Electronics &

Engineering Technology.

Hopedale

Jay Patel, Painting Design Technology; Camila Ramirez, HVAC/R; and Jackson Staheli, Electronics & Engineering Technology.

Mendon

Katelyn Cote, Health Services; Sadie Moore, Assisting; Dental Caitlin Sullivan, Dental Assisting; and Naomi Tsuda, Culinary Arts.

Milford Jack Abbiuso, Information Technology; Jaclyn Engineering Bader, & Robotics; Zachary Information Barnes, Technology; Jason Cardente, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Colin Chambless, Engineering & Robotics; Thays De Assis, Drafting & Design Technology;

Mayra Desousa, Health Services; Guaman, Ana Construction Technology; Maximilian Multimedia Hunter, Communications; Matthew Hynes, AdvancedManufacturing & Fabrication; Allison Kee, Health Services; Rillary Madruga Ferreira, Engineering Robotics; Lyanna Pimentei, Multimedia Communications; Kioni Sankofa, Painting & Design Technology; and Joshua Schorn, Culinary

Millbury Bazydlo, Samuel **Advanced Manufacturing** &Fabrication; Troy Cami, Health Services; Lily Kimball, Cosmetology; Natalie Rutkiewicz. Cosmetology; and Gianna Solomon, Culinary Arts.

Millville

Matthew Alves, Engineering & Robotics; Joshua Platt, Information Technology.

Northbridge Vanessa Calles, Drafting & Design Technology; Paige Chausse, Dental Assisting; Jenna Multimedia Dolber, Communications; Riley Electrical; Driver. Sam Grilli, Business & Entrepreneurship; Maya Laydon, Construction Technology; Noah Malkasian, Electronics Engineering Technology; Nicholas Vaughan, Electronics & Engineering Technology; and Emily Wildfeuer, Draiting Technology.

Sutton Cyronak, Ryan & Drafting Design Technology; Katelyn Devine, Construction Technology;

Judson, Samuel Drafting Design Technology; Haley Kirouac, Engineering Robotics; Ryann Lombardi, Health Shannon Services; Dental Mahoney, Assisting; Aidan Mcgrail, Electronics & Engineering Technology; PaigeMcmullan, Painting & Design Technology; Gabriella Pawlak, Culinary Arts; Paige Rainville, Advanced Manufacturing Fabrication; and Taylor Stacy, Health Services.

Upton Julia

Bern, Construction Technology; Nicholas Cummings, Advanced Manufacturing Anna Fabrication; Giracca, Painting & Design Technology; Bradley Lyon, Drafting Design Technology; Artem Plotkin, Electronics & Engineering Technology; Kathleen Russo, Culinary Arts; Katelyn Steele, Engineering & Robotics; and Caitlin Walsh, HVAC/R.

Uxbridge Mackenzie Barnicle,

Culinary Arts; Isabella Gannon, Advanced Manufacturing Fabrication; and Maxwell Guyton, Engineering &

Blackstone About Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley legional Vocational Regional Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone,

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



# We're All In This Together.

# As a retailer selling essential goods, Ocean State Job Lot stores are open.

As a company, we always look for ways to turn challenges into opportunities. During this time of crisis, we are using our global supply chain to source critical supplies, like masks, gloves, sanitizers and more. These supplies are immediately donated to hospitals and other medical facilities.

We have contributed \$250,000 toward acquiring these vital items, and we are asking for your help by donating at the register. We will use 100% of your donation to purchase supplies, and we'll use our buying power to get the most for your money.

During these difficult times, we are also ramping up our food donation efforts. We could not do this without the incredible support of our customers all throughout the year. We are grateful, now more than ever, for your continued partnership with us.

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# Evangelidis opposes mass release of inmates

of Worcester County, and in unanimous agreement with my fellow sheriffs, I strongly oppose the Emergency Petition calling for the mass release of incarcerated persons Massachusetts prisons that is currently pending before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court," said Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis last

"Filed by the Committee for Public Counsel Services and Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, this petition calls for the immediate mass release of Massachusetts prisoners relative to the COVID-19 pandemic. If approved, this would lead to a mass release of many dangerous criminals, posing an enormous threat to the public health and safety of our community-at-large. In addition, many will be returning to unstable environments. Sheriffs always prepare our inmate populations for successful release by focusing on housing, medical and programdown reentry process, as opposed to mass-release, that protects the public, victims of crimes and the inmates themselves,' Evangelidis continued.

"The Sheriffs, along with our District Attorneys, local judicial authorities, the department of probation and defense attorneys are currently reviewing our inmate populations to determine if any individuals are appropriate for early release. Our local authorities are best positioned to determine what is in the best interest of the public health and safety of our community and the inmate. These decisions are based on the charges, criminal history, age and health of the inmate, as well as re-entry support networks available. "Any decision by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, which would order the mass release of inmates as opposed to a case by case review, would not only jeopardize the public-at-large but in some cases. inmates themselves," said Evangelidis.

Sheriffs are committed to serving the communities they are sworn to protect. This responsibility includes the health and well-being of their justice-involved populations and the dedicated men and women on their teams of corrections professionals. Every sheriff sees it as their duty to ensure that the public safety and public health needs of all who live and work within their facilities are fully met. That responsibility only grows during global emergencies, and the sheriffs are meeting the COVID-19 pandemic head-on. The Massachusetts Sheriffs and their staff are working tirelessly to safely manage their staff and inmate populations and to curb the spread of COVID-19 to their county jails and houses of correction. They provide an exceptional level of care in their facilities, and are prepared for public health scenarios such as this. The sheriffs have implemented proactive and strategic steps to limit the transmission of COVID-19 including:

Providing in-service training on infectious diseases and emergency preparedness for staff before, during and after this crisis.

 Deploying enhanced intake screening protocols to evaluate new arrivals for symptoms of COVID-19 and limit potential transmission.

Providing a high level of medical care for all individuals while employing specific protocols when potential or confirmed cases of COVID-19 arise.

Engagement with medical experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) to ensure that their medical practices are maximally effective and responsive to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Encouraging staff and their justice-involved populations to follow the CDC-recommended practices regarding handwashing, social distancing, continuous sanitizing of facilities and general transmission prevention. Signage has increased throughout the facilities to serve as a reminder of these prac-

Enhancing screening of staff entering the facility.

Temporarily suspending in-person visits for families and friends while enhancing alternative means of communication. This includes a range of options such as additional phone calls, mail services or, where available, increased access to text messaging and video conferencing.

Working with the courts, enhancing videoconferencing and teleconferencing technology to ensure that an inmate's access to the court is continued.

"At the Worcester County Jail & House of Correction, we have one

119 bed housing unit set aside in response to the COVID-19 crisis. All new non-symptomatic admissions to the Worcester County Correctional Facility are housed in the unit on an Observation Medical Watch, and monitored by medical for symptoms of COVID-19 for a period of fourteen (14) days. As a precaution, during the fourteen (14) day quarantine, new inmate movement is limited. These inmates are permitted out of the cell for a shower and phone use only. In addition, a separate housing unit has been designated for any inmate exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID 19. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been placed into POD-D for officer safety. To allow all inmates to communicate with their family members, free phone calls are available. As of today, there are no confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 among the inmates at the Worcester County Jail & House of Correction," said Sheriff

# Jakob Pohlman of Whitinsville inducted into Phi Sigma Tau Honor Society

WORCESTER — The Assumption College Department of Philosophy has announced that Jakob Pohlman, of Whitinsville, has been named to the Philosophy International Honor Society, Phi Sigma Tau.

'Students majoring in philosophy at Assumption ask the fundamental human questions by engaging with some of the greatest thinkers in history," said Veronica Roberts Ogle, Ph.D., assistant professor of philosophy and the faculty advisor for Phi Sigma Tau. "Jakob is among a select group of exemplary philosophy students who have not only taken this quest for truth seriously, but have done so with humility, excellence, and honesty."

Phi Sigma Tau was founded to promote ties among philosophy departments in accredited institutions and students in philosophy. Both on the local and national levels, Phi Sigma Tau considers its organization a means for developing and honoring academic excellence as well as philosophical interest. In addition to providing a means of awarding distinction to students having high scholarship and interest in philosophy, the Society also promotes interest in philosophy among the general collegiate public.

To be inducted into Phi Sigma Tau, students at Assumption need to excel in four, or in rare cases, three courses in philosophy, and demonstrate interest

in philosophy beyond the classroom. For more information on Assumption, visit www.assumption.edu.

Founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption in Worcester, Assumption College is a Catholic liberal arts institution that offers undergraduate students 33 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs-each through an educational experience that is grounded in the rich Catholic intellectual tradition. The curriculum enables students to gain a depth and breadth of knowledge that leads to professional success and personal fulfillment. Students-whether on the Worcester campus or at the College's Rome, Italy, campus-become engaged participants in Assumption's classic liberal arts education, exploring new ideas and making connections across disciplines. To prepare for the workforce, students learn cutting-edge theory and best practices, conduct innovative research, and develop excellent communication and critical-analysis skills. Assumption graduates are also known for their thoughtful citizenship and compassionate service to their community. For more information about Assumption College, please visit www. assumption.edu.

# Katherine Salzberg of Uxbridge named to Emerson College Dean's List

BOSTON — Katherine Salzberg of Uxbridge, Massachusetts has been named to the Emerson College Dean's List for the Fall 2019 semester.

Salzberg is majoring in Journalism and is a member of the class of 2019. The requirement to make Emerson's Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals, with the first program launching this fall in Paris. The College has an active network of 39,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson, edu.









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### **BVT**

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in March, the District continues to respond to the shortage actively.

BVT staff members are hard at work, but not in the way that you might expect.

"With a long-standing reputation for completing cost-effective trade learning linked community service projects within its thirteen municipalities, BVT is eager to help and respond," said Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. "This time, it is with our grant acquired 3D printers."

After the District received requests to manufacture face shields, administra-

tion and staff planned and coordinated how to utilize their sophisticated inventory of 3D printers. A total of twelve printers were safely collected and relocated by staff members who practiced required social distancing through a spaced process, entered the school at their scheduled time slot, to avoid interaction with each other. They accessed their shop laboratories and transitioned the equipment to their home-based workspace. This synchronized arrangement enabled personnel to honor the preferred working conditions advised during the coronavirus pandemic and put the very skills that they teach their students, to work for the community hospitals.

Volunteering to run the

sophisticated 3D printers is Drafting & Design Technology Instructors, James Aukstikalnis, and Timothy Oliveira with Engineering & Robotics Instructor, Brian Rhodes, and Dr. Matthew Connors, Vocational Director. They've been running them from their homes, around the clock to produce face shields and other PPE components for a donation.

"Our machines are printing headpieces, which will accept clear plastic shields," explained Dr. Matthew Connors. "We are part of a coordinated effort not only among our staff but throughout the 3D printing community. In partnership with Mark Lyons, Senior Education Strategist at AET Labs, who reached out to the schools he has worked

with to see if there was interest in creating the shields. We are producing the parts then coordinating a pick-up time with Lyons, who then coordinates the donation to the various hospitals."

"We are not the only school that jumped at the opportunity to help," said James Aukstikalnis. "But we are proud to do our part, helping when we can, and joining others across the commonwealth who have stepped up to the plate, offering donations of medical supplies and 3D printing essential parts."

"Being able to actively and creatively respond to the shortage of supplies with 3D printing speaks to our mission," said Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. "We are proud of the endeavor that is underway in concert with our staff and Senators Moore and Fattman. Ironically, the District originally acquired major equipment upgrades with the help of our Senators and State Representatives Murray, Soter, Muradian, Frost, and McKenna, now finds itself perfectly utilizing those resources beyond the classroom."

"We will continue our 3D printing efforts as long as resources allow us to help address the shortage of supplies for medical staff and healthcare providers on the front lines," said Dr. Matthew Connors. "I am happy to report that over the last few days, we were able to print 100 face shields to be sent to hospitals and medical facilities across the Commonwealth."

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Upton, Sutton, Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, Blackstone Valley Tech creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills. The school's Web site is www. valleytech.k12.ma.us.

# QCC community donates supplies to area healthcare facilities

WORCESTER — As the Coronavirus/COVID-19 crisis deepens, Quinsigamond Community College faculty, staff, students and alumni have come together to assist area hospitals and healthcare facilities. The College's science department recently donated 45 cases of nitrile gloves to Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

"This totals 45,000 gloves, which will go to hospitals and healthcare facilities in the most need," said QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja.

Other initiatives by the QCC community include a project spearheaded by Lee Duerden, associate professor of Manufacturing Technology. Mr. Duerden is utilizing QCC's Fab Lab and its form lab resin printers to make respirator masks that have removable HEPA filters, capable of filtration rates to 0.01 microns. In comparison, according to the Centers for Disease Controls, N95 filtering face piecerespirators filter out at least 95% of very small (0.3 micron) particles. N95 FFRs are capable of filtering out all types of particles, including bacteria and viruses. Mr. Duerden has currently printed prototypes that are being tested and utilized by 10 area nurses.

QCC students are also taking part in the crusade to help out. QCC student Ilina Ivanova is a Liberal Arts Biology major, due to graduate this May. Ms. Ivanova has begun sewing masks after finding a Facebook group, "Worcester Stitchers for Health," where people share patterns online. These masks also enable a filter to be inserted.

"I have made about 25 masks so far and I plan on making as many as I can. They take about 20-25 minutes to sew each, depending on the template," she said, adding that the masks can either be dropped off at a drop box at the home of the coordinator of Worcester Stitchers for Health, or the coordinator will make arrangements to safely pick

them up

They are taken to Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) where they are either autoclaved or UV irradiated, depending on the mask material (anything that contains plastic will melt in an autoclave), packaged in sterile pouches and distributed by MEMA.

"However, many people know people personally who are working in high risk healthcare settings that are asking for these masks. For example, I know that a client at an ER veterinary hospital just made masks for the entire staff to alleviate pressure on their dwindling surgical mask supply. I made masks for my brother, Boris Yanachkov (he is also a QCC student) who is currently working at IPG Photonics as an essential employee. Not to mention all of the grocery store workers, delivery drivers, and other essential workers who may not have access to a mask," she said.

Classes and labs at QCC's Center for Healthcare and Workforce Development, located at 25 Federal Street, Worcester have also made donations to:

UMASS Medical School - N95 masks, gloves, gowns, surgical masks
 Harrington Hospital – Gowns,

and surgical masksSalmon Healthcare – Gowns,gloves and surgical masks

Knollwood Nursing Home –
Gowns, gloves and surgical masks

"In these unprecedented times, we must all do our part and try and help mitigate the medical supply demand our hospitals and healthcare facilities are facing," said QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja. "We will continue to do everything we can to assist our healthcare workers who work tirelessly on the front lines."

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

# Registry of Motor Vehicles extends renewal deadlines

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is continuing to take several important steps following Governor Charlie Baker's declaration of a State of Emergency the week of March 9 and to complement the work that has been underway for weeks across state government to keep residents safe and healthy.

Effective today, April 1, all of the passenger plate registrations that have expired in March or will be expiring in April have been extended for 60 days. Registrations that expired in March have been extended until May 31 and registrations that expire in April have been extended until June 30th. Registration renewals can continue to be performed online at Mass. Gov/RMV during this time. Customers seeking to do so in-person will not be able to make an appointment and should delay their visit to a Service Center at this time.

In addition, the RMV recently has implemented key changes to service delivery and organizational protocols as follows:

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the RMV has implemented a strict no walk-in policy at a limited number of Service Centers that remain open to the general public. Service for necessary in-person transactions is available by appointment only. Customers should visit Mass.Gov/RMV to make a reservation at an open Service Center or find information on over 40 transactions that can be conducted online, by phone, or by mail.

All Driver's Licenses, ID cards, and Learner's Permits, including Commercial Licenses & Permits, that have expired or are expiring between March 1 and April 30 have had 60-day extension applied to the current expiration date and do not need to be renewed at this time. This does not apply to customers whose end of stay in the United States is the same as the expiration date on their Driver's License, ID card, or Learner's Permit. CDL Medical Certificates that expire on or after March 1 until April 30 will be extended until June 30th to prevent license downgrades and elective medical visits, as well as alleviate demand on medical providers.

The annual motor vehicle safety and emissions inspection stickers that expire on March 31 and April 30 have been extended 60 days and all motorcycle inspection stickers originally set to expire on May 31 must be inspected by June 30. The RMV is also extending the time during which newly registered vehicles must be inspected based on the purchase date.

In addition, the RMV has suspended all road tests through April 12. Class D and M Learner's Permits knowledge exams have been suspended indefinitely. Commercial Learner's Permit tests are available to be taken at the Milford and Wilmington RMV Service Centers during normal business hours and commercial road tests continue to occur.

tests continue to occur.

For details on all of these extensions and additional information on RMV services and the RMV's response to COVID-19, visithttps://www.mass.gov/info-details/rmv-covid-19-information

# QCC awarded National Science Foundation grant

WORCESTER Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) was recently ed a \$298.108 National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant for a new Robotics Technician Certificate program. The program will be designed to offer a curriculum that supports technical communication, teaches problem-solving skills and offers a strong integration of industry-recognized certifications. Underrepresented QCC student populations that participate in QCC's existing robotics community outreach programs will directly benefit from the program. Additionally, other beneficiaries targeted include 400 pre-college and undergraduate students, who have demonstrated interest in robotics technology

Robotics education is not a new concept at QCC. It is already a part of the College's manufacturing and mechatronics programs. According to Jacob Longacre, associate professor of Electronics Engineering Technology at QCC, the new Robotics Technician Certificate will be based on input

from industries within the region, as well as local high schools and four-year institution educators. The hope is for the new certificate program to act as a conduit between K-12 robotics outreach programs.

"We want to be sensitive to industries' needs, how things are changing, and bring more of that interest and need to the program," "Mr. Longacre said.

While QCC faculty and staff have already begun reaching out to industry leaders, the grant funding will now enable QCC to formally begin a comprehensive fact-finding process. This summer, QCC will establish a local business and industry leadership team for robotics, to identify and prioritize the skills desired by local employers. The goal is to have the pilot program tested and in place within

three years.

One key component to the program is finding ways in which to engage and inspire students in the world of STEM, particularly those students in middle and high school. For many years QCC has

been involved with the VEX Robotics programs. These programs and competitions target high school and middle school students, in an effort to increase interest in STEM from an early age.

"These programs expand students' interest in STEM and connects those students who may not have these types of technology opportunities," Mr. Longacre said. "We want our certificate program to get these students excited and interested in robotics."

"The awarding of this NSF Grant enables us to develop new career pathways for students," said QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja. "We must teach not only for today's industry needs, but also teach to the needs of the future. I believe this program will be a gateway to self-sufficiency for many students."

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



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**B**RENDAN **BERUBE** EDITOR

# EDITORIAL

# Finding a silver lining

This editorial is being written immediately after our Editor returned from a walk around town. While we are all undergoing a complete change in the way we live our lives, and the reason is scary and horrifying, there is a silver lining. This coronavirus has caused a camaraderie among people that seems to break through barriers of religion, race, political beliefs, socioeconomic status or where we live in the world. We

truly are all in this together. During our walk, we saw entire families slowly strolling up and down side streets, with no real destination, simply enjoying the sun and warmer weather. It was nice to slow down enough to notice the cracks in the sidewalks, or notice the intricate woodwork on the old houses we passed. Seeing the community through a new, calmer, less stressed pair of eyes was interesting. While a cloud of uncertainty hangs above all of us, it's clear that despite the unknown, shoulders have dropped a bit, and we have been forced to slow down and just be present. These are stressful times, no doubt, but it hasn't gone unnoticed that the majority of people seem to appear more relaxed. [This, of course, does not include those on the front lines fighting this virus, to whom we say a heartfelt thank you.]

There are so many unknowns when it comes to this situation. We don't know when it will end, we don't know whether the virus will mutate when the warmer weather we've all be waiting for finally arrives, and we don't know how it will affect our economy or our livelihoods in the long run. What we do know is that, again, we are all in this together.

Strangers are stopping strangers (at a safe distance, of course) and having conversations that go beyond the weather. This outbreak has created a need for us to talk and to relate to each other for connort, and to simply process what is happening.

While passing by a gentleman getting ready to grill his dinner on the back porch, we struck up a conversation about going stir crazy, sharing a few laughs and well wishes, and then we were on our way. People have slowed down enough to lift their heads from their phones, laptops, steering wheels and television sets to open their eves fully to the world around them. There are more smiles and head nods exchanged. People are making more eve contact with one another, almost to say yes, I'm uncertain too, but we will be all right.

With nowhere to go aside from home and work (for some of us who also deserve thanks for continuing to put their health at risk so we have groceries and supplies to live on), priorities have shifted. People have used this time to really think about what matters in their lives. They have caught up on their reading, or re-visited old hobbies and house projects that have sat dormant for years.

Finally, this situation gives us all an excuse an excuse to just 'be.' Could it be that people can really benefit from simplifying their lives? How will things look when the world re-opens? We have a feeling that people will be friendlier and more appreciative of being able to clink beer mugs and raise a toast at their local watering holes. Perhaps people will find the value in slowing down.

We are living in a point in history that will live on in perpetuity. These few months will be read about and discussed for decades to come, long after we are gone, as we look back now and wonder about simple things like what it would have been like to live without electricity or a way to keep our food cold. We're not sure there has ever been a time when the entire society has shut down, when town squares look like ghost towns or something out of a movie set with no one in sight.

To those reporters and editors to come after us, we will tell you that these times are surreal. Despite not knowing what's going on and watching the news change every day, people are generally in good spirits and are finding ways to decrease stress and otherwise find some sort of joy.

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

# Finding joy in quarantine

I awoke at 5:30 a.m., started a fire in our darkened kitchen fireplace and am sitting in the quiet of the morning, counting my blessings.

My family is healthy and quarantined together. We are only missing my

oldest, who is sheltered in Los Angeles. My daughter, son-in-law and my two grandsons are sleeping soundly on the floor above me. My youngest son is sleeping in the basement with our grand dog Walter. Our dear friends and my daughter's in-laws, Stu and Lynn, are here and I'm going to make my grandmothers recipe for biscuits and gravy for breakfast. I cannot describe the joy am feeling at this moment.

I think people often interchange the words joy and happiness as though they are the same. They are not. Happiness is a feeling you get from outside events and/or circumstances, while joy radiates from within. Your happiness is dependent on things or other people while your joy is only dependent upon you. Want to be joyful? Easier said than done? Start by counting your blessings.

Joy is from the heart. I find my joy in my love of family and friends. I am joyful in making breakfast for my family. I get happiness from seeing them feel enjoyment from my efforts. I feel joy in writing. I'd do it even if no one ever read it. I get happiness knowing people do.

So, what is my goal in quarantine? Love my family. Reach out to friends. Write to positively influence others. Finish my book, "Carbon Hill." Spend more time in prayer and contemplation. My plate is as full as my heart.

What about you?

How many times have you wanted to do something, but you complain you have no time? How often have you thought you'd just like to have a little time to yourself, or just a moment of peace and quiet? Sheltering in place can make those wishes come true.

You know me as a weekly columnist, but I'm also an author. In fact, I think of myself as an author that also writes a column, and not the other way around. I need to get busy and finish my fifth book.

I'm told that Shakespeare wrote King Lear while in quarantine for the plague. When I first heard that, I laughed and thought, as an author, hearing that is a lot of pressure. But then again, No pressure. I'm just a storyteller. I need to dig in and finishing telling the story of the Tallman brothers and "Carbon Hill."

Make positive decisions during quar-

Positively SPEAKING GARY W. MOORE

antine and put them into action! Why waste time? What is

that project you've always wanted to complete? Get moving! Write a book, build the model, complete the puzzle, write some letters, renew contact with those you've lost contact with. Explore the

possibilities, then act! And I do understand that some of you are afraid. I think we all harbor some level of fear and that's normal. Work to turn your fear into healthy caution and

follow all the guideline for remaining

And for some of you who have a loved one who is sick, or you are not well, I'm praying for you now and I encourage others to do the same. Want me to pray for you or a friend or loved one by name? Send me an email or snail mail and I will do so. I won't post it here, but my phone number is on my Web page. It's easy to find. If you want me to pray with you, give me a call. And for those of you who don't believe in the power of prayer, please accept my positive

thoughts for you as I pray for you. To pray is a decision I make personally. You don't have to do the same. I had a young student who said, "I don't believe in God or prayer ... so will you pray for me?" I prayed for her until her crisis passed. (Let the contradiction of her question sink in ...)

This too shall pass.

I don't know what's in store for us over the next few weeks and months. I'm not a health care worker or government official. All I'm certain of is that this isn't the end of the world. This too, shall pass. The world will survive. I also understand that the death toll is high and growing. Just remember, if you shelter in place, the odds of you getting sick are minuscule. And if you are sick and remain in place, you won't pass it to others. I think this will fit into the category of "Do good. Be good."

Turn your fear and boredom into positive productivity during quarantine. Decide to make the most of this time and find both happiness and joy in doing something you have always wanted to do.

Stay healthy. Don't be afraid. I'm praying for you.

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

# It's not easy, but look past the market selloff



FINANCIAL Focus

**DENNIS** ANTONOPOULOS

These are challenging times. Like everyone, you are concerned about keeping your family safe and healthy, and you're doing your part to help protect your community from the effects of the coronavirus. And if you're an investor, you must also address your financial situation. How should you respond to the current market volatility and recent declines in investment prices?

For one thing, try to avoid what many others seem to be doing: panicking. The market selloff may feel unsettling, but it appears to be driven as much, or more, by fear and panic than by economic or financial reality.

Uncertainty is high, but there are reasons – solid, objective reasons – that provide more confidence in the longer-term outlook, suggesting that conditions still warrant an eventual rebound. U.S. unemployment entered this situation near a 50-year low, with solid wage growth. We will see a temporary disruption to the labor market, of course, along with a decline in economic activity, but households entered this period in generally good shape.

Furthermore, housing market indicators were moving upward and the decline in mortgage rates could add more strength. Also, the Federal Reserve's recent interest rate cuts, taking short-term rates back near zero percent, will support the economic rebound as the impact of the virus containment efforts eventually fade.

In addition, while further volatility and the potential for further weakness will likely continue, the steep drops we've already seen indicate that the financial markets have "priced in" the likelihood of a short-term recession, which may mean that the worst of the stock market pain has already been endured, though, of course, there are no guarantees.

First, though, it seems likely that the investment world will finally calm down only when the health situation shows signs of containment – and this will inevitably happen, despite the grim reports we are seeing these days. As a country, we have the motivation, the will, the solidarity and the resources to defeat the coronavirus and its effects, despite the pain and trauma it is now undoubtedly causing.

So, back to our original question: What should you do? Here are a few suggestions:

Remember why you're investing. Given the market decline, you may be tempted to change your investment strategy. But keep in mind that your financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement, are longer-term than the shelf life of the coronavirus. These goals, not today's headlines, should guide your decisions.

Re-evaluate your risk tolerance. The recent volatility provides a good test of your ability to weather short-term swings in your portfolio. If you're having a hard time coping with these losses, your portfolio may be positioned too aggressively for your risk tolerance. If so, you might want to adjust your portfolio mix to include more fixed-income securities, which can help provide more "downside" protection. However, this would also affect your long-term growth potential.

Look for buying opportunities. Stocks are now at their most compelling values in more than a decade – in other words, there are plenty of compelling investments out there. You can find many high-quality investments at very good prices, so you may want to consider taking advantage of the opportunity.

These are trying times for all of us. But as an investor, you'll help yourself greatly if you keep the situation in perspective, take a long-term view, evaluate your own risk tolerance and be receptive to new possibilities.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.

# Time to Plan the Garden!

Visions of a lush backyard garden can brighten these dark days, so why not use this time at home to plan a spectacular summer garden?

As all home growers know, it takes careful planning and many hours of labor to produce a bountiful garden. While nearly every successful gardener has their own special tricks to ensure a productive crop, the novice planter may need a helping hand to nudge green sprouts from uncooperative soil. If that's the case, the following tips culled from various "green thumbed" sources may just be all you need to make this upcoming season the most successful gardening year yet.

Starting Seedlings

You don't have to pay big bucks for packaged sterilized potting mix, as you can sterilize your backyard soil at home! (For best results the soil should be moist and crumbly, neither soggy nor too dry.) To do: Put two pounds of soil in a plastic turkey roasting bag. Do not seal the bag shut, as it could Place the burst open. bag in the microwave on high for two to three minutes. Allow the soil to cool to room temperature before using it.

Or, sterilize soil in the



TAKE THE HINT **KAREN** 

TRAINOR oven by filling metal pans, clay pots or other oven safe vessels with no more than four inches of soil. Cover with aluminum foil and bake at 180 to 200 degrees for a half hour. Use a meat thermometer to test temperature. Soil should reach 180 degrees, but don't allow temperature to go above 200 degrees because high temperatures could produce plant toxins. After heating, allow soil to cool before using. Note: heated soil may give off an odor.

Never buy peat pots again! Instead recycle those cardboard paper towel and toilet paper rolls, Here's how: Cut them into pieces with scissors (a toilet paper roll should yield two; paper towel rolls, four). Line them up in a tray, touching each other to ensure that they remain upright and to slow the evaporation of moisture. Fill with potting soil and plant as usual. And when the time comes to replant the seedlings, plant the whole pot, as the cardboard will disintegrate!

moss is necessary to keep window boxes and other container gardens properly watered. But, if you are not wetting down the peat moss before adding it to the soil, you may be doing your garden more harm than good. Peat moss must be moistened before it is used in potting mixes. When dry, the substance actually repels water! Here's how to pretreat it: If you want to wet a full bag of peat moss, poke several holes in the bottom of the bag and open the top. Then pour water slowly into the top of the bag until it seeps out of the bottom holes. Push on the bag and knead it to ensure the peat is getting saturated. To test, scoop out a handful of peat moss and squeeze it. If you can squeeze water out, it is

The addition of peat

Test Number 2: Here's an easy test to gauge if your garden soil is ready to plant. Simply scoop up a handful of dirt and squeeze it into a ball. If the ball crumbles when you release your fingers, the soil is all set for digging. If the ball sticks together, the soil is still to wet to work.

ready to use. If not, keep

wetting until you can.

Turn To HINT page A13



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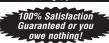
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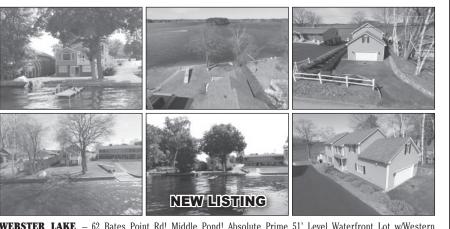


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Specializing in Polish Foods being Sold with Building! Turn Key Business! Equipment to be Included with Sale! High Traffic Count! Ample Parking! Easy Access to Rear for Deliveries! Building also consists of a One and Two Bedroom Apartment! The Owner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



WEBSTER - 14 Summit Street! Conveniently Located 8 Room, 4 Bedroom Cape Featuring Newly Remodeled Stainless Steel Applianced Granite Eat-in Kitchen w Custom Cabinetry & Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring! Formal Dining w/Hardwoods Spacious Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 2 1st Floor Bedrooms w/Hardwoods Newly Remodeled Full Tile Bath! 2nd Floor w/2 Bedrooms w/Hardwoods Plenty of Closet & Storage Space! Updated Second Full Bath! Recently Oil Heat, Cast Iron Baseboard! Detached Garage! Corner Lot! \$279,900.00



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# **DUDLEY - 25 MARSHALL TER.**

Custom Hip Roof Ranch! 1,480+- Sqft . One Level Living! Spacious Open Floor Plan, Combination Kitchen/Dining w/Breakfast Bar, Cooktop Range & Built -in Oven, 3 Large Bedrooms w/Large Double Door BR Closets, Walk-in Linen Closet, 1st Floor Laundry Room, Hardwood Floors, Ceramic Tile Bath w/Separate Bath Tub & Shower. Forced Hot Water Heat by Oil w/High End Cast Iron Baseboard! Recently Shingled Roof, 8' X 10' Screened Porch ~ Overlooks Attractive, Level Landscaping ~ Provides an Abun-

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2 Family - **1st Floor** 6 Rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 Full Bath, open Kitchen, Fully Applianced. New Carpeting, Hardwood Floors. **2nd Floor** - Open Kitchen with Gorgeous Kitchen Cabinets - 6 Rooms, 3 Bed, 1 Full Bath Hardwood Floors, New carpeting. Each Apartment has 1,200+ sq ft plus. Oil Heat. Off street parkii Town Water & Sewer, 3rd Story Unfinished. \$237,50

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! Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest \$132,900

\$129,400. Webster - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake. 1+ acre, artesian well, Septic Design, Etc. \$130,000 Oxford - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Highly possible to be subdivided.

WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD

SOLD!



Estate like long paved driveway/3158 Sq Ft Colonialt Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout! Granite and s/s applianced kitchen! Large master bedroom, coffered ceiling, master bath, Wyletted tub! Walk in closets. Two car garage. Radiused calvalk on upper level! A walk up affic. Walk out lower level! The thirt garage is accessed from the lower level. Generator hookup. One beautiful proposition

**WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD** 



Potential from 10,000+ sq. ft. Lot. Need to be divided. Town Water/Sewer. Zoned Lake Re Total \$49,000

New Price \$375,000

# On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



**WEBSTER - 28 BLACK POINT RD** 2019 CUSTOM BUILT WEBSTER LAKE (WATERFRONT ACCESSIBLE) CONTEM-PORARY CAPE! Sunrise (E) & Sunset (W) Exposure! 2,600+- SF, 11 Rms, 3 BRS Loft, & 2 Full Baths. Open FIr Plan, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone-faced Fireplace, Upscale Gourmet Kitchen w/Huge Island, Sunny Breakfast Nook w/Built Ins, Formal Dining, Office, Laundry Rm, Mudroom & Coat Closet, 2 Main Level BRs & Full Bath. 2nd FIr Private Master BR Suite w/Private Bath & Walk-in Closet! Central Air! Cavernous 1,500 SF+ Unfinished LL plumbed for a Bath, Oversized 2-3 Car Att'd Garage! Corner Lot, 12,599 SF (.29 Acre), of Land plus BOAT DOCK. \$699,900



WEBSTER LAKE – 32 JACKSON RD DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL! 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 screenedin 18x20 patio,18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like



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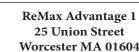
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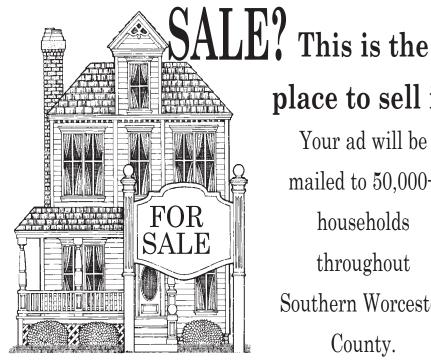


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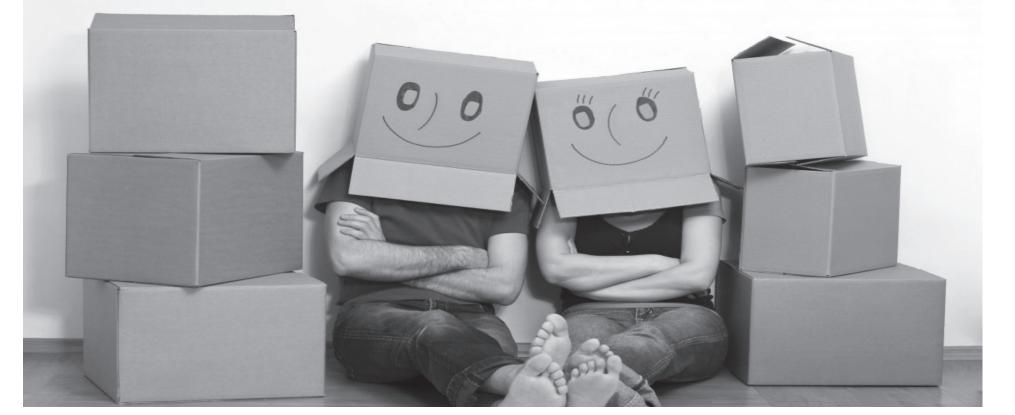
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# **OBITUARIES**

# Allan J. Bloniasz, 79



DOUGALS- Allan J. Bloniasz, 79, died Wed. April 1, 2020 at home after a period of declining health.

He is survived by his 4 children, Jeffery A. Bloniasz of Webster, Lisa A. Faust

and her husband, Andrew, of Oxford, Wendy M. Bloniasz of Uxbridge, and Todd B. Bloniasz of Woonsocket, RI. He is also survived by a grandson, Michael Faust along with several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by 3 siblings, Judith Brule, Janice Morin, and Robert Bloniasz.

Born on March 16, 1941, he was the son of Louis and Mary (Baca) Bloniasz. He was a lifelong resident of Douglas. He was employed for many years with Sears, and Roebuck and Co. as an appliance repair technician working out of the former Westboro

facility. Allan was a proud member of the Douglas Beagle Club. A very social man, he enjoyed many years spending time with friends ice fishing at Bad Luck Pond or Whitin's Reservoir as a winter hobby. He took up snowmobiling as another means to enjoy winter with his friends outside. Boating became a hobby as well on the lake for him. Many summer nights Allan could be found fishing with his friends from Chappy's shoreline or Judd's canoe. He enjoyed shooting, making small repairs at home, and tinkering with appliances deep into his retirement. He also much enjoyed endless coffee with friends at The Goodness Store in Douglas.

There are no services planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, donations in Allan's memory may be made to St Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. To leave a condolence message for his family please visit: www.jackmanfuneralhomes.com

# Richard P. G. Lachapelle, 89



Richard P. G. Lachapelle, 89, died at home, Sunday, March 22, following a period of declining health. His wife, (Laflamme) Lachapelle, died in 2013. He is survived by a son, Edward R. Lachapelle, and his wife, Pamela, and a daughter, Maryann Ouillette, and her husband, David, of Whitinsville; five grandchildren, John, Joanna, and

Ouillette, Elena and Hannah and Holly Lachapelle; two brothers, Norman and Robert Lachapelle; three sisters, Florence Kilmurray, Jacqueline Blinkhorn, and Anne Woodward; and 65 nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by eight brothers, Joseph, Charles, Henry Donat, Francis, Clarence, Gerard, Phillipe Norman, and Phillipe Lachapelle, and five sisters, Jeannette Glode, Rita Baines, Loretta Bikes, Alberta Rabitor, and Leoza Kuhnel.

Dick was born in Whitinsville, July 8, 1930, a son of Joseph and Leoza (Contois) Lachapelle, and was lifelong resident. He graduated from Worcester Boys' Trade High School, and he was a United States Marine veteran of the Korean War, having served in China and Korea. He was a 40 year veteran of the Northbridge Police Department, retiring as a lieutenant in 1995. He was the

Northbridge school safety officer for many years.

Dick was a member and past President of the Massachusetts Police Association. He and Ida enjoyed many summers on Cape Cod and winters in Florida, and traveled throughout the world. He also worked building houses for Habitat for Humanity.

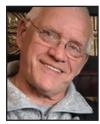
The Lachapelle family would like to thank Dick's friends Lisa and Maggie for helping brighten his days, and Salmon Hospice nurses Katrina and Sam for the care and support they pro-

There are no services; please omit

Finally, to those who knew and loved him, Dick would have you remember his sagest advice, to "Watch the Step."

Carr Funeral Home, Whitinsville, is honored to be assisting the Lachapelle family during this time. To leave a condolence, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.com

# Peter S. Cooper, 66



UXBRIDGE - Peter S. Cooper, 66, passed away on Sunday April 5, 2020 at his home surrounded by his loving family after a courageous battle with cancer. He was the husband of Rebecca J.

(Youngsma) Cooper. Along with his loving wife Rebecca of 14 years, he is survived by 4 daughters Emma Cooper of England, Kayleigh Cooper of Worcester, Tammy and her husband Travis Koopman of Northbridge, and Kristy Taylor of Greenville, RI: 5 brothers Gary, Ian. Kevin, Martin and Michael Cooper; 11 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a daughter Angela Soule and a brother Alan Cooper.

Peter was born in England in 1953, son of the late Walter Cooper and Eileen (Edwards) Phelps and served in the British Military Police. He worked for the U.S. Air Force in the United Kingdom as a tractor trailer driving instructor. Most recently, Peter

worked for Delaware Express for 20 years, retiring as a terminal manager in February.

He enjoyed tinkering with his model trains, woodworkand trips to NH. Peter loved to watch movies and was an avid Boston Red Sox fan. He

especially loved time spent with his grandchildren and took great joy in scaring them. Peter will be greatly missed by his family. He will be remembered for his

infectious laughter, kind spirit and full of life personality. Graveside services will be private in Pine Grove Cemetery, Whitinsville.

A Celebration of Life will be held at

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Uxbridge Food Pantry, People First Food Pantry, PO Box 506, 19 Douglas Street, Uxbridge, MA 01569. Arrangements by Buma Funeral Home,

www.bumafuneralhome.com

# Ralph F. Barrows, Jr., 77



WHITINSVILLE-Ralph F. Barrows, Jr., 77, went to be with his Lord on March 31, after a courageous battle with cancer. He is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Carolyn, and his four children: Suzette

Barrows and her husband, Din Omar of Malaysia, Ralph E. Barrows and his wife Betty of Whitinsville, Peter Barrows and his wife Linda of Northbridge, and Kristine Froment and her husband David of Whitinsville. Proud grandfather of Michael Burroughs and his wife Kristen, Kayla Barrows and her fiance Andrew, Shahid Kamaruddin, Lauren and Katie Barrows, and Jordan and Kyle Froment. Great-grandfather of Jacob Burroughs and Surfina and



Sumehra Shahid. He is also survived by his nephew, Lenny Grandfield, who was very special to him. He was the brother of the late Hazel Grandfield.

Ralph was born on March 3, 1943, in Fall River, MA and was the son of Ralph F. and Hazel M. Barrows. Family was very important to him and he enjoyed spending time with all family members. He loved watching the Patriots, college football, Hallmark Christmas movies and especially loved watching old western movies. He enjoyed going to the Northbridge Senior Center to play shuffleboard and enjoy lunches with his friends. He enjoyed spending time in his backyard and was interested in the lives and behavior of eagles and had a respect and admiration for nature. He worked as a machinist for many years. He was a member of the Village Congregational Church and he was a volunteer firefighter for the Northbridge Fire Department from

He will be dearly missed by his loved ones, who celebrate the fact that he is at peace with his Lord. Funeral services will be private, for the family. The family kindly declines flowers and donations, but prayers and kind thoughts are appreciated. Carr Funeral Home, Whitinsville, is assisting the family during this time. To leave a condolence, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.com

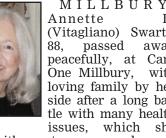
# Annette L. Swartz, 88



MILLBURY-Annette (Vitagliano) Swartz, passed away peacefully, at Care One Millbury, with loving family by her side after a long battle with many health issues, which she

fought with great courage and grace. She leaves a daughter, Karla Parnell, of S. Hamilton, a son, Peter Swartz and his wife Maryanne, of Sutton, a brother Edward Vitagliano and his wife Bernice, of Deerfield Beach, FL, a sister Judy MacPherson and her husband Ronald, of Salisbury, NH, three grandchildren; Brendon Parnell, Sophia Swartz and Angelina Swartz, and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband Melvin K. Swartz in 2014 and her brother Albert Vitagliano.

Mrs. Swartz was born May 12, 1931,



in Newton, Salem, Newburyport, Boca Raton, and Ipswich before moving to Sutton, where she made many new friends. She worked along side her husband for many years, assisting him in his interior design business. She was an accomplished seamstress, gourmet cook, and enjoyed baking and knitting. In her younger years, she enjoyed horseback riding and more recently online jigsaw puzzles. Most of all, her true joy and happiness was found when spending time with her beloved grandchildren, whom she adored and cher-Services at this time are private. A

Nina L. Vitagliano. She was a graduate

of Everett High School and had lived

Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date. Please omit flowers. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. To leave a condolence for the family, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.

in Everett, a daughter of Albert H. and

# Edward W. Kearns, 75



WHITINSVILLE-Edward W. Kearns, 75, died Thursday, March 26, at Genesis Health Center in Milford. He leaves a daughter, Michelle Case, of Washington, two sisters, Patricia

Ramsey and Donna Picard-Kennedy, both of Whitinsville, and several nephews. Ed graduated from Northbridge High School and was a life-long resident of Whitinsville. He worked at Nelmor, in North Uxbridge prior to retiring from Retrofit, in Milford, several years ago. He was a proud Air Force veteran, serving 13 months in Viet Nam. He was a Boston sports fan, though the Red Sox were his favorite. He will be remembered as having a heart of gold and someone who enjoyed talking with everyone.

Services are private and under the direction of Carr Funeral Home,



Whitinsville. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Ed's memory to the Jimmy Fund to support patient care and cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284. Please make checks out to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. To leave a condolence for the family, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.com

# Georgia Mae Bracken, 84

UXBRIDGE-Georgia Mae (Dearborn) Bracken, 84, of Uxbridge passed away Friday, March 27, 2020 in Lydia Taft House, Uxbridge. With her faith wellplaced in Jesus Christ, she was immediately welcomed to the peace and joy of her eternal rest in heaven. She was the wife of the late Warner T. Bracken who died in 2009.

Mrs. Bracken had worked as the bookkeeper for Straight Ahead Ministries in Worcester for 13 years before retiring. She had previously worked as an executive secretary for many years with Zayre Corp. at their corporate headquarters in Framingham, MA.

She was born October 21, 1935 in Framingham, the daughter of the late Roland T. and Charlotte W. (Bussell) Dearborn. She had attended Ashland and Hopkinton schools, and was a graduate of Wayland High School, class of

Georgia Mae was gifted in many crafts, producing beautiful work in whatever she put her hands to, from painting to quilling to producing bread dough roses. She made cut-and-pierce lampshades or made them from old woolen blankets. Some items she sold in craft fairs or consignment shops, but many she gave liberally away as gifts to family and friends. She crocheted afghans or sewed quilts for her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Even in the last year before entering Lydia Taft House in January, 2019, she sewed dozens of pillow cases that were sent to an orphanage in Ukraine. Georgia Mae had a loving and generous

Georgia loved Hawaii, where she lived for seven years. And she loved nature, especially bird-watching, keeping a careful eye out for her favorite cardinals. But more than anything, she dearly loved her family. Georgia Mae is survived by her three sons, David R. Claggett of Seattle, WA, Robert N. Claggett of Lacrosse, WI and Rev. Lance N. Claggett of Uxbridge; two step-children, David Bracken of Atlanta, GA and Nancy Wallgren of Chicago, IL; fourteen grandchildren and twenty-seven great grandchildren. She was predeceased by a step-daughter, Janis Edmunds, and a sister, Barbara Ann

All services will be held at a later date. Once scheduled, visiting hours will be held in the Buma Funeral Home, 101 N. Main St., Rte. 122, Uxbridge, and a memorial service will be held at Cornerstone Church, 5 East Hartford Ave., N. Uxbridge.

# Richard Joseph Yonika



My dad, Richard Joseph Yonika, was one of the most incredible people I have ever known. I know a lot of children say that about their parents, but I really mean it. Have you ever seen the move Big Fish? It

is about a man whose stories about his life that are so fantastical you can hardly believe them. My dad had a life like that.

He built a plane with his own hands, without ever receiving an engineering degree. He built boats that float and drones that fly. Until his last days he had a fascination in how anything and everything worked. After one of his treatments, he brought home his radiation mask, just because it he wanted to tinker with it. He had a wild adventurous side, sailing across oceans of the world, flying his family to Martha's Vineyard for pancakes, piloting his motorcycle at over 100mph down Comm Ave in his glory days, and picking up any mode of transportation he could find for cheap and fixing it back hoes and plows with no breaks, boats and jet skis that sank, and catamarans that blew away.

My father was an avid animal lover and one of his best friends was a wheat-

en terrier named Eddie. The pair could often be found on the couch around lunch time sharing a ham sandwich or a takeout box from the local diner. My dad was also a lover of food and was known to drive far and wide for something delicious to eat, especially seafood. He called it going on a "clam quest." I think he bought a property on Prince Edward Island to have his own stock of lobster. We learned quickly to never ask him to cook quahogs though.

He also loved and was extremely proud of his family, which he would tell anyone that would listen. Most of his joy came from their joy.

His very last meal was an ice cream sundae with coffee ice cream, whipped cream, chocolate pudding and nuts. Some of his last words were "that's so cold, you could shatter a nipple." Basically, what I want everyone to know is that the world lost a very spectacular man on March 22, 2020.

There are no scheduled services. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168. Please direct the donation towards Sarcoma research. Carr Funeral Home, Whitinsville, is assisting the Yonika family during this time. To leave a condolence, please visit www. carrfuneralhome.com

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



BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, April 10, 2020 13

# Antiquing during this health crisis

Many antique events and auctions have been canceled due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The usual online selling and buying options are still available though, and some new opportunities have even become available.

biggest local The antique news is that the May Brimfield Antique Show has been canceled. Westernmassnews.com quoted the Head of the Brimfield Select Board who said "I think when you get 20,000 people coming from around the

world, it'd be disastrous ... I think everybody is sad for it. I don't necessarily apologize for the decision because I think it's the right one.' Although this is disappointing to antique dealers and collectors, in my opinion July 2020 will be one of the best Many shows. shows WAYNE TUISKULA Vegas. other have also been canceled. Live

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auctions and estate sales have been put on hold. Antiques and the Arts Weekly has a long "running list" of many of the canceled events available on their website at antiquesandthearts.com.

Like many other local businesses, antique dealers, auctioneers and estate sale companies have been going online to fill the void. For example, some estate sale companies are running online only sales. Others are selling by appointment only to comply with social distancing guide-

Channel 7 News in Watertown, N.Y. reported that auctioneer Don Peck Auctions has turned to



Facebook Live to run his auctions which had been

held live in person prior to the pandemic. Peck said that prices have increased as he has found a group of new bidders. Most buyers are from within 50 to 75 miles of his Gouverneur, N.Y. location, but he has reached others from as far away as Florida and Las

The pandemic has brought out the best in many. Many public figures have done exceptional things to help those affected by the COVID-19 virus. Former Ohio Buckeyes and Detroit Lions linebacker Chris Spielman is one example. The Detroit Free Press reported that he had previously donated \$100 each to 8 people who were in need for the past two weeks. He is now selling some of his personal memorabilia on eBay to help those in need during this pandemic. His Ohio State Big Ten championship ring is one of his prized possessions that he is auctioning for the greater good. "This hurts to

give this up, but where is

it going to serve a better purpose?" Spielman said. The ring sold for \$12,000, and Spielman said he will be offering more of his memorabilia.

Our company is practicing physical distancing, along with the rest of the state. If you are handling an estate or just have some items in your home that you think may be valuable and would like some guidance, we can virtually view and evaluate them. can contact us by email or phone to schedule an appointment using Facetime, Zoom or Skype.

We are also planning an online auction in Warren, R.I. and an estate sale in Auburn when the situation allows. Our Rutland estate farm auction will go online again as soon as possible. Please see www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other events. I hope all of you continue to stay safe and in good health and we can all be attending antique events together soon.

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

# **OBITUARIES**

# Matthew B. Thomas, 40

CLINTON- Matthew B. Thomas, 40, died Monday, March 9. He leaves his father, William Thomas, with whom he lived, his brother, Ian Thomas, also of Clinton, a daughter, Sage Lajeunesse, of Taunton, and many aunts, uncles and cousins. He is predeceased by his mother, Cathleen Norris, in 2010.

Matthew was Milford, December 17, 1979. He was raised mostly in Northbridge and Sutton, but lived for two years in Florida as a teen. Matthew always worked in the food service industry. He was a talented chef, honing his skills at the Steak Loft in Northborough for many years prior to working at Tavern in the Square in Westborough, and, for the past two years, at Red Heat Tavern. Matthew also enjoyed heavy metal music, online gaming, Poker and pool. He was a huge Boston sports and fantasy sports fan.

Services were held at the Carr Funeral Home. Memorial donations may be made to the Whitin Community Center, 60 Main St., Whitinsville, MA 01588. To leave a condolence for the family, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.com

# Sandra Calhoun, 82



DOUGLAS- Sandra (Cooper) Calhoun, aged 82, died peacefully on March 28, 2020 at the home of her daughter in Douglas, Massachusetts. Sandy was born on July 6, 1937 in Northampton, Massachusetts

to Henry E. and Leah (Randall) Cooper. Her formative years were spent in Roslindale and Wrentham, Massachusetts. Following graduation from Wrentham High School, Sandy attended Becker Junior College in Worcester, majoring in Medical Secretarial Science. Following graduation, she relocated to Washington, DC where she was employed at the U.S. Postal Inspector's Office and the Pentagon. While working at the Pentagon, Sandy met and married Air Force Staff Sergeant Donald F. Calhoun in 1959. In 1961, following Donald's discharge from the Air Force, the family moved back to Massachusetts where they settled in Natick. During the Natick years, Sandy worked for J.G. Nichols Insurance Company, Cochituate Nursing Home and Stop and Shop. She also worked with her hus-

band in the family business, Central Letter Shop. In 2000 Sandy and Donald retired and moved to Northbridge, in order to be closer to their daughter and grandchildren.

Sandy is survived by her husband, Donald, daughter Melanie Brundage (Scott), son D. Scott Calhoun, and brother Donald Cooper. She is also survived by grandsons Lucas (Caitlyn) and Cody Brundage (fiancée Jackie Mason) as well as great-grandsons Elijah and Killian. She was pre-deceased by her parents Henry (1968) and Leah (1995), brother David (2008) and great-grandson Micah (2018).

Funeral services will be held at the Carr Funeral Home in Northbridge. Due to the current restrictions on social gatherings, a private graveside service and interment will be at Wrentham Center Cemetery.

The family wishes to thank the caring staff of Beaumont Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Northbridge as well as Salmon Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Rejoice in the Lord, PO Box 18000, Pensacola, Florida 32523. To leave a condolence for the family, please visit www.carrfuneralhome.com

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail



to obits@stonebridgepress.news

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

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



Brianna Age 17

Hi! My name is Brianna and I am learning how to ride a horse!

Brianna is a fun teenage girl of Hispanic descent. Some of Brianna's favorite activities are listening to music and reading. She also loves animals and has recently started to learn how to ride a horse. Brianna does a great job caring for young children, and she has expressed wanting a job working with children when she gets older. She

is currently in the tenth grade where she has made friends and good relationships with many of her teachers.

Brianna is legally freed for adoption and can be placed in a one or two-parent home with or without other children. Brianna has stated she enjoys living in a suburban area versus somewhere that is rural or an inner-city. Interested families should be open to maintain four visits per year with Brianna's siblings. She also has other relatives she would like to maintain contact with once placed.

### Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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





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

### HINT continued from page A8

Storing, and sowing, seeds are not longer a hassle with this tip: Simply put seeds in a clean, empty spice, seasoning or Parmesan cheese shaker. If using tiny seeds, add little cornstarch to keep them from clumping together. When it's time to plant, just shake them evenly over the soil.

\*Here's an easy way to gauge spacing seeds in large flats: Cut a piece of one-inch chicken mesh wire the size of the flat. Simply lay it on the soil and plant a seed inside each hole for instant one-inch spacing. For two or tree inch spacing, simply skip the correct number of holes.

\*Leftover garden seeds will likely sprout next year if you keep them in the refrigerator in a tightly closed jar with a packet of silica gel. The gel packets can be recycled from vitamin bottles or even shoe boxes.

\$\$\$ Saving Hot Tip: If you're germinating seeds, don't spend your hard earned money on a plant heat mat. A heating pad can do the job at a fraction of the cost. Just be sure to cover it in plastic to prevent any water spill

Flower bulbs are now plentiful at large garden centers. But, bulbs sold at such places are a bargain only if you know how to avoid poor quality bulbs. Here are some tips: \* Bulbs should feel solid and heavy. If they are light, they may be dried out. Avoid bulbs with dark ored, ormoldv spots. Make sure there are no holes or other signs of insect damage on bulbs. \* Pick over bulbs that have sprouted; it is better if they grow roots first.

Our forefathers took great pains to plant crops at the precise time of year to promote a bountiful crop. Here are some "old farmer's tales" that tell when it is time to plant garden vegetables:

Lilac's Bloom: When the lilacs have

their first leaves it is time to plant cool-weather crops such as peas, lettuce, and onions. When the lilac flowers are in full bloom, it s safe to plant tender crops such as tomatoes and corn. Native American's Rule: The American Indians passed this reliable tip on to European colonists, and many farmers still rely on it today. Tender crops should not be planted until the leaves on an oak tree are as big as a squirrels ear (about an inch or so long). Moon Signs: Many natural gardeners plant successfully by the phases of the moon. Here's how: Between the new moon and the first quarter: sow or transplant leafy plants and those that bear seeds on the outside of the fruit, such as strawberries. Between the first quarter and the full moon: plant crops whose seeds develop inside the fruit, such as tomatoes, peas, beans and squash. From the full moon to the last quarter: plant root vegetables. Never plant from the last quarter to the new moon.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick

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. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.



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14 • Friday, April 10, 2020

Blackstone Valley Tribune



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The entire experience was great. The installation crew was fantastic. They arrived on time and worked efficiently. They were all master craftsmen who were extremely knowledgeable about the product they were installing and the end-to-end installation process. They were courteous, professional and left our house very clean after each day of work.

— Heather S., Renewal by Andersen customer, Holliston, MA







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¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 5/9/2020. You must set your appointment by 5/2/2020 and purchase by 5/9/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 20% off your entire purchase and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 4/1/2020 and 5/9/2020. Additional \$250 off your project, minimum purchase of four (4) or more windows or patio doors required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 5/2/2020 and purchase by 5/9/2020. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. 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 Corporation. @2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. @2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

No matter where you garden, there never seems to be enough time to grow all the fresh vegetables desired. Planting earlier or just providing plants with some added warmth on chilly days and nights can reduce the time from planting to harvest. Southern gardeners will enjoy the

additional time for harvesting heat-sensitive plants before the stifling heat moves in and plants begin to decline.

Prepare the soil as soon as it can be worked. Cover the prepared soil with clear plastic, row covers or high tunnels for several weeks when planting earlier than normal. This warms the soil for planting and helps germinate many of the weed seeds. Lightly cultivate to remove the young weed seedlings without bringing more weed seeds to the surface. You'll be pulling fewer weeds throughout the growing season.

Once the garden is planted, enlist some of these season-extending helpers (gardeners.com). Homemade and commercial cloches, cold frames and row covers can help you plant earlier and harvest later in the season.

Row covers made of spun fabrics let air, light, and water through while keeping the plants warm. Anchor the

GARDEN Moments

> **MELINDA MYERS**

fabric with landscape pins, stones, boards, or other heavy items. Leave enough slack in the fabrics for the plants to grow. Lighter weight garden fabrics also protect plants from insect pests like cabbage worms and bean beetles.

Garden covers take this method one step further. These structures fit over plantings in the garden, raised beds or elevated planters. Look for those with durable greenhouse fabric covers that let water in and keep excess heat out. These types of structures protect plants from cold and wind, speeding up your harvest by as much as 25 percent.

Raise the roof on these structures with high tunnels and plant protection tents. These are perfect for growing tall plants like tomatoes. As temperatures rise, the tops can be ventilated or in some cases replaced with a mesh that keeps out insects and critters, while providing plants enough room to reach

Or maybe you just can't wait for that first red ripe tomato and only want to jump start a row of greens. Garden cloches have long been used for this purpose. They capture the sun's warmth to protect plants from frosty weather. Gardener's Supply Company's Early Season Row Cloche Set allows you to expand your protection to the desired size. These clear PVC plant protectors have water wells to capture rainwater and gently disperse it to the plants below and vents for managing the temperature.

Further boost your tomato harvest with red plastic mulch, red tomato teepees and tomato boosters. University researchers found using red plastic mulch increased the individual fruit size and weight and overall tomato harvest by as much as 20 percent. They found the red plastic mulch reflected certain growth-enhancing wavelengths of light back onto the plants.

With a bit of extra effort and investment you'll be harvesting fresh vegetables long before your friends and neighbors. Then be sure to keep these season-extending devices handy to use again in fall. Protecting plants from those first few fall frosts can keep you eating garden-fresh tomatoes, peppers and greens well into winter.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers



Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Cloches can help you plant earlier and harvest later, extending the growing season.

is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardeners Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE Friday, April 10, 2020

# Stocking for spring

Fishing at some local ponds has been just fantastic, while some streams and brooks are very slow according to a few local anglers. This writer made a call to M.F.W. Central District this past Friday, April 3, and was told that the spring stocking is pretty much complete. The

stocking trucks were running nonstop to ensure that the spring stocking of trout would be completed. As of this date, the Division of Fish & Wildlife is holding on to the trout allocated for the fall stocking. The Covid-19 virus sure has negatively made a big change in our daily living, and will affect our lives for months and years to come.

This week's picture shows Amy with her large brown trout from Ashland Reservoir. this past week, that also had the upper jaw missing as the second picture shows. The heavy rain of the last two weeks, and the cold temperatures have kept trout fishing a bit slow, but the warmer weather of this week has brought the water temperatures up, which has had anglers catching some impressive trout.

Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife, along with some other states, have been feeding the trout at the hatcheries a new diet over the last few years, which has the trout growing very fast, and the end result is a more impressive trout being

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stocked. The down side to the new diet that trout are being raised on have lost there sweet natural taste at the dinner table. I am not the only one

that has noticed the difference in the taste of trout over the last few years. Any fish or meat altered with numerous

taste can be brands of seasoning on the market today, but I and many other anglers miss the natural sweet taste of the trout. I guess we cannot have it both ways. Numerous anglers have switched to smoking trout, rather than pan fried. fishing season

Massachusetts and Rhode Island is now open, but the water temperature was still a bit cold last week, hovering in the middle 40 degrees. The temperature needs to hit the low 50's for the fishing to improve. A few anglers fishing for tautog last week reported a few small tautog being caught, so it should not be long before the big fish move in. When the dandelions are out, it is time to fish for tautog.

A couple of years ago, both Massachusetts & Rhode Island stopped commercial fishing for tautog in the spring, and gave them a good season in the fall. It was long overdue. Tautog were returning to spawn in the spring, and were being depleted before they had a chance to spawn. It was a no brainer. Rhode Island Marine Fisheries & NOAA has placed another nail in the coffin of the recreational fluke fishing season this year. Raising the Fluke size limit to 19 inches and allowing the commercial anglers to keep 14-inch fish is outrageous. A lot of fish are going to be wasted due to mortality after being released by recreational anglers. Taking home a few fluke fillets for the family this year is going to be tough. Massachusetts has held there legal size limit to 17 inches again this year. It was not that long ago that Rhode island raised the size limit for fluke to 21 inches for recreational

anglers. That was the year I sold my 21 foot boat. I love bottom fishing and we found ourselves coming home with one or two fish if we were lucky. Commercial anglers were fishing on the side of us keeping 14 inch fish!

Seabass are also being saved for the commercial guys, with the season starting June 24 this year for recreational anglers and a bag limit of three fish daily. Striper fishermen are not happy with the slot size on Striped bass. The big problem with the striped bass decline is in Maryland & Delaware, not in Massachusetts & Rhode Island. Massachusetts Marine Fisheries has also dealt a hard blow to the sport fishing boats up and down the coast.

My neighbor erected a blue bird box



in his yard a few years ago, and is being used annually by a pair of them. They sure are nice to see in the back yard as they frequent my bird feeder daily along, with a pair of cardinals. It will not be long before the humming birds

Until next week, stay safe! God Bless America.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

### MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Dennis Kimball and Gail Kimball to Ameriquest Mortgage Company, dated June 21, 2004 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 34022, Page 108, subsequently assigned to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquest Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-R8, under the pooling and servicing agreement dated August 1, 2004 by Citi Residential Lending Inc., as attorney-in-fact for Ameriquest Mortgage Company by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 43810, Page 249, subsequently assigned to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquest Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-R8 by Ameriquest Mortgage Company by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 52295, Page 39, subsequently assigned to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquest Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2004-R8 by Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquest Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass- Through Certificates, Series 2004-R8, under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement dated August 1, 2004 by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 54973, Page 277 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on April 17. 2020 at 40-42 North Main Street. Northbridge (Whitinsville), MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

All that land in Northbridge, in the Village of Whitinsville, Worcester County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon, on the northeasterly side of North Main Street, and

shown and designated as Lot #72 on a plan of land entitled "Section A, Sheet No. A-2, Whitin Machine Works, Northbridge, MA" dated March 10, 1951, by G. Bertrand Bibeault, Civil Engineering, Woonsocket, RI recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 173, Plan 49, said parcel of land being more particularly bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the most westerly corner thereof at a point on the northeasterly side of said North Main Street, which point is 556.27 feet measured S. 32° 18' E., from the corner formed the intersection of the northeasterly line of said North Main Street with the southerly line of Crescent Street, said point of beginning being the most southerly corner of Lot #73 on said plan; Thence N. 55° 54' E., by said Lot #73 on said plan, 105.7 feet to Lot #84 on said plan; Thence S. 33° 36' E., by said Lot #84 and Lot #85 on said plan, 84.94 feet to Lot #71 on said plan; Thence S. 55° 54' W., by said Lot #71 on said plan, 107.63 feet to a point on the northeasterly side of said North Main Street: Thence N. 32° 18' W., by said North Main Street, 85 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 9,060 square feet of land, more or less. Subject to any and all rights and easements as described in a deed of James M. Meller to Rodney N. Gallagher and Barbara A. Gallagher, dated May 13, 1974, recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 5490, Page 310. For title reference see deed recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 27120, Page 349.

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

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

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

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Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 16-001401

March 27, 2020 April 3, 2020 April 10, 2020

> **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division** Docket No. WO20P0898EA **Estate of:** Christopher Lee Vensel

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts** 

Date Of Death: December 15, 2019 **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** 

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Kenneth P. Vensel of North **Uxbridge MA** 

Kenneth P. Vensel of North Uxbridge

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

April 10, 2020

### **NORTHBRIDGE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION** COMMITTEE **PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with MGL Ch 44B [Community Preservation], the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee shall hold a Public Hearing Tuesday, April 14, 2020 (7:05PM) in the Selectmen's Room, Northbridge Memorial Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588. The Community Preservation Act was adopted by Northbridge voters in 2017. The Act established a local dedicated fund (CPA funds), to undertake open space/recreation, housing, and historic preservation projects. Implementation of the CPA is overseen by a 9-member committee representing the Conservation Commission, Historic Commission, Housing Authority, Planning Board, Playground & Recreation, School Committee, and three (3) members at large appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The purpose of this hearing is to solicit input from the public on the preparation of a Community Preservation Plan. The CP Plan shall include guidance and criteria for selecting projects to be considered at future Town Meetings. To aid in the preparation of the CP Plan the public is encouraged to comment on needs, opportunities and resources for open space, historic preservation, outdoor recreation, and housing. A copy of the (draft) CP Plan is on file with the Town Clerk (7 Main Street -Town Hall) and Planning Office (14 Hill Street -Town Hall Annex) and may be viewed during normal office hours. In addition to the public hearing written comments may be sent to the Community Planning & Development Office or submitted via email to cpc@northbridgemass.org. Glenn King, Chair

Northbridge Community Preservation Committee

Friday, April 03, 2020 Friday, April 10, 2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division** 

Docket No. W020P0874EA

Estate of: David L. Kiernan Date Of Death: August 30, 2017 **INFORMAL PROBATE** 

**PUBLICATION NOTICE** To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Bonnie M Kiernan of Ux-

bridge MA a Will has been admitted to informal

probate. **Bonnie M Kiernan of Uxbridge MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate

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

Petitioner. April 10, 2020



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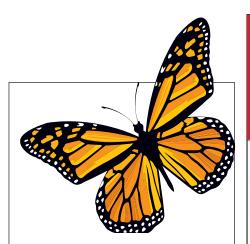
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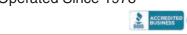
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