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Friday, May 29, 2020



## Field of Flags Campaign honors veterans, essential workers

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Village's annual Field of Flags Campaign, which honors military service members through the planting of American flags, is expanded this year to recognize and support the essential workers whom our country has relied on throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

The beloved tradition will be

on display at two locations — the first along Route 20 across from the Village's entrance starting on Memorial Day, and, for the first time, at OSV's partner organization, Coggeshall Farm Museum in Bristol, R.I. as soon as the farm reopens.

Friends and family can commemorate a loved one, or even a stranger, who is currently serving or has

served in the U.S. military, or who is caring for our nation as an essential worker, with just a \$25 donation. Every gift of \$25 will add a flag to one of the two Field of Flags locations of the donor's choice, which will serve as a tangible reminder of the service and sacrifice of these American heroes, and a physical expression of gratitude. A flag can also be spon-

sored in memory of a loved one or a military veteran. Each flag donation provides year-round complimentary admission to OSV and Coggeshall Farm for military families, and this year only, for essential workers from the time the museums reopen through Thanksgiving.

Turn To **FLAGS**, page **A5**

## Federated Church services to continue online

STURBRIDGE — The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale has announced that its Meetinghouse at 8 Maple Street, Sturbridge will remain closed to the public until its reopening committee has completed its work.

In an email to Church Members on May 21, Executive Board President Leigh Darrin told Members of the congregation that "in spite of Governor Baker's permission for places of worship to reopen at 40 percent capacity, the Executive Board of Sturbridge Federated Church has voted to follow the recommendations of our umbrella denominations and we will not be resuming in person worship at this time."

Pastor Gretchen Switzer has been streaming weekly 9:30 a.m. services from the Church on Facebook Live since March 29 with a skeleton crew, with follow-up video posts on the Church's Web site and YouTube chan-

Turn To **SERVICES**, page **A4**

## Joshua Hyde Library opens computer tent

STURBRIDGE — The Joshua Hyde Public Library staff is making access to computers and WiFi available to the community.

Starting on May 19, the library has hosted an outdoor tent with three laptops and a printer. The technologies are available for people who do not have access to the internet at home during the COVID-19 crisis. With the ongoing closure of libraries, several residents have struggled to find ways to go online.

Community members are also able to bring their own devices to the library tent to access WiFi services. The computer tent will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12-3 p.m., weather permitting.

The devices will be sanitized between each usage. Face masks are required for users, and there is a 30-minute limit if other people are waiting. Please ensure that face coverings remain in place for your entire session.

For library officials, it is a thrill to continue offering vital services amid the crisis.

"We had heard from some residents that they were having a hard time

Turn To **TENT**, page **A3**



Photo Courtesy

Jeremy Jalbert shows off the new computer tent available outside Joshua Hyde Public Library.

## Baker unveils phased reopening plan

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Gov. Charlie Baker unveiled his multi-phased plan for reopening the state last week, announcing several requirements needed for certain businesses to return.

Local business owners were hoping for a quick return to work following the Governor's May 18 announcement, but several businesses will have to remain closed for now. The Governor's latest guidelines, dubbed as a "safer at home" policy, only allowed places of worship, construction sites, and manufacturing

businesses to immediately reopen on May 18.

But just because certain sectors of the state are reopening, the Baker Administration continues to advise residents to stay at home as much as possible. This is no time to start heading back out in large groups, the Governor warned.

"The goal of this phased reopening plan is to methodically allow businesses, services, and activities to resume, while avoiding a resurgence of COVID-19 that could overwhelm the state's healthcare system and erase the progress made so far," Baker said.

Manufacturing facilities, con-

struction sites, and places of worship reopened last week under strict guidelines. Additionally, hospitals and community health centers can begin to provide high priority preventative care, pediatric care, and treatment for high-risk patients.

Under a staggered approach, additional Phase 1 sectors of the economy were permitted to reopen on May 25. These include the following:

- Lab space
- Office space
- Limited personal services, including hair salons, pet grooming, and car washes
- Retail (remote fulfillment and curb-

side pick-up)

- Beaches and parks
- Drive-in movie theaters
- Select athletic fields and courts
- Most fishing, hunting, and boating activities

Outdoor gardens, zoos, reserves, and public installations

Each reopening phase will last a minimum of three weeks and could last longer before moving to the next phase. State health officials will be keeping careful watch of the metrics as new sectors reopen.

Turn To **BAKER**, page **A14**

# 2ND ANNUAL ABC'S OF THE SPRING SEASON

Support these local businesses this Spring!

See Corresponding Crossword Puzzle inside this issue

## A is for Appliance

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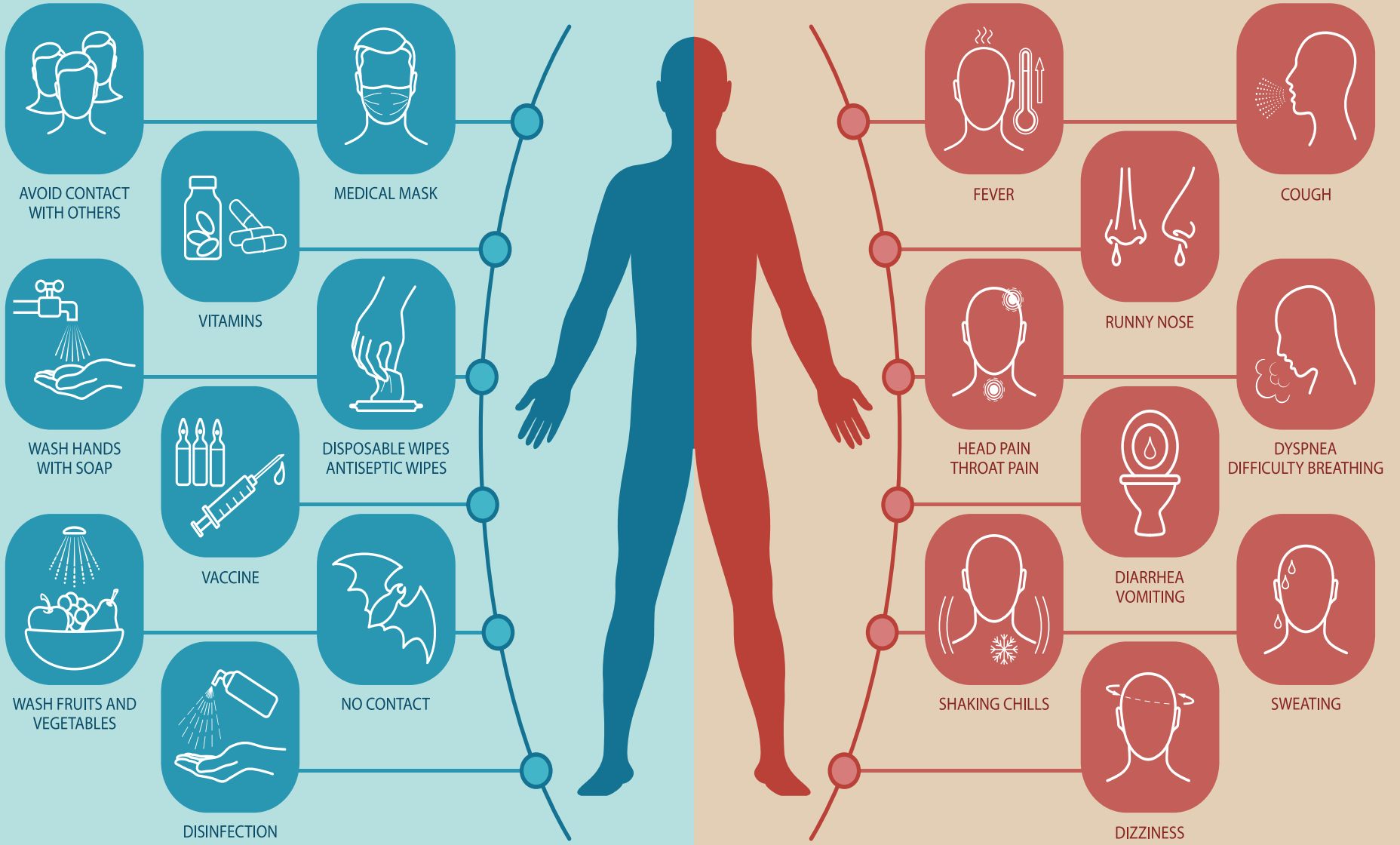
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2019-nCoV

### PREVENTION

### SYMPTOMS



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### TENT

continued from page A1

filing for unemployment and applying for jobs because most places require online applications," said Library Director Becky Plimpton. "We decided that while we cannot open up the library building, we could still make this service available to people in our community who need it."

In addition, the Joshua Hyde Public Library began accepting returned materials in the book drop on May 26.

On Monday, June 8, the library will begin curbside delivery of requested items. Patrons will place holds through the CWMars computer system using their library card, or call the library staff to place holds. Items will then be pulled from the shelves, bagged, and delivered to a patron's car parked in designated spots.

The physical library building will remain closed to the public until further notice. Officials thank residents for their continued patience and cooperation.

For more information about library services, call 508-347-2512. You can also send an email to [bplimpton@cwmars.org](mailto:bplimpton@cwmars.org).

Please visit the library's Web site, [www.sturbridgelibrary.org](http://www.sturbridgelibrary.org), for updates on when the library will reopen.

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# Quinsigamond Community College releases list of graduates

**W O R C E S T E R**  
— Quinsigamond Community College has released its 2020 list of graduates. On Thursday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m. QCC graduates will take part in a virtual commencement ceremony. To view the ceremony, visit [www.QCC.edu/commencement](http://www.QCC.edu/commencement).

**Associate in Arts**  
Auburn: Brigid Campbell, Kali Daniels, Nancy Gatui, Nicholas John, Stephen John, Lauren Lizotte Webb,  
Yasmine Museme

**Associate in Applied Science**  
Auburn: Par Kyar  
Uxbridge: Andrew Finn  
Whitinsville: Andrew de Vries

**Associate in Applied Science**  
Brimfield: Kenneth Farrell, Samantha Frost  
Brookfield: Jordan Krans, Julia McElroy  
Charlton: Danielle Cadarette, Caitlyn Dalbec, Donald Mahan, Billie Porter, Erin Scanlon, Amanda Smith, Megan Vezina  
Cherry Valley: Kailey Adeyinka, Felicia Agbanyo  
Douglas: Victoria Flinton  
Dudley: Rebecca Geller  
East Douglas: Bethany Buller, Holly Callahan, Jenna Glode, Jonathan Paine  
Grafton: Kayla Behymer, Jessica Brodniak, Corinne Proctor, Stephanie Teixeira  
Holland: Shannon Hamel  
Leicester: Julie Carr, Cameron Goodney, Alexander Madonna, Jacob Morrow, Christopher Rumbaugh, Brian Winslow

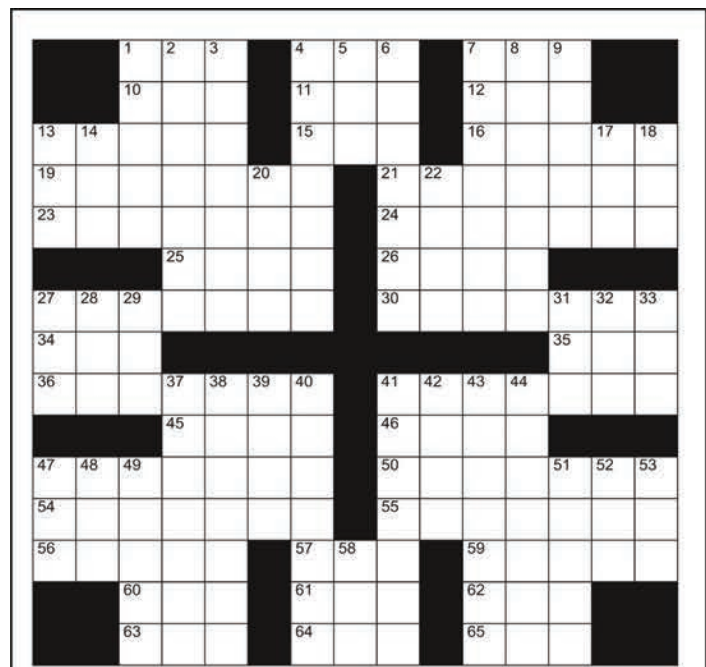
**Associate in Applied Science**  
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Brookfield: Quintin Aubin  
Charlton: Christopher Alano, Patrick Canney, Melanie Crowell-Meleski, Sean Hallihan, Daniel Hogan, Kayla Kimball, Keith LaFountaine, Michael Mielinski, Jennifer Plunkett, Stephen Porth, Christopher Rapoza, Jameson Rotondo, Erin Scanlon, Robin Schofield, Kaitlynn Small, Abigail VanDeMark, Izabela Warnajtyś  
Cherry Valley: George Nganga  
Clinton: Brian Charette, Jeremiah Dayata, Reyna Lynch, Karen Ortega, Helenny Robles, Sean Sargent, Joshua Talavera, Matthew Tufo, Sebastian Villacorta  
Dudley: Jacqueline Coggans, Etleva Doko, Sean Ebbeling, Hayley Hagopian, Glenn Levasseur, Nicholas Sheehan, Matthew Souza, Meroon Zahrah  
East Douglas: Amy Ackerman, Natalia Podstawka, Lindsay Silva  
Fiskdale: Benjamin Lacaire, Leann Ritchie  
Grafton: Elisabeth Haynes, Brandon Lee, Alexander Reno, Callum Smith  
Holland: Hunter Boudreau, Jessica Folger  
Leicester: Anastasia Cichowski, Jacob Holland, Danielle Larson, Scott Merrell, Courtney Millett, Robert O'Hearn  
North Brookfield: Cassandra Chouinard, Melissa Fontaine, Travis Fuller, Tracey Mannix, Dylan Masiello, Christopher Moore, David Vincen  
North Grafton: Devin Brite, Allison Chase, Heather Dozois, Taylor Dufault, Jennifer Garlick, Christopher Johnson, Allison Sheridan, Erica Widen  
North Oxford: Austin Edwards, Kelly Green, Kaylie Mauch, Rebecca Smith  
North Uxbridge: Sarena Gervais  
Northbridge: Trevor Gosselin, Kathleen Mendez, Nicholas Payne, Matthew Rattray, Donovan Tames  
Oxford: Richard Audette, Kylie Brenneman, Jill Brien,

Rachael Cormier, Vu Ho, Tammy LaFleche, Alexander Polis, Eric Quitadamo, Donel Rostand Tamokwe Tokam, Leslie Tyrrell, Corissa Walls  
Paxton: Cameron Greiner, Christopher John, Evan Parker, Danielle Prifti, Lindsey Renshaw  
Rochdale: Peter Brennan, Margaret Kennedy  
Southbridge: Michelle Arrastia, Javier Ayala, Krista Buchanan, Dimayra Colon, Awtum Courville, Antonio De Los Santos, Marie Djiondo, Ruth Gurney, Megan Hufault, Galen Kerr, Savannah LeBoeuf, Sean Moynagh, Nathan Pruitt, Erika Quesada, Tanner Renaud, Dalizbeth Rivera-Szczypien, Alex Rodriguez, Clarissa Rodriguez, Helen Salce, Orlando Santos, Natyarie Villanueva, Jaime Winetrou, Nicholas Wojciechowski, Casey Wood

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**Sutton:** Keith Biemiller, Anthony Campanelli, Nicholas Dame, Colin Erickson, Miranda Lemoine, Richard Swenson  
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**West Brookfield:** Kenai Adams, Katelyn Granger, Giana Tobin, William Walker, Ashley White  
**Whitinsville:** Adam Dullea, Julia Klisiewicz, Phillip Maher, Emily Miller, Katie Sansoucy, Scott Santurri

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Blackstone: Thomas Saladin  
Brimfield: Justin Baker, Amber Beaulieu, Brendan Gendreau, Michele Moseley, Nicole Reed  
Brookfield: Quintin Aubin, Justin Zielinski  
Charlton: Cristy Cayer

**Turn To GRADUATES page A5**

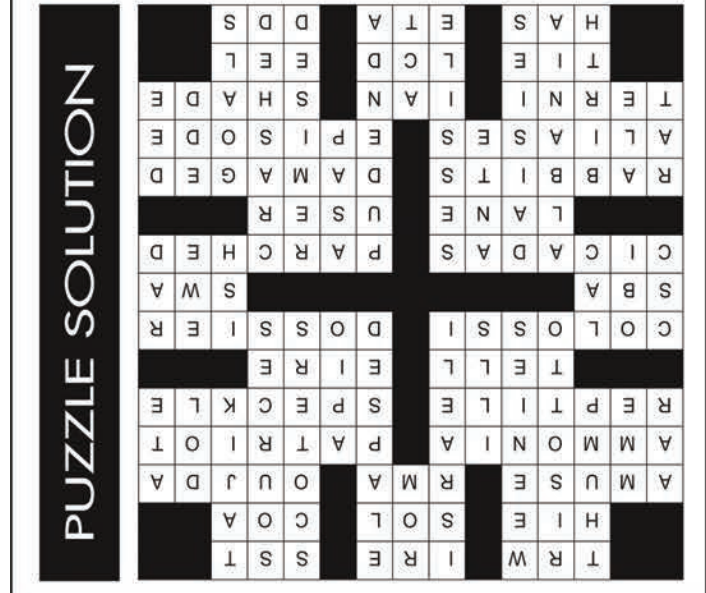


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. It's now called Experian
- 4. You can draw it
- 7. Very fast aircraft
- 10. Go quickly
- 11. Fifth note of a major scale
- 12. Biochemical abbreviation
- 13. Make somebody laugh
- 15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 16. City in NE Morocco
- 19. Colorless gas
- 21. NE football player
- 23. A snake is one
- 24. Small spot
- 25. Inform
- 26. Republic of Ireland
- 27. Large statues
- 30. Documents about an individual
- 34. Helps little firms
- 35. Namibia's former name
- 36. Large insects
- 41. Thirsty
- 45. A well-defined track or path
- 46. One who utilizes
- 47. Plant-eating mammals
- 50. Not in tip-top shape
- 54. Alternate names
- 55. A part of a broadcast serial
- 56. City in central Italy
- 57. LOTR actor McKellen
- 59. Trees provide it
- 60. Men's fashion accessory
- 61. Type of screen
- 62. Snake-like fish
- 63. Possesses
- 64. When you aim to get there
- 65. Tooth caregiver

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Hit heavily
- 2. Italian rice dish
- 3. Some are cocktail
- 4. A citizen of Israel
- 5. Read-only memory
- 6. Passed by
- 7. Northern diving ducks
- 8. References
- 9. Iranian language
- 13. Swiss river
- 14. Woman (French)
- 17. Gov't department (abbr.)
- 18. Consumed
- 20. Ailments
- 22. Balkan Jewish appetizer
- 27. Reciprocal of a sine
- 28. Skywalker mentor \_\_-Wan
- 29. Resinous secretion of insects
- 31. Similar
- 32. Female sheep
- 33. Cool!
- 37. Borders the Adriatic Sea
- 38. Flowers
- 39. It's sometimes upped
- 40. Immobile
- 41. Female body parts
- 42. Common request
- 43. Made a second thrust
- 44. Fell into deep sleep
- 47. Subway resident
- 48. Brew
- 49. The event of being born
- 51. Aspirations
- 52. Doctor of Education
- 53. Punk musician \_\_ Dee Ramone
- 58. A subdivision of a play



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**EDITOR**  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
(508) 909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
NICK ETHIER  
(508) 909-4133  
[nick@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:nick@stonebridgepress.news)

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### SERVICES

*continued from page A1*

nel. Sunday services will continue in the online forum for the immediate future, according to Darrin.

Darrin said the Church has appointed a five-member reopening committee representing the worship team, choir and music interests, trustees, the faith formation team, and members at large.

"The goal of this committee is to have a reopening framework in place by June 15th. This does NOT mean we will resume worship services and all of our other activities on that day," said Darrin. "It just means we hope to have a roadmap in place to safely and responsibly reopen

the Meetinghouse to aid us in service to our God when the time is right."

When the Church does reopen, in order to respect the 40 percent capacity guideline, Darrin says services will continue to be streamed online. "Members and friends who are not feeling well, are at particular risk for contracting COVID-19, or simply not yet comfortable assembling with a group will be encouraged to join us through the online service."

The Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale has remained vibrantly active throughout the pandemic, especially through its mask-making project that resulted in the donation of more than 2,400 masks to Harrington Hospital, along with various nursing homes,

group homes, restaurant and convenience store employees, and other individuals throughout the community. The project, led by Holice Turnbow and Barbara Stietzel, was supported by more than 25 members of the Church and the Sturbridge Senior Center.

The Church also remained open for weekly meetings of the local Alcoholics Anonymous chapter, provided a weekly meal to the guests at St. Lukes Guest House in Southbridge, and supported local food pantries through its missions program. Local residents in need of assistance during this pandemic should call the Church office at (508) 347-9980 or email Pastor Gretchen Switzer at [switzer7743@gmail.com](mailto:switzer7743@gmail.com).

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(508) 909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

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**PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER**  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
(508) 909-4101  
[frank@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:frank@stonebridgepress.news)

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
RYAN CORNEAU  
(603) 677-9082  
[ryan@salmonpress.news](mailto:ryan@salmonpress.news)

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**  
JIM DINICOLA  
(508) 764-4325

**EDITOR**  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
(508) 909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
JULIE CLARKE  
(508) 909-4105  
[production@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:production@stonebridgepress.news)

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Weekdays 9:00-4:30 and Sat. 9:00-12:00

**STURBRIDGE:** 508-347-6463  
Weekdays 8:30 – 5:00 and Sat. 9:00-12:00

**BRIMFIELD:** 413-245-3451  
Weekdays: 9:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00-12:00

**WALES:** 413-245-9808  
Weekdays 8:30 – 12:30 and 2:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00 – 12:00

# QCC's Wyvern graduates ready to change the world

WORCESTER — While the words may have been sent remotely, the sentiments were the same for the more than 1,400 2020 graduates of Quinsigamond Community College. Amid an ongoing pandemic, the College held its first virtual Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, May 21.

QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja told graduates of the amazing legacy they are leaving for others and of the power that each one of them wields as they enter the next chapter in their lives.

“One day people will look back on this time and wonder how we did it. We know why. We are a community college. We are a community and we know how to beat the odds and emerge successful,” he said. “You have reached the mountain top, but don’t stop here, there are many more mountains to conquer. Be brave, be courageous, and look back on what you’ve accomplished and take strength from it, and transform our world into a better place.”

Student Government Association President, Jorgo Gushi, encouraged his

fellow graduates to be proud and mindful of this moment in time.

“The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match and each one of you is the fuse. Take pride in how far you’ve come, have faith in how far you can go and don’t forget to enjoy the journey,” Mr. Gushi said.

Commissioner of Higher Education for Massachusetts, Carlos Santiago sent remote greetings to the graduates, acknowledging the unprecedented virtual commencement, yet focusing on their accomplishments and successes, particularly as they navigated remote learning in their last semester.

“I can guarantee when you look back on this many years from now, this will be the most celebratory experience you will remember,” he said. “We need you to help rebuild our society and our country, not with a vision of returning to the past, but rather creating a new future. One that must be created on mutual respect, valuing all members of our society.”

QCC Psychology Professor Colson

told students of the pride both she and her colleagues felt for the Class of 2020 as they overcame barriers, brought on, or exacerbated by the global pandemic.

“Know this, the Class of 2020 will forever be an inspiration for faculty,” she said. “I hope you understand how inspiring you are to others who are just starting their journey in these uncertain times.”

Mr. Gushi’s impassioned speech compared his long flight overseas from his homeland of Albania with his academic and personal journey at QCC.

“When I started at QCC I made my name ‘George,’ because I was uncomfortable in my own skin, unsure of who I was and wanted to be. My classmates, professors and coworkers built the confidence in me to finally start referring to myself as ‘Jorgo,’ my true self,” he said. “At QCC, our perspectives, our talents, our histories and our voices were accepted, fostered and supported. We found our true selves.”

President Pedraja said he felt that in spite of the challenges today due to

the pandemic, he sees a bright future because of these graduates.

“Our mascot, the wyvern, is a mythical guardian of the community. This has been even more evident these past few weeks with many of our current students and alumni serving our community in its hour of need. Now as graduates, you will go on to be guardians of our community and of our world. Today more than ever our world needs more wyverns. Go and change the world,” he said.

To view QCC’s Virtual Commencement Ceremony, visit [www.QCC.edu/commencement](http://www.QCC.edu/commencement). Public access station WCCA-TV, Worcester Cable Channel 194, will replay part one of the ceremony next Friday, May 29 and part two, Saturday, May 30, both at 9:30 p.m. For photos and messages from QCC graduates, visit #Quinsig2020.

For more information on QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu)

## House, Senate approve unemployment insurance changes

BOSTON — The House of Representatives and the Senate have agreed to changes in the state’s unemployment insurance program to assist Massachusetts residents and employers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

State Rep. Todd Smola (R-Warren) said Senate Bill 2618 contains provisions extending unemployment benefits by an additional four weeks in certain circumstances, while also protecting employers from rate increases if they are forced to lay off workers due to the 2019 novel coronavirus or the State of Emergency declared on March 10. The bill was enacted

in both legislative branches on May 21, and is now on Gov. Charlie Baker’s desk for his review and signature.

Senate Bill 2618 calls for extending state unemployment benefits from 26 weeks to 30 weeks, beginning on Jan. 1, 2021, if certain conditions are met. This extension would be implemented whenever initial unemployment claims filed in any week exceed 100,000, unless the federal government authorizes a period of extended benefits, in which case state benefits will remain in place for 26 weeks until the extended federal benefits have been exhausted.

The number of new unemployment applications filed in Massachusetts typically average between 7,000 and 10,000 per week. Over the last two months, however, 1.23 million new claims have been filed in the state, with about 38.6 million claims filed nationally.

Smola noted that employers will also see relief under the bill, which prohibits unemployment benefits paid to individuals whose job loss is directly related to the novel coronavirus or the State of Emergency from being charged to an employer or used in the calculation of their experience rate. The bill also prohibits

benefits from being charged to an employer’s account if the benefits are paid for by federal funds. These changes are retroactive to March 10, and will remain in effect until one year after the bill takes effect or 180 days after the termination of the State of Emergency, whichever is later.

Senate Bill 2618 also gives non-profit organizations a 120-day extension on their next scheduled unemployment payment without being charged penalties or interest. In addition, it removes language in current state law that caps dependency benefits at 50 percent of an individual’s weekly

benefit rate, a change that will take effect 540 days (18 months) after the termination of the State of Emergency.

In March, the House and Senate voted to waive the one-week waiting period for unemployment so individuals could begin receiving benefits immediately. The waiver was signed into law on March 18, and will remain in effect for 90 days after the State of Emergency is lifted. For additional information please contact Rep. Smola at [Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov) or (617) 722-2100.

### GRADUATES

continued from page A4

- Cherry Valley: David Howard
- Dudley: Jamie Bowlin, Shawn Coltran, Geoffrey Crocker, Etleva Doko, Sean Ebbeling, Rebecca Geller, Samantha LaFleur, Jacob Oliveras, Sara Patrinos, Tiffany Sousa, Ashlynn Woodcock, Meroon Zahrah
- East Brookfield: Nicole Boucher-Eccleston, Catherine Lamson, Lisa Renaud
- East Douglas: Amy Ackerman, Jacob Masi, Nathan Milliken, Adam Parent
- Fiskdale: Jacob Smith
- Grafton: Paul Miller, Christopher Pinnock, Kaitlyn Wooten
- Holland: Kathleen Cable, Sherrie Gentile
- Leicester: Sajed Chreim, Kaitlyn Dennison, Kassie Donais, Jillian Dube, Cassandra Gaines, Katelyn Jyringi, Scott Merrell, Linda Nguyen, Elizabeth Petursson
- North Brookfield: Cassandra Chouinard, Dylan Masiello
- North Grafton: Kevin Barthelmes, Allison Chase, Melanie Dadah, Wanda Hendrix
- North Oxford: Jeannie Karowski, Rebecca Smith
- Northbridge: Feliciano Carrasco, Christopher Corkum
- Oxford: Angelique Blash, Grace Hopkins, Christopher Kamau, Kevin Le, Michelle Lemieux, Patricia Walls
- Paxton: Jake Mannila, Brian Quinn
- Rochdale: Destinee Perez
- Southbridge: Glenda Coates,

- Annemarie Darling, Annemarie Darling, Elaina Foskett, Tamara Lawrence, Hannah Lazo, Gerardo Melendez, Laura Morrison, Analis Pagan, Desiree Quinones, Stephanie Rivera, Dalizbeth Rivera-Szczypien, Sarah Schlegel, Natyarie Villanueva, Tonya Whiting
  - Spencer: Grace Diaz, Kyle Hallihan, Edwin Kithinji, William Marrier, Daniel Martinez, Juana Martinez, Ashley Morse, Joshua Staples, Katherine Stewart
  - Sturbridge: Nicholas Burt
  - Sutton: Taylor Belsito, Anthony Campanelli, Deth Chhun, Natalia Dominguez Carranza, Nicholas Jepsen, Patrick Keenan, Patrick Keenan, Jason Laraia, Courtney Moczymski, Edison Sanango, Richard Swenson
  - Uxbridge: Bailey Bean, Michele Bernard, Ashley Kearnan, Ashley Kearnan, Mycala Labbe, Hailey Minichiello, Joseph Monahan, Meagan Parker
  - Webster: Lamidi Akibu, Magdalena Bal, Anthony Barnardo, Savannah Dumphy, Dereck Edith, Monica Galthuma, Laura Hoey, Chauntel Martin, Solmary Medina, Jillian Morrow, Jorge Rivera, Veronica Sagal, Jenna Sarosi, Sara Soule, Rachel Taylor
  - West Brookfield: Caroline Burke, Britney Korman
  - Whitinsville: Matthew Curley, Jameson Murray
- For more information on QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).

early New England from 1790-1840. It is the largest living history museum in the Northeast. Each year, more than 250,000 visitors interact with costumed historians, experience up-close demonstrations of early American trades, and meet heritage breed farm animals. Situated on 200 scenic acres, the Village is a collection of more than 40 historic buildings - including homes, meeting-houses, trade shops, working farms and three water-powered mills - restaurants, shops and the Old Sturbridge Inn and Reeder Family Lodges. Old Sturbridge Village is normally open year-round but is currently closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Village will welcome visitors back when it is safe to do so. Learn more about the Village and stay updated regarding re-opening plans at [www.osv.org](http://www.osv.org).

In 2020, Old Sturbridge Village entered into a partnership with Coggeshall Farm Museum, incorporated in 1973 in Bristol, R.I., which preserves and interprets life on a 1790s Rhode Island salt-marsh farm. It serves the local community and beyond as a living museum and vital educational resource through demonstration of daily farm activity and honest interpretation that reflects its historical, multicultural influence.

## VOTE Sat., June 13 8am-8pm



Do you want to avoid going to the polls in person?  
Vote by **Absentee Ballot**

Complete this application and send it to your local Town Clerk, who will then send you an Absentee Ballot. All ballots for local elections must be returned by the close of polls on election day.  
For more information, call your local town clerk’s office.

**TOWN OF CHARLTON**  
Town Clerk  
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Charlton, MA 01507  
508-248-2249  
[Eric.Tully@TownofCharlton.net](mailto:Eric.Tully@TownofCharlton.net)

### Massachusetts Official Absentee Ballot Application

See reverse side for instructions

**Voter Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Voting Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Ballot Information**  
*(Independent voters may vote in a primary without registering with a party)*

Mail Ballot to: \_\_\_\_\_

Ballot Requested For:

All elections this year

All general elections (No primaries)

A specific election: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Election \_\_\_\_\_

Party (only if requesting primary ballot):

State Primaries: \_\_\_\_\_

Presidential Primary: \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Special Circumstances**  
*(If applicable)*

This application is being made by a family member of the voter.  
Relationship to voter: \_\_\_\_\_

Voter is a member of military on active duty or dependent family member of active duty personnel.

Voter is a Massachusetts citizen residing overseas.

3  Voter has been admitted to a healthcare facility after noon on the fifth day before the election and has designated the following person to hand-deliver the ballot: \_\_\_\_\_

Voter required assistance in completing application due to physical disability.  
Assisting person's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Assisting person's address: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Signed (under penalty of perjury): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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### FLAGS

continued from page A1

“Our Field of Flags display has always been a favorite of our visitors and local community, a moving and beautiful showcase of pride and an acknowledgment of the sacrifice of our fellow citizens,” said OSV President Jim Donahue. “We’re delighted to expand this year’s program to include the heroes on the frontline of the COVID-19 fight, while also physically expanding the display to Coggeshall Farm through our new partnership with the museum.”

This year, all gifts made to Field of Flags in May and June will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$50,000 by an anonymous donor.

The list of honorees will be posted on the Village’s website beginning Memorial Day and will be updated regularly. To make a gift today in honor of an American hero, visit [www.osv.org/field-of-flags/](http://www.osv.org/field-of-flags/).

About Old Sturbridge Village  
Old Sturbridge Village, first opened to the public in 1946, is one of the country’s oldest and largest living history museums, celebrating life in

# Smola supports bond bill to fund technology upgrades

BOSTON — Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) joined with his House colleagues to support a comprehensive bond bill that invests \$1.7 billion for information technology, public safety, food security, and data and cyber-security improvements throughout state and local government.

House Bill 4733, An Act financing the general governmental infrastructure of the Commonwealth, was engrossed by the House of Representatives on a vote of 149-7 on May 20, with most members continuing to vote remotely to comply with social distancing requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic. Rep. Smola noted this is a multi-year bond bill that is designed to replenish funding in many areas that were last funded in 2014.

In addition to providing \$165 million to improve the efficiency of state information technology resources and guard against cyber-attacks, the bond bill also includes \$23.4 million in grants for public and nonprofit entities to implement local information technology improvements and address other capital needs, along with \$10 million to help federally qualified health centers develop hardware and

software solutions to protect medical and business data.

House Bill 4733 also establishes a \$36.5 million food security program within the Department of Agricultural Resources to support food banks, farm stands, elder services, and other food distribution channels disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the bond bill provides \$5 million to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services to develop a system to make it easier for applicants and recipients of MassHealth and the Medicare Savings Program to access benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) if they are eligible.

Rep. Smola said the bond bill funds a series of grant initiatives to assist cities and towns with their IT and capital needs, including a \$40 million program to help public school districts establish, enhance and expand remote learning opportunities for students, and a \$20.5 million program to help municipalities fund the construction of fiber optic broadband infrastructure and related projects, with priority given to areas that are currently unserved. At least \$500,000 of this funding will be dedicated

to regional planning agencies working with multiple communities on regional broadband infrastructure planning.

Additional municipal grant programs funded through the bond bill include:

\$6.5 million for cities, towns, school districts and nonprofit entities for public school information technology improvements and other capital needs;

\$5 million for the Community Compact Information Technology Grant Program;

\$101 million for general improvements and capital upgrades to municipal facilities;

\$10 million for cities and towns to make modifications to governmental infrastructure to improve accessibility;

\$115 million to support approved municipal library projects; and

\$25 million for fire departments to purchase firefighter safety gear and equipment.

Rep. Smola noted that the bond bill allocates \$30 million for safety and security improvements at the state's public colleges, \$10 million of which is dedicated to Massachusetts' community colleges. This funding can be used for a wide range of safety needs, including campus police training, as well as the purchase of emer-

gency communication systems, cameras, emergency call boxes and active shooter detection systems.

Other public safety initiatives funded in the bond bill include:

\$5 million for grants to public and nonprofit entities for investments in public safety information technology, equipment and other capital needs;

\$10 million for improvements to facilities operated by the Department of Fire Services, including the establishment of a Southeastern Massachusetts firefighter training facility;

\$92.5 million for the replacement of State Police cruisers and equipment; and

\$30 million for medical, security, safety and communications equipment, as well as vehicles, for the Department of Correction and other agencies within the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

House Bill 4733 now moves to the Senate for its consideration. For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2100.

## Charlton adapts governor's reopening approach

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON—With Gov. Charlie Baker announcing a four-phase plan to re-open the Commonwealth of Massachusetts over the next several months, local communities are now beginning to assess how each step of this process will affect them as the world seeks a return to normality following the COVID-19 pandemic.

In Charlton, Town Administrator Andrew Golas said the town has had to implement a stricter approach to reopening the town hall over the course of the next month. The town had originally planned its own phased approach to reopening, but now that the governor has issued a statewide strategy Charlton will be adjusting its approach accordingly.

“At first, we had a little bit more of an aggressive re-opening plan, where

we were hoping to open up to residents by appointment. When the governor's orders came out, they were a little unclear as to how they truly affected us. After getting a little bit more guidance from the Massachusetts Municipal Association, we basically had to make the determination that we weren't going to be allowed to have residents in the building until at least Phase 2 from the state level commences,” Golas said. “Right now, we're basically planning that starting at the end of May offices will have two staff members at the most per office with some rotating staffing on site. A lot of the actual services will still be provided remotely.”

Golas said there are still plenty of unanswered questions that need to be resolved before Charlton fully re-opens and allows residents to enter the town hall. The plan right now is to follow state guidelines and re-open small parts of the town as allowed.

“We don't want to be too aggressive, and we're trying to figure out how everything fits with Charlton,” Golas said. “As outdoor recreation opens up, we'll be looking to open the playgrounds and other facilities back up to the public. We haven't set any recommendations other than asking citizens to observe the social distancing practices and wear facemasks where social distancing can't be achieved.”

As far as the town election and spring annual town meeting are concerned, both are still set to be held on Saturday, June 13 and Monday, June 15, respectively. The election will be held indoors with new precautions put in place to protect the safety and health of workers and voters, while the annual town meeting will be held outside for 2020.


“We're going to be having the election still at the Heritage School with some safety precautions put in place. We're making final determinations on that,” Golas said. “The game plan for the town meeting right now is to hold it outside in front of the Charlton Middle School in

the parking lot. We're also hammering out some of the details on that. We're hoping for good weather and if there is inclement weather we'll hold it the next day.”

As the state begins to reopen, Golas said he and others in the town are looking forward to a return to normalcy. The town employees are eagerly awaiting the day when they are able to return to in-person interactions to serve the townsfolk to the best of their abilities. Golas said while things may be starting to trend in a more positive direction it's important to remember those who have worked hard to keep Charlton operating and safe. The Town Administrator commended town employees and first responders, the Board of Health for their “heroic” efforts, the Charlton Sewing Center for providing a large and continuous supply of masks to those in need, and completed the local senior housing facility The Overlook for maintaining a coronavirus-free environment for residents throughout the pandemic.

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## Friday's Child



**Hi! My name is Trey'von and I am very affectionate!**

Trey'von is a playful seven-year-old boy of Hispanic descent. He can be shy when meeting new people but once he is comfortable, he is affectionate and easily engaged. Trey'von enjoys playing age-appropriate games, watching movies, playing outside, and coloring. Trey'von does extremely well in a structured environment with clear and consistent boundaries, both at home and in school.

Trey'von is legally freed for adoption and can be placed in any type of family with or without other children. Trey'von has bi-monthly visits with his birth mother until an adoption is finalized, then the visits will decrease to two visits per year. Trey'von will also need to maintain three visits per year with his sibling.


**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 617-6273 or visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

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## Jessica Stolecki set to graduate from SUNY Potsdam

POTSDAM, N.Y. — Jessica Stolecki of Brimfield is set to graduate summa cum laude from SUNY Potsdam with a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education and Music Performance.


The State University of New York at Potsdam will recognize Jessica and the nearly 900 candidates for graduation with a special virtual Commencement celebration, on Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m.

The SUNY Potsdam Class of 2020 will be honored in an online ceremony and watch party on the traditional Commencement day, until the College is able to safely hold an in-person event honoring all of this year's bachelor's and master's graduates at a later date.

During Commencement, SUNY Potsdam honors students who have either earned their degree or are eligible

to graduate during that calendar year. To learn more about Commencement at SUNY Potsdam, visit <http://www.potsdam.edu/commencement>.

About SUNY Potsdam  
Founded in 1816, The State University of New York at Potsdam is one of America's first 50 colleges - and the oldest institution within SUNY. Now in its third century, SUNY Potsdam is distinguished by a legacy of pioneering programs and educational excellence. The College currently enrolls approximately 3,600 undergraduate and graduate students. Home to the world-renowned Crane School of Music, SUNY Potsdam is known for its challenging liberal arts and sciences core, distinction in teacher training and culture of creativity. To learn more, visit <http://www.potsdam.edu>.



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in the June 19 issue of all of our papers

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For more information or to reserve space, please contact Mikaela Victor, 774-200-7308, or email [Mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:Mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)

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# bankHometown appoints Branch Manager in Sturbridge

STURBRIDGE — bankHometown recently appointed new branch managers of its Lancaster, Oxford, and Sturbridge locations.

Anthony Marini was named branch manager of the bank's Sturbridge location, after having served as branch manager of its Oxford home office for more than a year. Marini has 15 years of banking experience and was a store manager for TD Bank prior to joining bankHometown in 2018. He earned his bachelor's degree in business management from Westfield State College and an associate degree in retail management from Holyoke Community College.

About bankHometown  
Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts, and has \$1.0 billion in assets and 15 branches located throughout central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut. Through its sponsorship and charitable giving program, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2019, the bank and foundation donated more than \$368,000 to nearly 270 organizations. Over the last four years, the program has donated more than \$1.1 million. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.



Anthony Marini

# Quinsigamond Community College offers free courses for businesses

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education recognizes the tumultuous workplace environment businesses now find themselves in, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. QCC has taken the unusual approach of offering free online learning opportunities and resources, designed to address the needs of companies and their workforce in this new and evolving landscape.

"This is a time in our history where we must all come together for the common good. Our economy and our livelihood depends on the success and viability of our companies and it is imperative that we assist them in this time of major economic disruption," said QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja. "COVID-19 has dealt a lethal blow to many businesses and those businesses that don't have the skills needed in the current and post pandemic world will likely not survive."

As businesses begin to adapt to new ways of delivering goods and services, they must reinvent themselves and learn to adapt digital working practices into their current workplace practices. QCC is offering companies the tools to help make the transition.

"Supervisors and employees in every industry sector faced a steep learning curve as they worked together to move business services on-line over the past few weeks. Now, the 'normal' has shifted and it is time to focus on maximizing the quality and efficiency of these services," said QCC's Associate Vice President for Strategic Academic and Workforce Initiative, Kathy Rentsch.

The College is now offering 20 free courses to business owners and members of their workforce to serve as a valuable resource for industries in the region. All courses are offered online for a limited time and are self-paced.

"Courses that are offered are designed to appeal to all levels within an organization and range in focus from strategic planning courses, such as Managing the Virtual Workplace, to specific targeted skills courses, such as Microsoft Office 365 and Excel," Kathleen Manning, Dean of Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

"This modular on-line learning program provides each student the flexibility to design an individualized program to build knowledge, skills and abilities for success," Ms. Rentsch added.

While no one knows what the future will bring, those companies that pivot and adjust to the changing times will be in a much better position than those that maintain the status quo.

"The current COVID-19 crisis has challenged both employers and employees to very quickly adapt to where and how they work. QCC plays a vital role in providing education that reflects the just-in-time needs of both groups," Ms. Manning said. "It is important that QCC serves as a resource to address any skill gaps this adaption created."

To register for a course or learn more visit, QCC's Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [orjmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:orjmartin@qcc.mass.edu)

# Thanks to \$450,000 transition grant, QCC can help students focus on future

WORCESTER — The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has awarded Quinsigamond Community College's Future Focus program an Adult Education Transition to Community College Grant. The \$450,000 grant is divided into three yearly allotments of \$150,000, and is the maximum amount awarded.

QCC's Future Focus program is designed specifically for adult learners from adult basic education programs and creates a direct pathway to degree and certificate programs. Since 2010, Future Focus has significantly increased its student enrollment, and to date, over 300 non-traditional students have been through the program.

"Those in our community who are under-represented and under-served have benefited greatly from our Future Focus program. Increasing the award amount will enable us to assist more people in their quest for a better future," said QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja.

Future Focus students are non-traditional students who have gone through the tradition-

al U.S. education system, but did not complete their school requirements and instead earned their GED or HiSET high school equivalency. Future Focus students are also English as a Second Language (ESOL/ESL) participants, who already have their high school diploma, as well as students who graduated from high school years ago and went directly into the workforce. Participants receive comprehensive support in order to help them succeed as they transition into higher education. The program covers all tuition and fees, books, school supplies (and bus passes if needed), in addition to career and academic advising.

"The program has a rotation of students, made up of first-semester students and second-semester students. The goal is to have 15 new students each semester, and students stay with the program for one year (two semesters)," said QCC Future Focus Coordinator, Gilmarie Vongphakdy, adding that there are 30 students participating for the Spring 2020 semester.

QCC Future Focus students come from all areas in the com-

munity, and includes CNAs, police officers, grocery clerks, PCAs, a phlebotomist, case-workers with Worcester youth, medical assistants, dental receptionists, factory workers, forklift drivers, bank tellers, parents, and many more.

"We have two students graduating this May and two more finishing up at the end of the Summer II semester," Ms. Vongphakdy continued. "One student was accepted and will be attending Assumption College and the other student was accepted to Worcester State University and is waiting to hear back from some other schools. One of the other students who is graduating this summer has also been accepted to Boston University and is waiting to hear back from some other schools."

To learn more about QCC's Future Focus program, <https://www.qcc.edu/services/future-focus-program>

For more information on QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).



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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A most solemn holiday

As many events over the past few months have been cancelled in an attempt to flatten the Coronavirus curve, Memorial Day celebrations were not exempt. Typical ceremonies were altered as a way to honor those lost serving our country while still maintaining safety.

When Memorial Day was first celebrated, it was known as Decoration Day following the Civil War. Youngsters would place flowers in cemeteries while they sang songs and honored those lost due to war. The Civil War, which ended in 1865, took the lives of more people than any other war in the history of the United States; the estimate is roughly 620,000, with the Union losing 365,000 and the Confederacy 260,000. History says that more than half of these losses came as the result of disease. As a result, the first national cemeteries were created.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans called for a nationwide day to honor fallen soldiers. General James Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery on the first Decoration Day and the more than 5,000 people in attendance decorated more than 2,000 graves, both Union and Confederate.

The holiday, as we all know, is celebrated on the last Monday in May, and became an official holiday in the year 1971. Parades across the country take place, and people visit cemeteries where family members who have served in the military have been laid to rest.

At 3 p.m. every year, a moment of silence takes place across the country. In December of 2008, President Bill Clinton signed the "National Moment of Remembrance Act" which designated the time be at 3 p.m. In 1966, the government marked Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, every business in town would shut their doors and owners would venture out to decorate graves with flags as well as flowers.

Originally, Decoration Day was intended to honor those lost in just the Civil War. After the First World War, America felt the need, and rightfully so, to honor all those lost serving their country. In WWI, 116,516 Americans died at war, and 405,399 were lost during WWII. The Korean War took 36,574 lives, and the Vietnam War cost 58,220 lives. A total of 4,411 were lost in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 73 in Operation New Dawn, 2,346 as the result of Operation Enduring Freedom, 48 in Operation Freedom's Sentinel and 61 in Operation Inherent Resolve.

We hope that our readers, and all Americans, took a moment at some point over the long weekend, even in the midst of our current circumstances, to pause and remember the reason for this most solemn of holidays.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Charlton Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.news

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kennedy is the advocate essential workers need

To the Editor: I am deeply concerned about the prospect of opening American business too soon. In addition to the potentially dire health consequences, there are likely widespread negative economic consequences for re-opening without crucial changes to better protect workers. Joe Kennedy's advocacy for a living wage and recognition of the dignity and essential nature of American workers is a central reason why he will have my vote on Sept. 1. Throughout Kennedy's career, he has fought hard on behalf of workers and advocated for better conditions for labor. (It is easy to see why the majority of Massachusetts organized labor has endorsed Kennedy in the primary race for Senate.) In addition, Kennedy was the first member of congress to call for repeating financial payments to American families, with higher levels of support for families earning less than \$100,000

annually. The incumbent seemed to recognize this need just last week, when he signed on to a proposal led by Sen. Kamala Harris. Kennedy is also proposing broader, necessary worker protections. These include a living minimum wage for hospitality and restaurant employees, paid family leave, universal childcare, guaranteed sick days, and hazard pay for essential workers who risk their own health to serve our communities. These critical measures won't prevent another pandemic, but they will help prevent a repeat of the financial devastation we are seeing with this on. They will also bolster the economy more broadly. We need to elect more leaders like Kennedy, who understand these critical changes can't wait and are willing to fight for them now. Regards,

KELLY YAP FISKDALE

Know risk tolerance at different stages of life



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

an investor, you'll always need to deal with risk of some kind. But how can you manage the risk that's been made clear by the recent volatility in the financial markets? The answer to this question may depend on where you are in life. Let's look at some different life stages and how you might deal with risk at each of them: When you're first starting out ... If you're early in your career, with perhaps four or even five decades to go until you retire, you can likely afford to invest primarily for growth, which also means you'll be taking on a higher level of risk, as risk and reward are positively correlated. But, given your age, you have time to overcome the market downturns that are both inevitable and a normal part of investing. Consequently, your risk tolerance may be relatively high. Still, even at this stage, being over-aggressive can be costly. When you're in the middle stages ... At this time of your life, you're well along in your career, and you're probably working on at least a couple of financial goals, such as saving for retirement and possibly for your children's college education. So, you still need to be investing for growth, which means you'll likely need to maintain a relatively high risk tolerance. Nonetheless, it's a good idea to have some balance in your portfolio, so you'll want to consider a mix of investments that align with each of your goals. When you're a few years from retirement ... Now, you might have already achieved some key goals - perhaps your kids have finished college and you've paid off your mortgage. This may mean you have more money available to put away for retirement, but you'll still have to think carefully about how much risk you're willing to take. Since you're going to retire soon, you might consider rebalancing your portfolio to include some more conservative investments, whose value is less susceptible to financial market fluctuations. The reason? In just a few years, when you're retired, you will need to start taking withdrawals from your investment portfolio - essentially, you'll be selling investments, so, as much as possible, you'll want to avoid selling them when their price is down. Nonetheless, having a balanced and diversified portfolio doesn't fully protect against a loss. However, you can further reduce the future risk of being overly dependent on selling variable investments by devoting a certain percentage of your portfolio to cash and cash equivalents and designating this portion to be used for your daily expenses during the years immediately preceding, and possibly spilling into, your retirement. When you're retired ... Once you're retired, you might think you should take no risks at all. But you could spend two or three decades in retirement, so you may need some growth potential in your portfolio to stay ahead of inflation. Establishing a withdrawal rate - the amount you take out each year from your investments - that's appropriate for your lifestyle and projected longevity can reduce the risk of outliving your money. Of course, if there's an extended market downturn during any time of your retirement, you may want to lower your withdrawal rate temporarily. As you can see, your tolerance for risk, and your methods of dealing with it, can change over time. By being aware of this progression, you can make better-informed investment decisions.

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

The Rx Garden: Growing Medicinal Plants



For centuries plants have been grown for medicine, and in modern times "medicinal" herbs such as lavender, garlic and chamomile have long been familiar sights in a backyard plot. With the current focus on natural remedies, gardeners are rediscovering the healing varieties of plants and herbs - and expanding their gardens to plant specifically to treat common maladies. Whether you want to halt a headache or boost your brain power, chances are the solution is as easy as plucking a plant from your backyard garden (or windowsill). The following roster of remedies highlights some familiar plants and their medicinal uses. Note: Information is offered for general interest only and should not be taken as health advice. Contact your physician before ingesting or applying any herbs or plants.

TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR
cramps and gas pains. Peppermint: For a tummy soothing tea, pour boiling water over freshly picked peppermint leaves and add a teaspoon of honey for flavor. Lemon Balm: A tea made from Lemon Balm relieves abdominal pains and cramps.

\*\* Detoxing Agent Cilantro: Eaten fresh (as in a salad or steamed), the tasty herb binds to toxic metals that accumulate in the organs, aiding the body in disposing of them.

Pansies: The flowers with the "faces" have been touted as a valuable detoxifying. Pansies grown without pesticides can be enjoyed in their natural state, simply washed and tossed in a salad or cold drink.

Garlic: Fresh garlic contains compounds that help flush heavy metals out of the body.

\*\* Anti Inflammatory Marigolds: Marigolds have anti-inflammatory properties also aid in treating minor cuts and abrasions. Marigolds are also used to soothe and heal such skin ailments as burns and acne. Simply make a poultice from the flowers and apply to the area to be treated.

Pansies: Pansies act as an anti-inflammatory. The flowers may be made into a healthful tincture or tea.

\*\* Brain Boosters Lemon Balm: Taken as a tea, Lemon Balm is hailed as an herb that sharpens the mind and improves mental performance and memory.

Rosemary: The tasty spice herb has long been used as a remedy for age related memory loss.

\*\* Sage: Two university studies showed that those given Sage performed better in a word recall test. Experiments also revealed Sage can boost the same brain chemicals that decrease with Alzheimer's Disease.

\*\* Skin Care Dandelion: Although you won't want to plant dandelions, a plentiful supply of the weed is likely available. The yellow flowers, when made into an infusion can aid in reducing both large pores and age spots. Steep fresh blossoms in boiling water, allow to cool and apply to skin. The sticky liquid in the stems is used to shrink warts.

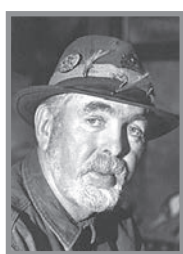
Pansy: The pansy is beneficial in treating eczema. To make a pansy poultice for external skin application to treat eczema and impetigo, simply add two tablespoons of pansy petals to two cups boiling water. Allow to steep for about 20 minutes and cool. Soak clean cloth in mixture and apply to skin.

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

Lemon Balm: Lemon Balm can speed up the healing of cold sores. Simply make a Lemon Balm tea with up to four table-



# Searching for stripers



THE GREAT  
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The weather is finally warming up, and so is fishing, if you have the proper gear and a boat to locate the fish. One local angler fished in Buzzards Bay last week and were targeting haddock. Fishing in 50 feet of water, the pair had lock and load cod fishing that lasted some time before they decided to leave the area in search of some haddock. All cod that were caught were released because of the closed cod fishing in all of the Gulf of Maine. They never did find the haddock fishing that they were looking for.

Another pair of anglers were fishing in Buzzards Bay and caught numerous seabass, large sculpin, fluke, & stripers. This writer made my first trip to the saltwater with my granddaughter Andrea and her son Logan. I had reports of some school stripers in the Providence River, as well as some schools of porgies, and decided to give it a try. When we arrived at the boat ramp at Hanes Park, I quickly realized that the reports of fish in the area were unsubstantiated. There was not a single car or boat trailer in the entire parking lot. "This does not look good" were the first words out of my mouth.

We were not looking for large strip-

ers, just a little action with school stripers for my great grandson and granddaughter Andrea. We quickly launched the boat, packed in our gear and I slowly maneuvered the boat past the marina. As we entered the open water, the wind was light and the sun was partially hidden in the clouds. On our way out, we had to pass by one of my favorite fishing spots for tautog, but because there was no crabs available at a local bait shop we were forced to go fishing without them. It was high tide and it was a perfect time to fish for tautog, as the tide was about to start going out.

All we had to fish with was plastics and hardware. Attaching a small rapala lure to the first rod, I handed it to Andrea to start fishing as I slowed the motor to trolling speed across the open water. Before I even had the next rod ready for fishing Andrea reacted to a sudden bump on her rod. "Wow, I had a good hit Pop!" Right then and there, I felt we were going to catch a lot of fish! That was it for the next few hours.

We tried going deep and everywhere in between. No fish. That is stripers fishing! Very little signs of fish on the fish-finder, and we never saw a single fish breaking the surface water as we trolled for hours. It was still a great day on the water with some of my family, and the little guy (five year old Logan) stayed busy watching the water and eating, and helping me steer the boat as the second picture shows. After returning to the boat ramp Andrea and Logan went looking for seashells on the beach area as I prepared the boat for the



journey home. Logan was fast asleep in his car seat not long after we headed home. That darn Covid-19 is sure going to change all of this for many families in the coming months and years.

Trout anglers are still enjoying some great fishing for Brown trout at Ashland and Hopkington Reservoir! A few large trout were caught on shiners as well as the old reliable power bait. Another trout angler told me about deep trolling for trout at Wallum Lake in Douglas, down 45 feet of water! Numerous rainbow trout were caught on his second trip to the lake. He reported that only a couple of other boats were observed fishing, which is more than likely because of the virus.

This week's picture shows Samantha



Johnson with her first Wild Turkey she harvested this spring. Last week's picture was of poor quality, and hopefully, this week's picture of her is a lot better. Nice bird!

This is the time of year that all residents need to be extremely careful when enjoying the outdoors. Ticks, wasps, yellow jacket bees and mosquitoes can cause serious problems for adults and children. Be sure to use the proper sprays and check your family daily, especially for ticks.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

# Boost your landscape's curb appeal in one weekend



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Create a front garden that is sure to boost your mood and welcome visitors all year round. All you need is one weekend and a bit of paint, flowers, décor and edging material to boost your landscape's curb appeal.

Add a splash of color by painting your front door. Look for colors that complement your home's siding and the surrounding landscape. Then add a seasonal wreath or other door decoration. A wreath of seed packets in the spring, succulents or silk flowers in summer, dried materials in fall and greens in winter add seasonal interest to your home. Visitors will look forward to the change of seasons marked by your door's décor.

Add a few containers

at the front entrance. Select a color and size that complements your home's size and architecture style. Reduce maintenance with self-watering containers that extend the time between watering. Further your enjoyment with solar-illuminated planters powered by the sun to add a magical glow to the landscape as the sun sets.

Define planting beds and create a finished look with edging. Use a sharp shovel to dig a V-shaped trench around small garden beds or employ the help of an edging machine for larger areas. Fill the trench with mulch to create a mowing edge and keep weeds out.

Or boost the aesthetic appeal and further define the space with edging materials like the Stomp Edge. This easy-to-install edging material is made from recycled rubber and only requires a few hand tools and minimal time to install.

Keep unruly plants out

of the lawn or off walkways while defining the garden space with decorative garden edging. You can keep it simple with Gardener's Supply Company's Stratford Edge Irons that mimic the edging found in Shakespeare's garden in Stratford England. Or add an artistic flare with a more decorative edging like the Nocturne Border Edging.

Weed garden beds to improve the overall appearance and health of garden plants. Weeds not only compete with your desirable plants for water and nutrients, but many are hosts for insect pests and diseases that can harm your desirable plants.

Once weeded, spread a one- to three-inch layer of organic mulch like shredded leaves, evergreen needles or woodchips over the soil surface. The finer the material, the thinner the layer of mulch needed. Organic mulch helps conserve moisture, sup-

press weeds and improve the soil as it breaks down. Select a mulch that is aesthetically pleasing and won't overwhelm the beauty of the plants.

Keep mulch off tree trunks, shrubs, stems and crowns of perennial and annual plants. Covering stems and plant crowns can lead to root rot and other problems that can negatively impact the plants' health and longevity.

Freshen existing wood mulch by lightly tilling or raking, so the darker mulch below the surface moves to the top. Avoid over mulching. It is a waste of money and can be harmful to your plants.

Make it a fun weekend by mixing in some tasty treats or a barbecue once the work is done. As you enjoy the benefits of your weekend's efforts, you'll be anxious to start tackling those bigger landscape tasks.

Melinda Myers has written more than



Courtesy

Define garden spaces with decorative garden edging while keeping unruly plants out of the lawn and off walkways.

20 gardening books, a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## TRAINOR

continued from page A8

spoons of the herb per cup of boiling water. Allow to cool, then apply with a cotton ball to cold sore several times a day.

\*\*

### Antioxidant

Oregano: Packed with antioxidants, the herb is also very easy to grow. FYI: In a USDA study, oregano demonstrated 42 times more antioxidant activity than apples, 30 times more than potatoes, 12 times more than oranges and four times more than blueberries! Just one tablespoon of fresh oregano was found to contain the same antioxidant

activity as a medium-sized apple.

Tomatoes: It's been well publicized that tomatoes are rich in lycopene, a powerful antioxidant, but tomato is also one of the top five food sources of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin E, potassium and fiber. Tomatoes are also excellent sources of phytochemicals, polyphenols and carotenoids. And research shows tomatoes an aid in lowering blood pressure. According to an Israeli study, adding tomatoes to a diet can reduce systolic blood pressure by 10 points and diastolic pressure by four points. The secret weapon once again, is the tomato's high concentration of lycopene. The recommended dosage is whole tomatoes daily, which is easy

during peak season. Off season, use chopped and canned garden tomatoes in chili, tomato sauces and soups to reach your daily dose.

Rosemary: Laboratory studies reveal the popular spice herb Rosemary has antioxidant properties that neutralize free radicals

\*\*\*

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on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

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# OBITUARIES

## JoAnn P. Sapunka Miller, 81

STURBRIDGE- JoAnn P. (Moffat) Sapunka Miller, 81, of Beach Ave., passed away at home on Wednesday, May 20th, with her loving family by her side, after an illness.



She leaves her husband of 30 years, Elmer E. Miller; her daughter, Karyn Hibbard of Sutton; her four grandchildren, Jason Noyes, Krystle (Noyes) Ardan and her husband Adam, Jayme Frazier and Kyle Coston; her great granddaughter, Ilianna Frazier and many nieces and nephews. JoAnn was predeceased by her first husband, Oliver Suprenant, and then widowed by Charles Sapunka; three daughters, Jacalyn Lindsey, Tracey Suprenant and Sheryl Suprenant; a brother, Kenneth Collins; and two sisters, Jean and Virginia. She was born in Elmira, NY, the daughter of Harold and Hellen (Spencer) Moffat.

Joann graduated high school and went on to obtain her Associates Degree and worked for several years as a CPA at New England Envelope in Worcester. She later became a home care support worker for the Seven Hills Foundation providing home care and support for many individuals in their program.

JoAnn was very active in her children's lives. She was a Girl Scout Leader, was active in 4-H, and a softball coach. JoAnn enjoyed being with her friends and family especially when observing holidays; you could often find her cooking with her children's and grandchildren's friends.

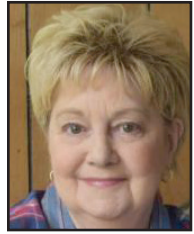
She loved all animals, gardening, to travel, boating, and was proud of her Irish heritage, celebrated her faith.

Funeral service and burial for Joann will be private. There are no calling hours.

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

## Christine Hand

STURBRIDGE- Christine (Thompson) Hand, died April 27, 2020 at UMASS in Worcester.



Her husband Stuart Hand died August 13, 2019.

She leaves her son Ian and his wife Michelle Hand of Alton, NH.

She was born in Ilkeston, England

the daughter of Frank and Margaret Thompson and lived in the area many years.

Christine enjoyed her trips to the casino, puzzles, knitting and taking care of her dog.

A memorial service will be held at a future date.

Belanger-Bullard Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

An online guestbook is available at [www.BelangerFuneralHome.com](http://www.BelangerFuneralHome.com)

## Madison "Maddy" L. Wetnicka 21

STURBRIDGE- Madison "Maddy" L. Wetnicka 21, of Willard Road, passed away suddenly on Thursday, May 14, after incurring injuries from an automobile accident in Connecticut that ultimately took her from us.

Maddy leaves her father, Brent Wetnicka and his partner, Jerod Giuggio with whom she lived, her mother Rebecca (Norrman) Wetnicka and her partner Marc Boiteau of Southbridge, a sister, Cassidy Wetnicka of Fiskdale, two brothers, Gavin Wetnicka of Southbridge and Garrett Wetnicka of Southbridge, maternal grandfather, Walter Norrman of Monson, maternal great grandmother, Jeanne (Woods) Baxter of Stafford Springs, CT, paternal grandfather, Jeffrey Wetnicka of Warren, paternal grandmother, Laurel (Wadsworth) Bercume and her husband, John of Spencer, paternal great grandmother, Mary (Stirling) Wetnicka of West Brookfield, her nephew, Peyton Wetnicka-Collazo, niece, Piper Collazo, many aunts, uncles, cousins, and her

best friends, Violet, Zoey, Kate & Bella.

She was predeceased by her maternal grandmother, Donna (Baxter) Huff and her husband, James Huff.

Maddy graduated from Tantasqua Regional High School class of 2017.

She worked at the Hair Gallery and Cinemagic in Sturbridge.

Maddy enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her "babies" Peyton and Piper. She enjoyed fashion, painting, animals, doing her makeup and hair and her cat "Bean".

The family has decided that a Celebration of Life for Maddy will be scheduled for a date in the future, so that her family and friends may honor her young life, memory and kind spirit.

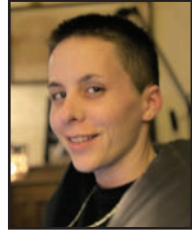
A live broadcast of Maddy's service was held on Friday, May 2.

Belanger-Bullard Funeral Home is directing arrangements.

An Online guestbook is available at <http://www.BelangerFuneralHome.com>

## Lauren Elizabeth Herbert

Our hearts are broken by the unexpected passing of Lauren, our beloved daughter and sister.



The vivacious, fun loving, adventure-some spirit that was uniquely hers is so sadly missed. Her huge smile, winning friendly spirit and determination to be her own person fill our memories and will

not be forgotten.

Compassionate by nature, she staunchly defended her friends and championed her beliefs. She was an animal lover, particularly dogs and her first dog Tippi. At Tantasqua she was known as a great soccer player, and she recently developed a passion for running and physical fitness.

Lauren was always inquisitive and curious to try something new. She loved to talk, listen, and learn about anything with just about anyone. On a good day she was as clever and wily as they come. On a good day she was your best friend even if you just met her. She listened and learned, but make no mistake she marched to the beat of her own drum and wrote her own story.

Fiercely independent and fearless even on days when her path seemed overwhelmingly tumultuous.

We cherish our beautiful memories with Lauren and they will live in our hearts forever.

Written by her family, her parents Stephen and Lorraine, her sister and brother, Sarah and Stephen Jr. We miss and love her so very much.

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# Remaining optimistic in a negative media world



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

GARY W.  
MOORE

I have written on this subject before, but as this current election cycle is beginning to heat up, I hope to pre-empt the anger and vitriol with what I think is basic common sense.

If you believe the 24-hour news channels, the sky is falling. Chicken Little, in the form of talking heads, would have us believe that the end is near. As I mentioned in a column a few months ago, it's good business for the TV and AM radio talkers to have us frightened of the impending doom. Whether it's the danger of a pandemic or the upcoming election, their fear-mongering causes us to keep coming back for the next news alert, so we can learn how the end will be delivered and by whom. Don't allow them to pull you in.

Politics are a nasty business.

Plato warned us, "Never give power to those who seek it." Our democratic form of government seems to only reward power to those who seek it with a vengeance ... and lots of cash.

George Washington was the perfect leader. He did not seek power and in fact, gave it up twice. After he led us to victory against the British in our war for independence, there were those who wished to make him king, yet General Washington refused and retreated to the solitude of Mount Vernon, his estate on the Potomac. Several years later, he was drafted to become our first President. He resisted but did not refuse his call to duty and served two terms. Again, the people wished to make him our permanent ruler. In his humble wisdom, once again, the "Father of Our Country" gave up power and returned to life at Mount Vernon. I believe George Washington to be the greatest American President and one of the world's greatest leaders.

The mission of my column is to help my readers to be

positive, uplifted, encouraged and optimistic in a world that is increasingly pessimistic and negative. It really doesn't matter which way you lean. Sean Hannity and Rachel Maddow, for example, could not be more different in rhetoric and beliefs, but are opposite sides of the same coin. As I have said here several times before, they, and others like them, are a major part of the problem in our country. If you think you are turning on the evening television to get the news, forget it.

There is a big difference between opinion and hard news. Hard news, and there's not much of it on television or talk radio, is found more frequently in your local newspaper ... this newspaper, in fact ... and a few trusted national sources. What we are tuning into at night on television is opinion and commentary. It is purely a left or right leaning person telling you what is going on in the world based on their personal bias and agenda. Both sides are guilty. What is masquerading on nighttime television as news is nothing

more than propaganda mixed with entertainment.

Where is our George?

I don't believe we'll find a George Washington today because we are currently too angry and divided to listen to reason. Washington would appeal to very few voters in this environment. If we believe our side is good, the other side must be evil. If you aren't with us, you must be against us. If I am right, you must be wrong. This kind of thinking has me asking ... "Where do we go from here?"

Turn off the noise and get back to "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness!"

Let's all pull together this election season, regardless of where you lean and not allow the anger and vitriol to pull us under. Half of my friends lean left, and I love them. The other half lean right, and I love them too. I'm going to encourage you to love your friends and neighbors regardless of political leanings. Do not get into ideological arguments on social media, but if you do, please don't unfriend your

friend! Just ignore them until the dust clears. Remember, they are a friend for a reason ... keep them as a friend after the election.

Don't let this election cycle define you as a person.

Trust me ... regardless of who wins in November, the sun will rise the next morning. These United States of America will remain a beacon of democracy in a world looking to us for leadership. Rejoice in the fact we live in a country that allows "We the People," the common citizen, to choose. I love my life in the greatest nation in the history of mankind. Please rejoice with me in the realization that no matter who wins or loses, the USA will continue to thrive.

May God continue to bless The United States of America

Gary W. Moore is a syndicated columnist, speaker and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore721 and at [www.garywmoore.com](http://www.garywmoore.com).



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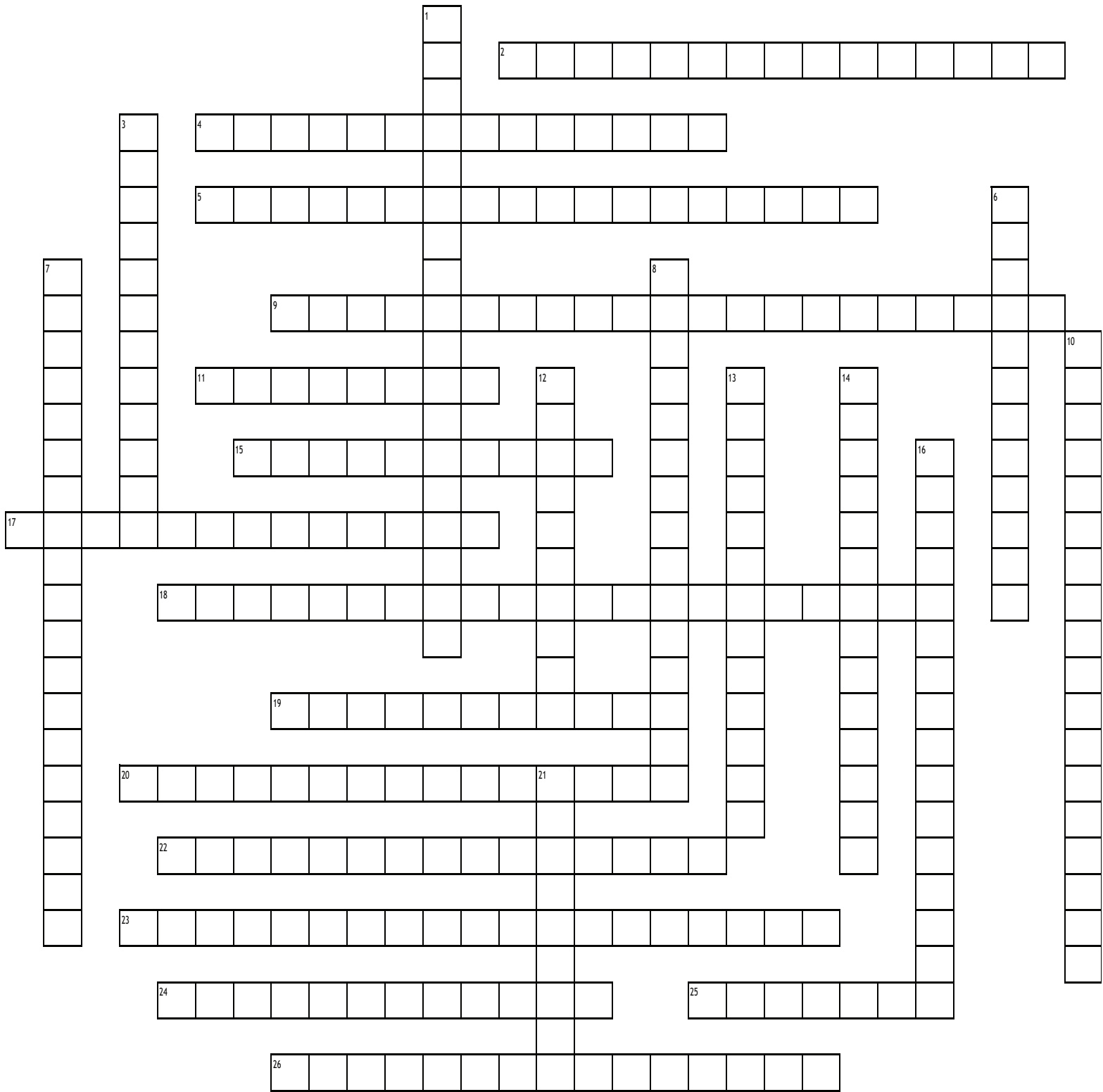


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- 20. Engagements, Weddings, Birthday, Anniversaries,  
Or Just Because
- 22. White's Landing
- 23. 1182 Park St., Palmer, Ma 01069
- 24. 50% Off Leaf Guards With Gutter Installation
- 25. Hair Lashes Waxing Skincare Facials Massage
- 26. Find Our Bogo Coupon On Our Website

**DOWN**

- 1. Update On Covid-19 For Our Patients
- 3. Get Back To You
- 6. Covid-19 Safety Protocols At All Times
- 7. One Time Treatments Starting At \$125
- 8. Maple Syrup Products, Country Toys
- 10. nNd Building Complete
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- 21. 16 Years Real Estate Experience

**2nd Annual ABC'S OF THE SEASONS, SPRING EDITION**

Hint... answers don't always include the entire business name.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle which paper you found this in: *Spencer New Leader, Webster Times, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Auburn News, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Southbridge News*

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please find the answers to this crossword puzzle on the ABC's Page. Enter to win a \$25 gift card to a local business by mailing in your completed crossword to ABC Crossword Puzzle, Stonebridge Press, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 OR scan & email or take a picture and email it to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by Friday, June 26th. Random-drawing for winner of all correct entries to be announced in the July 3rd issue of the Express. One entry per person. Please support these ABC's businesses and tell them you saw their ad in your local paper! Good luck!

**BAKER**  
continued from page A1

"If public health data trends are negative, specific industries, regions, and/or the entire Commonwealth may need to return to an earlier phase," Baker said. "If we all work together to defeat COVID-19, we can proceed through each phase."

Success in earlier phases will determine criteria for future phases, state officials said. This will include travel regulations, sizes of permitted gatherings, lodging and accommodations, arts, entertainment, fitness centers, museums, youth sports, and other activities.

Baker also addressed business owners who feel unsafe about reopening and potentially endangering employees and customers.

"Businesses are not required to

reopen, and may not do so if they are unable to follow safety protocols," the Governor said. "The Baker-Polito Administration has developed specific guidance so that each industry reopens as safely as possible. Businesses are expected to implement these protocols in addition to the more general mandatory workplace safety standards."

In order to reopen, businesses must develop a written COVID-19 control plan outlining how their workplaces will prevent the spread of coronavirus. Required materials are located on [www.mass.gov/reopening](http://www.mass.gov/reopening).

Notably absent in the Governor's reopening plan was a specific timetable for when restaurants can begin to return to in-person dining. Restaurants were not included in the first phase of Baker's reopening plan, and officials predict it will be at least three weeks

until they can consider returning to in-person dining service.

Local restaurant owners continue to thank patrons for their support throughout the crisis. Owners have relied on deliveries and takeout to stay afloat over the last two months.

"We've really been picking up on deliveries, and we've gotten great support from people," said Matt Bluyus, the owner of Uncle Sam's Pizza in East Brookfield.

Local officials ask residents to continue supporting area businesses while maintaining social distance and wearing masks. Patrons are urged to not become complacent once the summer arrives and more businesses reopen.

Meanwhile, additional guidance in the Governor's updated plan is available below:

People over the age of 65 and people who have underlying health conditions

should continue to stay home, except for essential errands such as going to the grocery store

All residents are advised to leave home only for healthcare, worship, permitted work, shopping, and outdoor activities

Don't participate in close contact activities such as pick-up sports

All residents are required to cover their faces when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public

Parents should limit play dates for children

Refrain from visiting nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, or other residential care settings

Use remote modes of communication like phone or video chat instead of visiting friends or family who are at high risk for COVID-19



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**OXFORD** – 377 Main St! 9 Rm Center Hall Colonial! .59 Acre Corner Lot! Charm of Yesteryear! Eat-In Frplcd Granite Kit w/Updated Cabinets, Frplcd Din Rm w/Built-in China Cabinet & Butler Closet! Gracious Foyer! Spacious Frplcd Liv Rm! Breezeway to a Home Office or an Unfinished Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm or Craft Rm! Sit on the Front Porch and Enjoy Morning Coffee or Evening Tea! Huge 2-Car Garage w/Loft-Storage Area! Mature Tree Studded Yard! **\$349,000.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 9 Pebble Beach Rd! Middle Pond – Winter Cove! Private Peninsula Protected from the Storm – Safe Harbor! Custom 3,179' 8 Rm Contemp Ready for Your Immediate Enjoyment! Grand Entry Foyer! Ideal Open Fr Plan w/Sky Lighted Cathedral Ceilings, Tall Windows & Hrdwd Flrs! Beautiful Appliance Custom Granite Kit w/Center Isl! Formal Din, Fireplace Liv Rm w/Water/Estuary Views! 1st Flr Laundry! Second Floor Master Suite, Ideal Full Bath, Huge Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full & 2 Half Baths! Walk-out Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm! Buderus Oil Heat! C/Air! Oversized 2 Car Garage! **\$779,900.00**

**OXFORD** – 10 Hugenot Rd! 8 Rm Colonial! 1.36 Acres! Country Setting! Country Kitchen w/Bay Window Overlooking Back Yard, Front to Back Living/Dining Rm w/French Doors to Deck! Office! Side Entry Breezeway! 3 Bdrms Plus a Study/Craft Rm on the 2nd Floor! 1 Car Detached Garage w/Workshop! Easy Access to Shopping and Highways! **\$179,000.00**

**DUDLEY** – 38 Pine St! 5 Rm Ranch! Original Owner! Quaint Eat-in Kit! Formal Din Rm! Spacious Liv Rm w/New Picture Window! Fam Rm w/Views to Private Back Yard! Mudrm! Huge Deck! Buderus Oil Heat! 2 Car Garage! New Septic! Vinyl Sided! Newer Windows! Solar Panels! **\$239,000.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 23 Beacon Rd! Kildeer Island – Middle Pond – Southern Exposure – Full Day Sun! Level 90' Waterfront Lot w/1,011 Square Feet! Meticulously Maintained 5+ Rm, 2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Home w/Room to Expand! Soaring Cathedral Ceiling Family Rm w/Stone Fireplace Opening to the Maple Cabinet Kit & 4 Season Sunroom w/Anderson Slider to the Expansive Deck! 2nd floor Lake Facing Master w/Master Bath, Huge Closets & Slider to It's Lake Facing Deck! C/Air! 2 Car Garage! Lake Living at its Best! Listed by Another – "SOLD" by Century21 Lake Realty! **\$645,000.00**

**WEBSTER** – 9 Lake Parkway! Extremely Conveniently Located just off Exit 1 of 395! Loads of Potential! 6 Rm Cape! Appliance Kit! Din & Liv Rms w/Wall to Wall over Hrdwds! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! 1st Flr Bdrm w/Commode Closet! Recent Furnace! Recent Roof! **\$169,900.00**

**WOODSTOCK** – 9 Pawn Ridge! Renovated 4 Rm Townhouse! New Granite Kit w/SS Appliances! Kit & Liv Rm w/Hrdwds! 2 Comfortable Bdrms w/New Wall to Wall! New Full Bath! Freshly Painted Throughout! Lower Level w/Laundry & Storage, Able to Finish Additional Living Space! 2 Parking Spaces! **\$129,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$999,900.00**

**WEBSTER** – 60 East Main St! Established Local Bakery & Delicatessen 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 Appliance 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**

**DUDLEY** – 6 Lakeside Dr! 6 Rm Cape! Move-in Ready w/3-4 Bdrms in a Great Neighborhood! 1-2 Bdrms on 1st Flr (1 could be a Dining Rm), 2 Additional Bdrms Upstairs! 1st Floor w/Hardwoods! Interior Painted in Neutral Colors! Gas Heat on the 1st, Electric Heat on 2nd! Detached Garage w/Newer Door being used as a Hobby Rm! Newer Roof! New Insulation Added! Home is Wired for a Generator! Newer White Vinyl Fenced in Level Backyard! Town Services! Take advantage of Dudley's School System and Low Taxes! Walk to the Town Beach or the Playground at the Elementary School! Won't last long **\$249,900.00**

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**DOUGLAS - 14 MOUNT DANIELS WAY**

**ON DEPOSIT**

**NEW TO MARKET - MOUNT DANIELS ESTATES!!** 4 Bedroom Hip Roof Colonial 2+ Private Acres! Beautiful Hardwood Floors + Lg Cabinet Packed Kitchen! 1st Flr 1/2 Bath & Laundry. Grand Living Room. Stone Fireplace! French Doors Welcome you to a 3 Season 14x18 Sun Room. 16 x 18 Deck. Cape Cod Shower! 4 Bedrooms – Master W/Hardwood Floors, "Spa Like" Bathroom! 3 baths total. New High Efficiency Boiler & Hot Water Tank! Central Air **\$409,000**

**WEBSTER - 5 SURREY LN**

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Gently Used 5 Bdrm Colonial, or 4 Bedrooms & Game Room! This 24 x 28 3 Car Garage HAS HEAT! Open Concept Kitchen, Dining & Living Room, Full bath, Beautiful Granite Counters w/Breakfast Bar, Second Floor - 5 Over-sized Bdrms! Bath & Laundry Rm! Walk up Attic. **New Price \$399,000.**

**LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS**

Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer. **ON DEPOSIT \$70,000**

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

Webster - Potential 6 Buildable Lots! Water/ Sewer Access, Zoned Lake Residential **\$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. **\$99,900**

**WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD**

**SORRY, SOLD!**

Estate like long paved driveway! 3158 Sq Ft Colonial! Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout! Granite and s/s appliance kitchen! Large master bedroom, coffered ceiling, master bath, w/Jetted tub! Walk in closets. Two car garage. **assisted sale \$499,900.**

**WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD**

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**WEBSTER LAKE - 28 BLACK POINT RD**

2019 CUSTOM BUILT WEBSTER LAKE (WATERFRONT ACCESSIBLE) CONTEMPORARY CAPE! Sunrise (E) & Sunset (W) Exposure! 2,600+ SF, 11 Rms, 3 BRS, Loft, & 2 Full Baths. Open Flr Plan, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone-faced Fireplace, Upscale Gourmet Kitchen w/Huge Island, Sunny Breakfast Nook w/Built Ins, Formal Dining, Office, Laundry Rm, Mudroom & Coat Closet, 2 Main Level BRs & Full Bath. 2nd Flr Private Master BR Suite w/Private Bath & Walk-in Closet! Central Air! Cavernous 1,500 SF+ Unfinished LL plumbed for a Bath, Oversized 2-3 Car Att'd Garage! Corner Lot, 12,599 SF (.29 Acre), of Land plus BOAT DOCK. **NEW PRICE \$652,000.**

**WEBSTER LAKE - 32 JACKSON RD**

**SORRY, SOLD!**

**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 screened in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds! **\$375,000**



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**Dudley:** Great Location, Waterviews & convenient to Merimo Pond, 4 bdms, 2 BA, Formal dining rm, updates include windows, baths siding, electric, Lower level family-room  
9 Conant Ave. - \$274,500

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**Dudley:** Multi-Level, 3 bedrooms, Office, Family-room, 2.5 baths, Country kitchen, w/breakfast bar, Possible 1st Flr. bedroom, fireplace, enclosed porch.  
7 Joseph St. - \$319,900

**Dudley:** If you build it, they will come, Opportunity to subdivide 4 acres, Water & sewer available, Build new! Sell existing house, Unique property.  
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**Dudley:** LAND, Zoned light industrial, 27 acres

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## TRIPS OFFERED

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

### BAY PATH ADULT EVENING SCHOOL

The Boston Red Sox vs The Baltimore Orioles  
3 Days/2 Nights August 21 - 23, 2020  
What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights hotel lodging, breakfast at hotel, lower reserved seating to 2 ballgames, The United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Guinness Brewery & More  
\$549pp Double Occ. - \$679pp Single Occ.  
- \$539pp Triple Occ. - \$539pp Quad Occ.

For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact  
Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715  
Penn Dutch Country with the New Hit Show Queen Esther  
3 Days/2 Nights September 23-25, 2020  
What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, ticket to "Queen Esther", touring and More!  
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For a brochure and complete itinerary please contact  
Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715  
Nova Scotia w/Tattoo Fest featuring The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo Bay of Fundy, Halifax,  
Saint John, Annapolis Valley  
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What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging - Marriott Saint John - New Brunswick, 2 nights lodging - Westin Nova Scotian - Halifax, breakfast each morning (4), 2 scrumptious dinners, 1 lobster luncheon, guided tours

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What's Included: Roundtrip motor coach, 2 nights lodging - Marriott in downtown Montreal, 1 night lodging - Quebec City, four meals (4), 5 meals, guided tours each day and more!  
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Lori Douthwright 508-248-5971 X1715

### CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

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

A few things to know:  
Sign up at the center, or call 508-248-2231, or email: [charltontrips@yahoo.com](mailto:charltontrips@yahoo.com)  
Please put your full name and phone number on sign-up sheets  
Trips are open to the public  
Flyers available at the center or online at [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net). Click on Government, then Council on Aging/Senior Center

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

You will be notified of pick up time & location  
Bus pick up will usually be at St. Joseph's Church 10 H Putnam Rd. Ext. in Charlton  
July 28 - GLOUCESTER HARBOR CRUISE LOBSTERBAKE \$135 includes transportation, Beauport

Princess Cruise, Lobsterbake buffet, Entertainment & Dancing. Driver gratuity not included. Make checks payable to: Best of Times (payment due 6/25)

September 2 - LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE CRUISE & CASTLE IN THE CLOUDS \$129 includes transportation, Lake Cruise, Luncheon, Visit to Castle in the Clouds. Driver gratuity not included. Make checks payable to: Best of Times (payment due 7/30)

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

Dec 4-7 - A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS IN NASHVILLE, TN. Gaylord Oprey Hotel! 4 days/3 nights. Call for more info

### DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

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

### DUDLEY SENIORS

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

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

### FRIENDS OF THE STURBRIDGE SENIORS

The Friends of the Sturbridge Seniors are happy to offer the following 2020 Trips to the General Public.

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

On Tuesday August 18 to Friday August 21st, have your Passport ready for a Spectacular 4 Day/3 Night Motor Coach Roundtrip visit to Beautiful Montreal and Quebec Canada. For 849.00 pp Double or 1159.00 pp Single occupancy. Included are 3 nights Hotel Lodgings, 4 Meals, touring as described in your Travel Brochure, Best of Times Travel Tour Director and all gratuities except Motorcoach Driver. gratuity are included. In Montreal take in a guided visit of Norte-Dame Basilica, the Botanical Gardens, the Biodome, enjoy time at Montreal Casino plus even more. In Quebec, visit the Basilica of Saint-  
*Turn To TRIPS page A17*

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The Town of Charlton is seeking to fill a Full-time Assessor in Transition position. Qualified candidates should have comprehensive knowledge of property appraisal principles and practices, including the laws, regulations, and procedures applicable to local assessment administration. Considerable knowledge of building, zoning and construction codes. Must have a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration or related field along with 5 years experience; or a combination of both. Must have Massachusetts Accredited Assessor certification and valid Massachusetts Drivers License. Salary range is 36.49 - 40.17/hr. Applications can be found online at [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net) and can be emailed to [lynn.dyer@townofcharlton.net](mailto:lynn.dyer@townofcharlton.net) or mailed to the Town Hall, Human Resource Department

37 Main St., Charlton, MA 01507.  
Submission Deadline: 5/28/2020. EOE

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Baldwin Electric Player Piano Includes 40 rolls. Best offer. 774-232-9382

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# Automotive



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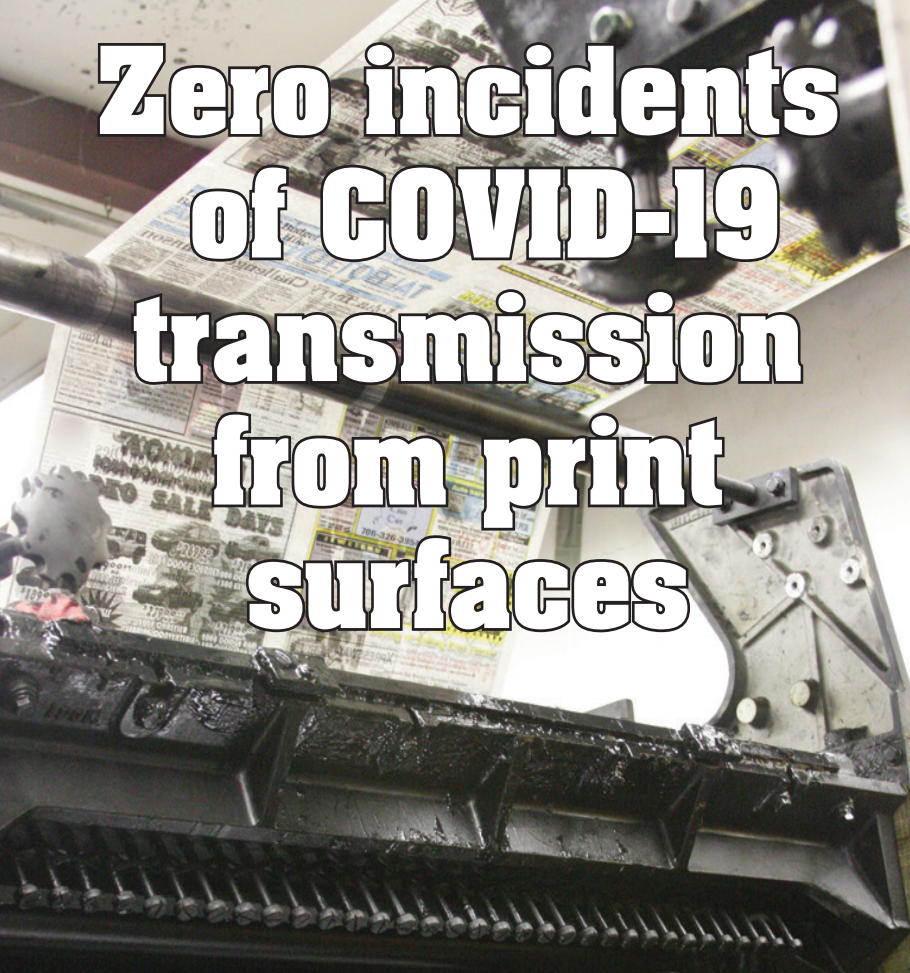
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Information as of April 2020 by:  
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Executive Director and CEO  
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# News, really close to home





# Quaboag

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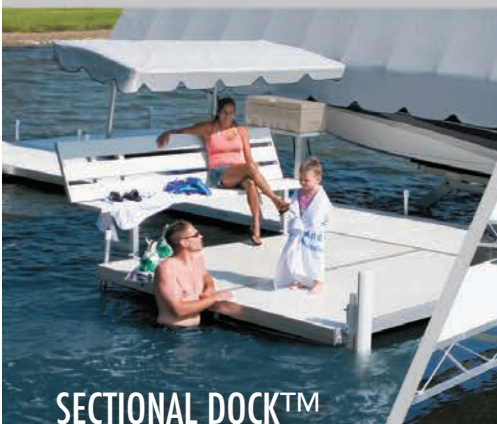
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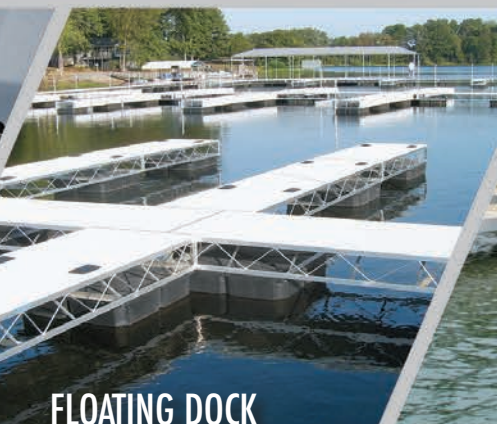

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