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Friday, July 2, 2021

School Committee will Host Forum on Critical Race Theory



Jason Bleau Photo

Around 55 parents attended meeting of the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee to discuss the potential of critical race theory coming to the schools

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – A forum will be held in July to allow parents to air their concerns about the potential of critical race theory being implemented in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District. Around 55 citizens, including retired teachers and parents of students from both Dudley and Charlton, filed into Charlton Middle School on June 23 to protest the potential addition of critical race theory to the district’s curriculum. The controversial academic movement started over 40 years ago but has risen in popularity over the last few years with the rise of social justice movements. The movement posits that race is a culturally invented category used for oppression and that the laws and legal institutions in the United States are inherently racist. The idea of adding the theory to schools has caused many to denounce the movement as one that would further divide the country by teaching children to identify each other by their

skin color and not by their character while supporters believe the teachings would expose students to what they see as a dark truth of American racism. On the local level, officials in the Dudley Charlton School District have told parents they don’t plan to implement critical race theory in their schools. However, parents are not convinced. In 2020 the district reformed its Equity Committee embracing the motto “to change the hearts and minds” of the students. The Equity Committee later procured the services of Dr. Sheldon Eakins who has discussed critical race theory in detail on his podcasts. Among the concerns posed by parents at the June 23 meeting were the lack of transparency by the Equity Committee, the lack of input the district has procured from parents concerning any potential changes to the curriculum, and the per-
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Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy holds pinning ceremony for graduating nursing students

Charlton, MA – Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN is pleased to share the commencement of the PN Classes of 2020 and 2021. The graduation and pinning ceremony took place Friday, June 25, at the Lakeside Pavilion of Indian Ranch, in Webster, MA along the shores of Lake Chagogoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunag ungamaugg. “We are proud of our graduates, both from PN Class of 2020 and PN Class of 2021 who worked hard amid the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Bolandrina said. “Each student graduating the rigorous program at Bay Path had undergone a stringent admission process, qualified, and has proven to have met and some have exceeded the

academic and clinical learning objectives to be equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitude of a prudent nurse. Our faculty and staff have demonstrated tremendous dedication, leadership, and resilience. I am touched by all the support and lasting impact each contributed to our graduates’ success.” The ceremony included a processional with faculty and staff in full academic regalia, welcome address from Bolandrina, an inspirational speech from Donna Pope, LPN of Southbridge (PN Class of 2017), a speech from Amanda Wonderlie voted Class Speaker, presentation of certificates
Turn To **NURSING**, page **A2**



Summer Lunches Available for Dudley and Charlton Students

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – Students of Dudley and Charlton will once again have access to summer meals in 2021 thanks to a partnership between the Dudley Charlton Regional School District and neighboring towns. District Food Services Director Matthew Greenburg told the regional school committee at a meeting on June 23 that students will be able to pick up meals in either Charlton or Webster until a week or two before the start of the school year this fall. “We were able to partner with Spencer East Brookfield School District and Webster School District to help cover our students and families. The Spencer East Brookfield program had started (June 22). We sent out an email a few weeks ago with a link – The option is to pick up on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at Charlton CHIP-In,” said Greenburg. He also stated that they are working with the CHIP-In pantry to help connect families to their programs as needed. “For Webster, their program is an open site which means there are no forms to fill out. You just show up during operational hours and they will provide you meals. That program starts July 6 and runs through August 5. The pickup locations are Park Avenue Elementary and Webster Middle School.” These summer meal programs are free with menus for the CHIP-In pickup available on site. There is currently no pickup location in the town of Dudley. Despite hearing disappointment from the school committee, Greenburg stated this was due to last year’s use of the Shepherd Hill Regional High School facilities not being cost effective. Superintendent Steven Lamarche commended Greenburg and his staff for once again bringing the summer meal programs to children in need in the district’s towns. “Mr.
Turn To **LUNCHES**, page **A3**

Dudley Lions Closes Doors, Donates Funds to Emergency Responders

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY – The Dudley Lions Club is sadly closing its doors after 52 years of service to the local community. Club President and King Lion Stephen Bouchard made the announcement before the Board of Selectmen at a meeting on June 21 where he also announced the final donations being made to help support public entities in town. Bouchard said the Lions Club was ending its tenure in Dudley on June 30 but decided as one of its final

acts to disperse funding between the Dudley Fire and Dudley Police Departments. “It is unfortunate, but times have changed. In our essence to give back to the communities Lion Paul Driscoll approached the fire and police chiefs to see what they needed and what the community needed. Both departments are among the first in line to help the community out from our eyes. In the approach, they listed off a few items that they would like,” Bouchard said. The Lions will donate \$3,000 to the Dudley Fire Department helping support the town’s Hazardous Waste Day and purchase new shields and gloves

for firefighters. The Dudley Police Department will receive \$2,500 to purchase a projector and some monitors for the dispatch center with the remaining balance supporting the department’s D.A.R.E. programs and holiday giving. “It’s bittersweet. We certainly thank the Lions Club for thinking of us at this time,” Police Chief Steven Wojnar said. “It is sad to see an organization that’s been so dedicated to the community go, but it’s a
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Committee Approves Fire Truck Purchase

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY – Dudley’s Capital Improvement Planning Committee has approved a vehicle purchase which would bring a much-needed piece of equipment to the Dudley Fire Department. At a meeting in early June the CIP Committee met with Dudley Fire Chief Dean Kochanowski who revealed the town had an opportunity to purchase a lightly used fire truck to replace an aging truck in the town’s current fleet. The truck would come from a volunteer department in Cranesville, New York

with only 14,000 miles and low engine hours making it a perfect replacement for one of the two vehicles currently in line for retirement in Dudley. “Initially in my capital plan we were going to skip this year, but Engine 2 and Engine 3 both need to be replaced. Engine 2, currently part of the pump is not working, the drafting portion of it. That’s kind of important but we’re limping along with it. This used truck kind of fell into our lap. It’s only four years newer than our current truck but it’s in fantastic shape,” Chief Kochanowski told the CIP Committee. The new truck comes at a cost of \$43,000 with modifications to be made prior to its arrival

in Dudley as opposed to the \$650,000 it would cost the town to buy a new truck outright. The Chief said a good portion of the cost is already covered. “I was skeptical at first but after we went to look at it, we’re foolish to pass on this. It’s a once in a lifetime deal. This truck is in phenomenal shape. Furthermore, I’ve secured \$21,000 in donations to purchase the truck.” With that in mind the truck would only cost the town \$22,000 with the potential of another \$5,000 donation that the chief said wasn’t in hand yet but was being discussed with an outside party. The chief said Engine 2 sadly can’t be sold to offset much of the cost.

It’s mileage and usage have left it worth only around \$1,000 in scrap. However, the department will be re-using the tires from the truck which were bought in 2020. The CIP Committee voted unanimously to add the purchase request to the capital improvement plan with the \$43,000 price tag to be subsidized partially by donations. The remaining cost is to be discussed with the town’s finance authority while the Board of Selectmen has to approve adding the purchase to the CIP. Chief Kochanowski said if the purchase goes through they will still need to work on how to replace Engine 3, the department’s other aged vehicle.

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visit www.townofcharlton.net

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Charlton Middle School

(508) 248-1423

Shepherd Hill Regional High School

(508) 943-6700

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School (508) 248-5971 or (508) 987-0326

CHURCH LISTINGS

Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. www.fedchurchcharlton.org

Charlton Baptist Church, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, www.charltonbaptist.org, Sunday worship 10 a.m.

Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org Sunday worship and Children's church 10am

St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248-7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m., Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday Life/TEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.

Hope Christian Fellowship, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144

Assemblies of God Southern New England District Headquarters, Route 20, 248-3771, snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Living Word Church of Charlton, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am. www.livingwordhcharlton.com info@livingwordhcharlton.com

New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Governor Baker launches VaxMillions Giveaway program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

REGION – Just in case getting protected against COVID-19 wasn't incentive enough, the Baker-Polito Administration recently added over five million more reasons for residents to schedule their shots.

In a partnership with the Massachusetts State Lottery, Governor Baker and his team announced last month the launch of the VaxMillions Giveaway program. All Massachusetts adults who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are eligible to enter for a chance to win one of five separate \$1 million cash prizes.

Additionally, fully vaccinated residents between 12-17 years of age may enter for the chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants.

Although Massachusetts ranks third in the nation in vaccine rate, (59.76-percent of the population), state officials are determined to raise that number even higher.

"The VaxMillions Giveaway is one of the many ways our administration is encouraging people to get the vaccine, and we are grateful for the partnership of Treasurer Goldberg and the Mass. State Lottery in developing the program," said Governor Charlie Baker.

Eligible residents will be able to enter the drawing on July 1. Drawings will be held once a week for five weeks, beginning the week of Monday, July 26, and continuing through the week ending Friday, August 27.

"Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID," said Lt. Governor Karyn

Polito. "We are hopeful that this new initiative will encourage even more residents to get the COVID vaccine and help return our Commonwealth to a new normal."

Added State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, "The Massachusetts State Lottery is proud to join Governor Charlie Baker and the Department of Public Health to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of every person across the Commonwealth. The Lottery has decades of experience and know-how to hold drawings with integrity, and our team is excited to fulfill an essential role in this initiative."

The Commonwealth is launching the VaxMillions Giveaway as one of many strategies to increase awareness of the availability and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines. Beginning July 1, Massachusetts residents will be able to enter the VaxMillions Giveaway online. If you do not have access to the internet or require assistance, there will be a call center available. Signup information and call center contact info and hours will be made available prior to July 1.

"We greatly appreciate the trust that Governor Baker, his administration, and Treasurer Goldberg have in the Mass. Lottery to assist in the implementation of this important public health initiative," said Michael Sweeney, Executive Director of the Massachusetts State Lottery. "The Mass. Lottery has worked diligently to build a reputation as one of the most successful lotteries in the country, and it is an honor to be entrusted with this responsibility."

Massachusetts residents 18 years of age and older who have received two doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, will have a chance to win.

Massachusetts residents between 12-17 years of age who have received two doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will have a chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants via a 529 College Savings Plan managed by the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA). Funds in a 529 Plan can be applied to cover tuition, room and board, and related expenses at any college, university, or technical or trade school, or another post-secondary educational institution eligible to participate in a student aid program administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Winners with a qualifying disability may elect instead to receive an equivalent financial contribution to a special needs trust or federally qualified ABLE account to cover qualified expenses.

Only lawful, permanent residents of Massachusetts who are fully vaccinated can apply. Residents must have received their vaccine doses within Massachusetts. Residents must be fully vaccinated prior to submitting their entries.

There are over 900 vaccination locations across the Commonwealth, with appointments and walk-ins widely available. Residents seeking a vaccine can visit www.mass.gov/COVIDVaccine.

For more information on the Mass. VaxMillions Giveaway, visit mass.gov/VaxMillions.

YMCA of Central Massachusetts Water Safety Tips



GOOD NEWS

Charlton Villager

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As temperatures begin to rise in the northeast, the number of drownings will likely rise with it.

Over one weekend in June there were five tragic drownings involving both minors and adults, bringing the total to ten drownings in Massachusetts since May. The majority of these deaths are preventable through age appropriate swim lessons, or at the very least, knowledge about how to be safe around water.

Each year there are nearly 3,600 fatal drownings — about 10 deaths per day — in swimming incidents. Even more alarming, drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged 1-4, and about one in five people who die from drowning are children aged 14 and younger.

The best way to prevent drowning is to learn basic swimming — knowing how to float and move through the water — at an early age.

As "America's Swim Teacher," the YMCA of Central

Massachusetts teaches 7,500 people, both children and adults, to swim each year. However, since pools were closed for a portion of the pandemic, many children and adults did not have the opportunity to learn to swim. With that in mind, the YMCA of Central Massachusetts is now offering swim lessons year round.

"We have seen an increase in drownings all over the state, as well as in our area, and now that our Y is fully open, we are in a unique position to offer critically important swim lessons and safety around water courses," said David Connell, President and CEO.

Here are just a few simple water safety tips from the YMCA that can help save a life:

Never swim alone. Teach your children that they should only swim in locations where lifeguard is on duty.

Supervise your children whenever they're in water. Whether it's bath time or taking a dip in a pool or lake, make sure your children are within an arm's reach of you at all times.

Don't engage in breath holding activities. Children shouldn't hold their breath for a prolonged amount of time while swimming, as this can cause

drowning and has several other severe physical side-effects.

Wear a life jacket. Inexperienced or non-swimmers should wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.

Don't jump in the water to save a friend who is struggling in deep water. If a child finds their friend in deep water unexpectedly, their natural reaction may be to jump in the water to try to save them. Even if a child is a great swimmer, a panicked person will overpower them, pulling them underwater with them. The Y teaches the "reach, throw, don't go" concept of using a long object to reach for them and pull them to safety. By using this technique children can help their friend without compromising their own safety.

While swimming lessons alone will not prevent all tragic drownings, it is important for more people to have the knowledge and skills necessary to move through the water safely and with confidence.

The YMCA of Central Massachusetts is committed to helping you and your family be safe around water. Please contact us at 508-755-6101 or www.ymcaof-cm.org for more information on water safety and swimming lessons.

NURSING

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and pins, presentation of The Virginia Dockstader Academic Excellence Award to Grace Mwangi of Worcester, Clinical Excellence Award to Khamphan Houatchanthara of Southbridge, and the Community Service Award to Kalie Hernandez, LPN (Class of 2017) of Southbridge, reciting the Practical Nursing Pledge led by Monique Bull of Worcester, and a recessional.

Of the 25 graduates from PN Class of 2020, the following attend-

ed the joyful event with their loved ones, Kristin Bates, LPN of Charlton, Robin Peters, LPN of Douglas, and Sikorrya Seguin of Dudley.

The following is a list of the Practical Nursing Class of 2021 graduates:

Auburn- Angela Letourneau, Meghan Reidy

Brookfield- Brianna Pincince-McLeish

Charlton- Brianna Cloutier

Cherry Valley- Carolyn Jenkins

Manchester, CT- Isabella Boateng

Oxford- Tianna Welcome*

Southbridge - Khamphan Houatchanthara, Angeley Santa, Sonya Ugrinow

Spencer- Julia Martinez, Ashley Winters

Webster- Brianna Laforest, Elizabeth Larson, Stefanie Lauretano, Risper Wanjiru*, Amanda Wonderlie

Worcester- Monique Bull*, Loise Kamero*, Beatrice Kamunyu, Luz Mercado, Grace Mwangi*, Digmarty Sanchez

*Denotes National Technical Honor Society Inductee

Summer @ MW

the HOT SARDINES

AN EVENING OF HOT JAZZ AT INDIAN RANCH

THURSDAY, JULY 22 AT 6PM

TICKETS AT MUSICWORCESTER.ORG

DCRSD Hoping for COVID-Free Start to School in the Fall

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – With the school year concluded and graduation in the books the Dudley Charlton Regional School District is looking ahead to the fast-approaching fall of 2021 and the unknowns a new school year in a post pandemic world will bring. One thing has been made loud a clear, there are more questions than answers.

Superintendent Steven Lamarche addressed what the 2021 school year might look like during a meeting of the regional school committee on June 23 acknowledging that the committee and his office are constantly getting questions of what the return to school might look like. With many districts and states across the country weighing the implementation of masking and mandatory vaccinations Superintendent Lamarche indicated that the local district will follow whatever guidelines are presented to them by the state rather than simply making its own rules.

“I completely understand the desire to know now what will happen in nine weeks, but it would be misguided for

me to predict what the state of our affairs will look like that far out,” Superintendent Lamarche said. “All of our planning is for a safe return to pre-COVID schooling. No masks requirements, no social distancing, and no testing. Any one of these could change as we get close to the start of school next year, not because of us but because of the guidelines and guidance from our state agencies.”

One of the most controversial topics discussed nationally right now is whether or not schools will require students to be vaccinated before returning to the classroom. While Superintendent Lamarche openly stated that he and his family are or are in the process of being vaccinated and that he himself is not an “anti-vaxxer”, he doesn’t foresee the district requiring anyone to be vaccinated at this time, although again that can change depending on a variety of factor.

“Listening to my colleagues there are some districts that are looking for legal opinions to determine if they can require such because they want to require such. I need to reiterate that I will not bring forward a recommen-

dation to this school committee as the superintendent of the Dudley Charlton Regional School District. I strongly believe that the decision must come from a state or federal agency and not from me. Of course, if the school committee decides differently, I will implement that decision,” said Lamarche.

In the months leading up to the new school year, summer programs are still following masking guidelines imploring those that are not vaccinated to continue to wear masks. However Superintendent Lamarche stressed that this is not a requirement but merely a recommendation and is based on guidelines currently in place from the Department of Elementary and Secondary education. “We are not going to require masking of our students and staff. If they are unvaccinated, we certainly encourage them. If someone chooses to wear a mask, they have that right and they will have a hundred percent of our support to do so,” Lamarche concluded.

The district will continue to provide updates on what the new school year will look like as the committee continues to meet in July and early August.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

LUNCES

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Greenberg was put on a mission to really work and try to formalize a program for this particular summer because we are getting back to pre-COVID times and trying to meet the demands for everyone,” Lamarche said. “He was working closely with these organizations, and it is unfortunate that there isn’t one in Dudley, but the CHIP-In one they do have it on their website.”

In addition to the summer meal program, Greenberg also revealed that Dudley continues to qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision of the USDA’s Child Nutrition Programs. The CEP is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and districts in low-income areas. Charlton however does not qualify being eight percent below the threshold for the program.

Sarah J. Daigle, DPM Named Medical Director of the Wound Care Center at Harrington

CHARLTON, MA, June 23, 2020 – Harrington HealthCare System has named Dr. Sarah J. Daigle, as Medical Director of the Wound Care Center at Harrington in Charlton.

Located at 10 North Main Street, the Wound Care Center at Harrington provides state-of-the-art treatment for non-healing and chronic wounds resulting from a variety of conditions such as diabetes, circulatory issues, surgery, or trauma.

Dr. Sarah J. Daigle joined Harrington Physicians Services Orthopedic practice in 2018, and specializes in foot and ankle medicine and surgery. She has completed research for the American Podiatric Medical Association and the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, both organizations of which she is a member.

“I am happy to be able to have the opportunity to serve my community in a new capacity. The wound care center is a great resource for this area,” said Dr. Daigle. “Not only are we healing wounds, but by doing so, we are preventing infection and amputation.”

The Wound Care Center at Harrington providers a comprehensive care plan with supportive services for patients including, diabetic education, nutritional management, specific individualized dressing selections, hyperbaric therapy, and more. Patients who have

a wound that has not begun to heal in two weeks or is not completely healed in six weeks are encouraged to contact the Wound Care Center at Harrington for an appointment.

For more information about the Wound Care Center at Harrington or to schedule an appointment visit: https://www.harringtonhospital.org/services/wound_care/

Harrington HealthCare System is a comprehensive regional healthcare system serving more than 25 communities across south central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut. The system includes Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, Harrington HealthCare at Webster and three additional major medical office buildings: Harrington HealthCare at Charlton, Harrington HealthCare at 169, also in Charlton, and Harrington HealthCare at Sturbridge; Harrington Physician Services, our primary care and multi-specialty physician group; UrgentCare Express at Harrington in Oxford; The Cancer Center at Harrington in Southbridge, and the region’s largest Behavioral Health programs for mental health and substance use.

www.harringtonhospital.org



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Town of Sturbridge

DPW Heavy Equipment Operator

Department of Public Works

The Town of Sturbridge has an immediate full-time opening for a Heavy Equipment Operator in the Department of Public Works, Highway Division. This position is a union position and the successful candidate will be responsible for operating heavy equipment and driving trucks equipped with dump bodies to transport and dump loose materials, among other responsibilities. A CDL (Class B) and hoisting license (Class 2B) are required. The starting pay for the position is \$24.47 per hour. For a copy of the complete job description and an application please go to <https://www.sturbridge.gov/your-government/pages/job-opportunities>.

Position open until filled.
The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE.

Henry
Age 13

Hi! My name is Henry and I love sports!

Henry is an outgoing teen of African American descent who enjoys being active, whether he is playing outside or engaging in sports-related activities. He has a natural athletic ability. Some of Henry's other interests include listening to music, dancing, and playing video games. His teachers report he is doing well in school. He has a great sense of humor and loves to joke around.

Legally freed for adoption, Henry would thrive in a permanent family as the youngest or only child. It would be ideal for his future family to initially serve as a visiting resource, and build a relationship with Henry over time. One he is placed in his permanent home, Henry will need to maintain contact with his birth mother and his siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

Insightful

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

CHARLTON
\$350,000, 49 Harrington Rd, Bracewell, Steven C, to Currie, Sierra N, and Giunta, Adam M.
\$320,000, 24 Morton Station Rd, Kuhn, Nicole, and Kuhn, Thomas, to Hatch, Michael S, and Dalbec, Tori A.
\$300,000, 35 N Main St, Henchey, Christopher S, to GM Properties LLC.
\$200,000, 187 Sunset Dr, Mac Marble& Granite Cont, to Spiewak, Joseph S, and Spiewak, Karen A.

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P.A.L. of the Week

Sponsored by Cormier Jewelers

Name: Lily
Breed: DSH
Sex: Female

Meet Lily – A very pretty calico, she is a vivacious and energetic young feline girl. Lily likes everyone who comes into the shelter and hopes that they will play with her. Because of her exuberance; we feel that she would not be happy in a small apartment. Now that the weather is nice; she spends some of her time in the shelter's outdoor enclosure. Lily had a very difficult life prior to coming to the shelter. She had multiple litters of kittens. Lily must be fed canned cat food only. She cannot eat kibble(dry) food. We will share her health information with any potential adopter. Lily has a sweet disposition, and we are hoping that we can find a home that is compatible with her needs.

People for Animals League
www.people4animals.org
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Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!

Happy Birthday America!!!

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Living The Dream!

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

On Saturday June 19th over a 150 Master Masons Brethren from throughout Massachusetts, and beyond gathered at the Worcester Masonic Building for a ceremony gathering that was postponed 17 months due to Covid-19 and restrictions that were put into place by Governor Baker. Now that the restriction, have been lifted brethren came to celebrate a presentation of the Junior Grand Wardens “Jewel” to Right Worshipful Christopher St. Cyr Junior Grand Warden Grand Masonic Lodge of Boston Massachusetts.

R.W. Chris grew up and lived in Southbridge and Charlton and is a graduate of Bay Path Regional Vocational High School where he took up electrical. R.W. Chris is presently employed by Karl Storz Endoscope in Charlton. R.W. Chris first started to show interest in Freemasonry back in 2006. He saw the Benjamin Franklin commercials on T.V. asking,

“IS THERE GREATNESS IN YOU?” “and was fascinated with the Knights Templar. He took the next step and called the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge and left a message on the answering machine. He was contacted by the Lodge Ambassador Brethren George Makara and came to the lodge for a tour and was given a little



R.W. Christopher St. Cyr Junior Grand Warden Grand Masonic Lodge of Boston

history on Freemasonry. Well folks as you can see the rest is history as R.W. Chris moved up in the fraternity that he loves and is dear to his heart.

R.W. Chris took the first step in Freemasonry towards the end of 2006. In March of 2007 after he finished his degree work, he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. R.W. Chris did not stop there he wanted to learn more and started going through the officer chairs in the lodge and was involved in the 24th Masonic District from 2007-2011 was the (DDGM) District Deputy Grand Master Awareness Officer. In 2012 he became one of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge Youngest Worshipful Master. This is an exciting and extraor-



Center with Colonial black gold trim hat is Most Worshipful Richard Maggio Grand Master of Boston and to his right is R.W. Christopher St. Cyr Junior Grand Warden along with Master Masons from all over the State of Massachusetts and beyond.

dinary accomplishment for a young man to go thru all the officer chairs and get voted into become Master of the Lodge. He was hooked and wanted more. Due to his personality, outgoingness, and the fact he is a chatter box, his thirst for knowledge and love for Freemasonry continue his move up in the 24th District and became the DDGM Marshal from 2014-2015 and 2015 Grand Steward to the Grand Lodge in Boston. He has so many more accomplishments that there are too many to mention.

Boston took note of this young upcoming Master Mason and was picked to become the 24th District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) and served 3 terms from 2016-2018. During his time as DDGM R.W. Chris loved to travel. He visited Lodges thru out his District and throughout the State of Massachusetts. He became so well know and popular he was nominated as a candidate in summer of 2019 for the position of Junior Grand Warden from the Grand Masonic Lodge in Boston and in December of 2019 won the election and voted into his new

appointed position. This young man mentioned to me that he is “Living His Dream”, a worthy man, a humble young man, who will continue his dream as a Freemason. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.mass-freemasonry.org and find a lodge nearest you. Members of the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge are immensely proud of this young man’s accomplishments and his drive to continue to do more for his fellow man and Freemasonry.

Ken Bates named to Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP) Board

Worcester, MA –Ken Bates, President & CEO of Open Sky Community Services, has been named to the Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP) Board of Directors.

ADDP is a state-wide association that focuses on issues relating to developmental/intellectual disabilities, Autism and brain injury services. They provide financial and political advocacy for their over 130 member organizations and also offer professional development opportunities.

According to the ADPP website, their mission “is to promote and ensure strength of community-based providers so provider members can be successful in improving quality, access and value of services in the community.”

Bates has served as President & CEO of Open Sky since its formation in 2018 and oversaw the affiliation of The Bridge of Central Massachusetts and Alternatives Unlimited. Prior to his position at Open Sky, he served as President & CEO at The Bridge of Central Massachusetts and as Executive Director of New Business and Financial Growth for the Commonwealth Medicine at UMass Medical School. He has also served as Vice-President of Behavioral Health at Advocates, Inc. and as Director of Outpatient Services at Spectrum Health Systems.

He received his undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from Worcester State University and his Master’s Degree in Counseling Psychology from Assumption University. In 2021 he was awarded an honorary Ph.D. from Assumption University.

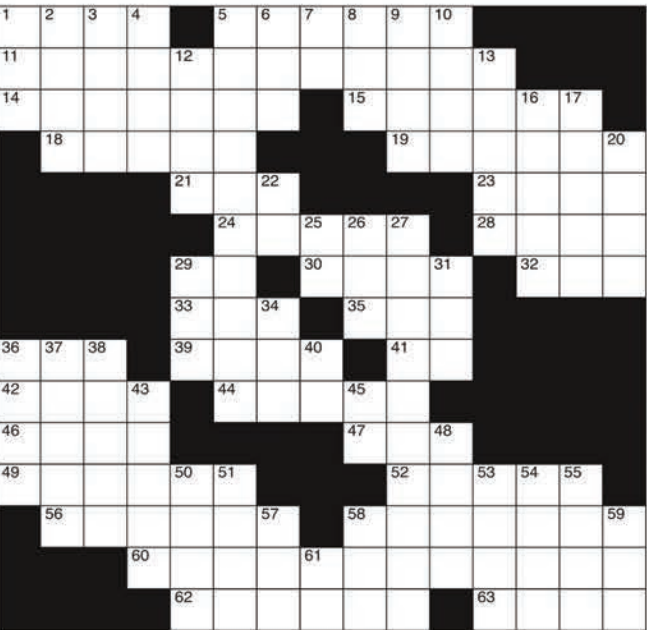


Ken Bates

Bates currently serves as Vice Chairperson on the Board of the Association of Behavioral Healthcare of Massachusetts and as a Corporator for Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

About Open Sky Community Services
Open Sky Community Services is dba for Alternatives Unlimited, Inc and The Bridge of Central MA. Open Sky offers a wide range of services for adults, adolescents, and children

with mental health challenges, developmental and intellectual disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other challenges throughout Central Massachusetts. Open Sky Community Services has over 1,300 dedicated employees and an annual budget of \$89M with more than 100 programs throughout the region. For more information, please visit www.openskycs.org.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Absence of difficulty
- 5. Preserve a dead body
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. The act of coming together again
- 15. More cushy
- 18. Visionaries
- 19. Fish-eating bird
- 21. Indicates near
- 23. NY Mets legend Tommie
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop
- 29. Hammer is one
- 30. Senses of self-esteem
- 32. Trigraph
- 33. Not around
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Driver’s licenses and passports
- 39. Snake-like fishes
- 41. Military flyers
- 42. Raincoats
- 44. Type of community
- 46. Feature of worm’s anatomy
- 47. In the center
- 49. Laid back
- 52. Jewelled headdress
- 56. In slow tempo
- 58. ___ Falls
- 60. Saying things again
- 62. Periods in history
- 63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Body part
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Expel or eject
- 4. Sea eagle
- 5. Subdivision of cenosespecies
- 6. Dialect of Chinese
- 7. Mr. T’s character on “The A-Team”
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. NFL great Randy
- 12. Ireland
- 13. Palm trees
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Willis and Jerry are two
- 20. Affirmative!
- 22. Potato state
- 25. “The First State”
- 26. A way to develop
- 27. Associations
- 29. Woman (French)
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. Brew
- 36. Mosque prayer leader
- 37. Indigo bush
- 38. Burn with a hot liquid
- 40. Jr.’s father
- 43. Scad genus
- 45. Morning
- 48. Length of a straight line (abbr.)
- 50. Double curve
- 51. Small thin bunch
- 53. Worn by exposure to the weather
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Of the ears
- 58. “To the ___ degree”
- 59. Residue
- 61. It keeps you cool



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St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church announces Raffle Winners

St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church announces the winners of their raffle held on Sunday, June 27, 2021.

- First Prize: \$1,500 Cash , James Walckner Port St. Lucie, FL
- Second Prize: \$700 Cash, Alex George ; Avon, CT
- Third Prize: \$300 Cash, Jorgjeta Bukli; Holden, MA
- Fourth Prize: \$300 Lottery Tickets, Rob Pano ; Sutton, MA

The Church appreciates the support of everyone who helped to make it a success.

Worcester County Overdose Response Program Sees Successes in First Year

WORCESTER – More than half of those offered services following an overdose accepted treatment as part of a program launched last year by District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. and all 60 police departments in Worcester County.

Critical Incident Management System (CIMS) launched in March 2020 and was used by police departments in all of Worcester County’s cities and towns over the last year to collect overdose data and respond to non-fatal overdose victims to offer services. The response visits were performed with a plain-clothes police officer and a recovery coach usually within 48 hours of an overdose incident.

Data from the last year shows that on 52 percent of the follow-up visits, individuals accepted services. In another 9 percent of instances the individuals were already seeking services.

“These are encouraging numbers,” said Mr. Early in a press conference today. “It was a challenging year to launch this program with the roadblocks presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. These numbers are a promising start. Any time we can help even one person get access to treatment is a life that is being saved.”

The District Attorney’s office purchased the CIMS software for \$40,000



using drug forfeiture funds in 2019 from developers Kelley Research Associates. The implementation of CIMS was a successful partnership between the District Attorney’s Office, local police departments and municipalities.

“By getting the names of the folks who’ve had the non-fatal overdoses and by giving the opportunity for the follow up...what you’ve done is open the door. You’ve made the connection. You’ve provided an opportunity for that person when they’re ready to take advantage of the treatment options that are available to them,” said Worcester City Manager

Edward Augustus.

CIMS allows police departments to share information, as well, so that when a person overdoses outside of their hometown they are still receiving a follow up visit.

“Addiction has no jurisdictional boundaries,” said Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest Martineau, former President of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association. “When there’s no boundary for that, there can be no boundary for helping people. And that’s what this does. It connects 60 cities and towns police departments in respond-

ing and helping.”

“The beauty of CIMS coming on board is now we have a centralized database that’s tracking and we get an alert when we have to go offer up services. And the other thing that we were missing was when people were outside of Webster having an overdose, we never knew. Now with CIMS, we can follow up with them. It’s a really integral part of getting these people the help they need,” said Webster Police Chief Michael Shaw. Webster’s responses to those in need are assisted by a partnership with Opening the Word Recovery Center, run by Rev. Janice Ford, which opened in June 2020 and served more than 2,000 people.

In fall of 2020, the District Attorney’s office was awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the federal Department of Justice-Bureau of Justice Assistance to fund recovery coaches that will respond with police to follow up and offer services after an overdose.

Mr. Early was also joined at the press conference by Worcester Police Chief Steven Sargent, current President of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association and Southbridge Chief Shane Woodson, Dudley Police Chief Steven Wojnar, and Worcester Fire Department Deputy Chief John Powers.

New summer series launches July 8 with free concert by the Brubeck Brothers Quartet

Music Worcester begins its first summer series of concerts, Summer @ MW, on Thursday, July 8 with a free presentation of the Brubeck Brothers Quartet, the sons of legendary Dave Brubeck, in Auburn, MA.

Two other concerts later in the month bring the Hot Sardines to Indian Ranch in Webster, MA on July 22, and the Gospel choir Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar to The Hanover Theatre in Worcester on July 25. This inaugural Summer @ MW season will continue through early September, with additional concerts being announced very soon.

“As Music Worcester started planning to emerge from this recent pandemic, virtual season of programming, it became apparent that we could move somewhat quickly and bring back our live music presentations to Greater Worcester far earlier than our usual October season opener,” noted Adrien Finlay, Executive Director. “We are extraordinarily excited to add summer programming to our annual activities from this

VENUES IN JULY INCLUDE THE RILEY-PAPPAS PAVILION IN AUBURN, INDIAN RANCH IN WEBSTER, & THE HANOVER THEATRE IN WORCESTER.



point forward, which will allow us to explore new venues and welcome even more varied artists and ensembles to the region.”

The concerts at Indian Ranch and The Hanover Theatre will feature seating sections where distanced “pods” of seats will be available for patrons who prefer or need such an option, with gen-

eral admission seating available elsewhere at both venues. Calendar listings for July:

Brubeck Brothers Quartet Thursday, July 8 at 6pm
Riley-Pappas Pavilion, Auburn, MA Free, open to the public
Hot Sardines Thursday, July 22 at 6pm

Indian Ranch, Webster, MA \$35+, tickets required, limited distanced seating available
Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar Sunday, July 25 at 6pm
The Hanover Theatre, Worcester, MA \$25 students; \$35+ adults, tickets required, limited dis-

tanced seating available

About Music Worcester: Music Worcester, Inc., originally known as the Worcester County Music Association, for years ran the Worcester Music Festival. Current programs reflect the merger in the mid-1990s of the Festival with International Artists Series and the MA Jazz Festival. Great performances by world-renowned orchestras and guest soloists, chamber music, ballet, world music and dance, jazz and choral masterworks are hallmarks of Music Worcester’s annual operations. Multiple educational programs currently serve youth and families of greater Worcester: masterclasses by visiting artists, Tickets to Opportunity, in-schools residencies, and the Young Artist Competitions. The 2020-2021 virtual season has featured violinist Joshua Bell, pianists Asiya Korepanova and Simone Dinnerstein, the vocal ensemble Chanticleer, folk musician Rhiannon Giddens, and The Worcester Chorus. WWW.MUSICWORCESTER.ORG

QCC is a Vaccine Champion College

WORCESTER, MA— June 23, 2021— Quinsigamond Community College has joined President Biden’s COVID-19 College Vaccination Challenge. Colleges across the country are being asked to commit to taking actions that will engage their college communities and encourage everyone to get vaccinated. Statistics show that a significant portion of the older population have been vaccinated; however, the younger generation is lagging behind. Colleges and universities offer a significant opportunity to reach that younger generation.

“We are committed to keeping our college community, our city, and the Commonwealth safe. The best way to do

this is by getting vaccinated,” said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “This is a challenge I hope all colleges and universities will stand behind so that we can put an end to this global health crisis.”

QCC has taken a visible role in COVID-19 community outreach. The College developed a comprehensive, COVID-19 vaccination webpage offering vaccination information through public service videos in multiple languages, along with fact sheets in multiple languages, a link to vaccination locations and a link to the Massachusetts COVID-19 information website.

QCC has already hosted two Moderna Vaccine Clinics on its campus (670 West

Boylston, Street, Worcester) for the QCC community, as well as faculty, staff and students from Assumption University, Anna Maria College and Becker College. Approximately 90 people were vaccinated at each clinic.

“Spreading the word about the importance of getting vaccinated has been a priority at QCC. Offering information that is easily accessible, in multiple languages, enables us to reach more in our community,” President Pedraja said. “By hosting vaccine clinics, we are providing easier access for our students, their families, as well as QCC employees, which enables more in our community to be vaccinated.”

President’s Biden’s goal is to have 160 million Americans being fully vaccinated by July 4.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508.854.7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu

Quinsigamond Community College provides the community with high quality, affordable higher education in Worcester County. As a regional leader in education and workforce development, QCC serves the diverse educational needs of Central Massachusetts by providing affordable, accessible, and high quality programming leading to transfer, career, and lifelong learning.

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Households In Need Encouraged To Apply To Good Neighbor Energy Fund In Anticipation Of End To Moratorium On Shut-Offs

CANTON, MA, June 24, 2021 – Due to the end to the moratorium on home energy shut-offs for customers of investor-owned utilities not on protected status next Thursday, July 1st, 2021, the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund’s sponsoring energy companies are encouraging those in need to apply for assistance as soon as possible by visiting their local Salvation Army Corps Community Center. If unsure of where the nearest Community Center is located, please visit www.magoodneighbor.org.

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is often the last resort for families who are in temporary financial difficulty and do not qualify for federal and state fuel assistance programs such as LIHEAP. The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division pays the energy provider directly for households whose gross income falls between 60 and 80 percent of the state’s median

income levels. For example, a household size of 4 would need to have a total gross yearly income of between \$75,202 and \$100,268 to qualify. This campaign year’s Fund disbursement is \$300 per eligible household per heating season.

“Once the investor-owned utilities’ moratorium on energy shut-offs ends there is often a spike in the urgency of need for energy assistance,” said Marie McCabe, Chairperson of the 2021 Good Neighbor Energy Fund campaign and Customer Service Representative at North Attleborough Electric Department. “With this in mind, households who are having trouble making ends meet due to the pandemic or another crisis shouldn’t delay in looking to the Fund as a potential source for help.” McCabe added that the easiest way to determine if a household qualifies is to visit the Fund’s website at www.magoodneighbor.org.

The Fund’s distribution award

letter will also serve as qualification for the Mass Save Enhanced Insulation Incentive for customers of a Massachusetts investor-owned utility. Specifically, the offer provides qualified customers with no-cost insulation, as well as other no-cost energy savings measures.

The Fund’s 35th annual “Give The Gift of Warmth” campaign is a cooperative effort between the Fund’s 19 sponsoring energy companies, the general public and the corporate community to raise \$500,000 and help an anticipated 1,500 households. The campaign relies on the generosity of individuals, families, local corporations and foundations for support and has raised more than \$22.5 million and assisted over 91,250 households since its inception in 1985.

Massachusetts residents and businesses that wish to donate to the Fund are encouraged to use the green Good Neighbor Energy Fund dona-

tion envelope found as an insert in monthly energy bills. Some energy companies offer an ‘add a dollar’ program which allows customers to contribute on their monthly bill payment by one dollar or more. Anyone can also donate with a credit card online at www.magoodneighbor.org. Donors can also simply mail a check payable to “Good Neighbor Energy Fund”, c/o The Salvation Army, 25 Shawmut Road, Canton, Massachusetts 02021-1408. Participating energy companies support their respective customers’ generosity through various giving programs.

For more information about how to apply for the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund, visit your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center or call 800-334-3047 if you live in area codes 508, 617, 781 or 978 or 800-262-1320 if you live in area code 413. Web: www.magoodneighbor.org.

Massachusetts Department of Transportation and Fundación MAPFRE Launch “Look Both Ways” PSA to Promote Road Safety

PSA CHALLENGES MASSACHUSETTS DRIVERS TO BE “AGGRESSIVELY NICE”

BOSTON and WEBSTER, Mass., June 22, 2021 – Fundación MAPFRE and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation today announced a new public service campaign to engage people in changing their behavior on the roads. The campaign is part of an effort to reduce road-related injuries and fatalities, particularly as pandemic restrictions are lifted and people get back on the roads for summer travel.

The PSA, launched in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Fundación MAPFRE, challenges the stereotype of a typical “Massachusetts driver”

by encouraging people to be “aggressively nice” on the road. <https://youtu.be/xIvlt-miycz8>

“We are pleased to support our Goal Zero vision to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries, with our new Look Both Ways program this year,” said Jaime Tamayo, Chief Representative of Fundación MAPFRE in the United States and Chief Executive Officer of MAPFRE USA. “As more people hit the roads this summer, it is important to encourage drivers, passengers and pedestrians to think twice about their behavior and look out for each other. Fundación MAPFRE is proud to work with MassDOT to help share this important campaign and message.”

“MassDOT’s first priority is ensuring that members of the public safely reach their travel destinations,” said MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. “We are happy to partner with MAPFRE Foundation on the Look Both Ways PSA to improve safety and reduce injuries and fatalities on our roadways.”

MassDOT encourages anyone looking for information about crash data to check out the MassDOT IMPACT dashboard at <https://apps.impact.dot.state.ma.us/cdp/home>.

In addition to the PSA, Fundación MAPFRE is planning a Look Both Ways Road Tour, bringing an interactive road safety program to high schools, colleges and public events across Massachusetts and Connecticut. The program features React Challenge, a digital gaming experience that tests users’ reaction time when faced with obstacles on the

road. The tour also includes a custom art installation by Jason Tetlak. The PSA and interactive campaign aim to change people’s behavior on the road by changing their perspective, using a unique combination of education and empathy.

Details about Look Both Ways, including the PSA, React Challenge and road safety resources, can be found at look-bothwaysafety.org.

Look Both Ways supports Vision Zero, a global initiative to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, a cause Fundación MAPFRE has long-championed internationally.

According to a study conducted by the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, with support

from Fundación MAPFRE, the most common cause of unintentional injury death among children 1-14 years of age (49 percent) was transportation-related, including children as passengers in cars, on motorcycles and bicycles, and as pedestrians.

About Fundación MAPFRE Fundación MAPFRE is a nonprofit organization created by MAPFRE in 1975 to promote the well-being of society and citizens across the company’s footprint. Active in 30 countries, Fundación MAPFRE focuses on five areas: Road Safety and Accident Prevention, including fires, mishaps at home and drownings; Insurance and Social Protection; Culture; Social Action; and Health Promotion. Please visit <https://www.fundacionmapfre.org/en/> for more information about Fundación MAPFRE.

Ribbon Cutting Celebrated the Expanding Services at Summit Agency For Youth With Autism In The Worcester Area

A ribbon cutting celebration to announce the opening of Summit Health & Wellness Center and Summit Campus for children and young adults with Autism and related diagnoses took place on Thursday, June 17th.

Thursday night’s ribbon cutting was a celebration of the addition of

the Summit Campus and Health & Wellness Center which was a natural progression of the Summit Agency’s mission. Their goal is to support this vulnerable and underserved population in the Worcester community, and the surrounding areas.

This comes at a good time as the

prevalence of ASD (Autism Spectrum Diagnosis) and related diagnoses are on the rise. According to the CDC 1 in 54 children are diagnosed with ASD. In the US alone there are roughly 550,000 children with ASD who will be transitioning into adulthood over the next decade, and it is expected that approximately 45 percent of these emerging adults will enroll in a university, college, or technical/vocational school in the coming years. Springer’s Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. (January 2018)

The Summit Health & Wellness Center and Summit Campus ribbon cutting took place on Thursday June 17th, 2021 from 5pm - 7pm outdoors at the corner of Fruit Street and William Street in Worcester. The Summit Health and Wellness Center will be opening July 1st, appointments can be made now by visiting the website: www.summitagencycma.com or by calling 774-701-0670.

Guests at the ribbon cutting included: Senator Michael Moore, Worcester Councilor-at-Large, Kathleen Toomey, Worcester District 2 Councilor, Candy Mero-Carlson, and Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce President, Tim Murray. Summit Agency was recognized by the State of Massachusetts with an Official Citation.

“Think back to 20-30 years ago and the services that were available for young adults who had intellectual or developmental disabilities, we were just learning, we were just providing services in K-12, we were beginning

inclusive enrollment legislation to provide more services for this demographic in colleges and universities; so I think it is great that we’ve been able, through your advocacy, and grassroots efforts and getting the attention of legislators and other policy officials to tell us what your children need to be successful and have a good quality of life.” stated Senator Michael Moore.

There were over 70 guests, and the celebration included a tour of the facilities, refreshments and hor d’oeuvres, along with raffles for a Worcester Railers Gift Basket and gift cards to Wings Over Worcester, Smoke Stack Urban BBQ, ‘Olo Pizza and Meze Estiatorio.

The Summit Health & Wellness Center will offer the following clinical modalities that include: psychiatric services, behavioral services, counseling services, and general health & wellness practices with Dr. Oliver Joseph, as the Agency’s Chief Medical Officer. Many are excited to begin making appointments. It will serve both the Summit Campus residential students and the Worcester ASD community.

Summit Campus, which is accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year, is a residential program providing a dormitory experience for college students with autism. Summit Campus was created to provide critical support to students attending any of the consortium colleges and universities in Worcester.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

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EDITOR

“What would Barry say?”

When sitting down to write this Editorial, this Editor had heavy on her mind her old mentor from the radio days, Barry Lunderville who has since passed on, or as he called it “taking a dirt nap”. Barry owned radio stations in NH and worked for CBS out of Boston. He was especially great to talk to when discussing small town politics and joked, “Well between us girls,” During one particular time of discord, he passed this poem along and it is one that is read often, especially when thinking, “What would Barry say?”

If
BY RUDYARD KIPLING

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don’t deal in lies,
Or being hated, don’t give way to hating,
And yet don’t look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you’ve spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build ’em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: ‘Hold on!’

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And—which is more—you’ll be a Man, my son!

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 Charlton, Charlton City, Charlton Depot and beyond

TO THE EDITOR

Critical Race Theory forum to be held July 12

Parents, grandparents and residents of Charlton and Dudley please plan to attend a very important forum sponsored by the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee. The topic of discussion will be CRITICAL RACE THEORY. Please plan to attend and voice your opinion and concerns.

This forum will take place in the auditorium at Shepherd Hill Regional High School in Dudley on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7 p.m.

SINCERELY,
MARY SANSOUCY

Tips for Skill at the Grill

Backyard grilling has become much more than a casual and tasty cooking technique. Today, serving up creatively prepared foods grilled to perfection has been elevated to a fine culinary art. The good news is you don’t have to be a cooking school graduate to earn your BBQ apron. Whether you’re striving for the title of neighborhood grill master or simply want to receive rave reviews for supper, the following strategies are sure to earn you top chef status behind the grill this season.

Tenderizing Techniques: Great grilling starts with meat preparation. Taking the time to tenderizing tough cuts of meat can make the difference between grilling success or failure. While the goal is to break down the muscle fibers in the meat, there are a few standard methods that have been proven successful. The manual method employs the use of a kitchen mallet, which is used to “beat” down the fibers in raw meat. Also, there are several meat tenderizers available on the market that can be sprinkled onto the meat before cooking. Perhaps the most popular tenderizing option is the use of marinades, as these liquids not only make the meat tender but impart an important boost of flavor too. Add the fact overnight marinating can reduce cooking time by up to 35%, and it’s no surprise the marinating method is a top choice.

BBQ experts recommend tender cuts of beef marinate for just a couple of hours, while tougher cuts may require overnight soaking. Keep in mind marinating should be used with zippered plastic bags or glass or plastic bowls as the acids in some marinades can react with metal. After marinating, be sure to pat the meat dry with paper towels to ensure it cooks evenly on the grill.

Certified Angus Beef Signature Steak Marinade
This recipe from the country’s premiere beef brand is a tasty tribute to grilled steak suppers.

Ingredients: 1/2 cup Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce; 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar; 1 1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard; 1/2 teaspoon pepper.

Instructions: Combine all ingredients. In large, shallow non-aluminum baking dish or plastic bag, pour marinade over steaks; turn to coat. Marinate in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Remove steaks; discard marinade. Grill or broil steak to preferred doneness.

No Fail Marinade
This unconventional recipe from the retro era promises taste and tenderness.

Ingredients: one third cup steak sauce; one half cup packed brown sugar; one twelve ounce can 7Up or Sprite; one half cup melted butter; four tablespoons red wine vinegar; one quarter teaspoon each onion powder, garlic powder, salt and pepper. **Instructions:** Combine all in a bowl or zip lock bag. Allow meat to marinate in mixture for at least an hour, or as long as overnight.

Hot off the Grill: Gauging Doneness
Gauging meats grilled to perfection can be a tricky challenge. Beyond checking the temperature of the meat, backyard chefs have learned to rely on a few “rules of thumb” to test for doneness.

*This “old school” chef trick is still a reliable way to gauge your meat without cutting into it:

To test doneness by “feel” this method compares your hand and fingers to the firmness of the cut of meat. Pressing on the middle of the steak, a rare steak should feel the same as the heel of your hand (the fleshy area between your thumb and wrist) when hand is relaxed; a medium rare steak should feel like the heel of your hand when you press your thumb and forefinger together (which is

firmer); a medium rare steak will feel as firm as the heel of your hand when you touch your middle finger to your thumb (firmer yet); and medium well should feel as firm as the heel when you press your ring finger and thumb.

*Another common “rule of thumb” for doneness is the inch method is to cook by thickness of the meat. For a one inch thick steak, cook seven minutes for rare; nine minutes for medium; and 11 minutes for well done.

*When using an internal thermometer: a rare steak should be cooked to 125-130 degrees; 130 to 140 degrees for medium-rare; 140 to 150 degrees for medium, 150-160 degrees for medium-well or 160 to 170 degrees for well done.

BBQ Basics
•As a general guide, when you grill with charcoal, it takes about 30 minutes for coals to reach a medium temperature and become ash covered.

•For gas grills, allow about 15 minutes for the grill rack to preheat properly.

*To increase the heat on a charcoal grill, simply push the coals together, add more coals as needed lower the grilling surface, or fan the fire and tap the ashes from the coals.

•Steaks best for grilling without the need to tenderize, are such cuts such as Ribeye, Filet Mignon, T-Bone and Porterhouse. .

•For best results cook pork on direct heat to seal the juices. Then finish it with indirect heat to ensure the center is completely cooked. Just be sure to preheat the grill so it will seal in the juices quickly.

•Cooking for a crowd? To ensure even grilling, meats should be placed about three quarters of an inch apart on the grill rack.

•Does your fish dry out and break up when you cook it on the grill? Brush it with lemon juice while cooking to keep it moist.

*Fish should be from one to one and a half inches thick to prevent drying out.

•Always apply sweet basting sauces made with sugar, honey or syrup during the last few minutes of grilling only to prevent burning.

•When cooking steaks on the grill don’t season the meat until each side has browned to keep the cut tender.

•When using a dry rub during barbecuing, always allow the meat to cook for approximately one third to one half of the total time before applying any basting sauce. This allows the meat to become warm and start absorbing the dry rub seasonings.

•If you are marinating meat, you’ll need one to two cups of marinade for every one and a half to two pounds of food. You want enough marinade to completely surround the food.

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

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

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

Declare your financial freedom



FINANCIAL
FOCUS

JEFF
BURDICK

Independence Day is almost here. And as we make progress in moving past the COVID-19 pandemic, more of us will be able to enjoy Fourth of July activities. However you observe the holiday, it’s important to recognize all the liberties we enjoy in this country. But you may still need to work at one particular type of freedom – and that’s financial freedom. How can you achieve it?

There’s no one instant solution. But you can work toward financial independence by addressing these areas:

Retirement savings – Approximately 45% of Americans think the ideal retirement involves “enjoying my well-earned freedom,” according to the March 2021 Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study. But when you’re retired, the risk to this freedom is obvious – the paychecks have stopped but the bills haven’t. Furthermore, you could spend two or three decades in retirement. That’s why it’s so important to contribute as much as you can afford to your tax-advantaged retirement accounts, such as your IRA and your 401(k) or another employer-sponsored plan. At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer’s matching contribution, if one is offered. Whenever your salary goes up, try to increase the annual amount you put in your 401(k) or similar plan. And if appropriate, make sure you have a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments within your 401(k) and IRA. Most people don’t “max out” on their IRA and 401(k) each year, but, if you can consistently afford to do so, and you still have money you could invest, you may want to explore other retirement savings vehicles.

Illness or injury – If you were to become seriously ill or sustain a significant injury and you couldn’t work for an extended period, the loss of income could jeopardize your ability to achieve financial independence. Your employer may offer disability insurance as an employee benefit, but this coverage is typically quite limited, both in duration and in the amount of income being replaced. Consequently, you may want to consider purchasing private disability insurance. Keep in mind that this coverage, also, will have an end date and it probably won’t replace all the income lost while you’re out of work, but it will likely be more expansive and generous than the plan provided by your employer.

Long-term care – Individuals turning 65 have about a 70% chance of eventually needing some type of long-term care, such as a nursing home stay or the assistance of a home health aide, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. And these services are quite expensive – the average annual cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Medicare typically covers only a small part of these expenses, so, to avoid depleting your savings and investments (and possibly subjecting your grown children to a financial burden), you may want to consider long-term care insurance or life insurance with a long-term care component. A financial advisor can help you choose a plan that’s appropriate for your needs.

By addressing these areas, you can go a long way toward attaining your financial independence. It will be a long-term pursuit, but the end goal is worth it.

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



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Celebrate National Rose Month (June) by adding a rose or two to your garden or containers this month. Now it is easier than ever to enjoy their beauty and fragrance thanks to lower maintenance and disease resistant varieties.

Many gardeners have switched to hardier, more pest resistant shrub roses for just this reason. The Earth-Kind roses are among the easiest and most environmentally friendly roses for all to grow.

The goal of the Earth-Kind program was to help gardeners enjoy roses while limiting the use of fertilizers, pesticides and water. The Texas Agrilife Extension Service started the program by conducting field trials of 100 rose cultivars for at least four years. They evaluated the roses for outstanding performance, superior pest resistance and tolerance of a

wide variety of soils from acid to alkaline and sand to clay. To earn the Earth-Kind designation, roses also needed heat and drought tolerance once established.

The effort has expanded and now the National Earth-Kind research study includes test sites throughout the United States and several countries.

A few popular roses you may recognize carry this designation. The Fairy is a dwarf polyantha shrub rose covered with bouquets of small pink roses throughout the summer and is hardy in zones 4 to 9. Carefree Beauty, hardy in zones 4 to 9, has fragrant double pink roses all season long on 5 feet tall and wide plants. It's no surprise the popular Knock Out™ rose with its raspberry red flowers and glossy green leaves, hardy in zones 5 to 9, received the Earth-Kind designation in 2004.

Evaluations continue and the list of Earth-Kind roses grows. You are sure to find one suitable to your garden design and growing conditions.

Repeat blooming, hardy and disease resistant shrub roses are another group to consider. This group of species, hybrids and varieties tend to be har-

dier, tolerant of a wider range of soil conditions with greater disease resistance. Bonica and the Carefree series are two that have been gracing gardens for years. Newer introductions are continually being introduced, expanding your planting options.

Once planted, enjoy your roses outdoors in the garden and indoors in a vase. Proper harvesting and dead-heading will keep your repeat blooming roses beautiful throughout the season.

Cut roses for arrangements in the morning just as the top of the bud is starting to open. Make the cut above an outward facing, five-leaflet leaf. Cut flowers back to a three-leaflet leaf on young plants that may not tolerate or be large enough for more severe pruning. Remove the lower leaves, recut the stem on an angle and place it in a vase of fresh water.

Keep your plants looking their best and encourage new blossoms by removing faded flowers. Deadhead single-flower roses back to the first five-leaflet leaf to encourage stouter and stronger stems. Remove only individual flowers as they fade from roses that



MelindaMyers.com

The Carefree series of shrub roses, like this Carefree Spirit rose, are repeat bloomers, hardy, and disease resistant.

bloom in a cluster. Once all the flowers in the cluster are done blooming you can remove the flower stem back to the first five-leaflet leaf. Always leave at least two, five-leaflet leaves attached to the plant.

Start looking for a few sunny spots in your landscape to fill with easy care roses. They are sure to boost your landscape's beauty and your enjoyment for years to come.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Which antiques and collectibles are hot now?

It's been over five years since I shared my top-10 list of hot selling antiques and collectibles. Many of the items from that column are still doing well over five years later. Some have even gained in value while others have dropped. There are also many other items that have become valuable in the years since.

Here's my list from 2015:

1. 1960's and earlier toys, comic books and other collectibles
2. Early Chinese and other Asian antiques
3. Mid-20th century Scandinavian and other modern design art and furnishings
4. Arts and crafts and art deco design furnishings
5. 1960's and earlier baseball and other sports memorabilia
6. Advertising signs, posters, and displays
7. Gold coins and jewelry – silver coins, flatware, and hollow ware
8. Important historical memorabilia
9. Antique and classic automobiles and motorcycles
10. Paintings by listed artists

In recent columns, I've shared how hot baseball and other sports cards cur-



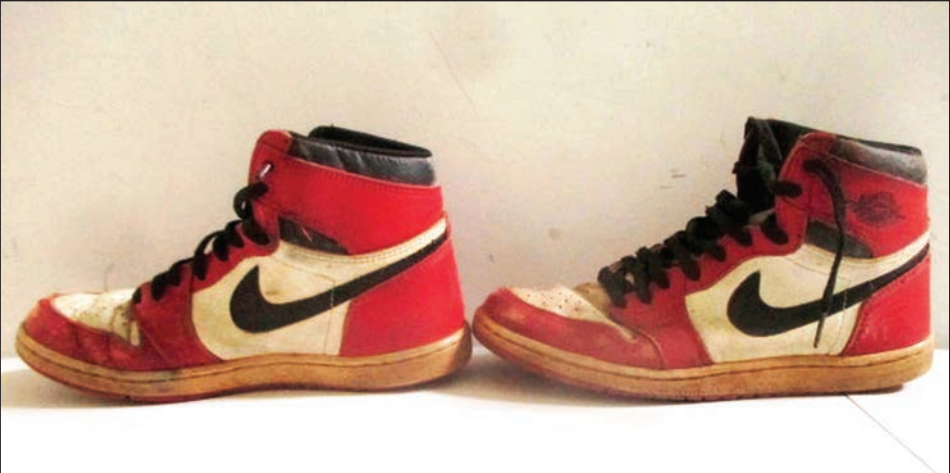
ANTIQUES,
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rently are. They would certainly move up from the No. 5 spot if I wrote the list today. Gold coins and jewelry would also move up the list. Gold prices averaged \$1,158.86 per ounce in 2015 Gold is close to \$1,800 per ounce as I write this column. Silver also took a big jump from when it averaged \$15.66 in 2015. It's at \$26.10 as I write.

1950s classic cars are items that have dipped in value since my original top-10 list. Hagerty.com's index of collectible American cars of the 1950s shows that classic 1950s cars were averaging around \$105,000 in 2015. The average is now well under \$100,000. This isn't a huge drop in price but is noteworthy.

A search of recent online auction results shows items selling for huge sums that I never could have imagined would be so popular when I wrote my list back in 2015. For example, a box of O-Pee-Chee Canadian Star Wars bubble gum cards with 36 wax packs recently sold for over \$8,400. A Super Mario 64 factory sealed 1996 first print Red Label video game went for \$16,000 in May. That same month, a 1985 pair of Air Jordan 1 size 13 sneakers in used condition sold for \$24,000. In April, a 1985 Topps Garbage Pail Kids First



Series # 1a Nasty Nick graded PSA # 9 brought \$50,000. A Magic the Gathering Beckett graded and authenticated 8.5+ grade Alpha Mox Ruby card went for nearly \$100,000. In a March online auction, a sealed Fossil 1st edition mint English Pokemon cards Wizards of the Coast booster box sold for \$1.3 million. Looking back even further to when I started selling antiques over 30 years ago, I could have never imagined that I might see 18th century high boy chests selling for under \$1,000 while a 20-year-old game card brought \$100,000. I will be updating the top-10 list in a future column.

Our next online auction of model railroad trains, die-cast cars, and model kits will begin soon. We will be offering more 1950s sports cards in another online auction later this summer. Other events are also being planned. Visit our website for details on upcoming events: <https://centralmassauctions.com>

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

Dying in public

I'm asked lately why I'm still writing. My answer is, "it's what I do. I'm a writer." For me, not writing is like not breathing. Something occurs to me, and my mind and heart conspire to create the words that come out on paper. It's just what I do and it's who I am.

Then I'm asked the question, "How can you write and speak so openly about your death?" That's a different question with a different answer. I write openly about my upcoming death in hopes of helping others deal with the inevitable. We are all going to die, and I don't believe death is something to be feared, but even welcomed.

Then there are those who are left behind and there will be grief, but I also hope to help my loved ones joyfully celebrate with me as I pass.

Then of course there are 'Death and Taxes.' I've been too sick to properly deal with my taxes, and I'm currently on an extension. I think it's weird that in my last days, I'm more concerned about the IRS than dying. I understand they can't chase me into heaven, but they can pursue my family. A simple

flat tax could solve it all but that won't happen in my lifetime. And besides, it would end an entire unnecessary industry, so this week is "tax week."

What's so interesting about dying? First and foremost, it's what we don't know that stirs the mind ...

We are glued to stories about near death experiences (NDE's are highly debated, by the way), only because we all want to know what it will be like when we ourselves die. As consumers, we are obsessed with reviews before eating at a restaurant or purchasing a product. There is no "Yelp" for death. We read reviews because we want to know if the purchase is worth it, and we want to know what it would be like to have said product. But when it comes to death, we don't really get to read reviews. We also don't get a choice. We will all die, and no one really knows exactly what to expect. I won't know how it will be experienced, but I do trust



POSITIVELY
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GARY W.
MOORE

in the heavenly promise. I do trust God is and will be present every breathing moment.

I find it fascinating, the small daily changes in my body. I'm not really experiencing much pain. My lungs become a little more congested daily. I see my family slowly coming to terms with the impending reality, which is what I hope for. I'm told my kidney and liver function is weakening. Death may not come easy but easier is always better.

I still have not given up. I serve the Great Physician ... my God of Miracles and Wonders. I do not understand His plan, but I'm confident that whatever it is, it serves the greater good. As much as I'd prefer to live, I submit my life to His will.

My greatest prayer is not for me, but for my family. I know there will be grief even though I pray for joy. Where there will be sadness, I pray for celebration of a happy life. The best I can hope for is an understanding that those I love

are still loved and know and pray that I carry my concern as an eternal devotion to them with me to the grave.

And finally, I pray the words to this old country and western song over all those whom I love and love me in return ...

"Will the circle be unbroken, by and by lord by and bye? There's a better home there waiting in the sky lord in the sky."

Yes, I believe with all my heart that I will soon return to my eternal home, prepared for me by my Lord and Savior where I'll spend eternity with my loved ones surrounded by peace and joy.

May God bless you all.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMOore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com



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LIONS
continued from page A1

real tip of the cap to the folks that are involved in that association that this is the first thing they thought of as they were closing up was to give back to the community.”

Fire Chief Dean Kochanowski echoed Chief Wojnar’s sentiments and also thanked the Lions for their support. “I’d like to thank (the Lions Club) and I’m sorry that you’re closing your doors. It’s too bad. It’s a good organization that did a lot for the community,” Chief Kochanowski said.

Before leaving the microphone Stephen Bouchard took a moment to thank the community for their support and expressed pride that the Lions could help out two worthy causes one last time. “We appreciate all the support in the past from both of the departments. One of the events they’ve helped us with in the past that first comes to mind is our Halloween parade and party. They provided fire trucks and police officers to help out and it all went to the kids. We do appreciate it. It’s from the bottom of our hearts. We do thank the community and all of you guys,” Bouchard said.

NEWSPAPERS

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FORUM
continued from page A1

ceived implication by the motto of the committee that the students are not being taught how to be good people at home.

Kathleen Berry, a parent from Charlton, provided an impassioned statement against the addition of critical race theory to the schools asking the school committee why they felt the children’s “hearts and minds” needed to be changed in the first place.

“I truly feel that there were some things that were done while all of our attention as parents were focused on what was happening to our children during a pandemic. You have our attention now,” Berry said later discussing the Equity Committee’s motto. “I’m not sure I have ever been more disturbed by such a phrase. I cannot help but wonder, what is wrong with my child’s heart and mind? What is it that you would like to change?” Berry added that critical race theory is being banned in states for “good reason” and after researching Dr. Eakin felt he was anti-law enforcement and that his perspective “puts people into boxes based on their skin color not their character”.

Berry was far from the only one upset with the situation. Paula Clark of Dudley, a former educator at Bay Path, said the lack of transparency and the implications of the Equity Commission’s motto are disturbing to parents. “One of the problems I see

here is that people don’t know exactly what is going on and when people don’t know what exactly is going on there is uncomfortableness. I don’t think that’s something we want to foster,” Clark said. “I am very concerned about this verbiage, ‘changing the hearts and minds of students’. What specifically is it that needs to be changed and what are these changed hearts and minds going to look like?”

Parent Bob Carlson of Dudley felt that the idea of bringing critical race theory to the district implies that there is a racism problem in the community which he feels is untrue. “I don’t see much racism within our communities,” Carlson said noting that his daughter plays on local soccer teams with children of different ethnicities. “All I see is kids having fun together and I think what we’re doing now is we’re planting seeds in their minds that people are different, but we don’t need to do that.”

David Smolski of Charlton was a little gentler to the school committee saying he felt the school committee was forthcoming about reforming the Equity Committee as it was discussed in open forums last summer. He did however echo many concerns that minutes were not posted for the Equity Committee’s meetings, which the committee clarified is not required by open meeting laws for that particular committee, which leaves parents in the dark.

“I think when many parents and educators try to get educated on the equity committee’s approach there have been

a lot of questions and a level of dissatisfaction with the information that’s been offered. Critical race theory is a hot topic these days. You could probably go on the internet, pick your browser of choice and find a dozen different definitions for it and you can gather information and opinions that are either strongly for it or against it depending on how it’s defined or, unfortunately, even politics,” Smolski said. “When it comes to Critical Race Theory locally, people want to know is our school district doing it or not doing it.”

The school committee determined that the discussion was too big to limit to just a school committee meeting agreeing to schedule a public forum for July 12 at 7 p.m. in the Shepherd Hill Regional High School. The committee will also accept questions through email in advance of the meeting. Two parents, one from each town, stepped up to help work out the logistics of the meeting while another parent offered to manage questions through social media. It was also requested the committee explore livestreaming the meeting as they had during the pandemic to allow more people to view the meeting online.

Parents also requested that all meeting minutes for the Equity Committee be posted for reference and that a moratorium be placed on any further discussions of curriculum changes until the forum takes place.

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For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 7/31/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$330 off each window and \$725 off each entry/patio door and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 7/4/2021 and 7/31/2021. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. ²Values are based on comparison of Renewal by Andersen® double hung window U-Factor to the U-Factor for clear dual pane glass non-metal frame default values from the 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015, and 2018 International Energy Conservation Code "Glazed Fenestration" Default Tables.





Happy 4th of July!

We will be closed on July 4th, and open July 5th from 11am - 4pm

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What our employees have to say...

"One of my favorite things about working at Quaboag is that you can tell the staff is here because they care about the patients. I have also found that my supervisor and administrator are very approachable when I have any concern. There are a lot of places where someone in a supervisor position is not that approachable." — Nicole F. (CNA)

"I am Definitely glad to be a part of the team as well. I feel like I'm home and everyone has been wonderful." — Nicole V. (LPN)

"In the time that I have been working at Quaboag I have witnessed the well-being and comfort of the residents as the main priority of the facility. The facility is centered around patient care and is designed in the best interest of the residents." — Lynnea T. (CNA)

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