



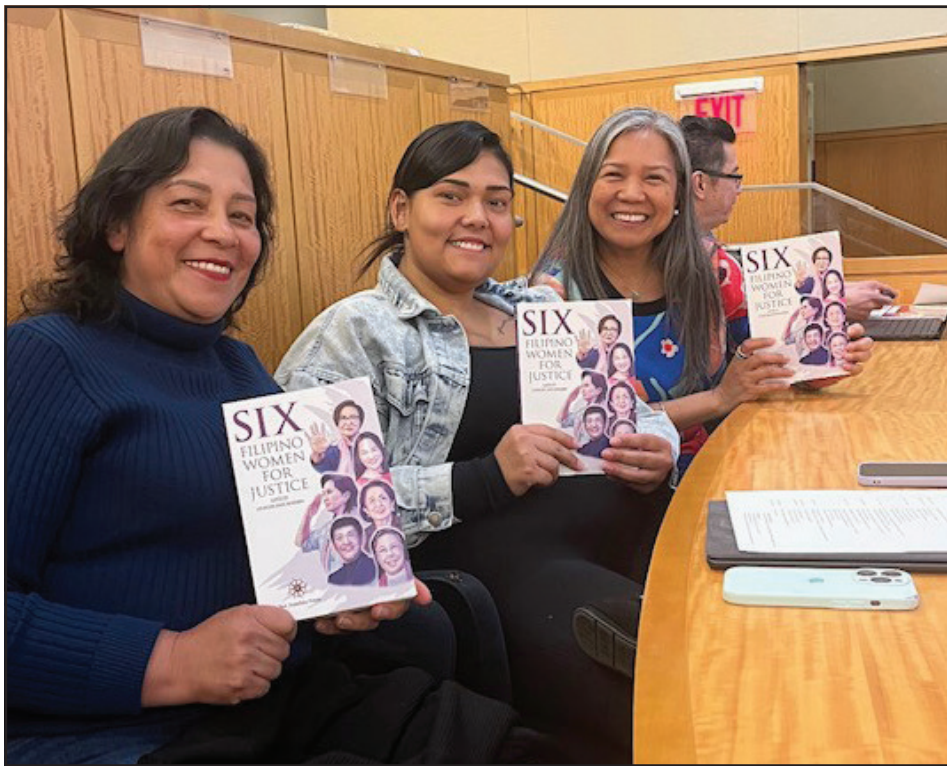
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Thursday-Friday, May 9-10, 2024

# Mother & daughter bond over empowerment at Harvard University Book launch

CAMBRIDGE — On a recent Saturday afternoon, mother-daughter duo Elizabeth Anacona and Ashley Rincon, both of Southbridge, with roots from Colombia, gathered with members of the Asian American community at the Harvard University Asia Center, Room S020 1730 Cambridge Street in this city. The occasion was the launch of the book “Six Filipino Women for Justice.” Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director, Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN of Douglas, was also in attendance. Bolandrina, a board member of the Harvard Square Philippine American Alliance (www.hspaa.org) extended the invitation



Pictured, from left: Elizabeth Anacona and Ashley Rincon, both of Southbridge, and Gretheline Bolandrina of Douglas.

Courtesy

for the book launch to the members of PN Classes 2024 and 2025.

Both Anacona and Rincon are inspired and empowered after hearing from Professor Ed Garcia, Human rights activist, peace advocate, and writer. Not surprisingly, both mother-daughter shared their own insight after the discussion on injustice, failure, hope, success, resilience, empowerment, and peace.

Anacona stated, “It was an honor to be there. It has been a global issue with women. I am fortunate that young people are now listening to the issues. But, unfortunately in many countries young kids do not have a different view and that is all they know. But, in

events like this we can open the mind of how women can be empowered. Not only to manage household work but to start owning their own business and being CEOs and empower a country.” Many big names associated with the Philippine-American community, academics, and community leaders were there to support the book launch. The introductory remarks were given by Zarrin Foster, President of the Harvard Neighbors. Professor James Robson, Victor and William Fund Director, Programs and Affiliates Coordinator for Harvard University Asia Center gave the welcome remarks.

Turn To **BOOK LAUNCH** page A14

## Charlton voters approve Fire Department debt exclusion

### Singer Wins Reelection by Single Vote

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The town of Charlton saw an impressive turnout for its annual town election on May 4, with 1,838 voters, or roughly 17 percent of those registered, casting their ballots throughout the day. The election not only determined new town leadership in several contested elections, but also provided clarity on the future of a proposed fire department substation project that served as the lone extra question on the ballot.

Voters were presented with a debt exclusion question concerning a proposed fire department substation at the intersection of Oxford Road and Heritage Drive to replace the aging Station 2. A positive vote would allow Charlton to fund the \$13.1 million project beyond the limits of Proposition 2 ½. This initiative is the latest in a series of attempts throughout the 2020s to replace Station 2, which has experienced documented space and structural issues over the years. The debt exclusion question passed easily in a vote of 1,065 to 641, finally bringing some clarity to the fire department which has worked tirelessly to gain support for a new substation. Town Administrator Andrew Golas had stated prior to the election that passage would increase the average residential home taxes by roughly \$150 depending on the actual value of the home. The total project cost, which includes items not considered in the debt exclusion, will be addressed at the May 20 annual town meeting.

Voters were also tasked with deciding on new

town leadership during the election, starting with the Board of Selectmen which featured one contested race. Incumbent Barbara Zurowski won another term as she was the lone candidate for her position, however the second available seat saw a contest between two familiar names, incumbent David Singer and former Selectwoman Karen Spiewak. The result was as close as mathematically possible without being a tie. One single vote determined

the outcome as Singer was reelected in a decision of 867 to 866. Singer returns to the board for what he had previously announced would be his final three-year term. This will be Singer's sixth term in office, the longest tenure of any sitting member of the board. As of this report, there was no confirmation whether the results would trigger a recount.

The only other contested elections on the ballot were for repre-

Turn To **CHARLTON** page A14

## Kelly Williamson appointed as Southbridge Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

SOUTHBRIDGE — Receiver/Superintendent Jeffrey A. Villar, Ph.D., is pleased to announce that Dr. Kelly Williamson has been appointed as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for Southbridge Public Schools.

In this role, the Assistant Superintendent will assist Dr. Villar in establishing a clear instructional vision for all schools. Dr. Williamson will take a direct role in coordinating the planning and execution of all educational programs, while also continuing to oversee district-wide social-emotional learning initiatives.

The Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction works closely with building principals and teachers to ensure that educational programming effectively meets the needs of all students.

“Dr. Williamson has a depth of instructional experience, excellent interpersonal and leadership skills, and is uniquely positioned to help us expand the cohesion of instructional programs districtwide,” said Receiver/Superintendent Villar.

Her new role will ensure that our educational strategies are not only unified

Turn To **WILLIAMS** page A14

## Hitchcock Academy hosts double header with annual “Grow With Us” Plant Sale and Farmers’ Market



BRIMFIELD — On Saturday, May 11 from 8 a. m. to 2 p. m., Hitchcock kicks off a lively season of spring and summer events with its annual “Grow With Us” Plant Sale, featuring hanging plants which make a perfect Mother’s Day gift, as

well as perennials, annuals, and vegetable plants for your garden. Bee and bat houses will also be available while supplies last, and orders will also be taken for later pick-up.

Volunteers will be on hand to answer plant questions to help

attendees get the best out of your gardens.

For those thinning out their perennials, you can support our community donated plants can be dropped at Hitchcock through the evening of Friday, May 5. Plants should be labeled,

and any additional information, i.e. sun or shine specifications, is appreciated. Items can be dropped off in front of the porch on the lawn to the right of the stairs anytime the week prior to the sale.

Turn To **HITCHCOCK** page A14

# Female banjo players share songs and stories at Jacob Edwards Library

SOUTHBRIDGE — The sound of the banjo, played by Rhiannon Giddens, is the first 12 seconds of Beyonce's latest hit song "Texas Hold 'Em" and the rollicking groove catches your ear and sets your feet tapping. That banjo sound has a long history in the roots and branches of American music.

Massachusetts-based roots musicians Marylou Ferrante and Paula Bradley (aka "Banjo Blue") will present stories and songs of women traditional banjo players, both well-known and obscure, highlighting their often-overlooked contributions to America's rich musical legacy on Thursday, June 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at the Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge. This program is free and open to the public, and is supported by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Both Bradley and Ferrante are devoted to learning and sharing traditional American music, and their program "Banjo Pickin' Gals" explores female banjo players in song and story, with a little flatfoot dancing to boot.

Paula Bradley, a West Virginia-born multi-instrumentalist (banjo, guitar, banjo uke, harmonica and piano), has been involved in roots music for many years as a performer and an instructor. Known for her strong, spirited vocals as well as her clogging, she has toured (on banjo) with old-time darlings "Uncle Earl"; with old-time powerhouse Bruce Molsky (on guitar and banjo uke); and recorded and toured with Tony Trischka and Bruce as part of the acoustic roots trio "Jawbone." She was a founding member of the acclaimed old-time trio "The Rhythm Rats" as well as the popular New England honky tonk combo "Girl

Howdy." In addition to "Banjo Blue," she performs in the old-time duet "Moonshine Holler" and leads her own honkytonk band "Miss Paula & The Twangbusters."

Marylou Ferrante is a multi-instrumentalist who performs old blues, old time, country and folk music on guitar, mandolin, dulcimer and banjo with vocals. Her performances are filled with storytelling and history; she covers solo blues artists from the Delta to East Coast Piedmont (such as Charlie Patton, Son House, Robert Johnson and Memphis Minnie); mandolin greats like Charlie McCoy and Yank Rachell; and, old time and country artists such as The Carter Family, Cousin Emmy, and Elizabeth Cotten. Her numerous performances include opening for Maria Muldaur. Her passionate expression of old songs comes from a love of the music and their arrangements, as well as what she says is an appreciation for "the history of these folks and the difficult circumstances they endured."

## SOUTHBRIDGE POLICE LOG

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of April 29 to May 6.

Krystle A. Martin, age 37, of Southbridge was arrested on April 30 in connection with a warrant.

Eric L. Olivo, age 51, and Angel Delgado, age 46, both of Worcester, were arrested on April 30 for Trafficking in 200 Grams or More of Cocaine and Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law.

Jancarlos Jimenez Colon, age 20, of Southbridge was arrested on May 1 in connection with a warrant.

A 47-year-old female from Woodstock, Conn. was taken into protective custody on May 1.

Joanne Tarallo, age 62, of Southbridge was arrested on May 2 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with after suspension of license.

Isaiah Anthony Rock,

age 24, of Woodstock, Conn. was arrested on May 3 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license.

Yolimar Suarez Lopez, age 31, of Southbridge was arrested on May 3 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle, Resisting Arrest, Disorderly Conduct, and multiple counts of Assault & Battery on a Police Officer.

A 54-year-old from Southbridge was taken into protective custody on May 4 for Disturbing the Peace (subsequent offense) and Disorderly Conduct.

Mateo Velez, age 20, of Southbridge was arrested on May 5 for Vandalization of Property.

Jose J. Miranda Morales, age 24, of Southbridge was arrested on May 5 for Disorderly Conduct. Jose Dolores

Miranda, age 42, also of Southbridge, was arrested during the same incident for Possession of a Class B Drug (Crack Cocaine) with Intent to Distribute and Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law. Also arrested during this incident were Raymond U. Rivera Torres, age 21, of Southbridge for Possession of a Class B Drug (Crack Cocaine) with Intent to Distribute, Possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device, and Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law; and Isaac Colon-Miranda, age 23, of Southbridge for Possession of a Class B Drug (Crack Cocaine) with Intent to Distribute, Possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device, Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, and multiple counts of Receiving Stolen Property valued at more than \$1,200. A 22-year-old female from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest for Disorderly Conduct.

### REAL ESTATE

#### BRIMFIELD

\$232,500, 4 Hall Pl, Cassell, Christina, to Beesley, Christopher.

#### Charlton

\$445,000, 11 Buffum Rd, Allworth LLC, to Shenouda & Shenouda LLC.  
\$180,000, Stevens Rd #L, East End LLC, to R & R Homes Inc.  
\$95,000, Lelandville Rd, Worldwideweb Instcom Inc, to Charlton Woods Const LLC.

#### HOLLAND

\$555,000, 529 Old County Rd, Cormier & Sons Const & Hm, to Papan-drea, Jill M.  
\$449,000, 20 May Brook Rd, Sneade, Dennis, to Keshishian, Raffi, and Derbidian, Adrineh R.

#### SOUTHBRIDGE

\$520,000, 92 Elm St, Cunningham, Paul J, to Mello, Vinicius, and Mello, Lays D.  
\$450,000, 35 Worcester St, Ortiz, Pedro, and Ortiz, Maria, to Ortiz, Angel L.  
\$360,000, 117 Dennison Ln, Gouras, Paula, to Collins, Christopher R, and Collins, Beth M.  
\$310,000, 109 Highland St, Genereux, Richard H, to Cassano, Katy.  
\$238,000, 31 Beaudry Way, Morales, Erica, to La-caire, Mitchell.  
\$53,000, 15 Dennison Ln, Aragona, Joseph, to Ro-sado, Roberto.

#### STURBRIDGE

\$710,000, 11 Mcgilpin Rd, Tsui, Edison, and Wu, Jennifer, to Maclean, Ryan, and Maclean, Brid-get.  
\$216,776, 36 Wallace Rd, McNulty, Daniel M, and Citibank Na Tr, to New Res Mtg Loan T 2018-1, and Citibank Na Tr.  
\$150,000, 238 Arnold Rd, White, Sherri L, to Log-yn Shea Re Inc.

## Touch-a-Truck coming to Brimfield

BRIMFIELD — Trucks of all sorts will be rolling into Brimfield on June 1 not for construction, but for the town's first Touch-a-Truck event to be held at the Brimfield Winery. The morning will consist of over 20 different vehicles including fire trucks, tow vehicles, police cars and even a helicopter converging in town for the day. Attendees of all ages will be able to climb on, in, and around the many different vehicles as well as meet the crews and drivers. Children and adults alike will be able to look up close at the many different pieces of equipment and ask plenty of questions of the drivers and operators.

Held on the 13th anniversary of the tornado that came through the area in 2011, it is being organized by the Friends of the Brimfield Library and the Brimfield Fire department. The day is planned in honor of Toto the Tornado Kitten, a tiny cat who was found in the storm's debris and whose subsequent books and travels raised more than \$78,000 for local animal shelters. Toto passed away last November and his legacy is being celebrated by the community with this special Touch-a-Truck event. A special table will be on display that is being donated to

the Brimfield Library in Toto's honor and donations will be accepted by the Friends of the Library for funding future activities.

The event is free for all; however, attendees are encouraged to bring a bag or can of pet food to be distributed to local animal shelters. Snacks will be provided by the Sturbridge Coffee house. This is one of many community events sponsored by the Brimfield Winery. The event runs from 10 a.m.-noon at the Brimfield Winery, 35 Main St. Anyone interested in participating by bringing a truck are welcome to contact the event organizers at toto2024event@gmail.com.

## VILLAGER ALMANAC

### OPEN TO CLOSE

**SOUTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL**  
Monday-Wednesday:  
8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Thursday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

### JACOB EDWARDS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Tuesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 25 will be our last open Saturday until Labor Day) Sunday: Closed

### CHARLTON TOWN HALL (508) 248-2200

Office Hours:  
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays  
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesdays..... 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday..... Closed  
visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net) or more information.

Individual offices may vary  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY (248-0452)**  
For library hours please check [www.charltonlibrary.org](http://www.charltonlibrary.org)

**POLICE DEPARTMENT (248-2250)**  
Monday to Friday..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
For emergencies, dial 911

**FIRE DEPARTMENT (248-2299)**  
Monday to Friday..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### POST OFFICES

Charlton Center Post Office... (800) 275-8777  
Charlton City (01508) ..... (800) 275-8777

### SCHOOLS

Dudley-Charlton Regional School District  
..... (508) 943-6888  
Charlton Elementary School  
..... (508) 248-7774 or (508) 248-7435  
Heritage School ..... (508) 248-4884  
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

### HOLLAND: 413-245-7108

Mon - Thurs 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### FISKDALE: 508-347-6486

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

### STURBRIDGE 508-347-6463

Weekdays 8:30 - 5:00 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

### BRIMFIELD: 413-245-3451

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

### WALES: 413-245-9808

Weekdays 8:30 - 12:30 and 2:00 - 4:30 and  
Sat. 9:00 - 12:00

## CHURCH LISTINGS

- **Central Baptist Church**  
256 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550  
Tel 508/764-6365; Worship 10:00 A.M.
- **Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.**  
[www.fedchurchcharlton.org](http://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. Anne St. Patrick Church, 16 Church St., Fiskdale (508) 347-7338**  
[www.stannestparish.com](http://www.stannestparish.com)  
Saturday Vigil Mass at 4 pm, Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, Youth Mass (September to May) 5 pm. Daily Mass Mon - Thurs 7:30 and 10 am, Fri and Sat 7:30 am
- **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 LifeTEEN 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.livingwordcharlton.com](http://www.livingwordcharlton.com)  
[info@livingwordcharlton.com](mailto:info@livingwordcharlton.com)
- **New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.**
- **Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale - 8 Maple St. Sturbridge, 774-304-1021**  
[www.sturfed.org](http://www.sturfed.org)  
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
- **Bethlehem Lutheran Church- 345 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566**  
Phone 508-347-7297  
Web: [www.bethlehemsturbridge.org](http://www.bethlehemsturbridge.org)  
Services - Sunday 9:00 am  
Pastor Dan Purtell
- **Holland Congregation Church "Where the Bible is preached."**  
11 Sturbridge Road, Holland, 413-245-9926  
Hollandchurch.org  
Sunday Service @ 10:00 am  
Pastor Dan Maketansky

## BOY SCOUT TROOP 273 SPRING YARD SALE

Saturday, May 25th

Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley  
Early Birds (8am to 9am) \$10.00 per person fee  
9am until 3pm FREE We accept CREDIT CARDS!  
24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY  
**Pick your items and Make an offer!**

**Grouped Items:** Electronics - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TVs) **Tools:** hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. **Furniture:** Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc.. **Housewares:** glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances **Sporting goods:** Bikes, skis, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment **Clothes:** shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags **Kids toys and baby items:** high chairs, bouncy, games, Antiques

### PROPERTIES FOR RENT

Prince Edward Island, Canada  
**Summer/Fall Weekly Cottage Rental**  
2-bedroom newly constructed oceanfront cottage that sleeps 8. Sweeping views of the pond, ocean and lighthouse. Enjoy kayaking, bicycling and beach walking.  
\$900/wk. Contact Scott at 603-254-5032 or [scottm@plymouth.edu](mailto:scottm@plymouth.edu)  
**TYBEE ISLAND, GEORGIA**  
**YEAR-ROUND SHORT-TERM RENTAL**  
1-bedroom unit overlooking ocean in a gated community with pool and walkway to beach. Sleeps 4. Watch dolphins at play, freighters, pelicans and fishing boats. Prices vary.  
Contact Oceanfront Cottage Rentals at 800-786-5889 or <http://www.oceanfrontcottage.com/listings/218-bay-breezes>

## HELP WANTED TOWN OF DUDLEY

### TOWN ACCOUNTANT

The Town of Dudley is seeking a qualified leader who is collaborative -minded and self-directed for the critical position of Town Accountant. Under the direction of the Town Administrator the candidate would be responsible for day-to-day activities of the town's accounting function as to maintenance of all financial records, accounts payable, internal and external audit and compliant with applicable State laws and town policies.

A bachelor's degree in accounting or related field is required, master's degree preferred. An understanding of GAAP and GASB and knowledge of Massachusetts municipal finance laws and MA. General Laws. Also, familiar with municipal financial software applications and Uniform Massachusetts Accounting Standards (UMAS). Knowledge of VADAR Systems a plus.

Salary range is commensurate with experience and qualifications, beginning within established salary range - Grade 4 - \$86,000.

This is a full-time position with competitive benefits. Applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to Michelle Jervis, Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director at [townadmin2@dudleyma.gov](mailto:townadmin2@dudleyma.gov). A complete job description can be found on [www.dudleyma.gov](http://www.dudleyma.gov) under Employment Opportunities.

**NORTH BROOKFIELD'S TOWN WIDE YARD SALE**  
HUNTING AND FINDING TREASURES AT UNBEATABLE PRICES!  
**SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024**  
For More Info, Visit [Facebook.com/NBPTOYARDSALE](https://www.facebook.com/NBPTOYARDSALE)  
Maps can be purchased in the center of town by the Town Sign and at 46 Mill Rd Beginning at 7 AM

# Air show draws hundreds



A row of hobby planes

Gus Steeves



Gus Steeves

Logan Rich of Warren starts on the road to flight with a handheld balsa toy plane.



Gus Steeves

Ray Johnson of Douglas maintains his hobby plane.



Gus Steeves

The Flight Deck staff member Mary Regan of Charlton handles the drinks and souvenirs table in the sun.



Gus Steeves

A visiting family watches a plane taxi to takeoff near the USAF trainer.



Gus Steeves

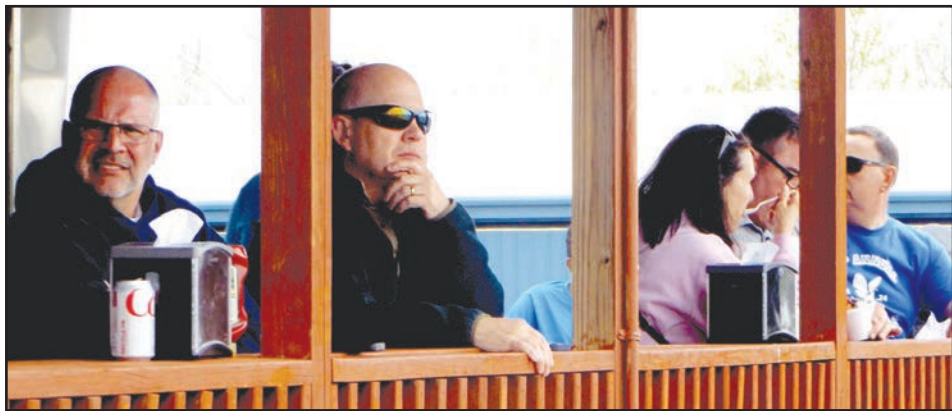
Brothers Johnny and Pushka of Boston, whose parents declined to give their last name, play.



Gus Steeves

A visitor is flanked by the tail and body of an old US Air Force trainer propeller plane.

SOUTHBRIDGE — Hundreds of people descended on Southbridge Airport Saturday from places far and near, some of them from the air, to celebrate humanity's aerial exploits. Several private planes, helicopters, and at least one former USAF propeller plane drew curious eyes young and old, alongside DPW, police and fire vehicles and other attractions.



Gus Steeves

(LEFT) Several people snack on the porch of The Flight Deck while watching an arriving helicopter.

## School Committee confirms 2025 budget request

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee has made its budget proposal official, as both Dudley and Charlton voters prepare for their respective annual town meetings, both on May 20.

In March, the School Committee decided to send a level service budget to both communities proposing a \$59.8 million spending plan and a \$2.4 million increase over the current year split between the two towns. Charlton subsequently approved a budget for consideration in April while Dudley was set to finalize their spending plan in the first week of May. However, during a meeting of the School Committee on April 24, Superintendent Steve Lamarche revealed that new state numbers had come in allowing the School Committee to propose more accurate estimates and thus a more realistic budget. The result did not change the overall budget number, which remains at \$59.8 million, but did provide more precise tax levies for both towns with Charlton's proposed total share at \$18.5 million and Dudley's at \$12.2 million. That's an increase of \$248,088 for Charlton and \$1.3 million for Dudley for a total added assessment of \$1.5 million between the two towns.

"This does not change the overall budget. We used the most favorable

numbers for fiscal year 2025, it therefore does change the assessments," said Lamarche, who explained that district representatives have been working closely with both towns and were patiently waiting for the House of Representatives to set its numbers over the last month to provide clarity as to what the district would receive from the state. "We feel very confident working with our towns that we do have a plan for Fiscal Year 2025 going into Town Meetings."

The School Committee unanimously approved the amended budget which will be included in the spending plans for both towns at their respective May 20 annual town meetings. Both towns need to approve their spending plans for the education budget to be confirmed for Fiscal Year 2025.

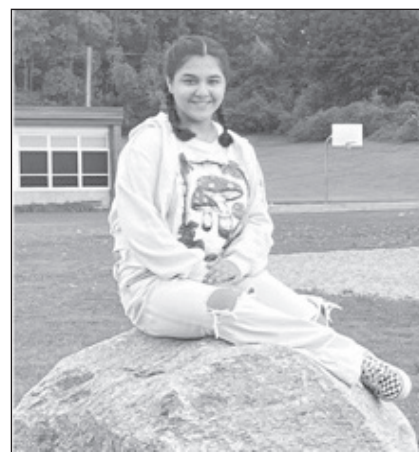
The school committee also continued discussions concerning school fees which has been a consistent debate dating back to the fall and winter of 2023. The district's Budget and Finance Subcommittee examined three possible fee increases: pre-school, athletics, and high school student parking. The School Committee decided not to make a motion on athletic fees and parking fees increases but did approve increasing pre-kindergarten and preschool fees by \$200 annually. Superintendent Lamarche shared his thoughts on the increase.

"This recommendation comes forward with the belief that the fiscal year 2025 budget is within reach through our two communities. The pre-kindergarten and preschool fee increase is warranted and continues to fall within reasonableness for participation in said program from the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District," said the Superintendent.

The preschool fee increase is the first since 2018 and will bring the two-half-days-per-week plan from \$1,000 to \$1,200 annually and the four-half-day-per-week plan from \$2,200 to \$2,400 per year.

**Estate/Yard Sale**  
**Saturday and Sunday,**  
**May 18th and 19th,**  
**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**  
**110 Leland Hill Road**  
**Sutton, MA**  
Furniture, glassware, small kitchen appl, tools, TV's, snowblower, car (Hyundai Elantra)

## Friday's Child



Lexus  
Age 12

Hi! My name is Lexus and I want a home where I can raise pet ducks and chickens.

Lexus is beautiful, kind, loving, and sweet. She thrives on receiving one-on-one attention from loving adults. Lexus is energetic, eager to please and does best with positive reinforcement. She enjoys coloring, arts & crafts, playing outside, listening to music and playing games. She loves animals, trying new things and

visiting with her brother. She is very outgoing, creative, and loves projects. Lexus would like her new family to help her with raising pet ducks and chickens. She also would like to take horse back riding lessons.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7511>

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. As an adoptive parent, you won't have to pay any fees, adoption from foster care is completely free in Massachusetts.

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



**PEPIN**  
WASTE SERVICE  
*Your Local Roll-Off Specialist*

**Spring Special**  
10 yd. Rental 1 Ton  
3 sizes available. Call for pricing.

**\$325**

**Roll Off Containers**  
Weekend Dumpsters  
for the Homeowner  
Houses • Attics • Cellars  
Construction Sites

10-15-20 Yd.  
**508-892-4193 • Leicester, MA**  
Fully Insured

MasterCard VISA

# CHPT presents program on landscaping boundaries

CHARLTON — You are invited to attend a presentation titled "Landscape Border Boundaries-The Power of Planting for Wildlife and Wellbeing" covering ways to enhance the boundaries of your yard while contributing to wildlife habitat, protecting pollinators, and providing some fresh fruit for snacking. It will be held in Dexter Hall of the Charlton Public Library on Friday, May 17 at 7 p.m. This is a free, one hour event that is designed to ramp up your creativity with ideas that can benefit the environment and your own well-being.

The Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust (CHPT) is pleased to feature Nate Fournier and Lucy Smith, co-owners of Reimagined Roots. Their mission is to revolutionize the American

lawn for a more resilient future by creating beautiful, functional ecosystems full of food, medicine, and native plants. Nate Fournier, a native of Charlton, has a background in engineering and re-dedicated himself to designing and building sustainable ecosystems after having spent time abroad studying permaculture design. Lucy Smith studied economics and has been around the world learning about permaculture and understanding indigenous wisdom relating to feeding people with native plants.

William Blasius, president of the CHPT Board of Trustees, says, "I am excited to be able to bring this unique program to Charlton."

Blasius began his professional career at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in

the Ecology department.

"I started off working in crop protection," he said. "That required a lot of time observing the wildlife around blueberry farms and corn fields. One of the things that I picked up on quickly was the concentration and diversity of life at border transitions. Most of the plots that I had staked out were surrounded by woods. But it was at the edges that were the most productive for gathering wildlife data. It's a great feeling to be able to combine my field work experiences with Reimagined Roots' practical knowledge of landscape design, installation, and maintenance for this program."

"We hope that people take away from this presentation the understanding that if everyone dedicated 10 percent of their lawns to a more natural state, we could make a huge difference," says Smith.

That difference will be in the form of mitigating biodiversity loss, buffering climate change and improving human well-being.

Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust owns 19 conservation properties in town, totaling over 200 acres of natural land open to the public. CHPT works with landowners, developers and the town to balance healthy economic growth with conservation of important natural resources and historically significant places. They rely on donations of land and funds to make new conservation projects and educational events possible. CHPT relies on the volunteer help of their members and friends to preserve their conservation areas for the public benefit.

You can find out more about the work of Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust, including information about their properties and the May 17 Reimagined Roots program at the Charlton Public Library, at their Website, <https://www.charltontrust.org/>.

# CCUMC to host pulled barbeque pork dinner

CHARLTON — On Saturday, May 18, Charlton City United Methodist Church is hosting a pulled barbeque pork dinner with potato salad, coleslaw, baked beans, corn bread and peach cobbler with whipped cream. Come and enjoy food and fellowship with friends and neighbors.

As always, between 5 and 7 p.m., there will be continuous serving and take-out. Price is still \$15 for adults and \$7 for children, free for children under five. Tickets may be purchased at the door although reservations are appreciated. Call the church office at (508) 248-7379 for information and reservations. The building is handicap accessible with ample parking and located at 74 Stafford St., Charlton.

# Freshmen named to Bay Path honor roll

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School congratulates the following grade 9 students for being named to the honor roll for the third quarter of the 2023-2024 school year.

### High Honors

Kennadie Balcunas, Alyssa Bonneville, Missage Budimbu Mpolo, Clara Burlingame, Bella Calnan, Miya Chauvin, Morgan Chlapowski, Jenna Cianci, Ian Clark, Madelyn Creelman, Trinity Crompton, Brianna Dwomoah, Molly Dwyer, Hailey Ferrara, Samantha Fleck, Aria Fournier, Brooke Fuller, Kelsey Karlowicz, Finnian Keefe, Owen Kennedy, Jayme Kenney, Jack Maroney, Shaun McGrath, Thomas Nault, Johnny Nhan, Anastasia Nieuwenhoff, Corey Ntim, Katie Putnam, Jason Richard, Kayla Schroeder, Isabella Sepulveda, Travis Tong, Nicholas Tremblay, Kyle Twombly

### Honors

Saltete Alves, Trevor Amaral, Lacie Andrews, Lillian Araujo, Winifred Aucoin, Vincent Balducci, Boden Barrell, Nolan Barton, Liam Beals, Lyla Beauchene, Samantha Belanger, Brett Beltzer, Kayleigh Bissell, Alexandria Blanchard, Alexia Brown, Ariana Byrnes, Keziah Chipman, Dominic Cincotta, Aidan Clyne, Liam Colon, Naomi Cooper, Benjamin Cryan, Liam Cunniff, Destiny Daviau, Eric Day, Hunter Defosse, Livia Deluca, Madisson Drewry, Elizabeth Eccleston, Jackson Edwards, Ava Erkoc, Dylan Filipkowski, Aliyah Gauvin, Ely Gemboski, Jinnette Goguen, Adrian Golemo, Jadyan Goodwin, Liam Greenwood, Emma Grensavitch, Emm Harrington, Kaylee Hoffner, Colin Hurley, Vikram Jha, Alexander Kowalski, Abena Kwarteng, Benjamin Labbe, Sangey Lama, Owen Lemansky, Ethan Lemire, Jaxon Leonard, Andrew Levitzky, Damon Libby, Perry Lima, Apollo Logan, Jared Magnusson, Emily Malia, Julie-Anna Marchetti, Christopher Martin, Aaron Mazur, Colin McIlvaine, Ava McKellick, Johannys Melendez, Nicholas Meneguzzo, Jayden Minardi, Alexis Moore, Miles Moriarty, Miguel Mosqueda, Kaiya Murphy, Melany Ngo, Daniel Nowlan, Jacey Okyere-Tawiah, Aylah Patraw, Mayli Pedersen, Kiera Pederson, Iban Pelaez, Grace Perron, Racquel Provencal, Ava Rennie, Isabella Richard, Devin Robinson, Leilani Rohena Torres, Josdrielys Rosario Negron, Jennavicia Roseberry, Jaelynn Royea, Jordyn Sabotka, Owen Sanford, Anthony Savasta, Michael Scott, Lucas Silva, Zachary Sirard, Addisyn Skeates, Hadleigh Splaine, Amelia St. Peter, Kayley Suprenant, Rachel Torres, Isabella Vangel, Brady Weeks, Connor Welsh, Dashiell Williams, Jazzelle Wolverton, Jackson Young, Lucy Zaleski, Payton Ziemski

### Principal's List

Collin Bachand, Michaela Carter, Anthony Correnti, Maya Cronin, Camden Decarolis, Tobias Falco-Foreman, Marcus Feliciano, Cole Going, Julia Holton, Alex Kirejczyk, Ella Komssi, Maximilian Lapriore, Kiya McCart, Sarah McDaniel, Joshua McLaughlin, Alysia Melendez, Jose Mercado Lopez, Samantha Morley, Nathaniel Munson, Elijah Ofori, Noah Peck, Jacob Perry, Kyla Pierre, Dane Potenti, Gianna Rosario, Benjamin Rucho, Logan Schoff, Ella Schofield, Allison Smith, Skyla St. Francis, Alexander St. Jacques, Cayden Stewart, Sean Sullivan, Marley Talbot, Isaiah Torres, Eskil Tranes, Kara Trevarthan, Ryan Ugrinow, Bryce Vautour, Nico Yacavace

# Local residents named to Simmons University Dean's List

BOSTON —The following local residents were named to the 2023 fall semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston.

\* Lindsay Albright, Charlton

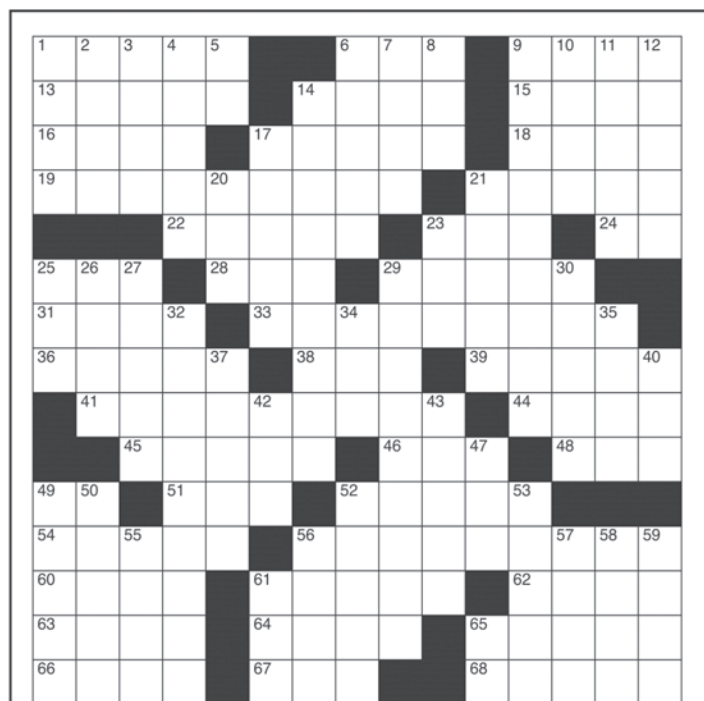
\* Jessica Hennessey, Fiskdale

To qualify for dean's list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

About Simmons University

Located in the heart of Boston, Simmons is a respected private

university offering nearly 50 majors and programs for undergraduate women and graduate programs open to all on campus, in blended formats, or entirely online in nursing and health sciences, liberal arts, business, communications, social work, public health, and library and information science. Founded in 1899, Simmons has established a model of higher education that other colleges and universities are only recently beginning to adapt: the combination of education for leadership in high-demand professional fields with the intellectual foundation of the liberal arts. The result is a Simmons graduate prepared not only to work, but to lead in professional, civic, and personal life - a vision of empowerment that Simmons calls preparation for life's work. Follow Simmons on Twitter at @SimmonsUniv, and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/school/simmons-university/>.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. It wakes you up
- 6. A place to sleep
- 9. Czech village
- 13. Appetizer
- 14. African country
- 15. Dark brown or black
- 16. Parent-teacher groups
- 17. Saturates
- 18. ESPN personality Kimes
- 19. Songs to a lover
- 21. Cavalry-sword
- 22. Begat
- 23. Patriotic women
- 24. Famed Princess
- 25. One who does not conform
- 28. Neither
- 29. Nigerian monetary unit
- 31. Body parts
- 33. Hit Dave Matthews Band song
- 36. Depicts with pencil
- 38. Make into leather without tannin
- 39. Plants grow from them
- 41. Alias
- 44. Fingers do it
- 45. More dried-up
- 46. Clod
- 48. Senior officer
- 49. A way to listen to music
- 51. The bill in a restaurant
- 52. Historic center of Artois region
- 54. Cyprinid fishes
- 56. Poisonous perennial plant
- 60. Scottish Loch
- 61. Heads
- 62. Extra seed-covering
- 63. Wings
- 64. Britpop band
- 65. Forearm bones
- 66. Small immature herring
- 67. Female sibling
- 68. Hymn

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Vipers
- 2. Not on time
- 3. Resembling a wing or wings
- 4. Tears down
- 5. Professional designation
- 6. Noise a sheep made
- 7. Type of lodge
- 8. Speak poorly of
- 9. Ties the knot again
- 10. Apron
- 11. Studied intensively
- 12. City in Finland
- 14. One who monitors
- 17. 18-year astronomical period
- 20. Trent Reznor's band
- 21. Takes to the sea
- 23. Split pulses
- 25. Valentine's Day color
- 26. Wyatt
- 27. Type of rail
- 29. One from the Big Apple
- 30. Asteroids
- 32. Made more sugary
- 34. Change in skin pigment
- 35. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- 37. Koran chapters
- 40. A place to relax
- 42. Young woman ready for society life
- 43. Female horses
- 47. Half of Milli Vanilli
- 49. Icelandic poems
- 50. Indiana town
- 52. Golden peas
- 53. Closes tightly
- 55. It's mined in mountains
- 56. Cliff (Hawaii)
- 57. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 58. Monetary unit
- 59. Primordial matter
- 61. TV station
- 65. Rise



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## Rockng For a Cure returns May 26

FISKDALE — Sunday, May 26 from noon to 9 p.m. at Hyland Orchard and Pavilion in Fiskdale will be our Eighth Annual Rocking For A Cure Event. We have seven local musical performers consisting of a solo artist, duos and bands playing for us. We will have raffles and food for sale by Paradise BBQ and catering. Event is rain or shine.

All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

# Join CMS Chamber in welcoming Condesa Restaurante Mexicano to Sturbridge

**STURBRIDGE** — As you step through the doors of Condesa, you're not just entering a restaurant, you're embarking on a sensory journey that will transport you to the heart of Mexico. The Chamber of Central Mass South invites the public to join in as it cuts the official red ribbon and extends a warm welcome and best wishes to their newest member business at Condesa Restaurante Mexicano on Thursday, May 16 at 11:30 a.m.



Courtesy

**Recently opened in Sturbridge Plaza, Condesa offers their guests the authentic tastes of Mexico.**

The welcoming ambiance at Condesa is carefully crafted to ensure that every visit is a memorable one. Condesa's attentive and knowledgeable staff is here to guide you through their menu, answer your questions, and make recommendations tailored to your preferences. Whether you're a seasoned enthusiast of Mexican cuisine or a first-time explorer, Condesa strives

to make your dining experience enjoyable and informative. Located in Sturbridge Plaza at 178 Main St., Suite A in Sturbridge, Condesa is open now with reservations, dine-in and take-out options available.

"We are very happy to have found this beautiful community that is Sturbridge," says Condesa manager Oscar Barron. "We thank each and every one of you for all the support that we've been given these first couple of months and are looking forward to many years to come! We couldn't have picked a more

perfect community to be a part of. Condesa extends a warm and genuine welcome to all of their guests, inviting you to become a member of their extended family."

Guests of the ribbon cutting, which begins with the ceremony at 11:30 a.m. and continues through 1 p.m., can enjoy authentic tastes of Mexico including tempting tapas style samples of chicken quesadillas, chicken flautas, chips, salsa, street corn, and Horchata. Condesa will also be giving away three \$25 Gift Certificates at the event. There is no cost to attend, and no RSVP is needed. For more, you can visit [sturbridge.condesarestaurant.com](http://sturbridge.condesarestaurant.com) or give them a ring at (508) 213-3337 and make a reservation today.

If it is time for your business to grow, join a dedicated and engaged business community. Visit the Chamber of

Central Mass South online at [cmschamber.org](http://cmschamber.org)

to learn how Chamber membership can help your business thrive.

## Cornerstone Bank welcomes Michael Lavoie as senior commercial officer

**WORCESTER** — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, recently welcomed Michael Lavoie as its new executive vice president, senior commercial officer. In this role, the Upton resident will oversee all aspects of commercial banking for Cornerstone Bank, including new business generation, portfolio management and underwriting. In addition to the ongoing support of existing customers, he will also focus on helping grow and develop Cornerstone's commercial and industrial lending portfolio.



Michael Lavoie

"Mike brings 20-plus years of solid commercial banking experience, primarily focused on commercial and industrial lending," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "He is well-known locally by customers and business professionals, and we look forward to the contributions he will make

as a member of our senior leadership team."

Most recently, Lavoie served as group manager at M&T Bank where he was responsible for the Worcester and Springfield markets. He is a board member of the Worcester Economic Club, Worcester Regional Research Bureau and Rainbow Child Development Center. He is a past board member and president of Upton Youth Baseball.

Lavoie earned his B.S. in marketing from Southern New Hampshire University and an MBA with a finance concentration from Bentley University in Waltham.

## Rahni Bussiere recognized at Student Life Awards

**EASTON** — Rahni Bussiere, a member of Stonehill College's Class of 2025 from Charlton, was recently honored at the institution's Student Life Awards, held Sunday, April 28. Each year, this program celebrates campus community members for their outstanding contributions to the betterment of Stonehill.

For more information on the 2024 Student Life Awards, visit Stonehill College's Web site.

About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs

in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

## Rory Paul inducted into Lambda Epsilon Sigma

**EASTON** — Rory Paul, a member of Stonehill College's Class of 2025 from Uxbridge was recently inducted into Lambda Epsilon Sigma, the institution's academic honor society. The organization recognizes outstanding juniors and seniors who have demonstrated an excitement for both learning and sharing their knowledge.

About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 387-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

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## EDITORIAL

# Fashion flashbacks — The timeless appeal of retro trends

In the ever-evolving world of fashion, one thing remains constant: the cyclical nature of trends. From bell-bottoms to neon windbreakers, retro styles from past decades have made a triumphant return to the forefront of fashion, appealing to a new generation of style enthusiasts.

What is it about retro fashion that continues to captivate our imagination? Perhaps it's the allure of bygone eras, where style was synonymous with individuality and self-expression. From the glamorous silhouettes of the 1950s to the rebellious spirit of the 1990s, each decade offers its own unique aesthetic, ripe for reinterpretation in the modern age.

Social media has played a significant role in the resurgence of retro trends, providing a platform for fashion enthusiasts to share their love of vintage-inspired looks and connect with like-minded individuals around the globe.

Beyond the allure of aesthetics lies a deeper appreciation for the sustainability aspect of embracing retro fashion. As the fashion industry grapples with issues of environmental impact and overconsumption, repurposing and reimagining clothing from past decades offers a more eco-conscious alternative to fast fashion. By breathing new life into vintage pieces through upcycling and thrifting, we not only reduce waste but also celebrate the craftsmanship and history of fashion.

The resurgence of retro trends has sparked a renewed sense of creativity and individuality in the way we approach style. From mixing and matching vintage finds with contemporary pieces to putting a modern twist on classic looks, the possibilities are endless. Retro fashion allows us to express our personalities and tell our own unique stories through the clothes we wear, bridging the gap between past and present with each outfit choice.

Whether you're channeling the glamour of Old Hollywood or the laid-back vibes of the '90s grunge scene, remember that style knows no bounds and creativity knows no limits. So, dig into your grandmother's closet, scour thrift stores for hidden gems, and embark on your own fashion flashback journey. The past is calling, and it's time to make it your own.

## Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

# OPINION

## TO THE EDITOR Your vote matters

To the Editor:

This is to all those residents of Charlton who didn't think their vote would count. The recent election between two candidates for the Select Board was within one vote. In other words, if you didn't vote, and your favorite candidate lost, it was your fault.

I've seen this happen a number of times over the years in local elections, and if you care about your town and

how it is run, you must get yourself out there and cast your vote. I believe most people do care and then simply forget or assume your candidate will win, or "life gets in the way" and so they don't vote. Don't allow this to happen to you — it only takes ten minutes, and then there will be no regrets.

Kathleen Walker  
Charlton

## Should life be all work and no play?

Life seems busier than ever, and it's not slowing down. Despite technological advances, our workload doesn't seem to lighten. Business owners might find AI tools helpful, yet often, they handle these tasks themselves instead of hiring additional help. With rising inflation and economic pressures, what was a full-time job for one person has now become just an hour's task a day for many CEOs. As technology simplifies processes, the burden of multiple tasks increasingly falls on just a few shoulders.

While staying busy can be rewarding, the overwhelming pile of tasks can make you feel perpetually behind. Catching up seems possible only with extra help, maybe even an assistant. The expectations placed on many of us often surpass what one person can manage. I might even need a Teslbot to handle my household chores—come on, Elon, I'm drowning in responsibilities here!

What happens when a loved one falls ill? Suddenly, you're forced to reprioritize to take care of them. If it's a severe illness, the time it demands can feel overwhelming. In such situations, lowering your expectations about what you can accomplish becomes necessary.

But should life be all work and no play? The concept of work-life balance is frequently discussed, and for many years, for me it was nonexistent. My life was like a seesaw stuck to the ground, burdened by an overload of work without any relief. Is this truly fulfilling? I guess it depends on what you find fulfilling.

A friend of mine used to watch me exhaust myself and would eventually ask, "Why? What's the point?" To me, the sense of accomplishment was all the fulfillment I needed.

There was a time after my acting career when I didn't need to work and wasn't worried about finances, but I found that period somewhat empty.

But I digress. Let's ask the question again. Should life be all work and no play?

This reminds me of an old U2 T-shirt. It read, "Smell the flowers while you can." Once, as I was walking by, an older gentleman shouted, "Ain't that the truth!" while pointing at my shirt.

"While you can..." The implications

## POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY  
MOORE

of that phrase are vast. What does it mean? Will the flowers vanish one day? Will we no longer be around to enjoy their scent? At this point, nothing would surprise me.

The weight of "while you can" hit home a couple days ago when a dear friend of mine passed away unexpectedly. It's a stark reminder. We never truly know the future.

Finding balance is essential. It doesn't have to be just vegging out on the couch watching reality TV although occasionally that's what is needed. Ultimately, it's going to look different for each of us. It's a personal journey to discover what that balance means.

Reflecting on a quote by Jim Rohn, whom I often cite and had the fortune to meet as a boy, might offer some guidance.

He said, "Something my parents taught me, that they practiced all their life, and now I practice. Don't miss anything. Don't miss the game, don't miss the concert, don't miss the performance, don't miss the show. Don't miss the conversation, don't miss the sermon, don't miss the class...don't miss anything. Go look, see, learn, try, taste. Let that flavor of life be part of your lifestyle."

Why pursue balance? It's about personal enrichment and development, about becoming a person of value. True, thriving in our workplace demands education, hard work, determination, and dedication. But what about beyond the office?

Consider the value added to your life when you're not only accomplished at work but also knowledgeable in the arts, skilled in playing chess, experienced in gardening, or have read the greatest book upon that which western civilization was founded upon. You've set down the path of enriching your whole self, making you a more rounded and insightful individual, and what is that truly worth?

Can we quantify it? No, but consider this: being a cultured individual stimulates fresh thoughts, inspires new actions, and fosters new ways of being and can help you get out of a rut. This not only adds layers of value to your personality, but also introduces a much-needed balance. What's it worth? I'd say it's priceless.

## Planting Pointers

After a long season of browsing through seed catalogs and plot planners, outside planting time is almost here! (I can still hear Dick Lamoreaux's mantra of "no planting until after Memorial Day!" ringing in my ears.) It's no wonder the backyard gardener is dreaming of lush gardens and neatly planted garden rows. While we are still a few weeks away from safely sowing seeds or transplanting seedlings, now is the perfect time to ponder planting strategies for the prospect of sunny days digging in the soil.

The following tips are geared toward helping you get the most out of your early gardening chores.

\*\*\*  
If you start your seeds indoors in flats, here's an easy way to gauge spacing seeds in large flats: Cut a piece of one-inch chicken mesh wire the size of the flat. Simply



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lay it on the soil and plant a seed inside each hole for instant one-inch spacing. For two or three inch spacing, simply skip the correct number of holes.

\*\*\*  
If you have leftover seeds, you can quickly and easily test their viability by dropping them in a container of water. The good seeds will sink to the bottom, while the bad ones will float.

\*\*\*  
To up the odds this year's leftover seeds will sprout again next year, store them in the refrigerator in a tightly closed jar with a packet of silica gel. The gel packets can be recycled from vita-

min bottles, electronic and shoe boxes, etc.

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

\*\*\*  
Here's a helpful tip for storing, and sowing, seeds. Simply put seeds in a clean, empty spice, seasoning or Parmesan cheese shaker. If you have tiny seeds, add little cornstarch to keep them from clumping together. When it's time to plant, just shake them evenly over the soil.

\*\*\*  
Believe it or not, you might want to consider planting a chrysanthemum plant in the vegetable garden this year. The beautiful chrysan-

Turn To **HINT** page A7

## Term vs. perm: Which is right for you?



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS  
TREVOR  
NIELSEN

If you've been thinking about life insurance, especially if you have family, loved ones, or anyone who depends on you financially, you might be curious about the different kinds of policies available. Which type is right for you?

Essentially, you can look at two main categories of life insurance: term and permanent.

Term insurance is a pay-as-you-go option that covers a specific amount of time, usually 20 years or fewer. Term insurance benefits are paid to your beneficiaries free of federal income taxes if you pass away during the coverage period, but there's no opportunity to build cash value.

Permanent insurance, such as whole life or universal life, offers coverage for as long as you pay the premiums, and in addition to providing a tax-free death benefit, also offers a chance to build equity, or cash value, on a tax-deferred basis.

When determining which type of insurance is appropriate for your needs, you'll want to consider these factors:

Cost – Term insurance is generally affordable for most people, which is why it may be particularly suitable for parents and young adults who may be at the beginning of their careers. Permanent insurance is typically more expensive, largely because it is meant to last for one's lifetime and some of the premiums go toward building cash value in the policy and paying for other features. Generally, the younger and healthier you are when you purchase permanent insurance, the lower your rates will be.

Length of time insurance is needed – If you think you will only need life insurance for a certain period — perhaps until your children are grown — you might lean toward term insurance. If you feel the need for life insurance for other goals throughout your lifetime, for whatever reason — you might have a special needs child, or perhaps you want to use your policy to help pay for retirement, or you wish to include the policy as part of your legacy and estate plans — you may want to consider some type of permanent insurance.

Investment preferences – You may have heard the phrase "buy term and invest the difference." Essentially, this just means that an investor could purchase low-cost term insurance, and then invest the money that was saved by not getting permanent insurance. This can be a valuable strategy in some situations, but people often don't actually invest the difference. A permanent insurance policy, through the payment of premiums, may result in a steady buildup of cash value or continued contributions to the policy's investment components. For many people, this discipline is helpful.

Future insurability – If you have health issues, it could become difficult to get permanent insurance after you've reached the end of a term insurance policy. (Some term insurance policies do offer the opportunity to convert to permanent coverage, usually without the need for a medical exam.) You could avoid this potential problem by purchasing permanent insurance when you are still young and healthy.

Ultimately, you will need to weigh the various factors involved in the permanent-versus-term decision. You also might benefit from consulting a financial professional, who can evaluate which type of insurance is most appropriate for your situation. But whether it's term or permanent, make sure you have the coverage you need to protect yourself and your loved ones.

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



Courtesy

This week's photo shows Duston Tourville with a nice striper he caught in the Providence River this past Sunday while fishing with his fishing buddy, John Gareri.

# From tautog to turkeys

Stripers are biting very well up and down the coast, but you need to use the correct bait. The Providence River remained absent from Menhaden last weekend, at least for a couple of local anglers. When they tried trolling umbrella rigs, action picked up, with a pair of anglers landing seven stripers last Saturday. They returned the following day and did even better retaining their two fish in a matter of a couple of hours. If you want to catch stripers, the Providence River is

the place to go now!



THE GREAT OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH TRUE

Wild Turkey hunters are limiting out with their season limit of two birds early this year. There is very little competition by other hunters, making the hunts productive. Tautog fishing remained very good this past week, with reports

of some larger fish. Crabs seem to be the top bait again this year, but the trick of cutting crabs in half revealing the inners of the crab is working well. Haddock fishing on the North Shore remains strong!

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will hold their annual Kids trout fishing derby this Saturday May 11, starting at 8 a.m. Breakfast will be served at 7 a.m.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## Boost the beauty and comfort of your outdoor spaces



GARDEN MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA MYERS

Add some comfort and beauty to your outdoor spaces this year. Look for options that fit your lifestyle, budget, and schedule. Even simple changes can make a positive impact on the time you spend relaxing and entertaining on your patio, deck, or other outdoor spaces.

Freshen up the look and comfort of these areas with some new furniture. Look for comfortable pieces made of durable materials guaranteed to provide years of enjoyment. If this is not within your budget, consider refurbishing something you already have, are gifted from a friend, or find in a thrift shop. Adding a bit of paint, new cushions, or even colorful pillows can transform older pieces into something special.

Add some shade. A strategically placed umbrella can provide needed relief from the sun. Make sure it is stable and secure, especially in windy locations. Consider shade sails not only for the shade they provide but also for their aesthetic appeal. Make sure it is securely anchored and supported, properly managed during harsh weather, and made of fire-retardant fabric if this is a concern in your location. Pergolas are more permanent structures. Train deciduous vines up and over this structure for added shade in the summer. Then enjoy the warming sunlight when the vines drop their leaves during the cooler months of the year.

Create some privacy with strategically placed



plantings and containers. Tall grasses, narrow upright shrubs, and vine-covered trellises can help block unwanted views while creating a private space outdoors. Consider the views you want to keep and those you want to block. Screen unsightly views and areas where neighbors can see into your space. You may only need a vine-covered trellis, several hanging baskets, a couple of pots, or a section of fencing rather than a long hedge or length of fencing.

Soften the look of fencing with some wall-mounted planters, a few potted plants or shrubs, and in-ground plantings if space allows. Use a diverse selection of plants when creating a living screen. This provides more seasonal interest and makes it easier to replace that one failed plant in a mature hedge of evergreens like arborvitae.

Water is another way to add a bit of serenity to your space. A wall-mounted fountain, small container of water plants, or container fountain will add noise-blocking sound and a sense of serenity to any space.

To control pesky mosquitoes in water features (or in any standing water), add a mosquito control like Mosquito Dunks and Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) that contains a naturally occurring bac-

terium called *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* to the water. This active ingredient kills mosquito larvae, preventing them from transforming into biting adults. Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population, while the Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control. They both are safe for pets, fish, wildlife, and children.

Extend the time you can spend outdoors by adding a heat source for those chilly days and nights and a fan to keep air moving and the space cooler on hot days. Adding a fan also provides some relief from mosquitoes. These weak fliers can't fight the breeze which will keep you out of their reach and much more comfortable.

Include lighting so you can enjoy your outdoor space in the evening. Consider a string of lights overhead, rail lights around the deck, or strategically placed illuminated plant containers. Create a more intimate experience with a few votive candles displayed in unique holders like old punch cups.

Light a few citronella candles for a bit of ambiance and mosquito control when enjoying your outdoor space in the evening. Citronella oil and the scented candles have some mosquito-repelling properties. Scatter lots of candles throughout the

space when entertaining. Position the candles within a few feet of yourself and your guests for some short-term relief from these pests.

Start with a list of improvements you want to make. Then get busy researching the various options so you will be ready to boost the comfort and enjoyment of your

patio, deck and other outdoor spaces this year.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* instant video and DVD series and the

nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio* program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Summit* to write this article. Myers' Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## Bay Path nursing student qualifies for National Technical Honor Society

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Academy student Regina Njuguna of Worcester will be inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) in an in-person ceremony to be held Sunday, May 12 at the Douglas Orchard and Farms (36 Locust Street, Douglas, MA 01516). This will mark the ninth annual induction ceremony for the academy.



Regina Nijunga

Njuguna has been a direct care staff working with Venture Community Services, Spencer, for the last three years. Regina believes that nurses play a pivotal role in delivering health care, especially to the elderly and other community members that are most vulnerable.

"Nurses are enablers, they nurture environments that enable

doctors to effectively diagnose and administer treatment plans where needed, thus acting as a vital support of the healthcare system," she says.

Eligibility for induction to the NTHS is based on a minimum 3.0 grade point average, faculty recommendation, character, leadership, and involvement in extracurricular activities

and clubs. These characteristics reflect the member attributes of the National Technical Honor Society which are skill, honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship and leadership.

Gretheline Bollandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director stated, "practical nursing students always look forward

to the NTHS induction ceremony each year. Making it through nursing school is a big achievement, being inducted to the NTHS crowns it all."

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy: Bay Path offers a 40-week, (10 month), full time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. For more information, visit [www.bay-path.net](http://www.bay-path.net).

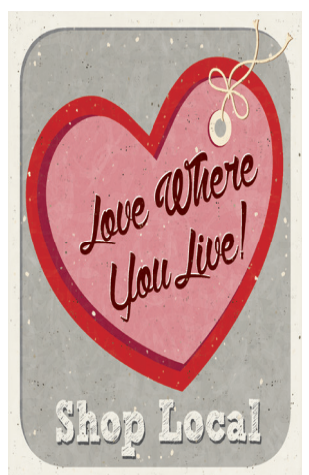
About NTHS The National Technical Honor Society is an educational non-profit that exists to honor, recognize, and empower students and teachers in Career & Technical Education. *Tum To HONORS page A14*

### HINT

continued from page 6

them is a garden helper as it acts as a handy water gauge. Because the flower wilts before other plants during a dry spell, it's a red flag to tell you to irrigate. \*\*\*

Want more visual impact for cash output in the garden? If you're planting Azaleas, consider the fact that white azaleas bloom longer than any other color of the plant. \*\*\*



Here's an old farmers tip: If you plant your lettuce near tall growing vegetables, the big plants will give off shade, allowing the lettuce to keep its cool and prevent bitter leaves. \*\*\*

Did you know planting pennyroyal in the garden naturally deters mosquitoes? When evening falls, simply break off some leaves and scatter them on the porch or ground where people sit. \*\*\*

If you have backyard pets and flies are a problem, try planting yarrow to deter the collection of flies. Tansy also works to discourage mosquitoes. \*\*\*

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing.

One winner per month (or whenever enough entries are received) 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 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](mailto:KDRR@aol.com). Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

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Helen Boyle

Courtesy

### RUTH WELLS CENTER SPOT-LIGHTS LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts, located at 111 Main St. in Southbridge, is hosting a photography exhibit by Charlton resident Arthur Furtado and Helen Boyle of Southbridge. The gallery opening is Saturday, May 11, from noon to 4 p.m. The exhibit runs the month of May and gallery hours are Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4

p.m. The exhibit will be closed on Sunday, May 12. Arthur and Helen are talented photographers and are pleased to share their works with the community. Light refreshments will be served at the opening. The Ruth Wells Center started in 1977 as the Quinebaug Valley Council for the Arts and Humanities, and offers ongoing art exhibits, kids' workshops and music events. Next month's exhibitor is Louise Pigott. Her opening is June 9, 1-5 p.m. Plan to stop by the Ruth Wells Center to experience the culture of Southbridge. For more information, go to the Web site, ruth-wellscenter.com, or call 508 764 3341.

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# OBITUARIES

## Nadine Marie Fowble, 80

SOUTHBRIDGE: Nadine Marie Fowble, 80 years old, passed away peacefully on April 29, 2024, at Rose Monahan Hospice Home in Worcester, Massachusetts.

She was born on November 25, 1943 in Southbridge, MA to Raymond and Ruth (Lemoine) Carrier. Nadine was a cherished lifelong resident of Southbridge and a proud graduate of Notre Dame High School in 1962.

At a dance, she met the love of her life, Gene Fowble, whom she married at Notre Dame Church on April 16, 1966. Nadine was a dedicated parishioner of St. John Paul II Parish (formerly Notre Dame Church). She found joy in being a devoted homemaker and worked as a bank teller at Southbridge Credit Union for many years.

Nadine will be remembered most for her role as a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and friend. Her kindness and thoughtfulness brightened the lives of all who knew her. She found immense happiness in the company of her family and friends.

She leaves behind her beloved husband of 58 years, Gene Fowble; her daughter Donna and her husband Steven Gibson of Walpole, Massachusetts; three sons: Steve and his wife Xiomara of San Antonio, Texas; Raymond and his wife Trish of



Southbridge, Massachusetts; and Scott and his wife Mary of Jackson, Georgia. In addition to her immediate family members, she is survived by her brother George Carrier of San Diego, California; as well as grandchildren: Brittany, Steven Jr., Selena, Alyssa, Andrew, Isabelle, Sophia and her great grandchild Emma. several nieces and nephews; great-nieces and great-nephews. She was predeceased by a grandson Cristhian.

Visitation took place from 8:00-9:30 am on May 4 at Belanger-Bullard Funeral Home located at 51 Marcy Street in Southbridge.

The Funeral Mass was held 10:00 AM on Saturday, May 4 at St. John Paul II Parish (Notre Dame Church) on 446 Main Street in Southbridge. Burial at Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Agawam will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to DAV by mailing them to Department of MA Service Funds INC at 3 Victory Lane in Gardner, MA 01440.

Please visit www.BelangerFuneralHome.com where an online guestbook and video tribute are available for condolences and memories shared by loved ones during this time of sorrow.

## Gregory C. Stone, 83

CHARLTON – Gregory C. Stone, 83, of Gale Road, died Saturday, May 4, 2024, in his home. He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Carolyn F. (Wells) Stone of Charlton; six children, Gregory C. Stone Jr. and his wife Olivia of Florida, Scott W. Stone and his wife Mary of Charlton, Dawn A. Stone and her partner Walter of Holland, Donna M. Coye and her husband David of Bourne, Michael A. Urella and his wife Joanne of Webster, and Scott J. Urella and his wife Lori of Oxford; fourteen grandchildren, Gregory C. Stone III and his partner Katie, Christopher Stone and his wife Jennifer, Erin Stone, Sarah A. Stone-Seaman and her husband Matthew, Rebecca Stone and her fiancé Joseph, Abigail M. Stone, Elizabeth R. Stone, Marvin F. Lowell, Alison L. Coye and her fiancé Benjamin, Brandon J. Coye, Alicia E. Urella, Marissa M. Urella, Stephanie A. Lawless and her husband Derek, and Anthony M. Urella and his fiancée Alexis; thirteen great-grandchildren, Elijah, Logan, Landon, Nathan, Makenna, Aubree, Emmett, Sophia, Oliver, Madison, Grayson, Teagan, and Liam; and two nieces, Michelle and Nannette.



tal corpsman and third-class petty officer. Mr. Stone was a custodian at Oxford High School, Clara Barton School, and Woodward School in Oxford for 18 years, retiring as head custodian in 2003. Previously, he worked at the Oxford Drug Store counter during high school where he was a friendly face to the customers. He also supervised the Worcester Telegram office in Oxford for 7 years. Mr. Stone was a member of the American Legion Post 58 in Oxford. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, target shooting, and enjoyed spending time at his cabin in Maine and home in Florida.

A funeral service will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, May 13, 2024, at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Burial with military honors will follow at North Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours are Monday from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the funeral home prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to VNA Care and Hospice, 100 Trade Center Drive, Suite G-500, Woburn, MA 01801, or to UMass Memorial Health, Cancer Care Fund, One Biotech, Suite 301, 365 Plantation St., Worcester, MA 01605.

He was born in Webster, son of the late Alfred L. and Ruth E. (Munn) Stone, and lived in Oxford before moving to Charlton in 1974. He graduated from Oxford High School in 1959. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during the Vietnam War and the Cuban Missile Crisis as a hospi-

## Mark R. Fitts, 44

CHARLTON – Mark R. Fitts, 44, died Sunday, April 28, in UMass/Memorial University Campus after a short illness.

He leaves his father, Roland F. Fitts, Jr. of Charlton; his mother, Brenda (Smick) Bellizzi and her husband Jerry of Brookfield; his maternal grandfather, Edgar Smick of Southbridge; an uncle, Alan Fitts and his wife Beth of Charlton; 5 aunts, Brenda Powers and her husband Bud of Charlton, Beverly Nolan of Oregon City, OR, Clara Kubert and her husband Steven Scarborough of Webster, who are also his godparents, Rhonda Vilandre and her husband Jimmy, and Cathy Renaud and her husband Steven, all of Southbridge; and many cousins. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Vivian (Lamothe) Smick, by his paternal grandparents Roland F. Fitts, Sr. and his wife Margaret (Stebbins) Fitts,



and by his uncle Russell Smick.

He was born on June 26, 1979 in Southbridge and lived in Charlton most of his life. He graduated from Shepherd Hill Regional High School in Dudley in 1997.

Mr. Fitts was the manager of Rollie's Variety Store in Thompson, CT for many years.

He liked all sports, especially volleyball and fishing. He loved animals, particular-

ly cats. A private celebration of his life will be held later at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. Donations in his name may be made to the Community Cat Connection, 289 Thompson Road, Webster, MA 01570. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster. www.websterfunerals.com

## Ryan D. LeBlanc, 39

Falmouth/Sturbridge: Ryan David LeBlanc, 39 of Falmouth, passed away in Sturbridge on April 30th, 2024 after a 24 year battle with addiction.

He leaves behind his greatest achievement, his daughter, Rylee LeBlanc of Fiskdale, who loved him unconditionally. As well as his parents, Russell and Wendie (Prince) LeBlanc of Naples, FL; his sister, Jamie Cornell and her husband Andy of Fiskdale; a niece, Ainsley Cornell and a nephew, Russell Cornell, both of Fiskdale; his maternal grandmother, Judy Prince of Fiskdale; Rylee's mother, Rachel Booden of



Fiskdale; and many aunts, uncles, cousins & friends. He was born in Southbridge on April 17, 1985. He was a graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School.

Ryan is now peacefully surrounded by his grandfathers, Henry 'Sonny' Prince & Roger 'Slim' LeBlanc as well as his grandmother, Yvette LeBlanc and his Aunt, Tina Schwartz.

Special funeral services for Ryan will be held privately. There are no calling hours.

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

## Bay Path faculty, staff, LPN, & student volunteers at SkillsUSA state competition



Courtesy

From left: F. Mensah of Worcester, Dr. Healy of Dudley, A. Rincon of Southbridge, H. Bedard of Brookfield, and F. Mburu of Shrewsbury.

UPTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty, alumni, and student participated as members of the panel of judges for the secondary competition, Basic Healthcare Conference, during the recent SkillsUSA state competition held at the Blackstone Valley Tech.

Dr. Adelina Healy, adjunct faculty at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy,

served as the Team Lead for the Volunteer judges. They supervised several stations and prepared presentations. She was grateful for the opportunity and glad that how well everything went at the SkillsUSA State competition.

"Both alumni and PN student judges were excellent," Dr. Healy said, add-

ing "the PN alumni and students took leadership roles."

Dr. Healy was the team lead for the fourth year, and she stated, "I enjoyed collaborating with the volunteer judges for SkillsUSA and the experience is beneficial for both the student volunteers, alumni, and competitors."

This year's volunteers included Fidelis Mensah of Worcester, Ashley Rincon of Southbridge, Felisters Mburu, LPN of Shrewsbury and Heidi Bedard, LPN of Brookfield

Recounting the experience, Rincon shared, "I really liked it!"

Turn To **BAY PATH** page A14

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## Bay Path PN students receive Worcester Women's Leadership Conference scholarships

CHARLTON — Two Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students — Victoria Boateng of Gardner and Vanessa Gachagua of Southbridge were winners in this year's prestigious 2024 Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and Worcester Women's Leadership Committee (WWLC) scholarship. Elizabeth Anacona also of Southbridge joined them. Anacona is a member of the community of

interest and a staunch supporter of practical nursing education. Stefanie Silva, Programs and Events Coordinator for Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce reached out to the nursing students and Anacona with a congratulatory email with the admission to this year's event. "A special thanks to our sponsors," stated Silva. The \$250 value event

scholarship is a wonderful opportunity for the women to expand their network and leadership skills. Silva specifically mentioned gratitude to "presenting sponsors, The Hanover Insurance Group Inc. and UMass Memorial Health for their continued support along with all our incredible sponsors who support Central MA largest women's conference."



Courtesy

From left: V. Gachagua of Southbridge, V. Boateng of Gardner and E. Anacona of Southbridge.

"Vanessa and Victoria are academically strong and clinically competent students at Bay Path

Practical Nursing Academy. Both are headed to SkillsUSA national competition in late June after having won gold medals in the state level for Health Knowledge Bowl," stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN CRRN, Director at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy. "I have had the honor and pleasure of attending a book launch at Harvard University recently with Elizabeth. I am glad

that all three enjoyed the wonderful opportunity to participate in the conference." The Worcester Women's Leadership Conference was held Thursday, May 2 at the DCU Center Ballroom in Worcester. The Keynote speakers included Cassandra Worthy and Professor Maja. As described by WWLC communications, "Worthy is the Founder & CEO of Change Enthusiasm To **SCHOLARSHIPS** page A14

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# LEGALS

## TOWN OF BRIMFIELD PUBLIC HEARING

The Brimfield Select Board will hold a public hearing on the following pole and wire locations petition filed by National Grid on **Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** for the following:  
Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid. requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

### Washington Road: #30647440

Reason: Washington Road – National Grid to install 1 JO pole on Washington Road beginning at a point approximately 885 feet North of the centerline of the intersection of Kings Bridge Road. National Grid to install pole# 28-2 approximately 885 feet North of the centerline of Kings Bridge Road and Washington Road in Brimfield, MA.

Persons with an interest in this public hearing are asked to appear at the Brimfield Elementary School, 22 Wales Road, Brimfield, MA on the date and time affixed to this notice.

Martin J. Kelly  
Select Board, Chairperson  
Town of Brimfield  
May 03, 2024  
May 10, 2024

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES Under G.L. c.255 Sec.39A

Notice is hereby given by Cruise Control Transportation Inc. Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A. that on or after MARCH 9, 2024 at Cruise Control Transportation Inc. the following motor vehicle/s will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle  
2019 RAM 1500

VIN: 1C6RR7TT4KS614947  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: Augustus Bobo Kormah  
1 BROOKSIDE AVE  
WORCESTER MA 01602

2002 JEEP LIBERTY  
vin: J4GL48K92W316977  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: Ricardo Jacob Rivera  
21 STERLING ST, APT 1,  
WORCESTER MA 01610

2002 Chevrolet S-10  
VIN:1GCDT19W728203722  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: James Dubee  
92 Penn Ave  
Worcester MA

2013 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL3AP7DC286271  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: Frederick Geroux  
PO BOX 652  
CHARLTON MA 01507

2004 Chevrolet Express  
VIN:1GCGG25V241171097  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: Wilson Felipe Reyes Germon  
15375 ROPCKAWAY BLVD  
Jamaica NY 10458

2002 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL11D72C212873  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: Norah Hickey  
8 BRANCH DR  
SMITHTOWN NY 11787

2007 Toyota Yaris  
VIN: JTDJT923775070051  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: David J Froais  
7 FREDERICK ST  
NORTH PROVIDENCE RI 02904

1998 Honda Accord  
VIN:1HGCG5547WA218054  
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER  
: Thomas John Reppucci,  
33 NORTH ST,  
WILMINGTON, MA 01887  
April 26, 2024  
May 3, 2024  
May 10, 2024  
April 26, 2024

## CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on May 22, 2024, at 7PM on the application of R&R Homes Inc. The applicant has filed for a Notice of Intent for the installation of two septic systems in the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland to serve two separate duplex residences. The project location is: 0 L Stevens Road, Charlton MA 01507.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by

calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjJmZGhUGRnYzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09>

Copies of the NOI may be examined at the Conservation Office by appointment during business hours.

Thomas O'Malley  
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commission  
May 09, 2024

## TOWN OF STURBRIDGE Board of Selectmen Public Hearing

National Grid has made a petition to the Sturbridge Board of Selectmen to install one (1) SO Pole on Putnam Road beginning at a point approximately 90' feet northwest of the centerline of the intersection of Putnam Road and North Sturbridge Road. Installation of new pole #92-84. National Grid also requests permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways. The pole hearing will take place on **Monday, May 20, 2024** at 6:35 p.m. at the Sturbridge Town Hall, 2nd floor, Veteran's Memorial Hall located at 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566.  
May 09, 2024

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200

### Docket No. W024P1416EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Ralph William Gajewski

Also Known As;

Ralph W. Gajewski

Date of Death: 03/03/2024

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Debra L. Titus of Jamesville NY** and **Karen S. Niday of Tully NY** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

**Debra L. Titus of Jamesville NY** and **Karen S. Niday of Tully NY** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/28/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

### UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**

Date: April 29, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

May 9, 2024

## TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE DPW Invitation for Quantities Bids for Sidewalks and Masonry

The Town of Southbridge Department of Public Works invites qualified contractors to submit quantity bids for sidewalks and masonry. Copies of the specifications and special provisions are available from the Town Website as of 09:00AM, on 04/29/2024. Questions may be directed to the Operations Officer at 508-764-5403x3 or hprescott@southbridgemass.org.

All bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30 Section 39M and Chapter 30B section 5. Prevailing Wage Rates, and subsequent Certified Payroll with proof of OSHA, are required on this project. The current wage rate schedule is attached to the bid specification package.

The deadline for sealed bids is **05/16/2024** at 10:00AM. The sealed bid shall be clearly marked "Sidewalks

and Masonry Quantities". Bids are to be addressed to the Department of Public Works, 185 Guelphwood Road, Southbridge, MA 01550. Late bids will not be opened.  
May 02, 2024

## TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE DPW Invitation for Quantities Bids for Road Improvements Paving

The Town of Southbridge Department of Public Works invites qualified contractors to submit quantity bids for road improvement paving. Copies of the specifications and special provisions are available from the Town Website as of 09:00AM, on 04/29/2024. Questions may be directed to the Operations Officer at 508-764-5403x3 or hprescott@southbridgemass.org.

All bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30 Section 39M and Chapter 30B section 5. Prevailing Wage Rates, and subsequent Certified Payroll with proof of OSHA, are required on this project. The current wage rate schedule is attached to the bid specification package.

The deadline for sealed bids is **05/16/2024** at 10:00AM. The sealed bid shall be clearly marked Road Improvement Pavement Quantities. Bids are to be addressed to the Department of Public Works, 185 Guelphwood Road, Southbridge, MA 01550. Late bids will not be opened.  
May 02, 2024

## TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE COLLECTOR OF TAXES

The owners and occupants of the following described parcels of land situated in the Town of Southbridge in Worcester County and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and all other persons are hereby notified that the taxes thereon, severally assessed for the years hereinafter specified, according to the list committed to me as the Collector of Taxes for the Town of Southbridge, by the Board of Assessors of said Town remain unpaid, and that said parcels of land will be taken for the Town of Southbridge on May 23, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. for the non-payment of said taxes and betterments and the interest, if any, along with all legal costs and charges thereon, unless the same shall be previously discharged.  
Michelle L. Hill

Tax Collector  
Town of Southbridge

PROPERTY LOCATION 375 ELLIS ROAD 012.001.C.00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: ESTATE OF MUNIZ MONSERRATE JR, Attn ARAINA MUNIZ  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 1567.90

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .985 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 012 PARCEL 001 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 13380 ON PAGE 0150 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 14 GIROUARD AVENUE 015.059..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: SCOTT D. & KAREN L. COTTON  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 539.22

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .809 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 015 PARCEL 059 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 21907 ON PAGE 0339 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 291 CHARLTON STREET 022.137..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: KEVIN R. MAHAN  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 1,987.03

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .116 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 022 PARCEL 137 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 21580 ON PAGE 0257 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 274 CHARLTON STREET 022.206..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: TREMBLAY ELZEAR JR ETAL  
Attn: DIANE TREMBLAY & MICHELLE MONDOR  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 3,887.20

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .136 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 022 PARCEL 206 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 20496 ON PAGE 268 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF

WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 160 MECHANIC STREET 029.055..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: PLS REALTY TRUST  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 11,960.75

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .138 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 029 PARCEL 055 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 41439 ON PAGE 0342 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 270 MECHANIC STREET 030.116..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: PLS REALTY TRUST  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 33,255.18

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .260 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 030 PARCEL 116 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 47591 ON PAGE 0234 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 86 PAIGE HILL ROAD 030.015..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: CHELSEA K. BROWN  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 4,944.40

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .292 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 030 PARCEL 015 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 54274 ON PAGE 0195 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION CLARKE STREET 031.095..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: SUNRISE HOMES LLC – C/O JOSE MERCADO  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 177.71

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .230 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 031 PARCEL 095 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 67126 ON PAGE 396 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION CUSTIS STREET 032.062..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: ROBERT L. BRUNEAU JR  
C/O JORDAN McCARTHY  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 11.56

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .150 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 032 PARCEL 062 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 63517 ON PAGE 128 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 833 MAIN STREET 033.001..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: EIGHT THIRTY THREE MAIN ST CORP  
Attn: WILLIAM MUIR  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 439.68

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT 1.00 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 033 PARCEL 001 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 13784 ON PAGE 0327 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 18 BALLARD COURT 033.008..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: PILSUDZSKI POLISH AMERICAN CITIZENS CLUB OF SOUTHBRIDGE  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 2,912.56

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT 1.56 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 033 PARCEL 008 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 2706 ON PAGE 0324 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 7 MILL STREET 034.112..00001  
ASSESSED OWNERS: MILL STREET REALTY TRUST  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 2,163.02

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .061 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 034 PARCEL 112 IN THE OFFICE OF THE

# LEGALS

## LEGALS

continued from page A12

ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 51254 ON PAGE 0343 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION CENTRAL STREET REAR 036.146.A.00001  
ASSESSDOWNERS: 1WORCESTER PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC, Attn BRIAN CARPENTER  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 2.76

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .060 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 036 PARCEL 146 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 60663 ON PAGE 155 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 87 GOLF STREET 044.027.A.00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: LAWSON VILLA REALTY TRUST  
Attn: SCOTT LAZO & STEVEN LAZO TRUSTEES  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 1,142.35

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT 2.60 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 044 PARCEL 027 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 60774 ON PAGE 67 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 25 HARTWELL TERRACE 053.173..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: CHERYL DEMERS  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 5,472.36

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .449 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 053 PARCEL 173 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 19126 ON PAGE 0275 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 28 TEMPLE DRIVE 054.172..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: DIANE M. JULIAN  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 530.38

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .441 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 054 PARCEL 172 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 48446 ON PAGE 0072 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 381 MORRIS STREET 064.014..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: RMG GROUP LLC, Attn: ELIAS HANNA  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 2,178.48

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT 145.350 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 064 PARCEL 014 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 60469 ON PAGE 33 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 632 DENNISON DRIVE 071.070..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: ESTATE OF PAULINE KEKELIK  
ATTN: CHRISTINE DAVIDSON  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 2,685.25

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .689 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 071 PARCEL 070 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 13897 ON PAGE 135 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION SOUTH STREET 073.009..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: JOSE G. & ANGELA L. MERCADO  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 190.51

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .574 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 073 PARCEL 009 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 58429 ON PAGE 0359 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 389 BREAKNECK ROAD 075.005..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: TROY'S FAMILY TRUST  
ATTN: CYNTHIA R. HENRICKSON-TRUSTEE

2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 3,291.19

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT 1.30 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 075 PARCEL 005 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 69213 ON PAGE 200 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 347 LEBANON HILL ROAD 091.006..00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: MICHAEL E. & CANDACE S. ZAYAC  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 1,623.29

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .603 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 091 PARCEL 006 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 43280 ON PAGE 0034 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER

PROPERTY LOCATION 1093 LEBANON HILL ROAD 145.004.B.00001  
ASSESS OWNERS: MATTHEW J. TRUDEAU  
2021 TAXES REMAINING UNPAID 1,406.40

A PARCEL OF LAND WITH ANY BUILDINGS THEREON, CONTAINING ABOUT .690 ACRES BEING DESCRIBED AS MAP 145 PARCEL 004 IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSESSORS AND IDENTIFIED IN BOOK 50172 ON PAGE 0074 AT THE COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER  
May 09, 202

### MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Joseph M. Sena and Rebecca J. Racine to First Franklin A Division of Nat. City Bank of IN dated September 23, 2005 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 37385, Page 365, as assigned by Assignment of Mortgage dated November 7, 2005; recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, Book 37850, Page 87, and by Assignment dated June 1, 2008; recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, Book 43128, Page 139, and by Assignment dated August 18, 2017; recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, Book 57770, Page 79, and by Corrective Assignment dated October 6, 2017; recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, Book 57875, Page 375, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction at 1:00 PM, on May 30, 2024**, on the premises known as **345 New Boston Road, Sturbridge, Massachusetts**, the premises described in said mortgage, together with all the rights, easements, and appurtenances thereto, to wit: The land with the buildings thereon, situated on New Boston Road, Sturbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts as \*Lot 101 on a Plan entitled "Plan of Lots in Sturbridge, Massachusetts surveyed for Frederick E. LaVergne and Gail P. LaVergne dated March 3, 2004, and recorded in the Worcester Registry of deeds in Plan Book 807, Plan 98, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Lot #101  
Beginning at an iron pin in a corner of walls at the southeast corner of tract herein described on the northerly side of New Boston Road at the southwest corner of land, now or formerly of Susan J. Hawkins;  
Thence South 47 degrees 42' 51" along a stone wall on the northerly side of said New Boston Road a distance of 150.00 feet to a re-rod in said stone wall;  
Thence North 57 degrees 08' 26" West along Lot 102 a distance of 32.52 feet to re-rod;  
Thence North 44 degrees 29; 27" West along said Lot 102 a distance of 359.86 feet to a re-rod at Lot 345R;  
Thence North 23 degrees 16' 06" East, along 345 R a distance of 60.63 feet to a re-rod at said Hawkins land;  
Thence South 57 degrees 59' 18" East along said Hawkins land a distance of 432.25 feet to the point of beginning.  
The above described lot 101 contains 1.0000 acres.

This conveyance is subject to and with the benefit of easements, restrictions, rights of way and other matters of record insofar as now in force and applicable. \*Due to typographical error, the Lot was inadvertently referred as being Lot 103 in one line of the description attached to the mortgage.  
Terms of Sale: These premises are being sold subject to any and all unpaid real estate taxes, water rates, municipal charges and assessments, condominium charges, expenses, costs, and assessments, if applicable, federal tax liens, partition wall rights, statutes, regulations, zoning, subdivision con-

trol, or other municipal ordinances or bylaws respecting land use, configuration, building or approval, or bylaws, statutes or ordinances regarding the presence of lead paint, asbestos or other toxic substances, sanitary codes, housing codes, tenancy, and , to the extent that they are recorded prior to the above mortgage, any easements, rights of way, restrictions, confirmation or other matters of record.

Purchaser shall also bear all state and county deeds excise tax. The deposit of \$10,000.00 is to be paid in cash or bank or certified check at the time and place of the sale, with the balance of the purchase price to be paid by bank or certified check within forty-five (45) days after the date of the sale, to be deposited in escrow with Guaetta and Benson, LLC, at 73 Princeton Street, Suite 208, North Chelmsford, Massachusetts. In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by foreclosure deed to the second highest bidder or, thereafter, to the next highest bidders, providing that said bidder shall deposit with said attorney, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within five (5) business days after written notice of the default of the previous highest bidder. Other terms, if any, are to be announced at the sale.

Dated: May 2, 2024

Present holder of said mortgage, Wilmington Trust, National Association, as Successor Trustee to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-FF12 by its Attorneys, Guaetta and Benson, LLC, Peter V. Guaetta, Esquire, P.O. Box 519, Chelmsford, MA 01824  
May 9, 2024  
May 16, 2024  
May 23, 2024

### CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **May 22, 2024, at 7PM** on the application of Eneas Muniz Dorosario.

The applicant has filed for a Notice of Intent for the construction of a driveway crossing of a Bordered Vegetative Wetland for access to a single-family home which will be built outside of the 100-foot buffer zone. The project location is: Lot 6 Boucher Drive, MA 01507. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjlmZGhhUGRnYzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09> Copies of the NOI may be examined at the Conservation Office by appointment during business hours.

Thomas O'Malley  
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commission  
May 09, 2024"

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO24A0089AD  
CITATION G.L.c. 210, § 6  
In the matter of:  
Ava Lynne Boyle**

To:

Justin Boyle  
any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been filed by said court Cameron Meece of Charlton, MA Ashley Jason of Charlton, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to

**Ava Lynne Meece**

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERE-TO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **Worcester** ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00AM) ON: **0604/2024** WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 27, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

May 2, 2023  
May 9, 2023  
May 16, 2023

### Town Of Brimfield

The Brimfield Planning Board will hold

a public hearing on June 05, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the Hitchcock Center (2 Brookfield Rd) regarding the town meeting articles regarding proposed zoning by-law changes. The proposed zoning by-law changes will affect Zoning Bylaw 3.7: to **add 3.7.4 to allow Duplex/Multi (8 units max), Family residential dwellings in Business District.**  
May 09, 2024

### CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on May 22, 2024, at 7PM on the application of Sadie Vivenzio.

The applicant has filed for a Notice of Intent for an Aquatic Management Program at Putnam Pond to control nuisance plant and algae growth utilizing treatment with USEPA/MA State registered aquatic herbicides, algaecides, and other BMPs. The project location is: Putnum Pond – Oxford Road, Charlton MA 01507. Assessors Map: 54A Parcel ID: 10 Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjlmZGhhUGRnYzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09>

Copies of the NOI may be examined at the Conservation Office by appointment during business hours.

Thomas O'Malley  
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commission  
May 09, 2024

### CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on May 22, 2024, at 7PM on the application of Massachusetts Electric Company.

The applicant has submitted a Request for Determination of Applicability for a maintenance project consisting of the installation of two new mid-span poles and the removal of 7 trees along the existing distribution line located within the 100-ft buffer zone to a Bordered Vegetative Wetland. The project location is: Adjacent to 311 North Sturbridge Road, Charlton, MA.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjlmZGhhUGRnYzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09>

Copies of the RDA may be examined at the Conservation Office by appointment during business hours.

Thomas O'Malley  
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commission  
May 09, 2024

### CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on May 22, 2024, at 7PM on the application of Tom Kennedy & Sarah Williams.

The applicant has filed for a Notice of Intent for the construction of a single family residence, driveway, and associated site work within the 100-ft buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The project location is: Lot 2 E Baylies Road, Charlton MA 01507.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjlmZGhhUGRnYzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09>

Copies of the NOI may be examined at the Conservation Office by appointment during business hours.  
Thomas O'Malley  
Chair, Charlton Conservation

# School nurse for two days: A new definition of caring

CHARLTON — Visiting the school nurse while check, getting a note to be excused from gym class, Wairimu of Worcester, a practical nursing student that the school nurse's office provides vital access day and helping with acute injury, unexpected

Wairimu recently spent two days at the School Technical High School as part of his Clinical Observation. In the two days, Wairimu collaborated

In Wairimu's words, "I had a great experience the duties and the commitment of being a school

School nursing is a position he admitted he in-students in need of medical attention, Wairimu ing." School nursing is a calling for a special set of

According to Wairimu, "I observed what the school nurses responded to emergencies, from mi-who have diabetes. The school nurses supervised not follow their plan of care the school nurses

Caring for the students knows no boundaries. students does not change the plan of caring or

Wairimu concludes by saying, "School nurses scriptions, I observed the school nurses provide pains. The school nurses provided first aid for cuts the school nurses attending to more than ten stu-school nurses were very caring to the students. I aspiring future nurse."



Michael Warimu

a student may conjure images of a temperature or a bandage for a scraped knee. For Michael at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, he realized for students to a nurse, assisting them through the illness, or a chronic condition.

Nurse's Office at Bay Path Regional Vocational servation for Term 3, PNP 121 Care of the Family/with the school nurses led by Lynn Coleman, RN. at my school nurse observation and learned about nurse."

tially did not know too well. As he saw first-hand said, "interacting with students was fascinat-nursing skills when treating students.

school nurses did each day for the students, the nor injuries to chronic conditions such as students and provided care, and for some students who did took extra time to guide."

The typical ratio of one school nurse to about 750 prioritization.

also must keep up with the students' daily pre-nonprescription medications for minor aches and and burns of students from workshops. I observed dents in the morning alone. Most importantly, the enjoyed the opportunity and felt enlightened as an

## HONORS

continued from page 7

nical Education. As the honor society for Career & Technical Education, NTHS serves over 100,000 ac-

tive members annually in both secondary and post-secondary chapters across the country.

Since its founding in 1984, nearly 1 million students have become NTHS alumni. NTHS honors the achievements of top CTE students, provides close

to \$300,000 in scholarships annually, and strives to help connect education and industry to build a highly skilled workforce. For more information, visit <https://nth.org/>.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

continued from page 1

siasm® Global, a well-respected Leadership Development and Consulting company. She is a former Fortune 100

Innovation Leader, highly dynamic speaker & presenter, chemical engineer, but above all else the world's leading expert on Change Enthusiasm®. Professor Maja is a sociologist,

author and TEDx speaker. She is also a confidence-builder and apology-hater. She graduated with a Ph.D. in Sociology in 2014 (focusing on the sociology of women's health), with no clear career

in mind, until she attended an academic conference that completely changed the trajectory of her research, her career, and her life."

## BOOK LAUNCH

continued from page 1

The newly published book, "Six Filipino Women for Justice" edited by Asuncion David Maramba featured former senator Leila de Lima by Rosario A. Garcellano, the former vice president Leni Robredo by Ed Garcia, the journalist Maria Ressa by Dulce Festin-Baybay, Sen. Risa Hontiveros by Rafael A.S.G. Ongpin, the former associate justice of the Supreme Court Conchita Carpio Morales by Maria Olivia H. Tripón, and the activist nun Sr. Mary John Mananzan by Neni Sta. Romana Cruz. There is a closing essay by Vergel O. Santos.

Rincon shared, "It was such a great experience. I loved how it was about empowering women. Filipino women are strong women. Thirty-seven percent of Filipino women are under the age of twenty-five. It is hard to get out of the circle of repeated genera-

tions. Women are known to cook, clean, and just do the household stuff. But the 6 Filipino women are a great inspiration to women all around the world not just in the Philippines."

The publishers, San Anselmo Publications, Inc. posted: "Six Filipino Women for Justice" explores resilience and the quest for equity. The authors craft an insightful anthology that casts light on six Filipino women at the forefront of challenging and navigating through the Philippines' flawed judicial landscape. The anthology navigates the stark realities of the Philippines-from the dire conditions of its prisons to the entrenched corruption that spans the governmental spectrum. Each story is a testament to the power of conviction and the impact of standing firmly for justice amidst overwhelming opposition. With narratives that inspire and a call to action that resonates, the book not only pays homage to its

subjects but also mobilizes a collective belief in the transformative potential of justice."

Rincon concludes, "I know in Colombia women are just known to have kids, cook, and clean and the men provide. But women should be able to be a president, be CEOs, and even get paid equally as men. This generation is changing that view little by little."

Bolandrina was glad to have joined the launch and discussion immediately following the program.

She stated, "it is wonderful to have the opportunity to reflect on the nature of justice. The book launch was both inspirational and insightful. I am proud of my Filipino heritage, even prouder that I can participate in honoring the legacy of Filipino heroes. Maramba's work is recognized as a tribute to the spirit of defiance and hope. Hope is a remarkable thing."

## CHARLTON

continued from page 1

sentatives of local school districts. Both the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee and the Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District Committee had multiple candidates for available seats, each featuring an incumbent and a newcomer. Incumbent Nicole Enberg ran for reelection for a one-year seat on the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee defeating challenger Anthony Aube in a vote of 852 to 702 to earn another term. A three-year seat on the committee was won by in-

cumbent Jeanne Renaud Costello who was unopposed for the position. The Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District Committee saw incumbent Donald Montville defeat challenger Jay Sweet receiving 1,142 votes to Sweet's 442.

The rest of the ballot featured uncontested elections. Brett Moore was unchallenged in a reelection bid for Assessor. Willia S Bond, Jr. won an uncontested election for Cemetery Commissioner. Patricia Ann Rydlak was uncontested for seats on both the Planning Board and Recreation Commission. Frances M. Mower, Stefan D. Sage, and Lance Russell Morin all won

uncontested seats as Library Trustees. Seats on the Board of Health, Recreation Commission, and Water & Sewer Commission were decided by write-in votes. Diane Doherty earned the most votes for a one-year Recreation Com-

mission seat, Stephen Zeveska was victorious as a write-in candidate for the Board of Health, and Paul Gagner was the top vote-getter as a write-in for both available seats on the Water & Sewer Commission.

## WILLIAMS

continued from page 1

district-wide but also effectively tailored to serve the diverse needs of our student body."

Dr. Williamson was most recently the Di-

rector of Elementary Education and, previously, the Director of Social-Emotional Learning for the district. Prior to joining Southbridge, she served as the Principal of Roosevelt School in

Worcester. She earned her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Northeastern University.

## HITCHCOCK

continued from page 1

The Hitchcock "Grow With Us" Plant Sale was established in 2020. Previously a fundraiser for the now retired Brimfield Ambulance Fund, Hitchcock was happy to inherit this popular annual event. It is held annually in early to mid-May on the lawn.

Bee and bat houses are generously made to order as a fundraiser for Hitchcock by volunteer Bob Clark. Mason bees are non-aggressive, solitary pollinators that nest in holes in wood already made by other insects or birds. They are ideal pollinators for gardeners. The bee houses are made to attract as many mason bees as possible with holes drilled to mimic the holes that the bees find attractive. Bats pollinate plants and cut down on mosquito populations and other bugs.

The Farmers Market will also be open during the sale from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Now in its eighteenth year, the market opened in April and will run through to the end of October. The market offers homemade goods and locally grown seasonal plants, produce, meat, baked goods, maple products, ice cream, eggs, crafts, soap, and more. It is open every Saturday through October, rain or shine, with the exception of Brimfield Flea Market weeks in May, July, and September.

Market founder Linda Fuchs of Flourish Farm offers pre-cut and living microgreens along with cold-tolerant herb and vegetable starter plants. Fuchs is especially proud of the access to fresh foods provided by the market.

"These small family businesses return year after year because they care about our community and

can provide local products and bring these special money saving programs to town," Fuchs said.

Participating vendors Flourish Farms and Hunt Road Berry Farm accept SNAP/HIP benefits along with WIC & Senior Coupons which usually come out in July.

Linda will be joined by Lee from Turnabout Farm with baked goods, bread, jams, pickles, and dog treats, John from Thompson's Maple Farm with ice cream and maple goods, Sue from Rocky Ridge Beef with honey, eggs, pork, and beef, and Chelsea and Dan of Dabbler's Notch with their handcrafted wool & wood products. Charlotte of C&C Crafts and Peggy of AP Lavender Essentials will also be selling their hand-sewn products (weather-permitting). The market also welcomed new vendor Alise of Girlies Cakes who offers gourmet cupcakes mini macarons and several gluten free desserts.

Joining the market later in the season will be Jim of Hunt Road Berry Farm with a variety of fresh produce Fresh flowers from Dragonfly Farms are also offered on select market days at the Hunt Road Berry Farm booth.

Asked what she loves most about the small but mighty market nearing two decades in operation, founder and Flourish Farm owner Linda Fuchs points to the community that has formed between small business owners and customers: "It's the sharing of knowledge and wonderful conversations. I love the social aspect of being at the market and how we learn from each other."

Following the Plant Sale, Hitchcock will host the annual Town-Wide Tag Sale on June 8th, for which

registration is currently open. Stay tuned for more details on that and its annual Summer Concert Series. Registration for Hitchcock's Summer Days program, a weekly program including arts & crafts and sports & games for kids is soon to open, along with the return of tennis lessons. Classes and workshops for all ages will continue through the spring and summer seasons in fitness, arts & crafts, music, and enrichment.

Hitchcock Academy is a community center located at 2 Brookfield Road in Brimfield serving the community with educational, recreational, and cultural programming. More information can be found at [www.hitchcockacademy.org](http://www.hitchcockacademy.org)

## BAY PATH

continued from page 10

Mensah stated, "I enjoyed the role of SkillsUSA

judge for the secondary student competitors."

Erin Roy, RN Health Careers Instructor at J. P. Keefe Technical High School in Framingham, coordinated the participation of the volunteer judges.

The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy volunteer judges were thankful for the opportunity to serve. The skills competition included measuring height and weight, labeling human anatomy, and the proper application and removal of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). SkillsUSA's mission is geared to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders, and responsible American citizens and serves as the blueprint for workplace readiness.



# REAL ESTATE



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**WEBSTER-38 RAY STREET UNIT#3**  
**OPEN HOUSE SAT 5/11, 12 - 1:30**

Condominium Don't Miss this one!! Beautiful & Large! 2 bedroom - 2nd & 3rd floor! Corner Lot. Land area 19,000 Sq. Ft. +/-  
**NOW ONLY \$239,900.**

\* June Cazeault \* Laurie Sullivan \* Matthew Ross \* Lori Johnson-Chausse \* William Gilmore II \* Bryan Pelletier

**WEBSTER - 18 EASTERN AVE.**  
**OPEN HOUSE SAT 5-11, 11:30 to 1:30**



This property offers a whole lot more than meets the eye! 2 BRs & 1 Bath, 1st flr. 1 -2 Brs & 1 Bath 2nd flr. A rear open porch provides a private space & scenic views has DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL.

**\$375,000.**

**WEBSTER-22 HALL RD**



1st Time Offered!! Young 2200 Sq ft Cape. This one can be your's! Young 2200+ Sq ft Cape/Split 7+ Room, 4 bdrs. 3 full baths! Master bed/Bath! Bonus - finished stairway to the massive unfinished 2nd floor. 3/4 Acre of land mostly Landscaped. Kitchen w/Island & dining room. Hardwood, ceramic, & carpet flrs. Heated 2 car garage, Sailing Assoc. very close by., beach, boat ramp., So much more!  
**NOW \$559,900**

**WEBSTER**  
**17 BRODEUR AVENUE**



BEING BUILT!!  
SPRAWLING 2000 SF RANCH HOME!  
1/2 acre Lot! OPEN FLOOR PLAN. Living room, dining room, upscaled kitchen with 7' island, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, Beautiful Hardwood Floors! central air. 2 car garage  
**\$614,500**



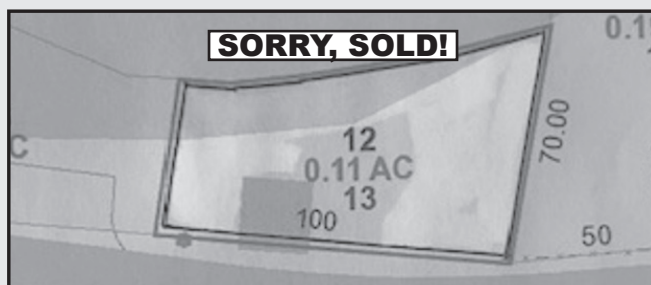
**WEBSTER**  
**96 CHASE AVE**

New to the Market - Owner Occupied 2 Family Extremely Well Cared For - Many Important Updates. Don't Miss This One!  
**\$359,900**

**On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg**

*Webster Lake*  
**13 South Point Rd.**

100' of frontage on the water & road. An old cement block garage is located on the property.. Land area surveyed, DEP approval to build. Property suitable for small craft dockage/off season storage. Town Water & Sewer available  
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**SOUTHBRIDGE- Oversized Cape**  
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# Carnival time comes again



Gus Steeves



Gus Steeves



Gus Steeves

(Left) A boy slides off the rocking ship ride.

A young lady starts off on her ride.

Bumper cars always attract people who like bouncing off each other in a mechanical, non-musical version of "the pit."

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Gus Steeves

A couple friends belt in for their ride through the "Orient Express."


A few friends watch others swooping around the "Wind Glider" ride.

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SOUTHBRIDGE — Carnival time came again last week, as the police station's back parking lot filed with the sounds of people (mostly young ones) at play, games beeping and ringing, and rides whirring around. This year, the event lasted five days, spreading out attendance that was more concentrated last year.



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50" Vizio \$259.99 (Regularly \$649.99)	FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR \$999.99 (WAS \$1,599.99)	HOTPOINT WASHER OR DRYER \$469.99 (WAS \$599.99)	MAYTAG DRYER OR WASHER \$569.99 (WAS \$699.99)	WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER \$1599.99 (WAS \$2,699)	10 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$499.99 (WAS \$599.99)	20 CUBIC FOOT UPRIGHT FREEZER \$799.99 (WAS \$999.95)
55" Samsung \$379.99 (Regularly \$449.99)	LG TOP FREEZER 18 CU. FT. \$699.99 (WAS \$899.99)	AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599.99 (WAS \$699.99)	GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWS50S1NWW \$749.99 (WAS \$999.99)	20 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$899.99 (WAS \$1,099.99)	LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE \$729.99 (WAS \$999.99)	OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE \$199.99 (WAS \$279.99)
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