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Thursday-Friday, September 26.27, 2024

# History six feet under, with stones showing changing views

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — A lot of local history is six feet underground across from Town Hall, and Bill Barnsky has taken the time to dig it up, figuratively speaking.

Last weekend, he led a few dozen people on a tour of the old Burial Ground, exploring the people and the symbolism there.

"We learned a lot, and not everybody carried the same beliefs at the same time," he noted.

When things started — the oldest known burial was

## Selectmen seek clarity on name change

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — Nearly a year after Charlton voters decided to change the Board of Selectmen to a more gender-neutral label of Select Board, the new name has yet to be made official as town officials have worked with the state to enact legislation to change the title. However, selectmen are also working to resolve confusion over what members of the board will be called with the potential of bringing the matter back to voters to clarify language in the article.

The matter was brought to the table during the Board of Selectmen's Sept. 10 meeting where Board Chair Peter Lancette voiced his concern that the article was fast tracked through last year's October Fall Town Meeting without being properly worded or structured. While expressing his support for a more gender-neutral label for the board, he wanted to seek a compromise that would "provide gender neutrality and also preserve the history of the Board of Selectmen." His main concern stemmed from the article's wording of changing the board's name to "Charlton Select Board," with the members being titled "Select Board Members." During the 2023 fall town meeting, the article was the tightest vote of the night, but still saw a significant majority of 62 to 28 in favor of the proposal with the article specifically stating the new name and board member labels in its wording. Lancette said he felt the members should go by whatever

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Gus Steeves

Bill Barnsky talks about one of the historical figures interred in the Sturbridge Burial Ground.

newborn Daniel Fisk's in 1740 — the community was still strongly Puritan. The first few stones reflect their austere viewpoint, with no decoration at all. (Many other stones lack that over time as well, usually due to poverty and/or youth at death, and many people lack stones.) Before long, the Puritans started using skull imagery to symbolize death, and that transformed into a winged cherub as people thought "let's not make it so dark," he observed. Some of them started featuring sunbursts and "rising suns with smiling eyes [symbolic of] paradise rising and smiling for you."

As they became "a little more accepting," it changed again, into wil-

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## Join the fun at Southbridge Lions Cornhole Tournament

SOUTHBRIDGE — Come join the fun at the Southbridge Lions Club Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 28.

The event is being held at the Southbridge Community Center, 153 Chestnut Street in Southbridge. Registration will start at 10 a.m., and the bags will fly promptly at noon. This is a bring your own partner Non-Pro Tournament. The cost is \$60 for a team of two. The prizes awarded are: 1st place - \$1,000, 2nd place - \$500, and 3rd place - \$250. There will be two to four games of round robin into double elimination depending on attendance. After the round robin the bottom twelve teams will go into a single elimination consolation tourney which pays \$100 to first place, and \$50 to second place.

There will also be ten sets of sponsored cornhole boards raffled. You can get tickets in advance

for the cornhole board raffle at one of the following generous sponsors: The Mellow Tiger, Maqui's Bar, Hearthstone Market, Morin Jewelers, Ruben's Transport, Dave's Pest Control, Mill St. Realtors, A&M tool, Place Motors, and Milton Cat.

In addition to a 50/50 raffle there will also be basket raffles. Plus, everyone attending the tournament will receive a raffle ticket at the door good for the door prize, a set of Lion's Club cornhole boards. An assortment of food, beer and wine will also be available.

If you have any questions or would like to pre-register, please contact Julianna Butler at 774-578-9466 or Bob Parker at 774-200-5406. Or, you can message them at Let's Rip It on Facebook. The Southbridge Lions Club pledges that all the proceeds go to helping members of the community in need, so please join us for a day of friendly competition and fun!

## Community Food Collaborative helps the food insecure

STURBRIDGE — The Community Food Collaborative (CFC) is celebrating its seventh year and having a very busy and productive year. The garden operates under the guidance of a 10-member committee with Joe Coan serving as President of the CFC.

"When we started the garden seven years ago, it was much smaller. We have expanded several times and have learned a lot about working smarter," Coan admits. "Doing similar tasks each year teaches us what to expect. However, our best predictions can change with the weather so we are always learning."

While growing organic vegetables sounds pretty easy, there are always other important tasks that must be done to reach our goal of high quality organic produce.

Maintenance: Perhaps the largest task is garden maintenance. This year Robinson Tree Service generously donated their time and service to cut down several trees blocking sun from one corner of the garden. They shredded the trees and spread the mulch on the top and side of the garden. We also had all the wild growth around the fence



of the garden pushed back 20 feet. A heavy weed fabric was put over the dirt and then a four-inch layer of crushed stone was spread on top of the fabric. We are hopeful this will protect us for a long time from the growth encroaching into the garden.

Irrigation: The expanded irrigation system was certainly needed this year with all the very hot and dry weather we had. It's time consuming

when we first open the garden because we rotate crops each year and the irrigation system consists of over one thousand linear feet of dripline in the beds. The dripline needs to be arranged each year to accommodate the new plants with enough water for them to thrive. Arranging the dripline cannot be done before the garden is planted so it's a scramble to get the lines in place once Suzanne, our head gar-

dener, and her helpers plant. Planting in the garden started this year on May 27; however, we had started seedlings elsewhere well in advance of actual in-ground planting. To say planting goes fast is a mis-statement when she actually planted 2,224 plants in the garden. This number includes the plants generously donated to us each year by an experienced gardener.

Raised beds: We currently

have 45 raised beds. Several of the beds were moved or resized somewhat this year to make it easier for the volunteers to reach everywhere in the bed without stepping inside the bed. This year we replaced 12 of the old beds with new ones made of the same accoya wood as the 10 replacement beds we installed last year. We will continue to replace the old beds each year until all have been replaced with the new wood that is guaranteed not to rot for 20 years.

Challenges: Besides the challenge of laying the dripline around all the plants each year, we had a few challenges with critters (large and small) who love what we grow. One species of small critter loved our tomatoes but only took one or two bites before moving on to the next tomato. A much larger critter jumped over the six-foot fence and loved our string beans. Perhaps we should find a volunteer to stay at the garden at night keeping watch for unwanted critters.

In spite of the work and challenges in growing a large garden, it has also been very rewarding. We have a lot to be

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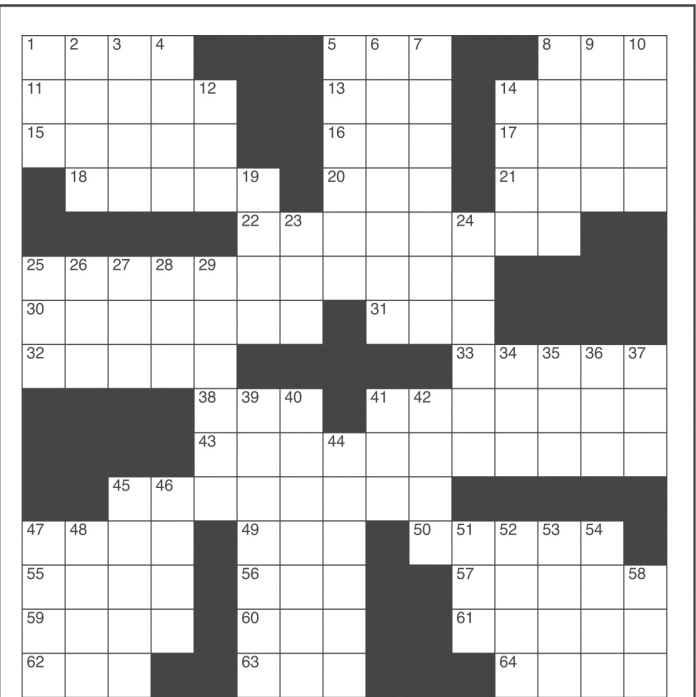
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Unequaled

5. \_\_\_-fi (slang)

8. Synthetic resin

11. Chadic language Bura-\_\_\_

13. Influential come Election Day

14. Bucket

15. European river

16. Earn a perfect score

17. Horizontal passage

18. Barely sufficient

20. Dekaliter

21. Goo Goo Dolls hit

22. Australian city

25. Female servants

30. Plumbing fixtures

31. Tooth caregiver

32. Book of Esther antagonist

33. Say aloud
38. Thyrotrophic hormone

41. Absolute

43. Untimely

45. Area or neighborhood

47. Juicy fruit

49. Expresses distaste, disapproval

50. S. American rodents

55. Swedish rock group

56. Influential American president

57. Volume

59. Begged

60. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects

61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

62. Good friend

63. Body part

64. Tableland

CLUES DOWN

1. Barrels per day (abbr.)

2. Body parts

3. Invests in little enterprises

4. Rock legend Turner

5. Dug into

6. Laughed

7. Northern European nation

8. San Diego ballplayer

9. Eight

10. Substitutes (abbr.)

12. Moved swiftly on foot

14. Compensated

19. Volcano in the Philippines

23. Speak ill of

24. One who publishes

25. Expression of bafflement

26. Macaws

27. Matchstick game

28. We all have our own
29. Divinatory

34. Explosive

35. Follows sigma

36. Sea eagle

37. Type of bread

39. Bit used with a set of reins

40. Time away from work

41. Parts per thousand (abbr.)

42. Lots on your plate (abbr.)

44. Actor Brosnan

45. It's part of packaging

46. Towards the oral region

47. Public Theater creator Joseph

48. Ancient Syrian city

51. Swiss river

52. Mollusk

53. A French abbot

54. Hoagies

58. Not present (slang)

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# Local fairs and festivals roll on

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — With Halloween and the holiday season quickly approaching, central Massachusetts residents are encouraged to check out local fairs, festivals, and programs this fall.

Whether you're looking for Halloween decorations, Thanksgiving supplies, or Christmas gifts, area crafters, vendors, and event organizers have something for everyone.

In Brookfield, the 45th annual Apple Country Fair will take place on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will bring thousands of guests to the Brookfield Town Common for a day of fun and festivities.

Highlights will include fundraisers; dozens of crafters; food trucks; and the famous apple pie contest.

"Fairgoers can browse and buy hand-knit sweaters and blankets, carved wooden bowls and décor, beaded jewelry, specialty soaps and lotions, hand-crafted toys, locally-produced honey, and more," read a statement released by event organizers.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Brookfield Community Club, a charitable organization that awards grants to enrich community life.

To learn more about the festival and how you can get involved, visit [www.applecountryfair.com](http://www.applecountryfair.com).

Meanwhile, central Massachusetts officials urge residents to think local this shopping season and support vendors at area festivals. As we look deeper into the fall, additional craft fairs will take place at Tantasqua Regional High School in Sturbridge (Nov. 9), Oxford High School (Dec. 7), and

Auburn High School (Dec. 14).

Leicester High School will also host its holiday craft fair on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

An array of local church fairs, festivals, and other programs will also take place this fall season. Guests are invited to enjoy the seventh annual Pumpkin Patch organized by Sturbridge Federated Church.

Running from Sept. 28 through Oct. 31, the Pumpkin Patch will be located between Town Hall and Joshua Hyde Library in Sturbridge.

"Let everyone know the best place to get your autumn decorations is the Sturbridge Federated Church. Our high-quality pumpkins and gourds are grown by the Navajo Nation," read a statement released by organizers. "We also offer locally produced mums, hay bales, and cornstalks. Most of our proceeds support our ministries, including local and regional charities."

Weather permitting, the hours of operation for the Pumpkin Patch are: Monday through Friday (10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.); Saturday (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.); and Sunday (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

Featured activities will include a pumpkin carving demonstration by a professional carver (Oct. 5); pumpkin stories for children (Oct. 12 and Oct. 26); Rock Voices singers; photos with a scarecrow (available daily); a corn hole toss activity (available daily); and pumpkin bowling (available daily).

For more information about this year's Pumpkin Patch, please contact the church office at 774-304-1021. You may also visit [www.sturfed.org](http://www.sturfed.org).

For information on other local church events and activities, contact church leaders in your community.

## Coast Guard offers boating safety certification course

WEBSTER — The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Tri-State Flotilla, Massachusetts will be instructing a one-day boating safety course at the Webster Fire Department, 55 Thompson Rd., Nov. 2 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. It is time to get your family's boating knowledge and skills ready for the waters and for required Massachusetts, Rhode Island, or Connecticut Certification.

This course was developed to provide the skills and confidence needed to explore the coast and inland waters; and the basic knowledge necessary to have safe, enjoyable boating experiences. This course is perfect for families that have just purchased any type of boat or are planning to in the future, including paddlecraft, and for the boater keeping up with changes to boating regulations and laws. Some marline-spike seamanship (knots etc.) will also be included, along with the new Rhode Island regulations. Successful completion of the course will certify any minor, from 12 to 16 years of age, to operate a powerboat, including a Personal Water Craft / Jet Ski (for 16 & 17-year-old operators), on Massachusetts waters; in conjunction with the Mass. Environmental Police. Certification requirements for MA may be expanded in the future; approved by NASBLA this course covers requirements to operate a vessel in other states and many countries where boating safety education is mandatory; including RI and CT where it is required for all PWC operators and most boaters. Most boating insurance companies offer a discount on premiums for successful completion of this course. The Webster course is limited to 30 students; an additional course at this popular location may be scheduled with interest.

Register by Oct. 28, as space is limited!

The USCGAux. offers courses at no charge however there is a \$45 fee for the cost of materials including the Boat America textbook, handouts, and certification(s). Participants under the age of 16 must be accompanied in person by a registered parent/guardian.

Contact our Public Education Officer Phil Kubat for registration or additional information: email [phil.uscgaux@verizon.net](mailto:phil.uscgaux@verizon.net) or call (508) 478-3778.

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# Presentation pays tribute to Rachel Carson

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT  
CHARLTON — “Everyone has the right to secure his or her home from intrusion of another’s poison.”

That quote came from one of Rachel Carson’s last public appearances, testifying before Congress when she was deathly ill with cancer in 1964. But its message is still relevant, maybe even more so, now, and retired professor Ellen Duzak brought that message to a Southbridge Garden Club talk in Charlton last week.

Duzak said Carson’s message of humanity’s ecological interdependence with other species was a new and sometimes controversial one in that era. Carson grew up during the heyday of what was called the “natural studies movement” of the early 1900s, and was raised a reformist Presbyterian, with her family believing in “fixing nature.”

While her youthful education focused largely on what nature could do for humanity, “what she got from it was a biocentric idea.” Carson started expressing that in print with four articles in St Nicholas magazine, a quite popular media source then, before she graduated high school in 1925. They helped her get into what was then the Pennsylvania College for Women (now Chatham University) as an English major; where she was praised for her writing.

But one of her advisors saw her interest in biology, and pushed her in that direction instead, leading to a master’s in marine biology at Johns Hopkins despite the fact she’d

“never seen the ocean.” That changed rapidly. Before long, eight weeks in the “completely equal” (in terms of male-female and student-scientist) atmosphere of Woods Hole Marine Biology Lab (MBL) set Carson on the path that would make her famous and connect her with “the elite” of world biologists in that era. As Duzak noted, Carson would later send “the best minds in the world” 10-15 letters a day for both friendly correspondence and scholarly research.

“She ends up finding her voice and who she is at the MBL,” she said.

Like most female scientists and other professionals of that era, Carson never married (women had to resign their jobs if they did). She got her feet wet professionally at the US Fisheries Division (now Fish & Wildlife) as one of the first two women hired there, writing “every pamphlet known to mankind.” Her boss and friend told her “the government doesn’t deserve this” and urged Carson to submit to the Atlantic. When she did, the magazine ran it with the comment that it would “fire the imagination of the layman.”

Reading it prompted publisher Simon & Schuster to ask Carson to write them a book, which became “Under the Sea-Wind.” Duzak said Carson wrote it on the Beaufort, N.C. seashore “because of the tides and the full moon,” walking the beach at night with “a profound sense of awe.” Her mother helped as her secretary, typing Carson’s notes.

Upon publication, it got

good reviews and “accolades,” but the timing was awful. It came out just before the US entered World War II in 1941, so it sold poorly.

Duzak noted that kind of luck seemed common for Carson – “Something wonderful happens, and something terrible, and she always makes her peace with it.” Part of that peace came from “creat[ing] an ecological social world as well as a professional world.” She had to juggle her research in various places, caring for mom, siblings, nieces and a nephew, activism in Audubon and more. Her journeys took her all over the nation, with favorite sites including Parker River on Cape Ann, Boothbay Harbor, ME, a visit to Georges Bank on the Albatross III, and even a brief dive in one of the era’s cumbersome diving suits at Key West.

They led to her second book “The Sea Around Us,” which Duzak described as expressing the ocean as “a web of life, an ecological whole” and advocating for protecting it. That book also won awards and became “a runaway best-seller” because “people are looking for some big answers.” A New York Times critic praised Carson as being “a physical scientist with literary genius.”

Success enabled Carson to quite the Fisheries service and devote time to research and writing in 1952. Spending summers at Woods Hole and living in Southport, Maine, “she’s in seventh heaven,” Duzak said.

Over the next few years, Carson wrote “Edge of the Sea” (looking at how the

coastline nurtures life), “A Sense of Wonder” (a child-focused book written largely for her nephew Roger) and Silent Spring (sparked by receiving letters about birds dying “as soon as they’re spraying”). Duzak noted the latter’s working title was “Man Against the Earth,” with “Silent Spring” as a chapter title, but friends said the original title would be seen as “ugly and toxic” and urged her not to publish.

Of course, that’s what it was about – the toxic effects of DDT. At that time, Duzak said, the common (chemical-company-promoted) idea was to kill all insects. When “Silent Spring” came out in 1962, Monsanto, DuPont, the USDA and others attacked her as “a communist and a subversive” and claimed “if you don’t spray, crops will die and everyone will starve.”

But Carson got support from various sources, including garden clubs, Sierra Club, President John Kennedy and Interior Secretary Stuart Udall. Those led to Congressional hearings and a CBS-TV

interview in her home when she was so sick she had to be “propped up.” It was seen by 15 million people.

The combination of those efforts led to DDT being banned, the Clean Air and Clean Water acts being passed, and the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency over the next several years. Subsequent decades have seen the discovery of other toxins with widespread ecological impact, including endocrine disruptors, PFAS and microplastics. Environmental concern has largely gone mainstream, but also faces renewed corporate pressure against regulations and Supreme Court decisions undermining EPA authority to do so.

Carson didn’t live long enough to see those happen, dying April 14, 1964. But, as Duzak concluded, “She’s still with us today, guys. She’s still with us.”

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

## Hydrant flushing starts Sunday

SOUTHBRIDGE — Southbridge Water Department will start its semi-annual hydrant flushing program on Sunday, Sept. 29 at approximately 9 p.m. and continue during overnight hours for approximately six to eight weeks between the hours of 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. Flushing will start in the Westville area and continue easterly throughout the town.

The procedure will include the cleaning of the reservoir intake screens, flushing accumulated sediments from the water mains and testing the operation of each hydrant.

The Department requests that during this period customers check their water before washing clothes. Customers may also get accumulated sediments in their house laterals and experience some discolored water. This will clear after a brief run of water at the tap. Please contact the Southbridge Water Department at (508) 764-3207 if you have any questions or comments.



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**Hi! My name is Stanis Laus and I am very welcoming!**

Stan loves learning about trucks and dinosaurs! He enjoys screen time, however, but he is very active and loves being outdoors, running, playing on his scooter, and basketball. You can also find Stan spending time with his friends, as he is very social and personable.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8566>

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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.

✿✿✿✿✿✿



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CHILDREN’S STORY TIME - Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:45am. Join us for stories, songs, rhymes and a craft. All children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. No registration required.

LEGO CLUB - Thursday, October 17 at 6:00pm. Love Legos? Come build with us. For ages 6 to 12 with an adult caregiver. Registration is required.

MYSTERIES ON THE MOVE: BLACKBEARD’S BOUNTY - Friday, October 25 at 1:30pm. Can you escape? Join a group to solve the clues to escape from Blackbeard! For children ages 6+ with an adult caregiver. Registration is

required. Sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL.

VIRTUAL - WAYS TO HAVE A GREEN HOLIDAY SEASON. Monday, October 7 at 7:00pm. Learn how to create eco-conscious holiday traditions. Registration is required.

IN-PERSON - AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP - Tuesday, October 8 at 1:00pm. This month’s book is “Before We Were Yours” by Lisa Wingate.

IN-PERSON - SISTERS IN CRIME - WE’RE NOT MAKING THIS UP - Thursday, October 10 at 6:30pm. Join this panel of authors to learn how they use real life crime in their mystery novels.

IN-PERSON - ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS BOOK GROUP - Wednesday,

October 16 at 6:30pm. This month’s book is “Beyond That, the Sea” by Laura Spence-Ash.

IN-PERSON - WORLD BUILDING BOOK GROUP - Tuesday, October 22 at 6:30pm. This month’s book is “Project Hail Mary” by Andy Weir.

IN-PERSON - BECOME A SOUP MASTER - Wednesday, October 23 at 6:30pm. Soup. It’s one of the most nourishing foods you can eat. But only when it’s made with real food. Ditch the store-bought salt bombs and come learn a variety of healthy & delicious soups you can make at home. For all ages. Registration is required.

VIRTUAL - A HISTORY OF SHIPWRECKS - Thursday, October 24 at 1:00pm. Join Greg Ketchen, retired U.S. Coast Guard Captain, as he discusses

historic shipwrecks that have occurred south and east of Massachusetts. The region has been called the Graveyard of the North Atlantic with over 3,000 wrecks since European sailors began exploring the shores of the western Atlantic. Registration is required.

Go to [sturbridgelibrary.org](http://sturbridgelibrary.org) for more information.

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- **Central Baptist Church**  
256 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550  
Tel 508/764-6365; Worship 10:00 A.M.
- **Charlton Federated Church**, 64 Main St., 508-248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Summer worship is 9:30 a.m.  
[www.charltonfedchurch.org](http://www.charltonfedchurch.org)
- **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, [www.charltonbaptist.org](http://www.charltonbaptist.org), Sunday worship 10 a.m.
- **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: [CharltonCityUMC.org](http://CharltonCityUMC.org)  
Sunday worship and Children's church 10am
- **St. Anne St. Patrick Church**, 16 Church St., Fiskdale (508) 347-7338  
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- **St. Joseph's Church**, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248-7862, [www.stjosephscharlton.com](http://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](http://snedag.org), Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Living Word Church of Charlton**, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor; Charlton, MA 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am.  
[www.livingwordhcharlton.com](http://www.livingwordhcharlton.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**  
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[Hollandchurch.org](http://Hollandchurch.org)  
Sunday Service @ 10:00 am  
Pastor Dan Maketansky
- Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**  
446 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA 01550  
Phone: 508-765-9559  
Web: [www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org)  
Sunday Service 11:00 am  
Pastor Dan Purtell

## Bay Path Nursing students complete adult mental health First Aid training

CHARLTON — Research states that the overall suicide rate in the US has increased by 35 percent since 1999, and suicide is the 10th leading cause of death overall in the US. September is National Suicide Prevention Month and Bay Path practical nursing (PN) students are doing their share in learning. The PN class of 2025 learned the signs of suicide to prevent home or workplace-based tragedy.

Some members of the PN Class of 2025 completed the Blended Adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training lead by Jammie Glenn, Project Director of the Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services, Inc. ([www.SYFS-MA.org](http://www.SYFS-MA.org)). The six-hour curriculum, completed in one full professional development day, gives the participant a three-year certification upon completion. Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy has been working with the Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services for the PN students MHFA training for over five years.

“We are blessed to have Jammie Glenn, the Project Director and the Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services for their continued provision of the MHFA training for the PN students!” said Bolandrina.

“It is important for our future nurses to have the skills and knowledge to identify and respond to signs of mental disorders and how to provide initial help and support,” Bolandrina added.

MHFA trained individuals may assist someone experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis. In the MHFA course, the PN students learned risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help in crisis and non-crisis situations and well as where to turn for help for both adult and youth.

Topics covered include depression, mood disorders, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and substance use disorders. Participants learned how to apply the MHFA action plan in situations when someone is experiencing panic attacks, suicidal thoughts of behaviors, non-suicidal self-injury, acute psychosis (hallucinations or delusions), overdose or withdrawal from alcohol or drug use, and reactions to a traumatic event.



“Providing education to the PN students and supporting them so they’re in the best state of mind for their nursing journey is a wonderful tie-in,” Bolandrina said.

The feedback on the MHFA training

remains positive. We continue to engage in conversation, education, and breaking the stigma of mental health disorders.

## REAL ESTATE

### CHARLTON

- \$1,300,000, 268 Partridge Hill Rd, Jmc Rt, and Claprood, Joan M, to Lafleur, Steven, and Lafleur, Nancy.
- \$565,000, 70 Partridge Hill Rd, Gammell Ft, and Gammell, Walter W, to Phelps, Jaclyn J, and Obrien, Michael J.
- \$550,000, 58 Main St, Norrman, Karen M, to Cucchi, William E.
- \$462,000, 24 Dodge Rd, Davis, Jared L, to Salah, Michael.
- \$425,000, 87 A F Putnam Rd, Lowell, George B, and Lowell, Jaclyn K, to Arbel-la, Becky S.
- \$90,000, Northside Rd #5B, Compton Property Dev LLC, to 13 Gables Inc.

### HOLLAND

- \$600,000, 46 E Brimfield Rd, Rootes-Hunter, Christina, to Rak, Brian A, and Poisson, Marc J.
- \$407,000, 11 Craig Rd, Boniface Gary J Est, and Misiaszek, Linda J, to Rodrigues, Lawrence P, and Rodrigues, Carlene.
- \$150,000, 23 Collette Dr, Swanson, Michael J, to Dahl, Hillary.

### SOUTHBRIDGE

- \$475,000, 50 Glover St, Kaitbenski, Frank S, and Kaitbenski, Suzanne M, to Jordan-Smith, Amelia, and Pearce, Amanda.
- \$472,000, 125 Cross St, Wahome, Victor, to Bicalho, Joao H.
- \$470,000, 455 Hamilton St, Rockaway Rt, and Gauthier, Ronald J, to Luna Adon, Nicole E.
- \$454,556, 74 North St, Contreras, Luis F, to Dejesus, Luis R, and Benitez Jr, Reina I.
- \$410,000, 36 Dresser St, Cardrant, Brian M, to Moura, Jorge B.
- \$362,000, 104 Plimpton St, Rivera, Juan, to Rivera-Jimenez, Axel N, and Montero, Wahinela R.
- \$350,000, 3 Morris St, Finbar Rt, and Murphy, Roderick P, to Morris Tree LLC.
- \$327,000, 25 Pinedale St, Magar, Suk, and Magar, Mamata T, to Carlo, Caroline W, and Carlo, Matthew R.
- \$230,000, 28 Plimpton St, Castro Juan A Est, and Castro Jr, Juan A, to Dougwill LLC.
- \$125,000, 159 Elm St #1, Top Notch Transitional Sv, to Colarusso, Jack.

### STURBRIDGE

- \$850,000, 546 Haynes St, Walter J Koza RET, and Koza, Walter J, to Piascik, Karol.
- \$850,000, 548 Haynes St, Walter J Koza RET, and Koza, Walter J, to Piascik, Karol.
- \$595,000, 13 Preserve Way, Mancuso, Erica, to Luscombe, Nathan A, and Luscombe, Kate M.
- \$564,900, 24 Allen Rd, Luscombe, Nathan A, and Luscombe, Kate M, to Oleary, Brendan, and Oleary, Alyssa.
- \$485,000, 86 Breakneck Rd, Rynearson, Kelly, and Rynearson, David, to Dion, Brenden.
- \$455,000, 6 Belanger Ave, Viapiano, Laurie, and Winglass, Theodore, to Baarda, Danielle, and Kackley, Patrick.
- \$350,000, 47 Shepard Rd, Choquet, Jeffrey, and Choquet, Rebecca, to Gagne, Abigail A, and Williams, Matthew.
- \$293,000, 92 Westwood Dr, Witt Joint T, and Witt, Laura A, to Tomko Ft, and Tomko, Patricia E.



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# SOUTHBRIDGE POLICE LOG

**SOUTHBRIDGE** — The Southbridge Police Department reported the following arrests during from Sept. 9-23.

A 31-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 9 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license.

Pedro Juan Ayala Nieves, age 45, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 9 in connection with a warrant for Simple Assault & Battery.

Lorraine Pauline Kiefer, age 21, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 10 for Impeding a Police Investigation, Resisting Arrest, Assault & Battery on a Police Officer, Disorderly Conduct, and Disturbing the Peace.

Dale Patrick Laliberte, age 51, of Westford was arrested on Sept. 10 for Failure to Stop for Police, Use of an Electronic Device while Operating a Motor Vehicle (first offense), Trafficking in More Than 10 Grams of Fentanyl, Possession of a Class B Drug with intent to distribute, Possession of a Class C Drug with intent to distribute, and a Marked Lanes Violation.

A 21-year-old male from Dudley was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 11 for operating an Uninsured and Unregistered Motor Vehicle.

A 25-year-old female from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 11 for Leaving the Scene of Property Damage, Failure to Drive in the Right Lane, and operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle.

A 64-year-old male from Worcester was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 12 for operating a motor vehicle af-

ter suspension of license.

A 39-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 12 for operating an Unregistered and Uninsured Motor Vehicle.

Kristen M. Lamothe, age 31, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 12 for a Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID, Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license, operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle, and operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle.

Jason Blake Crawford, age 22, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 12 for a Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID, operating an Uninsured and Unregistered Motor Vehicle, and in connection with a warrant for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Luis Armando Sostre Ortiz, age 38, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 13 for Forging and/or Misuse of an RMV Document, operating an Unregistered and Uninsured Motor Vehicle, a Number Plate Violation, and a Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID.

Jose A. Santiago, age 36, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 13 for Trespassing.

Odel Valentin Nunez, age 63, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 13 for Operating Under the Influence of alcohol and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle.

Giovanni Diaz Cruz, age 38, of Woonsocket, R.I. was arrested on Sept. 13 in connection with multiple warrants.

A 51-year-old male from Southbridge was taken into protective custody for intoxication on

Sept. 14.

Ryan N. Peperato, age 28, of Worcester was arrested on Sept. 15 for operating a motor vehicle after suspension of license.

Giovanni Manuel Rosario, age 26, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 15 in connection with a warrant for operating a motor vehicle after suspension of license.

Tyler R. Auger, age 31, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 16 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license. A 36-year-old male from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest during the same incident for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Bryan Doherty, age 38, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 16 for multiple counts of Possession of a Class E Drug, Posses-

sion of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute, and in connection with a warrant for Assault with a Dangerous Weapon.

Armando Rodriguez, age 58, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 16 for Trespassing and in connection with a warrant.

Kalibaba McConnell, age 52, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 17 for Shoplifting by Asportation and in connection with a warrant for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license.

A 23-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 18 for Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, a Marked Lanes Violation, driving at a rate of speed greater than was reasonable and proper, Failure to Stop for Police, and Failure to

Stop or Yield.

A 34-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 18 for Littering.

Kalyn Elizabeth Saez, age 22, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 19 in connection with a warrant for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license.

A 31-year-old male from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 19 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license and for not being in possession of a driver's license.

A 49-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 19 for Larceny By False Pretense in an amount under \$1,200 and Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order.

A 36-year-old from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 19 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license and Leaving the Scene of Property Damage.

A 37-year-old female from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Sept. 19 for driving at a rate of speed exceeding the posted limit, a Marked Lanes Violation, and Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Brunilda Berrios, age 44, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 21 in connection with a warrant for operating an unregistered motor vehicle.

Kevin Cardoza, age 38, of Southbridge was arrested on Sept. 22 in connection with multiple warrants for Shoplifting by Asportation.

## Worcester Regional Transit Authority celebrates 50th anniversary

**WORCESTER** — The Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) is excited to announce the celebration of its 50th Anniversary, marking five decades of providing reliable, accessible, and affordable transportation services to 37 communities in Central Massachusetts.

WRTA will host two special events on Thursday, Sept. 26 to commemorate this significant milestone. The first celebration, exclusively for Advisory Board members and invited guests, will take place at the WRTA Maintenance & Operations Facility at 11 a.m. Later in the day, a Rider Appreciation Event will be held at 2 p.m. at the WRTA Central Hub, located at 60 Foster St.

The 50th Anniversary celebration will feature remarks from local officials, transportation leaders, and community advocates. Keynote speakers will reflect on WRTA's evolution from its founding in 1974 to becoming the central transportation network in the region. The events will also showcase a special 1974-themed wrapped bus, celebrating WRTA's history and contributions to the community.

As part of the 50th Anniversary festivities, WRTA invites the community to a Rider Appreciation Event

at the Central Hub. The event will include a tour of the 50th Anniversary themed bus, giveaways, and opportunities for riders to engage directly with WRTA staff. This celebration highlights the critical role riders have played in WRTA's growth and success over the years.

Since its incorporation in 1974, WRTA has been instrumental in connecting Central Massachusetts residents to jobs, schools, medical facilities, and essential services. Over the last 50 years, WRTA has grown into a vital network that serves thousands of riders daily. The organization has continually adapted to meet the evolving needs of the community and remains committed to improving service quality.

As WRTA looks toward the future, it will continue to embrace technological advancements, enhance service offerings, and promote more sustainable transit solutions.

"These events are about saying 'thank you' to our riders, contractors, members of our Advisory Board and community partners," said Administrator Josh Rickman. "For 50 years, they have been the driving force behind everything we do. They are all at the heart of our operations, and this anniversary is the perfect time to celebrate their continued trust and support."



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EDITOR

# Staying united after the election: A call to remember what matters most

Once the dust settles after the upcoming presidential election, it’s important for all of us—no matter who we voted for—to remember that we are still neighbors, friends, and family. Elections have the power to highlight our differences, but they don’t change the core of what really makes us a community. When the votes are counted and the debates subside, we must find our way back to what binds us: a shared commitment to the well-being of our families, our neighborhoods, and the place we call home.

While political divisions can feel sharp and personal, especially in today’s climate, it’s essential to remember that the most meaningful connections in our lives aren’t determined by a vote. The person who will lend you a cup of sugar, help you shovel your driveway, or cheer for your kid’s team on a chilly Saturday morning is your neighbor—not just a political identity. Whether we find ourselves celebrating or disappointed by the election’s outcome, the morning after still requires us to move forward—together.

Our communities are built on cooperation and common ground, regardless of who holds office. We rely on each other in ways that go beyond politics. Schools still need teachers, businesses still need customers, and we all still need that feeling of connection with those around us. The conversations we have at the local coffee shop, at school pick-ups, or during community events are what truly shape the fabric of our daily lives. These moments, not political debates, are what sustain us.

This is not to say that the issues at stake in elections don’t matter—they absolutely do. We must continue to advocate for what we believe in, speak our minds, and hold our leaders accountable. But it’s also vital that we don’t let the divisions of the political arena spill over into the personal relationships that hold our communities together. After all, when the election is over, we still share the same streets, parks, and grocery stores.

So, how do we move forward? First, by listening. Let’s take the time to really hear one another, even when we disagree. Let’s focus on finding common ground—there’s often more of it than we realize. Whether it’s addressing local issues, supporting a neighbor in need, or simply being kind to one another, we can all contribute to the healing and rebuilding process that follows every election.

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

## Manifestation

Manifestation—does it truly work? For decades, this concept has captured significant attention, especially in the pages of popular self-help books like “The Secret” by Rhonda Byrne, “Think and Grow Rich” by Napoleon Hill, and “The Power of Now” by Eckhart Tolle. These works suggest that the mind can create reality, emphasizing positive thinking, visualization, and belief as the key.

So, what’s the truth behind manifestation? Is it a genuine force or just another trend?

Looking through history, we find compelling examples of people who have manifested their

desires remarkably. Jesus manifested bread and fish to feed thousands, turned water into wine, and raised Lazarus from the dead. How did He do it? He told us: ‘Everything is possible for the one who believes’ (Mark 9:23). This belief, central to Jesus’ miracles, also applies to those who have shaped the world through their conviction.

Gandhi, through non-violent resistance, and Martin Luther King Jr., with his vision of equality, both relied on unwavering belief to drive their movements. Likewise, innovators like Elon Musk and Steve Jobs revolutionized industries by maintaining steadfast belief in their visions. They didn’t just wish for success—they visualized it, believed in it, and worked relentlessly to bring it to reality.

There is a distinction between miraculous manifestations, such as Jesus multiplying bread, and the achievements of inventors and social activists. While one may seem instantaneous and the other a slower, deliberate process, both are rooted in the same fundamental principle: belief.

Whether miraculous or transformative, faith in the outcome drives these manifestations into reality.

A common thread among those who teach manifestation techniques is the importance of

assuming your desires are already fulfilled, even before they physically manifest. Whether it’s modern self-

help gurus or ancient spiritual teachings, the principle remains the same: you must believe you have what you want before it arrives in your reality.

The central idea is that by aligning your thoughts, feelings, and beliefs with the desired

outcome, you attract that outcome into your life.

This idea of belief has been central to Jesus’ teachings, as mentioned above. He emphasized it again in Mark 11:23: ‘Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, “Go, throw yourself into the sea,” and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.’ Here, Jesus highlights the crucial role of unwavering belief in the process. It’s not enough to ask for what you want—you must act as if it is already done.

The idea is clear: belief and emotional alignment with your desired outcome create the conditions for its realization.

So how does this apply in your life? Imagine you’re aiming for a promotion at work. Instead of doubting or hoping, visualize yourself already in that role—feeling confident, acting as if the promotion is yours. The same goes for personal goals, like getting healthier. Instead of focusing

on the obstacles, believe you’re already living a healthier lifestyle, making choices aligned with that belief. The principle remains the same even in bigger dreams—starting a business, finding your dream home, or writing a book.

If you think success is inevitable, you’ll naturally align your actions, mindset, and energy toward making that vision a reality. Belief becomes the foundation for your daily actions, driving you forward even when challenges arise.

So, does manifestation truly work? Well, it has great business leaders and revolutionaries. You might attribute their success to luck or chance, but you can’t deny that they believed with all their heart in their vision. That kind

Turn to **POSITIVE** page 18

## What can insurance do for you?



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS

TREVOR  
NIELSEN

It’s probably not on your calendar, but September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. And it’s indeed a pretty good idea to be aware of what life insurance can do for you.

Life insurance can help you in two main ways. First, life insurance policies offer a death benefit that can assist your family if you’re no longer around. And second, some types of life insurance offer the chance to build cash value, which can work for you during your lifetime.

Let’s look at the death benefit first. If something were to happen to you, your life insurance proceeds could help your family meet at least three major needs:

**Paying a mortgage** – The biggest expense many families face is their monthly mortgage. If you weren’t around, could your family continue paying the mortgage? Or would they have to move? With a sufficient life insurance death benefit, they could remain in their home, meeting the monthly mortgage payments, or perhaps pay off the loan entirely (although this might not be in their best financial interest).

**Paying for education** – If you have young children, you may already be saving for their college education — because you know college is expensive. Without your income, would college, or some other form of post-secondary education or training, still be realistic? Again, the proceeds from an insurance policy could make the difference.

**Paying off debts** – You might have a car loan, credit card debt or other financial obligations. If your surviving spouse is a joint account holder for these debts, they could still be liable for paying them off. But insurance proceeds could be used to retire the debts immediately, or over time.

All life insurance policies offer a death benefit. But permanent insurance, unlike term insurance, also offers the chance to build cash value — which can be a valuable supplement to your IRA and 401(k) or other retirement accounts.

A cash value policy such as whole life also can provide flexibility for changing financial needs or emergencies in retirement. And here’s another key advantage: Because this type of policy provides fixed, guaranteed returns, it is not dependent on the performance of the financial markets and is thus insulated from the market downturns that can happen while you’re retired. So, taking money from the cash value of your whole life policy may help you avoid selling investments that have temporarily declined in value.

Keep in mind, though, that the premiums for a cash value policy will generally be substantially higher than those for term insurance. That’s why some people choose to “buy term and invest the difference” rather than purchase a permanent life policy with cash value. Whether this strategy is right for you depends on a few different factors, perhaps the most important of which is your ability and willingness to consistently invest the money you would have otherwise placed in a cash value policy.

In any case, should you choose cash value insurance, you generally have three ways to get at the money: withdrawals, loans or surrender of the policy. You’ll want to weigh all the factors involved — including taxes and the effect on the policy’s death benefit — when deciding on how to access the cash value.

Life Insurance Awareness Month ends on Sept. 30. But your need for life insurance, and the potential benefits it provides, can last a lifetime.

*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.*

## To the Editor

### 2024 Presidential election begins and ends with the southern and northern borders

To the Editor:

Since the Biden/Harris Administration entered our White House in January 2021 and almost immediately opened our borders to give illegal aliens a revolving door to come into our country unvetted, our once beautiful nation has become a criminal war zone! It’s estimated that at least 18 million illegals have crossed into our country! The corrupt Democrats are also flying them in, not for humanitarian reasons, it’s illegal votes! The Democrats know they cannot win this election unless they get illegals to cheat in this election, also.

Every state has become a border state with illegal alien criminals. They have murdered, raped, assaulted and stolen from Americans. They

have taxed our schools, healthcare systems, housing, food services, police and fire departments, judicial system and government.

President Trump is the only candidate who has said, if elected, he will deport these illegal invaders from our country and restore peace once again! Harris, the Border Czar, will not!

The illegal alien invasion has led to inflation, higher food and fuel prices, and deaths of thousands of Americans due to the trafficking of Fentanyl across the open borders.

The Presidential choice is simple... vote Donald J. Trump to “Save America!”

Linda Buckley  
Leicester

### Vote Stein/Ware

To the Editor:

Tired of your tax dollars going to fight wars in other countries? Tired of crumbling infrastructure? Tired of no federal money helping states and localities? Dump the duopoly and vote Green!

Worried about the Dem scare tactic that if you don’t vote for them and their “no policy” policy, it is a vote for the other guy? Vote for something. The Stein Ware ticket promises accessible public education and taxes on all income to pay for that. Childcare should also be provided for parents who want to pursue education while their children are young (what a great model for

the kids!). Equality for all in taxes and social security is a large part of the Stein /Ware platform so that equality for all can be in education and infrastructure.

Clean water, air, and soil helps everyone! That is part of the platform also.

On Nov. 5, use your presidential vote to help people, peace, and planet!

Vote Stein/Ware! (In Massachusetts, the ballot says Stein/ Caballero-Roca, but it is the same as the national Stein /Ware presidential team!)

Maureen Doyle  
Southbridge



# Tips for Planting Bulbs this Season

Following a long New England winter, few signs of spring are more welcome than the first sprouts of green popping up in a barren garden. The promise of a season of beautiful blooms, the tiny shoots are the gardeners reward of a past autumn spent preparing and planting.

Experts agree fall offers ideal conditions to plant perennials. In fact, autumn is the preferred time to plant spring blooming bulbs. The following is a beginner's guide to preparing, planning and planting bulbs now for a flourish of flowers come spring.

### Choosing Choice Bulbs

If you are selecting bulbs in bulk, such as loose bulbs offered at discount garden centers, it's important to follow a few rules of thumb. Typically, big bulbs produce the largest blooms and may yield more flowers, therefore, it may be worth the cost to pay a bit more for good sized, healthy bulbs. However, if you are on a budget and have the time to wait, smaller bulbs will eventually increase in size and bloom each year.

When choosing a bulb, look for those that are firm and plump. Hold them in your palm and select bulbs that feel heavy for their size. Avoid bulbs with bruises, spots or signs of



TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

mold. And steer clear of soft, mushy and lightweight bulbs. Sprouting bulbs may indicate a bulb that has been in storage for a long time.

### Planning a Flower Garden

A little thought and preparation go a long way in reaping the benefits of a successful spring and summer flower garden. The planning you take time for in the fall will be apparent when the flower garden plantings burst with color and texture next year.

Know your flowers before you plan to plant. While most bulbs require an area where there is full sun, other varieties such as the iris and crocus enjoy some shade after blooming. For best results select a location in full sun or sun with morning shade only. Well drained soil is a requisite for flower bulbs. If you have poor soil, raised flower beds may be an effective alternative.

For best results, design your garden with pen and paper first, mapping out the size of the beds and the flowers to scale. Keep in mind color, texture and fragrance are all important factors when deciding

on a particular flower garden plan. Plotting a garden plan is an exciting chore, and there are some basic rules that ensure a pleasant mix of color for a showy display. Notice how a clump of daffodils and tulips are much more eye appealing than a tidy row of the spring-time flowers. The eye is drawn toward the burst of color when these flowers are in generous groups of plantings. Be sure to take an accurate bulb count of such large splashes of plantings. Your layout plan should also include using flower bulbs as accents in perennial beds, or to fill in rock gardens or as an interesting border to greenery. Be sure to plan for extra bulbs to fill in areas or to add as landscape accents.

For an interesting mix, merge short plants with tall specimens to give variety and depth as well as differing textures. And don't underestimate the power of fragrance. Nothing is more delightful than a pathway of floral scents welcoming visitors to your door!

You should also decide if you want to plan out every aspect of planting a semi formal garden, or if you choose instead to toss convention and bulbs to the wind, planting bulbs the natural way, thus creating a natural sprinkling of blooms.

Scaling plants to the bed is another import-

ant factor when plotting your plan. A simple rule to follow is to keep in mind the tallest plant in an island flower bed should have a mature height that is equal to about half the width of the bed. Place these plants in the center, so they can be viewed from all sides. Also remember to take into account plants that grow and expand quickly.

Color is another major consideration when planting your bulbs. If you want your garden to be a showcase all season, select a variety of bulbs that flower during early, middle and late spring and summer for a continuous burst of color.

Just as in the home, in the garden bed cool colors seem to recede and warm colors appear to come forward. To make a small garden area appear larger and more spacious, plant flowers in cool, light colors. As a general rule white goes a long way in a garden bed, but if you use a lot of white flowers in an area, consider adding a dramatic splash of bright red or bright pink or purple for visual contrast. And, remember, if you are growing flowers to cut and bring the blooms indoors, choose colors that will go with the decor of your home, as well as harmonize with one another in the garden.

Gardens, in fact, are often planned around

color. The ambiance of your outdoor living space is determined by color and your choices decide whether your garden flowers contrast or complement each other which can result in either a subtle hue of color or a spectacular show of brilliant blooms.

For a bright, showy garden, eye catching bright reds, yellows, purples and whites take center stage in a flower bed. Such contrasting colors can be often be achieved with little effort simply by matching up opposite colors on the standard color wheel.

Planting Prep: Planting time varies depending on location, but here in the Northeast it ranges from September until as long as the soil can be worked, usually around the end of October.

Prepare your bed by making sure soil is properly fertilized. Be sure to dig out the soil to the proper depth. Loosen the soil and if you choose, add a

bulb booster to the soil. Bulbs should be planted with pointed side up. Place them firmly, yet gently, into the ground. Cover the bulbs loosely with soil, water lightly and add a layer of mulch. Typically, bulbs should be planted three times as deep as the bulb is wide. In sandy soils, you can plant a little deeper, and in heavy soils you can dig a slightly shallower hole. Bulbs should be spaced approximately a width twice the diameter of the bulb.

Note: Tulips should be planted one inch deeper than indicated if the soil is not too heavy and their location is permanent as deep rooting can prolong the effective life of the tulip bulb.

### 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! Sim-

Turn To **TIPS** page 15

## Debate

BY REV. JOHN H.D. LUCY  
CHARLTON CITY UMC

I will admit that I did not watch either presidential debate. Am I a bad citizen? Maybe. Frankly, though, I don't quite understand the purpose of a debate. Any debate.

Plato harshly judged sophists whose only skill was (and is) to speak and debate well. Sophists, Plato said, didn't help anyone, least of all themselves, develop a better understanding of meaningful Truth. Indeed, the purpose of a debate, and debating well, seems only to be crowning a victor, a winner. But how does that help anyone?

Many of us have probably gotten tangled in a Facebook debate with family, friends, or even strangers. And I wonder, have we changed anyone's mind? Have we had our own minds changed? Have we learned anything from those debates that helps us live well? It seems to me the only objective of debating is to perceive ourselves as winners and others as losers. Where does that get us?

In the Bible, Paul talks about divisions in the church, some choosing to follow him and others choosing to follow Apollos. Churches debated who was the better apostle and evangelist. Paul insisted, however, that neither Apollos nor Paul mattered. Only Christ mattered. One apostle planted, the other watered; one sowed, the other reaped.

I wish we had more of a Pauline attitude. Rather than trying to crown a winner, rather than having debates, we instead had curiosity. How much better it would be, I think, if instead of hearing and saying, "You're wrong, I'll tell you why," we instead heard and said, "Huh, tell me more about your idea, because maybe we can work on perfecting it together; maybe I can incorporate some of your idea into mine." How much better it would be, I think, if instead of debates we instead tried learning from one another or building upon one another's work so that one can plant, another water.

## Strategies for adding native plants to your landscape



GARDEN MOMENTS  
MELINDA MYERS

More and more gardeners are adding native plants to their landscapes. These plants provide more than beautiful flowers for us to enjoy. They also support pollinators and other beneficial insects, and provide food and shelter for songbirds, toads, and other wildlife.

In addition, these plants help protect and improve our soil and manage stormwater. The plants slow stormwater runoff and help direct it into the soil through pathways created by their deep roots to the groundwater below. These deep roots also help break up compacted clay soils. Legumes like blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*) that are hardy in zones 3 to 10 help add nitrogen to the soil while supporting a variety of pollinators.

Look to woodland native plants if you are gardening in the shade. Tall black cohosh (*Actaea racemosa*) grows four to six feet tall, has white flowers in summer, and is a host plant for the Appalachian azure butterfly. The spring-blooming native columbine's (*Aquilegia canadensis*) red and yellow flowers provide food for hummingbirds and long-tongued insects. Wild ginger (*Asarum*



Melinda Myers

A bee nectaring on purple prairie clover (*Dalea purpurea*) which is hardy in zones 3-8.

canadense) makes an excellent groundcover that can hold its ground against garlic mustard and other invasive plants.

Perhaps you or members of your household have been reluctant to add these plants to your landscape. Some people worry that these plants won't fit in with their current landscape design or be accepted by their neighbors. One option is to start including native plants in your landscape one plant or garden at a time.

As always, make sure the plants you suited to the conditions, your design, and available space. Some native

plants are aggressive and work best when given a lot of room to grow and spread. Others grow in clumps and slowly increase in size making them easier to include in smaller yards.

Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) is a wonderful but very ag-

gressive native plant that's a favorite of the monarch caterpillar. It spreads by seeds and deep rhizomes making it challenging to contain. Consider growing other native milkweeds that will support the monarch but are less aggressive when space is limited. Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) hardy in zones 3 to 10 is a great option for those with sunny well-drained locations. Red milkweed also known as swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) also grows best in full sun, but this milkweed tolerates moist soils.

Think about substitutions when starting

Turn To **GARDENING** page 15

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# October events at Charlton Public Library

Visit our Web site ([charltonlibrary.org](http://charltonlibrary.org)) for a full listing of programs and events.

Additional parking is available across the street at Town Hall and at the Elementary School.

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS Movies Matinees @ The Library

All showings are on Tuesdays at 1:00 ONLY. No registration required. Free popcorn!

October 1 : THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAGICAL NEGROES. 2024. Rated PG-13. 104 minutes.

October 8 : UNSUNG HERO. 2024. Rated PG. 120 minutes.

October 15 : HOUSEKEEPING FOR BEGINNERS. 2024. Rated R. 107 minutes.

October 22 : THE GARFIELD MOVIE. 2024. Rated PG. 101 minutes.

October 29 : RENFIELD. 2023. Rated R. 93 minutes.

## Threaded Together Fiber Arts Group (formerly Silver Needles Knit & Crochet Group)

Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 - Upstairs Reading Room - No registration required. All are welcome.

## Macrame Ghost Wall Hanging Craft

Tuesday, October 1, 6:30-7:30 & Wednesday, October 16, 10:30-11:30 - Community Meeting Room

This craft is for adults and teens ages 13 and up. Registration is required.

## Better Read Than Dead Book Club - WHILE IDAHO SLEPT by Rueben Appleton

Wednesday, October 2, 11:00-12:00 - Sibley Reading Area - No registration required

A monthly true crime book club! Books available from circulation prior to discussion.

## Genealogy Book Talk - IN THE SHADOW OF SALEM: THE ANDOVER WITCH HUNT OF 1692

Thursday, October 3, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room - Registration requested.

Rich Hite will discuss his book "In the Shadow of Salem: The Andover Witch Hunt of 1692". A fascinating story of this long overlooked phase of the largest witch hunt in American history. Sponsored by Friends of Charlton Public Library.

## Friends of the Library Meeting

Tuesday, October 8, 3:30-4:30 - Community Meeting Room

Monthly meeting of Friends of Charlton Public Library. All are welcome.

## The Organized Parent Workshop

Tuesday, October 8, 6:00-7:00 - Community Meeting Room - Registration required.

A fun and informative workshop to give you new ways to approach the clutter and commitments. Learn tips on combating over-committed schedules, entry and exit strategies, tips on tackling the paper trail, and fun and helpful resources.

## CPL Book Discussion - THE SUM OF US by Heather McGee

Thursday, October 10, 6:00-7:00 - Community Meeting Room and via Zoom - No registration

Books are available for checkout at the adult circulation desk one month prior to discussion.

## Bullet Journaling 101

Tuesday, October 15, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room - Registration required.

Shannon from Casual Study will walk you through the basics of bullet journaling. Materials will be provided. Registration is required. For adults and teens ages 13 and up.

## Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Thursday, October 17, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room - No registration required

Information, resources, and strategies for those caring for someone with Alzheimer's and other Dementias, along with support for transitioning to different care settings. No registration.

## Death Cafe

Thursday, October 17, 6:00-7:30 - Sibley Reading Area - No registration

required

We gather, eat cake, drink tea or coffee, and enjoy open-minded conversation about dying and death. It is an opportunity to share, explore and question our own perceptions of death. It's not a bereavement session. Questions? Email [kwalker4@mac.com](mailto:kwalker4@mac.com).

## Saturday Acoustic Roots Jam

Saturday, October 19, 12:00-1:30 - Community Meeting Room

An acoustic-only music jam. Open to all 18+. Email Rich at [Cule5632@gmail.com](mailto:Cule5632@gmail.com) for more information.

## Charlton Ukulele League & Ensemble

Thursday, October 24, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room - No registration required

Experienced musicians and newbies all welcome. Questions? Email [Cule5632@gmail.com](mailto:Cule5632@gmail.com)

## Legends and Haunts of New England

Thursday, October 24, 6:00-7:00 - Community Meeting Room - Registration is required.

Join author and paranormal researcher Tom D'Agostino for a trip through New England and hear about some fascinating haunts and legends of the region. You will not believe your eyes and ears as you take this journey to some of the most haunted places in New England. These and many more complete with videos, pictures, EVPs and some amusing events await, as this presentation becomes your personal tour guide to the other side WITHOUT EVER HAVING TO LEAVE YOUR SEAT!

## Critical Thinking Discussion Group - HIGHER LEARNING by Zeng-Zi

Friday, October 25, 1:00-2:00 - Sibley Reading Area (Main Floor) - No registration required

No experience with critical thinking discussion groups is necessary. Books/materials are available for checkout one month prior to discussion. Questions? Email [saga3@charter.net](mailto:saga3@charter.net).

## Chain Mail Bracelet

Tuesday, October 29, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room - Registration is required.

Castle Nitor will teach you one of the most common chainmail weaves used to make armor in the past. Registration is required. This program is for adults and teens age 13 and up.

## PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Check our website for all storytime information: [www.charltonlibrary.org](http://www.charltonlibrary.org)

## Crafternoon for Kids

Fridays, October 4 & 18, 3:30-4:30 - Story Time Room

Drop by the Storytime Room and make a fun craft! Best for ages 5-10.

## Nature's Real Vampires: Leeches, Bats and Other Spooky Creatures!

Saturday, October 5, 10:30-11:30 - Community Meeting Room - No registration.

In our Nature's Real Vampires program you will learn about real animals that scare and spook us! We will discover creatures that don't just come out on Halloween but are here all year round. Come learn and make a fun Halloween craft to bring home! Recommended for ages 5 and older.

## Fiber Arts Club for Tweens & Teens

Fridays, October 11 & 25, 3:45 - 4:30 - Story Time Room

Are you interested in knitting, crocheting, needle felting, or other fiber art? Join us every other Friday afternoon to practice your craft, learn from more experienced friends, or teach others! We may have some special guests stopping by to give some pointers! Don't forget to bring your current projects!

Best for tweens and teens ages 9-18. Registration required.\*Please only register the tween or teen attending the program, not parents/caregivers. Younger siblings are not allowed to attend this program due to the presence of sharp objects.\*

## Let's Dance a Story for ages 3-6

Tuesday, October 15, 10:00-10:45 -

Community Meeting Room - Registration required.

Movement, music, and stories come together! Children will explore dance and movement inspired by the words in a storybook. This group will learn how to help the brain and the body work together, discover new vocabulary words, and foster a love of books with full-body learning. This class is facilitated by Katelyn Cramer, a Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist, a Licensed Professional Counselor in CT, and a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in MA. For ages 3-6. Please register children in this age range only. (Younger siblings should not be included in the registration.)

## Fire Safety Program

Wednesday, October 16, 1:00-2:00 - Children's Room - Registration requested.

Join the Charlton Fire Department for a fun and informative presentation on Fire Safety. Afterward, we will go outside (weather permitting) to see a fire truck up close! All ages are welcome! Please sign up so we know how many kids to expect! (If you sign up and cannot attend, there is no need to cancel.)

## It's a Monster "Marsh"!

Saturday, October 19, 12:30-1:30 - Story Time Room - Registration opens September 21.

Make some delicious and spooky marshmallow monsters! Then design crazy-haired monsters from cardboard tubes. All materials provided. For children ages 5-10 and their care-

givers. Space is limited to 15 participants. (Younger siblings are welcome, but please do not fill out a separate registration for them). Registration opens Saturday, September 21 at 9:00 AM.

## Spooky Needle Felted Ornaments

Tuesday, October 22, 5:30-6:30 - Community Meeting Room - Registration required.

Join us to create some fun and spooky needle felted ornaments. This program is for tweens and teens ages 9 and older due to the presence of sharp objects.

## Pokemon Club

Wednesday, October 23, 4:00-4:30 - Story Time Room - Registration required.

Do you love all things Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon Club! Enjoy a variety of fun Pokemon activities, trade cards, plus try your hand at playing the game on our new play mats! For ages 6-12.

## Town of Charlton Trick-or-Treat Parade!

Thursday, October 31, 11:00-11:30 - Children's Room

Join us for our annual Trick-or-Treat Parade from the Library to the Town Hall & Senior Center! Meet in the Children's Room by 11:00 a.m. Don't forget to dress up in your favorite costume and bring a bag for goodies! All ages are welcome. Please sign up so we know how much candy we need! If you sign up and cannot attend, there is no need to call and cancel.

# DCRSD responds to Georgia school shooting

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — Following the latest school shooting in the United States in early September the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District Superintendent is seeking to reassure local parents that they are prepared for such an incident if it were to ever occur on their campuses.

The nation was shaken by another school shooting in early September when a 14-year-old suspect opened fire at Apalachee High School in Winder, Ga. sparking more debate across the country about gun violence, school safety, and gun laws. With such events seemingly becoming a yearly occurrence many school districts have taken it upon themselves to be proactive and implement training and response plans for if such an act were to take place. The Dudley-Charlton Regional School District was one of many to implement ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Active Shooter Response Training and other measures in 2022 after the shooting in Uvalde, Texas and in the wake of this most recent incident Superintendent Steven Lamarche took the time to once again confirm the district's preparedness for such an event in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District.

“What I ask people to do with these tragic events, because it’s what we do, is really kind of dive into them to try to understand the details of them. I know it’s easy to apply to us because we’re a school, but there are some unique circumstances that happen in all of these that we really dive into and try to understand so that we can ensure that we do have a safe learning environment for our students. Keep in mind the safety of our students, staff, and community is paramount to the work we do, and we are committed to taking every necessary measure to protect our learning environment,” said Lamarche while addressing the Georgia shooting with the School Committee on Sept. 11.

The district has made ALICE training an essential part of onboarding staff and even worked with Nichols College on a counterterrorism training in 2022. School officials have also implemented emergency procedures and lock-down drills to ensure that students and staff respond safely and appropriately should such a situation occur. While the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District has not had to employ these strategies in an actual emergency, Superintendent Lamarche said he is confident they have a strong plan in place and a capable staff who will respond accordingly if the need arises.

“We continue to work closely with authorities, which is great. We have a great working relationship with both police departments, both fire departments, and all emergency personnel, health agents, et cetera in our two communities. That has really been solidified over the past couple of years. We will continue to create safe spaces for all students, and staff in our community within our buildings. It is our responsibility to create an environment where students can focus their education without fear, and we will not compromise on that commitment. We are very lucky because we have staff that is very dedicated to our community and to our students,” said Lamarche.

The Superintendent confirmed that all new staff attended ALICE training prior to the start of the school year and that refresher trainings for all staff members will be conducted within the next month. Substitute educators are also being encouraged to take part in the training. The district will continue to conduct three active shooter drills each school year as well in coordination with first responders.

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# Class of 2025 student representatives elected at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy!

**C H A R L T O N**  
—New student representatives to the Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy PN Class of 2025 were elected recently and began their term this fall.

Practical nursing students Julie Peloquin and Delene Sarsfield were voted as student representatives for the PN class of 2025. The student representatives are an important part of the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Faculty Organization (PNFO). Their main responsibility is to be a link between Practical Nursing faculty, staff, and the students, and to contribute to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy activities and projects. Peloquin and Sarsfield represented the students of the PN Class of 2025 on the advisory board and steering committee meeting held on Sept. 24.

Student representatives are responsible for attending the PNFO meetings, where they serve as non-voting members. The student representatives speak on behalf of the student body and report on topics they want to bring to the PNFO's attention. The student representatives are also invited to attend the spring Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for in the Spring, March 2025.

"One of the goals of the student representative role is to continue to advocate for governance by increasing awareness of student's role in governance," said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN, Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director.

The student representatives will work together towards feedback on topics on the PNFO agenda.

"The topics that go into the agenda are ones that resonate with the student body, these are very unifying topics, and are all in congruence with regulatory and accreditation requirements for BORN (Board of Registration in Nursing), COE (Council on Occupational Education), and ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing)," Bolandrina said.

Peloquin of Southbridge is with the Department of Developmental Services as DSW II, providing direct care in a group residential setting for individuals with developmental, physical, and mental disabilities. As DSW II, she acts as shift supervisor and guide staff in care and operation of the shift. She mediates issues and handles scheduling/house duties as necessary. Peloquin is a graduate of Southbridge High School (2004) where she was active in Show Choir; Drama Club, Chess Club (Vice President), and School to Career Program. Her project was with Dystopia Rising Massachusetts- setting guide. From 2015-2020 she studied at Worcester State University majoring in Psychology. She took four semesters of French (fluent in conversational French) and various visual/fine arts courses.

Sarsfield of Charlton is a multi-faceted, efficient, ethical, motivated, and reliable Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). She has over 15 years of centered-based patient care and customer service experience. She is employed at CareOne at Millbury as a CNA (since 2019) and was with Sterling Village at Sterling from 2008 to 2019. She graduated from the Holy Name Central Catholic Jr./Sr. High School in Worcester (2005). Sarsfield's long-term goal is to complete her practical nursing education, become an LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse), and bridge into an RN (Registered Nurse) program with her field of interest- hospice and palliative care nursing. She is a 2024 PCE (Program for Continuing Education) Grant recipient from P.E.O. International (Philanthropic Educational Organization, [www.peointernational.org](http://www.peointernational.org)) Sarsfield was also newly elected as an officer of the UNICEF Club.

Both Peloquin and Sarsfield have a valid Health Care Provider/ Basic Life Support Provider CPR, Dementia Care Certified, and Mental Health First Aid Certified. Student representatives will bring student issues up, participate in governance, and focus on not just current students but may include alumni and possibly incoming students in conversations and activities.



# OBITUARIES

## Mary M. Moore, 72

Sturbridge: Mary Martha (Corrigan) Moore, 72, of Blueberry Lane, passed away peacefully in her home on Thursday, Sept. 19th, after a long illness. She leaves two children, Peter Moore and his wife Jessica Moore-Wilson of Tyngsboro, and Eliza Moore and her fiancé David Buckner of Warren, RI; her former husband, John Moore and his partner Michael Derry of Southbridge; her brother, James Corrigan and his wife Sandra of Tyngsboro; her granddaughter, River Juliette Moore; and many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, siblings-in-law, and friends. Martha was predeceased by her loyal dog, Harry. She was born in Lynn, the daughter of Paul W. and Mary P. (Quinn) Corrigan. She spent several years living in Oregon with John in the 1970s. Martha was involved in the counterculture movement of the 1960s and 1970s, protesting peacefully for non-violence and tolerance. Her love for gardening bloomed while working at Weston Nurseries, where Martha also met her future husband. Though they did not stay married, John remained a dedicated co-parent and close lifelong friend. For many years, Martha owned her own business, Moore Garden and Landscape. Her knowledge of horticulture was unmatched, and she instilled a great



love of nature in those around her. She especially loved heritage roses, the Shipwreck Rose 'Celsiana' being one of her favorites. In the winter, she led seasonal gingerbread and craft workshops. In later years, Martha worked for the Bridge of Central Mass. A gifted fiber and textile artist, Martha was a prolific knitter, always working with natural fibers to create exquisite sweaters, hats, shawls, and slippers. These and Martha's whimsical, meticulously hand-stitched quilts will warm her loved ones for generations. Martha was a charter member of the Quinebaug Valley Council for the Arts (now the Ruth Wells Center for the Arts), and taught classes there and at the Hitchcock Free Academy. She was also a member of the Southbridge Garden Club.

Compassion was Martha's greatest guide and she taught the importance of maintaining peace and stability in one's home and life. She remained spiritual, inspired by the tenets of loving-kindness taught by the Dalai Lama. Martha donated her body to the Harvard Medical School Anatomical Gift Program. According to Martha's wishes, there are no calling hours. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to an organization that makes the world a nicer place for all humanity.

## Tim Wohlhueter

Tim Wohlhueter, beloved son, brother, husband, father and friend, passed peacefully at home in Wales, Massachusetts in the early hours of September 16. He is at peace. Tim loved coffee, cannoli, hiking, music festivals, dogs, especially Huckleberry, family and friends. Tim has always loved being outside. He worked at Old Sturbridge Village, graduated from the North Bennett Street School Preservation Carpentry program, and later owned his own business Squaw Hollow Restoration and restored many historic buildings and barns.

Tim was loved and will be remembered and greatly missed by his wife Stacia Caplanson, son Ben Wohlhueter, sister Leslie Forte, brother Glenn Wohlhueter, "nephew" Link Diwan, and many family members and friends. May his memory be a blessing.

In his honor, get off your phone and enjoy the sunshine, eat good food, read a book, listen to music, do good, and hug someone TODAY. Live your



life fully every day. We will hold a celebration of Tim's life in October. We are grateful for the love and support of everyone in the greater community who helped us to care for Tim including those at UMass Memorial University Campus, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Overlook Hospice, especially Dr. Cataltepe, Dr. Cachia, Dr Rava, Dr. Bi, and especially Renee, Cherrie and Divine who cared for him at home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in his memory to

-Old Sturbridge Village in support of the Historical Interpretation Department

-North Bennett Street School Preservation Carpentry student scholarship fund

-Wales, MA Community Food Pantry or Volunteer Fire Department

-the Global Charities of Mata Amritanandamayi Math

Please make sure to include "in memory of Tim Wohlhueter" and list the specified purpose for your donation. Thank you.

## TIPS

continued from page 7

ply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month (or whenever I receive enough tips for a column) will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best

helpful hints!

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

## GARDENING

continued from page 7

to add native plants to the garden. When one plant dies look for a native plant to fill the void. Consider one with a similar growth habit, texture, and bloom time. Prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*) is a North American native grass with a growth habit similar to ornamental fountain grass (*Pennisetum*) and it provides many more benefits. Hardy in zones 3 to 8, it has uniquely fragrant flowers in late summer, golden fall color, and seeds that look like gems when covered with ice in the winter. It is also a host plant for six different moths and butterflies. This elegant grass is at home in just about any style garden.

As you get to know the native plants of your region and gain experience adding them to your gardens you may decide to create gardens of all native plants. Look to nature for some winning combinations. Combine plants that look good together, have the same

growing conditions, and are equally assertive. When aggressive plants are mixed in with timid plants, you end up with a garden of just one or two overly assertive plants.

As always, do your research first. Visit nearby nature centers and talk to others growing native plants to gather information and inspiration. As you gain success and confidence, you are sure to find creative ways to add these beauties to your landscape.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including Mid-west 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 radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

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# Get ready for Sevebnth Annual Pumpkin Patch extravaganza at Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale!

STURBRIDGE — Fall fun is back in full swing as the Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale's Seventh Annual Pumpkin Patch returns from Saturday, Sept. 28 through Thursday, Oct. 31! The church's front lawn at 8 Maple Street, Sturbridge, will be transformed into a festive fall wonderland, brimming with pumpkins and gourds of all shapes and sizes. Whether you're looking to decorate your home for Halloween or create a cozy fall atmosphere, the Pumpkin Patch offers everything you need—from pumpkins and mums to hay bales, corn stalks, loose hay for your scarecrow, and even cookbooks to inspire your autumn cooking.

The Pumpkin Patch is open to visitors Monday through Friday



Courtesy  
**The Federated Church Pumpkin Patch offers local mums, hay, and corn stalks in addition to pumpkins.**

from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (weather permitting). Convenient pay-

October is packed with special events and entertainment to make your visit even more memorable. Featured events include a pumpkin carving demonstration by Heidi Curboy on Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. to noon. Curboy is an artist-carver for the Jack-O-Lantern Spectacular that is held throughout October at the Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, R.I. (Rain date: Oct. 6, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.). On Oct. 12 and 26, Judy, Queen of the Pumpkins will be telling pumpkin stories in the picnic area near the Joshua Hyde Public Library. (In the event of rain, the Pumpkin Patch Story Hour will be held in the Federated Church parlor: Rock Voices Auburn will be performing on the front steps of the church (Date TBA), and other activities and games

will be available daily. Keep an eye on the Church's Facebook page (@Federated-ChurchSturbridgeFiskdale) for the latest updates and event details. "The Pumpkin Patch started back in 2018 as a fundraiser to support both church operations and regional ministries," according to committee chair Jason Chin. "It also has a broader impact, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Navajo Nation in Farmington, New Mexico. Pumpkins USA, our pumpkin supplier, employs over 700 Native Americans during the harvest season, with a full-time, off-season staff that's 100 percent Native American. This initiative brings long-lasting support to a region where unemployment rates reach 42 percent."

So, gather your friends and family and head over to the Federated Church's Pumpkin Patch this fall—it's more than just a pumpkin sale; it's an experience full of community spirit, fall vibes, and fun for all ages!

For more information on the Pumpkin Patch or other upcoming events, visit the Church's Web site at sturfed.org or contact the Church office at (774) 304-1021 or churchoffice@sturfed.org.

The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale welcomes everyone to celebrate Christ's presence and God's grace in their lives. Members of the community are welcome and invited to join in worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

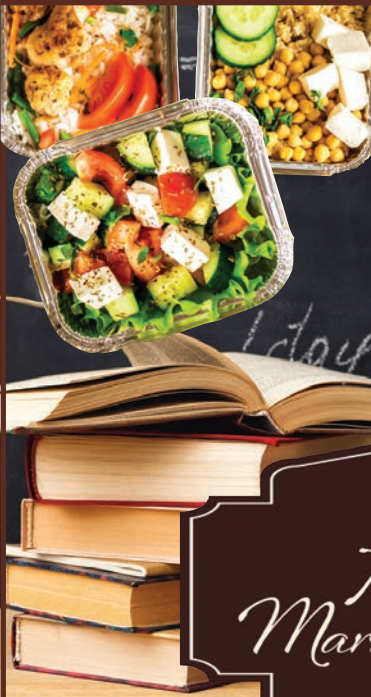


Courtesy


## TRINITY CATHOLIC ACADEMY HOSTS THEIR 29TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT!

TCA would like to thank those who participated and supported the 29th Annual Golf Tournament held on Sept. 14 at Heritage Country Club. The event raised more than \$15,000! We could not have done it without our amazing committee led by Ms. Paula Toti. Watch for details for next year's tournament as we celebrate our 30th Golf Tournament anniversary!





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# Masons hold joint Installation of new officers for 2025

BRO. VINCENZO JIMMY  
FALZONE  
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

**SOUTHBRIDGE** — On Saturday, Sept. 21, Quinebaug Masonic Lodge’s upper and lower parking lots were packed full of Master Masons. Also in attendance were family and friends of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge and Webster Masonic Lodge in Webster. They gathered to witness and celebrate the joint installation of new officers for both lodges for the 2025 Masonic new year. Wow! One hundred sixty-six years later, and Quinebaug Masonic Lodge is still around and thriving. One hundred sixty-seven years later, and Webster Lodge is also thriving, thanks to the strong bonds of Freemasonry and family-oriented men in both communities. What we do know is that Freemasonry has continue to



New 2025 Masonic Officers: from the center the brother with the black top hat is our 24th District Deputy Grand Master Brother Jonathan Neitz and to the left of him, front to back is all the Webster Masonic Lodge Officers. To the right of center bro. Neitz, front to back are all the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge members.

grow and makes good men even better.

The highlight of the Installation of New Officers was at the end when

bro. Ken Wilson Jr. from Webster Lodge stood up and read a scroll containing a Carolina Paul Revere charge to the masters, officers and

brethren of the lodges. This scroll was about how you should run their meetings and how we should treat our fellow man in the commu-

nity and within our society. I was getting goose bumps as he was reading this scroll. What a very memorable reading to the lodge members.

When done members applauded.

The Quinebaug Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was first chartered in 1859. Webster Masonic Lodge was chartered in 1858. Both lodges were granted a charter by Paul Revere who was the Grand Master of Massachusetts during that era.

Our members are immensely proud of the deep traditions these two Masonic Lodge’s continue to hold true. We are enormously proud of the next generation of officers who will hold the honorable positions and will continue these long-lasting traditions going into the future. If you would like more information about Freemasonry and to find a lodge nearest you, visit our Web site at [www.massfreemasonry.org](http://www.massfreemasonry.org).

# Sheriff’s Office earns re-accreditation from American Correctional Association

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

**REGION** — The Worcester County Sheriff’s Office (WCSO) has now completed all requirements for re-accreditation through the American Correctional Association.

Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis recently announced that his department received a compliance score of 98.7 percent for its re-accreditation process.

For more than 150 years, the American Correctional Association (ACA) has promoted correctional effectiveness on a national level. The organization serves all individuals and groups, both public and private, that share a common goal of improving the justice system.

In April, the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction hosted a panel of ACA auditors who evaluated the facility on over 420 standards. These include inmate safety, healthcare, mental health resources, education, programming, officer training, staff safety, and facility administration.

“In an exit interview with on-site ACA auditors and WCSO administrative staff, the auditors praised the work of the Sheriff’s Office,” read a statement released by the WCSO. “The auditors mentioned that they regularly evaluate correctional facilities across the nation, but have seen few institutions that operate at the level of the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office.”

For Evangelidis and his team, the results are a testament to strong training, a dedicated staff, and a daily commitment to safety and high-quality services.

“The auditors’ comments strongly affirmed the excellent quality of the work our staff does,” Evangelidis said. “It is incredibly valuable to receive such a high level of praise from



Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis (pictured center) recently announced a major accomplishment for his office.

the ACA auditors, especially considering their extensive careers in corrections and experience visiting correctional facilities. Their feedback is not only important to hear, but also serves as a great source of motivation for us to continue our work.”

Correctional institutions accredited by the ACA must be re-accredited every three years to maintain their accreditation status. The Worcester County Sheriff’s Office has maintained its status since its initial accreditation in 2008, but the review process was far more challenging for the WCSO during that early period prior to the current Sheriff’s arrival.

“When I took office in 2011, my administration inherited one of the

oldest facilities in the state,” added Evangelidis. “Initially, we faced significant challenges that jeopardized re-accreditation. Meeting ACA standards became a top priority for my administrative team. Striving to meet all standards has set our facility up for long-term success.”

Even though Massachusetts does not mandate an audit of its correctional facilities by the ACA, Evangelidis and his team welcome the regular reviews of their facility.

“It is important that we are held

to the highest standards of care, custody, and control of the inmate population,” Evangelidis said. “We also want to ensure a high level of professionalism and training across all staffing groups. The employees of the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office play a crucial role in the overall safety and well-being of the residents of Worcester County. Thank you to the hardworking WCSO staff who strive every day to improve our communities.”

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# Remembering “the two most powerful words: I am...”

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — When you run into Scott Maloney, it sure doesn't look like he's dead. But for a while 20 years ago, he was.

One night in September 2004, while a senior at Worcester's Becker College, Maloney did what college kids often do – went out drinking. When he came home that night, he found he'd locked his room keys inside, and thought he could climb in by way of the window.

He didn't make it. “Every parent's worst nightmare is receiving that phone call,” Maloney said of that night. “That call” was from the hospital telling his parents to come to the ER, where they were “told to say goodbye.”

He'd fallen four stories and landed on his head, leaving him officially brain dead at age 21.

But the doctors gave him long emergency surgery, and Maloney spent “weeks in a coma, months in a semi-coma,” and even longer recovering the ability to talk, walk and perform other basic functions. He described that period as “the biggest challenges I've ever encountered.”



Scott Maloney

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) are extremely widespread, but seriously undercounted. According to the National Institutes of Health Web site (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK580076/>), multiple studies have found a huge range of TBI frequency, often due to the lack of consistent recording systems in various countries and the fact many minor TBIs never get diagnosed. One study from 2019

“estimated a TBI incidence of 939 per 100,000 population [globally], which included 55.9 million mild and 5.48 million severe TBIs annually. These estimates are far higher than any other global estimates, yet are unlikely to include falsely identified cases of people with TBI, and therefore provide some idea of the extent of TBI undercounting.”

In the US, the Centers for Disease Control started tracking

TBIs in 1989, that page states. “The center's most recent report provides information on TBI mortality in 2017, including an estimated 61,131 TBI deaths,” the site states. “... Throughout this period, TBI death rates were significantly higher for males than for females and were higher for American Indian/Alaska Native people than for other reported racial/ethnic groups. The leading causes of TBI death included motor vehicle crashes, falls, suicide, and homicide.” That same year also saw just under 224,000 TBI hospitalizations.

Of the total, 48 percent came from falls, as Maloney's did. The NIH data show a general trend of growing frequency as people get older, with a huge jump for those age 75-plus. (The lowest risks were for ages 5-14.)

“I realized I could either get better or get bitter,” he recalled to a small audience at Gladys Kelly Library last week.

A big part of recovery for him was being “blessed with the ability to motivate myself” and having a “great support system” in his

family.

Today, Maloney brings his experience to audiences in various forms as an effort to remind people to remember “you don't got to, you get to” do the basic tasks of life, something he almost didn't get the chance to do. The core message was to remember “the two most powerful words” – “I am...”

“The words you follow that with will dictate your future,” he said, encouraging the audience to repeat after him positive thoughts about themselves. Many people experiencing loss (of personal skills, loved ones or many other things) tend to go down “a rabbit hole” of negative thinking, sometimes including suicidal thoughts. Maloney noted that's “a permanent solution to a temporary situation.”

“If you see me, hear me, or feel my energy, you're still in the game.”

Instead of going that way, “don't water the weeds, fertilize the flowers,” he said. “... The best way to fix problems” is to help others.

That can be as basic as approaching them

with a smile. “There are over 7,000 languages, and a smile speaks them all,” he said.

Recovery, though, also requires personal discipline, because “it's going to be harder before it gets easier,” he learned. “... If you truly want something that's realistically attainable and you don't have discipline, you will feel regret.”

He credited his brother for pushing him to recover – sometimes literally, as in pushing his wheelchair into the YMCA pool for therapy sessions.

In Maloney's case, those trials have included PTSD and daily seizures, multiple medications, and other “consequences you can't charm your way out of,” he said. One of them was a total change of career – he's now a TV reporter and speaker, but in high school and college, he wanted to be a cop.

“I've talked in many places, but I've never met the doctor who saved my life,” he noted.

Gus Steeves can be reached at [gus.steeves2@gmail.com](mailto:gus.steeves2@gmail.com).

## P.E.O. honors Bay Path Nursing Student with Stethoscope

CHARLTON — The P.E.O. organization, Chapter N was honored to present Loise Ngigi of South Grafton the gifts of an engraved Littman Classic III stethoscope, payment for Skills Laboratory fees, and gift cards. Ngigi is a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and is on her fifth week of the rigorous 10-month program. The gifts were coordinated by Kelly Matlack and Barbara Crocker.

In an email to Ngigi, Crocker stated that she has been with P.E.O. Chapter N “since 1968 and the main purpose of the P.E.O. Sisterhood is to encourage and provide education for all prospective women.”

Additionally, Crocker stated, “I had the pleasure of being an RN/MSN for 49 years and loved every minute of it.”

According to Crocker, the sisters in Chapter N P.E.O. have been so impressed with Ngigi's nursing education goal. She wishes Ngigi the best as she continues her studies “and journey to provide quality nursing care to any and all patients, subsequently move forward to eventually enrolling into a BSN program.”

Ngigi is a compassionate Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and certified home health aide (HHA) whose knowledge is based on the accumulation seven years of hands-on experience as a certified HHA and CNA. She obtained her nursing assistant certification through the 3 Dimensions College (Worcester) in 2017. She obtained her high school diploma from Moi Girls Kamangu High School in Kenya (2012). As a practical nursing student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, she has completed her Dementia Care certification. She is certified in BLS/HCP/CPR (Basic Life Support, Health



Care Provider Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), Medical Administration Program (MAP), and Mental Health First Aid. She has expressed interest in volunteering for Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) specifically for the Vaccine clinic and monitoring residents for

any side effects after receipt of vaccine. She was a CNA at River Terrace Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center (Lancaster) and is currently a direct support professional at Venture Community Services (Sturbridge).

Ngigi is in awe of P.E.O. and grateful to Chapter N for their gifts.

“It is really impressive,” she said. “Thank you for changing Women's lives for the better; it takes a big heart to commit that long to helping people. It is really admirable. You really inspire me to do better! Thank you.”

Further, Ngigi adds, “I honestly have no words enough to express my gratitude for this kind act. I know Littman Classic Stethoscope is the best and I know it is costly too. I will never be able to pay you back for your kindness but someday when I become a Nurse, I will definitely pay it forward.”

Ngigi's potential for future success, well-rounded interests and involvement, passion for leadership and serving others, and immense dedication to the interest of nursing makes her a perfect recipient for the Chapter N gifts. P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization where women celebrate the advancement of women, educate women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans, and stewardship, and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations. More information about P.E.O. may be obtained by visiting [www.peointernational.org](http://www.peointernational.org).

## CC Foundation elects alum as new president

WORCESTER — The Quinsigamond Community College Foundation has elected its new president, Jorgo Gushi, QCC alum and technical account manager at MathWorks, a global company specializing in technical computing software for engineers and scientists. Gushi's nomination was approved by unanimous vote on Sept. 17, replacing former president Matthew Wally, vice president of Audit, Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) and Fair Lending at UniBank, who led the Foundation for two years.

“I am eager to raise awareness about the vital role community colleges play, particularly QCC,” Gushi stated. “Returning to where my educational journey began is thrilling, and I am committed to supporting the college's mission of providing equitable education and preparing the local workforce. My achievements are deeply rooted in the foundation QCC provided me.”

Gushi's journey with QCC began in 2018 after he moved to the United States from Albania, enrolling immediately after high school.

“Arriving in the U.S. alone to live with my Greek and Albanian-speaking grandparents, I balanced improving my English, attending college, and caring for them while working part-time. I want to inspire others to understand that dedication and hard work can lead to significant accomplishments,” Gushi

shared.

Despite these challenges and the need to adapt to a new culture, Gushi fully embraced and participated in college life. In 2019, he was elected as president of the QCC Student Government Association and chair of the statewide Student Advisory Council (SAC) to the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, a role he held for three years. During his tenure, he worked to advance open educational resources and championed a successful campaign that changed a state law, which now allows part-time students to run for student trustee positions.

After his time at QCC, Gushi pursued further education at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), where he earned both a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

In 2022, Gushi received official citations from the Office of the Governor, the Massachusetts State Senate and the Massachusetts House of Representatives for his contribution to advancing public higher education. The same year, Gushi also received a GOLD award, given to 10 outstanding WPI graduates from the previous 10 years.

“Jorgo is going to be fantastic. Being an alum puts him in a very strong position to share the experience that students are going through,” Wally said.

Under Wally's leadership, the Foundation

offered various support to QCC students, faculty and staff through direct student scholarships, funding for special academic projects and investments in the Home-Plate Food Pantry & Resource Center, which will continue under Gushi's leadership

“It's been an honor to serve. The benefits that I received from being part of the Foundation are ten-fold what I've given. I run into QCC alumni weekly and see the quality of graduates who are contributing to the economic vitality of greater Worcester,” Wally said, adding, “The other Foundation directors and the QCC staff and faculty are so committed to the mission. Without them, QCC wouldn't be as strong as it is today.”

Other changes in the QCC Foundation include the nomination and election of Diane Giampa, chief community engagement officer at Bay State Savings Bank, who will serve as the new clerk. Giampa has been a board member since 2019, spearheading multiple efforts to recruit and engage new and current directors.

The mission of the QCC Foundation is to raise funds and provide the resources to support the college in advancing educational and economic opportunities in Central Massachusetts, make impactful community connections and create and expand on initiatives to ensure students have a successful academic experience.





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LEGALS

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REAR MAIN STREET WETLAND  
REPLICATION PROJECT

Town of Brimfield, Massachusetts  
Sealed bids for the Rear Main Street Wetland Replication Project, for the Town of Brimfield, Massachusetts, will be received at the Selectmen's Office for the Brimfield Board of Selectmen, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 until **2:00 PM on Monday, October 14, 2024** at which place and time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. The work includes but is not limited to, the replication of a wetland (approximately 5,186 square feet) for work associated with a New Well Siting as required by 311 CMR 10.00, the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA). The New Well Siting is a separate component of this project and is to be completed by another party. Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid security in the form of a certified, treasurer's check, bid bond or cash in the amount of five percent (5%) of the value of the bid.

**A pre-bid meeting** will be held at **10:00 AM on Monday, October 7, 2024** at the Office for the Brimfield Select Board, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010. All prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to attend. Drawings and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following:  
Town of Brimfield, Town Hall Annex, Selectmen's Office, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA

The Bid Documents may be obtained at Town of Brimfield Town Hall Annex, located at 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010, from 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday upon payment of \$50.00 for each hard copy set (includes full size plans), for the cost of copying. Checks shall be made payable to Town of Brimfield. Electronic versions of the Bid Documents including Drawings will be available at no charge from the Town of Brimfield Selectmen's Office by sending a request via email to [selectboard@brimfieldma.org](mailto:selectboard@brimfieldma.org) There will be no refunded payment for Bid Documents. The successful bidder shall furnish a Payment bond in an amount at least equal to fifty percent (50%) of the contract price as stipulated in Section 00700.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or reject any or all bids. A bid which includes, for any item, a unit cost that is abnormally low or high may be rejected as unbalanced.

The right is also reserved to accept any bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Brimfield.

The contract completion time for the project shall be 300 calendar days from the effective date of the Notice of Award.

No bidder may withdraw his/her Bid for a period of thirty days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays following the effective date of Notice to Proceed.

Complete instructions for filing Bids are included in the Instruction to Bidders. Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development (EOLWD) under the provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D, as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the Bidder, before bid opening, to request, if necessary, any additional information on Minimum Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed work under this contract.

The bidding and award of the contract shall be in full compliance with Sections 39M inclusive of Chapter 30 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as last revised.

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD,  
MASSACHUSETTS  
BY ITS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
McClure Engineering, Inc.  
Charlton, Massachusetts  
September 27, 2024  
October 4, 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. W024C0464CA  
CITATION ON PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME**

In the matter of:  
**Lemuel Lee Lopez**  
**A Petition to Change Name of Minor**  
has been filed by  
**Lemuel Lee Lopez of Charlton MA**  
requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
**Lemuel Lee Vessello**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10/15/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 16, 2024  
Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 26, 2024

(SEAL)  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL  
COURT  
Docket Number: 24 SM 003312  
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:  
Marc A. Rivera; John J. Schnorf;  
Amanda Schnorf Rivera a/k/a Amanda  
Brittany Schnorf  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):  
Planet Home Lending, LLC  
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Southbridge, numbered 50 Clarke Street a/k/a 50 Clark Street, given by Marc A. Rivera, John J. Schnorf, Amanda Schnorf Rivera to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Paramount Residential Mortgage Group, Inc., dated March 2, 2023, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68881, Page 298, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before October 28, 2024, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.  
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on September 16, 2024.  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
25377  
September 26, 2024

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

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Raymond K. Perry, Lisa S. Phaneuf-Perry to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans, LLC, dated May 3, 2021 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66563, Page 353, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:  
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans, LLC, its successors and assigns to Rocket Mortgage, LLC, FKA Quicken Loans, LLC, recorded on June 12, 2023, in

Book No. 69240, at Page 103 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on October 18, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 294 Brookfield Road, Fiskdale (Sturbridge), Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,  
TO WIT:

Land situated in the City of Sturbridge in the County of Worcester in the State of MA

THE LAND IN STURBRIDGE, WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS, WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON SITUATED ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF BROOKFIELD ROAD (ROUTE 148) AND BEING LOT 4 AS SHOWN ON PLAN ENTITLED "PLAN OF LAND OF LOTS 2-3-4 IN STURBRIDGE, MASS. OWNED BY SWIACKI REALTY TRUST DATED AUGUST 20, 1985, ROBERT F. PARA, LAND SURVEYOR" SAID PLAN RECORDED WITH WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS IN PLAN BOOK 541, PLAN 77, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
WESTERLY BY SAID BROOKFIELD ROAD, (ROUTE 148), 150 FEET; NORTHERLY BY LAND FORMERLY OF SWIACKI REALTY TRUST, 290.40 FEET;  
EASTERLY BY OTHER LAND OF SWIACKI REALTY TRUST, 150 FEET; SOUTHERLY BY LOT 3 ON SAID PLAN, 290.40 FEET.  
CONTAINING 1.00 ACRE.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 44353, Page 360.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:  
A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.  
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC  
Present holder of said mortgage  
By its Attorneys,  
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.  
150 California St.  
Newton, MA 02458  
(617)558-0500  
26108  
September 26, 2024  
October 3, 2024  
October 10, 2024

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

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Eric Vaughan to Mortgage Electronic Registration

Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guaranteed Rate, Inc., dated January 31, 2018 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58396, Page 54, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Guaranteed Rate, Inc., its successors and assigns to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, recorded on August 22, 2019, in Book No. 60917, at Page 335

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on October 21, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 27 Henry Street, Southbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,  
TO WIT:

The land in Southbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon, situated northerly from Worcester Street and on the westerly side of Henry Street, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the southeast corner at an iron pin in the ground on the westerly line of said Henry Street and at corner of land now or formerly of Philibert Quevillon;

THENCE northerly by said line of said street fifty-nine (59) feet, more or less, to an iron pin in the ground at land now or formerly of Henry A. Morse;

THENCE westerly by land now or formerly of Henry A. Morse, seventy-one (71) feet to wall and land now or formerly of said Morse;

THENCE southerly sixty-six (66) feet by land now or formerly of said Henry A. Morse to an iron pin in the ground at land now or formerly of said Philibert Quevillon;

THENCE easterly by land now or formerly of said Philibert Quevillon, seventy-two (72) feet to the point of beginning.

Said premises are Lot #13 as numbered and shown on a plan of lots made for Henry A. Morse by Arthur C. Moore, C.E., dated August 17, 1889.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58396, Page 51.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:  
A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.  
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER  
Present holder of said mortgage  
By its Attorneys,  
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.  
150 California St.  
Newton, MA 02458  
(617)558-0500  
24977  
September 19, 2024  
September 26, 2024  
October 3, 2024

Turn To **LEGALS** page **A12**

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LEGALS

LEGALS continued from page A11

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. WO24P3038EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Clifford Bruce Curboy  
Also known as: Clifford B. Curboy  
Date of Death: 07/03/2024  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate  
of Will with Appointment of Personal  
Representative has been filed by  
Donna M. Curboy of Sturbridge MA  
requesting that the Court enter a formal  
Decree and Order and for such other  
relief as requested in the Petition.  
The Petitioner requests that:  
Donna M. Curboy of Sturbridge MA  
be appointed as Personal Representa-  
tive(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 10/08/2024  
This is NOT a hearing date, but a dead-  
line by which you must file a written ap-  
pearance and objection if you object to  
this proceeding. If you fail to file a time-  
ly written appearance and objection  
followed by an affidavit of objections  
within thirty (30) days of the return day,  
action may be taken without further no-  
tice 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 ad-  
ministration directly from the Personal  
Representative and may petition the  
Court in any matter relating to the es-  
tate, including the distribution of assets  
and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,  
First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 13, 2024  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 26, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE  
MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL  
ESTATE  
By virtue of and in execution of the  
Power of Sale contained in a certain  
mortgage given by Jose J. Peralta to  
Mortgage Electronic Registration Sys-  
tems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee  
for Land Home Financial Services, Inc.,  
its successors and assigns, dated April  
10, 2020 and recorded in Worcester  
County (Worcester District) Registry  
of Deeds in Book 62189, Page 219  
(the "Mortgage") of which mortgage  
Land Home Financial Services, Inc.  
is the present holder by Assignment  
from Mortgage Electronic Registra-  
tion Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as  
nominee for Land Home Financial Ser-  
vices, Inc., its successors and assigns  
to Land Home Financial Services, Inc.  
dated August 26, 2022 and recorded at  
said Registry of Deeds in Book 68166,  
Page 130, for breach of conditions of  
said mortgage and for the purpose of  
foreclosing the same, the mortgaged  
premises located at 277 South Street,  
Southbridge, MA 01550 will be sold at  
a Public Auction at 1:00 PM on October  
3, 2024, at the mortgaged premises,  
more particularly described below, all  
and singular the premises described in  
said mortgage, to wit:  
The land, with the buildings thereon,  
situated in Southbridge, Worcester  
County, Massachusetts, located at the  
southeasterly corner of South Street  
and Newell Avenue, shown as Lot A on  
a Plan entitled "Plan of Land in South-  
bridge, Massachusetts, owned by  
Paul Triba, April 20, 1987, Para Land  
Surveying, Incorporated, Southbridge,  
Massachusetts, Scale 1" = 20' "; said  
Plan being recorded with Worcester  
District Registry of Deeds, at Plan Book  
575, Plan 70; and said Lot being more  
particularly bounded and described as  
follows:  
BEGINNING at the Northwest corner of  
land herein described, at the intersec-  
tion of South Street and Newell Avenue  
and running  
THENCE S. 73 deg 52 min. 00 sec. E  
along the Southerly side of South Street  
a distance of 114.95 feet;  
THENCE S. 01 deg. 57 min. 57 sec. W.  
along land now or formerly of Francis  
E. and Gertrude E. Holden, a distance  
of 89.55 feet;  
THENCE S. 86 deg. 15 min. 33 sec. W.

along Lot B on said Plan, a distance of  
88.32 feet;  
THENCE N. 69 deg. 40 min. 06 sec. W.  
along said Lot B, a distance of 32.85  
feet to a point on the Easterly side of  
said Newell Avenue;  
THENCE N. 05 deg. 42 min. 44 sec. E.  
along said Newell Avenue, a distance  
of 116.36 feet to the point of beginning.  
CONTAINING an area of 12,500 square  
feet.  
BEING THE SAME PREMISES CON-  
VEYED TO THE MORTGAGOR BY  
DEED OF MARIA ISABEL BERNARD  
RECORDED WITH THE WORCES-  
TER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS  
HEREWITH.  
For mortgagor's title see deed  
recorded with the Worcester County  
(Worcester District) Registry of Deeds  
in Book 62189, Page 216.  
The premises will be sold subject  
to any and all unpaid taxes and other  
municipal assessments and liens, and  
subject to prior liens or other enforce-  
able encumbrances of record entitled  
to precedence over this mortgage, and  
subject to and with the benefit of all  
easements, restrictions, reservations  
and conditions of record and subject to  
all tenancies and/or rights of parties in  
possession.  
Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or  
certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00  
as a deposit must be shown at the time  
and place of the sale in order to qual-  
ify as a bidder (the mortgage holder  
and its designee(s) are exempt from  
this requirement); high bidder to sign  
written Memorandum of Sale upon ac-  
ceptance of bid; balance of purchase  
price payable by certified check in thirty  
(30) days from the date of the sale  
at the offices of mortgagee's attorney,  
Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelms-  
ford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or  
such other time as may be designated  
by mortgagee. The description for the  
premises contained in said mortgage  
shall control in the event of a typo-  
graphical error in this publication.  
Other terms to be announced at the  
sale.  
Land Home Financial Services, Inc.  
Korde & Associates, P.C.  
900 Chelmsford Street  
Suite 3102  
Lowell, MA 01851  
(978) 256-1500  
Peralta, Jose J., 22-040632  
September 12, 2024  
September 19, 2024  
September 26, 2024  
Town of Brimfield  
Planning Board  
Public Hearing Notice  
In accordance with the provisions  
of M.G.L Ch. 40A, 11, the Planning  
Board will hold a Public Hearing on  
Wednesday, October 02, 2024, at 7:00  
PM at Hitchcock Academy located at 2  
Brookfield Road, Brimfield, MA 01010  
in accordance with applicable law; to  
build a 90 foot by 50 foot storage  
building on the property located at 160  
Palmer Road, Brimfield, MA. .  
Project Location: 160 Palmer Road,  
Brimfield, MA (Assessor's Map 11-A-9)  
Meeting Location: Public Participation  
will be In-Person at Hitchcock  
Academy, located at 2 Brookfield Road  
in Brimfield, MA 01010 on October 02,  
2024, at 7:00 PM.  
Any person(s) interested or wishing to  
be heard on this request should appear  
at the time and place designated. A  
copy of the permit application and plan  
may be inspected at the Brimfield Town  
Annex in the Planning Board Office,  
Salisbury Annex Building, 2nd Floor,  
23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010  
or contact the office at 413-245-4100  
ext. 1101.  
David Killian  
09/12/2024  
CC: Highway Department  
September 19, 2024  
September 26, 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. W024C0463CA  
CITATION ON PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME  
In the matter of:  
Atalia Elizabeth Lopez  
A Petition to Change Name of Minor  
has been filed by  
Atalia Elizabeth Lopez of Charlton  
MA requesting that the court enter a  
Decree changing their name to:  
Atalia Elizabeth Vessello  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
Any person may appear for purposes  
of objecting to the petition by filing an  
appearance at: Worcester Probate and  
Family Court before 10/15/2024. This  
is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline  
by which you must file a written appear-  
ance if you object to this proceeding.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First  
Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 16, 2024

Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 26, 2024  
(SEAL)  
COMMONWEALTH  
OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL  
COURT  
Docket Number: 24 SM 003286  
ORDER OF NOTICE  
TO:  
David Caraballo Jr; Alexandra Devers  
a/k/a Alexandra Caraballo  
And to all persons entitled to the ben-  
efit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief  
Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):  
PennyMac Loan Services, LLC  
claiming to have an interest in a  
Mortgage covering real property in  
Southbridge, numbered 11 Glover  
Street, given by David Caraballo Jr.  
and Alexandra Devers to Mortgage  
Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.,  
as Mortgagee, as nominee for Total  
Mortgage Services, LLC, dated March  
28, 2022, and recorded at Worcester  
County (Worcester District) Registry of  
Deeds in Book 67337, Page 286, and  
now held by the plaintiff by assignment,  
has/have filed with this court a com-  
plaint for determination of Defendant's/  
Defendants' Servicemembers status.  
If you now are, or recently have been,  
in the active military service of the  
United States of America, then you  
may be entitled to the benefits of the  
Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you  
object to a foreclosure of the above-  
mentioned property on that basis, then  
you or your attorney must file a written  
appearance and answer in this court at  
Three Pemberton Square, Boston,  
MA 02108 on or before October 28,  
2024 or you may lose the opportunity  
to challenge the foreclosure on the  
grounds of noncompliance with the  
Act.  
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief  
Justice of said Court on September  
13, 2024.  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
September 26, 2024  
Town of Southbridge  
Department of Public Works  
Advertisement  
2024-2025 Winter Equipment Hire  
for Snow Plowing & Snow Removal  
Applications for various equipment hire  
for snow plowing and snow removal  
for the 2024-2025 winter season will  
be received by the Office of the Town  
Manager, Town Hall, 41 Elm Street,  
Southbridge, MA until 11:00AM on  
Wednesday October 9, 2024 at which  
time the applications will be publicly  
opened.  
The contract specifications and ap-  
plication sheet may be obtained on  
the Town Website, contact Hannah  
Prescott at hprescott@southbridge-  
mass.org for assistance.  
Applications envelopes shall be clearly  
marked, "2024-2025 WINTER EQUIP-  
MENT HIRE".  
Applicants may submit availability one  
or more pieces of equipment listed on  
the application sheet. Applicants must  
submit a certificate of insurance, work-  
ers' compensation and copy of the ve-  
hicle registration with their application.  
The Town reserves the right to reject  
any or all applicants and hire in the  
best interest of the Town.  
Jack Jovan  
Town Manager  
September 26, 2024  
October 3, 2024  
CHARLTON CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
In accordance with the Wetland Pro-  
tection Act of the General Laws of the  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton  
Conservation Commission will hold a  
public hearing on October 9, 2024, at  
7PM on the application of Wayne Fitch-  
ett.  
The applicant has submitted a Request  
for Determination of Applicability for the  
minimal repair of a retaining wall. The  
project location is: 211 Sunset Drive,  
Charlton, MA, 01507.  
Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of  
2021, this meeting of the Charlton Con-  
servation Commission will be conduct-  
ed in person and via remote means.  
Members of the public who wish to  
participate can access the meeting re-  
motely by request.  
Copies of the RDA may be examined  
at the Conservation Office by appoint-  
ment during business hours.  
Thomas O'Malley  
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commis-  
sion  
September 26, 2024  
Town of Brimfield  
Conservation Commission  
Public Hearing Notice  
In accordance with the Massachusetts  
Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131,  
Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation

Commission will hold a public meeting  
on Wednesday October 09, 2024, at  
6:00 PM to review a Notice of Intent sub-  
mitted by Tetra Tech c/o Massachusetts  
Department of Transportation-Highway  
Division-District 2. The Notice of Intent  
requests Roadway Drainage Repairs.  
Project Location: Route 20 (Palmer  
Road) Roadway Right-of-Way  
Meeting Location: Public Participation  
will be In-Person at Hitchcock Academy  
at 2 Brookfield Road, Brimfield, MA  
01010 on October 09, 2024 at 6:00  
PM.  
Any person(s) interested or wishing  
to be heard on this request should  
appear at the time and place des-  
ignated. A copy of the permit appli-  
cation and plan may be inspected  
at the Brimfield Town Annex in the  
Conservation Commission Office,  
Salisbury Annex Building, 2nd Floor,  
23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010  
or contact the office at 413-245-4100  
ext. 1101.  
Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia  
Co-Chairs  
09/09/2024  
CC: Planning Board  
Highway Department  
September 19, 2024  
September 26, 2024  
(SEAL)  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHU-  
SETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL  
COURT  
Docket 24 SM 003269  
ORDER OF NOTICE  
To:  
TIFFANY DAVIS; TOBY M. POWER  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit  
of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act,  
50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):  
U.S. Bank National Association, as  
Trustee for C-BASS Mortgage Loan  
Trust 2004-CB4, C-BASS Mortgage  
Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Se-  
ries 2004-CB4,  
claiming to have an interest in a Mor-  
tage covering real property in South-  
bridge, numbered 131 Elm Street,  
given by Diane D. Power to Sovereign  
Bank, dated March 11, 2004, and re-  
corded in Worcester County (Worces-  
ter District) Registry of Deeds in Book  
33081, Page 194, and now held by  
plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed  
with this court a complaint for determi-  
nation of Defendant's/Defendants' Ser-  
vicemembers status.  
If you now are, or recently have been,  
in the active military service of the United  
States of America, then you may be  
entitled to the benefits of the Service-  
members Civil Relief Act. If you object  
to a foreclosure of the above-men-  
tioned property on that basis, then you  
or your attorney must file a written ap-  
pearance and answer in this court at  
Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA  
02108 on or before October 28, 2024,  
or you may lose the opportunity to chal-  
lenge the foreclosure on the ground of  
noncompliance with the Act.  
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief  
Justice of this Court on September 12,  
2024.  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
24-006571  
September 26, 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. W024C0465CA  
CITATION ON PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME  
In the matter of:  
Gianni Lee Lopez  
A Petition to Change Name of Minor  
has been filed by  
Gianni Lee Lopez of Charlton MA re-  
questing that the court enter a Decree  
changing their name to:  
Gianni Lee Vessello  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
Any person may appear for purposes  
of objecting to the petition by filing an  
appearance at: Worcester Probate and  
Family Court before 10/15/2024. This  
is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline  
by which you must file a written appear-  
ance if you object to this proceeding.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First  
Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 16, 2024  
Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 26, 2024



LEGALS

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE  
OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
NOTICE OF TAX POSSESSION AUCTION**

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 12:00 PM** at the Southbridge Town Hall, 41 Elm Street, Southbridge, Massachusetts, **I SHALL OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION**, said parcels having been taken by the Town of Southbridge for non-payment of the taxes due thereon *and/or* pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 60 §77B and Chapter 60 §77C, certain parcels of land acquired by the Town of Southbridge by foreclosure of the tax title or received by deed in lieu of foreclosure thereon:

**1. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 102 MILL STREET**  
(Formerly Known As 102-122 Mill Street. See a) to k) below for additional information.)  
Location: 102 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.680 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 1

**a) PROPERTY ADDRESS: FORMERLY KNOWN AS (F/K/A) 102 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 102 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 36159, Page 125  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 42051, Page 142. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 11 TL 142531) is recorded at said Registry in Book 57832, Page 21.

**b) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 104 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 104 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 2  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 34554, Page 1  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 40091, Page 46. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 11 TL 142530) is recorded at said Registry in Book 53984, Page 327.

**c) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 106 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 106 MILL STREET  
A/K/A Unit 106 of Long River Condominium located at 102-122 Mill Street  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 3  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47436, Page 86  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 52227, Page 118. Scrivener's Affidavit at said Registry in Book 54186, Page 333. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 14 TL 149694) is recorded at said Registry in Book 55652, Page 318.

**d) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 108 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 108 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 4  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 36122, Page 151  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 42051, Page 144. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 11 TL 142524) is recorded at said Registry in Book 58791, Page 376.

**e) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 110 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 110 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 5  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 36159, Page 130  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 44049, Page 11. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 11 TL 142523) is recorded at said Registry in Book 54306, Page 155.

**f) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 112 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 112 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 6  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 48200, Page 349  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in

Book 52227, Page 107. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 14 TL 149692) is recorded at said Registry in Book 54722, Page 245.

**g) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 114 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 114 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 031, BLK: 145, LOT: 00007  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 49125, Page 370  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 57117, Page 312. Scrivener's Affidavit at said Registry in Book 61377, Page 23. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 18 TL 001024) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61754, Page 176.

**h) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 116 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 116 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 8  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 43848, Page 211  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 48947, Page 78. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 14 TL 149030) is recorded at said Registry in Book 55165, Page 126.

**i) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 118 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 118 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 9  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47869, Page 332  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 52227, Page 119. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 14 TL 149693) is recorded at said Registry in Book 55780, Page 102.

**j) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 120 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 120 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 10  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 43493, Page 84  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 48947, Page 79. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 14 TL 149032) is recorded at said Registry in Book 57839, Page 257.

**k) PROPERTY ADDRESS: F/K/A 122 MILL STREET**  
Location: **F/K/A** 122 MILL STREET  
Containing: 0.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 31, BLK: 145, LOT: 11  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 43060, Page 184  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47858, Page 192. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 14 TL 149031) is recorded at said Registry in Book 55165, Page 127.

**2. PROPERTY ADDRESS: ASHLAND AVENUE**  
Location: ASHLAND AVENUE  
Containing: 9.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 85, BLK: 1, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 4623, Page 551  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47856, Page 238. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 16 TL 000204) is recorded at said Registry in Book 59494, Page 400.

**3. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 554 SOUTH STREET**  
Location: 554 SOUTH STREET  
Containing: 1.13 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 51, BLK: 50, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 29717, Page 271  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47858, Page 212. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 16 TL 000168) is recorded at said Registry in Book 59184, Page 263.

**4. PROPERTY ADDRESS: GRACE LANE\***  
Location: GRACE LANE  
Containing: .54 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 071, BLK: 063, LOT: H, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53121, Page 198  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in

Book 53762, Page 39. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 19 TL 000642) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61842, Page 100.

**\*Grace Lane parcels identified by Parcel Ids: 071-063-H-00001, 071-063-I-00001 & 071-J-00001, will be offered at the auction as a bundle.**

**PROPERTY ADDRESS: GRACE LANE\***  
Location: GRACE LANE  
Containing: .37 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 071, BLK: 063, LOT: I, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53121 Page 198  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53762, Page 40. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 19 TL 000642) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61842, Page 100.

**\*Grace Lane parcels identified by Parcel Ids: 071-063-H-00001, 071-063-I-00001 & 071-J-00001, will be offered at the auction as a bundle.**

**PROPERTY ADDRESS: GRACE LANE\***  
Location: GRACE LANE  
Containing: .39 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 071, BLK: 063, LOT: J, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53121, Page 198  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53762, Page 41. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 19 TL 000642) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61842, Page 100.

**\*Grace Lane parcels identified by Parcel Ids: 071-063-H-00001, 071-063-I-00001 & 071-J-00001, will be offered at the auction as a bundle.**

**5. PROPERTY ADDRESS: NORTH WOODSTOCK ROAD**  
Location: NORTH WOODSTOCK ROAD  
Containing: 1.35 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 057, BLK: 007, LOT: B, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 40366, Page 83  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53761, Page 3. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 19 TL 000637) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61732, Page 283.

**6. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 531 TIPTON ROCK ROAD**  
Location: 531 TIPTON ROCK ROAD  
Containing: 1.00 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 117, BLK: 3, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 44703, Page 167  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47858, Page 242. Scrivener's Affidavit at said Registry in Book 60235, Page 114. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 16 TL 000171) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61732, Page 284.

**7. PROPERTY ADDRESS: HILLTOP DRIVE**  
Location: HILLTOP DRIVE  
Containing: .52 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 108, BLK: 97, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 43923, Page 44  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 48947, Page 72. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 17 TL 000833) is recorded at said Registry in Book 69451, Page 215.

**8. PROPERTY ADDRESS: HIGH STREET (F/K/A 65 HIGH STREET)**  
Location: HIGH STREET  
Containing: .41 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 49, BLK: 50, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 35518, Page 248  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 47858, Page 188. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 17 TL 000840) is recorded at said Registry in Book 61328, Page 255.

**9. PROPERTY ADDRESS: HAMILTON STREET (F/K/A 80 HAMILTON STREET)**  
Location: HAMILTON STREET  
Containing: .26 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 35, BLK: 158, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 58831, Page 373  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in

in Book 47858, Page 201. The Withdrawal in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 16 TL 000200) is recorded at said Registry in Book 58790, Page 375.

**10. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 36 THOMAS STREET**  
Location: 36 THOMAS STREET  
Containing: .04 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 30, BLK: 131, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 6541, Page 243  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 52227, Page 128. Scrivener's Affidavit at said Registry in Book 60331, Page 45. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 17 TL 000844) is recorded at said Registry in Book 66562, Page 204.

**11. PROPERTY ADDRESS: HILLTOP DRIVE\***  
Location: HILLTOP DRIVE  
Containing: .52 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 108, BLK: 099, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 46851, Page 196  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 53761, Page 250. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 18 TL 001023) is recorded at said Registry in Book 60689, Page 218.

**\*Hilltop Drive parcels identified by Parcel Ids: 108-99-00001 & 108-098-00001, will be offered at the auction as a bundle.**

**PROPERTY ADDRESS: HILLTOP DRIVE\***  
Location: HILLTOP DRIVE  
Containing: .52 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 108, BLK: 98, LOT: 1  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 43923, Page 46  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 48947, Page 73. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 17 TL 000834) is recorded at said Registry in Book 69451, Page 107.

**\*Hilltop Drive parcels identified by Parcel Ids: 108-99-00001 & 108-098-00001, will be offered at the auction as a bundle.**

**12. PROPERTY ADDRESS: MAIN STREET (F/K/A 784 MAIN STREET)**  
Location: MAIN STREET  
Containing: .07 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 034, BLK: 111, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 52014, Page 255  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 57117, Page 315. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 19 TL 000641) is recorded at said Registry in Book 69445, Page 357.

**13. PROPERTY ADDRESS: CROSS STREET (F/K/A 80 CROSS STREET)**  
Location: CROSS STREET  
Containing: .18 acres more or less  
Assessor's Reference: MAP: 034, BLK: 047, LOT: 00001  
Registry Reference: Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 18219, Page 310  
The Tax Taking is recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 20196, Page 39. The Judgment in Tax Lien Case (Docket No. 99 TL 120717) is recorded at said Registry in Book 25685, Page 32.

**Terms and Conditions apply to the sale of these parcels.**  
/s/ Michelle Hill  
Michelle Hill, Treasurer/Custodian  
Town of Southbridge  
September 26, 2024

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FOOD

continued from page 1

thankful for. The garden is on land that is owned by the Federated Church and because we are all volunteers and donate everything we grow to feed the food-challenged, the Church lets us use the land for the garden at no cost, which is very generous. The garden is located behind the Sturbridge Town Hall lower parking lot and is con-

nected to the Town Hall water supply which is provided to us at no cost. We have many sponsors and donors who admire what we do to help the food insecure and these sponsors and donors give to us very generously and some do it every year. While many contractors do work for us without charging us, we still have expenses for materials to run a garden this size. We would be remiss not to mention

our great volunteers. We have many who come when they can and those who come on a regular basis. And we appreciate each one of them. They are dedicated, hard-working and offer great suggestions to us. We listened to our volunteers last year when they suggested volunteering during the morning hours, so we tried it. Our hours this year are 10-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday and

9-10:30 a.m. every Sunday. The morning hours turned out well because so many families have challenges with work commutes, sports practice, games, etc. in the evenings making a commitment to work in the garden more difficult for them.

While the garden is still producing this summer, we don't have statistics yet for this year but in the 2023 season, produce grown and

donated to the St. John Paul II Food Pantry in Southbridge served 737 Households with almost half that number being Seniors. We were also able to make 5 deliveries of fresh produce to Food Share in Southbridge. This year in 2024, we were also able to provide some fresh produce to St. John's and the Bridge Fridge. Total volunteer hours for last year (2023) in the garden were 740.

We welcome all com-

ments and/suggestions sent to cfcgarden357@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CFC-Gardens. We also welcome all volunteers. You can make new friends and have a lot of fun volunteering with us. No need to contact us first; just show up during one of our work sessions. We'd love to have you.

SELECTMEN

continued from page 1

label they chose whether that's Selectman, Selectwoman, or Selectperson.

"We were referred to as members of the Select Board. That is written in the article. We did not do our due diligence or have time to review this article in the manner in which it was rushed in. That's why I'm asking for a review now, to have a name that identifies or represents gender neutrality but also preserves some of the heritage of the Board of Selectmen," Lancette said.

The conversation sparked some debate, specifically from Selectman Barbara Zurawski who questioned if the intent was to ignore the will of the voting public. Selectman David Singer helped settle some of the back-and-forth acknowledging that Lancette's motion wasn't meant to challenge the will of the voters, but rather provide some clarity as to how members could be labeled. Singer proposed bringing the matter back to voters at another town meeting where the public could vote to clarify the language of the article and the expectations of the change.

Zurawski agreed with the compromise.

"I'm fine with the amendment to it if people vote, but I'm not okay with going against the peoples' vote which was a majority to change the Select Board name," she said.

Lancette clarified and reiterated his intent was to honor the wishes of the voters while ensuring that the wording is clarified and that the true intent of the article was preserved.

"Our attempt is to be a more gender-neutral board, but we would like to incorporate some of our historic

nameage [sic] in there and clarify what people are going to be called versus members of a board," he said.

Complicating the matter further was Town Administrator Andrew Golas' request to approach town counsel to determine what power the Board of Selectmen had to make changes to the proposal or if the matter absolutely had to go back to a town meeting for clarification. Golas said he felt having a different perspective could benefit the board going forward as they try to clarify the language appropriately.

HISTORY

continued from page 1

lows and urns. Barnsky described that era as "more neo-Classical and not so rigid in Puritanical belief."

The local church started with Rev Caleb Rice, to whom the selectmen gave a cushion, 500 acres and 45 cords of wood per year. His church divided due to "a lot of infighting," spinning off a group called the New Light Church. The main church "still taxed them and took their stuff" for a while until the dispute was moderated by Moses Marcy, Barnsky said.

Marcy, a colonel in the colonial militia, was also one of the original proprietors from Medfield. He lived where Southbridge's Notre Dame Church now stands, became Sturbridge's first moderator, a selectman, and founded grist and lumber mills.

"He was always ready for more opportunity ... and worked his butt off serving the town," Barnsky said.

Generally, he said, the

names and inscriptions are readable facing east, by design. Based in part on the Geneva Bible, Puritans believed Jesus's second coming would be from that direction, so buried their dead so they could sit up and see him, Barnsky said.

The cemetery was originally part of the 2,000-acre Saltonstall Farm. The original settlers here negotiated with that family for land to erect their meeting-house and cemetery, dedicating them in 1734.

Barnsky noted most deaths were from disease, often before age five, and many families lost several kids that way. A few stones show their loss. One, for example, is for Abijah Smith, who died on his 17th birthday of measles; it reads, in part, "[God] in his wisdom thought to take away our only son."

Another was the twin deaths of William and Willis Johnson in 1813 of dysentery. Their stone bears a double tympanum, and he noted "So much emotion comes out of a stone like this."

In Sturbridge's early days, one of the founding clans, the Fiskes, lived on the hill now bearing their name. But they weren't here first; that honor goes to James Deneson, who lived on the hill bearing his name in what's now Southbridge.

"He couldn't afford a tent, so he found a cave," Barnsky said. "It was his until the wolf who owned the place came back to evict him."

Deneson's wife, Experience, came with him six months pregnant, and their child, also named Experience, was the first person born in Sturbridge. She ended up becoming a Wheelock and having six children; her last child died a few weeks old and now rests beside her in the Burying Ground. Her husband's stone bears an epitaph quite typical of that era – facing east it reads, in part, "Paradise is coming from right over there."

Legendarily, the Fiskes were cutting timber on their land one day. When they stopped, they heard cutting continu-

ing and followed the sound to meet Deneson after "dropp[ing] some trees across the river" to get there, he said.

The cemetery's permanent denizens number several hundred. A few dozen were Revolutionary War veterans, including Gen Timothy Newell, Thomas Cheney, Capt Joseph Cheney, and Silas Marsh. Some, like Tom Cheney, didn't even live in Sturbridge (he was on the Dudley/Charlton line and trained Dudley militia-men).

"Why are they here? It makes me crazy," Barnsky admitted.

Many of the same families are scattered throughout the place, and many more were related to each other bearing different names. Barnsky said he found that knowing a woman's maiden name is often key to seeing the connections, since people went into business and other things with in-laws.

A good example is the Willard clan, which was related to the Fiskes – William Willard

(namesake of the road) was Henry Fiske's great grandson. William's father "wanted him to be a jeweler," but William rejected that and became an artist, cofounding the Mass Academy of Fine Arts. He was one of the pioneers in using photography for portraits; instead of having his clients sit for hours, he painted from their photos. One of those people was President Lincoln, and his portrait is now the penny.

Willard bought Newell's house in 1867 and hosted many travelers there. But today, all he has is a small stone, prompting Barnsky to remark, "How do we go from this very important person in the art world to that?"

Sometimes, Barnsky noted, the records are confusing because of variable spelling and the use of the same names across multiple generations.

The Fiskes were a notable example: Founder brothers Daniel and Henry Fiske both had sons with those names.

Henry's both died soon after birth, but he later reused the names for boys who survived. One of the latter (Henry) became deacon and a Revolutionary War veteran, and was "instrumental in the move from the original church to the New Light Church." He died in 1815, and his wife Sarah followed him the next day; they're buried with a stone bearing two urns.

His life overlapped a different deacon, John Phillips, whom Barnsky dubbed "a tough old buzzard." When he died in 1865, he was 104. The previous year, he got his 79-year-old son to hook up the horses to an open carriage so he could go vote because Lincoln was on the ballot. Later, Harper's Magazine noted that Lincoln "wrote to express his gratitude for the compliment paid by a citizen so venerable."

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

POSITIVE

continued from page 6

of belief—so strong that it drives every action—is

undeniably a common thread among those who achieve remarkable outcomes. So, is it luck, or is it the power of belief?

The line between the two may be thinner than we think.

The real question is: Are you willing to be-

lieve before you see? As countless teachers and thinkers have encouraged, can you assume your wish is already ful-

filled? Perhaps it's time to believe not only in the world around you but in your ability to shape it. What if the life you

dream of is waiting on the other side of the limits you've created in your mind?



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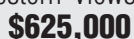
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# 100 percent of Bay Path nursing students pass dementia care training

CHARLTON — One hundred percent of Bay Path Practical Nursing students, Class of 2025 passed their Dementia Care Training exams, according to training facilitator Professor Cheryl Cahill, MSN Ed, RN.

“Nurses are in high demand in Worcester County and across the state, and Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is making it possible for practical nursing students to get educated, trained, certified and get to work as real-world-ready LPNs,” stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy has been producing real-world-ready LPNs since 2010. This year Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy has been ranked as #15 for Practical Nurs-



ing schools in Massachusetts by the Nursing Schools Almanac <https://www.nursingschoolsalmanac.com/rankings/lpn/massachusetts>

With data analyzed from calendar years 2011 through 2020. The ranking considered the NCLEX-PN pass rate among first-time test-takers at 90.2 percent and the average number of practical nursing students graduating annually at 23. For Vocational Technical schools, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy ranks #9.

Commonly referred to as LPNs (or LVNs in certain states), Bay Path LPNs work and care for patients in hospitals, in home care, adult family homes, assisted living, memory care units and skilled care facilities. Bay Path LPNs are also employed at schools such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, clinics, and own their business or practice such as adult home care or lactation consulting practices.

Bay Path Practical Nursing program can be completed in ten months.

New cohorts begin every August with deadline for application by May 1. The program includes three terms with courses that equal 45 credits. Students earn credentials in mental health first aid, dementia care, stop the bleed, and domestic violence.

“Being a nursing assistant is not a requirement but is a great stepping-stone to a nursing career,” according Bolandrina.

“Many of our successful graduates were certified as nursing assistants and many of our other graduates did not have a clinical background. It is common for our graduates to start the RN program quickly because they love learning, they love work and they want to do more in health care,” added Bolandrina. “It is amazing to see our LPNs shine, succeed, and enthusiastically discover the fulfilment of their dream. When they are passionate about the work they do as LPNs, their nursing journey is inspiring. Nursing truly becomes a career, not a job.”

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Courtesy  
Members of the Worcester County District Attorney's community outreach team recently visited Tantasqua Regional High School.

## DA's office visits Tantasqua

STURBRIDGE — As part of their robust community outreach program, members of the Worcester County District Attorney's Office recently visited students at Tantasqua Regional High School.

The DA's community outreach team attended the TRHS Back to School Night to share resources with students and families.

Among the highlights of the visit was the District Attorney's Hidden in Plain Sight display, which demonstrates how ordinary household objects can be used to conceal illicit substances.

Students and families also obtained information on such topics as dating safety; social media safety; mental health awareness; prescription drug abuse; and avoiding excessive screen time.

Worcester County DA Joseph Early, Jr., and his team are thanked for their ongoing support of students through outreach programs. Each year, the DA's team discusses several additional topics with students across the county, including bullying prevention; cybersecurity; distracted driving; and preventing drug and alcohol abuse.

To learn more about the DA's lineup of programs, visit [www.worcesterda.com](http://www.worcesterda.com).

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