

STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

Free by request to residents of Sturbridge and Holland

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Thursday-Friday, June 4-5, 2026

Sturbridge celebrates Arbor Day 2026, recognizes 250th anniversary



Courtesy

Sixth grade students proudly hold up the Tree City USA flag after bagging & distributing tree seedlings to the students at Burgess Elementary.

STURBRIDGE — Tony Crane led a series of Sturbridge Tree Warden special tree plantings in cel-

brating Arbor Day 2026. He was assisted by Deputy Tree Warden Joe Kowalski and retired Tree Warden Tom Chamberland.

Starting the week of April 13, in an annual observance of Arbor since 1990 over 750 seedlings were bagged and distributed by sixth grade students at Burgess Elementary School. A highlight of the program was a visit to the sixth grade class by both Tony and Tom to talk about the seedlings they bagged,

as well as the history of, and what Tree Wardens do, along with the importance of celebrating Arbor Day.

Then, on April 24, the Sturbridge Senior Center celebrated the 250th Anniversary with Senator Ryan Fatman as a special guest. The event featured a tree planting, symbolizing growth, and continuity, and encouraged community members to contribute letters and pictures for a time capsule to be opened in 25



Courtesy

From left to right: Ellen Thibodeau, Marcia Wildgrube, JoAnn Kass, help Leslie Wong with the shovel, plant the weeping Spruce at the Senior Center

years. Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Sturbridge Senior Center Bell Ringers performed patriotic songs.

The town's "official" arbor day tree planting was on April 23, in front of the Central Office Building, Town employees led by Town Administrator Robin

Grimm assisted Tony & Joe in the planting of another weeping Spruce.

And finally, in special recognitions of our country's 250th Anniversary a 32 ft American Liberty Elm tree was planted on the town common. Due to the size of

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The "Spirit of Brimfield" America 250 celebration to take place June 13

BRIMFIELD — On Saturday, June 13, a community-wide celebration marking the 250th anniversary of our nation's freedom will take place in Brimfield. In recognition of this year's historic milestone, a full day of remembrance and celebration is planned. All are welcome to attend the day's events, which include the following:

A Pancake Breakfast fundraiser by the Wales Community Food Pantry at the First Congregational Church in Brimfield. Registration and time preference required at bit.ly42negIT (8:30-10:30 a.m. seatings).

Revolutionary War themed guided cemetery tours at the Brimfield Cemetery on Wales Rd. honoring those who volunteered to fight for freedom and the Brimfield families who supported them. Registration (508) 523-9544 between 10 a.m. and noon

1 p.m. Fife and Drum Music- Army National Guard 215th Band on the Town Common. Face painting
2 p.m. Parade- starting from the Public Safety Complex at 34 Wales Rd via the Town Common, to the Brimfield Winery. The parade features the Springfield Kiltie Band, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment Honor Guard of the Massachusetts National Guard, Paul Revere mounted rider and Revolutionary Reenactors, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment-Civil War reenactors with muskets, 4H club, Brimfield's antique fire truck, Veterans Float and Brimfield Library float, the Hampden County Sheriff's Office Mounted Patrol Unit, participants from the Wales Library and police and fire departments, and so much more!

A ceremony at the town common gazebo (immediately following the parade) featuring the 250th Stars and Stripes Flag raising, music, three round musket volley by OSV militia, historical reading by TRHS graduating senior Ben Bachand- honoring Brimfield's history in the revolution, recognition of local legacy families whose Brimfield ancestors fought for freedom, keynote address from the Honorable Representative Todd Smola, and the recognition of Don Moriarty, Jim Adams, Cindy Skowrya, and Kathleen Boyer for their selfless service to their communities, and more. Bring lawn chairs and blankets for your comfort and enjoyment on the town common.

A celebration at the Brimfield Winery (immediately following the ceremony) featuring 18th century living history demonstrations, food trucks, patriotic youth art display by the Brimfield Elementary and Tantasqua Regional High Schools, face painting, old-fashioned kids' games, music, a live broadcast from Classic Hits 97.7 FM, bonfire, and much more! A Chicken BBQ sponsored by Saint Christopher's Parish will be held from 4-7 p.m. at the winery. Purchase tickets at St. Christopher's, Hitchcock Academy or online for \$22 (half chicken, baked potato, salad, roll, and a drink). Limited quantity at the door for \$25. The band, SOAPSTONE will perform from 6-9, and the day concludes with a grand display of fireworks!

Additional details and updates will be available through the Friends of Historic Brimfield website and clicking/tapping the Spirit of Brimfield Event image: www.fohbrimfield.org.

Red, white, and blue Spirit of Brimfield event merchandise is also available to order on the website with direct shipping from the vendor.

This event is currently being sponsored by the Massachusetts Army National Guard, Classic Hits 97.7 FM, and the Brimfield Winery. The Spirit of Brimfield would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our business level and private donors. Special thanks to Patriot's Legacy Sponsor- Dennis McCurdy with the McCurdy Group, as well as Green Acres Antiques and Flea Market, AJS Restoration and Construction, Inc., and Action EMS for their generosity.

Southbridge Lions Club to hold annual "Fill the Bucket" fundraiser

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Lions Club will once again take to the streets of town for its annual "Fill the Bucket" Bucket Brigade fundraiser on Saturday, May 30, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Club members will be stationed throughout Southbridge collecting donations at several key intersections, including Main Street, Elm Street, Central Street, Foster Street, Everett Street, Chapin Street, and Hamilton Street. Residents can also stop by the Lions Club table outside the Big Bunny to make a contribution and learn more about the organization's community efforts.

Funds raised during the Bucket Brigade directly support local individuals and families facing sight and hearing challenges. The Southbridge Lions Club has

long been dedicated to helping those in need through vision and hearing assistance programs, community service projects, scholarships, youth initiatives, and charitable outreach throughout the area.

The club encourages residents to take part in this year's "Fill the Bucket" challenge by giving whatever they can to help neighbors in need. Every donation, large or small, helps the Lions continue their mission of service and support within the community.

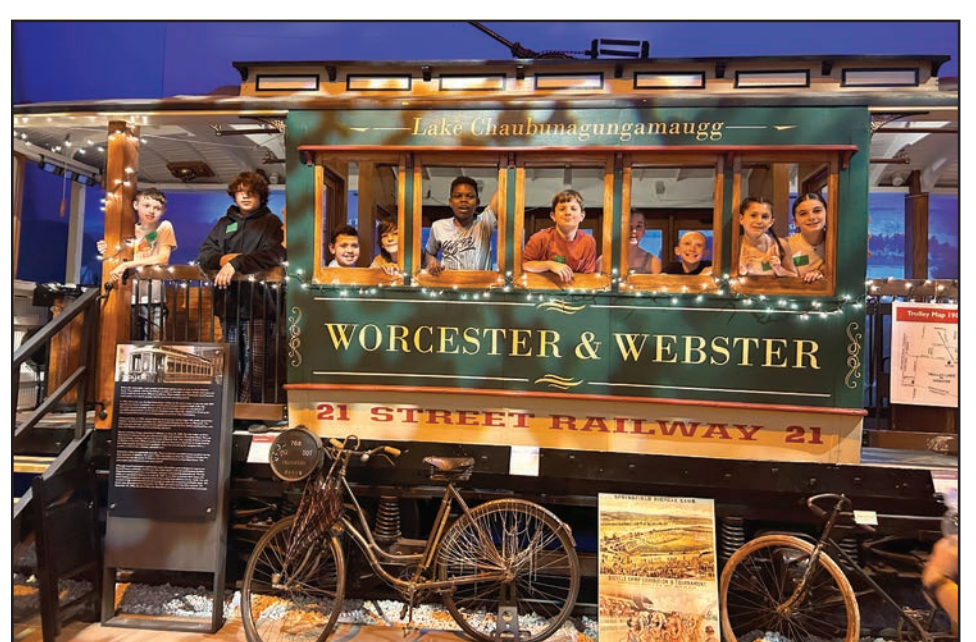
Members of the Southbridge Lions Club expressed their appreciation for the continued generosity of local residents and businesses who make the annual fundraiser a success year after year.



Charlton Middle School students travel back in time

CHARLTON — The fifth-grade students at Charlton Middle School recently enjoyed an immersive "Back In Time" field trip, exploring local history at the Rider Tavern, the #2 Schoolhouse in Charlton, and the Samuel Slater Experience in Webster.

At the Samuel Slater Experience, students engaged with interactive exhibits that brought to life the story of Samuel Slater, the "Father of the American Industrial Revolution." Additionally, the Charlton Historical Society provided an enlightening tour of the town's most historic sites: the Rider Tavern and the #2 Schoolhouse, Charlton's last remaining one-room district school. This field trip successfully bridged the gap between classroom curriculum and real-world history, fostering a deeper appreciation for the region's unique



heritage.

This field trip was funded in part by a grant from the Charlton Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by Mass Cultural

Council, a state agency. The students and staff of Charlton Middle School are grateful for their financial support and also wish to thank Frank Morrill and Tony Dean of the

Charlton Historical Society, as well as the staff at the Samuel Slater Experience, for volunteering their time and expertise to educate our students.

Southbridge Lions Golf

Tournament scores another success

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Lions Club's 15th Annual Al DiPetro Memorial Golf Tournament enjoyed a terrific turnout on Friday, May 15, as 33 teams gathered at Heritage Country Club for a day of golf, camaraderie, and community support.

While weather forecasts had many participants keeping an eye on the radar throughout the week, Mother Nature cooperated and provided a pleasant day for one of the club's most anticipated annual events.

Golfers came from throughout the area and represented local businesses, community leaders, longtime friends, retired teachers, and even multiple generations of families enjoying a day on the course together.

As always, the tournament was about more than golf. The event's success was made possible by the many volunteers who handled everything from registration and raffles to contests, food service, setup, cleanup, and countless behind-the-scenes details that kept the day running smoothly.

The Southbridge Lions Club extends its sincere appreciation

to the businesses and individuals who generously donated prizes and raffle items, including Ed Galonek Sr., Southbridge Credit Union, Micknucks, Chris Ciukaj, Incisal Edge Dental Studio, and Sunshine Bakery.

The club also thanks its Tee Hole Sponsors for their support: All Star Incentive, Arland Tool, Brusco Trucking, Charlton Oil, Corner Pocket, Dr. Natalie Stanley, Garieri Jewelers, Paul's Automotive, Pizza Chef, Plaza Auto Parts, Rubens Transport, Sawdust Coffee House, Soper Construction, Southbridge Credit Union, Teddie G's, Tutti Quanti, VCOS AUX, VCOS, Dave's Pest Control, Sturbridge Metallurgical, Economy Canvas, Place Motor, Kerrin Graphics, A & M Tool and Die, and Central Mass Sunrooms.

Special thanks also go to Heritage Country Club for once again serving as a wonderful host for the tournament.

Although final fundraising totals are still being calculated, the proceeds will help support the Southbridge Lions Club's many community programs, including vision and hearing assistance, scholarships, youth initiatives, and other charitable efforts that benefit local residents.

The day concluded with plenty of excitement surrounding the raffle prizes, including two large-screen televisions, but the real winners will be the community members and organizations that benefit from the funds raised.

The Southbridge Lions Club extends its gratitude to everyone who played, volunteered, sponsored, donated, or supported the event and looks forward to welcoming golfers back to the course next year.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

SOUTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL

Monday-Wednesday:
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Thursday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

JACOB EDWARDS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tuesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 25 will be our last open Saturday until Labor Day) Sunday: Closed

CHARLTON TOWN HALL (508) 248-2200

Office Hours:
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
..... 7:30 a.m to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesdays 7:30 a.m to 7 p.m.
Friday Closed

visit www.townofcharlton.net or more information.

Individual offices may vary

PUBLIC LIBRARY (248-0452)

For library hours please check www.charltonlibrary.org

POLICE DEPARTMENT (248-2250)

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For emergencies, dial **911**

FIRE DEPARTMENT (248-2299)

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

POST OFFICES

Charlton Center Post Office (800) 275-8777

Charlton City (01508) (800) 275-8777

SCHOOLS

Dudley-Charlton Regional School District

..... (508) 943-6888

Charlton Elementary School

..... (508) 248-7774 or (508) 248-7435

Heritage School (508) 248-4884

Charlton Middle School (508) 248-1423

Shepherd Hill Regional High School

..... (508) 943-6700

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical

High School

..... (508) 248-5971 or (508) 987-0326

HOLLAND: 413-245-7108

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

FISKDALE: 508-347-6486

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

STURBRIDGE 508-347-6463

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

BRIMFIELD: 413-245-3451

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

WALES: 413-245-9808

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

CHURCH LISTINGS

• Central Baptist Church

256 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550

Tel 508/764-6365; Worship 10:00 A.M.

• Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St., 508- 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Summer worship is 9:30 a.m. www.fed-church.org

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

• Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org

Sunday worship and Children's church 10am

• St. Anne St. Patrick Church, 16 Church St., Fiskdale (508) 347-7338

www.stannestpatparish.com

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4 pm, Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, Youth Mass (September to May) 5 pm. Daily Mass Mon - Thurs 7:30 and 10 am, Fri and Sat 7:30 am

• Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm Street, Southbridge, Ma 01550

Phone: 508-764-8085 • Sunday service 10:00 am

• Faith Baptist Church, 515 Dennison Drive, Southbridge

Phone number 508-764-6132,

Worship Service: Sunday 10:00 a.m.

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

• Wayside Church, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144

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

• Living Word Church of Charlton, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349

Sunday Service 10:00am.

www.livingwordcharlton.com

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

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

• Bethlehem Lutheran Church- 345 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Phone 508-347-7297

Web: www.bethlehemsturbridge.org

Services - Sunday 9:00 am

Pastor Dan Purtell

• Holland Congregation Church "Where the Bible is preached."

11 Sturbridge Road, Holland, 413-245-9926

Hollandchurch.org

Sunday Service @ 10:00 am

Pastor Dan Maketansky

• Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

446 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA 01550

Phone: 508-765-9559

Web: www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org

Sunday Service 11:00 am

Pastor Dan Purtell

• St. John Paul II Parish

279 Hamilton St., Southbridge


Rev. Carlos Ardila, Pastor

Weekend services Saturday 4 p.m.,

Sunday 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and noon

Weekday masses 8:30 & 8:45 a.m., St. Mary's Church

(508) 765-3701



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Associate Professor of Medicine, Umass-Chan Medical School
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"Committed to Advancing appropriate care to people with arthritis"

Quaboag mini grant funds free programs at Wales Public Library

WALES — The Friends of the Wales Public Library are thrilled to announce a mini-grant awarded from Healthy Quaboag to create free events at the library that support wellness, movement, creativity and connection!

On Mondays Jun 1, 8, 15, and 22, Sharon Palmer will provide Chair Yoga Classes from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and Meditation for Managing Stress from 11:45 a.m. - 12:15/12:30 p.m., teens to adult.

On Wednesdays June 24, July 1,8,15, & 22 1:15 – 2 p.m., Kiki Morin Will lead a class in Movement with Fun and Games. preschool and up with adults encouraged to join in!

On Thursday, July 16 from 10-11 a.m., Elaine Mewhiney will help prek - elementary age students with and adult to make some healthy, creative snacks together.

To register for any of these programs, email wales@cwmar.org, call 413 245-9072, or register through our Facebook page: Wales Public Library.

REAL ESTATE

Charlton \$615,000, 164 Oxford Rd, Bolton, Craig B, and Tierney-Bolton, Mary Jane, to Kompel, John F, and Mateo, Mercedes.

\$475,200, 25 N Main St #25-A, Joseph Const Services Inc, and Joseph, William B, to Lenox, Samantha, and Schneider, Christian.

\$431,000, 34 Northside Rd, Poirier, William, and Morang, Jillian L, to Hanrahan, Laura E, and Hanrahan, Brendan Liam.

\$376,000, 72 Park Rd, Parker, Laurie Ann, to Marcotte, Sam Ross.

SOUTHBRIDGE \$460,000, 69 Ellis Rd, Premier Rc Properties LLC, and Mayer, Christopher J,

to Negron, Yamelys, and Melendez-Lemis, Andres. \$398,000, 411 Dennison Dr, Beatrice A Smith Ft, and Laplante, Elizabeth A, to Reyes, Any Lidia-Torres.

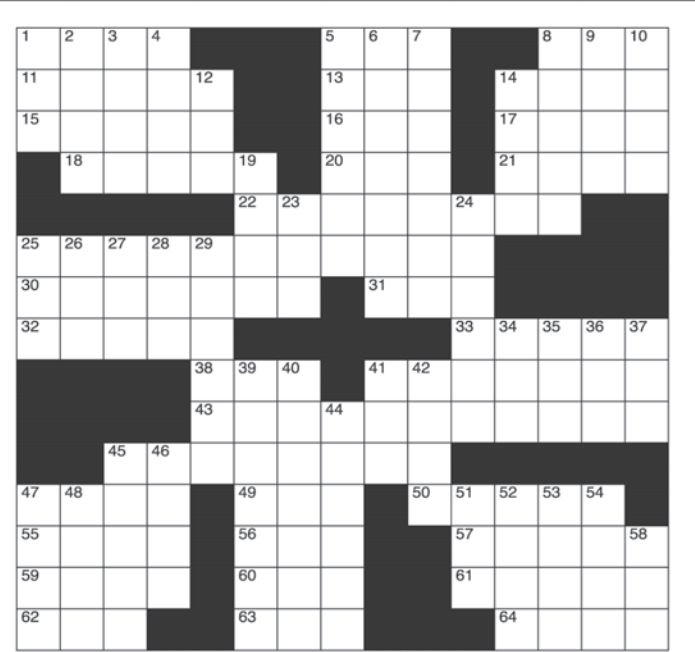
\$365,000, 796 Charlton St, Kjr Rt, and Daou, Joseph, to Butterworth, Joyce A.

\$200,000, 6 Walker Ct, Champoux, Theresa, to Phoenix Properties LLC.

\$50,000, 401 E Main St, Lariviere, Mark F, to Hazzard 3rd, Sidney Cyril.

STURBRIDGE \$353,000, 125 Brookfield Rd, Anderson 3rd, Edwin Hoyle, to Johnson, Catherine.

\$238,000, 7 Crescent Way #105, Hope, Phyllis J, to Erickson, Lisa M, and Erickson, David A.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Egyptian bull-god
- 5. A young canine
- 8. Cologne
- 11. Fictional British P.I.
- 13. Midway between northeast and east
- 14. A place to shop
- 15. Minneapolis suburb
- 16. Single lens reflex
- 17. NY Mets great Tommie
- 18. Informal loan clubs
- 20. Habitual twitching
- 21. Holm oak
- 22. Willing to consent or submit
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Made possible
- 31. Language in Ghana
- 32. Relating to one's birth
- 33. Deep-bodied fishes
- 38. Defunct European currency
- 41. Small American songbird
- 43. One from L.A.
- 45. After tenth
- 47. Hillside
- 49. Red deer
- 50. Partner to "ooohd"
- 55. Indian musical pattern
- 56. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 57. Golden peas plant
- 59. Breezed through
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. Frameworks
- 62. Danish krone
- 63. Fall back
- 64. Influential Korean leader

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Bridge building degree
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Large, stocky lizard
- 4. Turkish leader title
- 5. Nag
- 6. Blank
- 7. Closely woven cotton fabric
- 8. A nice shot in golf
- 9. Away from wind
- 10. Evergreen shrub genus
- 12. Large African antelope
- 14. Something you receive
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Wet dirt
- 24. No longer here
- 25. Writing utensil
- 26. Ribonucleic acid
- 27. Consume food
- 28. Licensed for Wall Street
- 29. Alternative forms of a gene
- 34. Buddy
- 35. We all do it
- 36. Chicken
- 37. No seats available
- 39. Yearned to possess
- 40. Ineffectual
- 41. Explosive
- 42. Turkish title
- 44. Worn near the foot
- 45. Impatient
- 46. Set an example for others
- 47. Actor Pitt
- 48. Instrument of torture
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Grayish white
- 53. A way to print
- 54. Storied college hoops program
- 58. Midway between south and southeast

PUZZLE SOLUTION

3	11	15	18	25	30	32	38	43	45	47	55	59	62
4	12	16	19	26	31	33	39	44	46	48	56	60	63
5	13	17	20	27	32	34	40	41	42	49	51	52	53
6	14	18	21	28	33	35	41	42	43	50	52	53	54
7	15	19	22	29	34	36	42	43	44	51	52	53	54
8	16	20	23	30	35	37	43	44	45	52	53	54	58
9	17	21	24	31	36	37	44	45	46	53	54	58	64
10	18	22	25	32	37	38	45	46	47	54	58	64	
11	19	23	26	33	38	39	46	47	48	55	59	62	
12	20	24	27	34	39	40	47	48	49	56	60	63	
13	21	25	28	35	40	41	48	49	50	57	61	64	
14	22	26	29	36	41	42	49	50	51	58	62	65	
15	23	27	30	37	42	43	50	51	52	59	63	66	
16	24	28	31	38	43	44	51	52	53	60	64	67	
17	25	29	32	39	44	45	52	53	54	61	65	68	
18	26	30	33	40	45	46	53	54	55	62	66	69	
19	27	31	34	41	46	47	54	55	56	63	67	70	
20	28	32	35	42	47	48	55	56	57	64	68	71	
21	29	33	36	43	48	49	56	57	58	65	69	72	
22	30	34	37	44	49	50	57	58	59	66	70	73	
23	31	35	38	45	50	51	58	59	60	67	71	74	
24	32	36	39	46	51	52	59	60	61	68	72	75	
25	33	37	40	47	52	53	60	61	62	69	73	76	
26	34	38	41	48	53	54	61	62	63	70	74	77	
27	35	39	42	49	54	55	62	63	64	71	75	78	
28	36	40	43	50	55	56	63	64	65	72	76	79	
29	37	41	44	51	56	57	64	65	66	73	77	80	
30	38	42	45	52	57	58	65	66	67	74	78	81	
31	39	43	46	53	58	59	66	67	68	75	79	82	
32	40	44	47	54	59	60	67	68	69	76	80	83	
33	41	45	48	55	60	61	68	69	70	77	81	84	
34	42	46	49	56	61	62	69	70	71	78	82	85	
35	43	47	50	57	62	63	70	71	72	79	83	86	
36	44	48	51	58	63	64	71	72	73	80	84	87	
37	45	49	52	59	64	65	72	73	74	81	85	88	
38	46	50	53	60	65	66	73	74	75				

Charlton Garden Club supports Heritage School planting project

CHARLTON — The Charlton Garden Club and students at Heritage School recently collaborated on a gardening venture at the school. The project integrates lessons learned in the classroom with hands-on outdoor activities and is a part of the bigger undertaking of different classrooms beautifying areas all over Heritage School.



raised beds bearing their handprints and names. Charlton Garden Club member Maureen Standing organized the operation with assistance from several other Club members. The Club donated the plants, flower seeds, some garden tools, and garden features. The Heritage students provided enthusiasm and “manpower.”

Twenty-five second-grade students in Lisa Biron’s class and

21 fourth graders in Maura Gordon’s class collaborated in

planting an assortment of flowers, herbs, and vegetables in colorful

The students planted a variety of flowers, including black-

eyed Susans, Bee Balm, marigolds, sedum, snapdragons, dahlias, sunflowers, and others, as well as a variety of flower seeds. They added tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, parsley, and mint to the assortment.

According to Biron, this project primarily aims to build teamwork and also teaches students the importance of sustainability. “This is our community project and shows that we have pride in our school,” she said.

“We study the life cycle of plants in class and apply those lessons to real life.”

For more information about the Charlton Garden Club, please email charltongardencub@gmail.com.

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Bay Path celebrates 59 CTI graduates, expands workforce training programs

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School proudly celebrated the graduation of 59 students from its Career Technical Initiative (CTI) program last evening, marking a significant milestone in the program’s continued growth and impact.

The CTI program, launched in 2024, provides adult learners with access to high-quality, hands-on technical training designed to meet regional workforce demands. Last night’s graduates represent a diverse group of individuals who demonstrated dedication, perseverance, and a strong commitment to building new career path-

ways. Many balanced work, family, and personal responsibilities while completing rigorous 200-hour training programs that prepare them for immediate employment in high-demand industries.

“This graduating class represents the heart of what the CTI program is all about—opportunity, access, and workforce readiness,” said Marci Komssi, Program Coordinator. “We are incredibly proud of these 59 graduates and the determination they demonstrated throughout the program.”

The success of the CTI program is made possible through continued state investment and workforce development partnerships.

As part of the Commonwealth’s commitment to economic recovery and growth, \$24.2 million was awarded to 23 organizations throughout Massachusetts to train 2,490 individuals. These strategic investments, led by the Massachusetts Workforce Skills Cabinet, are designed to expand access to career pathway programs and better position residents to fill critical workforce needs across the state.

Building on this momentum, Bay Path is expanding its program offerings to reach even more adult learners. For the first time, the school

will offer a 200-hour Building Maintenance program in a five-week hybrid summer format, running from June 29 through July 31. This program is offered in partnership with MassHire, with applications opening this week.

Looking ahead to Fall 2026, Bay Path will offer nine CTI programs, further increasing access to career training opportunities. These programs include:

- Building Maintenance
- HVAC
- Culinary
- Manufacturing
- Auto Collision
- Auto Technology
- Diesel Mechanic

- Welding
- Electrical

Since its inception, the CTI program has continued to expand in both enrollment and program diversity, attracting students from local communities as well as across the region. The program remains a critical component of Bay Path’s efforts to support workforce development and provide meaningful career pathways for adult learners.

For more information about the CTI program or to apply for upcoming opportunities, please contact Marci Komssi at mkomssi@bay-path.net.

NOW OPEN in Auburn

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If you're interested in becoming a patient of our new Auburn office scan to receive more info.

Where you don't have to be an Olympic athlete to be treated like one.

SUMMER-IN-LINE LINE DANCING for Beginners
Thursdays from 5:30 - 8pm (July & August)
Starting July 2, 2026
8 session \$70 (or pay u go \$10)
at The Hayloft Barn, Sturbridge, MA
To register - email: forty.arroyo@gmail.com
or call 508 461 7247 LL

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Friday's Child

Jason Age 20 Registration #9202
<https://www.mareinc.org/child/25347643487>

I have many hobbies, including playing video games, playing the guitar, cooking, and spending time with friends and family. My favorite movies are Treasure Planet and Pirates of the Caribbean, and I especially enjoy seafood such as shrimp, tilapia, sushi, crab, and lobster. I was part of the Dungeons and Dragons Club in high school, where I enjoyed connecting with classmates and teachers through shared adventures. Since graduating, I have completed a culinary program and am interested in furthering my culinary skills through additional training and courses. In the future, I hope to travel more and explore new places.

Can I Adopt?
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. 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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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER
BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Planting more than trees

Communities often mark important anniversaries with speeches, banners, and ceremonies. Those moments have value, but some of the most meaningful commemorations are the ones that continue growing long after the crowds have gone home.

That is what made Sturbridge's Arbor Day celebrations this year particularly special.

Over the course of several weeks, Tree Warden Tony Crane, Deputy Tree Warden Joe Kowalski, retired Tree Warden Tom Chamberland, town employees, students, and residents all participated in a series of events that connected the town's past, present, and future. At first glance, these may have seemed like simple tree plantings. In reality, they represented something much larger.

The effort began with one of the community's longest-running traditions. Since 1990, sixth-grade students at Burgess Elementary School have participated in Arbor Day by helping distribute hundreds of seedlings. This year's students not only prepared more than 750 seedlings for distribution, but also had the opportunity to learn firsthand about the role of a tree warden and the importance of stewardship. Those lessons may prove just as valuable as the seedlings themselves.

Children who learn the value of caring for trees today become the adults who will care for their communities tomorrow.

The celebrations continued with the Sturbridge Senior Center's observance of both Arbor Day and the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary. A tree planting, a time capsule, patriotic music, and community participation created a fitting reminder that every generation leaves something behind for those who follow. The time capsule will eventually offer future residents a glimpse into life in Sturbridge today, while the newly planted tree will stand as a living witness to the passing years.

Meanwhile, town employees joined in planting a weeping spruce outside the Central Office Building, demonstrating that community beautification is not the responsibility of any one department or volunteer. It takes a collective effort to maintain the public spaces that residents enjoy every day.

Perhaps the most symbolic moment came with the planting of the 32-foot American Liberty Elm on the town common. The size of the tree required a crane to place it into position, an impressive sight in itself. Yet the significance of the tree extends far beyond its size. The elm was planted in recognition of America's 250th anniversary, creating a living monument that future generations will enjoy long after today's residents are gone.

That may be the greatest lesson Arbor Day offers.

Trees require patience. The people who plant them rarely experience their full maturity. They do the work anyway because they understand that the benefits belong not only to them but also to those who come after them.

In a world that often rewards immediate results, tree planting remains one of the purest acts of optimism. It is an investment in a future that we may never fully see.

Sturbridge's Arbor Day celebrations were successful not simply because trees were planted. They were successful because they brought together students, seniors, town employees, volunteers, and community leaders around a shared belief that some things are worth doing for the benefit of future generations.

As the new seedlings take root and the Liberty Elm begins its life on the common, they will serve as lasting reminders that communities grow stronger when residents are willing to plant seeds whose shade they may never sit beneath.

That is a lesson worth celebrating every year.

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

Ten financial steps to take before and after your wedding day

Getting married is a major decision that comes with a financial to-do list that's arguably more important than choosing a venue or a cake. Talking openly about money can help set you and your partner up for a stronger future.

What financial conversations should I have with my fiancé?

Head into your marriage with honest conversations about money, including these four topics:

1. Discuss how your families handled finances when you were young, whether you're a spender or saver and what debt you're willing to take on.

2. Share how much you each earn, spend, and save. Discuss assets and debts, including mortgages, student or auto loans and credit card balances; your partner's debt can become joint debt after marriage.

3. Align on a budget as a couple that reflects the life you want to build – where you'll live; what you'll spend on housing, travel and hobbies; and how often you'll review your finances together.

4. Talk through your goals. Make separate lists of short-, medium- and long-term financial dreams and compare them. You'll likely find some common ground, and where you don't, look for ways to compromise. A financial advisor can help.

Should I ask for a prenup?

Couples with significantly different assets or debts, those expecting large inheritances or those blending families are more likely to want to consider a prenuptial agreement. A prenup outlines how assets, debts, future income, inheritance, and even spousal support will be handled during the marriage and if it ends, but it cannot address child custody.

Should my new spouse and I blend our finances?

Regarding couples blending finances, there's no one right answer. Some couples combine everything; others keep accounts separate and many land somewhere in between. Agree on who pays which bills,



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how major decisions get made and what spending threshold triggers a check-in.

What financial tasks should we complete after getting married?

Once you're married, these six tasks deserve attention.

1. Take advantage of the special enrollment period, which typically lasts 30 days after getting married, to update employer benefits such as health insurance. Revisit retirement plan contributions if your combined income has grown.

2. Review insurance coverage. Combining homeowners or renters, auto and umbrella policies can often reduce costs. Make sure you have enough life insurance.

3. Update beneficiaries on insurance policies, retirement plans, investment accounts, bank accounts, and real estate.

4. If you change your name, order multiple copies of your marriage certificate. You'll need them to update your Social Security card, financial accounts, and employer and medical records.

5. Update your W-4 withholding to reflect your new marital status and ask a tax professional whether filing jointly or separately makes more sense.

6. Work with an attorney to create or update your will, medical directive, and financial and health care powers of attorney. Your estate plan should reflect your new life together.

Marriage is a fresh start.

With honest conversations, careful planning, and the right professional support, you can build a financial foundation as strong as your relationship.

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. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

The empty spaces between us

The other day, I arrived early. Not accidentally. On purpose.

I had an appointment across town, and years of experience have taught me that traffic, road construction, misplaced keys and life's general unpredictability can make even a short trip an adventure. So I left with plenty of time to spare.

Naturally, I arrived about twenty minutes early.

What struck me wasn't the wait. It was what happened next.

Nothing.

I sat in my car.

No radio. No phone. No errand to squeeze in before the appointment. No email to check. No task to accomplish.

For 20 whole minutes, absolutely nothing happened. And it felt strangely unusual.

There was a time when waiting was simply part of life. You waited at the doctor's office. You waited for the barber. You waited for a friend to arrive. You waited for a store clerk to finish helping another customer. Nobody liked waiting, but nobody expected otherwise.

Today, we've become remarkably efficient at eliminating empty moments. Standing in line? Check your phone. Waiting for an appointment? Scroll through headlines. Five spare minutes? Answer messages. Ten spare minutes? Watch a video. We're rarely alone with our thoughts anymore.

Now, I'm not criticizing technology. I enjoy many of the same conveniences everyone else does. Being able to find information instantly still feels a little miraculous to someone who remembers searching through encyclopedia volumes. But I've begun to wonder whether we've accidentally crowded something out along the way.

The quiet spaces.

The unused minutes.

The little gaps in the day where our minds once wandered.

Some of my best ideas have arrived when I wasn't actively looking for them. Not while working. Not while concentrating. Not while trying to be productive. They showed up while sitting on a park bench, waiting for an oil change, staring out a window or taking a slow walk with no destination in particular.

LANTERNS ALONG MAIN STREET

By CHARLES

For reasons I don't fully understand, the mind seems to do important work during those moments. It sorts things out. It makes connections. It notices details. It remembers things that matter.

I suspect that's one reason older generations often appeared comfortable sitting quietly on a porch for an hour. As a young man, I never understood it. How could someone sit there doing nothing?

Now I realize they probably weren't doing nothing at all.

They were thinking. Observing. Reflecting. Watching the world go by.

Those activities may not produce anything measurable, but they are hardly a waste of time. In fact, they may be among the most valuable uses of time we have.

The older I get, the more I appreciate the difference between being busy and being occupied. Busy is rushing from one thing to another. Occupied can mean simply being present where you are. One creates motion. The other creates perspective.

That afternoon, sitting in my car with twenty unexpected minutes to spare, I watched people come and go. A man walked across the parking lot carrying a box that looked heavier than he expected. A woman stopped to help an older gentleman reach something that had fallen. Two strangers held a door for one another and exchanged a smile.

Nothing remarkable. Nothing that would ever make a headline.

Yet those ordinary moments felt surprisingly interesting once I slowed down enough to notice them.

Maybe that's what those empty spaces in our day are really for. They give us a chance to pay attention. Not to a screen. Not to a schedule. Not to the next thing demanding our attention. To the world directly in front of us.

When my appointment time finally arrived, I went inside and got on with the day. But I've thought about those twenty quiet minutes ever since.

Most of us spend a lot of effort trying to fill every empty space.

Perhaps now and then it's worth leaving one empty.

You never know what might find room to enter.

TO THE EDITOR

What's best for Southbridge is clear

To the Editor:

This is a good year to vote! (Well, every year is a good year to vote...). Before you go to the polls on June 9, take a look at this year's Town Council forum/debate. It is on SCTV, on demand (Town Council Candidate Debate Forum: 5/19/2026). Many issues and good plans came out of it. An example is in the question about evaluating the Town Manager. This is not punitive! It is in his contract to have a public evaluation. One candidate, Shelley Klein, brought some logic to the discussion with a common practice of having goals and a performance evaluation on them. She also made the suggestion of the town council meeting with the school committee more often. Since the town council approves their budget, I think that is a good idea as well as being more involved in our public education system.

Housing was another topic with candidate Gus Steeves promoting more public housing (not corporate owned from outside the town or state). Another councilor brought up a good idea of NOT using industrial buildings for housing (due to

possible structural and age issues as well as possible toxins and dust).

Business in town is a perennial issue and Gus's suggestion to grow from within with a business incubator in town was a great one.

The regional dispatch is a huge issue (and a ballot question). Thank you to candidate Kathi Grenier for putting a human face on it by saying that a regional dispatch would allow for dispatchers to step away from this stressful job as needed (while another dispatcher could step in). When the first one returns, they will be at the "top of their game" for this important job. Several towns within the region can pool resources and staff to effectively direct our police, fire and EMS.

"Do what is best for Southbridge" is an oft repeated refrain. I think that is clear. Let's focus on our townspeople (the citizens and taxpayers): Vote Steeves, Klein, and Grenier and vote yes on dispatch regionalization.

Thank you!

Mauraen Doyle
Southbridge

The weight of yesterday: Why our community must choose tomorrow

To the Editor:

Southbridge is a town with a rich history and a long memory. That memory has become a weight we can't seem to put down.

Walk into any meeting, scroll through social media threads, chat with someone at the Common or sit in on any public hearing, and you'll hear the same refrains: what the town used to be before American Optical was no longer. We replay the same arguments, elect the same leaders, resurrect the same grudges, and cling to the same narratives about decline, empty store fronts, the receivership, that all end in languishing disappointment.

Southbridge is stuck because we keep trying to solve today's problems with yesterday's mindset. We keep electing the same people to office that have led us astray in the past.

Our schools are still in receivership. Our tax burden keeps rising while services lag. Senior housing and affordable housing for families have been nothing more than a passing thought. Downtown storefronts struggle to stay filled and our roads continue to crumble.

We cannot keep doing this.

A community that fixates on what went wrong decades ago loses the ability to imagine what could go right tomorrow and we stop believing in new possibilities. When we treat change as a threat instead of a chance, we guarantee that nothing improves.

We are at a crossroads. Our tax rate was set at the highest allowable rate without a 2 1/2% override. We are facing an understaffed fire department, an understaffed dispatch

department, \$30 million in town hall renovations, \$100 million in school building repairs are needed, rising health insurance premiums, increased fuel prices are only a handful of the challenges we are looking at in the future. Many of our senior residents are living on fixed incomes, and many of our families have parents working more than one job to keep their households going. We must be creative and thoughtful about how these challenges are addressed while considering the financial constraints that so many people are experiencing.

Will we remain a town that talks about what it used to be, or a town that becomes what it can be? This requires courage. It requires change. It requires letting go of old narratives and acknowledging that the future isn't meant to look like the past and that this is not a loss but an opportunity. We can honor our history. We can respect the work of those who came before us while still demanding better for those who will come after. We can stop fighting the same old battles and build something new.

But only if we take a chance and choose a new direction.

Next Tuesday, June 9, Southbridge residents will have an opportunity to vote for change and a new direction. I am respectfully asking you to consider voting yes to regionalize dispatch services. A yes vote will improve public safety while significantly reducing local dispatch costs – saving Southbridge nearly \$5 million in the first five years. I respectfully ask for your support on Election Day – a vote for Shelley Klein is a vote for change.

With sincere gratitude,

Shelley Klein
Southbridge

Southbridge Cultural Council presents "Henry the Juggler"

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Recreation Department, in partnership with the Southbridge Cultural Council, is excited to present a lively and engaging performance by Henry the Juggler June 25 at 12:30 p.m. at 153 Chestnut St.

A seasoned professional entertainer, Henry the Juggler has delighted tens of thousands of audiences up and down the East Coast at theaters, schools, libraries, festivals, and community events. With over 40 years of experience, Henry blends physical comedy, movement, and skill into a one-of-a-kind performance that appeals to audiences of all ages.

Trained at California's renowned Dell'Arte School of Physical Comedy, Henry continues to refine his craft through studies in Tai Chi, Feldenkrais, and Tango. He is an active member of the International Jugglers Association and the Hats Off Performers Guild, and also produces the annual New England Performers'

Retreat.

Known for his expressive, mostly nonverbal style, Henry communicates through movement, gestures, and humor—often with the help of unexpected props and signage. His act features a variety of juggling equipment including balls, clubs, rings, and even torches, along with balancing feats such as wire walking and stilt work.

Audiences are advised: Henry is "armed (and legged) and dangerous" — known to cause spontaneous laughter and may involve unsuspecting volunteers from the crowd!

This family-friendly performance is funded in part by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

For more information, please visit the Southbridge Recreation Department at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthbridgeRec> or <https://www.ci.southbridge.ma.us/532/Recreation>

This program is supported by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency, which is

funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

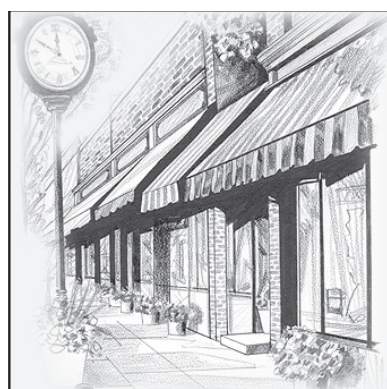
Lydia Julian of Holland receives John F. Birch Memorial Award from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Lydia Julian of Holland received the John F. Birch Memorial Award at the Nichols College annual Academic Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 21. This award is given to a student who is specializing in accounting and entering senior year with proven academic excellence.

About Nichols College

Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving

global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu



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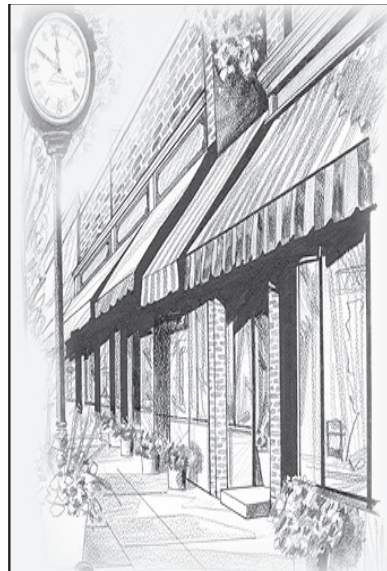
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MTD Micro Molding appoints Chad Nickel as Chief Executive Officer

CHARLTON — MTD Micro Molding has appointed Chad Nickel as Chief Executive Officer, effective May 11. Nickel brings extensive leadership experience, having served as President and CEO of a global medtech manufacturer. Prior to that, he spent 13 years at Haemonetics Corporation, rising to President, Global Plasma and Blood Center.

Nickel brings an uncommon vantage point to this role: he has led a specialized medical device CDMO serving global OEM customers and has managed those partnerships from the customer side as well. He understands what OEMs need from a specialist manufacturing partner — and what it costs when that partner can't deliver. Roughly a third of MTD's new programs arrive either as rescues from work that stalled at another molder, or as programs no other molder would attempt. That is the work MTD is built for.

"What drew me to MTD is specific," said Nickel. "I looked at the capabilities — the tooling, the metrology, the cleanroom production — and they are impressive. But what immediately stood out was the culture: the team's genuine passion for working together to solve today's most complex manufacturing challenges. MTD has always been the first to invest in what micro medical manufacturing requires next. My job is to continue building the capabilities and expertise that let us take on the programs others can't."

Nickel joins a leadership team strengthened by the return and addition of experienced industry talent across operations, engineering, tooling, quality, and commercial strategy. Peter Wojtas, a certified Master Molder with a Plastics Engineering degree, rejoins MTD with more than 30 years of process and automation expertise, helping to further optimize procedures and adopt new technologies. John Clark, who first joined MTD in 2008 and later oversaw the completion of the company's facility expansion that doubled its manufacturing footprint, brings more than 20 years of tooling excellence and has returned as Director of Operations. New to MTD, Randy Guertin brings 30 years of medical tooling design and leadership, and Nick



Courtesy Photo

Chad Nickel

Scenna adds his expertise in managing specialized manufacturing. Lindsay Mann has been promoted to Director of Commercial Strategy and Maggie Beauregard to Director of Quality, as the company continues to deepen its technical expertise and operational excellence.

"There's already an expectation that every customer, every program is a long-term partnership," said Nickel. "Our primary focus is to continue expanding upon the precision, innovation, and responsiveness customers have come to expect."

That culture was established by Dennis Tully, a posthumous inductee into the Plastics Hall of Fame, who transformed MTD into

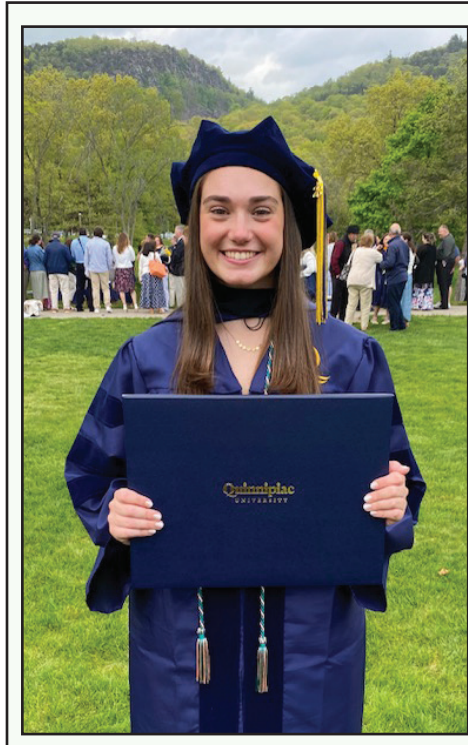
a globally recognized specialist in micro medical manufacturing. Under Tully, MTD became the smallest company to be named Plastics News Processor of the Year, a recognition announced only days after his passing in 2019. It remains the standard MTD holds itself to today: Ever Forward.

"Chad understands that the culture my late husband built — the expectation that we solve the hard problem, not the easy one — is the asset worth protecting most," said Darlene Tully, Owner of MTD Micro Molding. "Companies like MTD earn customer trust through technical performance, not through promises. That's what our people have delivered for more than 50 years, and

Chad's addition to this team strengthens our ability to keep doing it."

About MTD Micro Molding

MTD Micro Molding is a single-source manufacturer in Charlton, Mass., specializing in minimally invasive medical and health-tech devices — from complex overmolding applications to bioabsorbable implants. Leveraging deep expertise and advanced in-house capabilities in tooling, molding, automation, and metrology, MTD partners with customers to solve micro manufacturing challenges and achieve validated production, faster speed-to-market, and long-term price stability. Learn more at mtdmicromolding.com.



Courtesy Photo

Addison Ellithorpe graduated Sunday, May 10 from Quinnipiac University earning her Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree. She is a 2020 graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School. During her six years at QU she was a member of the EQUIP Team, Pro Bono Honor Society and was a Health and Wellness Team Co-Leader. She was a member of the PT Club and served as President in her third year. She was a resident assistant, men's club volleyball team manager and received the Harold Potts Memorial PT Award. Addison's clinical rotations included outpatient rehab in New Haven, Conn.; ortho and neuro in Umbertide, Italy and inpatient rehab in Orlando, Fla. QU is a private co-ed university in Hamden, Conn. known for its career-focused education, popular programs in health sciences, business and communications and its Division I athletics. It offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees across multiple schools including health sciences, law, business and nursing. The university is recognized for its personalized attention, hands-on learning and the influential QU Poll.



Courtesy

From left to right, Sturbridge Town Administrator Robin Grimm, Asst Conservation Agent Lori Williams, Asst DPW Director Jacquelyn Burmeister, Deputy Tree Warden Joe Kowalski, DPW Director Heather Bakeley, Tree Warden Tony Crane, and Conservation Agent Lauren Vivier assemble around the weeping spruce tree marking the official Arbor Day ceremony tree for Sturbridge.



Courtesy

From left to right, Tree Warden Tony Crane and Retired Tree Warden Tom Chamberland stand next to the 32 ft American Liberty Elm tree planted on the town common in celebration of the National 250th Anniversary. The Common was selected for this tree as it was the very same grounds that Sturbridge Patriots assembled to respond to the call for arms in 1775.

PLANTING the tree a crane was used to pick the tree from the delivery trailer and set for planting. Leading the planting was Tom Chamberland, assisting in the planting were members of the DPW staff and Tree Warden Tony Crane. A plaque commemorating the official dedication of this 250th Anniversary tree will occur later this summer.

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Out with the old, in with the new

BY BRO. JIMMY
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SOUTHBRIDGE

SOUTHBRIDGE
— On May 19, John Cloutier, who owns and operates the Globe Sign Company at 15 Goddard Street in Southbridge, was completing a project by installing a new sign he created for the Major General Salem Towne Masonic Lodge (MGSTL) in Southbridge.

Back on Oct. 4, 2025, both Quinebaug Lodge and Webster Lodge merged to form MGSTL. John founded Globe Sign while still a lively young man and has successfully run the business for 39 years. He started this sign and vehicle graphics making business when he was 21 years

old back in 1987 at the Globe Village Mills complex near West Street in Southbridge.

Over the past 39 years, Globe Sign has produced five signs for our organization, three for the Masonic Lodge and two for the Doric Chapter Lodge. John Cloutier has also created signs for well-known local businesses, including the Public House, Old Sturbridge Village, Dexter Russell, and Hyde Manufacturing. Much of his work comes through referrals, as people often notice the quality of his craftsmanship and ask who created the sign. He also owns The Logo Shop, which he operates with his sons, Jack and Sam, from the same building. In addition to signage,



Courtesy

John Cloutier all smiles as he removes the old Quinebaug Masonic lodge sign in the sweltering heat.

Globe Sign offers printing and embroidery for T-shirts and hats. For more information about Globe



Courtesy

John just finished putting up the new Major General Salem Towne Lodge sign and cleaning and wiping the surface down.

Sign or The Logo Shop, contact John Cloutier at john@globesignco.com or call 508-764-4809. To learn more about Freemasonry and

find a lodge near you, visit massfreemasonry.org.

St. Anne – St. Patrick Parish announces Young Adult Alpha Program

STURBRIDGE
— St. Anne – St. Patrick Parish will hold a Young Adult Alpha program for those seeking to explore life's biggest questions and the foundations of the Christian faith in a safe and welcoming space. Young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 are invited to attend this no-cost program.

The program comprises three important components: connection, content, and conversation. Participants share light refreshments, which helps to build friendships.



Courtesy Photo

LOCAL NURSE RECEIVES NIGHTINGALE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

National Nurses Week takes place annually to celebrate the contributions and impact of nurses in healthcare systems. This May, Michelle Boivin RN, BSN, BA, OCN Southbridge received a Nightingale Award in recognition of her commitment to the nursing profession. The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing recognize outstanding nurses for their dedication, leadership, and clinical expertise. Boivin has dedicated more than 25 years to the nursing profession, practicing in pediatrics and adult oncology. Her award followed the nomination by her peers in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Connecticut Children's for her expert patient care, leadership initiatives and role model behavior. She was celebrated on May 5 at the Connecticut Convention Center at this year's Nightingale Gala with other award recipients from across the region.

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After watching a short video, participants explore core questions about faith, God, and purpose. Small group discussions about the video encourage participants to ask key questions and share opinions in a non-judgmental environment.

Young Adult Alpha will meet on June 22, 23, 29, 30 and July 7, 13, and 14. All meetings take place in the Parish Center at St. Anne – St. Patrick Parish, 16 Church St., Sturbridge, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

To register or for more information, contact alphasturbridge@gmail.com.

St. Anne St.

Patrick Parish is an active parish community. It offers daily Mass for worship, religious education, and community ministries. It welcomes visitors to St. Anne Shrine, the new Memorial for the Unborn, the Hall of Saints, the Russian Icon Exhibit, the Votive Chapel, the Generations Statue, and the Angel of Hope Monument. The Daily Rosary is recited at 3 p.m. in the St. Patrick Chapel, and weekend Masses are celebrated in its outdoor pavilion in the summer. Its religious gift shop is open every day from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.



Putnam Fine Arts & Crafts FESTIVAL
June 13 & 14, 2026
10am-4pm
at the Putnam Municipal Complex
200 School St, Putnam, CT
A day of art, demonstrations, live music, and fun! Over 55 artists on display featuring paintings, pottery, photography, woodworking, jewelry and more. Free parking, admission, and shuttle. After the festival, relax in one of Putnam's wonderful restaurants and visit our unique businesses.
Info: PutnamCtArtsCouncil.com

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REMEMBER TO RECYCLE

OBITUARIES

Arthur G. Freeman, Jr.

November 19, 1946 - May 12, 2026

Arthur G. Freeman, Jr., affectionately known as "Chipper" by his family and friends, passed peacefully at his home on May 12, 2026, after a brave and valiant battle with cancer. Born in Worcester, MA, on November 19, 1946, Arthur was a beacon of love, joy, and laughter throughout his 79 years of life.

Chipper was the cherished son of the late Gloria Richford and Arthur Freeman, Sr., and was predeceased by his infant son, Arthur Freeman Jr. the second. He leaves behind a legacy of love through his devoted wife, Patricia (Duefield/Latour) Freeman, with whom he shared 56 wonderful years of marriage. Their union, marked by a commitment to strong bonds and playful banter, began on May 22, 1970, and remains an inspiring testament to enduring love and partnership.

A proud father, Chipper is survived by his five children: Anthony Latour of Oxford, MA; Joanne Dusoe of Thompson, along with her partner Jeffrey Plumb; Louie Latour of Charlton, MA; Mike Freeman and his partner Kim Bilodeau of Oxford, MA; and Gloria Freeman and her partner Harley Davis of Oxford, MA; and his half brother John Freeman on Saratoga, New York. His legacy continues through his 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, who brought immense joy to his life.

Chipper's sense of duty and service was evident from an early age. After completing high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy in 1964, serving with honor on the USS Voge (DE 1047)



until 1967. His service to his country was a source of pride, and he often reminisced fondly about his time in the Navy.

His professional life was marked by dedication and hard work as a truck driver for Automatic Rolls/Northeast Foods, where he was a proud member of Teamsters Local 170 until his retirement. Beyond his career, Chipper found fulfillment in simple pleasures—traveling with Patricia, enjoying golf, and, most notably, sharing his signature "dad jokes" with anyone willing to listen. His humor was infectious, and he might jest, "I am survived by everyone who ever laughed at my jokes. And some who didn't."

Arthur's warmth, generosity, and infectious smile left a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of knowing him. He was a man of immense kindness, with a gift for gab that made others feel welcomed and valued. His ability to connect with people from all walks of life was truly remarkable.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Metro West Hospice, who provided invaluable support during Arthur's final months, and to the UMASS Chan School, to which he donated his body for scientific research. In accordance with his wishes, no formal memorial services will be held. However, a celebration of his life will be announced in the near future, inviting all who wish to honor his memory.

Chipper's life was a testament to love, service, and laughter. His spirit will forever live on in the hearts of those who loved him.

Local students graduate from College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER — Holy Cross celebrated the 803 bachelor of arts degree recipients at its 180th Commencement held on Friday, May 22 at the DCU Center in Worcester.

Charlie Baker, president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and former governor of Massachusetts, delivered this year's address to the Class of 2026 and received an honorary degree.

In his remarks, Baker emphasized the importance of resilience, personal growth and community, encouraging graduates to embrace life's unexpected turns and define them-

selves through character. "Life is a journey, not a destination," said Baker. "The goal is to take the paths that give you the best chance to grow, find meaning in what you do, and become the very best version of yourself. These are the paths that embrace perseverance, build character and define purpose."

In addition to Baker, Holy Cross also awarded an honorary degree to Tim Garvin, president and CEO of the United Way of Central Massachusetts.

The following local students earned degrees:

Molly Hachey of Charlton
Erin Moran of Charlton,

Cum Laude
Ivori Hidalgo of Southbridge

About Holy Cross
The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

Local student named to Academic All-District Team

BOSTON — Grace Garon of Charlton has been selected to the College Sports Communicators (CSC) Softball Academic All-District Team, as announced by the CSC on May 26.

Garon makes her first CSC Academic All-District Team in her first year eligible. She started in all 40 games in her second season, asserting herself as one of the team's most dangerous hitters. Garon finished her second campaign batting .319 with 36 hits and 34 RBI's.

Nomination to the CSC

Academic All-District Team requires a combination of academic and athletic achievements to be selected. Academically, student-athletes must be at least a sophomore in academic standing and hold a 3.50 cumulative GPA. Athletically, those selected must start in 66 percent of their team's games or participate in 90 percent of a team's contests. For pitchers, a student-athlete must have made at least 17 appearances or pitched 35 innings.

With more than 80 majors and areas of study,

Emmanuel College combines outstanding classroom instruction and real-world experience to prepare students for lives of professional achievement, lifelong learning, and purpose. Voted the #1 college location in America in 2026 by Niche.com, Emmanuel offers ready access to world class medical, cultural, and business organizations in the Heart of Boston, all with a tight-knit 17-acre campus and 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio. Learn more at Emmanuel.edu.

LEGALS

Auction

The equipment was owned and abandoned by John Carpenter of Carpenter Molds, located at 316 County Home Road, Thompson CT 06277.

The items listed are HURCO CNC MILL

The auction will be held at 342 Compass Circle, Unit B4

North Kingston, RI 02852
June 12, 2026 at 9am

May 21, 2026

May 22, 2026

May 28, 2025

June 4, 2026

TOWN OF CHARLTON CHARLTON DPW 100 FLINT ROAD CHARLTON, MA 01507 (508) 248-2212

I. ADVERTISEMENT/PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF CHARLTON – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS INVITATION FOR BIDS FY2027-01

PAVEMENT SURFACING OF VARIOUS STREETS

Sealed bids for the Pavement Surfacing of Various Streets Town of Charlton (hereinafter referred to as "The OWNER") will be received at the Town Administrator's Office, Charlton Municipal Offices, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA, 01507 until 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at which time they will be publicly opened and read. No late bids accepted.

Obtaining Bid Packages: Specifications, general instructions, and Bid Forms must be obtained at the Town Administrator's Office, Charlton Municipal Offices, 37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday via pick-up at the Town Administrator's Office, by email mary.devlin@townofcharlton.net, or call (508) 248-2206. Bidders are required to submit on the Bid Forms provided.

Bid Deposit: All bids over \$10,000 MUST be accompanied by a bid deposit in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid in the form of cash, a bid bond, or a certified check made payable to the Town of Charlton. The bid deposit will be forfeited if the bidder fails to execute the contract and satisfactory Bond within ten (10) days after the contract may have been awarded to them.

Conditions of Contract: All awarded contracts shall be subject to the Special Contract Conditions that accompany this bid package. Successful Bidders will be required to produce a certificate

of insurance. All work being performed requires 100% Performance Bond and a 50% Payment Bond in accordance with G.L. c. 149, section 29. The bidder shall be able to start work under this contract and after the acceptance by the Select Board.

Wage Rates: All wage rates will comply with those established by the Commonwealth Department of Labor and Workforce Development, M.G.L., Chapter 149, Section 26-27G as set forth in the contract documents.

Prequalification: Bidders for all projects that cost over \$50,000 must be prequalified by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (formerly Mass. Highway Department). All bidders shall be subject to Section 34 of Chapter 90, must be prequalified in accordance with 720 CMR 5.00 "Prequalification's of Contractors". This will apply to horizontal construction only.

MassDOT prequalification of contractors with the class of work as PAVEMENT SURFACING for the project with an estimated value of \$336,752.46 will be required.

Award/Rejection: The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive minor informalities in the bids, or to accept the bid deemed best for the OWNER. The OWNER further reserves the right to award all portions of the contract to one bidder. In this case, the price bid by the bidder for each item as detailed on the Bid Form shall remain the same. The contract will be awarded to the lowest, responsible and eligible bidder.

June 4, 2026
June 11, 2026

TOWN OF STURBRIDGE Select Board Public Hearing

National Grid has made a petition to the Sturbridge Select Board to install one (1) JO Pole on Burgess School Road beginning at a point approximately 846 feet north of centerline of the intersection of Main Street and Burgess School Road. Installing Pole #4-89 in a public way to guy corner pole. The pole hearing will take place on **Monday, June 15, 2026 at 6:45 p.m.** at the Sturbridge Town Hall, 2nd floor, Veteran's Memorial Hall located at 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566.

June 4, 2026

CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a

public hearing on June 17, 2026, at 7PM on the application of Robert Mills. The applicant has submitted a Request for Determination of Applicability for the installation of temporary rip rap on the bank of South Charlton Reservoir. Address: 93 Leland Drive, Charlton, MA, 01507. Parcel ID: 73A-A-45 Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely by request. Copies of the RDA may be examined at the Conservation Office by appointment during business hours.

Thomas O'Malley
Chair, Charlton Conservation
Commission
June 4, 2026

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 EZ Learning Realty LLC to Middlesex Loans LLC, dated December 11, 2023, and recorded at the Worcester County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 69982, Page 207, of which mortgage the undersigned together is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction, at 11:00 A.M. on the 11th day of June 2026, at 100 North Street, Southbridge, MA 01550, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:
The land in Southbridge, with the buildings thereon and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin on the southerly line of North Street, 39 feet westerly from the corner of said Street and Crystal Street;
THENCE westerly by said North Street, 55 feet, 1 inch to an iron pin;
THENCE southerly by land now or formerly of Alfredo and Clorinda Francuzzi, 47 feet, 5 inches to an iron pin;
THENCE westerly at right angles by the last named land, 8 feet to an iron pin;
THENCE southerly at right angles by the last named land, 49 feet, 1 inch to an iron pin at land now or formerly of the Estate of Morton et al;
THENCE easterly, 34 feet 2 inches to an iron pin in the ground;
THENCE northerly, 17 feet, 10 inches to an iron pin in the ground;

THENCE again, easterly 21 feet, 10 inches to an iron pin in the ground at land now or formerly of Guiseppi A. Salviuola;

THENCE northerly by last named land, 70 feet, 6 inches to the point of beginning.

Said land is conveyed subject to and with the privilege of enjoying two certain rights of way to pass from said North Street to the building on the above-granted premises, first, that right of way described in an indenture dated November 16, 1926 between Channing M. Wells et al and Francuzzi and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 2423, Page 332, and second, that right of way described in a deed from said Channing M. Wells et al to Guiseppi A. Salviuola dated July 17, 1928 and recorded with said deeds.

For title see deed recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 66274, Page 300.

Premises to 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 dollars (\$5,000) 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 wire transfer to Ligris + Associates, PC, 1188 Centre Street, 2nd Floor, Newton, MA 02459 on or before thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale. Middlesex Loans LLC, Present holder of said mortgage, By its Attorneys, Ligris + Associates, PC 1188 Centre Street Newton Center, MA 02459 (617) 274-1500

May 21, 2026

May 28, 2026

June 4, 2026

Nazareth University student Matthew Schirm of Fiskdale earns Spring Dean's List honors

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Nazareth University is proud to announce that Matthew Schirm of Fiskdale has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2026 semester.

A student's grade point average must be at least 3.5 or above, and they must complete 12 credit hours of graded work that semester in order to be included on the dean's list at Nazareth.

Nazareth University is an inclusive community of inspired learners, educators, and changemakers who for 100 years have been driven by a bold commitment to action, empathy, equity, and leading innovation for the common good. Impact experiences are at the heart of a Nazareth education, preparing each student to discover within themselves the potential to cultivate positive change in their life's work, in any career field, and in a world that is constantly evolving and infinitely interconnected.

Our broad academic offer-

ings present a range of study options typical of big universities, yet achieved in our supportive campus culture.

Nearly 2,100 undergrad and 600 graduate students enroll in degree and certificate programs and engage

in collaborative, transformative learning experiences, preparing them for the professions and society of today

and tomorrow. In a learning community that purposefully integrates liberal arts and professional programs,

Nazareth graduates launch lifetimes of changemaking leadership in communities and workplaces near and far.

Central Mass. farmers' market season starts now!

REGION — May marks the semi-official beginning to farmers market season, with many of the seasonal farmers' markets in our region starting their regular schedules, with more starting in June. Central Mass Grown is proud to support more than two dozen farmers markets across the Worcester County area.

Just in the city of Worcester, residents can choose from no less than six different markets, including the markets run by the Regional Environmental Council, both the Beaver Brook Market (306 Chandler St.) Friday mornings starting June 12 and the University Park Market (965

Main St.) Saturday mornings starting June 13, plus the Out To Lunch Market on the Worcester Common Oval behind City Hall every Wednesday from June 24 to Aug. 26. On Sundays, there's both the Market on Exchange Street starting May 17th and the Brussels Street Market starting June 7. And on Thursdays, check out the Burncoat Center for Arts and Wellness at 78 Burncoat St. for their new farmers market starting May 14th. Some of these markets feel like festivals, while others are farmers markets in the truest sense, focused on offering fresh food and agricultural products directly from local farms.

Throughout the region, there's a market nearly every day of the week: for example, the Sturbridge Farmers Market on Sunday, Holden on Tuesday, Grafton on Wednesday,

Westborough on Thursday, and Westminster on Friday. And so many, many more markets featuring a wide variety of items you won't find anywhere in supermarkets, including purple cauliflower, celeriac, husk cherries, goat cheese, duck eggs, or alpaca wool socks!

Every farmers' market is important to the farmers and other vendors that are there.

According to Central Mass Grown Executive Director David Reed, "Farmers mar-

kets are a vital source of revenue for farmers, because every dollar goes right back to them. And they are an important way for consumers to see where their food, flowers, wool, and soap all come from. If you usually shop in a big box store or online, you've never had a real chance to know anything about what you are buying."

Most farmers markets in our region have one or more farms that participate in the Healthy Incentives Programs, a benefit connected to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP recipients can use their EBT card to purchase fresh

produce from participating farms and receive an immediate refund to their card, up to a monthly limit that is based on household size. The end result? Free farm-fresh fruits and vegetables, and the reward of knowing you supported your local farm!

So this summer season, visit a farmers' market and take a second to say hi to your local farmers. The farmers want to meet you. They want to say hi. Because farming is hard work, and they do it because they love it and they want you to love it, too.

Find out more about local farmers markets at central-massgrown.org.



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Joshua Hyde Public Library

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Sturbridge
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mayent@cwmar.org

The Library will be closed on Friday, June 19th for Juneteenth.

Wednesdays from 5:00pm to 7:00pm
WEEKLY TECH HELP

Free tech assistance! Bring your own device or use our available computers. We can assist with: Printing, E-mailing, Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite, word processing, digitizing photos and scanning documents, setting up eBooks and audio books through Libby onto your tablet or smartphone, device setup and updates, basic smartphone and tablet use, accessing Library databases and resources, and more. Need help with something else? Just ask! Please note: This is BASIC tech assistance. We cannot repair broken devices, recover lost passwords, or enter your private information (such as a bank number) online. Please have your passwords ready. Please make an appointment.

Wednesday, June 3 - 5:30pm to 7:30pm

COLOR ME CALM
Slow down, settle in, and color. Drop by the library for a friendly, low-key coloring session. We'll provide a wide variety of coloring pages and plenty of supplies. Come explore a creative activity that has been shown to support mindfulness and reduce everyday stress. This program is suitable for teens and adults.

Wednesday, June 3 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm

BOOK DISCUSSION: ATMOSPHERE BY TAYLOR JENKINS

REID

Join us for a discussion of the book *Atmosphere* by Taylor Jenkins Reid. Books are available through the library and downloadable on Libby. This Pride Month event is sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL and presented in collaboration with the Charlton Public Library and the Jacob Edwards Library, Southbridge.

Thursday, June 4 - 2:00pm to 3:30pm at the Senior Center

BECOMING THE ANCESTOR YOUR FAMILY REMEMBERS: DOCUMENTING YOUR OWN LIFE

This session offers practical guidance on documenting your own life story using a variety of formats—from job applications and photo captions to vivid personal memories. Leave behind more than just dates—leave your voice, your story, and your legacy. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL in cooperation with the Sturbridge Council on Aging.

Monday, June 8 through Saturday, June 13 - all day

PRIDE RAINBOW SCAVENGER HUNT

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple - so many colors! What can you find in our Children's Room? Complete the scavenger hunt and win a fun prize to help celebrate Pride month! This is a drop in program and no registration is required.

Monday, June 8 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm - Virtual

SUMMER ROMANCE BEACH READ RECOMMENDATIONS WITH LORELEI

We have so much fun with Lorelei that we are

thrilled to have her back again. This time, Lorelei will be chatting about the books she's looking forward to reading this summer - the best of romance beach reads! Please register for this event and you'll receive the link in the confirmation and reminder emails. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Ashland Public Library and they are thrilled to be partnering with a multitude of MA and NH libraries.

Tuesday, June 9 - 10:45am to 11:30am
LOVE MAKES A FAMILY: PREK STORYTIME

Children of all ages and their families are invited to join us for a special Pride-themed story time celebrating what makes a family a family, no matter what it looks like. We'll read a book or two and make fun, rainbow-themed crafts.

Wednesday, June 10 - 10:45am to 11:30am

BABY TIME ON THE COMMON

Join us for a special Baby Time on the Common. We'll enjoy a beautiful morning while we sing, read books, and play with our friends. This program is weather dependent. Feel free to bring items needed to enjoy time outside.

Thursday, June 11 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm - Virtual

AUTHOR PANEL: A JOURNEY TO DISCOVERY

Boyden Library, Foxborough, will be hosting an author panel of three YA authors who will share their personal journey of discovery of identity and growing up LGBTQIA+! We welcome authors Matteo L. Cerilli (he/him), Josh

Galarza, and Lin / L.T. Thompson (they/them) to our virtual stage. This is a virtual program and registration is required.

Monday, June 15 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm - Virtual

LOST: AMELIA EARHART'S THREE MYSTERIOUS DEATHS AND ONE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE WITH RACHEL HARTIGAN

Join author Rachel Hartigan as she discusses her book, "Lost: Amelia Earhart's Three Mysterious Deaths and One Extraordinary Life". Unravel one of history's greatest mysteries in this spellbinding narrative exploring three leading theories of Amelia Earhart's tragic disappearance. This is a virtual program and registration is required. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Ashland Public Library and they're thrilled to be collaborating with a multitude of MA libraries.

Tuesday, June 16 - 6:30pm to 7:45pm

COOKBOOK AUTHOR TALK & TASTING: THE REVOLUTION WILL BE WELL FED

Join author Corrie Locke-Hardy and learn about the Black Panther Party's free breakfast program and other social movements while sampling recipes from the book. *Note: The recipes were developed using all-purpose gluten-free flour but readers can easily swap in all-purpose wheat flour. This Pride Month event is sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL and presented in collaboration with the Charlton Public Library and the Jacob Edwards Library, Southbridge

Wednesday, June 17 - 10:45am to 11:30am
BABY TIME AT THE LITTLE BARN

Join us for a special Baby Time at The Little Barn! We'll sing songs, read a book, and then play together in The Little Barn's indoor play space. The first 15 crawlers/walkers who arrive will receive a ticket for free entry courtesy of the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library. After the first 15 crawlers/walkers, there will be a reduced fee of \$10 per child to enter. All infants who are not yet crawling may enter for free. Children must be accompanied by a caregiver.

Wednesday, June 17 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm

LOOSE ENDS PROJECT: AN INFORMATION SESSION

The Loose Ends Project, a global non-profit crafting network, aims to ease grief, create community, and inspire generosity by matching volunteer handwork finishers with projects left undone due to death, illness, or disability. During this information session, you'll learn how to submit a loved one's textile project to be completed by a volunteer and how to volunteer your time and crafting skills to help someone get a treasured project completed.

Thursday, June 18 - 9:00am to 11:00am

BOOK DISCUSSION BREAKFAST

Come enjoy a light breakfast while planning for the upcoming year of the Armchair Travelers 2026/2027. Don't forget to bring your book suggestions! Registration is required

Thursday, June 18 - 6:00pm to 7:00pm

LEGO CLUB

Come build with Legos. Suitable for children ages 5 to 12 with an adult caregiver. Registration is required.

Tuesday, June 23 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm

WORLD BUILDING BOOK GROUP

This month's book is "Exhalation" by Ted Chiang.

Tuesday, June 23 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm - Virtual

WE WERE ALWAYS HERE: UNCOVERING QUEER HISTORY IN EVERY ERA

From the Friends of Dorothy to Boston marriages, LGBTQIA+ people have been living as their authentic queer selves in every era, in every culture. Gender queer inclusion consultant, Ali Kane (she/they) will share queer stories from the 1600s to the 1960s. From these accounts, you will gain a glimpse into queer lives throughout history, as well as explore how these truths were uncovered and strategies for preserving queer history today. This Pride Month event is sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL and presented in collaboration with the Charlton Public Library, the Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge, and other MA libraries.

Summer reading begins Wednesday, June 24 and this year's theme is "Unearth a Story".

All programs are sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL unless otherwise indicated.

To register for programs and for more information go to sturbridgelibrary.org.

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* June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Maureen Cimoch * Bryan Pelletier

Webster - 3 Oakwood Dr
Featured New Listing!



Meticulously maintained Colonial, 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 baths, 2 car garage, conveniently located on a park-like one acre, picturesque views. Kitchen is a culinary enthusiast's delight, elegant formal living/dining rms offer a sophisticated ambiance enhanced by hardwood flrs, crown moldings & custom built-ins. **MLS # 73523347**
\$5589,900

Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
Commercial Opportunity!



Corner Lot, 275' +/- Road Frontage, Extremely High Traffic Count, 6,200 SF (75x80) Commercial Building, Currently 2 Units -> Potential for More. Economical, Efficient Natural Gas FHA Heat & Cooling. Its close proximity to Successful National Franchised Businesses generates Significant Commerce at this Location. Convenient Access.
List Price: \$ 615,000

Featured Listing Webster ~ 33 Slater Street
OPEN HOUSE! SUN. 11 - 2



Sprawling fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level, w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf of main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors. **\$525,000**

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 bds, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/walk-in closet, and private full bath, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage **\$649,900.00**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Pt Snug Harbor Villa
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On Indian Point # 10
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Webster Lake - 302 Killdeer Island
SORRY, SOLD!
Lakefront home w/1,700 +/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Full baths. Lower level family room w/walkout to water. **\$775,000**

Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!!
SORRY, SOLD!
Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF. 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! **\$1,100,000**

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Sadie Green's celebrates 35 years of community, style, and small business success

Anniversary celebration to be held Sunday, June 7

SOUTHBRIDGE — Sadie Green's, a beloved local retail destination, is proud to celebrate its 35th anniversary this year. Since opening its doors in 1991, the shop has become a staple in the Sturbridge community, known for its jewelry and thoughtfully curated selection of gifts, accessories, and unique



finds. Over the past three and a half decades, Sadie Green's has built lasting relationships with generations of customers, offering not just products but a warm and welcoming shopping experience. The store has remained committed to supporting local artisans, embracing evolving trends, and maintaining the personal touch that defines small businesses.

To mark the occasion, Sadie Green's will host a special anniversary celebration on Sunday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at its 283 Main St., Sturbridge shop. The event will include promotions, exclusive anniversary edition earrings, and light refreshments. The community is invited to join in the festivities and celebrate this milestone together. "To reach 35 years in retail is incredibly meaningful," said Laurie Boniface, owner of Sadie Green's. "We're so grateful to our loyal customers and this amaz-

ing community for supporting us throughout the years. Sadie Green's wouldn't be here without them."

ing community for supporting us throughout the years. Sadie Green's wouldn't be here without them."

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