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Friday, February 19, 2021

Catholic Schools Week at Trinity Catholic Academy

SOUTHBRIDGE — The week of Feb. 6 was a fun and busy one at TCA, with activities to engage with our community and to celebrate our education with all we have around us. Sunday’s open house was a great success, resulting in waiting lists for some classes. Monday TCA celebrated our community adorn-

Tantasqua swim picks up the win

FISKDALE — The Tantasqua swim team got their first win this past week over Shrewsbury, 87-83, making their record 1-3. Eben Mazeika got a first in the 200 IM and a second in the 100 Fly. Ethan Korenda got first in the 50 free and third in the 100 Breaststroke.

The 200 freestyle team of Cameron Chisholm, Max Sullivan, Eben Mazeika, and Korenda placed first as did the 400 Free relay team (Adam Mazeika, Zoey Zhu, Camden Foley and Max Sullivan). The team also saluted their seniors Dani Harwood, Nina Huettmann, Emma O’Coin, Victoria Perry, Daniel Sickenberger, and Rebecca Turley. They will all be missed.



Left to right: Third graders Matteo Qirko, Joshua McManus, Alexio Yacavace, Nicolas Guavin, and Ayden Rodriguez.

ing their classroom windows with positive and encouraging words to share great vibes to all. Prayer bag contents were collected from our school community to be distributed to local shel-

ters. This project will be completed this week. TCA celebrated our nation and Student Appreciation Day on Wednesday. A Star-Spangled Turn To **TCA**, page **A13**

Country Bank welcomes new Senior VP of Innovation & Technology

STURBRIDGE — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce that Dr. Peter Morales has joined their Innovation & Technology Division as a Senior Vice President. Dr. Morales, who resides in Sturbridge, has held several technical leadership positions, most recently as Vice President and CIO for an international educational organization supporting more than 45,000 students in more than 40 countries worldwide. Dr. Morales also held positions at New York University (leading technology at the Law and Engineering schools) and the New York and American Stock Exchanges.

Dr. Morales began his career developing diagnostic systems for the F18, the jet that the Blue Angels currently fly. He holds degrees in Electrical Engineering, a Master’s in Engineering Management, and a Doctorate in Computer Science and Information Systems. He continues to teach in two Master’s programs at NYU and is on the Board of Directors for several incubator startups and non-profits. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Karen Vezina-Morales, fun fact - the Vezina trophy in hockey is named after her great uncle Georges. They have a son,

Christopher, a computer scientist, and a daughter Katie, a Fine Arts major.

“We are extremely excited to welcome Dr. Morales to our leadership team; his extensive background as a senior technology leader in a variety of industries brings an exciting level of strategic thought and direction to the Country Bank brand of Community Banking. His commitment to technology development, high-performing teams, and experience as an educator aligns with our iSTEP Corporate Values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity. We are proud that Peter has chosen Country Bank to be his Employer of Choice,” stated Miriam Siegel, Senior Vice President of Human Resources.

About Country Bank

Country Bank is a full-service mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, and Worcester. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.



Dr. Peter Morales

Hitchcock Academy “Marches” forward with programming



BRIMFIELD — Don’t let the cold weather dampen your enthusiasm for getting out and trying new things. Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield has plenty on its upcoming roster of classes to get your juices flowing in March. With both in house and online offerings, hitchcockacademy.org is sure to have an activity to pique your interest.

Looking to connect with your inner self? Hitchcock has classes in Mindfulness Meditation,

Pilates, and Yoga to help you throw off your winter fog. Beginning on March 2 and continuing over the next four weeks, Instructor Annette Farrington will be your online guide to forming Mindfulness Meditation practices which will help you deal with and manage your stress level. On March 15, a new session of online Yoga begins with the ever popular Sharon Palmer. As a Certified Kripalu Yoga teacher Palmer can help

anyone, from fledgling to veteran, to progress in the discipline of Hatha Yoga. The one and a quarter hour sessions are sure to relax, rejuvenate and reinvigorate your body and your psyche. Pilates, with seasoned instructor Karen Larsen, gives you eight sessions of a world recognized exercise system geared to improve flexibility, posture, balance, and strength. Most importantly, Pilates targets and builds the core muscles, which are essential to lifelong health. This is an in person class.

“Pilates had been a favorite class pre-pandemic, so we are really happy we are able to offer that again,” says Executive Director Cindy Skowryra, “and fencing is slated to return in late April. As always, we continue to look for new program offerings or small events to support the communities we serve.”

Skowryra encourages people to reach out with ideas and suggestions.

Get the training you need to respond to an emergency by taking advantage of the March 4 classes in CPR and First Aid. Take either session or take both and receive your ESCI certification at the end of the evening from Instructor Nora Holland. This is valuable training to last a lifetime. On March 28, everyone’s favorite, Sue Gaulin of Let’s Cake Decorate, is back with a class that anticipates the Easter holiday. The class has all the supplies you’ll need to craft your own delicious Bunny Stump Cake to take home and enjoy.

If the furry friend you got over the holidays is ready for some behavioral skills there’s a new Buddies Dog Training beginning on March 17. This class, run by veteran trainer Laurie Merritt, focuses on positive training techniques, which will provide a lasting foundation for a lifelong partnership between you and your pet. A new session of Introduction to K9 Nosework training begins on March 6.


On March 1, Sensei Israel Lopez begins a new session of Martial Arts with “COVID pricing.” Of just \$35 / month for 2 classes per week. These

YOUR
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MATTER

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Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.



When can children brush their own teeth?

Parents quickly learn that their children go through a transition marked by a desire to be more independent. They're picking out their own mismatched clothes and no longer want any help when solving puzzles or complex toys. That newfound independence signals getting older and can be a healthy thing to nourish. But what happens when a youngster suddenly believes he or she is capable of brushing his or her teeth without assistance?

Parents wrestling with their kids' can-do attitude and if it's wise to allow them to brush their teeth unassisted can familiarize themselves with certain guidelines to determine their youngsters' readiness. According to Scripps Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics, most kids are at least six years old before they have developed the finesse and dexterity to handle a toothbrush in a manner that will effectively remove plaque. Dentists also may ask if the child can tie his or her own shoes, which can serve as a barometer

of readiness to wield a toothbrush without assistance.

Pediatricians and pediatric dentists recommend that children visit a dentist as soon as a child's first tooth starts to appear. This also is when parents should begin to clean their children's teeth. As a child ages, the natural proclivity to want to take charge of brushing teeth takes hold. The child may not yet have the manual dexterity to brush alone, but parents can encourage the child to brush and then go over the teeth as a "double check." This helps foster independence while also ensuring teeth are fully cleaned.

Flossing may require even more dexterity than brushing, but it is essential for sloughing off plaque that accumulates between teeth and below the gum line, according to Parents magazine. Moms and dads can introduce their children to pre-threaded Y-shaped flossing tools, which are easier to handle than loose floss.

Parents will have to check on chil-



dren even as they age to be sure they are practicing good oral hygiene. Parents who are in doubt about their children's readiness can work with dentists or dental hygienists to assess skills and get other pointers.

Dental hygiene is about more than just your teeth



Individuals tend to learn about dental hygiene at an early age. On the recommendation of their children's pediatricians, parents may begin brushing their youngsters' teeth the moment the first tooth breaks through the gums. While proper dental hygiene is vital to oral health, it also can have a profound effect on the rest of the body.

According to the Mayo Clinic, poor oral health might contribute to various diseases and conditions. Periodontitis is a severe yet preventable gum infection that can lead to tooth loss if left untreated. But the threat of periodontitis doesn't end in the mouth. The American Academy of Periodontology notes there's a connection between periodontitis and several other diseases. While bacteria was long suspected to be the link between periodontitis and

other diseases in the body, the AAP notes that recent research points to inflammation as the culprit that connects periodontitis with diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

DIABETES

The AAP notes that people with diabetes are at increased risk for periodontal disease, speculating that diabetes patients' risk is higher because people with diabetes are more vulnerable to infections than those without diabetes. While that suggests periodontal disease is a byproduct of diabetes, the AAP notes that research points to the relationship being a two-way street. Periodontal disease may make it more difficult for people with diabetes to control their blood sugar, making dental hygiene an especially

vital component of routine health-care for people with diabetes.

HEART DISEASE

The AAP notes that research indicates periodontal disease increases a person's risk for heart disease, with the inflammation caused by the former leading to the latter. People with existing heart conditions also may find that periodontal disease exacerbates those conditions. The Mayo Clinic notes that the link between heart disease and periodontal disease is not fully understood, but enough studies have been conducted for scientists to support the notion that the two are connected.

CAN PERIODONTAL DISEASE BE PREVENTED?

Periodontal disease is preventable. A daily dental hygiene regimen that includes brushing after meals, flossing at least once per day and swishing with mouthwash are some simple, healthy habits that can prevent periodontal disease. In addition, the AAP recommends that people at increased risk for periodontal disease, including the elderly and smokers, should discuss their risk with their dental professionals.

Dental hygiene can do more for individuals than produce a mouthful of pearly white teeth. In fact, people who prioritize dental hygiene may lower their risks for various diseases.

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Jacob Edwards Library celebrates Women's History Month with online concert

SOUTHBRIDGE — As part of its robust series of arts and cultural offerings, the Jacob Edwards Library is pleased to host singer/songwriters Oakes & Smith and Kala Farnham for an evening of story and song in celebration of Women's History Month. The performance will feature the artists' own original compositions, as well as songs and writings by acclaimed women artists. All are invited to attend this free online event, which will be offered over Zoom, sponsored by The Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency funded by Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. For information on how to join in, call 508-764-5426, visit jacobedwardslibrary.org, or send email to roberteoakes@gmail.com.

Berkshire-based husband-and-wife folk duo Oakes & Smith creates an ethereal sound not often heard in today's popular music. The couple evokes a soulful sense of wonder, expressing themes of love, creativity, mystery, and an appreciation of natural beauty.

Said Kylee Colvin of The Levity Ball, "Oakes & Smith...bring a sense of calm and ease to the air...with songs so full of wisdom and true emotions."

Their latest release, "Between the Earth and the Sky," was mixed by Grammy-winning engineer Oz Fritz and features a performance by celebrated Yes vocalist Jon Anderson. The EP was on high rotation on Soul



Courtesy

As part of its robust series of arts and cultural offerings, the Jacob Edwards Library is pleased to host singer/songwriters Oakes & Smith and Kala Farnham for an evening of story and song in celebration of Women's History Month.

Traveler Radio, and critics have given it warm praise.

Said Cody Conard of The Big Takeover magazine, "The duo's chemistry is well and clearly still in place, arguably more than ever before, because (this) is one of their best releases yet."

And Anthony Avina of On Request magazine called it "emotional, heartfelt music that touches the soul." Annie Rew Shaw of Echoes and Dust said, "Katherine's vocals are so pure and clear, they almost crystallize in your head. Her voice...holds deep emotion and wisdom." For more information about Oakes & Smith, visit www.oakesandsmith.net.

Armed with a voice, an entourage of instruments, and faith in the

power of story, Connecticut-based songstress Kala Farnham set out into the world with one vision: To inspire through the transformative power of musical storytelling. Farnham has garnered numerous awards and recognition, including 2019 Rose Garden Performing Songwriter Contest winner and alumni of the Johnny Mercer Songwriters Project. Farnham's recent album, a heartfelt account of adventure and homecoming titled Samadhi: Home Is Where You Are, was nominated for RI's Motif Music Awards "Best Americana Album," and hailed by Bill Copeland Music News as "soulful Americana" in "one of New

England's best voices in one of this year's best written and best recorded works." Drawing from a classical education and professional career in musical theater, Farnham presents hallmark reinvention of the folk tradition; her passion for fairytales, ancient history, and vivid storytelling draws her audience into imaginative re-creations of the familiar world. For more information about Kala Farnham, visit www.kalafarnham.com.

STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

Warren, Markey condemn Trump acquittal

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Former President Donald Trump has been acquitted for a second time after the House of Representatives voted to impeach the Republican for his alleged involvement in inciting the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capital Building. Massachusetts's Senators are condemning the Republicans who refused to find Trump guilty of inciting the insurrection labeling them as "cowards."

Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey both took to Twitter following the vote on Feb. 13 where seven Republicans joined every Democrat in the Senate in voting Trump guilty of the charges against him. However, the vote didn't earn the required number of votes to actually convict the former President the with 57-to-43 tally being ten votes short of the two-third required. Senators Warren and Markey said the Republicans who chose not to convict Trump

failed to hold him accountable for his part in the Jan. 6 riots.

"Donald Trump incited a mob of domestic terrorists to attack our Capitol and overturn the election. Even seven Senate Republicans couldn't stomach his act of insurrection. Our democracy must be stronger than the former president and the 43 senators who sided with him today," Warren said on Twitter.

"Donald Trump engaged in an active, willful, intentional attack on our Constitution and our democracy. The Republicans who voted to acquit him are cowards," Markey added in his own Twitter post.

The vote to convict Trump would have given the Senate power to prevent him from running for another term in the future. The trial was only the fourth impeachment trial in American history but the second for Trump who was previously impeached by the House and acquitted by the Senate in January of 2020.

Breathalyzer issues cast doubt on DUI convictions

REGION — Thousands of Worcester County defendants charged with operating under the influence of alcohol might have the opportunity for a new trial.

Over the next few weeks, defendants will receive letters in the mail indicating they may be entitled to a new trial because of problems with breathalyzer evidence, according to Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr.

The breathalyzer tests in question were administered between 2011 and 2018. Statewide, there are about 27,000 defendants who may be eligible to contest their convictions.

Friday's Child



Tatiana
Age 12

Hi! My name is Tatiana and I want to try gymnastics!

Tatiana is a funny and lovable girl of Hispanic descent. She loves playing with dolls, coloring and riding her bike outside. One day she hopes to join a gymnastics team.

Tatiana receives extra supports in school to help address her academic, intellectual and social/emotional needs. Tatiana particularly struggles with relating to her peers and often presents as a much younger child. She is on the Autism Spectrum.

Not yet legally freed for adoption, Tatiana will benefit from joining a loving family of any constellation who can provide her with stability, structure and a dependable routine. She will do best as an only child or with older siblings. An ideal family will be comfortable navigating the mental health and educational systems, and be able

to act as a strong advocate for Tatiana. A family should also be open to helping Tatiana maintain a relationship with her four siblings and birth parents, who she currently visits with monthly.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

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Bay Path announces honor roll

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

Grade 12

High Honors: Dominic Beauchesne, Dylan Bellerive, Maya Bond, Dani Borci, Kaitlyn Brindle, Matthew Brown, Emma Christian, Andrew Colson, Cheyenne Courtney, Natalie Courtney, Bailey Creeron, Jordan DeFosse, Evan Duffey, Isabella Gonyea, Alexis Gosselin, Elena Hopkins, Isaac Josti, Juliannah Kolofsky, Samantha Labella, Eliana

Lasell, Alicia Lempitski, Julio Lopez-Torres, Brian Malone, Nicholas Marcotte, Chase McKenney, Zachary Messina, Ty Millette, Michael Mulally, Owen Ostromecki, Meagan Peck, Luis Perez, Madison Poole, McKenzie Robinson, Kyle Sadusky, Ryan Steiner, Kiana Tonkin, Jared Torosian, Ashley Wilson, Caitlin Young

Honors: Emma Abbascia, Adiran Aguilar, Bryanna Andino, Graciela Antunez Flores, Erika Apher, Kayla Aviles, Ivy Ballou, Jacob Benoit, Cameron Blake, Skyler Bond, Victoria Bonneau, Samantha Burdett, Kayla Canty, Abigail Card,

Gabriella Caron, Lauren Chase, Leigha Clifford, Christian Consiglio, Aaron Correia, Megan Costa, Olivia Courville, Timothy Crowell, Lexia Demers, Kelli Devlin, Jessi Escoto-Cifuentes, Cameron Fishcer, Sean Flynn, Benjamin Gelineau, Sarah Gosselin, Chloe Grenier, Evan Hall, Devin Hanlan, Jayce Hutchinson, Abigail Joesten, Elin Kaufman, Jodie Kendall, Savannah LaBranche, Matthew Livsey, Grant Maffei, Elizabeth McLam, Samuel Messier, Dimitrios, Mironidis, Nicholas Moulton, Joshua Natale, Robert Nichols III, Troy Pollone, Keith Reardon, Nicholas Reil, James Rivera, Parker Santon, Dylan Smaltz, Kyleigh Sutherland, Maynard Sweet-Giglio, Christopher Towns, Jr., Joshua Turcotte, Nikko Vitkos, Genevieve Williams, Louis Zanca

Principal's List: Kyle Bacon, Nathan Barton, Nathaniel Beauchesne, Brent Burlingame, Zackary Choiniere, Tyler DeWitt, Tyler Ethier, Cameron Forget, Gwen Frappier, Parker Gilspin, Ryan Grampetro, Hailey Hubert, Karma Lama, Angel Martinez, Madison McKeon, Kylee Olejniczak, Riley Smith, Tori Vitikos, Cullen West, Katie Wroblewski

Grade 11

High Honors: Justin Barton, Hayden Bourgeois, Alexia Brawn, Dylan Butkus, Patric Campbell, Diego Canovas, Jackson Chaffee, Chloe Dexter, Erin Donahue, Marlee Donohoe, Cody Douglas, Nathan Dreitlein, Lillian Dunkerton, Nicholas Hunter, Morgan Ivory, Logan Johnson, Tiffany King, Bethany Lasell, Anthony Martins, Amber Mercon, Aaron Mitchell, Jovanni Morales, Elizabeth Pilling, Rachael Plaud, Lukas Rafferty, Zachary Sargent, Ethan Shanbaum, Sarah Simpson, Olivia St. Germain, Isabella Tanacea, Scarlet Taveras, Mateusz Zych

Honors: Aidan Adler, Connor Barton, Thomas Becker, Thomas Benoit, Dominic Benvenuti, Jayde Berthiaume, Sadie Bickford, Anna Bonin, Andrew Cannon, Isabella Capuano, Rafe Carlson, Stephanie Chege, Aiden Chemisky, Connor Clardy, Clayton Constantine, Nolan Courtney, Aleysha Cruz Merced, Kevin Cunningham, Jack Dalton, Marisa DeJesus, Hayden Dery, Harmony Desrosiers, Lillian Dolan, Johnathon Ferreira, Austin Fish, Tricia Gallien, Danielle Gautier, Adelina Giaquinto, Alex Gilfoy, Genesis Gonzalez, Nicholas Gosselin, Cameron Hafner, Ashley Hamel, Zachary Hinman, Kailey Jones, Ryan Kempskie, Kevin Kilcourse, Cole Komssi, Ryan Komssi, Jason Kozlowski, Chase Lamprey, Andrew Leach, William Lecuyer, Lexie MacDonald, Brandon Martocci, Tori Masiello, Madigan McManus, Olivia Morin, Samuel Murillo, Angelina Ortiz, Paige Osche, Gabrielle Packard, Aaliyah Perez, Hunter Pocis, Krystal Quadarella, Xavier Rodriguez-Bradley, Alex Saad, Luzyvette Sagastibelza-Lopez, Kristina Scott, Anthony Seymour, Jordan Sheehan, Daniel Silbert, Chloe Sicari-Swinimer, Katrina Somers, Caroline Soucy, Kyra Stevens, Francheska Toribio-Polanco, Jalissa Torres, Camden Towns, Aaron Trahan, Aaliyah Tremblay Collins, Rohan Vaidya, Kyle VanCott, Tyler Verrier

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Bryce Kaszowski, Taylor Labrecque, Zoe LaMountain Perron, Krystal Lavallee, Andrew Lavoie, Gianna Legere Olivencia, Richard Menard IV, Evan O'Malley, Caleb Renaud, Carlos Rosado, Jacqueline Ross, Joshua Sullivan, Jomar Torres, Adirana Vazquez Gonzalez

Grade 10

High Honors: Olivia Beaudette, Elizabeth Dreitlein, Ty Dupuis, Evan Gelineau, John Guerin, Emma Hesselton, Samantha Inangelo, Anna L'Esperance, Aiden LaFrance, Sydney Lamontagne, Connor McCarthy, Erika Melendez, Mackenzie Morrisey, Michael Pacheco, Damon Provencal, Abraham Routhier, Wyatt Sadusky, Jazlynn Santana, Terry Simon, Emily Westwell

Honors: Alyssa Adams, Samuel Audunsson, Quinn Beck, John Begg, Alexander Besaw, Benjamin Besaw, Jon Boyle, Ryan Brown Herraiz, Dennis Brunelle, Matthew Casati, Daniel Chaffee, Amanda Christianson, Isabella Coleman, Makayla Collins, Ryan Couture, Troy Cyr, Ryan Davis, Cam'Ron Desrosiers, Cheryl Dolson, Breanna Donohue, Lucas Farnham, Zachary Finizza, Jayden Flanders, Tori Fontaine, Casey Gallagher, Emily Gelineau, Noah Gilspin, Adrian Gonzalez, Osiris Gonzalez, Barry Hanson, Lauren Hennessy, Kathryn Herriage, Rebeka Janusz, Grace Jones, Angelica Joubert, Dlaney Kirkorian, Nakia L'Ecuyer, Madison Lamica, Robert Leblanc, Ayden Letourneau, Gianaleze Lopez, Timothy Maenpaa, Judly Maignan, Matthew Marchetti, Dylan McDonald, Rachel McMenemy, Yerilian Miranda-Colon, Dominic Moniz, Kyle Moody, Dylan Morrison Ilvonen, Merissa Murray, Stephen Ngaruiya, Cameron Nolette, Gabrielle Oikle, Tessa Olejniczak, Gabriel Osciak, Joelle Peluso, Kiyana Perez, Amelia Peterson, Trevor Phillips, Georgios Pirperis, Madison Poirier, Patrick Prudhomme, Hilary Queirolo, Ariane Ramos, Jenisey Ramos, Emma Rannikko, Evan Rivera, Rozlyn Robillard, Cameron Scobie, Ronin Simone, Sawyer Smith, Lucas Soloperto, Naomi Soriano, Evan St. Cyr, Emma St. Francis, Alexander Tetreault, Jacob Thomas, Patrick Tierney, Yahil Vegas-Cortes, Lucas Welton, Jacob Wilga, Jonathan Young

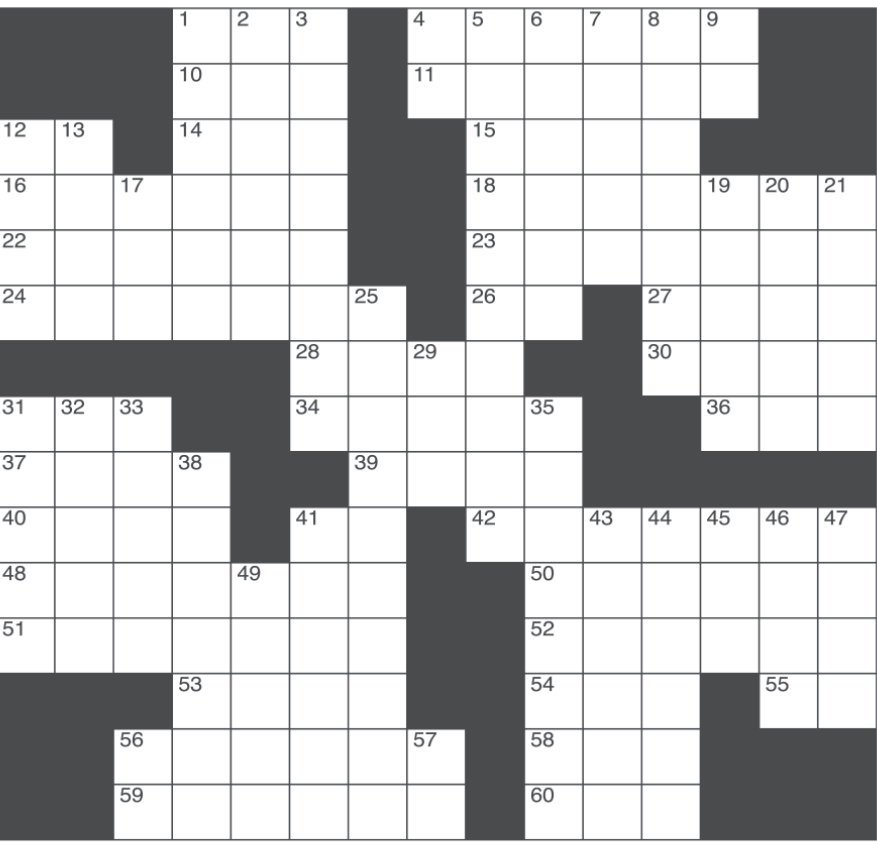
Principal's List: Jake Aho, Fabian Alvis, Lukus Bachand, Samuel Boria, Connor Burke, Hailey Carlson, Anthony Catino, Grace Comeau, Anthony Comforti, Gage Conroy-Laboeuf, Anthony Costello, Edgardo Cruz-Merced, Ronald Desrosiers, Amanda Englund, Gabriel Espinosa, Jacob Farnham, Collin Farrell, Zachary Ford, Evan Frost, Nathan Goozey, Devon Goulet, Luke Hill, Matthew Hoyt, Michael Jalbert, Matthew Kallgren, Cole Latour, James LeProhon, Sean Malboeuf, Jaime Marrero, Jonathan Norman, Jonathan Nussey, Timothy Putnam, Sabrina Rodrigues, Knygel Rosario, Nolan Sharry, Damion Szafarowicz, Makenna Zella

Grade 9

High Honors: Sophia Balestracci, Alex Beshiri, Luke Boliver, Rachel Carpenter, Timothy Charette, Eyan Chase, Meredith Clark, Yanieris Colon Vega, Kirsten Congdon, Dylan DeJesus, Jibril Erraihani, Jonathan Forget, Jenna Gajewski, Rachel Gormley, Simon Greening, Lucas Hafner, Tristan Hanson, Riley Heenan, Valerie Hernandez, Stanislaw Janusz, Anna Lehtola, Hannah Luuko, Sarah Martin, Matteo Mastrototaro, Kayla Nguyen, Stephanie Njenga, Madison Nolin, Nason Omasta, Ismael Porrata, Emily Quental, Amanda Seidler, Catherine Sirard, Jacob Sirard, Jack Ugrinow, Charlotte Worster, Stone Zink

Honors: Avarie Beauchamp, Angeliz Beltre Colon, Lindsey Berthiaume, Alec Borelli, Damien Boucher, Andrew Bousquet, Emma Bransky, Ryan Bray, Samantha Buchanan, Joseph Budney, Alivia Cannon, Olivia Carrier, Riley Caruso, Madyson Chicoine, Evan Christiano, Petru Cojocar, Rachel Conlon, Mariselle Cosme, Zachary Cournoyer, Kyleigh Czechowski, LeeAnn Dagnese, Daniel Daige, Wyatt Daoust, Emma Davidson, Jeffrey Denham, Sean Derenas, Jonathan Desmarais, Lianna

Turn To **BAY PATH**, page **A13**

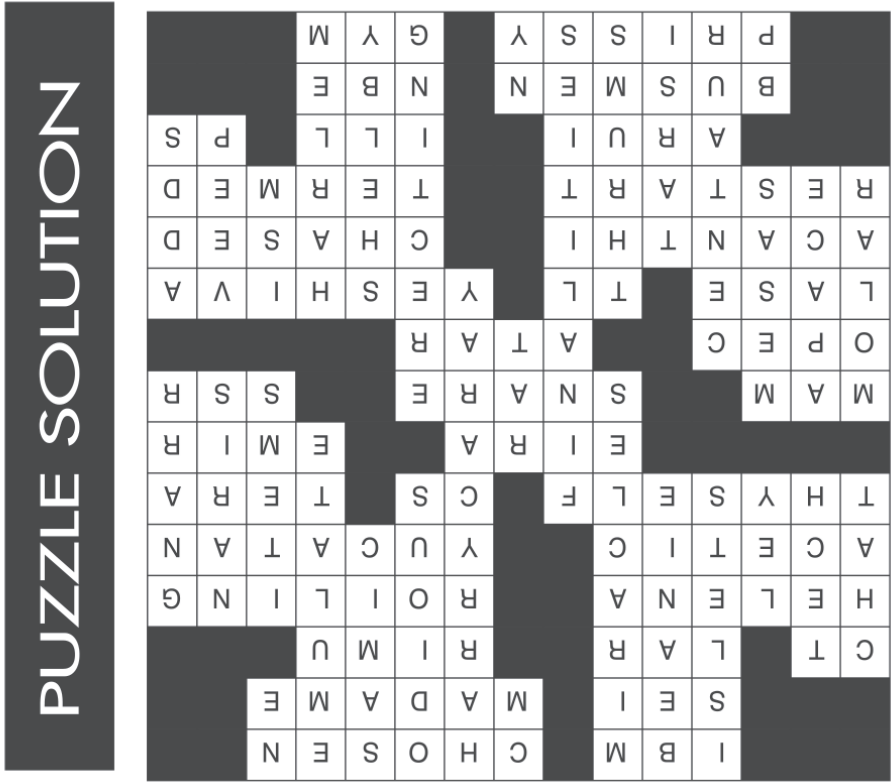


CLUES ACROSS

1. Big tech firm
4. Picked
10. Type of whale
11. A woman of refinement
12. New England state
14. Common gibbon
15. Tall coniferous tree
16. State capital
18. Making a liquid muddy
22. Vinegary
23. Peninsula
24. Thee
26. Atomic #55
27. Used in units of measurement
28. Welsh female name
30. Arab ruler title
31. One's mother
34. Trap
36. Soviet Socialist Republic
37. Assn. of oil-producing countries
39. Holy fire
40. Emit coherent radiation
41. Atomic #81
42. Orthodox Jewish college
48. Herbs
50. Ran after
51. Begin again
52. Named
53. Barbary sheep
54. Unwell
55. Postscript
56. Drivers
58. One point east (clockwise) of due north
59. Prim
60. A facility equipped for sports or physical training

CLUES DOWN

1. Small islands
2. Skullcap
3. Unexplained events
4. One hundredth of a meter
5. Beloved baseball announcer
6. Repulsive
7. Northern European languages
8. Match or surpass
9. Northeast
12. Chew the fat
13. Innovative industry
17. Land to put down to grass
19. Products
20. Nostril
21. Surprise Icelandic politician
25. Conclusive acts
29. Inform on
31. Grinding tooth
32. Keep up
33. Tablelands
35. Raising
38. Mythical creature
41. Hums
43. Mountain in Antarctica
44. Neighborhood in Manhattan
45. Distinctive practice
46. Vice president
47. Contributes to
49. Small bones
56. Oil company
57. Empire State



LEGALS

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing on the proposed Sturbridge School Committee budget for 2021-2022 will be held on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Burgess Elementary School, in accordance with M.G.L., Chapter 71, § 38N. A copy of the proposed budget is available at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 320A Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale, MA.

Katherine Alexander, Chair
Sturbridge School Committee
February 19, 2021

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Dowd named new Chief of Police

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Charlton officially has a new police chief. The Board of Selectmen have chosen Dan Dowd, a 23-year veteran of the department who had been acting police chief following the retirement of Chief Graham Maxfield, to permanently fill the chief position pending contract negotiations.

Dowd was interviewed by selectmen during a meeting on Feb. 9 and later that evening unanimously picked as the new chief. Selectmen and others presented Maxfield with a series of questions including how he would handle situation with subordinates, his thoughts of peaceful protests, and his goals for the department as chief. Dowd said one of his major goals is to continue the great relationship the department has had with the citizens of Charlton.

"I believe having officers positively interact with the community only strengthens our relationships with them and pays off many dividends in the

end. I'm a big believer of the golden rule, do unto others as you would have them do unto you. I would want our officers to treating the citizens as they would treat their own family members and provide the services that they would expect when they show up for work. Obviously, what's going on today with police reform, all those things will help us if we have a strong relationship with the community and we enhance our presence. Being seen in the schools and the community in a positive way will only help us in the future," Dowd said.

Dowd also commented on the need for continued prioritization of traffic improvements and public safety on the roadways after being questions about his position on the matter by Selectman Patricia Rydlak. Dowd said that the traffic situation has become a "logistical nightmare" for his officers and needs to be addressed in a big way in the coming years.

"Normally, I have two or three people on and trying to put

them all over town is difficult with limited resources. Down the road I'd like to get a second traffic officer. That's something I'm going to be asking for. I stress to my officers all the time that's one of our biggest complaints," said Dowd.

Another question came from Board of Selectmen Student Representative Henry Weiland who spoke to the 2020 protests against police

violence against minorities and how towns like Webster help peaceful protests. He asked Dowd how he would handle such a situation as chief.

"Several of us went over the Webster, several went to Southbridge and Sturbridge. Most of the protests around here were peaceful so I don't think there was ever any need for officers to get involved other than to just make sure vehi-

Courtesy

(Right) Dan Dowd has been named the new Police Chief for Charlton.

cles can travel while the protest was going on," Dowd responded. "We've been very fortunate in this part of the country – (Rioting) triggers a different type of reaction, but most police officers know that people have rights and they certainly have a right to protest peacefully. A lot

Turn To **DOWD,**
page **A13**



QCC's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society boasts best year in its history

WORCESTER — Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Quinsigamond Community College's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society is engaging more students than ever. PTK's Alpha Theta Zeta Chapter has experienced the largest student membership growth since it was chartered in 1980, with 160 new members in the Fall 2020 Semester. This number more than doubled that of all new memberships in the previous academic year. The recent 2021 Spring Semester membership drive has increased that total to 207, and with close to two months to go in the membership drive, the number is anticipated to grow.

"It's been amazing the way that students have responded since the pandemic began, and there is no sign of membership slowing down this semester," said PTK Advisor Bonnie Coleman.

At the start of the spring membership drive in less than 24-hours, 32 new students registered, and more are continuing to reach out daily.

"This demonstrates the importance of programs such as these that help keep students connected," Ms. Coleman continued, adding that while increase in

student interest could be attributed to personal growth, camaraderie and leadership skills, it appears community service is the driving factor.

"Many new PTK members are taking part in our community service projects. Community service is the cornerstone of our chapter and even though we are currently in a pandemic, we have still made this our core mission," Ms. Coleman said. "The students are making a positive impact on our community."

Currently, 40 students are volunteering to help with the administrative side of student COVID-19 testing on campus, following all COVID-19 safety protocols. One such student, PTK student Fatima Mohammed, said the experience has been a revelation to her.

"This was, and will continue to be, one of the unforgettable experiences in my life. I am pleased to say that this opportunity made me realize how important it is to dedicate my time to volunteering," Ms. Mohammed said.

While community service is not a mandatory membership requirement, students who perform two community service projects through the chapter and

attend two general chapter meetings before they graduate, will earn a gold stole.

"It's really amazing how many PTK students want to help their fellow students and their community," Ms. Coleman said. "Becoming a PTK member is so much more than students realize. They are members in PTK for life and the positive implications of being a part of this honor society are endless."

PTK is an internationally recognized honor society for two-year colleges and has approximately 1,300 chapters in the U.S. and around the globe. To be eligible for QCC's PTK Honor Society, students must have at least 12 credits of college level courses (level 100 courses or higher), a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or greater, and pay a one-time membership fee of \$85 (a requirement of the national PTK organization).

To learn more, visit www.qcc.edu/student-life/phi-theta-kappa.

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



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Worcester State University announces Dean's List

WORCESTER – Worcester State University congratulates the following students on being named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of 2020.

Auburn

Alexa K Adams, Casey M Baron, Alysha C Benoit, Samantha L Brabbs, Brigid F Campbell, Ariana R Casasanta, Alex A Cataldo, Elizabeth J Cedrone, Ioannis Chatzopoulos, Olivia L Copson, Colleen M Cutting, Deanna A Dalli, Quynh D Doan, Maxwell B Engel, Ashley M Fazio, Jessica D Ferris, Abigail M Frost, Alexandra E Giaquinto, Rachel A Griffin, Maggie R Grogan, Lindsay E Guittarr, Megan K Gurlitz, Nicholas John, Sang Q Lam, Elizabeth R Lauzonis, Tyler J Lavallee, Vina P Le, Nora D LeBlanc, Madison R Marois, Julianna C Martinelli, Aleen M Merzoian, Monika Mularski, Delaney K Nadeau, Samuel M Njuguna, Jeison R Ortega, April T Pepin, Amanda N Roux, Meghan E Sjogren, Brianna L Stomski, Caitlyn E Sullivan, Kiana Torres, Allison J Woeller, Andre Zink

Blackstone

Amanda S Alves, Shayna M Boyan, Kayla M Briggs, Rachel J Doiron, Kelly E Dwyer, Faith L Gudaitis, Andre M Jarret, Emily N Labrie,

Joshua T Mirra, Tori E Socci, Rebecca F Swenson

Brimfield

Kayla C Archambault, Heather E Larson, Cassandra Sanchez, Alison P Senecal, Anita J Swift

Brookfield

Natasha D Austin, Jade E Menard, Cayleigh L Peterson, Mia E Wilbur

Charlton

Susan Burtchell, Kylie E Chupka, Caitlyn E Dalbec, Marci R Giorgio, Megan R Greenough, Zachary M Hill, Abigail E Howard, Kayleigh M Irish, Lyndsay R Jansson, Angela M Kaperonis, Barbara N Kuria, Sabrina M Lomax, Matthew A Lovely, Jonah J Messier, Emily L Novack, Leyonia J Ramirez, Johanna E Riddle, Kathryn E Ryan, Eliana H Singer, Abigail M Snopkowski, Elizabeth R Stone, Lyba Tariq, Molly Zastrow

Charlton City

Julia L Fitzpatrick, Kayla J Fitzpatrick

Douglas

Sydney C Connor, Sara A Finnegan, Meghan L Foley, Nicole E Forget, Jenna R Glode, Maureen L Grady, Margaret E Gurney, Alexandra M Hebert, Hanna R Kearney, Ryan J

Klenk, Melissa E Landry, Grace M Lapan, Santina M MacGregor, Isabel M Mazzarella, Samantha I Meech, Sydney E Rodriguez, Hailey K Skowronski, Jordan A Staples, Erin S Theroux, Alec R Turner, Rebekka L White, Angela M Woodford

Dudley

Amanda J Babbitt, Lauren V Beckman, Riley P Biron, Bellalorraine M Carey-Hicks, Vanessa Corriveau, Emily M Costa, Aneta Czyz, Geoffrey F Franke, Emily F French, Megan F Gatsogiannis, Juliet L Helock, Stephen E Humphrey, Lauren E Jachimczyk, Shelby W Jyringi, Arton Krasniqi, Amanda Lane, Allison R Marrier, Erin Masciaglioli, Aisha L Mufti, Kailyn J Murphy, Eric W Norman, Camryn M Ozolins, Laura A Reno, Jenise Richard, Marrissa Scopa, Justyn W Sudyka, Sarah E Tonkin, Keara L Vangel

East Brookfield

Emma J Bain, Ciara A Haddad, Aidan L Joyce, James E Joyce, Julia E Joyce, Toni-Anne McLean-Rowe, Erin G Parker

East Douglas

Hailey R Baldwin, Rachel E Dixon

Fiskdale

Toumksam Noinala, Paige Szczypien

Grafton

Kylie A Cahill, Mikayla A Corda, Gabrielle R Decosta, Amber R Dumas, Samuel R Errara, Charles W Fasold, Isabelle L GianDomenico, Ryan M Lewis, Matthew F Lukasevich, Brad S Palmer, Emily L Parish, Dana M Rivard, Margaret T Sheehan, Bailey R Shepard, Erin J Slason, Brendan S Smith, Rainiery Tavaraz

Holland

Kailey L McCleary

Leicester

Riane E Anderson, Nicholas A Beando, Giselle Boateng, Ryan P Carney, Hawraa H Chreim, Haylee D DiLiddo, Meaghan M Dupuis,

Dimitrios Gaitanidis, Patrick D Gallant, Merrick T Jarmulowicz, Efsthathia Kapoukranidis, Konstantina Kapoukranidis, Kayley L Laflamme, Josie R Lavin, Mackenzie A Lavin, Judy Le, Amelia M McCarthy, Trevor V Mott, Ally E O'Neill, Meagan M Perro, Evgenia Psarras, Mac T Rice, Madison F Seroter, Matthew S Splaine, Annette K Tran, Elyse A Whittemore

Milford

Alison H Balducci, Dominick R Benjamin, Erin R Bethel, Michael P Branch, Caitlin E Cafarella, Jaclyn I Delmonico, Siobhan E Mulledy, Joseph L Pryor, Isaiah S Ramirez, Lorena D Santos, Jacob C Tomaso, Kathryn A Watson, Iara Yang

Millbury

Jonathan F Beaudoin, Scout R Beaudoin, Mason J Broyles, Juan M Brunelle, Jaresa J Burgos, Sarah A Crossman, Edward J Daher, Zoey L Dean, Juliana E Dick, Anna C Gaimari, Matthew V Genzale, Andre F Lopes, Tyler O MacKoul, Melanie E Riedle, Courtney J Schultz, Gianna K Vincequere, Brittany E Watson

Millville

Ryan M DelGizzi, Jenna A Eddy, Jada I Lebron-Mussulli, Delaney C Rose

North Brookfield

Brodin P Coughlin, Janet M Fortune, Breana L Joubert, Kari M Mickunas, Madison J Parker, Megan M Quigley, Patrick P Waugh, Tory E Zalauskas

North Grafton

Brian A Barthelmes Jr., Kevin F Barthelmes, Catherine Y Cameron, Maximillian J Cleveland, Mia C Couto, Anton Elkomos, Katelin Murphy, Ian T Scarlett, Andrea Sivakova, Colleen M Ward, Patrick B Young

North Oxford

Zachary E Alicandro, Mina L Carrabba, Brooke E Dionne, Heather M Hibbard, Christian D Keeler,

Turn To **WSU**, page **A13**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass. & MetroWest partners with Hartsprings Foundation as Donation Service

REGION — Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass. & MetroWest (BBBSCM) has recently partnered with the Hartsprings Foundation of West Springfield, Massachusetts to be their premier partner for donation pick-up services. Since 1997, the Hartsprings Foundation has been funding Big Brothers Big Sisters programs in Massachusetts and Connecticut. The Foundation collects used, unwanted clothing on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters. Then, those donations are purchased by Savers and the proceeds benefit the BBBS program in the corresponding service area.

Starting in October 2020, the Hartsprings Foundation began collecting donations in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest's service area starting with Grafton, Leicester, Millbury, Oxford, Shrewsbury, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Webster, Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, and Worcester. On March 15, the following towns will be added: Boylston, Holden, Hopkinton, Milford, Northborough, Northbridge, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Sterling, Sutton, Upton, Westborough and West Boylston. The final towns to Hartsprings' new service area will be

added on May 1, 2021.

BBBS of CM & MW serves 1,000 at-risk children throughout the Central Mass & MetroWest regions, annually, through their professionally supported, one-to-one mentoring programs. The proceeds from donations collected by the Hartsprings Foundation will directly benefit those programs.

To schedule a donation pick-up, contact the Hartsprings Foundation at 888-413-2227 or visit www.hartsprings.org. To learn more about the Hartsprings Foundation's partnership with BBBS of CM & MW and other ways to give to BBBS, please visit www.bbbbscm.org/give.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest is to create professionally supported mentoring relationships, empowering youth to realize their potential and build brighter futures. Children's lives are enhanced when they have a mentor in their lives to celebrate their successes. To learn more about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & MetroWest, please visit www.bbbbscm.org.

campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, the College engages over 2,500 students in 80+ rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity.

Anna DiGregorio named to Dean's List at Stonehill College

EASTON — Anna DiGregorio, of Fiskdale, a member of the Class of 2021, has been named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List at Stonehill College.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered.

Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a beautiful 384-acre

Worcester Polytechnic Institute announces Fall 2020 Dean's List

WORCESTER — The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

Joshua Hoy of Fiskdale, class of '21, majoring in Robotics Engineering
Luke Hoy of Fiskdale, class of '23, majoring in Robotics Engineering
Veronica Melican of Fiskdale, class of '22, majoring in Computer Science

About

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WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving

real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu



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EDITORIAL

Lost time is never found again

Lately, we've been hearing an awful lot of chirping about how people are too busy. Too busy to catch up with extended family; too busy to grab a workout; too busy to read a book; too busy to do the things we forgot we enjoyed doing. The largest contributor to the lack of free time boils down to time spent at work. Many people in today's world have two or three jobs to make ends meet. Sometimes, however, we need to make some cuts in our lives to give ourselves something more valuable than money, time. Time is a treasure.

For one, you can't make more time. Ways to earn money will always be at your fingertips however there is never a way to create more time. There is not a spell book that has the answer to creating more hours in a day or a way to give you more years on Earth. Time is finite, something we all can stand to remember.

Take a moment to think about the fact that you can do more with time off than with a day's pay. While we all can earn a different amount of money during a shift at work, a day off is the same to all of us. During a day off, you can choose to do what you want with it. Catch up on chores, hike a mountain, catch a movie, enjoy a nice lunch or pick up your dusty guitar and remember how to play the C chord.

Memories hold more stock in our lives, than money. When we think back on our past experiences that brought us fond memories, how many of those were because of money and how many were because of another person? Travel of course costs money, or the purchase of a fancy boat, however it is the simple moments that are always the ones that count.


At the end of a person's life, you will never hear them say they wished they had more money, however you will hear them say they wished they had more time. A good question to ask yourself if you had a short time to live, 'would you like \$5 million dollars or ten more years to live?' The answer is obvious.

A survey of roughly 5,000 people was conducted to back up the fact that most people prefer time over money. Most people opted to take a position with less hours and less money over long hours with a high salary. Young people, who have more time ahead of them, did choose to make more money, however this proves the point that if you have less time, you value it more.

Money changes in value every day; time does not. Think about the price tag you would place on a three-hour beach day with good friends. In the time of a pandemic these moments become even more important.

Time brings us awareness and clarity and gives us a chance to figure out the person we want to be or already are. These things cannot be bought. Sure we need money to live, however time is what puts life, into our lives. Often we need to get creative about how we can give ourselves more time. We must always remember to protect and prioritize our time.

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OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

A step back a few decades with my friend Rob...

Our dear friends, Rob and Tracey Shirk from Waterloo, Iowa were passing through our area on Thursday and came to visit. The following day at breakfast, Rob walked in carrying what appeared to be a big magazine. As he sat at the table, I realized it was a road atlas of the USA... something I have not seen nor used in at least fifteen or more years.

I asked, "Where did you pick up that antique?" He looked confused. I continued, "Where'd you find that old relic?"

"It's a map," he responded while turning to a map of Indiana. "I know it's a map," I said with a laugh, "But why do you have it?"

"Because I'm traveling and I don't know how to get to Marion, Indiana from here." He looked down at the map and began tracing a route with his finger.

At this point, I thought he was still kidding. "Use the GPS on your phone... step out of the 1980's and into the 21st century!" I held up my phone.

Rob looked at my phone, grunted, then looked back at his atlas saying, "That's a phone. I need a map."

I must confess that I'm lost without my GPS, but not too many years ago, my phone was only a phone. We travelled from coast-to-coast years ago with our little family in our motor home and enjoyed every minute and every mile. Much of the fun was sitting at our dining room table with Arlene and our three children, gathered around a big road atlas, deciding where we'd go, what we'd see, and how we'd get there.

I think our first trip was our most memorable and that was our trip to Yellowstone. We took off before cell phones with an Atlas opened on the dash and we were rolling... our first stop was the Mitchell "Corn Palace" in Mitchell South Dakota. I remember our oldest, Toby looking at the building and saying, "We drove all this way to look at a building made of corn?" However, the next stop promised to be better as we headed off to "Wall Drug!" It's amazing how a little ingenuity and the promise of "Free Ice Water" transformed a small-town drug store into an internationally known tourist stop.

The badlands followed and then a



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
GARY W. MOORE

stop at Mount Rushmore. I'll confess, I was awestruck at the first siting of this incredible monument. I hope to see it again someday. Then we were off to Devils Tower and the magnificence of Yellowstone. We made it all the way there and home, without the use of a phone or GPS.

We headed East the following year to the history of the Williamsburg area and Washington DC. The following year, we headed south to Texas and the Alamo. All incredible memories with the help of Rand McNally and their big and beautiful road atlas.

I must admit, some of the happiest times of my life were planned around that Rand McNally Road Atlas. It was like an instruction manual for our travel dreams, providing the guidance and recipe for family fun and togetherness. The excitement and anticipation... all the laughs and love along the way warms me still and always brings a smile to my face. All great family memories. Weeks after returning from one vacation, we were sitting around the table with our map plotting our next adventure.

After ridiculing Rob and his relic of a guidance system, I need to make an admission. I ordered a new 2021 road atlas online. So maybe I owe Rob an apology?

Nah... he deserves a little laughing at his expense. Maybe in reality, he has inspired another road trip, as he brought to my mind some of the most precious family times we've experienced. There is still so much to see and do and Arlene and I deserve to get out on the road.

Our children are all grown and on their own, but we have two wonderful grandsons, Caleb, and Noah. Maybe they need to see the Mitchell Corn Palace?

As Willie Nelson so eloquently sang, maybe it's time to get "On the Road Again."

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.gary-wmoore.com.

Estate planning for blended families



FINANCIAL FOCUS

JEFF BURDICK

If you're in a blended family, you're already aware of the emotional and financial issues involved in your daily life. But what about the future? When it's time to do your estate planning – and it's never too soon for that – you'll need to be aware of the entanglements and complexities that can get in the way of your vision for leaving the legacy you desire.

You can take comfort in knowing that you're far from alone. More than half of married or cohabiting couples with at least one living parent, or parent-in-law, and at least one adult child, have a "step-kin" relationship, according to a study from researchers at the University of Massachusetts and other schools. That's a lot of estate-planning issues.

Nonetheless, the task does not have to be overwhelming – as long as you put sufficient time and thought into it. Here are some ideas that may help:

- Seek fairness – but be flexible. Even in a nonblended family, it's not always easy to be as equitable as you'd like in your estate plans – too often, someone feels they have been treated unfairly. In a blended family, these problems can be exacerbated: Will biological children feel cheated? Will stepchildren? Keep this in mind: Fair is not always equal – and equal is not always fair. When deciding how to divide your assets, you'll need to make some judgment calls after carefully evaluating the needs of all your family members. There's no guarantee that everyone will be satisfied, but you'll have done your best.

- Communicate your wishes clearly. When it comes to estate planning, the best surprise is no surprise – and that's especially true in a blended family. Even if you're the one creating your estate plans, try to involve other family members – and make your wishes and goals clear. You don't have to be specific down to the last dollar, but you should provide a pretty good overall outline.
- Consider establishing a revocable living trust. Everyone's situation is different, but many blended families find that, when making estate plans, a simple will is not enough. Consequently, you may want to establish a revocable living trust, which gives you much more control than a will when it comes to carrying out your wishes. Plus, because you have transferred your assets to the trust, you are no longer technically the owner of these assets, so there's no reason for a court to get involved, which means your estate can likely avoid the time-consuming, expensive and very public process of probate.
- Choose the right trustee. If you do set up a living trust, you'll also need to name a trustee – someone who manages the assets in the trust. Married couples often serve as co-trustees, but this can result in tensions and disagreements. As an alternative, you can hire a professional trustee – someone with the time, experience and neutrality to make appropriate decisions and who can bring new ideas to the process.

Above all else, make sure you have the right estate-planning team in place. You'll certainly need to work with an attorney, and you may also want to bring in your tax advisor and financial professional. Estate planning can be complex – especially with a blended family – and you'll want to make the right moves, right from the start.

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

Planning and designing a productive vegetable garden



GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS

Whether planning your first, second or tenth vegetable garden it can be overwhelming. There are so many tasty vegetables and never enough space and time to grow them all.

Start with a plan. Locate your garden in a sunny location with moist, well-drained soil. Save those partially sunny areas for greens like lettuce, chard and kale as well as root crops like radishes and beets. These prefer full sun but will tolerate more shade than tomatoes, peppers, squash, broccoli and other plants we eat the flowers and fruit.

Review your favorite recipes and make a list of family favorites and those vegetables most often used. Then check the list to see which vegetables are suited to your climate and growing conditions and those that make the most economic sense to include in your garden.

Tomatoes and peppers produce lots of fruit from one plant and are common ingredients in many recipes. Sweet corn is fun to grow but needs lots of space for a relatively small harvest. If space is limited, consider buying your sweet corn at the farmers' market and use that space to grow other edibles.

Every gardener struggles with determining how many of each type of vegetable to grow. This depends upon the productivity of the variety selected, your family's eating habits and of course the impact of weather on the harvest. It is always better to start small, build on your successes and expand the garden in the future. Track your planting and harvesting

results to help when planning future gardens.

You will need to plant more if you plan to preserve or donate a portion of your harvest. Purchasing vegetables from your local farmers' market is a way to ensure you have sufficient fresh produce when you are ready to can, freeze and ferment.

Sound overwhelming? Consider enlisting help from Gardener's Supply by using one of their vegetable garden plans (gardeners.com). You'll find customized plans for those who like to cook, want to grow ingredients for a garden-fresh salad, salsa or cocktails, or are following a Mediterranean diet. Many come with seed packets for all the featured plants.

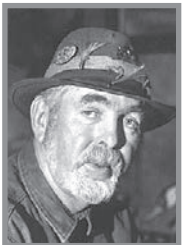
Maximize the available space by growing vertically. Train pole beans, peas, tomatoes, cucumbers and even squash and melons up trellises. Growing vertically not only saves space, but also increases disease resistance by increasing light and airflow through the plants. And picking beans at waist height is much easier than harvesting from low-growing, bushy plants.

Increase space with containers. Consider growing some of your frequently used herbs and vegetables in pots on the patio, balcony, or deck for convenience. You can quickly grab what you need when creating your favorite meal.

Grow multiple plantings in each row. Start the season with cool season veggies like lettuce, peas and radishes. Once the temperatures climb and these plants are harvested and enjoyed, replace them with warm weather vegetables like tomatoes, peppers, beans, cucumbers, squash and melons. Finish off the season by filling any vacant rows with fall crops like greens, beets and radishes.

Turn To **GARDENING**, page **A9**

An ice fishing update



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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TRUE

Local ponds and lakes all have a substantial amount of ice on them, as of this past weekend, and if the weather forecast is correct, safe ice should last a couple of weeks, if not longer. That is not to say that fishermen and the general public should assume that every body of water has safe ice. Constantly checking ice thickness needs to be practiced. Snow covered ice is the most dangerous. Numerous near fatalities from people falling through the ice have been reported this year, with snowmobilers being at the top of the list in Maine & New Hampshire.

Numerous deer have fallen through unsafe ice in the past two weeks, and more are sure to lose their life in the coming weeks. I have spotted many ponds with deer tracks in the snow, as they navigate ice covered bodies of water. Local residents should not walk their dogs alongside lakes ponds and rivers, unless they are on a leash. They can get into trouble real fast, as we have already observed dogs falling through thin ice on local news channels. It is also time to license your dogs in most area towns! They do require certification of a dog's rabies shots. Hopefully, a few veterinarian's will be holding rabies clinics next month in local towns.

This past weekend had a lot of ice fishermen enjoying the great outdoors, and there were many families out enjoying it also. This week's two pictures show a couple of anglers with their impressive largemouth bass. Many reports of bass, pickerel, perch, calico bass, and trout are being reported daily. Wallum Lake in Douglas has been giving up some nice trout, if you have the patience to wait for the bite, that can start fast and end fast, or not start at all. Anglers are reminded that Wallum Lake is an interstate body of water, & that it is governed by Rhode Island regulations. The lake closes to all fishing on Feb. 28, and will reopen on April 10!

Fishing for smelt in the state of Maine can be a lot of fun, and can provide some great eating, if you can catch them before March 31, in Aroostook County. The smelt are called the "French Fry" of the lake, and have local anglers fishing for them every year. They have elaborate

bob houses to fish in, and often fish for the smelt at night. Placing a light near the hole draws the smelt to the hole, and they can be caught with a light jig rod similar to the jig sticks we use here. Be sure to check all regulations and dates for smelt fishing. Using nets is illegal. Back in the day, local anglers fished for smelt on Lake Quinsigamond in Shrewsbury. This writer spent many nights catching smelt near the boat ramp. Unfortunately, pollution and acid rain pretty much cleaned them out.

Numerous attempts to reintroduce smelt into Lake Quinsigamond and Wallum Lake were unsuccessful. Mass. Fish & Wildlife was netting thousands of smelt from the Quabbin Reservoir and stocking them in those two lakes, but they failed to spawn in some of the tributaries around both lakes. That was before the MDC poisoned the smelt at the Quabbin. Soon the state was placing egg screens at the tributaries of both lakes, but they also failed to work. In a last-ditch effort to get smelt back into Wallum Lake, Shoal Spawning alewives were placed in the lake to provide a forage fish for the trout. That was thirty or more years ago.

The Alewives reproduced for many years, and some still do keep a small population in the lake. Trout do not grow fast on insects, and need a good forage fish to get big fast. Attempts to get MFW to procure some of the brown trout fry from New York's Lake Ontario failed many years ago, would have now been reaping rewards. Anyone that has fished Lake Ontario for brown trout, know how fast they grow, and how big they get. With the loss of the federal brood trout program maybe the state can revisit the possibilities of receiving some brown trout from New York and stocking them at Wallum Lake!

At one time back in the day, the state was supposed to work with Rhode Island to make Wallum a trophy brown trout pond. Unfortunately, both states could not work together, and the communications were stopped. Catching four to 10-pound brown trout were common when the two states were actively supporting the program. The lake was also limed by a company called "Living Lakes" bringing in numerous tankers loaded with lime which was loaded onto a large boat & digitally spread over the entire lake. It solved the problem of acidity at the lake for many years, right up to this day.

The Whitinsville Fish & Game club will sponsor a fishing derby at the club pond on Feb. 20, for club members and their family. The



Courtesy
This week's picture shows Adam with his nice largemouth bass he caught this past weekend. Another picture will follow along with this week's column.



Courtesy
Another largemouth bass caught last weekend.



Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company
Incorporate trellises into garden plans so beans, peas, tomatoes and even squash can be trained to grow vertically.

GARDENING

continued from page A8

Take some time to plan a garden that will provide you and your family with fresh produce you can enjoy all season long. Involving everyone in the planning process just might get them to show up and help weed.

Melinda Myers is the author of

more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Gardener's Supply* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

pond will receive another stocking of trout prior to the derby. A full breakfast will be served starting at 8 a.m. The club is also planning a Wild Game supper in March. It is a carry-out only meal. Call the club or check their web site for all particulars & tickets.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club is

planning a Clam Bake this Summer. It was one of the best attended events, the club held annually. There will be a limited number of tickets, so get them early. Lobster, clams, corn, chowder, and much more.

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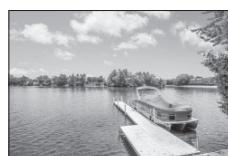


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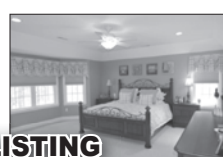
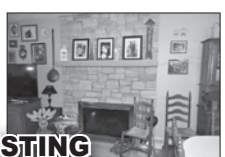
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WEBSTER LAKE – 124-2 Gore Road! 1.68 Acres! Private Retreat Lot with 320' of Road Frontage and 200' of Waterfront! Located in North Pond! Beautiful Panoramic Views! Sucker Brook Cove! Lot has been split from a larger parcel! Survey, Home Rendering and Conservation Items Addressed - Order of Conditions Pending! This is the Opportunity to Build a Unique Home with Spectacular Views! Direct Lake/Boat Access! Water and Sewer in the Road! Walk to Restaurants! Surrounded by Wildlife, including Swans and Eagles! **\$175,000.00**



WEBSTER – 69 Minebrook Rd! Conveniently Located 7 Rm Split Entry! 1.04 Acre Lot! House set well off the Road for added Privacy! Open Floor Plan! Eat-in Applianced Kit w/Island & Seating, Tile Flr, Tile Backsplash & Ceiling Fan! Din Rm w/Hrwd Flrs & Slider to the Deck Overlooking the Private Backyard! Frplcd Lw Rm w/Hrwd Flr! Ideal for Entertaining! Down the Hrwd Lvl find a Full Bath w/Tile Flr & 3 Bdrms w/Wall to Wall Carpeting! Master Bdrm w/2 Dble Closets, Ceiling Fan & Master Bath w/Marble Tile Flr & Shower Surround! Hrwd Stairs, the Finished Lower Level Fan Rm w/Recessed Lighting, Stone & Tile Hearth w/Woodstove, 1/2 Bath w/Tile Flr, Laundry Rm w/Sink & Tile Flr, Utility Rm w/Storage! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers & Door to Backyard! Oil Heat! Steel "T" Beam Construction! Shed! Won't Last!! **\$349,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 11 Henry Road! Bates Point - Middle Pond & Panoramic Views + Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Never 2 the Same! 3,184' 9 Room Fully Furnished Colonial Built from the Ground Up as a New Home in 2005! This Home Features 4 Bedrooms, 2 of which are Master Suites, 1 of which Overlooks the Lake, 4.5 Bathrooms, 2 of which have Separate Showers & Whirlpool Tubs, 3 of which have Double Granite Vanities, 2 Complete Granite/Stainless Kitchens! The First Floor Open Floor Plan with Hardwood Floors Features an Eat-in Kitchen with LP Gas Jenn-Air Range, Double Drawer Dishwasher & Trash Compactor! Spacious Formal Dining Room with Crown Moldings & Chair Rails! Lake Facing Great Room/Living Room with Gas Fireplace, Wet Bar with Bottle Cooler, Surround Sound & Slider to Composite Deck! Half Bath with Laundry Closet! The Second Floor with 4 Bedrooms! Comfortable Front 16x16 and Back 17x17 Masters with Tray Ceilings, Recessed Lighting, Ceiling Fans, Surround Sound & Full Tile/Granite Bathrooms! Full Hall Bath for the other 2 Bedrooms! Fully Finished Walk-out Lower Level with Full Summer Kitchen, Family Room with Gas Fireplace, Surround Sound, Slider to Paver Patio & Full Bath! Buderus 3 Zone Oil Heat! 3 Zone Air Conditioning! Central Vac! Security! 2 Car Heated Garage! Boat Dock! **\$1,099,900.00**

CHARLTON – 74 Daniels Road! Completely Renovated 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Gambrel w/Attached In-Law Apt! Picturesque 3.39 Acres! Deeded Water Rights to South Charlton Reservoir! Extensive Updates! House w/New Roof, Siding, Kit, Bthrms, Windows, Int Doors, Electrical, Flooring, R60 Insulation in Attic, Water Heater, Well Pump & More! In-Law w/Open Flr Plan, Kit, Bdrm w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Laundry! Both Fully Applianced! 2 New Driveways, Irrigation, AG Pool! Shed! Security! Generator Hookup! **\$489,900.00**



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FEATURED NEW LISTING!

WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



Large 3 Family a rare find! Occupied by the owner for many decades. Entire 1st floor is one spacious apartment with 2 bedrooms, 2 - 2nd floor apartments have 3 bedrooms each. 30' x 44' beautiful Fieldstone Foundation, with walkout basement to off street parking. **\$289,900.**

WEBSTER - 9 BIRCHWOOD DRIVE



Beautiful CAPE! Enormous amount of updates. New Asphalt Shingles, & 8 New Skylights! 4 Bedrooms! 3 - 1/2 Baths! 24 x 26 Great Rm w/Gas Fireplace! Master Suite w/"Spa Like" Bath & Soaking tub! WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT? INGROUND POOL? OK! has that TOO!! All Painted! SS Appliances. New Tank-less Hot Water Boiler. **\$467,000**

THOMPSON - 5+ ACRE WATERFRONT LAND - BECOLA ROAD



5+ Acre Waterfront Land - on "Little Pond". Also known as Schoolhouse Pond. Private, pastoral setting. Open Field surrounded by tree line. 250+ feet waterfrontage. At the end of a Dead end road! **\$179,900**

THOMPSON - 25 TERRACE DRIVE



Off Thompson Hill! At the end of a Dead end road well maintained & loved! Kitchen with double wall ovens, gas cook-top, granite countertops. Formal dining room. Fireplaced Living room! master, on the first floor, 4 bedrooms total! 2nd full bath - second level. 2 car garage! assisted sale **\$325,000.**

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



Home "Sweet" Home! TOTALLY Renovated! New Roof - Updated Electrical - New Heating System!! Bedroom, 1.5 Bath - 2 Story Conventional Home. Dead-End St. Rare find, Large Lot .77 Acre - Inside -Neutral Palette of Complimentary Paint Colors throughout the Entire House! Loads of Character **\$319,000.**

LAND

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$89,900**
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. **\$115,000.**
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **Each \$24,500**
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900**

WEBSTER - 29 WEST AVE.



Cozy 2 Story House with 3 BIG Bonuses! #1. Land almost 1 ACRE! #2. Zoning is MR-12 - Possible Multi Family Use - Investment Opportunity! #3. Large Over-sized 2+ Car Garage, Work Bench, Power & 2nd Floor! Great Space for the Hobbyist, DIY or Contractor! 1ST Floor - Living rm, Bedroom, Large Kitchen/Dining Area with Galley Pantry & Full Bath! 2nd Flr, 2 Bedrooms! All New Carpets - Recent Paint! Multi Level Back Deck with Jacuzzi! **\$255,000.**

WOODSTOCK - 33 DEER MEADOW LANE



Beautiful 2,422 Sq Ft Colonial! 4 Bedroom! 3 Bath! Fireplace, 2 Car garage! So much more!
assisted sale **\$415,000**

DUDLEY - 22 ROBERTS ROAD



Lovely 3 bedroom Ranch! Single door 2 car garage with storage! Eat-in kitchen. Fieldstone Fireplaced Living Room! 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Remodeled bathroom! Lower Level fieldstone walls/fireplace! In-ground pool! - 3.58 ACRES includes extra lot. **\$312,000.**

WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY



NEW TO THE MARKET! Custom Sprawling Split 2800+ SF Central Air! Kitchen, Dining Room, Cathedral Ceiling Living Room, 3 Bedrooms! Granite Counters & New Flooring! New Boiler - Hot Water Tank - Oil Tank! FULL finished Lower Level w/Full Bath & Laundry! THERE'S MORE! 2 Car Garage, **renovated to include Hydro** Heat, AC & 1/2 Bath! Great for Fitness Studio, Game Room or Home School! Over 1.4 Acres! **\$360,000.**

WEBSTER - 52 CUDWORTH ROAD



1.99 ACRE INDUSTRIAL ZONED LOT! GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE & WORK FROM HOME! Amazing 1790 Antique Colonial! Undergone major updates & renovations, maintaining Antique Charm! Great Room graced by an Open Hearth Stone Fireplace! Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! **\$499,900.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind. Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180'+/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining / formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Remember, Timing is Everything!** **\$1,075,000.**

Lake Shirley - 647 Reservoir Rd



Lakefront! Lake Shirley! Modern Flare on a Lakefront Colonial! 1st level Formal large entry foyer, living room, gas fireplace, chef kitchen, Impala black granite, center island, 3 season porch, overlooking the lake. 1st FL bedroom suite w/shower and jacuzzi tub. 2nd floor Master Suite! Lower level Summer kitchen, full bath, game room. Crown moulding & hardwood floors throughout, wired sound system, radiant floors. oversize 2 car garage. Additional Guest House!
assisted sale **\$1,040,000.**



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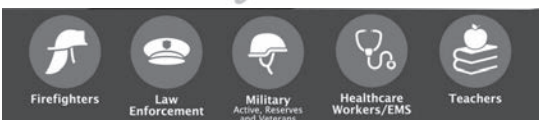
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Linda Sellig Slap 508.864.3245 Vicki Bennett 774.633.6762

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61 Airport Road - Call for details

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Szymczak Sells! Call for a market Consultation



Webster - \$324,900
Waterfront



Dudley - \$339,900
Ranch



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25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604



Licensed in MA & CT



Donna Flannery 508-885-6665
donnaflannery.com
donnaflann@aol.com

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Kayleen Flannery-Sauvageau
508-612-9843
Kayleen00@aol.com



Spencer - Robin Rd - 1st time on the market! Cul-de-sac colonial on over 1 acre w/ 4 bdrms, 2 ba, 1900 sqft. Fireplaced living room w/ hardwoods floors. Glassed in sunroom. Large shed w/ electricity. Two car garage, full basement w/ workshop space. **\$375,000.**



Spencer - Wilson St - Turn key colonial on almost 2 acres, 3bdrm, 2 ba, 2600 sq ft. New kitchen w/ custom cabinetry, granite counters & center island w/ bar addition. 2 garages that will fit 8-10 cars! Parking for 40+ vehicles! This property is perfect for the car buff, landscaper, mechanic! Zoned for mixed use! **\$615,000.**



Spencer - Buteau Rd - "Grand Shake Manor" Over 9,000 sq ft, 5 bdrm, 3 full, 2 half ba, on over 1 acre. Gourmet kitchen, African mahogany flooring, exquisite custom coffered ceilings, woodwork & staircases, 4 gas fireplaces. Lower level offers coffered ceilings, wine cellar, game room, gym, wet bar, movie theatre. 4 car heated garage. **\$1,200,000.**



Sturbridge - 1st time on the market! Two units, duplex style on Main St, 4 bdrms, 2 baths. Town water & sewer! 350 ft of road frontage. Great for 1st time homebuyer looking for a mortgage helper or someone who wants to share a house with a relative or friend. **\$300,000.**

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TOWN OF SPENCER SEWER DEPARTMENT

Chief Operator: Position is responsible for the operation of the Town's wastewater treatment facility. Supervises Assistant Chief Operators and able to perform as acting Superintendent. Experience working in wastewater treatment plants, with a minimum three years performing essential functions as outlined in the full advertisement and job description available online www.spencerma.gov. Grade 5C full or higher Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's License is required.

Submit application, cover letter, resume and standard Town application form, available at www.spencerma.gov to Town of Spencer, Human Resources Department, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562.

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Light Equipment Operator: Operate light equipment and perform manual work for the Highway Department. Assist in maintenance and repair projects and all other related work as required. High School diploma or GED, plus one year of related experience in the handling of light equipment and CD license with air brake endorsement and 2B hoisting (hydraulic) required.

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HITCHCOCK

continued from page A1

classes focus on the practice of judo, “the gentle way.” This eastern regimen builds discipline, confidence, and fitness while honing a practitioner’s skill of self-defense. Because of Covid students practice with a “dummy” that is cleaned and sanitized after each class.

For those that want to make a lit-

tle music piano classes are offered both in person and online and violin continues online.

Because many of these classes are offered online you no longer have the excuse of weather to prevent your exploration new activities. Do yourself a favor and visit hitchcock-academy.org to look over its listing of classes and events. It may be just what you need to bring you out of the winter doldrums.

Jacob Reed, Jayden Remillard, Harrison Renaud, Margaret Russell, Samantha Russell, Caterina Schiappa, Connor Sentence, Sydney Seymour, Gerald Splaine, Adriana Stanley, Alan Suklis, Yasmin Tolomio, Landon Walker, Ryleigh Warchal, Timothy Welch, Thomas Wilk, Hailey Williamson, Gabrielle Zopatti

Principal’s List: Aidan Anderson, Jacob Anderson, Kasey Babkauskas, Samuel Brill, Ethan Casagrande, Jomar Cintron Perez, Shane Conti, Richard Corriveau, Peter Courville, Lillian Cybula, Gabriel Dadah, Andrew Dip, Marissa Dumas, Makayla Graham, Samuel Hampton, James Heywood, Kristina Liberty, Logan McCann, William Menice, Macaylah Miller, Peyton Parette, Colby Richardson, Liam Ryan, Zachary Sabotka, Cody Savary, Madison Sibert, Lacey Sullivan, Kyle Sylwanovicz, Trent Szela, Isabella Taiste, Liberty Tanksley, Christopher Verdolino, Cole Vignali, Sebastian Winer

Ayla M Allard, Lily G Brooks, Haley R Brown, Riley J Brown, Danielle M Cofsky, Evan T Culross, Jillian M Dombroski, Andrew M Gerr, Andrew M Girouard, Cameron Hopkins, Sydney K Howe, Ashley Lavoie, Miranda B Lemoine, Emily M Milaszewski, Matheus M Montenegro, Erin C Murphy, Brenna K Perry, Holland A Redding, Gianluca Romeo, Kevin M Russo, Alexis M Violette

Aleah M Castonguay, Christopher A Galvao, Brynn E Mitchell, Erin O Murphy, Hayden J Ramsey, Mercedes R Tredeau

Calvin M Aia, Amanda F Brodeur, Joel N Buabeng, Corey R Burke, Mikala M Davis, Angelo B DeMalia, David S Echavarrria, Dimitri I Jaros, Ellie C Lapan, Jade S Letendre, Bruce Marchand, Miranda A Mendes, Madison L Poirier, Russell S Wise, Jillian R Zinkus

Liam J Grueter

Cody P Adams, McKayla A Baldwin, William R Bartlett, Julianne D Bazinet, Emma T Bonneau, Kathleen M Cafarelli, Michael E Camacho, Kevin R Collamati, Amanda L Collins, Jake W Ford, Caitlin D Frabotta, Ryan P Hanney, Katelyn J Holden, Emily E Jones, Sophia A Kontoes, Hanna K Kunkel, Evan R Maniatis, Edna N Mbugua, Hannah L Picchioni, Samantha L Proulx, Jacqueline L Sperling, Savannah J Walckner, Breanna E Ward, Brittany C Ward, Sarah M Wong-Kam

Malorie N Kenneway, Angela M Landino, Faith O Leddy, Alexia C Paquette, Giana R Tobin

Forrest G Amtmann, Elizabeth R Bisaillon, Brian R Bliss, Adam J Briand, Tyler J Brodeur, Alexandra K Clauss, Myah C Dawson, Adam T Dullea, Cassidy E Gies, Andrew C Kinney, Olesya J Kyrychok, Marisa L Lortie, Dylan D Murray, Alexandra Orn, Melody G Powers, Melissa A Prudhomme, Michael A Santurri, Emma M Senosk, Noah N Shaikhly, Emily A Shorey

TCA

continued from page A1

Banner video of the entire school singing in unison from their classrooms “decked out” in “spirit gear,” revealed a unique rendition of our National Anthem. In observance of Student Appreciation Day, the entire school played bingo via zoom and the intercom system led by Principal Josie Citta. Other individual activities took place within each classroom throughout the day.

On Thursday, Vocations and Career Awareness Day was held with great participation with most students arriving at school dressed in their chosen future careers attire, “what they want to be when they grow up”. The variety was amazing, ranging from Paleontologists, Veterinarians, Doctors, Nurses, Pastry Chefs, Fire Fighters, Singers, a Nun and even the President of the USA! Second Grade singer, Evelyn

Howard-Donlin even entertained us with a beautiful song!

In appreciation of our frontline workers, beautiful cards of thanks were created throughout the school body with sincere messages of appreciation to be delivered to area first responders and medical workers.

On Friday TCA celebrated volunteers with our DEAR Program (Drop, Everything, And, Read) Day. Guest readers read to students via zoom. Later in the day, grade 3 created “reading huts” where they could read a favorite book for a period of the afternoon in their very own cozy hut, they created themselves. All learning activities in each class focused on literature the rest of the day.

It was a week of learning, awareness, and fulfillment!

According to sixth grade teacher, Mrs. Weber, “It is one of the most fun weeks of the year!”

DOWD

continued from page A5

of times positive change comes from those types of protests.”

Dowd concluded by saying as a chief he would like to “recruit, retrain and promote quality people” showing concern about the command staff aging and approaching retirement out without succession plans in place. He would like to

facilitate a stronger relationship between commanding officers and the younger members of the force to give them the experience to possibly move up into higher positions within the department in the future. He also stated a need for continued improvement in department communication infrastructure praising the ongoing radio upgrade project currently underway.

WSU

continued from page A6

Rachel E Stelmach, Susan L Vigeant

Northbridge

James W Blair, Andrew J Cleary, Grace O Demers, Joshua A Fung-A-Fat, McKena L Hendriks, Megan M Mattox, Michael D Mattox, Ashley F Minior, Sean C Otoole, Aubrey J Plante, Cameron J Richards

Oxford

Julia M Carrier, Amanda D Gevry, Kayli R Lopriore, Amber M Melanson, Alexis N Melton, Fatima Nadeem, Arianna E Navedo, Julia K Pepka, Christian T Shadis, Donel Tamokwe, Julianne E Welsh

Palmer

Shannon E Davis, Ashelyn M Granger, Sydney G LeVasseur

South Grafton

Olivia R Bonati, Daniel M Keller, Tyler R LaComfora, Jorge Laguna, Jessica L Rancourt

Southbridge

Kathryn E Bohm, Lannaya D Brandt, Luis R Maldonado, Lemis A Melendez, Kaighley S Obuchowski, Michael T Payne, Chantelle L Ricard, Dalizbeth Rivera-Szczypien, Joseph P Stella, Marissa L Stuart, Natyarie P Villanueva

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Shoppers' guide to Presidents' Day sales

On the third Monday in February, Americans stop to remember the contributions of the many great leaders who have served as President of the United States. Certain Presidents' Day traditions have developed over the years, including an opportunity for shoppers to find great deals on a host of items.

Originally established in 1885 to recognize President George Washington, the day we now know as Presidents' Day was then known as Washington's Birthday and was traditionally celebrated on February 22. The holiday became known as Presidents' Day after it was moved to the third Monday in accordance with the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which enabled the nation's workers to enjoy more three-day weekends. In addition, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act served as a way to combine the celebration of Washington's birthday and Abraham Lincoln's birthday, which is February 12.

In addition to serving as a chance to celebrate and reflect on the contribu-

tions of our nation's past presidents, Presidents' Day has emerged as a day to rest and shop. Stores across the country advertise special prices to tie into the day and capitalize on the three-day weekend. For many retailers, Presidents' Day is the first major sales opportunity of the new year. The following are some ways shoppers can capitalize on Presidents' Day sales.

- Stock up on winter apparel. Now is the time to enjoy deep discounts on winter apparel. Purchase clothing, coats and boots that your family can wear next year. Parents can estimate sizes for growing children. Discounts on winter apparel as winter winds down may be as high as 70 percent, meaning savvy shoppers can save substantial amounts of money.

- Score big on big-ticket items. Appliances may go on sale at steep discounts on Presidents' Day. Shoppers who need new appliances for their kitchens may find Presidents' Day sales have what they need at the prices they want to pay. Save even more on big-ticket items



by using cash-back or points balances on credits cards to lower out-of-pocket costs even further.

- Shop around for electronics. Computers, laptops and many different electronic devices go on sale on Presidents' Day. Compare and contrast items you have had your eyes on for some time, determining regular prices for each item. Knowing the regular prices and sale prices will help you determine if the Presidents' Day sale price is a good deal.

- Don't overlook deals on automobiles. Certain holidays, such as Presidents' Day, provide opportunities for consumers to find great deals on new vehicles. That's because sales tend to be slow in February. Scout out the deals being offered on the car or truck you want. Sales personnel may be more open to negotiations if it will close the sale.

Presidents' Day is, first a foremost, a chance to reflect and honor past presidents. But it also is a day for shoppers to find great deals on a host of items.

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