



Farmers to Families distribution event planned in Charlton

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Local volunteers are teaming up with the USDA to offer a Farmers to Families Food Box Program this month.

Food box distribution events will be held on April 15 and April 29 at the 508 International site in Charlton (219 Brookfield Rd.). Each program will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with fresh food products provided free to those in need.

The events were organized in coordination with the USDA. Although both programs will take place in Charlton, residents in need from throughout the region are invited to attend. Because there will only be 400 food boxes distributed each day, pre-registration is required for both sessions. Residents are encouraged to sign up as early as possible.

“This is a great way for us to help get food out to those in need,” said Michael McGrath, who volunteers at the local Chip In Food Pantry and also serves on its board of directors.

Several other food pantry volunteers are also involved in the local Farmers to Families Food Box Program. Not only does it assist area residents in need, but also farmers offering fresh local produce.

“This program started last year to help the farmers out. Because of the pandemic, restaurants

stopped getting products from farmers [during the height of COVID-19 restrictions],” McGrath said. “We wanted to get the word out about this to people in the area.”

Residents may sign up ahead for both of the Farmers to Families distribution days this month. However, each family may only pick up one box per day.

To sign up for the distribution days, residents can visit the Chip In Food Pantry’s Facebook page and find the easily accessible links.

Each USDA food box contains approximately 30 pounds of food, including produce, dairy, and protein. A typical box might feature the following items: five pounds of potatoes; three pounds of onions; one pound of root vegetables, such as carrots or beets; three pounds of hand fruit, typically apples or oranges; one gallon of milk; four pounds of soft dairy, such as yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, or butter; one pound of cheese, such as cheddar, American, mozzarella, or parmesan; four pounds of cooked protein, such as roasted chicken quarters, ground turkey, or taco meat; and one pound of deli meat or chicken hot dogs.

Organizers are also seeking approximately twelve volunteers to help out with the program. If you are interested in volunteering, send an email to chipinfoodpantry@gmail.com.



A re-evaluation of the program will be held at the end of the month. If all is successful, the program could become more frequent or even permanent in the future.

Central One Credit Union expands field of membership

AUBURN — Central One Federal Credit Union’s President and CEO, David L’Ecuyer, recently announced the National Credit Union Association (NCUA) approval to expand their field of membership.

Membership to Central One is now open to anyone in Worcester County and areas within Norfolk and Middlesex counties who live, work, worship, volunteer, attend school, or own a business. Family or household members of existing members and companies or other legal entities located within the area are also eligible.

Mr. L’Ecuyer specified, “This expansion will allow Central One to bring its top-quality products and services to more consumers, offering them a financial alternative with which to do their banking. We look forward to helping others achieve success in their financial journey and become their institution of choice for both the residents and businesses in these communities.”

With more than 35,000 members, Central One has been proud to be a trusted financial partner since 1952. To check on your eligibility, visit www.centralfcu.com.

About Central One Federal Credit Union
Central One Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial institution that provides members with excellent, personalized service. Central One provides a wide range of savings, deposit and loan products designed for the local community, and has branches in Shrewsbury, Westborough, Northborough and Auburn; as well as school-branches in both Shrewsbury and Westborough High Schools. Learn more about Central One and why we have been chosen as one of the top credit unions in Central Massachusetts. www.centralfcu.com



BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Last week, the Baker-Polito Administration announced the vaccination timeline for all remaining residents.

On March 22, all residents age 60-plus became eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. On April 5, all residents 55-plus will become eligible, as well as residents with one medical condition.

On April 19, the general public will be able to schedule a vaccine appointment (ages 16 and older). The full vaccine timeline is available at www.mass.gov/COVIDVaccinePhases.

“The Administration has received assurances from the federal government that an increased vaccine supply will be available to states soon,” Gov. Charlie Baker said. “Depending on supply, it could take weeks for people to be notified that an appointment is available at a mass vaccination site.”

Officials expect that more vaccination sites will come online in April.

Last week, the state received approximately 170,000 first doses of the vaccine, including 8,000 doses of the J&J vaccine. In total, the Commonwealth received 316,000 first and second doses as part of the latest state allocation.

The state is also adding more mobile vaccination clinics to support long-term care facilities, congregate care, low-income senior housing, and homebound individuals. The goal is to ensure that no seniors are denied an opportunity to receive the vaccine simply because they do not have transportation.

Looking ahead, state officials continue to rely heavily on communications from the federal level.

“Weekly allocations are subject to change based on federal availability, demand from providers, and obligations to meet second doses,”

Baker said. “Providers have ten days to use their doses and must meet specific performance thresholds.”

In addition to the weekly state allocation of vaccines, the federal government also distributes doses to CVS Health sites as part of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership.

Individuals looking to book vaccine appointments should visit www.mass.gov/COVIDvaccine.

Baker also announced a new \$24.7 million investment in the administration’s Vaccine Equity Initiative. This program was created to increase trust and vaccine acceptance among residents, as well as enhanced equity across all locations and demographics.

“Recognizing equity as a critical component of the state’s vaccine distribution plan, the Department of Public Health is working closely with 20 hardest hit communities in Massachusetts as they

identify their specific community needs, further building on existing support,” Baker said. “These funds will also provide direct vaccine administration to populations that are not effectively reached through existing vaccine supply channels.”

State officials are also working to increase collaboration with community partners, faith-based organizations, health centers, and minority-owned business leaders, among others.

Additionally, Baker is promoting the newly created COVID-19 Vaccine Ambassador Program, which has helped residents across the state access vital information about the vaccine. The program includes a multilingual public awareness campaign, as well as volunteers tasked with helping to identify community-based solutions.

The administration’s Vaccine Equity Initiative focuses on 20 cities and

Turn To **TIMELINE** page **A5**

Oxford native Yarno Nesta turns 100!

OXFORD — The Nesta Family would like to thank the community for the outpouring of support that made Yarno’s 100th drive-by Birthday celebration, held on Saturday, March 13, memorable!

Yarno was born in Oxford on March 9, 1921 to Albanian immigrants, the fourth of five children. A devoted family man, Yarno ran successful small businesses in town: Nesta’s South End Store (Deli), Nesta’s Bottled Liquors, and Nesta’s Realty and was a fervent community supporter. Among his many commitments, Yarno was an active member of the Rotary Club, Masonic Order and Shriners’ International. Yarno spearheaded a report which determined that Oxford was in need of a vocational school. This resulted in forming a district of six towns and the building of Southern Worcester County Vocational School (Bay Path). As committee chair of the site selection, Yarno was instrumental in locating and negotiating the land contract that was ultimately chosen. In addition, Yarno was a Commissioned Naval Officer, serving as a carrier pilot in the Pacific in World War II.

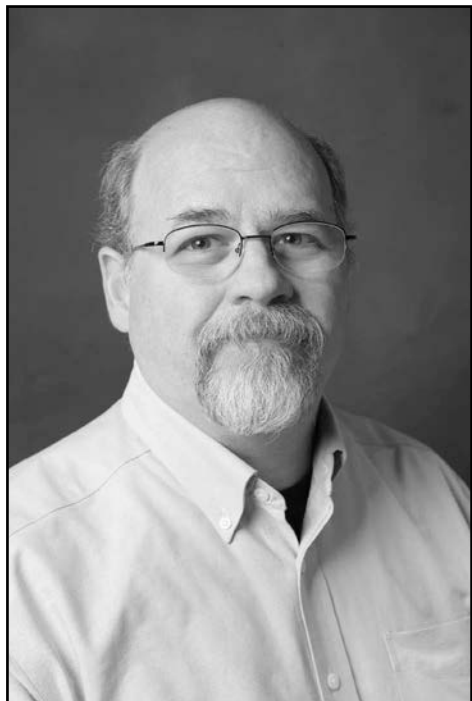
Yarno was married for 65 years to Connie and lost the love of his life in 2009; they had one child, John. Yarno has been a long-time resident of Pompano Beach, FL, though he decided to stay in Oxford after his annual summer visit, due to Covid-19. Yarno remains interested in politics, business, cooking (Spanakopeta) and



Yarno Nesta

Turn To **NESTA** page **A5**

Oxford's Robert Kersting to retire from Westfield State



Robert Kersting

WESTFIELD — Westfield State University's Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert Kersting, Ph.D., of Oxford, has announced his retirement, effective June 30. Dr. Kersting has served in his current interim post since July 2020.

In addition to a year of service at the cabinet level representing the Division of Academic Affairs, Bob also served as a long-time professor in Westfield State University's Department of Social Work and as founding director of the University's Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) and Master of Social Work (MSW) programs.

"Dr. Kersting's longstanding impact and commitment to the University has made an immeasurable mark on the success of our current and former students, as well as the social services profession in Massachusetts and throughout New England," said Westfield State University Interim President Roy H. Saigo, Ph.D.

According to Dr. Saigo, Dr. Kersting's work as chief academic officer over the last year in planning for the University's upcoming New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) accreditation, as well as ongoing enhancements to the University's student engagement, achievement, and retention measures have been appreciated.

"Professor Kersting's ingenuity nearly 25 years ago inspired Westfield State's current highly-enrolled

social work undergraduate and graduate degree programs," said Saigo, who explained that today, about 40 and 100 students graduate annually from its BSW and MSW programs, respectively.

In 1996, social work was a concentration in the social sciences major and was housed in the Department of Sociology and Social Science. The academic major became its own department in the early 2000s.

Throughout his tenure, Kersting also provided valuable contributions to critical committees during his nearly 25 years at Westfield State. These include the Academic Policy Committee, Graduate Education Council, Science Center Building Steering Committee, Special Committee on University Planning, Campus Technology Committee, Institutional Diversity Advisory Committee, and the 2016-17 Provost Search Committee, among others.

Prior to Westfield State, he taught at Bridgewater State College, Eastern Connecticut State University, and Rutgers University's Graduate School

of Social Work. Beyond his teaching experience, Kersting was a practicing social worker for 15 years.

Kersting's national professional affiliations include service on the Council for Social Work Education's (CSWE) Commission on Education Policy and the National Association of Social Work Massachusetts Chapter Board of Directors. He also serves as an accreditation site visitor for CSWE. His current areas of interest include social work practice with individuals and families, critical thinking, gerontology, and HIV/AIDS.

Kersting holds a Ph.D. in social work from Rutgers University in New Jersey, a Master of Social Work from Fordham University in New York, and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, sociology, and social work from Hope College in Michigan. He resides with his family in Oxford, Mass.

Information will be forthcoming from the University regarding its plans for his successor for the provost and vice president for academic affairs role.

New principals named at Charlton Elementary, Heritage School



Jennifer Lilley
BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT



Peter Olson

CHARLTON – With the upcoming retirement of two principals in the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, two new leaders have been announced for Charlton Elementary School and Heritage School.

Superintendent Steven Lamarche made the announcement on March 24 praising outgoing principals Lori Pacheco of Charlton Elementary School and Kathleen Pastore of Heritage School who will retire at the conclusion of the current school year.

"We have all been preparing for the retirement this year of two celebrated principals in our district. While we will miss their incredible horsepower, leadership and contributions to our district we continue to wish them well and all the best in the next chapter. We hate the fact that they're leaving in a COVID world, but we will celebrate them for years to come," said Superintendent Lamarche.

With their departures, two new hires were made after an extensive search process. One principal is coming to Charlton from an outside district

while one is moving to a new school within the district. Jennifer Lilley will be joining the district as principal of the Charlton Elementary School after previously serving as Assistant Principal of the John R. Briggs Elementary School in the Ashburnham Westminster Regional School District. Peter Olson, who currently services as Assistant Principal at Charlton Middle School, will be promoted to Principal of Heritage School.

"Both have incredible credentials as hard working, dynamic educators and knowledgeable leaders," Superintendent Lamarche said of the new hires. "We are working with everyone on transitions – It is our goal to formerly introduce Principal Lilley and Principal Olson at the April 14 regularly scheduled school committee meeting."

School Committee chair Kenneth Laferriere added his own comments of praise for the outgoing principals and optimism for the new leadership coming into the district.

"Thank you (Principals Pacheco and Pastore) for your continued service. We are going to miss your presence here in Dudley-Charlton. We appreciate all you've done, and we welcome Principal Lilley and Principal Olson," Laferriere said.

LOWEST PRICES • FULL SERVICE

Serving Worcester County for almost 60 years!



24-HOUR EXPERT BURNER SERVICE • 508-753-7221

Shrewsbury's Own...

AL'S OIL SERVICE

www.alsoil.com

We accept most major credit cards

MORTGAGEE SALES OF REAL ESTATE

CHARLTON • BROOKFIELD

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021

PRIME LOCATION!



ICE CREAM & SEAFOOD

290 DRESSER HILL RD.

CHARLTON

11:00 AM, ON SITE

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

MIXED USE • RESTAURANT

PROPERTIES BEING SOLD SEPARATELY

CLAM BOX



ON ROUTE 9!

53 SOUTH MAPLE RD.

BROOKFIELD

1:00 PM, ON SITE

COMMERCIAL BUILDING

RESTAURANT

BANK SAYS SELL! VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

zekosgroup.com

Terms: \$10K deposits per property. Additional \$10K deposit due in 48 hrs., per property. 45 day closings. Properties sold as is. Attendees must adhere to COVID-19 protocols.

2 ZEKOS GROUP AUCTIONEERS

P.O. BOX 549, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

508-842-9000

PET of the WEEK





Meet Kaitlyn a 2 year old female. This sweet girl is excited to meet you! Kaitlyn has been through a lot, and is ready to settle into her home. Kaitlyn loves other dogs and would be happy to have dog friends. She is very playful, and can have fun with any toy! Kaitlyn is energetic and enjoys going for walks. She is a smart girl and is ready for training with her family! We think she would do well with kids over 10. If you think Kaitlyn could be for you, please email adopt@baypathhumane.org today!

500 Legacy Farms North • Hopkinton, MA 01748



Established 1887

Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

Bring your furry friend along on your next trip to MFB for a treat from our drive-up tellers, or stop in any branch and bring home a treat from our complimentary doggy treat bar.



1271 Providence Rd, Whitinsville, MA
508.234.8256 • 800.357.2265
MilfordFederal.com



Milford | Whitinsville | Woonsocket

Find out why our clients recommend us to their friends

Visit us at our friendly office.

As your tax advisor, we use tax planning strategies to help minimize the impact of taxes now and in the future.

Call today to schedule your appointment.



Our rates are reasonable. Call with questions or for a price estimate.

Audits Tax Prep Accounting

Good Counsel Tax Services, Inc

100 Main Street, Suite 104
Whitinsville, MA 01588
508-278-7600

Drop off and mailing services are available.

A Step Ahead Family Child Care Center



"A progressive approach to family child care"

Your child deserves quality child care

*A Step Ahead is a licensed family child care facility in Auburn using classroom technology to enhance the hands-on curriculum with experienced Infant * Toddler * Pre-School teachers to help your child learn & grow*

*Large outdoor play area • Safe family neighborhood * Meals Provided **

Call today for more information!

Auburn, MA • (508) 767-1214



www.StonebridgePress.com

Quinsigamond Community College offers assistance to Becker students

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College is opening its doors to Becker College students after learning of the College's closing at the end of the Spring 2021 semester.

"It is with a heavy heart that we learned of the impending closing of Becker College, one of the oldest institutions of higher education in our region. Becker has made a profound and lasting impression on our community and many QCC transfer students," said President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D.

QCC has developed a transfer agreement and memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Becker College to assist current Becker students in seamlessly continuing their education. This agreement is for all current Becker students in programs transferrable into QCC's comparable programs that include:

- Associate Degree in Business Administration Transfer
- Associate Degree in Criminal Justice
- Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education
- Associate Degree in Early Childhood

Education Birth – Eight Years Old

- Associate Degree Nurse Education
- Associate Degree Nurse Education – Evening

"We are here to offer Becker College students a way to achieve their higher education dreams," President Pedraja said. "We want to ensure that no one is left behind because of circumstances beyond their control. We worked diligently on this transfer/MOU agreement and while this agreement does not include all programs at Becker, we will endeavor to enroll and support all transfer students and those who were considering Becker in the fall."

In addition to the programs listed in the MOU, many of Becker's programs can easily transfer to QCC, such as its well-known video-game design program. QCC already has a robust gaming program, as well as an esports team, formed during the start of the pandemic.

QCC offers strong financial support to its students and many attend for free by qualifying for financial aid. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic,

the College has increased its financial support to students, by way of \$2.4 million in federal emergency funds from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II, authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), and \$1 million in institutional funds. QCC also has a Student Emergency Fund available to current students in significant hardship due to the pandemic, regardless of citizenship, residency or enrollment status. All current and prospective Becker students will be offered the same financial supports and services, and will have the ability to transfer to other four-year institutions once they complete their education at QCC.

"Becker students and their families are not without options and we will be here to support them every step of the way," President Pedraja said.

For more information, visit <https://www.QCC.edu/becker>.

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



ACCURACY WATCH

The Auburn News 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.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.

Quinsigamond Community College freezes tuition rates for 2021

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has announced it will freeze its tuition and fees in 2021.

"We are committed to making college affordable for anyone who wants to better their lives through higher education," said President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. "We want to remain the most cost-effective higher education option in our area, which is why we are proactively keeping our tuition rates the same for our students."

Recognizing the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic has affected many students and their families who lost jobs or had their hours reduced, QCC has also made emergency funds available. These funds can assist students in paying bills, obtaining laptops, Wi-Fi and other basic life and educational necessities, to help offset some of

the financial burdens brought on by the pandemic. Since the pandemic began last March, QCC has worked on innovative ways to help its students with the new financial challenges they faced that included increasing financial aid through state, federal and institutional funds, as well as a Student Emergency Fund available to all current students in immediate hardship due to the effects of the pandemic.

"Attaining a higher education has positive, lifelong implications to students and their families. Higher education can rise people from poverty, improve our economy and make our nation stronger," Dr. Pedraja said, adding, "Higher education is a right of all."

QCC's online associate degree programs were ranked in the top five for best return on investment by OnlineU.

com, an unbiased rankings organization that compares all online colleges and universities in the country.

Registration for Summer/Fall begins on March 29 for returning students and April 12 for new students.

For more information, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

Sturbridge-Part-Time Reception-Processor

Small insurance agency in Sturbridge, MA looking for a Part-time morning receptionist 9am-1pm M-F. Needs to be processor reliable, organized, personable, detail oriented individual, who can maintain a flexible schedule. Must have good working knowledge of word, excel and outlook.

Email resume to: siacobucci@mccurdyinsurance.com

Webster Public School Department



Cafeteria Worker, Park Ave - 2 Positions

Schedule: M-F 10:00-1:00 (15 hrs.)

Rate: \$14.25/hr.

*these 2 positions will primarily deliver meals to classrooms

Start Date: ASAP

Breakfast in the Classroom Worker,

Park Ave - 1 Position

Schedule: M-F 7:30-10:30 (15 hrs.)

Rate: \$14.25/hr.

Start Date: ASAP

Cafeteria Worker, Webster Middle School

- 1 Position

Schedule: M-F 8:00-11:00 (15 hrs.)

Rate: \$14.25/hr.

Start Date: ASAP

*this position is primarily a kitchen prep position

Cafeteria Worker, Bartlett High School

- 1 Position

Schedule: M-F 9:30-12:30 (15 hrs.)

Rate: \$14.25/hr.

Start Date: ASAP

Please apply to: Attn: Lori Marrazzo

Webster Public Schools, 77 Poland Street, Webster, MA 01570

For questions about positions please call or email Ellen Nylen at

508-943-0104 ext. 40016 or enlyen@webster-schools.org

*At this time all positions run through the end of the school year.



Annual Spencer Spring Consignment Auction

Saturday, April 24, 2021, 10 AM

(Preview at 9 AM) Please note that the auction is being held at:

The Spencer Fairgrounds

48 Smithfield Road, Spencer MA 01562

We will be selling tractors, farm/landscape equipment, and all types of Agriculture-related items, as well as any tools and construction-related items that are consigned at public auction. If you are seriously in the market for items of this type, or you have something you want to sell and are motivated to do so, this will be an excellent opportunity!

Consignment Contacts:

Malcolm Speicher: flat.tail@verizon.net – 508-868-8896

Donald Raucher: donraucher@comcast.net – 413-537-3177

Please contact us as early as possible with larger items to get maximum exposure.

Commission rate as follows:

- Any items that sell for \$100 or less: 20%
- Any items that sell for \$101 to \$999: 15%
- Any items that sell for \$1000 and up: 10%
- 10% commission on the final bid of any item that doesn't meet the consignor's reserve.

We will be following all COVID protocols

Terms of sale: Cash/check with proper ID. Most major credit cards. 15% Buyer's Premium. 10% for cash/check. Buyer's Premium for items that sell for \$10,000 or more reduced to 5%. 6.25% MA sales tax. Tax exempt buyers must present a copy of their resale/tax exempt certificate.

Management reserves the right to refuse items deemed inappropriate or in unacceptable condition for sale. No consignments will be accepted the day of the auction.

RAUCHER BROTHERS AUCTIONEERS
Don Raucher MA license #AU2233

When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.

To find out how to get your financial goals on track, contact us for a complimentary review.



Dennis Antonopoulos
Financial Advisor

5 Albert St
Auburn, MA 01501-1303
508-832-5385

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

8 tips for dyeing Easter eggs



Coloring eggs is a beloved Easter tradition. Eggs long have been symbols of fertility and rebirth, making them fitting icons for spring. One story links eggs to Easter as well. According to some religious schol-

ars, Mary Magdalene, the woman who was the first person to see Jesus Christ after His resurrection, was holding a plain egg in her hand while waiting for the emperor to share the good news. The emperor then told

her that Jesus' resurrection was as improbable as that egg suddenly blushing. The egg then turned red. Dyeing eggs is an entertaining activity, but one that also may have some religious signifi-

cance. Many families will color eggs this Easter, and these guidelines can make the process go smoothly. • Wait until just before coloring to hard-boil eggs. Good Housekeeping recommends boiling

eggs for 11 minutes for a hard boil. Do not chill the eggs afterward; warm eggs absorb color more effectively for more vivid results. • Egg dye can stain furniture, clothing or tablecloths. Therefore, dress in clothing that you're not worried about staining. Also, cover work surfaces with an old tablecloth and newspapers to soak up any spills. • Make a drying rack to ensure that eggs will dry evenly. This can be a rimmed cookie sheet lined with layers of paper towels to absorb any excess dye that runs off the eggs. Or push pins into thick foam board and place the eggs on top to allow air to circulate. • Consider using glass bowls or ceramic mugs to house the colored dye solutions. These vessels are more sturdy than plastic cups, and less likely to be overturned by eager young hands. • Scissor-style tongs are ideal tools for retrieving eggs from the dye. Eggs tend to slide off of the spoons or wire rings provided in kits, leading to splashing and kids dunk-

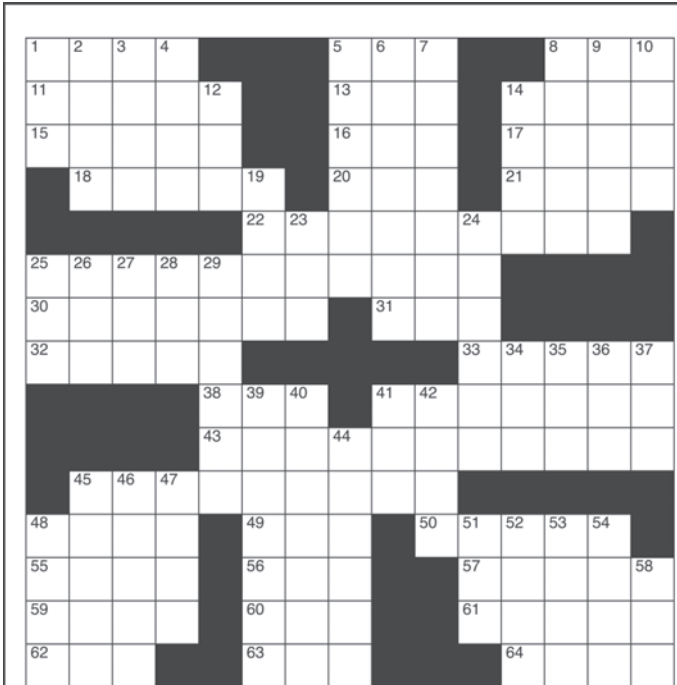
ing their fingers in to grab eggs. • Stir dyeing cups often to guarantee consistent color. • Use electrical tape to make patterns on Easter eggs. Dip the eggs and let dry. Afterwards, remove the tape to reveal the designs. • If food coloring-based dyes seem too messy, use watercolor paint sets and allow everyone to get creative. While some people may want to use Easter eggs for recipes later on, it may be safer to boil up a fresh batch of eggs for that purpose, even if it seems wasteful. According to Emily Rubin, RD, LDN of the Thomas Jefferson University Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, "hard-boiled eggs should be refrigerated within two hours of cooking and discarded if left out for more than two hours at room temperature." Chances are it may take two hours or more for children to find hard-boiled eggs hidden by the Easter bunny.

Make your own chocolate Easter bunnies



The Easter bunny is a tradition that has been passed down for centuries. Symbolizing fertility and wealth, the Easter bunny became a holiday standard in Germany during the 16th century. The custom of chocolate eggs came along centuries after the Easter bunny, originating in the 19th century in France and Germany. As Easter celebrations evolved, chocolate eggs were not the only delicacy; chocolate Easter bunnies also were shared and enjoyed. While there are scores of mass-produced chocolate bunnies available for purchase, and many local chocolatiers also make Easter bunnies and other sweet treats, families may want to try making their own chocolate Easter bunnies this year. This can be a family-friendly activity that favors togetherness with the promise of a sweet reward. 1. The first step to creating chocolate Easter bunnies is to select the type of chocolate you prefer. Bunnies can be made from white chocolate, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, or even a combination for a marbled effect. Chocolate melts, chips or chocolate couverture are widely available at specialty chocolate and food shops or craft supply stores, according to DoItYourself.com. This simplifies the bunny-making process. Some retailers also

may sell bunny-making kits that pair the chocolate melts with the mold in one box for ultimate convenience. 2. Craft stores also have aisles devoted to culinary crafts. Browse to find an Easter bunny mold. Some may sell solid chocolate bunnies or hollow varieties. Choose molds in the desired size, as bunny molds may be large or small. 3. Follow directions to melt chocolate successfully. Some chocolates can be slowly melted in the microwave. A double-boiler method, in which the chocolate is melted in a bowl placed above a pan with boiling water, can help the chocolate melt consistently and prevent it from burning. 4. Pour the chocolate into the mold and gently tap the mold so that it displaces air bubbles and helps the chocolate settle evenly into the design. Allow the chocolate to set up in the refrigerator. If your mold is hollow, you can seal the two halves of the bunny with a little melted chocolate on the seam. Creativity can be unleashed when making homemade chocolate bunnies. Experiment with adding a few drops of peppermint oil or orange liqueur to customize the flavor. Before sealing hollow bunnies, place peanut butter or raspberry jam inside for a tasty surprise. Use colored candy melts to add colorful eyes or cheeks or to tint the inside of the bunny ears. For an even more festive effect, seal a lollipop stick in a chocolate bunny and use it to secure the Easter bunny to the top of a cake.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Now and __

5. Israeli city __ Aviv

8. Indicates near

11. Minneapolis suburb

13. Large Australian flightless bird

14. Fine-grained earth

15. Plant genus that includes water caltrop

16. Peacock network

17. TV writer Dunham

18. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues

20. They __

21. Muslim ruler title

22. Position given in respect of

25. Explaining further

30. Measuring instrument

31. Romanian monetary unit

32. Council of __, 1545-1563
33. Savory jelly made with meat stock

38. Journalist Tarbell

41. Most suspenseful

43. Festivity

45. Animal embryos

48. Fertility god

49. Medical patients' choice (abbr.)

50. Type of sword

55. Competition

56. Bird of the cuckoo family

57. Afflicted in mind or body

59. Engineering organization

60. Beverage receptacle

61. Spiritual leader

62. Doctor of Education

63. Where golfers begin

64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

1. Vietnamese offensive

2. Fast mammal

3. Oh goodness!

4. The back of one's neck

5. One who lives in another's property

6. Involve deeply

7. Alfalfa

8. Tropical tree resin

9. Sudden fear

10. Jewish religious month

12. Veterans battleground

14. Musical symbol

19. German river

23. Paddle

24. Lizard

25. Shock treatment

26. The common gibbon

27. Brew

28. Usually has a lid
29. Lenses in optical instruments

34. Time zone in Samoa (abbr.)

35. Wrinkled dog: Shar __

36. Denotes equal

37. TV network for children

39. Take the value away from

40. Female graduates

41. Don't know when yet

42. " __ t  ": Spanish song

44. "Seinfeld" character

45. Bleated

46. Entwined

47. Away from wind

48. Soft creamy white cheese

51. Swiss river

52. Prejudice

53. Actor Idris

54. They resist authority (slang)

58. Speak ill of



Auburn News

TO PLACE AN AD:
JUNE SIMAKAUKAS
(508)909-4062
jsima@stonebridgepress.news
SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
(508) 909-4103
kerri@stonebridgepress.news
TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL
obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 508-909-4149
OR send to Auburn News
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550
TO SUBMIT A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR:
E-MAIL:
news@stonebridgepress.news
OR send to Auburn News
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

AUBURN NEWS PUBLISHED
BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
frank@stonebridgepress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagernewspapers.com

The AUBURN NEWS (546-680) is published weekly for \$45 per year (in county) by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Out of county rate is \$56 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Southbridge. To subscribe call (800) 367-9898. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Auburn News, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$390,000, 117 Rockland Rd, Dani, Maureen L, to Murphy, Michael, and Murphy, Dani.

\$370,200, 6 Commonwealth Ave, Carolino, Candido, and Pires, Narcisco, to Stefanski, Emma, and Mijangos, Carlos C.

\$354,361, 1 Newland St, Bridge, Kimberly, and M& T Bank, to M& T Bank.

\$290,000, 4 Pinedale Rd, Formica, Nino J, and Formica, Stephanie A, to Abbas, Walaa N, and Aismallah, Auday

NESTA

continued from page 1

playing card games with his family! Though he uses a walker, Yarno is very independent, engag-

ing and astute at 100!

In celebration of his milestone, participants of the drive-by gathered at a nearby school and drove/walked a few blocks where Yarno resides with

his son John, and daughter-in-law, Elaine. Many (roughly 30) who drove from afar, congregated outside the house that he built in 1957, taking in the festivities. Tears of

joy and pride were felt by most!

The family extends their deepest gratitude to all who contributed in making Yarno's birthday special. This includes the Oxford Police Department, Oxford Town Manager, Jennifer Callahan and the Oxford Board of Selectman. A heartfelt presentation of a Certificate of Recognition, personally delivered by Selectman John Saad, was deeply

moving for Yarno. And many thanks to Oxford High School Band and the Jr. ROTC program! Their presence and performances made the event festive and memorable. A tribute and award was presented to Yarno by a gold-striped chief petty officer; this also greatly touched his heart. Many veterans saluted their support as they passed by in cars, trucks and motorcycles. The Masonic Order sent

a representative from Auburn, an organization near and dear to Yarno. More than 50 vehicles passed by, waving, honking and cheering in Yarno's honor, including family, friends and local community neighbors. This was truly a memorable day, commemorating Yarno, who continues to make a difference in the lives of so many.

TIMELINE

continued from page 1

towns with the greatest COVID-19 case burden. They include Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, Everett, Fall River, Fitchburg, Framingham, Haverhill, Holyoke,

Lawrence, Leominster, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Randolph, Revere, Springfield, and Worcester.

To learn more about the state's vaccine program, visit www.mass.gov.




Community Connection

Your area guide to local businesses!

Charlton Oil
Company Propane
508-248-9797

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL.	Tanks Filled to 80%
75-150	\$2.35	
150-300	\$1.99	
300-500	\$1.85	Driver Discretion
500 PLUS...	CALL OFFICE	

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!

- Monday price 3/29/21 was **\$2.32** per gallon* 100 gallon minimum
- Call for the most up to date daily price or visit us at www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change



Talbat Custom Embroidery & Heat Transfer
Embroidery Shop



NEW LOCATION:
1009 Lebanon Hill Rd., Southbridge
508-764-0555

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Crooked Creek Farm
~est. 1992~
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

BEST FARM FRESH MEATS IN CENTRAL MA
PASTURE RAISED • NATURAL MEATS

Grilling Season Is Here

2lb NY Sirloin
2lb Ground Beef
2lb Country Ribs

\$58.00 (\$68.00 value)

ASK US ABOUT OUR FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com
Email: crookedcreekfarmma@gmail.com

Find Us on Social Media f i

Hearthstone Market & Catering

Grab 'N' Go Home-style Lunch, Dinner, and Tasty Treats
Catering Available!

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-7077

Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm

hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com

All We Know Is Local

StonebridgePress.com



LEGALS

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

Premises: 69 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Auburn, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Bradley P. Sjosten to National City Bank, said mortgage dated October 30, 2003, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 32119 at Page 150 and now held by 20 Cap Fund I LLC by virtue of an assignment from Trinity Financial Services, LLC, to 20 Cap Fund I, LLC, dated November 7, 2019 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61773, Page 175, previously assigned by US Mortgage Resolution LLC to Trinity Financial Services, LLC, by virtue of an assignment dated July 26, 2019 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61773, Page 173, previously assigned by PNC Bank, National Association, successor

by merger to National City Bank, to US Mortgage Resolution LLC by virtue of an assignment dated October 24, 2018 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 59673 at Page 223, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction on **April 19, 2021 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Auburn, with the building thereon, numbered 69 Bryn Mawr Avenue, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner thereof on the easterly line of Bryn Mawr Avenue at the southwesterly corner of land now or formerly of Florence E. Soltye, which point is one hundred (100) feet southwesterly of a stone monument marking the intersection of the easterly line of Bryn Mawr Avenue and the southerly line of Rock Avenue; THENCE by land of said Soltye south-

easterly two hundred (200) feet to land now or formerly of Sarah P. Mitchell; THENCE southwesterly by land of said Mitchell, in a line parallel to the easterly line of Bryn Mawr Avenue one hundred and twenty-one and fifty three hundredths (121.53) feet to land now or formerly of Joseph H. Whitaker; THENCE northwesterly by land now or formerly of said Whitaker two hundred (200) feet to the easterly line of Bryn Mawr Avenue; THENCE northeasterly by the easterly line of Bryn Mawr Avenue one hundred and twenty-one and sixty two hundredths (121.62) feet to the place of beginning. Containing 24,136 square feet of land.

The description of the property that appears in the mortgage to be foreclosed shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. For Mortgagors' Title see deed dated 10/28/2003, and recorded in Book 32119 at Page 135 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of

Deeds.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within sixty (60) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

BENDETT & MCHUGH, PC
270 Farmington Avenue
Farmington, CT 06032
Attorney for 20 Cap Fund I LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(860) 677-2868

March 26, 2021
April 2, 2021
April 9, 2021

Takes years to build, seconds to break and forever to repair

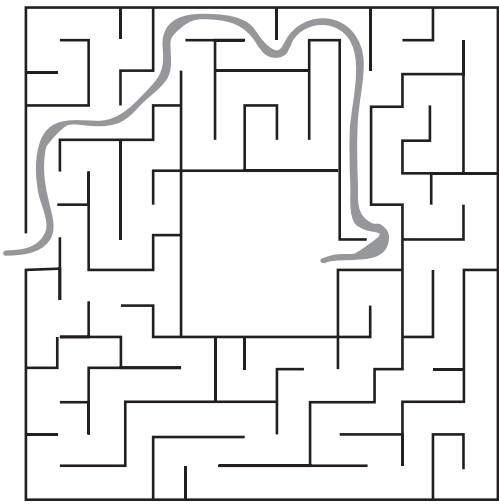
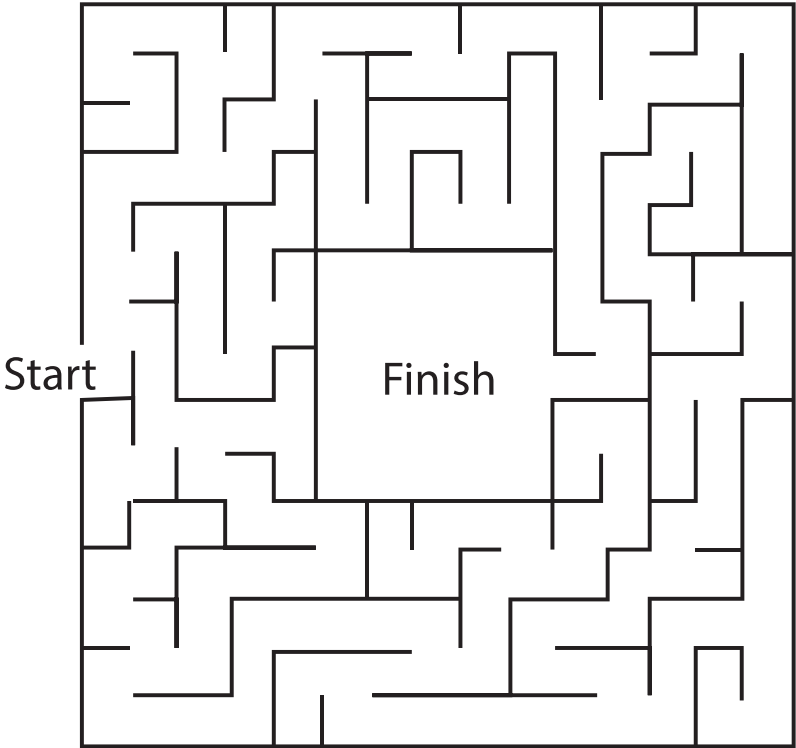
TRUST

To find out how you can earn more trust from your neighbors. Contact your sales representative StonebridgePress.com



Maze Craze

Can you find your way through the center of the maze?

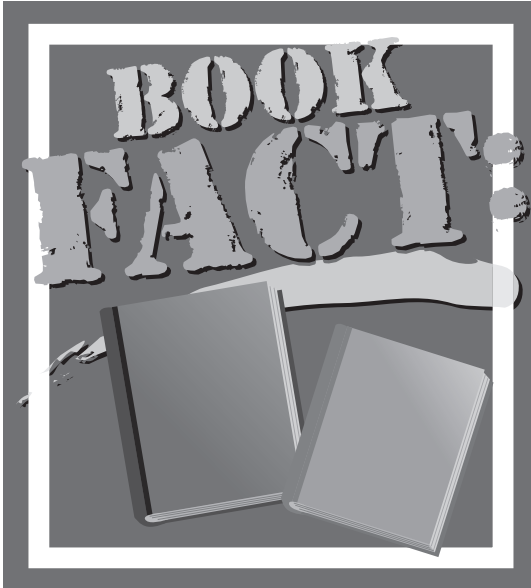


THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1889: THE EIFFEL TOWER IS OFFICIALLY OPENED.
- 1918: DAYLIGHT SAVING GOES INTO EFFECT IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- 1985: THE FIRST WRESTLEMANIA TAKES PLACE IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN IN NEW YORK CITY.



THE OLD TESTAMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN BIBLE IS THE SAME AS THIS SACRED BOOK IN THE JEWISH FAITH.

ANSWER: TORAH



SACRIFICE

giving up something for another thing deemed more important or worthy

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH: Holy
- SPANISH: Sagrado
- ITALIAN: Sacro
- FRENCH: Saint
- GERMAN: Heilig



PASSOVER COMMEMORATES THE LIBERATION OF ISRAELITES FROM SLAVERY IN EGYPT AND THE "PASSING OVER" OF A PLAGUE ON FIRST-BORN ISRAELITES.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CHOCOLATE EASTER BUNNY

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to consumers.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 7 = E)

- A. 18 1 23 25 17 9
Clue: Making a purchase
- B. 6 7 22 22 25 17 9
Clue: Offering in exchange for money
- C. 19 11 7 2 25 21
Clue: Buy now, pay later
- D. 19 4 7 19 14 5 1 21
Clue: The place to pay

Answers: A. buying B. selling C. credit D. checkout

SUDOKU

			2				1	5
2				1				
	6							4
9				8				
			1			8		
	1		6			2		
3		2						
		9				3	4	8
8			5				7	

Level: intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

8	4	6	5	9	3	1	7	2
1	5	9	6	7	2	3	4	8
3	7	2	8	4	1	5	9	6
7	1	8	6	5	4	2	3	9
6	3	4	1	2	9	8	5	7
9	2	5	3	8	7	4	6	1
5	6	1	9	3	8	7	2	4
2	9	7	4	1	5	6	8	3
4	8	3	2	7	6	9	1	5

ANSWER:



Spring

Home

Auto

This section reaches 47,000 households
in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

Call 508-764-4325
or email ads@stonebridgepress.news
for more information

AUTO BODY / REPAIRS

KEARNS
COLLISION REPAIR

Since 1969
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services
Warranted Work & Repairs
Diagnostics • A/C Repair
Tune Ups & Engine Repair
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)
Northbridge, MA 01534
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231
www.kearnscollision.com
Fully Certified • RS# 2678

Stump Grinding

MILLER STUMP GRINDING

Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified
Fully Insured

REASONABLE RATES
PROMPT SERVICE
ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER
OWNERS / OPERATORS
508-688-2159

BEST WINDOW COMPANY

KUBALA
HOME IMPROVEMENT
The Door and Window Experts
MACSL100114 | MAHIC150118 | CTHIC0619712

Award Winning
High Performance
Windows & Doors

100% FINANCING
AVAILABLE | Lifetime
Warranty

508-784-1550

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ f

BUILDER

Todd A. Ethier
TAE
B·U·I·L·D·E·R
INCORPORATED

Remodeling Expert

◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS
◆ ADDITIONS ◆ GARAGES
◆ SIDING ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS
◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS
◆ KITCHEN ◆ BATHS

Quality Building Since 1985
Licensed & Insured
508-764-2293 • 774-230-3967

Oil & Propane

AMERICAN DISCOUNT OIL & PROPANE

Need propane or oil right away?
Call American today!

OIL 10¢ Off PER GALLON (125 GAL MIN)
PROPANE 20¢ Off PER GALLON ON YOUR NEXT FILL UP (MIN 75 GAL)

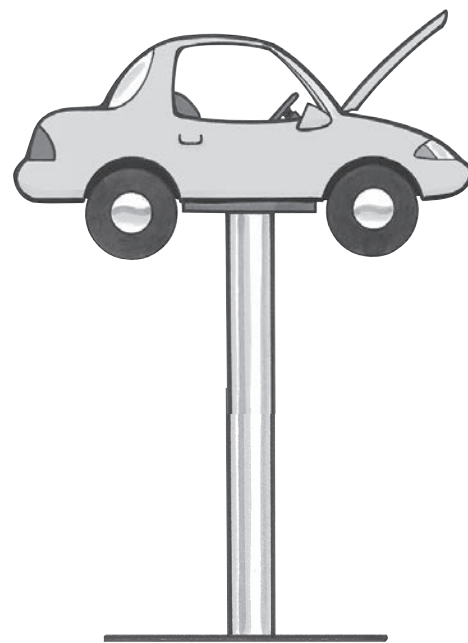
With coupon. One coupon per customer. Exp 4/30/21. Cannot be combined with any other offer or on previous purchases or fuel assistance program.

Order online
Americandiscountoil.com
413-289-9428
1182 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069

Use promo code
palmer123 when ordering online

Advertise on this page
for one low price!
Get 7 papers.
Call 508-764-4325

- Spencer New Leader
- Sturbridge Villager
- Charlton Villager
- Southbridge News
- Webster Times
- Auburn News
- Blackstone Valley Tribune



Power Washing

EXTERIOR HOUSE & SOFT ROOF WASHING

REMOVES HARMFUL:
Mildew • Moss • Algae • Oxidation • Dirt & Pollutants
FROM:
Vinyl • Aluminum • Wood • Brick • Painted • Stained

GREAT FOR: Before Paint Prep
Cedar Restoration • Decks • Patios
Stairs & Walkways • Foundations

HI-TECH MOBILE WASH
~ Est. 1987 ~

Commercial & Residential

100% Satisfaction
Guaranteed or you
owe nothing!

PLEASE CALL
1-800-696-4913 • 508-248-4638
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
www.hitechmobilewash.com

Paving

G. COOPER PAVING
New Beauty Blacktop
413.544.5381

DISCOUNTS ON REFERRALS! FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

SENIOR DISCOUNT 10% OFF \$200 OFF NEW DRIVEWAY INSTALLATIONS

DRIVEWAYS • PARKING LOTS
SEALCOATING • STONE
HOT TAR CRACK FILL

"Big Or Small, We Do It All!"
FREE ESTIMATES



DRAINS/HANDYMAN

MAIN STREET DRAIN CLEARING & HANDYMAN SERVICES

Wallpaper
Painting
Plumbing
Carpenter
Flooring

If we don't do it you
don't need it done!

Senior Citizen (65+)
Discounts
Give me a Call
Rich at
508-963-1191

CHIMNEYS

CHIMNEY CLEANINGS ONLY \$99

ALL KINDS OF
MASONRY &
CONCRETE WORK
New & Repairs, Repointing,
Rebuilding, Re-lining,
Waterproofing, Foundation
& Chimney Repair, New
& Stair Repair, Concrete
Walkways, Stonewalls,
New Roofs, Construction
& Carpentry.

Need to get it done?
Call me!
-FREE Estimates-
Quality Chimney
(508)752-1003



ELECTRICIAN

TNT ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Timothy N Tripp
Licensed Electrician

67 Hillcrest Drive
Southbridge, MA
01550
508.909.5114
774.601.3107

Tntelectricalserviceinc@gmail.com
MA#100257JR
NH#17425J

Electrician

BRIAN WOOD

Master Electrician
Residential • Commercial
o: 508.764.3925
c: 508-505-0111
35 Years of Experience
Lic#15885A | 29931E
Fully insured
I specialize in:
New Construction
Renovations
Pools and Hot tubs
Lighting (int. & ext.)
Repairs and Maintenance
Electrical Panel upgrades
Bpwelec@gmail.com
Facebook:
Brian Wood Electrician

ELECTRICIAN

ALDEN
Electrical Contractors, Inc.
LICENSED ELECTRICIAN

New Construction
Remodelling
Kitchen & Bath
Service Updates

W. Brookfield, MA
1.774.230.9606
Talden1987@gmail.com

Fully Insured
Accepts credit card
payments & free online
bank transfers
Licenses:
MA-13705-21777A,
NH-13932M, RI-B013781

GUTTERS

GUTTERS

- Cleanings
- Repairs
- Installations

508-867-2877
508-754-9054
30+ years exp
Licensed & Insured

A. Eagle Gutters
aeaglegutters.com

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

Handyman

No Job Too Small
Home Improvement
-Insured-
MA Reg #174661

- General Carpentry
- Laminated Floors
- Remodeling
- Kitchen, Bath & Cellar
- Painting
- Handyman Services
- Floor Leveling
- Power Washing and MORE!

See Our Work Online
nojobtoosmallhomeimprovement.com
Tel. 508.414.7792
Sturbridge, MA

Home Improvement

BONETTI'S
Home Improvement

Roofing
Siding
Decks
Remodeling
Windows
Doors
Basement Finishing
Gutters Cleaning
Pressure Washing
Painting Landscaping

Over 25 Years Experience
Residential Specialist

Licensed and Insured
128231
508-347-4906
Cell 508-688-0072

H.V.A.C.

Central Air Conditioning Installed UNDER \$10,000

RUUD EQUIPMENT
13 Seer • Up to 1250 sq.ft.
MITSUBISHI
Ductless Split
HEAT PUMPS
Electrical Work Extra
MASS SAVE
Certified Contractor

David's
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

30 Years Experience
davidshheatandac@gmail.com
davidshheatandac.com
508.450.6264
LICENSED/INSURED
Free Estimates

MASONRY

C & J
MASONRY HARDSCAPE
RETAINING WALLS
OUTDOOR
LIVING CONSTRUCTION

Chimney Repair
Foundation Repair
Steps, Patios
Pool Surrounds
Pressure Washing
Property Maintenance
Water Proofing
Delivery of Aggregate
Cord Wood

Brian French
(413)222-5542
frenchyn45@gmail.com

PAINTING

Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS

Finest
Craftsmanship
Since 1979

Interior-Exterior
Paints, Stains,
Wallpaper and
Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction
Guaranteed

Free Estimates
774.452.0321

PAINTING

BILL GREENE PAINTING

Free Estimates
Fully Insured

LOW RATES
RELIABLE SERVICE
QUALITY WORK
POWER WASHING
LOG CABIN REFINISHING

508.963.8973
BILLGREENE516@GMAIL.COM

Pest Control

ACCURATE PEST CONTROL

Full Pest Control
Services
Over 28 yrs.
experience

Reasonable Rates
Owner Operated

508-757-8078
Ask for
David or Jason
Hight
Auburn MA

PLUMBING

JOHN DALY
Plumbing

Water heaters, Faucets,
Toilets, New pex water piping,
Outside hose connections
replaced or added,
Dishwashers, Garbage
disposals, Water filters,
Tub & shower valves,
Tub & shower replacements
Any repair or
replacement needed.

Buy your own fixtures &
faucets, or I will supply.
Serving all of
Worcester County
Lic.#MPL-21763
Since 1988
Call John 508.304.7816

We are home owners'
plumbers!
jdman714@aol.com

ROOFING

David Barbale
ROOFING

Roofing/Gutters
Repair Work

Fully Licensed
and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127
MA HIC LIC #1079721
INS. # CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709
O: 508-248-6709
davidbarbale.com

ROOFING

GUARANTEED
Roofing & Building
Maintenance LLC

Roofing, Siding,
Gutter and
Gutter Cleaning

Contact:
Daniel Truax
508-450-7472
gbmaintco.com

Senior Citizen Discount
Credit Cards Accepted
Over 30 years of satisfied
customers
Fully Insured - Free Estimates

A+ Rating BBB
MA HIC Lic #146620
MA CSL #099487

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING

When you need a roof,
hire a roofing company,
that's what we do!

Call Bill Toll-Free
1-866-961-Roof
508-765-0100

Lifetime material warranty
& 25 yr. labor warranty
available


MA Reg #153955
CSL #095459
CT-HIC #0638641

Fully Insured,
Free Estimates
Family Owned and Operated
Now Accepting All
Major Credit Cards

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

OPINION/COMMENTARY



A STONEBRIDGE PRESS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
25 ELM STREET, SOUTHBRIDGE MA 01550
TEL. (508) 764-4325 • FAX (508) 764-8015
www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Springtime legends

The first day of spring just passed us by on March 20. Now that we are over the hump and into the rainy, sunny, snowy, muddy bit we thought we would share some fun myths surrounding this blooming time of year.

The first story begins with Persephone and Demeter. Persephone was the goddess of spring and holds the most well known story of the season to date. Persephone is the daughter of Demeter, the goddess of agriculture and Zeus, the king of the gods. Persephone married Hades who kept her hidden against her will. Demeter set off to find her daughter and for every minute she was lost, not a crop would grow. Zeus then ordered his daughter to remain in the underworld for half of the year because she ate all of the fruit (pomegranate seeds), the other half of the year she spent with her mother. The idea is that every time Persephone goes into the underworld, winter arrives and the crops die, when she is with her mother, crops bloom.

According to Cherokee legend, the reason trees lose their leaves in the fall is because of the communication between animals and humans. Apparently, animals were able to communicate with humans and the world was utopian. Every year the birds would fly south for the winter. During one particular year, a sparrow who was injured was not able to fly south, he sent his flock ahead without him so the would not freeze, meanwhile he sought shelter. The bird flew to an old Oak tree and was told that he could not seek shelter in its branches, the same thing happened with every tree the bird visited until he was finally granted permission to stay in a pine tree. The pine tree, not popular with the others because of its hard, sharp leaves welcomed the little bird. The sparrow was forever grateful.

The sparrow survived the winter and welcomed his family home during the warmer months. Because the other trees, turned on the Sparrow during a most vulnerable time, the creator cursed their leaves to die during the winter except for the pine tree.

The Shinto Sun Goddess and Bringer of Light, Amaterasu, according to legend, is in control of the sun's movement to insure rice and other crops will grow. This goddess is well known for her ability to spin satin. Her fame caused her brother Susanoo, the god of storms, to become extremely jealous. The angry deity destroyed his sister's weaving loom and wrecked her rice fields. The rampage caused one of Amaterasu's closest friends to parish, as a result she locked herself inside a mountain resulting in the disappearance of light. Because of this, crops would not grow. Uzme, the goddess of laughter traveled to the mountain where Amaterasu was hiding. She placed a shiny necklace on a tree, then began to dance causing the other gods to laugh. When Amaterasu heard the laughter she peeked out of her cave and slowly began to walk towards the necklace. At this, Uzme had the cave blocked and light was restored to the world.

Some actual facts concerning the spring season are as follows; in 1582, if Pope Gregory XIII would not have established the Gregorian calendar, then every 128 years, the vernal equinox would have come a full calendar day earlier, which would put Easter in the middle of winter.

The famous myth about being able to balance an egg on its end on the spring equinox is not true. Attempting to balance an egg on its end is no easier on the spring equinox than on any other day.

During the springtime, birds are louder as they sing to attract mates and to warn enemies to steer clear.

The term "spring fever" refers to the psychological and physiological symptoms that go along with the arrival of spring, which include, daydreaming and restlessness. Over the years, scientists surmise the cause in the hormone shift could be due to the increase in sunlight and increased physical activity.

Care for spring flowering bulbs



Melinda Myers

Providing proper care to tulips and other spring flowering bulbs will extend your enjoyment and keep them coming back for years.

Bright yellow daffodils, colorful tulips and fragrant hyacinths brighten our spring gardens. Give them the care they need to extend their spring display and keep them coming back for years.

Hybrid tulips and hyacinths are short-lived stars of the spring garden. They bloom profusely the first spring, but the number of flowers decline each year. You may want to treat these like annuals, carefully removing them from the garden to avoid damaging any remaining plants. Toss these in the compost pile and start planning for their replacements. It is a great opportunity to try something new and freshen the look of your spring garden. If you are looking for a permanent replacement, consider using species tulips that are less floriferous but return each year.

Add a few years to the life of hybrid tulips and daffodils and get the most from all your long-lived spring flowering bulbs with proper care. Water spring gardens thoroughly whenever the top few inches of soil are crumbly and just slightly moist. Spring rains often take care of this task, but when they don't it is easy to forget to provide spring gardens with the water they need. Providing the right amount of water when needed will keep your bulbs looking their best.

Bulbs often receive sufficient nutrients at the time of planting or when the other plants in the garden are fertilized. Apply fertilizer to established bulb plantings, if needed, as the leaves begin to emerge from the soil. Use a low nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer to encourage slow steady growth. Follow the label directions so you apply the recommended amount for the area you are fertilizing.

Remove spent flowers on tulips and hyacinths you plan to keep so the energy is directed back into the bulbs instead of setting seeds. Do the same if you want to improve the appearance of daffodils. Leave allium seed heads in place to extend their beautiful contribution to the garden. Remove these before they drop their seeds if you want to limit the number of seedlings sprouting in next year's garden. The same is true for grape hyacinths and squills. The only reason to remove their faded flowers is to slow down the spread.

Leave the leaves on your bulbs until they naturally yellow and dry. The leaves produce energy needed for beautiful blooms next spring. The longer you leave the leaves intact, the more energy and better bloom for next season.

Hide the declining bulb leaves by planting annuals between the bulbs. Or add perennial flowers that return each year for a more permanent solution. As the bulbs decline, the perennials will grow and mask the declining foliage. Try mixing spring flowering perennials for double the impact or combine with summer and fall bloomers to extend the floral show.

Take some pictures of your spring bulb display and make notes of the areas where you want to add some color. Then order early for the best selection and to make sure you are ready for bulb planting season next fall.

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

Edward Street hosting children's art exhibit

WORCESTER — To celebrate the annual Week of the Young Child™, April 10-16, Edward Street is presenting a young children's art exhibit entitled "Spring is Bursting Out All Over!" which will be held in the Printer's Building Hallway Gallery at 50 Portland St. in Worcester.

The exhibit is not only an opportunity for the young artists to display their creations but also for the public to discover the developmental stages of young children's creative expression and how this impacts their artwork.

The artwork will highlight each of the following age groups.
0-15 mo.
15 mo.- 2.9 yrs.
2.9-4 yrs.
4-6 yrs.
6-8 yrs.


Six area childcare centers submitted over 160 pieces for the exhibit. Participating childcare centers are Webster Square Day Care Center, Rainbow Child Development Center, YWCA of Central MA Inc., Worcester Comprehensive Education and Care Inc., Guild of Saint Agnes, and Children's Friend Early Learning Center.

Ten pieces, from each age group, will be displayed in the gallery, and all of the artwork can be viewed online at edwardstreet.org.

The gallery will be open from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday through Friday starting April 5 and continue through the month of April. The gallery may be accessed from the 50 Portland Street entryway – press 011 to gain entry. You may also visit the gallery by appointment on Wednesday evenings from 4 to 7 p.m. Indoor gathering limits are four to five people at a time. Please contact Toni Ostrow at tostrow@edwardstreet.org to make an appointment.

This exhibit has been funded, in part, by a grant from the Worcester Arts Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Will investors change behavior after the pandemic?



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

The COVID-19 pandemic may end up changing our lives in some significant ways. To cite one example, it's likely we'll see a lot more people continue to work remotely, now that they've seen the effectiveness of tools such as videoconferencing. Education, too, may be forever changed in some ways. Perhaps just as important, though, is how many people may now think more about the future – including how they invest.

If you work with a financial professional, you may have connected with this individual over the past several months through a videoconferencing platform, rather than in person. Some people like this arrangement because it offers more scheduling flexibility and eliminates the time and effort of traveling to and from an appointment. Others, however, still prefer face-to-face contact and look forward to when such arrangements will again be practical and safe for everyone involved. But if you're in the first group – that is, you prefer videoconferencing – you may now wish to use this communication method in the future, at least some of the time.

But beyond the physical aspects of your investing experience, you may now be looking at some changes in your investment strategy brought on, or at least suggested, by your reactions to the pandemic.

For example, many people – especially, but not exclusively, those whose employment was affected by the pandemic – found that they were coming up short in the area of liquidity. They didn't have enough easily accessible savings to provide them with the cash they needed to meet their expenses until their employment situations stabilized. Consequently, some individuals were forced to dip into their long-term investments, such as their 401(k)s and IRAs. Generally speaking, this type of move is not ideal – these accounts are designed for retirement, so, the more you tap into them early, the less you'll have available when you do retire. Furthermore, your withdrawals will likely be taxable, and, depending on your age, may also be subject to penalties.

If you were affected by this liquidity crunch, you can take steps now to avoid its recurrence. Your best move may be to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the funds held in a separate, highly accessible account of cash or cash equivalents. Of course, given your regular expenses, it may take some time to build such an amount, but if you can commit yourself to putting away a certain amount of money each month, you will make progress. Even having a few hundred dollars in an emergency fund can help create more financial stability.

Apart from this new appreciation for short-term liquidity, though, the foundation for your overall financial future should remain essentially the same. In addition to building your emergency fund, you should still contribute what you can afford to your IRA, 401(k) and other retirement plans. If you have children you want to send to college, you might still explore college-funding vehicles such as a 529 plan. Higher education will still be expensive, even with an expansion in online learning programs.

Post-pandemic life may contain some differences, along with many similarities to life before. But it will always be a smart move to create a long-term financial strategy tailored to your individual needs, goals and risk tolerance.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com.

Stocking the waters

Stocking trucks from Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife are busy stocking trout in many ponds and streams throughout the state. Wallum Lake in Douglas was included in the latest stocking of trout, but Rhode Island will not be stocking trout at the pristine lake until a later date, because of Covid pandemic. The state of Rhode Island's normal opening day of the second Saturday in April has been moved ahead to April 7, throughout the state. The reason being that they are hoping to keep large crowds from gathering at trout stocking sites. It is obvious that Massachusetts and Rhode Island do not work together when it comes to managing the lake! One stocks the lake with trout, and the other does not!

Wallum Lake has had very low angler turnout over the past 10 years or so. Back in the day, I would agree with their thinking, as hundreds of anglers gathered to the site for opening day of trout fishing. In my 80-plus years of fishing, I never have seen Wallum Lake not open on the second Saturday of April and feel, as many anglers do, that Rhode Island is a bit foolish in their change of opening day of trout fishing at Wallum, and all of Rhode Island trout stocked waters, because of Covid. Fishing is the safest sport when it comes to social distancing, and anglers fishing from boats are even safer. At a time when Rhode Island and Massachusetts are relaxing some of their restrictions on bars, restaurants and fitness centers, restrictions on fishermen enjoying a day on the water with friends and family seem a bit harsh. It is totally unnecessary. Remember that the daily creel limit for trout at Wallum is five fish.

The pandemic has taken a toll on a lot of activities for outdoorsmen and women this year, and people are becoming sick and tired of wearing masks. As the Secretary of the 200 sportsmen's club stated in his latest report to the club "I cannot tell if they are sticking their tongue out at me!"

Wild turkey hunting will open in Mass. on April 26 in zones 1-13, and



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

from the looks of things, the birds are not in short supply. This past weekend, I was driving in Bellingham and had to stop for more than 20 turkeys to cross. They marched by in single file taking their sweet time. A couple of irate, impatient drivers started to blow their horn, but I held my ground. I was afraid that one of them would try to pass and wipe out a few, but they waited till they all crossed. The Massachusetts youth turkey hunt will be held April 24. If you know a youngster that would like to hunt a wild turkey, make his or her day and take them out. The experience of watching a youngster 12-17 years of age harvest their first turkey, will be a rewarding experience for both of you. They are our future hunters. Be sure to read all regulations prior to hunting. More on turkey hunting next week.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun club had more than 60 shooters at the 3-D archery shoot last weekend. Although the weatherman predicted rain for the event, the morning remained dry and allowed the archers to enjoy a great day on the archery course. A full breakfast was enjoyed by most in attendance. Numerous youngsters were also in attendance and enjoyed shooting on the course. The club is also holding an Easter egg hunt this Saturday for members and their families. A free breakfast will be served for all youngsters in attendance. Please call the club and register if you are planning to attend. The club members fishing derby is April 10, and the kid's derby is May 8.

Local sportsmen are anxiously awaiting the results of their input into the license and permit increases that were proposed recently for 2022 by MFW. Many were hoping for some bargaining room on the increases, and also make crossbows legal to anyone that wants to hunt with one, as well as making Sunday hunting on private property for bow hunters legal. Many neighboring states already have a crossbow regulation that allows any legally licensed hunter to use one, and Sunday

hunting on private property for bow hunters needs to become law. Fishing license sales have soared by 10 percent in most states in 2021.

This past week, I received the book "A Dog Called Perth" in the mail from an anonymous reader or acquaintance. I am not a big book reader, but I had to read it because it was about a beagle that was purchased by a well to do couple, that should never have purchased it. As most of my readers know, I inherited a 13-inch beagle from my wife when she passed a couple of years ago. She is great company for my 10-year-old Lab, as well as myself. Next week, I will have finished the book, and will discuss the book and its author. Stay tuned.

This week's picture shows Rene Boucher with a five-pound rainbow trout taken from the Auburn Sportsmen's Club pond recently. Nice fish. Did you know that trout purchased from private hatcheries by Rod & Gun Clubs is now \$9 a pound.

The Whitinsville Fish & Game club



A spotted salamander that was picked up by a reader in a road and released into nearby cover.

will hold their annual spring derby on April 17 for club members.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Courtesy

This week's picture shows Rene Boucher with a five-pound rainbow trout taken at the Auburn Sportsmen's club recently. Nice fish

“You ain’t nuthin but a hot dog?” Those are fighting words in ChiTown!

For the love of the dog ...
My parents were both small town kids. My mom from Sand Springs, Oklahoma and dad from Sesser, Illinois. Their move to the far south suburbs of Chicago in 1953 to find work must have been a culture shock of great magnitude.

So, I was born and raised within the gravitational pull of the Windy City on beautiful Lake Michigan. To my brother, sisters, and I, our many trips into what was at the time, the second largest city in America, seeing the Chicago skyline as it appeared and grew on the horizon was like driving to the magical city of Oz. Breathtaking.

I've written of my love of Chicago pizza and the Chicago Cubs. Somehow, I've skipped over my passion for the best hot dogs in the universe ... Vienna Beef, served Chicago Style.

I can hear the collective gasps of my friends and neighbors on the East coast. "Vienna what?" They'll ask, then claim, "Nathan's is the best dog around." And rest assured, I love Nathan's. But there is just something special ... familiar ... a Chicago Style Vienna Beef dog is my comfort food.

What is "Chicago Style" and where did it begin?

The Vienna Beef website offers this historical beginning ...

"The Chicago Style hot dog got its start from street cart hot dog vendors during the hard times of the Great Depression. Money was scarce, but business was booming for these entrepreneurs who offered a delicious hot meal on a bun for only a nickel. The famous Chicago Style Hot Dog was born!"

The style itself is extremely specific and no deviation is allowed. Make a small addition, omission, or change of any kind and you have committed sacrilege. It's Chicago way or the highway. I'll try to describe it for you without drooling all over my keyboard.

This delicacy begins with a Vienna all beef hot dog mounted upon a poppy seed bun. Then add bright yellow mustard (yes, the color and shade do matter). Chopped onions, Vienna brand bright green relish (same color as the Chicago River on St. Patrick's Day), two Italian pickled sport peppers (hot Serrano), two wedges (not chopped) of tomato, a long slice or wedge (no fancy wavy or crinkle cut) of kosher/deli dill pickle, topped off by celery salt sprinkled the length of the bun. The most important admonishment is no ketchup! You can have ketchup with your fries, but you are required to keep it at least twelve inches from the sacred dog. There's no room for deviation here.

I see dogs as I travel claiming to be Chicago, but the slightest modification disqualifies it's claim. I was in St. Louis and a dog stand advertised Chicago Style but made two critical errors. Chopped tomato and jalapeño slices instead of sport peppers. The dog was destroyed ... dead to me. I mean really ... is it the

Mona Lisa with a different smile? Is it the Magnificent Mile without Big John standing at the end?



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
GARY W.
MOORE

Some things in life require a purity about them ... a tradition ... knowing my dad was the first in our family to taste one and I was next. I introduced the exact same dog to my Iowa wife (she's still struggling with the idea of eating a hot dog at all). I introduced them to my kids and now to Caleb and Noah. I find satisfaction in the fact every dog, regardless of generation had the same aroma, look, texture and taste. I find joy and comfort in the consistent continuation of this Chicago tradition. It's food, it's a delicacy, it's tradition and it's artful beauty on a bun.

There are some things in life so perfect they should never change. To do so could roll our very planet off its access and destroy life on earth as we know it. If you've tasted the delicacy that is Chicago Style, no explanation is needed. If not, no explanation is possible. For those in this group, you have the recipe. Give it a try. Your taste buds will be forever changed. The integrity of the construction of a Chicago Style Hot Dog is one of the few food items with this power.

As for me, I'll take two dogs, "Chicago Style!"

(I awoke this morning after a dream of being outside of Wrigley waiting to get in with Caleb and Noah. We were all eating Chicago Style Hot Dogs. I got out of bed and what popped out of my head? A Chicago Style column!)

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 @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.

If it's
important
to you,

It's important
to us.

StonebridgePress.com

Professional & Tax Directory

To advertise on this page, call June at
508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

•Personal income tax for single or married taxpayers

•Small business tax returns

•Tax guidance and planning for the coming years

15% Discount for
Essential Workers!

Call 508-892-5282 for a FREE consultation
or visit www.everydaybusinessandtax.com for more information

*Contactless service available!

ESPOSITO TAX SERVICE & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Alphonso Esposito Jr. Karen Ann Esposito
*9/16/1936-5/31/2020

Email: espositotaxservice@charter.net

TAX PREPARATION - FEDERAL - ALL STATES
FREE E-FILE WITH TAX PREPARATION
YEAR-ROUND SERVICE

Now Accepting MC, Visa, Discover, Amex, Venmo

508-987-2982
508-987-5371
508-987-0144 Fax

264 Main Street
Oxford, MA 01540

REAL ESTATE



Lake Realty


Jules Lusignan


T.A. King


Maureen Cimoch


Ellen Therrien


John Kokocinski


Adrienne James


SMART MLS

www.LakeRealty.net • www.WebsterLake.net

111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444
 Licensed in MA & CT

Listings Always Needed – We're Always Busy Selling!


WEBSTER LAKE – 7 Cedar Drive! Middle Pond! 8 Rm English Tudor across the street from w/Direct Waterfront Lot – Full Lake Access! Offering the Option of an In-Law Apartment or Plenty of Room for Family & Friends! Entry Foyer enters from 3 Sides w/locked door access into the house, stairway to the lower level In-law and the convenience of a Half Bath! The 1st Floor features Applianced Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Open Floor Plan – Frplcd Beamed Cathedral Ceiling Great Rm (Dining & Living Rms), Comfortable Bdrm & Hall Full Bath w/Laundry! Upstairs to the Spacious Master w/Master Bath & Slider to Lake View Deck! Additional Bdrm w/Built-in! Lower Level with 2nd Kitchen, Open Dining & Living Area w/Brick Hearth, Full Bath & Possible (4th) Bdrm! Central Air! Huge Carport! Detached 3 Car Garage! Lakefront Lot w/Deck, Concrete Patio & Boat Dock! Take Advantage of the Low Interest Rates & make this House Your Home! Summer's Just Around the Corner! **\$489,900.00**


SOLD


WEBSTER – 6 Nicholas Circle! 8+ Rm Center Hall Colonial! 1.22 Acres! Sought After Neighborhood! Great Commuter Location Accessible to Many Major Routes! Spacious Stainless Steel Appliance Cabinet Packed Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining Rm! 23 x 24 Frplce Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceiling & Slider to the Huge Deck! Front to Back Living Rm! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! The 2nd Floor You'll Find the Comfortable 12X17 Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2 Additional Bedrooms plus an Office/Nursery/Bedroom all w/Ample Closets! 2nd Full Bath off the Hall w/Linen Closet! 2.5 Total Baths! Lower Level Ideal for Storage or Future Expansion! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers w/Dble Door Entry to the Basement for Moving Larger Items aka Boys Toys! 2 Z Oil Heat, 2 A/C, Separate Oil Water Heater! Irrigation! Don't Delay! **\$418,900.00**


SOLD


ON DEPOSIT


ON DEPOSIT


WEBSTER – 31 Park Street! 3 Family! 6/6/6 Rooms! 3/3/3 Bedrooms! 1/1/1 Bathrooms! Each Unit is nearly 1,300' Featuring Spacious Kitchens, Living Rooms & 3 Good Size Bedrooms! Remodeled 10 Yrs Ago! Updated Electric! Electric Heat! **\$284,900.00**


WEBSTER – 44 Sunny Ave! Sought After Neighborhood! 7 Room 1,632' Colonial! 1st Flr Features Open Flr Plan, Kit w/Is, Din Area, Fam Rm, Frplcd Liv Rm, 1.5 Baths! 2nd Flr w/3 Bedrooms & Bathrm! 2.5 Baths Total! Tile Flrs Throughout! LPGas Heat & Hot Water! Town Services! **\$289,900.00**


SOLD


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 Liv Rm w/Hrwd Flr! Ideal for Entertaining! Down the Hrwd Hall find a Full Bath w/Flr & 3 Bdrms w/ Walk 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 Fam 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! Sheel! 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**


ON DEPOSIT


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**


SOLD



hope2own.com
 508.943.4333
 Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
 Licensed in MA, CT & RI

We Want Your Listings!

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Brian Bohenko

Featured New Listing!

WEBSTER - 99 UPPER GORE ROAD



LOCATION! SCENIC Upper Gore Rd! Amazing "BIRD'S EYE VIEW" of Beautiful Webster Lake! Spacious Hip Roof Raised Ranch, 2279 SF+, 4 BRs, 1-Full Bath, 2- Half Baths, 0.73 Acre Lot! 18x36+ INGROUND POOL, STORAGE SHED, LG 24x36+ DETACHED 3 CAR GARAGE! 12x26+ 1 CAR GARAGE UNDER! **\$275,000.**

WEBSTER - 155 THOMPSON ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Zoned General Business 5 Terrific Opportunity for one large business or divide it up into smaller businesses. 4,784 sf building on 0.8 acre just off I-395 exit 1, with high traffic & visibility. Excellent location! assisted sale **\$695,000.**

THOMPSON - BECOLA ROAD



ON DEPOSIT

5+ Acre Waterfront Land On "Little Pond/ Schoolhouse Pond. Private Setting. Open Field. 250+ feet Waterfrontage. Dead end road!
\$179,900

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



SORRY, SOLD!

Estate Sale! Scenic View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Boarding Stone Walls! Split Level! 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Hollywood Bath! Master Bedroom & Master Bath. Fireplaced Living Room! Finished Lower Level w/1/2 Bath, Garage. "Salt Water" Inground Pool. **\$319,000.**

A SELLER'S MARKET
is continuing into year 2021!
 Thinking of selling, NOW is the time! Call us, your neighborhood Real Estate Professionals, for a FREE OPINION of VALUE - NO strings attached.
Do business where the business is being done!

LAND
WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS
 Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **ON DEPOSIT \$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! **SORRY, SOLD \$132,900**

WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE



Featured New Listing!

To Be Built or Build to Suit - 2000+ Sq Ft Custom Cape! 3 large bedrooms, Master suite, Central air, 2 Fireplaces! 2 car garage. All town services. **\$425,000.**

WEBSTER • 9 BIRCHWOOD DRIVE



SORRY, SOLD!

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 Tankless Hot Water Boiler. **\$467,000**

WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



ON DEPOSIT

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.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



SORRY, SOLD!

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



SORRY, SOLD!

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.**

PUBLIC AUCTION
THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH AT 1:00 PM
 MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
• DUDLEY •

7 ROOM / 4 BEDROOM
2-STORY
COLONIAL STYLE HOME
"CLOSE PROXIMITY TO ALL AMENITIES"

5 VILLAGE ST. DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS
 TO BE SOLD ON THE PREMISES

FEATURES:
 • 2-Story Colonial Style Home • ± 13,240 S/F of Land • Total of (7) Rooms w/ (4) Bedrooms & (1 1/2) Baths • ± 1,792 S/F of Gross Living Area Above Grade • Gas FWA Heat • Full Basement • Wood Clapboard Siding • Carpeted, Hardwood & Tile Floors • Porch • Public Water & Sewer • Zoned: Res. 10 (Gen. Res.) •

SALE PER ORDER OF MORTGAGEE
 ATTORNEY JAMES R. BYRNE
 OF THE FIRM OF UPDIKE, KELLY & SPELLACY, P.C.
 100 PEARL STREET 17TH FLOOR, HARTFORD, CT
 ATTORNEY FOR MORTGAGEE

TERMS OF SALE: \$5,000.00 DEPOSIT CASH OR CERTIFIED FUNDS
 5% BUYER'S PREMIUM APPLIES
 OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT TIME OF SALE

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THIS AUCTION:
 We are doing our best to ensure our staff and customers are safe as possible, so we may take necessary precautions to maintain health and safety protocols. The COVID-19 still remains a potential risk in any permitted public gathering. All auction site attendees should remain mindful to observe social distancing and all other CDC and government health cautions. We cannot be responsible for any violations by any persons, or risk of contraction in any event. Please maintain 6' distance between yourself and others. Please do not attend if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness or have been exposed to someone who has, or have traveled outside of the United States in the last month. Masks Required.

Aaron Posnik
 AUCTIONEERS • APPRAISERS
 West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA
 413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655
 TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK1 • (767-6451)
 MA Auc Lic #161 • PA Auc Lic #AY000241L
 Web: www.posnik.com • Email: info@posnik.com



There's no place like HOME

This is the place to sell your home!

Call your local sales representative today!
1-800-367-9898



PUT YOUR TRUST IN US
TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE
 Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
 Diane Luong 774-239-2937
 Maria Reed 508-873-9254
ReMax Advantage 1
 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604

CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT

Homes for Heroes Program
 Ask for details call Jo-Ann or Diane Buyers or Sellers Qualify



Thank You FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Homes for Heroes® is Dedicated to Serving and Giving Back to Firefighters, EMS, Law Enforcement, Military (Active, Reserves and Veterans), Healthcare Professionals and Teachers When You Buy, Sell or Refinance a Home.

It's our way to say Thank You.

Average Hero Rewards® Savings:
\$2,400
 NO Red Tape
 NO Hidden Fees
 NO Catch

Receive significant Hero Rewards savings when you buy, sell or refinance a home with our real estate, mortgage, title and home inspection specialists.

"This is one of the best programs that I have seen since retiring from the U.S. Navy in 2006, where something is done to help veterans from start to finish. Thank you." - Bobby
"Great experience! Would definitely recommend! I will always go to Homes for Heroes for all my real estate needs!" - Patricia
"The Homes for Heroes program made me feel like my sacrifices to my community and my country were worth it. That there was somebody there, to tell me, thank you for your service and shaking my hand." - Cindy





MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 1-800-367-9898 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

THERE'S A NEW MORTGAGE LENDING TEAM IN TOWN!



Daniel Kirschner
Mortgage Loan Officer, NMLS # 772868
dkirschner@baycoastbank.com
Phone: 774-230-7750



Amy Dufresne
Mortgage Loan Processor
adufresne@baycoastbank.com
Phone: 508-675-4479

New Jersey—BayCoast Mortgage Company, LLC, 330 Swansea Mall Drive, Swansea, MA 02777, 877-466-2678, Licensed Mortgage Banker-NJ Banking and Insurance Department New Hampshire—Licensed by the New Hampshire Banking Department #19631-AJB Rhode Island—Rhode Island Licensed Lender Virginia—BayCoast Mortgage Company, LLC, NMLS # 1082048 (<http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org/>) All loans subject to credit approval. NMLS # 1082048



Amy Nadeau, Realtor

Having a full-time realtor in this market is essential for success! I am happy to assist you to buy, sell, or just answer any questions you might have.

76 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588
774.280.2250 | amy@erakey.com
www.amynadeau.com



Why call the Michelle Terry Team to sell your home?

We have a great marketing plan that includes:

- Home staging services
- Home warranties
- 3D videos
- Professional photography
- Ramped up open houses!
- And so much more...



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562
Michelle Terry • Broker /Owner
michelleterryteam.com

Give us a call today! 508-202-0008



ERA Key Realty Services "Put 36 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"



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



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



415B Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562



Jules Lusignan
#1 in Sales 2006-2021
South Worcester County
\$158,522,280.00 SOLD



A
42 Year
Company!

Jules Lusignan
Owner
Broker
Founder

111 East Main St., Webster, MA
Thinking of selling? Call 1-800-552-7444
www.LakeRealty.net
www.WebsterLake.net



Jo-Ann Szymczak
508-943-7669
774-230-5044



Szymczak Sells - Dudley

~ SOLD \$345,000 ~
Finished lower level, 3 Br, 3 Ba,
Nearly 1 acre lot
8 Blue Heron Drive

Seller received a Home for Heroes Reward



ReMax Advantage 1
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604



CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT

JACK WALKER REALTOR

95 Church St., Whitinsville, MA
508-234-8029

**Now celebrating 50 years
in business.**

**Let us put our experience
to work for you!**

Hiring? Reach More Local Applicants



Rather than go online where you are bound to get applicants from all over the world who click on every open job, why not advertise **local-ly**, where you will get qualified, **local** applicants for your **local** job.

- The Auburn New
- Blackstone Valley Tribune
- Spencer New Leader
- Southbridge News

- Webster Times
- Sturbridge Villager
- Charlton Villager

- Woodstock Villager
- Thompson Villager
- Putnam Villager
- Killingly Villager



Email: ads@stonebridgepress.news
Phone: (508) 909-4105

Town-to-Town

Home Town Service,
BIG TIME RESULTS

CLASSIFIEDS

1-800-536-5836



Place your ad today!

HELP WANTED
BC Industries**Metal Shot Sandblasting****Position Available****In Oxford, MA.**

Blasting Most Ferrous &
Non-Ferrous Metals.
Experience Blasting With Steel
Shot, Grit & Garnet A Plus.

Call BC Industries**At 508-987-3042**

Or E-Mail Resume To
Donnaz@bcblast.com

LANDSCAPE
HELP WANTED

- Must have valid driver's license
- Reliable transportation
- \$15.00 - \$ 25.00 per hour depending on experience
- Full time positions only

Suburban Landscaping Inc.
Dudley, MA 01571
(508) 943-2843

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE WORKER

Local landscape maintenance worker needed

Full and part time positions

Experienced in all aspects of
landscape maintenance.

Excellent pay for the right individual.

Company is in Douglas, Mass.

Please call 508-868-9473NEWLY RENOVATED
two bedroom
Apartment for rent

\$780 with a month-to-month
lease signing, first last and
security deposit required,
Credit check also required

NO PETS

Available May First

Please call 774-230-0878
leave message

**Spring has
sprung.****Need a backup mower or
weedwhacker?**Plenty of rebuilt machines on
hand at reasonable prices.

Stop in at 385 Morris St.,
Southbridge, from 8 a.m. to 5
p.m. to see what is available.

*Please wear a mask when you
stop by.*

YARD SALE

APRIL 3RD & 4TH
FROM
9:30AM-3:30PM

Antiques and
Vintage Items
Tools and Housewares

20 Stoughton Ave
Webster MA

FIREWOOD

Cut, Split
& Delivered
Green or
Seasoned

Call Paul
508-769-2351



LIVE BAIT
TROLLING FOR
TROUT FISHING
Spencer
508-885-5416

Open 24/7

GARDEN
MANURE
FOR SALE

Located in
Charlton
Will deliver
508-320-3273
508-248-7335

CUSTODIAN
DOUGLAS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1.0 FTE Custodian (2:00 PM-10:00PM –
hours subject to change) This position is open
until filled. Interested candidates should send
a letter of intent, resume, and three recent
letters of recommendation to: Jeffrey Kollett,
Facilities Manager, 21 Davis Street, Douglas,
MA 01516

All appointments are conditional based on
a satisfactory CORI and SAFIS Background
check per 603 CMR 51.00

The Douglas Public Schools is committed to
maintaining a work and learning environment
free from discrimination on the basis of race,
color, religion, national origin, pregnancy,
gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/
civil union status, ancestry, place of birth,
age, citizenship status, veteran status, political
affiliation, genetic information or disability, as
defined and required by state and federal laws.
Additionally, we prohibit retaliation against
individuals who oppose such discrimination
and harassment or who participate in an equal
opportunity investigation.

Homeowner looking
for
GARDENING HELP
Woodstock Area
(close to Southbridge)

Please call
860-974-0028



Salem Cross Inn
RESTAURANT & TAVERN
260 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

NOW HIRING**COOK**

Applications available at
salemcrossinn.com,
or send resume to
info@salemcrossinn.com

TOWN OF
NORTH BROOKFIELD
HIGHWAY
DEPARTMENT

North Brookfield Highway
Department is looking for a
Full-time Driver, Laborer,
Operator position. Must be
available for emergency calls days,
nights, weekends & holidays.

Applications available at the
Highway Garage,
58 School St, No. Brookfield
(508)867-0213

*Equal Opportunity Employer*APARTMENT
FOR RENT

First floor

3 bedrooms

Apliances included

No smoking/no pets

\$800/month

Call 508-764-6425

LEE'S COINS & JEWELRY
\$ BUY & SELL \$
ALL GOLD & SILVER
ITEMS Specializing in
NUMISMATIC COINS,
Bullion Items, gold
& silver of any form!
Qualified with over 30 years
experience & a following of
many satisfied customers.
We also sell a nice selection
of fine jewelry, antiques &
collectibles. Bring in your
items & see what they are
worth. You won't leave
disappointed. Honestly and
fairness are our best policies!
Lee's Coin & Jewelry,
239 West Main Street,
East Brookfield
(Route 9-Panda Garden Plaza)
508-637-1236
or cell: 508-341-6355

Got Space?

we do.

Contact Your Sales
Representative Today.
508-764-4325

1950M
John Deere
Tractor
as is
\$2500
or best offer
Call
508-867-2810

LOOKING TO
RENT

1 Bedroom
Apartment
in Webster
or surrounding
towns

Call
508-461-6219

FOSTER
PARENTS
WANTED:

Seeking Quality Homes
Throughout Central
MA To
Provide Foster Care
To Children In Need.
24/7 Support
Generous
Reimbursement,
\$1000 Sign-On
Bonus. Call For Details.

Devereux Therapeutic
Foster Care.
(508)829-6769

Devereux
ADVANCED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

FULL TIME HELP WANTED
STURBRIDGE**Position #1-**

Looking for farm hand/laborer

Position #2- Looking for
Mechanic/Carpenter

Must be dependable.

Wage based on experience

Call Jon at 774-415-3800
for full details

IMPERIAL
WORLDWIDEIMPERIAL
WORLDWIDE
IS HIRING

Experience preferred / Will Train
Insulation Applicators,
Gutter and Shelving Installers

Please Apply in person
Tues & Thurs. 8-9 AM
Or by Appointment

508-791-2200**708 Grafton St., Shrewsbury MA**Town of Charlton seeks a
FT Conservation Agent

Qualified candidates will have knowledge of Mass General Law
relating to the MA Wetlands Protection Act. Working knowledge
of soil types; ability to verify wetland boundaries; familiarity with
permit and grant writing. Minimum qualifications includes
Bachelor's Degree in an environmental field, five years' experience
in environment management, land conservation or a related field;
or equivalent combination of education and experience.
Engineering Degree a plus. Must be able to lift 30 lbs. and have
the physical ability to walk rough terrain and access all areas of
inspection sites. Hiring range \$27.43/hr. – \$30.93/hr. dependent on
experience and education.

Position will remain open until filled.

Apply online at <https://townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources>
Equal Opportunity Employer

Print Worthy Moments

Be sure to hold on to your memories with a photo reprint. Available From All Of Our Publications.



Options & Prices

Digital Copy (emailed)	\$5.00
4" x 6" Glossy Print	\$5.00
8.5" x 11" Glossy Print	\$10.00

Call or email Stonebridge Press today 508-909-4105 or
photos@stonebridgepress.com

You can also download your photo reprint form at
www.StonebridgePress.com



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Door Special! Window Special!

Special ends on May 1st

SAVE 20%
on windows¹

SAVE 20%
on entry and patio doors¹

Minimum purchase of four.

PLUS AN ADDITIONAL

\$250 OFF
your entire project¹

Minimum purchase of four.

WITH

\$0
Down

0
Monthly
Payments

0% FOR 1
Interest **YEAR¹**

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.



ANDERSEN
WINDOWS & DOORS

- Our beautiful, custom-made **entry doors** will **transform how you feel about your home**
- Our patio doors will continue to slide smoothly for years using **Andersen's dual ball-bearing engineering**
- Our composite Fibrex® window material is twice as strong as vinyl so **our weather-tight seals stay weather-tight**
- For peace of mind, know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the **safest way possible**

Now offering
virtual
appointments,
too!

We handle every
part of the
replacement process:

- Sell - Custom-Build
- Install - Warranty

Hear from one of our customers:

“The entire experience was great. The installation crew was fantastic. They arrived on time and worked efficiently. They were all master craftsmen who were extremely knowledgeable about the product they were installing and the end-to-end installation process. They were courteous, professional and left our house very clean after each day of work.”

– Heather S., Renewal by Andersen customer, Holliston, MA

Make your home more secure. Book a Virtual or In-Home Appointment.



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

MILITARY
DISCOUNT
★★★★



1-800-209-2746

¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 5/1/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 20% off your entire purchase and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 4/1/2021 and 5/1/2021. Additional \$250 off your project, minimum purchase of four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 5/1/2021. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

Growing your own salad

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Like salads? Don't buy them; grow your own.

That was the simple message from last week's installment of the ongoing regional library gardening series, formally sponsored this time by Charlton.

"The reason markets sell [certain kinds of] food is not because they taste the best, but because they travel best across the

country," noted Kathleen Donovan of Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens. Typically, as many people know, vegetables in stores taste bland at best and come in limited varieties. But there are hundreds, sometimes thousands, of varieties of such common foods as tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce that can appeal to a wide range of tastes, textures, uses and even color palettes.

Donovan began with

the often underappreciated lettuce, which is actually a member of the daisy family. It "comes up like a weed" and has "glorious shapes and textures" far beyond the relatively non-nutritious iceberg type. She noted it has lots of fiber, vitamin C and beta carotenes, and some types have a "whitish, milky fluid" when fresh cut that helps sleep.

Lettuce comes in two major types — loose-leaf and head lettuce. The for-

mer grows faster (about 50 days to maturity), is "much easier to grow in the garden," and leaves can be picked and eaten throughout the season without stopping growth. Heads generally take about 80 days and can only be picked once, she said.

"Lettuce likes the cold" and is thus the first of the three to be planted (in early April; frost won't harm its seeds). If you plant right, with tomatoes and cucumbers, peas, or other crops (especially trellised ones) shading the lettuce, when summer heat comes, the lettuce will last longer before it becomes bitter and goes to seed. Likewise, it can be protected by growing it in a container because it "only needs about five inches of soil," she said.

"Succession planting is the key to growing lettuce," Donovan said. Planting different kinds "every two or three weeks will give you a steady supply" well into fall.

Cucumbers are also pretty easy, but can be a little quirky. They're in the squash family, and most squashes can cross-pollinate. That makes seeds hard to save — they'll often be viable, in that you will get something the following year, but you won't necessarily know what it will be. Some crosses aren't edible, and some aren't viable. That's not an issue the first year; what you plant is what you'll get.

With cucumbers, there are "hundreds and hundreds of varieties," Donovan said they grow particularly well on trellises, where "you've got gravity working for you." The vines climb up the trellis and the cukes hang down through the lattice. But you want to trim the growing tips off at six to eight feet long; "Plants don't multitask well. Either they grow long, or they produce fruit for you," she said.

Like all squashes, cuke plants have both male and female flowers. Some are

self-pollinating; some use insects. Gardeners can help the process along by dipping a Qtip into the male flower and transferring its powdery pollen to the female (which is identifiable by the fact it has "a little immature cucumber" under it), she said.

Tomatoes are similarly numerous, with the plants' thousands of varieties coming in three major types — cherry, beefsteak and sauce/paste based mostly on size and water content. The classic sandwich tomatoes are beefsteaks, which come in a wide range of colors including yellow, red, orange and even a purple so dark it's nearly black. Several of them also exist in the other two types, particularly cherry, which she described this way: "Anytime you want go out and pick a snack, there's bound to be some."

Donovan claimed tomatoes "cannot be grown from seed outdoors. They require a really warm soil to germinate." (Personally, I've done it; the key is making sure it gets lots of sun. As she noted "while it's growing to the sky, it's not producing fruit. That's often because it's not getting the sun it needs.")

Because of its warmth needs, tomatoes should only be planted outside (or transferred from inside, after gradually "hardening" them by giving them a couple hours a day at first) after May 7. She noted that used to be much later — as a child, she waited until Memorial Day.

Like cucumbers, tomatoes are vines that like trellising, which can be as simple as having a few posts linked with wires, with the plants tied to the wires with twine. She noted they're "one of the biggest [garden] plants" and can grow up to eight feet.

Once audience member asked how to deal with tomato hornworms, a big, green caterpillar that eats several plants

in the tomato's nightshade family. Donovan said planting marigolds interspersed with the tomatoes often helps, since most insects don't like marigolds, but you can also spray with with Neem oil, sprinkle diatomaceous earth around them, or use a Bt-based pesticide (an organic bacteria).

Regardless of what you're growing, Donovan had some standard tips on preparing the raised bed. Most crucial is the soils — a few inches of rich, composted soil (with either plant or manure compost; she noted many local farms "will gladly deliver you a truckload of cow manure.") But make sure it's been aged; fresh stuff "will stink to high heaven." Chicken manure is also "awesome fertilizer," but can't be put on plants directly due to its high nitrogen content; it needs to be composted for about six months or made into "compost tea."

Good soil "should be slightly acidic," with a pH of 6.2-6.8 (neutral is 7.0). She suggested adding ashes if you need to increase pH and using peat moss to reduce it. A barrier under the soil prevents weeds from growing up into it, but won't prevent them from blowing into it. Many plants benefit from using a mulch to keep the soil moister and warmer; dry straw or leaves work well, but don't use the common colored types or green grass.

The gardening series continues with online talks on raised beds April 6 and "The Organic Approach" on April 20. It has been sponsored by several area libraries, and participants can contact any of them to join the next sessions: Southbridge, Oxford, Sturbridge, Sutton or Charlton.

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



Spring Has Sprung!

Get outside and forget about cooking, we'll do it for you!

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street
Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm
hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com



HEALTH & HOME

A special supplement dedicated to the Health and Wellness of people, pets, and Spring Home Improvement

Advertise in this special supplement coming to the *Spencer New Leader, Auburn News, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Southbridge News, Webster Times, and Blackstone Valley Tribune*, and tell readers how your business can help promote health & wellness for all, or spruce up your home for Spring.

Your business not health, home or pet related?
115,000 readers will still see your ad!

Publication Date:
April 23, 2021
Sales Deadline: April 8, 2021

AD SIZES

Full Page Cover	\$1000
Full page inside	\$800 B&W; \$850 color
1/2 page	\$500 B&W; \$550 color
1/4 page	\$300 B&W; \$350 color
1/8th page	\$200 B&W; \$250 color

Contact your sales representative

June Simakauskas
508-909-4062
jsima@stonebridgepress.news

Mikaela Victor
508-909-4126
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



Award-winning author to speak on opioid epidemic

WORCESTER — Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr. will be hosting a virtual event on April 15 with award-winning author Sam Quinones to discuss the opioid epidemic.

Mr. Quinones will discuss the current state of the opioid epidemic, including the illicit drug market, the lawsuits against the pharmaceutical companies, and the stigma that still persists around the disease of addiction.

"Sam is a national expert on opioids and addiction and this discussion will provide invaluable insight on the current state of affairs and what we can all be doing to help those struggling with substance use disorder," Mr. Early said.

The author previously visited

Worcester County in 2017 at the invitation of Mr. Early to discuss his book, "Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic," which detailed the rise of the opioid epidemic in America. This talk will focus on his research beyond "Dreamland," which was published in 2015.

The event on April 15, which will feature a discussion between Mr. Early and Mr. Quinones, will be held virtually on Zoom and is open to the public. The talk begins at 1 p.m. and will include a public question period. For registration information, contact Elisabeth. Haddad@mass.gov.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the continued need to work on the opioid epidemic. The Centers for Disease Control reported 81,000 overdose deaths in a 12-month period ending May 2020, the largest in a year-long period ever recorded. Locally, the most-recent numbers from Massachusetts show 2,020 overdose deaths statewide in 2019, including 267 in Worcester County.

Mr. Early has been passionately committed to addressing the opioid epidemic. In 2015, he formed the Central Mass. Opioid Task Force, which is now more than 600 members strong. Since then, he's obtained multiple federal and state grants to work with partners across the county and support local interventions for those suffering from substance use disorder. He's funded Narcan for first responders, prescription drop boxes in local police departments, school prevention programs to teach students the dangers of drugs, and expanded drug diversion programs in county courts. Last year, Mr. Early's office purchased and launched the use of Critical Incident Management Systems (CIMS) software to help police track overdose incidents and get victims into treatment.

DON'T BUY TILL YOU SEE US

HUNDREDS OF DEALS

OVER 1500 BICYCLES IN STOCK

MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: Reg. \$299
NOW \$179⁹⁹
FULL: Reg. \$499
NOW \$259⁹⁹
QUEEN: Reg. \$599
NOW \$289⁹⁹

1000s OF APPLIANCES IN STOCK FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY

18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$799 ⁹⁹ \$699⁹⁹	SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1099 ⁹⁹ \$1099⁹⁹	KITCHENAID DISHWASHER Reg. \$799 ⁹⁹ \$799⁹⁹	OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN Reg. \$218 ⁹⁹ \$188⁹⁹	GE STAINLESS SMOOTH TOP STOVE Reg. \$549 ⁹⁹ \$599⁹⁹
20 CU. FT. UPRIGHT FREEZER \$899⁹⁹	GE COMBO WASHER & DRYER Reg. \$1299 ⁹⁹ \$1299⁹⁹	DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER Reg. \$449 ⁹⁹ \$449⁹⁹	5 CU FT CHEST FREEZER \$199⁹⁹	DELUXE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399 ⁹⁹ \$349⁹⁹
FAMOUS MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE Reg. \$499 ⁹⁹ \$449⁹⁹	DELUXE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$499 ⁹⁹ \$449⁹⁹	MAYTAG TOP WASHER Reg. \$699 ⁹⁹ \$649⁹⁹	GE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$649 ⁹⁹ \$699⁹⁹	7 CU FT CHEST FREEZER \$229⁹⁹

A/C's & Dehumidifiers IN STOCK!

PRE-SEASON GRILL SALE

TV SALE

75" LG Reg. \$999.99	\$849.99
55" TV Reg. \$399.99	\$369.99
65" LG Reg. \$699.99	\$549.99
43" LG Reg. \$399.99	\$339.99
32" Smart TV Reg. \$169.99	\$139.99
50" LG Reg. \$799.99	\$349.99
86" LG Reg. \$1999.99	\$1799.99

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000



Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons

WHITCO

Mon-Fri. 10-8; Sat. 9-8; Sun. 10-7
140 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-9343

All We Know Is Local



StonebridgePress.com