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Friday, November 27, 2020

Bill Labich appointed to Norcross Wildlife Foundation Board of Directors

WALES — The Norcross Wildlife Foundation (Norcross) is pleased to announce that at its October Board of Directors meeting, Bill Labich was voted in as a new member of the Board.

The Foundation is led by a volunteer Board of Directors who oversee its operations and ensure its financial and legal health.

Board Chair, Liz Austin, of South Hadley states that “We are very pleased to welcome someone to the Norcross Board who brings such depth and breadth of experience in conservation work.



Bill Labich

Courtesy

Bill Labich’s election is a big step forward in Norcross’s mission to protect and conserve natural land and protect wildlife.”

Labich is a resident of Holyoke, and works as a Senior Conservationist for the Highstead Foundation, a regional conservation non-profit based in Redding, Connecticut, dedicated to increasing the pace of land protection in New England and beyond through science, sound stewardship and collaboration with diverse partners. He leads Highstead’s Regional Conservation Program with the goal of advancing the pace and practice of collaborative landscape conservation. His work there has raised \$23 million for regional conservation since 2009, and Bill is recognized as a national expert in collaborative landscape conservation. He received a Master’s degree in Regional Planning from The University of Massachusetts, Amherst, worked for seven years for the New England Forestry Foundation and for eight years as a regional planner for the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (Franklin County, Massachusetts), before joining Highstead.

Labich is the author of several articles relevant to land conservation, including the 2015 Regional Conservation Partnership Handbook and he is a co-author of the influential 2017 publication Wildlands and Woodlands, Farmlands and

Turn To **LABICH**, page **A15**

Joshua Hyde Library

invites children to help

decorate for the holidays

STURBRIDGE — Children are welcome to assist in decorating the exterior of the Joshua Hyde Library by decorating a gingerbread kid! Cardstock gingerbread kids are available at the library during curbside pick-up hours (Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday noon-4 p.m. and Wednesday 3-7 p.m.). Call 508-347-2512 when you arrive.

Kids! Decorate the gingerbread kid with craft supplies or recyclable items as desired. If you would like your gingerbread kid returned to you, please write your name, library card number and town on the back. We will do our best to return it. Completed gingerbread kids should be returned to the library, in a paper bag, by Dec. 2. They may be left on the cart outside of the library.

Be sure to stop by the library during the Sturbridge Recreation Department’s “Light Up Sturbridge!” event to see our Gingerbread Library makeover beginning on Dec. 5! Be sure to check out our Story Walk “Catch that Cookie” by Hallie Durand, too.

This creative event is sponsored by the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Library.

Walmart Giving grant presented to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy recently received a Walmart Giving grant from the Walmart Foundation to help support the PN Class of 2021 with NCLEX- PN preparation.

Evalyn Njoroge of Southbridge, a member of the PN Class of 2021 is the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Liaison and communicated with the Walmart Branch in Sturbridge. Njoroge and her sons Jayden and Kevin, made a special

trip to Walmart at 100 Charlton Road, Sturbridge to extend the PN Class of 2021’s gratitude for Walmart Giving’s generosity. Njoroge met with Team Lead Deyvi. Njoroge is a member of the UNICEF Club and regularly shops at Walmart. “My son Kevin and I were scheduled to visit Walmart, my other son Jayden wanted to be in the pictures” said Njoroge.

Turn To **WALMART**, page **A15**

Santa parade gets green light, with changes

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — Despite Covid, Santa’s still coming to town.

The annual Santa Parade was in limbo for a while, but will be happening this Saturday, Nov 28 at 6 pm, after organizer Denise Clemence and town officials “modified it for these challenging times.”

The most important change is this – it’ll only be a vehicular “rolling rally.” No walking groups can join, and spectators on the roadside are strongly encouraged to stay with their own families rather than mingling in large groups.

Likewise, the usual events on the Common won’t happen, but “as Santa passes by, he’ll wave his arm and [the town tree] will light by magic,” she said. “We tried to come up with a plan, but when [the state] started reducing outside gathering numbers, it didn’t work.”

She’s referring to recent changes that, among other things, advise all citizens to stay at home between 10 pm and 5 am, set a maximum of 100 people for outdoor events for “lower risk” communities (those that have not been labeled “red” in the previous three weeks, which is true of Southbridge as of this writing) or 50 in “high risk” communities, all such events must disperse by 9:30 pm, all people over age 5 must be masked, and all people maintain the six-foot distance. The governor’s Nov 2 order adds, “A gathering shall violate this provision where, no matter the number of participants present, conditions or activities are such that it is not reasonably possible for all participants to maintain this degree of separation.”

At last Monday’s Town Council meeting Health Director Andy Pelletier noted Southbridge is still in the state’s “yellow” category, mostly because the state changed how it calculates the risk (getting less than 5 percent of tests positive). The town has seen a large spike in cases over the last few weeks, with “most of these cases arising because people are getting lax,” he said, noting he knows of “six or seven residences with three or four cases [each].”

He’s seeing “13 or 14 [new] cases a day” and expects spikes “immediately after Thanksgiving and immediately after Christmas.” To avoid that, he urged people to “follow the rules,” particularly wearing masks in public (now required anytime, not just within six feet of others) and maintaining social distancing. “I don’t think there’s a whole lot more we really want to do without stifling the population.”

He didn’t specifically mention the Santa Parade, but Clemence noted she spoke to him and got the



Gus Steeves

Giant soldiers dominate one vehicle in last year’s parade.



Turn To **SANTA PARADE**, page **A15**
Gus Steeves

(Right) The Big Bunny clan rides down Main Street last year.



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People to tip and gift his holiday season

Are you making a list and checking it twice? If so, don't forget to add a few extra people to that list who are worthy of a gift this holiday season. Certainly friends and family are in mind for presents, but what about the service providers in your life?

After a challenging year, people in the service industry might benefit from a holiday boost this year more than ever. Here's who you may want to spread some cheer to this holiday season.

- Hairdressers and nail techs: It takes a lot of effort to look one's best, and these individuals help people put their best selves forward. Consider tipping the amount you would normally spend on one visit. If you get your hair or nails done frequently and consider this person a friend, opt for a gift instead, such as a gift card to a nice restaurant or a pampering service for him or her.
- Babysitter or caregiver: This person is likely close with the family and may

- be deserving of more than a tip. Pick an age-appropriate gift you know this person will love. What about a coveted pair of Bluetooth-enabled earbuds or headphones? A gift card to a store you know this person frequents also can be fitting, or a year-long subscription to a streaming music or movie service.
- Landscapers: If the same person or crew services the lawn most of the time, a tip of \$20 each is an appropriate amount.
 - Teachers: Class parents may take

- up a collection for the teacher and offer one class gift. If your student is educated by multiple teachers and the school staff is top-notch, consider stocking the staff lounge with snacks and beverages or cater a lunch.
- Mail carrier: The mail is delivered six days of the week in any and all weather. Treat your mail carrier to a nice gift, but stick to the rules of the U.S. Postal Service. Mail carriers are not allowed to accept cash, checks or gift cards that can be used like credit cards. Stick to a gift of no more than \$25.
 - Cleaning person: You rely on this person to keep your home tidy and clean. He or she is deserving of the cost of one visit, according to Roseanne Thomas, author of "Excuse Me: The Survival Guide to Modern Business Etiquette."
- Individuals can use their discretion concerning service providers in their lives who may be worthy of some extra cheer this holiday season.

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New York couple arrested on drug charges



Courtesy
(Left) Trooper Kurt D'Angelo and K-9 partner Kody hunt down 80 grams of cocaine dumped by suspects following a high-speed chase into Charlton.

Charlton police soon located the vehicle at 1:30 p.m. at which time another attempt to stop the car failed as the vehicle fled on Route 20. Eventually the Honda crashed at H. Putnam Road. Both Thornton and Crocker-Carter fled on foot before being apprehended by Trooper Latino as well as Troopers Amy Waterman, Robert Faguendes and Michael Baroni and Charlton Police Officers. The officers also received assistance from Trooper Kurt D'Angelo of the State Police K-9 Unit and his partner Kody who discovered evidence along the escape route of narcotics. Trooper D'Angelo was led to a cylindrical package wrapped in tape inside a condom nearby where Crocker-Carter has been apprehended. The substance inside was believed to be approximately 80 grams of cocaine. Police later confirmed that Crocker-Carter had intended to deliver the drugs from New York City to a local buyer.

Thornton, who suffered minor injuries, was charged with several offenses including failure to stop, speeding, marked lane violations, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of a crash that caused property damage, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, breakdown lane violations and disturbing the peace. Crocker-Carter was charged with disturbing the peace and trafficking cocaine.



Courtesy
Suspect Shantia Crocker-Carter is taken into custody by Charlton Police and Massachusetts State Police.

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – A New York couple is in custody after a high-speed chase took them through several southern Worcester County towns, culminating in their arrest in Charlton.

According to a report from the Massachusetts State Police, troopers placed 25-year-old Blair Thornton and 23-year-old Shantia Crocker-Carter under arrest after a series of events led police to discover the pair were allegedly attempting to deliver cocaine.

The suspects were first spotted by Trooper Nicholas Latino out of the State

Police-Sturbridge Barracks at 1:18 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19. Trooper Latino attempted to stop a 2015 dark blue Honda Accord registered in North Carolina for speeding on Route 84 in Sturbridge. Instead of stopping, the vehicle accelerated fleeing from the scene leading Trooper Latino to engage in a pursuit. The Honda reportedly reached speeds of up to 130 mph, weaving through traffic, including reaching 80 mph in a construction zone. Trooper Latino lost the vehicle when it took Exit 3A onto Route 20 eastbound leading him to inform surrounding law enforcement to be on the lookout for the car.

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Friday's Child

Raven
Age 14

Hi! My name is Raven and I am a fashionista!

Raven is a creative, fashionable teen girl of Caucasian descent. Raven describes herself as polite and well dressed, but others would add she is outgoing, happy, and just fun to be around! Raven's creativeness tends to shine through her art and her clothing choices. Some of Raven's favorite activities include reading, cheerleading, gymnastics, spending time outside, and going shopping. Raven is a highly motivated child with goals for her future. When she grows up, she would like to become either a nurse or a fashion designer.

Engaging and confident, Raven has made tremendous progress in school. She likes to advocate for herself and have her voice be heard. Raven also thrives in family settings and does best when given a structured environment with clear rules and expectations.

Raven is legally freed for adoption and hopes her future family will have two parents, an older sister and a dog. Her social worker is also willing to consider single female families with children in the home. Raven would do best as the only or youngest child in the home. Raven has close relationships with her sisters and their adoptive families, who live on the South Shore of Massachusetts, and it is important for her to keep these relationships.

Who Can Adopt?

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

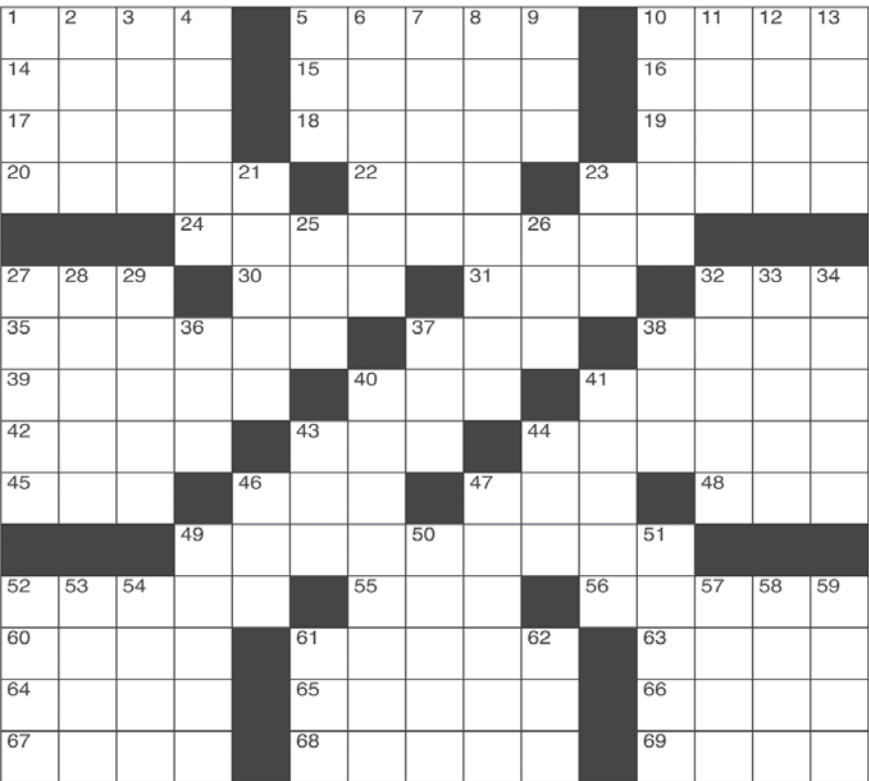
The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

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

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Cold War player

5. Flat-bottomed sailboat

10. Jamaican tangelo

14. Debauched man

15. Less covered

16. Require to live

17. Patrick and Aykroyd are two

18. Mixes

19. Insurance claim expenses

20. Tries to persuade

22. Equal (prefix)

23. Czech name for Prague

24. London soccer team

27. Greek letter

30. Small Eurasian deer

31. Swiss river

32. Miller beer

35. Less appealing

37. 8th month (abbr.)

38. __ Alto, California city

39. Grandmothers

40. American time

41. NW Chinese people
42. “Westworld” actress __
Rachel Wood

43. Northeastern US university

44. Poplar trees (Spanish)

45. Hip hop legend Kool Moe __

46. Not or

47. Corpuscule count (abbr.)

48. Comedienne Gasteyer

49. Fonts

52. Female cattle mammary gland

55. Down time

56. Spiritual leader

60. Small brown and gray American rail

61. Trimmed by cutting

63. NY Giants owner

64. A long narrative poem

65. Old World lizard

66. Product for sale

67. Shut Your Pie Hole (abbr.)

68. Pacific Island country

69. Whale ship captain

CLUES DOWN

1. Language

2. Fly high in the air

3. Made musical sounds

4. Organized again

5. TV channel

6. Unable to fly

7. Get up

8. Air traveler

9. Married woman

10. Take weapons from

11. Sicilian city

12. Actress Remini

13. Thought

21. Infections

23. Golf score

25. Hill or rocky peak

26. Witch

27. Adjusted

28. Succulent plant

29. Forearm bones

32. Hot fluid in the earth’s crust

33. Subatomic particle
34. Part of an organism

36. 007’s creator

37. Burned material residue

38. Brain layer: __ mater

40. Unable to partake

41. Lesion

43. Historic railroad company (abbr.)

44. Basics

46. Scottish port

47. Flower cluster

49. Instruct

50. Untamed

51. Moth genus

52. Utilizes

53. Foolish

54. Fall in small drops

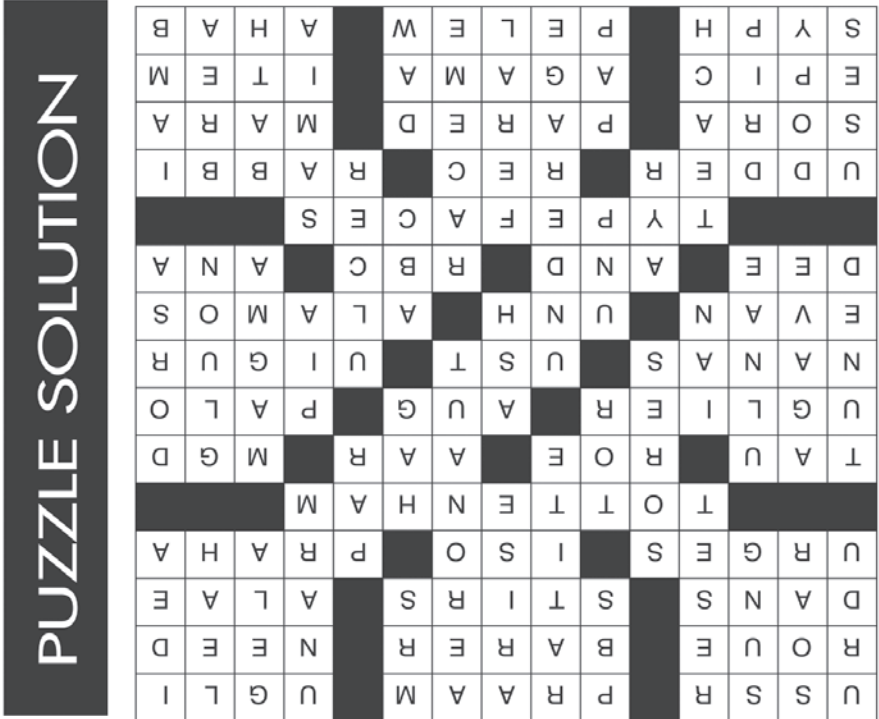
57. A place to get clean

58. La __ Tar Pits

59. Metrical foot

61. Semiliquid food

62. Small crow



Nichols moving to remote learning after holiday

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Nichols College will be transitioning to remote learning for the remainder of the year after completing its on-campus learning schedule as planned.

The college announced in a press release prior to the Thanksgiving break that despite the increased concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic the school would maintain its commitment to in-person learning until students left for Thanksgiving on Nov. 25. The release further stated that following the holiday students would remain home adapted to a remote-learning approach until Dec. 9, when the semester ends. This transition was planned before the start of the school year and was not implemented as a result of the recent spike in COVID-19 cases.

“With the health and safety of the campus community at the forefront, we began the semester with an ambitious plan to provide our students with the on-campus experience they desire,” said Nichols College President Susan West Engelkemeyer, Ph.D. “Students seem truly grateful to be here, and they were committed to keeping themselves and each other safe.”

Nichols College has provided free

weekly COVID-19 tests to students, faculty and staff throughout the school year. Over a 14-week period, the school ran more than 23,000 tests resulting in only 25 positive cases. The school also recorded a seven week with no positive cases included a string of five consecutive weeks with no positive results. The transition from in-person learning to remote learning was planned with the intent of allowing students time to visit family for the holiday and avoid the stress of returning for a brief period of time where COVID testing would be required to be on campus.

“The pandemic has changed many things, but it did not change our ability to conduct classes, whether remote or in person,” said Mauri Pelto, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs in a memo to students.

Pelto added that none of the positive cases recorded at Nichols were the result of learning in the classroom, noting “This remarkable achievement indicates our classroom setup, combined with testing and contact tracing, has worked to keep us all healthy.”

As for the spring, classes will commence on Feb. 1, while winter courses will be available from Dec. 28 through the end of January.

Zaria Zaheen inducted into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, La. — Zaria Zaheen of Sturbridge was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Zaheen was initiated at MCPHS University.

Zaheen is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

More About Phi Kappa Phi

Since its founding, more than 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization's notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year,

Phi Kappa Phi awards \$1 million to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, funding for post-baccalaureate development, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives. For more information about Phi Kappa Phi, visit www.phikappaphi.org.

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HOLLAND

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\$520,000, 20 Draper Woods Rd, Ciukaj, Christopher R, and Ciukaj, Samantha E, to Boyd, William J, and Spiers, Devin R.

\$475,000, 79 Fiske Hill Rd, McCaughy IRT, and Porter, Patricia M, to Labarre, Christopher B, and Neergheen, Vanessa L.

\$440,000, 175 Cedar St, Peck, David A, and Peck, Janet S, to Baker, Kyle D, and Galvez-Valarezo, Geovanna.

\$365,000, 21 Collette Rd, Patenaude, Robert A, and Patenaude, Amanda C, to Sutter, Bruce C.

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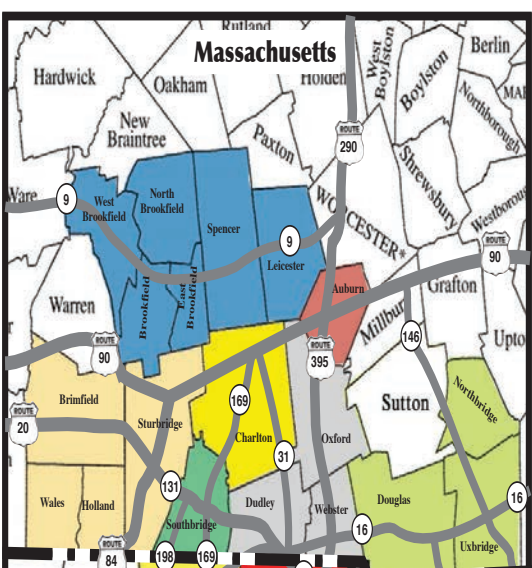
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Bay Path students awarded Horatio Alger National Career & Technical Scholarship

CHARLTON — Tianna Welcome of Oxford and Ashley Winters of Spencer have been awarded the 2020-2021 scholarship from the Horatio Alger National Career & Technical Scholarship Program (CTE Scholarship).

Welcome and Winters, both full-time practical nursing students at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy will each receive an award of \$2,500 for their practical nursing studies. CTE Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis of verification of good academic standing, high school completion or earned high school equivalency credential, enrolled in a career or technical certificate program leading to employment, attending a not-for-profit post-secondary institution, Pell Grant eligibility, US citizenship, and be under the age of 30.

Welcome works as a certified nursing assistant (CNA)



Courtesy



Courtesy

Tianna Welcome

at CareOne in Millbury. Prior to joining Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Welcome completed Medical Assistant Certificate at Salter College (Dean's List), Nursing Assistant/Home Health Aide Training program at Peak Medical

Academy in Worcester, and courses towards General Studies Healthcare option at Quinsigamond Community College.

Winters is a CNA working closely with hospice nurses at Uxbridge, MA. She completed her CNA and HHA certification at

the American Red Cross in Worcester. She took courses toward majoring in social work at Anna Maria College in Paxton. She is an elected officer for the PN Class of 2021's UNICEF Club.

Both Welcome and Winters are 14 weeks into the rigorous ten-month of

Ashley Winters

academics and clinicals to complete the practical nursing program and make positive contributions while continuing their service to the nursing profession.

The Horatio Alger Association honors the achievements of outstanding individuals in

our society who have succeeded despite adversity and who are committed to supporting young people in pursuit of increased opportunities through higher education.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing

Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing 239 Causeway Street Boston, MA 02114 617-973-0800 www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education 840 Roswell Road Building 300, Suite 325 Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 www.council.org Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 209 Burlington Rd., Suite 201 Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022 www.neasc.org.

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Christmas is coming



Gus Steeves

Dan Grabowski shows the spirit of those involved during a moment on the Town Hall lawn Saturday.



Gus Steeves

Kelly Spinelli, right, and Jillian Ciapocha stand up a couple of the figures at Town Hall late on Saturday.



Gus Steeves

Jillian Ciapocha, left, selects a tree for use on Sunday morning.



Gus Steeves

Maureen Doyle and Jillian Ciapocha look over the last two planes that still need touch-ups.



Gus Steeves

Denise Clemence, Bill May and Patrick Spinelli team up to attach a star to a tree at Dresser Park.



Gus Steeves

Denise Clemence strings the "Happy holidays Southbridge" banner between airplanes on the Arts Center lawn.



Gus Steeves

Bob Clemence and Patrick Spinelli await their trees' turn for placement at Dresser Park.



Gus Steeves

Patrick Spinelli and Bob Clemence eyeball how to attach "peace" to a big wreath.

SOUTHBRIDGE – With temperatures in the 70s, the last week or so has looked like anything but winter. But the town's annual Holiday Visions effort to

prepare for the coming of Santa was in full swing last weekend.

Multiple volunteers came out with hammers and screw guns to set up the elves, trees, wreaths, dancers, candles and countless other creations that decorate Main Street and other parts of town Saturday and Sunday. While some observers

didn't quite get why it was happening so early (because to do it later risks running into cold and lousy weather), others expressed their appreciation

as the "elves" did their work.

As of now, the normal Tree Lighting parade and event, usually slated for the weekend after Thanksgiving, is still in limbo. Organizer and

"Boss Elf Mom" (as her shirt on Saturday stated) Denise Clemence said it's looking unlikely because of Covid-19. Either way, the decorations will be up until mid-January, at least.

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EDITORIAL

To infinity
and beyond

On Nov. 15, the world watched as a Space X spacecraft blasted into space with four astronauts on board. As one news outlet put it, it was 'eight minutes of terror' as the fiery bullet took off. This title nailed it. As we watched the rocket take off, we were awestruck at how far mankind has come. The science and intelligence that is behind what was once unthinkable, is mind blowing.

Watching the takeoff on Sunday evening was just as exciting as it was nerve wracking. In 1986, while in school, we all watched as the Challenger met it's fatal fate after just 73 seconds after taking off. In 2003, the Columbia shuttle broke apart while attempting to reenter the Earth's atmosphere, killing all seven crew members.

The crew, made up of Victor Glover, Shannon Walker, Soichi Noguchi (of Japan) and Michael Hopkins, traveled the 27 hours it takes to get to the International Space Station. As we write this, the crew is safely in orbit.

The launch was delayed from Saturday to Sunday due to bad weather from Hurricane Eta. The trek is historical in that it's the first fully operational mission for the private company, SpaceX, founded by Elon Musk. A test mission did take place this past spring with two test pilots, Robert Behnken and Douglas Hurley who successfully traveled to the space station.

The crew will remain in space for six months, where they will administer several experiments. One experiment includes how microgravity affects human heart tissue. Microgravity is defined as the condition in which people or things appear to be weightless. An attempt to grow radishes will also take place, which could lead to longer space missions.

In 2011, NASA did away with the Space Shuttle program. Since then the United States has used Russian spacecrafts to bring astronauts to the International Space Station. SpaceX created and developed the Crew Dragon capsule.

In 1961, Russian Lt. Yuri Gagarin became the first person to orbit the Earth in Vostok 1. The flight lasted for 108 minutes, reaching an altitude of 202 miles. That same year, Alan Shepard became the first American to go to space. A year later in February, John Glenn became the first American to land on the moon. In 1969, Neil Armstrong was the first human to walk on the moon.

Some interesting facts about space are that it is completely silent. Because there is no atmosphere in space, sound has no way to travel. Astronauts use radios to communicate. In 1986, NASA discovered what could be fossils of microscopic living organisms on a rock brought back from Mars. Halley's Comet won't orbit by the Earth until 2061. A space suit from Nasa costs \$12,000,000. A research by Yale scientists suggests that there may be a planet made out of diamonds, that is twice the size of Earth and eight times greater. They say it's 40 light years away; however, it can be seen by the naked eye in the constellation of Cancer. The footprints left on the moon will last for 100 million years. One day on Venus is longer than one year due to a slow axis rotation which takes 243 Earth days to complete it's day. If two pieces of metal touch while in space, they will weld together. There is floating water in space. The moon was once a piece of the Earth. Scientists say that when Earth was young, it was struck by a giant object breaking a piece off that began to orbit the Earth due to gravity.

Sunday evening's excitement was a much needed break from the national news cycle. Listening to the ground crew at NASA headquarters was like listening to something out of a movie. It was a refreshing reminder that there are bigger, more positive things taking place in our lifetimes and for that, we are thankful.

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Poetry

BY SALLY SEELIG STURBRIDGE

Of poetry I've not writ much.
I've read and taught it but not a touch
Sits in my word processor. Well, just a touch.
A limerick here and there
A concise thought to share.
It's prose in which my heart I bare.

Though poets I do greatly love.
Kipling and Service smile from above
As I cherish the works upon which they strove.
This medium from chaos brings order,
It allows me to express me with a nice, neat border.
Yes, of my feelings more poems will be the recorder.

Medicinal Seasonings
Spice Up Holiday Recipes



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

With the holidays around the corner, the focus turns to homemade pies, cookies and other comfort food confections that conjure up fond holiday memories. One of the simple pleasures of churning out home baked goods this time of year is the unmistakable aroma of such spices as cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger. But the familiar aromatics of holiday fare are not simply tasty comfort foods, as it turns out, studies show popular holiday spices can benefit your health as well as your taste buds.

The following yuletide-worthy recipes include generous doses of spices with impressive health benefits.

Note: Data on treating ailments with spices is offered as information only; not medical advice. Do not ingest spices as home remedies without proper medical supervision as dangerous allergies and side effects can occur.

Nutmeg

Often sprinkled in a holiday eggnog or added to a meat pie, the nutmeg spice jar does duty beyond the kitchen cupboard, from halting a headache to promoting sweet slumber.

Nutmeg is packed with antioxidants and anti-inflammatory properties that not only relieve headaches but help ease pain associated with injuries and wounds. The spice is also an antibacterial, which makes it a powerful weapon in healing oral maladies. A natural diuretic, nutmeg is beneficial to kidney health, with its powerful properties evenly hailed as a treatment to dissolve kidney stones. And according to the Encyclopedia of Healing Foods, a little nutmeg added to a glass of warm milk can lull you off to sleep in record time.

Candied Pecans: Traditional holidays include old fashioned recipes, and this simple candied nut recipe, featuring nutmeg and cinnamon, harks back to holiday snacks of yore:

Ingredients: one large egg white; ½ tablespoon vanilla extract; ½ tablespoon water; one cup sugar; ¾ teaspoon Kosher salt; ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon; ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg; one pound raw pecan halves

Directions: Preheat the oven to 250°F (121°C). Butter a baking sheet.

In a bowl, beat the egg white, vanilla, and water just until very frothy. In a separate bowl, combine the sugar, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Add the pecans to the egg-white mixture and gently toss to coat. Transfer the nuts to the sugar mixture and toss to coat. Spread the nuts evenly on the baking sheet.

Bake for 1 hour, stirring every 10 to 15 minutes. Watch the pecans carefully during the last 15 to 20 minutes of cooking for doneness. The nuts should be a lovely golden brown, crunchy, and evenly coated with the hardened sugar coating when they come out of the oven. Store the pecans in an airtight container in a cool, dry place for up to 2 weeks.

Cinnamon

Cinnamon, perhaps the most recognized holiday spice, is also one of the most powerful in health benefits. Helpful in reducing blood sugar levels in people with type 2 diabetes, cinnamon has been touted as an additional dietary supplement along with conventional medications to fight the disease.

In addition, studies revealed the spice reduced triglyceride, LDL cholesterol, and total cholesterol levels among test group subjects. Want more? Research from Copenhagen University showed a significant relief in arthritis pain when patients were given half a teaspoon of cinnamon powder combined with one tablespoon of honey every morning for a week. And another study found that the mere act of smelling the spice can boost cognitive function and memory!

Cinnamon FYI: Microbiologists at Kansas State University found that adding small amounts of cinnamon to samples of apple juice contaminated with E. coli bug killed most of the bac-

teria. Just one teaspoon of cinnamon killed 99.5 percent of the bacteria after three days at room temperature.

Holiday Cinnamon Snickerdoodles: This recipe, from the spice company McCormick, is a nostalgic family favorite to bake up during the holidays.

Ingredients: 2 3/4 cups All Purpose Flour; 2 teaspoons Cream of Tartar; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 3/4 teaspoon salt; 1 3/4 cups sugar, divided; 1 cup Butter Flavor All-Vegetable Shortening; 2 eggs; 2 tablespoons milk; 2 teaspoons pure Vanilla Extract; 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon.

Directions: Preheat oven to 400°F. Mix flour, cream of tartar, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Set aside. Beat 1 1/2 cups of the sugar and shortening in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs, milk and vanilla; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed.

Mix remaining 1/4 cup sugar and cinnamon. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in cinnamon sugar mixture to coat. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets.

Bake 7 to 8 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool on baking sheets 2 minute. Remove to wire racks.

Ginger

Ginger bread and ginger snaps are familiar holiday treats, but did you know ginger has long been hailed for its power to tame a tummy ache? It's also a well-known home remedy to treat motion and sea sickness. In fact, in one study, ginger was shown to be superior to a commonly used over-the-counter and prescription drug for motion sickness, reducing dizziness, nausea, vomiting, and cold sweats.

It's also claimed that ginger can aid in relieving arthritis and sciatica pain. Or, some people simply eat several pieces of crystallized ginger to help relieve joint and nerve pain.

Old Fashioned Gingerbread: King Arthur Flour offers this classic holiday favorite that recalls happy childhood memories.

Ingredients: 2 1/4 cups King Arthur White Whole Wheat Flour, or 2 cups King Arthur Unbleached All-Purpose Flour; 1/4 cup granulated sugar; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 1/2 teaspoon salt; 1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger; 1 teaspoon cinnamon; 1/4 teaspoon each cloves and nutmeg; 1/2 cup (8 tablespoons) unsalted butter, melted; 3/4 cup molasses; 1/4 cup water; 1 large egg; 1 cup buttermilk; 1/2 cup diced crystallized ginger (optional)

Instructions: Grease and flour a 9" square pan. Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Allspice

Christmas pudding, mincemeat and pumpkin pies all benefit from the addition of allspice, but did you know your health can too?

Allspice is famous for its ability to relieve muscle aches and pain when applied topically. To make an allspice poultice, mix ground allspice with water to form a thick paste. Apply it to the body, cover with gauze and relax for 15 to 20 minutes.

Sipping tea made from the spice can also be helpful in relieving menstrual cramps and headaches.

Allspice berries can also be used to temporarily relieve toothache pain. Simply chew one allspice berry for quick relief.


Allspice Recipe: No allspice on hand? No worries. To whip up one teaspoon of Allspice, combine the following: 1/2 teaspoon of ground cinnamon, ¼ teaspoon of ground cloves and ¼ teaspoon of ground nutmeg.

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JEFF BURDICK

Divorce is common in our society, but that doesn't make it any easier to navigate. If you've recently finalized a divorce, you've likely been coping with uncertainty and tension, but you can still avoid turning an already difficult situation into one that's even more challenging. How? By making the right financial and investment moves, including the following:

- Establish your separate financial presence. Even when you were married, you and your spouse might have maintained some separate accounts. But if you only had joint accounts, now is the time to open your own checking, savings and credit accounts.
- Update your budget. It's likely your budget needs updating. Your household income may be lower or may need to be adjusted for alimony or child support (paid or received). Additionally, your living expenses may have shifted, either higher because you're no longer splitting expenses such as housing or utilities, or possibly lower because you're no longer supporting your ex's spending habits. Understanding your new budget will help you feel better informed about your financials options and more in control of your new situation.
- Prioritize emergency savings. Divorce is expensive and may have depleted your savings. To get back on your feet, you may want to build an easily accessible source of funds for unexpected drops in income and/or spikes in expenses. If you're not retired, you may want to keep three to six months' worth of expenses in emergency savings, although even much smaller amounts can boost your feelings of financial security.
- Evaluate your retirement plan contributions. When you were married, you may have been counting on sharing resources and expenses with your spouse in retirement. But now, you may be solely responsible for your retirement, so if you can afford it, you may want to ramp up your retirement plan contributions. You may want to consult a financial professional about setting and achieving new goals.
- Think about Social Security. Your divorce could play a role in the benefits you can receive. Once you are eligible for benefits, if you were married at least 10 years and you haven't remarried, you might be able to receive up to 50% of your ex-spouse's benefits, offset by your own benefit. If your ex passes away and you haven't remarried (or you remarry only after age 60), you could receive 100% of their benefit in place of your own. This could be beneficial if your ex-spouse had a higher income or spent longer in the labor force. Since rules can be complicated, contact your local Social Security office to better understand your situation, and keep a record of your ex's Social Security number.
- Review your beneficiary designations and legal documents. You'll likely need to revise the beneficiary designations on your retirement accounts and life insurance policies. These designations carry a lot of weight and can even supersede the instructions in your will. And, speaking of your will, you'll likely need to revise it too, along with other legal documents, such as a living trust. Consult with your legal professional to make these revisions.

It can feel like a long road to stability after a divorce – but by following the above suggestions, you may be able to make the trip a little less bumpy – and hopefully shorter – as well.

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

Helpful hints for harvesting deer



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

Opening day of the Massachusetts shotgun deer season is scheduled to open on Nov. 30. This year, sportsmen that harvest a deer during the first week of the shotgun deer season, are not required to bring the animal to a check station as in previous years, due to the Covid-19 outbreak. You are required to register the deer online. A lot of deer, some of which were very impressive, were harvested during the archery deer season. Last year's numbers of harvested deer during the archery season were high, and I would not be surprised that the numbers will be even higher this year. In fact, last year, archers harvested more deer than hunters during the shotgun deer season in Massachusetts!

Many deer hunters are trophy deer hunters, and often pass up a shot at a doe or small buck. The excitement of harvesting a trophy deer gives the hunter bragging rights for many years. If you are looking for some good eating venison, the younger deer are the best, not to say that some big buck do not have the flavor of a younger deer. Many times, it depends on the food the deer were eating, that make the difference in flavorful meat. Proper field dressing also has a large effect on the taste of the deer, as the meat can be tainted with the deer's urine if it is bro-



Courtesy

The 16 year old son of Sean Haynes harvested this 16-point buck in Spencer during the archery season.

ken during the field dressing process.

A quick clean kill can also make your harvested deer meat taste a lot better, than if you need to track the

deer any length of time. The adrenalin of the deer has a tendency to stiffen up the body of the deer and effects the meat when it is cooked. Also, making a bad shot and locating the deer the next day, is another thing that you do not want to happen. These are some of the reasons that many people do not like eating venison. If the deer is quickly killed and properly field dressed, they would change their way of thinking.

If you are hunting private property, you need to make sure that you have permission from the landowner. If you harvest a deer, be sure to share some of the venison with him or her. It could go a long way in keeping his property open in the coming years. Leaving your trash behind is another way to get the property closed. When possible, you should try to remove the body parts that are removed from the animal during field dressing. It does draw coyote and other wild animals to the kill site to eat the body parts, which may be an unwanted visit by the farmer or property owner.

Tautog fishing remained pretty good last week in Rhode Island, but boaters needed to go a bit further out to deeper water. Shore fishing anglers have had to work a bit harder to catch a couple of keepers. Seabass fishing has also slowed in the area around Point Judith light.

Ice fishing anglers are hoping for some ice this year, but if you listen to some of the long range forecast, it does not look too good. Many anglers are still fishing from their boats in local waters, catching some impressive trout and largemouth bass.

Hoping everyone stays safe and has a happy Holiday, even though it will not be like previous years. New Englanders are tough, and we will all survive the pandemic if we social distance and wear masks. We will get back to normal soon. Our deepest sympathy goes out to all that have lost a loved one to the Covid-19.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Pizza ... a circle of life

My mother taught me many things. She gave me the gift of curiosity. She questioned everything and encouraged her children to do the same. She spent her early teen years as a short order cook and waitress. With her experience she taught me to cook and enjoy the creativity of the process.

In 1943, Mom moved from Sapulpa, Oklahoma to Oakland, California to work in the shipyard to support our war effort. There, she was introduced to her first pizza. It was love at first bite. She later passed her love of the pie to her children and today, we are all pizzaholics. And why not? What's not to love about pizza? She used to make it. We didn't have much money when I was a kid, so I've had pizza made from Bisquick, ketchup, cheddar cheese slices and sliced hot dogs. It wasn't good, but sometimes even bad pizza is better than no pizza at all. I've learned that it's maybe not the taste of the pizza, but the role it plays in American life.

Growing up, a great thrill was being told the pizza delivery man was coming. It was a rare treat but when it happened, it was pure delight. It was like waiting for Santa, but instead of us feeding him cookies, he's bringing a pizza!

Pizza has become a national celebratory food. When something



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

good happens, we order a pizza. It's easy to order, readily available anywhere, and compared to most foods, inexpensive. It's a food for the common people. When our doorbell rings with unexpected guests, I immediately think about ordering a pizza.

Do you know what cheese said the first time it met sausage? It's Slice to Meat you!

In a nation where regional food has now been homogenized and can be found everywhere, pizza seems to remain regional. I'll show my bias by claiming Chicago is the pizza capital of the world and boasts the best pizza on the planet. Chicago has the extremes from its deep-dish delights to the thin and crispy treats. All of it good. I do enjoy New York style pizza but have found two regions of pizza that I don't love... yet.

Before I go on ... How do you fix a broken pizza? With tomato paste!

Tim, a close friend, is from suburban Detroit and raves about Detroit style pizza and he couldn't wait to show me. But upon arrival in Levonia, Michigan, I was served something that seemed like a flat and square loaf of heavy bread with a little sauce drizzled over it and covered in cheese. It wasn't bad... it wasn't round... it wasn't what I perceive as pizza.

And just for a little background...

Turn To **MOORE**, page **A15**

TRAINOR

continued from page **A8**

drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

Winter care for trees, shrubs and perennials in containers



Melinda Myers

Moving containers to a sheltered location and placing them close together for added insulation is one strategy to help them survive cold winter temperatures.



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

As you prepare your landscape for winter don't overlook the trees, shrubs and perennials you have growing in containers. These need a bit of

extra protection to help them survive cold winter temperatures.

The small amount of soil in container gardens does not always provide sufficient insulation. The roots are more exposed to temperature extremes than those of their counterparts growing in the ground. Extremely cold temperatures can damage or kill the roots and even the plant.

Plants rated at least one zone harder than your zone can usually sur-

Turn To **GARDENING**, page **A15**



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OBITUARIES

Gilbert Ovila Lamarre, 90



KENNEBUNKPORT, ME: Gilbert Ovila Lamarre, 90, of Kennebunkport, Maine, formerly of Longmeadow, Massachusetts, passed away on November 9, 2020.

He leaves a daughter, Martha Lamarre McCoy (Andrew); two sons, Mark Lamarre (Victoria) and David Lamarre; four grandchildren, Olivia, Emily, Jack and Elise Lamarre; two brothers, Clement Lamarre (Brenda) and Andre Lamarre (Mindy); and numerous other relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his beloved wife of 52 years, Ruth (Hefner) Lamarre, his parents, Venelda and Ovila Lamarre, and five sisters.

Gil was passionate about education and literacy and earned his Doctorate in Education from Boston University. He was a dedicated teacher and mentor to thousands of students and other educators. His varied career included service as principal of the U.S. Air Force school in Misawa, Japan, consultant for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, school prin-

cipal and Director of Reading for the Longmeadow school system, assistant professor of education at various colleges, and president of regional reading and teachers' associations. His devotion to his students and his energy, sense of humor and enthusiasm were legendary.

Born to French-speaking parents in Sanford, Maine on January 17, 1930, Gil raised his family in York, Maine and Longmeadow, Mass., eventually retiring to Kennebunkport. A man of many talents and interests, he had a beautiful singing voice and read widely. He particularly loved ice hockey and skating, and devoted countless hours to crafting an ice rink for his children every year. In retirement, he enjoyed puzzle-making, volunteering with the Kennebunkport Historical Society, sports and bird-watching, and eventually arrived at an uneasy truce with the local squirrels.

Gil was laid to rest alongside Ruth on November 13 in the New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gil's memory to: Louis T. Graves Memorial Public Library, P.O. Box 391, Kennebunkport, ME 04046 or online at: <https://graveslibrary.org/support/>

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing local arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

CCUMC to host virtual Christmas Fair



CHARLTON — COVID-19 can't cancel our Christmas spirit, nor it can it stop the CCUMC annual Christmas Fair!

Charlton City United Methodist Church hopes you join us for our annual silent auction, This year, we're going virtual! Bidding starts Nov. 29 and runs through 2 p.m. Dec. 5.

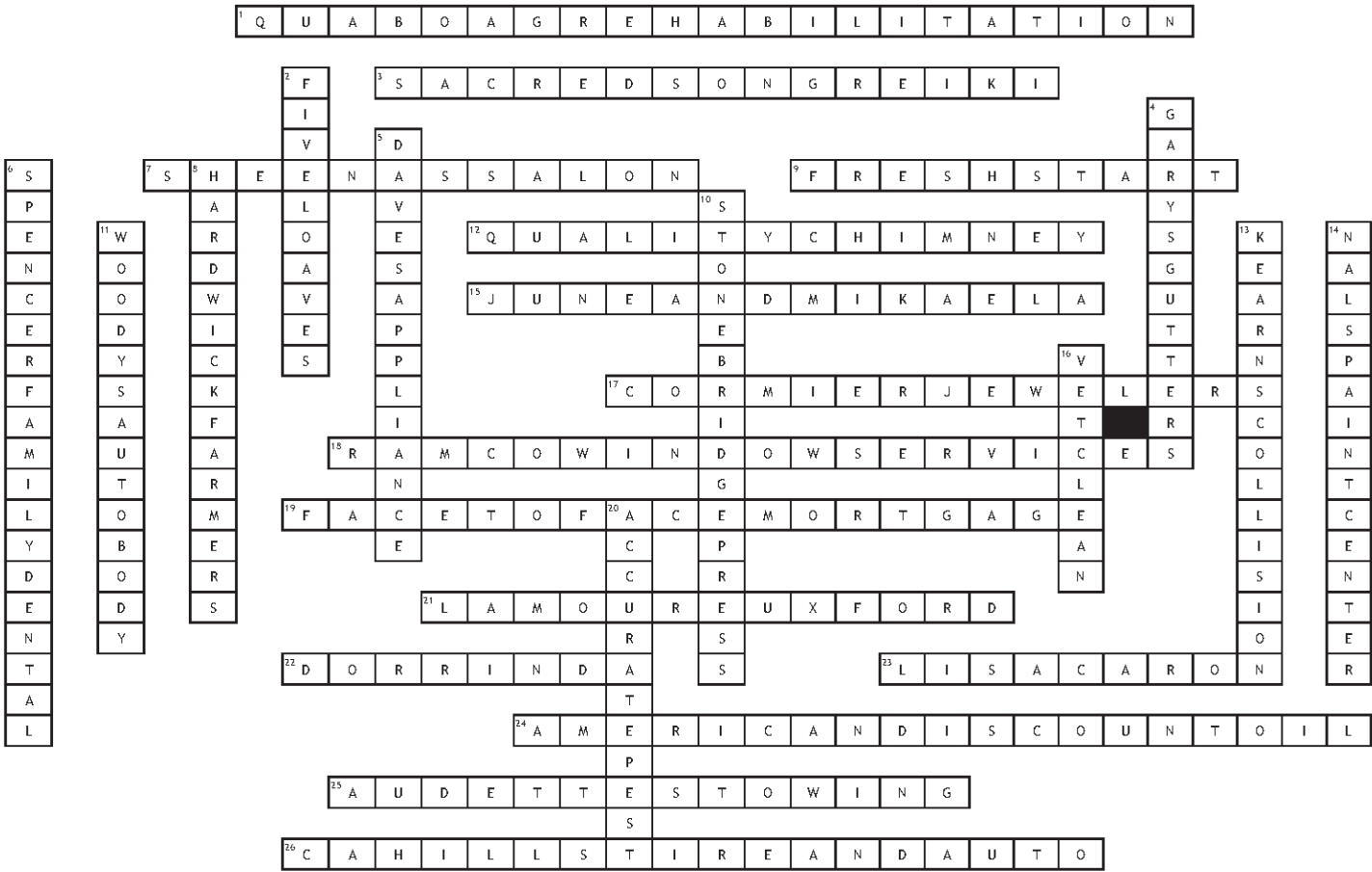
We thank our donors for a wide assortment of items for participants to bid on. You can get a sneak peek, at <https://bit.ly/CharltonCity> but

please keep in mind that new items are being added frequently.

As always, our auction will be a place to find great bargains on items donated by members and many local businesses, like gift baskets and gift certificates. This year's chairperson, Judy Fortin, is working with a wonderful committee to present an auction that has something for everyone.

The virtual fair will help us to raise funds to continue our ministries! God bless!

3rd Annual ABC's of the Seasons





Countdown to BLACK FRIDAY Window and Door Sale!

One of
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the year

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When it comes to protection from the elements, your **windows** are **as essential** as your roof and walls. Safeguard your home against drafts and replace your windows and doors **before winter**.



November 1st–November 27th only!

Buy 1 window or door,
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No minimum purchase required.

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It's almost like getting FREE windows and doors for TWO YEARS!¹
Replace your windows and doors this holiday season, and you'll pay nothing until November 2022.¹ It's a gift to yourself that won't put a dent in your wallet this time of year.

Inferior vinyl windows can cost you more in the long run.
Choose a poor-quality vinyl window and you'll be searching for another Black Friday window sale in a few years! Take advantage of this sale on our Fibrex® windows, and you'll be set for decades!*

We make the holiday season less stressful.
We handle the entire process—from selling to installation to the warranty—on our windows and doors, eliminating the middleman. And know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the **safest** way possible.



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For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 12/12/2020. You must set your appointment by 11/27/2020 and purchase by 12/12/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 24 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 11/1/2020 and 12/12/2020. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$75 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 11/27/2020 and purchase by 12/12/2020. 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. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *See limited warranty for details.



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CHARLTON – 64 Bond Rd! Gorgeous 2,800' 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Contemporary Ranch set on a Professionally Landscaped 1.49 Acres w/Natural Stone Walls! Quality Craftsmanship Throughout! Featuring a Spacious Granite Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets & Hrdwd Flrs! Formal Dining Rm! Spacious Frplc Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceilings, Built-in Bookcases, an Open Fr Plan for All Your Entertaining Needs! Capacious Master Bdrm Suite w/Master Bath & Huge Office! Mostly Finished Walk-out Lower Level Featuring a Large Exercise Rm, Bar Area, Plenty of Storage & 3rd Garage! Unfinished Bonus Rm Over the 2 Car Attached Garage! Private Back Yard for Entertaining w/Multi Level Decks and New Patio! Listed by Another, SOLD by C21 Lake Realty! **\$535,000.00**

WEBSTER – 9 Lake Parkway! Newly Remodeled 6 Rm Cape Conveniently Located! 3 Bdrms & 1.5 Baths! New Granite Kit w/SS Appliances, Siding, Gutters, Windows, Ext Doors, Oil Tank, 1/2 Bath, Plumbing, Electrical, Lighting! Oak Hrdwds! Recent Steam Boiler & Roof! Enclosed Porch! Deck! Garage w/Openers! Private Back Yard! **\$279,900.00**

DOUGLAS – 102 SE Main St! Start Packing! Spacious 9 Rm Colonial! 2.23 Acres! Center Island Granite Kit w/Soft Close Cabs, SS Appliances! Slider to 24' Deck! Open Floor Plan! Hickory Wood Floors throughout the Kit, Din & Liv Rms, all w/Recessed Lighting! 1st Flr Office or Possible 4th Bdrm w/Oak Hrdwd Flrs! Full Bath in the Hall! 2nd Flr w/Full Dble Vanity Bthrm & 3 Comfortable Bdrms, all w/Beautiful Wood Laminate Flrs! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Skylight, Ceiling Fan, Bay Window overlooking the Back Yard and a Master Bath! Lower Level w/2 Finished Rms, Utility Rm w/Laundry and Half Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Recent C/Air, Heat & Roof! 24x26 2 Car Detached Garage! Huge Shed! Nearby Nature Trails & Walum Lake Beach! **\$379,900.00**

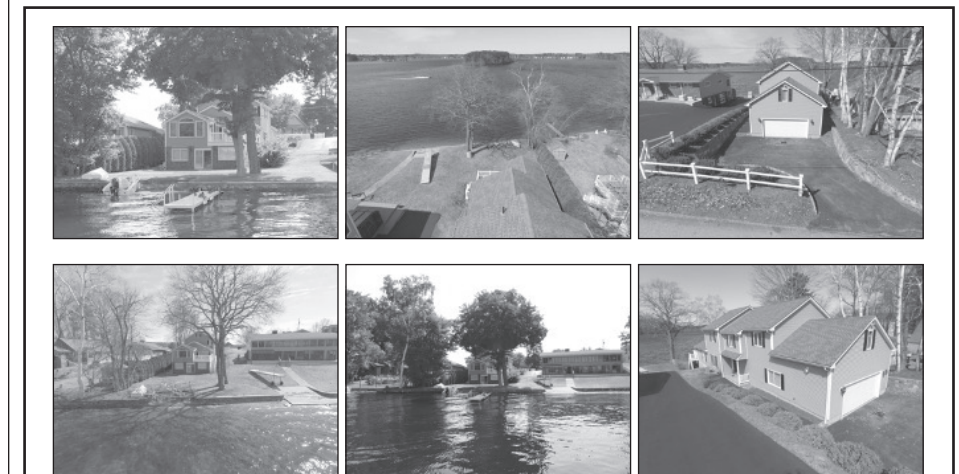


WEBSTER LAKE – 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**

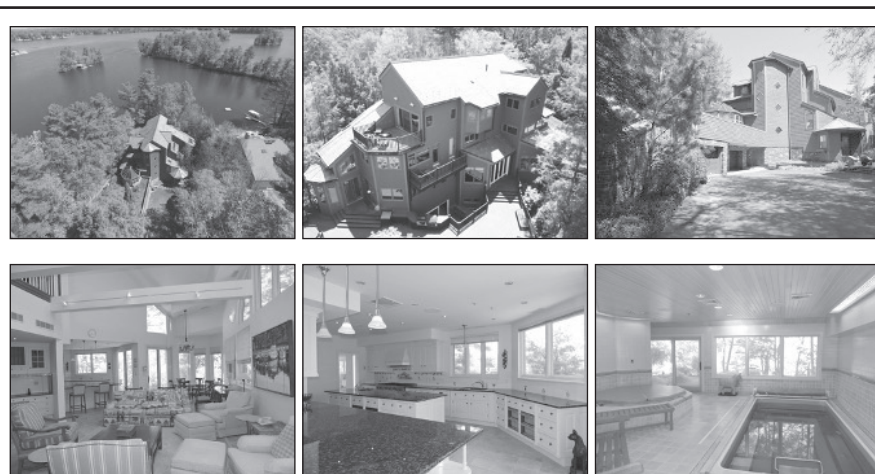
HOLDEN – 315 Holden St! 6 Rm Ranch! Meticulously Maintained! 2 Spacious Bdrms, Full Tiled Bath & 1 Car Garage! Move In Ready! Granite Oak Cabinet Kit w/Tiled Back Splash & JennAir Stove! Frplc Liv Rm! Fam Rm! Gleaming Hrdwds! Perfect Yard w/Major Landscaping this Year! New Roof 2019! **\$344,900.00**

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GRAFTON – 168 Brigham Hill Rd! 8 Rm Garrison Colonial set on 1.3 Acres! 4 Comfortable Bdrms & 2 Full Bthrms! Freshly Painted, Floors Recently Refinished! Spacious Kit w/Lunch Counter! SS Appliances w/Gas Cook-Top! Grand Dining Rm for Family Gatherings! 19x26 Living Rm w/Pellet Stove! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closets & Hot Tub! Bright & Airy Mudroom into the 2 Car Garage! Furnace & Hot Water Tank 5 Years Young! Radon tested at 2.5! Newer Roof on Garage & Breezeway! New Well Water Tank Installed! Title V in-hand! Property Abuts Grafton Land Trust - Hiking Trails Right Out Your Back Door! Convenient to Routes 90, 9 & 20! Immediate Occupancy! **\$449,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' AC'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/ Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$949,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,900.00**



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WEBSTER - 11 PERRYVILLE ROAD



Beautiful Split entry home, situated on 1 acre, nicely landscaped lot! Vaulted ceiling! 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, Fireplace! Central Air - 2 Zones! Covered deck. All town services! 2 car garage under. Shed! **\$289,900.**

DUDLEY - 22 ROBERTS ROAD



Lovely 3 bedroom Ranch! Single door 2 car garage with storage! Eat-in kitchen. Fieldstone Fireplace Living Room! 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Remodeled bathroom! Lower level fieldstone walls/ fireplace! In-ground pool! Recent Boiler, Lake Res! **\$312,000.**



Quintessential Woodstock Farmhouse w/Spectacular views of Pond. Detached Studio Building! 2.5 Acres. Prof. Landscaped. 5 Bedrooms. Fireplace! Dining, library/Music room. Master Bedroom, 2 Full Baths! Renovated Kitchen. Upstairs, 4 Bedrooms w/Full Bath. **New Price \$399,900.**



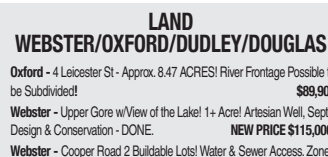
Condominium - Living leisurely! 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath (including master suite) home. Freshly painted! Recessed lighting, gas fireplace, and sliding doors, to beautiful balcony. Walkout basement! built-in outdoor grilling spot. Easy access to 1395. **\$224,900**



3 ACRE COMMERCIAL SITE! APPROX. 550 FT ROAD FRONT-AGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RTE 193 AKIA THOMPSON ROAD. STRATEGICALLY NESTLED BETWEEN TWO (2) I-95 (NORTH & SOUTH) ON-RAMPS & TWO (2) I-95 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF-RAMPS! PROPERTY DIRECTLY ABUTS I-95! 48'X80' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING, 7,680 SF TOTAL! FULL LOWER LEVEL USE & DRIVE IN GARAGE DOOR! HIGH TRAFFIC - HIGH EXPOSURE! WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?! **\$600,000.**



WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD
Estate Sale! LOCATION, LOCATION! Scenic Upper Gore Rd! Amazing View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Main level has 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Common Bathrm, Master Bedroom & Master Bath - Fireplace! Living Room! Finished Lower Level, 1/2 Bath, Laundry, Large room w/Pellet Stove & Direct Garage Access! Tiered deck, w/Screened porch, leads directly to your "Salt water" Inground Pool! **\$319,900.**



LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS
Oxford - 4 Leisester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$99,900**
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. **NEW PRICE \$115,000.**
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **Each \$24,500.**
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900**
Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family! **SORRY SOLD! \$70,000.**
Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! Off Ridge Dr. Will not last! **SORRY SOLD! \$50,000.**



OXFORD - 4 SPICEBUSH LANE
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Bay Path LPN lands “dream job” with Day Kimball Hospital

CHARLTON — As the former Student Representative for Practical Nursing Class of 2018, Reagan Gosselin, LPN of Charlton is accustomed to moving fast. Even so, she was surprised by how quickly her nursing journey is turning up roses! Gosselin landed her dream job at Day Kimball Hospital at the Putnam Pediatric Center.

Gosselin entered the ten-month, full-time practical nursing program at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in the Fall of 2017. She managed her studies alongside her role as a Student Representative, member of the UNICEF Club, her job as a Dietary Aide at Harrington Hospital, and part-time Night Secretary for the Bay Path Adult Evening School. She was hoping to pivot into her nursing career that would align more closely with her passion for working with children. Within a short time, she achieved just that.

“I accepted a full-time position at Day Kimball Hospital at their Putnam Pediatric Center,” says Gosselin. “It’s my dream job.”

As an LPN Gosselin previously worked at The Overlook in Charlton, Brookhaven Rest Home in West Brookfield (as Medical Coordinator), Lincoln Hill Manor in Spencer (as



Courtesy

(Left) Reagan Gosselin and her family.

Patient Care Assistant).

Gosselin said, “when I decided to start my nursing journey, I knew I wanted to work with children. I have four siblings that I adore and dedicated my nursing career to. I’m excited to start working in pediatrics and further my career.” Gosselin is currently taking courses at Quinsigamond Community College towards her BSN and hopes to one day work at the Boston Children’s Hospital. Gosselin attributes her success to her strong family support and adds, “thank you to the amazing faculty at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy for setting me up for such success!”

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Visit us online at www.baypath.net.



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Contacts: Nick Faillace, Project Manager

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LABICH
continued from page A1

Communities: Broadening the Vision for New England.

He is a long-time member of the volunteer leadership team at the Eagle Eye Institute, based in Peru, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering youth from underserved communities, especially youth of color, to play an active role in caring for our environment.

Labich already has a close working relationship with Norcross Wildlife Foundation's new Executive Director, Ed Hood, who for six years has been coordinating the MassConn Sustainable Forest Partnership which Bill helped to found in 2007. Both Ed, and Norcross Board Member and former Chair, Charlie Baeder, have worked with Bill as part of the Regional Conservation Partnership Network that Bill coordinates.

Norcross has been engaged in protecting rare and endangered species of wildlife for more than 50 years

SANTA PARADE
continued from page A1

green light, thanking town departments in general for their “overwhelming support.”

“We ask that people decorate their vehicles in some way,” Clemence said. “Whatever you want to do, we're open to it.”

In previous years, the route ran down Main Street. This year, though,

GARDENING
continued from page A9

vive when left outside for winter. Just make sure your containers will also tolerate the challenging winter weather.

Here are a couple strategies for helping your other containers through the winter. Select the one that best fits your landscape space and gardening style. Those in apartments or with limited space may need to enlist the help of their gardening friends.

Move containers to a sheltered location. Place them close together for added insulation. Then surround this with annual pots of flowers and vegetables to further insulate the roots. Wait until spring to empty and compost the annual plants. Or cover the pots with woodchips or surround them with bags of leaves, potting mix or bales of straw. Add another layer of insulation by piling snow that is free of deicing salt over the pots throughout the winter.

Any plants growing in nursery pots or plastic containers can be overwintered in a vacant section of the garden. Sink the pots in the ground and make sure the pot is covered with and surrounded by soil. Water if needed. Then lift the plants in spring and set them in a decorative container to enjoy throughout the growing season.

An unheated garage also provides

MOORE
continued from page A9

what's the difference between a columnist and a large pizza? At least the pizza can feed a family of four. (Ouch!)

Then there's Southern California. I love the weather, landscape, and beach. As for their pizza... I searched far and wide and thought it was all awful. I think if you put avocado on it... it's no longer pizza. California Pizza Kitchen does offer a great Thai Chicken Pizza, but in general, I find SoCal is a pizza desert... at least so far?

Hey... did you hear about the Hawaiian chef who burnt his pizza? He should have baked it on Aloha temperature.

Pizza is as diverse as the people who eat it.

Originally from the Chicago area, I like my deep-dish pizza with cheese and a flat, thin sheet of Italian sausage that spans the entire pie. I like my thin crust with pepperoni and onion. I prefer my sauce to be on the sweet side and my crust not to be soft and soggy

Did you hear about the pizza chef with the terminal illness? He pasta'way. Now he's just a pizza history.

Writing this column, I'm reminded of a scene in Forrest Gump where Bubba is telling Forrest of all the ways to make shrimp. “There's thick crust pizza, thin crust pizza, sausage pizza, BBQ chicken pizza...” I'm guessing the list could go on forever.

Aside from the silliness of this column, here's what's important.

When we gather around pizza, people smile. It's not just another dining experience to provide nourishment, but an activity that has become a prominent thread in the fabric of our American tapestry. The enjoyment isn't just in the consumption, but the idea that pizza is a gathering point... a touchstone that brings us together. And we all know in this time of intense national anxiety, we must find something we can agree upon. I believe conser-

with a focus on its 8,000 acres of conserved land, most of which is centered around its core wildlife sanctuary in Wales, Massachusetts. The Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary has nature trails open to the public spring through fall, and environmental education programs for over 6,000 participants and school children a year. Although its work is focused on New England, Norcross has supported conservation work across the U.S. and continues to seek new ways to carry-out its mission of protecting rare and endangered species, particularly plants.

The Board of Directors includes a diverse group of individuals from the Northeast who are all personally committed to the Foundation's core mission of preserving wildlife, caring for the Wildlife Sanctuary, and providing environmental education. Labich brings a strong skill set to this work and shares the priority of engaging with and including more people of color in the work of environmental conservation.

it's longer – a loop downtown to allow more people to see things while maintaining social distancing. Specifically, it'll start at Mechanic and North, roll to Charlton Street, to Worcester, Central, Main, then down to the Rotary and back to the starting point.

Clemence said some of her inspiration came from googling the rolling rally in Medway, which is happening the same night. With Covid restrictions, numerous communi-

a suitable location for overwintering container gardens. Heated garages are usually too warm and plants will begin to grow. With a lack of sufficient sunlight, they usually struggle through the winter and often die.

Place the plants away from the overhead garage door. Add a bit of insulation such as packing materials, bagged soil or other potential insulation you probably have in your home or garage. This protects the roots when the temperatures plummet. Water your stored containers whenever the soil is thawed and dry. A scoop of snow that is free of deicing salt works well. Just toss a scoop on each pot. When the temperatures rise the snow melts and waters the pots. Dry soil during a winter thaw is the usual cause of death when pots are stored this way.

If space allows, you may decide to plant those trees, shrubs and perennials growing in containers into the garden each fall. You will eliminate this overwintering task and have a great excuse for buying new plants next spring.

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

vatives and liberals alike can still sit around a pizza and find some common ground... and maybe laugh together... and just maybe... begin to heal our American spirit.

The election is over. Can we all order a pizza and smile? Can we enjoy the companionship of those we may disagree with politically and eat a pizza together? Isn't it time to try?

P.S. - I'd tell more pizza jokes, but they're all too cheesy!

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.gary-wmoore.com.

WALMART
continued from page A1

Gretheline Bolandrina MSN, Ed, RN, CRRN Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director said “as members of the Southern Worcester County community we appreciate organizations such as Walmart and we are excited for the continued collaboration. Being supported by Walmart with much needed funds is an important and fundamental piece in our work to produce real world ready, Licensed Practical Nurses. Bolandrina added, “this education grant will assist Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy PN Class of 2021 in addressing systematic inequities and barriers that prevent them from taking an NCLEX-PN Live Review Course and eventually taking the NCLEX-PN exam and passing on their first try. The enrollment and attendance to the Hurst Live NCLEX Review will greatly improve the PN Class of 2021 NCLEX success rate, overcome

ties have replaced various kinds of outdoor events with similar rolling parades this year. For those in one of the “critical categories” at high risk of catching Covid, she urged people to stay home and watch the event on the internet, since it'll be livestreamed and broadcast after the fact by cable access TV.

“Let's keep the holiday spirit and make people smile and laugh for a while,” Clemence added. “Hopefully, next year we'll be able to get back to the traditional tradition.”

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

the social and environmental challenges in their practical nursing journey.”

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— Lynnea T. (CNA)

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