

Charlton Villager

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Thursday-Friday, September 14-15, 2023

Healing nature with art at JEL

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — In a major sense, while Webster's Anne Tisdell retired from nursing, she has never retired from healing. She just changed how she does it — from medicine to art.

Tisdell has always loved art, but her father "said no daughter of mine's going to be a starving artist." So she took another interest — science — and turned that into a 45-year career in obstetric and maternity nursing.

This month's art show at Jacob Edwards Library is one expression of the bridge between them. Through it, Tisdell aims to help heal Nature herself by promoting a long list of endangered and threatened species and some — like blue herons — she "just really enjoy[s]." It's an interesting mix of styles, with some pieces being very naturalistic and some almost cartoony, in various media — watercolor, acrylic, pastel, oil and some with color pencil or ink details.

Turn To JEL page A5

Charlton presents annual awards at Old Home Day

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — Each year the Town of Charlton takes time during its Old Home Day to honor citizens, businesses, and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the community over time. The town awarded the 2023 honorees in a special ceremony on Sept. 3 to cap off the annual celebration of everything Charlton.

The biggest award of the afternoon was Citizen of the Year, an honor given

to a standout individual who has contributed countless hours of effort and volunteerism to help make the town a better place. This year's honoree was Terri Gough. Gough has been a member of the Charlton Fire Department since 1986 when she was appointed to the auxiliary. Since then, she was appointed as a call firefighter and emergency management technician and assigned as Emergency Medical Services Coordinator. She served as Executive

Turn To AWARDS page A5



Gus Steeves

Monarch butterfly, an Eastern cottontail and chipmunk. Bottom row: Pangolin, cheetah, polar bear and something partly blocked by Tisdell herself.

Sturbridge BOS looks at migrant issue

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — Selectmen dipped a toe in an issue that's affecting

many area community governments on Sept 5, when Town Administrator Robin Grimm raised concerns about an influx of migrants to town.

Specifically, she said about 27 local hotel rooms have been taken over by the state to house migrant families, some of them with kids the town will need to educate. While Sturbridge is seeking state reimbursement of local costs, including lost hotel and food taxes that tourists would have paid but the state doesn't, the hotel costs themselves are "private transactions" and the "town can't interfere in that process," she said.

These come as a result of an Aug 8 emergency declaration "due to rapidly rising numbers of migrant families arriving in Massachusetts in need of shelter and services and a severe lack of shelter availability in the state," Gov. Maura Healey's website states. "... There are currently nearly 5,600 families or more than 20,000 individuals in state shelter, including children and pregnant women." The same page also states last year's numbers were around 3,100 families.

The declaration notes "in recent months, demand has increased to levels that our emergency shelter system cannot keep up with, especially as the number of families leaving shelter has dwindled due to a lack of affordable housing options and barriers to securing work."

Grimm said hotel owners can't refuse to rent rooms when the state demands them because Boston is paying the market rates.

"It's almost like an eminent domain situation," she said. "It doesn't matter what the position of the town is, the governor has a tremendous amount of authority on

this." She said she has spoken to state and federal representatives and several town departments to be prepared for this, including getting "health vetting." In some cases, the migrants are transferring from other communities and have been checked there. Some have been here for months, some are more recent, but she said she doesn't have access to their legal status. She noted the state "is still not clear on how many people are here. There's not a lot of consistent information on this."

Grimm urged people with questions to call her directly and not rely on social media.

Afterward, the board revisited a concern from a prior meeting about putting cell antennae on the town's water tower. Mary Dowling said she's concerned about health effects and whether the town should have a broader policy regarding how many antennae can exist and where.

In general, the board seemed to agree they're interested in that, but do not yet have anything concrete to look at regarding this specific project. It's actually a continuation of a current lease, but Grimm noted she's also gotten interest from another firm elsewhere in town.

The water tower changes are being designed now and will go to Planning Board for public hearing, but the selectmen were talking about whether they should have their own hearing as well. Chair Jamie Goodwin said he'd like to get some public input on the issue at the board's next meeting.

Most of the rest of the meeting handled a few new hires and a variety of permits — many of them one day liquor licenses

Turn To MIGRANTS page A18



Jason Bleau Photos

A collection of arrangements inspired by Mercury, the Milky Way, and the Sun.

Flower Show showcases colors of the universe

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The Charlton Garden Club hosted their annual Flower Show on Sunday, Sept. 3, continuing their tradition of holding the event in coordination with Charlton's Old Home Day celebration.

The 2023 show featured a theme of "The Universe" using outer space as inspiration. Participants could utilize the planets, spaceships, the sun, the moon, and the Milky Way as inspiration for their displays

continuing with the Garden Club's tendency to issue a loose challenge to its members for the big event. Garden Club members Amy Taraskiewicz explained that these are loose guidelines that still allow for plenty of creativity.

"We try to give a little bit of guidance. We usually have 12 categories, and we'll name each category and give little suggestions. So, for the sun we might suggest a yellow flower or vase, but there are no hard

Turn To FLOWERS page A18

Wells Art Center's Members' Show an eclectic experience

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Wells Art Center's annual Members' Show last Saturday was a very eclectic affair. While most of the pieces on display were paintings, tucked in some places — sometimes literally almost underfoot — were pottery, wood sculptures, quilts, and photos. The most eye-catching may have been one that could roll away — a mountain bike turned into flowery art by Simone Germain.

In all, the show featured dozens of pieces from dozens of people

Turn To ART page A18



Gus Steeves

Several Art Center member talk around the table in the main gallery.

Charlton City United Methodist Church Men's Group to cook Roast Pork Dinner Sept. 16

The Men's group at Charlton City United Methodist Church will be cooking their famous Roast Pork Dinner with Mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, apple sauce, and homemade peach cobbler on Sept. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children 6-14, under 5 free. There is a \$50 maximum per family. Get your reservations in early. Phone for reservations or order take out (508) 248-7379. If you arrive early you will have time to walk our Prayer Trail. The church is located at 74 Stafford Street in Charlton.



Courtesy photo Gary Picard (back) and John Hunt (front) will be cooking the famous Roast Pork Dinner at the Charlton City United Methodist Church outing Sept. 16.

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CHOICE AWARDS

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Beatrix Potter: The Naturalist and Her World — An illustrated talk by Ellen K. Duzak

CHARLTON — The Southbridge Garden Club, Charlton Garden Club and the Charlton Public Library will co-sponsor an illustrated lectured entitled Beatrix Potter: The Naturalist and Her World on Tuesday, September 19 at 1 p.m. at the Charlton Public Library, 40 Main Street, Charlton. Ellen K. Duzak, retired Professor of Psychology at Becker College, will present the program. The public is invited to attend. Registration is requested at 508-248-0452 or charltonlibrary.org.

Charlton Garden Club - Southbridge Garden Club & Charlton Public Library present

Beatrix Potter: The Naturalist & Her World ~

An Illustrated Talk by Ellen K. Duzak

Tuesday, September 19th
1:00-2:30 pm
Dexter Hall

Registration requested

40 Main Street, Charlton, MA | 508-248-0452 | charltonlibrary.org

Beatrix Potter is best well-known as an artist and writer. Her beloved children's books, featuring Peter Rabbit and friends, are still fresh and alive over a century after their first publication. Less is known of

her as a woman who found personal and intellectual freedom in nature. She later became a conservationist in an effort to preserve the landscape that had inspired her art. The program will explore the many creative

paths of Miss Potter over her lifetime and relish how her generosity left an indelible imprint on the Lake District of England. She was a woman of her time, yet produced art and story that are timeless. The South-

bridge Garden Club is a non-profit organization that welcomes gardeners of all abilities from the area and supports various programs, scholarships, and local beautification projects.

MJB Talent Agency of Los Angeles, New York welcomes local actress

The MJB Talent Agency of Los Angeles and New York welcomed the signing of actress Cheyenne Prouty, a native of Dudley who attended the Dudley Charlton Regional School District.

Prouty has been training and pursuing acting for five years. She comes to the agency with high recommendations by a truly wonderful Casting Director Judy Bouley. Prouty just wrapped up her first principal role in an independent feature film called the "Stoneville Killer."



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Southbridge Public Schools host Summer Enrichment Programming

SOUTHBRIDGE — Receiver/Superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Villar is pleased to share that the Southbridge Public Schools recently completed its summer programming at the elementary and middle schools.

Through a state grant — the Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Centers-Supporting Additional Learning Time (SALT) Grant — 226 Southbridge students attended summer enrichment programming across four schools throughout the summer.

The highly competitive grant program enables

districts to host extracurricular after-school and summer activities that build on students' classroom learning at Eastford Road School, Charlton Street School, West Street School and Southbridge Middle School.

At the elementary schools, students took part in a wide range of academically-enriching and physical activities, including Forces in Motion, Earth Dome, Freedom Within — a program focused on helping children overcome stress and Magic of Science.

A highlight activity for students was the Skydome Planetarium as-

sembly from Mobile Ed Productions, a traveling educational entertainment organization that delivers educational assemblies at thousands of schools each year. During the Skydome Planetarium assembly, elementary school students explored the solar system and beyond inside an inflatable planetarium.

The elementary programs also featured lessons on space, gravity, energy and positive life choices. As part of their summer experience, students took part in a sports-themed day and enjoyed a foam pit. Additionally, students kept their math

and reading skills sharp and took part in daily assessments to chart their progress.

At Southbridge Middle School, students in grades five and six explored units on short stories and space, while their peers in grades seven and eight learned about Southbridge's geographical features, as well as contemporary social issues. Mobile Ed Productions brought its Young Author's Day and The Spirit to Overcome — highlighting the challenges and triumphs of black women in America.

A group of 25 Southbridge High School students

worked to support the programming across all four schools.

The Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Centers-Supporting Additional Learning Time Grant supports the implementation of academically enriching programming and project-based learning during Out-of-School Time and/or Expanded Learning Time (ELT) with the goal of increasing student engagement and contributing to a well-rounded education for all students. The programming supplements the learning

that takes place during the school day.

Children who are enrolled in the program receive afterschool instruction and utilize project-based learning activities to strengthen their education and work to close any achievement gaps. This year's summer program saw increased participation over previous years.

Children who take part in the whole program gain access to more than 400 hours of additional, hands-on instruction and learning opportunities. A typical school year consists of 900 hours

of instruction, meaning that students who take part in the after-school and summer programming will have access to nearly 50% more learning time.

"These enrichment programs

provide our students with a unique opportunity to build on their learning and stay engaged outside of traditional school time, while also having fun with their classmates," Dr. Villar said.

Southbridge Public Schools recognize Eagle Scout Peyton Sanborn for donation to renovate Eastford Road School blacktop activity space

SOUTHBRIDGE — Receiver/Superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Villar and Principal Kelly Gelineau wish to thank and recognize Eagle Scout Peyton Sanborn, whose Eagle Scout service project has benefited students at Eastford Road School.

Students were welcomed back to

school on Aug. 28 and 29 and explored a renovated blacktop activity space. The new blacktop space includes games such as Hopscotch and Four Square, alphabet letter paths, and more.

Sanborn began efforts to improve the play space at Eastford Road School in March. Sanborn raised funds for renovation and managed other Scouts who assisted.

Service projects are a capstone to a Scout's ascension to Eagle, Scouting's highest rank. Service projects allow Scouts to acquire and demonstrate leadership skills while improving their communities. About 6 percent of all Scouts reach the rank of Eagle.

"On behalf of the entire District, I want to thank Peyton for her dedication and leadership, which will benefit Eastford Road School for years to come," said Receiver/Superintendent Dr. Villar. "This new outdoor activity space provides a great outdoor atmosphere for our students to learn and play."

Sturbridge Historical Society announces September 21 program

Prior to the floods of 1955 and the subsequent erection of flood control dams on the Quinebaug River, the Westville area of Sturbridge/Southbridge was a vibrant industrial area. In "Stories from the Flats", Brian Phelps discusses the history of local industries including the Litchfield Shuttle Company, Prest-Wheel Inc., and Snell Augur Co. He also includes Westville families' stories, maps, and photos.

Mr. Phelps is a native of Stafford Springs, a graduate of Quinnipiac College, an Air Force veteran, and a State of NH retiree. He has volunteered for the Army Corps of Engineers for eight years. In that role he has been tasked with organizing a history project for the towns of Southbridge, Sturbridge, Brimfield, and Fiskdale. His focus is to document the people's lives during the time period before the 1955 flood.

The Sturbridge Historical Society invites the public to join us for this discussion on Thursday, September 21 at 7:00, generously hosted by the Publick House.

Charlton City United Methodist Church

Sept 16, 2023 5:00 to 7:00PM



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Rotary Club of Sturbridge presents annual TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K, Fun Walk

STURBRIDGE — The Rotary Club of Sturbridge has announced that its popular TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K, and Fun Walk will return on Sunday, October 29, according to race director Klaus Hachfeld. The family-friendly event offers two timed races, including a 5K Trail Run & Fun Walk, and a 1K Road Race.



The timed 1K Road Race for pre-teens (12 years & under) starts at 9:30 a.m. It will be a road race along Old Sturbridge Village Road, making it accessible to persons with mobility challenges. The timed 5K Trail Run & Fun Walk will start at 10 a.m. using Old Sturbridge Village Road and the Arbutus Park Trail in the Leadmine Mountain Wildlife Conservation Lands.

Courtesy photo
Kegan Cline and his sons, Julian and Kegan, Jr. brought some colonial spirit to last year's event.

All activities begin at the OSV Education Center on Old Sturbridge Village Road. Parking will be available in the Education Center lot.

"This year, we've added a special prize for the best costume in both races," says Hachfeld. "Judging will be by popular choice during the presentation ceremony at the end of the race."

The event also includes a costume parade for younger children, free games, and relay races beginning at 9 AM at the Education Center, and organized by a volunteer team from Burgess Elementary School. No pre-registration is required for the children's activities.

Pre-registration is now available on



the RaceWire website at <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=13548>

All participants who pre-register by October 21 will get a TREK Sturbridge Halloween 5K, 1K & Fun Walk t-shirt. On-site registration will also be available starting at 8:30 a.m.

The Trek Sturbridge Halloween 5K and Fun Walk is a Sturbridge Rotary Club fundraiser, with all profits going to local student scholarships and other community needs projects. For additional information, or to sign on as an event sponsor, email the race director at laserklaus@gmail.com. Or visit the Sturbridge Rotary Club website at <https://sturbridge Rotary.com>.

REAL ESTATE

BRIMFIELD

\$252,000, 124 Washington Rd, Roberts Ft. and Roberts, Randolph R, to Roberts, Tony R.

CHARLTON

\$750,000, 159 City Depot Rd, Rose, Brad D, and Rose, Jillian M, to Brosnihan, Ryan, and Greene, Shelby.

\$670,000, 57 Baker Pond Rd, Howland, Steven, and Howland, Kelley, to Daigneault, Paul W, and Daigneault, Anne-Marie L.

\$215,000, 25 N Buffumville Shore Rd, Anderson Mark E Est, and Anderson, Cynthia A, to Das, Janique, and Das, Subrata.

\$90,000, 184 Gould Rd, Cotton, Scott D, and Cotton, Andrew, to Alden, Terrence.

HOLLAND

None

SOUTHBRIDGE

\$361,000, 125 Chapin St, Polunci, Jason C, and Aiello, Michael, to Marquez, Isaul.

\$342,000, 28 Vista Ln, Ahearn, Craig S, and Ahearn, Michelle R, to Draper, Jessica K.

\$280,000, 27 Coombs St, Bibeau Constance J Est, and Bibeau, Mark, to Bibeau, Jacob.

\$278,610, 176 South St, Rosario, Jose A, and U S Bank Na Tr, to Rmac T Series 2016-Ctt, and U S Bank Na Tr.

\$235,000, 465 Charlton St, Muldoon, Clifford C, to Wood, Jason, and Wood, Mylene.

\$200,000, 118 Riverview Pl #E, Cardrant, Brian J, to Ounsayant, Annar.

\$80,000, 37 Franklin Ter, Labarge, James R, to Labarge Sr, Russell P, and Fontaine, Gary E.

STURBRIDGE

\$690,000, 22 Preserve Way, Durkee, John W, and Durkee, Valerie J, to Soto-Jansson, Elaina, and Jansson, Ryan.

\$689,900, 32 Draper Woods Rd, Varney, Mark A, and Varney, Stacey H, to Summers, Jocelyn, and Summers, Erica.

\$480,000, 20 Shepard Rd, Sweeney, Alyssa N, and Morton, Patrick, to Charles, Vladimir, and Charles, Jessica.

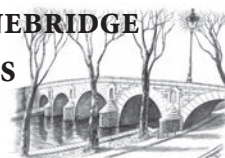
\$105,000, 324 New Boston Rd, Renaud Virginia P Est, and Sproesser, Suzanne L, to Damico, Iedes, and Damico, Jeffrey L.

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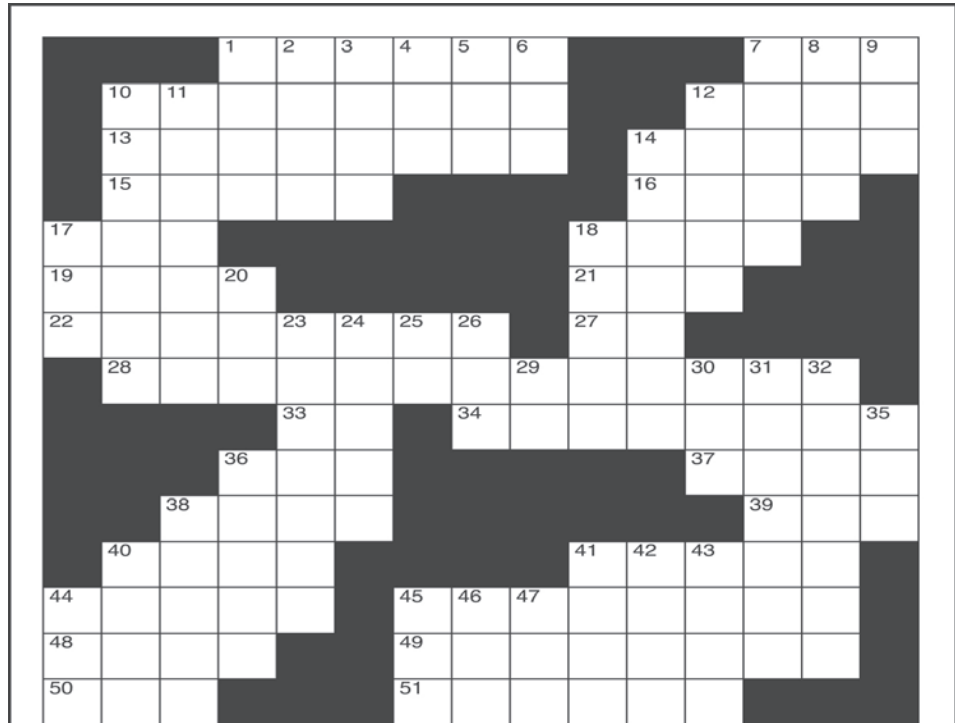
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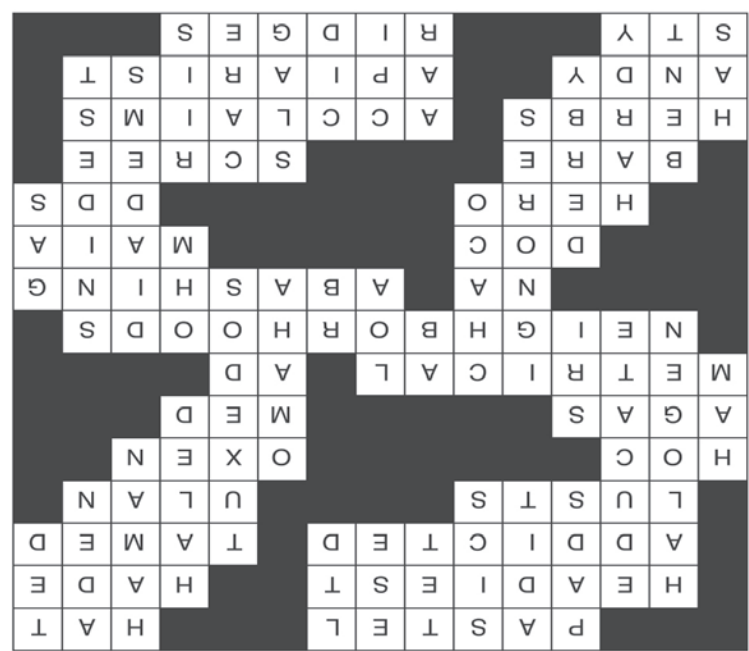
CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Type of crayon | 33. Sodium |
| 7. Fashion accessory | 34. Embarrassing |
| 10. Most cerebral | 36. Medical man |
| 12. Incline from vertical | 37. Mother of Hermes |
| 13. Dependent on | 38. One who saves the day |
| 14. Broken in | 39. Tooth caregiver |
| 15. Strongly desires | 40. Not clothed |
| 16. Mounted soldier | 41. Slope covered with loose stones |
| 17. Ad ___: when necessary | 44. Used to cook |
| 18. Cattle | 45. Praises enthusiastically |
| 19. Ottoman military commanders | 48. Rooney is a famous one |
| 21. ___ student, learns healing | 49. Beekeeper |
| 22. Composed in poetic meter | 50. Pigpen |
| 27. Promotional material | 51. Potato chip brand |
| 28. Where people live | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Living quarters | 24. Lowland South American plain |
| 2. Horizontal passage | 25. Blood group |
| 3. Attacks | 26. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano |
| 4. Vietnamese offensive | 29. Atomic #37 |
| 5. Midway between east and southeast | 30. Unit of electrical resistance |
| 6. Confined (abbr.) | 31. Jeweled crowns |
| 7. Book of Esther antagonist | 32. Nastiest |
| 8. Port in Yemen | 35. Traditional cars need it |
| 9. CNN's founder | 36. Bowler hat |
| 10. Type of bulb | 38. Robust |
| 11. Prepare | 40. Not straight |
| 12. Promoted | 41. Stony waste matter |
| 14. Dinner jackets | 42. Have an interest in |
| 17. Partner to cheese | 43. Jacob __, journalist |
| 18. Nebraska city | 44. Maintains possession of |
| 20. Human gene | 45. Swiss river |
| 23. Pays no attention to | 46. Average cost of market goods |
| | 47. Spanish soldier: El __ |

PUZZLE SOLUTION



AWARDS

continued from page 1

Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief from 2001 through 2022 and as Deputy Emergency Management Director from 2011 through 2023. She is also the Community Emergency Response Team Coordinator for Charlton & Region 3. In addition to her services as a first responder, Gough has held positions with numerous community groups including as a member of the Tri-Epic Executive Board and the Old Home Day Committee. She has helped organize local Earth Day and Family Fun Day programs, served as the Town Wide CPR Organizer, served as Boy Scouts of America First Aid Merit Badge Instructor, and as a Regional Trainer for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency giving her an impressive resume of public service in many aspects of the community at large.

Another honor presented was for Parade Marshal which chooses a citizen or citizens to lead the annual Home Day Parade through town. Diane Doherty, a 29-year Charlton resident who raised her children in town, was given that honor for 2023. All of Doherty's children, and her grandson, were involved in local sports and recreation and in 1997 Doherty became involved in local government as an alternate member of the Planning Board and, eventually, fully elected member. She would serve as Vice Chair and Chair of that board during her run which ended in 2001. During her time with the board she became involved with the original Master Plan for Charlton and served on the Board of Director at Capen Hill Nature Sanctuary. She served on the Board of Second Chance Animal Shelter as a founding member and was adoption coordinator for the Becker College

Partnership Program. She currently serves as a Volunteer for the People for Animals League in Spencer, as a member of the Charlton Rec Friends, and as Chair of the Charlton Recreation Commission continuing her dedication to local recreation and animal adoption and care.

The Business Award honors a local business or organization that has made a substantial impact in the community and for 2023 the Charlton Beagle Club was recognized for their longstanding commitment to Charlton. Since 1962 this nonprofit has organized charitable events like Brake for Silence that raises awareness of mental health and suicide prevention, Dash 4 Nash for autism awareness, and events to benefit programs like the Heart to Heart Foundation that benefits people with chronic diseases. The organization also donated land for a local baseball field to help encourage involvement in youth sports. Their contributions have made them a staple of the Charlton community and they continue to make appearances at many local events year-round.

The Youth Service Award which recognizes a young member of the community for their contributions to Charlton. Sophia Ballou earned the honor in 2023 after using her birthdays to benefit the local food pantry CHIP IN. Her contributions have brought countless food items to the pantry to help feed those in need throughout Charlton many times over. Ballou also serves as a mentor to her fellow students at Shepherd Hill Regional High School where she spends time after school working directly with her classmates and music teachers to help those in need of a little extra guidance.

The final individual awards of the afternoon were the Posthumous Awards recognizing two individuals no longer with us for their contributions to Charl-

ton. The first was Lowell H. Bond, who passed away in November of 2022, was born and educated in Charlton during a time that is now a distant memory for most. He was drafted at 18-years-old serving in the European Theater of Operations in the Army's oldest infantry division at the time called the "Bloody Bucket Division". He earned three battle stars for his service in the "Battle of the Bulge", Central Europe, and Rhineland battles although he rarely talked about his time in combat. He returned from war and served as a truck driver for 40 years and as a member of Teamster Local 170. In retirement he worked in landscaping at West Ridge Cemetery until he was 86 years old. He was an active member of St. Joseph's Church in Charlton and belonged to the Oxford American Legion Post #58.

The second Posthumous Award was presented to the family of Clarence A. Bachand, who passed away in June of 2022 after 99 years of life. Bachand moved to Charlton in 1960 and also served in World War II as a member of the Army Corps of Engineers 284th Engineer Combat Battalion. Like Bond, he also participated in the Battle of the Bulge and would later help form the first VFW in Charlton. He also served as a member of the American Legion Post 391 for over 50 years. In 2017, Bachand revisited his time in the Army by returning to Germany to follow the same route he took in World War II. Outside of his military service, Bachand made a living as an electrician working mostly for Warren & Bigelow Electric in Worcester and later serving Bay Path in Charlton for over 50 years including as a member of the School Committee for over 30 years, eventually joining the school's Hall of Fame. He also served as the town's wiring inspector. Bachand's other contributions to the community included his membership

at St. Joseph's Church, his involvement of 50 years with Boy Scout Troop 165, and playing an instrumental role in the formation of the local Pop Warner football program. He also served on Charlton's Sewer Commission and Recreation Committee helping build the Little League field and form the Charlton Lassie League. Bachand was previously recognized as Citizen of the Year at Old Home Day 2021.

Capping off the ceremony were a pair of Community Service Awards presented to groups that have proven to be vital pieces of the Charlton community over the years. The Daughters of Anarchy is comprised of four young residents, Jenna and Sarah Miller and Ivy and Clara Dowdle, who borrowed their name from the popular show "Sons of Anarchy" and have gone on to raise money for cancer benefits like the Pan-Mass Challenge. Ivy Dowdle even rode the 109-mile Pan-Mass Challenge run in August to help fulfill the group's goals of supporting the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. The other group recognized for their community service was the Charlton Girl Scout Troop 65114 which, over the last four years, has aided the CHIP IN Food Pantry, provided holiday cards for hospitalized kids, brought caroling to the Overlook, and worked with numerous local groups and organizations to achieve a variety of badges including in robotics, veterinary services, and fire safety. Their annual cookie sales have also helped contribute funds to local entities like Capen Hill Nature Sanctuary, CHIP IN Food Pantry, Friends of the Charlton Animal Shelter, the Charlton REAS Foundation, and to The Children's Hospital at UMASS.

All honorees were chosen based on nominations presented to the Old Home Day Committee prior to the Old Home Day Celebration.

JEL

continued from page 1

They literally represent beings from all over the world. You'll know many of them, either because they're native to our area or they're famous – elephants, polar bears, right whales, herons, swans, several owls. But she also features several more obscure species including a cat from Japan, an Iberian lynx, a sea turtle, and a pangolin.

"The common denominator with all these animals and plants is human activity," she said. As our consumption of resources, pollution and population grows, many species are losing their habitat and/or being poisoned by our chemicals.

Many of the birds in the show, for example, were hard-hit by DDT and other pesticides in the decades after World War II. While bald eagles have rebounded due to a widespread reintroduction program after DDT was banned, others are still in trouble, such as ospreys and some owls.

Both are hunting birds that "keep the rodent population in check, so if we lose them, we're in trouble," Tisdell said. Today, however, there's still a problem with use of various rat poisons, which kill the rodents but the raptors eat them anyway and get poisoned, too.



Gus Steeves
Anne Tisdell with a broad spectrum of her natural subjects. Top row: a turtle in a tutu, a Monarch butterfly, an Eastern cottontail and chipmunk. Bottom row: Pangolin, cheetah, polar bear and something partly blocked by Tisdell herself.

"Be careful [using them] because there's a whole chain reaction that's set off," she added. Later, millions of birds die from other human causes, including traffic, powerlines, pollution, wind turbines and more. Some of them are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1918.

A similar danger befalls monarch butterflies and several other pollinators. They're often being directly poisoned (sometimes by GMO crops that have pesticides incorporated into their seeds and thus affecting any insect that feeds on them, pest or pollinator). Some are losing plants critical to their life cycles (such as milkweeds, which monarchs need for their caterpillars).

"If we don't have pollinators, we're not going to have food," Tisdell warned.

Some of the avians in the show aren't in too much trou-

ble, such as geese and swans. Tisdell opted not to portray the latter

with their nearly stereotypical big white adult phase, but with a trio of cygnets, their young.

"We developed a friendship and they allowed me in very close proximity to their babies," she recalled. She said she actually even asked the parents for permission to get close enough to take pictures when the cygnets were half-hidden in grass, and she returned every week or two until the young birds

fledged.

Several of Tisdell's subjects are specifically endangered by climate change. Polar bears and Emperor penguins, for example, are both in trouble because the melting ice is eliminating their habitat. The bears need it to hunt for seals, their main food source. They can swim, but "the journey [between ice floes] is sometimes too much for the cubs. They don't have enough


stamina and the cubs will drown," she noted.

Tisdell said she's already working on the next painting, one that sort-of ties back to her working career – the orangutan. She said she got inspired because they give birth in the tree canopy and found it hard to imagine balancing well enough to do that.

"I get all kinds of ideas, but there's not enough time to execute them all,"

she added. Library Director Margaret Morrissey noted Tisdell was a late change for this month's show, when the previous artist had to back out. She said Tisdell came from a contact with Deb Horan of Webster's Book-lovers' Gourmet and "I'm really appreciative of her willingness to do it."

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



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Residents of Southbridge, Massachusetts

Saturday September 30, 2023 ~ 9 am to 1 pm

Casella Waste Services Facility
At 165 Barefoot Road (across from the landfill)

In order to accommodate everyone, there is a 10-gal limit per household for paint and chemical wastes.

As of November 1, 2022 mattresses will no longer be accepted.

Materials That Will Be Accepted At NO CHARGE for SOUTHBRIDGE RESIDENTS ONLY:
Oil Based Paint, Pesticides/Herbicides, Cleaning Products, Household Batteries, Thinners/Strippers/Removers/Solvents, Acids/Bases, Automotive Oil/Antifreeze/Gasoline, Stains/Preservatives, Mercury, Fluorescent lights and Photo Chemicals. Small Electronics (other than those listed below), Yard Wastes (leaves, brush or shrubs), Bulky furniture.

Materials That Will Be Accepted FOR A CHARGE:
Appliances \$20 each (computer monitors, televisions, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, water coolers or freezers). Propane tanks, car/truck tires, car/truck batteries \$20 each. **Mattresses: As of November 1, 2022, mattresses will be accepted for a \$50 fee at the Oxford Transfer Station located at 200 Leicester Street, North Oxford, MA, between the hours of 8:00 am and noon on Collection Event Days.**

MATERIALS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT 165 BAREFOOT ROAD FACILITY:

- NO Asbestos, PCBs, explosives or shock-sensitive materials, ammunition, compressed gas cylinders, radio-active wastes, pathological wastes, infectious waste, or medicines.
- CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION DEBRIS (SEE NOTE BELOW FOR ALTERNATE DELIVERY SITE)
- NO COMMERCIAL WASTE
- NO LATEX PAINT
- NO METAL
- NO RECYCLING/CARDBOARD
- NO FOOD OR HOUSEHOLD TRASH

On September 30, 2023, Southbridge Residents may bring up to 2 cubic yards (approximately 4'x4'x4') of construction and demolition waste, free of charge, to the Casella Oxford Transfer Station located at 200 Leicester Street, North Oxford, MA, between the hours of 8:00 am and noon.

You **MUST** provide a valid form of identification showing you are a resident of Southbridge (Driver's license, Town tax bill, etc.) or you will have to pay a fee to use the facility.

The Oxford Transfer Station will be accepting **RESIDENTIAL** construction and demolition debris **ONLY**. **NO OTHER** wastes or recycling will be accepted in Oxford. No commercial wastes will be accepted free of charge.

Construction and Demolition Waste is waste building materials and rubble resulting from construction, remodeling, repair or demolition of buildings, pavements, roads or other structures (including but not limited to concrete, bricks, asphalt pavement, masonry, plaster, gypsum wallboard, metal, lumber and wood).

See Southbridge Cable Access Channel 192 for more information
No pre-registration is necessary. Proof of residency will be required.
If you have any questions about the event or acceptable materials, please call
Casella Waste Services at 888-532-2735

Cornerstone Bank offers new checking account designed specifically for students

WORCESTER — With school back in session, Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is pleased to offer a new checking account designed for the unique needs of students. The account offers a variety of features and benefits to help students get a strong start toward financial independence. The best part? It's free for students ages 16 through 25.

"We are big proponents of financial literacy, so we wanted to create an account that makes it easier for students in high school and college to start banking on their own," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "Our RITE Student Checking Account is free for students until they're 26 and comes with many benefits and money-saving perks they will really appreciate."

It only takes \$25 to open the account and there is no minimum monthly balance requirement. Unlimited ATM surcharge reimbursements, as well as online and mobile banking, mean the account works well for students attending school away from home.

Beyond banking benefits, which include rewards for everyday purchases and Early Pay with direct deposit, the RITE Student Checking Account also boasts valuable non-banking perks that both students and their parents will appreciate. These include discounts from local and national retailers, cell phone protection, roadside assistance, ID Theft Aid, buyer's protection and extended warranty, a health savings card and more.

"We know today's students have a lot of expenses and stress, so we wanted to offer them a checking account that provides the services and security they need," said Cornerstone Bank EVP, Retail Banking, Altaf Ahmed. "For example, if they pay their cell phone bill through their RITE Student Checking Account, the phone is covered for repair or replacement up to \$400 per claim. It's extras like these that can help provide peace of mind for students and parents, especially when students are leaving home for college."

Applicants must be active students ages 16 to 25. Students who are 16 require a parent or guardian as a joint

account owner. Monthly maintenance service charges are waived until the student reaches age 26, at which time a \$6 monthly maintenance service charge will be assessed.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester

County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities, through a broad range

of deposit and loan products, and services. Built on Trust is not just a tag line, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Annual Day of Play Family Festival takes place Sept. 16 at Elm Park

WORCESTER — Worcester's 12th annual Day of Play Family Festival is on Saturday, September 16th from 11:00AM-4:00PM at Elm Park.

Immerse in the power of play with over 50 activities to explore and performers to enjoy.

"This festival brings our community together and it is an honor for Edward Street to host this festival for the 12th year," said Eve Gilmore, Edward Street CEO. "We look forward to welcoming the children and families of Central Massachusetts once again to join in the joy of play."

Day of Play was founded by Edward Street in 2010 and continues to be an annual chance to unite the community. The festival features seven key areas of play for children and their families: Active, Construction, Creative Arts, Health & Wellness, Mindfulness, Reading, and STEM. Community volunteers and organizations help bring these play activities to life.

Set to perform are the Joy of Music Program (JOMP), Crocodile River Music, the Traditional Lion Dancers, Chuck & Mud (and Buds), Janoah Bailin, In Da Zone, Cory Scott, and magician Francis Flynn. As well, the South High Marching Band will lead a procession around Elm Park. Featured activities include an obstacle course, robot coding, bubble making, and rocket design/build/launch activities. The Worcester Art Museum will provide a watercolor painting project and the SE Asian Coalition (SEAC) will host a face painting and henna tattoo activity for play participants to discover. Local mascot characters including Jake the Lion (The Bravehearts), the Woolster (WooSox) and Benjie (Bay State Savings Bank) will also be on hand.

Day of Play is a free, volunteer-based event and open to the public thanks to our sponsors including:

Presenting Sponsors: Edward Street, Worcester Family Partnership,

Play Area Sponsors: Harr Automotive Group, Worcester Division of Public Health & the REACH Grant,

Activity Sponsors: Abbvie, Eastern Bank, Guild of St. Agnes, Hanover Insurance Group Foundation, National Grid, Tufts Health Plan, Webster Five Foundation, Wegmans,

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Supporting Sponsors: Boys & Girls Club of Worcester, Cornerstone Bank, Herlihy Insurance Group, MAAEYC, Price Chopper | Market 32, Smileland of Westborough, and the YWCA of Central MA.

This year's festival is also supported by an ARPA Grant from the City of Worcester.

Rain date is September 23rd.

For more information, visit <http://www.worcesterdayofplay.org> or visit the Day of Play Facebook page.

About Edward Street:

Edward Street is a private, non-profit agency that collaborates to improve the quality and impact of early education and care, enhancing the development of young children and strengthening families in Central Massachusetts. Learn more at www.edwardstreet.org.

About Worcester Family Partnership:

Worcester Family Partnership is funded through a MA Department of Early Education and Care grant to provide support services to families with children birth to school age. Worcester Family Partnership offers free playgroups, the opportunity to participate in a FREE Screening for your child, and many other programs. Learn more at <https://worcesterschools.org/about/community-partnerships/worcester-family-partnership/>.



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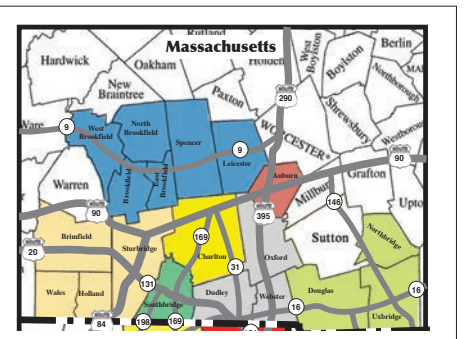
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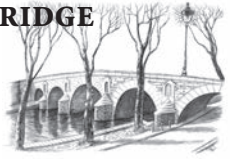
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EDITOR

Governing Beyond Faith: Elected Officials Must Serve All

In a diverse and pluralistic society, the principle of separation between church and state is fundamental to preserving individual liberties and ensuring that government serves the interests of all citizens, regardless of their religious beliefs or lack thereof. Elected officials have a solemn duty to represent the entire community, making decisions that respect the rich tapestry of religious beliefs that exist in our nation. However, there have been instances where some officials have allowed their personal religious convictions to guide their governance, raising concerns about the fairness and inclusivity of their actions.

One of the cornerstones of democracy is the idea that elected officials are entrusted with the responsibility to serve the interests of all their constituents, not just those who share their religious beliefs. Our society is incredibly diverse, with individuals from various faiths and belief systems coexisting harmoniously. It is imperative that our elected representatives reflect this diversity in their decision-making processes and refrain from imposing their own religious beliefs upon the broader population.

When elected officials allow their personal religious convictions to dictate policy, it can lead to the exclusion of those who hold different beliefs. This is not only unjust but also undermines the very essence of a democratic society that values religious freedom and tolerance. Our nation's history is replete with instances where religious intolerance and discrimination have caused immense harm, and we must not forget the lessons of the past.

Furthermore, the potential for religiously driven governance to teeter into radicalism is a grave concern. While most people practice their faith peacefully, there is a risk that individuals with extreme religious views may seek to impose their beliefs on society through the political process. Such radicalism can lead to policies that not only infringe on the rights of those outside the particular faith but also create an environment of hatred and divisiveness.

It is crucial for elected officials to remember that the separation of church and state is not an attack on religion but a safeguard for both government and faith. It ensures that religious institutions remain free from government interference and that government remains neutral and inclusive. This principle allows people of all faiths and none to coexist peacefully and participate fully in our democracy without fear of discrimination or marginalization.

To uphold the values of fairness, inclusivity, and religious freedom that our nation holds dear, elected officials must commit themselves to serving all their constituents, regardless of their religious beliefs. They must resist the temptation to govern based on personal religious convictions and instead prioritize policies that promote the common good and respect the diverse beliefs of the people they represent.

The importance of elected officials serving all people, irrespective of their religious beliefs, cannot be overstated. Our democracy thrives when it respects the principles of religious freedom, tolerance, and inclusivity. Elected officials must uphold these principles by governing without bias and ensuring that their decisions reflect the diverse and pluralistic nature of our society. By doing so, we can build a stronger, more united, and truly democratic nation where every citizen is valued and protected.

OPINION

Positively speaking!

Toby Moore

'If you don't use it, you'll lose it' when it comes to the brain

The maxim "If you don't use it, you'll lose it"—heard so often—it's practically a back-ground track to our lives. But wait! Before you glaze over, have you ever considered the gravity behind this statement? It's not just a snappy saying—it's a golden nugget of wisdom with far-reaching implications.

The workings of the brain are spellbinding. Picture your brain as a thriving tree in a lush forest. Each new piece of knowledge you gain is like planting a seed that eventually sprouts into branches and leaves. This isn't poetic license; it's backed by the science of neuroplasticity—the brain's incredible ability to form new neural connections throughout life.

Each time you learn or practice a skill, you reshape your brain and strengthen neural pathways, fortifying those branches and leaves on your cerebral tree. In this way, your brain doesn't just store information—it evolves, hardwiring itself to flourish when you practice or learn something over time.

I began competitive swimming as a child, which was far from natural, but I was determined, and every lap I swam was like adding another leaf to a

growing branch in my "swimming tree" in the brain. Each practice session was a mental workout, a "branching out" in my neural forest, solidifying the pathways that would improve my abilities.

I was learning to cut through the water more efficiently and grasping intricate techniques that required keen mental focus. While athletics is primarily seen as a physical endeavor, the cerebral component is enormous.

If you find the "learning tree" concept captivating, you'll be equally intrigued by the neuroscience of "pruning."

When you neglect other learned abilities or information, those corresponding branches in your brain don't get the same nourishment. Just as a gardener would trim away the dead or overgrown branches to let a tree flourish, your brain also conducts selective maintenance.

Pruning is when the brain cuts out extra connections between neurons. This helps the brain work more efficiently by eliminating pathways it doesn't need.

This is one reason why we forget things that we haven't thought about in a long time.

Every so of-

ten, I feel the urge to get in swimming shape again, but let me tell you, those first few laps? A downright battle!

So, while my brain still holds the blueprints of a capable swimmer, the lack of recent practice means those finely tuned circuits are no longer firing on all cylinders.

Have you ever had that frustrating "tip of the tongue" moment when you can't recall a word or name?

What about long division after years of not thinking about math? It's like trying to crack the Da Vinci code without a cipher. For me, those branches have been pruned.

If you don't regularly engage your mind and reinforce what you've learned, your mental acuity in those specific subjects may decline.

Brain pruning extends beyond mere skills and talents; it touches the very core of our dreams and ambitions. Your deepest aspirations require constant nourishment and attention. Whether penning poetry, mastering the guitar, or revolutionizing digital design, each dream has its dedicated neural pathway that thrives on focus and diligence.

Another way to think of it is that our brains

are like librarians, constantly deciding which books—skills, memories, abilities—deserve prime shelf space and should be stored in the attic.

When you choose not to follow your dreams, you're pruning a part of yourself that once flourished. Keep those neural pathways strong and connected, and watch them grow into full-fledged realities.

The lesson here is to actively nurture the pathways in your brain that matter most to you, whether that's your dreams, goals, or cherished friendships. If you neglect them, your brain might prune these connections away, making it seem as if they never existed.

The "use it or lose it" principle is life's ultimate maintenance guide. It's a nudge to action. Your skills, your relationships, your dreams—think of them as a cherished garden. Left unattended, even the prettiest rose bushes turn to weeds.

So? What are you waiting for? Exercise that grey matter! You've got nothing to lose but everything you don't use.

Toby Moore is a columnist, the star of Emmy-Nominated A Separate Peace, and the CEO of Cubestream Inc.

Consider financial gifts for grandchildren



FINANCIAL
FOCUS

TREVOR
NIELSEN

If you have grandchildren, you probably enjoy spending time with them and watching them grow. And to help them achieve a bright future, you might like to make some financial gifts—but which ones?

You have several options. Let's look at three of them:

529 plans – When you invest in a 529 education savings plan, any earnings growth is distributed federally tax free, as long as withdrawals are used for qualified education expenses. (Withdrawals used for expenses other than qualified education expenses may be subject to federal and state taxes, plus a 10% penalty.) And in-state residents who invest in their home state's 529 plan may also receive state tax incentives. A 529 plan can be used for college, approved trade school programs, qualified student loan repayments and even some K-12 costs. And if the grandchild you've named as a beneficiary of a 529 plan decides to forego further education, you can generally switch beneficiaries to another immediate family member. You can contribute up to \$17,000 in 2023, per grandchild, to a 529 plan without incurring gift taxes. Furthermore, as of the 2024-25 school year, grandparent-owned 529 plans won't affect financial aid eligibility. However, tax issues for 529 plans can be complex, so consult with your tax advisor about your situation.

Roth IRA – Any earnings growth in a Roth IRA is distributed tax free, provided the owner is at least 59½ and has had the account at least five years. If your grandchildren earn money from babysitting or a part-time job, they can open a Roth IRA with the help of a parent or other adult. You could "match" your grandchildren's contributions, possibly on a dollar-for-dollar basis, to provide them with an incentive for saving. In fact, you could fully fund the Roth IRA, up to the annual contribution limit, which is \$6,500 or the amount of your grandchild's taxable compensation, whichever is less. (The annual limit is \$7,500 for those 50 or older.) And your grandchildren can withdraw the contributions—not the earnings—at any time to pay for college or anything else.

Custodial account – You can open a custodial account, also known as an UGMA or UTMA account, for a grandchild, and fund it with most types of investments: stocks, mutual funds, bonds and so on. For that reason, it can be a good way to teach grandchildren about the nature of investing—risks, returns and the value of holding investments for the long term. Plus, there's an initial tax benefit to custodial accounts: The first \$1,250 of your grandchild's investment income (dividends, interest, capital gains) is tax free, and the next \$1,250 is taxed at the child's rate. Anything above that amount is taxed at the parents' marginal tax rate. However, once your grandchildren reach the age of termination—usually 18 or 21, depending on where they live—they take control of the account and can do whatever they choose with the money. So, while a custodial account could be considered as a funding source for college, it might alternatively serve as a gift that could eventually enable your grandchild to fulfill another desire

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

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Brighten your fall landscape with mums



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

Mums are a favorite fall flower that adds weeks of seasonal color to containers, gardens and fall displays. They are also a popular gift plant in garden centers and floral shops. Choosing the right one for the purpose and providing proper care will help you achieve your desired results.

Start by selecting the best mum for your gardening goals. You'll find mums labeled as garden, perennial, gift or florist mums. All these names for plants that look alike can be confusing. The answer lies in their response to day length, hardiness and use.

Mums set flowers based on day length. Growers can force them into bloom by covering them to create shorter days that initiate flowering. Those grown as gift mums, often called florist mums, usually require the longest periods of uninterrupted darkness or shorter days. When these mums are grown under natural daylight they usually don't flower until late fall or early winter. These late bloomers are usually killed by cold temperatures before or soon after the flowers appear in colder areas.

Nurseries selling mums ready to flower in the fall often refer to them as garden mums. These may be perennial mums or "florist" mums forced to flower for fall displays. The intent is to use them as annuals. Select ones with lots of buds and just a few if any open flowers to maximize the bloom time and your enjoyment. Place one or two mums on the front steps, plant them in vacant spots in the garden or combine them with other



Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com

Mums add seasonal color to the fall landscape.

fall favorites in containers.

These garden mums may be hardy and suited to the area but since all the energy is directed to the flowers little is left to establish a hardy, robust root system. If you have success overwintering your garden mums, feel free to brag. If your plants don't survive or you don't try, don't worry. You are using them as a fall annual as they were intended. This also provides space for new plants in the spring and an opportunity to try a different color mum next fall.

Those mums sold as perennials are hardy enough to survive the winter and flower in late summer or early fall providing weeks of color in the garden. They are often sold alongside other perennials, labeled as perennials, or promoted as hardy for the area. Increase your success by planting them in spring. This allows the plant time to develop a robust root system before it begins flowering in the fall which will increase its ability to survive cold winters.

Place mums in an area with full sun and water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil moist but not soggy wet. Check the soil in containers daily and water when the top few inches of soil are starting

to dry. Always use a container with drainage holes or a self-watering pot.

Increase overwintering success by leaving the plants intact in the garden over winter. Those gardening in colder regions may opt to cover the plants with evergreen boughs after the ground freezes, providing extra insulation. Remove the mulch when temperatures begin hovering above freezing. Whether covered or not, prune out the dead stems in spring as new growth appears.

Whatever you call them, add a few colorful mums to your fall displays. You are sure to enjoy the blast of color they provide to your landscape before winter arrives.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



New Hampshire woman finds 'life-changing' painting from thrift shop

The latest auction news begins here in New England, where a New Hampshire woman who purchased old frames from a thrift shop later found that she had walked away with something much more significant. An old white frame she purchased for \$4 from a Saver's store held a painting by renowned artist N.C. Wyeth, according to NPR. Maine conservator Lauren Lewis was called in to help determine the painting's authenticity. She described Wyeth as one of the "preeminent illustrators in the early 20th century." Wyeth's illustrations appeared in Robert Louis Stevenson's 1911 "Treasure Island" book. He was the father of painter Andrew Wyeth and grandfather of artist Jamie Wyeth. The paint-



ANTIQUES

WAYNE TUISKULA

ing was one of four illustrations that Wyeth did for Helen Hunt Jackson's "Ramona," which is about a Scottish-Native American orphan living in California after the Spanish-American War. After consulting with Christine Podtmaniczky, curator emerita of the Brandywine Museum of Art, Lewis is determined it was an authentic Wyeth. The sellers have chosen to remain anonymous, but Lewis did share some information about them. "They are not your typical art collectors," she stated. The auction estimate is \$250,000 and "this would be life-changing for them," she added.

Rowling's name as JA Rowling. A primary school purchased it in a warehouse sale for £1 in 1997. The book had a white cover with a yellow band along the center and didn't stand out among the other children's books that featured brighter, more appealing covers. It appeared to have been barely read when the school pulled it from the shelves in 2002 after realizing that the book might have value due to the popularity of Harry Potter. It was temporarily misplaced and school officials feared it may have been discarded until they found it in 2015. The school recently consigned it to auction. It sold for £15,000 (approximately \$18,697 U.S.), proving the adage that you can't judge a book by its cover.

We'll be auctioning some books soon, but of the comic variety. Our toy and comic book online auction will begin later this month or in early October. Our next auction after that is scheduled for late October or early November and will include art, sterling silver, and a wide variety of antiques and collectibles. We are still accepting coins and other consignments for that auction. I'll also be teaching my "Evaluating your Antiques" class on Tuesday, October 3rd at Bay Path Adult Evening School in Charlton. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique, Collectibles Auctions and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111).

Still a strong fishing season as bird hunting looms



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS

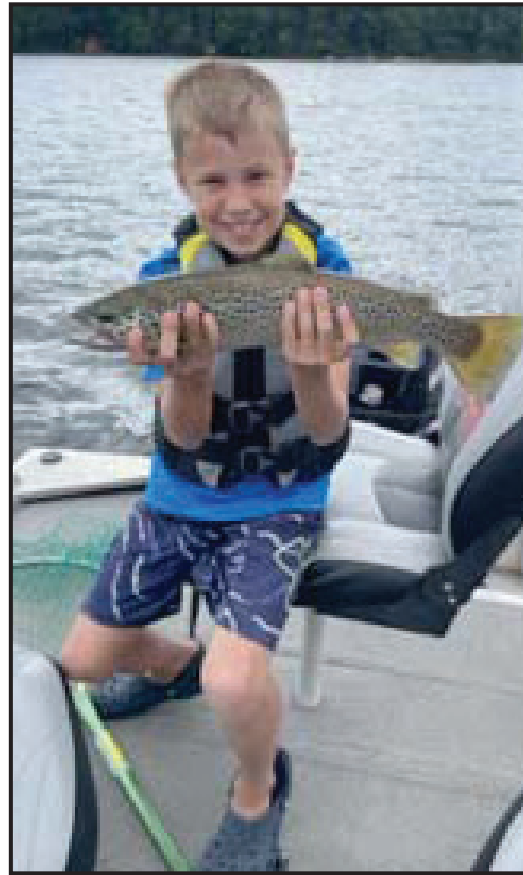
RALPH
TRUE

The weather sure has been hot for the last few weeks, but it should start to cool off before you read this column. Fishing has been hot on the saltwater for many species, much like the weather. The tautog bite is getting better every day, and sea bass fishing is also staying strong. Catching limits of seabass requires catching a lot of throwbacks, but some impressive fish are being caught.

Reports of schools of false albacore are coming in every day. Galilee, Rhode Island has been hot out in front of the lighthouse and the shores around Matunic, and the Charlestown Breachway are also producing a lot of fish including a few bluefish.

This week's two pictures show Milo Alexion with his bass he caught recently while fishing with his parents. His older brother Graham is shown holding his large brown trout. The Alexion family enjoy fishing and some of the results are shown in this week's two photos. Nice fish!

Striper fishing is good one day and a bit slow on another, but anglers that know where and when to fish have enjoyed some great strip-er fishing, although most need to be released because of the slot limit size. As always, evening fishing is the best. The canal fishing is not



Courtesy photos

Milo and Graham Alexion, seen here, along with the entire family, enjoys fishing.

for the elderly, as climbing over the rocks to get down to a good fishing spot can be dangerous, as most anglers know.

Pheasant hunting is only four weeks away, and sportsmen that have a good dog to hunt alongside, have had to do some early morning training before the season opens, and will pay off when the season opens! There are a few Rod & Gun Clubs that are planning to open a bit earlier, but opening day in Mass. will be on October 14, statewide. This year Upland bird hunting will open on the same day as waterfowl which could see some conflict among hunters. Woodcock hunting opens on October 2, if you can find any birds in the area. The

Blackstone Valley continues to lose a lot of the habitat essential for local and migrating birds like woodcock. Local woodcock habitat in the Blackstone Valley area has taken a hard hit in the past 10 years or more, and open covers continue to dwindle, mainly because of construction of new homes. Going North of Worcester to hunt could provide some better hunting opportunities.

Grouse are almost extinct in the Uxbridge area and surrounding towns. Areas like Petersham, Mass. do have a small population of grouse, and the farther you go North, their populations are still quite good.

If you are looking for an area to hunt quail heading towards the Cape is your

best bet. A small population of Grouse are still providing some good hunting, if you know where to go.

Duck hunting in the valley opens on October 14 along with the regular goose season. The two bird daily limit on geese this year is troublesome, but it is what it is. The early Canada goose season closes September 22. The youth waterfowl hunt opens September 13 and October 7. Early waterfowl season for active military and veterans is scheduled to be September 23 and 29. Always check your hunting abstracts before hunting any wild game.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep them Rods Bending!

OBITUARIES

Bonita "Bonnie" Breau, 78



Upton ~ Bonita "Bonnie" (Borghesi) Breau, 78, formerly of Sturbridge, died Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at the Webster Manor Healthcare Facility in Webster, after a long illness.

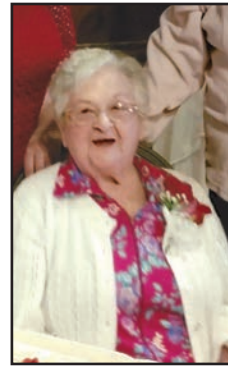
Bonnie's husband, Edmund Breau, died August 14, 2011. She is survived by her son, Steve Robert Blackmer and his wife, Lisa, of Sandwich, MA; her daughters: Allison "Allie" Silvestri and her husband, Ed Lorange, of Sturbridge; Darcy Costa and her husband, Todd, of Dudley; and Rebecca Marcinek and her husband, Greg, of Upton; a stepson, Ed J. Breau and his wife, Lori, of Dudley; 2 brothers: Thomas Borghesi and his wife, Joanne, of Old Saybrook, CT, and Steve Borghesi and his wife, Renee, of Florida; 7 grandchildren: Joshua (Ariana) Proulx, Aaron Proulx, Lachell Silvestri, Meghan Blackmer, Nicole Blackmer, Ryan (Kaleigh) Costa, and Emily Costa; and step-grandchildren: Ed, Nicky, Melissa, Chelsea, and Isaah.

Born in Jersey City, NJ, on Febru-

ary 6, 1945, Bonnie is the daughter of the late Boris and Doris Evelyn (Elliott) Borghesi. She was a graduate of Southbridge High School with the class of 1963. She drove school buses for the town of Sturbridge for many years, a "job" that she really loved. Among her many hobbies and interests, Bonnie enjoyed gardening, cooking, and baking; She especially liked making cookies. She also loved lighthouses, photography, and quilting. She was an accomplished artist and enjoyed painting. She and Ed enjoyed the many trips they traveled together.

Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge is handling Bonnie's funeral arrangements. Burial will be in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Oak Ridge St., Southbridge, on Monday, September 18, 2023, with a graveside prayer service at 12:30PM. Please meet directly at the cemetery. There are no calling hours. A celebration of life for Bonnie will immediately follow the graveside service at Point Breeze, 114 Point Breeze Road, Webster, MA. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you kindly consider making a memorial donation in Bonnie's name to the Webster Manor Healthcare Facility, 745 School Street, Webster, MA 01570. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Therese R. Fournier, 95



Southbridge... Therese R. (Vallee) Fournier, 95 died Thursday, September 7, 2023, at Southbridge Rehab & Health Care Center. Her husband of nearly 62 years was the late Armand E. Fournier who

died May 11, 2012.

She was born in Southbridge, January 20, 1928, daughter of the late Osias and Laura D. (Fournier) Vallee. She was a lifelong member of Notre Dame Church of St. John Paul II Parish. Mrs. Fournier was a retired office secretary and a former Nurse's Aide at Southbridge Rehab & Health Care Center (Radius Health Care) for many years, prior to retirement.

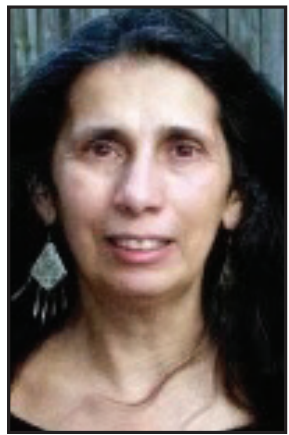
She leaves her son Ronald Fournier and his wife Eve of Lawton, OK, and 3 daughters Louise Leighton of Taylorsville, NC, Linda Julien of Spencer, and Faye Hunnewell of Leesburg, FL, 15 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren. She also leaves her 2 brothers George Vallee of Southbridge, and Norman Vallee

and his wife Sue of Southbridge, her daughter-in-law Ann Fournier of Southbridge, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her daughter Patricia Fournier (2020), and 3 sons: Charles Fournier (2017), Michael Fournier (2008), and Gerald J. Fournier (2014), her brothers Raymond Vallee, Roger Vallee and her sisters Pauline Fournier, and Jacqueline Cody.

Mrs. Fournier enjoyed crocheting, knitting, and loved spending time with family and friends.

The funeral will be Friday, September 15, 2023, from Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, with a Mass at 10:30AM at Notre Dame Church, (of St. John Paul II Parish), 446 Main Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. A calling hour at the funeral home will be held prior to the Mass from 9:15-10:15am. Burial will follow at New Notre Dame Cemetery, 746 N. Woodstock Road, Southbridge. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you kindly consider making a memorial donation to either St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38501, or St. John Paul II Parish, 279 Hamilton Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Harriet Trianthe Xanthakos



Harriet Trianthe Xanthakos died on August 25, 2023. She was born on April 29, 1944 in Southbridge, Massachusetts to James and Mary (Mitsakos) Xanthakos.

Harriet was predeceased by her sister Jeanne X. Kasperson in 2002, and her daughter Sara Simmons in 2016. She is survived by her daughter Rebecca Simmons (Mike) and grandson David Frey; her siblings, Helen Xanthakos of Southbridge, Harry Xanthakos of NYC, Christine Xanthakos (James R.) Scrimgeour of West Hartford, CT, Kay Sunday Xanthakos (Bruce Southworth) of NYC, and Stella Xanthakos (Michael Malkovich) of Holyoke, MA; nieces and nephews Demetri Kasper-

son, Kyra Litschauer, J.D. Scrimgeour, Xanthi Scrimgeour, Jamie Scrimgeour, J. Michael X. Southworth, Kayla Z. X. Southworth, Nicholas X. Malkovich, Mikal X. Malkovich, Anna Proctor, Barb Simmons-Telford, Charlie Simmons, Janet Rowe, Andrew Shawyer, Anna Shawyer, Susanne Shawyer, and Lindsay Fawcett.

Harriet was Vice President of the 1962 graduating class from Southbridge High School. She attended Boston University, and Ryerson University

in Toronto, Canada, where she studied photography.

She was a dedicated mother with many creative interests – batik, patchwork, pottery, photography – which she explored professionally before she found her calling as a Storyteller in Toronto. She was a Unitarian Universalist lay chaplain for several years, and was part of many dedications, weddings, and celebrations of life. She presented stories and workshops at libraries, festivals, and conferences from New-

foundland to the Yukon. She worked with new parents and English as a Second Language students, won first prize in a Toronto photography contest in 1987, and traveled to Vienna as a delegate to a United Nations conference related to women's rights. A short story about her childhood in Southbridge was published in "Chicken Soup for the Parent's Soul." She knew folktales from more than thirty countries and was part of the Toronto Public Library's Dial-A-Story program.

Harriet was returned to the earth in a green burial on August 31, 2023, at Royal Oak Burial Park in Victoria, BC. A tree will be planted in the fall.

Please consider making a donation to the Huronia Land Conservancy or another organization devoted to preserving wild places.

Condolences may be mailed to the Xanthakos Family, 65 Charlton Street, Apartment 1, Southbridge, MA 01550, or shared at www.McCallGardens.com.

LEGALS

Town of Sturbridge Board of Selectmen Public Hearing

The Town of Sturbridge Board of Selectmen in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 148, Section 13, hereby give notice that a public hearing will be held on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6:35 p.m. for the application of The Town of Sturbridge for an amended license for gas tanks with flammable materials located at 1 New Boston Road Extension, Sturbridge, MA 01566. The public hearing will take place at the Town Hall, 2nd floor, Veteran's Memorial Hall located at 308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566. September 15, 2023

Town of Brimfield Conservation Commission Public Hearing Notice

In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday September 27, 2023, at 7:00 PM to review a Notice of Intent submitted by Katarina Muska. The Notice of Intent is requesting to demolish an existing garage and build a new garage in the same location.

Project Location: 49 John Haley Road, Brimfield, MA (Assessor's Map 8-C-5)

Meeting Location: Public Participation will be In-Person at the Town Hall at 21 Main Street in Brimfield, MA 01010 on September 13, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

Any person(s) interested or wishing

to be heard on this request should appear at the time and place designated. A copy of the permit application and plan may be inspected at the Brimfield Town Annex in the Conservation Commission Office, Salisbury Annex Building, 2nd Floor, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or contact the office at 413-245-4100 ext. 1101.

Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia Co-Chairs
05/22/2023
CC: Board of Health Planning Board
September 15, 2023

BOROUGH of DANIELSON DANIELSON FIRE STATION- SECOND FLOOR HVAC UPGRADES INVITATION TO BID

The Borough of Danielson will receive sealed bids in triplicate on or before **4:00 p.m. EST., Wednesday, October 11, 2023** at the Office of the Killingly Town Manager, 172 Main Street, Danielson, CT 06239. Said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 4:30 p.m. at the Danielson Fire Station, 47 Academy Street, 2nd Floor, Danielson, CT 06239. Bids received after the posted cutoff date and time will not be accepted or opened. Bidders may be present at the opening of bids.

Bids will be received for furnishing all labor, materials, tools and equipment necessary to complete the SECOND FLOOR HVAC upgrades of the Danielson Fire Station, 47 Academy Street, Danielson, CT 06239. The

contract will include HVAC upgrades and the addition of an Air Conditioning system on the second floor of the building, including all related electrical and mechanical work associated and all other work necessary for or incidental to completion of the project. The successful bidder will have until **April 11, 2024** to complete the project, subject to equipment availability.

All bidders will be required to submit a security deposit in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base bid, (Bid Bond or Certified Check made payable to the Borough of Danielson) which must accompany their bid. A 100% Performance, Labor and Material Bond is also required. All sureties must be listed on the most recent IRS circular 570. Attention of bidders is directed to certain requirements of this contract which require payment of CT Department of Labor Prevailing Wage Rates.

The successful bidder along with the subcontractors shall make a good faith effort, to the greatest extent feasible, that they employ, and contract small and minority contractors as defined by the State of Connecticut with regards to small and minority business enterprises. In compliance with the State of Connecticut regulations, the bidder must be an affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women's business Enterprises are encouraged to apply. The Borough of Danielson is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

All bidders are required to attend a pre-bid walk-through to be held on

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the Danielson Fire Station, 47 Academy Street, 2nd Floor, Danielson, CT 06239.

Contractors may obtain copies of the Plans and Specifications on the Borough of Danielson website at <https://www.boroughofdanielson.org/rfps> or by email to duchesneau.b@boroughofdanielson.org

The Borough of Danielson reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in bidding, when such action is deemed to be in the best interest of the Borough of Danielson and Danielson Fire Station. All Bid Documents must be completely filled in when submitted. Any incomplete bids will be disqualified. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of bids, without the consent of the Borough of Danielson.

Partial funding for this project is provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and is administered by the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management. Additional funds from the Borough of Danielson will be utilized to ensure completion of the project.

For further information, please contact Lucian Dragulski, Bemis Associates LLC at 860 667-3233 x 113.

Dated: September 8, 2023
Brenda Duchesneau, Administrator
Borough of Danielson
September 14, 2023
September 15, 2023

LOCAL FOLKS

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LEGALS

CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on September 27, 2023, at 7PM on the application of Amanda McDermott

The applicant has filed for a Request for Determination of Applicability for the removal and replacement of an existing shed, walkway, driveway and stairs within 40ft of Resource Area. The project location is: 85 Lakeview Drive, Charlton, MA 01507

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjIMZGhUGRn.YzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09>

Copies of the RDA may be examined electronically by visiting this Website: <https://www.townofcharlton.net/262/Conservation-Commission>

Thomas O'Malley
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commission
September 14, 2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Maria Zikos to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, dated September 20, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41841, Page 287, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated March 21, 2018, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58690, Page 57, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation to Green Tree Servicing LLC, recorded on May 25, 2011, in Book No. 47424, at Page 351

Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green Tree Servicing LLC to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on December 31, 2019, in Book No. 61686, at Page 374

NewRez LLC f/k/a New Penn Financial LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc., recorded on January 25, 2022, in Book No. 67000, at Page 136

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on October 2, 2023, on the mortgaged premises located at 60 Bruce Lane, Southbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:

The land with the buildings thereon located in Southbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, situated on the northwesterly side of Bruce Lane and the easterly side of High Street, being Lot 58 on proposed plan and profile of Bruce Lane by H. A. Racicot, P.E. and L.S. dated October 24, 1966, and filed with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 307, Plan 54, bounded as follows:

NORTHERLY by Lot 56 on said plan 74.75 feet and by Lot 55 on said plan 105.95 feet;

SOUTHEASTERLY by Bruce Lane, 150 feet;

SOUTHERLY by Lot 59 on said plan, 142.86 feet;

WESTERLY by High Street in two courses 77.90 feet and 72.10 feet.

For mortgagor's(s)' title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds

in Book 36525, Page 51.

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

TERMS OF SALE:

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

DLJ MORTGAGE CAPITAL, INC
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
23728
September 7, 2023
September 14, 2023
September 21, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO23P3099EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:**

Mae Dawn Suminski
Also known as: Mae D. Suminski
Date of Death: 08/09/2023

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Dona Mae Nashawaty of Sutton MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

Dona Mae Nashawaty of Sutton MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised** administration

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before:
10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/10/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,

First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 05, 2023
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
September 14, 2023

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeannette S. Curboy to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., dated January 4, 2007 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40484, Page 344 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Mortgage Assets Management, LLC is the present holder by Assignment from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC D/B/A Champion Mortgage Company dated October 3, 2017 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 57834, Page 292, and Assignment from Nationstar Mortgage LLC D/B/A Champion Mortgage Company to Mortgage Assets Management, LLC, its successors and assigns dated October 20, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 68377, Page 85, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 108 Mashapaug Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on September 22, 2023, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Sturbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, situated on the northeasterly side of the 1961 relocation of Mashapaug Road, Bounded as follows: Beginning at a Worcester County Highway Bound In the ground on the northeasterly side line of the 1961 Worcester County relocation of Mashapaug Road, said being opposite station 96 72.29 on said relocation plan; Thence westerly and northerly on a curve along the north-easterly side line of Mashapaug Road., said curve having a radius of 1160 feet for a distance of 350.30 feet to an Iron pipe in the ground;

Thence N. 40 degrees 00' E. along land of grantor, 372.8 feet to an Iron pipe in the ground on the north-easterly side line of an old Coach Road;

Thence south-easterly along the north-easterly side of said Coach Road., about 381 feet to an iron pipe in the ground;

Thence S. 30 degrees 38' W. along other land of Grantor 420.0 feet to an iron pipe in the ground on the north-easterly side line of Mashapaug Road; Thence N. 54 degrees 56' 35" W. along the north-easterly side line of Mashapaug Road, 96.1 feet to the Worcester County Bound in the ground at the point of beginning. Excepting therefrom Lot 1A as shown on Plan dated December 7, 1990 and recorded in said Registry in Plan Book 644, page 1. Subject to all rights, restrictions, reservations, and easements of record insofar as the same are in forced and applicable.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 12072, Page 305.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford

Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Mortgage Assets Management, LLC
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Curboy, Jeannette S., 23-042583
August 31, 2023
September 7, 2023
September 14, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 166, §22F notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the Town Manager on October 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in the George Parent Meeting Room, second floor of the Town Hall, 41 Elm Street, in regards to a petition filed by National Grid for the following Order for JO Pole relocation:
Fairlawn Ave:

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc., requests permission to locate poles, wires and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures along and across the following public way: Fairlawn Ave. – National Grid to install 1 JO Pole on Fairlawn Ave. beginning at a point approximately 530 feet west of the centerline of the intersection of Charlton St. and continuing approximately 20 feet in a north direction. Install pole on Fairlawn Ave. roughly 50 feet northwest of existing Pole #4 across the street to service 43 Fairlawn Ave. Anyone wishing to be heard regarding this petition will be given the opportunity to speak.

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
Jack Jovan, Town Manager
September 14, 2023

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket 23 SM 003332
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
Brian F. Haggerty aka Brian Haggerty and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Owner Trustee of OSAT Trust 2021-1

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Southbridge, numbered 406 Main Street, given by Brian F. Haggerty to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated October 13, 2005, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 37560, Page 314, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before October 16, 2023, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on August 31, 2023.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
22-004210
September 14, 2023

**DID YOU KNOW PARKING OVER TALL,
DRY GRASS CAN SPARK A WILDFIRE?
SPARK A CHANGE, NOT A WILDFIRE.**



ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES
SMOKEYBEAR.COM



ARTWORK MADE OF WILDFIRE ASHES



Ruth Wells Center for the Arts to hold tag sale

The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts, 111 Main St. in Southbridge, is holding a tag sale on the spacious front lawn, from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, Sept 16. There will be an assortment of collectibles, clothes, records and other treasures. Also on Saturday, the galleries will be open with the members exhibit featured. This show includes paintings, photos, prints, fabric art and sculpture- all created by local artists. All are welcome- there is no admission fee. Not far from the Ruth Wells Center is the town common, which will host the Autumn Fest-the Southbridge Business Partnership event. Join us for an exciting day in Southbridge- outdoor tag sale and inside gallery show at 111 Main St- then on to the Southbridge Common for more fun.

JOSHUA HYDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please join the library for the Armchair Travelers Book Group Kick-off event on Wednesday, September 20 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm.

A Perky Pairing: Coffee and Chocolate

In this fun, educational workshop, participants will hear about the health benefits of both dark chocolate and coffee, and where they come from. Decaf coffee (provided) with be paired with different chocolate varieties throughout the class. Each person will receive a coffee-chocolate tasting wheel to help throughout the tasting. The interesting history of both coffee and chocolate and its pioneers will be discussed. How the cacao bean and the coffee bean transform into chocolate and coffee respectively is also highlighted, as well as, exploring a variety of brewing methods. Finally, there will be a discussion of coffee's timeline, how coffee is "taken" around the globe, the very first Baristas and much more.

The presenter, Kim Larkin, has been teaching creative workshops for over 20 years and her passion is sharing her experience with others. She is a licensed commercial Chocolatier and a NAHA (National Association of Holistic Aromatherapy) certified Aromatherapist. Kim is also certified by the Specialty Coffee Association in Coffee Foundations and is a lifelong Tea Aficionado. She believes healing teas and coffee are truly "aromatherapy in a cup"!

The Monk of Mokha

After the coffee and chocolate presentation, there will be a brief discussion of author Dave Eggers book The Monk of Mokha. This book is the incredible true story of a young Yemeni American man. Mokhtar Alkhanshali is twenty-four and working as a doorman when he discovers the astonishing history of coffee and Yemen's central place in it. He leaves San Francisco and travels deep into his ancestral homeland to tour terraced farms high in the country's rugged mountains and meet beleaguered but determined farmers. But when war engulfs the country and Saudi bombs rain down, Mokhtar has to find a way out of Yemen without sacrificing his dreams or abandoning his people.

Books are available in multiple formats at the library. Registration is required. To register, you can stop by the library or go to sturbridgelibrary.org. You can also call us at 508-347-2512. Sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL.

Sturbridge Historical Society presents a tour of the Historic Sturbridge Common Sept. 21

The Town Common has been a central part of Sturbridge since the Town's incorporation in 1738. This walk, set for Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10 a.m., will explore the history of the Common through its built environment. Meet at the Gazebo on the Common. Rain cancels. To register, call or text (508) 864-6319.

Local residents to participate in Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

Six residents from Sturbridge, eight from Charlton and one from Southbridge will participate in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai on Sunday, October 1.

Christine DiGregorio, Donna Monico, Joseph Lombardi, Tina Young, Marie Conant, and David Darrin of Sturbridge, as well as Emily Clifford, Deb Fabrizio, Susan Tarasiak, Carolyn Olson, Jamie Zeveska, John Tarasiak, Bobbi-Jo Smith, and Jennifer Sizelove of Charlton, and Britany Houatchanthara of Southbridge, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022.

"Throughout the past 34 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported life-saving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer," said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Jimmy Fund Walk. "This year also marks the 35th annual Jimmy Fund Walk. We are eager to

get out on the course and see all our outstanding walkers and teams come together to support this great cause."

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Longwood Medical Campus), 10K walk (from Newton), Half Marathon walk (from Wellesley), and Marathon walk (from Hopkinton).

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients – Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes – displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration. All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric. Due to construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023. Walkers should know that distances may be slightly shorter as we finish the walk in front of Fenway Park. The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities. Participants can also join the event virtually by

"walking their way" from wherever they are most comfortable—in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Materials to support Virtual Walkers are available.

To register to walk or volunteer (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

About the Jimmy Fund
The Jimmy Fund, celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2023, is comprised of community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children's Charity of New England. Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide. Follow the Jimmy Fund on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @TheJimmyFund.

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts to welcome hundreds to annual Geek Is Glam

WORCESTER — Hundreds of middle school girls and dozens of high school girls will convene at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) October 14, 2023 to celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts Geek Is Glam (GIG) STEM Event and it's not too late to participate.

The day-long interactive STEM conference for girls in grades 4 through 12 is hosted by Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) and WPI with over 60 area education and adventure collaborators. Participants will be exposed to some of the area's top scientific and engineering minds as they engage in the hands-on aspect of ex-

ploration and discovery while they build, explore, assemble and imagine. The day kicks off at 9 AM with Keynote speakers Dasha Ramos-Ortiz, WPI freshman and five-time Geek Is Glam participant and Ms. Massachusetts 2023 Chelsea Vuong.

Participants will spend the day in interactive workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on exhibits presented by: Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, The Discovery Museums, New England Sci-Tech, UMAss Amherst Polymer Science and Engineering, WCVB Channel 5 Boston, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, and New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, to name a few. From Mystic Aquarium to Morse

Code, from rainbows to robots, girls will be engaged in interactive activities, games and displays.

For more information and to register go to <https://www.gscwm.org/en/discover/activities/special-events.html> or call 413-584-2602. The fee is \$45 per girl in grades 4-8 and \$50 per girl in grades 9-12 and includes lunch, snacks, a Geek is Glam t-shirt, drawing backpack, and an exclusive Geek is Glam patch. Financial assistance is available. No previous Girl Scout experience necessary to attend.

Registration closes September 18.

For a Full List of Activities visit <http://www.gscwm.org/en/events/special-events/geek.html>

About Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves over 5,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of 3,000 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. Girl Scouts' mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Since 1912, girls have explored new fields of knowledge, learned valuable skills, and developed strong core values through Girl Scouts. Today, Girl Scouts is, as it always has been, the organization best positioned to help girls develop important leadership skills they need to become successful adults.

Southbridge's Maldonado, Charlton's Trainor named to SNHU Dean's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Karla Maldonado of Southbridge and Erin Trainor of Charlton have been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Summer 2023 Dean's List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)

is a private, nonprofit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.



Harrington Auxiliary Car Show draws hundreds



Courtesy photos



Courtesy photos



Courtesy photos

People's Choice Award

First Place Open Class



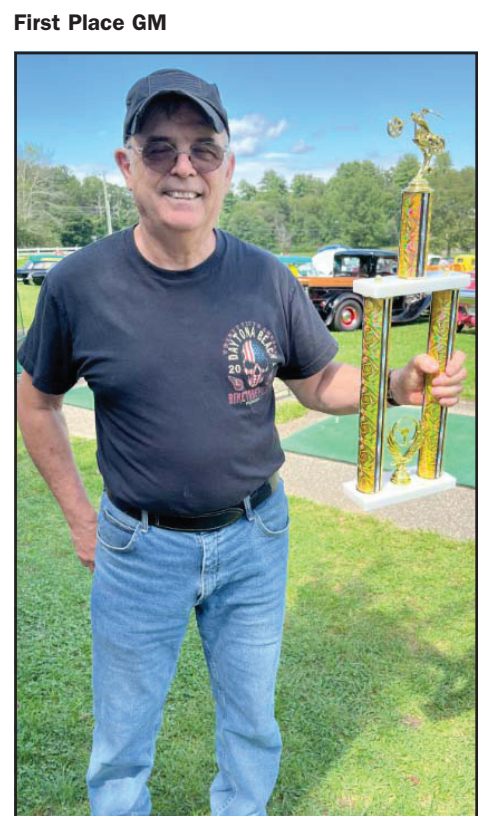
Courtesy photos



Courtesy photos

First Place Ford

Best Truck Award



Courtesy photos

Best In Show Motorcycle

A beautiful summer day Sunday, August 27, drew a crowd of 115 vintage, classic and otherwise unique vehicle owners to the Harrington Auxiliary's 14th annual Car and Motorcycle Show at Bogy's Ice Cream Stand/Thompson Speedway

in Thompson, CT.

The judges awarded trophies in several categories. The People's Choice award was given to Jeff Bradway of Brimfield, MA and his 1965 Maroon Pontiac GTO.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD

Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
St. Mary's Church
4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
Distribution: Wednesday 9 AM-11 AM:
Saturday 9AM-11AM

CHARLTON

Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

LEICESTER

Leicester Food Pantry
St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD

St. Joseph's Food Pantry
296 No. Main St, North Brookfield, MA 01535
Distribution: First Thursday 5 PM-6:30 PM:
Third Thursday 12 PM-1:15 PM

SOUTHBRIDGE

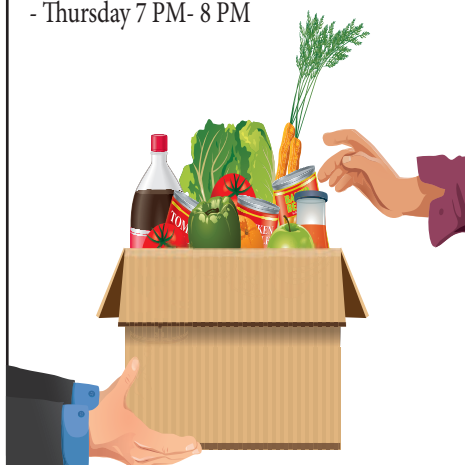
Saint John Paul II Food Pantry
Saint Vincent de Paul
279 Hamilton St, Southbridge, MA 01550
Distribution: Tuesday 3 PM-5 PM, Wednesday 9 AM - 11 AM

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY

Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562
Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

WEST BROOKFIELD

Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
First Congregational Church
36 North Main Street,
W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM
- Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM



Sturbridge Cultural Council accepting grant proposals until October 17

Sturbridge Cultural Council is seeking proposals to fund cultural programming for a variety of ages and interests throughout the year, including music and dance performances, visual arts exhibits and workshops, and school-based events. Organizations, schools, and individuals may apply for grants that support cultural activities in

the community. Proposals are due by October 17. To find out more and/or apply, visit: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/Sturbridge/>. For more information on the application process visit: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/application-pro->

cess/. If you have any questions about the application process or are interested in learning more about the Sturbridge Cultural Council, please contact sturbridgeculturalcouncil@gmail.com. The Council was pleased to offer many in-person events last year and looks forward to offering innovative program-

ming in 2024. The Sturbridge Cultural Council is a local branch of the Mass Cultural Council (MCC). MCC's Local Cultural Council program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences annually.

Phantoms by Firelight, a Halloween experience, returns to Old Sturbridge Village

Phantoms by Firelight, a Halloween experience of epic and eerie proportions, returns to Old Sturbridge Village for 12 weekend nights of spooky entertainment, Friday through Sunday, October 6-29 from 4:30-9 p.m. As the sun sets at Old Sturbridge Village, guests are invited to explore the myths and folklore of Halloween while navigating the museum by night. Learn about the history of Halloween traditions, play games, find treats, and listen to ghost stories by the bonfire. Plus, be entertained by the spectacle of aerial performers, fire breathers, and acrobats as they take over the Village with their vampire-like ways. Visitors of all ages are encouraged to show

up in costume and show off their Halloween best. For 2023 there will be four completely new acts added to each nightly show. Halloween fun for all ages includes: **Cyrkus Vampyr:** Traveling performers take over the entire Village landscape with their feats of fire-defying dare. Whisperings of fire throwers, acrobatics, aerial dancers, and dark magicians have been heard about the town. Enjoy the captivating performances appearing from all corners of the Village. **Clues & Candy:** The Villages version of trick-or-treat! Collect all the stamps at various locations in the Village to reveal a finished image or travel around and answer all the riddles and

collect a bag of candy and treats at the end. **Spooky Stories at the Bonfire:** Join us for family-friendly, spooky stories around the bonfire on the Village Common. **Haunted History:** Learn about funeral traditions in the 1830s. Attend a wake, see coffin-making in the Cabin-making shop, and see examples of mourning jewelry and hairstyles. Learn about the history of jack-o'-lanterns and other-worldly spirits, plus creepy cures for diseases. **Grab a bite:** When you are hungry or thirsty, stop in the Bullard Tavern or the Ox & Yoke Café and enjoy a spooktacular menu created just for Phantoms by Firelight.

SNHU Announces Summer 2023 President's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Summer 2023 President's List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Marysol Cruz of Southbridge
Amanda Alicea Aviles of Southbridge

Gregory Swift of Charlton City
Lucas Lanier of Charlton
Allison Menard of Charlton
Karyssa Thompson of Charlton

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

SPORTS

Two goals per half help Bay Path defeat Indians in season opener

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — Two goals scored in each half, including a hat trick by Ryan Bray, was enough to propel the Bay Path boys' soccer team past Bartlett, 4-0, in the season opener for both on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Bray scored both goals in the first half and, after Trent Szela made it a 3-0 game early in the second half, Bray finished the scoring in the 77th minute.

David Martinson, head coach of the Minutemen, will be able to rely on Bray and Szela, both senior co-captains along with senior Shaun McLaughlin and junior Bryce Hutchinson, for their explosive play in the middle of the field.

"They're very strong," Martinson said of Bray and Szela. "They can control the game for me. Just being seniors and taking it on their shoulders. With the seven or eight seniors that we lost last year, they're stepping into that leadership role."

A majority of the seniors lost included a good chunk of the defensive unit, so Martinson was pleased to see the Minutemen pitch a shutout with new players stepping up.

"Good way to start. Coming back, I lost the majority of my defense. Trying different defenders in this first game was helpful. They kept it simple," said Martinson.

Keeper Cayden Young is a first-year starter, and he made 10 saves for the clean sheet.

Bay Path notched the game's first goal in the 26th minute when Dominic Paldino unleashed a shot toward Bartlett's goal. There, keeper Kole Sebastianski got his right hand on the ball, but Bray followed up the rebound and deposited his shot into the net.

Then, nearing the end of the first half, the Indians' Adrian Tetzner nearly knotted the equalizer, but his shot was turned aside by Young, who dove to his right to make the save.

The Minutemen then made it a 2-0 game just before halftime when Szela sent a nice pass in toward Bray, who received the ball and ultimately scored.

Szela then opened the second half with his goal, a perfectly placed shot from distance. Bray then got in tight for the final goal with mere minutes remaining.

Martinson, now in his 20th season at Bay Path, has seen his Minutemen qualify for postseason play in 16 of his previous 19 years. He, along with longtime assistant Robin Cotrona, hopes for Bay Path to do the same in 2023.

"That's our goal again. We have Districts and States again this year, as well as the Vocational Tournament that we want to get into," Martinson said.

Martinson is pleased with the direction the program is taking, which includes the numbers on the junior varsity team.

"We're fortunate that we a lot of freshmen come in, so our JV program we have a lot of players. Getting some depth there is going to be helpful with all of these guys leaving," Martinson said of his seven current seniors.

Bartlett, meanwhile, is under a new regime, with



Bay Path's Willis Perrault intercepts a Bartlett ball kicked down the field.

Dan Bengtson taking over for longtime head coach Ryan Renauld. Bobby Phillips and Keith Sebastianski are Bengtson's assistants.

"We don't have the numbers right now, so we're trying to get the guys who are here to work hard and push as long as they can until they need to come out," said Bengtson, which he believed did happen against Bay Path. "Even as the game went on, as they got tired, some kids that started off slow started working harder."

Bengtson was pleased with Sebastianski's play and his 25 saves.

"Cayden for the other team has been playing goalie for years. This is Kole's third, so I think he's got great instincts," said Bengtson. "Maybe he made a bad read here or there, but overall I think he has great instincts and knows when to attack it, (and) he has great communication."

Bengtson is adding boys' varsity soccer head coach as one of his many hats, as he also coaches the middle school boys' basketball team in the winter and the boys' tennis squad in the spring.



Braeden Lapointe of Bay Path controls the ball in the open field.



Bay Path's Trent Szela slides in to gain possession of the ball.

High School Notebook

Thursday, Sept. 7

Tantasqua 167, Millbury 197 — Opening its season at Pakachoag in Auburn, the Warriors defeated the Woolies in golf by a combined 30 strokes. Medalist honors went to Tantasqua's Sam Pieczynski, who carded a 3-over par 39.

Marlborough 28, Tantasqua 21 — A fourth quarter rally enabled the Panthers to defeat the Warriors in a season opening football contest. Tantasqua quarterback Adam Howe was 17 of 24 passing for 249 yards and a pair of scores, while Howe added another 100 yards on the ground.

Grafton 166, Tantasqua 169 — The Warriors' golf team hosted the Gators at Hemlock Ridge. There, Grafton outplayed Tantasqua in a very close match, winning by three combined strokes. CJ Chagnon (Grafton) and Sam Pieczynski (Tantasqua) shared medalist honors with 3-over par 39s. The Gators are 6-0, the Warriors 1-1.

Saturday, Sept. 9

Monday, Sept. 11

Annual Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic raises \$15,750 for Why Me and Sherry's House



WORCESTER — To launch Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September, the second annual Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic, presented by Country Bank at Polar Park on Sunday, August 27, raised \$15,750 for Why Me & Sherry's House, a Worcester nonprofit that provides resources and support to children battling cancer and their families.

The Worcester Police Officers defeated the Worcester Firefighters 14-3 in nine innings.

As the home team, the Worcester Fire Department selected Why Me & Sherry's House to benefit from this year's event in honor of retired Fire Captain Mark Wyco, who lost his daughter Bridget to childhood cancer in 1996.

After the game, the Worcester Red Sox and Country Bank presented the check for \$15,750 to Rebecca Kuczarski, the Executive Director of Why Me & Sherry's House.

They also presented the 2023 Paul Scully Most Valuable Player Award to Officer Ty Sterner, a southpaw who allowed just two hits and one run in six innings pitched. The Worcester native, who has served in the Worcester Police Department for two years, was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the 23rd round of the 2014 Major League Baseball June Amateur Draft from the University of Rhode Island. However, a pair of Tommy John surgeries cut his professional baseball career short.

As the M.V.P., Officer Sterner won a Country Bank jersey, four V.I.P. tickets to a future WooSox game—at which he will be honored



with the opportunity to throw a Ceremonial First Pitch—and a gift card to The Mercantile Restaurant.

"There was an extraordinary feeling at this year's event," said Dr. Charles A. Steinberg, President of the Worcester Red Sox and the WooSox Foundation. "Our first responders are the heart and soul of Worcester, and we believe this friendly but competitive game will continue to grow into a civic treasure. We thank our friends and founding partners at Country Bank for collaborating with us yet again on what has become one of the most fun—and impactful—events of the year."

"Country Bank is honored to partner with the Worcester Red Sox Foundation in presenting the Police vs. Fire game," said Paul Scully, President and CEO of Country Bank. "We

have been a longtime supporter of the Police and Fire Departments across the many markets we serve. The critical work these departments do each and every day truly makes a difference for our communities. It is also our privilege to support Why Me Sherry's House with this year's donation to assist them in the great work they do for Childhood Cancer."

At the inaugural game September 26, 2022, \$15,680 was raised for the Manny 267 Foundation, which honors and celebrates the life of the late Worcester Police Officer Enmanuel "Manny" Familia, who made the ultimate sacrifice June 4, 2021, when he heroically dove into Green Hill Pond to attempt to save a drowning teenage boy.

In its first two years, the event raised \$31,430 for local causes that hit home for Worcester's first responders.

Country Bank is one of the WooSox' 21 founding partners. The WooSox Foundation and Country Bank also collaborate on the "Most Valuable Teachers" (MVTs) program, which recognizes extraordinary teachers in the region, as well as the "WooStars" program, which rewards nonprofits driving social change across Central Massachusetts.

So far in 2023, the WooSox Foundation has donated \$88,760 toward the effort to conquer cancer.

SPORTS

Warriors open season strong, top hard working Leicester squad

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

LEICESTER — Season openers in high school varsity soccer can oftentimes produce sloppy play. Passes may be off the mark, collecting those passes may be missed and communication may be less than proficient. But, for Tantasqua Regional's girls' squad, it appeared as if the Warriors had been playing all summer when they took on Leicester High on Friday, Sept. 8.

"Coming along well for game one," said Tantasqua head coach Matthew Rickson instead of the alternative, which he called a "nightmare."

The Warriors controlled play in the first half and, after a strong period of second half action from the Wolverines, they regrouped and finished off a 3-0 decision.

"We moved the ball well, and we were able to put the ball in the back of the net. Usually, game one is a real tough time finding frame and causing unforced turnovers. As always, you're going to have those, but they did well moving the ball and did well spreading out," explained Rickson.

Tantasqua got on the scoreboard in the game's 27th minute, when Lilina Shiers' shot was turned aside by keeper Jill Rodrique. That resulted in a corner kick, and Eleanor Colati serviced the ball into Eleanor Leland, whose shot got past Rodrique.

Leicester hardly pressured the Warriors' net in the first half, as keeper Elizabeth Thompson was faced with just one shot as Tantasqua led 1-0 at the break.

"The second half started much better," said Joe Mercier, head coach of the Wolverines. "We made the corrections at halftime. The girls really took ownership of what they needed to focus on and accomplish in the second half, which is play the way that we want to play."

Leicester peppered the Warriors' net to the tune of four shots in the second half, but all were turned aside by Grace St. Laurent, who took over for Thompson in the final 40-minute stanza. The Wolverines' best chance came when St. Laurent dove to her left to stop a shot by Abby Baker. The rebound rolled out and Tantasqua defender Nicki Vejck cleared the rebound.

"They were taking it to us, and we weren't getting past half," said Rickson.

But all that changed in the 56th minute when Kaydie O'Neil sent a pass over the Leicester defenders and to Shiers, who then slipped her shot by Rodrique.

"That is huge because that took the gas they had, all that drive," Rickson said of stopping the Wolverines' momentum. "But Leicester did very well that second half. They were just unlucky they couldn't get the ball in the back of the net."

The Warriors then put the game away with a goal in the 64th minute.



Tantasqua's Tess Chevalier boots the ball down the field.

Shiers nearly scored again, but Isabelle Alden followed up the rebound for her first varsity goal in her first varsity game.

Rickson noted that his team has everything from skilled upperclassmen to inexperienced underclassmen this season.

"I've got a young bench, got some ex-



Eve Van Wickler of Tantasqua collects a pass with her left foot.



Tantasqua's Lilina Shiers prepares to trap the incoming ball with her body.



From left, Tantasqua's Eleanor Colati and Leicester's Hannah Martin battle for the ball.

perience on the field, got some injuries in the pocket, so we've got to iron it all out and be moving forward," he said.

Leicester, meanwhile, never quit, a mantra that Mercier expects his squad to always attain.

"The second half urgency, playing wise, was much better. Their fitness is really in a good spot right now," he said. "This team will never stop working, and we'll never stop running."

"I'm super excited for the season," added Mercier. "We're definitely on the younger side and we have some great senior and junior leadership as well. We have 15 (games) to go and we're just going to go game-by-game."

Brookfield native Cipro excels on mound in North Carolina

PINEVILLE, N.C. — Brookfield native Spencer Cipro, who played his high school baseball at Tantasqua Regional and for the Sturbridge Post 109 American Legion team, helped lead his collegiate summer team to a championship. The Pineville Porcupines, based in a suburb of Charlotte, are a member of the Old North State League, a summer league for college players from around the country that plays its games across North Carolina. Managed by Chris Manriquez, the team finished the regular season with a 20-12 record and a bid at the league playoffs.

However, it wasn't an easy road to the tournament for the Porcupines as they got off to a rocky start, emphasized by a 13-inning one-run road loss in Marion on opening night. Midway through June, the Pineville squad picked up some much-needed momentum, going 7-3 to finish the month and were able to collect some important wins in heated contests against division rivals.

During this time the pitching staff rose to the occasion, affirmed by sending five pitchers to the league all-star game. Among them was Cipro, who produced for the Porcupines all summer long. The 6-foot-5, 225-pound right-hander finished the regular season 6-0 on eight starts with 55 innings pitched, 57 strikeouts, only 11 walks, and a 0.94 ERA. During the summer, Cipro also found a new college baseball home, transferring from local Assumption University to top-ranked contender Belmont Abbey College in Belmont, N.C. All-star catcher Jackson Hugus of Presbyterian College was impressive behind the plate and the two formed an electric duo in the regular season. However, Cipro's finest moments of



Spencer Cipro

the summer arrived during the playoff push.

When July arrived, the Porcupines had a decent record, but uncertain playoff chances. Manriquez inspired his team to go on a run, defy the odds, and make the playoffs. With three divisions in the league only the top two record-holders of each qualify for the tournament. Division leader Hendersonville sat atop the standings with a 22-9 record, so the Porcupines had to square off directly against rival Lexington who had a narrow lead for second in the standings. The Porcupines rattled off seven straight wins in the final weeks of the season, leading to a battle with Lexington to decide the final playoff spot. In a true pitchers' duel, Cipro took control, firing eight innings and taking the win while allowing only one run and one walk. This outcome was an exclamation point on an incredible un-

defeated streak by Pineville to close the regular season.

When the playoffs began, the Porcupine offense became just as much of a force as the pitching staff. In the opening contest against the Sanford Spinners, the Pineville bats plated an unbelievable 17 runs in a blowout that saw pitchers pinch-hitting in the late innings.

Next, the Porcupines faced off against the Brunswick Surfin' Turfs, owners of the best overall record in the league. Cipro got the ball with a chance to send Pineville to the championship series with a win. The game began with a bang for Brunswick though as they hit a surprising three-run home run off of Cipro in the first inning. Then, in a performance that Cipro said he is most proud of, the right-hander battled back and fired six shutout innings and struck out 10 against a league-best Brunswick offense. The game remained tied late into extra innings when the Porcupines surged ahead to take a heart-stopping 14-8 victory in an incredible comeback effort led by Hugus and shortstop AJ Anderson.

After the drama of the previous night, the Porcupines swept the Clayton Clovers to win the Old North State League championship series. On a road paved by clutch-hit comebacks and huge pitching performances, Pineville arrived at the championship and took care of business with statement win after statement win. For Spencer Cipro and the Porcupines, a fun rollercoaster summer of intense baseball ended with hoisting a trophy above Jack D. Hughes Park in Pineville, N.C. on a perfect summer night.

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Harrington Auxiliary to hold Lucky Duck and Family Fun Day Sept. 16

S O U T H - B R I D G E — Save the date! The Harrington Auxiliary will hold its 31st annual Lucky Duck and Family Fun Day, in conjunction with Southbridge Business Partnership's AutumnFest, on Saturday, September 16. The event takes place on the Southbridge Common beginning at 10 am. The Lucky Duck Pluck takes place at 2 pm.

Lucky Duck tickets will be available for purchase that day. One duck is \$5; a "6-quack" is \$25; a flock of 13 ducks is \$50. Awards include \$1,000, \$500, \$300, \$200, and \$100 for first, second, third, fourth and fifth prize, respectively. The drawing takes place at 2 pm; winners do not have to be present.

To purchase tickets now or for more information, please call the Hospital Volunteer office at 508-765-9771 ext. 6472.

The Auxiliary extends special thanks to our corporate sponsors for the Lucky Duck and

Family Fun Day: B & M Excavating, Dudley, MA; Bank Hometown, Oxford, MA; Cornerstone Bank, Southbridge, MA; Country Bank, Ware, MA; IPG Photonics Corporation, Oxford, MA.; Long Subaru, Webster, MA.; Savers Bank, Southbridge, MA; and SCHOTT North America, Inc., Southbridge, MA.

Thanks to all generous supporters of the Lucky Duck event, the Auxiliary has been able to provide much-needed equipment, programs, and support for UMass

Memorial Health Harrington. For example, the Auxiliary has conducted educational programs and projects that promote patient safety and has given new and/or updated equipment to several hospital departments.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 16, for the Harrington Auxiliary Lucky Duck and Family Fun Day.

The Harrington Auxiliary is proud to continue to fulfill its mission: "Neighbors Helping Neighbors Since 1932."

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director serving 11 years as PMC Volunteer

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director, Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN completed her 11th year as a volunteer for the Pan Mass Challenge (PMC, www.pmc.org) helping those who raise funds for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

In August 2012, Bolandrina, and her family, (all of Douglas), husband Joseph, daughter Lilly, and son Max, first volunteered for PMC.

"I was initially with the Medical tent," said Bolandrina, "because of my nursing background." The following year, she joined her children Lilly and Max under the big white tent as volunteers for the dessert table for all the riders. Joseph is a volunteer for bike parking. The following year, Gretheline became the signs and supplies coordinator at the Provincetown Inn finish line and eventually at the Monument Finish line at Provincetown, MA. To coordinate signs and supplies, she is in contact with all crew leaders 90, 60 and 30 days before the event and completes an onsite visit at PMC head quarters in Needham.

According to Gretheline, the Bolandrina family volunteers



Courtesy photo

Gretheline Bolandrina

for PMC because of family and close family friends who are cancer warriors or survivors. Close to their hearts is Rita Thorne of Acton. Thorne, a close family friend passed away early this year of a rare intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct cancer) and Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML). Thorne was a cancer warrior and inspiration to her many followers as she bravely shared her journey through Chemo. Gretheline said, "Ri-

ta's strength throughout her fight with cancer was incredible! She was a role model who showed us how to be graceful, philanthropic, kind, empathetic, confident and memorable. Rita was a pillar of the Filipino American community in New England and a dedicated volunteer for the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy."

About PMC: The Pan-Mass Challenge is a Massachusetts-based bike-a-thon that raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraising event in the country. Always held the first weekend in August, the PMC raises funds for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, a world leader in adult and pediatric cancer treatment and research. Each summer, thousands of riders and volunteers from 43 states and 12 countries participate in the PMC, all with a common goal: to find a cure for cancer. 100 percent of all rider-raised funds go directly to cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. The PMC is Dana-Farber's single largest supporter and is more than 60 percent of the Jimmy Fund's annual revenue. Since 1980, the PMC has raised \$900 million for Dana-Farber.

India Society of Worcester hosts first Asian Business Pitch Contest

The India Society of Worcester (ISW) is pleased to host the first ever Asian Business Pitch Contest in the MetroWest area on October 10, 2023, at the ISW India Center. Co-hosted with ElevAsian, a non-profit committed to uplifting Asian entrepreneurs, the contest is open to Asian owned or managed small business owners and home-based businesses. This is an opportunity for them to present their unique ideas, products, or services to a panel of seasoned judges, win prize money, and receive valuable advice on how to grow

your business. Contestants have a chance to win prizes from \$500 to \$1000 in two categories – established businesses and new ventures/ideas. The event is FREE and interested applicants can find more information and submit their application at the ISW Website.

ISW's Professional and Entrepreneurial Network (ISW PEN) hosts regular meetings focused on topics relevant to the professional and entrepreneurial community. "We are thrilled to be working with ElevAsian to provide this much needed service

to budding Asian businesses in the MetroWest area," said Puneet Kohli, President of ISW. "The Asian community is one of the fastest growing in the suburbs and is seeded with many entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs. We hope

this helps them accelerate their ideas to fruition." "We are excited about this partnership with ISW and look forward to supporting the entrepreneurs pitching," remarked Andrew Goldberg, Founder/CEO, ElevAsian.

"ElevAsian provides a safe space for Asian entrepreneurs to grow from an owner employee to an owner strategist, with the support of instructors, mentors, and peers who genuinely care about you and want to see you succeed."

FINANCIAL

continued from page 8

or goal — take an overseas trip, pay for a car or maybe even start on a path to entrepreneurship.

Making financial gifts to your grandchildren can be rewarding — for them and for you. So, consider the possibilities carefully and put your generosity to work.

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This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com

Friday's Child



Hi! My name is Yomiah, 13, and I love music!

Yomiah is a happy and inquisitive boy who is described by those who know him best as sweet and kind with a love of music. He sings a variety of songs, from B-I-N-G-O to Lady Gaga, and will often listen to musical toys by holding them up to his ears. Yomiah is an active child who likes to play independently, and will also engage with adults by reaching for their hands and sitting in their laps.

Yomiah receives supportive services to assist him in all areas of development. He communicates using a combination of words, signs, and augmentative communication and is also working with tactile symbols and Braille. Yomiah benefits from individualized attention and support within a predictable and stable routine. He often sings specific songs to specific people, showing awareness and familiarity with them.

Yomiah will be best supported by a family who has a medical background, or a willingness to learn, and who is prepared to support and advocate for him throughout his life. Caregivers who are patient, nurturing, affectionate and strong advocates would be the best match for him.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/5871>

Yomiah
Age 13

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The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org. Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.

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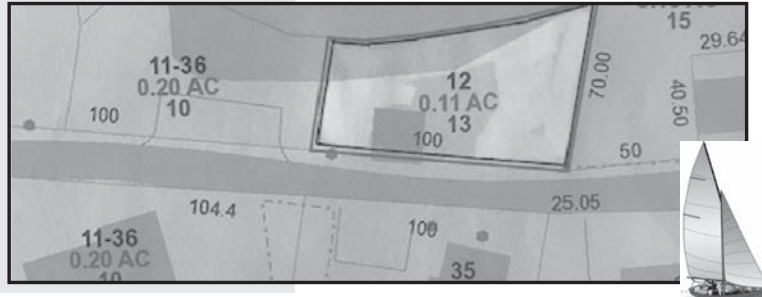


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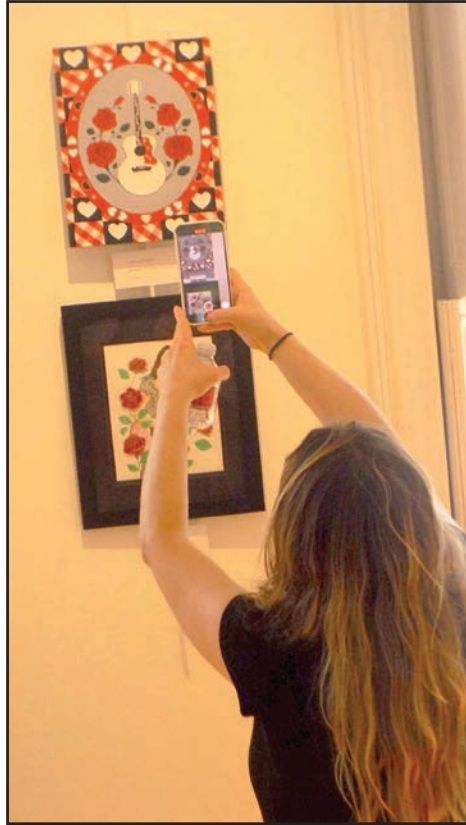
Gus Steeves photos

"Mysteries of Roanoke" was inspired by a mixture of things including history and conspiracy theories, according to artist Melissa Parent.

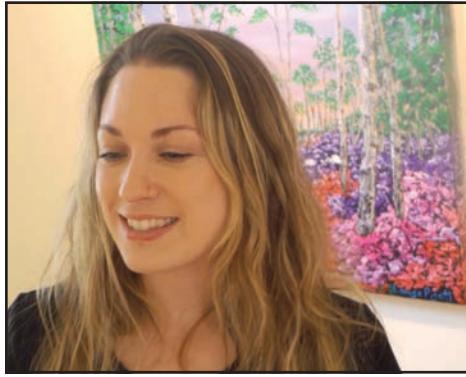
ART
continued from page 1

from about age 6 to 96, all to a soundtrack of piano by Ava Simon.

(RIGHT) Melissa Parent talks while standing before a Louise Pigott painting.



One visitor gets some close-ups of some of the works on display.



Simone Germain's clothes are almost as bright as her paintings.



Ava Simon and another visitor check out their peers' work.



Ava Simon, left, and grandmother Bonnie Baird finish shifting the quilt so Ava can play the piano.

FLOWERS
continued from page 1

and fast rules. We give them the idea and let them get creative with it," Taraskiewicz said.

The show has been a constant on the Garden Club's yearly calendar for almost as long as the Club has been around, over 80 years, and has always taken place with Old Home Day. The Garden Club followed that event to its new date on Labor Day Sunday this year: Club member Marcia Liedigk counted 107 displays for the 2023 show, which is about average. She explained that the show not only

allows members to present what they've been growing, but also hopefully inspires others to join their group and embrace their love of gardening and expression in new ways.

"It always varies but it's usually over 100 entries - Everything here has come from our personal gardens. We naturally hope to get more members for the club as well as show off what we grow. It's nice to show people what we do and have them come and really appreciate it," said Liedigk.

Club members Brenda Higgins explained that this tradition is an

important one for the Club as they feel they are a big part of the Charlton community. "We feel like we're really part of Old Home Day. It always falls on the same weekend," Higgins said. "I think we're always amazed by the variety of flowers we get and how nicely they're done and how clever everyone is who do these arrangements."

Those interested in joining or learning more about the Charlton Garden Club can contact Co-Presidents, Virginia Charette at (508) 248-7300 or Marcia Liedigk at (508) 434-0506.

MIGRANTS
continued from page 1

and changes to existing ones. All of them passed easily, but one of them - a change of manager for Old Sturbridge Village - drew a little annoyance from board members who objected to the fact the company did not send a representative. That fact alone prompted Goodwin to vote no.

"We're not trying to ... interrupt their business, but the sale of liquor

out of one of the largest facilities in town is fraught with certain risk," he said. "They need to take it seriously, and this does not indicate taking that particularly seriously."

The others indicated agreement, with Dowling briefly considering changing her yes vote. Grimm said she'd "make that very clear" to OSV when she speaks to them next.

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

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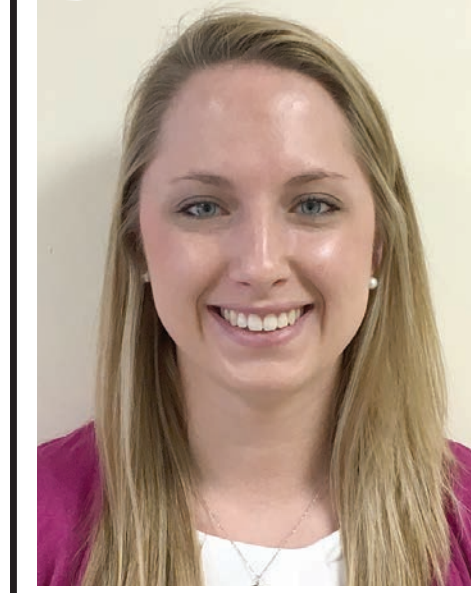
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