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Friday, July 17, 2020

QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE HOLDS FIRST MEETING



On Monday, July 6, Master Masons throughout the community gathered to Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge. The lodge held its first meeting since the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Phase 3 rules for social distancing were followed based upon Governor Bakers guidelines for gatherings of groups larger than 10. Brethren gathered 6 feet apart and wore face masks and all restricted seating was clearly marked and was not to be used while conducting lodge business. Going forward, per the orders of the Grand Masonic Lodge of Boston all lodges in this state will conduct their meetings according to the guidelines of the CDC and Gov. Baker. The top priority of all lodges is the health and safety of all brethren and their families.

Public Safety building committee receives donation

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - Over the first half of 2020, the Charlton Public Safety Building Capital Campaign Steering Committee has been hard at work seeking financial support to bring the long-dis-cussed public safety facility to life. Now the committee has proudly announced the first major pledge to help reach its financial goals.

Committee co-chair Steve Coleman announced during a June 23 meeting of the Board of Selectmen that the Hyde/ Dexter-Russell Charitable Foundation has committed \$100,000 to the project contingent upon financial approval by the voters this fall. The pledge is the first major financial contribution of its kind to the campaign which seeks to offset part of the cost of the \$28.5 million to make the price tag less of a burden on the taxpayers. The commitment from the foundation came after members of the steering committee met with representatives to discuss the project including showing a recently produced video showcasing

the reasons behind the initiative which would serve as a new home for the town's fire and police departments.

"We were very excited not only to present with them, but to get that news that they were going to commit," Coleman said. "We thank them very much for their generous gift."

Noreen Johnson Smith, the other co-chair of the steering committee, also expressed her gratitude for the foundation's financial backing calling it the first step in an ongoing process to help fund the public safety building.

"We do see this as the first of many gifts that we will be receiving and commitments from both local and area foundations because Charlton is part of a regional response. Other communities also rely on the capabilities of our emergency response systems and I think there is recognition of that in this foundation's gift. We're off to a good start and we intend to keep going in helping to defer the cost to the taxpayers," Smith

Selectmen also made their

Turn To **DONATION**, page **A3**

School Committee addresses AP course confusion

BY JASON BLEAU

DUDLEY/CHARLTON-With the school year officially over, attention has turned to summer courses and the fall semester in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District, and there seems to have been some confusion among students and parents as to how Advanced Placement, or AP, courses are being handled at Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

AP courses constitute the highest level of education for a given class in high school and, as such, usually require incoming students to complete work during the summer to prepare for the rigorous courses. However, at a school committee meeting in late July committee member Stephanie Reed revealed she had received communications from parents and students that implied that some AP courses may not take place and that summer work had not been assigned.

Reed read a statement that was sent out to parents from the Shepherd Hill principal stating that the school was hesitant to provide summer assignments for students who requested AP courses for the upcoming year due to questions regarding the scheduling for the fall and budget concerns sparked from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Shepherd Hill Principal William Chaplin clarified that of students as the course schedule for the next year is finalized and make sure students aren't doing unnecessary work for classes they may not be able

to take. "That was a pause. I didn't want someone to jump into AP work right after school was over. All I ask, if you read the full thing, is we would get back to them and assign work at the end of July, so it was more of a pause. There was nothing in there about no AP courses or anything like that," said

Chaplin. Steven Superintendent Lamarche also commented on the situation noting there are still many unknowns for the upcoming school year and called Chaplin's release a "proactive" measure in case the school is unable to offer the full slate of AP courses.

"If the state asks us to reduce our budget by \$5 million, we are going to have to make cuts somewhere," said Lamarche. "We would hate to ask students to do a boat load of work during the summer and that happen to be the one course that we couldn't run because we had to cut \$5 million out of our bud-

As far as the district reopening for the summer and fall, Lamarche said he has received guidance on extended school

he wrote the communication year programming and and the intent was not to create expects more input from the confusion but to be considerate. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by the end of July. The district will be adhering to public health guidelines when the buildings reopen, but they are also making sure to keep parents' concerns in mind. The district sent out a survey seeking input from families which the superintendent said will be a vital piece of their preparation and planning for the eventually reopening.

"Our effort was to provide a survey that is easy to complete and will always have the opportunity for families to share their thinking. So right now, it's a five question survey — we want to keep them short, collect as much data as we can so that we can use it to help guide us moving forward. Keep in mind that the feedback is critical, and we will continue to ask for your patience as this work is uncharted for us as a district and a state," said Lamarche.

The Dudley Charlton Regional School District has established a Reopening Committee with focuses on operations and resources, social and emotional health and safety, handling instruction for students, and communication and consultation as their main goals for discussion. The group meets weekly and will play a significant role in helping guide the reopening preparation and process throughout the summer.



Photo Courtesy

Garden creator, Joe Coan (left) with Rotary Past-District Governor Klaus Hachfeld.

Rotary recognizes garden creator

STURBRIDGE Community Food Collaborative (CFC) committee held its monthly meeting at the garden located behind the Town Hall in Sturbridge recently after the regular work shift. The volunteer group had lots to discuss on their agenda and did so while maintaining proper social distancing.

The highlight of the meeting came when Sturbridge Rotary Past-District Governor Klaus Hachfeld, also a member of the CFC committee, surprised CFC President Joe Coan with a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow Recognition. This recognition is a way of honoring an individual who has gone above and beyond in doing something for the betterment of man and/or the community. In Coan's case, the recognition was for his idea and pursuit of creating a community garden to help feed local hungry individuals. The garden is in its third year, donates everything it grows to the Saint John Paul II Food Pantry that distributes it to the local food insecure individuals in our communities. The garden is supported by the community and operates totally by volunteers. The Sturbridge Rotary Club donated \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation in Coan's name in order to honor him with a Paul Harris Fellow.

"While the garden is an unusual and informal setting to present this recognition,' Rotary Past-District Governor Hachfeld commented, "it was the logical place to present During the pandemic, Sturbridge Rotary has been meeting weekly on Zoom but the Zoom platform isn't conducive to making a personal presentation."

A surprised Coan, while appreciative of the recog-

...... Turn To COAN, page A2

Charlton considering applying for grant funding

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON - The town of Charlton is examining the possibility of applying for a state sponsored grant that would allow the town to potentially procure funding for small projects associated with public health and mobility.

Called the Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program, the grant is described by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation as a "quicklaunch/quick-build municipal funding program" meant to provide grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$300,000 for cities and towns to quickly implement programs meant to improve streets or town amenities like

sidewalks, on- and off-street parking and actual roadways.

Charlton Superintendent Andrew Golas brought the grant opportunity to the attention of selectmen during a meeting on June 23 where he said officials are examining the options for what projects meet

Turn To **GRANT**, page **A4**



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Aja Johnson of Springfield receives award from Bay Path

mother of two, Aja Johnson of Springfield is the PN Class of 2020 Award Recipient of the Clinical Excellence Award. Johnson received the award for her distinguished clinical performance throughout her training and education at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy.

Johnson received the Clinical Excellence Award notification and will receive an engraved crystal woven plate from Tiffany & Co., at the official Graduation and Pinning Ceremony at the Performance Arts Center of the Overlook Masonic Health Care, Charlton, June 18, 2021. Johnson attended Medford High School in Medford, Ma and completed her GED/HiSET at Springfield in 2019. She completed her nursing pre-requisites and psychology. She is a recipient of the Professional Employee of the Year- Health Services Award, Excellence in Government Awards form the Federal Executive Association of Western Massachusetts in

2012. She had demonstrated expertise and validated experience with the VA system. Noted as a competent professional with proven ability to communicate, listen and advocate for the veteran population. Aja is sought out for her calm, patient demeanor and knowledge of treatment plans and programs and is a tremendous asset to the OEF/OIF Veterans. While at Bay Path, Johnson was inducted to the National Technical Honor Society for excellence in Academic performance.

"We congratulate Johnson for this immense honor and wholeheartedly applaud her family for their love and support. Aja has been a revered practical nursing student. She was elected student representative and went above and beyond in assisting both her peers and faculty during the academic year. We are so very happy that she is recognized for her Clinical Excellence," said Gretheline Bolandrina, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director.

"Aja Johnson exemplifies our

COAN

project.'

continued from page A1



Aja Johnson

desired graduate, one who exhibits clinically competent skill with compassion. As a practical nursing graduate and soon to be LPN, Aja has a promising nursing career ahead of her,' concluded Bolandrina.

nition, was quick to stress the recogni-

tion goes to everyone who volunteers at

ly gained the support of the town and

business leaders who have faithful-

ly sponsored us each year, as well as

the garden's committee members and

volunteers who work to grow all the

great produce," Coan said. "I'd also

like to add that without the encourage-

ment and support we received from the

Rotary Community Corps, comprised

of Sturbridge Rotary and Southbridge

Rotary, it may have taken a lot longer to launch this great volunteer community

"The idea to start this garden quick-



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Church Listings

• Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St. Pastor James Chase, 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. www.fedchurchcharlton.org

· Charlton Baptist Church, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, www.charltonbaptist.org,

Sunday worship 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. • Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.com

Sunday worship 10:30 am, Sunday School 9 am • St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248-7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m., Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday LifeTEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.

• Hope Christian Fellowship, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144

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

• Jehovah's Witnesses, Route 169, 765-9519 • Lamblight Christian Church, 37 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Rev. Stephen Wade, (774) 452-2393 Pastor's Cell. Sunday Service 10:30am. www visitlamblight.com

• New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

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State enters third phase of re-opening

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

REGION – Local businesses continue to reopen as part of the state's third phase, including fitness centers, health clubs, and movie theaters.

Gov. Charlie Baker launched the third phase of reopening on July 6, with specific guidance for each industry. The Governor thanks residents and business owners across the state for their efforts in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. After a careful review of statewide health metrics, Baker's team felt comfortable with progressing to the third phase.

"Thanks to the hard work everyone has put in so far, more places will be able to reopen with strict guidelines," Baker said. "Phase three contains some bigger players that will draw more people into indoor settings. This phase will last significantly longer than other phases so we can closely monitor the

The third phase of reopening also allows the following organizations and businesses to return:

Outdoor performance venues

Museums, cultural venues, and historical sites

Certain indoor recreational activities with low potential for contact

Professional sports teams, under the authority of league-wide rules

Although COVID-19 numbers have declined statewide, officials are urging residents not to become complacent. As more indoor facilities reopen, the chance of spreading the virus will increase if preventative measures

"It's important that we continue to follow the guidance and do all of the things that have allowed us to get to this point," said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. "Everyone has a role to play, and everyone must do their part. You have all made it possible for more businesses to reopen.'

Key public health data, including the number of new cases and hospitalizations, continue to be closely monitored. Since mid-April, the state's seven-day average for the positive COVID-19 test rate is down 94 percent, and the threeday average of hospitalized patients is down 79 percent.

Over a million COVID-19 tests have been administered statewide.

Also included in the Governor's phase three announcement was a revised public gatherings order. Indoor gatherings are now limited to eight people per 1,000 square feet; gatherings should not exceed 25 people in a single enclosed indoor space.

Outdoor gatherings in enclosed spaces are limited to 25 percent of the facility's maximum permitted occupancy, with a maximum of 100 people in a single enclosed outdoor space. This includes community events, civic events, sport-

ing events, concerts, and conventions. This order does not apply to outdoor, unenclosed gatherings if proper social distancing measures are possible.

Also addressed in the third phase of reopening, healthcare providers can now offer in-person group treatment programs and day programs. These include adult day health programs, day habilitation programs, substance abuse services, and outpatient services. Additionally, community-based day services for adults with intellectual and cognitive disabilities can also reopen.

Additionally, visitation guidelines have been updated for several sectors. These include the Departments of Developmental Services, Youth Services, Children and Families, Public Health, Mental Health, and the Mass. Rehabilitation Commission. Offsite visits, including overnight visits, will be allowed under specific guidelines.

MassHealth will also extend its current telehealth flexibility through at least the end of the year to ensure member access to critical healthcare ser-

The state's reopening plan includes four total phases. The fourth phase won't likely be reached until there is a COVID-19 vaccine, officials said.

For a full list of state guidance and regulations, visit www.mass.gov/ reopening.

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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DONATION

continued from page A1

gratitude heard. Selectman David Singer called is a "huge" and "generous commitment."

Selectman Karen Spiewak was all smiles when she heard about the donation saying the fundraising is "just getting started," while Selectman Patricia Rydlak called the support from the foundation "amazing" and recommended the board sent a formal letter of thanks to the foundation.

The Public Safety Building Capital Campaign Steering Committee was launched in December with the goal of helping offset the cost of the project after taxpayers voted against the funding mechanism in 2019 after initially approving the price tag during an annual town meeting in May. Supporters are hoping that by seeking donations, grants and other financial opportunities to offset some of the cost voters will be willing to support the project with a smaller impact on the tax base when it returns to the polls.

Emerson College announces 2019-2020 graduates

BOSTON — On Sunday, May 10, Emerson College awarded 959 undergraduate degrees for the Class of 2020. The College is committed to holding a graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020 in person when it is safe to do so, at a to be determined date.

Katherine Salzberg of Uxbridge graduated in December 2019 and received a BS degree in Journalism.

The College launched an Emerson 2020 Celebration website to honor graduates achievements with more than 800 submissions from students, families, alumni, faculty, and staff, which includes photos, videos, audio submissions, and text. The website strives to reflect the many facets of the Class of 2020 and the wider Emerson community - its creativity, daring, thoughtfulness, irreverence, and humor.

Video submissions include well wishes from well-known alumni industry, including actors Jennifer Hollywood, and at its 14th-century cas-

Coolidge, Henry Winkler, comedians Jay Leno, Bill Burr, and Steven Wright, screenwriter Adele Lim, actress Chrystee Pharris, and producer Kevin Bright, among others.

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has approximately 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by stateof-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs and celebrities in the entertainment at Emerson Los Angeles, located in tle, in the Netherlands. Additionally, there are opportunities to study in Washington, D.C., London, China, and the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England, and South Africa. The College has an active network of 39,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.



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I have several family members who I am close with, including my aunt, grandmother, grandfather, and two cousins. I am particularly close with my aunt who I speak with about funny things, my emotions, and my hopes. Along with my many strengths, I also have many talents and interests. I like to ride horses, play hockey, video games, and board games, and go swimming.

I'm looking for a family that will love me and have fun with me! I would like

to do many activities with my family including horseback riding, arts and crafts, movie nights, and cooking/baking. I am also learning to play the piano. I also would be a big help to my family by doing chores, playing with any siblings, and making everyone laugh. I would also love a visiting resource. I hope to speak with you soon!

Sincerely, Hailey

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



E-sports team taking shape at QC

WORCESTER Quinsigamond Community College has begun a new esports team for the League of Legends, a highly competitive, fast paced, action-strategy online game. Coaching this year's inaugural team is Nate Mello, QCC learning manager for Interactive Media Design and part-time faculty

member. "QCC Athletics started looking into esports last year. Our goal was to offer a different kind of sport to engage our students who play online gaming on their own, to be part of a QCC team," said Athletic Director Lisa Gurnick. "The push to move this forward this year is due to COVID-19."

Esports collegiate teams have exploded in recent years. According to the National Association of Collegiate Esports, which began in 2016 with only six colleges and universities, by 2019 that number had increased to 128. QCC is part of the NJCAA Region XXI conference, which currently has five colleges with esports teams.

"Our egaming will set up like baseball; e-game scrimmages will take place in the fall with season games and tournaments in spring 2021. The number of games will depend on how many of the colleges in our conference have an esports team in the fall

said. "We will hold as many scrimmages as we can this fall. The master game schedule for spring 2021 has not been made yet, because we are still waiting a little bit longer to see how many colleges will join with the rest of

League of Legends is a five vs. five game that pits players against each other with the objective of destroying the other team's base. A competitive collegiate match consists of the same premise, with each team having five students taking on the other team of five students. Currently, the students log in to play other colleges from their own computer at home. When not in a global pandemic, the game is generally played in an arena where the teams sit across from

one another other. "I think one of the biggest things for the students is the comradery," said Coach Mello. "When playing a game like League of Legends, working together as a team of people who you know makes it much more compelling and fun. One of the students told me after our first week of practice that it was the most fun he has ever had playing League of Legends and he could not wait for our next

practice.' QCC players have been meeting online Monday

and spring," Ms. Gurnick and Wednesday nights for practice. The team is set to play a couple of exhibition games this summer against Bunker Hill and Mass Bay Community Colleges, with scrimmages in the fall currently against Bunker Hill, Mass Bay, Northern Essex and Bristol community colleges.

"There is still time to be part of the team. We are completely remote right now due to COVID-19, so space is not an issue," Ms. Gurnick said. "Based on the initial support and interest from the students, staff and faculty, we see esports at QCC being quite successful. We have a lot of interest and currently have 14 students practicing with Coach Mello. We feel this is just the beginning of a strong student engagement opportunity for our students and the college."

Those interested in playing can email Ms. Gurnick, LGurnick@qcc. mass.edu. Students must be enrolled at least parttime in the Fall semester and full-time (12 credits or more) in the Spring semester. A valid (within a year) physical form and a GPA of 2.0 or higher are required in order to play.

For more informaon QCC, contion Josh tact Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc. mass.edu.

School district hears calls for increased diversity

BY JASON BLEAU VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON - The year 2020 will likely be remembered for two things, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise in calls for social justice and racial equality that have swept the nation. While the impact of the Coronavirus on schools is unquestionable, local parents in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District are hoping for a more positive influence from the calls for social change including more diversity in hiring and in student studies.

Several parents spoke during a meeting of the school committee in late June voicing their opinions in favor of longterm changes to the district's approach to hiring and education to promote inclusion and diversity. Eve Summer of Dudley was the first parent to speak having a six-year-old currently transitioning from Mason Road School to Dudley Elementary School as well as a three-year-old future student of the district. She described the current state of the nation as a period of "heightened racial awareness in America" and wants to see this call for change result in a positive impact on the students of today and tomorrow.

"I appreciate the challenge of addressing this topic at a time when everyone's plates

are so full and there's so much about the upcoming school year that's still in the air, but I also believe it's our duty to meet this moment in history," Summer told the school committee.

In addition to reading the Massachusetts Association of School Committee's anti-racism resolution for the record, a document that the school committee unanimously voted to support later in the evening, Summer asked the committee to consider swiftly discussing measure to support safer and better representative environments including professional development training in diversity, equity and inclusion, the recruitment of more diverse pools of candidates for teachers and administrators, the implementation of anti-racist policies, and embracing a curriculum that deviates from what she sees as the "white, cisgendered, male perspective" taught in schools today.

Another parent, Devon Wallace of Charlton who has four children in the school system, also expressed a need for change and diversity while also complimenting the district as "caring" and "compassionate." He wants to see Dudley and Charlton schools embrace pools for jobs and wishes school policies.

"It's critically important to ensure that all voices are heard, and all perspectives are considered. I ask this committee to review the policies that are in place across the district and in the specific schools with respect to hiring and to augment the language as necessary to insure that there is a fully diverse set of candidates as a mandate rather than perhaps being considered a best practice," said Wallace.

He also wants the district to be diligent in addressing any instances of discrimination past or present citing a recent social media post that he said revealed inflammatory statements of "bias and hate" uttered within the walls of the schools. He further requested, and was granted, a ten-minute moment of silence in honor of the lives touches by hate and

discrimination and the resulting inaction.

As it happens, the idea of diversity increased policies revamped was always going to be a subject of discussion at the meeting. Superintendent Steven Lamarche provided his comments on the state of the world and how it will result in change in the district during his report to the committee.

"As a school district, we have a real and sincere responsibility to ensure school committee policies and the civil liberties of our schools and staff are whole. We embrace our public identity and must make certain that we welcome everyone free of bias and racism. Our collective work is to maintain unfettered access to every benefit for every student who enters our school. To be clear the Dudley Charlton Regional

School System will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness," said Lamarche.

The Dudley Charlton Regional School District plans to reestablish an equity committee to review the districts instructional programs and lay the foundations for continued learning in the changing world of today. Lamarche said he believes the district has long strived for equality, but that's there's always room to

"I know that we are doing a lot. I know that we believe we are doing well, but we need to take this opportunity to bolster our efforts and be precise and match the expectations of the community around us and our state and nationally," Lamarche concluded.

Bryant University students named to Dean's List

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Bryant more diverse candidate University is dedicated to the pursuit, recognition, and celeto see positive changes in bration of academic excellence. The University is pleased to recognize the students who have been named to the Deans' List for the spring 2020 semester.

> These outstanding achievements are particularly commendable as students have overcome significant challenges to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to excellence," says Provost and Chief Academic Officer Glenn Sulmasy, JD, LL.M. "I am impressed and proud of their resilience, dedication, and innovative spirit."

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

Paul Berthelette, class of 2020,from Uxbridge

Lindsey Guyton, class of 2023, from Uxbridge

Hannah Mason, class of 2020, from Charlton

Brianna McKinstry, class of 2020,from Charlton

Karni Murray, 2022,from Uxbridge Savannah Schreiber, class of

2022,from Uxbridge **About Bryant University**

years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceppates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,800 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's. Visit www.Bryant.

CLUES ACROSS

- 4. Trim by cutting
- 8. Small buffalo
- 10. Ancient manuscript 11. Look angry or sullen
- 12. Glum
- 13. Northern Zambia peoples
- 15. Central
- 16. Collector of birds' eggs
- 17. Misbehavior 18. Top of the line
- 21. Political action committee
- 22. Have already done
- 23. Al Bundy's wife
- 24. Entertainment channel
- 25. Holiday (informal) 26. The common gibbon
- 27. Legendary actress
- 34. Seasoned sausages 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Ridiculed
- 37. Three-dimensional arrangement
- 38. Emerged
- 39. Type of protein 40. Denmark natives
- 41. Leak slowly through
- 42. Expression of sorrow or pity 43. Midway between south and
- southeast

tional education that antici-Karni Murray named to President's List at Bryant University

University is dedicated to the pursuit, recognition, and celebration of academic excellence. Karni Murray, class of 2022, from Uxbridge, has been named to the President's List for the spring 2020 semester.

"These outstanding achievements are particularly commendable as students have overcome significant challenges to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to excellence," says Provost and Chief Academic Officer Glenn Sulmasy, JD, LL.M. "I am impressed and

SPRINGFIELD — Western

New England University con-

gratulates over 950 students named to the Spring Semester

The following students are

named to the Dean's List for

achieving a semester grade point

Emily Cofsky of Charlton is pursuing a BS in Pharmacy

average of 3.30 or higher.

2020 Dean's List.

tion, and innovative spirit.

The President's List is an academic distinction reserved for Bryant's highest achievers who earn a GPA of 4.0 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work.

Congratulations to Karni on this outstanding achievement!

About Bryant University For 157 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Bryant proud of their resilience, dedica- world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,800 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's. Visit www.Bryant.

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Artistic dancing
- 2. Plenty
- 3. Act leisurely 4. Serve as a warning
- 5. Admired lovingly 6. Leftover oil from distillation
- process 7. Company officer
- 9. Egyptian unit of capacity
- 10. One transmits information 12. Middle layer of an embryo
- 14. Form of "to be" 15. Cairo Regional Airport
- 17. Partner to cheese
- 19. Sample
- 20. A shirt may have none
- 24. Disallow
- 26. French river
- 28. Top of a pot
- 29. Type of drug
- 30. City along the Rhine 31. Animal disease
- 32. They go in martinis
- 33. A way to break away
- 34. Intermediate ecological stage
- 36. Baby term for father

N A SOLUTION N B I S E N C N B I D E 8 1 D E 7 V S I M A 3 T N W O N B O E Я A V а N U O R A T S B 8 3 H T M I S D EGG CENLB a N n S O H O M A U O CODE N A 0 B E

23. Public gatherings

25. Overnight suitcases

27. Where boats dock

Julianne Green of Charlton is

pursuing a BSBA in Accounting. Megan Hueras of Charlton is pursuing a BA in Law & Society. Jack Krukonis of Charlton is pursuing a BSBA in Entrepreneurship.

Oleksandr Tkachenko Charlton is pursuing a BSE in

Local students named to Dean's List

at Western New England University

Computer Engineering. Kyle Watkins of Charlton is graduating with a BSBA Business Analytics & Information Management.

Jonathan Cantara of Charlton City is pursuing a BSE in Electrical Engineering.

Michael Manning of Uxbridge is pursuing a BS in Criminal

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New

England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,825 students, including 2,580 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.

GRANT

continued from page A1

the guidelines for the funding. "What they're looking to do is basically projects that can be implemented in a very short window. The awards are looking for projects that would take 15 to 30 days to complete and would be completed before Friday, October 30," Golas said adding that he had participated in a webinar hosted by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission detailing the specifics of the grant that same day. "This program stemmed from the COVID-19 pandemic and what they're specifically targeting are things that help the pedestrian's ways and businesses that might be infringing upon parking lots and sidewalks. Some of the projects that they suggested included temporary bike lanes, expanded sidewalks, curb improvements, expanded outdoor dining areas, safe routes to school, traffic calming measures and outdoor sitting spaces.'

The traffic calming measures were what stood out to Golas. Traffic issues and safety concerns have been a constant talking point at selectmen meetings in recent years with further talks in June bringing the subject back to the forefront.

Selectman Patricia Rydlak noted that while the timing is short mitigation like tree cutting or simple fixes to help with visibility could be something to consider. Selectman Steve Koronis suggested looking at Stafford Street and Center Depot Road as starting points for potential projects involving the grant.

While the town has no solid plans in mind for what they would propose to procure the grant, Golas made his intent to explore the funding opportunity clear declaring that his office will "try to make it happen" as more options are put on the

Ashley Caswell named to Becker College Dean's List

LEICESTER — Becker College is proud to announce that Ashley Caswell, of Uxbridge has been named to the Dean's List for the School of Graduate & Professional Studies for the Spring 2020semester. Caswell is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology.

The Dean's List recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester -September through May) whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades.

Founded in 1784, Becker

College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world attend Becker College, which has campuses both in Worcester and Leicester, Massachusetts. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for under-graduate education by The Princeton Review.

Worcester Academy announces Honor Roll and Headmaster's List

Academy proudly announces its Honor Roll and Headmaster's List for Semester 2 of the 2019-2020 School Year. The honors represent the achievements that each of these Worcester Academy students has earned through academic excellence, challenge, and personal growth.

Among the students are: Colin Hughes of Charlton, 10, First Honors.

Owen Hughes of Charlton, 11, First Honors.

Camden Blum of Charlton, 9, Headmaster's List.

Isabella Nascimento Charlton, 11, Headmaster's List. Jefferson Upton of Charlton, 8, Honor Roll.

About Worcester Academy

Worcester Academy is an exceptional co-educational independent school for day and boarding students in grades 6 through 12 and postgraduates. Through an innovative and thoughtfully designed curriculum, Worcester Academy instills in students a lifelong passion for learning and a foundation of core values that enable them to "Achieve the Honorable" as leaders and world citizens. The school takes pride in its diverse local and international community, and situates its curriculum within a global, multicultural context that helps students develop the independence, confidence, and world-readiness they need to succeed in college and beyond.

Jessica Smith receives degree from Nichols

College

College graduated over 300 students this spring. Virtual celebrations were held for both undergraduate and graduate recipients on May 2, 2020 with an in person commencement ceremony promised for a date to be determined.

Jessica Smith, of Charlton graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting.

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leader-

ship-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

Dean's, President's Lists students named at UA

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — A total of 16,470 students enrolled during the 2020 spring semester at The University of Alabama were named to the Dean's List with an academic record of 3.5 or above or the President's List with an academic record of 4.0

The UA Dean's and President's lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or to undergraduate students who take less than a full course load. Faith Adam of Uxbridge,

named to UA Presidents List James Stark of Uxbridge, named to UA Presidents List

The University of Alabama, the state's oldest and largest public institution of higher education, is a student-centered research university that draws the best and brightest to an academic community committed to providing a premier undergraduate and graduate education. UA is dedicated to achieving excellence in scholarship, collaboration and intellectual engagement; providing public outreach and service to the state of Alabama and the nation; and nurturing a campus environment that fosters collegiality, respect and inclusivity.

WCSU announces spring 2020 Dean's List

DANBURY, Conn. — Dominick Mogstad of Charlton has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2020 semester at Western Connecticut State University.

Mogstad is majoring in Meteorology.



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OBITUARIES

Henri R. "Hank" Morin, 86

SOUTHBRIDGE- Henri R. "Hank" Morin, 86, passed away on Tuesday, July 7th, in his home surrounded by his loving family after a battle with Pancreatic Cancer.



He leaves his wife of 65 years, Ruth T. (Collins) Morin; his three sons, Roger E. Morin and his wife Karen of Southbridge, Wayne S. Morin and his wife Theresa of Brooklyn, CT and Kevin J. Morin and

his wife Kelly of Charlton; his two sisters, Jeanne Steppic of Southbridge and Alice Langlois of Dudley; eight grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son, Mark H. Morin, his son-in-law, Joseph A. Stanick, Jr. and his brother, Alfred A. Morin. He

was born in Southbridge the son of Aime and Alice (Picard) Morin. He was a US Navy Veteran of the Korean War

serving on the USS Glynn. Hank was a Tool & Die maker and



worked for Athbro Precision and Stanco Tool Co. in Southbridge for many years, retiring many years ago.

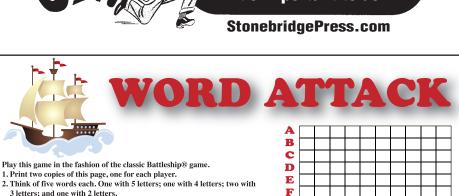
A funeral Mass for Hank was held on Monday, July 13th, at 11:00am in St.

Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery, Southbridge. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Joseph's Parish, P.O. Box 338, Charlton City, MA 01508.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

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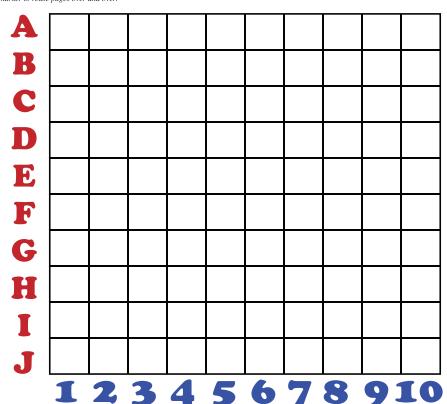


H

that square in the larger grid; otherwise, tell your opponent it was a "miss." 5. Keep track of your coordinate guesses in the smaller grid. 6. The first person to "sink" all of the opponent's words wins.

Tip: Slip game pages into a clear plastic page protector and use a dry-erase marker to reuse pages over and over.

3. Write the words on your grid, but be sure not to overlap them.
4. Take turns calling out grid coordinates. When there is a "hit," mark an X on



Play this game in the fashion of the classic Battleship® game.

- 1. Print two copies of this page, one for each player.
- 2. Think of five words each. One with 5 letters; one with 4 letters; two with 3 letters; and one with 2 letters.
- 3. Write the words on your grid, but be sure not to overlap them.
- 4. Take turns calling out grid coordinates. When there is a "hit," mark an X on that square in the larger grid; otherwise, tell your opponent it
- 5. Keep track of your coordinate guesses in the smaller grid. 6. The first person to "sink" all of the opponent's words wins.



to complications from COVID-19. She was born July 24, 1949, in Southbridge Origene to Joseph and Anna Marie (Mulholland) Paquette, Jr. leaves behind her husband of 35 years,

Sarah Anne Paquette passed away

June 28, 2020, at the age of 70 at Manor

Care Health Services in Hinsdale IL due

Brookfield IL; her sisters Gail (James) Morrissey of North Riverside IL and Catha Paquette of Long Beach CA; her brother Gene (Denise Verret) Paquette of Chicago IL; her niece Jennifer (Nader Khairellah) Morrissey of Mexico City and nephews Christopher Morrissey of Dallas TX, Andrew Morrissey of Auckland NZ, Michael Morrissey of Philadelphia PA, and John Morrissey of North Riverside IL; plus her beloved cat Stripe. She was predeceased by her parents, her broth-

and found a home for. Sarah grew up in Southbridge. After graduating from Notre Dame School, Southbridge High School, and Lasell Junior College, she moved to Chicago in 1972 and then to Brookfield IL in 1987.

er-in-law Joseph Phillips, her beloved

cats Bob, Dorothy, and Gordon, and a

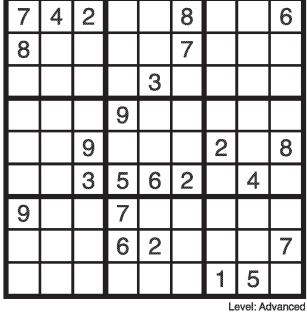
feral cat named Muni that she cared

where she spent the rest of her life. For over 35 years she worked for the Social Security Administration before retiring in 2016.

Sarah Anne Paquette, 70

Sarah, who had a wonderful sense of humor, a quick wit, and a very caring nature, enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She loved the family's summer trips to Watch Hill RI. In her first few years in Chicago. she was a Bleacher Bum at Wrigley Field; forever a sports enthusiast, she continued to root for teams from both Chicago (Cubs, Bears, and Bulls) and New England (Red Sox, Patriots, and Celtics). Sarah, who had a way with words, was also an expert at crossword puzzles. She enjoyed David Muir on ABC's World News Tonight, television favorites such as Jeopardy, and movies such as Bohemian Rhapsody. She was a music buff early on, appreciating the Motown sound, the Beatles and Rolling Stones, John Prine, local Chicago radio, hip-hop bops, and summer jam remixes.

Given precautionary measures due to COVID, there was no wake, funeral, or memorial service. Sarah was cremated in Illinois and her ashes delivered to Southbridge for interment with her parents at New Notre Dame Cemetery. If you wish to celebrate her memory, please donate in her name to one of your local animal care services.



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2	g	-	6	Þ	8	Z	9	ε
L	8	6	3	2	9	G	-mak	†
3	9	Þ	G	and h	L	8	2	6
6	þ	L	2	9	9	3	8	about
8	acenda.	2	Þ	Z	ε	6	ç	9
9	S	9	made	8	6	7	L	2
Þ	L	8	9	ε	2	4	6	ç
work	2	9	L	6	þ	9	3	8
9	6	3	8	S	and a	2	Þ	L

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE FDITOR

Common sense has left the building

It seems like our country remains, and will remain, divided over how to stop the spread of Covid-19.

It distresses us that common sense seems to have left the building. When our cars break down, we bring them to a mechanic. When our phones or laptops go on the fritz, we bring them to a tech professional to fix them. When we need a new prescription for whatever ails us, or we break a bone, we call the doctor. When we are speeding down the highway and get pulled over for doing so, we are given a ticket to deter us from speeding again, and to keep ourselves and each other safe.

Why, then, when doctors and scientists whose experience and expertise are beyond question almost universally advise us that the best way to slow the spread of this virus is to wear a mask in public and avoid gathering in large groups, are so many so adamant in their refusal to listen? We all want our economy to function normally again. We all want our children to be able to attend school safely. We all want to be able to enjoy shopping at our favorite stores and dining at our favorite restaurants. So why this bullheaded refusal to do two very simple things that will help all of that happen safely? The answer is, regrettably, that like seemingly everything else in today's world, COVID-19 has been politicized.

Here's the thing, though — political affiliation has no effect on reality, and the reality we face at this crucial moment is that we are being stalked by a highly contagious virus. This enemy could not only prove fatal to certain segments of the population; it appears to leave even those who survive it with debilitating health issues that may follow them for the rest of their lives. And it doesn't give a damn what side of the political divide any of us stand on. Masks have always, and still do, helped to decrease the spread of viruses. Granted, certain styles are proven to work better than others, but that is a different discussion. There is ample research demonstrating that even the flimsiest of surgical masks can dramatically reduce the ability of entities like the COVID-19 virus to traverse the air between two people, and at this point, with flare-ups happening across the country, there is simply no excuse for those who are physically able to wear one not to do so.

This brings us to our next point. The fact that you might have found an article published somewhere online purporting to prove that a face mask is unhealthy for the wearer does not make it legitimate. You can find all sorts of misinformation during a Google search that could fuel a point/counterpoint discussion on any topic under the sun. While the Internet was meant to open conversations and was dubbed the 'information superhighway,' it seems the opposite is happening. People rely on ever narrowing social circles, memes, and unverified social media posts to guide them in their behavior, and it has frankly become dangerous. Facebook and Twitter 'trolls' spread misinformation at an alarmingly high rate to create division and unrest, and unfortunately, it has worked. With so much misinformation out there, it's hard to determine what is and what isn't fact. Many argue that COVID-19 is "just the flu," while ignoring the fact that the flu does not cause such a flood of patients at hospitals that they have no space to treat anything else.

According to the CDC, an infected individual, will spread the virus to at least five others. Our elderly population is the most vulnerable; however, that trend has seemed to spread to people of all ages becoming more and more infected with dire outcomes. If we value life, we must value it regardless of age.

No matter what our political persuasion, we all want to win the war against this pandemic. So why the refusal among so many to unite as one team to fight it? One of the defining characteristics of this great country of ours is that each time we have been faced with adversity, we have joined together as one to fight it. If all it takes is wearing a mask and some social distancing to get rid of this virus and to open our schools and economy, then there is no room for this childish refusal to cooperate. We are, and must be, better than this.

Views and commentary from Charleton, Charleton City, Charleton Depot and beyond

Love Lavender!

Lush lavender has found a home in many New England gardens, and with good reason. The fragrant flowers are not only a favorite to display, but the popular herb also boasts many medicinal and practical uses. Since the time of the ancient Greeks,

lavender has been hailed as remedy for everything from insomnia to moth invasions. With a renewed interest in the virtues of herbs,

this week's column will review how lovely lavender can be utilized in an array of duties all

around the house.

Did you know lavender blossoms and leaves can be used instead of rosemary in many recipes? Try it to add a dash of color as well as flavor to your next gourmet dish.

Lavender lemonade is a summertime favorite. Here's a classic recipe using fresh lavender from the garden: Lavender Victorian Lemonade Ingredients: five cups water; one and one half cups sugar; 12 stems fresh lavender; two and one quarter cups lemon juice Directions: Boil two and one half cups of water with the sugar. Add the lavender stems and remove from heat. Place on the lid and let cool. When cool, add two and one half cups water and the lemon juice. Strain out the lavender. Serve the lavender lemonade with crushed ice and garnish with lavender blossoms and lemon wedges. Serves eight tall glasses over ice.

Drying tip: Dry lavender by harvesting it on a dry day and tying into bundles. Hang the bundle bouquets out of direct and allow to completely dry.

Essence of Lavender: Lavender essential oil is a concentrated form of lavender that lends itself to many convenient uses. It takes about 175 pounds of fresh lavender flowers to produce a single pound of lavender oil! A little goes a long way, as one drop of lavender essential oil can be equal to one ounce of the fresh plant.

Did you know pure essential oil of lavender is proven more antiseptic than many commercial chemical disinfectants? Make up your own spray by adding 20 drops of pure essential oil of lavender to one cup of water. Pour into

a spritz bottle and use around the house to kill germs on surfaces.

Lavender oil also comes in handy when you vacuum. Just place a few drops on the vac bag before vacuum-

ing to cut down on dust TAKE microbes that trigger allergies. THE

KAREN TRAINOR

For generations, minor HINT burns have reportedly been soothed by applying lavender oil immediately after the injury occurs. If done in time, the lavender can prevent a blister from

forming and ease the hurt with its pain killing properties.

Lavender's role in inducing calm is legendary. Here are two remedies to try: Mix a little lavender essential oil with a carrier oil and massage on the bottom of the feet to soothe away stress. Or place a drop or two of the oil on a cotton ball and tuck it inside a pillowcase to lull you off to sleep. NOTE: Use herbs and essential oils at your own risk and only under proper direction. Consult an herb guide for direction on usage.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

House Inn.

The decisions that change your life

mine the trajectory of our lives.

Last week, this column spoke of the choices we make. I said that we are who we are, what we are, and where

we are in life because of the decisions we've made ... and it's true. If you take a pad of paper and begin backtracking, step by step and decision by decision, your current situation, both good and bad, become clear.

You are where you are because of the decisions and choices you made. That's true for all of us.

I received an email disputing my claim. The writer said, "I'm a victim of circumstances. I've lost everything and none of it was based upon my decisions. My life has always been in the hands of others."

My first question is, "Why is your life in the hands of others? Are they really making your decisions for you? Probably not." And that question leads me to my next question, "What decision that you made placed you in their hands?"

Blaming others is easy. "It's not my fault!" To blame others is also a decision you make and an awfully bad one. It's a decision to not accept responsibility for your results.

Let's say that circumstances were such that they were completely out of your control. My next question would be, "What decisions are you making now to pull yourself out of this mess?" You can blame others and say it's not your fault, but you must accept responsibility to move forward. The decisions you make will pull you out of the situation.

I was diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. I don't know why. Maybe environmental ... maybe stress ... maybe genetic. I don't blame others or take a fatalist view. I decided to do the research and find the right team of doctors at the right medical facility to give me the best chances to live. I decided that I was going to fight and

The decisions that we make deter- win. I decided that I'll die someday, but not today ... and not from this.

Many people accept their diagnosis. get their life in order, then go home to await the end. I chose differently.

I decided not to die from cancer and that decision Positively pushed me to make other SPEAKING decisions to find the right medical team and treatment. I am where I am now in my medical care because of decisions I've made.

The quality of our lives is determined by the decisions we make. A friend on LinkedIn posted something this morning that I found interesting and an example of how decisions impact results.

"If you have a bar of iron, it's worth five dollars. If you make the iron into horseshoes, the value increases to twelve dollars. That decision more than doubles the value of your invest-

Now, take the same bar of iron and turn it into simple sewing needles. The value becomes thirty-five hundred dollars.

But if you turn that same five-dollar bar of iron into springs for Swiss watches, the value becomes an astonishing three-hundred thousand dollars. The decision you make of what you do with your iron gives you a variety of values and outcomes." The decisions you make about how you live your life are the same. The quality and value of your life are deter-

mined by your decisions.
Stephen Covey says, "We are the creative force of our life, and through our own decisions rather than our conditions, if we carefully learn to do certain things, we can accomplish our goals."

What about your decisions? Who you associate with, what you read, the importance you put into receiving training and/or education ... it all impacts your life by the decisions you are able to make based upon the

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

What should you do with an inheritance?

If you were to inherit a large sum of money, what would you do with it?

The question may not be hypothetical, especially if you are in the millennial, Gen X or Gen Z demographic groups. That's because the baby boomers – often referred to as the richest generation in history - are poised to transfer some \$30 trillion in assets over the next few decades, according to the consulting firm Accenture.

Of course, this is a



FINANCIAL Focus **JEFF** BURDICK

"macro" figure, and everyone's situation is different. Furthermore, since baby boomers are living longer, more active lives, the total amount passed on may end up being considerably less than the estimate. Nonetheless, you may well receive a medium-to-large inheritance someday, and when that day arrives, you'll need to decide how best to use your new-

found wealth.

Your first move may be to do nothing at all. Generally speaking, you have enough time to decide how to handle the various elements of an inheritance, although if you are inheriting an investment vehicle such as an IRA or a 401(k) plan, you will eventually have to make some decisions about liquidation or withdrawals. (And since these accounts may carry tax obligations, it's a good idea to consult with your tax advisor fairly soon after you receive your inheritance.) But if a big part of your inheritance simply consists of cash parked in a bank account, there's nothing wrong with moving the money into a cash management account at a financial services company until you decide what to do with it.

However, after some time has passed, you may want to put your inheritance to good use. If you're already working with a financial advisor, you might want to get some guidance on how to use your new assets to strengthen your existing investment strategy. Do you have any gaps in certain areas? Can you use the money to help diversify your holdings? Diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, but it can help reduce the impact of volatility on your portfolio.

And, of course, if your inheritance is large enough, it may permit you to "max out" on your IRA for years to come, and possibly free you to have even more of your salary deferred into your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement account. Plus, you could use the money for other long-term goals, such as funding a tax-advantaged 529 college savings plan for your children.

You also might use part of your inheritance to donate to the charitable organizations you support. Due to recent changes in tax laws that caused many people to stop itemizing their deductions, charitable groups are in more need of support than ever.

And last, but certainly not least, take this opportunity to review your goals. Is your inheritance large enough for you to adjust your planned retirement age? And if that age may indeed change, what about your other plans for retirement? Will you now be free to travel more or pursue other hobbies? Will you even need to modify the way you invest for your new reality, possibly by taking a less aggressive approach? Again, a financial professional can help you answer these questions.

Someone thought enough of you to leave you a valuable inheritance - so use it wisely.

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

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A closer look at the Canal

A large bear was spotted in Douglas last week, and it was not a small one. The large bear was crossing through a resident's back yard during the morning hours. I was surprised to hear that the bear did not have any cubs with it. Black bear numbers have been increasing in

the valley area over the last ten years or more.

Massachusetts hunters can purchase a bear permit for only \$5, and can be used to harvest a bear during any one of the three seasons. All Wildlife Management zones are open to bear hunting during the 2020 seasons. Be sure to read your Massachusetts hunting guide for all regulations and seasons.

Bobcat populations are also on the increase, but strict trapping regulations need to be followed. A first-time trapper must pass a trapping & hunter education program. All harvested fur bearing pelts need to be reported to Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife. The pelts need to be brought to any check stations to be registered. Again, if you plan on trapping this year, it is very important to read all of the rules and regulations prior to trapping.

The Massachusetts antlerless deer

THE GREAT **OUTDOORS** RALPH TRUE

> cant can go on line at MassFishHunt and try to win an antlerless deer permit, for the zone that they applied for. Surplus permits will go on sale at a date to be announced.

hunting permit system for 2020 requires

the applicant to have

applied for a permit by

July 16 to be eligible

for the antlerless deer

application is on your

2020 license. Starting

Aug. 1 -Dec. 31, an appli-

permit lottery.

Striper fishing on the Canal continues to give up some impressive stripers, but many need to be released. There have also been numerous people fighting at the famous fishing spot, which has turned off a lot of angers that once enjoyed the area for fishing, but now go somewhere else. Most anglers at the canal are there to fish and enjoy themselves, but the few that are causing the problems need to be banned from the area, before it is too late. Closing the canal to fishing would be a terrible loss to the responsible law-abiding anglers.

The canal is over 100 years old, and was considered an engineering marvel back in the day. Under private ownership back in 1914, it was redesigned and reconstructed under federal ownership in the 1930's.

Congress directed the US Army Corps of Engineers on March 31, 1928 under authority of the Rivers & Harbors act of 1927 to operate and improve the foundering canal. It was purchased by the federal government for \$11,500,000 on July 22, 2018. The canal is rich in history. Now anglers enjoy some of the best striper fishing around.

Fluke fishing remains fair around Block Island, but Bluefish and Dogfish need to be dealt with. Numerous large seabass are also being caught. Lots of big bluefish are raising havoc with bass fishing anglers, cutting their expensive eels in half, or even worse.

Freshwater bass fishing anglers are catching some impressive Smallmouth bass at Webster Lake. Bass anglers that do not mind doing a bit of work catching their own bait, can walk along the shallow water on small ponds and catch some crayfish by turning over small to medium rocks. They are fast so you also need to be ready when you slowly and gently lift the rocks. It can be a great family affair, and the bait is dynamite for smallmouth bass. Give it a try.

Wild Blueberries are now ready for picking. This writer found some high bush berries ready for the picking last week, and I have been eating them every day. They sure taste better than



This week's picture shows a young lady with a nice doormat fluke.

the cultivated ones, and they are free. Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them

Keep your landscape looking good with less effort



GARDEN Moments

> MELINDA **MYERS**

Keep your garden looking its best and reduce your workload by enlisting practices that provide multiple benefits. Your garden will flourish and you'll have more time to enjoy its beauty.

Put your yard waste to work in your garden. You'll save time hauling plant debris to the recycling center and money spent buying bagged material. Use shredded leaves, evergreen needles, herbicide-free grass clippings or other pest- and weed-free organic material as mulch. Spread a one to twoinch layer of these materials over the soil around annual and perennial flowers and veg-

Use woodchips and shredded bark to mulch pathways, trees, and shrubs. Consider joining forces with your neighbors, renting a chipper, and turning brush into mulch for your landscape. Maintain a two- to threeinch layer of mulch around these plants. And keep the mulch away from tree trunks and the crowns of the plants.

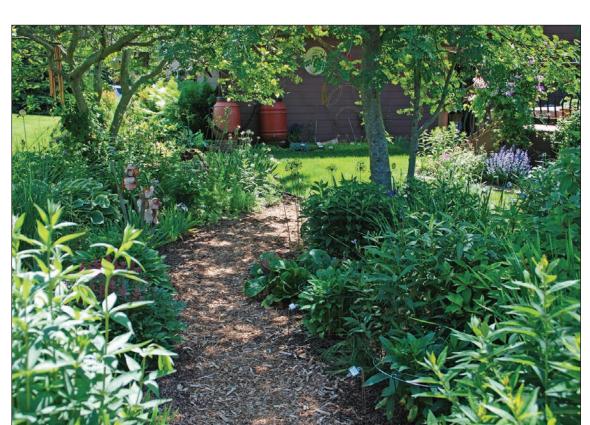
Organic mulch helps conserve moisture, reduce weeds, and improve the soil as it breaks down. So, you get multiple benefits from this one task while burning a few calories and strengthening your mus-

Water plants thoroughly and less frequently whenever you irrigate the garden. This encourages deep roots, making your plants more drought tolerant and pest resistant. Water early in the day to reduce water lost to evaporation. And consider using drip irrigation or soaker hoses to deliver water right to the plant roots where it is needed.

Check container gardens daily. Water thoroughly until the excess water runs out the bottom. Or enlist the help of one of the many container irrigation systems. Consider using a slow release fertilizer when needed to keep plants thriving with less effort. These types of fertilizers provide a slow, steady release of nutrients for balanced growth without sacrificing flowers or burning

drought stressed plants. Don't forget your trees and shrubs. Proper watering will also improve their health. Water new plantings and moisture lovers whenever the top few inches of soil Even established are dry. trees and shrubs need a helping hand during extended periods of drought. Always water thoroughly to encourage deep, drought-resistant roots.

Keep mowing your lawn as long as your grass is actively growing. Mow high since taller grass is better able to out compete the weeds and forms



drought tolerant. Minimize the stress by removing no more than a third of the total grass height each time you mow.

Always use a sharp mower blade. Sharp blades cut more efficiently, saving you time whenever you mow. You'll consume 22 percent less fuel and the lawn will use up to 30% less water when using sharp blades. Plus, the clean cut will be less noticeable and the wound will close quickly, helping you grow a healthy, better-looking lawn.

to leave grass pings on the lawn. They add nutrients, moisture, and organic matter to the soil. A season's worth of clippings is equal to one fertilizer application. So every time you mow you are fertilizing the lawn and

improving the soil. Finish every garden chore with a bit of cleanup. Sweep clippings, plant debris and fertilizer off walks, drives and patios, so it won't wash into storm sewers. Keeping plant debris out of our waterways is good for us and the environ-

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

Ephemera that was saved from the trash

Merriam Webster defines ephemera as "something of no lasting significance." second definition reads "paper items (such as posters, broadsides, and tickets) that were originally meant to be discarded after use but have since become collectibles.'

Ephemera was not meant to be preserved. Posters were used to promote events like movies, plays, the circus, sport matches or to advertise products. The posters were typically ripped down after the event or another poster was plastered over them. Tickets were typically ripped

or punched. Most people threw them away as soon as the event ended.

Merriam Webster's definition for a broadside is "a sizable sheet of paper printed on one side." documented events prior to the Revolutionary War, during the Civil War, and throughout other significant times in history. They were intended to inform the public and were not expected to last long after they were printed

There are also other types of ephemera not included in Merriam Webster's definition. Postcards were meant to communicate with family and friends and then be thrown away. Programs for a play or sporting event provided you information on the event and performers or players. Most were not saved. Locally, Whitney in Worcester played a big part in producing greeting cards.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

Those made in Worcester and elsewhere were usually discarded after the holiday or event passed.

As with other antiques or collectibles, it is often the things that most people threw away that are the most collectible. Some ephemeral pieces can bring large sums at auc-

A 1959 ticket for a John F. Kennedy speech in Nashville, TN signed by JFK, Robert Kennedy and Jackie Kennedy ** * * * * * * sold for over \$8,000 last year.
WAYNE TUISKULA A "Mountain Road" lottery ticket signed by George Washington brought \$12,500

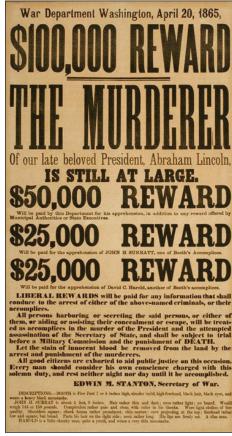
this year. The tickets were sold to raise funds for a proposed road to a resort in Virginia. A ticket stub for Michael Jordan's first NBA basketball game from 1984 went for over \$36,000 at auction in 2018.

Real photo postcards are actual photographs with a postcard back and some can be quite valuable. A real photo postcard that read "WRIGHT AEROPLANE COLLEGE PARK MD OCT '09" pictured the Wright Brothers' airplane. It sold for \$10,000 in 2017. A 1964 Beatles postcard signed by all four reached over \$18,000. As you might expect, sports related postcards can be some of the most valuable. A 1915 Red Sox team real photo postcard that included Babe Ruth during his rookie year fetched

A six-color broadside offering sale of Missouri lands in 40 acre or more lots by the Hannibal & St. Joseph's Railroad brought nearly \$20,000 in 2013. A broadside advertising a \$100,000 reward for Abraham Lincoln's assassins sold for \$80,000 in 2009. A rare July 1776 printed broadside of the Declaration of Independence sold at auction in 2016. The Massachusetts-Bay Colony's Authorized Edition was printed by Ezekiel Russell of Salem, Mass. It realized over \$500,000.

An 1892 Henri de Toulose-Lautrec poster, "AMBASSADEURS / ARISTIDE BRUANT," brought \$50,000 in 2016. An 1864 campaign poster for Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson sold for \$250,000 last year. A 1932 movie poster for the Boris Karloff's "The Old Dark House," which was said to be one of two known to exist, went for \$950,000 in 2019. Bela Lugosi's IMDb profile shows his highest salary for a film was \$5,000. Lugosi would have had to make 190

films to pay for the poster. We will soon be hosting an online auction in Warren, RI. We are planning an estate sale in Auburn later this summer. We also will be offering toys from a huge collection in multiple online auctions. The first auctions will feature diecast cars and later auctions will feature some of the finest antique toys that we have handled. Please keep checking www.centralmassauctions. com for details.



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

Beckon twilight with a tasty summer cocktail

Perhaps nothing is more relaxing on a warm summer night than sipping a cocktail as the sun sets. Some cocktails, such as the following recipe for "Blueberry Crush" from Susan Elia MacNeal's "Infused: 100+ Recipes for Infused Liqueurs and Cocktails" (Chronicle Books), even evoke the twilight hours of summertime with their unique look.

Blueberry Crush Serves 1

- or 5 ice cubes blackberries

- blueberries
- raspberries
- ounces Blueberry Vodka (see below)
 - Dash of lime juice cup cracked ice
- 1/2 cup sparkling water or club soda (optional)

Place the ice cubes in a chilled old-fashioned glass. Place the berries in a small bowl and crush with a fork. Add to a shaker with the vodka, lime juice and cracked ice. Shake for 10 to 15 seconds, then strain over the ice cubes. For a lighter version of the drink, add

the sparkling water.

Blueberry Vodka

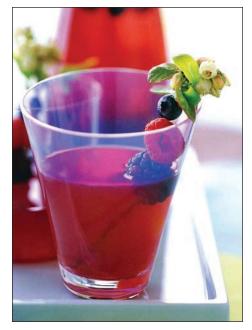
- 750-ml. bottle of vodka quart fresh blueberries
- to 1 cup Sugar Syrup (optional; see below)

Decant the vodka into a clean 2-quart glass container with a tight-fitting lid. Soak the original bottle to remove the label. Let dry.

If using frozen berries, allow them to thaw. Place the fresh or thawed frozen berries in a bowl, crush with a fork and add to the vodka. Allow the vodka to infuse away from direct sunlight and intense heat for 3 months. Shake the container a few times each week.

When you're satisfied with the intensity of flavor, strain the liqueur through a metal sieve into a bowl. Discard the berries. Add the sugar syrup to taste, if

Using a funnel, pour the liqueur into the original bottle (or another contain-



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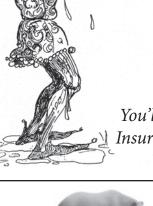
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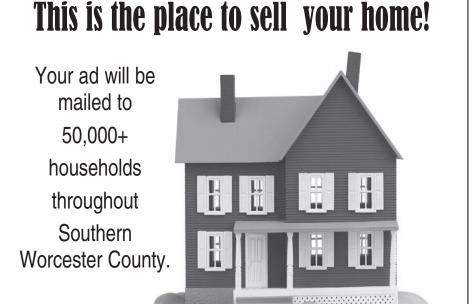
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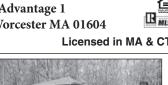


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A buyer's guide to home air conditioning systems

Few experiences provide as the best match. The AHRI much relief as walking into a cool room on a hot summer day. Air conditioning systems make such experiences possible, and homeowners' decision in regard to which one to install in their homes is significant.

Homeowners may not know where to begin in regard to finding the right air conditioning system for their home. According to the Air-Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration Institute, the best systems provide steady, dependable performance for many years when sized correctly for the home. Correct installation and routine maintenance also can ensure homeowners' air conditioning systems withstand the test of time.

is best? When shopping for new air conditioning systems, homeowners must consider a host of factors to ensure they get

How do I know which size

notes that the home's age, the number and quality of its windows, how well it's insulated, the number of stories it has, and its square footage are among the factors to consider. Homeowners can benefit from working with trained technicians who can investigate each of these factors and recommend the correct system. The AHRI recommends homeowners ask their technicians to perform a Manual J analysis, which is a standardized formula that can help homeowners get the perfect system for their homes.

What about energy efficien-

Energy efficiency is an important consideration when purchasing a new air conditioner for a home. Energy rates vary depending on where a person lives, but rates remain pretty high across the board. Energy Information Association notes that residential electricity rates increased

throughout the United States by about 15 percent between 2009 and 2019. An energy-efficient unit can help homeowners save considerable amounts of money, so homeowners can ask their technicians to recommend energy-efficient units that suit their homes. A unit that adequately cools a home without consuming a lot of costly electricity should be every homeowner's goal. The U.S. Department of Energy employs the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating, or SEER, to inform consumers about the efficiency of each air conditioner. This rating is noted on the Energy Guide® label on each unit, and the higher the number, the more efficient the unit.

Home air conditioning systems are costly. But the right choice of unit can keep homes cool without costing homeowners a fortune in energy costs.



Maintain privacy and safety while video conferencing

Video conferencing tools captured the world's attention shortly after stay-at-home orders prompted people to seek alternatives to in-person gatherings. Seemingly overnight millions of people were logging onto various platforms to connect and chat with friends, family, schoolmates, coworkers, and others near and far. In March 2020, daily Zoom video chat users ballooned to more than 200 million from a previous maximum of 10 million, according to Zoom CEO Eric Yuan.

As digital communication continues to be an integral component of staying in touch — even after COVID-related restrictions are eased — users need to remain cognizant of the potential safety and privacy hazards related to this type of technology. Not all platforms are created equal, and some compromise security in favor of usability. The following are some safety considerations when using video chat.

Look for transparency

Video conferencing platforms should be open and honest about the data they collect, how information is used, whether you'll be targeted for advertising, and which security features they employ. Recognize if and when your chat is being recorded.

Pick a platform that favors security "Zoombombing" refers to some security loopholes that have enabled hackers to enter Zoom chat rooms and leave inappropriate images and content. The company has had to fix bugs and tighten security in light of such problems.

Apple is known for strong encryption practices, meaning the company cannot see what you are sharing through a face call. People who chat with other Apple users can rely on the company's builtin, free FaceTime app, which doesn't require an additional download. Signal also is an encrypted messaging app considered to be the world's most secure, and it's increasingly going mainstream. Engage extra security features

Meeting hosts may be able to reduce the risk of security breaches by incorporating some features, according to the Federal Trade Commission.



Conferencing services may offer the option to lock the meeting once the participants have arrived. Others may require approval of each participant trying to join. Many services enable password encryption or ID numbers for each new meeting.

Be mindful of your surroundings

Sometimes the biggest privacy blunders are made by users. Be sure to check the settings of microphones and cameras as they may be "on" by default when joining chats. If you want to increase privacy, disengage these options. Be sure you know which background items are in view as well, as others may be able to see private documents, photos

or people in your household. Let other people in the home know you are on a call, so they can refrain from discussing personal information.

Another concern is sharing your screen through video apps, in the case of slide shows or work or school presentations. Before sharing, make sure you don't have any open documents, browser windows or other things on the screen not intended for a public audience.

Video conferencing is the new normal and safety needs to be kept in mind when utilizing this mode of communication.

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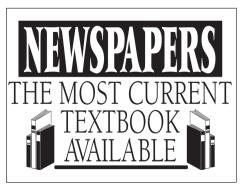
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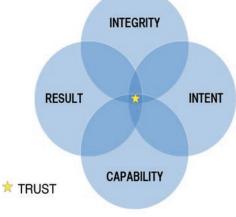


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knowledge vou have.

You are influenced greatly by the people you spend the most time with. Choose your friends wisely.

You are who you are, where you are and what you are in your life based by what you allow into your mind. What you let in determines the decisions you make. Read good books and choose your entertainment wisely. Don't allow negativity into your mind. Chose what and who you allow into your head.

Finally, I'll share that I've never met a successful pessimist. The most successful people I have ever met are also the most optimistic. Successful people are those that believe in their success before it happens and they make the decisions to make it so.

make the decisions to make it so.

Choose to be optimistic in all that you do.

What decisions will you make today?

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

COCKTAIL

continued from page A10

er). Label with the name of liqueur and the date. Age for 1 month away from light and best

Sugar Syrup

1 cup water 2 cups granulated sugar Put the water in a small saucepan. Add the sugar. Bring the water to a boil while stirring. Reduce the heat and continue to stir until the sugar dissolves. Cool to room temperature. Select a clean container that will hold at least 11/2 cups. Using a funnel, pour the sugar syrup into the container, seal and store in the refrigerator for up to 6 months.



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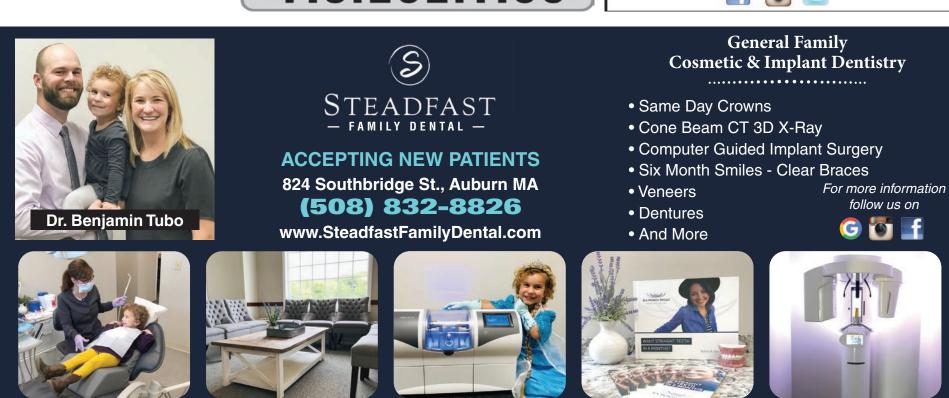
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