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Friday, September 23, 2022

# Get ready, get set, go to Tour Opacum!



BRIMFIELD — The Sixth Annual Bike Ride for Land Conservation: The Southbridge Credit Union Tour Opacum Ride is happening again on Sunday, Sept. 25!

Bikes, Beers and a good cause! Tour Opacum is Opacum Land Trust's largest fundraiser of the year, and a fun day of biking, comradery, and enjoying a drink with good friends. Proceeds from the ride will help Opacum Land Trust protect critical land, water, and wildlife, and provide outdoor spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Bike routes are planned for all ages and abilities that will take you on beautiful country roads (all paved & marked) and past properties that Opacum Land Trust has conserved. Serious riders can choose a challenging 50 or 100-mile ride through the hills of Brimfield and Monson, or you can enjoy a beautiful 26-mile loop, a leisurely 10-mile loop, or a family-friendly 2-mile ride. Snacks, rest stops and rider support are provided throughout the ride. All rides start and end at the Brimfield Winery.

Rapscallion Brewery after party at the Brimfield Winery

After your ride, return to the winery for the Rapscallion Brewery after party with live music, food, craft beer, wine, games and more at the Brimfield Winery. All riders get a free drink, food voucher, and a swag bag full of goodies from our amazing sponsors.

Prizes for the biggest team

Get your friends, family, co-workers, and riding crew to join you to win a prize for the biggest team! Just pick a team name and make sure everyone includes it when they register. If your team is the biggest when pre-registration closes on September 22nd your whole team wins.

Sponsors

Southbridge Credit Union is the lead sponsor for Tour Opacum, demonstrating their continued commitment to the community. Thank you for the continued support of this event by our other sponsors: Rapscallion

# Charlton prioritizing capital spending plan in 2023

#### BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – With a slew of capital projects on the table and the Dudley Charlton Regional School District recently approving investment in new school roofs, selectmen have made it clear that laying out a town-specific Capital Spending Plan is one of their priorities for Town Administrator Andrew Golas going into 2023.

Selectman Bill Borowski stressed the request during a brief discussion about the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator goals and objectives on Sept. 13, noting the larger number of capital projects that have been brought forward in recent years as well as the potential for more investments in the school district as their multi-phase capital plan takes shape.

"The only goal that's kind of a priority to me is that with the amount of funding we will be asked for over the next fiscal year or twelve months, one of the things I'd really like to emphasize to Andrew is to develop a true Capital Spending Plan with his proposals for us to consider, obviously trying to minimize tax increases as best we can, but also knowing there's only a finite amount of up I really think we need not just a manifest, but also some proposals of how we could fund them."

Town Administrator Golas agreed saying the growing number of capital projects has been on his mind as well. He said he will fully embrace the board's request.

"That's something that went through my head, what's the target timeline that we need to look at as we're considering the fire station, Shepherd Hill and the school roofs and really just what pots do we need to pull from because really it all comes down to tax dollars," said Golas.

Over the last five years the potential need for a refurbishment or replacement for Shepherd Hill Regional High School, the need for a new fire department, updates or replacement of the police department, a new senior center and other smaller investments have all been proposed or discussed heavily on the town level. While the school district recently received voter approval for roof replacements and other projects, the towns of Charlton and Dudley need to determine how they will fund those investments and taxpayers have already voted down a public safety complex and purchasing the Charlton Furniture property for a new senior center. It appears the goal of both the

Please Read **OPACUM,** page A4

dollars," said Borowski. "To me, that's something we really need to focus on this year between Shepherd Hill and the Senior Center, the Fire Station, there's so many things coming

Please Read SPENDING, page A3

## Charlton planning fall event for Old Home Day vendors

#### BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — While many braved the torrential rainfall to attend Charlton's annual Old Home Day on Labor Day Monday, the impact of the weather on the many vendors and non-profits that turned out for the event has selectmen considering another community event this year to help make up for the loses.

Selectwomen Patsy Rydlak and Barbara Zurawski discussed the idea with their fellow selectmen on Sept. 13 where Rydlak pointed out that because of the weather the organizations represented at the event weren't able to benefit from raffles and food sales as they would have in the past. So, she and others brainstormed ways to help make up for the loses on Labor Day.

"Because Old Home Day was such a rain out a lot of our venders who make the majority of their fundraising during Old Home Day weren't able to," said Rydlak. "We kind of threw around the idea of having a town yard sale on the town common to invite the venders and I guess there's other organizations that do that."

However, Rydlak and Zurawski, with input from some members of the Town Hall staff, landed on a different idea: a fall festival or music event that could be help indoors. The current concept would bring a new fall event to the town's community center, better known as the Charlton Arts & Activities Center, where the non-profit and town vendors would be able to showcase their programs and hold their raffles and food sales once again using the permits already approved for Old Home Day.

These are our scouts and

our local organizations that do a lot for this town," said Rydlak stressing that these organizations deserve a day where the community can come out and support them without having to push through Mother Nature. Exact details and dates for the event will be worked out between Rydlak, Zurowski and others who have offered to volunteer their time to plan the day. More details are expected to be released soon.

Meanwhile, the Board of Selectmen also took the time to host award presentations that were postponed due to the rain during Old Home Day. Each year standout citizens, businesses, and organizations are honored at the event with special awards recognizing their commitment to Charlton. The Honorary Parade Marshall of 2022 was longtime Boy Scout leader Brian Wolcott. Business of the Year was awarded to The Overlook for its 110 years in Charlton. Community Service Awards were presented to Marguerite (Silvestri) Jalbert, Eric and Kerry Breilinger, Debra Ciesluk, and Mike Zereski. Youth Community Service Awards were presented

Please Read EVENT, page A3

## Sturbridge to celebrate National Public Lands Day with Riverlands Trails open house



Photo Courtesy

The recently completed Riverlands Parking lot/trail head at 52 Stallion Hill Rd.

STURBRIDGE The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF), in collaboration with federal, state, community and nonprofit partners, will present the 29th annual National Public Lands Day celebration—the largest single-day volunteer event for America's public lands. The theme for this year's NPLD celebration is "Giving Back Together," in honor of the role America's public lands play in bringing people together for recreation, socialization, and stewardship will be celebrated in Sturbridge with a "Trails Open House" celebrating the completion of the Riverlands Parking lot & trails, two sections of the regional Grand Trunk Trail totaling just over a mile, and the opening of the Long Pond Open Space parcel and trail.

All events will be held at the Riverlands parking lot, 52 Stallion Hill Rd., from 10 a.m. to noon.

A formal ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 10 a.m., followed by several

bike rides and walks including at 10:20 a.m. guided, a two-mile flow trail bike ride, 10:30 a.m., a two-mile trail run, and also a guided 1 mile trail walk and at 10:45 a.m., a guided 1.5 mile family bike ride. A staffed Bike maintenance station courtesy of Putnam Cyclery will be available along with bike safety information. The trail committee will be staffing a table of local trail information and our trail guides This open house event is hosted by The Friends of Sturbridge Trails (FrOST).

This Riverlands parking lot and trail work was several years in completion, using \$ 94,000 in Mass Trails Grants, \$65,000 in Community Preservation funds, and supported by the Sturbridge DPW, Northern Tree Service, Morse Engineering & Construction, Green Hill Engineering, and countless volunteer hours by the Trail Committee and our "3rd Saturday" volun-

# Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale pumpkin patch returns



STURBRIDGE — The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale's popular Pumpkin Patch returns on Saturday, Sept. 24, filling the entire front lawn of the church at 8 Maple St., Sturbridge, with a wide array of pumpkins and gourds for sale, along with mums, hay bales, and corn stalks for your holiday decorating.

The Pumpkin Patch will be open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather permitting. As a special nod to the Federated Church's 100th anniversary that is celebrated throughout the year, any customer whose order totals \$100 or more will be able to choose one additional pumpkin for free.

The patch continues through October 30, with a variety of special events and activities scheduled, including a pumpkin carving demonstration by Roger Williams Park Jack-o-Lantern Spectacular carver Heidi Curboy on October 9 and a performance by Auburn a capella chorus, Rock Voices on October 16, followed by piano selections from Federated Church music director Andrew Kosiba.

According to committee chair Tom Mapplebeck, "The annual Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale Pumpkin Patch made its first appearance in 2018 as a fundraiser that benefits church operations and numerous regional ministries. A significant benefit goes to the Navajo Nation in Farmington, New Mexico where Pumpkins USA employs more than 700 Native Americans during the harvest months of September and October, and a full-time off-season staff that is comprised of entirely Native Americans. This has a lasting impact on a region with 42 percent unemployment."

The Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale is celebrating its 100th anniversary throughout 2022. The Church was formed in 1922 when three Sturbridge congregations – the Congregational Church (1736), the Baptist Church (1747), and the Unitarian Society (1864) – joined together to become one entity. Later, a fourth, non-denominational society, known as the Federated Society, was formed. Two thousand twenty-two marks the 100th anniversary of that union.

For additional information about the Pumpkin Patch or other upcoming events, please visit the Church website at sturfed.org or contact the Church office at (774) 304-1021 or churchoffice@ sturfed.org. Regular updates will also be available on the Church's Facebook page @FederatedChurchSturbridgeFiskdale.

The Federated Church of Sturbridge & Fiskdale joyfully celebrates Christ's presence and God's grace in our lives. Members of the community are welcome and invited to join in worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

## Baker announces major investment in school safety

#### BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

REGION – Gov. Charlie Baker recently announced plans to file legislation proposing major investments in school safety initiatives.

Joined at the announcement by Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Jeff Riley, the Governor unveiled his proposal to support safety programming, training, and resources for school districts across the Commonwealth.

'As children return full-time to the classroom this fall, we want parents and educators to know that our administration is always working to improve and build on all the resources available to districts to make their schools as secure as possible," said Baker. "Our administration will continue to provide resources for students, staff, families, and first responders while making investments in training for first responders and school staff so they can protect Massachusetts schools."

For local law enforcement leaders, it's critical to secure ongoing funds for training exercises and safety programs. The goal each year is to partner with local schools to maximize preparedness and safety measures.

"School buildings house one of the most vulnerable segments of the population. The Governor's proposal helps provide some of the funding necessary to protect these valuable assets," said Spencer Police Chief David Darrin.

Added Sturbridge Police Chief Earl Dessert, "It is imperative that school safety is a priority. The Sturbridge Police Department and school administration work closely together and will be monitoring the funding for school safety and take every opportunity to enhance school security and increase training."

Recognizing the increased number of parents across the Commonwealth—and the nation—who have opted to homeschool their children in recent years due to school safety and health concerns, state officials hope the latest proposal will help families feel safer about sending kids back to class.

"Children, teachers, and staff deserve to feel safe in the classroom, and our administration's funding proposal will invest in the resources and programming required to equip school communities and emergency personnel with the tools they need to keep schools safe," said Polito. "We look forward to working with our colleagues in the Legislature to provide critical funding for districts across the Commonwealth."

In the coming weeks, the Baker-Polito Administration will file a supplemental budget request totaling nearly \$40 million to support school safety initiatives. These include matching grants for security upgrades in K-12 schools and public higher education institutes; grant funding to support school districts piloting an anonymous "tip line" to report potential threats; funding for a statewide public awareness campaign and corresponding training; support for ongoing emergency response training for school officials; and the creation of a comprehensive school safety website.

"These proposed supports would be a welcome addition to school districts' safety planning and infrastructure," said Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley. "The matching funds for equipment upgrades, plus funding for additional school staff to meet and collaborate with first responders, are critical pieces that will help ensure our schools are places where students are safe, healthy, and ready to learn."

To date, as part of the Safe and Supportive Schools Initiative, the Baker-Polito Administration has awarded \$15 million in grant funding, including \$7.5 million awarded to more than 150 districts statewide to invest in security-related infrastructure upgrades. Another \$7.5 million in grant funding was allocated to increase mental health supports and behavioral health specialists available at schools.

Additionally, the state's Executive Office of Public Safety and Security teamed up with education leaders to train school departments on best practices for emergencies and active shooter responses in school settings.

During their recent announcement, state leaders also promoted the Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Program, an internationally recognized standard adopted by the Commonwealth as part of its ongoing commitment to emergency preparedness. The ASHER framework has already been implemented in state-run police and fire training academies.

To learn more about school safety initiatives in Massachusetts, visit www. mass.gov.



## THE INNOVATION THAT FIGHTS LUNG CANCER BY REMOVING THE WAIT FOR HELP.

When a patient has a chest X-ray that reveals something suspicious on a lung, it can take weeks or months to determine if the spot is cancer. For the patient, that means weeks or months of waiting for answers. Fortunately, a team at UMass Memorial Health has helped pioneer a procedure that produces answers in hours. It's called ROADAT, and it has everyone breathing easier.



UMass Memorial Health is home to countless innovations that are changing medicine and saving lives. To learn more about ROADAT, **visit ummhealth.org/relentless.** 

# Here Today Adopted Tomorrow saving lives during Best Friends Animal Society's Strut **Your Mutt Celebration Walk**

BRIMFIELD — Here Today Adopted Tomorrow, HTAT, along with hundreds of animal rescue groups across the country, is participating in Best Friends Animal Society's annual fundraising dog walk and festival, Strut Your Mutt Celebration Walk, on Saturday, Sept. 24. The event brings together communities to raise money to save the lives of homeless pets.

Best Friends Strut Your Mutt Celebrations feature local animal organizations raising crucial funds needed to save the lives of more pets in their communities. The event is not limited to dog lovers; many cat organizations have also benefitted from being a part of Strut Your Mutt. To sign-up go to bit. ly/HTATwalk22 and press "Join My Team."

Here Today Adopted Tomorrow's 10th Annual Strut Your Mutt® Celebration Walk will be held on Saturday, Sept. 24, at Brimfield Auction Acres, as part of the Brimfield Community Partnership's (BCP) Brimfield Craft and Harvest Festival. The Festival is an all-day, family-friendly event that runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with HTAT's walk starting at 1 p.m. Those who would like to participate in HTAT's walk can either pre-register online at bit.ly/HTATwalk22 by pressing "Join My Team," or register on-site on Sept. 24 from noon to 1 p.m. Walkers are welcome to come with or without a dog.

"We at Here Today Adopted Tomorrow are proud to be part of the Best Friends Strut Your Mutt celebration happening across the country, and we're so excited to combine our annual walk with the BCP's Brimfield Harvest Festival," said Rachael Max, HTAT's Executive Director and Board President.

"HTAT is working with Best Friends toward the goal of taking this nation no-kill by 2025. Working together we can accomplish great things all around the country and right here at home for our dogs and cats. We love our community and we know you do too, so help us take action for pets and the people who love them. Join us in saving lives by participating in Here Today Adopted Tomorrow's 10th Annual Strut Your Mutt® Celebration, and stick around for some fun fall activities at the Harvest Festival!"

Best Friends has been helping local animal rescue groups and shelters for more than 26 years to raise funds for their lifesaving work through Strut Your Mutt walks around the country. Nationally the fundraising goal for Strut Your Mutt 2022 is \$1.3 million

Thank you to Best Friends' sponsors ACANA, the official Best Friends Credit Card (in partnership with Credit One Bank), Free People, Lagunitas, Limavady, SpeedQueen, Wahl, and Aetna and to HTAT's Lion Sponsors Savers Bank and Petco Love who help make Strut Your Mutt a huge lifesaving success

About Here Today Adopted Tomorrow Animal Sanctuary

Here Today Adopted Tomorrow (HTAT) was founded by mother-daughter team Barbara Horn and Rachael Max. HTAT is a volunteer driven group focused on creating and supporting the bond between animals and people in our community. In 2012 we opened our no kill, cageless cat adoption center for adult cats and kittens in Brimfield, MA. It is deeply important to us that every resident's stay at HTAT is comfortable and healthy, making for well-adjusted, happy animals. Shortly after opening, we realized there were more homeless cats than we could handle by adoption alone. Our ultimate goal is to keep pets and people together. We have programs to help special needs cats flourish and

get adopted, as well as community assistance programs to help pet owners keep their pets, such as our Pet Food Pantry, low-cost spay-neuter program, and Safety Net Foster Program for owned cats. HTAT helps over 1,000 animals and their families every year. For more information, visit heretodaysanctuary. org

About Best Friends Animal Society

About Best Friends Animal Society Best Friends Animal Society is a leading animal welfare organization working to end the killing of dogs and cats in America's shelters by 2025. Founded in 1984, Best Friends is a pioneer in the no-kill movement and has helped reduce the number of animals killed in shelters from an estimated 17 million per year to around 355,000. Best Friends runs lifesaving programs all across the country, as well as the nation's largest no-kill animal sanctuary. Working collaboratively with a network of more than 3,800 animal welfare and shelter partners, and community members nationwide, Best Friends is working to Save Them All®. For more information, visit bestfriends.org.

# Jack Lafond completes intensive research project

WORCESTER — Jack Lafond, from Sturbridge, a member of the class of 2025 majoring in Data Science (BS) at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense research project titled Stock Market Simulation 2114

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to addresses an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of students complete a project at one of the university's 50-plus off-campus project centers, which are located around the world. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives-and make a difference before they graduate.

"The WPI project-based curriculum's

focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of Integrative& Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

Worcester Polytechnic About Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

## SPENDING

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selectmen and Golas involve determining how these projects could be funded with minimal impact to the taxpayers. It's a happy medium that has been a challenge for most towns, especially in the wake of the pandemic.

## EVENT

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to Nina Zurawski and Maggie Mullaly and the Posthumous Award was presented to the family of Cathy Kuehl, a longtime volunteer in Charlton who was heavily involved with the Helping Hand Society, Housing Authority, Earth Day, and the Lion's Club. Finally, Citizen of the Year was presented to Joe Gaucher who has donated many years of service to the Charlton Grange and is a Commander for the local American Legion



# New behavioral health pod opens at Harrington



SOUTHBRIDGE — UMass Memorial Health – Harrington has opened a new behavioral health emergency service pod in the Emergency Department of Harrington Hospital in Southbridge. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the new facility to officially mark the

## opening.

The new four-bed pod includes a dedicated nursing station, full bathroom and shower. The expansion will provide a more comfortable and calming environment for patients seeking behavioral health care who may experience longer emergency room stavs awaiting inpatient psychiatric placement or further evaluation.

The addition of a dedicated behavioral health emergency pod will also allow for better use of existing emergency department rooms, which are primarily configured for medical use, as well as more efficient patient management and care.

"The need for behavioral health care was already growing before the pandemic, and beginning to stretch our resources. But since the pandemic began, that need has exploded," said Ed Moore, President of UMass Memorial Health - Harrington. "Patients presenting with depression and anxiety have tripled since the beginning of the pandemic. According to the Department of Mental Health, emergency room boardings have increased by 200 to 400 percent in the state of Massachusetts since June of 2020. And those statistics reflect

a greater need for behavioral health care among all ages, including children, teens and young adults. As just one example, national data from the CDC shows emergency room visits by teenage girls following suicide attempts rose by 50% in the past two years."

"It became clear that greater resources were required to meet the full needs of caring for our community. This

expansion will help us to do that, and to continue our commitment to providing innovative, high quality and compassionate behavioral healthcare to Southbridge and surrounding com-

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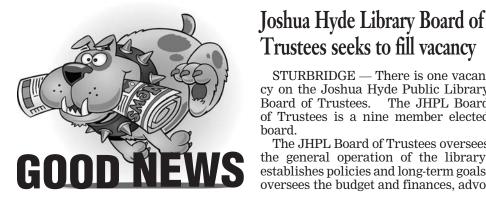
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# **Bay Path Practical Nursing** students complete dementia care training course

CHARLTON — The entire Practical Nursing Class of 2023 at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy completed the eight-hour Dementia Care Training Course recently and all became Dementia Care Certified.

In the photo above is Professor Cheryl Cahill, MSN Ed, RN (far left) of Oxford, who facilitated the course along with members of the 2023 cohort. Professor Cahill welcomed the PN 2023 cohort and lead the crucial education and training for Dementia Care. The Dementia Care training modules meet the requirement for the one-time course on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive impairments, including, but not limited to, Alzheimer's and dementia. Professor Cahill's experience and successful stint as a staff nurse, pediatric emergency room (2006-2015) and staff nurse, adult emergency room at UMass Memorial Medical Center is recognized.

"We are pleased to recognize





Professor Cahill's expertise and effectiveness in teaching," said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director. "Professor Cahill is among the most respected faculty and is a trusted advisor and mentor to students and alumni alike. Leading the Dementia Care training for the PN Class of 2023 solidifies Professor Cahill's

STURBRIDGE — There is one vacan-

cy on the Joshua Hyde Public Library

Board of Trustees. The JHPL Board

of Trustees is a nine member elected

The JHPL Board of Trustees oversees

the general operation of the library,

establishes policies and long-term goals, oversees the budget and finances, advo-

board.

commitment to practical nursing education, we are grateful and value her time, practice, and experience.'

Professor Cahill expressed how everyone at Bay Path is "lucky to have the opportunity to influence future nurses as we strive to provide the highest level of practical nursing education."

cates for the library in the community, and attends monthly board meetings.

Interested individuals can contact Becky Plimpton, Library Director at 508-347-2512 or bplimpton@cwmars. org for more information. A letter of interest and a brief resume should be submitted to the Library Board of Trustees Chairperson, c/o Joshua Hyde Public Library, 306 Main Street, Sturbridge. All expressions of interest must be received by September 22, 2022.

## visit www.townofcharlton.net or more information. Individual offices may vary PUBLIC LIBRARY (248-0452) For library hours please check www.charltonlibrary.org

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

Friday.....

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POLICE DEPARTMENT (248-2250) Monday to Friday..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For emergencies, dial 911 FIRE DEPARTMENT (248-2299) Monday to Friday..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. **POST OFFICES** Charlton Center Post Office... (800) 275-8777

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Charlton Middle School......(508) 248-1423 Shepherd Hill Regional High School 

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HOLLAND: 413-245-7108 Mon – Thurs 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FISKDALE: 508-347-6486 Weekdays 9:00-4:30 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

**STURBRIDGE 508-347-6463** Weekdays 8:30 - 5:00 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

BRIMFIELD: 413-245-3451 Weekdays: 9:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

WALES: 413-245-9808 Weekdays 8:30 – 12:30 and 2:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00 – 12:00

## **CHURCH LISTINGS**

· Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St., 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 10 a.m.

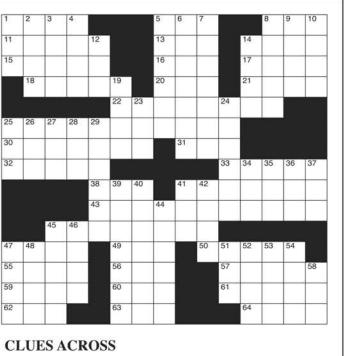
 Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org Sunday worship and Children's church 10am

• 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.

• Living Word Church of Charlton, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am. www.livingwordhcarlton.com info(a)livingwordcharlton.com • New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. • Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale- 8 Maple St. Sturbridge, 774-304-1021 www.sturfed.org Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. • Bethlehem Lutheran Church- 345 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566 Phone 508-347-7297 Web: www.bethlehemsturbridge.org Services - Sunday 9:30 am Pastor Dan Purtell



38. Promotions

41. En \_: incidentally

## RIVERLANDS

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teer trail day volunteers.

NEEF's National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the nation's largest single-day volunteer event for public lands. Established in 1994 and held annually on the fourth Saturday in September, this celebration brings out thousands of volunteers to help restore and improve public lands around the country. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, America's public lands acted as a safe haven for recreation, conversation, and the simple enjoyment of being outside the confines of our homes. In a time of disconnectedness and uncertainty, the outdoors brought people together and deepened our appreciation for the important role these spaces play in our lives.

Join us on Saturday, Sept. 24 as we celebrate the 29th annual National Public Lands Day and renew our commitment to securing a safer and healthier world for ourselves, our children, and generations to come. On this page, https://www.neefusa.org/npld find a map for locating the Sturbridge or other NPLD events near you, and so much more.

For more information on Sturbridge Trails visit: www.sturbridge trails.org and the FrOST Facebook page: https://www.facebook. com/Friends-of-Sturbridge-Trails

opacumlt.org or call 508-347-

5. Gas usage measurement 8. Golf score 11. A superior grade of black tea 13. Wrath 14. Eating house 15. Delay leaving a place 16. People now inhabiting Myanmar 17. Canadian flyers 18. Walks back and forth 20. Frequently 21. Humans have two 22. Surrounds with armed forces 25. Made proper 30. Medical buildings

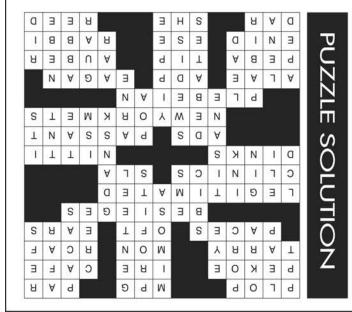
1. Fall down

- 31. Patty Hearst's captors
- 32. Hits with a drop shot
- 33. Italy's PM 1919-20

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
- 2. Jump
- 3. Eaten as a vegetable 4. Residual paresis after
- anesthesia
- 5. Brunchtime staple
- 6. Makes money off of
- 7. Refined
- 8. Nocturnal S. American rodents 41. Meadow-grass
- 9. From a distance
- 10. Officials
- 12. It helps you see
- 14. Central Canadian indigenous
- person
- 19. Invests in little enterprises 23. They help in tough situations
- 24. Industrial port in Poland
- 25. Type of screen
- 26. Peyton's little brother
- 27. Alcoholic beverage
- 28. Newspapers need it

- 43. Queens baseball team 45. Commoner 47. Expenses in insurance world (abbr.) 49. Payroll firm 50. Broadway actress Daisy 55. Skipper butterflies 56. Hint 57. Daniel \_\_, French composer 59. English children's author Blyton 60. Midway between east and southeast 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation 62. Patriotic women's group 63. The woman 64. Tall, slender-leaved plant
- 29. Herbal tea 34. Distinctive practice 35. Exercise system -bo
- 36. Explosive
- 37. Belonging to a thing
- 39. Presidential candidates engage in them
- 40. Of the Swedes
- - 42. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 44. Hooray!
- 45. Greek city
- 46. One way to do it by example
- 47. Imitated
- 48. "Game of Thrones" actress
- Headey
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Drought-resistant plant
- 53. A French abbot
- 54. One point east of northeast 58. Get free of



**OPACUM** 

continued from page A1

Brewery, Brimfield Winery, Southbridge Bicycles, The Centered Place Yoga Studio, and Maddie's Dogs

Want to attend the event, but not interested in riding? Volunteer with us!

We need volunteers help throughout the day to help with registration, rest stops, setup, clean-up, and more. Volunteers receive a free volunteer t-shirt, and free food and drink ticket for the event.

We ask that volunteers are fully vaccinated, and choose from one of the following shift times: 6 - 10 a.m.

8 a.m. - noon 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

or noon - 4 p.m. info@ Please email

9144 with the volunteer shift vou would like to help out in. Thank you!

About Opacum Land Trust Opacum Land Trust is a regional, non-profit land conservation organization protecting land for wildlife, forestry, farming, water, and outdoor recreation. We work in a 13-town region stretching from eastern Hampden Country and southwestern Worcester County in the towns between Monson and Charlton. Founded in 2000, Opacum currently protects over 2,200 acres of land and is actively working to protect more land across the service area. Reach out to us at Opacum Land Trust, PO Box 233, Sturbridge, MA 01566; 508-347-9144, and visit the website for news and events at www.OpacumLT.org

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– **REAL ESTATE** 

### BRIMFIELD

\$374,900, 160 Warren Rd, Lazo, Hannah T, to Gray-Storey, Taryn, and Gray-Storey, John.

\$125,000, Dunhamtown Brimfield Rd #3, Hull Forestlands LP, to Sacerdote, Brian, and Gerwatowski, Samantha.

\$75,000, Dunhamtown Brimfield Rd, Hufault Donald G Est, and Hufault, Jay C, to Liatobhail RT, and Recore, Emerson G.

### **CHARLTON**

\$655,000, 75 Freeman Rd, Terencio, Victor, and Terencio, Amanda, to Plotegher, Joseph G, and Plotegher, Christina M.

\$540,000, 3 Stoneybrook Rd, Trudel, John J, and Trudel, Pamela, to Henry, Christopher, and Henry, Karen E.

\$436,000, 9 Gale Rd, Packard, Jean F, and Packard, William R, to Bagley, Samara, and Bagley 3rd, Joseph.

\$365,000, 24 Potter Village Rd, Piehl, Sarah, to Merced, Benjamin, and Ortiz, Xiomara.

\$205,000, 107 Center Depot Rd #H, Blanchard, Kerry A, to Fowler, Jamie.

\$100,000, 19-A S Sturbridge Rd, Blanchard 3rd, Francis J, and Blanchard, Scott E, to 1106 Real Estate LLC.

### **STURBRIDGE**

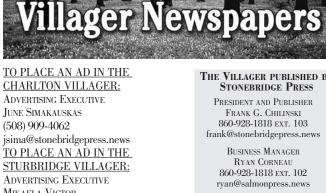
\$645,000, 42 Draper Woods Rd, Bixby, Robert M, and Ferreira-Bixby, Nancy, to Barrett, James A, and Vanasse, Stacie.

\$635,000, 12 Mcgilpin Rd, Cuttyhunk NT, and Olson, Charles A, to Mooney, Robert, and Mooney, Megan.

\$560,000, 8 Newton Pl, Bradley, Gregg M, and Bradley, Brianne, to Stevens, Christine.

\$550,000, 38 Warren Rd, Zyjeski, Jeffrey, and Calabrese, Ashley, to Gualpa, Gabriela C, and Vanbuiten, Sarah T.

\$310,000, 11 Adams Rd, Esslinger Phyllis C Est, and Litman, Amy E, to Cooley, Ellenjean, and Cooley, Patrick.



MIKAELA VICTOR (774) 200-7308 mikaela@stonebridgepress.news SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES: KERRI PETERSON (508) 909-4103 kerri@stonebridgepress.news TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:

E-MAIL obits@stonebridgepress.news CALL: 508-909-4149 OR send to Chalrton Villager

P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER

TO THE EDITOR:  $\overline{\text{E-MAIL}}$ : news@stonebridgepress.news

OR send to Chalrton VillageP.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550'

# Thank you, Big Bunny shoppers!

#### BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER QUINEBUAG MASONIC LODGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Saturday Sept 17, 2022, the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge started its community outreach program and set up a food drive table to help collect food for the Southbridge food share. Southbridge food share is located at 79 Elm St., and has been around for many years. Its services Southbridge, Sturbridge, Holland, Wales, Brimfield, and Charlton. What a beautiful fall day.

Big Bunny Market was buzzing with shoppers that morning and people were very generous and supportive of the food drive. One of the community outreaches programs this year was to collect and raise food for in need. Quinebaug Lodge was able to collect and donate 40 bags of groceries and \$72 in donations. Bill Bouvier a volunteer at the Southbridge food share, food drive was excited to see the truck load of bags of donated food. He mentioned to us that the food share program provides food to about 80 families a month.

#### Photo Courtesy

Left to right: Brother Clay Tully, Bro. Terrance Mount, Bro. Will Proper, and Bro. Chip Hubert members of Quinebaug Lodge proudly standing behind all the bags of food collected for the food drive in front of Big Bunny Market. All these food donation and cash collected will go to the Southbridge food share located on 79 Elm St.

A special thank you goes out to Big Bunny Market for giving us the opportunity to set up our table for this worthy cause, and the donation of cases of food for the food share. At the beginning of the 2023 Masonic year which starts in September, members decide on what community outreach programs they would like to support. The food drive was the brainchild of Worshipful Bill Bellanger and was unanimously voted on. In October we will hold our annual Trunk or Treat for the kids in the community. Members of the Quinebaug Lodge are very proud of our members that volunteered for these community outreach projects. If you would like



more information about Freemasonry, come on down on Saturday, Oct. 15 to our Open House at 339 Ashland Ave. from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in Southbridge or

go to massfreemasonary.org and find a lodge nearest you.

# QCC receives \$160,000 in funding for culinary re-entry programs

WORCESTER Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) has received \$160,000 in funding to continue its food service worker training program for previ-ously incarcerated individuals. The Re-Entry Workforce Development Demonstration Program is an initiative of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development Secretary, Rosalin Acosta, and provides industry-supported curriculum in culinary training for post-release students, as well as assistance with career readiness and job placement.

'QCC is committed to providing training opportunities to all individuals seeking to enter into employment in Central Massachusetts. The work we do with returning citizens is especially important as it provides the skills needed for employment and provides our returning citizens a pathway to self-sufficiency and economic independence. Our strong partnership with the Massachusetts Restaurant Association not only provides employment opportunities, but also offers the prospect of career advancement and college credits through our culinary apprenticeship program," said Dean of Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education, Kathie Manning. One graduate of the pro-

gram's summer cohort was inspired to participate by the passion of the staff at Worcester County House of Correct and QCC, as well as the support of his family.

"I will need to work and provide for myself, so this gives me more options, more tools. The whole program was good, pushing myself to do it, sticking to it, showing up. We learned different styles of cooking, but also about being in a work environment and working with people," he said.

The culinary certificates awarded to graduates are part of QCC's non-credit offerings, however, they can also be used to receive college credit. One student received her certificate in June of 2022 and will be starting at QCC this fall with nine credits towards her associate degree in hospitality and recreation management.

"There is a stigma as a formerly incarcerated individual, but coming in with this certificate helps a lot," she said, adding that she is already working in food service and eventually wants to open her own restaurant.

According to the Massachusetts Restaurant Association, there is a severe need for people to fill vacangram earn industry recognized credentials including ServSafe Food Handlers, FEAST, and Mass Allergen certifications which are necessary for the culinary industry.

The program is made possible by a strong partnership between many organizations. QCC, Worcester County Sheriff's Office, Worcester House of Corrections, Snapchef, Mass. Restaurant Association, Latin American Health Alliance, LIFT

Worcester, MassHire Central Region Workforce Board and MassHire Career Center all collaborated to make this program a success.

"Tve always believed that the best social program is a job," commented Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. "We are proud of the partnership between Quinsigamond Community College and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office that allowed for the development of this program. Graduates of the program are able to pursue extraordinary employment opportunities upon release."

"It's these types of community partnerships that are making positive changes to our region and will have long-lasting, positive implications for our local economy," said QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja.

## Dementia Friendly Charlton hosts special, free screening of "Cycle of Memory"

CHARLTON — Dementia Friendly Charlton will host a screening of "Cycle of Memory" at the Charlton Public Library, 40 Main St., on Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. Admission is free, Q & A with the director Alex Leff immediately following the screening.

Mel Schwartz escaped the Great Depression on a bicycle adventure he'd remember for the rest of his life. But when Alzheimer's disease takes Mel's memories away, it's left to his grandkids to recreate the life-changing bike trip and find those memories again. Guided by old photographs of the 1945 trip, they search for places aged by time, and with the help of a grandmother learning to live alone for the first time, Cycle of Memory explores the importance of intergenerational connection, healing painful pasts, and leaving a meaningful time a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency: massculturalcouncil.org.

Dementia Friendly Charlton strives to improve the town's dementia friendly capabilities, thereby optimizing the health, well-being and community engagement of people living with dementia and their care partners. Every part of the community plays a role and together we can create a dementia friendly culture.

cies in the hospitality industry, especially entry-level positions. Participants in this procapsule for the future. Free! This program is supported in part by a grant from the Charlton Cultural Council,



# Cornerstone Bank promotes Chelsea Prizio to VP, Credit Manager



**Chelsea Prizio** 

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is announcing the promotion of longtime employee, Chelsea Prizio, to Vice President, Credit Manager. Prizio, a resident of Warren, began her career in 2006 as a part-time teller while still attending college, and worked her way up through the deposit operations and commercial credit departments.

"Long-term employees like Chelsea are so valued at our organization," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "We are very proud of her growth over the years and her commitment to making Cornerstone Bank a great place for the community to do their banking and our employees to work."

Prizio is a graduate of Western New England University with a bachelor's degree in accounting. She has held a variety of positions within the institution including analyst, senior analyst, credit manager, and assistant vice president.

"I've learned a lot with each position I've held throughout my career at Cornerstone," said Prizio. "I look forward to using this experience to further develop our robust credit team, seamlessly integrating it into the lending department and leveraging technology to provide the best possible customer service. I also feel strongly about fostering internal growth and helping others advance in their career paths, because that's how I got to where I am today."

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 tagline, 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 visitcornerstonebank. com or call 800-939-9103.

# Quinsigamond Community College, UniCare partner to improve community bealth

W O R C E S T E R — Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) and UniCare are partnering to improve community health, beginning with offering free yoga classes to the Worcester community on Friday, Sept. 30 and Saturday, Oct. 1.The classes will be held at 9 a.m. both days at the QCC soccer field at 670 West Boylston Street in Worcester and are open to all. UniCare is a Massachusetts-based health

company providing access to healthcare for nearly 200,000 state and municipal workers across the Commonwealth.

"The partnership between Quinsigamond Community College and UniCare will benefit our campus and the Worcester community, as well as our students," said QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja. "Health and mental well-being go hand-in-hand with student success. Yoga is a way to help people reduce stress and mental tension, while also getting in good physical shape."

"As part of our mission to improve the whole health of our members and the community, we're thrilled to team up with Quinsigamond Community College to offer these free yoga classes in Worcester," said David Morales, general manager of UniCare. "Yoga is a great way to improve fitness and overall health, and we look forward to partnering with QCC again on opportunities to help strengthen the health of the Worcester community."

"College-corporate partnerships like this one enable the College to expand services among our campus community as well as our surrounding neighborhoods. It helps us to connect directly with the population we serve, while we support UniCare in expanding wellness programs throughout our community, promoting healthy living," Pedraja said. The classes will be taught

The classes will be taught by Kate Dalrymple, the owner and operator of Kula Yoga & Barre in Worcester. The first 20 attendees to register and attend each day will receive a free UniCare-branded yoga mat (one per person) and a QCC water bottle. For more information and to register, visit yogainourcommunity. com.



EGALS

#### 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 Horizon Properties, LLC to Sachem Capital Corp. d/b/a MA Sachem Capital (the "Mortgagee") dated September 29, 2020 recorded in the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 63401, Page 81, as affected by a Mortgage Modification Agreement dated March 11, 2021 recorded in the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 64771, Page 149, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on October 13. 2022 (the "Auction Date") on the mortgaged premises in Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, and having an address of 30 and 32 South Road (a/k/a 34 South Road, Lots H and G), Sturbridge, MA. The auction will be held on the mortgaged premises at 30 South Road (Lot H), Sturbridge, MA (the "Auction Site"). To wit: All that certain parcel of land on the southeasterly side of South Road, in the Town of Sturbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, consisting of four lots, Lot-E, Lot-F, Lot-G, and Lot-H, as shown of a plan of land entitled "ANR Plan of Land Site Address: South Road, Sturbridge, MA Owner: Ken M. Cournoyer, Trustee of 34 South Realty Trust", dated July 15, 2019, prepared by DC Engineering & Survey Inc., recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 944, Plan 70.

or at the time of the auction which tenancies or occupations are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, and also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances.

No representations express or implied,

of Mortgagee' Sale of Real Estate and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale and/or the Announcement of Other Terms and Conditions executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell such property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder for any of the Lots and the Single Sale, provided that the second highest bidder shall Springfield, MA 01115-5507 (413) 781-2820 Attorneys for the Mortgagee September 16, 2022 September 23, 2022

September 30, 2022

**TOWN OF CHARLTON INVITATION FOR BIDS** WINTER WASHED SAND Sealed bids appropriately marked "Winter Sand Bid " will be received, publicly opened and read aloud in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Charlton Municipal Offices, 37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507 on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Bid specifications must be obtained from the office of the Board of Selectmen's Office prior to the submission of the bid. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to waive any minor informality in the bids and reject any or all bids and to make awards in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. September 16, 2022 September 23, 2022

Said Lot-G consisting of 118,627 square feet (2.7233 acres); and

Said Lot-H consisting of 120,594 square feet (2.7685 acres), all according to said Plan.

The above premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and/or together with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, covenants, improvements, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, public assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, covenants, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Said premises shall also be sold and conveyed subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over the mortgage, if any, to tenancies or occupations by persons on the premises now are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises, which will be sold "as is".

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

The mortgaged premises will be offered for sale at public auction in the following manner, and at the times and place more specifically set forth below: 1. 30 South Road and 32 South Road (a/k/a 34 South Road, Lots H and G), Sturbridge, MA, as described above, will be sold together as one single sale at Public Auction at 11:00 AM at the Auction Site on the Action Date (the "Single Sale").

2. 30 South Road ("Lot H"), Sturbridge, MA as described above will be sold at Public Auction immediately thereafter at the Auction Site on the Auction Date. 3. 32 South Road ("Lot G"; together with Lot H, sometimes hereinafter collectively the "Lots"), Sturbridge, MA as described above will be sold at Public Auction immediately after the Lot H auction at the Auction Site on the Auction Date.

If the highest bid for the entire premises on the aforesaid Single Sale fails to equal or exceed the cumulative total of the highest bids at which the individual Lots are sold at the later sales, then the Single Sale shall be voided and any and all deposit paid therefor shall be returned to the highest bidder. The Lots shall then be sold for the highest bid made for each of the individual Lots as set forth above. If the highest bid for the entire premises on said Single Sale equals or exceeds the cumulative total at which the Lots are sold at the later individual Lots sales, then the individual Lots sales shall be voided and any and all deposits paid therefor shall be returned to the highest bidder for each of the Lots, and shall be knocked down to the high bid for the entire mortgaged premises as a Single Sale.

In the event that any successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice deposit with the Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title to such property shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said notice. Terms of sale:

1. Bidding on Entire Premises at the Single Sale: A deposit of \$10,000.00 paid by certified check or bank cashier's check will be required at the time and place of sale; however, no bidder who bids on the entire premises who also bids on the individual Lots shall be required to furnish deposits for any and all bidding totaling in excess of \$10,000.00.

2. Bidding on Individual Lots: A deposit of \$5,000.00 for each of the Lots paid by certified check or bank cashier's check will be required at the time and place of each sale; however, in no event shall any bidder be required to furnish deposits totaling in excess of \$10,000.00.

The balance shall be paid by certified check, bank cashier's check or wired funds within thirty (30) days of the Auction Date at the office of the Mortgagee's attorneys, Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLC, 1500 Main Street, Suite 2700, Springfield 01105. The deed or deeds MA will be delivered contemporaneously therewith and will be provided to the purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. A five percent (5.00%) buyer's premium will be charged to the successful bidder. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Commonwealth of Massachusetts documentary tax stamps, and all recording fees. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in the mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Dated: September 1, 2022

Sachem Capital Corp. d/b/a MA – Sachem Capital

The Present Holder of Said Mortgage By:

Daniel M. Rothschild, Esq. Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLP 1500 Main Street, Suite 2700 P.O. Box 15507

#### Legal Notice Town of Charlton Charlton DPW Department

Private Snow and Ice Removal Service Contractors

#### **Employment Opportunity**

Now seeking private snow and ice removal service contractors for the winter storm season of 2022-2023. Specifications can be picked up at the DPW Department, 100 Flint Road, Charlton, MA 01507 starting September 23, 2022 before 3:00 p.m. EOE/AA. The Response Deadline – October 21, 2022 by 3:00 p.m. September 23, 2022 September 30, 2022

#### TOWN OF CHARLTON PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Charlton Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 7:00pm at the Charlton Town Hall, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA in the Selectmen's Meeting Room/ Meeting Room 1 to act on a request for a Change of Manager and Change of Stock Interest held by Om Maruti, Inc., d/b/a Oxbow Variety and Package Store, 3 Oxbow Road, Charlton MA 01507.

Anyone wishing to be heard on this matter should appear on the date and time, specified or submit concerns in writing.

September 23, 2022





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> **FRANK G. CHILINSKI** PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE** EDITOR

# Winter may be coming, but don't despair

So often, people strive to become happier by doing this, or obtaining that; however, sometimes it's what we give up that makes us more content. With the fast drop in temperatures, down into the 30's we know winter is coming. (For those of you out there who are fans of the "Game of Thrones" books or television franchise, you're welcome for the reference.)

For longtime New England residents, winter is a dreaded season. It's not so much the snow, as it is the frigid temperatures and high cost of fuel. We happen to enjoy the fall and winter seasons but for those who are having glum feelings about the colder weather, or even for those who love all weather, we have some tips on some things you can toss, to create more happiness in your world.

One thing you can say 'be gone' to is the idea that you have to always have a positive outlook on any given situation. If you try to avoid negative feelings all of the time, you're not creating a healthy space for when you are truly happy. If you need to vent, do it. If you're upset and need to cry into a bowl of ice cream, have at it. It is your overall life satisfaction that matters.

Minimize your time on social media. Remember the days when you didn't know what your friends, family or even celebrities were doing every second of the day? Those were blissful times. The only way we knew what someone was up to was to pick up the phone, wait for the dial tone, and make that call. We're not sure we ever inquired about what our friends were eating. All of that unnecessary knowledge is overwhelming at times, and simply put, unnecessary. One study showed that the more time people spend on social media, the more depressed they are. When we spend too much time online we know that we are wasting time. The idea of wasting time can inflict a feeling of depression on anyone who is typically highly motivated and energetic. Documenting every aspect of your life can be exhausting and takes away from the actual experience. If you order a rack of lamb, just enjoy every bit of it without feeling the need to share it with the world. Your experiences will be more fulfilling overall. Don't compare yourself to others. We are fans of the phrase 'No one is you, and that is your power.' People have been comparing themselves to others since the dawn of time. The idea of keeping up with the Joneses is outdated. Don't do that. Love the idea that the person sitting next to you or walking down the street is nothing like you. Keep likeminded company. If you have friends who are Eeyore like or always seem to be complaining, less is more. We don't have time in our precious lives to listen to chronic complaining. At the end of your life, do you want to think to yourself, 'Wow I spent so much time listening to people complain?' We're guessing you don't. Have realistic goals. If you start with lower expectations and grow from there your success rate in reaching your higher goals will be greater and less stressful to obtain.

# OPINION

## TO THE EDITOR She An investment in United Way is an investment in our community

To the Editor:

I am writing to offer thanks to the United Way, South Central Mass. The United Way serves the Towns of Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge, Sturbridge and Webster. Their support is integral to the well-being of these communities.

New Hope, a non-profit that provides services to survivors of sexual and domestic violence, also works within these five towns. The support we receive from the United Way is critical to those individuals and families struggling with the impact of sexual and domestic violence. Additionally, funds from the United Way provides resources for violence prevention work with local vouth.

In the fall, many companies will be holding campaigns to support the work of the United Way. If your employer has such a campaign, please consider giving. If your company does not have a campaign, ask them to consider holding one. You can reach the UW office at 508-765-5491. When you give to the United Way, you are investing in our community. I ask you to consider such an investment.

Sincerely,

Marcia Szymanski President/CEO New Hope



You may have heard that you can simplify your investment strategy just by owning index-based or passive investments. But is this a good idea? You'll want to consider the different aspects of this type of investment style. To begin with, an

index-based



Financial Focus

TREVOR NIELSON ment is a vehicle such as a mutual fund or an exchange-traded fund (ETF) that mimics the performance of a market benchmark, or index — the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the S&P 500, and so on. (An ETF is similar to a mutual fund in that it holds a variety of investments but differs in that it is traded like a com-

invest-

it is traded like a common stock.) You can also invest in index funds that track the bond market.

Index investing does offer some benefits. Most notably, it's a buy-and-hold strategy, which is typically more effective than a market-timing approach, in which individuals try to buy investments when their prices are down and sell them when the prices rise. Attempts to time the market this way are usually futile because nobody can really predict when high and low points will be reached. Plus, the very act of constantly buying and selling investments can generate commissions and fees, which can lower your overall rate of return. Thus, index investing generally involves lower fees and is considered more tax efficient than a more active investing style.

Also, when the financial markets are soaring, which happened for several years until this year's downturn, indexbased investments can certainly look pretty good — after all, when the major indexes go up, index funds will do the same.

Conversely, during a correction, when the market drops at least 10% from recent highs, or during a bear market, when prices fall 20% or more, index-based investments will likely fol-



It's time once again to share some helpful hints and strategies from readers. As we gear up for the cooler season the following readers took time from their busy schedule to pass along a tip or trick they've picked up along the way.

Remember readers, you can win a three course dinner for two at Publick House! Just send in your favorite hint! Good luck!

This creative reader hit the target with this unconventional repurposing tip:

Here's a recycling tip for these Nerf darts that parents tell me they are so tired of picking up all over the house. Put your kids to work and help them cut off the hard rubber-dart tip. Then just slide in your favorite pencils or pens for the 2022 school year! All your friends will want a designer Dart pencil grip.

Viola Bramel

Northbridge, MA

Prepping fresh corn for freezing has long been a messy job! But wait - this reader discovered a mess-free way to strip the cobs!

strip the cobs! A handy way of putting up kernel corn for the winter is to first blanch the corn in a pot, and I suggest putting a teaspoon of sugar in the pot because it makes it a little bit sweeter. Boil it for about three minutes. To avoid the mess when cutting kernels, I use a bundt pan. I put the pointed end of the cob in the hole in the middle of the pan and cut the kernels off with a knife. They fall right around that circle inside of the pan and no mess! safety first for this reader:

**Readers'** Tips

and Tricks

Here is a safety tip: I have a small food processor with very sharp blades. When I am ready to clean it, I hold the blades in my left hand with using spaghetti tongs and scrub the blade with a brush held in my right hand. I also use the tongs when I re-assemble the processor. That way my hands never touch the blades!

Another tip: To make your fresh small vegetables like carrots or peppers last longer is to put small pieces of paper towels in between the vegetables in the plastic bags as soon as you get them home. The paper towels absorb water from the veggies and they will keep longer.

Sharon Conlon,

Whittinsville, MA

Divide and Conquer!

I have a suggestion to easily accomplish a chore that has been put off because I don't know where to start – such as a stack of papers or a room that has many items out of place.

I gather all of these things into one place, maybe a box or a pile. Having everything in one spot and taking one item at a time and sorting papers and putting items in their proper places and before you know it the pile is gone. It seems so much easier and less overwhelming tackling one item at a time.

Forgive others. This one is extremely Turn To **EDITORIAL** page **A10** 

## 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. HowardWhitcomb Brookfield, MA

Keeping many shoes together as pairs in the closet can be a hassle – but not with this tip to match up mates:

I am back from Florida and trying to do some closet cleaning. I have several pairs of strap shoes and also found a set of shower curtain hooks.

I decided to try the hooks on the pairs with straps. It worked great and is so easy to locate mates in my shoebox.

Claire Horvath

Sturbridge, MA

Waste not, want not, is this reader's mantra!

Recently when no more toothpaste could be squeezed out of the tube I cut the bottom and discovered there was still quite a bit of toothpaste left and I could access it from the cut opening. Then, much to my surprise when I cut off the bottom of a tube of sunscreen that appeared to be empty when no amount of squeezing was releasing it, I found there was still one quarter of the tube filled with sunscreen. I hate waste! Joan Zumpfe

Dudley, MA

Repurposing a common utensil puts

June Choiniere

Oxford, MA

Prize Winner

Congratulations to Howard Whitcomb of Brookfield, who submitted the kitchen tip above. His name was drawn for Dinner for Two at the Publick House.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

And there are also other issues to consider with index-based investments. For one thing, if you're investing with the objective of matching an index, you may be overlooking the key factors that should be driving your investment decisions — your goals and your risk tolerance. An index is a completely impersonal benchmark measuring the performance of a specific set of investments — but it can't be a measuring stick of your own progress.

Furthermore, a single index, by definition, can't be as diversified as the type of portfolio you might need to achieve your objectives. For example, the S&P 500 may track a lot of companies, but they're predominantly large ones. And to achieve your objectives, you may need a portfolio consisting of large- and small-company stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments. (Keep in mind, though, that while diversification can give you more opportunities for success and can reduce the effects of volatility on your portfolio, it can't guarantee profits or prevent all losses.)

Ultimately, diversifying across different types of investments that align with your risk tolerance and goals — regardless of whether they track an index — is the most important consideration for your investment portfolio. Use this idea as your guiding principle as you journey through the investment world.

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.

What does it mean to be open-minded?

Are you open-minded? I like to say I am, but am I?

What does it mean to be open-minded? Is it even possible to be genuinely open-minded? Does that mean you aren't open-minded if you have strong convictions?

This column is about positivity; although I'm not perfect, I try to close my mind to negativity. Does that mean I'm close-minded?



Is being open-minded a virtue or a vice? I guess it depends.

Someone told me that having an open mind means listening to different thoughts, opinions, and beliefs, examining how they conflict with your con-

victions and ideas, and then allowing your view to change should the idea be worthy of your acceptance.

I've also learned that being open-mind-

ed can mean being open-minded to the possibilities for the future.

I've met many people who are close-minded to the idea that good things can happen. They are stuck in a mindset that success isn't attainable, giants are undefeatable, and the bad guys will always win.

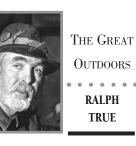
Being closed-minded is when we close our minds to new possibilities, opinions, or ways of thinking. We build a box around what we know or want to be *Turn To* **MOORE** page **A10** 

# Good news from the Salmon River

This week's report from the famous Salmon River was what everyone was waiting to hear. The river was loading up with King and Coho salmon last week, and the fishing is considered epic! If you are planning a trip to the river, this would be a good time to go, even

though salmon fishing will pretty much remain excellent for the next six weeks or so, as more and more salmon head upriver on their final destination to spawn. The lake is also providing some great fishing for salmon, brown trout and steelhead. Go online and click on" Fat Nancy's" Tackle shop in Pulaski, for all of the latest information on salmon fishing and proper tackle to use.

Bear hunters are doing pretty well in harvesting some bear meat for the freezer, and keeping the pelts for rugs or other worthwhile parts of their bear. A report of a hunter harvesting a 900-pound bear in the Western part of Mass. was an incredible size ani-



mal, but not surprising, with all of the food that is available to them at this time of year. This week's picture shows Ralph True, Jr. with his 220-pound black bear he harvested in Newry, Maine this past week. He was using his 50 caliber Thompson black powder

gun, to harvest his first ever black bear. A two-and-a-half-pound white perch was weighed in at Jerry's Bait & Tackle shop this past week from Wachusett Reservoir! Numerous largemouth bass were also reported last week from other bodies of water in the state. Stocking of

trout by Mass. Fish & Wildlife is expected to start around Columbus Day, Oct. 10. The extremally warm water temperatures this year could delay stocking dates at some of the local lakes & ponds.

This past week, this writer and my fishing partner Matt fished Rhode Island waters for a change up from the Massachusetts waters. We were surprised to see the ocean water temperaPhoto Courtesv

This week's picture shows Ralph True, Jr. with his 220-pound black bear he harvested in Newry, Maine this past week.

tures at 74 degrees. We had hoped to catch a few tautog, but only a couple of shorts were caught and released in five hours of fishing! We were kept busy catching seabass all morning, with our limit of fish caught early. It is unlikely a tautog had a chance to hit our crabs, with all of the seabass taking the crabs, as soon as the bait hit bottom.

The parking lot was full of cars and boat trailers by 7 a.m. at the Galilee boat ramp. Anglers were chasing false albacore all day, as schools of fish were constantly moving. One frustrated angler we spoke with at the parking lot failed to catch a single false albacore. They are not great eating, but they are sure fun to catch.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



# Colorful mums for fall gardens and containers



Add a burst of fresh color to the fall landscape with mums. This traditional fall flower is still a favorite of many. These fall beauties come in a wide range of colors and provide weeks of floral beauty. Mums are great in containers, the garden, and cut flower bouquets. Fall just wouldn't be the same without them.

When shopping for mums you may see them labeled as garden, perennial, gift, or florist mums. All these different names for plants that basically 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 the shorter days that initiate flowering. Those grown as gift and holiday plants are often called florist mums. These usually require the longest periods of unin-

ANTIQUES,

WAYNE

terrupted 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 temperature before or soon after the flowers appear in colder parts of the country.

Nurseries selling mums in full bloom in the fall often refer to them as garden mums. These may be perennial or "florist" mums forced to flower for fall displays. The intent is to use them as annuals. Set a pot on the steps, pop a plant in a vacant spot in the garden or combine them with other fall favorites.

Even if these garden mums are hardy and suited to your growing conditions, they may not survive the winter. Since all the energy of flowering fall-planted mums is directed to the flowers, little is left to establish a hardy robust root system. If you have success overwintering your garden mum, 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 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. This increases the plant's ability to survive cold winter weather.

Increase overwintering success of fall planted perennial mums with proper care. Make sure the plants receive sufficient moisture throughout the remainder of the growing season and leave the plants intact in the garden for winter. Those in colder climates may want to add winter mulch. Wait for the ground to freeze. Then cover with weed-free straw or evergreen boughs. Remove the mulch in spring as temperatures hover near freezing or the plants begin to grow. Cut back the dead stems and wait for new growth to appear.

Whatever you call them, add a few mums to your fall display. You are sure to enjoy that last blast of color before winter arrives



Photo Melinda Mvers

Mums mixed with ornamental grass in a fall garden.

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 Web site is www. MelindaMyers.com.

# Auction, antiques, and collectibles news



In my last column, I shared that a 1952 Mickey Mantle card set a sports card record when it sold for \$12.6 million at auction last month. I noted that the Mantle card also set a record for any type of sports memorabilia by topping the \$9.3 million paid for a Diego Maradona 1986 World Cup jersey. Well, CBS Sports reports that a new record was set this month for another non-card sports memorabilia item.

A jersey that Michael Jordan wore in Game 1 of the 1998 NBA Finals recently went on the auction block. The Bulls lost that game to the Utah Jazz, but went on to win the series, giving Jordan his sixth championship in his "Last Dance" season. Jordan also received his sixth career Finals MVP award. His jersey price soared

well above the \$3 to \$5 million estimate, selling for \$10.1 million.

In non-sports news, the New York Times reports that the art collection of Paul Allen (who formed Microsoft with Bill Gates in 1975) is expected to be the biggest auction of a private art collection in history. The inventor, sports team owner and philanthropist died in 2018. Over 150 of his pieces spanning 500 years will be sold. Highlights include "Jasper Johns' encaustic, acrylic and paper collage 'Small False Start' from 1960, estimated to bring more than \$50 million, and Paul Cézanne's 'La Montagne Sainte-Victoire' (1888-90), estimated at over \$100 million." Allen bought many of the paintings as an investment. He anonymously purchased an 1891 Monet painting of a haystack for \$81.4 million in 2016. He also loaned pieces from his collections to several museums. He told Bloomberg in 2015, "I feel that you should share some of the works to give the public a chance to see them." The sale, which also includes masterpieces by

**ALL WE KNOW** 

Renoir and Roy Lichtenstein, is expected to top \$1 billion.

An antique advertising sign also recently fetched eye-popping auction record prices, according to Greenville, South Carolina TV station WYFF. The double sided Musgo Gasoline sign was discovered in a Michigan attic and is the best-known example of the 1920s version of the Musgo Gasoline sign. WYFF writes that "Musgo, originally located in Muskegon, Michigan, was believed to be open for less than six months during the mid-1920s." The previous auction record for a gasoline-related advertising sign was \$400,000 until the Musgo sign shattered it, selling for \$1.5 million in August, especially remarkable considering gasoline sold for slightly over 20 cents a gallon when Musgo was in business.

We are accepting consignments of gold, coins and sterling through Sept. 26 for our fall auction. We are also accepting consignments for our sports card and memorabilia auction as well as our art, historical memorabilia, antiques and collectibles fall



**SLOCAL** 

auctions through September 30th. I'll be appraising items for the public at the Townsend Historical Society on Oct. 15, the Worcester Senior Center on Oct. 18 and the Leicester Senior Center on Nov. 5. Please visit our website https://centralmassauctions.com for links to upcoming events.

Please contact us at www. centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com for antiques and collectibles auction services.

StonebridgePress.com

# **OBITUARIES**

## Gail Ellen Chandler (Perkins)

STURBRIDGE/CHARLTON: Gail Ellen Chandler (Perkins), born



September 10th, 2022. She was surrounded by her family and friends who had gathered to embrace her in her final days. Gail was an indescribable woman—a force that will survive in the imprint

she left on everyone who knew her. Her laughter and joy will echo with us-because though she suffered trauma in her life she will be fondly remembered for the warmth and generosity she displayed.

Gail was a collector of many things, foremost among were the people that she knew, people that she loved and cared for; and like all the trinkets and antiques she collected, each one of us is worthy of love.

Gail will be profoundly missed by her loving husband of 35 years, Chic Chandler. Together they built a successful business, Diversified Sign, an endeavor that allowed them to pursue their greater passions such as painting pumpkins, collecting art & jewelry, and dirt track racing, where they competed from Canada to Daytona. More recently Gail enjoyed spending time in her home on Podunk, and cruising Narragansett Bay with her husband.

She was a beautiful artist, and she had a very talented hand, a skill that was evident both commercially and personally. She proudly worked on many logos and signs that can be seen across New England and New York, and she left behind many drawings and pieces of art that will be treasured for years to come.

She will also be deeply grieved for by her children: Heather Smith-Svoboda and Matthew Smith, as well as her brother Christopher Perkins and other siblings, step-children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, her dog Tag and all the dear friends she collected from everywhere she traveled.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday September 24th, 2022, from 1pm-4pm, at Finn's Harborside, 38 Water Street, East Greenwich, RI 02818.

All who knew and loved her are welcome to join.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in her name to the Rhode Island School of Design.

Rhode Island School of Design · GiveCampus

Belanger-Bullard Funeral Home, 51 Marcy St. Southbridge is directing arrangements.

For condolences and a video tribute please visit www. BelangerFuneralHome.com

# Nichols College names vice president for planning

# Sturbridge Cultural Council accepting grant proposals

Sturbridge Cultural

Council is seeking proposals

to fund cultural program-

ming 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.

cil-program/application-pro-

STURBRIDGE 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 programming in 2023.

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 community-based projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences annually.



James Patti

DUDLEY — Following a national search, James Patti, an experienced leader in higher education administration, has

been named Nichols College's vice president for planning. Patti joins the leadership team of Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M, and will serve a key role advancing Sulmasy's vision for the college.

Patti brings extensive experience to this role, having served previously at Georgetown University, Brown University, Bryant University and the University of Rhode Island managing a variety of institutional functions. At Nichols, he will oversee strategic planning, marketing and communications and institutional research.

One of Patti's first priorities will be development of President Sulmasy's emerging Embracing Greatness strategic plan. The plan, still in development in consultation with the Nichols community, will identify priorities and outline a growth strategy to move Nichols toward enhanced regional and national promi-

nence.

"James Patti will be a dynamic addition to our already exceptional cabinet," said President Sulmasy. "As vice president for planning, he will help develop our institutional priorities and work broadly across the college for their successful implementation.'

Patti is enthusiastic about the opportunity: "I look forward to working closely with President Sulmasy, members of the cabinet and the broader Nichols community to develop and implement the Embracing Greatness agenda and enhance the value of a Nichols education."

Patti received his MBA from Georgetown University and bachelor's degree in finance from Seton Hall University. He is a native of Massachusetts and resides with his four daughters in East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

Proposals are due by Monday, Oct. 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-coun-

## Nichols College surges into US News Best Colleges rankings

DUDLEY — Nichols College has earned recognition in the 2022-23 US News & World Report Best Colleges rankings. In the competitive Regional Universities North category, the college was ranked #34 as a Top Performer in Social Mobility and #121 overall out of a pool of 181 ranked institutions. The Regional Universities-North category covers a geographic area from

cation.

The US News rankings consider a variety of factors to provide students and parents with an objective basis to compare institutions and help guide college selection. Factors include Academic Reputation, Admissions Selectivity, Graduation and Retention Rates, Pell Grant Graduation Rates, Faculty Composition Metrics and

indicator of an institution's ability to educate, graduate and ultimately employ economically disadvantaged students as measured by Pell Grant eligibility.

Nichols President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M, lauded the news: "This segment of the college student population has been cited as a national priority by political leaders of both parties, and this recognition in US News reflects the hard work of the entire Nichols community who work closely with each and every student to deliver a high quality, broad-based business education that prepares them for lifelong success worldwide."

Nichols is now embarking on a new phase in its 200+ year history with development of the Embracing Greatnessstrategic plan. The plan, currently in development in consultation with members of the Nichols community, will outline a growth strategy to establish new institutional priorities for academic and student life programming, athletics, campus facilities and

Maryland to Maine, a region densely populated by institutions of higher edu-

Alumni Giving.

The Social Mobility ranking is an





#### Hi! My name is Jehnya and I love to sing and dance!

Jehnya is a sweet and energetic girl of African American descent. Some of her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing dress-up. She also likes to watch videos and play games on her iPad. Jehnya is a motivated learner and enjoys going to school. She also attends an after-school program. She is inquisitive and enjoys spending one on one time with others.

Jehnya Thomas Age: 9

Jehnya is legally free for adoption and will need to maintain regular contact with her older brother. Jehnya would thrive in a home with patient caregivers who understand trauma. She also needs

a family who will use positive reinforcement and provide Jehnya will love and nurturance. The ideal family for Jehnya would be a two-parent home with at least one female caretaker. It would also be best for Jehnya to be an only child, but her social worker is open to considering older siblings on an individualized basis. Jehnya has expressed that she would like to be placed with an African American family.

https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7274

#### Can I Adopt?

If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ+ singles and couples. As an adoptive parent, you won't have to pay any fees, adoption from foster care is completely free in Massachusetts.

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, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.



## EDTORIAL

continued from page A8

hard. However, forgiving those who have hurt you is key to feeling relaxed and happy.

Eating too much sugar can lead to depression. Balance in your meals has been scientifically proven to make people happier. More vegetables, more fiber and less processed food.

Opt to spend your money on experi-

## MOORE

continued from page A8

true, but then we never think outside the box.

When we become close-minded in the wrong way, if we're not careful, it's possible that we also lose the ability to imagine what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes or to see the world from a different perspective.

Once we get into a thinking pattern, we develop a routine and stay in that pattern. I'm not against routines, but sometimes getting stuck in a routine can lead you to a particular way of thinking. Sometimes changing the routine can help open your mind to new thinking patterns.

If we're stuck in a particular pattern of thinking, and a problem arises that is caused by the way we think, is it possible to truly solve the problem by continuing to think in the same way?

In some ways, we can become prisoners of our beliefs and assumptions.

I am guilty of learning to do things in a certain way and then believing everyone should do it that same way, only to learn that most people don't want to do it the same way, and if I tried to get them to do it that way, they don't listen!

Confirmation bias is when we accept evidence that supports our beliefs and mindsets and reject evidence that doesn't.

If you challenge someone to think differently, it can quickly become a fight, fundraising.

About Nichols College

The mission of Nichols College is to educate and enlighten students to capitalize on their ambitions and to become impactful, forward looking global leaders.

ences rather than things. Experts say the satisfaction of an experience will last much longer.

Lastly, choose good posture. While sitting up you automatically feel more energetic and positive. Slouching can lead to feel nervous, sleepy, sluggish and fearful.

A quote by Jim Rohn sums it up: "Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present."

some people don't want their beliefs and ideas to be challenged, and maybe we should respect that and learn to live with them in peace.

In today's world, it seems that when we encounter someone of a radically different belief system, even amongst people born and raised in our own country, rather than trying to understand why they think the way they think, we hate them and call them names. It's easy not to listen to their ideas and write them off because we believe they are immoral people.

Am I saying we shouldn't defend and debate what we believe to be true? No.

Having a closed mind may cause us to oversimplify the other person's point of view because we don't want to think too deeply about the issue.

A closed mind results in our rational thinking and imagination becoming stunted. We lose the ability to relate.

Some of the best leaders, innovators, and businesspeople were open to the possibilities of a new way of doing things. They helped people to see their vision, dramatically changing our way of life.

What would happen if we had a more open mind in our approach to family? Could it change the whole dynamic and lead to better relationships?

Is it possible that having an open mind to how we deal with people we disagree with could radically change the country's direction? I hope so.

I'm open to the possibilities.





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ocation NEW LISTING





To have your open house listed in this directory, please contact June Simakauskas 508-909-4062 or Mikaela Victor 508-909-4126

DUDLEY: 18 acres, MAKE OFFER! House, 2 car garage, Potential apartment, shed 126 Old Southbridge Rd ~ Low \$400's

THOMPSON CT: Seller lower price so buyer can make this home theirs! 3 bedroom. 2 full baths, 2 half baths, 1.8 acres, in-ground pool, 6 car garage, 20' Spa room with hot tub, Living room with fireplace, Family room with woodstove, Easy highway access to Hartford, Boston,



OXFORD: CONDO Totally remodelled kitchen, bath flooring, Appliances, Electric fireplace built (Dimplex), Open and spacious 15-8 Thayer Pond ~ \$195,000

# SPORTS

# Shepherd Hill battles on First Responder Night, but Marlborough prevails



oshua Harrison of Shepherd Hill sheds a would-

be Marlborough tackler while returning a

kickoff.

DUDLEY — The Shepherd Hill varsity football team held its home opener on Friday, Sept. 16, but it wasn't just any ordinary Opening Night. Instead, the Rams held First Responder Night where Shepherd Hill Athletic Director Jim Scanlon explained to Stonebridge Press that "the Dudley and Charlton Police, Fire, and EMS chiefs and available staff will receive free admission, and will be recognized on field during pre-game for their contributions to the communities they serve.

"Our football student-athletes will

take the field and shake the hands of the first responders, and we will invite

them to stay on the field for the playing of the national anthem," Scanlon continued.

All in attendance also walked under a massive American flag that was being held up by ladder trucks from the **Dudley and Charlton Fire Departments** upon entering Carmignani Field.

On the football field, the Rams unfortunately dropped to 0-2 after losing to Marlborough High, 27-14. The Panthers jumped out to a 13-0 lead, only for Shepherd Hill to score with 46 seconds remaining until halftime when Lucas Welton found paydirt from 8 yards out. On the play, Welton tried running to his left, but when there was no daylight he shifted toward the center of the field before barreling into the end zone. Luke Miller tacked on the extra point, and it was a 13-7 game at the half.

But Marlborough outscored Shepherd Hill in the second half, 14-7, improving to 2-0 in the process.

Ladder trucks from the Dudley and Charlton Fire Departments hold up the American flag for all in attendance to see during the Shepherd Hill football team's First Responder Night.





LEFT: Lucas Welton of Shepherd Hill runs out of bounds after catching a pass.



Shepherd Hill defender Ethan Barre gets low to tackle Marlborough's Brandon Alfaro.

With two linemen blocking a Marlborough defender, Shepherd Hill quarterback Luke Hill airs out a deep pass down the field.



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# **SPORTS**

# Improved Rams fall just short against Leominster

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS EDITOR

DUDLEY — Last season the Shepherd Hill girls' varsity soccer team endured plenty of growing paints while trudging through a winless season (0-15-1). But head coach Amanda Brotherton still noticed the Rams improving week-byweek, game-by-game.

"Even with the record we had and the losses we progressed throughout the season and [the players] see the potential," said Brotherton.

Early in the 2021 season Shepherd Hill had tough outcomes against Groton-Dunstable Regional (6-0), Marlborough High (7-2) and Leominster High (4-0) for a minus-15 goal differential. Later in the fall the Rams produced more respectable outcomes against those teams, with the differential trimmed down to -14 in four games, as they played Marlborough twice.

Fast forward to this season and The Hill is still improving. They lost to Groton-Dunstable 2-0 and tied Marlborough 2-2 before hosting Leominster at Carmignani Field on Thursday, Sept. 15.

"From the start of the season, even preseason, I could tell that we have more potential this year. I only lost one senior last year and gained four freshmen this year," Brotherton said before her squad battled the Blue Devils. "Playing against Groton-Dunstable, it could have gone either way and against Marlborough tying 2-2, it could have gone either way, so we're matching up with the league, which is good.

"We are growing still, but the potential is definitely there. They definitely have that [sick of losing] mentality, they're not down," continued Brotherton. And the Rams battled tough

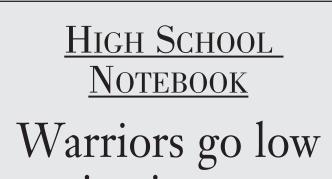


Nick Ethier photos

Shepherd Hill's Shaylan Cashman goes lefty to kick the ball out of her team's defensive zone.



against Leominster. The game remained scoreless at halftime before the Blue Devils pocketed a pair of second-half goals to take home a 2-0 decision. Keeper Meri Wilde kept Shepherd Hill in the game in the first half, making 13 saves. Defenders Colleen Cumming, Arianna Watson, Fiona Duke and Shaylan Cashman also played strong soccer, limiting Leominster's shots to predominantly outside the 18-yard box.







Shepherd Hill keeper Meri Wilde secures the ball for one of her 13 first half saves versus Leominster.

 $\mbox{\rm LEFT:}$  Abigail Connole of Shepherd Hill shields a Leominster defender while receiving the ball.



## in victory

### Monday, Sept. 12

**Tantasqua 167, Oxford 283** — The Warriors' golf team picked up a victory at Hemlock Ridge, improving to 4-2 in the process. Tantasqua's Sam Pieczynski shot a 38 on the par-36 layout to earn medalist honors, while teammate Patrick Dunn carded a 41.



Nicolina Holland of Shepherd Hill raises her left leg in order to receive and settle the ball.

Arianna Watson of Shepherd Hill makes a move to her right to get the ball past her Leominster opponent.





# SEPTEMBER

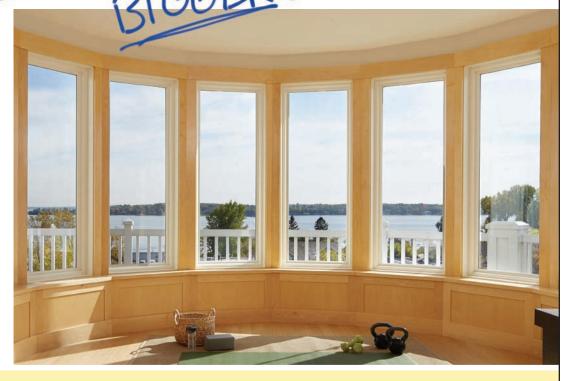
## is National Replacement Window Month at Renewal by Andersen\*

Why did we declare September National Replacement Window Month? The weather is still nice in September, which makes it much easier to open your home during the installation. Get this job done before winter and get this September-only offer.



- Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, a 119-year-old family-owned company with a reputation for excellence in window and door craftsmanship.
- Our exclusive composite Fibrex<sup>®</sup> windows are not only beautiful, they're remarkably strong, offer superior energy efficiency and require minimal maintenance.<sup>2</sup>
- Our factory-trained Certified Master Installers have years of experience installing only windows and doors, and they'll treat you and your home with the utmost respect.

## Customer Review $\star \star \star \star \star \star$



After this experience I feel that Renewal by Andersen's reputation is really well deserved and I would give them the highest recommendation. The installers were so respectful and careful of my house, its contents and even my outside flower garden. I am amazed at how efficiently the windows were replaced and every bit of trash and dust was removed. And now I have high quality windows and screens, and I feel truly separated from the outside noise and elements.

- Karen B., Renewal by Andersen customer, Uxbridge, MA



## Call to schedule your FREE Window and Door Diagnosis 1-800-209-2746

1DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 9/30/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 20% off your entire purchase and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 9/4/2022 and 9/30/2022. Additional \$250 off your project, minimum purchase of four (4) required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 9/30/2022. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. <sup>2</sup>See limited warranty for details. \*National Replacement Window Month is not a Congressionally-approved designation. <sup>‡</sup>Review aggregator survey of 5-star reviews among leading full service window replacement companies. December 2020 Reputation.com.

# Phantoms by Firelight tickets on sale now

Tickets for STURBRIDGE Phantoms by Firelight at Old Sturbridge Village are on sale now to the general public, with early bird rates available through Sept. 30. The event, formerly known as Phantoms & Fire, returns to Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) for 13 nights of spooky fun, Oct. 7–31. Tickets are currently available for all dates and times, but selling quickly.

Phantoms by Firelight invites guests to explore the myths and folklore of Halloween while navigating the museum by night. The event will offer crafts

and games, storytelling by firelight, a spooky selfie contest, bonfires, water fires, torches, candlelight, and more. Kids will delight in the return of Clues & Candy, a scavenger hunt-style experience around the Village that offers safe and fun trick-or-treating for families. Visitors of all ages are encouraged to show up in costume and show off their Halloween best.

In 2022, a mysterious troupe of performers will add to the fun as they take over the Village, bringing in gravity-defying acrobats, creepy conjurers, fate-tempting fire jugglers and more. A special book signing with Author Thomas D'Agostino will take place on select event nights.

Spooky snacks and treats will be available for purchase during the event, including cider donuts, pumpkin pie trifle, chocolate chip cookie trifle, soups, sandwiches, and more. Beverages including hot apple cider (with or without rum or Fireball) and hot chocolate with Peppermint Schnapps or Bailey's will also be sold during the event.

the FFY 2023 Municipal

Road Safety (MRS) Grant

The Office of Grants

Program.

Early bird tickets are available now through Sept. 30 to the general public. Tickets are \$25.20 for adults and \$12.60 for youth, \$22.40 for member adults and \$11.20 for member youth. Tickets will be \$28 for adults and \$14 for youth beginning Oct. 1.

Phantoms by Firelight will take place on 13 nights in October, from 4:30-9 p.m., after the Village closes to daytime guests. Tickets and additional details can be found at: https://www.osv.org/ event/phantoms-by-firelight-2022/.

# Sturbridge Planning Board looks to fill vacancy

STURBRIDGE — The town is seeking a resident interested in serving on the Planning Board.

Responsibilities of the Planning Board include acting as the town's special permit granting authority; reviewing and approving subdivision plans; and developing various long-term planning tools for the community.

The board focuses on such items as zoning bylaws; rules and regulations; subdivision regulations; master plans; community plans; and several other documents that are used by the town to help guide and manage growth.

The Sturbridge Planning Board consists of seven members who are appointed by the Town Administrator to fiveyear terms.

If you would like to serve on this board, please send your letter of interest to Michelle Garman. Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen.

You may send your letter by email to mgarman@sturbridge.gov.



BOSTON — State Rep. has awarded \$19,782.42 Todd Smola (R-Warren, to the Sturbridge Police Ranking Member, Ways Department, \$14,510.50 & Means Committee) is to the Ware Police Department, and \$17,280 pleased to announce the to the Warren Police police departments of Department. Sturbridge, Ware, and Warren as recipients of

"The salient efforts of the NHTSA to enhance safety on our roadways is greatly appreciated", stated Smola.

He added, "improving

port traditional enforcement activities and develop new strategies to reduce roadway crashes, injuries, fatalities, and associated economic losses in Massachusetts. With the grant funding, police departments are given flexibility in addressing local traffic safety issues, along with equipment options beyond enforcement and the ability to develop traffic safety programs. The contract period for FFY 2023 MRS Grant Program starts in October and ends on Sept.

CELEBRATING

SHOWPLACE

M.L. PARTLOW & SON, INC and Research (OGR) of the National Highway and **ASPHALT PAVING SPECIALIST** road safety is perpetually 1998 Traffic Administration good for all drivers. As a Quality Work Guaranteed (NHTSA) has made up community, we can find 19 Ann to \$5,000,000 available to comfort knowing that **Book now before winter!** municipal police departactive efforts are being **Commercial Parking Lots** ments throughout the taken to make our roads **Residential Driveways** Commonwealth with safer.' 15 of next year. Roadways . New or Resurfacing their FFY 2023 MRS Grant The goal of the MRS FULLY INSURED Berms • Sidewalks Grant Program is to sup-Program. The program Commercail Seal Coating • Crack Filling Say it in living color! All We Know Is Local (508) 347-8956 FAX (508)347-7099 ail: MLPARTLOWANDSON@AOL.COM The world isn't Local News black and white. APPLES So, why is your ad? The StonebridgePress.com Harvest Is In! **Affordable**<sup>™</sup> MARVIN **Honey Crisp** Windows & U Pick Apples & Fall Raspberries! Visit The Farm For: 🚡 **We Deliver OOTS** COMPANY, INC. Cortland & Macoun Apple Cider Donuts • Just Baked Pies Throughout Peaches Still Available on Weekends Cider Donuts 
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