



STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

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Thursday-Friday, June 1-2, 2023

Region celebrates legacy of Rick Hoyt



BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Officials and residents throughout the region are celebrating the life of Rick Hoyt, who teamed up with his late father Dick to build a local racing team that inspired generations of athletes.

Rick Hoyt, 61, passed away last week due to respiratory complications. His father died two years earlier, in March of 2021, at age 80.

“It is with profound sadness that the Hoyt Family announces the passing of our beloved brother and uncle, Rick Hoyt,” read a statement released by The Hoyt Foundation. “As so many knew, Rick, along with our father, Dick, were icons in the road race and triathlon worlds for over 40 years

and inspired millions of people with disabilities to believe in themselves, set goals, and accomplish extraordinary things.”

Born and raised in Holland, Rick Hoyt was diagnosed at a young age as a spastic quadriplegic with cerebral palsy. Although doctors once recommended that he be placed in an institution, he overcame all odds with the help of his family.

In the spring of 1977, Rick told his father that he wanted to participate in a five-mile benefit run for a lacrosse player who was paralyzed in an accident. Even though Dick had no experience at the time as a long-distance runner, he agreed to push Rick in his wheelchair for the race. They wound up completing all five miles and finishing in next to last place, but

far more important than the results was the journey they were starting together. In the following years and decades, the father-son duo took part in over 1,000 races, including marathons, duathlons, triathlons, and Ironman competitions. Additionally, they traversed the contiguous United States in 1992, completing 3,735 miles in just 45 days.

Of all the competitions Team Hoyt participated in, the Boston Marathon was always a favorite. They officially hit the 1,000-race milestone during the 2009 Marathon.

“Rick Hoyt will always be remembered as a Boston Marathon icon,” read a statement released by the Boston Athletic Association. “We are fortunate to have

been able to call Rick a friend, mentor, pioneer, and Boston Marathon finisher. His legacy will live on through the Rick and Dick Hoyt Award, which is presented each April around the Boston Marathon to someone who exhibits the spirit of Team Hoyt through advocacy and inclusion.”

Beyond their accomplishments in athletics, Rick Hoyt and his family were also pioneers in education. Rick’s mother, Judy Hoyt, fought to change laws and enable her son to be educated alongside his non-disabled peers. In 1975, at the age of 13, Rick was admitted into a public school system, and he later graduated from Boston University with a degree in special education.

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Charlton adds new building fees

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Board of Selectmen approved two new additions to the town’s fee schedule during a May 23 meeting following recommendations from the town’s Building Zoning Enforcement Officer Curtis Meskus.

The two recommendations concerned the installation of solar systems as well as an additional fee for increased review cycles of any given project. The first new fee is an added fee for residential solar and/or battery at \$6 per \$1,000 cost which would cost the average solar inspection of \$40,000 an additional \$240 and include up to two reviews and two field inspections. The second fee is a new \$50 charge for more than two review cycles for any project with a permit value of less than \$1,000. Meskus justified the new fees as a way to hold mainly contractors accountable for added work by his department.

“We have seen residential solar installations of \$40,000. We have some that are over \$100,000. We have one that was \$200,000. It’s quite complex now and with the requirements for fire department access that we help the fire department review and the solar companies are charging these fees and our local inspector is spending a considerable amount of time with engineers getting the documents right. We’ve gone to asking for photos that the engineers supposedly review and makes statements about the construction and have to get all this stuff straightened out before we issue a permit,” Meskus said of the new solar fee.

As for the new \$50 fee, he noted that this is not limited to solar projects but applies to any project over \$1,000 and would not be implemented on projects that stayed within the expectation of no more than two inspection cycles.

“When we’re doing a house, our house permit for a single-family home is \$1,300 and, yes, we expect some revisions to come in and work to do. We cover quite a bit on that \$1,300 fee, but when we’re doing a deck that a contractor cannot get us the right documents after being asked three times and receiving information that is still incorrect for the fee that we charge for these low-value projects, it’s becoming a burden. We’re trying to make our costs commiserate with the services rendered and the costs of doing these permits,” Meskus added.

The new fees proved to be divisive for selectmen, mostly based on principle. Selectmen Bill Borowski and David Singer noted they understood why Meskus was requesting the fees but didn’t agree with adding

Turn To **FEES** page **A18**

Muralist aims to “add some color to the community”



Gus Steeves

A worker handles some of the repainting work last week, to prepare the wall for Felipe Ortiz’s mural.

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — The depiction of a generation of Southbridge kids is going to change.

Recently, the Redevelopment Authority awarded Boston muralist Felipe Ortiz a contract to repaint the locally-iconic but long-fading mural on the wall of what used to be Fedele’s coffee shop, on Central Street. That piece, which dates to around 1985, features people many of us know, people many went to high

school with.

The project is part of this year’s Urban Agenda grant, which is also funding a weekly series of concerts on Fridays and Saturdays through mid-June at the relatively new pedestrian plaza there. The series has so far been eclectic; last Friday’s show was pretty standard jazz from the Haneef Nelson Quintet. Previous ones have featured Latin salsa-jazz, country, folk with an accordion, and acoustic rock covers. Upcoming shows will

include the Southbridge High jazz band and Carlos Odria (June 2), Crocodile River Music and Banda Criolla (June 3), Bomba de Aqui and Gracie Day (June 9), and The Moon Shells (June 10). The town’s Civil Space page also lists shows on June 16 and 17, but they aren’t filled yet.

At their recent meeting, the Authority discussed making the last show a “mural concert,” where Ortiz will be present and painting while a band’s playing, but noted the contract gives him until June 30 to finish the work. They’re also coordinating a community muraling event/painting classes run by Simone Germain where participants will paint portable murals on metal panels to “rejuvenate empty walls” around town.

According to Ortiz, the new mural will become something emphasizing the town’s ecology — “a vibrant, colorful abstract background with a more detailed foreground of the flora and fauna of the area.”

“I want to include everyone and make it a great backdrop for community events there,” he said. “I hope I get to connect with a lot of the residents and bring some

Turn To **MURAL** page **A18**

Center of Hope Foundation announces kickoff of Hope Grows Here Capital Campaign



SOUTHBRIDGE — The Center of Hope Foundation, Inc. announced the kickoff of a \$2.6 million Capital Campaign called Hope Grows Here. Thanks to commitments from generous early donors, nearly a quarter of the goal has already been committed. The Hope Grows Here Campaign is designed to expand and modernize CoHF facilities for individuals with disabilities, create new

opportunities for work and housing, enhance lives, and strengthen the organization’s overall impact.

“The Center of Hope Foundation has been a crucial part of our community in South Central Mass and Northern Connecticut for 66 years, serving several hundred people with intellectual and developmental disabilities daily,” said CoHF CEO, Cindy Howard. “Our programs

are places where lifelong friendships are formed, and memories are made. We provide a safe and welcoming place for our program members where they feel valued, important, and treated equally. We give the individuals we serve and their families the HOPE that they deserve! Now we are undertaking a major fundraising initiative designed to improve

Turn To **HOPE** page **A18**

Ryan: "We need to raise all boats here in town"

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — To Jackie Ryan, town government really should be a "boring" place because things are getting done "away from the drama." But that only happens "if we have a unified council" willing to invest in roads, economy, schools and other things.

She sees that happen-

ing now, for the most part, and urges voters to stand against those who would "take two steps back" in her eyes.

"We're not going to cut our nose off to spite our face," she said. "Let's stick to this path and see the results. Yes, it will be hard in the short-term, but far less than what we'll pass off to our children if we don't."

Ryan, a one-term incumbent, is seeking one of three Town Council seats June 13. She faces fellow incumbent Joe Daou, former councilor George Chenier, attorney Steve Kelly, engineer Maria Torres, Redevelopment Authority chair Andrew Murch, and HVAC tech Ariel Ortiz. The third incumbent, Gus Steeves, can't run again due to term limits, so this election will definitely put at least one new face on the Council. Also, Kevin Buxton will be on the ballot, but indicated after the May 11 candidate forum that he's withdrawing and doesn't want to take votes from other candidates. (That happened too late to do so formally.)

Barring a change of mind from Buxton, this is the last profile; the others ran over the course of May. The June 9 edition will feature a summary of the council

candidates, unopposed candidates and the ballot question.

To Ryan, this election and others in the near future represent "time for a new generation of leadership to step up" that represents "the whole community." She sees that as being in direct contrast to "the systemic decay that's been in Southbridge a long time" coming from "failed, tired ideas."

"I've seen the work that's happened here. It's showing everyone we care about this community," she said. To her, the trend needs to continue, but "don't rest on our laurels. We should be challenging everything. ... Southbridge deserves to have nice things."

While things are improving, Ryan also sees significant issues needing more work. As a case in point, she notes many people are renters (including herself), and the rent increases have been faster than tax increases have been. While she agrees with spreading the tax burden via economic development (including use of tax increment financing), Ryan also said she sup-



Jackie Ryan

ports some form of rent control (which would require council unity to push the Legislature to change 1990s-era law) and has been a proponent of fare-free and expanded busing in town, among other things. She also supports mandatory community service, be it in the military, local government, social work, or various forms of volunteerism.

Going forward, Ryan said she'd like to see more entertainment and recreational options come to Southbridge, specifically citing a drive-in, and escape room, the rail trail, more educational

places like museums, and her personal dream — a cat cafe. She sees recent events like the common and central street concerts, the carnival and others as good ways to "meet people and talk about the stuff going on in town," helping to break down barriers caused by being "too insular in the people we talk to."

"I want this to be a place where families want to live and reside and actually do things," she said. "I want to show kids if you work hard enough at something, you can make it worthwhile. Southbridge has so much potential ... We need to

raise all boats here in town."

Despite being one of the youngest candidates, Ryan has already been involved in local government for more than a decade. She said she became a student representative on the Tantasqua School Committee at 16 and was elected in her own right at 18. After she moved to Southbridge, she got involved on our school committee, serving as chair for a while, and joined the council's General Government subcommittee before being elected to the council itself three years ago.

When asked why she got involved, she said "a sense of equity and opportunity. I don't like watching the little guy get beat up. I don't like bullies. Never have." That translates to her view of town government as having the most impact on people — "I want to make sure every single person has the right to live their God-given dream."

"At the end of the day, I truly think Southbridge's future is really bright," she added.

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ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL ~ StonebridgePress.com



CMS Chamber offers golf, summer clambake & a night at the WooSox



Courtesy

Kick off summer at the Chamber's annual clambake at The Publick House.

STURBRIDGE — The Chamber of Central Mass invites you to grab your clubs, put on your golf shoes, and get ready to swing into summer at its annual Golf Classic on June 15. Join local business professionals for a day of fun and friendly competition on the links at our local 18-hole championship golf course, Heritage Country Club in Charlton. Presented in a scramble format, the event features a continental breakfast, contests and spectacular raffle prizes, a cookout lunch

and refreshments on the course, and a reception and dinner after play. The cost to register is \$140 for individuals and \$540 for a foursome. You may also purchase a ticket for dinner only for \$40. Your participation supports the Chamber's Charities and Scholarship Fund. The Chamber is grateful for the support of its Golf Classic sponsor, Cornerstone Bank, and its Golf Classic Lunch sponsor, Karl Storz.

One week later, we feast! The CMS Chamber Summer Outing is a tra-

ditional New England Clambake at The Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge. The event takes place under the Garden Tent on the beautiful grounds of The Publick House on the evening of June 22, the first official day of summer! Beginning at 5:00pm with a cocktail hour with live music, the event includes a clambake buffet with juicy steaks, mouthwatering fresh lobsters, clam chowder, mussels, and more tantalizing tastes of summer! Tickets are \$65 per person. Everyone is welcome. The Chamber's spectacular Summer Outing is made possible thanks to its sponsor, Country Bank! You can call the Chamber at 508-347-2761 for more information and to make reservations. The deadline to RSVP for the summer outing is June 16.

On Friday, July 28, join CMS Chamber at Polar

Park to watch the WooSox take on the Rochester Red Wings! For \$50 (plus a \$4 fee), you get access to JetBlue Hangar, the Chamber's private party space for the night, as well as an all-you-can-eat buffet for two hours! Join the party early for the National Anthem sung by CMS Chamber member Rita Schiano and stick around after the game for fireworks! Thank you to our WooSox Night sponsors, Michael L. Wales Painting and Paw Plaza!

Visit the Events calendar at cmschamber.org to find more details and info on registering for

these events. If it is time

for you to grow your business and join a passionate and engaged business community, contact the Chamber of Central Mass South to learn about the benefits of membership.

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Pamela Means presents "Power of the Protest Song" at Jacob Edwards Library

STURBRIDGE — Join us Wednesday, June 7 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for this family-friendly concert exploring the origin stories and lineages of protest songs, their meaning and effects and how they continue to inspire movements and cultural shifts within the realms of racial and social justice. Registration is required. Go to sturbridgelibrary.org.

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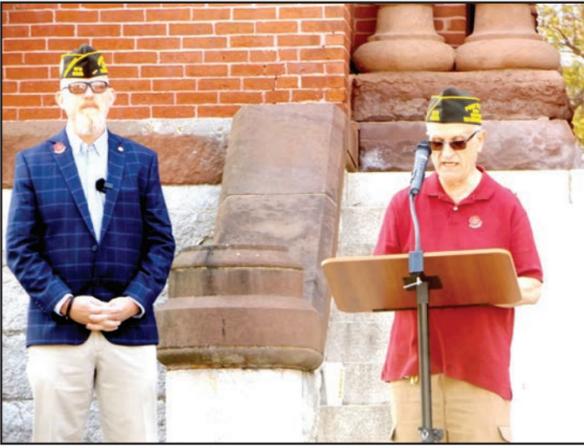
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Veterans Council President and emcee Dave Adams, left, yields the Town Hall podium to Grand Marshal Ed Delage (Navy, 1968-72), who talked about the WW2 Battle of Coral Sea.



A couple Scouts salute during the Pledge of Allegiance at the Town Hall.

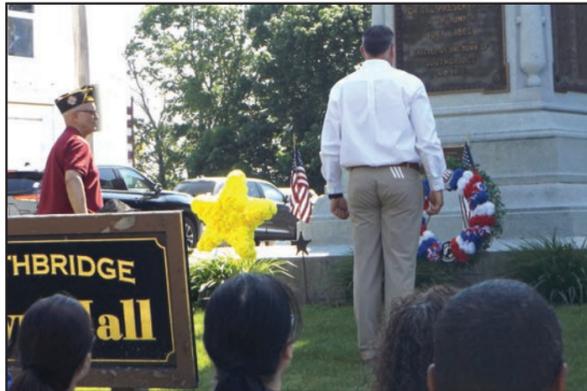


Sisters Evelet and Akiriz Molina watch the happenings on Elm Street.

Gus Steeves



SHS band member Nola Shonbaum, center, plays “TAPS.”



Ed Delage and Keith Roberts stand at attention after placing the day's first wreaths at the Civil War monument.



On-duty firefighters watch their compatriots in the parade pass.



Keith Roberts and Sen. Ryan Fattmann place the wreath at the Honor Roll.



The police contingent marches down Main Street near the Rotary.

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Memorial Day parade saw its largest turnout in years Monday, both in terms of participation and audience. Contingents from several schools, the Boy Scouts, police, fire, town government, and numerous citizens marched the route from Town Hall to the Rotary, while other citizens cheered them on and played along the way.

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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 Life/TEEN 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.

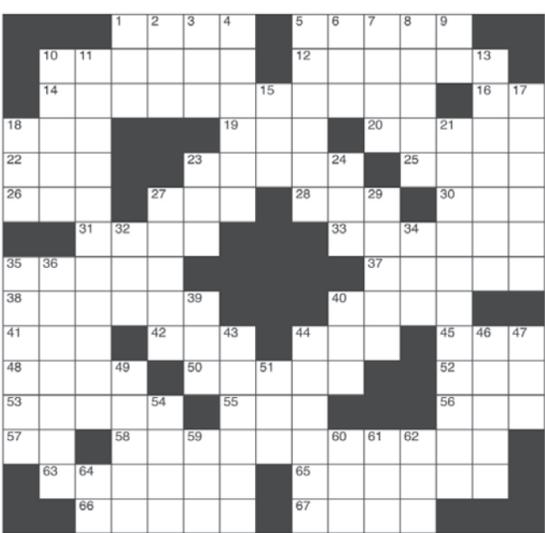
• **Living Word Church of Charlton**, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, MA 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am. www.livingwordcharlton.com info@livingwordcharlton.com

• **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

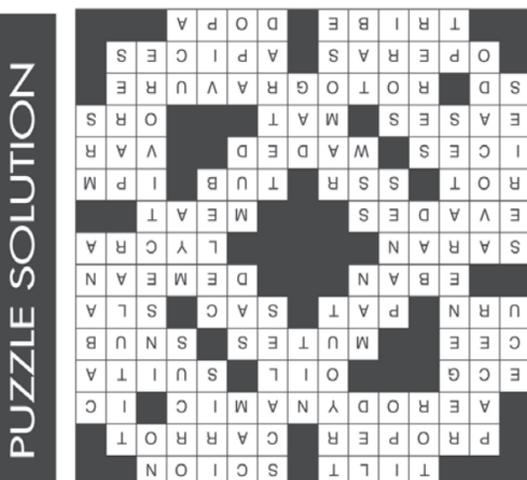


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sloping position
- 5. Descendant of a notable family
- 10. Following accepted norms
- 12. Root vegetable
- 14. Having a shape that reduces drag from air
- 16. Integrated circuit
- 18. Records electric currents of the heart
- 19. Used to anoint
- 20. Japanese city
- 22. After B
- 23. Muffles
- 25. Pass over
- 26. Vase
- 27. Soft touch
- 28. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 30. Patti Hearst's captors
- 31. Israeli politician
- 33. Degrade
- 35. Type of wrap
- 37. Polyurethane fabric
- 38. Avoids capture
- 40. Vegetarians avoid it
- 41. Decay
- 42. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 44. Vessel to bathe in
- 45. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 48. Frosts
- 50. Dipped into
- 52. Controversial replay system in soccer
- 53. Comforts
- 55. Needed for yoga
- 56. And/___
- 57. South Dakota
- 58. Printing system
- 63. Dramatic works set to music
- 65. Highest points
- 66. Social division
- 67. Used to treat Parkinson's disease

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Hill or rocky peak
- 2. Initial public offering
- 3. Type of light
- 4. Test
- 5. Flaky coverings
- 6. Former NFLer Newton
- 7. Part of the eye
- 8. Roman god of the underworld
- 9. Negative
- 10. Indiana pro basketball player
- 11. Replaces lost tissue
- 13. Denotes one from whom title is taken
- 15. Historic college hoops tournament
- 17. Hut by a swimming pool
- 18. Defunct European monetary unit
- 21. Feeds on insects
- 23. Adult male
- 24. Melancholic
- 27. Sheets of glass
- 29. Slang for famous person
- 32. Not good
- 34. "Ghetto Superstar" singer
- 35. The "World" is one
- 36. Used to make guacamole
- 39. Midway between south and southwest
- 40. Wet dirt
- 43. Ancient Egyptian name
- 44. Set of four
- 46. Strips
- 47. Wife
- 49. More dried-up
- 51. Socially inept person
- 54. Clusters on fern fronds
- 59. Bar bill
- 60. Prefix indicating "away from"
- 61. Very important person
- 62. Fiddler crabs
- 64. Special therapy



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REAL ESTATE

BRIMFIELD

\$550,000, 8 Governor Fairbanks Rd, Via Ft 2017, and Via, Karin M, to Davis, Aaron J, and Davis, Sabita.

CHARLTON

\$615,000, 223 Sunset Dr, Koumanelis-Urquhart, N E, and Koumanelis, Frank T, to Mutebi, Michael M.

\$490,000, 235 Dresser Hill Rd, Burzycki, Nancy L, to Voghel, Jasen.

\$380,000, 74 Hill Rd #B, Leblanc, Ronald, to Wells, Carlton, and Alfano, Lucia.

\$350,000, 5 Buffum Rd, Mccauley, Brian, and Drown, Lee, to Milone, David P.

\$102,000, Jennings Rd #16, Gauvin, John J, to Rawan Capital Invs LLC.

HOLLAND

\$425,000, 131 Union Rd, Porier, John D, and Porier, Jennifer A, to Lewis, Vanessa A, and Lewis, Brendon X.

SOUTHBRIDGE

\$420,000, 121 Central St, O'Brien, Keiron, and O'Brien, Kathleen M, to Carrera, Eriberto M.

\$315,000, 136 Vista Ln, Leboeuf Jr, Roland J, and Leboeuf, Sharon L, to Orellana, Juan A.

\$278,000, 864 N Woodstock Rd, Roy, Michael R, and Roy, Michelle A, to Lynch, Colin.

\$600,000, 119 Dudley River Rd, Bond, Tisha R, to Chausse, Shannon L, and Szkutak, Scott A.

\$154,000, 118 Lebanon St, Dillon, Christopher B, and Robillard, Brenda, to Robillard, Jessica L.

\$151,000, 442 Worcester St, Stark, Eugene W, to Stark, Brenda S.

STURBRIDGE

\$675,000, 12 Caron Rd, Therrien, Christopher J, and Therrien, Marilyn F, to Plankey, Tassie, and Plankey, Timothy.

\$600,000, 21 Whittemore Rd, V & J LLC, to Gorton, Brittney L, and Gorton, Matthew W.

\$350,000, 195 Main St, More, Thomas M, to Gentry, Thomas J, and Wandelaar, Luke P.

Cornerstone Bank donates \$25,000 to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, donated \$25,000 to support programs and services at the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

“We are longtime supporters of our local YMCA because we recognize the important role the organization plays in the lives of our neighbors,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “Our donation will be put toward four programs that benefit a diverse range of local residents.”

YMCA programs that will benefit include: The Achievers initiative, which supports the next generation of college students with academic assistance, adult mentorship, college prep programming and career workshops, all designed to help teens find their unique paths to higher education and beyond.

The Numbers in the Sun program, through which an experienced math teacher delivers high-quality academic programming to children to reinforce their mathematic core competencies and comprehension in fun and engaging ways.

LIVESTRONG, a 12-week health and wellness program that connects cancer survivors and their families with a network of physical activity programming and emotional support at no cost to participants.

The What’s for Dinner weekly meal service that provides an assembled package of groceries to families and seniors in need. On average, 500 meals are distributed monthly.

“We are most proud to support this type of programming, which addresses real needs in our community,” said Tallman.

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



Left: David Connell, President & CEO at YMCA of Central Massachusetts. Right: Todd Tallman, President & CEO of Cornerstone.

unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities, through a broad range of deposit and loan products, and services. Built on Trust is not just a tag line, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank’s personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Elm Street Congregational announces upcoming events

SOUTHBRIDGE — Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm St. in Southbridge, is pleased to announce church events open to the public. All are invited to participate.

June 8-7 p.m., “How to Live a Contemplative Life,” meeting four consecutive Thursdays on zoom. To register, contact Pastor Marcy at mjkatrina@yahoo.com.

June 10- Community Rock Painting, 1-3 p.m. at the church. Rocks to be put in the Hope Garden.

June 11- Men’s Sunday, worship service at 10 a.m.

June 24- Family Fun Day on the Southbridge Common, Mechanic St., 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

June 25- Service in the gazebo on the Southbridge Common, Mechanic St., 10 a.m.

Ongoing events: Bible Study, Monday nights, 6:30-8 p.m. To register, contact Pastor Marcy at mjkatrina@yahoo.com. This bible study will be on Zoom.

Thursdays, at 10:30 a.m. at church, book study on “How Happiness Happens” led by Lou-Ellen Corkum. All are invited to participate.

The Turquoise Table, a community gathering spot, is set up on the front lawn of the church on Wednesdays from 11am to noon. Stop by for some friendly conversations.



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Gus Steeves

Burgess students restore Memorial Day tradition

STURBRIDGE — For Korean War veteran Robert Briere, preserving tradition is critical for our future.

Last Thursday, he introduced today's Burgess School children to one from his own childhood, circa 1939 – marking Revolutionary War graves with carnations for Memorial Day.

"They've been laying asleep for over 200 years, so don't worry about anyone coming up and going 'Boo,'" he quipped before passing on the tradition to Desert Storm vet Dan Soper.

Briere's effort dovetails with the recently inaugurated Daughters of the American Revolution effort to erect plaques honoring that era's veterans at various cemeteries nationwide. Back in March, Sturbridge's Center Burying Ground became the first such site in Massachusetts, and several DAR officers gathered Thursday to rededicate that plaque. Among them, state officers listed the dozens of Revolutionary vets buried here, talked about the cemetery's construction, and reminded the dozens of attendees about "the lessons silently taught by memorials."

Town Administrator Robin Grimm joined them, noting, "Everyday, we serve the public as the people who lay in this cemetery wanted us to – a government by the people."

She urged people to notice and honor the half-staff flags then flying until Memorial Day in honor of departed veterans of all wars.

Similarly, Rep. Todd Smola reminded people the Constitution and other key documents "aren't worth the paper they're printed on" without the sacrifice of soldiers to defend them.

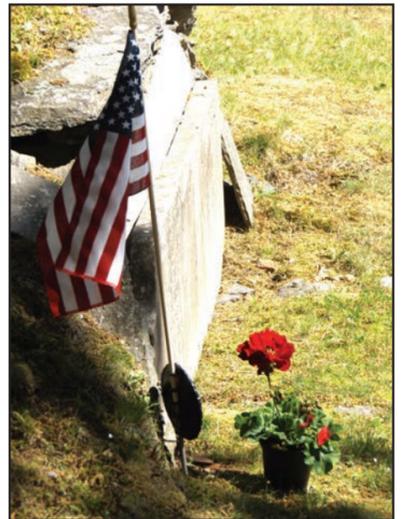
He thanked Briere for his many years of involvement, noting, "I always get a wonderful lesson in history from you."



Rep. Todd Smola confers with Robert Briere before the formalities begin.



Burgess School students stand at attention for the X.



A carnation stands sentinel at one of the graves.



DAR state officers Diane Isaacson and Patricia Karakashian re-unveil the plaque.



A Burgess boy places a carnation between two gravestones.



A Burgess girl goes in search of an as-yet-unhonored gravestone.



Color Guard members roll up the flag at the end of the event.



Burgess student Kassandra Murgal plays TAPS.



Members of the General Henry Knox Color Guard load their muskets as part of the 21-gun salute. A few members of the Sturbridge militia reenactment group also participated.

Friday's Child

Hi! My name is Yaveliy and I love to read!

Yaveliy is a charming girl. She loves to build with Legos, play basketball and watch movies. She is currently in the 5th grade in school year 2022-2023 and does very well in school with an educational plan in place to help her with emotional and social needs. She enjoys being involved in school activities. She has been described by others as possessing "a love of laugh", fun loving and always having her music close by to listen to. She is very close to her siblings especially her older sister who lives close. They contact with each other and also enjoy virtual calls with each other.

Yaveliy has a large number of siblings who all live in western MA with whom she will need to maintain contact. She would do best in a 2 parent family with younger children in the home. She will thrive on one on one attention, love, structure and routine in her new home.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/5893>

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

The Town of Sturbridge Council on Aging is currently seeking qualified candidates for the part-time (15 hr.) position of Program Assistant. Working together with the COA Director, the Program Assistant plans, creates, and sets up activities and programs at the COA. The Program Asst. creates a monthly newsletter. Complete job description available at www.Sturbridge.Gov.

Candidates must be able to have strong computer skills, multi task, and communicate clearly. Candidates must be 18 yrs. old, graduate of high school, and undergo a background check.

Salary range: \$19.16 - \$21.56 based on experience. Interested candidates shall submit the resume, a letter of interest and completed application to Leslie Wong, 480 Main Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518 or LWong@Sturbridge.Gov. The Town of Sturbridge is an E.O.E

Application deadline: June 14th, 2023



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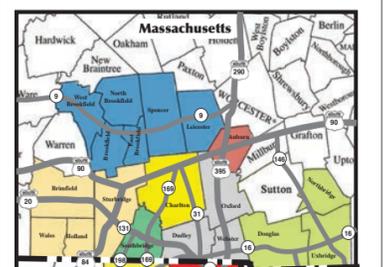
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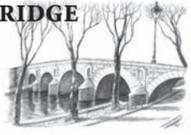
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Never forget the price of our freedoms

We wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to our readers, family and friends who have served or who are currently serving in our armed forces. We all should take the time to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, while you were relaxing, enjoying some barbeque and a big plate of pasta salad, we hope that all of you out there took a moment to pause, even if it was undetected, and ruminate about the individuals who were brave enough to afford to us this freedom. Pick a battle and try to imagine, if you can, what it would be like if you were on the front lines. Those of us who have never served can't possibly imagine what this would feel like, however we can appreciate, recognize and commend the courage of those who are no longer with us and those who continue to serve.

When Memorial Day was first celebrated, it was known as Decoration Day following the Civil War. Youngsters would place flowers in cemeteries while they sang songs and honored those lost due to war. The Civil War that ended in 1865 took the lives of more people than any other war in the history of the United States, the estimate is roughly 620,000, the Union losing 365,000 and the Confederacy 260,000. History says that more than half of these losses came as the result of disease. As a result, the first national cemeteries were created.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization for Northern Civil War Veterans, called for a nationwide day to honor fallen soldiers. General James Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery on the first Decoration Day and the more than 5,000 people in attendance decorated over 2,000 graves, both Union and Confederate.

The holiday as we all know is celebrated on the last Monday in May, and became an official holiday in the year 1971. Parades across the country take place, and people visit cemeteries where family members who have served in the military have been laid to rest.

At 3 p.m. every year, a moment of silence takes place across the country. In December of 2008, President Bill Clinton signed the "National Moment of Remembrance Act" which designated the time be at 3 p.m. In 1966, the government marked Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, every business in town would shut their doors and owners would venture out to decorate graves with flags as well as flowers.

Originally, Decoration Day was intended to honor those lost in just the Civil War. After the First World War, America felt the need, and rightfully so, to honor all those lost serving their country. In WWI, a total of 116,516 Americans died on the battlefield, and 405,399 were lost during WWII. The Korean War took 36,574 lives and the Vietnam War cost 58,220 lives. 4,411 were lost in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 73 in Operation New Dawn, 2,346 as the result of Operation Enduring Freedom, 48 in Operation Freedom's Sentinel and 61 in Operation Inherent Resolve.

An estimated 38 million people in America traveled over the holiday weekend, and 2.5 million travelers boarded flights, making Memorial Day is the fourth busiest travel day of the year.

In New York, Washington, D.C and Chicago, you can find the largest parades in the country. Because of the three day weekend, many Americans threw parties and barbecues or headed out of town for a mini getaway, but we should never forget the reason for it all.

OPINION

Sacred time: Kairos and the Liturgical calendar

Do you remember Dolly Parton's old song, "Working 9 to 5," a song about the challenges of work / life balance? The song reminds us all how work tends to be the center of our day and our lives; everything else planned around our "working hours." Dolly says in the song, "It's enough to drive you crazy if you let it."



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We get up to go to work. We get home in time to eat and get ready for another day. Our pure focus set on work, money, and making ends meet. It truly is enough to "make one crazy if you let it." Even if you can flip the mental switch and focus on your evenings, weekends, and time off, you still are caught in the mindset of this world. Each moment set in preparation and worry of the next.

This is why in the Christian church we live by a different calendar: a calendar which changes our focus from money and work to God and the sacred. This calendar is called the Liturgical calendar. Living by a Liturgical calendar is supposed to help us keep our attention on a bigger picture, remind us whose we are, and draw our thoughts toward the sacred.

This idea of living in God's time (Kairos), rather than the world's time (Chronos), is meant to change our focus and keep our eyes and hearts on God. It is supposed to help us remember the blessing of life and draw us into a different rhythm of living.

In the Liturgical calendar, the Christian so-called New Year is not January 1st but the first Sunday of Advent (a.k.a. four Sundays before Christmas). Thus, the calendar immediately sets our vision and heart on the anticipation of Jesus' birth. The calendar then proceeds through the Christmas season (Yes, Christmas is a season

not a day. In the Christian calendar, though, the Christmas season comes after Christmas Day (not before), Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Eastertide, Pentecost, and finally leads us to ordinary time (Ordinary Time not being ordinary as in plain and boring, but ordinary as in ordinal, that is counted time: first, second, third . . .). The calendar also includes special days which vary a bit depending on your denomination, but usually include All Saints Day, Trinity Sunday, Shrove Tuesday (a.k.a. Mardi Gras), Ascension Sunday, Transfiguration Sunday, et al. The whole year culminates in Christ the King Sunday when we celebrate all Jesus has done, acknowledging that he is the head of the Church and our lives. Each celebration reminds the faithful of their dedication to living a life in the way of Jesus and reminds them through a shared story laid out in our calendar what that might look like.

The Christian calendar also prioritizes Sabbath: the one day a week where rest is its sole purpose, a day of rejuvenation. For Christians, Sunday is like the drum beat of a song that keeps everything else in tempo.

In contemplative communities and for some people, this commitment to living in Kairos time extends to daily hours as well. That is, that instead of time being set by the desires and needs of the world, like work and school and appointments, it is ordered by prayer and our connection to God. Depending on your denomination, order, or personal practice, the times of prayer may vary, as may the structure of that time, but the purpose is the same. In fact, this was the original purpose of the church bells that

you hear ring out. They rang to remind us to stop what we are doing and offer a prayer to God. They rang to remind us that no matter what we were doing, our primary foci is to be on God. That is, as scripture says, we are in this world, but not of this world.

To many these practices sound archaic and odd, but I can tell you that for those that embrace them, they are life giving. They not only change the flow of the day and the week and the year; they redirect our heart and offer a purpose bigger than self, accumulation, and monetary gain. Living in Kairos, helps to remind us of our divine origins and helps us break the system that tries to extract as much from us as it can.

Chronos, the time that the world lives by, shackles us to our appointments, calendars and clocks, keeping us focused on where we have to be and how much time until we have to move on. Chronos time is based on scarcity and reminds us what little time we have; while Kairos, even though it sometimes moves by calendar and clock, transports us into eternal time. Kairos time breaks us from that mindset of scarcity calling us into a consciousness of abundance, blessing and wonder. Kairos time draws us into a sacred story which precedes us and, God willing, will long outlast us.

Life is a gift too precious to spend on accumulation and squander on an endless cycle of productivity and consumption. Instead, tethering ourselves to God and setting our rhythms based on our faith and its ancient story offers us meaning and purpose that changes us and has a potential to change the world.

May we each seek to live in a time beyond time and be thankful for each moment we have.

Rev. Dawn M Adams is a minister at the First Congregational Church of Brimfield, UCC, which can be found online at Brimfielducc.org.

Should you consider 401(k) loans or withdrawals?



FINANCIAL FOCUS

TREVOR
NIELSEN

At some point, you may have more money in your 401(k) than in any other investment. And even though your 401(k) is intended for your retirement, you may one day think you have to tap into your account early — but should you? And if you do, how should you go about it?

If it's possible to avoid taking money from your 401(k) before you retire, you probably should do so. You could spend 25 or more years in retirement, and you'll need to pay for those years, so you may want to look for alternatives to your 401(k). If you've built an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses in cash or cash equivalents, you could use some of this money. If you have a Health Savings Account (HSA), you could use it to pay for qualified medical expenses. Or you could sell some of your taxable investments, rather than going into your tax-deferred 401(k).

But if you have determined that you must look at your 401(k) plan to meet a short-term funding need, you'll want to carefully consider how to go about it. You typically have two main choices: loans or withdrawals.

For plans that allow loans, employees can generally borrow up to 50% of the vested amount of their 401(k)s, up to a maximum of \$50,000 within a 12-month period. Administrative fees may apply, and interest will be charged, but it will be added back to the 401(k) account as part of the loan repayments. Except when they're used for a home purchase, loans must be repaid within five years, with equal payments made at least quarterly, unless payments are allowed to be paused temporarily. If you leave the company or don't repay the loan according to the agreement, the loan balance will likely be treated as a taxable distribution.

Now, let's consider withdrawals. For 401(k) plans that allow current employees to make withdrawals, the withdrawal requests are usually considered either hardship or non-hardship. To qualify for a hardship withdrawal, you must demonstrate an immediate and heavy financial need to pay for certain expenses, including a home purchase, college, a medical issue or other specified costs, and your withdrawal is limited to the amount necessary to meet the need. Non-hardship withdrawals can typically be taken for any purpose but usually are not granted until you're 59 and a half or older.

Unlike with a loan, a hardship withdrawal can't be repaid, while a non-hardship withdrawal can usually only be repaid by rolling over the amount to an IRA within 60 days. But the bigger issue may be taxes. If you withdraw funds from your 401(k), any previously untaxed money is generally taxed as ordinary income and a 10% penalty will apply if you're younger than 59 and a half, unless you qualify for an exception. Plus, your 401(k) plan typically must withhold 20 percent of the withdrawal for taxes, so you'd have to take an even larger withdrawal to meet your needs.

Before embarking on a 401(k) loan or withdrawal, you may want to consult with a financial professional and your tax advisor. Taking money from your 401(k) is a big move, so make sure you know everything that's involved.

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.

TO THE EDITOR

Even those outside landfill radius should test their wells

To the Editor:

A cover story in the May 19 Charlton Villager reported that the town had issued a warning to properties on Flint Road after PFAS was detected in monitoring wells at the landfill. It also stated that monitoring wells at the street edge of the landfill did not test positive for PFAS, but that neighboring properties would be tested in a 500 foot radius.

I live on E. Baylies Road, south of the landfill by more than 500 feet, and my

well tested at 37.8 ppm for PFAS, well over the 20 ppm limit. I do not know the source of my contamination, but well owners in proximity to potential or known contamination sites might consider testing their own wells. mass.gov/dep has information and links to certified labs.

SUZANNE HALL
CHARLTON

Let's move Southbridge forward

To the Editor:

This year's Southbridge town election is coming up soon, Tuesday, June 13, and I respectfully ask residents to consider voting for the following candidates on the ballot: Councilor Jacquelyn Ryan, Maria Torres and Andrew Murch for Town Council, and Carla Delacruz Davila for School Committee.

These candidates support infrastructure improvements, affordable housing, expanding economic development and a safe, inclusive environment at our

public schools. They can think for themselves, express their ideas with confidence, are considerate of others and will vote their conscience.

So please consider casting your vote for these candidates and let's move Southbridge forward!

The election day is Tuesday, June 13 at the Southbridge Community Center, 153 Chestnut St., from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thank you,

MIKE MARKETTI
SOUTHRIDGE

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.

Rabbits, rabbits everywhere

By the time you read this column, Memorial Day will be over, and boat ramps and road traffic will be back to some type of normality. Whatever that is! Hopefully, you took some time out of the holiday to pay tribute to all of our veterans, and to all those that paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep our freedoms, and way of life safe.

Saltwater fishing was pretty good this past week, with numerous reports of anglers catching their limit of four seabass in Buzzards Bay. The new size limit of 16 and a half for seabass in Mass. was easy to fill, but stripers were spotty in many areas. The new size limit on stripers changed on Friday, May 26 in Mass. The new slot limit was reduced by three inches, making legal stripers 28 to 31 inches. It really does not make any difference what anglers think about the new slot limit. Attending public hearings and making recommendations may as well be thrown in the wastepa-



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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per basket. Further cuts are being discussed on stripers if they do not get a good year of population growth. It is not the recreational angler that is causing the problem! Dragger and commercial fishing is raping the ocean's fish populations, and they will continue. I know you have heard it all before, but it is just crazy and unnecessary!

Fluke fishing is starting to improve in both Mass. & Rhode Island. Squid strips and jigs seem to be the hottest bait so far this season.

Rabbits are everywhere in Central Mass. this year. Trying to grow a garden is not easy. This past week, I had at least eight rabbits spotted in my neighbor's yard, and three in mine. There was one huge rabbit that ran

from my neighbor's yard and stopped in my driveway. It was the size of a snowshoe hare. I hunted rabbits for many years, and rarely harvested a cottontail rabbit the size of that one. The native cottontail rabbits are the New England cottontail, and the non-native are the Eastern cottontail. The Eastern cottontail was introduced into New England in the 1900's. The Eastern rabbit has pretty much taken over in Mass. woodlands, and they are here to stay.

Very few hunters own beagles today in the area, but back in the day there were many hunters that owned two or more for hunting purposes. Every Saturday, my two buddies met up with me to hunt rabbits, and it was great. Today, there are too many homes, and private property to hunt rabbits in our area. The Cape still has some rabbit hunting going on, and north & west of our area still has some rabbit hunting.

Snowshoe hare are extremely rare in Central Mass., only because the anti-hunting groups



Courtesy

This week's picture is Scott Lambert 25-pound striper.

stopped the sportsmen from transporting them live from Canada, approximately 15 years ago or longer. Local Rod & Gun Clubs purchased them from a trapper in Canada and stocked them in local covers, hoping to have the hare breed and have young in

the wild here. Each litter of hare contains one to eight young, and grows to maturity in about one year. Cottontail rabbits have up to three litters a year, and can have up to six or more young in their litters.

A large bear was spotted recently in Webster

Mass. and was spotted by a local fisherman. He was fishing at Webster Lake, and observed the bear slip into the water and swim to the opposite shoreline. That had to be exciting!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them rods Bending!

Fishing Tips and Tricks

Days "gone fishin'" are the simple pleasures life-long memories are made of. Whether relaxing on the shore of still waters, or wrangling in a temperamental trout, the sport of recreational fishing remains a popular activity for all ages.

Fishing enthusiasts can enjoy the waterways in Massachusetts knowing that the state is ranked among the top ten states for fishing. In fact, a 2022 study by Lawnlove.com also revealed the Bay State had the highest number of fishing competitions, and the sixth-most marines per 100,000 residents. Read on for some tips to up your odds of reeling in the big one!

Free Fishing Weekend Many memorable fishing tales begin at the waterways in the region. Once a year the state waives its licensing laws for a weekend, allowing residents of all ages the pleasures of a day "gone fishin'." On Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, Free Fishing Weekend offers an opportunity for fishers of all



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

ages to toss their line into statewide waters whether or not they are licensed. While licenses are usually required, during Free Fishing Weekend in Massachusetts, the state's licensing policy will be waived during these two days.

No license is required to fish any public lake, pond, reservoir, stream, or river in Massachusetts from 12 a.m. Saturday, June 3 until 11:59 p.m. Sunday, June 4.

Fishing Tips from Expert Anglers

Dropping your line into the waters this weekend? Here are some tips to help make your time at the fishing hole more productive

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Successful fishers make it a habit to change their line. Fishing line has memory- it will retain the twist, nicks scrapes, and it gets weaker every time it is used. Don't chance losing the "big one" to brittle line!

And be sure to match your hook size to your bait: small for small, large for large. It makes a difference in holding your bait, and in how many strikes you will get.

Take a valuable fishing tip from old timers who say "if you find the bait you'll find the fish." To do this efficiently, they make it a habit to scan the water for bird activity. Follow the birds, who follow the bait, and you'll likely find the fish!

When throwing into the wind, drop your rod tip to the water right after making the cast. You'll get more distance and will also get the slack out of your line in case you get bit just when the bait hits the surface. If you

leave the rod held high, the wind will make an arc out of your line and you'll lose control of the bait.

**

Still no bites? It could be your bug repellent. Never handle bait after applying it as the scent will keep the fish away.

**

Tips to Track Trout

* Did you know Rainbow Trout favor 56 degree water? Find that temperature and you're sure to find the fish! If it's cold out, trout can typically be found on the surface of a lake. If it's hot out, they'll be deeper in the water.

*Remember, trout have tough mouths. Keep your hooks sharp - and use a number 4 hook for best results!

* Want to up your odds of trout for supper? When lake fishing, dip your crawler in the oil from a can of smoked oysters!

* Trying to tempt the best trout. Try this secret recipe from anglers: Combine two ounces of cod liver oil with 20 drops oil of anise. Mix well. Dip your bait in the mixture and string up the trout!

**

Bait and Catch It's summertime and the fishin' is easy - if you use an old fashioned bait recipes. They're tried and true secret weapons from successful fishermen - but best of all, you can whip them up with ingredients from your kitchen cupboards!

*Anglers swear refrigerator biscuit dough is a great bait for trout. Just pull a raw biscuit apart and start reeling in the "big one!"

*Even fish love spicy food, as this super lure recipe will attest. Mix together 8 ounce ground aniseed or fennel seed and two ounces ground allspice. Sprinkle 1/16th oz. oil of cloves over the above and mix. Store in tightly sealed jars for a

few days while the odors blend. Put a drop on fish bait.

*If you're fishing with salmon eggs or worms, don't forget to add a miniature marshmallow to the hook to keep your bait buoyant!

* Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

Becoming an informed collector



With summer unofficially underway, you might be heading out to more estate sales, yard sales, flea markets, and antique shows. Here are some tips to help you make that next great find and avoid buying something you might regret later.

Knowledge is power when it comes to antiques and collectibles. The more you know about what you're collecting, and the more you know about antiques in general, the more likely you

are to find a great piece. Antique dealers used to have libraries with reference books and price guides, but now you easily look up selling prices on online auction sites or pay for auction results on websites like worthpoint.com. You can also find a lot of information for free. For example, on our website, centralmassauctions.com, we offer advice about items that are selling well and tips for evaluating paintings.

If you're more inclined to learn in-person, many

places also offer live antique courses. Old Sturbridge Village has previously offered live antique courses. Historic Eastfield Village (which is located between Pittsfield, Mass. and Albany, N.Y.) is offering classes this summer on 19th century printing and weaving in the rural Northeast, among other topics.

Attending live auctions is also a good way to learn more about antiques and collectibles. When I first started learning

about antiques, I attended an average of three auctions a week. Attending in-person offers the opportunity to view items and even handle them. The auction staff may also be available to answer any questions. If you attend auctions on a regular basis, you may see people who also attend regularly. Making connections with other bidders can be helpful when you are buying or selling. Some experienced bidders may be willing to offer advice. Be careful when listening to people during the preview though because an auction is a competitive situation. People may not want to share what they know about items, and may intentionally mislead you on a piece that they are also interested in.

Dealers at antique



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
.....
WAYNE TUISKULA

shows are often happy to share information about items they are selling because, the more they describe the items, the better chance they have of finding a buyer. Many dealers specialize in an area that interests them. You can find dealers specializing in a wide variety of items from Shaker furniture to antique phonographs. When I used to sell at Brimfield, I spoke with other dealers during slow times. Many are also collectors of the items they're selling and are passionate about their items. I learned a lot from those conversations.

Happy antique hunting this summer! Feel free to email me if you make that great find.

Our online auction of antique and vintage toys,

baseball cards, sports memorabilia, guitars, and pop culture collectibles is currently underway and ends on June 21st. We are also running an estate sale of a home in Chicopee packed full of antiques, collectibles, dolls, and thousands of other items on June 23, June 24, and June 25. We will have another online auction later this month starting with jewelry, sterling silver, nautical paintings and memorabilia, other art, pocket watches, stoneware, duck decoys, antique firearms, and a wide variety of other items. It will end in late July. Please visit our Website, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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

SPORTS

One-run wins help Warriors reach CMADA Class A Tournament Final

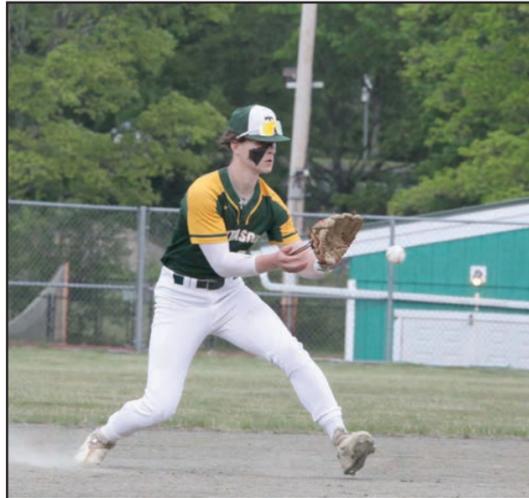


Nick Ethier photos

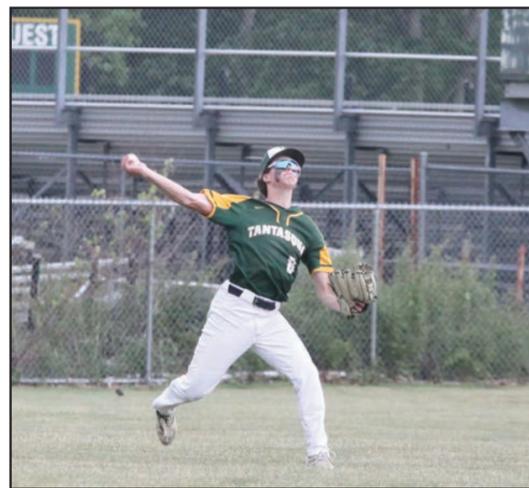
Tantasqua's Joe Amaru lets go of the game's first pitch versus Westborough.



Tantasqua's Colm McGrath takes his lead off first base, which is covered by Westborough's Joe Marino.



Shortstop Devin Krochmalnyckj of Tantasqua gathers a Westborough player's hopping ball into his glove en route to recording an out at first base.



Cole Nussey of Tantasqua comes up firing from his left field position in an attempt to throw out a Westborough base runner at home.

STURBRIDGE — Five of the Tantasqua Regional varsity baseball team's 20 games have been one-run affairs. Luckily for the Warriors, four of the five have been victories, including two in the Central Mass. Athletic Directors Association's (CMADA) Class A Tournament.

First, third seeded Tantasqua hosted No. 6 Westborough High in the quarterfinals on Wednesday, May 24. The Warriors rallied against the Rangers and won in walk-off fashion, 5-4, with Jack Rapose belting the game-winning hit in the bottom of the seventh inning.

Then, at No. 2 Wachusett Regional on Friday, May 26, Tantasqua won another one-run game, this time 1-0. Southpaw Miles Blake went the distance, throwing a one-hitter with 11 strikeouts and two walks. Offensively, Devin Krochmalnyckj plated Colm McGrath (2-for-3) in the top of the first inning with the game's lone run.

The Warriors (18-2) then played No. 1 Leominster High (17-1) in the CMADA Class A Final on Wednesday, May 31, after press time. Following that tournament, Tantasqua will partake in the Division 3 State Tournament. That bracket was also released after press time.

Nipmuc again beats Bay Path, this time in Central Mass. Tournament



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Sam Buchanan gets her pitching arm up over her head to generate speed.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

CHARLTON — Come postseason time, Nipmuc Regional continues to be a thorn in the Bay Path Regional varsity softball team's side. A

year ago the Warriors bested the Minutemen twice, first in the Central Mass. Athletic Directors Association's (CMADA) Class B Tournament, 5-0, and again in the Division 4 State Tournament



Miranda Linde of Bay Path connects on a pitch over the plate.

Round of 32, 8-7.

Fast forward to this spring and Nipmuc and Bay Path again met, this time in the quarterfinals of the CMADA Class B bracket on Tuesday, May 23. And, unfortunately for the fourth seeded Minutemen, the end result remained the same. The fifth ranked Warriors won the game, 11-0.

"They came here to play. That was the biggest difference," said Bay Path head coach Rick

Carrero. "We're the home team, we have an opportunity to beat this team after they knocked us out twice last year, and they looked like they were the home team that was ready to get back at us. It should have been the other way around."

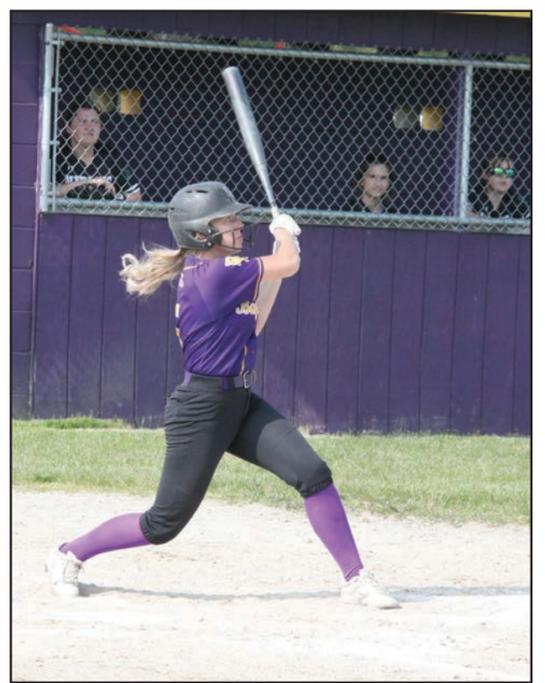
Carrero noted that the team's energy needed to be different.

"That has to come from our team. The energy can't come from the coaches," he explained. "You have to want to be here and want to play softball and defend your house."

Luckily for the Minutemen, their season is far from over. The State Vocational Large Schools Tournament kicked off on Tuesday, May 30 (after press time), as third seeded Bay Path played at No. 2 Monty Tech. Another appearance in the Division 4 State Tournament comes after the State Vocational.

"We have a lot to play for," said Carrero.

Nipmuc scored once in the top of the first inning, but Bay Path pitcher Sam Buchanan worked her way out of a jam and left the bases loaded with Warriors. Buchanan then held Nipmuc scoreless in the second frame.



Bay Path's Anna Lehtola follows through on her swing and watches the ball sail into the outfield.

Single runs in the third and fifth innings, though, ballooned the Warriors' lead to 3-0 as the Minutemen couldn't get their bats going against pitcher Janelle Scirocco, whose changeup posed a problem.

"We weren't learning. There were several times when batters had two balls and no strikes, and they were swinging at a changeup and popping up. We're a better hitting team than that," said Carrero, whose team finished with five hits (two by Grace Jones and one each by Katie Magnusson, Buchanan and Savannah Steiner).

Nipmuc put the game away with two runs in the sixth inning and six more in the seventh to account for the 11-0 final.

"They're too good to lose 11-0, and that's no knock against Nipmuc. We shouldn't be losing to anybody on our schedule 11-0," said Carrero, citing a lack of focus.

An example of poor

focus, Carrero noted, was the team's shaky defense. The Minutemen committed nine errors, as nearly all of Buchanan's runs against were unearned.

"When you're making errors on plays you should be making, that's a focus issue," said Carrero. "That's not a talent issue."

When asked if his team will rebound, Carrero started with one emphatic word.

"Absolutely," he said. "They have it. It's not the skill, it was just the focus. They've got to come mentally prepared to play."

The Minutemen played a CMADA consolation round game against No. 6 Oakmont Regional and put up a bigger fight, ultimately losing by one run, 11-10.

Bay Path will take its 14-6 record into the State Tournament, with the brackets being released after press time.



First baseman Savannah Steiner of Bay Path catches the ball while stretching to force out Nipmuc's Kara Johnson.

QCC ANNOUNCES DEAN AND MERIT LISTS

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has released its Spring 2023 Semester Dean and Merit Lists. A total of 439 students were named to the college's Dean's List and 826 students were named to the Merit List.

Students who meet the criteria below and have earned 12 or more credits in a given semester are named to the Dean's List:

All grades must be "C" or higher. (No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted). Semester Quality Point Average (QPA) must be 3.50 or higher; and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher.

All courses must be college level

Auburn: Logan Alexander, Emily Briddon, Jacqueline Cetrone, Zoe Coleman, Kelly Do, Erika Goff, Daquan Gooch, Emelis Henriquez, Angel Medina, Chanel Napoli, David Zona
Blackstone: Reno Caretta, Jacob Ridlon, Declan Shave
Brookfield: Emily Pope, Tay-Lynne Pope, Vanessa VanGerven
Charlton: Molly Cloutier, Emanuel Desouza, Zenyah Figueroa, Jordan Goulas, Jordan Keefe, Kellen Kinnes, Vitor Kuhn Scariot, Haley LaFortune, Jessica Lapiere,

Amanda McDermott, Alexia McFarlin, Chase McKenney, Nicole Mulvey, Hanna Palmer, Jordyn Poirier, John Price, Maged Samwael, Dylan Smaltz

Cherry Valley: Cilia Lannon

Dudley: Anthony Awad, Mina Boktor, Isabella Freitas, Thalia Hernandez, Nicole Karp, Emily Kolodziejczak, Christopher Lincoln, Amanda Wisnowski
East Brookfield: Grace Haight
East Douglas: Caroline Beaird, Hayden Krasner, Hannah Rosenkrantz, Ashley Schofield
Fiskdale: Drew Howard
Grafton: Jeremy Barrett, Evan Ducharme, Harrison Klumpenaar, Brinna Smith

Holland: Haley Dulmaine, Zane Salameh
Leicester: Camden Crocker, Nikolas Dagostino, Jason Edson, Jackie Long, Cassidy Saksa

Milford: Shanay Patel, Amanda Silva
Millbury: Gabriella Bianchi, Clarence Johnson, Madison LeClaire, Eric Renaud, Julia Silva Santiago, Nicholas Terp, Stephanie Xiao

North Brookfield: Liam Carlson, Deborah Hill
North Grafton: Fadi Alkoht, Sean Manning, Holly Martin

South Grafton: Nicholas Fobert
Southbridge: Kandy Alvarado, Kendall Barton, Evan Duffey, Bianca Fantaroni, Daniel Fuentes, Rosalie Groleau, Giovanni Hernandez, Anthony Lang, Emily Maldonado, Jacob McDonald, Ogochukwu Nwasolu, Abigail St. Laurent, Venus Streeter, Payton Vega, Amber Warden

Spencer: Matthew Heffernan, Thomas Heffernan, Lourdes Morales, Kyle Paquette, Kyle Sadusky, Yujia Wei
Sturbridge: Abby Arena, Brian Gagnon, Ryan Manners, Zoe Melanson

Sutton: Aliyssa Courville, Katherine Fields, Conor Hickey, Disha Khanna, Amanda Moulton, Tehreem Zainab

Upton: Adrienne Guertin
Uxbridge: Hailey Bergman, Antonio Demalia, Alexandra Gonzaga, Abigail Hanscom, Solomon LeFrancois, Jeremy Lutton, Nicholas Maracle, Justin Meola, Abigail Vanderbrug

Wales: Jalissa Gardner
Webster: Makayla Blanchard, Ashley Denham, Sean Flynn, Hlaing Htoo, Karma Lama, Falonne Modjom, Kasey Pechie, Jullia Pinheiro, Beatriz Roman, Kyle VanCott, Tyler

Verrier
West Upton: Logan Quinn, Omer Rona
Whitinsville: Alison Beaupre, Melissa Sue Chenevert, Hunter Fabri, Alianna Georges, Patrick Spain

Merit List
Students who meet the criteria below and have earned six or more credits in a given semester; but fewer than 12 credits, are named to the Merit List:

All grades must be "C" or higher. (No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted). Semester Quality Point Average (QPA) must be 3.50 or higher; and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher.

All courses must be college level
Auburn: Zahraa Alshammari, Diana Bies, Hannah Chapdelaine, Angela DiTommaso, Laura Keister, Paul Landry, Hao Mai, Emily Mills, Anthony Miranda, Maria Misenti, Aidan Owusu Mensah, Julia Paz, Matti Phaneuf, Sara Ruffi, Matthew Seaman, Cameron Szalay
Blackstone: Jordan Geoffroy, Joshua Johnson, Molly Malloy
Brimfield: Haileigh Chase, Lillian Morrell, Tye Zola
Brookfield: Kerry Gromosky, Jordan Miller, Hailey Myers
Charlton: Caitlyn Bussiere, Christopher Chute, Jordan Daigneault, Theresa Duke, Johnson Ebe, Natasha Emco-Rollins, Kalia Gonzalez, Loriauna Graika, Jacob Heywood, Abigail Joesten, Lindsey Rodriguez, Hannah Sharma, Rebecka-Dawn Walley, Demerice Wolfenden
Cherry Valley: Stephanie Grayum
Douglas: Jason Michalski
Dudley: Aria Butler, Yakeydy Calderon, Katelyn Cathey-Johnson, Xavier Collazo, Shannon Germain, Michaela Goritsas, Michael Grant, Grace Jocson, Daniel Kelley, Heather Lamprey, Julie Milner, Kalli Rojas, Nicholas Ruo, Clarice Smith, Ann Marie Taylor, Nicholas Whitley, Gabriel daSilva
East Douglas: Jessica Bates, Abigail Bonneau, Ashlinn Collins, Britni Conner, Hunter Dunn, Gladis Fonseca, Jacob Masi, Marlene Muika, John Murphy, Mark Pepin, Ethan Soyinthisane
Fiskdale: Carina Holt, Tristan Shaw, Warren Zelenak
Grafton: Haley Becotte, Mackenzie Collins, Amber Dumas, Chad Duplessis, Michele Medeiros, Abigail O'Toole, Debokkawe Pannasiri, Catherine Spinney, Tracy Torteson, Audrey Ziegler
Holland: Beau Boudreau, Robert Smith, April Swanson
Leicester: Ryan Butler, Amy Carr, Amanda Frascolla, Linnette Lamptey, Constantino Rodriguez
Milford: Mariana Ferraz, Ian Flannery, Kyle Perry, Anthony Rodriguez
Millbury: Mari Alkhamisi, Katherine Bloom, Sandra Bravo, Jacob Brodeur, Kyliagh Corey, Christian Donaldson, Eva England, Ivie Lapointe, Melissa McMillen, Lily Nguyen, Kailey O'Neil, Lucas Ogasahara, Abdoul Aziz Salim Ouedraogo, Michael Quitadamo, Drassan Simon
Millville: Danielle Zaloudek
North Brookfield: Kristina Blankenship, Marisa Dunphe, Valeria Gimenez Fandino, Kyle Pagnoni
North Grafton: Franklin Burkey, Riley Cass, Ella Gullledge, Nathan Jewers, Rabia Mateen, Brooke Nyren, Julia Pampalona, Christopher Whisenant
North Oxford: Antony Bradford, Nicole Dayutis, Julianna Marcoux
Northbridge: Aaron Bishop, Kyran Bishop, Krystal Bonafilia, Sarah Bowen-Catlin, Katrina Havey, Octavia Zahoruiko, Anthony Zanca
Oxford: Samantha Balko, Nina Cardoni, Alexandra Chumsae, Tommy Estevez, Wilfrid Foto Tasse, Ariana Gelardi, Jennifer Gum, Kimberly Lindsey, Ellie Makowiecki, Brady Parmentier, Nicholas Rawson, Kelly Ritchie,
Jared Torosian
Rochdale: Isabelle Maynard
South Grafton: Nicholas Carter, Nahum Echevarria-Jordan, Anthony Fisher, Tiffany Maynard, Nicole Parella, Joseph Salib, Joshua Steinbrecher
Southbridge: Kristina Bachand, Mikayla Battaglia, Kasey Chickering, Joseph Clem, Christina Crosby, Caitlyn Deliddo, Yarielis Diaz, Kelaia Espinoza, Margaret Githui, Scarlet Guzman Gil, Catherine Hamblin, Rhiannon Hogan, Denise Inthirathvongsy, Hilary Lapan, Hilda Maldonado, Caleb Powell, Jose Quinones, Mayra Ramsey, Milady Rentas, Alexa Rivera, Luzyvette Sagastibelza-Lopez
Spencer: Engy Abdelmasih, Caitlyn Berthiaume, Katherine Boria, Melissa Consiglio, Sarah Decker, Ashton Evans, Gary Janke, Mary Kagotho-Saydee, Matthew LaBaire, Eric Lammi, Kayla McQuestion, Stefanie Natale, Halie Parham, Danielle Provencher, Michael Roy, Nathaniel Rybicki, Christine Shute, Melissa Trottier
Sturbridge: Brynlee Beaucage, Adam Mazeika, Marcus Przybycien, Alexander Starr, Josephine Tokaya
Sutton: Matthew Kearney
Uxbridge: Kelsey Brooks, Silvia Castro, Inna Embden, Mayra Marquez, Edrick Pereira, Joshua Plumer, Sadie Schultzberg, Megan Wingfield
Webster: Samir Azaoui, Adrienne Chomes, Timothy Dziedzic, Jennifer Gardner, Venusie Gonzalez, Bianca Grenon, Kerri Heenan, Nichole Lambert, Garrett Mann, Justice Minka, Jacob Mobley, Lays Napoli, Samantha Nelligan, Clayton O'Connor, Lukasz Perzan, Trisha Powers, Heather Quinn, Elena Ralph, Bianca Ramos, Dayna Riley, Christian Rivera Sierra, Mariah Rivera, Yarie Rivera, Patricia Rose, Jinson Salazar, Janice Serrano, Justin Smith, Maria Verdejo, Panagiotis Vlahos, Leekha Williams, John Zamoider
West Brookfield: Emily Barrett, Israel Hickey, Karlie Mason, Heath Swope
West Upton: Catherine Aviles, Gianna Dowd, Kendal Rodriguez
Whitinsville: Cameron Deforest, Randy Diaz, Travis Gould, Emily LaFleur, Amy Mikulecky, Joshua Pinoos, Erin Vierck

LOCAL STUDENTS

NAMED TO ASSUMPTION

DEAN'S LIST

WORCESTER — Assumption University has announced that Julianne Sutherland of Uxbridge, Class of 2023; Jillian Johnson of Holland, Class of 2024; and Danisa Melendez of Southbridge, Class of 2024 have been named to the University's Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

"Earning the right to be named to the Assumption University's Dean's List is an extraordinary accomplishment and we congratulate those students who demonstrated exemplary academic excellence this semester," said Assumption University President Greg Weiner, Ph.D. "These students have demonstrated a deep commitment to the pursuit of truth in the company of friends that lies at the heart of the Catholic liberal education Assumption provides."

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is a premier New England University for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption's graduates are known for their intellectual seriousness, thoughtful citizenship, and dedication to the common good. Located in Worcester, Massachusetts, Assumption has undergone a series of major advancements since transitioning to a university, including new academic buildings, degree programs, and athletic facilities for our NCAA Division II student athlete population. The University offers 38 majors and 50 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing, and professional studies, and other areas, as well as graduate degrees and professional credentials. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.

Diego Garzaro of Guatemala named to 2023 President's List at Mississippi College

CLINTON, Miss. — Diego Garzaro of Guatemala was named to the Spring 2023 President's List at Mississippi College.

The Mississippi College Office of Academic Affairs releases the president's list after the close of fall and spring semesters each academic year. To be eligible for the President's List, a student must maintain a 4.0 grade point average, based on a 4.0 system. The student must take a full course load of at least 12 semester hours of undergraduate credit with all academic courses impacting their grade point average.

Mississippi College, affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is a private, co-educational, Christian university of liberal arts and sciences serving more than 4,100 students from approximately 35 states and more than three dozen countries. Founded in 1826, MC is the oldest institution of higher learning in Mississippi, one of the largest private universities in the state, and America's second-oldest Baptist college. MC offers 84 areas of undergraduate study, 45 degree programs in graduate studies, more than 10 certificate programs, two educational doctoral degrees, a doctor of jurisprudence, and a doctor of professional counseling. MC seeks to be a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ.

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OBITUARIES

Joan E. Philbrook 77



Charlton- Joan E. (Stevens) Philbrook 77, passed away May 22, 2023 in her home. She was predeceased by her husband Warren Philbrook.

Joan was born in Southbridge August 23, 1945 a daughter of the late Ira and Grace (Latour) Stevens and lived in Charlton most of her life.

She leaves a daughter Yvonne Coleman and her husband Ben of Charlton, 3 brothers, Fred Stevens and Willard Stevens of Charlton, and Charlie Stevens of Oakhill, Fla., 5 sisters, Eva Aubin of Worcester, Bernice Kirwin of Charlton, Dora Davis of Charlton, Diane Leite of Charlton and Deb Jones of Oakhill, Fla.,

3 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by a brother Henry Stevens and sisters, Eleanor White, Esther Davis and Grace Sharpe.

Joan was a member of the Wayside Advent Church, loved people and always had a smile, liked to play BINGO, and was affectionately known as the folding laundry queen.

The Calling Hours and Funeral Service will be Wednesday, May 31, 2023 from 11AM-2PM at the ROBERT J.MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd.,

Charlton, followed by burial in West Ridge Cemetery.

Leanne M. Zukowsky Chiz, 80

Leanne M. Zukowsky Chiz, 80, passed away on Saturday, April 1 in Largo, Florida.

She leaves behind her husband of nearly 20 years, Richard Chiz. Her first husband, Allan S Zukowsky Sr., passed away in 1995. She leaves behind her three children, Kate Lilly (John) of Saint Petersburg, Florida, Allan S Zukowsky, Jr., of Alpharetta, Georgia, and Sean Zukowsky (Dianne) of Greenville, South Carolina; her sister, Nora McMenimen Godbout (Gill) of Franklin, NH. She was a devoted Grammy to Seaver Lilly, Ryan Lilly, Jessica Zukowsky, Jude Zukowsky and Luke Zukowsky. Leanne will be missed by her dear friend, Roberta Pelkey of Lexington, MA as well as her beloved grand dogs, Kiki, Chilly and Piper. Leanne was predeceased by her brother, Joseph P McMenimen.

Leanne was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She was the daughter of John Leo and Anna

(Corcoran) McMenimen. She was a graduate of Mount Trinity Academy and Curry College. She taught elementary education at MacArthur Elementary School in Waltham, MA, and Burgess Elementary School in Sturbridge, MA.

Leanne was an avid reader and loved celebrating holidays. She and Richard were well known for their elaborate golf cart decorations. She also enjoyed her Thursday therapy sessions - wine and trivia at one of her favorite local restaurants.

A funeral mass was held at Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, in Largo Florida on Tuesday, April 25 at 11:00 AM. There are no calling hours and burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memorial Giving, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

The journey is the destination

Renowned motivational speaker and entrepreneur Jim Rohn said, "There are times when you just lose; no matter what you do, it's that kind of planet."

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impossible. You must love what you do.

The focus is not on throwing in the towel but actively channeling your energies toward more productive pursuits.

You could be passionate about what you do, work ten-hour days, love your family, be honorable, and ultimately, you can still lose! Does that mean you did something wrong? Only sometimes.

Humans strive to comprehend the world, drawing patterns and expecting consistent outcomes. We prefer a neat universe where hard work and dedication lead to success. But life doesn't always adhere to these rules.

As a former high school and college swimmer, I experienced this firsthand. I woke up at dawn, diving into morning practices before the school bell rang, and slipped back into the pool each afternoon when classes ended; I always smelled like chlorine and loved it.

My passion for swimming was the compass guiding my efforts. Yet, despite my dedication and undying love for the sport, I couldn't compete at the elite level.

What had I done wrong? In essence, nothing! Being a professional athlete just wasn't in the cards. The realization stung, of course. I mourned losing what I believed was my calling, grappling with feelings of failure and disappointment. But then, I remembered another nugget of wisdom from Jim Rohn.

Asked in one of his lectures about knowing when to give up on something and try something new, Rohn humorously replied that he knew it was time to change course when he ran out of money.

That's a good reason. Another good reason is when you run out of passion.

I often talk about never giving up, never giving in, and striving to achieve your goal no matter the odds, and I still believe that, but also you need to be passionate about what you're doing.

I quit the swim team mid-way through my junior year in college. Why? I ran out of passion when I realized I couldn't compete as an Olympian.

Some would say I'm a quitter, but if you no longer feel enthusiastic about your current goal, you should consider a new direction. Without passion, sustaining your motivation is almost

Sometimes, you may only need a break; after some time away, you may discover your passion again. That's great! Return to what you love.

How did I lose my passion?

Despite consistent efforts, I wasn't making the progress I needed to achieve my dream. It was only then that I realized it wasn't suitable for me.

So, how does one know what to turn to next? The answer lies in uncovering what stirs your soul.

It is often said, "Whatever you don't use, you lose." Hence, exercising the ability to chase your dreams, and stirring your innate desire, is crucial.

Embracing a new direction is a delicate process. After deciding to move on from an unfulfilled dream, don't beat yourself up reliving the past. Doing so can crush your new vision and dampen your plans. Forgive yourself; you haven't failed but are on the path to your true destiny.

Another reason to pursue a different dream is that your values change. What seemed like a worthy goal in the past may no longer align with your current reality. It's imperative to ensure that your goals resonate with your present self and not an outdated version of you.

Life, as we all know, is an ever-changing journey - an expedition marked by phases of growth, learning, and evolution. As we navigate through these stages, our perspectives inevitably shift and expand, giving rise to new values, aspirations, and self-understanding.

Clinging onto an outdated goal is like adhering to a defunct map; it can lead you somewhere, but likely not your desired destination. Allow yourself to revise your dreams. If they no longer resonate with you, then move on.

As Jim Rohn famously stated, "If you don't like where you are, move! You aren't a tree." Embrace change as your companion, and constantly remind yourself that the journey is the destination.

Send all obituary notices to
Stonebridge Press,
PO Box 90, Southbridge,
MA 01550,
or by e-mail to
obits@stonebridgepress.news

Local residents receive degrees at WPI's 154th undergraduate commencement

WORCESTER — President Grace Wang and Board of Trustees Chair William Fitzgerald presided over Worcester Polytechnic Institute's 154th Commencement exercises on May 13, marking the first time for both in their respective positions. In her remarks, President Wang, who officially joined WPI in early April, applauded the graduates for their dedication, persistence, passion for their field of study, and achievements. "You have earned your place among generations of exceptional WPI alumni. I hope you will take the opportunity, as they did, to push boundaries, explore unknowns, and deliver a tangible and profound impact to the world."

In his commencement address to undergraduates titled, "Don't Switch Off Your Conscience," Congressman James P. McGovern, who represents the Massachusetts second congressional district, urged graduates not to forget about the moral and ethical consequences of their work. "I ask you to stay true to yourself and the values you have learned at WPI. As citizens of the world, you have a responsibility to the greater good. To ask yourself not only what is profitable, but what is just. To ask yourself not only what is efficient, but what is equitable. And to ask yourself not only what is innovative, but what is honorable."

McGovern received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at the event. Honorary

degrees were also bestowed upon Shankar Balasubramanian, the Herchel Smith Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at Cambridge University, and John T. Mollen, former chair of WPI's Board of Trustees.

The undergraduate student speaker was Susanna Oppong, biology and biotechnology, who led the graduates in a resounding cheer, "I am here because I am resilient!" Recalling the unprecedented times the Class of 2023 has faced, Oppong said "They say resilience is born through experience and I truly believe that the resilience of our generation has come from the situations we have endured as students and how we have gathered as a community to advocate for them. We have broken through the stereotypes given to our generation and created the definition of our destiny."

The following students were bestowed degrees:

Zenia Alarcon of Charlton, majored in Mechanical Engineering
Emily Frick of Uxbridge, majored in Biomedical Engineering
Bridget Redgate of Uxbridge, majored in Computer Science
Kali Sander of Uxbridge, majored in Environmental Engineering
Hannah Smith of Uxbridge, majored in Biology and Biotechnology
Bradley Sprunger of Uxbridge, majored in Mechanical Engineering
Ryan Kievra of Holland majored in Robotics

Engineering
Stefanie Beaudry of Southbridge majored in Architectural Engineering

About Worcester Polytechnic 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

IN MEMORIAM

Yvette S. Richardson (Morin)

Jan, 10, 1947-May 30, 2013



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and children, Lisa, Tom, Derek
and family

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LEGALS

Town of Brimfield Highway Department Request for Bids Various Road Materials, Equipment Rentals, and Bituminous Concrete Type-I for Fiscal Year 2024

Sealed bids, appropriately marked, will be received no later than Tuesday June 13, 2023, by

1:30 PM. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and read on Tuesday June 13, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in the Brimfield Town Hall Annex, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA. The following items that will be purchased for Fiscal Year 2024 will be awarded by the Board of Selectmen at their duly posted meeting on June 20, 2023:

I. Various Road Materials
II. Equipment Rental with Operator
III. Bituminous Concrete – Type I
Bid specifications will be available for pickup beginning Monday May 22, 2023 at the Brimfield Highway Department, 34B Wales Road, Brimfield, MA from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday or by emailing the Chief Procurement Officer at selectboard@brimfieldma.org. Questions with regard to various locations and other matters relative to this bid are to be posed to the Brimfield Highway Surveyor, Zachary Lemieux at the Brimfield Highway Department at 413-245-4103.

Envelopes must be clearly marked as stated on the Bid Sheet with item and number and include the date and time of the bid opening. Where required, bids must indicate a single square yard multiplier (dollar amount per square yard) on the appropriate bid form attached.

Bituminous Concrete-Type I bids must indicate all prices, both pick up at plant (*not more than 15 miles of the Brimfield Highway Garage, 34B Wales Rd*) and to be delivered to the Town of Brimfield, Town Yard, or to the job location in the Town of Brimfield. Bids shall include the current period price (April 2023) of \$660 per ton for liquid asphalt. The price adjustment of hot mix asphalt mixtures containing liquid asphalt shall apply as per scheduled posted on Massachusetts Highway Department website: www.mass.gov/mhd and “Special Provisions” as attached.

MassDOT prequalification of contractors with the class of work as, PAVEMENT – SURFACING, for the project with an estimated value of \$150,000.00 will be required.” Bids should be submitted using the April 2023 Period Price of liquid asphalt. NOTE: Award is subject to the Fiscal Year 2024 Chapter 90 appropriation and release. A bid deposit of 5% of the total price bid must be submitted.

Prevailing Wage Rates have been established by the Department of Labor and Industries under the provision of Chapter 149, M.G.L., Section 26-27D. Bids submitted for Bituminous Concrete -Type I, are subject to the provisions of General Laws, Chap 534, 30B, Section 30M inclusive as amended, (Public Works Construction).

All work/items must meet Massachusetts Department of Transportation, highway standards specifications. Executed Certificates of Non-Collusion and Tax Compliance (attached) and Corporate Authority must be included in all bid submissions. Bids received without the executed certificates will not be considered.

Minority percentage rate must not be less than 5%.

Duration of the bid contract is July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; otherwise, please state on bid sheet any exceptions.

Payment terms: Net term, 30 days. The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, or, accept that bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Brimfield.

Zachary Lemieux
Highway Surveyor
Town of Brimfield
Brimfield, MA 01010
(413) 245-4103
May 26, 2023
June 2, 2023

CHARLTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Charlton Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on June 14, 2023, at 7PM on the application Drew Hirtle.

The applicant has submitted a Request for Determination of Applicability for the installation of an above ground pool within 40ft of BVW. The project location is: 6 Timber Heights, Charlton,

MA 01507

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Charlton Conservation Commission will be conducted in person and via remote means. Members of the public who wish to participate can access the meeting remotely, via Zoom Conferencing by calling 1-646 558 8656 and using meeting ID # 892 9898 0343 Passcode 458971 or using the link below <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89298980343?pwd=VjlmZGhUGRnYzRkR1c2eTJTL3lWZz09>

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

Thomas O'Malley
Chair, Charlton Conservation Commission
June 1, 2023

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT Request for Bids

FY2024 Heating Oil, Diesel, Gasoline and Boiler Maintenance

Sealed bids, appropriately marked, will be received by Monday June 13, 2023 at 1:00PM. Sealed bids will be publicly opened and read on Monday, June 13, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. in the Brimfield Town Hall, 21 Main Street, Brimfield, MA. The following items for Fiscal Year 2024 will be awarded by the Select Board on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at their duly posted meeting.

1. Fuels: *Must hold an Ultimate Vendor's License

Heating Fuel 1,000-gallon capacity
Diesel – Ultra Low Sulphur 2,000-gallon capacity
Gasoline – Unleaded 2,000-gallon capacity

Boiler Maintenance *See Below**

***Boiler Maintenance:** The Town of Brimfield has a total of four (4) furnaces/boiler systems in its municipal buildings (Town Hall, Town Hall Annex Building and Library) that require annual cleaning and periodic repairs. Bids are to include the per hourly labor rate for this work. Materials will be paid for as necessary.

The Town of Brimfield will consider bids based only upon “mark up over daily rack price”

Bid specifications will be available for pickup beginning May 22, 2023 at the Brimfield Highway Department, 34B Wales Road, Brimfield, MA from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday or by emailing the Select Board's Office at selectboard@brimfieldma.org. Questions with regard to other matters relative to this bid should be directed to the Brimfield Highway Surveyor, Zach Lemieux at 413-245-4103 or by email at highway@brimfieldma.org.

Envelopes must be clearly marked FY2024 Heating Oil, Diesel, Gasoline, and Boiler Maintenance with bid opening date. All bids must be submitted on the Town of Brimfield Bid form (included in bid packet). No bids will be accepted after the time and date specified. Executed Certificates of Non-Collusion and Tax Compliance (attached) and Corporate Authority MUST be included in all bid submissions. Bids received without executed certificates will not be considered.

Duration of bid is for Fiscal Year 2024; otherwise, please state on bid sheet any exceptions. Payment Terms: Net term, 30 days.

Prevailing Wage Rates have been established by the Department of Labor and Industries under the provisions of provisions of Chapter 149, M.G.L., section 26-27D. Bids submitted for heating oil, diesel and gasoline are subject to the provisions of the Prevailing Wage law where applicable.

The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids or accept that bid deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Brimfield.

Zachary Lemieux
Highway Surveyor
Brimfield, MA 01010
(413) 245-4103
May 26, 2023
June 2, 2023

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES Under G.L. c.255 Sec.39A

Notice is hereby given by Cruise Control Transportation Inc. Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on or after June 9, 2023 at Cruise Control Transportation Inc. the following motor vehicle/s will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle

2010 Lexus Rx 350
VIN: 2T2BK1BA9AC017882
LAST REGISTERED OWNER :
Marlmar Associates LLC
80 Davids Dr ,Suite 200
Hauppauge New York ,11788
June 2, 2023
June 9, 2023
June 16, 2023

Town of Brimfield Conservation Commission Public Hearing Notice

In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday June 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM to review a Notice of Intent submitted by J&P Engineering Services, c/o Jackamo Baldina. The Notice of Intent is requesting to construct a single-family dwelling with on-site septic system, well, driveway, lawn, associated grading and to raze and remove existing structure in the 100' buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland.

Project Location: 85 Hollow Road, Brimfield, MA (Assessor's Map 18-14)
Meeting Location: Public Participation will be In-Person at the Town Hall at 21 Main Street in Brimfield, MA 01010 at 7:00 PM.

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

Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia
Co-Chairs
05/22/2023
CC: Board of Health
Planning Board
June 1, 2023

Sturbridge Planning Board Public Hearing Application for Site Plan Approval Michael Ciesla, Trustee

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 40A, §11, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 6:45 PM** in the **Center Office Building located at 301 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566 and/or by virtual means** if circumstances warrant, in accordance with applicable law; on the application of the Michael Ciesla, Trustee for the property located at 150 Charlton Road. The applicant requests Site Plan Approval as required by the Sturbridge Zoning Bylaw Article XIX, Site Plan Review to allow the construction of an 8,000 square foot industrial building anticipated to be occupied by a designer/manufacturer or similar industrial use and related site improvements at 150 Charlton Road, Sturbridge as shown on the plans and materials submitted.

A copy of the site plan and application can be inspected on the Sturbridge Town Website at <https://www.sturbridge.gov/planning-board/pages/recent-filings> or arrangements can be made to view the application packet by contacting the Sturbridge Planning Department at (508) 347-2508 or by email at jlacy@sturbridge.gov.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and may be conducted via remote means if circumstance warrant, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/472675877>

Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post of the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Charles Blanchard
Chairperson
June 1, 2023
June 8, 2023

Public Meeting Notice

In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 7:00

pm to review a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) permit application submitted by Jen & Dwayne Johnson to determine if the proposed project for a installing a culvert pipe to cross the hydraulic connection running across this frontage at 88 5 Bridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010 (Assessor's Map: 16A-A-7.11) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act (as amended). Project location: 88 5 Bridge Road, Brimfield, MA (Assessor's Map: 5A-B-7)

Meeting Location: Public Participation will be In-Person at Brimfield Town Hall, 21 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010. Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia, Brimfield Conservation Commission Co-Chairs

04/26/2023
CC: Board of Health
Planning Board
May 11, 2023
June 1, 2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608

(508) 831-2200

Docket No. W023C0277CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME

In the matter of:

Marie Monique Therese Cantara

A Petition to Change Name of Adult

has been filed by **Marie Monique Therese Cantara of Sturbridge MA**

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Monique Therese Cantara

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/13/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, HON. LEILAH A KEAMY,
First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 17, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
June 1, 2023

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS “General Contractor and Subcontractors Prequalification” for the Southbridge Fire Station Project

The Town of Southbridge is hereby soliciting responses to the “Request for Qualifications and Statement of Qualifications” in conjunction with the prequalification of General Contractors and Filed Subcontractors for the construction of the Southbridge Fire Station Project. The prequalification process is being conducted in accordance with 810 CMR §§9.00 and 10.00 and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 149, §§44A through 44J and invites qualified contractors to submit responses to the RFQ.

The guidelines may be obtained on or after May 31, 2023 by contacting the Owner's Project Manager, Pomroy Associates LLC, PO Box 445, East Bridgewater MA 02333, c/o Richard Pomroy via e-mail at rpomroy@PomroyAssociates.com.

An original, one (1) copy and one (1) electronic version of the responses to the “Request for Qualifications and Statement of Qualifications” must be submitted with all information as required in the “Request for Qualifications and Statement of Qualifications”.

Responses must be submitted in a **sealed envelope** and must be labeled on the outside as: **“General Contractor and Subcontractor Prequalification for the Southbridge Fire Station Project”**, and delivered to:

**Town of Southbridge
c/o Interim Town Manager
41 Elm Street
Southbridge, MA 02072
Complete proposal packages must be received at the above address by:**

**Date: June 21, 2023
Time: 2:00 pm Eastern Standard Time**

All proposals received after the stated opening date and time will be judged to be unacceptable and will be returned unopened to the sender. No facsimile or e-mail delivery of proposals is permitted.

June 1, 2023

For Legal Advertising Information, Call 508-909-4127

email: legals@stonebridgepress.news

Police investigate crash in Charlton

CHARLTON — At approximately 11:21 p.m. on May 27, the Charlton Police Department received a report of a motor vehicle crash on Oxford Road between Partridge Hill Road and Richardson Corner Road. Emergency personnel from the Charlton Police Department and Charlton Fire Department responded to the area, where they located a single vehicle, with significant crash related damage. The vehicle was found off the surface of the road in the wood line on Oxford Road. The crash resulted in serious injuries to the driver, who was the sole occupant of the vehicle.

Preliminary investigation indicates that the 2012 Toyota Camry was travelling southeast on Oxford Road when, for reasons still under investigation, the vehicle left the surface of the road, striking a tree at the wood line.

The operator, a 17-year-old Charlton resident, suffered serious injuries and was transported to the UMASS-Memorial Medical Center-University Campus by medical helicopter.

The Charlton Fire Department, Auburn Fire Department, and Southbridge Fire Department responded to the scene, extricating the victim, and transporting them to a nearby landing zone prepared for the arrival of a medical helicopter. The Dudley Fire Department assisted with coordinating the landing zone for the medical helicopter.

The remaining facts and circumstances remain under investigation by the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section, Massachusetts State Police Crime Scene Services Section, and the Charlton Police Department.

The crash remains under investigation at this time and the scene was cleared at approximately 1:37 a.m.

As further information becomes available it will be made available to the press.

Gateway Players hosting auditions for “My Son is Crazy, But Promising”

SOUTHBRIDGE — Gateway Players Theatre is hosting auditions for the hilarious farce “My Son is Crazy, But Promising” by Tim Kelly. They will be held on Monday June 5 and Tuesday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm St. in Southbridge. Entrance is on Park Street (around the corner).

Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script and physical improv so dress comfortably. We are looking for actors ages 16 and above to fill six male roles and eight female roles. No need to sign up, just come on down and get ready to laugh!

A read through of the script for all those cast will be on Monday June 12th and rehearsals (scheduled tentatively on Monday and Thursday nights) will begin on July 31st. Performances will be held on Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14 & 15.

Bud Granger is an eccentric Hollywood screenwriter who wants to get out of life in the fast lane so he buys a termite pile of an old lodge in the middle of an Arizona desert as it is near a fabled buried treasure. He thinks he will strike it rich, but unfortunately for Bud the lodge is full of nutty characters such as Cora Ames (an elderly lady who claims she was abducted by space aliens), Gert Witherspoon (a crusty, shot gun slinging hotel manager), Dimitri Jones (the world’s worst Russian spy), and The Whitneys (a honeymooning couple who mistake the lodge for a 5 star resort). More trouble arises when Bud’s mother unexpectedly arrives and there is a mix up involving the dead body of a notorious mobster putting into motion a rollercoaster ride of laughs.

Presented by permission through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. For any questions please contact the production team at dearn44@gmail.com

Director: Mikey Dearn
Producer: Lynn Boucher
Stage Manager: Gwen O'Brien

JUNE HAPPENINGS AT THE CHARLTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Visit our Web site (charltonlibrary.org) for a full listing of programs and events.

Summer Reading Program @ Charlton Public Library

Starts Tuesday, June 20 and runs through Friday, August 11

The 2023 Summer Reading Program theme is “Find Your Voice!” We have programs for all ages, so stop in starting on June 20th and sign up to participate and win some fun prizes! More information about how the program works is on our website (charltonlibrary.org).

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Movies @ The Library
All showings are on Tuesdays at 1:00 & 5:30 in Dexter Hall. No registration. Free popcorn!

June 6 : 8:00 FOR BRADY starring Lily Tomlin & Jane Fonda. 2023; PG 13; 1

June 13 : PLANE starring Gerard Butler. 2023; R; 1 hr 47 min.

June 20 : EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE starring Michelle Yeoh. 2022; R; 2 hrs 19 min

June 27 : COCAINE BEAR starring Keri Russell. 2023; R; 1 hr 35 min.

Silver Needles Knit & Crochet Group

Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 - Upstairs Reading Room

Bring your current project and relax with friends while taking in the view in the upstairs reading room. All are welcome, regardless of skill level; no registration required.

Charlton’s History Through Documents and Photographs - Presentation by Frank Morrill

Thursday, June 1, 6:00-7:30 - Dexter Hall - Registration Requested

The Charlton Library Genealogy Group welcomes local historian, author, and current President of the Charlton Historical Society, Frank Morrill, for a presentation on the history of Charlton, followed by a question and answer period. Sponsored by Friends of Charlton Public Library.

Better Read Than Dead Book Club - BLOOD BROTHERS by Anne Bird

Tuesday, June 6, 6:00-7:00 & Wednesday, June 7, 11:00-12:00 - Sibley Reading Area (Upstairs)

Join true crime aficionados Deb and Susan on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of every month. Books available from circulation prior to discussion. Registration is requested but not required.

Book Discussion - A WALK IN THE WOODS by Bill Bryson

Thursday, June 8, 6:00-7:00 - Local History Room (and via Zoom)

Books are available for checkout at the adult circulation desk one month prior to discussion. The group meets in person in the Local History Room and via Zoom (see link in event calendar listing).

Community Yoga Saturday, June 10, 8:30-9:30 - MAYNARD FIELD

All ages and levels are welcome. Children under age 5 must have a caregiver with them at all times. Wear comfortable clothing and please bring your own yoga mat. Registration required.

The Alzheimer’s Support Network Caregiver Support Group Thursday, June 15, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room - No registration required.

This group offers information, resources, and strategies specific to caring for someone with Alzheimer’s and other Dementias along with support for transitioning to different care settings. Co-sponsored by Tri-Valley as part of Dementia Friendly Charlton.

Charlton K-9 Unit Demonstration

Wednesday, June 21, 11:00-12:00 - Maynard Field - No registration
Join us as we welcome Charlton’s K-9 Unit, Officer Gaylord & K-9 Dozer for a fun and informative demonstration. All ages welcome! This event will be held outside on Memorial Field.

Death Cafe Wednesday, June 21, 1:00-3:00 - Dexter Hall - No Registration

We gather, eat cake, drink tea or coffee, and enjoy open-minded conversation about dying and death. It’s not a bereavement session, and you are welcome to share as much or as little as you wish. Questions? Email kwalker4@mac.com.

CULE- Charlton Ukulele League & Ensemble

Thursday, June 22, 6:00-7:30 - Community Meeting Room

A fun, low stress way for adults 18+ to learn music together, guided by experienced musicians. Any questions? Email Rich at Cule5632@gmail.com

Dementia Friendly Charlton Information Session

Thursday, June 22, 6:00-7:30 - Dexter Hall - No registration

Learn about Dementia Friendly Charlton and Dementia Friends Massachusetts. The session will be led by Dementia Friend Champions Beth Posner-Waldron and Gina Metras. Refreshments will be provided by the Alzheimer’s Support Network.

Critical Thinking Discussion Group - The Analects by Confucius

Friday, June 23, 1:00-2:00 - Sibley Reading Area (Main Floor) - No Registration

Keep your brain in good shape! Join the discussion and then pick up the next months’ materials at the same time. This group is led by local scholar David Schiller. No experience with critical thinking discussion groups is necessary. Question? Email saga3@charter.net.

Senator Ryan Fattman Office Hours

Wednesday, June 28, 2:30-3:30 - Local History Room - No registration

Deputy District Director of Senator Fattman’s Office, Amanda Hellyar, will field inquiries about issues with state agencies, and assist with referrals to federal partners. Should you need an appointment outside of the published hours, please email amanda.hellyar@masenate.gov.

Hummingbird Magnet Porch Pot Workshop with Bemis Farm

Thursday, June 29, 6:00-7:30 - Reading Garden/Community Meeting Room - Registration required

Tina will lead participants in making a hummingbird magnet porch pot. We have limited spots available for this workshop, so registration is required. REGISTRATION FOR THIS PROGRAM WILL OPEN ON JUNE 2 AT 4:00PM.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Young Scientists Stem Class

Thursday, June 1, 10:00-10:45 - Story Time Room - Registration required.

Join us for a “Young Scientists” series facilitated by STEM Beginnings. Children, ages 3-6, with a parent/caregiver, will learn STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) concepts through hands-on activities, storytime, and simple experiments. Parents/ caregivers are encouraged to help their child and join in the fun. Space is limited to 12 children, ages 3-6. This series is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP), a Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) Grant funded by the Department of Early Education and Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

Lego Club

Fridays, 3:00-4:30 - Story Time Room - No registration required

Join your friends and build a Lego creation! Try out our weekly challenge or make up your own design.

Best for ages 5-12. Lego creations must remain at the library, but may be displayed until the next class. Parents/Guardians are responsible for mon-

itoring their children while they are in the room. A staff member or teen volunteer may be present, but the program is not facilitated by an instructor.

Wiggles & Giggles

Wednesdays, June 7 & 14, 10:30—11:30 AM - Community Meeting Room - Registration required

Children, ages 2-5, with a parent/caregiver, will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm and listen to stories in this FREE series facilitated by music teacher Laine Hanlon! “Wiggles & Giggles” fosters physical, cognitive, social and emotional learning through music and motion. This series is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP) and hosted by the Charlton Public Library. YFCP is a Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) grant funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

Pride Buttons!

Wednesday, June 7, 3:00-4:30 - Teen Space - No registration required

Make your own Pride-themed and/or pronoun buttons with our brand-new button maker! We’ll have pre-printed images to use or you can create your own.

Tiny Tots @ Night

Thursday, June 8, 6:00-6:30 - Story Time Room - Registration required.

This is an evening version of our Tiny Tots program! Best for ages infant through 3. Includes songs, rhymes, music, books & free play!

Pre-K Yoga with Linda Davis

Friday, June 9, 9:45-10:15 - Dexter Hall - Registration required

This class is for ages 2.5 - 5 years. Caregivers must be present during the class. Please have children wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat.

Author Storytime with Sarah Prager

Monday, June 12, 10:00-10:30 - Story Time Room - No registration required

Join author Sarah Prager as she shares fascinating stories from LGBTQ+ history you’ve never heard before. We’ll learn why LGBTQ+ matters, how far back it goes, how it has shaped the world, and who some of the most interesting individuals from it are. Sarah is the author of four books on LGBTQ+ history: Queer, There, and Everywhere, Rainbow Revolutionaries, Kind Like Marsha, and A Child’s Introduction to Pride. Sarah will be reading her children’s book, Kind Like Marsha, and

will be signing and selling books. All ages are welcome to attend!

Middle Grade Book Club

Monday, June 12, 4:00-4:30 - Story Time Room - No registration required

Join us for our next meeting! This month we will discuss A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engle.

Visit the library to pick up a copy or order the book online through the C/WMars Catalog.

Open Play for Babies (0-12 months)

Tuesday, June 13, 11:00-11:45 - Story Time Room - No registration required

Meet up with other babies & caregivers in a quiet environment. Age-appropriate toys will be available to play with. This program is for caregivers with babies ages 0-12 (non-walkers) only, please!

Tween Graphic Novel Book Club - Sort of Super by Eric Gapstur

Tuesday, June 13, 5:00-5:30 - Story Time Room - Registration required

Join us to talk about why we love graphic novels and do some fun activities! Best for ages 9-13. Read the book before the meeting so we can talk about it! Pick up a copy of the book at the Children’s Circulation desk.

Paint a Pride Rock!

Wednesday, June 14, 3:00-4:30 - Teen Space - No registration required

Join us in the Teen Space to paint some Pride-themed rocks! We’ll be using paint markers & sharpies to make our designs. This program is for tweens & teens only.

Creative Writing for Teens

Tuesday, June 20, 3:30-4:15 - Community Meeting Room - Registration required

This writing group is for those ages 11-18. Writing prompts, share your work (optional!), book discussion, try out different writing styles, and learn about writing - all in a safe and encouraging environment! Registration is for the entire series. Email Molly with questions: mgarlick@cwmar.com

Teen Advisory Board

Wednesday, June 21, 3:45-4:30 - Teen Space - Registration required

Meet up to discuss Teen Programming for the library and earn an hour of community service (yes, for 45 minutes!) We’ll also have a different craft or activity to do at each meeting. For grades 5-12.

Sensory Storytime

Thursday, June 22, 6:00-6:45 - Story Time Room - Registration required

Explore books, music, movement, and play in a sensory-friendly setting. Designed for children ages 4-10 of all abilities, particularly those

who are on the autism spectrum, have sensory processing challenges, struggle in large groups, or have other special needs. Younger and older children and siblings of attendees are welcome!

Tiny Tots Storytime

Friday, June 23, 10:00-10:30 - Story Time Room - No registration required

For ages 0 - 2.5 with a caregiver. Join Miss Kathy for songs, books, fingerplays, rhymes, and free play!

Movin’ On Up Puppet Show with Tom Knight

Monday, June 26, 10:00-11:00 - Dexter Hall - Registration required

A FREE Musical Puppet Show for children transitioning to preschool, kindergarten, and first grade in Fall 2023. Families with children, ages 3-6, will enjoy songs, movement, and laughs with Tom Knight and his puppet pals. Every registered child will receive a book to take home. Sponsored by YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP), a Massachusetts Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) grant funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

Pride Friendship Bracelets!

Monday, June 26, 3:00-4:30 - Teen Space - No registration required

Join us in the teen space to learn how to make friendship bracelets - make a Pride-themed bracelet or choose any colors you like! This program is for tweens & teens only.

Pokemon Club

Monday, June 26, 3:45-4:30 - Story Time Room - Registration required

Join us for Pokemon Club! Enjoy a variety of fun Pokemon activities, plus try your hand at playing the game on our new play mats! For ages 6-12.

“Grandpa and Lucy”:

A Dementia-Friendly Storytime

Wednesday, June 28, 10:00-10:30 - Story Time Room - Registration required

An interactive Storytime for kids and families to help more people learn about dementia and how to live a brain-healthy lifestyle. This storytime will be led by Miss Gina, a member of Dementia Friendly Charlton.

David Polansky Family Concert

Thursday, June 29, 10:00-11:00 - Dexter Hall - No registration required

Kick-off Summer Reading with this fun family concert with the legendary David Polansky! All ages are welcome! Generously sponsored by Cornerstone Bank.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute announces Spring 2023 Dean's List

WORCESTER — A total of 2,054 undergraduate students achieved the criteria required for WPI's spring 2023 Dean's List. The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

"WPI's academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses. WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real" said Professor Arthur C. Heinricher. "Some of this nation's best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the Dean's List have excelled in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students."

The following students were on the Dean's List for Spring 2023:

Ian Grzembki of Sturbridge, class of 2026, majoring in Computer Science

Jack Lafond of Sturbridge, class of 2024, majoring in Data Science

Isabella Pabon of Worcester, class of 2025, majoring in Computer Science

Zenia Alarcon of Charlton, class of 2023, majoring in Mechanical Engineering

Michaela Cluett of Charlton, class of 2025, majoring in Business

Maline Demers of Uxbridge, class of 2025, majoring in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology and Biology and Biotechnology

Jocelyn Hinchcliffe of Uxbridge, class of 2025, majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

Ethan Lilley of Charlton, class of 2025, majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering

Bridget McGonagle of Charlton, class

of 2026, majoring in Biochemistry

Robert Mellen of Uxbridge, class of 2026, majoring in Robotics Engineering

Cristian Oliveira of Uxbridge, class of 2026, majoring in Robotics Engineering

Adam Pratt of Uxbridge, class of 2026, majoring in Mechanical Engineering

Kali Sander of Uxbridge, class of 2023, majoring in Environmental Engineering

Hannah Smith of Uxbridge, class of 2023, majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

Clarice Stumpf of Uxbridge, class of 2025, majoring in Biochemistry

About Worcester Polytechnic 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

Worcester Polytechnic Institute students complete intensive research projects

WORCESTER — All students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute are required to complete a senior thesis as part of the university's distinctive project-based educational experience called the Major Qualifying Project (MQP), one that is usually team-based and often focuses on very specific issues or needs of an organization that has partnered with the university to sponsor the student's work.

"It's inspiring to see the creativity and skills that our students bring to these projects, as well as the professionalism with which they present their research," says Arne Gericke, interim dean of undergraduate studies and director of the Office of Undergraduate Research. "Their experience managing a major project like this—including identifying a problem and researching all of the implications and possible solutions while also managing team dynamics over an extended period of several months—sets them up well for success not only in their first jobs after graduation but throughout their careers."

A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, project-based learning offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives—an experience that changes the student and their world.

In addition to providing tangible work experience that proves valuable to employers, MQPs often lead to publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at regional and national conferences, patents, and entrepreneurial ventures. Others become useful innovations and products for their corporate sponsors.

Prior to their MQP, students complete an Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP), usually in their junior year, with a team of other students across disciplines; the projects may or may not relate to the students' fields of study and are sponsored by organizations across the globe to give students real-world experience address-

ing problems that lie at the intersection of science and society. Approximately 85% of WPI students complete a project at one of the university's 50+ off-campus project centers located in more than 30 countries around the world.

The following students completed their MQP:

Kali Sander of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, majoring in Environmental Engineering, class of 2023 completed the project titled Stormwater Management & Design in Framingham

Hannah Smith of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, majoring in Biology and Biotechnology, class of 2023 completed the project titled Estrogenic Effects of OTC Promensil on Breast Cancer Cells

Dreya Martin of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, majoring in Biomedical Engineering, class of 2023 completed the project titled Alerting Risk of ACL Injury in Female Horizontal Jumps

Emily Frick of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, majoring in Biomedical Engineering, class of 2023 completed the project titled A Microfluidic Transfection Device to Modify Mammalian Cells

Bradley Sprunger of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2023 completed the project titled Electric Conversion of a 1972 Triumph Spitfire

Zenia Alarcon of Charlton, Massachusetts, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2023 completed the project titled Simulation and Testing of Stabilization and Assisted Walking

Ryan Kievra of Holland, majoring in Robotics Engineering,

class of 2023, completed the project titled Upper Body Motion Mechanism

Stefanie Beaudry of Southbridge, majoring in Architectural Engineering, class of 2023, completed the project Design a net-zero and resilient building for heatwaves

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Stonehill College celebrates Class of 2023

EASTON — A total of 548 students processed at Stonehill College's 72nd Commencement on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

Hannah Callinan of Uxbridge

Ariel Goharzadeh of Charlton

Brooke Riccicelli of Uxbridge

Matthew Worthington of Uxbridge

About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton,

Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

Local Grove City graduate named to Dean's List

GROVE CITY, Pa. — Sarah Manske, a Elementary Education major at Grove City College from Charlton, has been named to the Dean's List with Distinction for the spring 2023 semester. Sarah is a 2019 graduate of Shepherd Hill Regional High School and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Manske (Nancy) from Charlton.

Sarah also graduated from Grove City College on May 20 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education.

Students eligible for the Dean's List have a GPA of 3.40 to 3.59; for the Dean's

List with Distinction a GPA of 3.60 to 3.84 and for the Dean's List with High Distinction a GPA of 3.85 to 4.0.

Grove City College (gcc.edu) is a highly distinctive, nationally ranked comprehensive Christian liberal arts college that equips students to pursue their unique callings through a Christ-centered, academically excellent, and affordable learning and living experience. The College is grounded in permanent ideas and conservative values, committed to the foundations of free society, and develops leaders of the highest proficiency,

purpose, and principles to advance the common good. Established in 1876, the College is a pioneer in independent private education and accepts no federal funds. It offers students degrees in more than 60 majors on a picturesque 180-acre campus north of Pittsburgh, Pa. Accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Grove City College is routinely ranked as one of the country's top colleges by U.S. News & World Report, The Princeton Review, and others based on academic quality and superior outcomes.

Dr. Jose Ortiz named Principal of Southbridge High School

SOUTHBRIDGE — Southbridge Public Schools is delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Jose Ortiz as the new Principal for Southbridge High School, effective from the start of the 2023-2024 academic year.

Ortiz, a native of Puerto Rico, brings a wealth of experience, commitment, and unique perspective to the Southbridge community. He transitions to this role from his current position as Special Assistant to the Receiver/Superintendent, where he has been overseeing initiatives to improve chronic student absenteeism and family engagement districtwide. Prior to joining Southbridge Public Schools, Ortiz served several years as a successful principal, as well as a curriculum supervisor, ELL director, and teacher in the New London, New Britain, and Waterbury (Conn.) Public Schools, respectively, where he spearheaded various initiatives to boost student performance and commu-

nity engagement.

Interim Principal Robert Raines, who has guided the high school through this transitional period, will work closely with Ortiz to ensure a seamless transition.

"We are grateful for Mr. Raines' dedicated service and leadership. He stepped into the interim role without hesitation providing leadership at a critical time," said Southbridge Public Schools Receiver/Superintendent Jeffrey A. Villar.

Ortiz has always advocated for high-needs and high-poverty communities, understanding the unique challenges they face. His bilingual skills and cultural awareness will help bridge the gap between Southbridge High's diverse student body and staff, making a significant contribution to the district's commitment to fostering an inclusive and collaborative environment.

"Dr. Ortiz is a uniquely skilled school leader with deep experience and strong interperson-

al skills," says Villar. "He has a track record of building strong relationships with students, families, and faculty and has the experience that the school needs now. His close collaboration with Principal Jeff House will help to expand on foundations established at the middle school."

"I am deeply honored to serve as the Principal of Southbridge High School," said Ortiz. "I believe in the potential of every student and the power of education to change lives. My aim is to build upon the great work already done by the Southbridge community and to continue steering our school towards academic excellence, inclusivity, and a greater future."

Ortiz earned a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction and a M.A. in Education from the University of Connecticut at Storrs, and a B.B.A. in Finance from Pontificia Universidad Católica, Puerto Rico.

Nazareth student Dakota Schantz of Sturbridge earns Dean's List honors

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Nazareth College is proud to announce that Dakota Schantz of Sturbridge has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2023 semester.

A student's grade point average must be at least 3.5 or above, and they must complete 12 credit hours of graded work that semester in order to be included on the dean's list at Nazareth.

Nazareth College (Nazareth University as of J is an inclusive community of inspired learners, educators, and changemakers who for nearly 100 years have been driven by a bold commitment to action, empathy, equity, and leading innovation for the common good. Impact experiences are at the heart of a Nazareth education, preparing each student to discover within themselves the potential to cultivate positive change in their life's work, in any career field, and in a world that is constant-

ly evolving and infinitely interconnected.

Our broad academic offerings present a range of study options typical of big universities, yet achieved in our supportive campus culture. Nearly 2,100 undergrad and 600 graduate students enroll in degree and certificate programs and engage in collaborative, transformative learning experiences, preparing them for the professions and society of today and tomorrow. In a learning community that purposefully integrates liberal arts and professional programs, Nazareth graduates launch lifetimes of leadership in communities and workplaces near and far.

Nazareth College is an inclusive community of inspired learners, educators, and changemakers who for nearly 100 years have been driven by a bold commitment to action, empathy, equity, and leading innovation for the common good.

South Pond treatments begin June 5

REGION — The Quaboag Quacumquasit Lake Association has announced that the long-awaited alum treatment targeting deep phos-

phorus-rich sediment in South Pond will begin on Monday, June 5, and continue through the week. The lake will be closed to all boating and other lake activities through Friday, June 9.

This project is expected to significantly enhance the quality and clarity of the lake for some 15-20 years, with distinct benefits for fish and other aquatic animals. The alum treatment results from the Quacumquasit Pond Phosphorus Inactivation Project, which was

approved and funded by the Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant Program. The grant was secured by a major fundraising effort by QQLA and financial grants from the towns of Brookfield, East Brookfield, and Sturbridge.

The Town of Sturbridge, which is managing the project, is working with the Quaboag Quacumquasit Lake Association (QQLA), the ESS Environmental Group, and Solitude Lake Management to conduct the treatment.

Bay Path's David Macharia: An LPN, a leader and a resident care manager



David Macharia

CHARLTON — "I have a great sense of responsibility. I strive to improve the quality of life of all residents," said David Macharia, a licensed

practical nurse and a 2019 alumnus of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy.

Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, is grateful for Macharia's sharing updates of his nursing journey.

"David is caring, attentive, patient and gracious, and he does it all with utmost humility," Bolandrina explained.

"He was equally attentive when he was a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. With all the nurse burn-out, especially during COVID, it's refreshing to see a nurse maintain being patient-focused,"

Bolandrina added.

Macharia's care, leadership, and demeanor are what have made him a top nurse, well-suited for the resident care manager position.

When Macharia graduated from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, his dream to become a nurse became a reality after successfully passing the NCLEX-PN on his first try. He initially worked at Benchmark Senior Living in Worcester, but his family moved to Spokane, WA. So Macharia moved as well, landing a position at Columbia Crest Center in Moses Lake, WA. But all that time, he had the leadership roles on the horizon.

His mother, who is also a nurse was his inspiration and encouraged him to "go for it."

"I went for it' and I endured, even the rigorous 10-month practical nursing program," said Macharia. "I started the resident care manager position last April and I am enjoying the new role. I finally have a great work-life balance."

As resident care manager, Macharia reports directly to the Director of Nursing Services. His primary focus areas include development and documenting care plans and changes in resident condition and quality assurance of care.

While at Bay Path Practical Nursing

Academy, Macharia was elected Student Representative, was a member of the UNICEF Club, a member of the Mock Code Team, a recipient of MassHire Grant, District & State Champion for SkillsUSA Medical Math earning silver medals, attendee for SafeTALK and Innovation Summit at Northeastern University, nominee for Clinical Excellence Award and the Massachusetts Vocational Association Outstanding Post-Secondary Student of the Year Award. He is certified in Mental Health First Aid and Dementia Care.

Prior to moving to WA, he was instrumental in facilitating scholarships

for current practical nursing students. He continues with his philanthropy, which he says is very uplifting.

"I am abundantly blessed, and I am forever grateful," Macharia said.

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

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



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Webster Lake 13 Loveland Rd

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Webster Lake 27 South Point Road

SORRY, SOLD!

OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! 80' +/- ft sandy beach! Expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage, **\$811,000.**

Webster Lake 13 Bates Point Road

SORRY, SOLD!

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Mary Vigliatura Stolarczyk with RE/MAX Vision, was awarded 2022 and 2023 Emerald Level Top Producer, which represents the top 2% in production, by the REALTOR Association of Central Massachusetts (RACM). Top producers of the Association were recognized for outstanding production levels in real estate transactions based on dollar volume or units sold in the previous year. Out of the 2,008 active REALTOR members, only 9% of these members qualified for these prestigious awards.

Stolarczyk has been a member of RACM since she began her career in 1998, and has been serving on the Professional Standards Committee for over 15 years. RACM is celebrating their 100th year anniversary this year.

Read what her clients are saying about their experience of buying or selling a property with Mary here: www.MesRealty.com.

She can be reached at 508.612.1382.

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Keep plants thriving despite the heat of summer

Last year's record-high temperatures across much of the country took a toll on gardens and landscapes. Once again, above-normal summer temperatures are in the forecast for many regions of the country. Adjusting how you manage your gardens and landscape can help plants thrive as temperatures rise.

Water plants thoroughly to promote deep drought-tolerant roots that help boost the plants' pest resistance. Wait until the top few inches of soil are crumbly and moist before watering most plants. Newly planted perennials, trees, and shrubs need more attention and water than drought-tolerant plants or established ones with more robust root systems that are better able to absorb more moisture. During extended dry periods, even drought-tolerant and established plants may need supplemental water.

Water early in the day to reduce water lost to evaporation. Avoid late evening watering that leaves foliage wet at night, increasing the risk of disease.

Apply water directly to the soil above the plant roots using soaker hoses or drip irrigation whenever possible. Water is applied where needed and the slow, steady flow of water is better able to infiltrate the soil and moisten the roots with less runoff.

Check soil moisture daily in container gardens and several times a week for raised beds. Both dry out more quickly than in-ground gardens and need to be watered



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

more often. Save time and water by incorporating Wild Valley Farms' wool pellets into the growing mixes. This sustainable product is made from wool waste. University research found it reduced watering by up to 25% and increased air space in the soil, promoting healthy plant growth.

Further conserve water by spreading a

two- to three-inch layer of shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or shredded bark mulch over the soil in garden beds and around trees and shrubs. Mulching conserves moisture, keeps roots cooler and moist, and suppresses weeds. As the organic mulch decomposes, it adds nutrients and organic matter to the soil. Just pull the mulch away from tree trunks, shrub stems, and the crowns of other plants to avoid rot.

Include plants that are more tolerant of the weather conditions in your area. Those that tolerate both heat and cold extremes will thrive with less care once established.

Incorporate organic matter like compost into the soil. It helps the soil accept and retain water so you will need to water less often. It also adds nutrients to the soil so over time you will need to fertilize less often.

Use a low-nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer if your garden plants need a nutrient boost. These types of fertilizers release small amounts of nutrients over an extended period. The low level

of nitrogen reduces the risk of damaging heat-stressed plants.

Remove weeds from garden beds and borders as soon as they appear. These "plants out of place" steal water and nutrients from your desirable garden plants. Plus, many harbor insects and diseases that are harmful to your garden plants.

Provide stressed plants with a bit of shade from the hot afternoon sun. Container gardens can be moved to a more suitable spot during heat waves. Add a bit of temporary shade to garden plants that are struggling to survive in the blazing hot sun. A strategically placed chair, lattice, or umbrella may be all that is needed. As temperatures drop, you can move plants back in place and remove the temporary shade.

Your garden will greatly benefit from these changes to your summer garden care.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small*



Melinda Myers

Provide heat-stressed plants in containers relief by moving them into the shade during heat waves.

Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor

for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Wild Valley Farms for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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MURAL

continued from page A1

joy, add some color to the community.”

Ortiz, a Colombian-American, has been doing “public art” in various forms for around eight years in various regional communities. He’s currently working on a three-year project to put murals in each of the Boston public schools with a couple of area organizations that emphasize urban farming and food justice. He noted he wants to give the students hands-on artistic experiences and the chance to interpret their own ideas.

His Web site, which features many examples of his style, including murals, urban scenes and more abstract imagery, is felipeortiz.com. In his biography there, he notes, “I invite the viewer to enjoy my art almost as a modern surrealist, where each ele-

ment in the painting is carefully selected, investigating the possibilities of an imaginative view within a world of associated imagery that is up to your personal, open interpretation.”

A key element of his work is migratory birds, in large part because he sees them as symbolic of his own experience as an immigrant. Initially, his family came here for political asylum, but when he finally got to visit Colombia 14 years later, he said, “something magical happened.” By then, he was already a studio painter, but felt “pretty lonely” and “isolated” in the studio. He found a lot of public art in Colombia and “alternative ways art could be used” to support community and improve life there.

“That made me want to be more vocal about my position and represent [my culture],” Ortiz said. “I was seeing how much the [art] scene was being

accepted down there and exploding.”

Some bird species make the long journey from South America to our region annually, and Ortiz sees that as a contrast to many human migrants today. While the birds can ignore borders, humans can’t, despite the fact we used to be able to move much more freely. (In fact, all humans were once nomadic, millennia ago.)

Ortiz also sees the birds as symbolic of what we’re doing to nature. “I found that story to be relatable because a lot of habitat is being destroyed,” both down there and here, he said.

Once the Concerts on Central end, the annual Concerts on the Common kick off, and the list there starts with a repeat engagement: Carlos Odria on June 25. The others scheduled are: Dan Burke & the Royal Treatment (July 9), Floydian Trip (July 16), Gracie Day (July 23),



The audience brought lawn chairs to enjoy Friday’s Haneef Nelson Quintet show at the Central Street plaza.

Blake & Emma Trio (July 30), Island Castaways (Aug 6) and the Donnelly Road Band (Aug 13). All of those shows are Sunday evenings from

6-8 PM on the Town Common (at the Rotary). They are not part of the Urban Agenda grant and are instead run by the Recreation Department

with donations from various local businesses.

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

HOPE

continued from page A1

facilities and programs to better serve the entire community.”

Key objectives of the campaign are to make improvements to existing and new Center of Hope facilities, such as the Day Hab Program Center at Foster St. in Southbridge; to enhance opportunities for meaningful work through enterprises like the brand-new Scoops of Hope Ice Cream Parlor (pictured below); and to expand supported housing options. The Campaign also seeks to increase community engagement and raise awareness in order to create a more inclusive environment for the hundreds of individuals served by CoHF.

“We are very pleased to announce that we have recruited a stellar and dedicated campaign steering committee to aid us in this vital work,” said Ms. Howard.

Members of the committee include Casey Cormier, President, Angel Guard Products & US Tool and Fastener, Chris McClure, President, McClure

Engineering, Nick Smith, President/CEO, Rand-Whitney, Randy Becker, Chairman of the Board of Directors at MAPFRE USA, Jay Detarando, Incom, Inc., Alan Peppel, President, Dexter Russell, Inc., Attorney Jeffrey Chasse, Chasse & Roche, P.C. Attorneys at Law, Jennifer Herrmann, Judy Laroche, Paulette Pratico, Julie-Ann Leo, James Graham, Kristine Biagiotti-Bridges, Cheryl Ryan Chan, Board Chair, Board of Directors, Sherie Bombardier, Jayne Bowler, Patricia Lawrie, Annette Lazili, Barbara Reynolds, Linda Cournoyer, Geraldo Maldonado, Cindy Howard, Erika Travinski, Chad Krause, Ryan Thompson, Kelly Hutton, Christina Hadis-Blackwell, and Kayla Krause.

The campaign is structured so that pledges can be made over a five-year period and there are opportunities available to honor and recognize a loved one or business through a specific named gift such as a program area or room, or even an entire CoHF facility.

“We are grateful to our families and community leaders for their

generosity and support,” said Erika Travinski, the Center of Hope’s COO. “We would like to recognize the following donors for stepping up at the outset to help us build momentum; The Herman Becker Family Foundation, Fels Family Foundation, Hyde/Dexter Charitable Foundation, the Affinity Group and the Kraft Family Foundation have all stepped up as advance and lead donors.”

In addition to seeking grants from foundations and corporations, the campaign is also employing a new peer-to-peer fund raising strategy where anyone can join the effort by creating a personal fund raising page, join a fund raising team or simply make a one-time or multi-year contribution. Led by Kayla Krause, CoHF’s director of marketing and Cheryl Chan, a CoHF board

member, this on-line effort will be active through the end of June 2023, and then restart in successive years throughout the campaign. Information on how to become involved can be found www.thecenterofhope.org/campaign.

“I have been really awed by our volunteers and donors during this early, quiet phase of the campaign and I am really looking forward to getting more and more people involved through our peer-to-peer initiative,” said Ms. Krause.

For more information about the campaign and the projects it will enable, or if you wish to donate, please visit www.thecenterofhope.org/campaign.

About the Center of Hope Foundation
The Mission of the Center of Hope Foundation is to improve the lives of the members we serve by providing

quality services and providing opportunities so that EVERYONE can be contributing members of their communities and achieve the most fulfilling lives possible. The vision of the Center of Hope Foundation, Inc. is to broaden the scope of care, resources, advocacy, and services to an ever-widening circle of individuals with disabilities and disabling circumstances from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, who desire to work, overcome barriers to opportunity, who need critical supports to prevail over disadvantages and who wish to achieve and preserve the prospect of a fulfilled life.

Currently, within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, there are approximately 5,000 individuals with disabilities who are not receiving services from agencies like CoHF. Covid has had

a profound impact on many of these individuals and their families and without essential services from providers like CoHF, individuals with disabilities are forced to stay home. Funding from the Hope Grows Here Capital Campaign will allow us to increase and rejuvenate the spaces within our programs. In doing this we will create a more effective, pleasing and safer environment, increasing capacity, and giving hope and opportunity to those individuals on our waiting list. For the vulnerable population served by CoHF, it is more important than ever to enhance health, safety and security features which can provide important reassurance to families that their loved ones are always safe and treated with respect and care.

HOYT

continued from page A1

“Rick and Dick Hoyt were true icons of the Boston Marathon, and together they inspired people far beyond the borders of Massachusetts,” read a statement released by Governor Maura Healey. “This is an enormous loss. My heart goes out to the Hoyts and the entire Boston sports family.”

FEES

continued from page A1

new fees in general especially since the money simply goes into the town’s general fund.

“Unless we’re outsourcing this work, we’re just bringing more money into the general fund, which is a good thing, but we’re doing it on the backs of our residents and potentially contractors however you want to think of it,” said Borowski.

“To me, charging fees is just a revenue generator,” added Singer. “That’s all it is. Anytime we have

people in any office or any position who are paid to do a job and then charge fees to do a job and do everything they’re paid to do I have an issue with it. With inspectors sometimes there are differences, especially when inspectors are paid by those fees. That’s how they make their money. I’ve never been a proponent of fees. We recently lowered some of our fees. I’m not a fan of fees. I do know that sometimes they’re necessary, but let’s just recognize it for what it is, it’s a revenue generator for the town.”

The town did, in fact,

lower deck and reinspection fees during the COVID-19 pandemic and while Meskus understood the arguments against the new fees he noted that the projects that would be impacted were discretionary and that required fees for projects like roofing, siding, and windows, which require permits by law, will remain low. The main argument in favor of the fees was that the projects that would be impacted were usually handled by contractors and that those contractors would incur the fees, not the homeowners, and that the

extra \$50 wouldn’t even apply if contractors stay on schedule. With that in mind, Selectman Stephen Koronis felt the new fees were reasonable.

“It’s going hopefully make (the building department’s) job a little easier and make them think a little harder ahead of time. I don’t see where these increases are going to hurt any homeowner or anybody else,” said Koronis.

The new fees were approved in a 3-2 decision, with Borowski and Singer voting against the motion. The fees went into effect on June 1.

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Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy celebrates Africa Day!

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy celebrated Africa Day on Friday, May 26. The Practical Nursing Class of 2023 officially celebrated the African culture through displaying traditional outfits to mark this year's Africa Day.

Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director joined the special celebration at Bay Path's campus, 57 Old Muggett Hill Road. She wore a special necklace and a pair of sandals from Kenya.

Bolandrina said: "Africa Day is an occasion to strengthen Africa relations and recognize

the contributions of our African faculty, students, and alumni."

This year the Practical Nursing Class of 2023's celebration of Africa Day immediately followed Mock interviews for PNP 125 Transition into Practice facilitated by Professor Sarah Watson, MSN Ed, RN. Professor Watson completed her Licensed Practical Nurse (St. Francis School of Nursing), Licensed Practical Midwife (Monze School of Midwifery), and Diploma in RN (Kitwe School of Nursing) all in Zambia, Southern Africa prior to coming to the US. Professor Watson obtained her Bachelor

of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing Leadership Management, and Master of Science in Nursing Education, all at Grand Canyon University. South Africa has been included as one of the main countries in the celebrations.

Ghana was also a huge part of the day. Sisters Nataly Acheampong and Paulina Asante who both reside in Worcester were both originally from Ghana. The practical nursing students and faculty shared stories from their African countries. Other activities included photoshoot featuring the Practical Nursing students in their African traditional and African-inspired attire, along with pinning proposals for Professor Jennifer DeFilippo and Dr. Ana Olivar. Fidelis Mensah of Worcester, a UNICEF Club Officer, from Kenya actively participated in the celebration.

"We honor our connection to Africa; we have many successful African students and alumni of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. It continues to be a joy for all of us to see them succeed," said Bolandrina. "To date, many

African alumni participate in mentoring current students," she said. "The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty is diverse, and the celebration was used as the occasion to deepen our knowledge about Africa and to celebrate our faculty, students, and alumni's African culture and heritage."

Africa Day was previously known as African Liberation Day or Africa Freedom Day. It is the annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), on May 25, 1963.

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



Courtesy

Photo shows, from left: Fidelis Mensah, Andrew Pereira, Angela DiGregorio, Paulina Asante, and Gretheline Bolandrina.

a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of

Public Health, Board of Registration in Nursing (www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn). The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education (www.council.org).

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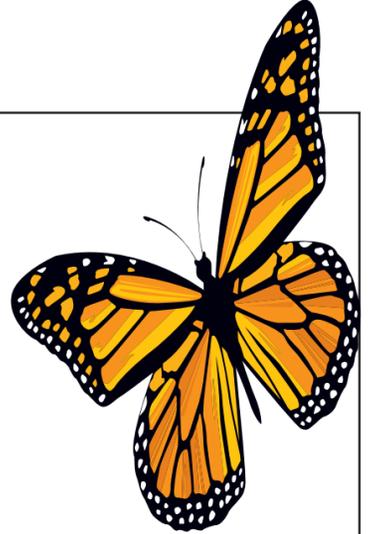
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