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Friday, August 19, 2022



Photo Courtesy

Charlton Officer Brian Cardrant (center) was promoted to Sergeant on Aug. 9 succeeding retiring Sgt. Gary Wood who was also appointed as a special police officer for the force

Cardrant named newest police sergeant in Charlton

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The Charlton Police Department welcomed a new sergeant on Tuesday, Aug. 9 while acknowledging the retirement of Sgt. Gary Wood as of the end of July.

Chief Daniel Dowd presented Officer Brian Cardrant to Selectmen as the choice candidate for the vacancy. Town Administrator Andrew Golas said Cardrant was chosen from an active civil service list used to fill previous vacancies. Chief Dowd said Cardrant has a long history as an officer in the region serving both Southbridge and Charlton with honor.

“Brian came to us from Southbridge. He spent four

years in the Southbridge Police. He’s been here for eight years. He’s done a good job as a patrolman. He’s also our first Student Resource Officer that we’ve had at Bay Path. He’s done a good job there,” said the chief. Cardrant’s promotion to sergeant was unanimously approved by the selectmen present.

While his predecessor, Sgt. Wood, might be retiring after nearly 35 years with Charlton, he won’t be going far. Wood was appointed as a special police officer to the Charlton Police Department which will allow him to be called upon to serve the town once more in uniform if the need arises. His promotion was also unanimously approved while his retirement was seen as a well-deserved break for the longtime officer, detective, soldier, and sergeant.

Dedication ceremony to spotlight upgrades to Brimfield Common

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

BRIMFIELD – A dedication ceremony this month will showcase the newly installed gazebo and several other recent upgrades to the Town Common in Brimfield.

Set for Wednesday, Aug. 24, at 5 p.m., the ceremony will take place immediately before the evening concert held on the Common. Guests will be able to check out the new gazebo, flagpole, a handicapped-accessible brick walkway, benches, and tables augmenting Brimfield’s village center.

“We have all been thrilled about how well this came out. The project exceeded everyone’s expectations,” said Mark Conners, a Brimfield Historical Commission member who helped lead the gazebo installation project.

Four years ago, Conners and fellow Historical Commission member Bob Corry began promoting the idea of placing a gazebo on the historic Common. After the proposal was approved by selectmen, funding was secured through several sources, including grants and earmarks for state funds.

Multiple community members came together to make the project a success. These include students enrolled in the Tantasqua Regional High School electrical program, who wired and installed lighting at the gazebo.

Additionally, Corry is personally thanked for his hard work in leading the installation phase of the gazebo project.

Combined with several other recent upgrades to the village center, the result is a new-look Common that still retains a quaint, smalltown New England feel. Residents from Brimfield and surrounding communities have already visited the site to see the upgrades, and next month guests from across the country will enjoy the Common during the last leg of the antique show.

“I have seen many people sitting on the benches, having picnics, and looking at the gazebo. We get visitors from all over the area,” Conners said.

In addition to the upgrades on the Common, numerous other projects have helped improve the overall village center in recent years. Prior to last year’s opening of the Cumberland Farms on Route 20, located opposite the Common, the company’s design team worked with members of the Historical Commission to help create an architectural vision whose facets are consistent with the traditional ambience of the surrounding area.

Moreover, an eyesore building was recently taken down near the village center, and local businesses continue to bolster the town’s historical emphasis. Located next to the new Cumberland Farms, Country Bank has also been a historically conscious neighbor, officials said.

Looking ahead to the Aug. 24 dedication, a lineup of guest speakers and the Boy Scouts will also join the ceremony.

Turn To **COMMON**, page **A3**



Photos Courtesy

Assistant Scout Leader Brian Wolcott of Boy Scout Troop 338 in Charlton celebrated a combined 40 years in scouts in 2022 as a members and leader.

Wolcott celebrates 40 years with Scouts

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON— There have been countless men and women who have dedicated much of their lives to the Boy Scouts of America, but few can celebrate 40 combined years in the organization as both a member and a mentor to younger generations that succeeded them.

Brian Wolcott has amassed four decades as either a member or a leader in the Cub and Boy Scouts most recently serving as Assistant Scout Master and Eagle Advancement Chairman for Troop 338 of Charlton. He was honored earlier this year by the town for his many years of service helping guide young scouts on their way to adulthood. As a young scout he learned the many values that the organization instills in its members and as an adult he found himself longing to be a part of continuing that tradition and helping future generations embrace those same timeless values.

“The values that I learned as a kid, the scout oath, the scout law, bring trustworthy, being loyal, I still consider those important and that’s why I’ve spent my time in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. I think those values were helpful to me and are helpful to the youth of today, whether it’s boys or girls at this point,” said Wolcott. “If you go back to 1910, when the

Turn To **WOLCOTT**, page **A2**



Photo Kevin Flanders

A new gazebo is the centerpiece among several recent upgrades to the Brimfield Town Common.

Affordable home will benefit Sturbridge family

STURBRIDGE— Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/ Greater Worcester is building a safe and affordable single-family home for a local family on a 1.3-acre wooded lot located at 226 Cedar St. in Sturbridge. The home will have four bedrooms, two bathrooms and full basement. The house will be a two-story colonial-style with 1560 square feet of living space. The location provides access to the amenities of this historic town, including a strong school system, vibrant business community, parks, and easy access to interstate 84 and the Mass Pike. A local family will benefit from the strength and stability that comes from affordable homeownership.

We need your help! Here are some ways you can get involved:

• Can you join the Local Project Committee that helps to fundraise for the Sturbridge build? If so, please contact our Committee Chair, Mike Wimberly at: mike.wimberly@verizon.net.

• Would your company be interested in sponsoring a Build Day at the Sturbridge build? Read more about our Build Days here: <https://www.habitatmwg.org/home-build-day-opportunities/> or contact Deborah Huegel at habitatmwg.org for more information.

• If you would like to donate towards the Sturbridge affordable home build, please click here: <https://habitatmwg.charityproud.org/Donate> and direct your donation to the 226 Cedar St., Sturbridge build.

• Or get involved by donating critical items towards the Sturbridge build. Every donation helps to ensure we continue our mission to build homes, communities, and hope. Some examples of current items needed for the Sturbridge build are:

- ✓ 7 x 2'-8" / 6'-8" interior doors (2x4 split-jamb, 2-1/2" casing, LH/RH TBD) ✓ 2 x toilets (12" rough-in dimension)
- ✓ Kitchen cabinets
- ✓ Kitchen counters

- ✓ Stainless kitchen sink
- ✓ Kitchen faucet (brushed nickel or chrome)
- ✓ 4 x surface mounted fixtures with fans for ceilings
- lights in bedrooms ✓ 4 x surface mounted fixtures for hallway ceiling lights
- ✓ Full size electric washer/dryer Energy Star rated
- ✓ Dishwasher, full size & Energy Star rated
- ✓ Microwave (Wall mounted, with exhaust fans, Energy Star)
- ✓ Driveway & parking pad paving (75')
- ✓ Topsoil, 225 yards
- ✓ Shrubs, foundation planting – 12 shrubs

Our mission is to build homes, communities and hope for local families and veterans in the Greater Worcester and MetroWest areas of Massachusetts. We serve 42 cities and towns in the region. Under the

Turn To **HABITAT**, page **A3**

Cornerstone Bank awards 16 college scholarships to local graduates

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout central Massachusetts, is proud to announce the 16 recipients of their scholarship awards program for local high school graduates. Each chosen graduate is awarded \$2,500 to assist with college expenses.

“Cornerstone Bank is proud to help students in our community reach their educational goals,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “We want to foster the growth and development of the next generation of business and finance professionals, and congratulate these 16 exceptional students on their achievements, wishing them continued success.”

This is the list of the 2022 scholarship recipients along with the name of the school they plan to attend in the fall:

Kiana Barnes of East Brookfield, Nichols College
Emma Blomquist of Holden,

University of Massachusetts, Isenberg School of Business
Madeline Duke of Shrewsbury, Indiana University

Hunter Goguen of Brookfield, Nichols College
Alexis Goodney of Leicester, Bentley University

Abigail Hill of Brimfield, Westfield State University
Nhi Huynh of Worcester, Harvard College

Brian Langevin of Sturbridge, University of Alabama
Owyn Law of Dudley, Quinnipiac University

Colin Minarik of Webster, Bentley University
Samuel Murillo of Charlton, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Christopher Murzycki of Spencer, Worcester State University
Arieta Nasto of Worcester, Villanova School of Business

Brennan Ogert, Nichols College
Lauren Potvin of Charlton, Worcester Academy
Nina Zurawski of Charlton, Suffolk University

To be considered for a scholarship, each student had to:

Be a 2022 high school graduate
Anticipate being a full-time student at an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education

Anticipate studying in a business or financial field

Demonstrate achievement and high standards in academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement

Submit an official transcript and GPA from their guidance office
Submit a one-page essay

About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and

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

Harrington Auxiliary awards \$15,000 in scholarships



Photo Courtesy

Brook Fetting with Patty Motyka, chairperson of the Harrington Auxiliary Scholarship Committee.

increased dramatically, motivating the Harrington Auxiliary to adopt more fundraising endeavors to support more scholarships. Today, the primary scholarship fundraising activities include the Auxiliary’s Annual Lucky Duck and Family Fun Day and the annual Car and Motorcycle Show. Revenue from the Harrington Auxiliary Gift Shop also financially supports the scholarship program.

Students residing in the communities served by the UMass Memorial Harrington Health System were invited to apply for one of the scholarships. The committee received many applications, with at least one student representing several of the communities in the Harrington Hospital service area.

Due to high COVID positivity rates in June, the committee was unable to hold an in-person ceremony. Members of the committee visited each recipient at her home to deliver their certificates and a gift.

The Harrington Auxiliary Scholarship Committee members presented five \$3,000 scholarships for a total of \$15,000. The recipients included the following students.

Brooke Fetting graduated from Tourtellette Memorial High School and is pursuing a career in radiologic technology at the University of Hartford.

Clare Jetter graduated from Quaboag Regional Middle High School and will be studying nursing at American International College.

Tantasqua Regional High School graduate Emma Lalashius plans to pursue a career in occupational therapy at Western New England University.

Faith Mwangi, graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School, will follow her dream of becoming a physician at George Washington University.

Emilia Pianka will enroll in the physician assistant program at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She is a graduate

of Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

The Harrington Auxiliary, established in 1932, is a non-profit organization of dedicated and impassioned volunteers whose mission is to support and enhance the excellent services provided to the 25 communities the UMass Memorial Harrington Health System serves in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

WOLCOTT

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Scouts started, it’s still the same values. Some of the practices within, for example first aid, have changed a lot from when I was a kid, but those core values have remained. The rest is just changing with the times.”

Wilcott was honored by Troop 338 with the Two Score Award, an honor presented to those who have dedicated 40 years to the Scouts (“score” being an alternate word for “twenty”). The ever-humble Scouts leader said while the recognition has been appreciated it was never about his accomplishments but being a part of helping younger generations achieve their potential as

scouts.

“As an Eagle Advisor I help young men reach the rank of Eagle Scout and I think that’s probably been the most important thing that I’ve been part of. I’ve been going to summer camp for 25 years as an adult so being a part of that and helping the boys advance, watching them grow, that’s been very rewarding,” Wolcott said. “Seeing the kids pick up the values and the skills are what’s really rewarding about all of this.”

Wolcott said he’ll likely be a part of the Scouts for the rest of his life with no plans on retiring anytime soon. He concluded that it’s not his accomplishments that he cherishes, but seeing the kids grow and achieve greatness as adults that proved to be the most rewarding part of his years of service.



Brian Wolcott received the Two Score Award from Senior Patrol Leader Daniel Harris of Troop 338 in Charlton.



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Charlton Public Library to host Carlos Odria Trio

CHARLTON — The Charlton Public Library is pleased to host the Carlos Odria Trio on Thursday, Aug. 25, at 6:30 p.m. in Charlton Library's Dexter Hall Auditorium.

The Carlos Odria Trio is a high-energy acoustic ensemble that performs original compositions and arrangements of jazz standards and Latin American popular music. They deliver an exciting blend of international styles such as bossa nova, Afro-Peruvian grooves, rumba flamenco, and cumbia with an improvisational approach inspired by the rich tradition of American jazz.

Since its formation in 2017, the Carlos Odria Trio has been performing actively in the New England area. It has been a featured artist at the Worcester Jazz Festival, and has performed at venues such as Clark University, UMass Boston, Worcester State University, Mechanics Hall, Middlesex Community College, the Jazz Revelations Concert Series in Providence, RI, the Chelmsford



Center for the Arts, 90.5 WICN Public Radio, among others. The Trio has been nominated for 'Jazz Artist of the Year' (2021) and 'Best International Artist of the Year' (2020) at the Boston Music Awards and 'Best Jazz Act' (2019) at

the Worcester Music Awards. Its 2019 album 'El Rio' got consistent air time at local radio stations and was included in the 'Favorite New England Albums of the Year 2019' (Worcester Telegram & Gazette). An album review at Worcester Magazine described the album as follows: "it's difficult to say more about the Carlos Odria Trio's new album, 'El Rio,' other than that it's gorgeous: Stunningly, jaw-droppingly, trying-not-to-weep-at-work beautiful."

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Charlton Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency.

Registration is not required. Charlton Public Library is located at 40 Main St. in Charlton, Massachusetts. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Charlton Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency.

16th Annual Dick Hoyt Memorial Golf Tournament held



SOUTHBIDGE — The Center of Hope Foundation, Inc. (CoHF) is a non-profit agency serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Changing lives and providing opportunities is not only what we do at the Center of Hope, but it is also who we are. On Saturday, July 30, we were joined by over 115 golfers at the Leicester Country Club for a beautiful day of golf and coming together to continue enhancing the lives of people with disabilities. With the support from

sponsors, players, and volunteers we were able to raise over \$32,000 this year. We were joined by the Hoyt Foundation, which participated as a foursome and generously presented a check for \$20,000 at the beginning of the event. We were lucky enough to know Dick and Judy Hoyt, two people who changed the lives of so many. Even after their passing, they continue to inspire us to do more because as Dick would say, "Yes You Can." We are honored that their family continues to support

the Center of Hope as their parents did.

John Rowley, a parent of CoHF program members, is also an amazing supporter who deserves a big thank you. John volunteers in organizing, planning, and running the event on top of playing and donating. With his help, our golf tournament is organized, runs smoothly, and is as successful as it is.

This event was sponsored by The Hoyt Foundation, Team Hoyt, US Tool and Fastener, Joe Cleans, Cornerstone Bank, Southbridge Credit Union, Abacus Distributors, Fletcher Tilton PC, Helgerson's Excavating and Septic, 5 Star Automotive, IBEW Local 2324, IBEW Local 2222, Country Bank, Bank Hometown, Savers Bank, Amy & John Gattos, Southbridge Tire, OFS Optical, Vibrance Technology Corporation, Open Sky, Cormier Jewelers, Masterman's, and Excel Advertising.

We were also joined this year by UMASS volunteers. More than 16 people working for UMASS, came and volunteered at the event helping with registration, raffle sales, games, photos, and clean-up. The extra hands were a great help, and we look forward to working more with these wonderful people in the future.

With the support from sponsors, players, and volunteers, the CoHF can continue with its mission, offering the most opportunities possible for individuals with disabilities. Proceeds from this event also help us to continue our Holiday Giving Program. Around the holidays, gifts and other necessities are

given to over 500 individuals and families who struggle financially.

"We know that some of our program members or others in the community may not get the chance to experience the holidays like most," said Erika Travinski, COO at the CoHF. "It is truly magical to see how the community comes together and help us provide this amazing support. We see smiles on family members' faces knowing that their loved ones will wake up on Christmas morning beaming with happiness. There is no better feeling."

To learn more about the Center of Hope Foundation, our businesses, or upcoming events, visit www.thecenterofhope.org or call (508) 764-4085.

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HABITAT

continued from page A1

motto of "a hand up, not a handout," we build houses with families rather than for them. Partner families must contribute 300 to 400 hours of sweat equity building their homes and learning skills to become successful homeowners. They

also pay back an affordable mortgage, based on their income.

For further details, contact Deborah Huegel, Vice President of Philanthropy, at 508-799-9259, ext. 118 or Deborah.Huegel@habitatmwg.org. Or visit our website at www.habitatmwg.org. For specific information and photos of the

home, please visit www.habitatmwg.org/current-and-previous-builds.

Building homes, communities and hope for local families and veterans. Through shelter, we empower.

Please contact Deborah.Huegel@habitatmwg.org for more information or questions about donations to 226 Cedar St

COMMON

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Around the Labor Day weekend, officials are hoping to add a special sign on the Common featuring images celebrating various local historical happenings.

"The last couple years have been very significant for the improvement of the center village," Connors said.

The new-look Common will greatly enhance guests' experiences during

community events each year, including concerts, craft fairs, and holiday celebrations, among others.

State Rep. Todd Smola is thanked for his support of the improvement project. The Senior Center also secured a grant that helped fund the purchase of the benches and picnic tables.

"We have gotten a lot of very positive comments. The project is part of a rebirth of the entire center village," Connors said.

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EYE OPENING

Friday's Child



Desiree

Hi! My name is Desiree and I love to dance and read books.

Desiree is of Caucasian and Hispanic decent. She is an energetic girl who is full of life. Desiree loves playing with dolls, singing, dancing, and reading books. She also enjoys gardening with her foster parents and is very proud of what she has produced in her garden. Desiree is able to be redirected and follows directions with assistance. She can have a difficult time with the word "no" but with support she is able to process and move forward. She gets along well with older foster sisters and her foster parents and enjoys family gatherings. She is described as having a great imagination and dreams about places that someday she would like to visit and explore.

She has made a lot of progress over the previous school year. She is in the 4th grade in school year 2021-2022 and enjoys school. She is friendly and gets along well with others. Desiree receives weekly therapy and counseling. In therapy she is learning to use her coping skills to manage her emotions and express her feelings.

Freed for adoption Desiree will need a patient and structured home life. She would well in a two female or single female household. Older children in the home would be best. She has a younger brother living in western MA with whom she will need to maintain regular in-person contact.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/6030>

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

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

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Selectmen drop No-Parking sign demand for Four Score

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Board of Selectmen has loosened parking sign restrictions for Four Score Holdings as the company prepared to open its long-awaited recreational marijuana dispensary on Route 20 in the coming weeks.

Selectmen received a new update from Four Score Holdings representatives Dan Glissman and Matt Wilkes on Aug. 9 where Wilkes started off the discussion by revealing that the dispensary is making the final preparations to finally open its doors.

“We need to order product, bring it into the building, finish up some odds and ends – We’re pretty much ready to go,” said Wilkes.

The company received their final license from the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission in July and a final walkthrough of their 20,000-square-foot facility at 144 Sturbridge Rd. will need to take place with the CCC once product has arrived and the store is ready for its grand opening. Wilkes said the store could open as soon as September if things go smoothly.

With the expected grand opening also

comes the potential concern for parking which was addressed during the permitting process with town officials requesting that Four Score Holdings erect no parking signs on neighboring Sampson Road to help control traffic. However, in July, Glissman appeared before selectmen asking selectmen to rescind that requirement as it was implemented when the opening of a marijuana establishment was deemed much more of an “event” during permitting. Glissman posited that request again on Aug. 9.

“We don’t think necessarily that we’ll be getting that kind of traffic where peo-

ple will be encouraged to try and find parking across the street on Sampson Road,” said Glissman. “We also have a good number of parking spaces on site. The team feels confident that they can handle the demand with the amount of parking they have and the size of the store they’ve built.”

Selectmen agreed to remove the requirement after confirming that the business will have roughly 43 parking spots available at the time of opening. However, they reserved the right to re-implement the sign requirement if they deem the traffic to be more than expected.

If It’s Important
To You,



It’s Important
To Us.

QCC receives close to \$500,000 for nursing labs

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) was recently awarded \$499,815 in Skills Capital Grant funding, which will be used to update three nursing labs at its Healthcare and Workforce Development Center, located in downtown Worcester. The labs enable nursing students to have hands-on training on the most state-of-the-art equipment, which is crucial in preparing them for a career in the field of nursing.

“QCC’s nursing programs have always provided nursing students with the most current, up-to-date equipment and training to ensure students are ready to immediately enter the workforce,”

said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “QCC is one of the largest providers of nurse education and practical nursing in

Massachusetts and staying up-to-date with technology is vital in continuing to supply the Commonwealth with skilled healthcare workers.”

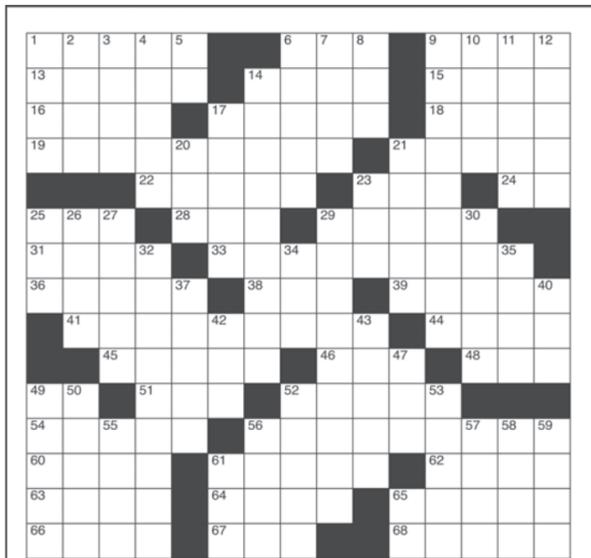
The Skills Capital Grant will not only fund equipment for the nurse education lab, but also the simulation lab and practical nursing lab, where students prepare for an Associate Degree in Nursing or a Practical Nursing Certificate.

“Technology in nursing is constantly changing and advancing, which allows nurses to improve efficiency, communicate effectively, and most importantly provide safer care. This grant will allow our nursing students to train on the newest equipment and most current technology, similar to what is being used in acute, critical, and long-term care settings. The equipment funded by the Skills Capital Grant will better prepare students to enter the nursing workforce,” said Dean of the School of Healthcare Pat Schmohl.

QCC will use the grant to supply the nursing labs with simulation mani-

kins that allow students to apply the skills they’ve learned in a controlled environment. These highly life-like manikins come in models to represent infants, four- to seven-year-olds and adults. Students can check vital signs, assess symptoms, and practice procedures such as tracheotomies. The grant will also cover a Pyxis medication dispensing system, hospital beds, patient lifts and an Electrocardiogram (EKG) machine.

The Baker-Polito Administration’s Skills Capital Grant program has been funding career education technology since 2015. The latest round included \$22 million given to 70 educational institutions.

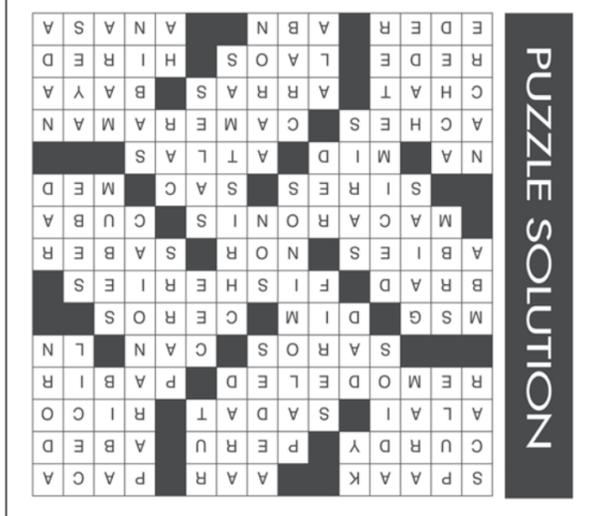


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Influential Swedish, Belgian clan
- 6. Swiss river
- 9. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 13. Like coagulated milk
- 14. Lima is its capital
- 15. Lying down
- 16. Jai ___ sport
- 17. Egyptian statesman
- 18. Napoleon Dynamite’s uncle
- 19. Renovated
- 21. Chadic language
- 22. 18-year period
- 23. Beverage container
- 24. Natural logarithm
- 25. The “mecca” of basketball
- 28. A way to darken
- 29. Mackerels
- 31. Actor Pitt
- 33. Places to buy seafood
- 36. True firs
- 38. Neither
- 39. Fencing sword
- 41. Italian pastas
- 44. Island nation close to the U.S.
- 45. Begets
- 46. Resembles a pouch
- 48. ___ student, learns healing
- 49. Sodium
- 51. Indicates position
- 52. The world has one
- 54. Partner to pains
- 56. Photographer
- 60. Chew the fat
- 61. Culture of the British Iron Age
- 62. Weaverbird
- 63. Advice or counsel
- 64. Asian nation
- 65. Brought on board
- 66. German river
- 67. Airborne (abbr.)
- 68. Leaf-footed bug genus

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mark left behind
- 2. Cry weakly
- 3. Ancient region in modern Syria
- 4. Farewell
- 5. Blue grass state
- 6. Genus of mosquitoes
- 7. S. Israeli city
- 8. You can get stuck in one
- 9. One who mistrusts others unjustifiably
- 10. First month of ancient Hebrew calendar
- 11. Tigers legend Fielder
- 12. Make more attractive
- 14. Horses
- 17. Slight projection in typefaces
- 20. Male parent
- 21. Jack and Jill are two
- 23. After B
- 25. Licensed for Wall Street
- 26. Missile with about 600-mile range
- 27. Goddesses
- 29. A day kids love
- 30. Oily secretion
- 32. One-tenth of a meter
- 34. A father’s male child
- 35. One point east of southeast
- 37. Silk garments
- 40. Cool!
- 42. The color of anger
- 43. Trade profession
- 47. It can get you around
- 49. Mother-of-pearl
- 50. Hurt
- 52. Legendary slugger Hank
- 53. Polio vaccine developer
- 55. Incline from vertical
- 56. Sea creature
- 57. Actress Kate
- 58. Affirmative votes
- 59. Nothing
- 61. Pie ___ mode
- 65. Expresses surprise



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\$735,000, 50 6th St, Croteau, Paul J, and Croteau, Colleen M, to Distler, Lisa, and Distler, Daniel.

\$525,000, 65 E Brimfield Holland, Proulx, Arthur E, and Proulx, Karen B, to Wood 2nd, Keith C, and Wood, Melissa N.

\$395,000, 284 Warren Rd, Ludemann, John G, and Ludemann, Janice L, to Baker, Kevin, and Baker, Donna N.

\$352,000, 52 Knollwood Rd, Wood 2nd, Keith C, and Wood, Melissa, to Moor, Michael.

\$145,000, Holland Rd, Robbins, Peter M, and Robbins, Gloria, to Luszcz, John, and Luszcz, Michele.

CHARLTON

\$50,000, Henry Vista Ln, Ga Bldg & Prop Mgmt Inc, to Estiverne, Babiola C.

\$50,000, Hycrest Rd, Ga Bldg & Prop Mgmt Inc, to Estiverne, Babiola C.

HOLLAND

\$529,000, 32 Old Acres Rd,

Loiselle, Ethan, to Brierley, Kristen, and Brierley, Daniel. \$360,000, 15 Old County Rd, Pronto Jr, Kenneth L, and Pronto, Linda L, to Bardsley, Luke, and Crouse, Nicholas J.

\$301,000, 19 Kimball Hill Rd, Gendreau, Scott J, and Gendreau, Diana A, to Holstrom, Kevin A.

\$150,000, 11 Ardmore Rd, Quattrocelli, Marie R, to Tremblay, Paul S, and Tremblay, Cheri.

STURBRIDGE

\$750,000, 34 Cedar Lake Dr, Mcconnell, Thomas O, and Mcconnell, Sharon M, to Grise Jr, William E, and Grise, Michelle A.

\$551,000, 47 Breakneck Rd, Mattioli Sr, Christopher, and Mattioli, Barbara A, to Mclean, Joshua, and Mclean, Amy.

\$165,000, 74 Bentwood Dr #74, Sciuolo, Anthony A, and Sciuolo, Lisa C, to Sciuolo, Annalisa, and Battles, Brandyn.

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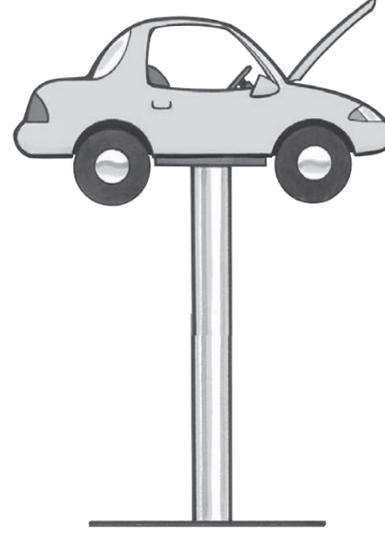
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OPINION

Still “Hopelessly Devoted”

There was more sad news this past week, when we learned that Olivia Newton-John passed away at the age of 73 from breast cancer. Her husband, John Easterling, told reporters that she passed peacefully in her California ranch.

Newton-John, born in Cambridge, England, rose to fame after getting her start as a country singer, and appeared in many commercials. When she was just five years old, her family moved to Australia. A few years later, Newton-John won her first talent contest. At the age of 15, she formed an all girl band with her friend Pat Carroll, called Pat and Olivia.

Her big break, however, was when she landed the role as Sandy in the movie “Grease” in 1978, starring along side John Travolta. Newton-John was 27, yet easily passed for a 17 year old high school student!

In prior interviews, Travolta noted that their chemistry was indisputable.

Newton-John herself said, “When we walked inside the room together, it was magic, everyone saw it.”

Years later, Newton-John said of Travolta, “I had a great love and support from him and the feeling was mutual. We were attracted to each other however we never would date because we were both involved with other people at the time and both of us have a loyalty streak that runs deep.”

Other unforgettable roles include the cult classic “Xanadu,” a 1980 musical starring Newton-John, Gene Kelly and Michael Beck. The title Xanadu is the name of the nightclub highlighted in the film. One of our reporters, on hearing of Newton-John’s death said, “We must go buy roller skates, stat.” The disco themed film is now a cult classic.

Her father was a World War II veteran with British Military intelligence, and a professor of German literature. Her mother Irene’s father was a physicist who won a Nobel Prize. Newton-John was the first in her family to be involved in theatre and entertainment.

In 1981, her hit “Physical” became the number one single of the decade. She has sold over 100 million records.

After three decades of battling cancer, Newton-John funded research for plant based medicine and created the Olivia Newton-John Foundation Fund.

From her indelible film performances to the soothing vocals on her numerous albums, we salute the spirit of this singular artist, and will always remain “Hopelessly Devoted” to her.



HOT DIGGITY DOGS!

Photo Courtesy

Angel Foundation will be at the Westville Dam on Saturday, Aug. 20 for the Hot Diggity Dog Dash. There will be free gifts, raffle prizes including an autographed framed Gronk photo, and lots of fun. All funds go to rescues to help their handicapped dogs. We were at the Sturbridge Farmer’s Market on Sunday, July 31 spreading the word. Dona, our handicapped dog that can’t walk on her back legs got to meet people and dogs and had a wonderful time. She will be at the Hot Diggity Dog Dash to make more fans.

What should you know about IRA rollovers?

If you’ve been contributing to an IRA, you’ve chosen a great way to save and invest for retirement. All IRAs have potential tax benefits and a range of investment possibilities, but not all IRA providers offer the same features. So, if you decide that your current IRA provider is charging higher fees than you’d like, or perhaps doesn’t offer as many investment choices as you want, then you might choose to move your IRA assets to another provider. How should you go about making this switch?

Here are some options to consider: Trustee-to-trustee transfer or direct rollover – You can ask the financial institution holding your IRA to move the money directly to another IRA. No taxes will be withheld from the amount transferred at the time of the transfer. This method is generally hassle-free, but some IRA sponsors will still only mail the check to your address of record, so you’d have to forward it to your new IRA.



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Indirect rollover – If you take an indirect rollover, also known as a 60-day rollover, the assets from your existing IRA will be liquidated and the custodian or plan sponsor will send you a check or deposit the funds directly into your bank or brokerage account. This payment may be subject to withholding for federal taxes, and possibly state taxes, unless you opt out of

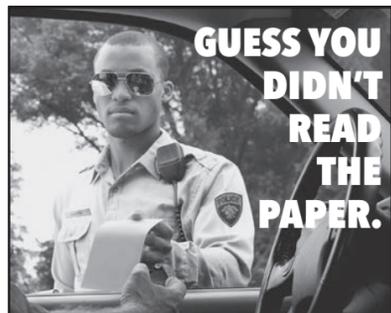
withholding. You have 60 calendar days from the time the funds were withdrawn to deposit the money, including any amount withheld, into a new IRA. If you miss this 60-day deadline, the withdrawal may be taxable at your personal income tax rate, and it could also be subject to an early withdrawal penalty if you’re younger than 59 and a half.

Given the immediate withholding and the possibility of further taxes if you don’t move the money into a new IRA before the 60 days are up, you’ve got much to consider before initiating an indirect rollover. Consequently, you should consult with a financial advisor and tax professional before you make this type of move.

In addition to a rollover from an existing IRA, you may someday want to move the money from your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan to an IRA. This can occur when you retire or change jobs, although if you do take on another job, you might have the options of leaving your 401(k) with your former employer or rolling it over into your new employer’s plan. However, if you do want to move your 401(k) funds into an IRA, you can make what’s known as a direct rollover, in which the administrator of your old retirement plan will send you a check made payable to the custodian of your IRA. No taxes will be withheld, but you need to get the funds transferred within 60 days to avoid any potential tax issues.

You spend years contributing to your IRA and 401(k) — and for good reason. So, when it’s time to move that money, be careful and consider getting help from your financial and tax professionals. These funds can play a big role in your retirement income, so manage them wisely.

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.nielson@edwardjones.com.



When things like speed limits change, we’re the first to know. You could be the second **Your Community Paper.** Told ya.

TO THE EDITOR

Old Home Day celebration promotes community pride every year!

To the Editor:

Charlton’s 126th Old Home Day will be celebrated Sept. 5 with great vendors and entertainment.

The importance of the “Old Home Day” is undisputed. The town fair tradition is woven into the fabric of nearly every American community. It presents opportunities for young people to foster life skills such as communication, leadership, goal setting, work ethic, responsibility, and sportsmanship. Community service and volunteer leadership are at the root of the success of the event. Generations of community leaders have been born out of the ideologies instilled in our youth and their families through their involvement in alike, an institution that furnishes a legacy of volunteer service and youth development, renewing leadership to the local community and beyond. Many hands make light work is a living philosophy that accomplishes tasks beyond imagination.

For what I gathered from participants and the leaders - the atmosphere of “Old Home Day” stimulates cultivation of a vibrant community. People from throughout the area are drawn together for a common cause: showcasing the achievements of their citizens and promoting their youth. Individual talents are employed toward the success of the

whole community. Families take time to learn together, sharing in life lessons and building new skills. Relationships are developed, broadening perspectives and intermingling experience. Long-time friendships are rekindled over new memories.

I only hope our town’s people won’t dismiss the event as another entertainment option; as certainly the event will have an economic impact, but more importantly the influence on catalyzing community development will have a longer lasting stimulus. We should do our very best in convincing town people to immerse themselves in the community building and leadership development opportunities at the “Old Home Days” to discover the real impacts it has on our community. We are now living in the times – where tomorrow is not guaranteed – we should do the best we can with every day given.

Thank you very much to the Old Home Committee members, volunteers, donors, town administration, town government, fire, police, and town residents participating.

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

BARBARA ZURAWSKI
CHARLTON

LETTERS

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If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

Decisiveness

Over the last several weeks, I’ve discussed five traits you need to develop to accomplish your dream. Today, I will write about the sixth most crucial quality. None of these necessarily have to be in a particular order. Everybody’s dream is different, and so is how you will accomplish it. Desire, Faith, Specialized Knowledge, Imagination, and Organized Planning are a requirement in whatever order. The sixth is decision.

I have read that a lack of decision is one of the most significant factors that lead to failure in accomplishing dreams. The opposite of decision is procrastination. I’ve written about procrastination before; we’ve all done it. It’s a dream killer. With so many distractions at our fingertips, putting off your dream day after day is easy until you lose all motivation and eventually convince yourself it wasn’t meant to be. Some say procrastination is the number one reason people fail to accomplish what they want.

There is much written about successful people. If you read about them, you’ll notice at least one similarity: once they’ve considered all the relevant information, they make a decision quickly, and they’re slow to change their mind. On the other end of the spectrum, people who fail are often prolonged to make decisions and change their minds frequently.

When you do make a decision, you



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must act! Once you decide, you will discover those around you who try to convince you that it’s a bad idea, that you’re too late, or that it’s been done before. You may experience the judgment of family or friends. You could

open the newspaper and read an opinion piece that makes you wonder if you should change your mind.

There are over nine billion people in the world, which means there are unlimited opinions. If you open up to your driver on the way to the airport about what you’ve decided to do, they’ll probably tell you how you’re doing it wrong or how you shouldn’t do it at all.

When you begin to feel yourself persuaded by the opinions of others, consider this: do they have the desire, faith, specialized knowledge, imagination, and organized planning that you have? If the answer is yes, then you should listen! If it isn’t, stay the course, and become hardened in your determination.

It’s good to be open-minded and hear the opinions of others but don’t act on them. Don’t be easily moved by someone who knows nothing of what you’re trying to accomplish. Stay the course, follow through, and be strong. If you’ve done the work and put in the time, why would you allow your dream to be toppled by those who don’t have the knowledge or desire you have?

Has it been done before? Maybe

Sunrise on the sea



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Finally, we got a break in the heat this past weekend, and the fishing was great for seabass & bluefish. This writer and Matt Fountain made a trip back to the Westport River this past Friday to try fishing for a few more seabass, and hopefully a few more bluefish, and possibly a striper. We left Uxbridge at 4:15 a.m. and arrived at Westport at 5:15 a.m., as there is very little traffic during the early morning hours. The tide was still coming in, and would continue to do so for a couple more hours, until it reached high tide. There was only one boat & trailer in the parking lot which seemed a bit odd. Because of the full moon, the tide was running a bit strong, which can produce some great fishing.

After launching the boat, we were on our way, with the sun slowly rising in the East. I took a quick photo of the sun rising with the Westport Bridge in the background! Although the picture is black and white, I snapped the photo anyway, and included the photo in this week's column. Anyone that has seen sunrises and sunsets on the ocean, can relate as to how beautiful they can be. It is a slow ride from the ramp area to the opening of the breakwater because of all the boats that are moored along the way, with numerous signs, declaring a

no wake area. As we entered the mouth of the river. Matt throttled the motor into high speed, and we were at our fishing spot in short time, as the seas were quite calm.

We were doing some bottom fishing, so there was no reason to drop the anchor.

Using light rods and conventional reels loaded with 40-pound test braded line, I dropped my high low rig tipped with a small piece of squid to the bottom! The high low rig consisting of two circle no # 3 hooks, make the rig ideal for catching seabass, and other bottom feeding species like huge scaup, fluke, and an occasional bluefish or striper. That is why I love fishing on the ocean. You never know what kind of fish is going to hit your bait. As soon as my bait hit the bottom, I had a strike. The fish was immediately hooked, and was reeled to the boat. It was Just a couple of short seabass. but catching doubles of undersize seabass on light rods, is a lot of fun and a great way to get a kid hooked on fishing.

The drift was a bit fast because of the high tides, but the fish were biting. Between Matt and I, we had to catch over 100 seabass, but most were just a bit undersize. We did manage to catch a few keeper seabass, with the largest 19 inches, along with a few fluke.

During our early morning fishing, we also had a school of bluefish breaking on the surface of the water. I quickly grabbed my fishing rod that already had a surface popper on the line. The first cast had a seven-pound bluefish hooked up, and the line was screaming, as it left the reels spool. Bluefish

have a lot of fight, and made numerous runs, before it was brought to the boat. I looked around to see what Matt was doing, as he is always ready with the net. He was standing there with his arms folded.

"Hey."
"Are you going to net my fish?"
"No."
"You put it in the paper last week that you did not like my netting capabilities."

It took a minute or two to convince him that I was only joking. He slowly picked up the net, and did a Great Job!

Matt quickly grabbed his fishing rod and rigged it with a surface popper also! A huge bluefish came bursting out of the water on his first cast, and was immediately hooked up. Matt had a big smile on his face, as he battled the fish for approximately 10 minutes. Yes, I netted his fish.

The days catch of seabass, fluke, bluefish, three hammerhead sharks, scaup & sea Robbins, quickly tired out this elderly angler, and Matt was also ready to go. The fish that we retained were all placed on a bed of ice in the LiveWell immediately after catching them. Bluefish need to be placed on ice as soon as they are caught, as all our fish are. We had gone a longer distance on the water to find the fish, but it was all worth the effort.

As we approached the boat ramp, we noticed a Harbor Police boat tied up to the dock. There was a couple of anglers waiting to launch their boats so we had to wait 15 minutes or so! When our turn came, Matt quickly powered the boat to the dock, and exited the boat. He sprint-

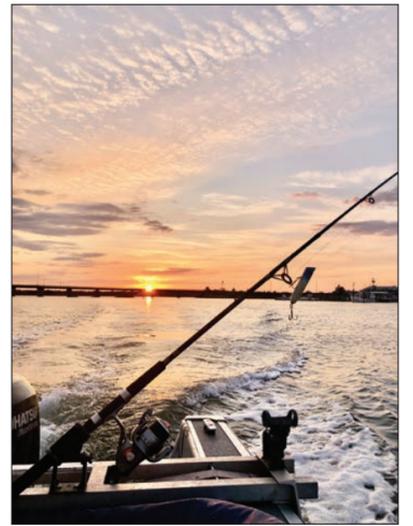


Photo Ralph True

This week's picture shows the recent sunrise at the Westport River!

ed up the ramp to his parked vehicle. One of the Harbor Patrol police were ticketing numerous vehicles, and Matt's vehicle was about ready to have a \$25 ticket placed on his vehicle, but Matt convinced him to allow us to pay the \$5 fee in the box at the ramp entrance. The way this guy was writing tickets; it was evident that very few if any had paid the \$5 fee. It is unfortunate that the ramp was paid with sportsmen's monies, and we still need to pay again!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

An Array of Timely Harvest Tips



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

It's picking season and fresh garden produce takes a front row seat at the dinner table. From harvesting herbs to picking the perfect corn, read on for some tips to enhance your harvest haul!

** If you're harvesting herbs from the garden this season, take note of these quick and easy tips!:

* When chopping fresh herbs such as basil and tarragon, sprinkle the leaves with a few drops of olive oil. This effectively slows the darkening of the chopped leaves.

*Here's an easy foolproof way to store fresh basil, cilantro, parsley, tarragon, and other delicate herbs that preserves their fresh from the garden taste: Stand herbs in a tall glass or mason jar. Fill halfway with

water and add a pinch of sugar. Then place a plastic bag loosely over the top of it all and place in the refrigerator. Now your herbs will keep their fresh taste for a week!

*To enhance the flavor of dried herbs, simply chop up some fresh parsley with them!

** Hot Peppers are a seasonal garden favorite! Here are some hot pepper hot tips that take your tasty peppers from the garden to the table!:

*After picking hot peppers, you can dry them by stringing through the stem with sewing needle thread or fishing line. Then hang in a sunny window. Thin skinned varieties dry the best.

*To Freeze peppers, wash, dry, cut off the stem and leave the seeds in. Freeze in containers or plastic bags. They'll taste "fresh" any time you eat them.

*Here's how to make your own gourmet crushed peppers: Broil dried hot peppers until they start to darken. Let cool and crush in blender.

** Sweet ears of corn on the cob are an anticipated summer treat worth waiting all year

for. Read on for tips to pick and cook corn this season:

*Did you know the sugar content of garden corn is highest late in the day? In fact it's perfect to pick the ears just in time for supper.

*Want that newly picked ear of sweet corn to stay fresh longer? The key is keeping the corn cool using this tip. Pick ears either early in the morning, or late in the day and immediately husk and place the ears in an ice bath, until the ears are cooled to about 37 degrees. Then place the corn on the cob in ziplock plastic bags in the refrigerator. They should stay fresh and sweet for up to two weeks.

*Evaluating ears of corn can be a challenge at farm stands or grocery stores as ripping down the husk to inspect corn is a definite no-no in the marketplace. To ensure a quality ear, look for bright green husks that are slightly moist. The silk should be slightly sticky and a pale golden color. If you press gently against the husk you should be able to feel the kernels.

* Also look for corn with lots of silk, as that means there are

lots of kernels inside!

*And be sure to check out the bottom of the ear, where it was cut off the stalk. If it is brown, the ear was likely not picked that day. *Did you know corn on the cob will lose up to 25% of its sugar content after just six hours of storage at room temperature? That is because from the moment it is picked, the sugar in the corn begins to convert to starch. To keep corn at optimum taste, keep corn chilled at about 36 degrees.

*The golden rule of corn on the cob is it should be eaten the same day it is picked. If that's not possible, keep it refrigerated and use within three days to ensure good taste.

*Never husk corn until you just ready to cook it. While stripping the husks off in the supermarket may be a tempting convenience (especially since some keep a barrel there for that purpose), you'll lose out on flavor. Keep corn in the refrigerator with the husks intact until you can cook it. This helps to slow down the sugar to starch conversion, thus maintaining its sweetness longer.

**

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

Joshua Hyde Library announces September events schedule

STURBRIDGE — There are plenty of fun, free events planned at the Joshua Hyde Public Library for the month of September. As always, our events and links can be found on the library website at www.sturbridgelibrary.org. For more information, updates, links, and events, you can also call the Library directly at 508-347-2512, and/or follow the Library on Facebook and Instagram at [@sturbridgelibrary](https://www.instagram.com/sturbridgelibrary).

JHPL September Events:
Thursday, Sept. 8: ELF (Early Learning & Fun!) at 10:45 a.m. A brief book-in-hand program features stories, songs, and rhymes and is followed by playtime! For ages 9-18 months with caregiver. Pre-register, please.
Tuesday, Sept. 13: DROP IN STORY

TIME at 10:45 a.m. Join us for stories, songs, craft & more! For children of all ages with caregiver. Drop-in. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL.

Thursday, Sept. 15: LEGO Club at 6:30 p.m. Suitable for ages five to 12 years with caregiver. Pre-register, please.

Friday, Sept. 16: DROP IN STORY TIME at 10:45 a.m. Stories, songs, craft. Children of all ages welcome; must be accompanied by an adult. Register in advance. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL. Free.

Tuesday, Sept. 20: DROP IN STORY TIME at 10:45 a.m. Join us for stories, songs, craft & more! For children of all ages with caregiver. Drop-in. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL.

Friday, Sept. 23: DROP IN STORY TIME at 10:45 a.m. Stories, songs, craft. Children of all ages welcome; must be accompanied by an adult. Register in advance. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL. Free.

Tuesday, Sept. 27: Baby Kneads Baby Massage at 10:45 a.m. Parents of infants

(non-crawlers) will learn the benefits and techniques of infant massage to soothe and relax their baby. Pre-registration required. Free. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL.

Friday, Sept. 30: Baby Kneads Baby Sign Language at 10:45 a.m. Parents and their two months to pre-verbal children will use toys, puppets, and props to learn basic sign language during this educational, engaging and interactive session. Pre-registration required. Free. Sponsored by the Friends of JHPL.

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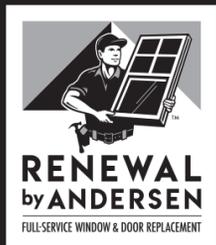
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- You must call by September 3rd



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Design a bird-friendly landscape



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

Temperature extremes, drought and storms take a toll on our landscapes. Sometimes a bit of pruning, proper care and patience is all that is needed to help plants recover. Other times, plants need replacing. It is always sad to lose a favorite plant. The memories, time and money invested are lost, but it presents an opportunity to grow something new.

Consider creating a bird-friendly landscape when selecting replacements for failing and dead plants. Working with nature is a great way to support birds without the use of feeders.

Look for seed, berry and nectar producing plants that attract songbirds. You will enjoy the color and motion these birds add to your landscape. Plus, 96 percent of terrestrial North American birds feed upon insects, helping you manage garden pests.

Plant bird-friendly flowers, shrubs, and trees in clusters whenever possible. This creates an impressive display in the landscape and allows birds to gather food more efficiently and waste less energy traveling between plants.

Select a variety of plants to ensure both seasonal and year-round birds have plenty of food. Include a mixture of plants that provide seeds, berries, or nectar from spring through fall. These plants are nature's birdfeeders, eliminating the need to clean and fill traditional feeders.

Include native trees, shrubs, and flowers whenever they are suited to the growing conditions in your yard. Native plants, birds and insects have co-evolved over time, making them a great source of food and shelter for native birds. Audubon's Native Plant Database provides lists of plants suited to your location.

Consider plants with year-round appeal. Evergreens provide screening and a backdrop for other plants and



Photo Melinda Myers

Evergreens, like this yew, provide year-round appeal and shelter for birds.

shelter for the birds. Junipers come in a variety of sizes and shapes and tolerate hot dry conditions once established. Choose hemlocks for those shadier locations. They require moist well-drained soil and shelter from winter wind and sun.

Deciduous trees and shrubs – those that lose their leaves in winter – can provide multiple seasons of beauty with flowers, fruit, fall color and interesting bark. Many of these also provide shelter and food for songbirds. Serviceberries have multiple seasons of beauty and produce edible fruit you and the birds will enjoy in June. Dogwoods, including red twig and pagoda, have flowers for pollinators and late summer fruit for the songbirds. Winterberry is an excellent source of winter food. You will need at least one male for every one to five female plants for pollination and fruit to form. Grow these in full sun to light shade and moist acidic soil.

Reduce the risk of injury and the inconvenience of accidentally knocking out power, cable or other utilities while making bird-friendly additions to the landscape. Contact Diggers Hotline at

least three business days before you get started planting. Just call 811 or file a request online at <https://call811.com/811-In-Your-State>. They will contact all the appropriate companies who will mark the location of their underground utilities in the designated work area. August 11 has been declared 811 Day to remind everyone to call 811 prior to any digging project.

Your efforts now to welcome birds into your landscape are sure to provide much beauty and enjoyment for years to come.

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



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OBITUARIES

Lorraine "Judi" (St. Pierre) Forcier, 78

Fiskdale: Lorraine "Judi" (St. Pierre) Forcier, 78, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 7th in her home after a lengthy battle with lung cancer.



She leaves her daughter, Dionne Waterman and her husband Bill of Brimfield; her grandchild, Bailey Maciorowski and her husband Luke of Holland; her four sisters, Arlene Smith of Stafford Springs, CT, Dot Warren of Wales, Georgette Corriveau and husband Arthur of Brookfield and Blanche Benoit and her husband Norman of Florida; her brother, Joseph St. Pierre of Florida; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son, Darren Forcier, in 2003 and by her lifelong companion and former husband, Donald Forcier, in 2021. She was also predeceased by two brothers, Rene St. Pierre and Norman St. Pierre and two sisters, Anita Cadieux and Gloria Desmarais. Judi was born in

Southbridge the daughter of the late Alphonse and Annette (Fournier) St. Pierre.

Judi retired from the Town of Leicester serving as Town Accountant, enjoying over 20 years there. Judi was an avid crafter with scrapbooking and cardmaking topping the list. She enjoyed her family most of all, getting together with her sisters and the many generations of nieces and nephews.

Judi battled lung cancer courageously since being diagnosed in 2005. Never giving up despite the recurrence in 2018. She was the ultimate warrior, tiny, feisty and stubborn.

Calling hours for Judi will be held on Thursday, Aug. 25th, from 6:00 to 8:00pm in the Daniel T.

Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge. A graveside service will be held on Friday, Aug. 26th, at 12:00pm in the Holland Cemetery, Brimfield Rd., Holland.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 1120, Framingham, MA 01701. www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Eva A. Parzych, 72

Charlton - Eva A. (Bachand) Parzych, 72, passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, Aug. 14th, after an illness.



She leaves her beloved husband of 50 years, Stanley C. Parzych; a son, Erik D. Parzych and his wife Stacey of Sturbridge; her daughter, Kristin M. Hildabrand and her husband Adam of North Adams; three brothers, James Bachand of Northbridge, David Bachand of Charlton and Brian Bachand of Charlton; her sister, Rebecca Bachand of Charlton; four grandchildren, Brendan, Gisella, Liam and Gretta; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Eva was born in Southbridge the daughter of Clarence A. and Agnes T. (Prunier) Bachand.

She worked for Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester for 25 years as a campus police dispatcher prior to retiring. Eva also did accounting for several years for the Tri Valley Elders.

She enjoyed camping, motorcycle rides, Barber Shop music, working in her gardens, crafts and baking. Eva was an amazing cook and loved cooking for people.

A funeral service for Eva will be held on Thursday, Aug. 18th at 11:00 am in the Daniel T Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton Street, Southbridge. Burial will follow in West Ridge Cemetery, Charlton. A calling hour in the funeral home will be held on Thursday, Aug. 18th from 10:00 am - 11:00 am prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Charlton Senior Center, 37 Main St, Charlton, MA 01507

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Southbridge Rotary honors RYLA recipients



Photo Courtesy Club President Mary O'Coin with RYLANs Kirsten Congdon, Leysha Torres-Torres and Sophia Balestracci.

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Rotary Club had the pleasure of hosting the 2022 Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) recipients at the July 20 lunch meeting at the Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center.

Each year, the Club selects students from Southbridge Middle/High School and Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School who are in the 10th grade to receive this opportunity. RYLA is a youth leadership conference held in June. The Southbridge Rotary awarded six students as part of 175 students from 50 clubs in Rotary District 7910 who attended a

two day event. Geared primarily on leadership training, the sophomore students learned conflict management, problem solving, important communication skills with breakout sessions, presentations and a community service project. The students who were able to attend the luncheon shared their experiences on everything they learned, the challenges of the programs and the friends they made. The 2022 attendees from Southbridge Middle/High School were Amayah Delgado, Leysha Torres-Torres and from Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School were

Sophia Balestracci, Kirsten Congdon, Jenna Gajewski, and Gabrielle Zopatti.

The Southbridge Rotary Club is committed to supporting the needs in the local community. If you would like to learn more and attend a Rotary Club of Southbridge meeting, they are held the first and third Wednesday of the month at noon at the Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center. For more information about the club or membership, e-mail the club at SouthbridgeRotary@gmail.com or visit the Facebook page @SouthbridgeRotaryClub.

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SPORTS

Worcester South tames shorthanded Tantasqua, then wins Auburn Summer League championship

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN — What a difference five days makes.

The semifinal and final rounds of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Girls' Summer Basketball League were scheduled to be played on Thursday, Aug. 4. An off-the-charts heat index — coupled with National Grid's notification to summer league director Kristen Pappas that, because of the high heat index, power to Auburn High School, site of the games, would be lowered to the point that the air conditioning units at the building would not be able to be turned on — moved the games to Tuesday, Aug. 9.

That rescheduling had a dramatic effect on the seventh-seeded Tantasqua Regional team which, if its semifinal round game with top-seeded and undefeated South High of Worcester had been played on Aug. 4, would have had 15 of its 17 players in attendance.

So, instead of battling the Colonels with an experienced nucleus of players that would have included rising senior Hannah Johnson, rising juniors Nicole Vejask and Elizabeth Thompson, and rising sophomore Maggie Johnson, the Warriors showed up with a seven-player roster that included a rising junior, three rising sophomores and three incoming freshmen.

Tantasqua battled throughout the game, but the Warriors lost to South, 46-13. South went on to finish the summer league without experiencing the bitter taste of defeat, beating fifth-seeded Quabbin Regional in the championship game, 48-27. Quabbin advanced to the final with a 33-28 victory over third-seeded Sutton High in the semifinal round.

Other area schools which competed in the Auburn Summer League were: Auburn High; Blackstone Valley Tech, David Prouty Regional; Grafton High; Leicester High; Northbridge High; Quaboag Regional; and Uxbridge High.

"What was so disappoint-



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua Regional was the only Stonebridge Press affiliated school to reach the semifinal round of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Girls' Summer Basketball League. Tantasqua lost to Worcester South in the semis, and South went on and won the championship over Quabbin Regional.

ing to us about the decision to reschedule the semifinals and the final was the fact that the last time we played them we had the majority of our regular players and we gave them their toughest game of the regular season," Tantasqua coach Matt Ezzo said. "The last time we played them we trailed by just six points at halftime and they only won the game by 13 points, after winning most of their games this summer by 30-plus points.

"It was one heck of a good game the last time around," Ezzo continued. "This time was a different story."

Playing for Tantasqua in the semifinal against South were junior-to-be Angie Reno, sophomores-to-be Maya Gidopoulos, Gianna Nichols and Eleanor



Leland, and freshmen-to-be Sofie Ezzo (coach Ezzo's daughter), Jules Petersen and Maeve Early. Gidopoulos finished the game with six points, Nichols three, Early two, and Reno and Ezzo one each.

All of the Warriors that played against South are, or will be, Tantasqua students except for Nichols. Coach Ezzo said Nichols, a Sturbridge res-



ident, attended Marianapolis Prep in Thompson, Conn., last year but is considering returning to Tantasqua this year. According to coach Ezzo, Nichols and her parents have until Aug. 31 to decide where she will attend school for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Matt Ezzo was quite complimentary to South following the

defeat.

"That's a tough team, no doubt about it," coach Ezzo said "I don't think I've ever seen a high school team shoot the percentage they shot from the field. Everything they threw up went in the hoop. In the first half I think they hit about 80 percent of their shots. It was amazing."

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SPORTS

Millbury gets hot late to beat Quaboag, win Auburn's Summer Basketball League



BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN — For the Quaboag Cougars, the championship game of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Boys' Summer Basketball League must have felt like the hoops equivalent of the first time you're allowed to back your father's new car out of the driveway. Everything's going fine and then you step on the gas pedal instead of the brake and you slam dad's new ride into the massive oak tree across the street.

Thanks to a 7-0 run to end the first half and a quick start to the second half, fifth-seeded Quaboag led Millbury, the No. 13 seed, by two points with 15 minutes remaining in the game, played Aug. 8 at Auburn High.

A not-so-funny thing happened to the Cougars on the way to winning the title, however. At that point, the Woolies went on a 19-4 run, and from there cruised to a 64-48 victory, capturing the school's first-ever Auburn Summer League championship.

Quaboag advanced to the title game with a 61-33 win over third-seeded Uxbridge High in the semifinal while Millbury defeated David Prouty Regional, the No. 2 seed, 40-33, to claim its spot in the final.

Other area schools which competed in the Auburn Summer League were: Auburn High; Bartlett High; Bay Path Regional; Leicester High; Oxford High; Shepherd Hill Regional; Southbridge High; and Tantasqua Regional.

"My kids ran out of gas; they got tired, but we can't use that as an excuse," Quaboag coach Fran Elliott said. "We were happy to make it to the final, but Millbury beat us and I congratulated them for that. There are no sour grapes."



Nick Ethier photos

Quaboag Regional was the Stonebridge Press affiliated school that reached the final of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Boys' Summer Basketball League. Quaboag lost to Millbury High for the title.

"All of these guys are great kids. They're all very coachable. When I say they're coachable it's because you explain something to them one time and they've got it," Elliott said. "Owen, Ryan and Matt, they all lit it up in the first half. In the second half we couldn't make a basket. It all went to heck in a hand basket in that second half."

Quaboag's roster against Millbury featured one rising senior, two rising juniors and four rising sophomores.

"I think this team is going to be good in the regular season," Elliott said. "These kids lost a year to COVID. Some schools played, but we didn't. So this summer league was a learning experience for a lot of our guys. I told the kids to go out and have fun. I told them to experiment and that's what they did. Guys would pass up a good shot because a teammate had a better shot. I was very pleased with the way we played tonight."



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