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Friday, July 15, 2022

Sturbridge Rotary Club celebrates 50 years

STURBRIDGE — The Rotary Club of Sturbridge celebrated its 50th anniversary in June with a celebration at the Publick House Historic Inn. The event was attended by family, friends, Rotary dignitaries including District Governor Cliff Rober, political officials and members of other Rotary clubs to help us celebrate. A Resolution from the Massachusetts State House was read, and Proclamations were also read by Chairman of the Sturbridge Board of Selectman Mary Blanchard as well as the Chamber of Central MA South.

While many of you have heard of Sturbridge Rotary, you are probably unsure of how we got started and what we've accomplished over the last 50 years.

Originally, Rotary members living in Sturbridge belonged to the Southbridge Rotary Club but as the club membership grew, the Sturbridge members decided to break away and start their own club in Sturbridge. With the sup-



Each past-president of the Sturbridge Club received a special 50th Anniversary pin affixed by District Governor Cliff Rober. Left to right: DG Rober, Carl Kaliszewski, Charles Haddock, Klaus Hachfeld, Robert Kingman, Tim Gresenz, Ken Jones, Bill Lemke, Otto Prohaska, Austin Jenkins, David Zonia.

Courtesy

port of the Southbridge Club, Sturbridge member, Russell Burton, led the charge to form the new club. Rotary International granted the new club a charter making it official on June 30, 1972 with 26 charter members.

Right from the start, the Sturbridge Club made education one of its main 'focus areas'. To date, the Club has awarded more than \$226,000 in scholarships to local students primarily from Sturbridge. Like any club, fundraising is a major issue in order to support the many activities planned each year. Early in its charter, the Club was successful for 15 years holding an annual Pancake Breakfast and Garage Sale on Father's Day in June. An Antique Show was held on Columbus Day weekend for 21 years. Both of these large events were a sizeable funding source. Numerous other fundraising activities have been held including writing and selling a

Turn To **ROTARY** page **A11**

Local dealership donates truck to State Police Association

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT



Jason Bleau

Gary Innamorati (center), owner of Gary Jackson Motors, poses for a photo with State Police Union representative Thiago Miranda and State Police President Patrick McNamara in front of the newly donated truck.

CHARLTON — A local car dealership did its part of give back to the local and state law enforcement donating a truck to help haul a trailer to scenes where State Police Officers are required to work increased hours for emergencies or crowd management.

Gary Innamorati, owner of Gary Jackson Motors, said the company donated the used Dodge Ram pickup truck on Wednesday, July 6 to assist the State Police Association of Massachusetts with transporting a new apparatus to help keep officers fed and refreshed when duty calls for them to work long hours to man-

age a situation.

"They had a trailer donated to them that they were going to outfit with grills and tents in it. The trailer will go around the state to big events where the state troopers are doing long hours. They're going to have food and materials so if they have to manage a situation like officers did for the riots for 18 hours straight, they'll have different groups go to this trailer to be able to eat or regenerate to continue to do their extended shifts," said Innamorati.

The State Police Association of Massachusetts said the vehicle was a donation to their Benevolent Fund, a federally recognized 501(c)(3) charity that

Turn To **TRUCK** page **A11**

School officials respond to student budget criticism

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — A few weeks after several students spoke against budget cuts during a meeting of the Dudley Charlton School Committee, school officials cleared the air during a June 22 meeting defending the cuts while acknowledging the difficult decisions the district has had to make to pass budgets.

Superintendent Steven Lamarche used his entire report to the school committee to address the concerns, which were presented by a handful of incoming seniors on June 8. The students were unhappy with the loss of teachers and courses, including cuts to foreign language classes and the loss of astrophysics from the curriculum. Other concerns raised during that meeting were increases in school lunch prices and the eventual need for an override request to prevent future cuts.

Lamarche started off by confirming that the French program would not be cut despite previous concerns that that Shepherd Hill Regional High School is actually hiring Spanish and French teachers and has a current staff member who can teach French. He did confirm that one foreign language teacher at the high school was cut, as well as a middle school librarian and two other teachers from Shepherd Hill and a district data specialist. The clarified that these were the only losses to staffing outside of attrition where the school didn't fill positions of some retiring educators. He also defended the cuts as being well published and shared during the extensive budget process.

Lamarche later asked Shepherd Hill Assistant Principal Michael Resener to speak on the course options for the school. Resener assured students that the school would maintain a "robust" course load, but acknowledged that there were cut classes as a result of lack of interest.

"While it is regrettable to make decisions to not offer courses in a given school year, it's important to point out those decisions have to be made every year," Resener said. "These decisions are based on data. The process includes meetings with students and their guidance counselors. Students select the course they want to take, and the data gleaned from that is used to develop a master schedule and decide which courses will and won't be offered. In all but one of the cases mentioned by the students the decision was simply a matter of there not being enough interest in the courses to warrant those courses," Resener commented on concerns over the loss of astrophysics revealing that Shepherd Hill is offering a general astronomy course that was "comparable" to the astrophysics class.

Beyond academics, Lamarche also offered his input on the lunch price increases which were confirmed several months ago. While these increases have received criticism, Lamarche said the district had to implement the cost jump to qualify for the federal programs.

"The increase in school lunch fees was set at the minimum value we can charge as a public school entity. It wasn't set to overcharge our students. It's the minimum if we're going to be in federal reimbursement programs. We took the step of raising it to the minimum value, which would be a requirement for charging lunches, but we still hope the federal government

Turn To **BUDGET** page **A11**

Sturbridge breaks ground on Grand Trunk Trail project

STURBRIDGE — Town officials along with representatives from H M Nunes Construction Company "broke ground" on Tuesday, July 5 on the three-quarter-mile final leg of the Westville section of the Grand Trunk Trail (GTT). The GTT is a cross town shared use path (rail trail) that generally follows the approximate six-mile rail bed alignment of the Grand Trunk rail line through Sturbridge.

This final leg of the Westville section will complete the GTT from its current end at the Ed Calcutt Bridge, which is located 1.2 miles west of the Westville Recreation Area out to the intersection of River and Farquhar Roads. The Westville section is two miles long once complete.

This project was initially envisioned back in 2000, and the first funding was obtained through a



Courtesy

Breaking ground on the Grand Trunk Trail are (left to right) Becky Gendreau, Conservation Agent, Brandon Goodwin, Chair Trail Committee, Jean Bubon Town Planner, Phil Nunes, Contractor, Mary Blanchard, Chair Bd of Selectmen, Keith Beecher, Park Manager, Westville Lake Corps of Engineers, Robin Grimm, Town Administrator and Tom Chamberland, Trail Committee.

Federal Transportation Enhancement Act (TEA) grant in 2005. Initial engineering was start-

ed in 2010, and through several starts and stops, is now under construction. Additional funding

for this project was provided by a Mass Trails Grant, Mass DOT, and

Turn To **TRAIL** page **A10**

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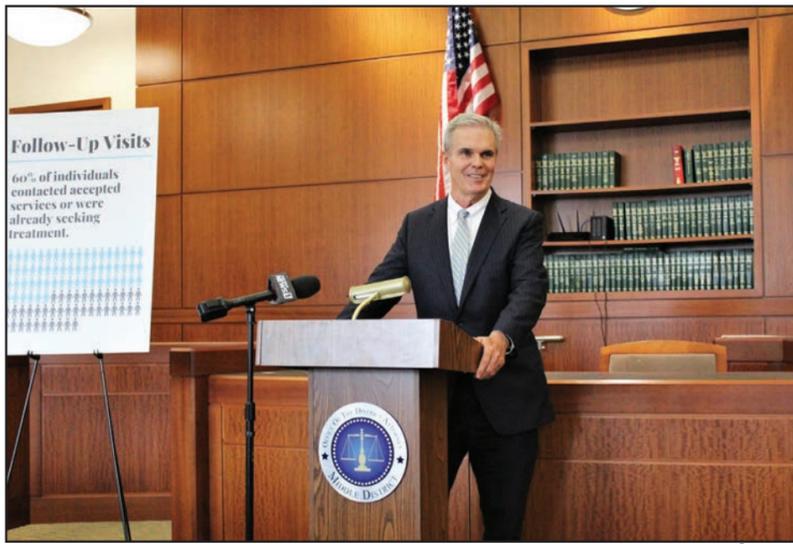
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DA continues to support local overdose response efforts



Courtesy

Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., continues to advance a program that is helping to save lives.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Teaming up with local police departments, Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., continues to provide vital assistance to overdose victims.

Implementing a \$1.2 million federal grant, the DA's office has helped add recovery coaches to an ongoing overdose response program launched in partnership with the county's 60 police departments.

The program, Critical Incident Management System (CIMS), has been

used by local police since March 2020. The main priorities of the program are to enable officers to collect overdose data and respond to non-fatal overdose victims to offer services.

Within 48 hours of an overdose, a plainclothes police officer, often accompanied by a recovery coach, responds to the home of an overdose victim and offers various paths to treatment.

In 2021, the first full year of the CIMS program, 60 percent of officers' follow-up visits resulted in individuals either accepting services or reporting that they were already seeking services.

Even though many local police departments previously had protocols in place for responding to overdoses with recovery coaches, the grant funding implemented by the DA's office has added partnerships with three local community agencies. This means every police department in the county will now have access to recovery coaches.

"We have seen how valuable recovery coaches are. They often have firsthand experience, which helps them relate to and better guide those who've recently suffered an overdose," DA Early said. "We are so grateful for the continued work of all our police departments and the agencies who agreed to help us support this program by providing access to dedicated recovery coaches. We know this will save lives."

The \$1.2 million in grant funding was awarded to the Worcester County District Attorney's office in November 2020 by the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance.

"It's so important that we continue to expand our ability to respond to overdoses while supporting individuals on their personal journeys to recovery," said Congressman James McGovern, who helped secure the funding. "This investment of \$1.2 million in federal funding will allow the Worcester County District Attorney's office to add recovery coaches with important and unique firsthand experiences to support overdose survivors. This is a major step forward that will help save lives and address the root causes of substance use disorder, and I commend DA Early for securing this critical grant."

While awaiting the release of funds, the DA's office worked to form partner-

ships with police departments across the county, as well as various community agencies. Partner agencies involved in the recovery coach program include Community Program for Addiction Recovery and Family Continuity.

For local police departments, it's encouraging to join the DA in focusing on offering resources to individuals in need.

"I am proud to be a part of the effort to get to the root of the problem by offering treatment and providing recovery and support services to those who need it and want help," said Worcester Police Chief Steven Sargent.

The Leicester Police Department has also seen a productive partnership with the DA's office as part of the overdose response project. The LPD reports all non-fatal overdoses to a central CIMS database, with an officer managing the program for the department.

Meanwhile, Uxbridge Police Chief Marc Montminy recently announced a program his department and the Blackstone Valley Opioid Task Force are supporting to provide scholarships to those who wish to become recovery coaches. They hope to support a class of 20-30 new coaches.

"The opioid epidemic has forced law enforcement to challenge the traditional role of police. We've decided to be an entry point into the recovery system instead of the entry point to the criminal justice system," Chief Montminy said.

Local organizations and agencies are also thanked for their support of the program.

"With this new project, we've been welcomed with open arms. It's a very big change in terms of how law enforcement, behavioral health, and substance use providers work together. This program is very unique in that way," said Craig Maxim, the director of behavioral health at Family Continuity, which is providing recovery coaches to 26 communities through the grant.

Country Bank opens new location in Tatnuck Square



Kimberly Eaton

WORCESTER — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, is opening a new Banking Center at 638 Chandler St., Worcester, in the former Bank of America building. The center will open for business on Monday, July 18, followed by a week-long celebration that will feature a drawing for a Worcester Red Sox VIP Suite for up to 20 guests (no purchase necessary).

Country Bank continues to look for opportunities to support the Worcester Community, ensuring it reinvests in the communities it serves. The Banking Center offers a Universal Banker approach, which allows all Banking Center Specialists to assist customers with all of their banking needs. The bank continues to focus its efforts to help make a difference in the Worcester Community, having donated a total of \$209,675 and 183 volunteer hours to various non-profits in Worcester over the last six months.

As a founding partner of the Worcester Red Sox, the community bank has supported local non-profits in the region through a combined charitable giving campaign with the WooStar Program. They also offer a Most Valuable Teacher (MVT) Program that recognizes the outstanding work teachers do every day to educate and support students.

In addition, both organizations are working together to bring back a long-standing baseball game between the Worcester Police and Fire Departments. The game is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 26 at Polar Park. Tickets will go on sale soon and proceeds will benefit both Police and Fire's chosen organizations.

Country Bank also welcomes Kimberly Eaton to the team as the Retail Banking Officer of this location. Eaton resides in Brookfield with her family and earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Worcester

State University. She has worked in the financial services industry for 10 years and is experienced in business development in the greater Worcester market. Eaton and her team look forward to providing customers excellence in service and best-in-class solutions and becoming a part of the local community. She has been getting to know the local business community over the past month while purchasing gift cards to distribute as prizes during the grand opening week.

"I am excited to develop relationships with the people and businesses in the Tatnuck Square area," Eaton said. "My goal is to continue to build on the already great reputation that Country Bank has and to help our customers achieve their financial dreams and goals."

The week-long celebration includes food, giveaways, a prize wheel, and drawings, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for noon on Friday, July 22, 2022. In addition, the bank's mascot Buck and his pal Smiley Ball from the Worcester Red Sox will be posing for photos. A Grand Prize drawing will be held for a Worcester Red Sox VIP Suite for up to 20 guests (no purchase necessary).

"When this location became available, we knew it was a great fit to expand our presence in the city," stated Paul Scully, President, and CEO of Country Bank. "As a community partner, we care deeply about the sustainability of our communities and the people who live in them. This location will be our third in Worcester and we have a dedicated team of consumer and commercial bankers who work closely with our customers to help them navigate the ever-changing financial landscape. We will be here to help you evolve as you strive to reach your financial goals. We really are excited to be a part of this great city and are looking forward to getting to know the people who reside, operate businesses, and work in this

area."

Country Bank is ready to make a difference in the Tatnuck Square neighborhood. They invite you to stop in to see why they think the right bank makes all the difference.

To learn more, visit www.countrybank.com.

About Country Bank Country Bank is one of the most highly capitalized mutual savings banks in the Commonwealth, offering full-service consumer and commercial banking services to the people and businesses of Central and Western Massachusetts. With 15 locations from Springfield to Worcester, the community bank is committed to making a difference in the communities it serves. In addition to offering innovative solutions and exceptional service, the bank contributes millions of dollars in donations, along with significant volunteer hours, to charitable and civic causes. Country Bank is a Member of FDIC and DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.

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Old Sturbridge Village President & CEO receives 2022 Leaders & Achievers Award from Providence Business News

STURBRIDGE — Providence Business News announced honorees for the 2022 Leaders & Achievers on Friday, July 8, and Old Sturbridge Village President & CEO, Jim Donahue, is one of 21 winners.

When the Trustees of Old Sturbridge Village hired Jim Donahue in 2007, the museum was facing financial hardships and they entrusted Donahue to put the Village back on course. Since taking over as President, Donahue has led the institution through a renaissance by increasing attendance, fundraising and creating revenue from special programs. He also brought back costumed historians, reopened the museum's restaurant division, expanded holiday programming and established an immersive theater program. As the largest living history museum in New England, Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) has been consistently recognized as one of New England's most important cultural attractions.

Donahue led the living history museum to a strategic partnership to sustain and expand living history in New England with Coggeshall Farm Museum. Coggeshall, located in Bristol, RI, interprets life on a marsh farm in the 1790s. Like many nonprofits, it employed only a handful of staff and has faced struggles in building capacity and audiences. With this new and transformational partnership in place, OSV saw an opportunity to manage Coggeshall Farm Museum's back-office functions like accounting, fund raising, marketing and human resources for a management fee that was significantly less than what the Farm would have to pay to employ these functions individually, helping to preserve yet another invaluable living history museum in the region. This year, the Farm is back to hosting field trips, special programming on weekends, and housing animals and the museum will be hosting a Gala event this coming Fall.

"Receiving this special honor alongside fellow inspiring leaders is an achievement in itself. My passion has been, and continues to be, creating a space for people to have unique experiences that create life-long learners. I am honored to be part of providing exploration of history alongside our staff, trustees, donors, members and area residents. It truly takes a Village to make a vision a reality, and we are fortunate to have that support at OSV," Donahue stated.



At Old Sturbridge Village, Donahue spearheaded the reopening of the Museum Education building and its programs, which welcomed back school field trips, serving thousands of New England school students each year and brought a charter school to Old Sturbridge Village in 2017. Old Sturbridge Academy serves children Kindergarten through 8th grade from 12 surrounding towns, the Village is their home for innovative and experiential learning. It is the first public charter school located in a museum in the Commonwealth.

Jim Donahue and his 2022 Leaders & Achievers peers will be honored at a ceremony at Aldrich Mansion on Aug. 18. Honorees will be featured in a special section of Providence Business News published on Sept. 3.

Joshua Hyde Library to celebrate 12th anniversary with picnic on the Common

STURBRIDGE — On Thursday, July 22, 1897, the Joshua Hyde Library was dedicated. The building was funded by an 1894 bequest of \$20,000 from Sturbridge native George B. Hyde for a library, with the request that it be named to honor his father, Joshua (if room, perhaps add after Joshua, a prosperous local farmer). The money was bequeathed in 1894 and construction started in 1896, for the Library's dedication in 1897. Fast forward one hundred and twenty-five years and this July we continue to celebrate that dedication. The face of building has changed but one thing remains the same, our continued commitment to serving our great community.

As such, on Saturday, July 23 between noon and 3 p.m., the Library, the Friends of Joshua Hyde Public Library, and the 125th Anniversary Committee would like to invite you to celebrate our 125th Anniversary with a Picnic on the Common. All are invited to attend the celebration & no tickets are required. Come with your blanket and/or chairs with a lunch to enjoy on the grass with live music from Haphazard Jazz. There will also be lawn games, a food & ice cream truck, raffles, button making with the Friends of JHPL, and a kid friendly "Touch a Truck" experience. There will also be time to complete our 125th Scavenger Hunt (beginning on July 8th - to run until the day of the picnic) and pick up a victory souvenir. Ceremonial cake cutting scheduled for 1:30 p.m.

with cupcakes to the public.

You won't want to miss this celebration!

For more information on the Scavenger Hunt & 125th Anniversary Picnic on the Common, please visit our webpage at www.sturbridgeli.org, or call us at 508-347-2512. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram @sturbridgeli for updates and cancellations.

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www.fedchurchcharlton.org

• **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond

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Sunday worship 10 a.m.

• **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford

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• **St. Joseph's Church**, 10 H. Putnam Ext, 248-

7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday

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• **Hope Christian Fellowship**, 6 Haggerty

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snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30

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• **Living Word Church of Charlton**, 10 Main

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www.livingwordcharlton.com

info@livingwordcharlton.com

• **New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel**,

307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA,

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www.sturfed.org

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Trainor, Gabriela R.

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Louise M, to Cabral, Denise.

Charlton

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K, and Suto, Heather, to Kilmer,

David.

\$475,000, 13 Old Stafford St,

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J, and Kuras, Sharon.

\$425,000, 17 Prindle Hill Rd, Corry,

Lisbeth, and Tokarz, Byron, to

Hubbard, Leanne B, and Bates, Tiara

R.

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J, to Weaver, Jonathan, and Weaver,

Kathleen.

STURBRIDGE

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Minchoff, Allison, and Laurencio,

Anthony.

\$460,000, 30 Camp Rd, Fallon,

Marjorie, and Ellis, Richard C, to

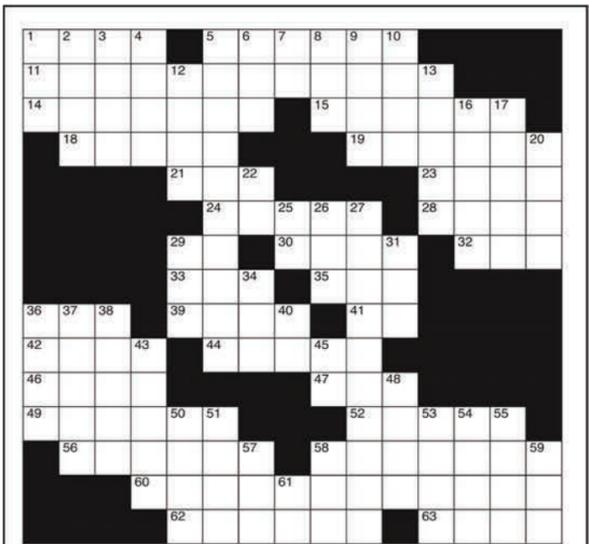
Caplette, Michael V, and Caplette,

Susan E.

\$360,000, 84 Clark Rd, Lacroix,

Adam, and Benoit, Tanya, to Wahr,

Sandra L.

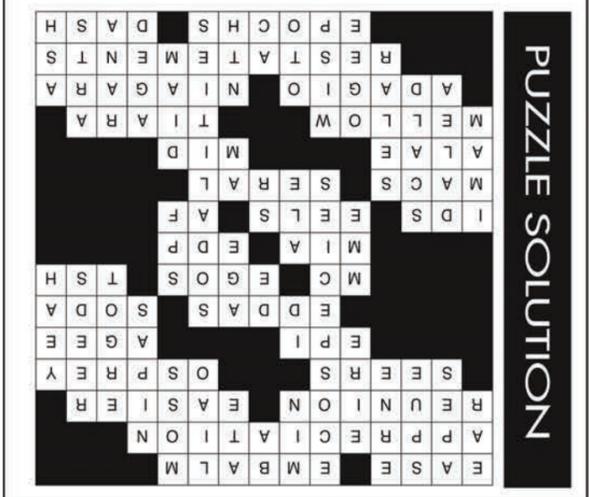


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Absence of difficulty
- 5. Preserve a dead body
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. The act of coming together again
- 15. More cushy
- 18. Visionaries
- 19. Large, fish-eating bird
- 21. Indicates near
- 23. NY Mets legend Tommie
- 24. Icelandic books
- 28. Pop
- 29. Hammer is one
- 30. Sense of self-importance
- 32. Thyrotrophic hormone
- 33. Can't be found
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Passports and licenses are two
- 39. Snake-like fishes
- 41. Air Force
- 42. Popular computers
- 44. Intermediate ecological stage
- 46. Wings
- 47. Used in combination
- 49. Laid back
- 52. Jewelled headdress
- 56. Slow
- 58. Famous Falls
- 60. Reassertions
- 62. Periods of time
- 63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Body part
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Expel large quantities
- 4. Sea eagle
- 5. Genetically distinct varieties
- 6. Dialect of Chinese
- 7. Famous Mr. T character
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. Menace to yards
- 12. Ireland
- 13. Palm trees
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Willis and Robert are two
- 20. Affirmative! (slang)
- 22. It shows who you are
- 25. The First State (abbr.)
- 26. Get older
- 27. Associations
- 29. Woman (French)
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. Brew
- 36. Leader
- 37. Plants in the legume family
- 38. Burn with a hot liquid
- 40. Junior's father
- 43. Seeds
- 45. Morning
- 48. Length of a line (abbr.)
- 50. Double curve
- 51. Small, thin person
- 53. Worn by exposure to the weather
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Word element meaning ear
- 58. To the ___ degree
- 59. Residue of something burned
- 61. It cools your home



PUZZLE SOLUTION

QCC's Extended Format Police Academy graduates first class

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's (QCC) Police Academy made history recently when the first class of 12 officers graduated from the Academy's new extended format program. The Academy's new format runs courses during the evenings and on weekends. Graduates from the program are eligible for entry-level hiring into a law enforcement agency, pending a department's specific requirements and standards. According to Academy Deputy Director, Captain Joseph Cecchi, all 12 graduates have already been hired into full-time police officer positions.

During the Academy's graduation ceremony, QCC's Chief of Police and Director of the Police Academy, Kevin Ritacco, reiterated principles that

officers learned throughout their nine months of training such as humility, compassion, and integrity.

"You are called upon to be a leader and protector in your community and your role can positively change the lives of citizens. Some of the most rewarding parts of being a police officer are being on the front line and making a difference in the lives of others. The Academy program has prepared you well to enter into people's daily lives and can quite literally help you change those lives," Chief Ritacco said.

Class President, Officer Leon Muraguri, reflected on the program and expressed his gratitude for the support from academy staff, family, and friends.

"We, the new genera-

tion of police officers, it's our responsibility to change that public perception, working with the community, and being part of the community. This started here. Since our first training, our Academy has been involved in various community projects such as the QCC HomePlate Food Pantry and Resource Center," he said.

Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC), Director of Training and Delivery, Andrea Nardone, encouraged the new officers to prioritize self-care, rely on friends and family, and look out for their fellow police officers.

"It's very important that you recognize from day one that your mental wellness is the most important thing that you need to take care of, because you can't take



care of anything else without that," she said.

Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early, Jr. was also in attendance to congratulate the new officers. He offered words of advice to the graduates, reminding them to always tell the truth, be good listeners,

and treat others with the respect they would like to receive. He noted that the latter will be especially important when working through the current opioid crisis.

"This wonderful program, it's second to none. Public service is truly a noble profession," he

added. The Academy is authorized by the MPTC, under the direction of Chief Ritacco and Academy Deputy Director, Captain Joseph Cecchi.

To learn more visit QCC's Police Academy.

Annual Masonic outing remains strong



Members of Quinebaug Lodge/Doric chapter and their families, friends and of course with their family pets at one of Westville Dam recreational area pavilions.

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Saturday, July 9, the upper parking lot of Westville Dam recreational area in Southbridge was filled with cars from Masonic family members from Quinebaug Masonic Lodge and Doric Chapter of Southbridge. Both highly respected organizations have been organizing this great family event since 1991. It was a beautiful summer day. Families enjoyed the walking trails and the beauty of the area. Children were running around, and games were played by young and old. Most pleasant of all was the tasty food and the comradery had by all. If you are interested and would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org and find a lodge nearest you.



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OBITUARIES

Christine Silverberg, 74



Fort Meyers, FL / Sturbridge- Christine Silverberg, 74, of Santa Fe Trail, North Fort Meyers, FL, formerly of Sturbridge, passed away at home on Sunday, June 26th.

She leaves her two sons, Eric Ockert and his partner Annie Lyon of Syracuse, NY and Mark Silverberg and his wife Jenny of Westborough; her two brothers, Eric Silverberg and his wife Rhoda of Austin, TX and Evan Silverberg and his partner Natalie Kaitbenski of Sturbridge; her sister, Karen Lancto of Houston, TX; four grandchildren, Emily Polera and her husband Nick, Ryan Silverberg, Ella Silverberg and Macy Silverberg; her great grandson, Sebastian and her cherished dog "Harley".

She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Axel G. and May V. (Clark) Silverberg.

Christine graduated from Tantasqua High School, and spent many hours working at Rom's. She had an exceptional soprano singing voice, and often soloed in church. After high school, she attended college, and then started a family. She was devoted to her twin sons, and returned to Sturbridge

to raise them. As a single mom, she not only sent her boys to college, she worked her way from a customer service position to head of mortgage banking at the Worcester branch of Springfield Institution for Savings. Somehow, she also found time to serve on the Joshua Hyde Library Board of Trustees, Treasurer of the Sturbridge Little League, and contributed to the creation of T.R.Y. Soccer, including an occasional stint as a referee. She also enjoyed cooking, gardening, and was an avid Boston sports fan.

After the death of her beloved mother May, Christine spent many years caring for her father Axel, and was fiercely proud of her family, which included over 40 first cousins!

Funeral services for Christine will be held on Friday, August 12th, at 10:00 am in the Sturbridge Federated Church, 8 Maple St., Sturbridge. Burial will follow in West Ridge Cemetery, Charlton. There are no calling hours.

Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge is directing the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Second Chance Animal Shelter, 111 Young Road East Brookfield, MA 01515 or online at secondchanceanimal.org www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Lamarche receives above average marks in review

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — Dudley Charlton Regional School District Superintendent Steven Lamarche received passable scores in his review from the Regional School Committee on June 22.

Lamarche's evaluation scores were revealed by Committee member Pauline Aucoin who indicated that six members of the Committee graded the Superintendent using the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) end of cycle summative evaluation report format. Each member evaluated the superintendent on their own forms grading him on four "standards" with the average provided through Aucoin.

The first standard was performance of the superintendent goals concerning curriculum, planning, and assessment. Lamarche's stated goals for these criteria were to "Systemically move towards the adoption of high-quality instructional materials that are aligned with the Massachusetts curriculum framework supported by an academic research base." The average grade was that the Superintendent "met the goal," the second highest rating on the assessment. The second standard was for teaching all students with Lamarche's stated goal being to develop at least

five professional development opportunities for staff to meet the need of all leaders. This also received an average grade of "met the goal."

Lamarche received lower scores for the following two standards. Standard 3 evaluated family and community engagement with Lamarche's stated goal being to engage families in meaningful and beneficial ways in order to cultivate and inclusive and supportive district environment. Standard 4 evaluated the professional culture Lamarche embraced in the district where his goal was to use district-wide information to determine if the current policies, practices, and outcomes are the most essential priorities for students. Both assessments received the average score of "made significant progress," the middle score in the five-level grading system. Aucoin also revealed the overall ratings for all four standards where Lamarche's received grades of "proficient," the second highest rating in the system, on all four standards. Lamarche's summative performance score was also "proficient."

Members of the School Committee were given the chance to share any comments they had on Lamarche's performance on their personal grades for the Superintendent, but all members declined. The full assessment is available to the public by calling the district's central office.

QCC awarded \$750,000 workforce training grant

WORCESTER — Today, Quinsigamond Community College was awarded a \$735,000 workforce training grant from the Baker-Polito Administration. A total of \$15 million in workforce training grants were awarded to the Commonwealth's 15 community colleges in support of the creation and expansion of training programs in high-demand industries, such as healthcare, education, manufacturing, information technology and cybersecurity.

"Education is at the heart of all economic growth and this type of revenue stream goes a long way in supporting our region's employers, incumbent workers and potential workers," said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. "Our students, our industries, and our Commonwealth will all prosper from this funding."

In late June, QCC was also awarded \$500,000 in state funding to train and help place more than 70 participants into biotechnology jobs. Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, along with Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development, Rosalin Acosta, visited QCC's Healthcare and Workforce Development Center to announce the grant, which is part of the Senator Kenneth J. Donnelly Workforce Success Grants for Expanded Training Capacity & Employment Program Performance.

During the Donnelly Workforce Success Grant announcement, Lt. Gov. Polito and Secretary Acosta also toured some of QCC's healthcare labs and interacted with the college's state-of-the-art, hands-on simulation equipment.

"I'm encouraged by the work that's being done here at QCC and all the grantees that have been awarded today. I'm very optimistic that our academic institutions are going to step up to meet this moment. We need our community colleges more than ever. You have the best platform to get this work done," Secretary Acosta said.

The training programs will assist those populations who have traditionally experienced higher rates of unemployment, as well as barriers to employment identified by the Black Advisory Commission and the Latino Advisory Commission. Priority will be given to those who are unemployed and underemployed.

"One of the goals of these grants is to help address shifting economic conditions that occurred for many residents brought on by the COVID-19 crisis, and persistent racial inequities and workforce challenges that existed in the Commonwealth before the pandemic," said Education Secretary James Peysers. "We anticipate these new training opportunities will make it easier for more people to move into high-demand, higher paying careers."

Approximately one third of the \$15 million grant funding will be allocated toward training programs for the healthcare industry, which is in high demand across the Commonwealth.

To learn more, visit QCC's Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

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



Friday's Child



Jostiel

"I really really like electronics!"

Jostiel, who likes to be called JoJo, is a sweet, funny and outgoing boy. JoJo also plays the trombone in the school band, which he enjoys very much. After school JoJo attends a program at the YMCA and enjoys spending time there with his friends. JoJo loves electronics, likes to ride his scooter, enjoys bike riding, outdoor play, swimming and playing sports. He loves Tae-Kwon Do and has taken classes in it in the past. When he is older JoJo states that he wants to be a police officer so that he can help people. He loves living in his foster family that consists of 2 moms. JoJo likes to be busy and involved in activities. Bike riding and

cooking with his foster moms are some of JoJo's favorite activities.

Legally freed for adoption, JoJo would do well in an active two parent family with older children or no other children in the home so that he can receive the attention that he seeks. He would benefit from a family that is trauma informed and has a structured home environment. Because he is so close and bonded to his older brother and younger sister his new family should also understand the importance of sibling contact. He will need ongoing virtual contact and in-person visits with them on a regular basis.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7017>

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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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TOWN OF BRIMFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

The Town of Brimfield is seeking sealed bids for the purchase and delivery, of a used 64,000 #GVWR Dump Truck for its Highway Department.

Sealed bids, appropriately marked "Used 64,000 #GVWR Dump Truck Bid", will be received at the Town Hall Annex, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA no later than 1:00 p.m. on Monday August 8, 2022, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. The bid will be awarded by the Board of Selectmen on Monday, August 8, 2022 at their duly posted meeting.

Bid specifications will be available for pickup beginning July 7, 2022 at the Brimfield Board of Selectmen's Office, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday or by emailing selectmen@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.

The Town of Brimfield retains the right to accept or refuse any or all bids.

Respectfully,
Martin Kelly
Board of Selectmen, Chair
July 15, 2022

(SEAL)

TRIAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS THE SUPERIOR COURT
Dennis P. McManus
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Docket No: 2285CV00184
ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
Seterus, Inc.
vs
The Heirs, Devisees
And Legal Representatives Of

Robert J. Wright et al
RE: Heirs, Devisees, and Legal Representatives of Robert J. Wright
WHEREAS a civil action has been begun against you in our Superior Court by Seterus, Inc. wherein it is seeking to;

distribute surplus under Massachusetts Rule 22, following a foreclosure of a mortgage relating to real property located at 223 Arnold Road, New Bedford, MA 02745 9"Property"). The proceeds from the sale of the Property has paid the mortgage debt in full and there is a surplus.

We **COMMAND YOU** if you intend to make any defense, that on 08/23/2022 or within such further time as the law allows you do cause your written pleading to be filed in the office of the Clerk of Court named above, in said Commonwealth, and further that you defend against said suit according to law if you intend any defense, and that you do and receive what the Court shall order and adjudge therein.

Hereof fail not, at your peril, or as otherwise said suit may be adjudged and orders entered in your absence.

It appearing to this Court that no personal service of the Complaint has been made on the defendant a deputy sheriff having made a return on the summons that after diligent search he can find no one upon whom he can lawfully make service, a copy of which is hereto attached and made part of this notice, it is ORDERED that notice of this suit be given to them by publishing, once a week for three successive weeks, the last publication to be at least 20-days before said return day in the:

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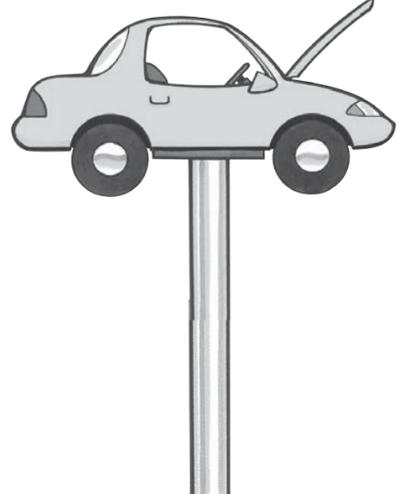
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OPINION

Latest antique & collectibles news

I hope readers who attended Brimfield did well selling and/or buying this week. If you missed this latest show, you'll have another opportunity Sept. 6 through the 11th.

There's been plenty of antique, collectibles and auction news since my last update. Let's start in Massachusetts where a rare 1652 Dutch Master drawing of naval officer Admiral Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp fetched a huge price at auction recently. The New York Times reported last month that the drawing was offered as "an unidentified gentleman, initialed I.L., and dated 1652." You may remember from my recent column about old samplers that the letter "I" was used in place of "J" because "J" was not part of the Latin alphabet. This was also true of Dutch Master drawings.

The "I.L." was actually the JL signature of artist Jan Lievens, who had produced engravings and created paintings based on this sketch. The original drawing was sold at auction in Frankfurt in 1888. Its location was unknown until it recently went to auction. A Dutch art dealer found the drawing while looking through online auction catalogs and arranged to view it prior to the auction. The auction hall only had around half a dozen bidders in-house due to COVID-19. There were also five phone bidders competing for the drawing. It sold for \$514,800, far exceeding the \$200 to \$300 estimate.

Across the pond, a rare copy of Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind" also topped auction estimates when it sold in England earlier this month. T Bone Burnett recorded the song when it was performed by Dylan and a group of other musicians in Los Angeles in 1962. It was recorded on a new type of acetate that Burnett had developed called an "Ionic Original." It was created to offer higher fidelity and was almost impervious to normal wear. The recording sold for \$1,769,508 USD, beating out the



\$716,000-\$1,194,000 estimate.

It may be too early for Halloween, but an antique vampire slaying kit recently sold for over six times the estimate. CNN reported that "the 19th century box has everything you would need to ward off vampires including crucifixes, holy water, a wooden stake and more." The kit belonged to Lord William Hailey who was a member of England's House of Lords. The kit sold at a UK auction for close to \$16,000 USD. There was no word on whether Lord Hailey ever wielded the vampire kit.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
 WAYNE TUISKULA

We are still accepting consignments for our fall multi-estate online auction. Some of the offerings include gold jewelry, baseball cards from the 19th century to the 1960s, coins, Civil War memorabilia, pocket watches, paintings and a wide variety of other items. We will also be running an estate sale in Walpole, Mass. on July 23. I'll be teaching my "Evaluating your Antiques" course at the Bay Path Evening School in Charlton, Mass. on Sept. 13. I'll also be appraising items for the Townsend Historical Society on Oct. 15 and for the Leicester Historical Society at the Leicester Senior Center on Nov. 5. We are planning other events for the fall. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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

Are you prepared to burn your ships?

I believe we all have dreams that we would love to accomplish during our lifetime. Some of us may never try; others may try for a while, but the struggles and the worries strangle their dreams like weeds do to the flowers. Others persist, and they find a way.

What gives them the ability to jump over the obstacles and break through the barriers?

The very first and fundamental step to achieving your dream is desire. Desire is the starting point for all achievement. You have to want it. Whether or not you persist to the end depends on how bad you want it.

Ask yourself, "How bad do I want it?"

Are you filled with desire? To achieve the impossible dream, you must work yourself into a frenzy of white-hot passion. You must always think about it and obsess over it; you have to stoke and cultivate the fire burning inside you.

You may say, "I want to accomplish my dream, and I want it bad, but I definitely can't say that it's a burning white-hot desire..." Is it possible to increase your desire?

You've heard it said, "Don't burn bridges." That's true for most things in life, but when it comes to your dream, if you're desire is strong enough, you must cut off any chance of retreat; you must put yourself in a position where the retreat is impossible.

Hernan Cortez, the Spanish Conquistador, is a problematic historical figure; he was ruthless. There is a story about him that is very interesting.

In 1519, he arrived on the coast of Mexico with an army of 600 warriors. Soon after their arrival, he set fire to his ships.

Can you imagine what his army must have thought? Without their ships, there was no turning back. They would never see their homes again unless they accomplished their mission. He sent them a clear message; the only options were victory or death.

What do you think the effect of burning his ships had on the morale of his men? I am sure many were devastated and panic-stricken. After some time, I

believe they began to feel a burning desire to win, to accomplish their goal no matter the cost. If they didn't, they'd never see their families again. Something must have risen inside them; they met their other self, a part of them who was not lazy and indifferent and would do whatever it took to get back home.

What does it mean to burn your ships? It means you're committing yourself fully.

Cortez and his men won against overwhelming odds. They defeated an army of Aztec warriors that may have outnumbered them fifty to one. They conquered the Aztecs—adding the land of Mexico to the Spanish Empire.

If you want it bad enough, burn the ships. How committed can you be if you know you can run back to your former life?

Leave no room for escape. Burning the ships doesn't mean you cannot change course on your path to victory. Faced with the choice of success or failure, you'll find the desire burning brighter than ever before. You'll be determined to win, no matter the odds.

When challenges come, you'll face them with a different attitude. You won't shrink back in defeat; you'll press through them with an unstoppable attitude.

The challenges will come. All who succeed are put to the test. If you burn the ships, be prepared; there will be moments where all will seem lost. The trick is to know that you can still push through. You only fail when you give up.

I burned the ships in my life. I was forced to live out of my car for over a year; A family friend stole the \$50,000 I raised to build my company. All seemed lost, but with the fire of desire burning ever brighter, I found a way to take it to the next level, and so can you.

Desire is the first step towards accomplishing your dreams; fan the flames of your desire you'll have the power to break through all obstacles and barriers in your way.

Prepare yourself for a long retirement

FINANCIAL FOCUS

TREVOR NIELSEN

We all want to live long lives. We all expect to live long lives. But are we financially prepared for this longevity?

Before we get to the issue of preparation, let's look at a couple of interesting findings from a 2022 survey by Age Wave and Edward Jones:

The surveyed retirees said, on average, they expect to live to 89, and they said the ideal length of retirement is 29 years.

When asked if they want to live to 100, nearly 70% of the respondents said "yes." The main reason for this desire for long life? To spend more years with their family and friends.

Of course, none of us can see into the future and know how long we'll be around. But with advances in medical care and a greater awareness of healthy lifestyles, these aspirations have a real basis in reality.

However, if you're going to enjoy a longer lifespan, and the extra years with your loved ones, you need to ensure your finances are also in good shape. How can you make this happen?

Here are some basic steps to follow:

Save and invest early and often. This may be the oldest piece of financial advice, but it's still valid. The earlier you start saving and investing for your retirement, the greater your potential accumulation. Consider this: If you began saving just \$5,000 per year at age 25, and earned a hypothetical 6.5% annual rate of return, and didn't take any early withdrawals, you'd end up with \$935,000 by the time you reached 65. But if you waited until 35 to start saving and investing, and you earned the same hypothetical 6.5% return – again with no early withdrawals – you'd only end up with \$460,000. And if you didn't start saving until 45, you'd end up with just over \$200,000, again given the same 6.5 percent return.

Be mindful of debt. You may not want to be burdened with certain debts when you enter retirement. So, while you're still working, try to reduce unwanted debts, particularly those that don't offer the financial benefits of tax-deductible interest payments. The lower your debt load, the more you can save and invest for the future.

Keep reviewing your progress. It's important to monitor the progress you need to make toward achieving your goal of a comfortable retirement. Over the short term, your investment balances may fluctuate, especially in volatile financial markets such as we've seen in the early part of this year. But you'll get a clearer picture of your situation if you look at long-term results. For example, have your accounts grown over the past 10 years as much as you had planned? And going forward, do you think you're in good shape, or will you need to make some changes to your investment strategy? Keep in mind that, if you're 50 or older, you can make "catch-up" contributions to your IRA and 401(k) that allow you to exceed the regular limits. You may also want to adjust your investment mix as you near retirement to potentially lower your risk exposure.

Hopefully, you will enjoy many years of a healthy, happy retirement. And you can help support this vision by carefully considering your financial moves and making the ones that are right for you.

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.

Time to start thinking pheasants



A German shorthair pup that belongs to a local bird hunter.

An English pointer all grown up, owned by a member of the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club.

they do best. Owned by another Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club member.

It is time for bird hunters to think about the upcoming pheasant season. For those bird hunters that are fortunate enough to hold a membership at one or two Rod & Gun Clubs in the area that hold a state pheasant hunting preserve permit, their season starts even sooner than the state pheasant season, that starts on Oct. 15 this year in Mass.!



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

RALPH TRUE

sex may be hunted. The six-bird annual harvest is no longer law in Mass., and hunters may now harvest two pheasant daily, during the Pheasant hunting season. Bird hunters in Mass. are wondering if the state will be increasing their quantity of pheasant to be stocked this year, because of the increased annual bag limit. It would be the right thing to do after the large increases for hunting & fishing license, permits, etc.!

The state still purchases young pheasant from pheasant farms and supply's Rod & Gun Clubs with the young birds to raise to adults, but the birds must be stocked in open covers, so that all bird hunter can hunt them in the fall. This year pheasant hunters will be allowed to harvest two pheasant daily, during the regular hunting season. Pheasant of either

Hunting with a bird dog is so much more fun. watching the dog use his keen sense of smell to locate birds, and hold them from flushing before the hunter is ready to shoot. When the bird is dropped in the field or brush, the dog quickly retrieves the bird and brings it back to the hunter. Dogs save a lot of shot game from being lost or wasted, because they cannot be located.

If you do not own a bird dog, the time to purchase one is now so that it is ready for the upcoming hunting season in a few months. If you purchase a dog now, he or she will be able to do some exciting things in the field, and will also be a joy to have one in the family. You need to consider purchasing a new pup, if

you have the time and money. A good dog if purchased from a breeder, can cost upwards of \$1,000 to \$2,000 or more. You need to do your homework when selecting a breeder, making sure he has good references, and a good reputation. Selecting the breed, you want could be a Labrador, Brittney Spaniel, or Springer spaniel, to mention a few. Larger dogs in the pointing family could be an English pointer, German shorthaired pointer, English Setter to mention a few. It is a big decision to make, so be sure you are ready to take on the responsibilities before to set down the cash!

Maine & New Hampshire continue to suffer serious losses in their young moose population, and it continues to become worse every year. Moose are being infected by more than 80,000 or more ticks per animal, and the moose rub themselves down to the bear skin, to rid themselves of the nasty insect. The young moose are dying from winter tick bites which infect the young moose annually. Maine had a 90 percent loss this year in young moose. A warming climate change is part of the problem. Hopefully, something can be done soon to rectified the problem.

Take A Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Hypermiling and more strategies ease high gas prices

Hypermiling is the buzz word for strategizing to trim your gas costs. But all it really means is driving with techniques that maximize fuel efficiency. If you've been using the tips outlined below (and those revealed in previous columns), you've already been practicing hypermiling. Experts claim the typical hypermiler can realistically expect a 10-20% increase in fuel economy. Read on for tips (some old, some new) to help you ease the jump at the pump!



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

from 65 to 55 mph can improve fuel economy by an impressive two miles per gallon.

Traveling at fast rates in low gears can consume up to 45% more fuel than is needed. Using cruise control will save 5% to 10%

of a gallon of gas on long trips.

Driving with your windows all the way down at higher speeds, will waste 10% more gallons of gasoline than driving with them closed. The drag will cost you more in fuel, so delay opening windows wide until you've slowed down a bit (unless you want to literally throw money out the window)!

Opt for driving on smooth roads whenever possible. Rough roads with dirt or gravel rob you of up to 30% of your gas mileage. On the highway, closed windows decrease air resistance, so it's efficient to run the air conditioner in hot weather.

In stop-and-go traffic, shutting off the air conditioner and opening the windows can lighten your fuel use. Experts estimate using the auto a/c can lower your fuel economy by 10 percent to 20 percent.

If your car has cruise control feature, use it. Not only will you give your accelerating foot a rest, you'll save money too! Using cruise control will save you 5% to 10% of a gallon of gas on long trips!

Keeping tires properly inflated and aligned equals gas savings. Periodic wheel alignments and keeping tires inflated to the maximum recommended pressure really does improve your gas mileage, according to experts.

Confused when it comes to using your car air conditioner efficiently? According to cooling experts, when traveling 45 mph or less, you should open the windows or vents to create a steady airflow that'll give your car a cool boost. When going faster than 45 mph, you should crank up the a/c instead. This method avoids the drag generated when windows are left open during high-speed travel.

Did you know ten seconds of idling actually uses more fuel than restarting the engine? If your car doesn't have an automatic idling shut-off feature, you can still save gas by making it a habit to turn off the car when parked.

The simple chore of cleaning out your trunk can also translate into impressive fuel savings. For every extra 250 pounds your engine hauls, the car loses

about one mile per gallon in fuel economy.

Your gasoline-saving strategies start even before you fuel up. Gas comparison sites and phone applications offer consumers instant prices that add up to optimum savings:

GasBuddy.com lists gas stations near you and their current gas prices. Mapquest.com also offers a user friendly tool that has a map format and visual pinpoints to post real time prices of gas stations in your area or destination.

Analysis from GasBuddy revealed Monday is the best day to fill up as in many states gas prices are lower on Mondays than any other day. According to GasBuddy data, Thursday is the worst day to fill up, as far as cost is concerned, with Wednesday ranked second-worst.

Experts advise downgrading to upgrade gas efficiency. An AAA report found that drivers collectively waste \$2.1 billion per year on high-octane gas. In other words, they paid extra for premium gas even though it wasn't required or even recommended for their cars. Check with your mechanic or car dealer to see if it's safe for you to switch to a lower grade. This money saving method alone can save hundreds of dollars a year.

Auto advisers also recommend buying gasoline during coolest time of day, such as early morning or late evening. During these times gasoline is densest. Gas pumps measure volumes of gasoline, so it's a better deal to buy it at its densest fuel concentration.

Performing periodic vehicle "check-ups" is a cost effective way to keep from wasting gas.

It's no secret a well-tuned engine burns less gas. Routine maintenance

is your best insurance against gas guzzling.

Be sure to check your air filter each time you have your oil changed. Clogged air filters cause engines to work overtime which eats up more gas. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent, saving about 20 cents a gallon.

Periodic wheel alignments and keeping tires inflated to the maximum recommended pressure really does improve your gas mileage, according to experts. When tires aren't inflated properly it's like driving with the parking brake on and can cost a mile or two per gallon. According to SGI, you waste 1% fuel for every 10 lb per square inch of under inflation.

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.

Area residents named to Hamilton College Dean's List

CLINTON, N.Y. — Emma Earls, of Sturbridge and Catherine Fengler, of Charlton have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2022 semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have carried throughout the semester a course load of four or more graded credits with an average of 3.5 or above.

Earls, a rising junior majoring in creative writing, is a graduate of Deerfield Academy.

Hamilton College, a leading liberal arts institution located in Clinton, New York, is where exceptional students explore passions through an open curriculum and robust research, internship, and off-campus study opportunities. Students graduate ready to lead purposeful lives thanks to highly regarded faculty mentors, generous resources that support each student's interests, and a loyal alumni network. The College's need-blind admission policy ensures access for talented students with limited financial means. Learn more at www.hamilton.edu.

MARIANAPOLIS
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 Catholic boarding and day school located in Thompson, CT

admission@marianapolis.org

TRAIL
continued from page A1

Sturbridge Community Preservation Funding.

Final design was completed by the Federal Highway Administration, Eastern Lands Division, and is engineered to fully comply with Federal Shared Use path standards. The trail will be 10 feet wide firm packed processed gravel surface with minimum 2-foot grass shoulders and grades not exceeding 5 percent.

The completion of this section was a combined partnership between the Town, The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Mr. Charles Morse Family, Mass DOT, and Mass Trails.

The Grand Trunk Trail is a portion of the Regional 66-mile Titanic Rail Trail, a combination and linkage of several local "rail trails." The Titanic Rail Trail will run, once completed, from Palmer Ma to Franklin Mass, 13 communities, dipping down into Connecticut. Neighboring towns of Brimfield and Southbridge were recently awarded Mass Trails Grants to fund projects in their communities in completing sections of this regional trail.

The completion of this section of the GTT along with an additional 2000 feet just recently completed on the Riverlands (52 Stallion Hill Rd.) brings the current completed mileage to 4 of the 6-mile route through Sturbridge. The remaining central section, approx. 1.8 miles from River/Farquhar Road to the Riverlands at 52 Stallion Hill Rd., and a section on the Riverlands out to Holland Road are what remains to complete this trail project. A feasibility study on the possible routes for the central section has been completed and is currently under review by the Town.

Robin Grimm, Sturbridge Town Administrator, said "I am so excited to have joined the Town of Sturbridge at a time where I can watch the progress of this project which is viable only because of the efforts of so many groups who pulled together so that the people of Sturbridge, along with visitors to our community, can take advantage of the natural beauty that we have here in South Central Massachusetts."

Trail Committee Chair Brandon Goodwin added, "The Sturbridge Trail Committee has its beginnings in the formation of a regional trail committee back in 2000 to see this trail project to completion. To say it has taken time is an understatement, but the trail committee is so glad that this is finally moving forward towards completion. A big thankyou goes out to all that have worked so hard to this day."

The Sturbridge Trail Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month, and has one vacancy, also holds monthly trail volunteer days on the third Saturday of the Month.

More information on the GTT as well as the 13 other trail properties in town is available from the Town's trail guide, copies of which are available at the Town Hall, or by downloading from the Trails Web site: www.sturbridgetrails.org.

Managing garden pests with pollinators in mind

Every garden season is filled with beautiful and tasty surprises along with a few challenges. One challenge gardeners face each year is managing insect pests while keeping the pollinators safe. Fortunately, only a very small percent of insects in our landscapes are harmful. The rest help pollinate plants, feed upon or parasitize bad insects, or help decompose plant debris.

Proper identification of the plant-damaging culprit is the first step in managing problems. Often the insect that is most visible is not the one causing the damage. You can find lots of helpful information and images online. Look for websites hosted by your local University, extension service or botanical garden. They often provide timely tips on pests in your area.

Once identified, you will need to decide if control is needed. Some insect damage is just cosmetic meaning the plant's health and longevity are not adversely affected it just looks bad. In these cases, control is for us not the health of our plants. Consider tolerating the damage and masking it with nearby plantings or garden art.

In other cases, the damage is done, and the insect is no longer present. Revenge spraying may make you feel better but does nothing to fix the problem. Make a note on next year's calendar to watch for and manage the pest if you feel control is really needed. Finding pest problems early makes hand removal easier and may be all that is needed.

Often when we see the damage on our plants, control will not help. Many galls, unusual growths on plants, are caused by insect feeding. When we see the gall, the insect is either safely living inside the gall or it has fled to complete another stage of its life. At that point, control will not work and in most cases, this is a cosmetic issue and control is not needed.

Work with nature to help manage pest problems. By tolerating some damage, you provide the food that attracts nature's pest controllers to the garden. Watch for aphid eating lady beetles and green lacewings that eat hundreds of these pests each day. Invite songbirds to your landscape with seed and berry producing plants and a clean, fresh source of water. Ninety six percent of terrestrial birds feed their young insects. And then there are those non-stinging, parasitizing wasps that lay their eggs in other insects. When the eggs hatch the young feed on the host. Avoid pesticides and provide water and shelter to attract and support insect eating toads and frogs.

Enlist help from the youngsters in your life. Try the pluck, drop, and stomp method. Teach young gardeners to identify problem insects, pick them off the plants by hand, drop them to the ground and stomp. What a great way to teach kids about nature and help them burn off some of their excess energy.

Handpicking or knocking insects like Japanese beetles into a can of soapy water is a great way to manage small populations of pests. A fellow horticulturist uses a small hand vacuum to capture Japanese beetles. Just be sure to empty the insect filled vacuum contents into a can of soapy water before storing.

If you decide you need to lend nature a hand managing garden pests, look for more ecofriendly options. Barriers of floating row covers - fabrics that allow air, light, and water through - can keep cabbage worms, onion maggots, Japanese beetles, and some other insects from laying their eggs on their favorite plants. Cover the plants with the fabric at planting, anchor the edges and leave enough slack for plants to grow. No construction is needed.



Melinda Myers

An ecofriendly way to manage small populations of Japanese beetles is to knock them into a can of soapy water.

Covering squash plants at planting until flowering begins can help reduce the risk of squash bugs and squash vine borers. Covering cucumbers at planting until ten days after flowering begins helps reduce the risk of cucumber beetles infecting these plants with the bacteria that causes wilt. The row covers also prevent birds from dining on the seeds and seedlings.

Cover late plantings of susceptible plants as needed this season. Then make a note on next year's calendar to enlist this method for controlling these types of pests for your first planting next year.

Enlist the help of the naturally occurring soil bacteria *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) to protect plants from certain pests. Different strains of this bacteria control different insects. Bt kurstaki only kills true caterpillars. Using this on members of the cabbage family won't harm other butterflies since these plants only attract the cabbage worm moths. Bt galleriae will control Japanese and other beetles.

Use a strong blast of water to dislodge mites and aphids. These pests suck plant juices and secrete a clear sticky substance called honeydew. Extensive feeding can cause distorted growth, speckling, yellowing, and browning of the leaves.

If more control is needed, look for help from one of the organic contact insecticides like Summit Year-Round Spray Oil, a lightweight horticulture oil. These products kill the insects they contact but leave no residue on the plants that can harm beneficial insects that visit the plants later.

Whenever using any product, even natural and organic, be sure to read and follow label directions. This will ensure the best control and least negative impact on beneficial insects and the environment.

Take a few notes on pests you encounter, any management strategies used and the results. This will help when encountering problems in the future. With minimal time and a bit of creativity you can keep your garden looking good all season long.

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.



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

Charlton Baptist Church prepares for Kids Week

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Baptist Church begins its annual Vacation Bible School and Sports Camp, collectively known as Kids Week, on July 18 inviting pre-high school aged children to enjoy a week of faith and fun.

Every year, the church offers a week of summer vacation where kids from kindergarten to those entering ninth grade are welcome to take part in a variety of themed activities through Vacation Bible School helping share the mission of the church while also inviting families to be a part of a larger community. Erin Kirschner, one of the directors of the program, said the event

works like a summer camp combining faith education with more traditional summertime entertainment.

"Our goal is just to provide an opportunity for kids to participate in a fun summer activity. We really focus on showing them the love of Jesus and how important they are to God. That's our big focus, but we do a lot of fun things like crafts and snacks and other activities mixed in with Bible lessons," said Kirschner.

The theme for 2022 is "Spark Studios" encouraging imagination and creativity while exploring God as the "Master Artist". Special themed activities include a Bible Study Studio, Crafts Design Center, a Music Sound Stage, and Missions Workshop. Vacation

Bible School runs from 9 a.m. until noon each day and is a free program.

Complimenting Vacation Bible School is the Church's annual Sports Camp offered to children who have completed grades three through six. Each afternoon of Kids Week children can participate in sports-themed activities from 1 until 3 p.m. for \$25 for the full week.

While the week is heavily focused on providing opportunities for kids, Kirschner also feels like it's a chance to bring families together and help create more awareness and involvement in the Charlton Baptist Church community.

"One of main focuses is that it is an opportunity to let the community

know what the Church has to offer. We have events throughout the year that the whole community is welcomed to attend. We have Sunday School, and we have an Awana Club for kids that runs throughout the year, and a youth group for teens. We definitely have a lot of things to share with the community and Kids Week offers us that opportunity to get the word out but also gives the kids something to do during the summer," Kirschner said.

Pre-registrations were available for Kids Week, but walk-in registrations will also be accepted the first July 18 with Kids Week concluding on July 22. For more information, parents can visit www.charltonbaptist.org.



Summer Dining & Gift Guide Too Hot to Cook! Eat-In or Take Out



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ROTARY
continued from page A1

cookbook, art auctions, golf tournaments, First Night, dinner dances, chances on a basket of lottery tickets. You name it and we've probably done it during our 50-year history.

In 1988, the town of Sturbridge celebrated its 250th Anniversary as an incorporated town in Massachusetts. Two Sturbridge Rotarians, Russ Burton and Klaus Hachfeld, invited members of the Rotary Club of Stourbridge, England to attend and march in the parade with us alongside the Rotary float. Sturbridge members hosted our guests in our homes and the groups quickly bonded and have established a "twinning" which is still active today. We have had nine visits to each other 'across the pond.' The two clubs declared Oct. 13 as Stourbridge/Sturbridge Friendship Day and on that day each year, the two Clubs and towns exchange greetings and Proclamations. Documentation of the Twinning is displayed at the Sturbridge Town Hall. One of our most memorable trips to visit our Sister Club was in 2004 when members of both clubs hired a bus and driver and 33 of us went on a pre-arranged tour in Scotland. While there, we attended a Rotary meet-

ing in Glenrothes with an additional 30 Rotarians from that area. Also of significance during this trip, one of our members, Bill Lemke, got to play in the 50th Annual Rotary International Golf Championship in St. Andrews, an accomplishment not many people can claim.

Because Rotary is an international organization, we have worked with our sister club on a number of International Humanitarian Projects, namely Uganda - Hospital Equipment & Handicapped Children Homes, and Nigeria - bread Oven & Pottery Kiln for Handicap Facility.

In 1993, we expanded our education focus to also participate in the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) program. To date, 58 students have received this valuable training with hopes for them becoming our future leaders. For many years, we also presented over 3,000 dictionaries to third graders along with other educational opportunities for youth.

In 2007, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Rotary International and built Rotary Park at the corner of Route 20 and Cedar Street. The Park was created at this busy intersection for those to view while waiting for the light to change. It is a restful park with flowers, shrubs, trees and several benches. It has been

maintained every year by Rotarians and the town of Sturbridge.

We spoke about all the fundraisers we have held, but the fun part is giving all the money we raise away to help not only in the education focus area but supporting many other causes. Over our 50 years, we have funded a new dugout and lighting for a youth ball field, athletic supplies, equipment for the fire and police departments, Sturbridge Library, the Hospital, YMCA, landscaping and picnic tables for the former Visitor Center, Senior Center beautification, purchase a camera for the NICview Department of UMass Memorial Hospital and help fund a small part of the Sturbridge Bandstand project, to name a few.

For many years, the Club participated in the Group Study Exchange (GSE) program hosting participants from many different countries where they visited with local companies in their specific profession.

For the last several years, the Club helps with the Burgess Kids Program by donating funds for families in need including full turkey dinners, toys and supplies at Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Helping to feed the food insecure individuals in our area is another 'focus area' of our Club. It started out with hosting a dinner dance each

year. However, helping to feed the food insecure took a different direction when the Sturbridge and Southbridge Rotary Clubs joined forces and created a community garden under the umbrella of the Rotary Community Corps (RCC). The Community Food Collaborative (CFC) is the first volunteer project of the RCC and is now in its fifth growing season. The garden operates totally by volunteers. The Board is all volunteers who work alongside volunteers from surrounding towns. The garden has expanded twice, has its own website and Facebook page and is very active growing about 3,000 pounds of fresh, organic vegetables each year which is all donated to the St. John Paul II Food Pantry in Southbridge. The garden Board raises funds to run the garden and the garden has already become a model for a neighboring community. If you'd like to see it or volunteer, it is located behind the Sturbridge Town Hall in the lower parking lot. The land is owned by the Federated Church of Sturbridge which is very generous in letting us use the land at no cost and all the water is generously supplied to us by the Town of Sturbridge.

Three additional International Humanitarian Projects coordinated by the Club and led by Club President

Klaus Hachfeld include Venezuela - Medical Supplies for Indigenous Hospital, Peru - Eyeglasses and a complete Optometry office & Hospital Equipment (with the help of the local Lions Club), and Kosovo- Instruments for Reconstructive Surgery. Of note, the Kosovo-2 Global Grant Project turned out to be a two-part project of \$42,000 over two years which was completed in October 2020.

The Sturbridge Rotary Club boasts of having an impressive total of 69 Paul Harris Fellows (PHF). Not included in this total are the individuals who have received this recognition multiple times. Our Club also boasts of having two former Rotary District Governors in our District 7910. Carl Kaliszewski served a District Governor in 2004-2005. Klaus Hachfeld served as District Governor in 2008-2009.

In the summer of 2021, during the waning of the Pandemic, the Club coordinated the "5K Trail Race and Fun Walk." This is a family friendly event with activities for all different age groups and highlights Sturbridge's exceptional network of trails. We are currently busy working on another one scheduled for Oct. 30.

Rotary is not all work and no play. We have lots of fun together includ-

ing a softball match for many years with the Southbridge Rotary Club. The Sturbridge Club also does other fun activities together including cruises, concerts, plays, and numerous house parties.

Why does Rotary work so hard? Because we are a service organization - local, domestic and International. The Sturbridge Club is one of 50 clubs in Rotary District 7910 and one of more than 46,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary worldwide has many areas of focus including peace and health. Well known for its work on eradicating polio, Rotary is also working to help the people affected by the war in Ukraine. On a local level, we in the Sturbridge Club love our community and want to make it a great place to live, work and play and to help those in need in our focus areas. It's impossible to list everything we have done over our 50-year span but we wanted to give you an idea of what Rotary is and does. We are energized as we embark on our next 50 years and hope that we can count on you and our community to join us by helping out in our many future endeavors - either as a member and/or financial supporter of our projects. Visit us at www.sturbridgerotary.com (which is under construction) and Facebook at www.facebook.com.

BUDGET
continued from page A1

or state government will come through with free lunches for all students going forward," said Lamarche.

Meal prices in the district were increased from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for breakfast and from \$2.90 to \$3.30 for lunches with the Committee hoping that a bill to increase the free lunch program, which was slated to expire in June, would eventually be approved.

Finally, Lamarche addressed a concern from June 8 that the district should be exploring an override option to help support education without making further cuts. The Superintendent said the district has been in talks with Dudley specifically about exploring the

option in the future.

"Through our fiscal year 2023 budget work with the town of Dudley it became obvious to the community that the funding structure for the town itself cannot support the services of the town to include us as the schools. We must begin our work for Fiscal Year 2024 now to support the town of Dudley and the schools through an adjustment in their fiscal structure. This is commonly known as a potential for an override. This will have to be a town of Dudley override or vote," said Lamarche.

The Superintendent did not indicate whether an override would be sought in Charlton. Any potential override would likely come before voters in the spring of 2024 at the earliest.

TRUCK
continued from page A1

provides resources to members and families throughout the public safety community both in and beyond the commonwealth's borders. The Association prides itself in protecting and supporting the welfare of troopers and sergeants

throughout the Massachusetts State Police.

Innamorati said he was proud to help the Association any way he could.

"We're always looking to help out anybody and the State Police have really taken a bashing lately over the last few years. We just wanted to show our appreciation and give back in some way," said

Innamorati. "We try to do as much as we do for the community. When people come to us, we like to do whatever we can."

The donated Dodge Ram has less than 100,000 miles on it and was valued at around \$15,000. Innamorati said the business was more than happy to make the donation despite dealerships continuing to face difficulties finding new stock.

Students named to University of Hartford Honors Lists

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce the students who have been named to the President's Honors List and the Dean's List for Spring 2022.

Grace Ahlstrand of Sturbridge
Jeremy Beu of Brimfield
Andrew Briere of Holland
Grace Farland of Sturbridge
Tracy Murray of Charlton
Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University

of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 5,000 undergraduate and 1,500 graduate students from 48 states and countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaning-

ful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. Visit www.hartford.edu for more information.

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July kicks off Kids Free Summer at Old Sturbridge Village

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Village has an exciting calendar of new and returning events for July, including a Music and Art Weekend, a day of Baseball, BBQ, and Brews, and a Moving Forward weekend to highlight the advancement of social change in the 1800s. Recurring events like Dog Days and Garden Thyme are also back for OSV members during July. The Village has taken a robust approach to programming this year, bringing back several popular events and creating new programming that interprets life in the 19th century for the visitors of today. July also marks the beginning of a Kids Free Summer program at the Village this year, with up to three kids under the age of 17 admitted free when accompanied by an adult paying full admission.

This month's events include:

Kids Free Summer July 5-Sept. 5:

There is so much to see, do, learn, and explore this summer at the Village and there's more fun, stories, play and savings with Kids Free Summer. The offer admits up to three kids under 17 years old when accompanied by an adult paying full admission from July 5 through Sept. 5. Visitors can explore the scenic two-hundred-acre campus, be inspired by craftspeople demonstrating skills, meet the farm animals and take a horse-drawn wagon ride. In addition to activities such as playing nineteenth-century games, visitors can also take part in the many summertime events included with standard daytime admission to the Village. Old Sturbridge Village will be open rain or shine, Wednesday through Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Kids Free promotion is valid on standard daytime admission, and cannot be combined with other discounts or evening programming. Visitors are encouraged to purchase or reserve tickets online.

Evening at the Village: July 15

Enjoy the outdoors and spend a summer evening at the Village after the campus closes for the day. Visitors can

stroll through the scenic Commons and Farm, take a horse-drawn wagon ride, and listen to live music by Quintebrass. Quintebrass is based in Northeast Connecticut and performs standard repertoire brass quintet music, from the Renaissance through the 20th century, with some non-standard arrangements included for good measure. There will be an evening bonfire and games for kids to play! Guests are invited to bring a picnic to enjoy. Snacks and drinks will also be available for sale at the Miner Grant Store. This event is held outside of normal OSV operating hours. Tickets are \$15 for non-member adults, \$10 for non-member youth, \$10 for member adults and \$7 for member youth.

Music and Art Weekend: July 16-17

What was music and art like back in the 1800s? At Music and Art Weekend, you will get to listen to music and see different pieces of art like portraiture, literature, and drawings popular from the time. There will be opportunities to learn about the history of violins and guitars as well as watch the talented artists of OSV at work. Live performances and demonstrations will be held, including watching the Old Sturbridge Village dancers and singers (on Saturday only), seeing landscape art, botanical watercolors, and Ruth Hanshaw Bascom-style pastel portraits come to life, listening to historical waltzes, and taking a tour of Village art. The event is held during OSV operational hours and is included with standard daytime admission or membership to the Village.

Baseball, BBQ, and Brews: July 23

A full day of activities awaits when you spend your day at Baseball, BBQ, and Brews. Come for the Village Grill's BBQ, learn about baseball history, listen to early 19th century music, play early American games, and more for the whole family! Visitors will also get the chance to craft a baseball thaumatrope and meet Jake the Lion from the Worcester Bravehearts. The first 200 kids to come will get a free pack of Topps Heritage baseball cards, and craft

beers from several breweries in New England will be available for purchase for guests 21 and older. The event is held during OSV operational hours and is included with standard daytime admission or membership to the Village.

Moving Forward: July 30-31

This event will highlight some of the efforts, struggles, and triumphs of social change in 19th century New England. Learn about 1830s gender and racial equity, efforts to end slavery, help the unfortunate, and promote peace, and how people would work to better education for the poor and mentally ill. Visitors will also be able to tour the gardens, enjoy live musical performances, and meet the animals on the farm. Moving Forward will focus on the topics and groups involved in social changes such as anti-slavery, local charity, the Industrial Revolution, women's

rights, and progressive agriculture and how they tie into social change today. The event is held during OSV operational hours and is included with standard daytime admission or membership to the Village.

Members Only
Members of Old Sturbridge Village enjoy special access to programming in the month of July with several private events, including:

Dog Days: July 9-10

Old Sturbridge Village extends to members the privilege of bringing their dog to the Village on select weekends throughout the year. July 9-10 marks the next members-only Dog Days event. Dogs must be leashed and vaccinated, with proof of rabies and license required. Dogs must be accompanied at all times. This event is held during OSV operating hours. This program is free for members of Old Sturbridge Village.

Registration is required.

Garden Thyme: July 16

July's Garden Thyme is all about teaching propagation techniques by rooting and layering plant cuttings like rosemary, lavender, southernwood, sage, and scented geraniums. Participants will get to take home cuttings to practice their skills on their own. Led by Village horticultural and agricultural staff, these Garden Thyme programs are held at various sites at OSV throughout the year and deal with a variety of plant-related themes and topics. This program is free for members of Old Sturbridge Village and begins at 10 a.m. Registration is required.

Webinar: Redefining American Patriotism: Identity and Military Service in 19th-Century Massachusetts: July 28

In this exclusive webinar, Fort Ticonderoga's Curator, Dr. Matthew Keagle, and the Museum

of African American History's Director of Education and Interpretation, L'Merchie Frazier, discuss the ways in which Irish-American and African American communities combined their own identities with patriotic service to gain broader acceptance and agency in Massachusetts society. This program is free for members of Old Sturbridge Village, Fort Ticonderoga or the Museum of African American History and begins at 6:00pm. Registration is required.

Standard daytime admission rates for the event are \$28 for adults, \$26 for seniors (55 and older), \$14 for youth (four to 17) and college students. The Village is free to children ages three and under. More information on July events and special programming can be found at: <https://www.osv.org/events-experiences/calendar/>.



COOKING FOOD ON A GRATE OVER AN OPEN FLAME IS KNOWN AS WHAT?

ANSWER: GRILLING

Creative Coloring

Celebrate backyard grilling. Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

• **1741:** ALEKSEI CHIRIKOV SIGHTS LAND IN SOUTH-EAST ALASKA. HE SENDS MEN TO INVESTIGATE, MAKING THEM THE FIRST EUROPEANS TO VISIT ALASKA.

• **1916:** WILLIAM BOEING AND GEORGE CONRAD WESTERVELT INCORPORATE PACIFIC AERO PRODUCTS. IT IS LATER RENAMED BOEING.

• **2006:** TWITTER IS LAUNCHED.

New Word

PROPANE

a flammable gas used as bottled fuel

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Sear
- SPANISH:** Soasar
- ITALIAN:** Scottare
- FRENCH:** Griller
- GERMAN:** Scharf anbraten

Did you know?

ACCORDING TO "EAT THIS, NOT THAT," MOST PEOPLE SEARCH FOR HOW TO GRILL SEAFOOD AND VEGETABLES ONLINE MORE OFTEN THAN THEY SEARCH FOR HOW TO GRILL MEAT.

GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BASTING BRUSH

Puzzle sales event planned in Sturbridge

STURBRIDGE — If you're in the market to purchase a new jigsaw puzzle or two (or more), or curious to see what puzzle makers are doing these days, drop by the Puzzle Table Sales Event at the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center on Saturday, July 23, from 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. Entry to the event is free, and all are welcome!

Whether you're coming to browse or to buy, you're in for a treat. This free event is part of the weekend-long Puzzle Parley, the 16th biennial gathering of puzzle fans, collectors, historians, and world-class puzzle cutters. The Table Sales feature vintage puzzle treasures, as well as new creations by today's extraordinary wooden and acrylic puzzle makers, and puzzle prices range from very affordable to more expensive. A special feature of the event is that you'll also get to meet the innovative puzzle designers and cutters who are making a spectacular assortment of contemporary puzzles.

Whether you prefer traditional puzzles depicting classic scenes, or you gravitate towards something more modern, at this Table Sales event, you'll find a dazzling array of images, colors, materials, and cutting styles to choose from – and you just might go home with that perfect summer puzzle you've been looking for!

For more information on the Parley and the Table Sales event, visit <https://www.puzzleparley.org/>.

For more on the history of jigsaw puzzles: <https://www.oldpuzzles.com>.

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to blueberries. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 21 = E)

A. 22 21 12 14 9 22
Clue: Well-being

B. 26 21 25 25 23
Clue: Small fruit

C. 5 10 9 25 18 21 5 9 7
Clue: Vitamins/minerals

D. 4 21 14 18 6 18 19 10 7
Clue: Very tasty

Answers: A. health B. berry C. nutrients D. delicious

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

	1		9			6		
	9		3		4			
2				1				
	2			4				
5					7		3	
				6			7	
							8	
1	4					7		3
	7	3		5			9	1

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	6	2	9	5	3	3	7	8
3	9	7	6	8	2	4	5	1
4	5	8	1	3	7	2	6	9
5	7	4	2	6	8	9	3	1
3	2	7	4	3	1	6	5	8
6	2	5	6	5	8	1	6	7
9	6	3	5	4	6	1	7	2
8	3	8	1	6	7	4	1	2
8	2	1	4	2	3	5	9	6
4	7	6	2	5	8	9	1	3

ANSWER:

University of New Hampshire announces Dean's List

DURHAM, New Hampshire — The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the spring 2022 semester.

Katherine McGlinchy of Brimfield, earning High Honors

Lila Ives of Fiskdale, earning Highest Honors

Leia Krans of Sturbridge, earning Highest Honors

Connor Smith of Sturbridge, earning Highest Honors

Carly Cave of Sturbridge, earning High Honors

Morgan Hammond of Sturbridge, earning High Honors

John Schneider of Sturbridge, earning Honors

Gabrielle Eberhart of Charlton, earning High

Honors
McKenzie McLarnon of Charlton, earning Honors
Lauren Chase of Charlton, earning High Honors

Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

The University of New

Hampshire is a flagship research university that inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top ranked programs in business, engineering, law, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. UNH's research portfolio includes partnerships with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, receiving more than \$100 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

To learn more about the opportunities at the University of New Hampshire visit: www.unh.edu.

PAXTON — May 2022 marked a new chapter for Anna Maria College as the institution celebrated its 2022 Commencement Ceremony at the DCU Center in Worcester. The new and larger venue held nearly 300 graduates and 3,500 guests while still retaining Anna Maria's sense of a tight-knit community.

The following are Anna Maria College's graduates for 2022:

MASTER of ARTS
BROOKFIELD: Emma K. Wendt
SOUTHBRIDGE: Jennifer Susan Tucker
WEBSTER: Lien Nguyen

MASTER of EDUCATION
SPENCER: Danielle Marie DeVito

MASTER of BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
MILLBURY: Judith Mary LeDoux
WHITINSVILLE: Harlie Ann Tucker

MASTER of PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
AUBURN: Alexander F. Milosz, Shawn A. Wheeler
DOUGLAS: Alex R. Arriaga

MASTER of SCIENCE
AUBURN: David P. Doherty
GRAFTON: Peter Charles Gerardi Jr.
MILLBURY: Derrick S. Leto
SPENCER: Emily A. Williamson

MASTER of SOCIAL WORK
DUDLEY: Erynn Patricia Sheehan
LEICESTER: Felicia Ohene-Asante
SOUTHBRIDGE: Rachel Lynne Davis
SPENCER: Magdalene Njuguna

CERTIFICATE of ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDY
DUDLEY: Paola G. Penn

BACHELOR of ARTS
AUBURN: Abigail K. Lloyd
DUDLEY: Jacob J. Bond
GRAFTON: Rachel Matloff
LEICESTER: Grace Ankrach
OXFORD: Ama B. Asiamah

SPENCER: Mercedes DeVito
SUTTON: Cara Elizabeth Bromley
UXBRIDGE: Emily Grace Caron
WEBSTER: Alyssa Nicole Wentworth, Samantha Saad
WEST BROOKFIELD: Kathryn G. Barnes

BACHELOR of MUSIC
OXFORD: Brian D. Gionet
NORTH OXFORD: Krystal Jeannette Melendez

BACHELOR of SCIENCE
AUBURN: Kamryn Blyth White
BLACKSTONE: James C. Ahearn
CHARLTON: Drew R. Paulhus
DUDLEY: Jacob R. Zablocki, Taylor Marie Hubert

LEICESTER: Ramon L Roman III, Tina Dang Le

MILFORD: Patrick V. Motuzas
MILLBURY: Rose Kathryn Nagelschmidt

NORTH GRAFTON: Joseph M. Gemelli

OXFORD: Meaghan Rita Callahan
SOUTHBRIDGE: Brooks Allejna Chernisky, Frances A. Garcia, John Calcagni Jr., Julitza Elena Delgado

SPENCER: Laurie A. Cowgill, Sarah Marie Hesselton

SUTTON: Sabrina Mansfield-Morneault
UXBRIDGE: Madison Paige Haley
WEBSTER: Liza Welch, Peter Walsh

About Anna Maria College
Located just outside of Worcester in Paxton, Anna Maria College is a 76-year-old private, co-educational institution inspired by the ideals of the Sisters of Saint Anne. We prepare our students to become ethical leaders by combining a values-based, service focused education with strong functional knowledge and the skills necessary to address the rapidly changing needs of their world. Anna Maria delivers undergraduate and graduate degrees along with certificate programs on campus and online. For more information, visit www.annamaria.edu.

Springfield College recognizes Dean's List students

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield College Recognizes Dean's List Students for the 2022 Spring Semester.

Springfield College has named Hayden France from Brimfield to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 spring semester.

France has a primary major of Criminal Justice.

Springfield College has named Julia Scioletti from Sturbridge to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 spring semester.

Scioletti has a primary major of Health Science/Occupational Therapy.

Springfield College has named Heather Fontaine from Brimfield to the

dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 spring semester.

Fontaine has a primary major of Health Science and Pre-Physical Therapy.

Springfield College has named Caitlyn Mills from Fiskdale to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 spring semester.

Mills has a primary major of Health Science and Pre-Physical Therapy.

Springfield College has named Maya Belog from Sturbridge to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 spring semester.

Belog has a primary major of Psychology.

Springfield College has

named Andrew Sweet from Charlton, MA to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 spring semester.

Sweet has a primary major of Physical Education and Health/Family and Consumer Science.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term.

Kowal graduates from Emmanuel College

BOSTON — Sarah Kowal of Sturbridge graduated from Emmanuel College on Saturday, May 14 during the College's 100th Commencement Exercises on its campus in Boston. Kowal received a Bachelor of Arts in an individualized major of Social and Environmental Justice during the ceremony. Kowal graduated *summa cum laude*.

Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with

a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated

faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

UT student Kaitlyn Andersen of Fiskdale earns Dean's List Honors

TAMPA, Fla. — Kaitlyn Andersen, of Fiskdale, earned dean's list honors at The University of Tampa for the Spring 2022 semester. Andersen was a Freshman majoring in International Business and Marketing BS. Students must main-

tain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean's list.

The University of Tampa is a private, comprehensive university located on 110 acres on the riverfront in downtown Tampa. Known for academic excellence,

personal attention and real-world experience in its undergraduate and graduate programs, the University has about 200 programs of study and serves 10,500 students from 50 states and most of the world's countries.

Anna Maria College celebrates 73rd Commencement

PAXTON — May 2022 marked a new chapter for Anna Maria College as the institution celebrated its 2022 Commencement Ceremony at the DCU Center in Worcester. The new and larger venue held nearly 300 graduates and 3,500 guests while still retaining Anna Maria's sense of a tight-knit community.

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OXFORD: Ama B. Asiamah

SPENCER: Mercedes DeVito
SUTTON: Cara Elizabeth Bromley
UXBRIDGE: Emily Grace Caron
WEBSTER: Alyssa Nicole Wentworth, Samantha Saad
WEST BROOKFIELD: Kathryn G. Barnes

BACHELOR of MUSIC
OXFORD: Brian D. Gionet
NORTH OXFORD: Krystal Jeannette Melendez

BACHELOR of SCIENCE
AUBURN: Kamryn Blyth White
BLACKSTONE: James C. Ahearn
CHARLTON: Drew R. Paulhus
DUDLEY: Jacob R. Zablocki, Taylor Marie Hubert

LEICESTER: Ramon L Roman III, Tina Dang Le

MILFORD: Patrick V. Motuzas
MILLBURY: Rose Kathryn Nagelschmidt

NORTH GRAFTON: Joseph M. Gemelli

OXFORD: Meaghan Rita Callahan
SOUTHBRIDGE: Brooks Allejna Chernisky, Frances A. Garcia, John Calcagni Jr., Julitza Elena Delgado

SPENCER: Laurie A. Cowgill, Sarah Marie Hesselton

SUTTON: Sabrina Mansfield-Morneault
UXBRIDGE: Madison Paige Haley
WEBSTER: Liza Welch, Peter Walsh

About Anna Maria College
Located just outside of Worcester in Paxton, Anna Maria College is a 76-year-old private, co-educational institution inspired by the ideals of the Sisters of Saint Anne. We prepare our students to become ethical leaders by combining a values-based, service focused education with strong functional knowledge and the skills necessary to address the rapidly changing needs of their world. Anna Maria delivers undergraduate and graduate degrees along with certificate programs on campus and online. For more information, visit www.annamaria.edu.

Madalyn Lowell of Sturbridge graduates from Eastern Connecticut State University

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. — Hundreds of students graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University at the conclusion of the spring 2022 semester. The University's annual Commencement Exercises occurred May 17 at the XL Center in Hartford, Conn. The graduate-level ceremony occurred May 14 on Eastern's campus.

Madalyn Lowell of Sturbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Sciences.

The spring 2022 graduates went through Eastern's School of Arts & Sciences, School of Education & Professional Studies and Graduate

Division. More than 30 percent of the undergraduates were the first in their families to earn a bachelor's degree.

Commencement speaker Lena Rodriguez, president and CEO of the Community Renewal Team in Hartford, told graduates, "Take every skill you have acquired throughout these four years, place them in your personal toolbox, and lead with confidence and courage, as you are prepared."

At the graduate-level ceremony, Secretary of State Denise Merrill, said, "When someone asks you to do something, take the leap. Ask 'why not me?' Make the change you've been waiting for. Don't

sit on the sidelines. Don't complain and not do anything about it. Build the world you want to see."

Eastern President Elsa Nunez gave her charge to the assembled graduates, telling them, "Tonight is a time for new beginnings . . . Each of you has a dream, talents you were born with. Your Eastern education has honed those talents and prepared you for the world ahead. Grasp your future with both hands. Be prepared to adjust your grip. Wake up each day committed to grow, to learn more, to make a difference in the world. Do all of this with a smile and the confidence that you can succeed."

Local students named to Dean's List at UMass Amherst

AMHERST — Below is a list of local students who were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the spring 2022 semester.

In order to qualify, an undergraduate student must receive a 3.5 grade-point average or better on a four-point scale.

BRIMFIELD
Lydia Maeve Boland
Michael Reese Crosby
Ethan Charles Eroh
Nicholas Samuel Henderson
Erika Elizabeth Madden
Logan Sean McCarthy
Brian Daniel Riel
Catherine Teresa Simonds
Ryan David Slade

FISKDALE
Kurstin Elizabeth Burnham
Alexis Carson
Olivia Sara George
Joseph Daniel Matte

HOLLAND
Clement Theodore Carson
Serena Mae Chiasson
Katelyn Elizabeth Lauritsen
Andrew James Radoc

STURBRIDGE
Aidan Buck
Nadine Aliya Chidester
Carol Laura DeRose
Michael Francis Distefano
Thomas Roger Goodwin
Jared M Hammond
Jason Matthew Hastings
Kaspar John Mazeika
Olivia April Olson
Ndidiamaka N Onwubueke
Theodora Obianuju Onwubueke
Adon Jon Osimo
Troy Douglas Reed
Olivia Marie Rizzo
Eric D Silveira
Garret Aiden Webb



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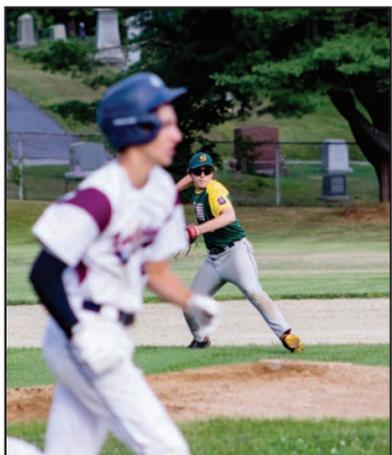
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REAL ESTATE

SPORTS

Northbridge, who 'needed this game,' scores 10 unanswered runs to beat Sturbridge



Jason McKay photos

Sturbridge's Luke Hill peers over to first base and tries to throw out Northbridge's hustling base runner.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

NORTHBIDGE — Nick Laflamme and Zach Feeney both went 3-for-4 and drove in two runs and pitcher Mike Shorey tossed a complete-game four-hitter to lead the Northbridge American Legion Post 343 baseball team to a 10-2 win over Sturbridge Post 109 on Friday, July 8, at Lasell Field.

"We needed this game," Northbridge coach John Demagian said. "We needed it bad."

Post 343, which started the season 6-1, had lost eight of nine — and four in a row — heading into Friday's game against Sturbridge.

"When we put the ball in play, when we hit the ball, we're pretty good," Demagian said. "We beat Milford to go 6-1, and then we were 1-8 since, until today. Now we're 8-9. It's been a tough



Keenan Wetherbee of Sturbridge focuses on the incoming pitch before swinging away.

stretch, we've struggled scoring runs." Sturbridge (0-17) jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning.

David Seaver (two hits) got things going by reaching base on an infield single and moved to second when the throw to first was off the mark. Seaver put Post 109 ahead, 1-0, racing home when the next batter, Keenan Wetherbee, doubled to the gap in right-center field. Wetherbee advanced to third on a groundout by Brandon Phillips and scored — to extend the Sturbridge lead to 2-0 — on a sacrifice fly off the bat of Devin Krochmalnycky.

"When they got two in the top of the first I thought maybe it was just going to be one of those days," Demagian said.

But it wasn't because Northbridge scored the final 10 runs of the game.

Post 343 tied the game, 2-2, in the bottom of the first.

Laflamme led off with a triple and scored to cut the Northbridge deficit to 2-1 on an errant throw to third base in an attempt by Sturbridge to catch him napping. Northbridge's next batter, Cam Athanas, walked, advanced to second on a Post 109 error, and went to

third on a groundout by Matt Landry. Athanas scored to tie the game, 2-2, on another groundout, this one by Feeney.

Northbridge finished the game with 13 hits, but it was the first one — the triple by Laflamme — that got Post 343 going.

"I was looking to attack first pitch and hopefully get on base; it felt good off the bat," said Laflamme, who turned on the first pitch, a fastball, and sent it to deep left field. "It was a good way to start the game; I felt like it really got us going."

Laflamme gave Northbridge the lead for good, 3-2, in the third inning. After being hit by a pitch Laflamme went to second base on a wild pitch and third on a single by Landry. He scored on a single to right field by Feeney.

Post 343 broke the game open in the fourth inning, taking an 8-2 lead by scoring five runs on five hits, two walks, a sacrifice fly and a Sturbridge error. Laflamme and Athanas both drove in two runs with singles to left field, and Landry delivered the fifth run with a fly-ball out to left field.

The eight runs was more than enough

for Shorey — although Post 343 did add a pair of runs in the sixth inning to account for the 10-2 final score — who threw just 79 pitches and didn't walk a batter.

"Mike locates and changes speeds very well," Demagian said of Shorey, who is left-handed. "I don't know (Shorey being left-handed) bothers the other team. It's something they don't see a lot of because there are not a lot of lefties out there. He's a good one, though, we're glad to have him."

Shorey said he wasn't worried when he walked back to the dugout in the middle of the first inning trailing 2-0.

"I just try to throw strikes when I'm out there," said Shorey, a Northbridge grad who will be starting his sophomore year at Anna Maria next month. "I know I have a good defense behind me so I'm just trying to pitch to contact. I was a little shaken up in the first inning, but not worried; I hadn't pitched in a week. I knew (the defense) was going to figure it out for me; they always do."

Sturbridge manager Jim Rosseel, who was disappointed by the loss, remains upbeat.

"After tryouts we knew we had no pitching," Rosseel said. "I had a bunch of (roster) spots available so I went for the young kids. I said to myself, 'it doesn't matter; you've got no pitching so you're not going to go anywhere.' So I decided it was time to start young again and get the young kids a year of experience so they know what to expect next year."

Post 109 has routinely had less than a dozen players at its games this summer.

"The beauty of only having 9, 10, or 11 guys at each game is that a lot of kids that didn't plan on getting a lot of playing time have gotten more than they expected," Rosseel said. "And that's invaluable."

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SPORTS

Despite strong effort from Cherry Valley, Shrewsbury proves to be too much to overcome

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

WORCESTER — When the Cherry Valley American Legion baseball team walked off Hanover Insurance Park at Fitton Field on the campus of Holy Cross on Thursday, July 7, the scoreboard read as follows: “Shrewsbury Post 397 – 10; Cherry Valley Post 443 – 0”

The game was called once Shrewsbury plated its 10th run with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning due to the mercy rule. Despite the lopsided final score, Cherry Valley manager Jim Stephens was optimistically pleased with Post 443’s performance.

“The kids played well, I’m happy with it. How can you be happy when it’s 10-0?” Stephens mentioned. “But, you know, this is a young, young team and I told them you’ve got to do your homework. You’ve got to figure out how I did, how was my night?”

And, for the most part, the Post 443 players put up a good performance.

“I told the kids tonight that I was actually very happy with the way they were playing. They played good tonight. I said I don’t care what the score is,” said Stephens.

Cherry Valley starting pitcher Matt Kustigian got off to a great start against

Shrewsbury. Kustigian retired the first eight batters he faced and Post 397 held a slim lead of 1-0 through three innings.

Shrewsbury did come alive in the latter half of the game, though, scoring four times in the fourth and five more times in the sixth to put the game away.

“Matt pitched real good for the first couple of innings, and then it seemed like they were right on his fastball. They were waiting on the fastball and hitting it hard. It was almost like he was tipping the pitch,” said Stephens. “I said, ‘I think they’re on your pitches.’ He said, ‘you’re right coach, they’re on top of it.’”

Shrewsbury finished with 14 hits, highlighted by two-hit efforts from Ryan Walton, Andy Gardner, Jimmy Mitchell, Deegan Miller, Dylan Lemay and Mike Dennis.

Cherry Valley committed two fielding errors, so Kustigian’s final stat line included 5-2/3 innings pitched, 10 runs (6 earned), 3 walks and 2 strikeouts.

Offensively, Post 443 had three hits off Shrewsbury’s Rocco Hickson. The biggest base knock of all came in the top of the first inning when leadoff hitter Evan Brindisi took the first pitch he saw to deep right field, which resulted in a triple. But Cherry Valley was unable to score Brindisi, as Evan Remington flew out, Matt Kustigian struck out and Chris Kustigian grounded out.

“It changes everything,” Stephens said if his team would have been able to score first. “When you start out like



Nick Ethier photos

Cherry Valley shortstop Evan Remington fires the ball off to first base for an out.

that, if we could have scored that run it would have put them on the backburner and they would have had to come back. Once they got the one run, then they played the game different and we were the ones that were chasing.”

Matt Kustigian had a fourth inning single, Chris Kustigian followed with a fourth inning fielder’s choice and Anthony Marsi had a fifth inning single to account for the only other base runners Cherry Valley could muster. Hickson’s complete game effort included nine strikeouts.

Shrewsbury is now 15-2, while Post 443 fell to 4-11.

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OPEN WATER SWIMMING RACES, NOVELTY SWIM, AND FAMILY FUN

BROOKFIELD — Organizers of the Wild Bill Swim Challenge to be held at the public beach on Lake Quacumquasit (aka South Pond) in Brookfield on Sunday, August 7, say the event is going to offer something for swimmers of all ages and ability levels, including new swimmers who are interested in putting their toe in the open water swim game for the first time.



Event creator Jennifer Yorzyk Triger says she hopes a lot of local swimmers will register for the “Everyone Can Swim Novelty Swim,” a 400-yard, dock-to-beach swim for first-timers. “For this event, we’re encouraging participants to use buoys, noodles, kickboards, or other floatation devices if they need to,” says Triger. “Just get in the water! Swimming is for everyone!”

A one-mile paddleboard/swim relay for two entrants with a 10:30 a.m. start will provide another opportunity for novice swimmers to test their skill.

The deadline to register for the paddleboard/swim relay, three-mile and one-mile open water swims is Monday, August 1. The three-mile and one-mile events have an 8 a.m. start time. Participants will be required to sign a waiver confirming that they can swim the distance they register for. All participants in these open water swims will receive a complimentary swag bag.

Entry fees and registration information may be found on the event website at wildbillswim.org.

The “Everyone Can Swim Novelty Swim” has a start time of 11 a.m. Advance online entry is encouraged, but registration will remain open up to and including the day of the event to allow everyone an opportunity to join the fun.

Open Water Interview Series Starting Mid-July

Beginning in mid-July, Triger will be interviewing top open water coaches and swimmers about topics such as the story of open water swimming, going from pool to open water, and how to train for an open water swim. The interviews will be posted on the event’s Facebook and Instagram pages @WILDBILLSWIM.

“We’re eager to help introduce new people to the sport of swimming,” said Yorzyk, “so we’re doing what we can to provide the encouragement people may need to come to the conclusion that now is a good time to start.”

Family Fun and Raffle

There will also be fun activities for the family, entertainment, food trucks, a Vintage Bathing Beauties & Blokes Pageant, and a celebration of winners on the South Pond beach.

Following the event, participants are invited to gather at nearby Oakholm Brewery which is donating a portion of every “Wild Bill” brew sold in the beer garden on August 6 and 7 to the fundraiser.

A drawing will also be held with over \$500 in prizes including a one year membership to the new Planet Fitness in Sturbridge, gift cards to area restaurants, pottery, gourmet food baskets, floral arrangements, and a spa gift certificate. Raffle tickets are six for \$5, fifteen for \$10, and 30 for \$20 and are available now by emailing info@wildbillswim.org.

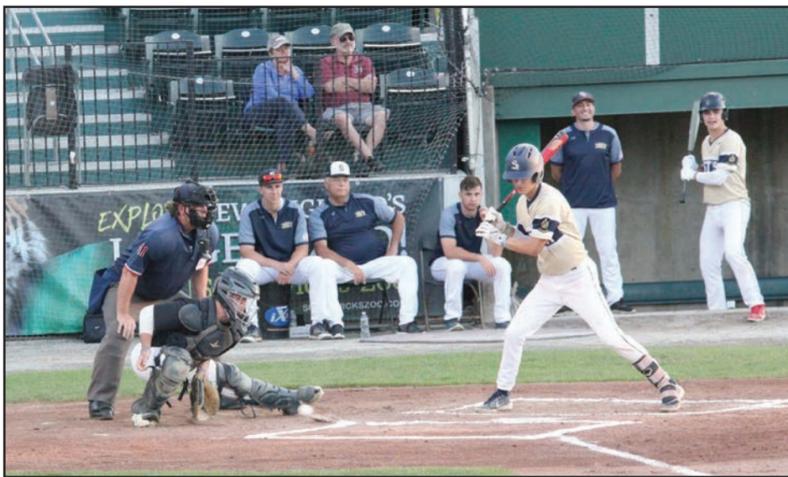
The Wild Bill Swim & Paddle Challenge

Yorzyk-Triger created the event as a tribute to her father, Olympic Gold Medalist Dr. William “Bill” Yorzyk, who died in 2020. Dr. Yorzyk, a long-time resident of South Pond, took the gold in the 200-meter butterfly at the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne, Australia, just seven years after learning to swim as a freshman at Springfield College. He was a five-time NCAA All American who set a total of 11 World Records. Yorzyk swam competitively into his 70s and passed on his love of the sport to his sons and daughter.

Proceeds from this first Wild Bill Swim & Paddle Challenge will help fund a matching grant to benefit the Quacumquasit Pond Phosphorus Inactivation Project that was recently approved and funded by the Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant Program.

Gold sponsors include SnowMagic, St Germain Investments, Cornerstone Bank, Keep Secure, Tasses Oil & Propane, and the Quaboag Quacumquasit Lake Association.

Yorzyk-Triger says volunteers and additional sponsors are still needed. For more information, email her at jenn@wildbillswim.org. Donations are also being accepted at gofundme.com/the-wild-bill-swim-and-paddle-challenge.



Cherry Valley catcher Anthony Marsi gets low to successfully block a pitch thrown in the dirt.



Chris Kustigian of Cherry Valley gets underneath a fly ball hit his way in center field.

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Community Garden celebrates five years

STURBRIDGE — We all hear people remark how quickly time passes – and it’s true. We, at the garden agree. We launched the garden five years ago, have expanded it twice and it gets better each year.

The garden was started by a partnership between the Sturbridge Rotary and the Southbridge Rotary Clubs. The two clubs took advantage of a program called the Rotary Community Corps (RCC) which is the volunteer arm of Rotary. This means, one does not have to be a Rotarian to develop and run a program of all volunteers. This was a perfect match for the garden. The volunteers who came together decided to call the garden, The Community Food Collaborative (CFC). It is located behind the Sturbridge Town Hall on Maple Street near its lower parking lot. The land is owned by the Federated Church that generously allows us to use it at no charge. The purpose of the garden is to grow organic vegetables and donate everything produced to the St. John Paul Food Pantry in Southbridge to help feed the food insecure in our communities. We are also fortunate to have a lady who grows and donates a major portion of all the organic plants we grow.

Over the past five years, the garden has expanded twice and currently has 41 raised garden beds. All but four of the beds have an irrigation system to help ease the chore of watering all the plants nearly every day. We look for volunteers to help with the work of planting, weeding and general tending of the plants. Each year the beds get topped off with more soil and rich humas is mixed into the top layer. We have an extremely knowledgeable head gardener who watches for bugs and plants in distress. We have several beds with flowers and herbs that are beneficial in attracting ‘good’ bugs and drives ‘harmful’ bugs away. We are fussy about bugs because as an organic garden, we don’t spray. What other harmful issues do we face? The four-legged kind...rabbits, woodchucks, deer. We tried to think of everything before we had a new fence installed and had the bottom of the fence buried in the ground and hopefully tall enough not to allow deer to jump over. We did really well but discovered gaps in the fence near both gates so we keep a watchful eye on these areas. Sad to say we do have a chipmunk that must be a vegetarian. He won’t eat an entire tomato – instead, he prefers to sample several.

We’ve designed a promotional card as well as CFC tee shirts that we wear while working and to attend special events like the Farmer’s Market or for checking out other gardens.

Our head gardener was aware that our soil in the beds lacked enough earth worms so she bought 2,000 of them. None of us wanted to count them to be sure they were all there. She put them in the rich compost pile to get used to their new home. As we ‘dress the plants’, the earth worms can do their job in the raised beds. She also applies clean grass clippings (not grass that has been sprayed with insecticides). The grass clippings help to reduce weeds and help the soil to retain moisture. Our head gardener also likes to add different vegetables each year and rotates all the crops. Last year we had sweet potatoes for the first time and they did very well. They are a late crop so we had our final cleanup for the season in mid-October.

President of the garden, Joe Coan, says, “We have been experimenting with days and hours to work in the garden to see which days and times seem to be more convenient for volunteers to attend. We currently work Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to noon. We ask all volunteers to sign a waiver prior to working. Besides our regular volunteers, we also host groups who want to volunteer, i.e., a business wanting to do some team-building, real estate offices wanting to energize their agents, United Way’s Day of Caring, Department of Defense, banks, Garden Clubs. Every request is given consideration so if this is of interest to you, please give me a call and I’ll be happy to answer any questions you may have.”

Even though we are a volunteer organization, it still takes money to run the garden. Early each year we run a fundraising campaign with banks and businesses that donate funds so we can buy equipment, parts for the irrigation system, plants, herbs and flowers not donated, and other small essentials. We are very thankful that the community has been so generous. We also apply for grants. We did receive a \$6,000 grant from The Last Green Valley and are currently waiting on another grant once the “Water Project” has been completed. That grant is waiting on the

Town of Sturbridge DPW to install a direct connection to the underground piping reaching the garden. Once that has been completed, we’ll be able to finalize the grant paperwork and hopefully we’ll have more water pressure to help reduce the time we spend watering.

Last year we hosted a Garden Party for our sponsors, donors and volunteers. Chef Popp, one of our volunteers and a culinary arts teacher at Tantasqua, prepared all the food in a garden theme. The food was fabulous and a great time was had by all who attended. We plan a similar party again this year. We like to keep in touch with our sponsors, donors, volunteers and town officials. Each month, we email a one-page “Dirt Bulletin” letting them know what we are doing at the garden.

What are our numbers? We average about 3,000 pounds of veggies each year. Last year we served 1,123 people at the Pantry which included 267 seniors. Our total volunteer hours for the 2021 season in the garden was 804.

What are our plans for the future at the garden? We’d like to have the students from the Tantasqua Carpentry department re-side the small shed and we’d like to have the technical division at Tantasqua create a new, user-friendly website. Lastly, we like to create a pollinator garden. While we currently have some garden flowers inside the garden, we’d like to get flowering bushes to plant in the bank as you enter the garden. Having bushes outside the garden would help to attract additional beneficial bugs as well as butterflies that can then enter the garden to do their work.

Check out the garden’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CFCGardens/ or website at <http://cfcgarden.org> or email us at CFCGarden357@gmail.com. The garden committee welcomes volunteers, donations of funds, new or used garden tools, and in-kind services. Pay a visit and take a look at the garden and see the amazing work these volunteers are doing for our local communities.

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