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Friday, May 20, 2022

# Charlton bandshell project details revealed

BY JASON BLEAU  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The potential for a new town music venue in Charlton has been floating around for several years, but residents got a much clearer picture of the concept during a meeting of the Board of Selectmen on May 10.

Donald Konopacki, President of the 501C3 fundraising group Charlton Rec Friends and a member of the Activities Council, appeared before selectmen to discuss the idea of bringing a bandshell to town. While the concept has been mentioned at town meetings the larger scope of the idea hasn't seen much attention in

the public forum. It all started in 2017 when a survey showed citizen interest in an outdoor amphitheater or performance space. It was one of only two items in the top five on the survey that weren't related to local trails. A band stand, a more gazebo like alternative to a bandshell, was also included in Charlton's seven-year plan and Amazon recently committed \$350,000 toward constructing a bandshell in its negotiations with the town over the last year.

This has led to citizens wondering exactly what this project might look like. Konopacki hoped to answer those questions through a presentation

detailing potential costs and a few examples of similar projects as well as the difference between the larger, stage-like bandshell and the smaller, less performer-friendly band stand.

"A band stand is typically open air on all sides and the problem is the acoustics are terrible," Konopacki told selectmen. The current plan would erect the bandshell on a portion of 4 Dresser Hill Road, the home of the Charlton Arts & Activities Center. "We decided to look and see if we could talk with the Recreation Committee because it seemed like there's a chance for some synergy with our efforts. It's an ideal place to put a bandshell

because with the Activities Center there you can do more than just have a concert."

Konopacki provided visual examples of bandshells from other communities throughout not just Massachusetts, but the United States with varying prices. He assumed Charlton's project would cost more than the \$350,000 provided by Amazon. However, he noted that the Massachusetts Cultural Council offers a matching Facilities Grant of up to \$200,000 which the Amazon money would allow them to qualify to receive. If approved with the maximum amount allocated that would give the town \$550,000 to fund

the bandshell.

While selectmen liked the idea, several stressed that, like many other projects, they could not support putting the burden of the cost on taxpayers. Selectman Bill Borowski was honest in stating outside funding is likely the only way the project will happen.

"My two recommendations would be one, any type of design would fit our rural character. I don't think we need anything too avant-garde down there. Additionally, the other thing is just to be practical. More than likely we're not going to be able to fund

Please Read **BANDSHELL**, page **A2**



Photo courtesy Worcester Trolleys Remembered, Stephen Carlson and Thomas Harding

A car from the Southbridge & Sturbridge Street Railway, chartered in 1896, travels down Main St., Southbridge.

## Trolley talk at Southbridge Historical Society

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — A century ago, the idea of the private automobile was just becoming "a thing." For many people, the primary form of transport around town and the region was by trolley.

Last Wednesday, Auburn historian Ken Ethier told a small audience at the Southbridge Historical Society a bit about that period. He noted some of his knowledge came from his

grandfather, who worked on the lines with four brothers.

The idea, Ethier said, actually dates back to around the Civil War. In Worcester, "they started putting tracks in" for horse-drawn wagons with roofs between Lincoln and Webster squares. The concept failed financially, with a second attempt around 1870.

The following decade, "this new electric thing was getting very popular," and real trolleys started taking hold. But

the firms "had to generate [their] own electricity," typically using coal, to power the 600 volt DC lines.

That created hazards. With the earliest lines embedded in the roads, they occasionally saw horses and even people get electrocuted by stepping on both rails at the same time. That prompted people to put the lines overhead, where they still are in places that use trolleys.

Please Read **TROLLEY**, page **A2**

## Charlton Officer Gribbons promoted to Sergeant



Courtesy Photo

Pictured, from left, are Chief Daniel Dowd, Newly Promoted Sgt. Anthony Gribbons and Lt. Gary Mason.

BY JASON BLEAU  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The Charlton Police Department has a new Sergeant in its ranks with the appointment of Anthony Gribbons at the

May 10 meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Gribbons was promoted from within the department after finishing first on a civil service assessment performed several months ago. He succeeds Lt. Gary Mason who was promoted in the fall.

"Anthony has been a police officer for over 18 years. He was also dispatch before being a police officer. He's been a tremendous asset since coming to Charlton. He has a bachelor's degree from Assumption College.

He's got a master's degree from Anna Maria College. He's also a graduate from the Massachusetts School of Law. He gets along well with his peers, he's a smart guy, he's hard working, and he wants to be here. I think that's a recipe for success," Chief Daniel Dowd said of the candidate.

Sgt. Gribbons himself said he was happy to continue serving the town of Charlton and enter a new phase of his career in law enforcement. "I enjoy working here and all the opportunities I've had in town," Gribbons said.

Selectmen unanimously approved Gribbons appointment completing a round of promotions that has filled out the Charlton Police command staff over the past year.

## Shepherd Hill principal search continues, former candidates not recommended

BY JASON BLEAU  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The search is back on for a new principal of Shepherd Hill Regional High School after the finalists announced in April were not recommended for the job after meeting with the public and district representatives.

The Principal Search Committee had previously named Elizabeth York, currently principal of David Prouty High in Spencer, and Doug Daponde, assistant

principal in Mount Everett Regional School, as the finalists from the initial round of interviews. On April 27, Dr. Brian Ackerman, assistant superintendent for teaching and learning for the Dudley Charlton Regional School District and lead representative of the Search Committee, revealed that neither candidate was recommended as the final choice for the job.

"After hearing and consolidating feedback from all the stakeholder cohorts, the decision has been made to reopen the posting for the position

of principal of Shepherd Hill Regional High School," Dr. Ackerman said. "We will look to fill this position prior to the start of the 2022-2023 school year."

Dr. Ackerman provided another update during the School Committee's May 11 meeting where he revealed that 16 candidates have applied for the position and the Search Committee continues to work through each applicant with the intent of naming finalists before the end of the month.

"Currently those applica-

tions have been shared with all the members of the team and, because of scheduling, we're going to have folks review them asynchronously on their own time. There's a couple hundred pages of documents for folks to go through. I want to applaud the work and confidentiality of the committee," said Dr. Ackerman. "The goal will be to identify three candidates from the group to interview and we're currently shooting for May 24 as that day. After that interview, then we'd like to bring forward the finalist candidates

so that they can connect with the assistant principals and Superintendent Lamarche."

Initially the Search Committee was going to skip the public meet and greet in the second cycle of candidates due to time constraints, but the School Committee recommended the meet and greet be part of the process. This would push the naming of a final candidates until June. Dr. Ackerman also confirmed that if a candidate is not chosen from the second round a backup plan with an interim principal is in place.

**TROLLEY**

continued from page A1

One of them, Cambridge, shut down their last trolley (which looks just like a bus with overhead power) in March, according to WGBH.org. The MBTA plans to replace them briefly with diesel hybrid buses as the system transitions to full-electric in a couple years.

Ethier said the first trolley in Southbridge was running by 1902, with the four-mile Southbridge-Sturbridge line costing five cents. That year, developers completed a line to Worcester

“financed by the Wells family,” which provided the “very, very fast time” of 45 minutes from here to the city.

The Wellses soon found out the person they had as treasurer for the project was embezzling money, which he’d used to build Overlook Hotel in Charlton and Pinehurst Park in Auburn. Overlook, now a Masonic nursing home, was intended as a stop for the steam train to draw rich travelers, “but these millionaires never really took off,” Ethier said.

Pinehurst was designed basically as a way to use the excess electricity. In those days, trolley power plants needed to run seven days, but only provided five days of transport; the extra power fueled a small carnival site. But “people went out there at night and raised hell,”

Ethier noted, with various street gangs – including the 40 Thieves (male) and 40 Mollies (female) – getting into fights and vandalizing the place.

Despite such troubles, the trolley itself was “really hot for about 20 years, profitable,” he said. At its peak, riders could take one trolley from Boston to Springfield. “Back then, that was quite a thing to be able to do,” he said.

Some roads were built specifically for them, including Hamilton Street, which was the trolley route around the steep Main Street hill. The old brick road and trolley lines are still under the pavement, with a sample preserved at the corner of Hamilton and Main.

Hamer Clarke noted the main local stop was where Savers Bank now is. Steve Brady said the company erected an electric pole right in front of the Hartwell’s Pharmacy door. When they refused to move it, then-selectman Jack Callahan “got an axe and chopped the pole down,” he said.

Maureen Doyle observed this time period was chronicled fictionally in Robert McMaster’s book Trolley Days, which focuses on Southbridge and the Springfield area.

Farmers helped the system expand, but “usually didn’t want anything to do with it” at first, Ethier said. The trolley firms often offered to provide the farms

with electricity and a stop to run the trolley line across their property. Those stops “quite often turned into somebody selling bread, groceries, bullets” and other products to the travelers who got off. Similarly, he said, the dairies soon found “they could send [their milk] in and not have to worry about it at all;” previously, they’d have had to take all day to cart their milk to Worcester.

Residents of Southbridge were also skeptical at first, fearing “it’d take all kinds of business from the businessmen in town,” he added. But it proved just the opposite, drawing people to town.

The trolley system was eventually killed off by the rising popularity of Model T Fords, bankruptcy, and collusion between several companies that profited from cars and buses. The 1949 US v. National City Lines Supreme Court decision found General Motors, Firestone Tire, Standard Oil of California, Phillips Petroleum, and Mack Trucks guilty of conspiracy to buy up and destroy trolley lines in multiple US cities, but only fined them \$1 each.

By then, trolleys were all but defunct in most places. Sometimes, drivers of the more accessible cars “would ride along the [trolley] lines, and if it was five cents, they’d take you for three cents,” Ethier said. He noted the last area trolley ran the Worcester to Leicester route in the 1930s.

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



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**BANDSHELL**

continued from page A1

this with anything except the money from Amazon and any additional grant money,” said Borowski.

Cost aside, selectmen saw the bandshell as a good idea. Selectwoman Barbara Zurawski called it an important tool to further increase Charlton’s sense of community and culture. “I think it’s crucial to the cultural development of any town to have some kind of a place of gathering for the community to come out and enjoy life. It’s just that simple. I think this is a great idea and a great opportunity for this town to have such a thing,” she said.

Town Administrator Andrew Golas concluded the conversation recommending that a Bandshell Building Committee be formed to produce an RFP and plans for the project as well as more solidified costs which would help with applying for grant funding to see the project through.

# Spring Service Event

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# James Amorello is looking to make history



James Amorello

Courtesy photo

HOLDEN/WORCESTER — At 24, James Amorello is looking to make history as the third youngest State Senator ever elected in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as he vies to become the first person to serve the new Worcester and Hampshire State Senate District. Amorello was raised in both Worcester and Holden, playing basketball, golfing, and growing up with friends and family throughout the district. James' upbringing led him to understand that hard work leads to success. His uncles, Joe and Jim run A.F. Amorello & Sons, Inc. a company that has been passed down from father to son for three generations dating back to 1914. Another uncle, Dan Amorello, built Dan Amorello Services, Inc. from the ground up. His father, Robert, is a prominent Worcester

County trial lawyer. James Amorello's experiences living in both Holden and Worcester, give him a unique and informed understanding of this Senate District and the people living in it. He also spent a year living in Queens, New York while studying at St. John's University. "I am excited to have the opportunity to serve everybody in our new Worcester and Hampshire State District. People are ready for change in Massachusetts. They are excited to meet a young Republican with common sense ideas and care for people that can be easily applied to the State Senate District," said Amorello. In addition to his Senate bid, Amorello plays basketball recreationally and serves on the Holden Board of Registrars. He is also active on the local Republican Town Committee, and manages his investments in the stock market. Amorello has studied the economy extensively and

understands what causes it to react as it does in real-time and on a historic basis. He knows the importance of implementing responsible public policies that work for, not against the people. "We have all been hurt by failed economic policies, responsible for driving inflation to near record highs," says Amorello. "We must teach financial literacy in schools, and encourage fiscal responsibility in future generations. Additionally, we need to protect small businesses, that provide goods to us and bring value daily. We must make things less expensive for people." The election is Nov. 8. Those interested in supporting James can donate on winred and by mailing contributions to: James Amorello Committee P.O. Box 181 Holden, MA 01520

## Fiskdale's Ellithorpe graduates from SUNY ESF

On May 7, Emily Ellithorpe graduated Magna Cum Laude with her B.S. in Environmental Resources Engineering from SUNY ESF (State University of New York Environmental Science and Forestry). Throughout her past four years as an undergraduate she was involved in many clubs including Engineers Without Borders and New Student Orientation. She was also involved in the New York Water Environment Association where she worked on community projects, traveled to compete in design competitions and held both President and Vice President positions. She was a member of the timber sports team where she helped carry on the women's team legacy by bringing home the spring meet trophy this past season. Emily will be working at an engineering firm in Syracuse to pursue water and wastewater design projects.

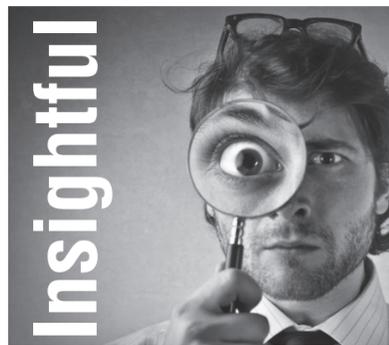


Emily Ellithorpe

Courtesy photo

## Local firefighters from Charlton, Southbridge to graduate from State Fire Academy

STOW — State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA) leadership will present certificates of completion to 61 graduating recruits during ceremonies, including locals from Charlton and Southbridge in the Springfield campus.



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### Town of Sturbridge – Program Referee

The Town of Sturbridge is currently seeking applicants for the position of Basketball Program Referee. Recreation Basketball Programs meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 1 2022- July 14, 2022 from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Cedar Recreation Area. Prior refreeing experience preferred. Starting rate of pay is \$15.75 per hour.

Sturbridge is a Drug-Free workplace and EOE. Applications can be downloaded at [www.sturbridge.gov](http://www.sturbridge.gov).

Please submit applications to Sturbridge Recreation Department, 301 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566 or email to [recreation@sturbridge.gov](mailto:recreation@sturbridge.gov)

Applications accepted until filled however priority consideration will be given to applicants applying by noon on May 27, 2022.



## UPCOMING EVENTS TO CELEBRATE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY of East Brookfield

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## Friday's Child



**Shyanne - 05/15**  
**Age 12**

**Hi! My name is Shyanne and I am a social butterfly!**

Shyanne is a funny, caring, and outgoing young lady of Caucasian descent. She is known as a social butterfly that makes friends easily and enjoys spending time with her peers. Shyanne is also able to hold conversations with the adults in her life and is able to request attention from them in an appropriate manner. Shyanne is very artistic and is an especially talented drawer. She is also interested in participating in sports, such as soccer, track, and jiu-jitsu. Shyanne is special in that she can find the positive in almost any situation and is very insightful. She is very in-tune with her emotions and the emotions of others around her.

Shyanne is a good student overall. She works with her teachers to improve her math skills and appreciates receiving support to complete her homework. Shyanne would like to attend college in the future and would like to pursue a career in teaching. She loves to be helpful and enjoys assisting others with the daily routines in life.

Legally freed for adoption, Shyanne's biological parents have an open adoption agreement to stay in contact with her. She also has siblings that she is very bonded with, so a potential family would need to facilitate these relationships as she grows. We are seeking a family of any constellation, including other siblings in the home. She will thrive in a home with a strong maternal role model that can set appropriate limits and boundaries. Shyanne does well in a family setting and is eager to find her forever home. Social workers would like to find a family that has parented before and understands how trauma affects a child's ability to process emotions. A patient family that is willing to build trust with Shyanne over time is ideal.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/6524>

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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](http://www.mareinc.org). Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.

# Center of Hope Foundation runs successful Cinco de Mile Road Race

SOUTHBRIDGE — Disability awareness, inclusion, and equal opportunities are just some of the many reasons why people gathered at the Center of Hope Foundation (CoHF) and participated in the Cinco de Mile Road Race, running through Southbridge on Saturday, April 30.

If you ask people what they hope for, from most you will hear answers like: good luck, good health, and good fortune. Now if you ask a person with disabilities what they hope for, you will hear answers like: to be included, to

have the same opportunities as everyone else, and to be treated the same as others. That is what this road race is about.

The Cinco de Mile not only raised money to help support our programs, but it also gave people who can't run a race the opportunity to participate and cross the finish line. The smile on everyone's face is why we do what we do, and we couldn't do it without the support from local businesses and members of the community. Together we make a difference and thank all the

businesses who sponsored this event and everyone who came and participated in the race.

Congratulations to the top 5K finishers, Monique Perron and Kyle Graves, and to our 10K top finishers, Emily Dickson and Paul Watson.

We would also like to thank The Hoyt Foundation and Team Hoyt for their generous donation of \$15k. Russ and Rick Hoyt presented the check after Rick participated as a Team Hoyt Duo with his nephews. We are truly grateful for The Hoyt Foundation's support and

are proud to be a partner with a family who makes such a positive impact on the disability community. "Thank you for all you do."

Once again, we would like to thank our sponsors: Team Hoyt, The Hoyt Foundation, Sam Adams, Angel Guard Products, Sneakerama, Cornerstone Bank, Southbridge Credit Union, OFS Fitel, Burrito Hut, Lamoureux Ford, Southbridge Tire, Exsel Advertising, and Cormier Jewelers.

## Charlton natives inducted into honor societies at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — A pair of Charlton natives recently accomplished high marks at Quinnipiac University.

Gabrielle Figueroa was recently inducted into the university's Gamma Rho Chapter of The Phi Sigma Biological Sciences Honors Society at Quinnipiac University.

The Phi Sigma Society is the national honor society devoted to the promotion of undergraduate and graduate student

research and academic excellence in the biological sciences. The inductees were selected for membership based upon academic major, grade-point average and participation in research.

Veronica Dias DeSouza was inducted into Quinnipiac's chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the National Communication Association's official honor society, during a recent ceremony.

To be eligible for induction, students

must complete 60 semester credit-hours; have a minimum overall cumulative grade point average of 3.0; complete the equivalent of 12 semester credit-hours in communication studies; have a minimum GPA of 3.25 for all communication studies courses and be enrolled as a student in good standing, as determined by the institution's policies.

## Area seniors to view the scenery of Casco Bay

On Thursday, June 16 area seniors are joining Bob Wilby of Paxton to first have lunch at DiMillo's famous floating restaurant on the waterfront of downtown Portland, Maine. After a delicious lunch of either Honey Baked Scallops or Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast, served with New England clam chowder, potato and vegetable, finished off with bread pudding with bourbon sauce, we will have a short walk to the pier.

At the pier, we will board the Casco Bay Lines Mailboat. This is a working boat that delivers mail, freight and groceries to the residents and a few businesses of the many Casco Bay Islands. From the boat we see the beauty of these islands. As we leave the harbor, we will see firsthand the indus-

try of the port of Portland, Maine.

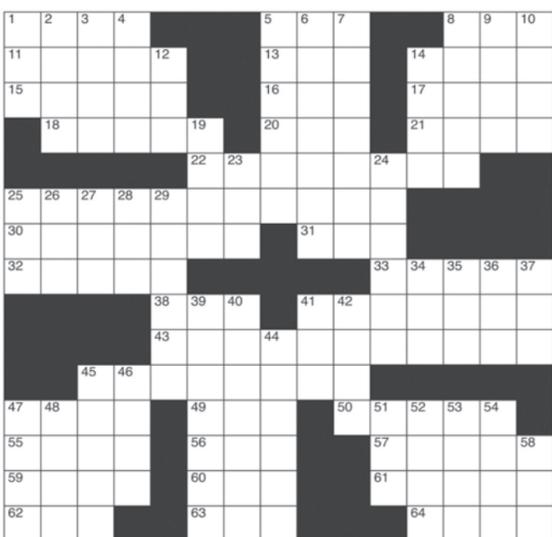
Our Wilson bus will depart the Paxton Senior Center at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 16. Reservations are needed by May 26 to Bob Wilby. You can email him at [rwilby@charter.net](mailto:rwilby@charter.net) or call (508) 792-4662.

Checks should be made payable to Wilson Bus Lines and mailed to Bob at 11 Tanglewood Rd, Paxton, MA 01612 by June 1. With your check, please include your luncheon entree choice.

The cost of this wonderful day on the Maine coast is \$126 per person.

Our trips are open to all area citizens and ages. Please join us!

Save the date of Wednesday, July 13, as we travel to Southern Maine for a Lobster Bake.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Scream loudly
- 5. Antidepressant (abbr.)
- 8. The bill in a restaurant
- 11. Oblong pulpits
- 13. Adult female chicken
- 14. Abnormal breathing
- 15. Financial obligations
- 16. Belonging to a thing
- 17. Winged
- 18. Peoples
- 20. College hoops tournament
- 21. An informal body of friends
- 22. Region of the world
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Connected by kinship
- 31. Type of tree
- 32. Official order
- 33. Foundation for an idea
- 38. Small, faint constellation
- 41. Book lovers
- 43. Vegetable
- 45. Cabbage variety
- 47. A way to heal
- 49. Illuminated
- 50. Dish that features a stick
- 55. Insurance-related costs (abbr.)
- 56. Solid water
- 57. Soldier's gear
- 59. "Uncle Buck" actress Hoffmann
- 60. Former measure of length
- 61. Arabic name meaning "spring"
- 62. Doctors' group
- 63. Actress Susan
- 64. Appropriate

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cool!
- 2. Hebrew unit of measure
- 3. Swedish rock group
- 4. College army
- 5. Black eye
- 6. One who stopped working
- 7. Teach a value
- 8. Rhythmic patterns
- 9. "MASH" actor Alda
- 10. "Friday Night Lights" director
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Indian musical pattern
- 19. Fulfill a desire
- 23. Water soaked soil
- 24. Brass instrument
- 25. Before
- 26. Popular color
- 27. Peyton's little brother
- 28. Partner to cheese
- 29. Put onto
- 34. "Much \_\_\_ about nothing"
- 35. A way to mend
- 36. Anger
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Mobilized
- 40. Resembles an earlobe
- 41. Cut of meat
- 42. Nigerian people
- 44. Recently
- 45. Square stone building at Mecca
- 46. Adhere to orders
- 47. Adventure story
- 48. Marine bivalve mollusk
- 51. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- 52. Actor Pitt
- 53. Tibetan village
- 54. A way to change by heating
- 58. A beam of sunshine

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

R	O	A	R		S	R	I		T	A	B				
A	M	B	O	S		H	E	N		R	A	L	E		
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\$375,000, 28 Sturbridge Hills Rd #28, Darrin, David B, and Mapplebeck-Darrin, Leigh, to Lucier, Robert, and Lorion-Lucier, Carole A.

# Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students inducted into National Technical Honor Society

DOUGLAS — Four Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) on Sunday, May 8 during an in-person ceremony held amidst the apple blossoms at Douglas Orchard and Farms. The outside event marked the seventh annual induction ceremony for the Academy.

Every year, practical nursing students eagerly look forward to this prestigious event, according to Academy Director, Dr. Gretheline Bolandrina, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN. "Being inducted into the NTHS and making it through nursing school is a feather in their cap! The PN students juggle school, work, and family life, it is quite a feat to be inducted to the NTHS," said Bolandrina, who has been organizing the induction ceremony for the last 7 years. This year is the third year the NTHS induction was held at the Douglas Orchard and Farms.

The practical nursing students are eligible for induction based on their grade point average, faculty recommendation, character, and leadership involvement

*Courtesy photo*  
**Sarah Garcia of Charlton was one of four Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students inducted into the National Technical Honor Society.**

in extracurricular activities, and clubs. These characteristics reflect the member attributes of the National Technical Honor Society which are skill, honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership.

"It is amazing how serendipitously we ended at Douglas Orchard and Farms to celebrate our student nurses' achievements at the start of COVID-19 pandemic three years ago turned into tradition. Our practical nursing students and their families enjoyed the beautiful setting of Douglas Orchard and Farms," added Bolandrina. "The practical nursing students remain resilient, kind, and caring. They navigated the rigorous program through these challenging times and continue to participate in many volunteer activities to help the community."



PN Class of 2022 NTHS Inductees were Sarah Garcia of Charlton, Kennedy Irungu of Shrewsbury, Eunice

Kamau, and Marvellous Undag, both of Worcester.

## Bay Path's Dr. Olivar Completes ACEN Workshop in Virginia



*Courtesy photo*

**Dr. Ana Olivar, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN**

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy full-time faculty, Dr. Ana Olivar, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN completed the ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) administrator's workshop and Self-study forum held at Alexandria, Va. The ACEN "supports the interests of nursing education, nursing practice, and the public by providing specialized accredi-

tation for all levels of nursing education and transition-to-practice programs. As the leading authority in nursing education accreditation, the goal of the ACEN is to be a supportive partner in strengthening the quality of nursing education and transition-to-practice programs." Dr. Olivar of Rutland completed her Doctor of Education degree at Northcentral University (NCU). She previously earned her Master of Science in Nursing from Walden University (Nursing Education Track) in 2013 and Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the Cebu City Medical Center College in Nursing in the Philippines in 1996. She is a registered nurse with more than 25 years of experience in the classroom as full-time faculty, managerial as RN Manager, and as RN/Weekend Supervisor. She has held teaching positions at Blackstone Valley Technical School, Quinsigamond Community College, and Massachusetts Bay Community College. She has held nursing positions at University Commons UMass Memorial Health Care, Neuro Rehabilitation Center at Worcester (Ventilator Unit), Whittier Rehabilitation Hospital and West Side House.

In attendance with Dr. Olivar was Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director. According to ACEN, "the Program Administrator Workshop is designed and developed specifically for program administrators, faculty, coordinators,

and other positions that have administrative responsibilities for the nursing program and/or nursing education unit. Workshop topics include roles/responsibilities for program leaders, themes from ACEN Standards and Criteria, integration of ACEN policies, and maintenance of ACEN accreditation."

At the Self-study workshop, both Dr. Olivar and Dr. Bolandrina reviewed six ACEN Standards with the ACEN in-house nurse educators and gained a deeper understanding of each Criterion within the Standards. The goal is to support nursing faculty and administrators with demonstrating compliance and provide guidance for writing the Self-Study Report for individual programs in preparation for the ACEN site visit.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy runs a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health, Board of Registration in Nursing ([www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn)). The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education ([www.council.org](http://www.council.org)).

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# Cornerstone Bank and CEO recognized by YMCA of Central Massachusetts



WORCESTER—Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, along with Chief Executive Officer Todd Tallman were recently awarded the YMCA of Central Massachusetts' Strengthening Foundations of Community Award. For more than 20 years, Cornerstone Bank has served not only as a banking partner to the YMCA, but also provided volunteer and financial support to the organization. Leading by example was Tallman, who is an active and engaged supporter of YMCA's mission and cause.

"I was so honored to receive this award along with my entire organization," said Tallman.

"I firmly believe the YMCA of Central Massachusetts changes the lives of many in our community, and I have been so proud over the past two decades to have a small hand in their success. I want to thank all my colleagues for also adopting those same values and jumping in to volunteer and raise funds for the Y."

Over the years, Cornerstone Bank has supported the YMCA through annual and capital campaigns, youth development program grants, and a multitude of event sponsorships, including the YMCA's Annual Golf Classic. Tallman and the Cornerstone team have also volunteered at the United Way Day of Caring at Camp Foskett,

run by the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

"We look forward to a continued partnership with our local YMCA," continued Tallman. "The aligned values of the Y and Cornerstone Bank include supporting our communities, educating and enriching the lives of children, and helping our neighbors in need. Our area of the state is a better place because of the YMCA, and we are excited to continue collaborating with this fulfilling organization."

The Strengthening Foundations of Community Award was presented at the YMCA's 158th Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Event held on April 20, 2022.

## 'An Afternoon of Italian Opera' to benefit Worcester Organ at Mechanics Hall

WORCESTER — The sumptuous and tantalizing sounds of some of the most beloved Italian operas will fill Mechanics Hall on Sunday, May 22 during a special performance to benefit the great Worcester Organ. "An Afternoon of Italian Opera" will feature well-known musical selections, including excerpts from Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, Verdi's *La traviata*, Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* and L'elisir d'amore (*The Elixir of Love*), performed by Ukrainian soprano, Olga Lisovskaya, Neapolitan tenor Giovanni Formisano, and Leonardo Ciampa at the piano. The benefit concert, organized by The Friends of the Worcester Organ and held at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main Street, Worcester, begins at 4pm. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at [mechanicshall.org](http://mechanicshall.org) or by call-

ing the Mechanics Hall Box Office at 508-752-5608.

"The Worcester Organ is the centerpiece of our exquisite Great Hall. And it is also the pride of our city, whose past generosity helped pay to build the organ in 1864, as well as restore the Hall in 1977," said Kathleen Gagne, Executive Director of Mechanics Hall. "We are grateful to The Friends of the Worcester Organ for organizing this very special celebration of Italian opera to support this magnificent instrument."

"It is one of the greatest honors of my life to play and compose for the Worcester Organ, which was constructed by the Hook brothers of Boston, among the country's greatest 19th-century organ builders" said Leonardo Ciampa, Mechanics Hall Composer-in-Residence and organizer of "An Afternoon of Italian Opera."

"This outstanding instrument is truly a "Stradivarius" of organs, one of the best ever built and a treasure that needs constant maintenance and care. With this special celebration, The Friends of the Worcester Organ hope to raise important funds so the organ continues to delight generations to come."

The doors to Mechanics Hall will open at 3:30pm on the day of the event. The accessible entrance is located on Waldo Street. Elevators are located in the ground-floor lobby and provide access to the second and third floors; there is no elevator access to the balcony. Those who need assistance can contact the Mechanics Hall Ticket Office, Monday through Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm, by calling 508-752-5608.

## Sturbridge Historical Society meeting set for May 26

The Sturbridge Historical Society meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26 at The Public House Historical Inn on The Sturbridge Common. Our guest speaker will be Emily Thomas, history professor at Nichols College on the life of Clara Barton.

Emily Thomas's program will cover Clara Barton's long and active life as a teacher, civil war nurse, and president of The American Red Cross. After highlighting her teaching career and work at the patent office in Washington D.C., she will focus on her work during the Civil War, including Battles of Antietam and Fredericksburg. The program will conclude Clara Barton's founding of The American Red Cross in 1881.

Emily Thomas received a BA in History and an AMA from Clark University in Worcester and has been teaching history at Nichols

College. Since 2000 her teachings include Women's History, Medical History, Civil Rights Movements and a History of Ghosts. Emily is a tour guide and researcher at the Clara Barton Birthplace Museum in North Oxford, MA and is currently working on an encyclopedic volume of Clara Barton's life that will be published by Rowman and Litchfield.

Historical Society meetings are free of charge with dessert and meeting room provided by Michael Glick, Public House Innkeeper. Our sincere thanks go out to Mr. Glick. Meetings are held September through May on the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December. November meeting is held the first Thursday in December. All meetings start at 7 p.m. Public is welcome.



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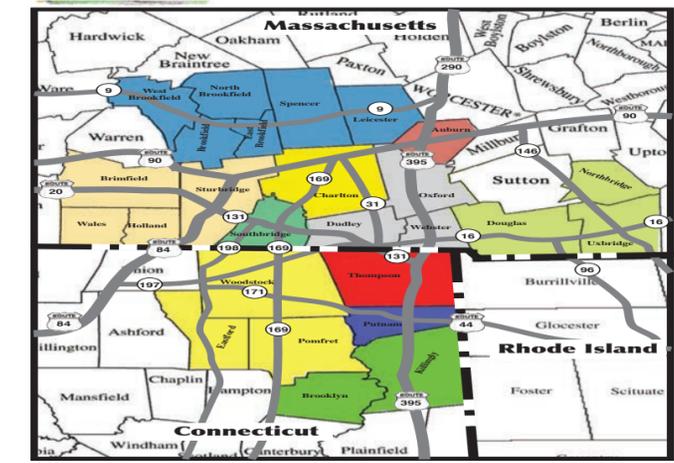
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 EDITOR

# OPINION

## TO THE EDITOR

### Thank you, Charlton Voters!

To the Editor:  
 I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who came out to vote on Saturday, May 7 for Charlton's annual town election. I also want to congratulate Kelly Szela and Jaime Dell'Ovo for winning election as our newest members of the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee. We have an excellent public school system and I know

that it will be in good hands with Kelly, Jaime and the entire Committee. It has been an honor and privilege to serve our community as a member of the School Committee these past 3 years — best wishes and thanks for the opportunity to serve!

KENNY LAFERRIERE  
 CHARLTON

## Senioritis: what's it all about?

We've all heard the term 'senioritis' but is this diagnosis real? After some lengthy research, we say absolutely. Senioritis is defined as, 'A supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school or college, characterized by a decline in motivation or performance.' The end is near with graduation just around the corner, and many seniors can taste freedom, but aren't quite sure what to do with it. Even with some students heading off to college, the fear of the unknown combined with a complete change in the cadence in life is enough to make several seniors come down with a serious case of senioritis. The senioritis is a way to break away from the stress and rigors of 13 years of schooling.

Some signs of the affliction include a lack of motivation, a decline in grades or feeling as though nothing they do in the final months leading up to graduation really matters much. Most students' entire senior years of high school are spent trying to plan for the future, this can be daunting and stressful for these kids, who are still really, just kids. Some symptoms parents should look for include extreme laziness, apathy, spending all of their free time with friends away from home.

Unfortunately, the rapid decline in motivation does not go unseen by universities. After being accepted, many schools will look at a student's last semester, and a substantial decrease in grades raises a red flag. This has admissions offices questioning a prospective student's level of commitment and the question of maturity is also put on the table. If the situation is bad enough a college or university can rescind an acceptance. Each year thousands of students receive such letters. Sometimes a student will enter their freshman year of college already on academic probation. If a student was issued merit aid from an institution, they risk losing those funds.

There are things that can be done to help offset senioritis. One thing a student can do is to set tiny goals such as getting a B or higher on the next quiz or test, or to finish an assignment ahead of time. Working on better ways to study for tests is also crucial. Too much pressure can cause students to shut down so taking some time to relax and have fun with family and friends is a great idea.

Another idea is for parents and teachers to reassure students that life after high school is an exciting time and that not every graduate needs a definitive plan right away. Explain different opportunities for a gap year, including the pros and cons of taking one.

If your child becomes more and more disengaged, it's important to keep them on track. Remembering to reward good behavior is a must. If your child is behaving in such a way that they become emotionally removed, disobedient and disrespectful, taking a gap year might be the best option as college is expensive and tuition should never go to waste. Trade schools, the military or the work force are also excellent options. After all, happiness is the most important driver for success.

## Tips to grow 'plants in a pot' for patio or porch

There are many reasons to plant a vegetable garden, among them the security of knowing where the food you bring to the table comes from. The current economy, coupled with food safety issues, has contributed to a surge in backyard gardening — add to that back porch, patio, and windowsill gardening!

For those who don't have room to plant a sprawling plot, container gardens fit the bill. From whiskey barrels to plastic buckets, plants are sprouting up on back decks, front porches, and even on balconies. Many vegetables grow successfully when contained in pots. Benefits include the ability to position the pots to increase growing condition, and a reduced risk of pest invasions.

Crop Pickings: Luckily, some of the best loved vegetables are appropriate for container gardening. Crops that do well include tomatoes, lettuce, peppers, cucumbers, beans, as well as, carrots, cabbage, peas, beans, beets, cauliflower and broccoli. In addition, there are many varieties of dwarf vegetables that are specially bred to grow well in containers. Once you've decided which plants to pot up, there are a few general rules to follow to ensure thriving container crops.

Container Choices: The size of the container depends upon the crop that will be grown. Typically most vegetables can thrive as long as there is enough space for proper root development. Shallow rooted crops such as lettuce, peppers, radishes, and herbs require a space at least six inches in diameter with an eight inch soil depth. Tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and beans grow well in deeper buckets, such as five gallon buckets, half whiskey barrels, and deep patio pots. Bushel baskets, half barrels, wooden tubs, or large pressed paper containers are ideal for growing tomatoes, squash, pole beans, and cucumbers. Note that container plants do best when transplanted from seedlings into the container, allowing for a hardening off period.

Select Soil: The perfect planting material for containers should provide quick and steady drainage with enough water retention to keep the roots moist. Some gardeners suggest a traditional soil mix, others prefer a soil free potting mix that offers a lightweight medium that is free from soil borne diseases. A good rule of thumb is to mix equal parts of sand, garden soil and peat moss. This mixture may be heated in a low oven for an hour to kill any weeds, insects or bacteria.

Water Well: Proper watering is essential for a successful container garden, due to the fact its root system is restricted. Usually once a day is sufficient, but keep mind containers are much apt to dry out in hot weather, causing the plant to produce poorly or worse. Also, avoid soaking the leaves when watering, as wet foliage encourages disease. And make sure the pot is equipped with proper drainage. Inadequate drainage will cause the mix to become water logged, and the plants will be deprived of necessary oxygen.

Proper Placement: Placement is important, since growing vegetables need at least five hours of direct sunlight each day. Flowering and root vegetables need even more sun. Check the requirements of each variety you are growing. Since the container garden offers mobility, moving a pot to ensure it receives sufficient sunlight is a valuable advantage.

Pot Couture: Container vegetable plants can do double duty. An attractive garden pot or two on a deck or patio adds ambiance to an outdoor space. A row of trellised pole bean pots can serve as a decorative barrier along a deck or balcony. And a window box of lettuce, radishes and peppers, not only offers lush greenery, but handy salad pickings at your fingertips.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House — Contest has resumed!

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.



TAKE THE HINT  
 KAREN TRAINOR

## Retiring early? Know your health care choices

Life doesn't always go as planned. For example, you might think you'll retire at 65 or later, when you'll be eligible for Medicare. But if you retire before then, how will you pay for your health care?

Without insurance, you risk incurring thousands of dollars of expenses if you are injured or become seriously ill. And if you must pay for these costs out of pocket, you might have to dip into your IRA, 401(k) or other retirement accounts earlier than you had planned — which could result in a less desirable retirement lifestyle than you had envisioned.



FINANCIAL FOCUS  
 TREVOR NIELSON

What, then, are your options? It depends on your situation, but here are four possibilities:

Employer retiree health benefits — If your former employer offers health coverage to retirees, it could well be your best choice, especially if the employer continues to pay a share of the premiums. However, fewer employers are offering continuing health coverage to former employees,

and among those who do, they may use certain criteria — such as length of service and position within the company — to limit eligibility.

Spouse's plan — If you're married and your spouse still has employer-provided insurance, you may be able to get coverage under this plan or continue this coverage if you have it already. If the employer subsidizes premiums for spouses, this plan could be an affordable choice — if not, though, it might be more expensive than other options.

COBRA — The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) allows you to maintain your existing coverage with the same benefits and provider network. However, COBRA is typically only available for a specific time — usually 18 months — after you leave your employer, and coverage can be expensive. Your previous employer subsidized a portion of the premium as a benefit, but once you've retired, you'll likely have to pay the entire premium, plus an additional charge.

ACA Marketplace plan — Through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace, you can find a variety of plans from which to choose, possibly including ones that include your existing network. If you qualify for subsidies, the premiums for your coverage may be similar to employer-sponsored coverage; if not, though, they can be more expensive. For information on ACA Marketplace plans, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you have options for health insurance, you'll want to take into account differences in coverage and cost. Check whether your desired health care providers are in-network and try to determine if your current medications and the benefits you rely on are covered. You may also want to consider a plan that allows you to open a health savings account (HSA), which offers potential tax benefits. To contribute to an HSA, you must be covered by a high deductible health plan (HDHP), so there's that cost to consider, but if you're in generally good health and you don't expect to depend heavily on your health insurance until you're eligible for Medicare, you might want to consider an HDHP.

One final note: Even when you do enroll in Medicare, you will still incur expenses for premiums, deductibles and co-pays, so you'll want to budget for these costs in your overall financial strategy.

In the meantime, explore your health insurance options. The future is not ours to see — so you'll want to be prepared for anything.

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  
 Edward Jones, Member SIPC

## Don't take offense from offensive people

Have you ever spent time speaking with friends, acquaintances, or strangers, and you heard a comment that made you upset? Of course you have; you're a human being! Your feelings got hurt, and you were angry. You decided to stay quiet about it, but it kept nagging at you. What they said just wasn't right. The next day, you called one of your friends to discuss how offended you were. You told them the entire story, and then they got offended too!



POSITIVELY SPEAKING  
 TOBY MOORE

There is no doubt that people say rude, insulting, derogatory, bigoted, and discriminatory things; it can be jarring and revolting. It might be best to ask them to stop, or you should walk away when someone behaves like this; but do you have to lose your inner peace? Are you obligated to become angry?

As human beings, we possess a quality called "Self Control." We can control how we feel. Fortunately, we do not have control over what others say and do.

I'm not saying that we should allow

ourselves to accept the unacceptable. I'm saying that when we find ourselves feeling offended, we should ask the question, "Are they offending me, or am I allowing myself to become offended?"

I have become offended through the years, probably more than most people. I noticed that it wasn't what they said or did that offended me; it was my expectation of how they should behave. I expected people to be a certain way, and when they didn't fit that expectation, I allowed myself to become upset.

I was filming a movie once, and everyone was laughing and having a good time in between takes. I stepped away quickly to charge my phone. When I came back, one of the actors was screaming and yelling. He was offended over a comment somebody made. He ran off set, and filming became seriously delayed. The producer sent several people to try and calm him down.

The actor eventually came back, and we finished shooting for the day. I fig-

ured everything had calmed down, but it happened several more times with the same actor over the next couple of months.

He seemed to be more interested in being offended and controlling everything everyone said than simply focusing on being a good actor. When all was said and done, nothing positive was accomplished. There was a lot of gossip behind the scenes, and people were instructed to be careful around him. The people whom the actor found offensive didn't change; they just began walking on eggshells whenever they were nearby.

Have you ever heard the phrase, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me?" If that old saying can be trusted, it leads me to believe that being offended is a choice. It's a choice to allow your inner peace to be taken from you and take on the victim mentality.

Is it better to blame others for offending you? Or is it better to not allow yourself to be offended?

Turn To MOORE page A15



# Wild turkey season closing; striper fishing season flourishing

With approximately two weeks left of the spring Mass. wild turkey season, reports of many local hunters harvesting their two birds is good news. However, these same hunters are reporting very few sightings of female turkeys. There are no reports from Mass. Fish & Wildlife of a possible problem with the wild turkeys to date. I have noticed the absence of sightings of wild turkeys in fields, and birds crossing the streets that I travel every day. Other local hunters have also sounded the alarm. Hopefully it is just a change in their feeding habits!

The Providence River is providing some great fishing for stripers, with some porgies starting to show up. The striper fishing should improve dramatically in the next week. The tautog bite is very good and the bite should last a bit longer, before the season closes. Archies Bait & Tackle provided this week's fishing report! Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle reported that striper fishing has been slow, but the tautog fishing was great.

Anglers fishing aboard the Yankee fleet have reported a lot of action catching haddock and cod, although all cod need to be released because of the regulations prohibiting the retaining of cod for a number of years now. A one fish



THE GREAT OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH TRUE

limit was allowed last year for a short period, and anglers are hopeful that at least a couple of cod will be allowed soon.

The strict limits on ground fish like cod, fluke, seabass and stripers is hurting the recreational fishing in both Mass. and Rhode Island,

and small charter boats are feeling loss of revenue because of less charter reservations.

Trout fishing had slowed last week on some of the Cape ponds according to reports from some of the local anglers that had fished some of them last week. This happens every year on both fresh and saltwater. The old saying "you should have been here yesterday." Locally anglers have been catching some nice fish this year like brown, rainbow and brook trout for anglers using power bait and stick baits like small Rapalas.

I need to chuckle a bit when I hear a story about a young angler with a cheap rod, reel and worms, that walks down to the water at a local pond and catches a freshwater bass that weighs in at 5 lbs. or more, while a few bass boats nearby that cost thousands of dollars and have professional anglers with all of the latest gear, are having a slow day. It happens all of the time. My brothers and I did the same thing when we were



Courtesy photos

Steve Rondeau with his first turkey for this season and his friend Jonathon Walker with his first turkey ever!



Kellen Morosinskis with a 5 pound-plus large-mouth bass he caught a short time ago.

young!

Dog owners should take extra care with their pets at this time of year. Providing a good shelter outside in plenty of shade, and a good supply of fresh water is essential. Up to date immunization against rabies and heartworm, along with other medications, are

essential in keeping your dog healthy through the summer months. Vet bills are soaring, and a visit to them can be alleviated with just some extra care during the summer months.

Take A Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!!

## Summer antique destinations



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

WAYNE TUISKULA

Last week marked the opening of Brimfield and from what I've heard it was a great success. The warm weather brought crowds of happy dealers and shoppers. If you missed this first show, there will be two more opportunities from July 12th through the 17th and September 6th through the 11th. In addition to this special tradition, there are many other shows taking place close to home, or a short day or week-end trip away.

The day before Brimfield's July and September dates, you can attend the Sturbridge Antique Show. The show's website touts 100 dealers with vintage clothing, Americana, jewelry and antiques. It will be held at the Sturbridge Host Hotel on July 11th and September 5th. Early admission (beginning at 8 AM) costs \$40 while general admission (beginning at 10 AM) costs \$15.

If you're looking to attend a show happening sooner, the Grafton Annual Antiques and Arts Show will be held on June 18th from 9 AM to 3 PM on the Grafton Common. The Grafton Historical Society's website notes that "Antique & Art ven-

dors will line beautiful Grafton Common offering high quality Antiques and craft items for sale."

Want to couple your antiquing with a weekend getaway? The Dover Show & Vintage Market is about an hour and a half away in Dover, NH and will be held on June 11th, July 23rd, August 20th, and September 17th. There is free admission from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM or you can pay \$6 for early admission.

Also in New Hampshire, tail-gate antique shows will be running at Flying Pig Antiques on the following Thursdays: June 23rd, July 21st, August 25th, September 15th, October 20th and November 17th. The fields open at 9 AM and there is free admission.

The 65th Annual New Hampshire Antique Dealers Association Show takes place August 11th through August 13th in Manchester. The Maine Antique Digest describes it as "the best show of its kind in New England." The NHADA website states, "the 65 professional antiques dealers who exhibit at the show save merchandise throughout the year in order to ensure that the show maintains its longstanding reputation for 'fresh-to-the-market' antiques." Thursday admission is \$15 while Friday and Saturday admission is \$10. As a great way to promote interest in antiques among the younger generation, admission is free to those 30 and under.



Also happening later in the summer, the 50th Annual Antiques Fair and Summer Festival will be held August 27th in Madison, CT. The Madison Historical Society describes the show as such: "with many outstanding antique exhibitors from the Northeast, New York State, the mid-Atlantic states and Florida, this unique fair typically offers eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American and European furniture, along with a wide range of other antiques." It runs from 9 AM

to 4 PM with an admission fee of \$6 for adults and \$2 for children.

Some of these shows have been running for so long that they can almost be considered antiques themselves, too. Please confirm that any shows you are interested in attending haven't been canceled or changed before traveling.

We are cataloging more items for another model train and die-cast car auction from the same West Boylston estate as our previous auctions. We

are also planning an online auction of tools, equipment and trailer/storage containers in Oakham, MA. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for a link to the auction and for other upcoming events.

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## Increase your perennial garden's beauty this spring

Give your perennials a boost this spring with a topdressing of compost, aged manure, or other organic matter. It's a great way to revive tired gardens, improve a garden's overall health, and keep vibrant perennials healthy and blooming.



GARDEN MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA MYERS

careful not to bury the crown of your plants.

You can leave the compost sitting on the soil surface or lightly mix it into the top inch with a hand cultivator. The earthworms, ground beetles and other organisms will move it down into the

soil and around the plant roots where it is needed.

The second step is especially helpful for those with heavy or compacted soils. Once the compost is in place, do a bit of vertical mulching. Use an auger bit on your cordless drill. Simply drill holes into the soil between plants. This aerates the soil and pushes some of the compost into the soil further boosting your efforts.

Vertical mulching helps speed up the process a bit by getting the compost closer to the plant roots and soil organisms that will help incorporate it into the soil. The openings created in the soil allow air, water and fertilizer to penetrate the soil surface and travel to the root zone.

Then be sure to return the mulch you removed from the garden or add mulch if needed. Maintaining an inch or two of organic mulch on the soil surface not only conserves moisture and suppresses weeds; it also continues to improve the soil. As the organic mulch breaks down, it adds organic matter and nutrients to the soil.

Investing some time to create and



Photo courtesy MelindaMyers.com

Topdressing perennial gardens improves the overall health of the garden, so the plants can thrive.

maintain healthy soil goes a long way in making your garden a beautiful part of the landscape.

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 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 website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).*

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**WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.**

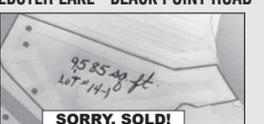
**Killdeer Circle!** Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**



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# Worcester Red Sox partner with Huntington's Disease Society of America

LOCAL CHAPTER WILL BE HONORED ON FRIDAY, JUNE 3 AT POLAR PARK

WORCESTER — The Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America (HDSA) is happy to announce that the chapter will partner with the Worcester Red Sox (Triple-A Affiliate of the Boston Red Sox) for the "Heart of Worcester" program on Friday, June 3rd at 6:45 PM at Polar Park for the game against the Syracuse Mets. A portion of the proceeds supports HDSA's mission to improve the lives of people affected by Huntington's disease (HD) and their families.

"Our club has had the pleasure of working with HDSA's Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapter for the past several seasons in both Pawtucket and Worcester," said Joe Bradlee, Vice President of Baseball Operations & Community Relations. "We look forward to hosting HDSA and putting the spotlight on all of the impactful work the chapter is doing throughout this region."

The "Hearts of Worcester" program includes a pregame recognition on the field with HDSA logo on the video board, a presence in the first base concourse to interact with fans, and an in-game radio interview with the broadcasters. Tickets also include \$2 of ballpark credit that can be used on concessions or in

the main team store on merchandise. For more information about the event, please contact Abigail Desrosiers (abigaildesrosiers18@gmail.com). Tickets can be found at [massri.hdsa.org/woosox](http://massri.hdsa.org/woosox).

Huntington's disease (HD) is a fatal genetic disorder that causes the progressive breakdown of nerve cells in the brain. It deteriorates a person's physical and mental abilities during their prime working years and has no cure. Every child of a parent with HD has a 50/50 chance of inheriting the faulty gene. Today, there are approximately 41,000 symptomatic Americans and more than 200,000 at-risk of inheriting the disease. The symptoms of HD are described as having ALS, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's – simultaneously.

The Huntington's Disease Society of America is the premier nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of everyone affected by HD. From community services and education to advocacy and research, HDSA is the world's leader in providing help for today and hope for tomorrow for people with HD and their families. HDSA was founded in 1967 by Marjorie Guthrie, the wife of legendary folk singer Woody Guthrie. Woody died from HD complications when he was only 55 years old,



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but the Guthrie family legacy lives on at HDSA to this day.

To learn more about Huntington's disease

and the work of the Huntington's Disease Society of America, visit [www.hdsa.org](http://www.hdsa.org) or call (800)345-HDSA.

## Southbridge's Ruth Wells Center for the Arts to hold Water Color Exhibit

The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts, located at 111 Main St., Southbridge, is holding a Water Color exhibit and the public is invited to view this exciting exhibit. Local artists are represented with a collection on display in the gallery. Gallery hours are Saturday and Sunday, 2-4 p.m., and is free to the public. The Ruth Wells Center, also known as the Quinebaug Valley Council for Arts and Humanities, was founded in 1978 and offers

art classes, exhibits, workshops and offers space to the Southbridge Historical Society and the Southbridge Garden Club. For more information go to the website, [ruthwellscenter.com](http://ruthwellscenter.com) or the Ruth Wells Center Facebook page.



Courtesy photo

This piece was done by Amanda Martin of Southbridge.



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# OBITUARIES

## Gerald Raymond Paquin

Gerald Raymond Paquin passed away peacefully on the afternoon of May 11th, 2022, after a lengthy battle with heart disease and cancer. Although Gerry



struggled with a failing physical body on this earth, he is now at peace in the loving arms of his Savior, Jesus. Gerry was confident in his eternity with the Lord, and was passionate about sharing his faith with others. In his final days, it was God's Word, being surrounded by his family, visits and encouragement from men of God, and visits from his pastor and faithful friend, Pastor Gary George, that brought a smile to his face and peace to his heart.

Gerry was born on April 10, 1948 in Southbridge, MA. He grew up surrounded by his family, working hard on their farm. After graduating high school, Gerry enjoyed traveling until he settled down with the love of his life and high school sweetheart, Teresa DiGregorio Paquin. Gerry lived a passionate life, focused on pursuing his dreams and loving the Lord. He was a generous man who enjoyed being with people, especially his family. He pursued many business ventures in his lifetime with much passion, while always being willing to help others. He passed

on many things to his three daughters, including his love of God, his capacity to dream creatively, many fond memories, and his dark brown eyes. In his final years, his greatest loves were his family, especially his 6 grandchildren, who he adored.

Gerry is predeceased by his mother and father, Theresa and Florent Paquin, his brothers, Ronald and Rene Paquin, and his sister, Michelle Paquin Yannacci.

Left to cherish his memory are Teresa Paquin, who was by his side in his final days and hours, his daughter Erin and her husband Daniel Kirschner and their children Jacob, Andrew, Jonah, and Mayaih, his daughter Jamie and her husband Stephen Rudert, and his daughter Lauren and her husband Nathan Hand and their children Sophie and Grayson. He is also survived by his brother, Jean Paquin of Southbridge, who had the honor of being by his side when he took his final breath this side of Heaven.

Gerry will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him. While Gerry loved a big party, and loved so many people, due to current situations, his immediate family has chosen to do a private memorial service to honor his life.

Donations may be made to: Sovereign Grace Chapel, Building Fund, 23 Golf Street, Southbridge, MA 01550

## Diane R. Quisenberry, D.V.M., 75

WEBSTER – Diane R. (Whalen) Quisenberry, D.V.M., 75, shuffled off this mortal coil with dignity and grace on Friday, May 13, 2022. Dr. Q is survived



by her life partner of 32 years, Catherine; and her business partner, Tammie Masiello who has been considered family since the day they met in 1998. Diane was born in

Charlotte, North Carolina, and moved Massachusetts in 1992 to attend Tufts Veterinary School.

Prior to becoming a veterinarian, Diane was the director of a county-wide animal control agency in North Carolina supervising 65 employees. From the 1970's through her departure in 1989, her department was often cited for excellence in transitioning to a no-kill shelter offering spay-neuter services and expanding city-wide adoption programs. Ms. Quisenberry received many awards for setting up and maintaining a staff that was balanced by

gender and ethnicity.

Diane graduated from Tufts Veterinary School in 1996 and worked in Oxford before opening her practice in Webster. The Animal Hospital of Webster was founded by Diane and Tammie in 2001 and has since maintained a strict policy of "It's all about the animals." A reminder to all staff to put the patients first, all the time, every time.

Dr. Quisenberry was an avid reader and loved law enforcement dramas where she would yell out procedural mistakes at the T.V. She was a scrabble champ, often playing on three boards at once and never met a crossword puzzle she didn't like. "Dr. Q" will be sorely missed and anyone who knew her (human or otherwise) will grieve her passing.

A celebration of her life will be held at a date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the M.S.P.C.A., 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

## Cynthia Louise Cozzens

Cynthia Louise Cozzens passed away on the morning of May 8, 2022 after battling complications from a long illness. She was born



on March 28, 1950 in Southbridge, MA, the daughter of Earl R. Cozzens and Miriam L. (Watson) Cozzens, and spent the first 9 years of her life in Sturbridge, before the family moved to Charlton in 1959. Cindy attended Charlton High School and started employment at the Worcester Science Museum shortly afterwards. She waited for many years at Aram's, The Lighthouse Restaurant, and IHOP, before pursuing the medical field. Cindy spent several years as a Phlebotomist

and finished her career as a Nurse's Assistant. She was a very loving and caring Aunt, Great Aunt, Sister, Cousin, and Friend, and will be terribly missed by all of us who had the great fortune to know her and be close to her.

She leaves behind her brothers George Cozzens of Auburn, David Cozzens (Chris Soderberg) of Portland, Oregon, nieces Melissa (Cozzens) Plumley (Tom Plumley) of Brimfield, Brittany Cozzens (Justin Cozzens) of Beaverton, Oregon, nephew Lee Cozzens (Rebecca Cozzens) of Charlton, great nieces Ally Plumley of Brimfield, Avery Cozzens of Beaverton, Oregon, great nephew Nick Plumley of Brimfield, and many cousins and friends.

There are no services planned at this time.

## Sandra Margaret Earls, 72

Brimfield- Sandra Margaret Earls of Brimfield, MA, passed away peacefully on May 13th after a long illness at the age of 72.



Sandy is survived by her husband of 52 years, Geoff Earls; her daughter Jodi Powers of Holyoke; her son Aaron (Franceska) Earls of Peconic, NY, and their children Marianna, Kellen, Luis, Katie, Augustin and Andre. Sandy also leaves behind her sisters, Colleen Short, Theresa (Mark) Muska, Patricia (Leon) Jablonski, and Andrea (Kevin) Frikenberg, and brother William Porter, as well as many nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Sandy was born in Worcester, MA on June 30, 1949 to William and Carolyn Sherby Porter. She graduated from Tantasqua High School in 1967, then attended nursing school at Worcester City School of Nursing. She worked as a supervising and floor nurse for many years at various healthcare centers but her gift of immense patience and compassion led her to most enjoy her time in geriatric care. She had a passion for learning and, in her forties, earned an associates degree with high honors from Quinsigamond Community College. She proceeded to a career in retail in Sturbridge, MA becoming an award winning manager for Renovator's Supply based in Millers Falls, MA. Sandy returned to nursing at Quaboag joining her daughter Jodi to end her career.

Sandy was a parishioner of St. Christopher's in Brimfield, where she was a member of the folk choir, and co-founded the children's choir. She made pilgrimages to Medjugorje with her daughter Jodi, and to Jerusalem with her husband Geoff.

Sandy had many interests, talents, passions and pursuits. She was an avid sportswoman and competitor. She played softball in the Quaboag softball league with her sisters, and later became an outstanding tennis player and golfer, playing in leagues at Hemlock Ridge and Scottish Meadows.

She immersed herself in her children's youth sports, becoming Treasurer of the Brimfield Recreation committee and coaching soccer, basketball, and softball. Sandy developed a passion for gardening and filled her yard and country home with several thematic gardens. Her "Garden Tours" for family and friends were legendary. Her talents with crafts included creating floral designs from her plants, and selling her floral inspired slate paintings in local stores and fairs. She loved being close to nature, regularly camping across the US and Canada with her husband Geoff, and enjoyed international travel with trips to Ireland, England, France, and Italy.

Within the family, she was known as the "favorite aunt," "baby whisperer" and the family storyteller. Sandy had a special gift for visiting and supporting family members through health crises and hospital stays. Her greatest single passion was her family. She loved spending time with the families of her sisters and brother, and cherished her time with her children, grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews, relishing in their interests and accomplishments.

The family would like to thank Krysta Santana and the other caregivers at Bear Mountain in West Springfield and Hospice of Central and Western MA for their amazing care and love for Sandy.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend calling hours at Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home on Monday, May 23rd from 4-7pm. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Christopher's Church in Brimfield, MA at 10:00am on Tuesday, May 24th followed by Interment at the Brimfield Cemetery. Family and friends are welcome to meet at the Funeral Home at 9:00am to join the procession to the church. The family will be hosting an outdoor luncheon at the Publick House in Sturbridge, MA immediately following our time at the cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Sandy's memory to the Alzheimer's Association <https://www.alz.org>. Please visit [www.beersandstory.com](http://www.beersandstory.com) for more information.



## Pecans give these cookies extra appeal



Mexico and Texas are the leading domestic producers of pecans, but Mexico grows nearly half of the world's pecans. Pecans are heart-healthy and rich in antioxidants, several vitamins and minerals, and a good source of healthy fat. In addition, one ounce of pecans provides 10 percent of the recommended daily fiber intake.

Cookies may never be considered "health food," but there are ways to make them more nutritious. The addition of beneficial ingredients like pecans can do just that. This recipe for "Cowboy Cookies" from "Live Well, Bake Cookies" (Rock Point) by Danielle Rye includes oats, pecans and coconut in the mixture, adding flavor and nutritional appeal.

### Cowboy Cookies

Makes 50 to 52 cookies

- 2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 3/4 cup sweetened shredded coconut
- 1 cup chopped pecans (see baking tip)

1. In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, ground

cinnamon, and salt until well combined. Stir in the old-fashioned rolled oats and set aside.

2. In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment or in a large mixing bowl using a handheld mixer, beat the butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar together for 1 to 2 minutes, or until well combined.

3. Mix in the eggs, one at a time, then mix in the vanilla extract until fully combined, making sure to stop and scrape down the sides of the bowl as needed.

4. Mix in the dry ingredients until just combined, then mix in the chocolate chips, shredded coconut and chopped pecans on low speed until fully incorporated.

5. Cover tightly and refrigerate for at least 1 hour.

6. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line large baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats and set aside.

7. Using a 1 1/2-tablespoon cookie scoop, scoop the cookie dough onto the prepared baking sheets, making sure to leave a little room between each one. Gently press each ball of cookie dough down to slightly flatten it.

8. Bake for 10 to 13 minutes, or until the tops of the cookies are set and the edges are lightly browned. Remove from the oven, and allow the cookies to cool on the baking sheets for 5 to 10 minutes, then carefully transfer the cookies to a wire rack to cool completely.

9. Store the cookies in an airtight container at room temperature for up to one week.

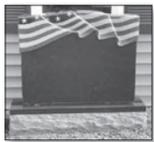
Baking tip: For even more flavor, try toasting the pecans. Just cool them completely before adding them to the cookie dough.

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Pecans are tasty offerings that are ideal in both savory dishes and desserts. Like fruits of other members of the hickory genus of trees, pecans are not truly nuts, but drupes. A drupe is a fruit with a single stone or pit surrounded by a husk. With pecans, the outer husk dries out and splits open, exposing the "nuts" inside.

Georgia, New

# SPORTS

## Warriors prevail over Auburn in important, win-filled week



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Liam Hubacz spins off an Auburn defender. Hubacz scored four times in the Warriors' 9-7 victory over the Rockets.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**AUBURN** — A day after a program-defining victory over Wachusett Regional, the Tantasqua Regional boys' varsity lacrosse team traveled to Memorial Field to tangle with Auburn High on Tuesday, May 10.

What followed was a spirited, back-and-forth affair between the Warriors and Rockets, with neither team grabbing more than a three-goal lead at any point. When all was said and done, though, Tantasqua kept its winning week alive with a 9-7 victory.

"We played Wachusett last night — really tough game. I think the final was 10-9. We've been trying to get better each day and I think finally it clicked for our guys a little bit," Warriors' head coach James Putney said after the win over Auburn. "I'm not too concerned about how we performed in Week 1 or Week 2. It's about hitting your stride at the right time. We've been trying to put it together to prime ourselves to be playing our best lacrosse at playoff time."

Tantasqua led at all the stops — 2-1 after one quarter, 5-4 at the half and 7-6 through three frames — but the Rockets were right there until the very end. They led twice in the contest — both in the second quarter — at 3-2 and 4-3, but

it just wasn't enough.

"Auburn's a strong team. I'm just happy to come out with the 'W,'" said Putney.

The Warriors' scoring was balanced, as six players were able to find the back of the net. Braeden Rich, Avery Michalak, Patrick Dunn, Jack Ricci and Nathan Williams all scored once, while Liam Hubacz lit the lamp four times.

"In terms of a coaching philosophy, it's a team game. The more you move the ball, it's just going to create more opportunities for everyone," Putney said of the balanced scoring.

Putney mentioned how he hoped for his team to close out a perfect 3-0 week with another win, this time over a talented Nipmuc Regional club on Thursday, May 12, and the Warriors did just that. Tantasqua won, 12-6, and are 7-4.

Auburn, meanwhile, slipped to 5-7 but won two days later to get to within one game of .500.

The Rockets had two standout performances in the game with the Warriors. Brendan Crowley scored six of Auburn's seven goals — Matthew Sjogren had the other tally — and Michael Nelson made nine saves to keep the game as close as it was.



Braeden Rich of Tantasqua maneuvers through a pair of Auburn defenders.



Tantasqua's Gabriel Laprade tangles with an Auburn player while going for a loose ball.



Auburn's Oscar Wyspianski has enough room to scoop a groundball in front of Tantasqua's Landon Rice.



Matthew Sjogren of Auburn leaves his feet to heave a pass down the field.



Auburn's Aidan McGrail emerges from the pack with possession of the ball in his stick.

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

### Impressive week for Tantasqua girls' lacrosse

**Tuesday, May 10**

**Tantasqua 11, Northbridge 9** — Trailing by a 7-5 count at halftime, the Warriors rallied to defeat that Rams in a girls' lacrosse tilt. Maeve Ashworth (4 goals), Kaydie O'Neil (3 goals, 1 assist), Kylie McDermott (2 goals), Kelsie Lucas (goal) and Bridget Bellezza (goal) led the offensive charge for Tantasqua, while goalie Celeste Downey made 9 saves.

**Thursday, May 12**

**Tantasqua 10, Auburn 1** — The Warriors improved to 8-4 in girls' lacrosse following the victory over the Rockets. Scoring for Tantasqua

were Maeve Ashworth (5 goals, 1 assist), Kaydie O'Neil (2 goals), Kylie McDermott (2 goals) and Kelsie Lucas.

**Monday, May 16**

**Tantasqua 12, Notre Dame Academy 6** — The Warriors girls' lacrosse team improved to 9-4 after taking down the Rebels. Goal scorers included Maeve Ashworth (3), Kelsie Lucas (3), Kaydie O'Neil (2 goals, 2 assists), Sophia Parker (2), Kylie McDermott (1 goal, 1 assist) and Grace St. Laurent. Celeste Downey made 6 saves in net for Tantasqua.



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### MOORE

continued from page A8

Taking offense is one way of living in the past. It's impossible to grow; it's impossible to be free if we are constantly offended. It's impossible to succeed and accomplish your dreams when we waste our time blaming other people for how we feel. It's holding you back.

We all know that there are people who will never share our views and accept our opinions. Therefore if you live your life constantly offended, it's your choice to do so.

While it may be challenging, it is possible to be free from insult even around the most insulting of people. If you want to be free from being offended by offensive people, it doesn't require you to accept their behavior. It only requires you to understand that everyone is at different stages of growth, and although we all hope they will change, it's not going to happen today, and most likely, you're not going to be the one to change them.

Keep a smile on your face, don't let someone's words distract you from what you're supposed to be doing. If you can do this, you'll be one step closer to living the life you truly want.

# SPORTS

## Fastball the fix for Schneider, as Tantasqua outlasts Indians



First baseman Elyse Geneway of Tantasqua sees the ball into her glove for an out.



Tantasqua's Allie Blair keeps her bat back before swinging away as the pitch approaches.

Nick Ethier photos

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — With the Bartlett High varsity softball team trailing in the bottom of the sixth inning, 6-2, Imani Washington (single), Sienna Stawiecki (single) and Dakota Vaudreuil (walk) all reached base for the Indians on Tantasqua Regional pitcher Katelyn Schneider to load the bases with nobody out in a game played on Wednesday, May 11.

Nate Orzech, head coach of the Warriors, then made his way to the circle to speak with his pitcher. After heading back to the dugout, Schneider escaped the stress-filled jam having surrendered just one run, which made it a 6-3 game.

Tantasqua then tacked on four runs in the top of the seventh inning to surge ahead, 10-3, before ultimately winning a 10-5 decision after Bartlett scored twice in the home half of the final frame.

When asked what was said between

he and Schneider during the mound visit, Orzech's answer was telling.

"Kate did all the talking, to be honest with you. She told me what wasn't working and what was working, and we went with what was working. It was a pitch that we hadn't thrown much all day. She went with it nine straight pitches to get out of the inning," explained Orzech.

The pitch? The most common one in the game — a fastball.

"She doesn't use it very often," Orzech said of his off-speed specialist. "She's a good pitcher, she knows what she's doing."

Tantasqua got to a 6-2 lead thanks to one run in the first inning, another run in the third, three more in the fifth and an additional run in the sixth. Despite the eventual 10-run effort, Orzech was critical about how his team struggled to piece together hits and runs, often-times being perplexed by the pitching of Bartlett starter Ellie Adams.

"We have a tough time adjusting to our timing. It takes us at-bats instead of pitches," said Orzech. "We're hitting the ball hard, but we're hitting it into the trees 100 yards foul."

Nonetheless, the Warriors are now 11-3 and in the midst of a successful season.

"We didn't play well and we found a way to win, which is the sign of a good team," said Orzech.

Schneider's complete game effort included 12 strikeouts, six hits and two walks. Only one of her runs allowed was earned. Offensively, Schneider was 2-for-4 with a pair of RBI, and Alexis Taudel was 3-for-5 with a trio of runs scored and an RBI. Elyse Geneway and Emma Quinn (two) also had RBI for the Warriors.

On the other side of the field, Bartlett head coach Courtney Stawiecki was pleased of the pitching of Adams, who worked the first five innings and allowed five runs (two earned) on six hits, with eight strikeouts and four walks.

"Ellie threw a great game. She was going down 3-0 in the count and she battled back to strike kids out multiple



Katelyn Schneider of Tantasqua gets ready to release a pitch to the plate.

innings when they had bases loaded and she was able to get out of the inning. The kid has mental toughness."

The Indians held a 2-1 lead after two innings and the game was tied at 2-2 through four.

"It was a tough game. Tantasqua always has a really strong team. I was happy that they were able to time up the pitcher after the first inning and make effective contact with the ball," said Stawiecki. "We lost to a good team. It happens."

Offensively, Washington and Sienna

Stawiecki each went 2-for-4, with Stawiecki driving in two runs. Sofia Napierata and Camryn Phillips also had RBI for the Indians.

Bartlett is now 7-8 as it hits the home stretch of the season.

"We are battling hard. The girls are at a really good mental point in the game where they can start improving their game without getting lost in their errors and the defeats to put them in a better place to start concentrating on what needs to improve," said Coach Stawiecki.

## Sturbridge Legion tryout dates

Any baseball players interested in playing Sturbridge Legion Baseball that are born on Jan. 1, 2003 or later are eligible to play. All players that live in Sturbridge or attend Tantasqua Regional High School are all eligible to play for the Sturbridge team, also players from surrounding towns may also be eligible to play. Team will conduct tryouts Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday, May 22 from 1 to 3 p.m., both tryout dates will be held at Tantasqua Regional High School varsity baseball field. For more information you can contact team manager Jim Rosseel (774) 230-1784, email: jimrosseel@hotmail.com or coach Rich Wetherbee (508) 981-0897, email: qcards@aol.com.

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times," said Stawiecki. "There was an



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