



Free by request to residents of Charlton, Charlton City and Charlton Depot

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO News@StoneBridgePress.news

Friday, April 9, 2021



Courtesy Photo

Shepherd Hill National Honor Society members drop off paper goods to CHIP In Food Pantry in Charlton.

Shepherd Hill NHS donates paper goods to local pantires

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARTON – Each month, the Shepherd Hill Regional High School National Honor Society works to give back to their local community through service projects in their school, and for March, the student group put together an effort that would not only help two local organizations but also provide a spirit of unity and competition among the schools in Dudley and Charlton.

Called the “Battle of the Borders,” the fundraiser challenges the Charlton and Dudley schools as well as Shepherd Hill, the district’s shared high school, to collect paper goods to support the CHIP In food pantry in Charlton and the Webster-Dudley Food Share, both significant resources providing access to food and personal care goods

during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The concept was sparked by NHS Vice President and senior Cutter Beck, a longtime volunteer for CHIP In who said the NHS wanted to create a fun challenge that would get everyone beyond the walls of Shepherd Hill involved in the cause.

“We wanted something where we could get the whole district involved so we decided to do a drive, but there were a lot of food drives that had already gone on during the year. I work at the CHIP In food pantry in Charlton. I’ve worked there for about seven years as a volunteer. During Christmas times there’s usually a paper goods drive that happens and this year that didn’t happen, so they were really low on those items,” Beck said. “I thought we could do something for that and figured if we were going to encompass

Please Read **DONATION**, page **A10**

School budget proposal calls for 2.8 percent increase

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee has pushed forward a starting number for its Fiscal Year 2022 budget which sees an increase in not only the total spending plan, but the assessments on the two district towns as well.

The School Committee previously approved the budget proposal during a meeting on March 10 where all but one absent member voted to push the budget forward to the member towns of Dudley and Charlton. The spending plan was discussed again two weeks later on March 24, during a public hearing where there was no input from either the committee or citizens but Director of Finance and Operations Richard Mathieu took the time to break down the proposed increase and where the bulk of the new expenses are coming from.

“This is a \$1.464 million increase from fiscal year ‘21, or a 2.8 percent increase. The budget increase is accounted for primarily through increases in expenses as it relates to health insurance, some changes in state assessments to the district, as well as a couple of new requested positions such as an additional nurse for the middle schools, an occupational therapist to serve district wide and a facilities director for district wide,” Mathieu said.

The increase brings the proposed budget to \$52,571,801 and

includes increased assessments to both Charlton and Dudley with Charlton being assessed \$14,789,261 and Dudley assessed \$9,890,252. Mathieu said these numbers are due to several factors.

“There are two primary reasons for that besides the budgetary increase. The first is the governor’s budget estimate for regional transportation is not in our favor and it’s because Fiscal Year 2020 actual numbers were used, and we’ve communicated with Sen. Gobi, and we hope these numbers will be updated in the House and Senate budget. It sounds like there’s recognition of providing a clearer and more accurate estimate for these numbers in the next round of projections,” Mathieu said. “The other was the use by the district last year of \$373,000 in one-time revenues to reach the Fiscal Year 2021 assessment requests of our assessment communities. We wanted to make sure that we were able to have a budget approved at the May town meeting, postponed to June, and this was the appropriate path forward at that point in time - We’ll certainly continue to work with the town to reach mutually agreeable numbers.”

The committee plans to continue to adjust the budget numbers based on requests and negotiations with Charlton and Dudley officials. The numbers will require approval from town meetings in both communities in order to be set for the new fiscal year.

Earth Day roadside clean-up set for April 24

CHARLTON — Charlton residents are invited to help clean up the town for Earth Day! To sign-up for a road, or portion of road, in advance, residents may register online at <https://www.townofcharlton.net/238/Earth-Day-Committee>. People can also sign-up for a road in person the day of the event behind Town Hall. The Earth Day Committee will be distributing yellow trash bags beginning at 8 a.m. behind Town Hall.

Safety first! Please take care when picking up the roads. Use gloves to protect yourself from sharp objects. Wear bright clothing or a safety vest so drivers can see you easily. You may want to set up cones to caution drivers in higher speed areas. Never open containers of unknown substances. Contact the Police to dispose of any needles or syringes – do not touch or place in bags with other refuse.

We have some great incentives from our sponsors:

Free T-shirt to the first 100 people – courtesy of Millennium Power! Our theme this year is “Earth is Home to All” and the winning design is from Charlton fifth-grader Ella Wall.

Raffle prizes! Everyone who picks up trash may put their name into a raffle for small prizes -- gift cards from our local sponsors: Ted’s Package Store, Milk & Sugar, Stonehenge Gardens, McDonald’s, Cornerstone Bank, Tree House Brewing, Energy Monster. Names will be drawn at the end of the clean-up and winners notified by phone.

Reusable shopping bag, courtesy of Cornerstone Bank, containing wildflower seeds and educational information from local environmental organizations.

Gloves, trash-grabber, bottled water and a snack -- while supplies last -- funded in part by a grant from The Last Green Valley.

Dumpster donated by Casella Waste. Show your support for the Earth and for the Town! Pitch in to pick-up litter and clean our roads and fill that dumpster!

Old Sturbridge Village raises frame on new cabinetmaking shop

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) raised the frame on a new cabinetmaking shop on Wednesday, March 31. This new structure will be the first addition in over fifty years to the Village’s Common and will be located south of the Meeting House.

The Village has employed both historic and modern building methods in the construction of the Cabinetmaking Shop, which is patterned after period structures operated by early nineteenth-century New England craftsmen. The building will include a wood-burning stove, as did many free-standing shops of the period, and a small external woodshed, based on George Bradley’s shop in Newtown, Connecticut. Sturbridge and the region were home to some of the foremost cabinetmakers of the early 19th century, including Nathan Lumbard and Oliver Wight. These individuals, as well as others like them, were integral parts of the story of rural communities.

“The story of cabinetmaking in rural New England deserves to be told,” said Brock Jobe, Old Sturbridge Village Trustee and Professor Emeritus of American Decorative Arts at the Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library. “And most importantly, the hundreds and thousands of visitors who come to



Photo Courtesy

Old Sturbridge Village (OSV) raised the frame on a new cabinetmaking shop on Wednesday, March 31.

Old Sturbridge Village every year deserve the opportunity to see, hear, and touch an activity that was central to life in America for centuries – the fine craft of woodworking.”

Costumed interpreters will construct the shop during the days that the Village is open; Campus Operations staff will continue the work on days when Old Sturbridge Village is closed. Many elements of the final Cabinetmaking Shop will be created by craftsmen and interpre-

tive staff working in the Village, including reproduction period tools, doors, shelves, and the box stove. The large timbers for the construction of the shop were also cut by the Village Sawmill. Old Sturbridge Village plans to host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new Cabinetmaking Shop in the fall.

“We are excited for the opportunity to share the process of the cabinetmaking shop construc-

Please Read **CABINETMAKING**, page **A3**

Becker College succumbs to economic impact of COVID

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Becker College has navigated countless challenges over its 237-year history, but the financial impacts of COVID-19 were too steep for the small school to overcome.

Last week, the Becker College Board of Trustees unanimously voted to cease academic programming at the end of the current academic year. The decision was reached after officials spent several months evaluating all options for potentially saving the college.

“This was a deeply painful decision for the Board to make – one that the college administration made every possible effort to stave off, but one we came to realize in recent weeks was unavoidable,” said Christine Cassidy, the chairperson of Becker’s Board of Trustees.

The school’s current spring semester will continue as planned, including ceremonies for graduating seniors on May 8. The college will also provide academic support and transitional services to students through Aug. 31.

After enduring a nightmarish year of remote learning and canceled events, Becker undergrads must now balance their academic responsibilities this semester with the need to find a new place to study in the fall. For many students, this will involve finding

new apartments, jobs, internships, and extracurricular activities.

Becker officials are committed to assisting students as much as possible in their transition efforts. The college has made arrangements with several area universities to provide admission to Becker students. Further details are available on the Becker website.

“Our commitment going forward is to do everything we can to ensure our students finish this year strongly positioned to continue their education, and that they and all our faculty and staff get access to the best education and employment opportunities available,” Cassidy added.

The college’s admissions staff will work with current students, as well as those accepted for the fall 2021 semester, on potential new admissions pathways. All tuition deposits will be refunded.

The news of the college’s closure was equally distressing for staff members, many of whom have called Becker home for years.

“Becker will assist departing faculty and staff in finding new career opportunities after their employment with the college ends,” read a statement released by the college.

Becker operates campuses in Leicester and Worcester. Established in 1784 as Leicester Academy, the campus at the town center eventually merged

with Becker’s Business College in 1887. Both campuses are deeply stitched into the academic and cultural fabrics of their communities.

Although the pandemic drove the final nails into Becker’s coffin, school officials were already grappling with several challenges long before COVID-19 ravaged colleges nationwide. As a small, tuition-dependent institution, Becker faced mounting adversity in recent years with declining enrollments and rising costs.

When COVID-19 struck in March 2020, college officials struggled with the added challenge of maintaining physical campus operations while transitioning to online education. A year later, as Becker moved to reopen on-campus housing and classrooms, many residential students chose to become permanent commuters or engage in remote learning from home due to the continuing COVID-19 crisis. The prolonged absence of on-campus residents exacerbated the college’s financial situation.

“Ultimately, the impacts of COVID-19 turned what was a very challenging situation into an unsustainable situation,” said Becker College President Nancy Crimmin.

Rather than risk placing students and staff into an untenable position next year, officials decided to close the school at a time when students’ academ-

ic transitions could be best managed.

“We pushed ourselves to develop scenarios in which Becker remained open for another year and beyond,” Cassidy said. “However, those scenarios included more debt, selling assets, and further cutting operations. Guided by the advice of our auditors and other expert consultants, we concluded that this would be irresponsible and unsustainable over time. As devastating as closing this 237-year-old institution is, we want this closure process to be one that conveys the maximum possible respect and support for everyone whose lives and careers we know it will affect.”

Becker’s trustees remain in close communication with the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, as well as the college’s accreditation agencies.

To help answer questions from students, their families, and faculty members, the college has developed a specialized website. It includes information on applying to other schools, transferring credits, and obtaining financial aid. Information is also provided for student-athletes who must plan for the next chapters of their careers.

Looking ahead, Becker officials said decisions on the future of the college’s property and assets will be made in

Turn To **BECKER** page **A3**

YOUR

TEETH

MATTER

APRIL 4-10 is

NATIONAL DENTAL

HYGIENISTS WEEK

Visit one of these Professionals
to improve your family’s oral health.

Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.

Our next Your Teeth Matter is running on June 11 to recognize Oral Health Month. Calling all Dental Professionals to join us!

Exploring dental crowns

Many people visit their dentists and learn they have a tooth that requires a crown. In many instances, dental crowns are necessary for proper tooth care.

Crowns were once widely referred to as “caps.” A crown is a permanent cover for a tooth that would otherwise require a very large filling after dental decay has been removed. Crowns also may be used to repair cracked or broken teeth so that extraction is not necessary. Sometimes crowns are used for cosmetic modifications or to hold a dental bridge in place.

The crown itself can be made from different materials, like stainless steel, gold or metallic alloy, porcelain, porcelain fused to metal, and resin. A dentist will determine which material will work best depending on the application and tooth location.

Understanding your appointment(s)

Crowns are typically installed in two appointments. The first appointment requires prep work so the tooth can hold the crown. This is typically a painless procedure, and one in which the dentist will anesthetize the tooth and gum tissue and then file down the tooth along the chewing surface and sides to make room for the crown covering. If the tooth was decayed or insubstantial, the dentist may have to “build up”

the tooth instead of filling it down. Again, these determinations are made by the dentist who has the expertise to gauge how much workable tooth is left.

Once the tooth has been prepared, an impression will be made of the bite area. That’s because the permanent crown will be fabricated in a laboratory and the fit/color will need to be exact for comfort — and also to ensure that bacteria and food debris do not get caught between the crown and tooth.

The final component is a temporary cap that will keep the prepared tooth clean. This is molded in the office and will be worn only until the custom-made crown is ready.

When the permanent crown is delivered, the patient will return to the office to have it checked for fit and then cemented into place.

Full and partial crowns

A partial crown may be used if only a portion of the tooth needs to be covered. Dentists will often rely on full crowns to get maximum coverage and

strength.

Cost factor

Crowns can be expensive. According to the resource CostHelper, crowns can range from \$500 to \$3,000 depending on the material used and the patient’s insurance coverage. Dental insurance may cover a predetermined percentage of the cost when the crown is medically necessary, but insurance may not cover anything if the procedure is only cosmetic.

It’s always a good idea for patients to express their concerns and ask questions about crowns prior to starting the procedure. Understanding the potential out-of-pocket costs is essential as well.

Dental crowns can last several years and represent the best way to salvage a tooth that is cracked or damaged.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, dental caries, or tooth decay, is five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever in children. The American Academy of Pediatrics notes that children with dental caries in their baby teeth are at much greater risk for cavities in their adult teeth. Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral that can strengthen tooth enamel and make it more resistant to the acids that can contribute to tooth decay. Parents, even those whose children do not yet have any teeth, can discuss fluoride drops or chewable fluoride tablets with their youngsters’ pediatricians. The CDC notes that more than 40 percent of children have tooth decay before reaching kindergarten, but dental caries is often preventable. Parents who are diligent about their children’s oral care and mindful of potential problems, such as stains on the teeth, can reduce their sons’ and daughters’ risk of tooth decay.

SPENCER

FAMILY DENTAL

Gentle Caring State of the Art
Dentistry For The Whole Family

Cosmetic Dentistry

Restorative Dentistry • Preventative Dentistry

CROWNS • CAPS • BRIDGES
COMPLETE and PARTIAL DENTURES
NON SURGICAL GUM TREATMENT
ROOT CANAL THERAPY
SURGICAL SERVICES

We Strive For Painless Dentistry

New Patients Welcome

HERBAL DENTAL PRODUCTS
All Instruments Fully Sterilized
Most Insurances Accepted

Dr. Nasser S. Hanna
Conveniently Located On Route 9
(Corner of Greenville St. & Main St.)
284 Main St., Spencer

508-885-5511

We now offer In-house Dental Insurance.
Call for more information!

JAMES J. OSTROMECKY, D.D.S.

Patient Focused, Family Operated Dentistry

Get your smile ready for Spring & Summer!

Comprehensive Examinations and Treatment Planning
Lower Dose Digital Imaging
Enhanced Oral Cancer Screening Technology
Patient Education Coordination of Services with Specialists • Patient Liaison Services

We welcome Aetna, Altus, BC/BS, Cigna, Delta, Guardian, Harvard Pilgrim Health, MetLife, Tufts, and plans through the MA Health Connector.

NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS WELCOMED!

For an appointment, call
508-885-6366
or visit our website at
www.ostromecky.com

Payment Plans Available Through CareCredit and Retriever

Evershine Dental Group

100 MLK Jr Blvd, Suite 100, Worcester, MA, 01608
(774)243-7782 • www.evershinedental.com

Find us on Facebook & Google

Worcester State athletes inducted into Chi Alpha Sigma Honor Society

WORCESTER — Thirty-seven Worcester State University student-athletes have earned induction into Chi Alpha Sigma, the student-athlete honor society.

The group joins 24 inductees from a year ago who are still active on Lancer rosters, bringing Worcester State's Chi Alpha Sigma total to 61 student-athletes. The complete list of Worcester State inductees can be found below.

To be eligible for the honor society, student-athletes of junior or senior status must achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.40. Graduating Chi Alpha Sigma inductees will receive black and gold cords to be worn at Commencement.

"In Worcester State's seventh year of membership in Chi Alpha Sigma, it is exciting to continue to honor our student-athletes' academic achievements," said Kelly Downs, coordinator of student-athlete support services. "Our student-athletes take pride in their academics and are excited to represent our department at Commencement by wearing their athletic honor society cords."

"These student-athletes have shown an incredible commitment to academics in their time at Worcester State," said Director of Athletics Michael Mudd. "They shine not only on the field, court, track, and ice, but also in the classroom, and are true role models on our campus."

For more information on Chi Alpha Sigma, please visit

their website at chialphasigma.org.

Inducted into Chi Alpha Sigma in 2020

Dominique Alves (Ludlow, Mass.) - Women's Tennis
Lauren Arbec (Fairhaven, Mass.) - Women's Lacrosse
Parker Bigelow (Leominster, Mass.) - Baseball
Alexa Bobbin (Charlestown, R.I.) - Field Hockey
Mark Clemente (Holden, Mass.) - Men's Golf
Emma Collings (Marion, Mass.) - Women's Tennis
Tim Drevitch (Oxford, N.J.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Sarah Duff (Warren, Mass.) - Field Hockey
Lauren Fleming (Leominster, Mass.) - Field Hockey
Maddie Fong (Norton, Mass.) - Women's Soccer
Pat Galvin (Shrewsbury, Mass.) - Baseball
Kyle Hayter (Helena, Mont.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Rachel Jorge (Dartmouth, Mass.) - Women's Track & Field
Madison Kuzio (Franklin, Mass.) - Women's Volleyball
Matthew Manning (Novi, Mich.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Bernice Mensah (Worcester, Mass.) - Women's Track & Field
Monika Mularski (Auburn, Mass.) - Women's Tennis
Tayla O'Leary (Salem, Mass.) - Women's Soccer
Jake Poitras (Harwich, Mass.) - Men's Golf
Zack Poitras (Webster, Mass.) - Men's Track & Field
Shaylee Puleo (Tewksbury, Mass.) - Women's Cross Country and Track & Field
Kyra Siano (North Attleboro, Mass.) - Women's Cross Country and Track & Field
Ally Tocman (Shrewsbury, Mass.) - Softball
Hoang Vo (Worcester, Mass.) - Men's Track & Field

2021 Chi Alpha Sigma Inductees

Will Ahearn (Charlestown, Mass.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Victoria Alexander (Worcester, Mass.) - Softball
Ashley Barratt (North Attleborough, Mass.) - Women's Cross Country and Track & Field
Rachel Bigelow (Westborough, Mass.) - Softball
Sarah Blomgren (Lunenburg, Mass.) - Women's Basketball
Charles Bray (Shrewsbury, Mass.) - Men's Track & Field
Dariel Canela (Peabody, Mass.) - Men's Track & Field
Mike Chaves Jr. (Hudson, Mass.) - Baseball
Kasey Clark (Dudley, Mass.) - Women's Cross Country and Track & Field
Julia Collins (Shrewsbury, Mass.) - Field Hockey
Aidan Conlon (Lowell, Mass.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Kyle Cravatis (Beverly, Mass.) - Baseball
Sean Devin (Lynn, Mass.) - Baseball
Apphia Donoghue (Rowley, Mass.) - Women's Soccer
Hannah Foster (Worcester, Mass.) - Women's Soccer
Drew Fottler (Chelmsford, Mass.) - Men's Cross Country and Track & Field
Coley Hayes (Norwood, Mass.) - Field Hockey
Lincoln Henry (Kingston, Jamaica) - Men's Soccer
Kylie Hill (Lunenburg, Mass.) - Women's Lacrosse

Denise Hoxha (Worcester, Mass.) - Women's Volleyball
Ryan James (Katy, Texas) - Men's Ice Hockey
Calli Korbey (Hopkinton, Mass.) - Women's Basketball
Alyson Langhorst (Natick, Mass.) - Women's Tennis
Gigi LeMay (Grafton, Mass.) - Women's Basketball and Women's Golf
Ann Maher (Mansfield, Mass.) - Field Hockey
Charlotte Mullane (Sterling, Mass.) - Women's Tennis
Cam Neary (Mansfield, Mass.) - Men's Golf
Hannah Nolan (Pepperell, Mass.) - Women's Lacrosse
Brendan O'Shea (Methuen, Mass.) - Baseball
Alexander Papageorgiou (Tewksbury, Mass.) - Men's Soccer
Emma Poplawski (Rowe, Mass.) - Women's Basketball
Alessandro Romeo (Worcester, Mass.) - Men's Soccer
Max Roth (Chicago, Ill.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Gunther Stange (Niles, Ill.) - Men's Ice Hockey
Logan Sylvester (Swansea, Mass.) - Football
Leelle Tyler (Longmeadow, Mass.) - Women's Volleyball
Sarah Ward (Townsend, Mass.) - Women's Volleyball



ACCURACY WATCH

The Charlton Villager is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, email news@stonebridgepress.news or call (508) 909-4106 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

CHARLTON
\$479,900, 30 Hycrest Rd, Modern Structures Inc, to Londregan, Jonathan, and Londregan, Olivia.
\$235,000, 16 Dresser Hill Rd, Buzzell, Michael J, and Buzzell, Stephanie D, to Hastings, William E, and Batchelder, Katerina A.

CABINETMAKING

continued from page A1

tion with our visitors," said President and CEO, Jim Donahue. "We look forward to the completion of the new building and bringing back this historic trade to Old Sturbridge Village for many generations to come."

Central One Credit Union expands field of membership

AUBURN — Central One Federal Credit Union's President and CEO, David L'Ecuyer, recently announced the National Credit Union Association (NCUA) approval to expand their field of membership.

Membership to Central One is now open to anyone in Worcester County and areas within Norfolk and Middlesex counties who live, work, worship, volunteer, attend school, or own a business. Family or household members of existing members and companies or other legal entities located within the area are also eligible.

Mr. L'Ecuyer specified, "This expansion will allow Central One to bring its top-quality products and services to more consumers, offering them a financial alternative with which to do their banking. We look forward to helping others achieve success in their financial journey and become their institution of choice for both the residents and businesses in these communities."

With more than 35,000 members, Central One has been proud to be a trusted financial partner since 1952. To check on your eligibility, visit www.centralfcu.com.

About Central One Federal Credit Union Central One Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial institution that provides members with excellent, personalized service. Central One provides a wide range of sav-

ings, deposit and loan products designed for the local community, and has branches in Shrewsbury, Westborough, Northborough and Auburn; as well as school-branches in both Shrewsbury and Westborough High Schools. Learn more about Central One and why we have been chosen as one of the top credit unions in Central Massachusetts. www.centralfcu.com

TOWN ORDERED AUCTION

DOUGLAS

TUESDAY, APRIL 27 at 12:00 P.M.

9 PROPERTIES DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES!

HELD OUTDOORS AT TOWN HALL, 29 DEPOT ST.


This live public auction includes 3 buildable lots on Wallum Lake Rd., all with successful percolation results, a cottage at 11 Arnold Rd. and a variety of land parcels throughout town. Town Says Sell! Visit website for details.

zekosgroup.com

VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILED INFORMATION, TERMS AND COVID-19 AUCTION PROTOCOLS.

ZEKOS GROUP AUCTIONEERS
508-842-9000

Webster Public School Department



Cafeteria Worker, Park Ave - 2 Positions
Schedule: M-F 10:00-1:00 (15 hrs.)
Rate: \$14.25/hr.
*these 2 positions will primarily deliver meals to classrooms
Start Date: ASAP


Breakfast in the Classroom Worker, Park Ave - 1 Position
Schedule: M-F 7:30-10:30 (15 hrs.)
Rate: \$14.25/hr.
Start Date: ASAP

Cafeteria Worker, Webster Middle School - 1 Position
Schedule: M-F 8:00-11:00 (15 hrs.)
Rate: \$14.25/hr.
Start Date: ASAP
*this position is primarily a kitchen prep position

Cafeteria Worker, Bartlett High School - 1 Position
Schedule: M-F 9:30-12:30 (15 hrs.)
Rate: \$14.25/hr.
Start Date: ASAP

Please apply to: Attn: Lori Marrazzo
Webster Public Schools, 77 Poland Street, Webster, MA 01570
For questions about positions please call or email Ellen Nylen at 508-943-0104 ext. 40016 or enlylen@webster-schools.org
*At this time all positions run through the end of the school year.

Friday's Child



Maleki
Age 15

Hi! My name is Maleki and I love comics!

Maleki is an engaging teenage boy of African American descent. While he enjoys spending time by himself, if he is interested in a conversation or activity, he will happily engage with others. He is very passionate about certain subjects, particularly all things related to Marvel and DC comics. Maleki loves to talk about his favorite superheroes and what their powers are. He also enjoys music therapy and trying to make sounds on the instruments. Maleki is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and developmental delays.

Maleki attends a collaborative school where he receives supports to ensure that his emotional, social, and educational needs are met. Maleki has no behavioral problems at school or in the program where he lives. He gets along well with peers, staff, and teachers.

Maleki is legally freed for adoption. His social worker is hoping to match him with a family who is committed to advocating for him throughout his life. He will do well in a family of any constellation, with or without other children in the home.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

Cornerstone Bank to award \$2,000 scholarships

SOUTHBIDGE — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout central Massachusetts, will be awarding 16 \$2,000 scholarships to students in the area it serves. Cornerstone Bank is hoping to help 2021 high school graduates throughout their community pursue higher education and foster advancement in the fields of business and finance. The sixteen scholarships will be awarded to the students who best demonstrate achievement in academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement.

“Making sure the future leaders of America get a great education is so important to us at Cornerstone Bank,” said CEO Todd Tallman. “We are excited to be able to help students achieve their dreams every year to go into the business or finance industries. Access to a good education can be difficult for many students, especially with how

difficult this past year has been, so we hope the help we are able to provide to this group of graduates helps them to reach their goals.”

To apply for a scholarship, the student must:

- Be a 2021 high school graduate
- Reside within 10 miles of a Cornerstone Bank branch or office
- Anticipate being a full-time student at an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education
- Anticipate studying in a business or financial field
- Demonstrate achievement and high standards in academics, extracurricular activities, and community involvement
- Submit an official transcript and GPA from their guidance office

In addition, the student must choose one of the following prompts and submit a one-page typed essay:

1. Are there any challenges you have had to overcome in your high school career?
 - OR
 2. What are your goals for the future, and how will this scholarship assist you in meeting them?
- Applications must be submitted or postmarked to Cornerstone Bank by April 5. Please send all applications to scholarships@cornerstonebank.com, or mail to Cornerstone Bank Scholarship Committee: P.O. Box 370, Southbridge, MA, 01550. Selected recipients will be announced by the week of May 24. Scholarship funds will be disbursed to the student after successful completion of the first semester, and upon presentation of an official copy of the first semester transcript and second semester bill.
- For more information, and to download the application form, please

visit <https://cornerstonebank.com/scholarships/>.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving residents, businesses and communities throughout Central Massachusetts. Our customer promise, Built on Trust, is not just a brand, but also a corporate focus. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone Bank rests on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender and SBA Preferred Lender. To learn about Cornerstone Bank’s personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Karen Maloney-Hagel earns Ameriprise Client Experience Award

WORCESTER — Karen Maloney-Hagel, CRPC®, CLTC®, CFA® a Private Wealth Advisor with Ameriprise Financial has earned the 2020 Ameriprise Client Experience Award.

This award was given to Karen Maloney-Hagel because her ability to consistently deliver personalized, goal-based advice and exceptional client service. Award recipients earned an overall client satisfaction rating equal to or greater than 4.9 out of 5.0* and maintained stellar business results. The award represents an elite group

of Ameriprise advisors recognized as leaders for their commitment to making a difference in the lives of their clients. Less than 15% percent of Ameriprise practices have earned this distinct honor.

As a Private Wealth Advisor, Karen Maloney-Hagel provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and is delivered in one-on-one relationships with her clients. For more information, please contact Karen Maloney-Hagel at 508-796-0083 or visit the Ameriprise office at 324 Grove St.,

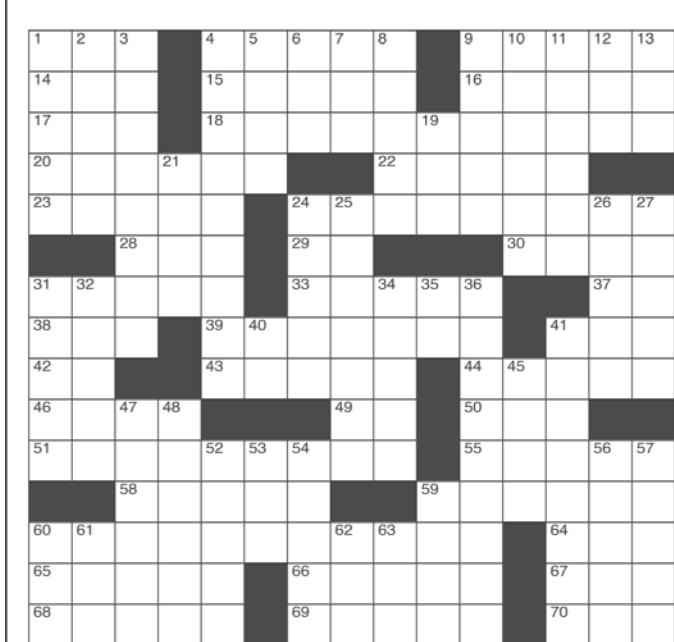
Worcester.

About Ameriprise Financial

At Ameriprise Financial, we have been helping people feel confident about their financial future for more than 125 years. With a network of approximately 10,000 financial advisors and extensive asset management, advisory and insurance capabilities, we have the strength and expertise to serve the full range of consumer financial needs. For more information, visit ameriprise.com.

*Clients can respond to an internal Ameriprise survey and rate an advisor or practice based on their satisfaction

with the team or practice, on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = extremely dissatisfied to 5 = extremely satisfied). Client experiences may vary and working with any Ameriprise Financial practice is not a guarantee of future financial results. Investors should not consider this rating a substitute for their own research and evaluation of a financial practice’s qualifications. Only clients with access to the Ameriprise Secure Client Site may submit a rating. Ratings reflect an average of all client responses received over a rolling two-year period as of Dec. 31, 2020.



- CLUES ACROSS
1. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)

4. Ceramic jars

9. Monetary units

14. Alias

15. “Superman” actor

16. Britonic tribe

17. Shorten

18. LA Dodgers manager

20. Hoarded

22. Theatrically portray

23. Noah’s grandson

24. Dependent

28. Peyton’s little brother

29. Cools the house

30. Principle part of

31. Type of wrap

33. Peels

37. Commercial

38. Make an attempt

39. Arrange in steps
41. U. Utah athlete

42. Old English

43. Trade

44. Nostrils

46. Ticket seller __Hub

49. Of I

50. Institute legal proceedings against

51. Takes apart

55. Doorway

58. Long int’l river

59. Trailblazing athlete Gibson

60. Former CBS News host

64. Sign language

65. Badgerlike mammal

66. Thin strips of wood

67. Brooklyn hoopster

68. Portents of good or evil

69. Footwear

70. When you think you’ll arrive

- CLUES DOWN
1. Batflower genus

2. Predatory seabirds

3. Fish farm

4. Arrangements

5. Go in advance of others

6. Bulgarian monetary unit

7. “__Maria”

8. W. African ethnoreligious group

9. Wild Asian oxen genus

10. Vinegary

11. To this

12. Explosive

13. Female sibling

19. Orlando museum (abbr.)

21. Type of hoop

24. About Holy Father

25. Academic environment

26. Extremely angry

27. Surrenders

31. Swiss mountain pass
32. Sharp mountain ridge

34. Erases

35. Spielberg’s alien

36. Absurd

40. Dorm worker

41. Used to make pesticides

45. The sister of your father or mother

47. A way to let know

48. Can’t produce much vegetation

52. Small streams

53. Folk singer DiFranco

54. Weights

56. Start over

57. Black Sea resort city

59. Wimbledon champ

60. Corporate executive (abbr.)

61. Unskilled actor who overacts

62. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!

63. Of or relating to ears

PUZZLE SOLUTION

V	L	E		S	E	O	H	S		S	N	E	W	O
L	E	N		S	H	L	V	T		T	E	L	V	R
T	S	V		E	S	O	R	E	I	T	R	V	H	O
V	E	H	L	T	V				V	N	I	R	D	
A	R	L	N	E		S	E	L	V	R	V	D	E	S
			E	N	S		E	W			B	N	L	S
S	E	R	V	N		S	E	T	V	S			E	O
E	L	N		E	L	V	D	V	R	E		A	R	L
D	V			S	E	R	V	D		N	V	R	V	S
E	R	O	O					O	V		I	T	E	
O	I	L	I	S	V	R	V	D		R	N	H	S	V
		E	L	O	W	E			D	E	H	O	V	O
S	L	R	E	B	O	R	E	A	V	D		L	N	O
I	N	E	O	I		E	A	E	E	R		V	X	V
S	L	H	V	B		S	V	T	T	O		H	S	L

APARTMENTS

Accepting Application For Wait List

AUTUMN RIDGE

Sturbridge, MA

ONE bedroom apartments including subsidized rents, appliances, ample parking, on site laundry, community room, alarm systems, heat & electric included. If needed, please request a wheelchair accessible unit. You must be 62 years of age or older or disabled regardless of age. Income must be within the USDA, Rural Development Income guidelines.

For an application please contact:

SK

Properties

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

SK Management Co., Inc.
P. O. Box 250,
New Ipswich, NH 03071-0250
Phone: (603) 878-2400
TDD: (603) 878-1326



DISPOSE ALL

CLEAN OUT THIS SPRING!

8 yd - \$325

15 yd - \$375

You got it! We'll take it! Including Metal

Cost of dumpster will be estimated with a credit for the metal (as long as it's loaded last)

BIODEGRADABLE WASTE - no problem! Must not be mixed with other items we remove. Call us first or call us last - we'll get you cleaned up fast!

ANYTHING GOES - TRASH, DEMO & METAL

CALL TODAY! 774-696-7267

A Division of Brunelle & Sons Landscaping Spencer, MA

Charlton Villager

TO PLACE AN AD: ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE JUNE SIMAKAUSKAS (508) 909-4062 jsima@stonebridgepress.news SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES: KERRI PETERSON (508) 909-4103 kerri@stonebridgepress.news TO PRINT AN OBITUARY: E-MAIL obits@stonebridgepress.news CALL: 508-909-4149 OR send to Charlton Villager P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR: E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news OR send to Charlton Village P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

CHARLTON VILLAGER PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER FRANK G. CHILINSKI 860-928-1818 EXT. 103 frank@stonebridgepress.news BUSINESS MANAGER RYAN CORNEAU 860-928-1818 EXT. 102 ryan@salmonpress.news OPERATIONS DIRECTOR JIM DINICOLA 508-764-6102 jim@stonebridgepress.news EDITOR BRENDAN BERUBE 508-909-4106 news@stonebridgepress.news PRODUCTION MANAGER JULIE CLARKE 860-928-1818, EXT. 305 julie@villagernewspapers.com

The Charlton Villager (USPS#024-954) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Charlton Villager, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

QCC students encourage community to get vaccinated

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College is taking to the airways to deliver an important message to students and the community-at-large: Get vaccinated.

The College has put together an informational website, with a series of public service videos from QCC students in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Albanian. The videos are designed to engage, inform and encourage people to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

In addition to the videos, the Web site includes information about the vaccine in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, as well as vaccination locations and eligibility phases.

“These public service announcements are designed to help increase the dissemination of accurate information about the COVID-19 vaccines. Let’s all get

vaccinated as soon as we are eligible. The vaccines have been shown to be highly effective, and the faster we get vaccinated when eligible, the more we can begin to do some of the things we did prior to the pandemic,” said President Luis. G. Pedraja, Ph.D.

To learn more about the vaccine and clinic locations visit www.QCC.edu/C19VAXFACTS

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

CHARLTON ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

TOWN HALL (508) 248-2200

Office Hours:
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
..... 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesdays..... 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday..... Closed

visit www.townofcharlton.net or more information.

Individual offices may vary
PUBLIC LIBRARY (248-0452)
For library hours please check www.charltonlibrary.org

POLICE DEPARTMENT (248-2250)
Monday to Friday..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
For emergencies, dial 911

FIRE DEPARTMENT (248-2299)
Monday to Friday..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

POST OFFICES
Charlton Center Post Office... (800) 275-8777
Charlton City (01508) (800) 275-8777

SCHOOLS
Dudley-Charlton Regional School District
..... (508) 943-6888
Charlton Elementary School
..... (508) 248-7774 or (508) 248-7435
Heritage School (508) 248-4884
Charlton Middle School..... (508) 248-1423
Shepherd Hill Regional High School
..... (508) 943-6700
Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School (508) 248-5971 or (508) 987-0326

CHURCH LISTINGS

- **Charlton Federated Church**, 64 Main St., 248-5550, Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. www.fedchurchcharlton.org
- **Charlton Baptist Church**, 50 Hammond Hill Road, 248-4488, www.charltonbaptist.org, Sunday worship 10 a.m.
- **Charlton City United Methodist**, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: CharltonCityUMC.org Sunday worship and Children’s church 10am
- **St. Joseph’s Church**, 10 H. Putnam Ext. 248-7862, www.stjosephscharlton.com, Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m., Sunday Mass 8 a.m., Sunday Family Mass 10 a.m., Sunday Life/TEEN Mass 5 p.m., Weekday Mass Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 a.m.
- **Hope Christian Fellowship**, 6 Haggerty Road, 248-5144
- **Assemblies of God Southern New England District Headquarters**, Route 20, 248-3771, snedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Living Word Church of Charlton**, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am. www.livingwordcharlton.com info@livingwordcharlton.com
- **New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel**, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.



Community Connection

Your area guide to local businesses!



Crooked Creek Farm
~est. 1992~
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

BEST FARM FRESH MEATS IN CENTRAL MA
PASTURE RAISED • NATURAL MEATS

Grilling Season Is Here

2lb NY Sirloin
2lb Ground Beef
2lb Country Ribs

\$58.00
(\$68.00 value)

ASK US ABOUT OUR FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!
To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com
Email: crookedcreekfarmma@gmail.com
Find Us on Social Media



DP Dollar Store

HOT CHOCOLATE BOMBS

NEW line of Balloons!
Milk • Bread
Beverages
\$1 Hot Coffee
Toys • Party Goods
\$1 Greeting Cards
Food & So Much More!

**160 Main Street (corner of Main & Maple)
Spencer, MA 01562 • 774-745-8115**



REB Products
Trinkets & Treasures Boutique

CRAZY CRAZY CASH SALE
\$3.00 AND UP

559 Main St., Fiskdale, MA,
Sturbridge Marketplace, 2nd floor
FRIDAY – SATURDAY 10 TO 4



Hearthstone Market & Catering

Grab ‘N’ Go Home-style Lunch, Dinner, and Tasty Treats
Catering Available!

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm
hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com



MICKNUCK'S
FRESH MARKET PLACE

570 MAIN STREET • RT. 20 • FISKDALE, MA
TEL: 508-347-0116 • FAX: 508-347-6985

SPECIALS GOOD 4/5 - 4/11

GOLDEN RIPE BANANAS 49¢ lb.	BOAR'S HEAD AMERICAN CHEESE \$4.99 lb.	FRESH EXPRESS CHOPPED SALADS \$2.99 ea.
7OZ CRIMINI MUSHROOMS 2/\$3.00	CERTIFIED ANGUS GROUND CHUCK \$3.99 lb.	GOLDEN RIPE PINEAPPLES \$1.99 ea.

Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 7:00 • Sat. & Sun. 8:30 - 6:00
We reserve the right to limit quantities



Charlton Oil
508-248-9797

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL.	Tanks Filled to 80%
75-150	\$2.35	
150-300	\$1.99	
300-500	\$1.85	Driver Discretion
500 PLUS...	CALL OFFICE	

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!

- Monday price 4/5/21 was **\$2.26** per gallon*
100 gallon minimum
- Call for the most up to date daily price or visit us at www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change





Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza



New Low Auto Rates From National Carrier!

Ask us about it!
Call or email today



We offer policies for
AUTO
RENTERS • HOME
BUSINESS
LIFE
DISABILITY
MOTORCYCLE
BOAT

You'll have peace of mind knowing our
Insurance Professionals have your back!



Talbot Embroidery Shop
Custom Embroidery & Heat Transfer



NEW LOCATION:
1009 Lebanon Hill Rd., Southbridge
508-764-0555




BAIR INSURANCE AGENCY
www.bairinsurance.com
edwardbair@bairinsurance.com

~ Online Quotes ~


Serving area towns since 1980
58 A.F. Putnam Road
Charlton, MA 01507
p: 508-248-4204 f: 505-248-1199
Conveniently located near scenic Buffumville Lake

MAPFRE

TRAVELERS CONCORD GROUP INSURANCE



CHARLTON OPTICAL



R.D.O. Peter Maly, R.D.O.
Renee Gomez, O.D.

109 Masonic Home Road, Charlton MA 01507
508-248-1188 • Same Day Service

Mon 9-6 | Tues 10-6 | Wed 10-5 | Thurs 10-7 | Fri 10-5 | Sat 9-2



Choice P.T.
Physical Therapy

Accepting New Patients!

Choice Physical Therapy is a Patient First, Goal Orientated PT clinic located at 133 West Main St in Spencer MA.



We specialize in post operative and orthopedic injuries.



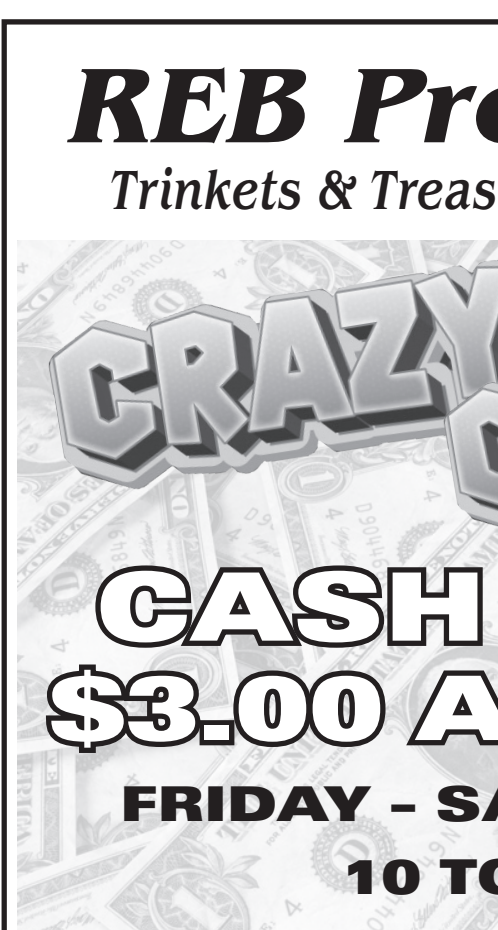
Call today for fast courteous scheduling.

It's Your Life,
It's Your Health,
It's Your Choice!



Free Injury Evaluation for a limited time.
Covid-safe precautions are always taken.
By appointment only.

774-449-8058
133 W. Main St., Spencer



REB Products
Trinkets & Treasures Boutique

CRAZY CRAZY CASH SALE
\$3.00 AND UP

FRIDAY – SATURDAY
10 TO 4

559 Main St.
Fiskdale, MA

Sturbridge Marketplace
2nd floor

Open Sky announces Presenting Sponsor and awardees for Safe Homes Gala

WORCESTER — Open Sky Community Services has announced that the Gala and People of Courage Awards in support of Safe Homes will be held virtually on Friday, April 9 from 6-7 p.m.

Safe Homes is an Open Sky program providing a Drop-in Center and peer-led services and supports for LGBTQIA+ youth ages 14-23 in Central Massachusetts. Safe Homes offers leadership development, educational and social programming, connections to resources and mental health counseling at no cost to participants. The program is supported in part by grants from The United Way of Central Massachusetts, Greater Worcester Community Foundation, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and others.

According to Ken Bates, President and CEO at Open Sky, the isolation and uncertainty of the past year has had a profound effect on LGBTQIA+ youth. “I am pleased to say that throughout the pandemic, Safe Homes has supported youth through virtual drop-ins, food deliveries, connections to community resources and free counseling.”

The Safe Homes Gala will include an online silent auction, fund-a-need, messages from celebrities, special guests, and the presentation of the People of Courage Awards and the Safe Homes Partnership Awards. The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation is the Presenting Sponsor for the event.

“Safe Homes plays a critical role in helping youth feel nurtured and validated in all aspects of their identities,” said Kimberly Salmon, assistant vice president, community relations at The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. “We’re proud to partner with Safe Homes as it works to provide important support services and a safe space for LGBTQIA+ youth in our community and their allies.”

Other leadership sponsors include 401kQuote.com, Arbor Associates, Fallon Health and Revelation Productions.

There are a variety of ticket options available including a free registration option. Attendees can register at openskycs.org/gala.

People of Courage Award recipients:

- Public Service Award: Sharon McQueen
- Young Adult Award: Adam Stone
- Corporate Award: Unum Group
- Educator and Influencer Award: Dr. Angela Sheble
- Social Justice Advocacy and Action Award: Redemption Rock Brewery Co.
- Safe Homes Partnership Award recipients: Zia Ginkgo Bioworks

Worcester Together- A partnership of United Way of Central Mass and Greater Worcester Community Foundation in collaboration with the City of Worcester.

For more information on Safe Homes, or to register or to sponsor, visit openskycs.org/gala or email safehomesgala@openskycs.org.

Fattman, Gobi among senators asking for state testing delay

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

BOSTON –Ryan Fattman and Anne Gobi have joined fellow senators in urging Gov. Charlie Baker and State Commissioner of Education Jeffrey Riley to delay state testing in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Senators Fattman and Gobi were among 29 state senators that signed a letter on March 31 urging the delay of the MCAS and ACCESS testing until the fall and utilizing any alternate readily available testing program. The senators argue that the MCAS test is “time consuming” and does not give rapid or immediately usable results and instead would like the state to issue more immediately usable testing that wouldn’t interfere with instruction.

“We share your interest in obtaining actionable benchmark around student learning loss. Yet we also concur with organizations representing teachers and administrators as well as civil rights organizations and the student and aren’t representatives on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education who believe that standardized testing this spring will produce no valid or actionable information, waste valuable learning time, and harm children,” the letter reads. “Standardized testing this spring will not produce any valid information on student learning except for what we already know – many children have lost learning time. Results cannot be compared in any valid way with results from previous and future years.”

The letter also quotes the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents who have also moved for state testing to be changed for 2021 citing the potential for “skewed results” from communities significantly impacted by the pandemic and that the National Assessment of Education Progress has already taken steps to postpone their test in 2021.

Senators further argue that the \$30 million spend for the MCAS administration would be a waste of money better spent on social emotional supports and other priorities. They further stress that results wouldn’t be available until mid-fall after the start of the new school year, noting “Some students will have attended summer school or had other opportunities; their results from the spring testing will suggest they need remediation that they actually no longer need. Other students will have experienced a ‘summer slide,’ their results will also be useless.”

Senators concluded their letter noting the stress and added hours of work the tests would create for administrators and teacher as well as students asking the commissioner and governor to consider an exam that would limit testing time and give school more rapid information necessary to help students succeed in a time where the pandemic has severely impacted their learning time.

Cornerstone Bank contributes to Worcester Bravehearts charitable programs

Sturbridge-Part-Time Reception-Processor

Small insurance agency in Sturbridge, MA looking for a Part-time morning receptionist 9am-1pm M-F.

Needs to be processor reliable, organized, personable, detail oriented individual, who can maintain a flexible schedule.

Must have good working knowledge of word, excel and outlook.

Email resume to:
siacobucci@mccurdyinsurance.com

SOUTHBRIDGE — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout central Massachusetts, has made a \$10,000 contribution to the Worcester Bravehearts baseball team to help promote the love of reading and writing in local youth. This partnership will fund both the Ticket to Read and Pen Pal Club programs, initiatives that reward children who read a set number of books or exchange notes

with seniors, with prizes and experiences.

“Helping to fund these critical programs and give back to our community is always rewarding, but even more so given how education has changed so much for students this year,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “We thank the Bravehearts’ organization for having the foresight to infuse fun into reading and writing, and for allowing us the opportunity to partner with them on this.”

The Ticket to Read Program offers students incentives for reading in the form of baseball game tickets, merchandise and even a class field trip by reading 10 books a month. Additionally, the classroom that reads the most books over the year will win a free field trip to a Bravehearts baseball game. Each year, more than 30 schools in the Central Massachusetts area and 6,000 students participate in the program.

The Pen Pal Club encourages students to increase the amount of time they spend reading and writing. The program pairs a local middle school student with a senior citizen and the two write each other monthly letters throughout the school year. Then, during summer break, the pen pals have the opportunity to meet one another and enjoy a Bravehearts game together.

Cornerstone Bank is proud to support these community initiatives and help foster a love of reading and writing in children across the Central Massachusetts area. To learn more about Cornerstone Bank and its charitable donations, visit cornerstonebank.com.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving residents, businesses and communities throughout Central Massachusetts. Our customer promise, Built on Trust, is not just a brand, but also a corporate focus. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone Bank rests on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender and SBA Preferred Lender. To learn about Cornerstone Bank’s personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.



Town of Brimfield – Job Posting Part-Time Veteran’s Agent

The Town of Brimfield is seeking qualified individual for Veteran’s Agent / Veterans’ Services position. Responsibilities include providing assistance and facilitating services to veterans and their dependents, furnishing information, advice, and assistance to veterans pursuant to MGL c.115.

Candidate must be an honorably discharged veteran. High school graduate; four years of supervisory experience in the field of veteran benefit administration or social work, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Annual stipend of \$3,900.

For complete job description go to www.brimfieldma.org under job opportunities on the Board of Selectmen’s page. Please apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Board of Selectmen, Town of Brimfield, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or to selectmen@brimfieldma.org by April 23, 2021 or until position is filled. Brimfield is an equal opportunity employer.

Posted: March 31, 2021

LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID
TOWN OF CHARLTON
DPW MATERIALS & SERVICES**

Sealed bids, appropriately marked will be publicly opened and read in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Municipal Office Building, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA 01507 on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. for the following DPW materials which will be used on approximately 10,000 linear feet of road surface.

1. Bituminous concrete, Type I, in place (**Must be pre-qualified**)
2. Full Depth Pavement Reclamation (Calcium Chloride) (**Must be pre-qualified**) all grading included.
3. Stone Seal, Double Stone Seal & 10% Asphalt Rubber Surface Treatment (**Must be pre-qualified**).

This is a state funded project that exceeds \$50,000.00, therefore, all

contractors intending to bid on Item 1 – Bituminous concrete, Type I, in place and Item 2 – Scarifying and pulverizing in place asphalt pavement, **all grading included** and Item 3 - Stone Seal, Double Stone Seal & 10% Asphalt Rubber Surface Treatment, **must be pre-qualified** by the Contract Engineer, Room 7373, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. With submission of the properly executed “Approval for Proposal Form” to the office of the Town Administrator, Municipal Office Building, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA 01507, the prospective bidder will be entitled to a non-transferable proposal package. Prospective bidders must obtain and utilize the bid package. The Town Administrator in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Municipal Office Building, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA 01507, must receive sealed bids,

no later than **Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.** **Each item shall be clearly marked in a separate envelope as to which category the bidder has chosen**, i.e. “Item 1 - Bituminous concrete, Type I, in place”. Any deviations from Massachusetts General Laws, Massachusetts Highway Department requirements and proposal stipulations will result in an automatic disqualification from the bidding process.

This bid is advertised under Chapter 30; Section 39M, Chapter 149, Section 26 – 27F of the M.G.L., in reference to the prevailing wage rates. All road material work and materials shall conform to the requirements of the Massachusetts Highway Department **Standard Specifications for Highways, Bridges and Waterways**. All bids must be submitted under Chapter 30, Section 39M, which re-

quires a **bid deposit in the form of a bid bond**. The amount of such bid deposit shall be five per cent of the value of the bid.

Within ten days of the notification of award, the contractor is required to provide a security bond under section twenty-nine of Chapter One Hundred and Forty Nine, for 50% of the contract award

All bids are effective April 21, 2021 and expire April 2022.

Any questions should be directed to Gerry Foskett, DPW Superintendent at 508-248-2212.

The Town Administrator reserves the right to waive any minor informality in the bids and reject any or all bids and to make awards in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.

April 2, 2021
April 9, 2021



Spring

Home

Auto

This section reaches 47,000 households
in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

Call 508-764-4325
or email ads@stonebridgepress.news
for more information

BEST WINDOW COMPANY

KUBALA
HOME IMPROVEMENT
The Door and Window Experts
MACSL100114 | MAHIC150118 | CTHIC0619712

Award Winning
High Performance
Windows & Doors

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | Lifetime Warranty

508-784-1550

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ f

BUILDER

Todd A. Ethier
TAE
B·U·I·L·D·E·R
INCORPORATED

Remodeling Expert

- ◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS
- ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ GARAGES
- ◆ SIDING ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS
- ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS
- ◆ KITCHEN ◆ BATHS

Quality Building Since 1985
Licensed & Insured

508-764-2293 • 774-230-3967

Granite & Marble

SHREWSBURY
MARBLE & GRANITE, INC.

BUY FACTORY DIRECT & SAVE

SPRING SALE

Biggest Selection of Marble,
Granite & Quartz of ANY Fabrication Shop
300 Colors To Choose From
Please call for appointment

508-842-9800 • shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com
620 Boston Turnpike (Rte 9 E), Shrewsbury, MA
(1/4 mi. east of Home Depot - Big Blue Bldg)
Mon-Thurs 8-5, Fri & Sat & 9-4

Oil & Propane

AMERICAN DISCOUNT OIL & PROPANE

Need propane or oil right away?
Call American today!

OIL 10¢ Off **PROPANE 20¢ Off**

PER GALLON (125 GAL MIN) | PER GALLON ON YOUR NEXT FILL UP (MIN 75 GAL)

With coupon. One coupon per customer. Exp 4/30/21. Cannot be combined with any other offer or on previous purchases or fuel assistance program.

Order online
Americandiscountoil.com
413-289-9428
1182 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069

Use promo code palmer123 when ordering online

Paving

G. COOPER PAVING
New Beauty Blacktop
413.544.5381

DISCOUNTS ON REFERRALS! FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

SENIOR DISCOUNT 10% OFF | \$200 OFF NEW DRIVEWAY INSTALLATIONS

DRIVEWAYS • PARKING LOTS
SEALCOATING • STONE
HOT TAR CRACK FILL

"Big Or Small, We Do It All!"

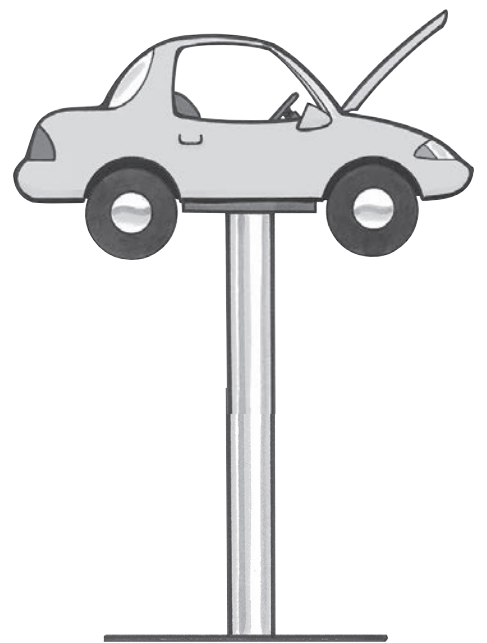
FREE ESTIMATES

BBB

Advertise on this page
for one low price!
Get 7 papers.
Call 508-764-4325

- Spencer New Leader
- Sturbridge Villager
- Charlton Villager
- Southbridge News

- Webster Times
- Auburn News
- Blackstone Valley Tribune



Power Washing

EXTERIOR HOUSE & SOFT ROOF WASHING

REMOVES HARMFUL:
Mildew • Moss • Algae • Oxidation • Dirt & Pollutants
FROM:
Vinyl • Aluminum • Wood • Brick • Painted • Stained

GREAT FOR: Before Paint Prep
Cedar Restoration • Decks • Patios
Stairs & Walkways • Foundations

HI-TECH MOBILE WASH
~ Est. 1987 ~

Commercial & Residential

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed or you owe nothing!

PLEASE CALL
1-800-696-4913 • 508-248-4638
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
www.hitechmobilewash.com

BBB

Stump Grinding

MILLER STUMP GRINDING

Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified
Fully Insured

**REASONABLE RATES
PROMPT SERVICE**

ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER
OWNERS / OPERATORS

508-688-2159



DRAINS/HANDYMAN

**MAIN STREET
DRAIN CLEARING &
HANDYMAN SERVICES**

Carpentry
Flooring
Painting
Plumbing
Window Cleaning

If we don't do it you don't need it done!

Senior Citizen (65+) Discounts
Give me a Call
Rich at
508-963-1191

CHIMNEYS

CHIMNEY CLEANINGS ONLY \$99

ALL KINDS OF
MASONRY &
CONCRETE WORK

New & Repairs, Repointing, Rebuilding, Re-lining, Waterproofing, Foundation & Chimney Repair, New & Stair Repair, Concrete Walkways, Stonewalls, New Roofs, Construction & Carpentry.

Need to get it done? Call me!
-FREE Estimates-
Quality Chimney
(508)752-1003

Custom Timber Sheds

**DOUGLAS
TIMBER
SHEDS**

Storage Sheds • Barns
Custom Built or Kits Available

James Beane
DouglasTimberSheds.com
JBeaneConstruction@charter.net

JBEANE CONSTRUCTION
Douglas, MA
508-864-4094

ELECTRICIAN

TNT ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Timothy N Tripp
Licensed Electrician

67 Hillcrest Drive
Southbridge, MA 01550

508.909.5114
774.601.3107

Tntelectricalserviceinc@gmail.com

MA#100257JR
NH#17425J

Electrician

BRIAN WOOD

Master Electrician
Residential • Commercial
o: 508.764.3925
c: 508-505-0111
35 Years of Experience
Lic#15885A | 29931E
Fully insured
I specialize in:
New Construction
Renovations
Pools and Hot tubs
Lighting (int. & ext.)
Repairs and Maintenance
Electrical Panel upgrades
Bpwelec@gmail.com
Facebook:
Brian Wood Electrician

ELECTRICIAN

ALDEN
Electrical Contractors, Inc.
LICENSED ELECTRICIAN

New Construction
Remodelling
Kitchen & Bath
Service Updates

W. Brookfield, MA
1.774.230.9606
Talden1987@gmail.com

Fully Insured
Accepts credit card payments & free online bank transfers
Licenses:
MA-13705-21777A,
NH-13932M, RI-B013781

GUTTERS

GUTTERS

- Cleanings
- Repairs
- Installations

508-867-2877
508-754-9054
30+ years exp
Licensed & Insured

A. Eagle Gutters
aeaglegutters.com

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

Handyman

No Job Too Small
Home Improvement
-Insured-
MA Reg #174661

- General Carpentry
- Laminated Floors
- Remodeling
- Kitchen, Bath & Cellar
- Painting
- Handyman Services
- Floor Leveling
- Power Washing and MORE!

See Our Work Online
nojobtoosmallhomeimprovement.com

Tel. 508.414.7792
Sturbridge, MA

Home Improvement

BONETTI'S
Home Improvement

Roofing
Siding
Decks
Remodeling
Windows
Doors
Basement Finishing
Gutters Cleaning
Pressure Washing
Painting Landscaping

Over 25 Years Experience
Residential Specialist

Licensed and Insured
128231
508-347-4906
Cell 508-688-0072

H.V.A.C.

Central Air Conditioning Installed UNDER \$10,000

RUUD EQUIPMENT
13 Seer • Up to 1250 sq.ft.
MITSUBISHI
Ductless Split
HEAT PUMPS
Electrical Work Extra
MASS SAVE
Certified Contractor

David's
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

30 Years Experience
davidshheatandac@gmail.com
davidshheatandac.com

508.450.6264
LICENSED/INSURED
Free Estimates

MASONRY

C & J
MASONRY HARDCAPE
RETAINING WALLS
OUTDOOR
LIVING CONSTRUCTION

Chimney Repair
Foundation Repair
Steps, Patios
Pool Surrounds
Pressure Washing
Property Maintenance
Water Proofing
Delivery of Aggregate
Cord Wood

Brian French
(413)222-5542
frenchyn45@gmail.com

PAINTING

**Scott Bernard's
PRECISION
PAINTERS**

Finest
Craftsmanship
Since 1979

Interior-Exterior
Paints, Stains,
Wallpaper and
Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction
Guaranteed

Free Estimates
774.452.0321

PAINTING

**BILL GREENE
PAINTING**

Free Estimates
Fully Insured

LOW RATES

**RELIABLE
SERVICE**

QUALITY WORK

**POWER
WASHING**

**LOG CABIN
REFINISHING**

508.963.8973
BILLGREENE516@GMAIL.COM

Pest Control

**ACCURATE
PEST
CONTROL**

Full Pest Control
Services

Over 28 yrs.
experience

Reasonable Rates
Owner Operated

508-757-8078
Ask for
David or Jason
Hight
Auburn MA

PLUMBING

JOHN DALY
Plumbing

Water heaters, Faucets,
Toilets, New pex water piping,
Outside hose connections
replaced or added,
Dishwashers, Garbage
disposals, Water filters,
Tub & shower valves,
Tub & shower replacements
Any repair or
replacement needed.

Buy your own fixtures & faucets, or I will supply.

Serving all of
Worcester County
Lic.#MPL-21763
Since 1988
Call John 508.304.7816

We are home owners' plumbers!
jdman714@aol.com

ROOFING

David Barbale
ROOFING

Roofing/Gutters
Repair Work

Fully Licensed
and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127
MA HIC Lic #1079721
INS. # CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709
O: 508-248-6709
davidbarbale.com

ROOFING

GUARANTEED
Roofing & Building
Maintenance LLC

Roofing, Siding,
Gutter and
Gutter Cleaning

Contact:
Daniel Truax
508-450-7472
gbmaintco.com

Senior Citizen Discount
Credit Cards Accepted
Over 30 years of satisfied
customers

Fully Insured - Free Estimates

A+ Rating BBB
MA HIC Lic #146620
MA CSL #099487

Roofing

**SAUNDERS &
SONS ROOFING**

When you need a roof,
hire a roofing company,
that's what we do!

**Call Bill Toll-Free
1-866-961-Roof
508-765-0100**

Lifetime material warranty
& 25 yr. labor warranty
available

MA Reg #153955
CSL #095459
CT-HIC #0638641

Fully Insured,
Free Estimates

Family Owned and Operated
Now Accepting All
Major Credit Cards

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.



25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550
Telephone (800) 367-9898
Fax (508) 764-8015
www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

The power of positivity

Every day, we wake up with the best intentions — or we like to think that most of us do. Each

new day brings with it specific challenges. Many times, those challenges come by way of a misunderstanding or a shifted perspective. We have come to realize, long ago, that often there is more to a story than we can see at its surface. Just being aware of that one simple fact, can change the way a situation is viewed. Often times it's easier said than done, however the more we choose to remain optimistic the better. What might seem catastrophic in the moment is usually nothing more than a small frustration that has an easy fix and will pass. A wise man once said, 'Don't sweat the small stuff, and it's all small stuff.'

This isn't to negate the fact that larger issues do surface and take some time to sort out, however we need to remind ourselves that we are all surrounded by well intended, intelligent people. People who are willing to be helpful, generous, rational and kind through productive conversations will always find the pot of gold in any situation.

Remembering to check a kneejerk reaction before gathering all of the facts is crucial to your ability to remain optimistic. Again, this is not always easy, but once mastered can change everything.

Believe it or not, optimism is a choice and offers surprising benefits. Choosing to look on the bright side of life can lower your risk of heart disease and stroke while also extending your life.

One study revealed that individuals who spent five minutes a day thinking positive thoughts about their future increased their ability to be optimistic in just two weeks. Before turning in at night, list five things that you are grateful for and five things that you are looking forward to. Every time you stop at a traffic light, tell yourself something that you like about yourself. Keeping pessimists in your life at a distance is always a good idea.

When a negative thought does creep through your mind, that's ok. Recognize it, and decide how realistic it actually is. To offset those thoughts, try spreading positivity yourself. While at work, offer a co-worker an 'atta boy' or 'atta girl' for a job well done. If your child has been hard at work on a school project, tell them how proud you are. Send a letter to someone who has had a positive impact on your life. When you bestow positivity on others, it has a lasting effect on your own life.

One way to practice being more optimistic is to flip every negative thought with a positive one despite how creative you need to get. For example, if you're thinking 'I'm going to be late for dinner and I don't feel like cooking' you can flip that by reminding yourself about the wonders of the microwave and take out. If a rainy day has you feeling groggy, remind yourself that those are the best days to read all day, catch up on Netflix and not feel guilty about missing all of that sunshine.

A quote from Rodolfo Costa, "Learn to adapt. Things change, circumstances change. Adjust yourself and your efforts to what it is presented to you so you can respond accordingly. Never see change as a threat, because it can be an opportunity to learn, to grow, evolve and become a better person."

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Charlton Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.news

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

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

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM CHARLTON, CHARLTON CITY, CHARLTON DEPOT AND BEYOND

TO THE EDITOR

It would be an honor to represent you

To the Editor:

My name is Scot Neri, and I am running for the Board of Selectman in Charlton on May 1. I would first like to thank all the people who signed my nomination papers and continue to support my candidacy for the Board of Selectmen.

As your Selectman, I will commit to keeping Charlton a fiscally responsible town. While I support economic growth to keep taxes low, I feel the identity and makeup of the town should not be altered. It should continue to be a community that prioritizes the safety and well-being of its citizens with strong police and fire departments. It should continue to look after and educate its children while holding its seniors in the highest regard.

Since declaring myself as a candidate, the question I have often been asked is, "why run?" To me, the answer is easy. I feel like I can add stability, business knowledge and a strong community commitment to the Board.

Stability: My wife, Julie, grew up here and she is the third generation in her family to call Charlton home. Listening to Julie and her family speak of their hometown with such enthusiasm and pride played no small part in our decision to move to Charlton five years ago. My daughter attended Heritage School and is currently in 7th grade at

Charlton Middle School.

Business knowledge: I am currently a District Manager for Buffalo Wild Wings, where I supervise a team of more than 150 people and oversee the operation of five restaurants in Massachusetts with combined sales of over \$16 million per year. I was hired by the company in August 2010 to bring the Buffalo Wild Wings brand into Massachusetts and help grow it. There are now 12 locations in Massachusetts.

Community: After moving to town, I was immediately involved with the PTO, Charlton Youth Basketball (CYB) and Charlton Softball. Currently, I sit on the board of CYB as the Travel Director and Coaching Coordinator. Outside of my family, nothing gives me more joy than helping and coaching kids.

I am certain that my actions these past five years as a resident, parent, volunteer, and successful businessman qualify me as a strong candidate to sit on the Board of Selectmen. I ask you to consider casting your vote for me on Saturday, May 1.

If you happen to see me at an event or around town, please say hello. It would be an honor to meet and represent you in this town of ours.

Thank you,

SCOT NERI
CHARLTON

Sports cards are breaking records

In my last column, I reported on the Tom Brady rookie card that was nearing \$2 million in an online auction. The bidding ended on April 2, with the rare card selling for \$2.2 million. While there aren't many cards worth millions of dollars, auction prices for cards overall have skyrocketed during the pandemic. Many cards have more than doubled or tripled in value over the past year.

A February Chicago Tribune article cites multiple reasons for the current sports card boom. "Some industry analysts see pandemic stay-at-home boredom as fueling a resurgence of interest, as parents rediscover the hobby and share it with their children," according to the Tribune. They also report, "investors who saw big returns on the stock market last year also have begun to buy into trading cards as an alternative to equities, pumping up prices for the cardboard commodity."

Prices in almost every type of sports card and non-sports card category are seeing strong results. An unopened 1973 Topps wax pack of cards recently sold for \$780. A high grade 1976 Topps Walter Payton Rookie Card #148 went for \$800. An average grade tobacco card of Ty Cobb recently brought \$3,250. Despite being in altered condition, a 1951 Bowman Mickey Mantle Rookie still sold for \$7,100.

PSA (Professional Sports Authenticator) is the most popular card grading company. Their business has increased so much that they reported grading turnaround times were taking up to nine months. They recently put all submissions completely on hold until they can catch up on some of the

backlog. Polygon.com (a video game website) reports that Pokémon cards are partially responsible for the backlog at PSA. Believe it or not, rare 1990s Pokémon hologram cards in near perfect condition can bring six figure sums.

So, will card prices continue to increase? There is no way to say for sure, but the late 1980s and early 1990s saw a card boom similar to what we are experiencing today. To keep up with the demand during that time, companies such as Topps, Fleer and Upper Deck drastically increased production. The demand dried up in the early 1990s. Many people who bought those cards as an investment are still sitting on boxes of nearly worthless cards. It may be the right time to sell your cards now before values decline again.

We will soon be offering an online auction of a large collection of sports and non-sports cards from a Holliston, Mass. estate. Our next session of model railroad trains, die-cast cars, model kits and other toys will also soon be running online. Our multi-estate with jewelry, coins, paintings, more sports cards, and a wide variety of other items takes place in May. Keep watching www.centralmassauctions.com for details on all of these events or use the email signup form on our homepage to be notified of all upcoming events.

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



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
• • • • •
WAYNE TUISKULA



**"Every Town Deserves
a Good Local Newspaper"**
www.Stonebridgepress.com

Will investors change behavior after the pandemic?



FINANCIAL
FOCUS

JEFF
BURDICK

The COVID-19 pandemic may end up changing our lives in some significant ways. To cite one example, it's likely we'll see a lot more people continue to work remotely, now that they've seen the effectiveness of tools such as video-conferencing. Education, too, may be forever changed in some ways. Perhaps just as important, though, is how many people may now think more about the future – including how they invest.

If you work with a financial professional, you may have connected with this individual over the past several months through a videoconferencing platform, rather than in person. Some people like this arrangement because it offers more scheduling flexibility and eliminates the time and effort of traveling to and from an appointment. Others, however, still prefer face-to-face contact and look forward to when such arrangements will again be practical and safe for everyone involved. But if you're in the first group – that is, you prefer videoconferencing – you may now wish to use this communication method in the future, at least some of the time.

But beyond the physical aspects of your investing experience, you may now be looking at some changes in your investment strategy brought on, or at least suggested, by your reactions to the pandemic.

For example, many people – especially, but not exclusively, those whose employment was affected by the pandemic – found that they were coming up short in the area of liquidity. They didn't have enough easily accessible savings to provide them with the cash they needed to meet their expenses until their employment situations stabilized. Consequently, some individuals were forced to dip into their long-term investments, such as their 401(k)s and IRAs. Generally speaking, this type of move is not ideal – these accounts are designed for retirement, so, the more you tap into them early, the less you'll have available when you do retire. Furthermore, your withdrawals will likely be taxable, and, depending on your age, may also be subject to penalties.

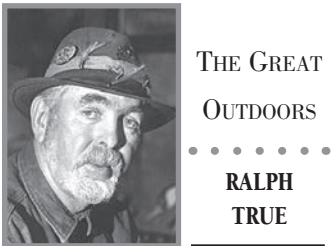
If you were affected by this liquidity crunch, you can take steps now to avoid its recurrence. Your best move may be to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the funds held in a separate, highly accessible account of cash or cash equivalents. Of course, given your regular expenses, it may take some time to build such an amount, but if you can commit yourself to putting away a certain amount of money each month, you will make progress. Even having a few hundred dollars in an emergency fund can help create more financial stability.

Apart from this new appreciation for short-term liquidity, though, the foundation for your overall financial future should remain essentially the same. In addition to building your emergency fund, you should still contribute what you can afford to your IRA, 401(k) and other retirement plans. If you have children you want to send to college, you might still explore college-funding vehicles such as a 529 plan. Higher education will still be expensive, even with an expansion in online learning programs.

Post-pandemic life may contain some differences, along with many similarities to life before. But it will always be a smart move to create a long-term financial strategy tailored to your individual needs, goals and risk tolerance.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.

**READING
NEWSPAPERS
IS A QUEST
LIKE NO OTHER**



Cool mornings had kept many anglers off of the water last week, but those that braved the cool temperatures did very well catching trout at many of the stocked trout waters, including rivers and streams. Wachusett Reservoir opened this past Saturday with many anglers catching their limits of lake trout as one of this week’s pictures show. Most Lake Trout caught were two to three pounds, but some were a bit more impressive. Anglers are encouraged to retain their limits of lake trout, because of their high population in Wachusett Reservoir! Some of the lakers had perch, bass, and other fish in their stomachs when cleaned, causing concern about their huge appetite that could have a negative effect on other fish species in the Reservoir.

Wallum Lake opened this past Wednesday after a lot of confusion by Rhode Island’s last-minute changes. The lake normally opens on the second Saturday of April each year, but because of the pandemic, Rhode Island decided to open the lake to fishing on April 7, this year. They were also not going to stock it with trout until a later date even though Mass. did a stocking prior to April 7. The Rhode



Mike Daniels and Pete Walker with lake trout from Wachusett this past Saturday

Island Fish & Wildlife reversed their plans late last week, and announced that they were indeed going to stock trout prior to April 7. Wallum Lake regulations apply to the lake under an agreement with Massachusetts! The daily limit is five trout per angler, and can be legally fished with a Rhode Island license or Rhode Island fishing license.

Wild turkey hunting in Massachusetts is not far away. Zones 1-13 open to hunting this sharp-eyed bird, on April 24. Successful hunters need to get out early, and setup

before daylight. Sitting in a ground blind that was often set up the day or two before opening day, will increase the hunter’s odds of bagging a gobbler. Only tom birds (male) can be harvested during the spring hunting season. Sitting in a blind prior to daybreak offers the hunter the peaceful quiet start of the day. Watching numerous wild animals and birds can entertain the hunter as he waits patiently for the sound of female turkeys as they waken, and leave their roost. The sound of their wings flapping as they glide down to



Parker with a big rainbow out of west river.

the ground, can get the hunters heart pounding with excitement. It is not long before the gobble of a tom turkey breaks the still morning air.

They are next to fly down from there roost, often high from a big pine tree. Waiting patiently for the birds to make their way to a hunter’s set of decoys can be frustrating, but patience often pays off. If the birds are silent for a few minutes, I often give a light call on my diaphragm turkey call. It often gets the attention of the tom bird and he will quickly reply with a gobble. He will soon come looking for your hen turkey call. Suddenly, the movement of a white and red head appears 40 or 50 yards away in thick cover. He is com-

ing! A couple of calls on your turkey call has the big tom responding with a series of raspy gobbles. Time to get your gun in position for a shot. If you are in a ground blind movement to get ready for the shot is easy, but if you are sitting in camouflage on the ground, your movement of any kind could be noticed by the turkeys keen eye sight, and the hunt will be over very quickly, as the bird heads into the opposite direction. Taking aim at the head of the turkey will often insure a quick kill. Carefully squeezing the trigger, the discharge of the shotgun echoes through the valley in the crisp morning air.

The smell of gunpowder is also in the air, and if you made a good shot, your reward of a tom turkey lays motionless 20 or so yards from your blind. Your heart is still racing, and the excitement of the hunt still has an effect on your body. Time to exit the blind and rush over to the bird. Filling out your harvest report and permit and then attaching it to the bird should be done. Even the simple task of filling out your permit is often complicated by the adrenalin rush of shooting your bird. If you do not experience all of the above-mentioned reactions to your body, you should find another sport.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Grow stevia – nature’s sweetener



GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS

Sweeten your meals by growing your own sugar substitute in gardens or containers. Stevia is nature’s own sweetener that can be snacked upon fresh or added to soups, sauces, or beverages. Wait for warm nights and the danger of frost to pass before planting stevia outdoors. It is a perennial in USDA zones 8 and warmer, but those gardening in colder areas must grow stevia like an annual. Start plants from seed, cuttings, or transplants. Seeds are difficult to find and even more difficult to sprout. Use this method if you like a gardening challenge. Reduce your effort and increase success by starting with transplants. Check garden centers and mail order catalogs for plants. Place Stevia plants 12 inches apart in full sun or light shade with

moist well-drained soils. You will get the best growth and most leaves during the long warm days of summer. Incorporate a low nitrogen slow-release fertilizer in the soil or potting mix at planting. These provide small amounts of nutrients over a long period of time. Make a second application mid-season if needed. Water new plantings often enough to keep the roots and surrounding soil slightly moist. Gradually extend the time between watering. Thoroughly water whenever the top few inches of soil are crumbly and slightly moist. Spread a layer of evergreen needles, shredded leaves, or other organic matter over the soil surface. Mulching helps conserve moisture, suppress weeds, and improve the soil, reducing your time weeding and watering. Harvest leaves as needed for sweetening your dishes. Munching on a single leaf can help suppress a sweet craving. You may be able to pass on a candy bar and go for a healthier option. Wait for cool short days at the end of the growing season when the sweetness is most intense to make large harvests for drying. You can dry in a microwave, dehydrator, or a warm dark location in your home. Cut, bundle, and

hang stems upside down to air dry. Knock leaves off the stem and save the dried leaves in an airtight jar. Grind the leaves by hand or use a coffee grinder to crush the leaves and release the sweetness. Dried leaves stored in an airtight jar will last for several years. You can grow stevia indoors in a bright sunny window or under artificial lights. Purchase plants or start your own from cuttings. Check plants often and water thoroughly when the top few inches of soil is starting to dry. Fertilize with a dilute solution of any fertilizer labeled for use on indoor edible plants. Harvest the leaves as needed to sweeten your favorite dishes. Growing stevia indoors or out can add flavor to your beverages and meals and fun to your gardening experience.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including 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 also a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Stevia, nature’s own sweetener, can be grown indoors or out as long as the plants receive proper care.

Is it time to begin stepping into the light of normalcy?

What is your new normal? It’s your choice. I think my life is forever changed, even though I’m not sure what that means. I believe the pandemic has had a profound and maybe permanent impact on my life. Around the time this shut down began, I received a serious health diagnosis. This one-two punch was powerful. In the beginning, we only left our home for doctor visits and groceries. For Christmas, our daughter signed us up for Instacart, a shopping home delivery service and I haven’t been into a grocery store since Dec. 23. I wear a mask out of the house always and when I visit the hospital for chemo/immunotherapy treatment, I add a face shield. I wash my hands and never pass a hand sanitizer opportunity. When the pizza man comes, he leaves it on the porch, rings the doorbell and leaves. I realize my life has been reduced to an exceedingly small size. Partly out of necessity. Partly from following the alleged science that seems to change before our very eyes ... and partly ... maybe mostly ... out of fear. I think many Americans are frightened because the available info changes within the moment and we really do not know what the healthy and safe protocols are.

“Masks don’t work” ... wait ... “Masks do work and are mandatory” ... wait ... “one mask doesn’t work, so wear two” ... “After vaccination, masks won’t be required” ... wait ... “Masks should be worn into 2022 and maybe beyond.” Here’s the real kicker ... “Follow the science!” ... wait ... But we’ve learned that we really have been ignoring the science when it comes to schools and the classroom. Instead, the teacher’s unions are leading the way with no scientific basis at all.

Who do we listen to? Who do we

believe? Who do we trust? No wonder so many are frightened. I believe most health officials and politicians continue to act on the best information they have. I’m not a conspiracy theorist and refuse to buy into that brand of anguish. Has the virus been politicized? Of course. It’s an unfortunate part of our democratic system. I think most can see through and past it. Are we safe? Will we be again? Were we ever? I’m told that until we achieve eighty-percent herd immunity there are

still risks, but again, I’m tired of living my life waiting for the next health directive. Arlene and I are vaccinated. It was an easy decision for us. Being vaccinated makes sense to us and we are happy with our choice. I don’t know what to say to the anti-vaccination crowd. I have two friends who are dead from Covid. One died early in the pandemic and one in February. It’s real. It’s not going away soon. We all must make our choices based upon our personal research, beliefs and needs. I’ll encourage all to be vaccinated but will also respect your choice regardless. Do your research and take the proper precautions to protect

you and others. The late, great Vince Lombardi said, “Fatigue makes cowards of us all,” and I think most of us are fatigued by this pandemic. Get out. Take a breath of fresh air. Do not be afraid. I do believe it’s time to step out of the darkness of fear and into the light. For Arlene and me, it’s time to take our lives back and we started by going grocery shopping and a visit to Staples. Small steps but positive steps towards normalcy. I began by asking, “What is your new normal?”

Turn To MOORE page A10

Professional & Tax Directory

To advertise on this page, call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Choice P.T.

Physical Therapy

Free Injury Evaluation for a limited time. Covid-safe precautions are always taken. By appointment only.

774-449-8058 133 W Main St, Spencer

Accepting New Patients!

ATTORNEY

Law Office of Michelle M. Murray

General Practice Attorney with focus on: Divorce • Custody • Child Support • Modifications

508-885-4405

188 Main Street, Spencer ☎ Michelle@AttorneyMichelleMurray.com

AttorneyMichelleMurray.com

Got Space? we do.

Contact Your Sales Representative Today.

508-764-4325

DONATION

continued from page A1

the whole district, we decided to split it between the Webster-Dudley Food Share and CHIP In so that we could split the work across both communities.”

Around 4,000 paper goods were collected as a result which NHS President and senior Louisa Foisy says was an amazing effort by everyone involved.

“I think it was really special to see everybody in the NHS embrace this activity, making posters and making it heard around the schools that we were doing this. My English class alone collected over 2,000 items. It was just cool to see everybody get so excited about something

that was going to help the communities. It created enthusiasm and it helped Chip-In and the Webster-Dudley Food Share,” Foisy said. “I think as the years go on the younger schools will get more involved and it will become a bigger and bigger event that will unify the district for a common cause.”

NHS advisor Corey Stefan said he was proud of the results and that the students in the NHS make his job easy by taking initiative and showing the community that they’re here to help and be a part of the bigger picture.

“We wanted to try to build some kind of positive experience across the school district at a time where we’re seeking every unique opportunity possible to

get any shred of hope and positivity to these students who need to look at school as not just a place that’s academically focus. It’s also about social and emotional trust, hope and support,” Stefan said.

As of this report a “winner” of the “battle” had not been determined, but in the end that wasn’t the point. It was never about winning. It was about bringing school community together towards a common goal and thanks to the efforts of the NHS and its countless student supporters families from throughout the district will now have access to resources to help keep them happy and healthy during these difficult and unsure times of COVID-19.

Join us to Dine-In or Take-Out



CHARLIE'S



Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions

Friday 4/9 & Saturday 4/10 • After 5 pm

HALF ROASTED CHICKEN

Thank you for your continued support
and for shopping and dining locally



WE ARE OPENED FOR INDOOR DINING!

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

NEW HOURS: WED-SUN 8am-9pm * Closed Mon & Tues

5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562

508-885-4033

www.charliesdiner.com

MOORE

continued from page A9

It's our choice to make. I'll wear a mask, but I'm not putting on a second. I'll social distance but I'm going to start living my life outside of our home. I can go into the store and pick up my groceries. I can greet friends. Maybe I'll bump fists for a while rather than shaking hands. I'll be cautious. I won't



Treat Mom
to a
beautiful
flower that
will last
forever

Cormier Jewelers

A Family Business Since 1949
136 Main Street • Spencer, MA 01562
www.cormierspencer.com
508-885-3385

Tues, Wed, Fri 10-5; Thurs 10-6; Sat 10-3
Sun & Mon closed



act stupidly or irresponsibly but I will no longer allow the fear to determine my actions nor rule my life. We have a finite number of minutes on this earth, and we plan on living them, unafraid and with family and friends.

I encourage you to properly protect yourself and others, then do the same. Step out of the darkness of fear into the bright light of life. Walk in the sun. Say hi to your neighbors. Catch up with each other and once again, breathe in the fresh air of life. Hug your family. Eat in your favorite restaurant. See a friend you have not seen in a year. Make up for lost time.

When the nurse put that needle in my arm for the second vaccination, I felt like screaming “Freedom!” I felt like I was given my life back.

Southwest Airlines has a tag line where there is a ‘ding’ and a flight attendant says, “Your free to move around the country.”

It's time. I hope to see you outside!

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.

Function Rooms Available for Any Size Party
Fish N' Chips To-Go ~ Fridays Only \$12.95

Spencer Country Inn



Buy Entree Get 1 1/2 price
(dine-in only) Cannot be used on
holidays or private parties
With this ad. Exp 5/31/21

Reservations accepted. Nightly dinner specials.
All Lunch & Dinner Entrees are available to dine-in or take-out!

SUNDAY BRUNCH 10am-1pm
All You Can Eat \$15.95 (plus tax & gratuity)

500 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-9036
www.spencercountryinn.com

HOURS
Lunch: Fri & Sat 11:30-2:00
Dinner: Fri & Sat 5:00-Close
Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm



LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



AUTO SERVICES



Master
Technicians
Over 28 Yrs.
Experience



All Repairs Welcome

Desmarais Auto Repair

Free Diagnostics
While-you-wait

All Repairs Guaranteed

24 mos. or 24,000 miles

1067 Stafford St. • Rochdale, MA

(Across from Rochdale Park)

508.892.9800



APPLIANCES

Family owned & operated.
Servicing household appliances since 1978.

Complete Line of
NEW APPLIANCES



All Major Brands

6 & 12 Months
Financing Available

Instant Credit • In-shop Repairs
Delivery, Installation & Removal

Dave's Appliance Inc.

508-867-3122

Parts Hotline 888-229-1027

42 W. Main St., Brookfield, MA

Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-6 • Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-3



ASPHALT PAVING

"Quality counts
when no one
is looking."

Asphalt paving
for over 50 years!



ACCREDITED
BUSINESS

A MEMBER FOR 25+ YEARS

Bill Keyes

ASPHALT PAVING INC.

SPENCER, MA.

774-261-5181

ESTABLISHED 1963

KeyesPaving.com

508-864-9708 | 508-347-7499

Fully Insured • Owner/Operator

Driveways Parking
Lots
Seal Coating
Free Estimates

HANDYMAN



Jay Martinelli
MA HIC Reg #200253
Fully Insured

- Painting: Interior/Exterior
- Refinish/Enhance Natural Wood Trim
- Wall Repair, Patch, and Compound
- Install Ceiling Fans, Light Fixtures, Outlets, and Receptacles
- Install Storm Doors
- Install Knobs, Door Knobs, and Dead Bolts
- Install Subfloors, Ceramic Tile, Luxury Vinyl Glue Down, Floating Floors
- Hang Pictures and Curtain Rods
- Install Bath Fixtures (Plumber will need to connect)
- Yard and Garden work
- Rot Repair, Exterior Trim, and Decks
- Assemble Prefabricated Furniture
- Pressure Wash
- Yard Work, Spread Mulch, and Stone
- And much more!
- Just tell me What Da Ya Need.

508-686-0336

Email: whatdayaneed@gmail.com

CATEGORY OF YOUR CHOICE



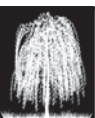
Your Ad Here
Call Today!

LANDSCAPING

JON'S LAWNS &
HARRISON LANDSCAPING

(508) 248-5488

www.harrisonlandscaping.com



Looking For A Few More
Regular Mowing Accounts

SERVICES OFFERED:

- Mowing weekly or twice per month
- Spring & Fall clean-ups
- Fertilization
- Shrub pruning, planting & mulching
- Hardscaping: walks, walls, & patios

Experience • Insured • Dependable • Affordable

ROLL OFF DUMPSTERS

PEPIN
WASTE SERVICE



Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

Weekend
Special

10 yd. Rental 1 Ton

3 sizes available. Call for pricing.

\$300



Roll Off Containers
Weekend Dumpsters
for the Homeowner
Houses • Attics • Cellars
Construction Sites

10-15-20 Yd.

508-892-4193 • Leicester, MA

Fully Insured



To advertise in The
Local Service Provider
Directory
Contact June at
508-909-4062
Jsima@
stonebridgepress.news



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Door Special! Window Special!

Special ends on May 1st

SAVE 20%
on windows¹

**+
SAVE 20%**
on entry and patio doors¹

Minimum purchase of four.

PLUS AN ADDITIONAL

\$250 OFF
your entire project¹

Minimum purchase of four.

WITH

\$0
Down

0
Monthly
Payments

0% FOR 1
Interest **YEAR¹**

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.



ANDERSEN
WINDOWS & DOORS

- Our beautiful, custom-made **entry doors will transform how you feel about your home**
- Our patio doors will continue to slide smoothly for years using **Andersen's dual ball-bearing engineering**
- Our composite Fibrex® window material is twice as strong as vinyl so **our weather-tight seals stay weather-tight**
- For peace of mind, know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the **safest way possible**

Now offering
virtual
appointments,
too!

We handle every
part of the
replacement process:
- Sell - Custom-Build
- Install - Warranty

Hear from one of our customers:

“ The entire experience was great. The installation crew was fantastic. They arrived on time and worked efficiently. They were all master craftsmen who were extremely knowledgeable about the product they were installing and the end-to-end installation process. They were courteous, professional and left our house very clean after each day of work. ”
– Heather S., Renewal by Andersen customer, Holliston, MA

Make your home more secure. Book a Virtual or In-Home Appointment.



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

MILITARY
DISCOUNT
★★★★



1-800-209-2746

¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 5/1/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 20% off your entire purchase and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 4/1/2021 and 5/1/2021. Additional \$250 off your project, minimum purchase of four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 5/1/2021. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

REAL ESTATE



Jules Lusignan



T.A. King



Maureen Cimoch



Ellen Therrien



John Kokocinski



Adrienne James

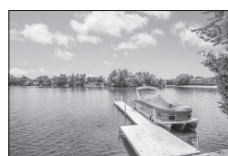


SMART MLS

www.LakeRealty.net • www.WebsterLake.net

111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444
Licensed in MA & CT

Listings Always Needed – We're Always Busy Selling!



WEBSTER LAKE – 7 Cedar Drive! Middle Pond! 8 Rm English Tudor across the street from w/Direct Waterfront Lot – Full Lake Access! Offering the Option of an In-Law Apartment or Plenty of Room for Family & Friends! Entry Foyer enters from 3 Sides w/locked door access into the house, stairway to the lower level In-Law and the convenience of a Half Bath! The 1st Floor features Applianced Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Open Floor Plan – Frplcd Beamed Cathedral Ceiling Great Rm (Dining & Living Rms), Comfortable Bdrn & Hall Full Bath w/Laundry! Upstairs – The Spacious Master w/Master Bath & Slider to Lake View Deck! Additional Bdrn w/Built-ins! Lower Level with 2nd Kitchen, Open Dining & Living Area w/Brick Hearth, Full Bath & Possible (4th) Bdrn! Central Air! Huge Carport! Detached 3 Car Garage! Lakefront Lot w/Deck, Concrete Patio & Boat Dock! Take Advantage of the Low Interest Rates & make this House Your Home! Summer's Just Around the Corner! **\$489,900.00**

WEBSTER – 6 Nicholas Circle! 8+ Rm Center Hall Colonial! 1.22 Acres! Sought After Neighborhood! Great Commuter Location Accessible to Many Major Routes! Spacious Stainless Steel Applianced Cabinet Packed Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining Rm! 23 x 24 Frplce Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceiling & Slider to the Huge Deck! Front to Back Living Rm! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! The 2nd Floor You'll Find the Comfortable 12X17 Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2 Additional Bedrooms plus an Office/Nursery/Bedroom all w/Ample Closets! 2nd Full Bath off the Hall w/Linen Closet! 2.5 Total Baths! Lower Level Ideal for Storage or Future Expansion! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers w/Double Door Entry to the Basement for Moving Larger Items aka Boys Toys! 2 Z Oil Heat, 2 AC, Separate Oil Water Heater! Irrigation! Don't Delay! **\$418,900.00**

WEBSTER – 31 Park Street! 3 Family! 6/6/6 Rooms! 3/3/3 Bedrooms! 1/1/1 Bathrooms! Each Unit is nearly 1,300' Featuring Spacious Kitchens, Living Rooms & Frplcd Liv Rm, 1.5 Baths! 2nd Flr w/3 Good Size Bedrooms! Remodeled! 10 Yrs Ago! Updated Electric! Tile Flrs Throughout! LPGas Heat & Hot Electric Heat! **\$284,900.00**

WEBSTER – 44 Sunny Ave! Sought After Neighborhood! 7 Room 1,632' Colonial! 1st Flr Features Open Flr Plan, Kit w/IsL, Din Area, Fam Rm, Frplcd Liv Rm, 1.5 Baths! 2nd Flr w/3 Bedrooms & Bathrm! 2.5 Baths Total! Tile Flrs Throughout! LPGas Heat & Hot Water! Town Services! **\$289,900.00**



WEBSTER – 69 Minebrook Rd! Conveniently Located 7 Rm Split Entry! 1.04 Acre Lot! House set well off the Road for added Privacy! Open Floor Plan! Eat-in Applianced Kit w/Island & Seating, Tile Flr, Tile Backsplash & Ceiling Fan! Din Rm w/Brick Flrs & Slider to the Deck Overlooking the Private Backyard! Frplcd Liv Rm w/Brick Flr! Ideal for Entertaining! Down the Hrdwd Hall find a Full Bath w/Tile Flr & 3 Bdrms w/Wall to Wall Carpeting! Master Bdrn w/2 Dble Closets, Ceiling Fan & Master Bath w/Marble Tile Flr & Shower Surround! Hrdwd Stairs, the Finished Lower Level Fan Rm w/Recessed Lighting, Stone & Tile Hearth w/Woodstove, 1/2 Bath w/Tile Flr, Laundry Rm w/Sink & Tile Flr, Utility Rm w/Storage! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers & Door to Backyard! Oil Heat! Steel "T" Beam Construction! Shed! Won't Last!! **\$349,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 11 Henry Road! Bates Point - Middle Pond & Panoramic Views + Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Never 2 the Same! 3,184' 9 Room Fully Furnished Colonial Built from the Ground Up as a New Home in 2005! This Home Features 4 Bedrooms, 2 of which are Master Suites, 1 of which Overlooks the Lake, 4.5 Bathrooms, 2 of which have Separate Showers & Whirlpool Tubs, 3 of which have Double Granite Vanities, 2 Complete Granite/Stainless Kitchens! The First Floor Open Floor Plan with Hardwood Floors Features an Eat-in Kitchen with LP Gas Jenn-Air Range, Double Drawer Dishwasher & Trash Compactor! Spacious Formal Dining Room with Crown Mouldings & Chair Rails! Lake Facing Great Room/Living Room with Gas Fireplace, Wet Bar with Bottle Cooler, Surround Sound & Slider to Composite Deck! Half Bath with Laundry Closet! The Second Floor with 4 Bedrooms! Comfortable Front 16x16 and Back 17x17 Masters with Tray Ceilings, Recessed Lighting, Ceiling Fans, Surround Sound & Full Tile/Granite Bathrooms! Full Hall Bath for the other 2 Bedrooms! Fully Finished Walk-out Lower Level with Full Summer Kitchen, Family Room with Gas Fireplace, Surround Sound, Slider to Paver Patio & Full Bath! Buderus 3 Zone Oil Heat! 3 Zone Air Conditioning! Central Vac! Security! 2 Car Heated Garage! Boat Dock! **\$1,099,900.00**

CHARLTON – 74 Daniels Road! Completely Renovated 9 Rm, 4 Bdrn, 2.5 Bath Gambrel w/Attached In-Law Apt! Picturesque 3.39 Acres! Deeded Water Rights to South Charlton Reservoir! Extensive Updates! House w/New Roof, Siding, Kit, Bthrms, Windows, Int Doors, Electrical, Flooring, R60 Insulation in Attic, Water Heater, Well Pump & More! In-Law w/Open Flr Plan, Kit, Bdrn w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Laundry! Both Fully Applianced! 2 New Driveways, Irrigation, AG Pool! Shed! Security! Generator Hookup! **\$489,900.00**

HOPE REAL ESTATE GROUP
43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570
Fine Realtor Associates to Serve You!

hope2own.com
508.943.4333
Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

We Want Your Listings!

Featured New Listing!



WEBSTER
99 UPPER GORE ROAD

Location! Scenic Upper Gore! "BIRDS EYE VIEW" of Webster Lake! Spacious Tr-Level, 2,279 sq. ft., 4 BRS, 1 full bath, 2 half baths, Inground pool, 2 Car Garage **\$275,000.**



WEBSTER - 155 THOMPSON ROAD

SORRY, SOLD!

Terrific opportunity for one Large business or Several businesses. 4784 sq bldg, Zoned B5. Off I395 exit 1. High Traffic & Visibility. Excellent Location! assisted sale **\$695,000.**

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Brian Bohenko

WATERFRONT THOMPSON - BECOLA RD



ON DEPOSIT

5+ Acre Waterfront Land On "Little Pond/Schoolhouse Pond. Private Setting. Open Field. 250+ feet Waterfrontage. Dead end road! **\$179,900**

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



SORRY, SOLD!

Estate Sale! Scenic View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Boarding Stone Walls! Split Level! 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Hollywood Bath! Master Bedroom & Master Bath. Fireplaced Living Room! Finished Lower Level w/1/2 Bath, Garage. "Salt Water" Inground Pool. **\$319,000.**

A SELLER'S MARKET is continuing into year 2021!

Thinking of selling, NOW is the time! Call us, your neighborhood Real Estate Professionals, for a FREE OPINION of VALUE - NO strings attached.
Do business where the business is being done!

LAND

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **ON DEPOSIT \$89,900**

Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE! **\$115,000.**

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **Each \$24,500.**

Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **SORRY, SOLD \$132,900**

WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE



Featured New Listing!

To Be Built or Build to Suit - 2000+ Sq Ft Custom Cape! 3 large bedrooms, Master suite, Central air, 2 Fireplaces! 2 car garage. All town services. **\$425,000.**

WEBSTER • 9 BIRCHWOOD DRIVE



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautiful CAPE! Enormous amount of updates. New Asphalt Shingles, & 8 New Skylights! 4 Bedrooms! 3 - 1/2 Baths! 24 x 26 Great Rm w/ Gas Fireplace! Master Suite w/"Spa Like" Bath & Soaking Tub! WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT? INGROUND POOL? OK! has that TOO! All Painted! SS Appliances. New Tankless Hot Water Boiler. **\$467,000**

WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



Large 3 Family a rare find! Occupied by the owner for many decades. Entire 1st floor is one spacious apartment with 2 bedrooms. 2 - 2nd floor apartments have 3 bedrooms each. 30' x 44' beautiful Fieldstone Foundation, with walkout basement to off street parking. **\$289,900.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind. Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180' +/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining / formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/ private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Remember, Timing is Everything!** **\$1,075,000.**

Lake Shirley - 647 Reservoir Rd



Lakefront! Lake Shirley! Modern Flare on a Lakefront Colonial! 1st level Formal large entry foyer, living room, gas fireplace, chef kitchen, Impala black granite, center island, 3 season porch, overlooking the lake. 1st FL bedroom suite w/ shower and jacuzzi tub. 2nd floor Master Suite! Lower level Summer kitchen, full bath, game room. Crown moulding & hardwood floors throughout, wired sound system, radiant floors. oversize 2 car garage. Additional Guest House! assisted sale **\$1,040,000.**

CENTURY 21 XSELL REALTY

Century 21 XSELL Realty

Auburn (774) 772-7072 Dudley (508) 461-7550 Worcester (508) 795-3880

MARCH'S SINGLE FAMILY HOMES REAL ESTATE MARKET

OXFORD

	March 2020	March 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$262,500	\$335,000	▲
Market Volume	\$1,692,400	\$3,787,000	▲
# of Homes Sold	7	11	▲
Avg Days on Market	44	21	▼
Month Supply Inv.	1.01	.66	▼

AUBURN

	March 2020	March 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$274,000	\$357,100	▲
Market Volume	\$4,201,500	\$3,651,100	▼
# of Homes Sold	15	10	▼
Avg Days on Market	58	24	▼
Month Supply Inv.	.72	.33	▼

Contact us to find more about your neighborhood market & what your home is worth! Inventory is extremely low!

Eve Patterson
508-341-4434Nana Frimpong
508-615-6149Doreen Gagliostro
(774) 757-2313Jammie Geddis
774-242-9752Johnny Wariebi
(508) 335-5076Antonia Vaughan
(617) 373-0053Diane Strzelecki
(508) 335-2384Jillian DeGrace
(860) 315-3636

Our Commitment to you ♦ Integrity ♦ Hard Work ♦ Excellent Service



PUT YOUR TRUST IN US TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE

Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254

ReMax Advantage 1
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604

CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT



EXPERIENCE MATTERS – MARKETING MATTERS RESULTS MATTER

Selling your house requires hiring an agent who is committed to getting you the best price and terms.

~ We Offer ~

Full time service • Virtual staging • Skilled negotiators • Internet and print advertising • Accompanied showings • Realtors who are committed to client representation • Local and regional experience • Diverse marketing

As realtors we are committed to you, you are our only client.

SZYMCZAK SELLS



Dudley Ranch, Finished lower level, 2 baths
8 Blue Heron Dr \$345,000

SOUTHBRIDGE SOLD!



Unique custom Cape, 4 Br., 4.5 baths, 14+ acres
268 Dresser Hill Rd \$685,000

SHREWSBURY SOLD!



4 Br., 2.5 baths, First floor family room
33 Latura St \$628,000

CALL Diane or Jo-Ann for a Real Estate Market Analysis





MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 1-800-367-9898 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news



Why call the Michelle Terry Team to sell your home?

• Home staging services

• Home warranties

• 3D videos

• Professional photography

• Ramped up open houses!

• And so much more...



YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562
Michelle Terry • Broker /Owner
michelleterryteam.com

Give us a call today! 508-202-0008

 like us on facebook 

JACK WALKER REALTOR

95 Church St., Whitinsville, MA
508-234-8029

Now celebrating 50 years in business.

Let us put our experience to work for you!

ERA Key Realty Services

"Put 36 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"



Donna Flannery
508-885-6665
donnaflannery@aol.com




REAL ESTATE




Kayleen Flannery-Sauvageau
508-612-9843
Kayleen00@aol.com

415B Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562




Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254



Dudley ~ \$149,900
Foundation & Lot Opportunity to have completed by your own contractor. 1600 sq. ft. Ranch - foundation completed
Have It Your Way

ReMax Advantage 1
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604



CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT



Call: 508-341-8299
Lisa Caron Broker/Owner
42 West Main Street
Brookfield, MA
~ Notary Public ~

Representing Buyers & Sellers for over 15 years
caronlisarick@aol.com • lisacaron.com


Mary Hicks Realtor®



Direct: 508.612.4794
Home Office: 508.867.2222
www.maryhicks.com

If You Are Looking For An Experienced And Nice Realtor Call Me!

270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
maryangela87@yahoo.com
Each office is independently owned and operated.



ERA Key Realty SERVICES

Amy Nadeau, Realtor

Having a full-time realtor in this market is essential for success! I am happy to assist you to buy, sell, or just answer any questions you might have.

76 Church St., Whitinsville, MA 01588
774.280.2250 | amy@erakey.com
www.amynadeau.com



Jules Lusignan
#1 in Sales 2006-2021
South Worcester County
\$159,578,930.00 SOLD



A 42 Year Company!

111 East Main St., Webster, MA
Thinking of selling? Call 1-800-552-7444
www.LakeRealty.net
www.WebsterLake.net


FREE OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS when you advertise in this section

GOT A HOUSE FOR SALE?

This is the place to sell it!

Your ad will be mailed to 50,000+ households throughout Southern Worcester County.

To advertise on our real estate section, please call your local sales representative at 1-800-367-9898





REAL ESTATE



Do Your Home Work!

Looking to sell your home, let us do the work for you.

This is the place to sell your home!

Your ad will be mailed to 50,000+ households throughout Southern Worcester County.



Call your local sales representative today!

1-800-367-9898

PUBLIC AUCTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH AT 1:00 PM

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

DUDLEY

7 ROOM / 4 BEDROOM 2-STORY COLONIAL STYLE HOME

"CLOSE PROXIMITY TO ALL AMENITIES"

5 VILLAGE ST. DUDLEY, MASSACHUSETTS TO BE SOLD ON THE PREMISES

FEATURES:

• 2-Story Colonial Style Home • ± 13,240 S/F of Land • Total of (7) Rooms w/ (4) Bedrooms & (1 1/2) Baths • ± 1,792 S/F of Gross Living Area Above Grade • Gas FWA Heat • Full Basement • Wood Clapboard Siding • Carpeted, Hardwood & Tile Floors • Porch • Public Water & Sewer • Zoned: Res. 10 (Gen. Res.) •

SALE PER ORDER OF MORTGAGEE

ATTORNEY JAMES R. BYRNE

OF THE FIRM OF UPDIKE, KELLY & SPELLACY, P.C.

100 PEARL STREET 17TH FLOOR, HARTFORD, CT

ATTORNEY FOR MORTGAGEE

TERMS OF SALE: \$5,000.00 DEPOSIT CASH OR CERTIFIED FUNDS

5% BUYER'S PREMIUM APPLIES

OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT TIME OF SALE

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THIS AUCTION:

We are doing our best to ensure our staff and customers are safe as possible, so we may take necessary precautions to maintain health and safety protocols. The COVIDVIRUS still remains a potential risk in any permitted public gathering. All auction sale attendees should remain mindful to observe social distancing and all other CDC and government health cautions. We cannot be responsible for any violations by any persons, or risk of contraction in any event. Please maintain 6' distance between yourself and others. Please do not attend if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness or have been exposed to someone who has, or have traveled outside of the United States in the last month. Masks Required.

Aaron Posnik

AUCTIONEERS • APPRAISERS

West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA

413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655

TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK1 • (767-6461)

MA Auc Lic #161 • PA Auc Lic #AY000241L

Web: www.posnik.com • Email: info@posnik.com

Car Care and Tips

Spring has sprung, and few simple pleasures compare to cruising down the highway with the fresh springtime breeze blowing in the open window. But do you really know how much that joyride is costing you in gas? And are you sure your tires are giving you your money's worth? For answers to these questions, along with some springtime car washing tips, read on!

Do you love highway driving with the wind whipping at your hair? If so, it's a pleasure you'll pay for. Did you know driving with your windows all the way down at higher speeds, will waste 10 percent more gallons of gas than driving with them closed? The drag will cost you more in fuel, so avoid cranking the windows completely until you're at a slower pace.

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 percent of a gallon of gas on long trips!

Want to conserve more gas? Just use the overdrive shift as soon as your speed is high enough. It also acts as a fuel saver.

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.

According to a major tire company approximately one third of all tires on the road are under inflated. These tires not only wear out quicker and but they are more at risk for a blow out. Since tires lose air at a rate of about a pound a month, it pays to periodically check your tires



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

When rinsing, use a hose without a nozzle and let the water flow over the car from top to bottom. This creates a sheeting action that helps minimize pooling of water.

Did you know more frequent waxes are needed if your car is red, black or white? The reason for this is because these colors are more susceptible to acid rain and UV rays. And one of the most critical times to wash your vehicle is immediately after a rainfall. Even after the lightest rain shower, the water evaporates, but the acid remains on the vehicle's finish.

When you wash your car, be sure to use a separate sponge to clean the wheels and tires. They may be coated with sand, brake dust, and other debris that could mar the car's finish.

Never wash your car when the body is hot, such as immediately after driving it or after it has been parked in direct sunlight for a while. Heat speeds the

drying of soap and water, making washing more difficult and increasing the chances that spots or deposits will form.

If you need to get all the water off the car, try using your leaf blower. It will blast water from even the tiniest crevices.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the 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.

Town-to-Town

Home Town Service,
BIG TIME RESULTS

CLASSIFIEDS

1-800-536-5836

Place your ad today!

LEE'S COINS & JEWELRY
\$ BUY & SELL \$
ALL GOLD & SILVER
ITEMS Specializing in
NUMISMATIC COINS,
Bullion Items, gold
& silver of any form!
Qualified with over 30 years
experience & a following of
many satisfied customers.
We also sell a nice selection
of fine jewelry, antiques &
collectibles. Bring in your
items & see what they are
worth. You won't leave
disappointed. Honesty and
fairness are our best policies!
Lee's Coin & Jewelry,
239 West Main Street,
East Brookfield
(Route 9-Panda Garden Plaza)
508-637-1236
or cell: 508-341-6355

LOOKING TO RENT

1 Bedroom
Apartment
in Webster
or surrounding
towns

Call
508-461-6219

GARDEN MANURE FOR SALE
Located in
Charlton
Will deliver
508-320-3273
508-248-7335

If It's Important
To You,

It's Important
To Us.

HELP WANTED
BC Industries

Metal Shot Sandblasting
Position Available
In Oxford, MA.

Blasting Most Ferrous &
Non-Ferrous Metals.
Experience Blasting With Steel
Shot, Grit & Garnet A Plus.
Call BC Industries
At 508-987-3042
Or E-Mail Resume To
Donnaz@bcbblast.com

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE
Stop by 7 Glen Street, Douglas on
Saturday, April 10th
between 8am-3pm for a
MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE.

Quality fishing and horse equipment, tools, wedding
décor, homegoods, women's wear, and more.

FULL TIME HELP WANTED
STURBRIDGE

Position #1-
Looking for farm hand/laborer

Position #2- Looking for
Mechanic/Carpenter

Must be dependable.
Wage based on experience

Call Jon at 774-415-3800
for full details

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE WORKER
Local landscape maintenance worker needed
Full and part time positions
Experienced in all aspects of
landscape maintenance.
Excellent pay for the right individual.
Company is in Douglas, Mass.
Please call 508-868-9473

Homeowner looking for
GARDENING HELP
Woodstock Area
(close to Southbridge)

Please call
860-974-0028

NEWLY RENOVATED
two bedroom
Apartment for rent

\$780 with a month-to-month
lease signing, first last and
security deposit required,
Credit check also required

NO PETS
Available May First
Please call 774-230-0878
leave message

Spring has sprung.

Need a backup mower or weedwhacker?

Plenty of rebuilt machines on
hand at reasonable prices.

Stop in at 385 Morris St.,
Southbridge, from 8 a.m. to 5
p.m. to see what is available.
Please wear a mask when you stop by.

CUSTODIAN DOUGLAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1.0 FTE Custodian (2:00 PM-10:00PM -
hours subject to change) This position is open
until filled. Interested candidates should send
a letter of intent, resume, and three recent
letters of recommendation to: Jeffrey Kollett,
Facilities Manager, 21 Davis Street, Douglas,
MA 01516

All appointments are conditional based on
a satisfactory CORI and SAFIS Background
check per 603 CMR 51.00

The Douglas Public Schools is committed to
maintaining a work and learning environment
free from discrimination on the basis of race,
color, religion, national origin, pregnancy,
gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/
civil union status, ancestry, place of birth,
age, citizenship status, veteran status, political
affiliation, genetic information or disability, as
defined and required by state and federal laws.
Additionally, we prohibit retaliation against
individuals who oppose such discrimination
and harassment or who participate in an equal
opportunity investigation.

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:
Seeking Quality Homes
Throughout Central
MA To
Provide Foster Care
To Children In Need.
24/7 Support
Generous
Reimbursement,
\$1000 Sign-On
Bonus. Call For Details.
Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care.
(508)829-6769

FIREWOOD
Cut, Split
& Delivered
Green or
Seasoned

Call Paul
508-769-2351

LIVE BAIT TROLLING FOR TROUT FISHING
Spencer
508-885-5416
Open 24/7

Town of Charlton seeks a FT Conservation Agent

Qualified candidates will have knowledge of Mass General Law relating to the MA Wetlands Protection Act. Working knowledge of soil types; ability to verify wetland boundaries; familiarity with permit and grant writing. Minimum qualifications includes Bachelor's Degree in an environmental field, five years' experience in environment management, land conservation or a related field; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
Engineering Degree a plus. Must be able to lift 30 lbs. and have the physical ability to walk rough terrain and access all areas of inspection sites. Hiring range \$27.43/hr. - \$30.93/hr. dependent on experience and education.
Position will remain open until filled.
Apply online at <https://townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources>
Equal Opportunity Employer

TOWN OF SPENCER Veterans Agent

The Town of Spencer is seeking a qualified individual for the Veterans Agent position. Responsibilities include facilitating services to veterans and their dependents, furnishing information, advice, and assistance to veterans pursuant to MGL c.115.
Candidate must be an honorably discharged veteran. High school graduate; four years of experience in the field of veteran benefit administration, or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
This is a part-time, 15 hour per week position with a salary range of \$20.50 to \$24.82 per hour.

Job description and town application available at:
<https://www.spencerma.gov/home/pages/employment-opportunities>

Submit resume and standard town application to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA EEO Employer.

OBITUARIES

Arthur E. Marrier, 82

BELLINGHAM— Arthur E. Marrier, 82, passed away at home on Wednesday March 17, 2021 while surrounded by his loving family.

Arthur was born in Webster, MA on August 18, 1938, son of the late Edward and Dorothea (Norman) Marrier. Arthur owned and operated Spencer Billiards for many years prior to his retirement. Arthur enjoyed golfing, going to the dog and horse tracks and he loved playing pool and making pool tables. Arthur is survived by his longtime companion Lorraine Robinson; two sons: Robert A. Marrier of Spencer, and Edward S. Marrier of Worcester; two daughters: Deborah B. Zarzecki and her husband Mark of Charlton, and Cheryl Ricard of Spencer; two brothers: Luther Marrier of Webster, and Robert Marrier of Florida; his sister Janice Moriarty of Putnam, CT; four grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; he also leaves many relatives and friends.

Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Arthur.

Local Heroes



FOUND HERE!

Bring your family's memorial back to its original beauty. Have it cleaned by us professionally.

PEPIN GRANITE INC MONUMENTS

Specializing In: Personalized Monuments, Markers, Cemetery Lettering, Cleaning, and Bronze Markers

Call For Appointment
508-892-4193

Family Owned/Operated • Indoor/Outdoor Display
Rt. 9 • 1500 Main St. • Leicester, MA 01524
Leo Pepin Jr. • Chantelle Pepin





Scoop!

If it's important to you,
It's important to us.

StonebridgePress.com

SEE A PHOTO YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER?

PHOTO REPRINTS AVAILABLE

Call Stonebridge Press for details at
508-764-4325
or drop us an email at
photos@stonebridgepress.com



RUNNING FOR OFFICE THIS SPRING? LOCAL OR STATEWIDE?

Knock on up to 43,000 doors with an ad or insert in Stonebridge Press Newspapers. The Charlton and Sturbridge Villagers reach close to 10,000 households in Charlton, Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland, Fiskdale, and Wales.

Our sister publications reach Spencer, Leicester, the Brookfields, Southbridge, Auburn, Webster, Oxford, Dudley, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Douglas.

All newspapers are also online each week and archived on 508local.com as well as posted on 508local Facebook page.

You can also place a political insert/flyer in our papers and insert by zip code to just your towns.

All advertisements and flyers must contain the following information:

“Political Advertisement” at the top, and a “paid for by the committee to elect...” at the bottom.

Sample sizes

Front page starts at \$100 per paper	1/2 page 10”x 10.5”
1/8th page 5”x 5”	Full Page 10”x 21”
1/4 page 5”x 10.5”	These are sample sizes...any size is available for political advertising.

Full Color Space is available on the Front Page

Contact June at 508-909-4062
Or email: Jsima@stonebridgepress.news with any questions or for pricing.

 **MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT!**

MA PUBLICATIONS:
Spencer New Leader, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Southbridge News, Auburn News, Webster Times, and the Blackstone Valley Tribune

Mother's Day

May 9th

We will host three seatings at
Noon, 2:00 & 4:00

Make memories at
308 Lakeside
Reserve soon!



CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY
Open 7 Days 308 MAIN STREET, EAST BROOKFIELD
Open 11 - Close 774-449-8333 308 LAKESIDE.COM

Find us on Facebook



Spring Has Sprung!

Get outside and forget about cooking, we'll do it for you!

Hearthstone Market & Catering
STURBRIDGE, MA

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street
Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm
hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com



Say it in living color!

The world isn't black and white.
So, why is your ad?

DON'T BUY TILL YOU SEE US

Pre-Season Air Conditioner Sale

OVER 1500 BICYCLES IN STOCK

MATTRESS SALE!	TWIN: Reg. \$299 NOW \$179.99 FULL: Reg. \$499 NOW \$259.99 QUEEN: Reg. \$599 NOW \$289.99	1000s OF APPLIANCES IN STOCK FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY	DEHUMIDIFIERS IN STOCK!
18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$799.99 \$699.99	SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1099.99 \$1099.99	KITCHENAID DISHWASHER Reg. \$799.99 \$799.99	OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN Reg. \$219.99 \$188.99
20 CU. FT. UPRIGHT FREEZER Reg. \$899.99 \$899.99	GE COMBO WASHER & DRYER Reg. \$1299.99 \$1299.99	DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER Reg. \$499.99 \$449.99	GE STAINLESS SMOOTH TOP STOVE Reg. \$549.99 \$599.99
FAMOUS MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE Reg. \$449.99 \$449.99	DELUXE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$449.99 \$449.99	MAYTAG TOP WASHER Reg. \$699.99 \$649.99	5 CU FT CHEST FREEZER Reg. \$199.99 \$199.99
		GE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$699.99 \$699.99	DELUXE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399.99 \$349.99
			7 CU FT CHEST FREEZER Reg. \$229.99 \$229.99

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000

Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons

WHITCO

Mon-Fri. 10-8:30; Sat. 9-8; Sun. 10-7
140 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-9343

PRE-SEASON GRILL SALE

TV SALE

75" LG Reg. \$999.99	\$849.99
55" TV Reg. \$399.99	\$369.99
65" LG Reg. \$699.99	\$549.99
43" LG Reg. \$399.99	\$339.99
32" Smart TV Reg. \$169.99	\$139.99
50" LG Reg. \$799.99	\$349.99
86" LG Reg. \$1999.99	\$1799.99

KAYAKS IN STOCK

Soper

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC

1961

Soper Construction started doing business as a landscape company out of a garage on High Street in Southbridge, MA on April 1.

1965

Our Company moved to it's current location on Plimpton Street and began doing business involving large excavation.

1986

Bud Soper made a name for himself by taking a chance to be the primary excavation contractor building three new schools.

TODAY

We are now a multi-million dollar company capable of accomplishing just about any construction endeavor we encounter.

CELEBRATING

60

YEARS

Sixty years ago, on April 1, 1961, Clarence "Bud" Soper, born in Sturbridge in 1935, started a modest landscape business with little more than a \$700 loan and his personal station wagon full of tools. During the past sixty years, the company has evolved into a successful business that now offers a wide range of excavation, including drainage, septic systems, underground utilities, land clearing, site development and new home construction from foundation to finish. Although the scope of services has changed, the family business has remained solid under the new leadership of Stephen Soper, Bud's son. "Our customers trust us to do the job correctly the first time. We are proud of our family business. My father taught me that trust and a solid reputation is the most important thing in life. I work hard every day to live up to the name he started many years ago."

That hard work has existed from day one. Bud always arrived at the job early and remained on site until it was done to the complete satisfaction of the customer. As the landscape business grew, Bud was able to purchase his first piece of equipment which was a 1948 Ford 8N tractor. Today the Company has a fleet of vehicles and equipment to meet the needs of any type of excavation project.

The quality of their work is most important to the Company. They even have a sign in the office that is a constant reminder: "The bitterness of poor quality lingers long after the sweetness of cheap price is forgotten!"

When the Town of Southbridge began renovating the three elementary schools, Bud was the excavation contractor for Charlton Street School. The Town's General Contractor, defaulted on the projects, and Bud took on the additional responsibility for the excavation for West Street and Eastford Road Schools. It is that determination to get the job done well, that makes Soper Construction Company stand out in the community.

Stephen, who has been around the business his entire life, has witnessed the growth of the Company and the evolution of the market. "There is a lot more competition than there once was, and you have to be able to compete with the constantly changing market and it's demands."

Whatever changes come their way, they plan on continuing with their solid reputation and work ethic in the years to come.

"I am grateful to continue in my father's legacy and I am going to do my best to carry on with the successful business that my father started so many years ago."

We would like to extend a special thank you to all of our past and present employees for their dedication and hard work, as well as the Jolin Family and Sey Family."

A business built on hard work.

A reputation built on quality.

www.hiresoper.com

(508) 765-9003

FOR A LIMITED TIME:

We have CNA scholarships available to the right applicants. Please inquire for further information.

Quaboag

Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center

5 out of 5 Stars

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Rating system for: Health Inspections, Staffing and Quality Measures.

Spring Into A Rewarding New Career in 2021

We are grateful to be a part of this wonderful community. Thank you for "social distancing" to keep us all safe. We hope you'll consider Quaboag as your next career move.

Positions Available

5K SIGN-ON BONUS FOR FULL TIME OVERNIGHT NURSES FOR A LIMITED TIME

Maintenance • PT Physical Therapist • FT Speech Wound Care Nurse FT • Overnight Supervisor M-F Evening Nursing Supervisor M-F Evening Nurse 3-11 • Overnight Nurses 7p-7a PT Dietary Aid • FT/PT Housekeeping C.N.A.'s all shifts available

What our employees have to say...

We Offer Great Benefits!

• Health and Dental • Flexible schedules

• SIGN-ON BONUS (\$3000 SIGN-ON BONUS FOR FULL-TIME NURSES FOR A LIMITED TIME)

• Referral Bonus (for when you bring a friend)

• Education Reimbursement

We are a Deficiency-Free community facility in a beautiful small town with a family feel.

For more information please contact: Julie Stapleton at 508.867.7716 Or apply online at: quaboagonthecommon.com