



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

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Thursday-Friday, October 12-13, 2023

Charlton FD welcomes new Deputy Chief

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The Charlton Fire Department has a new Deputy Chief following an extensive hiring process in the wake of Jason Cantara's retirement after 35 years of service.

Chief Ed Knopf formally introduced Scott Cario to the Board of Selectmen in September.

Cario was selected following a third-party candidate search and assessment center and brings with his over 20 years of experience, most recently in North Providence. Cario has already begun the process of moving closer to Charlton as town ordinances require that he relocate within 25 miles of the town to maintain the job.

Cario has already been serving in his position for a month and told selectmen he was impressed by what he has seen from the department in that short time.

"I think what they are now is tremendous. The amount of people that they work with on

Turn To **CHIEF** page **A13**



Courtesy

Scott Cario is pinned as the new Deputy Chief for the Charlton Fire Department.

Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library spotlight graveyard history at annual meeting

STURBRIDGE — Get in the Halloween spirit and join the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library for its Annual Meeting at the Sturbridge Senior Center on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will start with the 90-minute presentation "Welcome to the Graveyard!"

This illustrated presentation chronicles cemetery art, history and symbolism, with a special look at Sturbridge cemeteries. From colonial New England burial grounds of the 1600s and 1700s, through the nation-wide rural cemetery movement of the 19th century and into 21st century locations, the program examines why we have cemeteries and gravestones, why they look like they do and how styles and art have evolved over almost 400 years.

This meeting is free and open to the public and all are welcome. Members of the Friends are invited to stay afterward for the Annual Meeting where you'll hear what we've been working on all year and be able to vote on the Slate of Officers. Please let us know if you're interested in running for a Board position.

United Way of South Central MA launches 2023 campaign to Bridge the Gap

SOUTHBRIDGE — United Way of South Central MA (UWSCM) kicked off its 2023 campaign with a Campaign Dinner and Pub Quiz trivia Night on Friday, Sept. 29. The evening



Courtesy

Emotionally FUNstable, winners of the Best Team Name award in the Pub Quiz trivia competition.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy welcomes new faculty

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is pleased to welcome a newly appointed faculty member as adjunct faculty.

Christine A. Piehl, BSN, RN of Spencer, has been named adjunct faculty, a role she assumed in September 2023. Piehl is an experienced nurse educator who was the lead instructor for Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Health Technologies, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program from 2001-2017. Under her leadership, a 100% CNA student pass rate was achieved for the CNA state exam. Piehl was an EMT-B with the Charlton Fire Department from 2005 to 2010 having completed the Emergency Medical Technician course at Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) in 2004. She was connected with the Overlook Masonic Healthcare as a Charge Nurse, Unit Manager, and MDS Coordinator prior.

Professor Piehl completed her Associate's degree in Nursing at QCC in 1991 and her RN to BSN program at Worcester State College in 2001. She will be mentored by Professor Virginia Dockstader, BSN, RN, and will be instrumental in



Christine Piehl

assisting practical nursing students in the Skills Laboratory.

"We are extremely excited to have Professor Piehl join the Practical Nursing Academy," stated Gretheline Bolandrina DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director. "She brings with her nursing education experience and expertise that would greatly benefit the PN students."

About Bay Path

RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy

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

Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing (www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn) and is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education (www.council.org). For more information, visit www.baypath.net.

began with the launch of this year's theme is, "Bridging the Gap." The campaign aims to raise \$625,000 to support programs and services that help people in need achieve financial stability, health, and educational success.

"The past few years have been challenging for many people in our community," said Alycia Dzik, United Way Campaign Chair. "Many in our community live as ALICE — Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed. Folks that work but struggle every day. Between the pandemic, inflation, and rising costs have made it difficult for many families to make ends meet. Our 2023 campaign is about bridging the gap between where people are and where they want to be."

UWSCM funds more than 26 programs and

services provided by local nonprofits. These programs help people meet their basic needs, such as food, shelter, and clothing. They also provide educational opportunities, job training, and mental health services.

"Our community is strongest when everyone has the opportunity to succeed," said Dzik. "By supporting United Way, you can help us bridge the gap and create a more equitable and prosperous community for all."

The annual Pub Quiz sponsored by Dexter-Russell was held after the kick off. Over 130 players vied for the "Sharpest Knife in the Block." Over the course of five rounds the ultimate winner was the YMCA team "Trivial Pursuits". Runner up was Old Sturbridge Village Team "Grasshoppers" and Best Team

Turn To **UNITED WAY** page **A13**



Gus Steeves



Gus Steeves



Gus Steeves

Caitlin Tupper, right, chats with one of the evening's various Victorian ghouls.

A close-up of the monstrous design on the turntables as Larry Day cues a 45.

Three of Tupper's pieces provide a Jungian interlude: the doll pair "Persona" and "Shadow" as overseen by "Krampus."

LA Z BOY

WORLD'S GREATEST RECLINER SALE
BORN 1927

GET RECLINING & GET SAVING!
Choose from an amazing selection of our greatest recliner styles and features including massage, leather, high legs and more... all sale priced to fit comfortably into your budget!

HURRY!
Limited time only!

hot buy

FROM \$399

0% INTEREST - FOR 1 FULL YEAR!

www.sundeenfurnitureinc.com

Sundeen Furniture
241 PROVIDENCE ROAD, WHITINSVILLE, MA

508-234-8777
FREE LAYAWAY / FREE DELIVERY

DISCOVER, NAVIUS, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Delta

M.T.W. 9:30-6:00; TH. FRI. 9:30-7:00; SAT. 9:30-6:00; SUN. 11-5



Gus Steeves



Gus Steeves

Jasmin Rivas has an idea symbolized by one of Tupper's paintings.

Kevin Provost and Larry Day provided the eerie soundtrack to the night's festivities.

Ghosts, vampires and art in Southbridge

SOUTHBRIDGE — Last weekend, ghouls and various masked beings descended on Ruth Wells Art Center to celebrate the opening of its latest art show by Caitlin Tupper.

With Kevin Provost and Larry Day spinning mostly-classic Hallow-

een-related tunes, a few dozen people wandered the building chatting, snacking, and perusing the wide range of Tupper's paintings, some of them very realistic, some naturalistic, some very abstract.

Turn To **GHOSTS** page A20

Medicare Advantage Annual Enrollment Period opens October 15, 2023.



Choose Quality Coverage.

CHOOSE YOU



With Mass Advantage, you won't have to choose between high-quality care and accessible care. That's because **UMass Memorial Health providers helped us design Mass Advantage** with their patients in mind. Together your health plan and your providers are working to coordinate your care. **Finally, a plan designed just for you, with \$0 monthly premium* HMO and PPO plans.**

Attend a Mass Advantage Informational Seminar to learn more.

Auburn	Charlton	Southbridge	Spencer	Uxbridge	Webster
Auburn Elks Lodge	Charlton Senior Center	Jacob Edwards Library	Spencer Senior Center	Tri-River Family Health	Webster Senior Center
754 Southbridge St	37 Main St, Suite 7	236 Main St	68 Maple St	281 E Hartford Ave W	5 Church St
Oct. 19 - 2:00 p.m.	Oct. 19 - 11:00 a.m. Nov. 2 - 3:00 p.m.	Oct. 17 - 2:00 p.m.	Oct. 26 - 11:45 a.m.	Oct. 25 - 10:00 am	Nov. 2 - 10:00 a.m.

Are these locations/dates not convenient for you? We also offer virtual seminars and personal consultations. Visit [MassAdvantage.com/Seminars2024](https://www.massadvantage.com/Seminars2024) for more information.

To register for an informational seminar, call our **Benefit Information Center at (844) 513-0529 (TTY:711)** or visit [MassAdvantage.com/Seminars2024](https://www.massadvantage.com/Seminars2024).

Representatives are available October 1 - March 31, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week and April 1 - September 30, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday - Friday

*Premium and coverage may vary based on plan selection. For a complete list of benefits, visit [MassAdvantage.com](https://www.massadvantage.com). Mass Advantage is a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract offering HMO and PPO plans. Enrollment in Mass Advantage depends on contract renewal. Other providers and physicians are available in our network. For accommodation of persons with special needs at meetings, please call (844) 513-0529, TTY:711.

JOSHUA HYDE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

Joshua Hyde Public Library
306 Main St., Sturbridge
(508) 347-2512

TEENY TINY ART SHOW - Pick up an entry packet between September 27 and October 15. Share your talents on a 3"x3" canvas or paper board. Create your work of art with the medium of your choice. Submissions due by October 16. Prizes will be awarded to the winner and a runner-up in 2 ages groups (teens ages 13-18 and adults ages 19+).

FALL STORY TIMES - Tuesdays & Fridays at 10:45am (except for October 3). Drop-in for stories, songs, rhymes, and a take and make craft! Children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. No registration is required. *Starting October 17, story times will be held on the lawn in front of the library.

READ FOR TREATS - Stop by the Children's Room between October 2 - 31 and pick up a Halloween themed

reading log. Return it and receive a prize. More details at the library.

Friends of the JHPL BAG-OF-BOOKS BOOK SALE - Saturday, October 14 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Come support the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library and buy a bag of books!

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS BOOK GROUP - Challenging Boundaries - The Last Beekeeper by Carrick Dalton. Wednesday, October 18 at 6:30pm at the Senior Center.

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF SOUTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS - Tuesday, October 3 at 6:30pm at the Sturbridge Town Hall. Come learn more about volunteering and how you can help provide free, individualized and confidential tutoring in basic literacy or conversational English to adults. Registration is required.

SPOOKY BONES AND CREEPY CRAWLIES - Wednesday, October 25 at 2:00pm at the Senior Center. Join

Entomologist (someone who studies bugs) Bryan Man, a.k.a. Mr. Bugman and explore real bones and skeletons from endemic Massachusetts animals, or hold and pet some of the biggest bugs you've ever seen! This program is for kids. Registration is required.

DISCLOSURE - DOCUMENTARY SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION - Tuesday, October 24 at 6pm at the Charlton Library. Disclosure is an unprecedented, eye-opening look at transgender depictions in film and television. Following the movie, there will be a brief discussion with panel participants from Translate Gender.

FRIENDS OF THE JHPL PRESENTATION & ANNUAL MEETING - Thursday, October 26 at 6:30pm at the Sturbridge Senior Center. "Welcome to the Graveyard!" is a 90-minute illustrated presentation chronicling cemetery art, history and symbolism, with a special look at Sturbridge cemeteries. This program examines why

we have cemeteries and gravestones, why they look like they do and how styles and art have evolved over almost 400 years. Following the presentation, the Friends will hold a quick Annual Meeting to vote on a new slate of officers. Please let us know if you are interested in running for a Board position.

PLANNING FOR MEDICARE - Tuesday, November 7 at 6:30pm. Need help understanding your Medicare health insurance options? Planning for Medicare-Countdown to 65 is a no-cost seminar that helps you understand your Medicare health insurance options outside of your employer-sponsored coverage, whether or not you're planning to retire. This is a presentation and discussion led by a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts representative in collaboration with the Joshua Hyde Public Library.

CHARLTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Friends of Charlton Public Library to celebrate National Friends of Libraries Week in October

CHARLTON — The Friends of Charlton Public Library will be spending the week of Oct. 15-21, celebrating its Friends of the Library group as part of the 18th annual celebration of National Friends of Libraries Week.

The Friends present programs and services that celebrate the

year-round dedication of the Friends of the Library by providing museum passes, free movies, author talks, musical performances, educational programs, and much more.

The Friends are a major factor in the library's progress, advocating for funding and volunteering their time to assist with fund-

raising efforts that include used book, candy bar and canvas bag sales; partnerships with local restaurants; and other various activities.

Please visit the Friends Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/charltonlibraryfriends/> to learn more about the group, and to find out how to

become a member of the Friends, or email charlton-friends@gmail.com for information or with questions.

National Friends of Libraries Week is coordinated by United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association with approximately 4,000 personal and group

members representing hundreds of thousands of library supporters. United for Libraries supports those who govern, promote, advocate, and fundraise for libraries, and brings together library trustees, advocates, friends, and foundations into a partnership that creates a powerful force for li-

braries in the 21st century. For more information, visit www.ala.org/unity.

Charlton Public Library hosts monthly Death Café

CHARLTON — What is a Death Café, you ask? A Death Café is a group-directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or course of action, no set conclusions and no judgment.

Death Cafés provide a safe environment to gather, eat cake, drink tea or coffee, and enjoy open-minded conversation about dying and death. It is an opportunity to share, explore and question our own perceptions of death. It's not a bereavement session – just an open conversation about a topic that we often find taboo. Participants are welcome to share as much or as little as they wish, or simply sit and listen. The group meets monthly on the third Wednesday of the month from 1-3 p.m., typically in Dexter Hall. Registration is not required, and all

are welcome. Refreshments are provided! Questions? Email kwalker4@mac.com.

The Death Café model was developed by Jon Underwood and Sue Barsky Reid, based on the ideas of Bernard Crettaz. Read more about it at deathcafe.com.

Charlton Public Library is located at 40 Main St. in Charlton.

TOWN OF BRIMFIELD Town Job Posting PLANNING BOARD CLERK

This position requires the successful applicant to be responsible for the following:

- Attend a minimum of one evening meeting monthly
- Record, deliver, and post agendas and minutes of all meetings in timely manner
- Post and mail legal notices for meetings and public hearings as required by MGL
- Coordinate with Chairman and members for general preparation prior to meetings
- Monitor both physical and electronic mail as well as voicemail notifying Chairman as appropriate
- Research and tasks as assigned by the board
- Ensure adherence of MGL for all duties
- Other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:

The successful applicant shall have:

- Excellent organization, comprehension, writing, and minute-taking skills
- Good sense of urgency and be cognizant of deadlines
- Good computer skills including email, internet, Microsoft Office 365 including but not limited to MSWord and MSExcel experience
- Familiarity with open meeting law, MGL, zoning bylaws, and Planning Board activities a plus

This position is offered at \$18.36 an hour.

Interested individuals are asked to apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Personnel Officer, Board of Selectmen, Town of Brimfield, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010, or you may apply by e-mail to selectmen@brimfieldma.org until position is filled.

PEPIN

WASTE SERVICE

Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

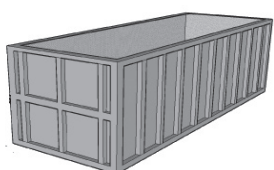


Fall Special

\$325

10 yd. Rental 1 Ton

3 sizes available. Call for pricing.



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

10-15-20 Yd.

508-892-4193 • Leicester, MA

Fully Insured



100% Affordable™ Windows & Doors COMPANY, INC.

MasterCard VISA DISCOVER

HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8-4:30 • SAT. 9-1

1152 Main Street • Route 9
Leicester, MA • 508-892-9292

MARVIN

We Deliver Throughout New England

www.affordablewindows.com

One of the Largest Door and Window Companies in New England!

CELEBRATING 36 YEARS

Elevate Slider
Price Includes:
Ultrix Threshold
Clad Maintenance
Free Exterior
Handle Set
Low E Argon Gas
60x80 • 72x80

~~\$1988~~
\$1789* 10% off Promo
*Now Through Dec 15th 2023

Extra 10% Savings !!!
Marvin Elevate Collection windows & doors offer the highest quality fiberglass, and we can save you an **Extra 10%** on these high-performing products through December 15

Kitchen Cabinets

FREE Stainless Steel Sink
With Purchase of a Granite or Quartz Countertop
*See store for details.

PROMOTION ENDS October 25th

100% We Made The Choice So Simple 100% Visit Our Huge Showroom
100% Best Price! Best Selection! Best Service!

Blessings Farm Fall Festival

Live Music • Pony Rides • Games
Food • Vendors • Demonstrations
Photo Booth • Hay Rides
Pumpkin Decorating • Face Painting

Fun for the whole family!
Saturday, October 14, 2023
10am – 5pm (rain or shine)
50 H. Foote Rd, Charlton, MA
Admission \$5

Stormn's Auto Detailing

121 Thompson Rd.,
Webster MA
774-289-8747

Auto Detailing and Certified Ceramic Coating Installer
5 year warranty

Girl Scouts to welcome hundreds of middle school girls to ninth Geek Is Glam

WORCESTER — More than 300 middle school girls and two dozen high school girls will convene at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Saturday, Oct. 14 to celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math-

ematics at the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts' Geek Is Glam (GIG) STEM Event, the day-long interactive STEM conference for girls in grades 4 through 12.

With dozens of area edu-

cation and adventure collaborators, Geek Is Glam participants will be exposed to some of the area's top scientific and engineering minds as they engage in the hands-on aspect of exploration and discovery while they build, explore, assemble and imagine.

The event kicks off at 9 a.m. at Alden Memorial auditorium with keynote speakers Daisha Ramos-Ortiz, WPI freshman and five-time Geek Is Glam participant and Ms. Massachusetts 2023 Chelsea Vuong. Then girls will spend the day all over campus

in interactive workshops, demonstrations, hands-on exhibits and presentations presented by: Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, The Discovery Museums, New England Sci-Tech, UMass Amherst Polymer Science and Engineering, WCVB Channel 5 Boston, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, and New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, to name a few. From Mystic Aquarium to Morse Code, from rainbows to robots, girls will be engaged in interactive activities, games and displays.

Charlton Garden Club meets Monday

CHARLTON — Come and join the Charlton Garden Club at its Monday, Oct. 16 meeting, which will feature Lisa Huntington speaking on "Planning the Home Landscape."

Charlton Garden Club meetings are open to all interested in gardening and related themes. Whether you're a novice or accomplished gardener, the Charlton Garden Club is a great place to meet other gardening enthusiasts, learn about plants and planting, and to share your gardening tips and experiences. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Charlton Public Library. Non-members are welcome. If interested in joining the Garden Club, please contact Co-Presidents, Virginia Charette at (508) 248-7300 or Marcia Liedigk at (508) 434-0507.

REAL ESTATE

BRIMFIELD

\$480,000, 50 Dix Hill Rd, Mcqueen, Peter, and Ortega, Sandra, to Tzp Ventures LLC.
\$280,000, 138 Old Palmer Rd, Walch Yvonne M Est, and Skaza, Lorene M, to Bradway, Tyler R.

CHARLTON

\$630,000, 3 Hannahs Way, Best Investment Prop LLC, to Donascimento, Lucilene D.
\$385,000, 54 N Sturbridge Rd, Cunkovski Nada Est, and Cunkovski, Anthony, to Prussman, Andrea, and Card, Mary M.
\$375,000, 181 Brookfield Rd, Cristo Ft, and Cristo, Michael, to Cristo, Laynie, and Colon, Albert.
\$270,000, 56 Lakeview Dr, Gaudette, Lucille, to Bousquet, Christian, and Rinaldo, Maria.
\$91,000, Lelandville Rd #2, Charlton Woods Const LLC, to Rossi, Rachael A, and Rossi, Alan E.
\$80,000, Lelandville Rd #2, Worldwideweb Instcom Inc, to Charlton Woods Const LLC.

HOLLAND

None

SOUTHBRIDGE

\$460,000, 340 Hamilton St, 340 Hamilton Street LLC, to Catino 3rd, Robert J.
\$445,000, 43 Quail Run, Durocher, Michael P, and Durocher, Lynn A, to Peck, Katherine.
\$436,000, 270 N Woodstock Rd, Figueroa, Surma, and Figueroa, Jose A, to Deer, Kyle, and Reyes, Melissa R.
\$368,000, 15 Corriveau Ave, Oster, Steven J, to Jacques, Katherine, and Valiquette, Kevin.
\$216,000, 44 Maria Ave #105, Dunn, Angela, to Amaniampong, Rita.

STURBRIDGE

\$675,000, 2 Harding Ln, Barry 3rd, Joseph F, and Barry, Lisa R, to Durocher, Michael P, and Durocher, Lynn A.
\$500,000, 94 Stallion Hill Rd, Andersen, Brian P, and Andersen, Laura L, to Mills, Richard S, and Mills, Nicole M.
\$439,000, 21 Old Farm Rd, Summers, Jocelyn M, and Summers, Erica A, to Wurm, Thomas P, and Wurm, Emily E.
\$395,000, 8 North Dr, Wisnesky, Matt, and Gardner, Olivia, to Hennis, David, and Gilmore, Kalyn.
\$360,000, 117 Cedar St, Klein Kenneth R Est, and Klein, Lorraine S, to Mckinstry, Cory D, and Parent, Phillip R.



ARTHRITIS?

Is your arthritis care all that you would hope it to be? If not we may be able to help.

Osteoarthritis of Hands - Knees - Hips. Back and Shoulder Problems Rheumatoid Arthritis Psoriatic Arthritis - Gout

Charles A. Birbara, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine, UMass-Chan Medical School
25 Oak Ave., Worcester, MA 01605 508-799-2674
"Committed to Advancing appropriate care to people with arthritis"

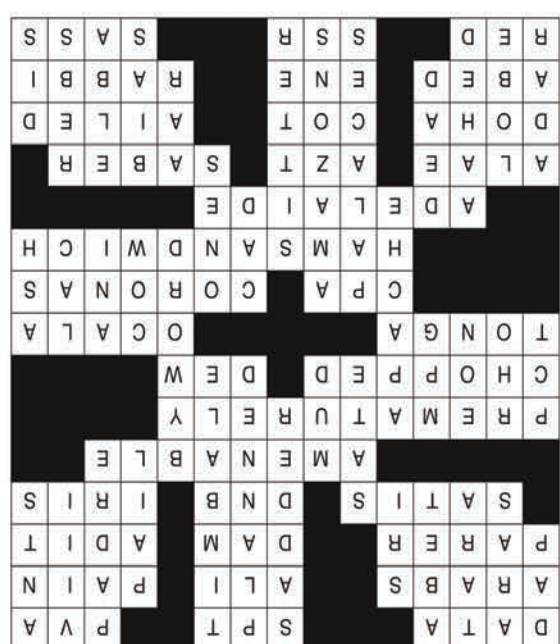
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Information
5. Seaport (abbr.)
8. Agricultural disease (abbr.)
11. Riding horses
13. Boxing's GOAT
14. Hurt or discomfort
15. A small sharp knife to trim vegetables
16. A beaver builds one
17. Horizontal passage into a mine
18. Self-immolation by fire rituals
20. Chain bar with lots of games (abbr.)
21. Goo Goo Dolls' hit
22. Agreeable
25. In an early way
30. In a way, struck
31. It's there in the morning
32. County in the S. Pacific

CLUES DOWN

- 1. A way to fish
2. Greek mythological figure
3. Scarlett's home
4. Assist
5. More doleful
6. Premeditated
7. Dish featuring minced food
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Eight
10. Unwelcome picnic guests
12. Human gene
14. Bucket
19. Make full
23. Dirt
24. Person cited as ideal example
25. A part of (abbr.)
26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
27. Very long period of time
28. Gas usage measurement

PUZZLE SOLUTION



TO PLACE AN AD WITH STONEBRIDGE PRESS:

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE MIKAELA VICTOR (774) 200-7308 mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

LEGAL NOTICES:

(508) 909-4127 legals@stonebridgepress.news

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:

KERRI PETERSON (508) 909-4103 kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:

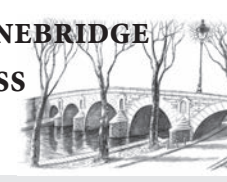
E-MAIL: obits@stonebridgepress.news CALL: 508-909-4149

OR send to Stonebridge Ppress P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news OR send to Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

STONEBRIDGE PRESS



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@villagernews.com

The Charlton Villager (USPS#024-954) . The Sturbridge Villager (USPS#024-955) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550. The Stonebridge News (USPS 504-380) is published Thursdays, by Stonebridge Press Inc., PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodicals postage paid at Southbridge, Mass. Postmaster: Send address changes to The News at address listed above. Friday delivery (in county) only for \$18.00 per year. Friday delivery (out of county) only for \$56.00 per year. Web only subscription \$15.00 per year. All mail subscriptions are payable in advance to The News. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Stonebridge Press P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

SOUTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL Monday-Wednesday: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

JACOB EDWARDS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 25 will be our last open Saturday until Labor Day)

CHARLTON 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

HOLLAND: 413-245-7108

Mon - Thurs 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FISKDALE: 508-347-6486

Weekdays 9:00-4:30 and Sat. 9:00-12:00

STURBRIDGE 508-347-6463

Weekdays 8:30 - 5:00 and Sat. 9:00-12:00

BRIMFIELD: 413-245-3451

Weekdays: 9:00 - 4:30 and Sat. 9:00-12:00

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. Anne St. Patrick Church, 16 Church St., Fiskdale (508) 347-7338 www.stannestpatparish.com

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4 pm, Sunday 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, Youth Mass (September to May) 5 pm. Daily Mass Mon - Thurs 7:30 and 10 am, Fri and Sat 7:30 am

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 LifeTEEN 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, sneedag.org, Office hours Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Living Word Church of Charlton, 10 Main Street - Grange building 1st Floor, Charlton, Ma 01507, Pastor Craig Bellisario, (508) 233-8349 Sunday Service 10:00am.

www.livingwordcharlton.com info@livingwordcharlton.com

New Life Fellowship A/G, SNED Chapel, 307 Sturbridge Road, Rt. 20, Charlton, MA, Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale- 8 Maple St. Sturbridge, 774-304-1021

www.sturfed.org Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church- 345 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566 Phone 508-347-7297

Web: www.bethlehemsturbridge.org Services - Sunday 9:30 am Pastor Dan Purtell

LOOK TWICE SAVE A LIFE



MOTORCYCLES ARE EVERYWHERE



Gus Steeves

The back of Gary's Menin's shirt says it all.



Gus Steeves

Gary Menin describes how a parallel rat trap works.



Gus Steeves

People attending his Charlton Library talk look over the various rat control methods afterward.

Guest lecturer cautions against use of rodenticides

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — Gary Menin's t-shirt says it all: "Please don't poison our food. We'll control the rodents!"

He's not saying it. The big owl in the middle is.

Talking to a few dozen people at Charlton Library, Menin explains what it means, and that can be summed in one phrase — stop using rodenticides.

"I just want to spread the word about a tragedy going on in our environment," he said, showing a diagram labeled "the toxic food web." It's a spiderweb of arrows of various species that eat each other, including insects, worms, mice, coyotes and raptors, with a very unhealthy difference: "every single species of this web has been tested and found with rodenticides in their tissues," he said.

And all of them suffer from it, although we don't entirely know all the details of how. Obviously, in strong enough doses, the poisons kill them, quite unpleasantly. The most common rodenticides today are "second generation anticoagu-

lant rodenticides" (SGARs), a relatively anodyne term for chemicals that make the afflicted animals bleed internally and/or out of all orifices until they die. But death often takes a while — long enough for the rat or mouse to get outside and eaten by a raptor, coyote, fox ... or your dog or cat. Then the hunter dies, too.

There are at least three kinds of SGARs (and several first generation poisons), all related to a fairly common drug useful in very controlled doses for blood thinning — coumadin, known generically as warfarin. The SGARs came into being for one basic reason: the fast-reproducing rats (several litters a year) are developing resistance to older poisons, but the much slower-growing predators are not.

"I thought Rachel Carson had handled that stuff ... but we're nowhere near done with poisons in the environment. They're everywhere," he said. "...We should get away from poisons. I submit none of them are environmentally safe."

He noted the Environmental Protection Agency banned stores selling SGARs in under one pound

quantities (that sizes typically bought by unlicensed homeowners), but they're still sold online.

Menin has been fascinated by raptors since youth, when he and his brother had a paper route and came across a dead great horned owl. He had it mounted "and it enticed me to read about owls," an interest that expanded into other raptors.

Years later, in 2018, he became "the de facto babysitter for my grandkids, grand-dog and grand-cat," and found a box of d-Con pellets (a common rat poison) on the floor of a closet. He asked his kids to consider "what's going to happen if the children get into that, or the dog or cat?"

That also prompted him to start reading about the issue and linking it to his interest in raptors. He admitted he'd "gone decades without realizing what the risk was."

First and foremost, the risk is this: children consuming rat poisons are one of the most common calls to poison control centers.

Menin soon got in touch with Dr Maureen Murray at Tufts Animal Hospital in Grafton, who sees a lot

of poisoned birds of prey. All of the dead birds there have had some rodenticides in them. We still don't know what effect non-lethal doses have long-term, but a University of Georgia study that found 83 percent of bald eagles and 77 percent of golden eagles tested positive for them.

Fortunately, there are effective rodent-controlling alternatives. Some are based on the simple expedient of cleaning up and reducing their food supply. Rats will eat almost anything from human food waste to dog dung, so rodent-proofing dumpsters and trash cans helps, as does not feeding the birds ("They can fend for themselves," he notes. We typically feed them so we can watch them, but they don't need it). As long as rodents have a safe source of food, they are very difficult to catch, and they learn. There are videos online of rats tripping traps with sticks to get at food safely.

Non-lethal methods include devices that project high-pitched and ultrasonic noise to "keep them outside so they can serve their natu-

Turn To RHODENTS page A13



Community Connection

Morse Lumber Co., Inc.

Building Materials & Supplies
Lumber • Insulation • Mouldings
Drywall • Ceilings • Flooring
Hardware • Cements • Siding • Roofing
Windows • Doors • Concrete Block
Sawmill Products
Rough Sawn • Dimension Lumber
Boards • Timbers • Industrial Lumber

994 North Woodstock Road
(Rt. 169) • 1/2 mile from CT line
Southbridge, MA 01550
www.morse-lumber.com

Toll Free 1-800-764-3231 or 508-764-4231

"Quality Materials and Service Since 1951"

Charlton Oil
508-248-9797 Propane

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	Tanks Filled to 80%
0-50	\$5.70	300-500	\$2.55	Driver Discretion
50-75	\$3.40	500 PLUS	\$2.40	
75-150	\$3.05	Dual Fuel	\$3.75	
150-300	\$2.75	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00	

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!
• Monday price 10/09/23 was **\$3.79** per gallon*
100 gallon minimum

ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change

Crooked Creek Farm
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up now!

Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

Find Us on Social Media

Edward Jones

Can I withdraw funds? Can I convert my account? How can I generate income?

Call or email me today, and we can help walk you through your retirement account options.

Trevor Nielsen
Financial Advisor
419 Main Street
Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-1420

Cormier JEWELERS
42 Central St. Southbridge

Owned and operated by the Cormier family since 1947.

**Free jewelry inspection!
Jewelry repairs on-site!
Custom jewelry design!
Jewelry appraisals!
We buy gold!**

ONLY IN SOUTHBRIDGE!
www.Cormiers.com
Call or Text (508)764-7415

MICKNUCK'S
FRESH MARKET PLACE

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

VISIT OUR STORE FOR WEEKLY SPECIALS!

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

Auntie Tania's Pet Salon
in Charlton, MA

Call 774-253-9036
For An Appointment

Mention this ad and get 20% Off your Pet's First Bath and Nail Trim



hope2own.com

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

We Want Your Listings!



Featured New Listing!

WEBSTER - 20 COOPER ROAD

Colonial with all the bells & whistles! 2500 +/- Sq. Ft. 4 bedrooms 2-1/2 Baths! Open Concept 1st floor. Hardwood Floors, 2 car garage! Artesian Well! Town Sewer. One of 4, **to be built, Now Framed!** **\$475,000**

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * John Kokocinski

WEBSTER LAKE
1404 TREASURE ISLAND



WATERFRONT RESIDENTIAL CONDO COMMUNITY!! Overlooking the Marina.. Enjoy Scenic Lake Living Sunrise Sunset Boating Sailing Skiing Swimming Fishing and SOO MUCH More! 2 Boat Slips!.. Sandy Beach Access & A Salt Water Heated Pool! Pets allowed! 2 Bed, 2 & 1/2 Baths. assisted sale **\$610,000**

WOODSTOCK - 4 BARBER RD



Circa 1800 Vintage 3 bedrooms. Renovations included kitchen & 2 baths, refinished wood flooring, interior painting & more... Barn, large lot. **\$399,000**

WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE



BEING BUILT- Framed & Sided SPRAWLING ONE LEVEL RANCH HOME! Situated on a Level 1/2 Acre Lot! Private backyard. OPEN FLOOR PLAN Living room, Dining room, Upscale Kitchen with 8' Island, 3 bedroom, 2 Baths, Garage. BEAUTIFUL SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORS, Central air. **\$615,000.**

DUDLEY - 61 BRANDON RD



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! Family Home for many years! 4-5 BRs Cape, 1-1/2 bath! 1,806 SF. REHAB PROJECT. OFFERED & SOLD "AS IS" REASONABLE OFFERS WILL BE CONSIDERED! CASH OR REHAB FINANCED BUYERS ONLY. **\$225,000.**

WEBSTER - 131 LAKESIDE AVE



ON DEPOSIT THIS Cape is Clean, Well Maintained, & Move-in Ready! 10,000 SF CORNER LOT! ATT'D GARAGE. Spacious Living Rm 2 - 1st flr BRs w/Gleaming Hardwood Flrs! 2 2nd flr bedrooms. Near WEBSTER LAKE'S LAKESIDE SANDY BEACH & BOAT RAMP **\$329,900**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Webster Lake -
245 Laurelwood Drive
Waterfront Lot!

Approximately 11,000 Sq. Ft. of mostly cleared flat land, gentle decline to waters edge. Sandy Shore line! Western views. Call for a viewing!

\$695,000

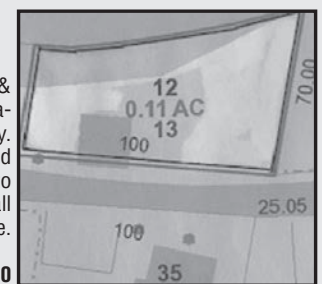


Webster Lake
48 Union Point

Make Cherished Memories on WEBSTER LAKE! Beautiful Waterfront Cape! 12,000 sq. ft. lot, sunrises are just astonishing. Fireplaced & Vaulted ceiling, Living Room. 2 zone central air. 2 car garage. assisted sale **\$1,260,000**

Webster Lake
13 South Point Rd.

100' of frontage on the water & road. An old cement block garage is located on the property. It's location is not Prime. Land area surveyed, DEP approval to build. Property suitable for small craft dockage/off season storage. Town Water & Sewer available **\$185,000**



PUT YOUR TRUST IN US
TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE
Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed, Realtor
Vicki Bennett, Client Coordinator
Jenna Gouin, Client Coordinator
ReMax Vision • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604
CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

THOMPSON, CT- Extra lot
NEW LISTING
*Hardwood Floors
*Country Kitchen
*Office
*Wrap round Porch/Deck
*Foundation for attached garage
81-83 Red Bridge Road \$329,900

HOLDEN- Impeccably Maintained
NEW LISTING
*6 Rooms
*New replacement Windows, Slider, Front Door
*Updated Carpeting
*Cabinet Pocket Kitchen
*Garage
17 Village Way \$380,00

DUDLEY- Great Location, Great Neighborhood!
*Central Air
*2.5 Baths
*Office
*Great Room
*Family Room
*Office
4 Camelot Circle St \$565,000

DUDLEY-CAPE
ON DEPOSIT
*Expandable 2nd Level
*3 Bedroom *Updated Bath
*Central Air
8 Ellis St \$339,900

THINKING OF SELLING Your Multifamily NOW is a Great Time!!
Call for a Free Market Analysis
Call JoAnn 774-230-5044

REAL ESTATE

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, 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Moving You Toward Your Dreams
Mary Vigliatura Stolarczyk
ABR, GRI, CRS, C2EX RE/MAX Hall of Fame
508.612.1382
MESRealty.com
Mary@WillSellIt.com

ERA Key Realty SERVICES
"Put 39 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"
Donna Flannery Realtor® 508-612-6771
Donnaflanneryrealtor.com
Donnaflannery@erakey.net
Kayleen Flannery Sauvageau Realtor® 508-612-9843
Kayleen00@aol.com
YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERT SINCE 1991
NATIONAL ERA FINALIST TWICE FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE
TOP AGENT YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR # OF UNITS SOLD & SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME
ERA HALL OF FAME
415B Main Street Spencer, MA 01562

"I SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"
ReMax Professional Associates
Licensed in MA & CT
We need properties to sell - any type!
Conrad Allen
508.400.0438
callen1995@aol.com
RE/MAX
RE/MAX Professional Associates

Maureen Cimoch
Real Estate Consultant
Cell 508-769-9211
Lake Realty
111 East Main St., Webster, MA
Professional-Personable-Knowledgeable
Specializing in waterfront property
Servicing all Central MA • GO WITH MOE!
maureencimoch@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE REDEFINED
RE/MAX PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES
49 MAIN STREET, STURBRIDGE, MA
Patrick Sweeney Realtor License #9529769 (774) 452-3578
Carrie Abysall Realtor License #904677 (508) 641-0150
Licensed in MA and CT

Sandi Grzyb Avenue Real Estate 50 Years in the Real Estate Business!
I look forward to serving you in all of your real estate ventures!
• Buying
• Selling
• Investing
Contact Info:
774.230.3500/508.943.6960
sandigrzyb@aol.com
avenue REAL ESTATE
255 Park Avenue, Suite 704, Worcester, MA 01609

Make the move!
Find the homes of your neighborhood

Mary Hicks Realtor®
Over 20 years experience!
CENTURY 21 NORTH EAST
Direct: 508.612.4794
Home Office: 508.867.2222
www.maryhicks.com
HAPPY FALL!
I HAVE HOMES FOR SALE! CALL TODAY!
160 B Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
maryangela87@yahoo.com
Each office is independently owned and operated.

THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR CONDOMINIUM?
We are able to assist you with advice, marketing and pricing.
Call for a FREE Consultation, this Market is Strong!
Jo-Ann, Realtor 774-230-5044
Jenna Gouin, Client Coordinator 978-602-0019
ReMax Vision
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604
Licensed in MA & CT
CALL JO-ANN FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

EXIT
EXIT Real Estate Executives
Why call the Michelle Terry Team to sell your home?
We have a great marketing plan that includes:
• Home staging services
• Home warranties
• 3D videos
• Professional photography
• Ramped up open houses!
• And so much more...
Give us a call today! 508-202-0008
YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS
130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562
Michelle Terry • Broker /Owner
michelleterryteam.com

For Advertising Information
Call 774-200-7308
email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Bag-of-Books sale at Joshua Hyde Library Saturday

STURBRIDGE — The Friends of the Joshua Hyde Library in Sturbridge invite you to stock up on books for the winter at their annual Bag-of-Books sale on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tables will be stocked with a great selection of fiction, nonfiction, children's, young adult and classics, both hardcover and paperback. DVD's and CD's will also be available. Prices will be \$3 for a small bag, \$5 for a medium

bag and \$8-\$10 for a large bag. You may bring your own bag or use one provided.

All proceeds benefit the library. Teachers with a school ID receive a special discount. Cash or check only. The Joshua Hyde Public Library is located next to the Sturbridge Town Common, at 306 Main St., and the book sale will be outside on the lawn behind the library. Rain or shine.



Home & Fall Auto

AUTO BODY / REPAIRS

KEARNS COLLISION REPAIR

Since 1969
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services
Warrantied Work & Repairs
Diagnostics • A/C Repair
Tune Ups & Engine Repair
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)
Northbridge, MA 01534
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231
www.kearnscollision.com
Fully Certified • RS# 2678

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

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

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

Biggest Selection of Marble, Granite & Quartz of ANY Fabrication Shop
300 Colors in Full Slabs to Choose From!

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

PAINTING

FSO

Painting and More
Pro Painter in the Brookfield and surrounding areas.

END OF SUMMER POWER WASH
From now till October 30, mention this Ad and get **10% off** your power washing

Call Matt (229)256-6929 or Linda (774)402-0852

PEST CONTROL

ACCURATE PEST CONTROL

Full Pest Control Services
Over 30 years experience
Reasonable Rates
Owner Operated

508-757-8078

Ask for David or Jason Hight
Auburn MA

Stump Grinding

MILLER STUMP GRINDING

Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified
Fully Insured • Free Quotes

REASONABLE RATES PROMPT SERVICE

ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER
OWNERS / OPERATORS

508-688-2159



CHIMNEYS/MASONRY

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



GUTTERS

GUTTER CLEANINGS

30+ years exp
Licensed & Insured

508-867-2877
508-754-9054

A. Eagle Gutters
aeaglegutters.com

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

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

MASONRY

C X J

MASONRY HARDSCAPE
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

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!
jdraman714@aol.com

Plumbing

MIKE LAMBERT'S PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

Commercial, Residential, New Construction

369 Main St,
Ste 4
Spencer, MA
1-833-969-4330
Fully Insured

MIKELAMBERTSPANDH
@GMAIL.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

Because your roof matters!
KEEP YOUR HOME DRY THIS SUMMER!

Most types of roofing!

- Residential
- Commercial
- Asphalt
- Metal
- Flat

Also, vinyl & fiber cement siding

guaranteedroofingct.com
860-792-5788

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING

When protecting your family, quality matters. We only use the two best products on the market; Certainteed Shingles and Owens Corning Shingles.

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
Financing Available

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

Advertise on this page for one low price! Get 7 papers. Call 774-200-7308

- Spencer New Leader
- Sturbridge Villager
- Charlton Villager
- Southbridge News
- Webster Times
- Auburn News
- Blackstone Valley Tribune

**STONEBRIDGE
PRESS**


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

Honoring heritage and reckoning with history

As we marked another Indigenous Peoples Day earlier this week, we find ourselves at a crossroads in our journey towards understanding, acknowledging, and respecting the cultures, histories, and contributions of Indigenous peoples around the world. This day, established as a counter-narrative to Columbus Day, reminds us of the strength, and enduring wisdom of the Indigenous communities who have inhabited this land long before the arrival of European settlers.

Indigenous Peoples Day is not just an occasion to celebrate Indigenous culture; it's also a day for reflection, education, and reconciliation. It serves as a reminder that the history of colonialism and its repercussions are still very much a part of our modern society. The history of Indigenous peoples in the Americas, marked by centuries of dispossession, discrimination, and injustice, should not be forgotten, or ignored.

One of the first steps towards reconciliation is educating ourselves and others about the history, culture, and issues faced by Indigenous communities. Schools and communities should prioritize teaching the accurate and comprehensive history of Indigenous peoples, their traditions, and their ongoing struggles.

We must acknowledge the land on which we live and work. Recognizing the original stewards of the land and their presence is an essential act of respect and humility. It is a recognition that colonialism's legacy persists, and its effects are still deeply felt by Indigenous communities.

Indigenous communities face ongoing challenges, from environmental degradation and threats to their sovereignty to socio-economic disparities. We must stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples in advocating for their rights, land reclamation, and self-determination.

Indigenous cultures offer a wealth of knowledge, artistry, and wisdom. Rather than appropriating or commodifying their traditions, we should appreciate and respect them as valuable contributions to our global heritage.

Constructive and respectful dialogue between Indigenous communities and non-Indigenous society is essential. We must be willing to listen, learn, and engage in meaningful conversations about the past, present, and future.

Indigenous Peoples Day calls us to confront the uncomfortable truths of our history and reevaluate the narratives we have inherited. It urges us to consider what it means to live on Indigenous land and how we can foster a future built on justice, equity, and respect for all.

In celebrating Indigenous Peoples Day, we celebrate the beauty of diverse cultures and recognize the strength that comes from unity and understanding.

OPINION

Positively speaking!

Toby Moore

Shake off your past

What sparks the essence of our personalities? Some people seemingly dance through life. Every event, however trivial, is met with infectious optimism. Their glass isn't just half-full; it often seems to overflow, and invariably, they tend to see the silver lining even in the stormiest clouds.

Other people perpetually trudge beneath an overcast sky. No matter how insignificant, every event is met with deep-rooted pessimism. Their glass isn't just half-empty; it appears constantly drained, and consistently, they find a shadow even when bathed in the brightest light.

Yet between these polar ends of perspective lies a vast spectrum of personalities—people who exhibit a kaleidoscope of emotions.

What causes people to be the way they are? That's an age-old question where neuroscience is shedding some light.

Some unexpected moments—like losing a loved one, sudden unemployment, or a health scare—profoundly influence a person's personality. Trauma, abuse, and neglect are significant factors as well. These pivotal experiences often forge our most defining traits.

I watched a lecture on YouTube recently by Dr. Joe Dispenza, and his perspective is that: "Your personality is made up of how you think, act, and feel."

Life is a mosaic of emotionally charged moments. Think back to any poignant memory; the immediate aftermath is a whirlwind of emotions. These emotions can persist for months and even years.

The person suffering will continually focus on what happened and how it made them feel. Over time, if left unchecked, the emotions solidify.

Someone will say, "Hey, what's wrong with you?" and you'll reply, "I'm in a bad mood cause of this thing that happened to me a few days ago."

When a person continues to live out a particular emotion long enough, it becomes more than just a mood; it becomes a temperament.

That same person will come up to you again and say, "Hey, why are you so upset all the time?" and you'll say, "I had this thing happen to me 11 months ago!"

Eventually, if you allow that same emotion to thrive, it becomes part of your personality.

Don't get me wrong, mourning and grieving are essential processes for

healing, and taking the time for them is natural and healthy.

However, lingering in that grief for too long can subconsciously train the body to relive those emotions consistently, akin to being "stuck in a moment that you can't get out of." And if you caught that U2 reference, kudos to you!

Dispenza says, "From a biological standpoint, what that means they haven't been able to change since that event. When those emotions influence certain thoughts, and when those thoughts create the same emotions... now the person's entire state of being is in the past."

Unknowingly, we've all allowed such feelings to become permanent facets of our personalities.

Bringing it full circle, why is the Happy person happy and the angry person angry?

Let me oversimplify: An emotional event, or a series of emotional events, caused them to feel happy or angry long enough that that particular emotion became a massive part of their personality.

Is it possible to keep an adverse emotional event from becoming a permanent fixture in your personality? The key lies in shortening the longevity of our emotional reactions.

Dispenza says, "Learning how to shorten our emotional refractory periods is really where it starts"

It's easier said than done, and while that is true, let me oversimplify again:

All you have to do is change your mind.

Get out of bed on the opposite side. Take a cold shower instead of a hot shower. Eat something different. Watch something different, listen to something different, read something different.

Breaking up the routine changes the structure of your brain, and you'll eventually notice you're having new thoughts and emotions.

If you do the same things you did yesterday, you'll think and feel how you did yesterday.

By consciously altering our habits, actions, and perspectives, we reshape our neural pathways and redefine our emotional landscapes.

Every new choice provides a unique experience, and with that comes new thoughts and feelings. Shake off the past and let your new thoughts and feelings propel you into the future.

Start moving toward retirement security



FINANCIAL
FOCUS

TREVOR
NIELSEN

It's not as well-known as Halloween, but National Retirement Security Week happens every October – the third week, to be precise — and while it doesn't involve ghosts and goblins, it does deal with something even more frightening: the risk of not being able to enjoy a comfortable retirement. Through various events, this occasion highlights ideas about building retirement security. What steps can you take?

Here are some suggestions:

- Don't underestimate your longevity. Consider this: 65-year-old men can expect to live another 20 years, while 65-year-old women can anticipate almost 22 more years, according to the Society of Actuaries. And these figures are just averages, meaning you could well exceed these ages, perhaps by many years. So, in thinking about how much money you'll need as a retiree, be aware that you could spend two, or even three, decades in retirement.

- Don't underestimate health care costs. When you retire, some of your expenses — such as transportation, wardrobe and other costs associated with your career — will drop. Others will not and may even increase. Health care is a prime example: Many people assume that Medicare or their Medicare Advantage plan will take care of virtually all their health care costs in retirement, but that's not the case. Generally speaking, you could plan on spending \$4,500 to \$6,500 per year on health care costs during retirement, excluding the large expenses connected with long-term care. Your actual costs could be higher or lower, depending on your health, prescription drugs and supplemental insurance coverage, but make sure you plan for sizable health care costs in your projected retirement budget.

- Contribute as much as you can afford to your retirement plans. Try to put in as much as you can afford to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan and try to increase your contributions whenever your salary goes up. You may also be eligible to contribute to a traditional or Roth IRA, which offers tax benefits and a wide variety of investment options. (Contributions to a Roth IRA may be limited based on your income.)

Once you reach retirement, you can still make some moves that could help boost your financial security:

- Maintain an appropriate investment mix. When you retire, you might be tempted to shift most of your portfolio into highly conservative investments to "lock in" gains and avoid being over-exposed to market volatility that could cause short-term losses. Yet, even in retirement, you should still own some growth-oriented investments that can potentially help keep you ahead of inflation. In fact, it's important to periodically rebalance your investments back to your preferred mix to avoid taking too much or too little risk, so you may want to consult with a financial advisor.
- Identify a suitable withdrawal rate. You don't want to take out so much from your portfolio each year that you run the risk of outliving your money. So, you'll want to determine an annual withdrawal rate that can reduce this danger. A common withdrawal rate to start retirement is 4 percent, but your own rate should be based on several factors: your age, size of portfolio, other sources of income and so on.

It can be challenging to make all the moves necessary to help achieve retirement security — but it's worth the effort.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com.

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

The National Domestic Violence

HOTLINE

1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

WWW.THEHOTLINE.ORG

A great season ahead for bird hunters

A feeling of fall was in the air this past Sunday, which made my Lab 'Twig come alive with some energy that was missing during the summer months. I also felt a sense of a bit of energy, but it did not last long!

Hunting pheasant at a local club this past weekend was indeed enjoyable, and meeting old friends at this time of year in the field is always great. Their stories of survival after falling out of trees, or having trees fall on them during tree removal this past summer was a bit shocking, but I was glad to see them up and running around as well as they were!

With the hunting season now in full swing, with the state pheasant

hunting season opening this Saturday and waterfowl hunting opened for ducks and geese on Oct. 14, bird hunters will have some great hunting for the next few weeks. Wild turkey season also opens on Oct. 16 in Zones one through nine! Either sex may be harvested if you still have a valid turkey permit.

Archers are also anticipating the opening of archery deer season in Zones 1-9 on Oct. 16. Many sightings of deer on archers' deer cams are a good indication of a good season ahead.

Trout stocking of local ponds and lakes started last week by state crews. A list of waters stocked can be found on the Mass. Fish Hunt Web site.



Courtesy
This week's picture shows Bob Lepage and his son Corey with two nice salmon they caught recently on the Salmon River in upstate New York.

Saltwater fishing has been very good for tautog and sea bass in and around Point Judith, R.I.! This writer was

We also caught some impressive sea bass and limits of tautog! The limits on tautog go to five fish on Oct. 15, with a ten fish limit per vessel in Rhode Island!

This week's picture shows Bob Lepage and his son Corey with a pair of salmon they caught on the Salmon River last week. They caught numerous salmon on their four day trip to Pulaski, along with a huge brown trout. The fishing is still hot, so make plans to go this month, if

you want to experience some great fishing.

Note: Always check your fishing and hunting abstracts for dates and additional regulations, before heading out on the water or into the field.

Frank Dagneault, fellow outdoor writer and outdoorsman, has been a bit under the weather lately. We hope he will be feeling better soon, so that he and his wife Joyce will get to enjoy some of the great outdoors that they both share annually!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS

RALPH
TRUE

Readers Share Helpful Hacks!

Fall is here in New England and as we scramble to finish up warm weather chores and prep for the cooler season, I am especially impressed that readers took time from their busy lives to share some of their favorite discoveries, tips, and tricks. Read on for a medley of ideas that make everyday life a little easier!



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

coffee concentrate has spiked in price, but thankfully, this reader offers an economical alternative:

To save money, I made my own coffee syrup using equal parts sugar and instant coffee with enough hot water to dissolve. You can adjust the portions to taste. You can store the batch in the fridge indefinitely. Use in milk as always.

This pantry staple comes to the rescue for a common sticky situation:

My helpful hint is to use peanut butter to remove sticky glue from stickers on merchandise.

Geralyn Morin
East Brookfield, MA
**

Paul Davignon
Uxbridge, MA
**

Coffee syrup has long been a New England favorite, in fact, coffee milk has been named the official beverage of Rhode Island. The sweetened

Leave it to this loyal reader to make even stepping on the scale an enjoyable experience!

I had an ingenious idea today: I bought a new glass digital bathroom scale, and under the glass I added a laminated photo of myself and friends on the carousel at Newport Beach.

Now, when I stand on this glass scale in the morning, I no longer see the floor or feel like I have to catch my balance. Instead, I see the photo - so even if I don't like the weight from the scale, I still get a happy memory and can swap up the photos as the seasons change.

Tip #2:
She also found a creative way to corral cell phone chargers for car and travel:

Here is a recycle tip to organize chargers for the car and when traveling. I took an empty small plastic jar and glued a bright red velour flower to the top and added my address label. Inside are phone chargers, etc. I can spot this red flower jar in a

hurry on my carry on and day pack.

Viola Bramel
Northbridge, MA
**

Can't finish up crackers before they get stale? Find an old, forgotten box on the back of the pantry shelf? Here's a logical solution that not only solves the problem, but can make your crackers taste better than ever:

If you have stale crackers or graham crackers, here is an easy way to crisp them back up:

Put the crackers on a baking sheet; bake at 350 degrees for five or ten minutes, and they will be warm and crispier than ever! Best of all, the stale taste goes away.

Darline Burque
Brookfield, MA
**

Removing stubborn tree sap from a windshield can be a huge challenge, but not so much

with this reader's effective way to remove the sap quickly and easily.

Rubbing alcohol on a cotton ball removes sap from a vehicle's windshield and windshield wipers and does not damage the paint!

Laurie Burque
Charlton, MA
**

Prize Winner
Congratulations to Darline Burque of Brookfield, whose name was drawn for Dinner for Two at the Publick House. She shared the tip for crisping stale crackers above.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

One winner per month (or whenever enough tips are received) 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.

Latest auction news

This week's news stories all feature a European connection. We'll start in England, where the auction of a Henry VIII document began last week. It was written by Henry VIII over 500 years ago, according to Great Britain's ITV News. Henry VIII instructed the keeper of his wardrobe, Sir Andrew Windsor, to supply cloth to make into gowns. A well-known British antiques dealer purchased the piece from another dealer a few years ago. He has seen more interest in Henry VIII in recent years resulting in increasing values for his memorabilia. The document is being sold in England in a "Dutch auction."

The bidding starts at £65,000 (roughly \$79,559.93 U.S.). A Dutch auction means the price is lowered each day until someone buys it. It can be a test of nerves for serious collectors to see how low they will let it drop knowing that another bidder could own it at any point.



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

WAYNE TUISKULA

Also in England, an online auction of over 1,800 pieces of film and movie memorabilia started this week in London, according to the Robb Report. Bidders will have the opportunity to purchase the overcoat worn by Marlon Brando in 1972's "The Godfather," Leonardo DiCaprio's "Titanic" outfit, and the sneakers Tom Hanks wore when he portrayed Forrest Gump. Other auction highlights include the tan shirt Harrison Ford wore in "Raiders of the Lost Ark," which has an auction estimate of \$172,500 to \$345,000. The metal glove that Freddy Krueger wore in "A Nightmare on Elm Street" is estimated at \$230,000 to



\$460,000. A C-3PO head from "Star Wars: Episode IV" is expected to fetch the highest selling price, estimated between \$575,000 and \$1.1 million. The auction is expected to gross around \$14 million dollars.

An auction of items collected by the Rothschild family will be going up for sale this month, according to the New York Post. The Rothschild family origins date back to the Frankfurt, Germany Jewish ghetto in 1450. By the mid-19th century, the family collectively had one of the largest fortunes in the world, according to the

Rothschild family archive (rothschildarchive.org). Although the family accumulated their wealth in Europe, the auction will take place in New York. I've mentioned in previous columns that many traditional antiques have dropped in value, but that doesn't apply to the Rothschild family collection. A group of porcelain tureens has a \$30,000 to \$50,000 auction estimate. A pair of late Louis XV fauteuils (type of open armchairs) is estimated to bring \$600,000 to \$1 million. Some gilded leather panels by a follower of Rembrandt are

Turn To **ANTIQUES** page **A12**

Cutting and enjoying fall perennial flowers



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

Bring a bit of your fall garden indoors. Many of your fall flowering perennials make great cut flowers to enjoy in arrangements for your home and bouquets to share with others.

Harvest your flowers early in the morning whenever possible. This is when they are fully hydrated, helping to extend their vase life. Early evening is the next best time, but any time you need to cut your flowers will work.

Take along a clean bucket of water and a sharp pair of bypass pruners or snips to the garden. Immediately place the flowers in the water to help prolong their vase life.

Picking flowers at the right stage for the variety you are cutting is important to ensure the flowers showcase their best display and will last the longest in your arrangements. In general, spike-type flowers should be harvested when one-fourth to one-half of the individual flowers on the spike are open. Daisy-type flowers like rudbeckias, coneflowers, Heliopsis and Helianthus are harvested when the flowers are fully open.

Asters and golden rods make a great combination in the garden as well as a vase. Harvest the golden rod as soon as the flower color is visible with half of the individual flowers in the cluster open. Look for and pick asters when one-fourth of the flowers in the cluster are open to enjoy them for as many as seven to 12 days.

The native Agastache, you may know as lavender or anise hyssop, is a pollinator favorite and makes an excellent addition to flower arrangements. Wait for one-half to two-thirds of the flowers on the spike to open before picking. With proper harvesting and



Melinda Myers

Honeysong Pink Aster (*Aster novae-angliae* 'Honeysong Pink') combined with Russian sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*) works well in cut floral arrangements.

care, these flowers can last 6 to 10 days in your arrangement.

Watch as the individual flowers on the Liatris spike open from the top down. Harvest these when less than half of the flowers at the top of the spike are open and the remainder are in bud.

Once rudbeckias and coneflowers shed their petals, which are actually non-fertile ray flowers, the remaining seed heads still make an attractive addition to fall bouquets. Don't overlook the wispy seed heads and foliage of ornamental and native grasses growing in the garden. These can be harvested at any time after the seed head emerges and last about a week.

Consider adding a few seed pods for added fall flare in your bouquets. The pods of native baptisia and milkweed as well as Siberian iris are a few to try.

Condition fresh flowers before arranging to further extend their vase life. Set the flowers in tepid water and place them in a cool place out of direct sunlight for at least several hours and preferably overnight before arranging.

Recut the stems on a 45° angle to the desired length when creating your arrangements. The angled cut prevents stems from sitting flat on the bottom

Turn To **GARDENING** page **A14**

“You cannot assume any plastic is safe”

Biologist explores dangers of endocrine disruptors

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Look around whatever room you're in and you'll certainly see dozens of things made from some form of plastic and related petrochemicals. It comes in so many forms that it's literally everywhere, including in our blood and that of most other species on Earth.

Plastics comprise “well over 10,000 chemicals,” a fact that “makes testing for safety a real problem,” said biologist John Peterson Myers during a recent nationwide online forum on the issue conducted by Beyond Plastics. “... You cannot assume any plastic is safe. You have to test them all” because 75 percent of those that have been tested have shown “some toxic features.”

To him, the big underlying issue is that such testing has only covered a very small percentage of the total, with many proving to be endocrine disruptors. Back in the 1990s, Myers coined that term for chemicals with a wide range of effects at extremely small doses (parts per billion or trillion) that mimic and displace our body's hormones. They're not just in plastics; thousands are known to be disruptors, but there are some 80,000 manmade chemicals in our ecosystem and most of them have not been tested.

“Hormones are like the Great and Powerful Oz,” because they're behind the scenes but affect “virtually every cell in the body ... and are what makes you who you are,” Myers said. He has written extensively on this subject, including being a co-author of *Our Stolen Future* in 1996.

He pointed to Shanna Swan's 2017 book *Countdown* for some details of

one of the most critical effects of endocrine disruptors: around four decades of sperm count decline worldwide. Swan's website summarizes her research this way: “[S]perm levels among men in Western countries had plummeted by more than 50 percent. ... It turns out that reproductive development is changing broadly, for men and women, by many measures, most deteriorating at the rate of 1% per year. In 2022 they updated that analysis and found that sperm count has been declining at more than twice that rate since 2000. The modern world is on pace to become an infertile one.”

“Boys today who are toddlers will find it increasingly difficult to have babies the old-fashioned way by 2045,” Myers explained. Similarly, it's being linked to an increase in various other issues, including autism, cancers, and autoimmune disorders. For example, Bisphenol A has been linked to long-term urinary tract issues with in-utero exposure, while phthalates in medical tubing and IV bags used during treatment can cause breast cancer patients to relapse, he said.

Overall, Myers described the situation as “a whole cluster of non-communicable pandemics.”

Why is this happening? Myers said a big part of it is that endocrine disruptors “hack the hormone system” by increasing, decreasing or changing the timing of natural hormonal activity. He compared it to the timing and volume of the horn section of an orchestra's effect on how the overall composition sounds.

Unlike many chemicals and drugs, and contrary to the standard “dose-response curve” that underpins most tox-

icology, endocrine disruptors' effect are greatest at the low doses. In some cases, scientists have found they have opposite or different effects at larger concentrations. As an example, rat studies have shown that phthalates at just 1 ppb cause serious obesity but at 1000 ppb, the rats lose weight. If dose safety limits were defined by the low-dose studies, they have to be slashed by 20,000, he said.

(Indeed, we are starting to see that with some chemicals. Last year, the state proposed PFAS limits in water supplies be cut from 20 ppt to well under 1 ppt.)

To understand how tiny that is, Myers said one part per billion is “one pancake in a stack of pancakes 4000 miles high.” One part per trillion is one thousand times smaller: Such tiny concentrations still mean a huge number of molecules of whatever the substance is — 1 ppb of bisphenol A equals 2.65 trillion molecules, he added.

After he spoke, Beyond Plastics' Judith Enck talked about some legislation aimed at regulating such plastics, specifically banning single-use plastics. Although she was primarily talking about New York, she noted the plastics and disposal industries have “environmental justice” issues nationwide. Their plants, landfills and incinerators are typically located in low-income areas. Petrochemicals are largely what have made Louisiana's “Cancer Alley” so unhealthy, for example.

“By 2030, there will be more greenhouse gases released by plastic production than by coal,” Enck said. “... We cannot recycle our way out of the plas-

tic pollution problem,” in part because “plastic recycling is at an abysmal 5-6 percent rate.”

While many proposed laws call for increased efficiency standards, Enck said she's supporting one in New York (SB 4246A/AB 5322A) as a model for other states. It requires a 50 percent reduction in plastic packaging use, phased as 10 percent every three years for 12 years. After that, “the rest of the packaging must be recyclable” and there need to be systems in place to actually do that. The bill also calls for banning 15 specific chemicals that are now common, including bisphenol A, lead, perchlorate, formaldehyde, vinyl chloride and PFAS.

To do it right, Enck said such bills need to include financial relief for taxpayers and consumers, such as no fees for truly recyclable materials, while any fees that exist need to go to the communities to fund recycling, testing and education programs. In effect, they need to implement extended producer responsibility and “avoid glaring loopholes.”

She warned about the latter being common in industry-sponsored bills, where lobbyists present

“very weak bills loaded with loopholes” that are aimed at “freezing change,” and cited one in California specifically. To her, the effort needs to be done at the state level because “we no longer appear to have a functioning democracy in Washington, D.C.”

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



Friday's Child





Khary
Age 16

Hi! My name is Khary and I want a family with a dog to love!

Khary is a handsome young man who is described as fun-loving, smart, and curious. He is reserved when he first meets someone new but can warm up quickly. Khary has a great sense of humor and a smile with dimples that will melt your heart. Sensitive and kind Khary loves video games and his favorite video character is Sonic the Hedgehog. Khary also enjoys going for walks. He expresses that this is because it is good exercise for his body. Khary also has a passion for dogs, loves to play ball with the 3 dogs that live in his foster home and is kind and gentle with them. Family meals, especially Sunday dinners, are very special to Khary because they represent a close bond with his foster family. Khary is now learning to do his laundry and he is eager to learn more life skills. He also has an interest in video game design in the future. Khary is enrolled in school and receives support in school with social skills and communication. It is reported by his teachers that he does extremely well in his classes. Khary strives with routine. He can be outcome by quick unexpected changes in his routine as well as loud noises.

Khary easily talks about his feelings, wants and needs. He thrives in his foster home where he receives structure and positive attention. His foster home has provided openness so that Khary can talk about his family as the need arises. He does very well with the other foster children in his foster home who are around his age. Khary needs time with building trusting relationships although he is very patient and understanding.

Khary would do well in any family constellation. He will do best in a home that has some experience working with children who have experienced trauma and loss. He responds well to a structured home environment with routine and positive attention from adults. He prefers to stay at home, enjoys more quiet activities but he will venture out of his comfort zone when it involves his foster family. Khary has 3 siblings who live in western Massachusetts with whom he will need to maintain contact.


<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7262>

Can I Adopt?

If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ+ singles and couples. As an adoptive parent, you won't have to pay any fees, adoption from foster care is completely free in Massachusetts.

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

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





HELLO NEIGHBOR!



As a longtime resident of South Central Massachusetts, I've always known what a special community we live in. For generations, we have trusted our local newspaper. Local news and advertisers you can trust, week after week. As the local advertising rep for your newspaper, it brings me great pleasure to help a local business get results!

**Our readers trust our advertisers.
Our advertisers trust us.**

And you can trust me!
Your neighbor,
Mikaela

Mikaela Victor
Local Resident
Advertising Account Executive
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news
(774)200-7308



LOCAL FOLKS

Locally owned businesses here to serve you!

SPORTS



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Zachary Moody throws the ball back into the realm of play.



Nick Ethier photos

Nicholas Marchessault of Bay Path steps in front of an Oxford player to get the first touch on the ball.



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Joshua McLaughlin uses the inside portion of his right foot to corral the ball, while Oxford's Cole Finizza defends.

Bay Path shakes off slow start to get past Pirates

OXFORD — The Oxford boys' varsity soccer team came out flying when they hosted Bay Path on Thursday, Oct. 5. The Pirates scored just five minutes in, Nathan Davis taking a pass from Hunter McQuillain and then making a great individual effort before his shot found the back of the net.

The Minutemen then began to pepper Oxford's goal, but to no avail. "They came out strong and we came out flat. They wanted it more right off the bat," Bay Path head coach David Martinson said of Oxford. "When I called a timeout we kind of regrouped a little bit. I changed some positions. It just seemed to click better."

The Minutemen tied the score shortly thereafter when Cody Dombroski's shot clanged off the post, but Brady Surenant followed the rebound for a goal. The game remained tied 1-1 at halftime, but Bay Path took control in the second half and won a 4-1 decision. Dombroski, Trent Szela (Zachary Moody assist) and Braeden Lapointe (Dominic Paldino assist) scored the goals.

"I was happy with the win overall and the kids battled right until the end," said Martinson. "They did everything that I asked them to do."

The Minutemen improved to 8-2, while the Pirates slipped to 3-7-1. Oxford keeper Sam Paradise did all that he could do, making 12 saves.

Minutemen, Quaboag fit to be tied on soccer pitch

WARREN — A summer like day brought the Bay Path girls' varsity soccer team to Quaboag Regional to play the Cougars in a non-league matchup on Tuesday, Oct. 3.

Bay Path's head coach, Tammy Legere, went into the game wanting her girls to play hard from the first whistle. She told her girls to use the width of the field, focus on their passing, and be first to every ball.

The first half was evenly matched, with much of the competition being played in the mid-field. The score was 0-0 after the first 40 minutes.

Quaboag's head coach, Norm St. Denis, was expecting the game to be equally matched. The Cougars are coming off a "beast of a first half schedule," as he is looking to put the past behind them. Quaboag is moving forward with a few unfortunate injuries to key players.



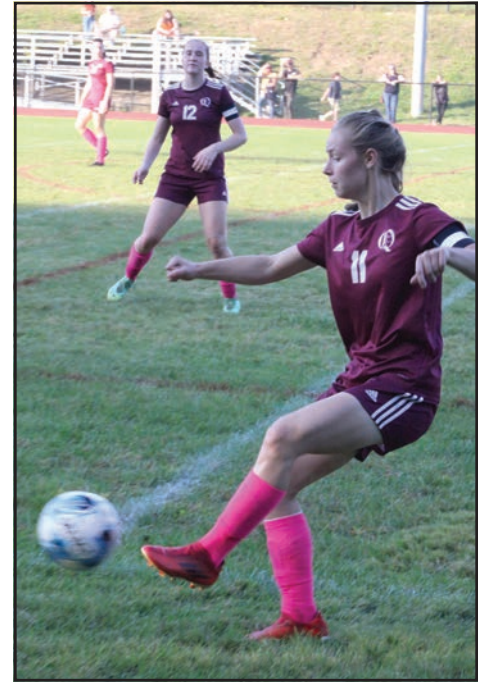
Photos courtesy Dawn Pepka-Jones

Quaboag's Norah Schwenker takes control of the ball before it can roll out of bounds.



Photos courtesy Dawn Pepka-Jones

Madeline Potvin of Quaboag keeps possession of the ball and dribbles down the sideline with a Bay Path defender right on her heels.



Photos courtesy Dawn Pepka-Jones

Quaboag's Evelyn Doe keeps an eye on the ball as she sends it up the field.



Photos courtesy Dawn Pepka-Jones

Bay Path's Mia Lussier maintains control of the ball while dribbling on the Quaboag defense.

Both team's defenses were key to the limited number of shots for the full 80 minutes. At the full-time whistle, the score remained 0-0.

St. Denis was happy with the outcome for the Cougars, he felt the girls won more 50/50 balls in the second half, and overall had more touches on the ball in the second half.

Legere said, "I am super proud of how the girls played today. We came out the second half and played well. The first half we struggled and then collected ourselves. We needed to get to the ball first and we figured it out. We shut down their key players which was important. Ariana made some incredible saves in the net. The girls worked together as a team." Records for both teams are as follows: Bay Path 4-2-1, Quaboag 2-5-2.



Photos courtesy Dawn Pepka-Jones

Bay Path's Miya Chauvin controls the ball in front of a Quaboag defender.



Photos courtesy Dawn Pepka-Jones

Kayla Schroeder of Bay Path creates space to be first to the ball versus Quaboag.

Get HIRED!

JOBS

Find a Career in The Classifieds!

SPORTS



Nick Ethier



Nick Ethier

Tantasqua's Gerson Catun-Teni keeps the ball to the outside while battling with Nipmuc's Cormack Devenney.

Aiden Way of Tantasqua elevates his right leg to make proper contact with the ball.



Nick Ethier

A leaping Owen Stattenfield of Tantasqua attempts to get his head on the ball, which passes him by.



Nick Ethier

Tantasqua's Logan Oko hustles after a loose ball, with Nipmuc's Pablo Dominguez giving him by.

Warriors do everything but score in tie with Nipmuc

STURBRIDGAE — The Tantasqua boys' varsity soccer team threw everything but the kitchen sink at Nipmuc when the two tangled at the

Cage on Friday, Oct. 6. The host Warriors had countless offensive opportunities but were simply unable to score on the visiting Warriors.

The end result was a 0-0 tie. That might be new to Tantasqua, which is now 5-3-1, but a common result for Nipmuc. They are now 1-1-8 and have

been tied for the eighth straight game, including four by a 0-0 result.

"We just couldn't buy a goal today," said Tantasqua head coach Matthew Guertin.

Guertin was nonetheless pleased by the way his team played, especially since they ended the first half and played the entire second half a man short after two yellow cards equaled a red card, forcing them to compete with 10 players on the pitch.

"We talked at halftime and we said we're still making and creating chances and the defense we had locked down. The guys played a great second half with a man down, and that's always tough. The guys rose to the occasion," said Guertin.

Guertin added that he is looking forward to the second half of the regular season.

"We lost to some of the big dogs early, and we're starting to right the ship. I think we'll be good. Moving forward, we're going to be OK," he concluded.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Tuesday, Oct. 3

Longmeadow varsity golf 152, Tantasqua 169 — The Warriors traveled to Twin Hills Country Club to take on the Lancers, and the hosts came away with the victory thanks to medalist Ryan Downes and his score of even-par 36. Tantasqua is now 7-5.

Wednesday, Oct. 4

Tantasqua varsity golf 162, Quaboag 181 — The

Warriors took on the Cougars at Quail Hollow and prevailed. Co-medalists for Tantasqua were Colm McGrath and Sam Pieczynski, who both carded 2-over 38s. Tantasqua improved to 8-5.

Thursday, Oct. 5

Tantasqua varsity golf 169, Uxbridge 192 — Playing under perfect conditions, the Warriors improved to 9-5. Sam Pieczynski's 1-under par 35 at

Hemlock Ridge earned him medalist honors.

Friday, Oct. 6

East Longmeadow varsity golf 153, Tantasqua 156 — Taking on the Spartans at Veteran's Golf Club, the Warriors fell three strokes shy. But Tantasqua's Colm McGrath was the co-medalist after firing off an even-par 36. The Warriors are now 9-6.

Worcester South varsity football 34, Tantasqua 22 — The Warriors battled tooth and nail with the Colonels, and held a slim lead of 22-18 in the third quarter, but South ultimately won the game. For Tantasqua (2-3), quarterback Adam Howe threw three touchdown passes, which went to Noah Wotton and a pair to Isaac Colon. Patrick Coleman also recorded a safety.

LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



HANDYMAN

Mark LaPierre
Proprietor

ODD JOBS DONE LLC
Spencer, MA

No Job or Problem is Too Small
508-471-0699
email: oddjobsmark@gmail.com
Fully Insured

ASPHALT PAVING

Accurate
ASPHALT PAVING

508-885-2581
Spencer, MA

BBB

APPLIANCES

Dave's Appliance Inc.

All Major Brands Sales & Service

weber

In Home Service Calls
New Stainless Steel Whirlpool Smooth Top Electric Stove
\$300 off NOW \$599

NEW & USED APPLIANCES

508-867-3122
Parts Hotline 888-229-1027
www.davesapp.com
42 W. Main St., Brookfield, MA
Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-6 • Fri 9-5 • Sat 10-3

VISA

Antiques

continued from page 9

expected to bring around \$1.5 million. A 17th century painting titled "A young woman holding a hare with a boy at a window" has a \$3 to \$5 million estimate. Some items start at only \$100 so even an average person can collect like a Rothschild family member.

It was nice to meet a few regular readers of this column at my "Evaluating your Antiques" class last week. Our toy and comic book online auction will begin this week. Our next major multi-estate auction including art, sterling silver, and a wide variety of antiques and collectibles starts next month. We are still accepting coins and other consignments for that auction. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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

Rhodents

continued from page 5

ral purpose, as prey for the raptors,” he said. There are also botanical/herbal repellants; he's found peppermint spray works well to keep rodents out of cars and similar places, but it needs to be reap-

plied occasionally. Moth balls also work.

If rodents end up in the building, try using old-style snap traps baited without poison, electronic traps (they electrocute the rat), or “walk-the-plank type traps” (which drown the rat.

“It's not pleasant, but it's not poison”). He also demonstrated a trap from New Zealand designed for rats and stoats (a weasel) where the rodent sticks its head into a crevice for the bait and gets beheaded. Baits exist that are non-toxic and

wheat-based; since they can't digest the wheat, it soaks up water in their digestive system and kills them (mashed potato flakes do the same thing). Another method uses dry ice in their rat warrens – block off

the entrances, jam the dry ice into them and the rats suffocate.

Menin is also pursuing legislation to ban rodenticides, but noted that process is “frustrating” because bills take so long. A few

are now winding their way through the system, including H.814, which would specifically state that the Home Rule laws allow towns to create stronger restrictions than the state now has. Some towns have been

doing that individually by special legislation; Arlington has filed such a bill (H.804).

He said he feels local Boards of Health have authority to do it by regulation already; he was on Sterling's board

for 12 years. Today, he's promoting this issue as a citizen activist with Raptors Are The Solution.

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

United Way

continued from page 1

Name was Boy Scouts – Heart of New England Team “Emotionally FUNstable”.

The 2023 campaign will run through Dec. 31. People can donate online at www.uwscm.org or by mail to United Way of South Central MA, 176 Main St., Suite 400, Southbridge, MA 01550.

United Way of South Central MA is a nonprofit organization that works to improve the lives of people in need in the towns of Southbridge, Sturbridge, Charlton, Dudley and Webster. UWSCM funds over 26 programs and services provided by local nonprofits that help people meet their basic needs, achieve financial stability, and succeed in school

Chief

continued from page 1

a daily basis and the work that they get done, I am astounded by it. I'm truly speechless and coming from a place where we didn't worry about manpower when we showed up, I'm truly impressed every day when I see them working in action and it excites me to be here,” said Corio.

Selectmen told Cario that they expect him to be a big part of the community, which he said he would happily oblige. They

also took the time to ask the Deputy Chief about his opinion on growing the department, specifically through a new substation which was scheduled to be part of the town's fall annual town meeting on Oct. 11.

“I think that a substation would be very important for the community. It is a large area that we cover and some of the response times are quite lengthy. That delay in an emergency response is detrimental and we're only growing as time goes on. I think since I've

been here, I feel that it's become more active with the calls that the members have been going on, so I feel that it's just a matter of time before we are even outgrowing what we have now,” said Cario.

The Deputy Chief's introduction was capped off by the ceremonial pinning of his badge, officially confirming him as a member of the Charlton Fire Department.

LEGALS

**NOTICE OF SALE
Lein Sale**

Request a Notice of Lein Sale be Published on the following listed Units

Household & Misc, Items

Unit No 103 Michael McDonald, 10 Playground Drive., Woodstock ,CT 06281

Household & Misc, Items

Unit No 90 Matthew Soper 126 Hartwell Street, Southbridge, MA 01550

Household & Misc, Items

Unit No 545 Mariam Eccleston P.O. Box 110, Spencer, MA 01562

Household & Misc, Items

Unit No 326 Phillip Thurlow P.O. Box 1268, Webster, MA 01570

Household & Misc, Items

Gendron, Leona 47 Union St.

Southbridge , Ma 01550

LEIN SALE WILL BE HELD:

Date: 10/25/2023

Time: 12 Noon

Location: 94 Brookfield Rd., Charlton MA 01507

October 6, 2023

October 13, 2023

Pursuant to Mass General Laws Chapter 105A, the contents of the following space: H25 (Danielle Drogne) located at 25 Brimfield Road, Holland, MA will be sold to satisfy the owners lien of Storage Plus. Sale date is Wednesday, October 18, 2023 @ 1:00 PM. Inspection between 12:30 PM and 1:00 Pm on October 18, 2023. Sealed bids must be hand delivered by 1 :00 PM on October 18, 2023. All goods must be purchased with cash, as is, and must be removed within 48 hours of sale. Owner has the right to bid to protect his lien and to withdraw any unit upon settlement by the obligated party up for sale. For further informatiion call (413) 245-4388.

October 5, 2023

October 12, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200**

**Docket No. WO23P3432EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

Estate of:

Robert Boucher

Date of Death: 07/19/2017

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by

Gail Boucher of Fiskdale MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

Gail Boucher of Fiskdale MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to

this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before:

10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/31/2023 .

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 02, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

October 12, 2023

(SEAL)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

LAND COURT

DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

COURT

Docket Number: 23 SM 003566

ORDER OF NOTICE

To:

Joseph Clem; Katherine Clem and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC claiming to have an interest in a

Mortgage covering real property in Southbridge, numbered 89 Stony Brook Drive, given by Joseph Clem, Katherine Clem to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC, dated June 8, 2020, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62616, Page 39, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before November 6, 2023, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on October 2, 2023.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
24407
October 12, 2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Ethan Kean to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Merrimack Mortgage Company, Inc., dated May 26, 2009 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 17805, Page 277, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated November 1, 2018, and recorded with said Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22414, Page 574, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (“MERS”), as nominee for Merrimack Mortgage Company, Inc., its successors and assigns to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, recorded on May 14, 2012, in Book No. 19255, at Page 267 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on November 6, 2023, on the mortgaged premises located at 31 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

The land and building thereon in Brimfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts bounded and described as follows:

Shown as Lot number three on a plan entitled, “Plan of Land in Brimfield, Massachusetts surveyed for Thaddeus J. Jr. & Kathleen D. Cembura” dated July 30, 2002 by Lewis & Cook Surveyors, Inc. Belchertown-Palmer, MA, which said plan is recorded in the Hampden District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 326, Plan 85; Beginning at an iron pipe on the easterly line of Sturbridge Road which is the southwesterly corner of said lot; Thence N. 19° 06' 28" E. 150.00 feet along the line of Sturbridge Road to an iron pipe; Thence S. 76° 37' 56" E. 20.80 feet to an iron pipe; Thence S. 18° 24' 44" W. 48.67 feet to an iron pipe; Thence S. 71° 35' 16" E. 44.75 feet to an iron pipe; Thence N. 18° 24' 44" E. 60.55 feet to an iron pipe; Thence S. 85° 36' 08" E. 281.75 feet to an iron pipe; Thence S. 15° 20' 45" W. 247.05 feet to an iron pipe; Thence N. 69° 11' 50" W. 354.17 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 66,000 square feet more or less For mortgagor's(s)' title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 17805, Page 275.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements,

public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

17805

October 12, 2023

October 19, 2023

October 26, 2023

LEGAL NOTICE OF A VIRTUAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING REGARDING A MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT

Morabeza, LLC hereby provides public notice that a virtual Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for October 26th, 2023 at 5:00 PM EST.

The meeting may be accessed online through the following zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86241099035>

Meeting ID: 862 4109 9035

Password: 901946

The proposed Delivery and Product Manufacturing establishment is anticipated to be located at 393 E Main Street Unit C, Southbridge, MA 01550. Community members and members of the public are encouraged to attend to ask questions and receive answers from representatives of Morabeza, LLC. Questions may also be submitted in advance to carlos.rosa@morabeza.us.

This Virtual Community Outreach Meeting will be held in accordance with the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission's Administrative Order Allowing Virtual Web - Based Community Outreach Meetings and the applicable requirements set forth in M.G.L. ch. 94G and 935 CMR 500.000 et seq. October 12, 2023

**For Legal Advertising Information
Call 508-909-4127
email: legals@stonebridgepress.news**

GARDENING

continued from page 9

posing more surface area to absorb water. Remove the lower leaves that would otherwise end up submerged in the water in the vase. Foliage in the water encourages microbial growth that can shorten the vase life of your cut flowers.

Always use a clean vase filled with

of the vase, ex-

fresh water. Add a floral preservative to the water to further extend the vase life of your flowers. Change the water often to keep flowers looking good for as long as possible. Remove individual flower stems as they fade and rearrange the remaining ones that still look fresh. Recut the stems as needed to keep the flowers absorbing water and lasting longer.

Add your own perennial flower

favorites and evaluate how they perform as cut flowers. Make a few notes on those that worked well and do a bit of research to improve the vase life of those that did not. Even a short-lived arrangement will generate a smile and brighten your mood when bringing a bit of your garden indoors.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including

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

LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Michael Bonner and Laurie Angers to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Ocwen Loan Servicing LLC, dated March 17, 2017 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56857, Page 188 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee of Wampus Mortgage Loan Trust is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Ocwen Loan Servicing LLC, its successors and assigns to PHH Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns dated April 4, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 60237, Page 155, and Assignment from PHH Mortgage Corporation to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee of Wampus Mortgage Loan Trust dated October 27, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 68409, Page 100, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 32 Canal Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 will be sold at a Public Auction at 2:00 PM on November 8, 2023, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: The land with the buildings thereon situated in Southbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake at the corner of a right of way on the easterly side of Canal Street;
THENCE N. 65° 41' W. thirty-seven and thirty-three hundredths (37.33) feet to a stone bound at land of Hamilton Company, now or formerly;
THENCE N. 26° 37' E. on land of said Company sixty-five (65) feet to a stone bound at land of James F. Prendergast, now or formerly;
THENCE Southerly on land of James F. Prendergast and others, now or formerly, thirty-five and twelve hundredths (35.12) feet, to a stake at said right of way;
THENCE Southerly on said right of way, sixty-four and ninety-four hundredths (64.94) feet, to the said line of Canal Street and the point of beginning.

AND as appurtenant thereto the right to use a right of way in common with others, leading from said Canal Street, easterly to the Curtis Estate, so called, said right of way being twelve (12) feet wide.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56857, Page 185.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such

other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee of Wampus Mortgage Loan Trust
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Bonner, Michael, 22-039694
October 12, 2023
October 19, 2023
October 26, 2023

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by Auburn Auto Body works LLC . 82 Pinehurst Ave. Auburn, Ma. 01501 Pursuant to the Provisions of G. L. c.255 Section 39A, that on 10/26/23 @ 9:00 AM at: Auburn Auto Body Works LLC 82 Pinehurst Ave Auburn.Ma. 01501. The following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the Garage Keeper's Lien there on for storage,towing, charges,care and expenses of notice and of said vehicle. Description of vehicle: Vehicle VIN# 1GTP6DE10G1380550 2016 GMC Canyon P/U Owner Jeffrey G. Blais 39 Wallace Ave. Auburn, Ma. 01501.

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c255 Section 39A.

October 5, 2023
October 12, 2023
October 19, 2023

**Town of Holland
Planning Board
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Holland Town Hall, Selectman conference room 27 Sturbridge Rd. Holland, MA 01521. The purpose of the hearing is to consider a Special Permit request for the operation of the marijuana establishment CannaMountain Inc. located at Blodgett Farm 174-178 Mashapaug Rd. Holland, MA
October 12, 2023
October 19, 2023

INVITATION FOR BID

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.projectdog.com.

The **Town of Southbridge**, Massachusetts, the "Awarding Authority" or "Owner", invites sealed bids for the **New Southbridge Fire Station, 129 Worcester Street, Southbridge, MA 01550** in accordance with Contract Documents prepared by Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. 416 Slater Road, New Britain, CT 06053.

The General Contractors and Filed Sub Bid Contractors have been pre-qualified. A listing of all pre-qualified contractors can be found in the Project Manual.

All bids for this Project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, M.G.L., c.149, § 44A through 44L.

In order to be eligible and responsible to bid on this project, General Bidders and Filed Sub-Bidders shall submit with their bid a current Certificate of Eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance, DCAMM (formerly the Division of Capital Planning and Operations, DCPO), together with an Update Statement as required by M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 44D.

ANon-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held on **Wednesday, October**

18, 2023, 10:00 AM. local time at the **Town of Southbridge, 41 Elm Street, 2nd Floor, Southbridge, MA 01550. Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.**

Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received until **2:00 PM on Friday, November 3, 2023** and publicly opened, forthwith online.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 PM, on Friday, December 1, 2023** and publicly opened, forthwith online.

Filed sub-bids will be required and taken for the following classes of work:

MASONRY
SECTION 04 00 01 MASONRY FILED SUB BID

MISCELLANEOUS AND ORNAMENTAL IRONSECTION 05 00 01 MISCELLANEOUS AND ORNAMENTAL IRON FILED SUB BID

W A T E R P R O O F I N G , DAMPPROOFING, AND CAULKING SECTION 07 00 01 WATERPROOFING, DAMPROOFING AND CAULKING FILED SUB BID

ROOFING AND FLASHING SECTION 07 00 02 ROOFING AND FLASHING FILED SUB BID

GLASS & GLAZING SECTION 08 00 01 GLASS AND GLAZING FILED SUB BID

METAL WINDOWS SECTION 08 00 02 METAL WINDOWS FILED SUB BID

TILING SECTION 09 00 01 TILING FILED SUB BID

ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS SECTION 09 00 02 ACOUSTICAL TILE FILED SUB BID

RESILIENT FLOORS SECTION 09 00 03 RESILIENT FLOORING FILED SUB BID

PAINTING SECTION 09 00 04 PAINTING FILED SUB BID

FIRE PROTECTION SECTION 21 00 00 FIRE PROTECTION FILED SUB BID

PLUMBING SECTION 22 00 00 PLUMBING FILED SUB BID

HVAC SECTION 23 00 00 HVAC FILED SUB BID

ELECTRICAL SECTION 26 00 00 ELECTRICAL FILED SUB BID

Every General Bid and every Filed Sub-Bid shall be accompanied by a bid deposit, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, in the form of a certified check; or a treasurer's check; or a cashier's check; issued by a responsible bank or trust company, made payable to the Town of Southbridge; or a bid bond in a form satisfactory to the Town of Southbridge, with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and conditioned upon the faithful performance by the principal of the agreements contained in the respective sub-bids and general bid.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for download or purchase on **Wednesday, October 11, 2023** after **12:00 PM** at: **Projectdog.com, Project Code 857770.**

The Contract Documents may be examined at, but not removed from, the following location during normal business hours:

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
41 Elm Street, 2nd Floor
Southbridge, MA 01550

Each bidder is advised to visit the site of the proposed work, become fully acquainted with conditions as they exist, and thoroughly examine the Contract Documents. Failure of any bidder to visit the site and to examine the Contract Documents shall in no way relieve the bidder from any obligation with regard to the bid as submitted. Arrangements for site visitation, during the bidding period, may be made in the manner set forth in the INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS.

The successful General Bidder

will be required to provide a performance bond, and a labor and materials payment bond, issued by a company authorized to do business in Massachusetts and satisfactory to the Awarding Authority, each bond being in the amount of 100 percent of the Contract Amount.

The minimum wages to be paid for all labor on the project are established in a schedule issued by the Commissioner of Labor and Industries, in accordance with Section 26A - 27D inclusive, of Chapter 149 of the M.G.L., as amended, said schedule being made a part of the Contract Documents and is included therein.

Materials, equipment and supplies to be used on this project are exempt from sales tax to the extent provided by M.G.L. Chapter 64H, Section 6(f). The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 45 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the bids.

The Town of Southbridge reserves the right to waive any informalities, to accept or reject, in whole or in part any or all bids, or take whatever other action may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Town of Southbridge.

The Town of Southbridge is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and encourages participation from certified minority and women-owned businesses.
October 12, 2023

**Sturbridge Planning Board
Public Hearing
Application for Site Plan Approval
Cornerstone Bank**

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 40A, §11, the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:35 PM** in the **Center Office Building located at 301 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566 and/or by virtual means** if circumstances warrant, in accordance with applicable law; on the application of Cornerstone Bank for the property located at 200 Charlton Road.

The applicant requests Site Plan Approval as required by the Sturbridge Zoning Bylaw Article XIX, Site Plan Review to allow the demolition of the existing drive-through ATM & teller window facility to be replaced with ITMs and new canopy. The proposal includes removing pavement in order to promote landscape islands and a decrease in impervious area, along with related site improvements at 200 Charlton Road, Sturbridge as shown on the plans and materials submitted.

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

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and may be conducted via remote means if circumstance warrant, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means.
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/472675877>

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

Charles Blanchard
Chairperson
October 5, 2023
October 12, 2023

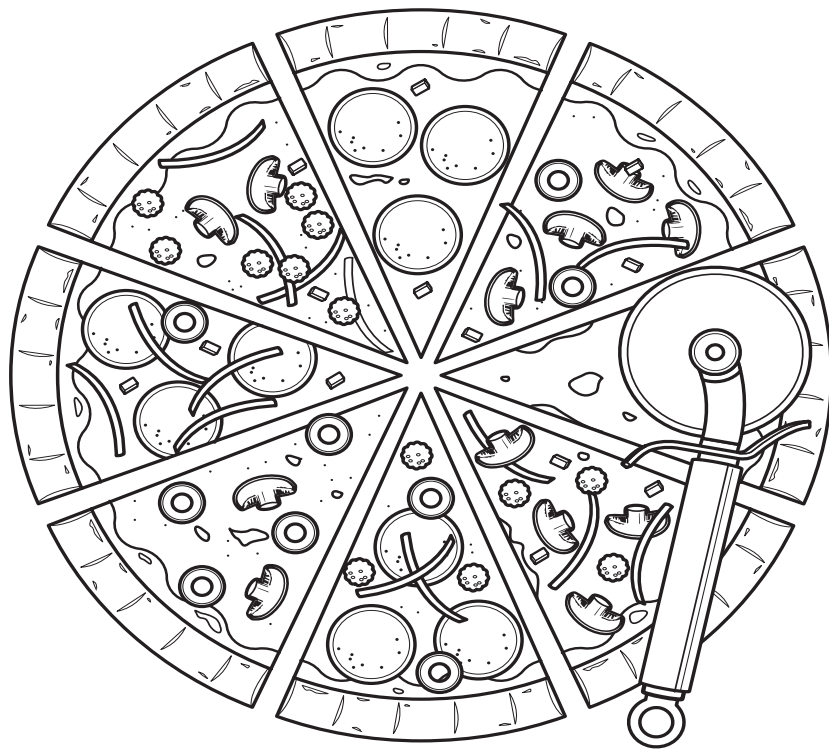
For Legal Advertising Information
Call 508-909-4127
email: legals@stonebridgepress.news



kids' corner

Creative Coloring

Celebrate dining on pizza.
Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1956:** THE NEW YORK YANKEES' DON LARSEN PITCHES THE ONLY PERFECT GAME IN A WORLD SERIES TO DATE.
- **1967:** CHE GUEVARA AND HIS MEN ARE CAPTURED IN BOLIVIA.
- **1982:** AFTER ITS LONDON PREMIERE, "CATS" OPENS ON BROADWAY AND RUNS FOR NEARLY 18 YEARS.



THIS TYPE OF CRUST HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THOSE WHO MUST GO GLUTEN-FREE TO EAT PIZZA.

ANSWER: CAULIFLOWER

New word

CONSUME

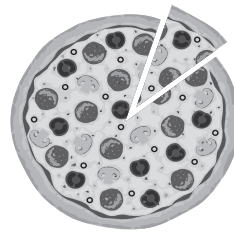
eat, drink or ingest food or drink

How they SAY that in...

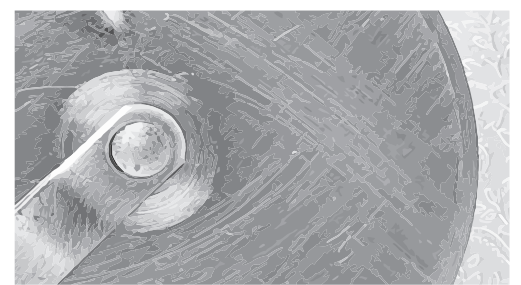
- ENGLISH:** Slice
- SPANISH:** Rebanada
- ITALIAN:** Fetta
- FRENCH:** Tranche
- GERMAN:** Stück

Did you know?

PEPPERONI IS THE MOST POPULAR PIZZA TOPPING ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: PIZZA CUTTER WHEEL

www.StonebridgePress.com

Town-to-Town

Home Town Service,
BIG TIME RESULTS

CLASSIFIEDS

774-200-7308

Place your ad today!



WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED:
WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Rags, Uniforms, etc.
Over 40 years' experience.
Call David (508) 688-0847. I'LL COME TO YOU!

HURLEY FIREWOOD
Cut, Split, Delivered
GREEN
\$200 per cord
DRY
\$270 per cord
Call John at 508-958-4350

MANUFACTURING JOB SHOP IS LOOKING FOR AN AUTOCAD DETAILER

AutoCAD, Mastercam, Solidworks experience
Responsible for developing flat sheet metal layouts from customer drawings, in order to produce DXF files for OMAX Water Jet and laser cutting machines. Updating existing drawings as new information becomes available. Responsibilities would also include developing cut sheets for sheet metal components and various structural items.

A strong sheet metal background is a plus.

Hours: M-Th: 7:00am-5:00pm, F: 7:00am-3:30pm
Compensation based on experience.

We offer medical benefits, 401k and more.

Qualified candidates should email resume or apply in person:

Southbridge Tool & Manufacturing Co., Inc
181 Southbridge Road, Route 131
Dudley, MA 01571
(508) 764-2779 • info@southbridgetool.com

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



BOY SCOUT TROOP 273 FALL YARD SALE
Saturday, October 14th
Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley
Early Birds (8am to 9am) \$10.00 per person fee
9am until 3pm FREE
We accept CREDIT CARDS!
24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY
Pick your items and Make an offer!
Grouped Items: Electronics - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TV's) **Tools** - hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. **Furniture** - Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc.. **Housewares** - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances **Sporting goods** - Bikes, skis, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment **Clothes** - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags **Kids toys and baby items** - high chairs, bouncy, games, Antiques

For Advertising Information
Call 774-200-7308
email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD
 Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
 St. Mary's Church
 4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
 Distribution: Wednesday 9 AM-11 AM:
 Saturday 9AM-11AM

CHARLTON
 Chip - In Food Pantry
 McKinstry Building
 37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
 Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

LEICESTER
 Leicester Food Pantry
 St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
 759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
 Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD
 St. Joseph's Food Pantry
 296 No. Main St, North Brookfield, MA 01535
 Distribution: First Thursday 5 PM-6:30 PM:
 Third Thursday 12 PM-1:15 PM

SOUTHBRIDGE
 Saint John Paul II Food Pantry
 Saint Vincent de Paul
 279 Hamilton St, Southbridge, MA 01550
 Distribution: Tuesday 3 PM-5 PM, Wednesday 9 AM -11 AM

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY
 Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
 60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562
 Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

WEST BROOKFIELD
 Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
 First Congregational Church
 36 North Main Street,
 W.Bookfield, MA 01585
 Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM
 - Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM



OBITUARIES

Alvin S. Lotti, 85



Charlton- Alvin S. Lotti, 85, of Number 10 Schoolhouse Rd., passed away on Sunday, Sept. 17th, in UMass Memorial Hospital - Harrington, Southbridge, after a brief illness.

He leaves his beloved wife of 58 years, Natalie G. (Roix) Lotti; his three sons, Christopher A. Lotti and his wife Dawn of Arizona, Michael S. Lotti and his wife Anita of Holliston and Brian D. Lotti and his wife Judy of Hopkinton; his half-sister, Lauri Boyd of Bourne; his cherished eight grandchildren, Brandon, Tristan, Cameron, Jay, Meghan, Julianna, Thomas, Matthew and two step-great grandchildren.

Alvin was born in South-

bridge, the son of Albert and Ruby (Hunt) Lotti. Following graduating from high school Alvin enlisted in the United States Air Force and served honorably during the Cold War.

Alvin worked for 36 years as a cable splitter for the phone company prior to retiring many years ago. In his younger years Alvin worked for Pratt and Whitney in Hartford, CT. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and old cars. Alvin was a member of local car clubs as well as the Hamilton Rod and Gun Club. He was a family man who enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren.

A graveside service for Alvin will be held on Saturday, October 28th at 2:00 PM in Northside Cemetery, Charlton. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 1120, Framingham, MA 01701.

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

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Priscilla A. McVeigh, 81



DUDLEY - Priscilla A. (Kennedy) McVeigh, 81, of Hayden Pond Road, died Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at the Overlook Masonic Health Center in Charlton, surrounded by her family. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Douglas J. McVeigh of Dudley; three children, Dianne L. Norton and her husband Jamie of Vineyard Haven, Karen L. Lafayette and her husband Marc of Ludlow, and Douglas A. McVeigh and his wife Nancy of Ludlow; her brother, Philip A. Kennedy and his wife Diana of Michigan; six grandchildren, Jessica Gray and her husband Martin, Stephanie Simon and her husband Matthew, Marcus Lafayette and his wife Rebecca, Alexander Lafayette, James "Doug" Norton, and Jonathan Norton; three great-grandchildren, Julian Gray, Tristan Gray, and Lilya Simon; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Linda Kampe who died in 1992. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Andrew L. and F. Pansy (Harrington) Kennedy, and lived in Oxford and Ludlow before moving to Dudley in 2003. She gradu-

ated from Oxford High School in 1960 and received a bachelor's degree from Framingham State University in 1965.

Mrs. McVeigh was a home economics and science teacher at Granby Junior Senior High School in Granby for 22 years, retiring in 1991. Previously, she was a teacher at Oxford Middle School for 3 years. She was a member of the Oxford United Methodist Church in Oxford, and a former member of the Order of the Eastern Star - James W. Hannam Chapter in Ludlow. Mrs. McVeigh was a founding member of the Oxford Assembly of the International Order of Rainbow Girls. She enjoyed sewing, crafts, baking, traveling, and painting later in life.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at the Oxford United Methodist Church, 465 Main St., Oxford. Calling hours were held Wednesday from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at the Oxford United Methodist Church prior to the service. Burial followed at North Cemetery in Oxford. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Oxford United Methodist Church, 465 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540, or to the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, 4 Maple Rd., Oxford, MA 01540.

Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

Experienced Chef Wanted
 With Energy Talent and Pizzazz!
 (with an available option to make it your own)
 Interested? Let's chat!
E.B. Flatts
 EBFlatts@charter.net

Family Dining & Gift Guide
 Too Busy to Cook?
 Ask your favorite local restaurant if they offer dine-in or take-out!
 Treat yourself to a nice dinner out anytime!
 Restaurant gift cards make perfect hostess gifts!
 Call Mikaela at 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news to advertise on this page.

Now booking holiday parties
 Any size from 10 to 250 guests

Spencer Country Inn
 Buy Entire Get 1 1/2 price (dine-in only) Cannot be used on holidays or private parties
 With this ad. Exp 10/31/23
 Fish N' Chips To-Go ~ Fridays Only \$14.95
SUNDAY BRUNCH 10am-1pm
 All You Can Eat \$19.95 (plus tax & gratuity)
 500 Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-9036
 www.spencercountryinn.com
 Lunch: Fri & Sat 11:30-2:00
 Dinner: Fri & Sat 5:00-Close
 Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm

CHARLIE'S
 Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions
 The function room is now open!
INDOOR DINING & TAKE-OUT
 BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
 Fri 10/13 & Sat. 10/14(after 5pm)
TUNA STEAK
 HOURS: Wed-Sat 8-9; Sunday 8-8
 Closed Mon & Tue
 5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562
 Gift Cards **508-885-4033**
 www.charliesdiner.com

Salem Cross INN
 RESTAURANT & TAVERN
 260 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585
Come on in for a delicious meal!

FIREPLACE FEASTS
 Delicious early American Fare, November through April, including New Years Eve!
 View details and reserve on our website.
 Don't forget... **TAKEOUT is available!**
 For more info visit www.salemcrossinn.com (508)867-2345
 Hours: Thursday, Friday & Saturday 4-8; Sunday 12-5
 Hexmark Tavern Hours: Thursday & Friday 4-8

Professional bull riders' Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour returns to Worcester Feb. 24 & 25

WORCESTER — For the eighth time in the sport's history, PBR's (Professional Bull Riders) Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour will buck into Worcester, returning to DCU Center on Feb. 24 & 25, with PBR Worcester.

Following the overwhelming enthusiasm and demand for PBR Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour events in Worcester, including single-day sold out shows the past four years, the organization expanded the competition to be two days in February 2024. PBR Worcester will be met with added significance as the PBR's lone event in Massachusetts during the 2024 individual season.

For two days only, some of the best bull riders in the world will battle the sport's rankest bovine athletes in the ultimate showdown of man vs. beast in one of the most exciting live sporting events to witness.

PBR's return to Worcester comes on the spurs of one of the organization's most dynamic individual seasons in 2023, as the Velocity Tour broke and reset numerous attendance and competition records enroute to its most successful season to date.

The upcoming PBR Worcester will mark the seventeenth event of the new individual season for the PBR's expansion series. Eventgoers will watch riders vie for crucial points in the race to be crowned the 2024 PBR Velocity Tour Champion.

When PBR's Velocity Tour was last in Worcester in February 2023, Brandon McDowell (Hopwood, Pennsylvania) reached a crucial career milestone winning his career-first event with the PBR.

In the opening round of action, McDowell was tasked with Crazy Addiction (Cornwell Bucking Bulls). Remaining in perfect time with the animal athlete, McDowell reached the whistle for an event-best 84 points.

Despite being upended in the championship round, tossed by Train Station (Cornwell Bucking Bulls) in 2.95 second, the 22-year-old's Round 1 score was enough to cement his victory and bring McDowell 108 Velocity Global points.

Other past Worcester event winners include Casey Coulter (2022, Kirksville, Missouri); Tye Chandler (2020; Celina, Texas); Daniel Tinsman (2019; Farm-land Indiana), Juan Carlos Contre-ras (2018; Huichapan, Mexico), Emilio Resende (2017; Santa Helena, Brazil), Winston Lopez (2016; Bandera, Texas), and Austin Meier (2015; Kinta, Oklahoma).

The bull riding action for PBR Worcester begins with Round 1 at 7:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, February 24, followed by Round 2 and the championship round at 2:00 p.m. ET on Sunday, February 25. All 40 competing bull riders will get on one bull each in Round 1. The Top 36 riders from Round 1 will advance to Round 2 Sunday afternoon. The riders' individual two-round scores will be totaled with the Top 10 advancing to the championship round for one more out and a chance at the event title.

Tickets for the two-day event, including single day and two-day packages, go on sale Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 10 a.m. EDT, and start at \$20, taxes and fees not included. Tickets can be purchased online at ticketmaster.com, PBR.com, at the DCU Center Box Office during operating hours or by calling PBR customer service at 1-800-732-1727.

PBR Elite Seats are available for avid fans who want an exclusive VIP experience while enjoying the world's top bull riding circuit. These tickets, available in three tiers, offer premium seats, personal on-site concierge at the PBR fan loyalty booth, and more. For more information on elite seats call 1-800-732-1727, or to purchase visit ticketmaster.com.

For more information about the PBR and the 2024 PBR Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour schedule visit PBR.com.

Stay tuned to PBR.com for the latest news and results and be sure to follow

the sport on all social media platforms at @PBR.

About the PBR (Professional Bull Riders) Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour

The PBR's Pendleton Whisky Velocity Tour (PWVT) began in 2014 as the premier expansion tour for the

PBR. The Velocity Tour, the sport's fastest-growing tour, brings the excitement and top-levels of cowboy and bovine talent that fans have come to expect from the sport to cities across the United States. The PWVT is proudly supported by Pendleton Whisky, Boot Barn, Cooper Tires, Rank 45, South

Point Hotel & Casino, Tractor Supply, Kubota, the United States Border Patrol, Zip Recruiter and GovX. Every Velocity Tour event is carried on PBR RidePass on Pluto TV, PBR's flagship digital network.

Southbridge Lions cornhole tournament a huge success!

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Southbridge Lions Club held its second annual "Let's Rip It" Cornhole Tournament on Saturday, Sept. 23, featuring almost 50 teams vying for cash prizes at the Southbridge Community Center.

Under the guidance of Bob Parker and his Let's Rip It team, the tournament went off without a hitch and featured some thrilling play. The boards were custom made by Matthew Mlyniec of M-Squared Woodworking, and featured the names and logos of the tournament's sponsors: A&M Tool and Die, Cal-Tek Company, Inc., Dexter Russell, Inc., DiPietro Masonry, Dr. Natalie M. Stanely, DMD, Five Star Automotive, Heritage Country Club, LaBoeuf Rubbish Removal, Lazo's Café, and Place Motors. These boards were raffled off to lucky winners throughout the event. Plus, the Lions offered a door prize of a pair of cornhole boards with the Southbridge Lion's Club logo proudly displayed on them and a set of quality bags donated by Bob Parker.

Spectators and participants enjoyed a variety of food and

beverages while listening to the DJ sounds of Shawn Clark. Congratulations to the top three teams of the Championship bracket: Arthur Nguon and Bob Parker took first place and the \$1,000 prize, Justin Carvello and Guy Quartarone came in second place winning \$500, and Mike Cardoso and Justin Curtis captured the third-place prize of \$250. A new feature this year was the creation of a bottom 12 bracket, which paid \$100 to the first-place team of Joe Labonte and Rob Sydoriak, and \$50 to the second-place team.

The Southbridge Lions would like to thank the Southbridge Community Center for allowing us to use their venue, and to the loyal cornhole players who came from all over New England to spend the day with us. Special thanks go out to our own Mike Comeau for coordinating this hugely successful fund raiser on behalf of the Southbridge Lions club. All proceeds will benefit local charitable organizations, schools, community events and individuals who need a helping hand.

Local students named Peer Advisors at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD — Charlton resident, Ashley Figueroa, Autumn Bissonnette of Holland and Courtney Farrell of Sturbridge have been named Peer Advisors for the 2023-2024 academic year at Western New England University.

Peer Advisors are a group of highly selected and comprehensively trained students dedicated to helping first-year and transfer students throughout their transition to Western New England University. Peer Advisors undergo more than 150 hours of training in order to better support first-year and transfer students.

Each first-year student is assigned a Peer Advisor who serves as a source of information, point of first contact, and conduit to university programs and support services. Peer Advisors work during the summer and academic year to assist new students in the formation of their personal success plans and act as an advocate for student success. The personal success plans provide new students with a framework for establishing specific, measurable, reasonable, realistic, and timely goals for the first year at the University.

Figueroa is working toward a BSE in Biomedical Engineering.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30 percent remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts

counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Zachary Johnson named Resident Advisor at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD — Charlton resident, Zachary Johnson has been named a Resident Advisor for the 2023-2024 academic year at Western New England University.

Resident Advisors are a group of students selected based on their leadership, interpersonal skills, and commitment to positively influencing their peers.

Resident Advisor assumes overall responsibility for the management of a corridor or residential area with approximately 30-80 students. They are assigned to all living areas on campus and are there as resources to students of all class years. They serve as a liaison between students and the University. The primary responsibility of a Resident Advisor, after their academic work, must be to the RA position where their focus is ensuring their residents are having a safe and enjoyable experience. Resident Advisor is also expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50.

Johnson is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30 percent remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Anna Burgener graduates from Elms College

CHICOPEE — Anna Burgener of Southbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Elms College following the conclusion of the summer 2023 semester.

Burgener was among 75 students who received their degrees this summer.

Elms College is a co-educational Catholic college offering a liberal arts curric-

ulum that prepares students holistically for a purposeful life in a diverse and interconnected world. Founded in 1928 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Elms College has a tradition of educating reflective, principled and creative learners, who are rooted in faith, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, responsive to civic and social obligations, and capable of

ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL ~ StonebridgePress.com





Ghosts
continued from page 2



Michel Duncan Merle plans some piracy.



Caitlin Tupper, right, chats with one of the evening's various Victorian ghouls.

UMass Memorial Health HARRINGTON

URGENT CARE express

Experience Urgent Care and Shorter Wait Times at Harrington!

Get walk-in care for non-life-threatening illnesses and injuries for children and adults of all ages - no appointment needed!

We Treat:

- Allergies or asthma | Bronchitis | Burns | Ear infections
- Fever and flu-like symptoms | Insect and animal bites | Pink eye
- Rashes | Sinus infections | Strep throat | Urinary tract infections

164 South Street, Southbridge, MA
Monday - Friday: 10 AM - 6 PM
Saturday & Sunday: CLOSED
508-909-8550

Opening New Doors For Families Everyday

If you, your friends or family are in need of real estate services - CALL ME - over 15 years real estate experience



Your Local Real Estate Professional
LISA CARON REAL ESTATE, LLC
LISA CARON, REALTOR®, Broker, Owner
Graduate REALTOR® Institute, GRI
2016-2022 Top Producer
Accredited Buyers Representative, ABR
Certified Seller Representative Specialist, SRS
Real Estate Negotiation Expert, RENE
C2EX Commitment to Excellence Endorsed
Certified Seniors Real Estate Specialist, SRES
Certified Military Relocation Specialist, MRP
Certified Pricing Strategy Advisor, PSA
New Construction Specialist
Certified Loss Mitigation Specialist, LMC
Certified Distressed Property Expert, CDPE
Certified Advanced Digital Marketing, E-PRO
Notary Public

Lisa Caron Real Estate
42 W. Main Street, PO Box 447 Brookfield, MA 01506
Cell : 508-341-8299

Search Homes Instantly: <http://www.lisacaron.com>



The star of the show with one of her most realistic pieces.



Jasmin Rivas and Marie Antoinette (Carla Davila)

The National Domestic Violence
HOTLINE
1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

WWW.THEHOTLINE.ORG

Sometimes a little comfort food can go a long way. ...

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

DANIEL T. MORRILL FUNERAL HOME

Three Generations of our Family Serving the Families of Charlton and Surrounding Areas Since 1913

PATRICK S. MORRILL, DIRECTOR

130 Hamilton Street, Southbridge // 508.764.7922

WE OFFER PERSONALIZED SERVICES THAT CELEBRATE AND HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

morrillfuneralhome.com

Contact us for your pre-planning needs or with any questions.

COLUMBUS DAY SALE! TONS OF DEALS! Continues!

VOTED #1 APPLIANCE DEALER - 2 YEARS IN A ROW IN WORCESTER COUNTY

GIANT TOY DEPT. 1000'S OF TOYS

MATTRESS SALE! TWIN: \$199 (REGULARLY \$299) FULL: \$269 (REGULARLY \$499) FULL: \$299 (REGULARLY \$599)	5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$249⁹⁹ WAS \$299.99	FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER #7150 \$329⁹⁹ WAS \$599.99	SAMSUNG WASHER \$699⁹⁹ WAS \$899.99	MAYTAG DISHWASHER #MDB4949SKZ \$549⁹⁹ WAS \$849.99
TV DEALS	FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR \$1199⁹⁹ WAS \$1,599.99	AMANA WASHER OR DRYER #NED4655EW \$499⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99	MAYTAG DRYER #VEDC46HW \$579⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99	WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER \$1699⁹⁹ WAS \$2,699
50" Hisense.....\$279.99 (Regularly \$549.99) 55" Hisense.....\$299.99 (Regularly \$549.99) 65" Hisense.....\$399.99 (Regularly \$649.99) 55" Samsung.....\$399.99 (Regularly \$449.99) 75" Samsung.....\$749.99 (Regularly \$799.99) 85" Samsung.....\$1099.99 (Regularly \$1599.99)	MAYTAG TOP FREEZER 18 CU. FT. \$699⁹⁹ WAS \$899.99	AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599⁹⁹ WAS \$699.99	GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWS05SNWW \$799⁹⁹ WAS \$999.99	10 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$439⁹⁹ WAS \$599.99

END OF SEASON BIKE SALE WE REPAIR BIKES!

NO CREDIT? BAD CREDIT? NEW EASY FINANCING TERMS ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!

WHITCO 140 MAIN STREET SPENCER, MA 508.885.9343

SEE WHITCO SALES.COM FOR 100'S OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. through Fri: 10am-9pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 12 Noon-7pm

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

news@stonebridgepress.news