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Friday, July 23, 2021

Tantasqua student joins Girl Scouts board

WORCESTER — The Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) elected eight members, including two girl members, to the Board of Directors at the virtual Annual Meeting on June 23.

The essential business of the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts' (GSCWM) annual meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom. According to GSCWM Board President Joan Bertrand of Sterling, "I am pleased to wel-



Courtesy

Ella Grant

come, and thrilled to have the privilege to serve on the board with these new members. They are dynamic individuals with diverse talents and experiences to help oversee the operations of the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts and further our mission to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place."

GSCWM's board members were elected to serve a two-year term.

Board members include:

Ms. Carla Carten, of Shrewsbury, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Strategy for Mass General Brigham Health Care

Ms. Ella Grant, of Sturbridge, Senior Girl Scout and student at Tantasqua Regional High School

Grant has been a Girl Scout for 11 years. She is a four-year member of the Tantasqua Field Hockey team and has played on both JV and Varsity. Ella enjoys working with a local Brownie troop to help inspire them in and out of Girl Scouting. Girl Scouts has given her the opportunity to go on a Destination Trip to Yellowstone National Park in 2019. In this experience, she met girls from all over the country and learned the importance of teamwork. Grant loves to play the drums and she hopes to attend college for music. She is a Senior Girl Scout and is a student at Tantasqua Regional High School, in Fiskdale.

Ms. Lisa Greene, of Shrewsbury, Director of Patient Accounts/HIM for AdCare Hospital of Worcester

Ms. Kate Kane, of West Brookfield, Wealth Management Advisor for Northwestern Mutual

Dr. Shirley Konneh, of Worcester, Assistant Director at the Center for Career Development at the College of the Holy Cross

Ms. Laura Marotta, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Creative Hub Worcester

Ms. Roberta McCulloch-Dews, Director of

Turn To **GRANT**, page **A10**

Sturbridge residents offer feedback on Senior Center feasibility study

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE – A few dozen residents turned out July 9 and 15 for the most recent forums on the Senior Center Feasibility Study.

The most vocal participant, a man who did not give his name, wondered why the town looked at one site in particular – 80 Haynes, a.k.a. the Shepard Parcel – and not the large number of other parcels it owns or could buy. Sturbridge, he noted, bought it years ago specifically for conservation, and removing the current deed restrictions to even allow a project could take years. Among other things, it'd need approval from Opacum Land Trust, Town Meeting, DEP, and the Legislature.

"My understanding is, it's never been done," Town Administrator Jeff Bridges said, noting the selectmen have already expressed opposition to using that parcel.

From the audience, Study Committee Chair Ken White said his board was tasked with looking at town-owned property over two acres and renovating/expanding the current center. That rapidly narrowed down to two parcels – 80 Haynes and 70 Cedar. They voted to recommend the latter earlier this year.

Lance Hill of Parr Engineering said his firm's job did not consider conservation easement issues, only whether it was physically possible to fit a building of the desired size (12,000 square feet) with parking and related external necessities on those sites. It is, by stuffing it into one corner.

Turn To **STUDY**, page **A10**

Brimfield Planning Board's decision on solar project leaves residents frustrated

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

BRIMFIELD – Following last week's Planning Board decision involving a controversial solar proposal, frustrated residents believe their concerns have gone ignored.

At a July 14 meeting, the Brimfield Planning Board unanimously approved the engineering proposal for an access road sought by Sunpin Solar Development. As part of the approval, the Planning Board issued an order of conditions to be followed if the access road is approved by the zoning officer.

Prior to the vote, several residents spoke out against the proposed solar facility on 100 acres off 170 Brookfield Rd. in Warren, just north of the Brimfield town line. Final approval for the access road in Brimfield is one of the first steps required for the proj-

ect to continue.

"The Planning Board had written an order of conditions for Sunpin, and the chairman wasn't interested in hearing any public comment or any suggestions to strengthen that order of conditions," said John Cooper, a 20-year Brimfield resident. "We, however, came to the microphone, one by one, and stated our concerns, suggestions, and fears if this project gets a green light."

Multiple residents in both Warren and Brimfield have expressed their opposition to the project in recent years. Abutters and officials are especially concerned about the flooding impacts that would be caused by the cutting of trees on a steep elevation. Residents also have apprehensions over access issues, farming/land impacts, property values, and long-term

Turn To **SOLAR**, page **A10**

There's magic in the air at Hitchcock Academy

BRIMFIELD — The Tommy James Magic Show premieres on the Hitchcock Academy lawn in Brimfield on Monday, July 26 at 4 p.m.

Master magician Tommy James brings a show that combines a special blend of magic, comedy, wonder, and surprise for kids of all ages. Awarded the 2010 International Family Performer of the year award, Tommy James along with his "magical" bunny, Miracle, promises to put on a roller coaster ride of a show. Tickets for this event are available at hitchcockacademy.org when you click on the Summer Programs link. If the weather does not cooperate the show will be moved inside to the upper auditorium.

James began entertaining at the age of 14, when he performed for his grandmother's Grange group; from there he branched out to 4-H clubs, schools, and local civic organizations. Over the next 30 years, his reputation expanded and today he is recognized as one of the premier kids' show magicians in the world. The Tommy James Magic Show promises to be a summer highlight for the whole family.

Hitchcock Academy is pleased to announce a partnership with ART-ventures to present kid's summer art programming. With a dash of whimsy and a dollop of fun, ART-ventures programming provides talented instructors to encourage children to explore art while fostering their creativity through exposure to a variety of tools, techniques, and materials. Each program session includes t-shirt creations and two or three awesome works of art each day. Program sessions run Monday through Friday the first three weeks of August from 9 a.m. – noon, with each week having its own theme. For more information and to register for one week, two weeks or all three weeks head to hitchcockacademy.org.

On Saturday, July 31, find out why "Goonies never say die," when you follow Chunk and his friends as they hunt for the pirate treasure that will save their neighborhood. "The Goonies" debuts on Hitchcock Academy's big

Turn To **HITCHCOCK**, page **A10**



Nichols College names two to Board of Trustees

DUDLEY — Jaime Paris Boisvert and Amahl H. Williams have been elected to the Board of Trustees at Nichols College. Paris Boisvert began her term of service at the board's May 2021 meeting; Williams will begin his term at the October 2021 meeting.

Jaime Paris Boisvert is a 1998 graduate of Nichols and director of the Higher Education Vertical Market for Johnson Controls, which is well known for delivering solutions that optimize buildings and infrastructure by improving energy efficiency, data analysis, comfort, safety and security. Previously she was the general manager of the Boston Branch at Siemens Smart Infrastructure, where



Jaime Paris Boisvert



Amahl H. Williams

Services. He is also a contributor at Forbes as a member of the Forbes Communications Council. Prior to SYKES, Williams was vice president at WonderBotz. He serves as a volunteer mentor at BUILD, which provides hands-on entrepreneurship training and college prep to help stem the high school drop-out rate. Prior to his appointment to the Board of Trustees, Williams served on the Nichols Board of Advisors, and is one of the founding advisors for the Nichols College Center for Intelligent Process Automation. He is also a member of the college's legacy program, the Colonel Conrad Society.

He and his wife have two children and currently reside in Melrose.

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

she served in a number of capacities over 12 years. She began her career through the Nichols Career and Professional Development Center as an account executive at AT&T, moving onto MAC Systems, followed by a stint as director of sales & marketing for Chace Building Supply of Conn.

She and her husband have three children, and currently reside in Woodstock, Conn.

Amahl H. Williams, a 2002 graduate of Nichols and three-sport varsity captain, has spent his career in sales and marketing leadership roles focusing on the monetization of new and adjacent technologies for the Fortune500 and Global2000. He is currently a director of transformation and consulting at SYKES Digital

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Successful mentorships happening at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Mentorship program has been a success. Dr. Adelina Healy of Dudley, and other faculty leaders teamed up with the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy cohorts to implement a mentorship program that not only allows experienced nurses to guide practical nursing students, but to receive one on one mentorship.

The Practical Nursing Class of 2021 consisted of 23 females. The overall goal is to give the graduates the opportunity to learn and receive mentorship from the experienced faculty to help lead them to a positive nursing journey both academically and clinically.

The faculty and staff of the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy were introduced to the cohort early on at orientation and acceptance ceremony with each faculty assigned as an advisor and each practical nursing (PN) student receiving an advisor and a mentor to be it an alumnus or a peer mentor.

Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director says, "this is a great way to connect with the future nurses, bring the community together, and provide nursing students with support and guidance."

Risper Wanjiru of Webster stated, "Dr. Healy has been an influential figure in my clinical practice as well as in my nursing journey. As a qualified and experienced nurse, she has spirited my professional growth by commending my learning spirit and guiding me." Wanjiru was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). She added, "Dr. Healy's teaching style is an aspect I admired, as she considers all student nurse's weaknesses and strengths. She is selfless, she sponsored the fee for my NTHS membership registration. I am forever grateful for her role in my professional growth, not forgetting the knowledge she shared with me."

The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty believes in being thoughtful and taking time to build strategic relationships with the student body. Everyone begins by identifying a



Courtesy

Dr. Adelina Healy of Dudley and Risper Wanjiru of Webster.

viable mentorship relationship, creating regular touchpoints, understanding the culture, engaging with PN students early, and immersing everyone in the Academy's events and curriculum.

"We begin to engage the PN students as early as the orientation and acceptance ceremony and through various events on campus," concludes Bolandrina. "Our leadership and mentorship program connects PN students with advisors and mentors and even provides insight into academic progression. These relationships are strengthened throughout their nursing journey, inclusive of job placements and networking."

Through engagement with the Bay Path community, students and alumni develop and become prepared to be successful in nursing. Fostering a culture of belonging, encouraging mentorship, and celebrating diversity at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is successful because of goal-oriented and actionable activities and experiences.

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New principal hired at Trinity Catholic Academy

SOUTHBRIDGE — Fr. Ken Cardinale, pastor of St. John Paul II Parish, and the School Advisory Board are pleased to announce that Angela Symock has been hired as the new principal of Trinity Catholic Academy.

Mrs. Symock has been a teacher at TCA for twenty-one years and assistant principal for the last seven. Her career at Trinity began in 2000 teaching fifth grade and later grade three.

In 2014, Mrs. Symock took on the additional role as part-time assistant principal and secretary of the Trinity Advisory Board. She believes in a strong school community and has been responsible for organizing

(Left) Angela Symock

several extracurricular activities or community building events such as a father-daughter dance, mother-son outings, Pink Hair Day in support of breast cancer research, Lego Club and G.I.V.E. Junior, a student outreach organization.

In reflecting on her 21 years as a teacher at Trinity, she is so grateful for the opportunity to get to know so many wonderful families.

"Trinity families see the big picture of what we do, they allow us to help raise their children, creating strong foundations of compassion, academics, and faith that students take with them long after they grad-



Courtesy

uate from TCA," Symock said.

Mrs. Symock was born and raised in Southbridge and feels a strong connection to the community. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Nichols college in 1998. She then went on to earn her Master's degree in Elementary Education in 2005 and a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS) in 2015 from Anna Maria College. She and her husband have been married since 1996 and have two wonderful children who are both graduates of Trinity Catholic Academy.

Mrs. Symock is excited for the future of Trinity and helping families see all it has to offer.

"My goal is to create an environment where students feel empowered to be their best and fall in love with learning," she said. "My predecessors, Mrs. Brouillard and Mrs. Citta, have done a wonderful job leading our school. I hope to continue to build their legacy."

Fr. Ken and the Advisory Board are confident that Mrs. Symock is the ideal choice as the new principal for the future of Trinity Catholic Academy.

Southbridge RMV Service Center will open Aug. 2 by appointment

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that on Monday, Aug. 2, customer service centers will open in Southbridge, Easthampton and Lowell to begin serving customers by appointment.

"We have appreciated the patience of the public during the State of Emergency as the RMV pivoted to serve customers with new processes in keeping with health protocols," said Acting Transportation Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler. "Now, with almost 4.3 million individuals in Massachusetts fully vaccinated, the Registry can safely reopen additional customer service locations while still continuing with many of the new transaction policies which have worked so well since March 2020 and which customers have told us have been convenient and efficient."

"The health and safety of our customers and employees has been our focus in making decisions about how to conduct transactions and we are pleased that appointments will be made available Aug. 2 in three more Registry Customer Service Centers," said Acting Registrar Colleen Ogilvie. "Many new initiatives that were put in place to provide additional flexibility for

customers during the COVID-19 pandemic will continue and initiatives which have been well received, including dedicated service hours for senior citizens, will be continuing."

RMV customers will continue to be served by appointments only at open Service Centers, and customers who are unvaccinated will be required to wear a face covering for transactions. In addition, the RMV will continue with including dedicated hours on Wednesdays to serve senior citizens at some locations, holding suspension hearings by phone, allowing learner's permit tests online, and using state vehicles for anyone taking road tests. (Everyone in a vehicle for a road test must wear a face covering, regardless of vaccination status.)

Initiatives which are continuing: Appointments for in-person transactions at open customer service locations will continue, and customers must wear a face covering for an in-person transaction if unvaccinated.

- As of August 2, RMV Service Centers will open by appointment in Southbridge, Easthampton, and in Lowell.

- Senior hours for customers 65 years of age and older on Wednesdays

at specific locations will continue.

- Road tests will still be offered using state vehicles only. Road test sponsors are required to be in the road test vehicle and everyone in a road test vehicle must wear a face covering regardless of vaccination status.

- Online learner's permit exams will continue and customers must still make an in-person appointment for the application process.

- Suspension hearings by telephone will continue.

- In-vehicle observation hours for Junior Operators have reverted back to driving schools for applicants who obtained a learner's permit on or after May 29 requiring Junior Operators to complete 6 hours observing another student driver, and 40 supervised driving hours with a parent or guardian. (This was the rule pre-pandemic.)

For more information on transactions and additional details on customer locations, please visit www.mass.gov/rmv or <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/rmv-covid-19-information>.

In May, Governor Charlie Baker signed an Executive Order terminating the Commonwealth's State of Emergency effective June 15, 2021. The Order also rescinded most COVID-19 restrictions, including limitations placed on businesses, as of May 29 as Massachusetts neared the goal of vaccinating four million residents. The Registry's partner for many transactions, AAA, will also continue with the system of serving AAA members who make appointments. For details about the Commonwealth's coronavirus vaccination locations and other information, please visit: www.mass.gov/coronavirus.

STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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Joshua Hyde Library to host a Translate Gender Pizza & Movie Night

STURBRIDGE — The Joshua Hyde Public Library will host a Pizza & Movie Night as part of the new year-long initiative, "You Belong Here," that launched on in May 2021.

Sponsored by The Friends of the JHPL and presented by Translate Gender, this event will feature a screening of Expanding Gender: Youth Out Front, a series of short films. Pizza will be served for the event and will wrap up with a discussion following the viewing.

The You Belong Here initiative includes expanding the diversity of the library's collection, its programs and its policies to promote a sense

of belonging while continuing to embrace the uniqueness of individuals. Patrons of the library and the broader communities of Sturbridge come from varying backgrounds and experiences, the library is taking active steps to create an environment in which the identities and cultural backgrounds of all are valued and respected.

This event is for teens, and families and youth, and will kick off at 6pm on July 26th in the meeting room at Joshua Hyde Public Library, 306 Main St., Sturbridge.

Registration required at sturbridgeli.org or call 508-347-2512.



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Friday's Child



Jayden Age 11

Hi! My name is Jayden and I love gymnastics!

Jayden is a lovable girl of Caucasian descent. Wise beyond her years, Jayden loves gymnastics, going to the park, and swimming. She also loves to ride her bike, do arts and crafts, make slime, and go to amusement parks. She does well with one-on-one attention. She has two teen foster brothers in her foster home who she looks up to as role models and for guidance. Jayden does best with a strong routine in the morning when getting up, getting dressed, and getting herself ready for school. Jayden is loving, caring, and determined. Her foster

mother describes her as very technologically savvy.

Legally freed for adoption, Jayden will need one-on-one attention from her new family. This could be a two-parent family or a single-parent family with no other children in the home or a female child close in age to Jayden. Structure and routine in her new home are extremely important to Jayden. Jayden has older siblings in foster care and in adoptive families in Western Massachusetts with whom she will need to maintain contact. She would also like to maintain a lifelong connection with a previous foster family.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



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Thrive Support & Advocacy announces graduation, expansion of leadership and development initiative

MARLBOROUGH — Thrive Support & Advocacy, a nonprofit empowering youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), today announced that seven young adults have graduated from its Leadership Experience And Development (LEAD) initiative, and that the program will expand to Worcester in September.

Thrive's LEAD initiative helps participants – LEADers – develop a dynamic set of leadership

skills through a curriculum that includes role-play activities, public speaking, and group leadership projects. The year-long, application-based program is designed for young adults with IDD between the ages of 17 and 25. In addition to Thrive staff, LEADers engage with mentors including business leaders who share insights and real-world experiences, students from the Advanced Math and Science Academy (AMSA) in Marlborough, and past LEAD

graduates.

“On behalf of the entire Thrive community, I’d like to congratulate these LEADers for completing the program. It’s a significant accomplishment,” said Sean M. Rose, President & CEO of Thrive Support & Advocacy. “Through LEAD, these young individuals have been able to learn and grow as both adults and leaders, and are now better prepared to advocate for themselves. We’re proud that for years LEADers have taken active roles and have gone above and beyond in giving back to their communities.”

This year’s class of LEADers were celebrated in a virtual graduation ceremony, complete with purple caps and gowns. Honorees include:

- Alexander Bowler of Sturbridge
- Liam Clinton of Framingham
- Jason Dore of Shrewsbury
- Melissa Qualey of Shrewsbury
- Giles Rae of Shrewsbury
- Alexis Sokoloff of Northborough
- Bryna St. Pierre of Auburn

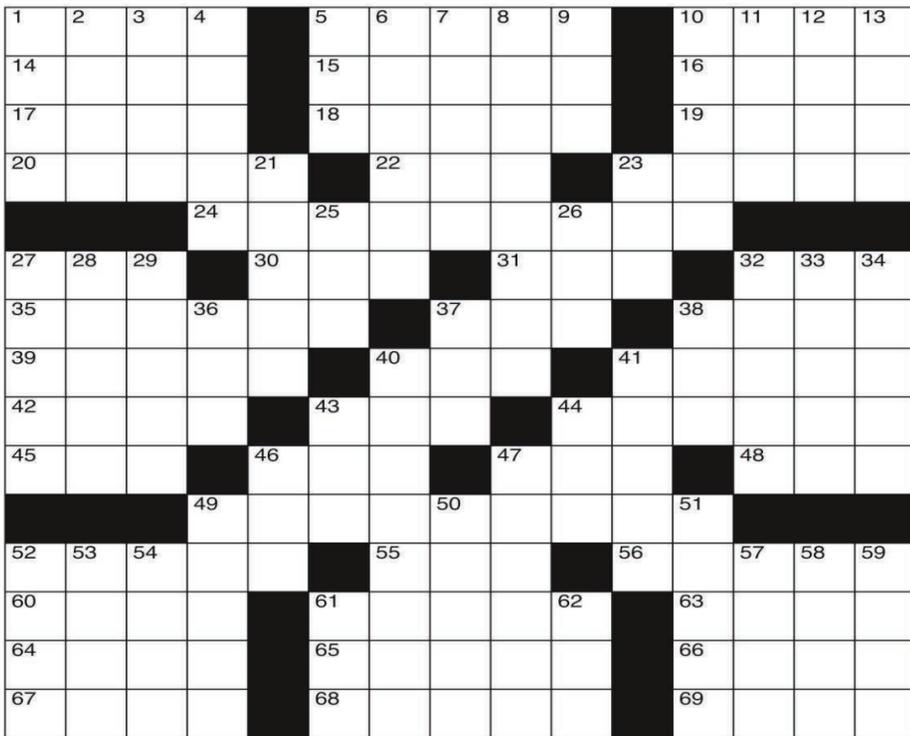
Additionally, Rumei Johnson of Westborough and Rose Mallon of Marlborough were recognized as Junior LEADers. They participated in this past year’s virtual program, but will return in the fall to complete the program in person for a hands-on learning experience.

In September, Thrive will expand the Marlborough-based program into Worcester to serve the city and surrounding communities. The planned expansion was possible by the opening of Thrive’s new Worcester office at 100 Grove St. Between the two locations, a total of 20 individuals are expected to participate in the 2021-22 LEAD program. The Marlborough group will meet in person on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and the Worcester group will meet in person on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The program runs from September until June.

For LEAD enrollment information, contact Caitlin Devaney-Fortwengler, Director of Youth Services at 508-485-4227 ext. 1009 or orcdfortwengler@icanthrive.org.

About Thrive Support & Advocacy

Thrive Support & Advocacy has been empowering youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead active and self-directed lives since 1973. The Marlborough-based nonprofit supports over 1,000 individuals and families living in 47 eastern and central Massachusetts communities through recreational and social initiatives for youth and adults, community residences, and individual and family supports. For more information, visit www.icanthrive.org.



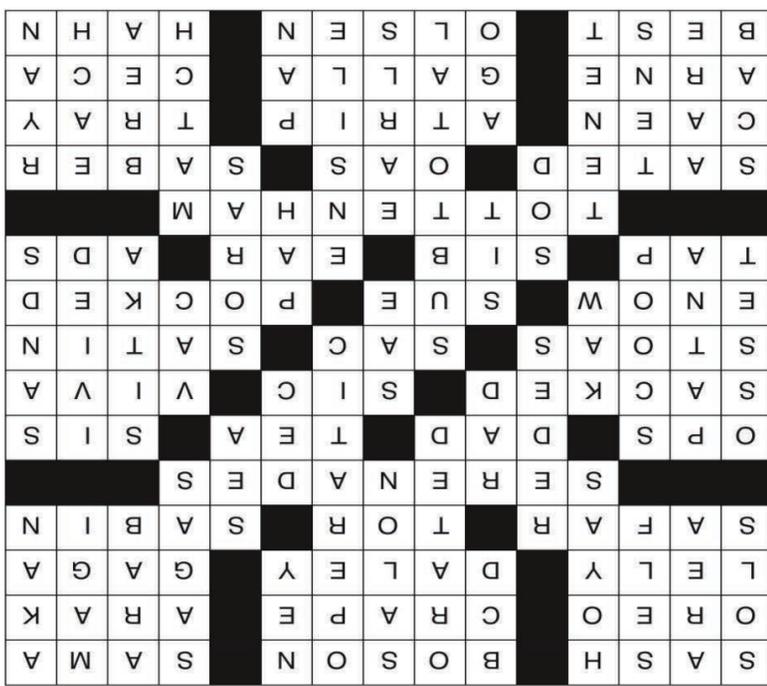
CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Fashion accessory | 42. Enough (archaic) |
| 5. Subatomic particle | 43. Institute legal proceedings against |
| 10. Ethnic group of the Philippines | 44. Scarred |
| 14. Popular cookie | 45. Draw from |
| 15. Fabric | 46. Brother or sister |
| 16. Alcoholic liquor | 47. Body part |
| 17. Peter __, Dutch portrait painter | 48. Commercials |
| 18. Longtime Chicago mayor | 49. London soccer team |
| 19. A famous “Lady” | 52. Satisfied |
| 20. Islamic calendar month | 55. Surgical technique (abbr.) |
| 22. Rocky peak | 56. Fencing sword |
| 23. Polio vaccine developer | 60. French industrial city |
| 24. Songs sung in open air | 61. Intellectual property organization (abbr.) |
| 27. Military movements | 63. Helps to carry food |
| 30. Male parent | 64. “Rule, Britannia” composer |
| 31. Beloved hot beverage | 65. One-time Empress of the Roman Empire |
| 32. Female sibling | 66. Intestinal pouches |
| 35. Tackled the QB | 67. None better |
| 37. Set a dog on someone | 68. “WandaVision” actress |
| 38. Long live! (Spanish) | 69. Comedic actress Kathryn |
| 39. Porticos | |
| 40. Pouch | |
| 41. Smooth fabric | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Fifth notes of major scales | 33. Covered with ivy |
| 2. Region | 34. Loose granular substances |
| 3. Your consciousness of your own identity | 36. Native American tribe |
| 4. Georgetown athletes | 37. Written American English |
| 5. They follow A | 38. Holiday (informal) |
| 6. Spoke | 40. Add up |
| 7. Hairdressers’ domain | 41. Small brown and gray rails |
| 8. Extravagantly theatric | 43. Get off your feet |
| 9. End-blown flute | 44. Express disgust |
| 10. Heroic tales | 46. Surface of the ground |
| 11. Member of a Semitic people | 47. Put into a silo |
| 12. Members of a priestly caste | 49. Belief |
| 13. Southern Ghana people | 50. British noblemen |
| 21. Counsels | 51. Tennis game |
| 23. Body of water | 52. Dry, protective crust |
| 25. Awesome! | 53. Swiss river |
| 26. Calendar month | 54. Large integers |
| 27. Native of region in Caucasus | 57. La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood |
| 28. Indian city | 58. Every one of two or more |
| 29. Exclusive | 59. “Deadpool” actor Reynolds |
| 32. Alaskan town | 61. Earlier |
| | 62. Peter’s last name |

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\$379,000, 20 Paige Hill Rd, Gelinis, Carla M, to Caron, Megan.
- \$150,000, N/A, Richmond Jacob Est, and Richmond, Robert I, to DTE Holdings Inc.
- HOLLAND**
\$235,000, 5 Sunset Ln, Neumann, Albert R, and Neumann, Cynthia M, to Hayden, Laura B.
- \$29,900, Blodgett Rd, Coolong, Allan M, to Anvilreal RT, and Cao, Qing.
- STURBRIDGE**
\$620,000, 9 Brook Hill Rd, Middleton, Joshua, and Dragoiescu, Ana, to Carey, Edward M, and Carey, Christine A.
- \$550,000, 26 Tannery Rd, Joy, David M, and Joy, Desiree D, to Valente, Michael A, and Valente, Jessica.
- \$510,000, 174 New Boston Rd, Creamer, Thomas R, and Creamer, Jeannine S, to Geeze, Matthew, and Geeze, Kendyl.
- \$344,000, 15 Blueberry Ln, Lamparth, Christian, and Lamparth, Elizabeth, to Macgregor, Alec W.



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Fairy tale characters come to life at Old Sturbridge Village

STURBRIDGE — Beginning Aug. 12 and running Thursday through Sunday for the following two weekends, Old Sturbridge Village, the oldest living history museum in New England, will host the live performance Fairy Tale Farm. With a map in hand, guests will have the freedom to explore every inch of the Village as the sun goes down. Characters they thought they've known since childhood face problems in the modern-day.

Guests will walk the Village to various buildings that become the stage for each performance. Characters step out of their "homes" for the first time since the pandemic and are faced with real-world, grown-up issues;

- Pinocchio is a former child star coming to terms with his life as a "real boy."

- Recently awakened Beauty (formerly sleeping) is a princess-turned-Instagram star.

- Little Red's once-devoured grandmother, Granny Lil, is back and feisty as ever.

- Goldilocks (who is newly engaged to Baby Bear) is an ambitious young tech entrepreneur launching her new product.

- A third little pig named Vincent whose rational thinking has kept him alive.

- Hansel, who's determined to get in shape post-pandemic, and Gretel, who'd prefer to stay in quarantine.

The cast will include Laura Rocklyn as Goldilocks, who is newly engaged to Baby Bear. Bryce Crumlish plays an opinionated third little pig named Vincent. Sleeping Beauty — who has recently awakened in 2021 — is now an Instagram celebrity with many questions and is played by Jade Genga. Alexander Demetrius (Defending Jacob, Love, Weddings & Other Disasters, Something Wonderful and Doubt. Host of "Puerto Ricans on the Rise") is "real-boy" Pinocchio, adulating for the first time. The actors also play the roles of Granny Lil, Hansel, Gretel, and Baby Bear, respectively.

Fairy Tale Farm at Old Sturbridge Village will also feature music by Worcester-based Gracie Day, whose

mixture of rock and soul is "influenced by her parents' music of the '60s and '70s" will help bring the "enchanted" Village to life.

Come spend a night outdoors watching the sun go down and being entertained in the Village in a new

way. Activities and games for kids, food, drinks, and fresh air for all ages.

Tickets go on sale July 1 to members, July 6 to the general public, and will be available through the Old Sturbridge Village Museum Web

site. Ticket pricing is Member adult early bird (June 30 – July 6): \$15, Member youth early bird (Ages four 17) (June 30 – July 6): \$10, Adult (member and non-member starting July 7): \$20, Youth (member and non-member beginning July 7): \$15.

Seven Hills Foundation announces partnership agreement with IDD Organization in Puerto Rico

WORCESTER — Seven Hills Foundation and the Instituto Psicopedagogical de Puerto Rico (IPPR) announced the signing of an agreement to promote the advancement of community-based residential supports for children and adults with developmental challenges on the Island.

Seven Hills President Dr. David A. Jordan and IPPR CEO Jorge Garcia-Ortiz made the joint announcement expressing "their Partnership Agreement is mutually beneficial to both our organizations and IPPR looks to Seven Hills in providing the technical skills required to establish a spectrum of community-based

residential options in Puerto Rico and Seven Hills looks to IPPR in cultivating a cadre of trained DSP's and clinicians supporting Seven Hills' activities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. This is truly a win-win for both organizations."

The Psicopedagogical Insititute of Puerto Rico is a private non-profit organization that for more than 65 years has offered integrated and specialized services to people with Intellectual Disabilities, including young people, adults, and the elderly. These integrated services include housing, food, nutrition, clinical, habilitative, educational, and recreation services, among others.<http://www.ipprpr.org/noticias.html>.

Headquartered in Worcester, Massachusetts, the Seven Hills Foundation is a comprehensive health and human services network currently offering program sites at 190 locations throughout Massachusetts and Rhode Island employing nearly 4,600 professionals. Seven Hills Foundation offers a continuum of clinical, educational, and community-based supports to 60,000 children, adults and seniors with disabilities and other life challenges through its 14 affiliate organizations that are part of the Foundation.

Trinity Catholic Academy announces 26th Annual Golf Tournament

SOUTHBRIDGE — Trinity Catholic Academy is excited to announce the 26th Annual Golf Classic to be held on Saturday, Sept. 25 6:30 a.m. (coffee & pastries,) 7:30 a.m. "Shot Gun Start."

The Golf Tournament was close to a "no go" last year, but a wonderful crowd enjoyed golf at Heritage Country Club in Charlton with proper protocol. A great day is planned for up to 144 participants.

First registered, first served! <https://trinitycatholicacademy.org/golf-classic/>

This event continues to be a major fundraiser for Trinity Catholic Academy, that provides support for the school and a great opportunity

for family, friends, and alumni to catch up with one another! TCA is very thankful for the past support of generous companies, donors and local folks who contribute to make it possible for Catholic Education to continue in Southbridge for over 150-years. Smaller class size is an added advantage for today's families in our 25-mile radius for children Pre-K to Grade 8.

Some of the tournament Day Options include:

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Those looking to support the cause with a raffle gift donation are welcome to do so on the website or email: ptoti3@aol.com.

To learn more about the 26th Annual Golf Classic, and be eligible for cash & fun prizes, or offer support to this hidden gem in Southbridge! Consider visiting the school website or Facebook page.

UMF announces Dean's List for Spring 2021 semester

FARMINGTON, Maine — The University of Maine at Farmington is proud to announce its Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester, which included Jessica LaFrance of Sturbridge, who was awarded High Honors.

Located in the heart of Maine's four-season outdoor recreational region, UMF is nationally recognized for its academic excellence, affordability and graduates' positive career outcomes.

UMF maintains a Dean's List each semester for those students completing a minimum of 12 credits in courses producing quality points. Students whose grade point average for the semester is equal to or greater than 3.8 are awarded high academic achievement. Students whose grade point average for the semester is less than 3.8 but equal to or greater than 3.5 are awarded academic achievement. Any incompletes must be satisfactorily completed before the student is honored with Dean's List status.

Local residents graduate from RIT

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Rochester Institute of Technology conferred more than 4,000 degrees at all of its campuses in the 2020-2021 academic year. Due

to New York state COVID-19 occupancy restrictions, commencement was celebrated May 14-15 in smaller ceremonies by college and were live-streamed for

graduates' family and friends.

Griffin Hurt of Brimfield received a BS in applied mathematics.

Logan Melican of Fiskdale received a BS in chemical engineering.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 18,600 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.

The university is internationally recognized and ranked for academic leadership in business, computing, engineering, imaging science, liberal arts, sustainability, and fine and applied arts. RIT also offers unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation. Global partnerships include campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai and Kosovo.

Brittany Klotz makes Goodwin Dean's List for Spring 2021

EAST HARTFORD, Conn. — Brittany Klotz has earned a spot on the Goodwin University Dean's List for Spring 2021.

Brittany, a student from Holland, is one of 1,014 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance.

Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

Goodwin University congratulates Brittany on making the Dean's List and demonstrating such a high standard of excellence in the classroom and beyond!

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community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of students. Classes are conveniently offered year-round - days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor's, and master's programs in a variety of in-demand fields. Better still, we surround our students with the personal support and the professional guidance they need - not just to earn degrees, but to change lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. For more information, please visit www.goodwin.edu.



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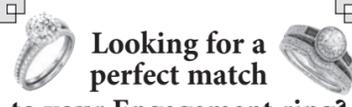
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Renaissance Medical Group to host free community health fair

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Saturday, July 17, Renaissance Medical Group (RMG) will host a free health fair at the RMG Center for Health and Wellness, 11-15 Sandersdale Rd., Southbridge. The

event will provide members of the community with a fun-filled day of health education, activities and more, as well as free lunch, giveaways and raffles.

Team members will be on hand to

introduce attendees to the many programs and services RMG offers including, adult day health care, home care, group adult foster care (GAFC), dentistry, primary care and pharmacy.

CEO of RMG, Jesus D. Suarez, is looking forward to the event and introducing his team of health and wellness providers to the community.

He states, "The RMG Center for Health and Wellness has been serving members in the Southbridge and surrounding communities for over two years. This weekend we will invite the public to get to know RMG and learn how our programs and services can help them meet their personal health and wellness goals. RMG is a family, and our family is always ready to welcome new members."

Attendees can expect fun activities for all ages. Medical professionals and health specialists will lead fitness workshops, Zumba and cycling classes, as well as provide nutritional and wellness education. The event will begin at 11 am and include free lunch and refreshments. No registration is required. For up event updates, follow RMG on Facebook: @RenaissanceMedicalGroup

Renaissance Medical Group is a 360° health care company providing a wide-range of wellness programs and services including primary care, behavioral health, pharmacy, adult day health care, dental and in-home services. Our bi-lingual caregivers care for English and Spanish-speaking communities at locations in Lawrence, Springfield, Southbridge and Worcester.

Joshua Hyde Library to host "Laughing & Learning"

STURBRIDGE – The Joshua Hyde Public Library announces a laugh & learn musical comedy experience for all ages on Aug. 18.

"Laugh & Learn" is a comedy and educational show that explains while it entertains.

Led by Dave Maloof, he will discuss how and why we laugh and the health benefits of laughter. Come laugh & learn as Dave teaches the finer points of how jokes & comedic songs are written by performing his own comedy songs, which include, "I Miss Recess," and "My Wife Is In Love with the Dog," ... and maybe an additional joke or two in between.

The entertainment kicks off at 6:30

p.m. on Aug. 18 in the meeting room at Joshua Hyde Public Library, 306 Main St., Sturbridge. Registration opens July 28.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Sturbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. The library staff and Mass. Cultural Council are excited to share this event with our community. This is an experience for all ages that you won't want to miss.

To register for this program and for information on other programs, please see sturbridgelibrary.org or Facebook @sturbridgelibrary.

Emma Earls named to Hamilton College Dean's List

CLINTON, N.Y. — Emma Earls, of Sturbridge, has been named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the spring 2021 semester.

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

Earls, a rising sophomore, is a gradu-

ate of Deerfield Academy.

Originally founded in 1793 as the Hamilton-Oneida Academy, Hamilton College offers an open curriculum that gives students the freedom to shape their own liberal arts education within a research- and writing-intensive framework. Hamilton enrolls 1,850 students from 49 states and 49 countries. Additional information about the college can be found at www.hamilton.edu.

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- Research and tasks as assigned by the board
- Ensure adherence of MGL for all duties
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- Familiarity with open meeting law, MGL, zoning bylaws, and Planning Board activities a plus

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Summer is a great time to manage stress

Most individuals take time during the summer months to unwind and sort of reset after a busy fall, winter and spring. Summer vibes are usually all about taking things slow and soaking up as much sunshine as possible before Old Man Winter heads back into the neighborhood. Many people who suffer from "burnout" welcome the longer days and warmer weather, however sometimes these three months of frisbee throwing and hanging by the lake aren't enough.

With the go, go, go culture that has taken over our society, many people find themselves burnt out, to their detriment. Experts say people can reverse that feeling of burn out and we decided to share what we have found with our readers.

If work is taking its toll on you, you may need to make some changes there. Experts say that oftentimes, simply talking it out with a co-worker or supervisor can help to get things off your chest, especially if the consensus is to create a healthier work environment. Some people have found that the only way to cure burnout is to change positions, however without proper techniques every job, could eventually burn you out.

Managing stress properly is huge; however, not everyone knows exactly what that entails. Healthy eating, exercise and proper sleep are the easiest things one can do to ease stress in other aspects of your life. Most people who are over working themselves claim that time is an issue. There is no time to exercise, no time to sleep, no time to eat healthy. Point blank, if they can put a man on the moon, you can find the time to put yourself first without letting your job duties fall by the wayside. This could include little tricks such as parking your car far from the entry of a place to extend the walk, taking the stairs or even placing your computer on a counter so that your sitting time is lessened. Everyone knows what works best for themselves, so often times a bit of creativity and resourcefulness is needed.

A vacation can help ease burnout symptoms but often, a week isn't enough time to truly combat burnout. If you are at a severe risk of burning out, experts say to stop working for at least two weeks and cut yourself off completely from the office. According to those in the know, they say most employers will understand that this break will result in a better employee after they return. If two weeks isn't in the cards, at least take one day a week to yourself with no phone calls, no emails or anything work related.

Finding a release is imperative, whether it's going for a run or simply tuning out with a good movie or an old fashioned game of solitaire. If you let stress build and build without letting off some steam, that could lead to unintentional outbursts and severe irritability.

Try not to let yourself become dependent on alcohol and caffeine. Everything in moderation. We're not sure, but we do believe the Red Bull trend has settled a bit.

Switch things up by asking for different responsibilities. When things get mundane, they can become less interesting. Having fun while also getting the job done can make a world of difference. Even working away from the norm, and changing up the scenery can be a game changer. Find a nice coffee shop or a park and try to avoid working from home at all costs. If you work from home, you will begin to associate the same feelings about work, in the home. Your home is your sanctuary, and you need to protect it.

Oftentimes, people take better care of their vehicles than they do themselves. To keep a car running smoothly, you need to upkeep with maintenance, use top of the line fuel and keep the miles low.

In the book "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff, and It's All Small Stuff" by Richard Carlson, he talks about how when you die, your 'In Basket' won't be empty. His point is that we all feel the need to get everything done. We stay up late, get up early, just to get everything done. By doing this he says we put off having fun or spending time with loved ones. Keeping a full 'In Basket' means that your time is in demand, with projects to complete and phone calls to return. Carlson reminds his readers that no matter what you do or who you are, nothing is more important than your own happiness and sense of inner peace and that of your loved ones. He reminds us that when we die there will still be things left to finish, and that someone else will do it.

It's one thing to read tips, and take advice from others, but it's another thing to remember what you've read, and to put those words into action.

OPINION

IEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

Summer Lawn Tips

If the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence - it may be time to review the basics of lawn care.

A beautiful lawn is worth the effort. And properly groomed grass doesn't offer only aesthetic benefits. An average sized lawn creates enough oxygen to meet the needs of a family of four every day, is a natural provider for our ecosystem, and can boost property value by nearly ten percent! Need another reason invest time and energy into your lawn? Ponder this: The front lawns of a block of eight average houses have the cooling effect of about 70 tons of air conditioning-enough to cool 16 average houses. On a hot summer day, grass can be 10 to 14 degrees cooler than exposed soil and as much as 30 degrees cooler than concrete or asphalt. And it also provides oxygen. A 50' x 50' well-maintained grass area will create enough oxygen to meet the needs of a family of four every day.

Watering Your Way to a Lush Lawn

When and how much you water your lawn can determine lawn success. If you subscribe to the old rule of thumb of watering for a short time each day, you may want to rethink your strategy. Lawn experts claim a healthy lawn with a good root system doesn't require watering more than one to three times per week. The bottom line? Your lawn needs about an inch of water once every seven to 10 days to grow strong roots.

Still not convinced when it comes to watering less is more? Keep in mind frequent shallow watering leads to shallow root growth because roots only grow where the soil is moist. Shallow root growth can make a lawn more susceptible to heat stress and drought damage. On the other hand, if you water too much and saturate the lawn, you run the risk of suffocating grass roots. In saturated soil, deep roots can't get air and die. The only roots that survive will be those near the surface.

Your goal in irrigating should be to wet the soil where the grass roots are growing, no more and no less. To achieve this, experts advise wetting the top six inches of the soil thoroughly. To gauge how long you should run your sprinkler to achieve the six inch mark, place a few tin cans around the yard and run the sprinkler for a set amount of time. Then measure the accumulation to figure out how long it will take to equal six inches.

Despite the best intentions, watering a lawn thoroughly enough to wet the soil at least six inches deep is often easier said than done. Most sprinkler systems apply water much faster than the soil can absorb it. As a result the water just runs off, especially if you have a sloped landscape. To control runoff, take periodic pauses in watering by turning off the sprinklers to allow the water to seep in.

Compacted soil is another cause of water runoff. Soil compaction also restricts air, water and nutrient entry and slows root development. Remedy this by aerating the soil. Keep in mind lawns with deep roots can be watered less often than lawns with shallow root systems.

Also, let the weather work for you. Keep a rain gauge to determine how often you will need to water your lawn. For example, if it rains an inch, you can skip watering until next week!

Water at the Right Time of the Day

Early morning is by far the best time for watering lawns. For optimum efficiency and success, try to water in the wee morning hours. The high humidity and morning dew adds to the moisture quota, and evaporation of the water is lessened during this time. If you cannot water in the morning, irrigate after sunset. But remember, early morning watering helps to prevent lawn diseases that can be caused by watering at night because it gives your lawn time to dry by night fall.



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

looks better, and is less likely to have weeds invading, particularly crabgrass.

Lawn pros advise adjusting your blade so that you never remove any more than one third of the grass leaf at any one cutting. By doing so, you can safely leave clippings that will quickly decompose and add valuable nutrients back into the soil.

The direction you mow your lawn is also important. For best results, your lawn in a different direction with each mowing... Altering the direction gives you an even cut and will prevent your grass growing in a set pattern.

To ensure a good cut, make sure your lawn mower blade is sharp, which may translate into sharpening it at least three times during mowing season.

Want to up your odds of a lush lawn? Try mowing during the moon phases. Here's how: If you want your lawn to grow, mow it during new or first quarter moon. If you want your lawn to grow more slowly, mow it during a full or last quarter moon.

Lawn Statistics
That patch of backyard grass is much more beneficial than you think. Consider these lawn statistics:

*Healthy, dense lawns absorb rainfall six times more effectively than a wheat field, four times better than a hay field, and prevents runoff and erosion of our precious top soil. It also traps much of the estimated 12 million tons of dust and dirt released into the US atmosphere annually. Lawns also purify water entering into underground aquifers—its root mass and soil microbes act as a filter to capture and breakdown many types of pollutants.

*Increases real estate market value and salability. A Gallup Survey reported 62% of all US homeowners felt investment in lawns and landscaping was as good or better than other home improvements. The investment recovery rate is 100-200% for landscape improvement, compared to a deck or patio that will recover 40-70% of installation cost. Proper and well maintained landscaping adds 15% to a home's value according to buyers.

*Recovery rates among hospitalized patients are often quicker when their rooms view a landscaped area compared to patients with non-landscaped views.

*Playing fields covered with dense turf have proven safer, as demonstrated by a simple egg drop test. When a dozen raw eggs were dropped from a height of 11 feet onto a two-inch thick piece of dense turf, none broke; two thirds broke on thin turf from that height, and from just 18 inches, all broke on an all-weather track.

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

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

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

The right emotions can be useful in investing



FINANCIAL
FOCUS

JEFF
BURDICK

You may have heard that it's important to take the emotions out of investing. But is this true for all emotions?

Certainly, some emotions can potentially harm your investment success. Consider fear. If the financial markets are going through a down period - which is actually a normal part of the investment landscape - you might be so afraid of sustaining losses that you sell even the investments that have good prospects and are suitable for your needs.

Greed is another negative emotion. When the financial markets are rising, you might be so motivated to "cash in" on some big gains that you will keep purchasing investments that might already be overpriced - and since these investments are already expensive, your dollars will buy fewer shares.

In short, the combination of fear and greed could cause you trouble.

But other emotions may prove useful. For example, if you can channel the joy you'll feel upon achieving your investment goals, you may be more motivated to stay on track toward achieving them. To illustrate: You may want to see your children graduate from college someday. Can you visualize them walking across the stage, diplomas in hand? If so, to help realize this goal, you might find yourself ready and willing to contribute to a college savings vehicle, such as a 529 plan. Or consider your own retirement: Can you see yourself traveling or pursuing your hobbies or taking part in whatever activities you've envisioned for your retirement lifestyle? If you can keep this happy picture in mind, you may find it easier to maintain the discipline needed to consistently invest in your IRA, 401(k) or other investment accounts.

Another motivating force is the most powerful emotion of all - love. If you have loved ones who depend on you, such as a spouse and children, you need to protect their future. One key element of this protection is the life insurance necessary to take care of your family's needs - housing, education and so on - should something happen to you. Your employer may offer group life insurance coverage, but it might not be sufficient, so you may want to supplement it with your own policy.

Furthermore, you may need to protect your loved ones from another threat - your own vulnerability to the need for long-term care. Someone turning age 65 today has almost a 70 percent chance of eventually needing some type of long-term care, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This type of care, such as an extended nursing home stay or the help of a home health aide, is extremely expensive, and, for the most part, is outside the reach of Medicare. So, to pay for long-term care, you might have to drain a good part of your resources - or depend on your grown children for financial help.

To keep your financial independence and avoid possibly burdening your family, you may want to consult with a financial professional who can recommend a strategy and appropriate solutions to cover long-term care costs.

By drawing on positive emotions, you can empower yourself to make the right financial moves throughout your life.

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

Stonebridgepress.news

After the rain



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

It did not take long for fishing to improve on saltwater after all of the rain we had already in the month of July. Freshwater fishing took a little longer to improve in rivers and streams overall, but many felt that lake and pond fishing remained pretty steady. Last week, another wave of stripers provided some exciting fishing at the canal, with numerous large stripers being caught and released. The following day, the canal was dead quiet. This writer fished Westport River last week in the thick fog, but managed to catch numerous species of fish, of which most were undersize. Schools of stripers were everywhere in the river, with all stripers just under the legal size of 28 inches. It was still fun catching the stripers on surface poppers.

Last week, my brother Ken caught a nice striper, showing the popper plug still in his mouth. A quick release had the fish on his way to grow a few more inches. Maybe next

year. They were feeding on the large schools of bait fish. The fluke were also short a few inches. One good size bluefish hit my brother's surface popper, giving him a good fight on his light fishing rod. The thick fog kept us fishing mostly in the river, but one angler did go outside the river and reportedly caught his limit of fluke. As he was speaking to us in the parking lot, a lone seagull had a meal on his bait that was left near the back of his boat. I am sure this bird has done it before, and waits until the angler leaves the boat to get his car & trailer. It was not long before the thief landed in my boat, and was feeding on the scraps of bait that was left over from our day of fishing.

Over the years, Mass. Fish & Wildlife has been building boat ramps around the state's coastal waters with sportsmen's monies. Many are turned over to the towns to monitor and clean the area, and they charge a fee to launch a boat. They also provide portable restrooms for anglers and their families to use. This past week, while visiting the Westport boat launch, we were happy to see a portable facilities set up for anglers and families to use.

When you are elderly, you need to monitor the boat launch areas that have a porta potty, in case you

need one. After launching our boat, I thought it would be a good idea to use the facility before we headed out onto the ocean. Slowly opening the door, I was not ready for what I was seeing. Without going into too much detail, it looked as though it had not been cleaned out in months. I quickly shut the door. Fortunately, my digestive track & bowels remained quiet throughout the fishing trip.

It is outrageous that the town was not monitoring the facility, and to have women and children & the elderly looking for a clean facility prior to boarding their boat for a few hours of pleasure or fishing should not be hard to do! All boat launch areas should have a portable restroom at the sites year-round, and they need to be clean!

A lot of tuna are being caught this year in Massachusetts waters! The tuna are providing a lot of action 20 miles south of Block Island. Seabass & Fluke are still biting, but you need to be patient and fish numerous areas to catch them. There are still a lot of throwback fluke because of their size.

The outrageous wildfires in the West are still calming lives and burning thousands of acres daily, along with more than three billion wild animals being lost. This past week, Germany had some of the

worst flooding in their history and other countries are also feeling the effects of climate change. The constant rain in our area needs to stop soon or farmers will see a large loss in their crops, resulting in higher prices at the store for consumers. Global warming!

This year especially, I have noticed a big drop in small frog populations on my daily walk & bike rides. Normally, after a rain storm, I would notice a lot of dead frogs in roadways. In the last few years, I have seen very few.

Positively Speaking



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
.....
GARY W.
MOORE

Editor's note: Following is the final column written by Gary Moore, who succumbed to his illness and passed away last Wednesday evening, July 14. His family is grateful for the tremendous outpouring of support he received from readers during his final months, and his son Toby has promised to attempt to continue the Positively Speaking column in his honor.

"He died full of light, love and gratitude," Toby writes. "Although he was in great pain, he kept his sense of humor, and he kept his joy. He was a model of how to live, and how to die. I will forever try to be like him."

I've led a blessed and full life... a big life. I've been fortunate in more ways than I can count, and I'm grateful for the many ways I've been blessed.

I think of you as a beautiful blessing in my life. The privilege to write to you every week has been an honor. So many of you have written me about my columns, and I've been grateful for each word. I've had the privilege to meet some, but for most, our relationship is through this column. That has not hindered the friendship I feel and my gratitude for you.

If you are a regular reader of my column, you know I was diagnosed with Stage 4 Gastric Cancer in mid-February 2020 and given nine to 12 months to live. Along with my incredible Oncologist, Dr. Pashtoon M. Kasi, at the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa, we have fought this cancer with everything we have. It has at times been a fun battle with Dr. Kasi at my side, but as I've written many times before, there are a few diagnosis that a positive fight cannot overcome. It appears my battle with stomach cancer is one of them. So, this is my last letter to you in the form of my column, Positively Speaking.

To this newspaper, Managing Editor and Publisher, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the privilege of serving you and your readers. The fact you believe, as I do, that positive, uplifting, and encouraging content are essential for your community speaks volumes about you. Thank you for publishing my weekly column.

I've penned this column in anticipation of the day I can no longer write to you. I have passed the torch to my son, Toby Moore, a writer, actor, CEO, and now a columnist. Toby has instructions to send this column for publication upon my death.

So thank you for reading Positively Speaking. I hope you continue. I pray that my words have made a difference and positively impacted your life. I encourage you to be the light in the darkness.

So, here is where it comes to an end. May God bless you and yours. I wish you nothing but happiness and joy.

Warmest and kindest regards,
From your optimistic friend,

Gary



Melinda Myers

Raspberries are ready to pick when the fruit is firm but soft, deeply colored, and easily slides off the hard core.

Make pruning easier and benefit from an earlier, larger fall harvest by managing fall bearing raspberries with one pruning. Cut or mow all the canes to ground level once the plants are dormant and before growth begins in spring. This pruning technique eliminates the summer crop but is much easier, less time consuming, and eliminates any animal and winter damage in just one cut.

Consider planting a summer and a fall bearing raspberry patch to maximize the harvest. You'll enjoy summer raspberries from one planting plus a larger, earlier harvest from your fall bearing raspberries when pruning all the canes to ground level each year.

Grab your favorite berry harvest basket, dress appropriately and

head to your raspberry patch. With every bite of fresh-from-the-garden raspberry or homemade raspberry treat you will be glad you took the time to plant, tend and harvest your own.

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

Summer harvest and care of raspberries



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Easy care raspberries are high in fiber and Vitamin C, making them a healthy snack as well as delicious in jams, jellies, and desserts. Enjoy the best flavor and reduce pest problems with proper harvesting and summer care.

Pick raspberries when the fruit is firm but soft, deeply colored, and easily slides off the hard core. Check your raspberry patch and harvest every few days to avoid overripe fruit that attracts picnic beetles and other pests. Consider wearing long pants and a long sleeve shirt for protection against the thorns and mosquitoes.

Place berries in shallow containers when harvesting and storing to avoid crushing the delicate fruit. Chill any uneaten berries within two hours of harvesting to preserve the freshness and flavor. Wait to wash berries until right before use to further lengthen their storage life.

Once the summer harvest is complete, it is time to do a bit of pruning. Remove the canes that bore the summer fruit back to ground level. These canes will not form fruit in future years. Removing them now gives new canes room to grow and reduces the risk of disease.

This is also a good time to check all canes for signs of disease problems. Look for sunken and discolored areas, cankers, and spotted, yellow or brown leaves. These symptoms along with dry crumbly fruit are clues disease, like anthracnose and spur blight have moved into your raspberry patch. Remove and destroy diseased canes to ground level as soon as they are found. This is often enough to manage these diseases.

Summer is also a good time to thin the remaining canes on summer bearing raspberries. Remove weak or damaged canes, leaving three or four of the sturdiest per foot of row or six or eight stems per hill when growing in the hill system.

Wait until next spring to reduce the height of the remaining canes. At that time, you can determine winter dieback and damage and prune accordingly.

Fall bearing raspberries are handled a bit differently. Prune them like the summer bearing raspberries to harvest two crops in one season. Often called everbearing, these produce a summer crop on second year canes and fall crop on first year canes.

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OBITUARY

Beverly C. Moore, 89

HOLLAND—Beverly C. (Brick) Moore, 89, passed away at UMASS Medical Center in Worcester on July 9, 2021. Daughter of the late Jeremiah and Lillian (Wilson) Brick, she was born in Springfield, MA on May 22, 1932.

She worked as a nurse at Harrington hospital in Southbridge MA up on 3 north for 10+ years.

She loved to bird watch, work in her garden beds and going on vacations with her family: from trips to Hampton Beach and Cape Cod, to cruising and island hopping with her daughters.

Beverly will be dearly missed by all who knew her, including her loving children Deborah Martin (Douglas) of Springfield, Cynthia Labaire (Jeffrey) of Holland, and Kenneth C. Moore II (Kimberly) of



Wales; her 6 grandchildren Desareé, Chelsea, Nicholle, Kacey, Shane, Melissa; her 5 great grandchildren Willie, Tanner, Maggie, Grayson, Jameson; as well as many extended family members and friends.

Visitation was held on Friday, July 16, 2021 at Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home, 1475 N Main St. from 4:00pm-6:30pm with a service beginning at 6:30pm.

Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children, <https://donate.lovetotherescue.org/>

To leave a memory or condolence, please visit www.beersandstory.com

SOLAR

continued from page A1

environmental effects.

Last winter, Sunpin Solar Development, of Irvine, Calif., filed a lawsuit against the Town of Warren following its Planning Board's unanimous denial of an application for a special permit. While legal action is ongoing against Warren, Sunpin officials are hoping to make continued headway in Brimfield.

"If, by chance, the Brimfield zoning officer approves [the access road], they still need to get the solar project approved in Warren before they can build in Brimfield. If they don't get approval in Warren, nothing happens in Brimfield," said Michele-Lee Shea, Brimfield's Planning Board Clerk. "No one knows if the zoning officer will approve or deny, as they have not requested a permit or certificate of compliance."

In recent weeks, Brimfield residents have shared their concerns with multiple boards, including the Select Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Andi Hengen, a Brimfield resident of Brookfield Road, lives downhill from

the proposed project site. She said her property and neighbors' yards would experience significant flooding if trees are cleared from the ledge above their lands.

Following the Planning Board decision on July 14, Hengen joined several residents in voicing their frustrations.

"It is a ridiculous, premature, rushed decision by the Planning Board," Hengen said. "It has potentially opened a crack to Sunpin to bully their way through this process, putting an industrial zone complex in our rural, agricultural community. Our local board members are supposed to be looking out for us as residents and property owners."

Several other Brookfield Road residents, including Krista Virchow, have opposed the proposal since its emergence in 2018. Although Sunpin officials have made offers to Virchow to build an access road on her property, she has repeatedly refused the company's requests.

"We do not want this up here at all. They don't care about the people this would affect," Virchow said in a previous interview. "The right-of-way is only for neighbors to walk on the land, not for companies trying to bring trucks up here."

HITCHCOCK

continued from page A1

outdoor screen as part of the HFA Midsummer Nights Free Movies on the Lawn. "The Goonies" shows at dusk, but moviegoers are encouraged to come early to pick a prime lawn spot and pass the time by playing games provided by Hitchcock or brought from home. This fan favorite movie is free of charge thanks to the Oscar Sponsorship of First American Insurance Agency and the Golden Globe sponsorship of Viant.

Music lovers can delight in the magic spell cast by great music on

Wednesdays July 28, Aug. 4, Aug. 18, and Aug. 25 at 6 p.m. on the Brimfield Common. The summer series sponsored by Country Bank, First American Insurance and a Mass Cultural Council grant features a variety of genres from local favorite bands: Time Stretchers, Radio Ranch (sponsored by the Monson Lions Club), Frozen Red and The James Paul Band.

This summer Brimfield is a small town with big community happenings as Hitchcock Free Academy continues to work to provide activities to foster a spirit of joy.

Sturbridge Rotary inducts new officers

STURBRIDGE — New officers were installed recently by the Sturbridge Rotary Club for the Rotary year 2021 to 2022. The Rotary year starts July 1 and ends June 30. Past District Governor Carl Kaliszewski installed the Club's three presidents who will each lead four months of the year. Installed as Presidents are Dr. David Zonia, Austin Jenkins and PDG Klaus Hachfeld. Other officers include Linda Zonia as Secretary, Lorraine Herbert as Treasurer.

Assistant Governor Bob Wicks also installed new member to the Club, Jeff Bridges. Jeff serves as the Sturbridge Town Administrator. Rotary member Linda Zonia was also formally installed at this time.

Entering its 50th year, Sturbridge Rotary has a long history of local, national and international involvement. Several of Rotary's outreach efforts throughout the past year include \$6,000 in scholarships awarded to local students, 5,000 PPE masks donated to Sturbridge Senior Citizens, Sturbridge First Responders, and local schools. Also donated 88 gallons of hand sanitizer to our schools. Food, funds, and crockpots were donated to 38 needy families at Burgess Elementary School. The head gardener and the garden creator of the

Community Food Collaborative, the local all-volunteer led community garden, were each presented with the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow recognition. The Club also made 25 shields for protection of Burgess Elementary School students for when they need to be in close consultation with teachers and staff at the school. Meeting via Zoom during the past year kept the Club members engaged but working on projects of close proximity was challenging. However, by following proper distancing guidelines and wearing masks, the tasks were accomplished.

On the international front, Sturbridge Rotary led by PDG Klaus Hachfeld, completed an extensive two-year Global Grant project working with the Prishtina-Dardania Rotary Club in Kosovo. This \$42,000 project included raising funds for and securing the purchase, shipment and delivery with setup of a DXA dual X-ray whole body Scanner for the University Clinical Center, the top teaching hospital in Kosovo in Prishtina. The scanner is used to map bone density variations in patients suffering from a variety of bone-related problems.

To learn more about Sturbridge Rotary, please visit www.sturbridgerotary.org or www.facebook.com/sturbridgerotary.

Local student graduates from Elms College

CHICOPEE — College of Our Lady of the Elms celebrated its 90th Commencement exercises on Saturday, May 15.

Elms College conferred 311 undergraduate degrees and 91 graduate degrees, including Jacquelyn Marinelli of Fiskdale.

About Elms College

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

curriculum 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 adjusting to change without compromising principle.

GRANT

continued from page A1

Administrative Services within the Office of the Pittsfield Mayor and Public Information Officer for the City of Pittsfield

Ms. Addison Witkes, of Rutland, Senior Girl Scout and student at Wachusett Regional High School

About Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves 7,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of over 3,800 adult

volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship and power of girls together, while building their own personal leadership qualities. GSCWM offers a wide range of programs in the arts and culture, health and well-being, science, technology and engineering, life skills and the environment. GSCWM supports girls by giving them extraordinary opportunities to explore, experience and learn about their world and helps girls recognize that they are vital members of their communities.

STUDY

continued from page A1

The study estimated costs for all three, coming to figures "roughly within 10 percent of each other" at \$9.6 to \$10 million, architect Robin Young of Bargmann, Hendrie & Archetype said. But she noted they'll have to redo those to account for covid's impact on the construction industry.

She also observed that each site has unique costs. For example, 480 Main would require relocating the senior center's activities during construction; 70 Cedar has ledge, and the two new sites both need transformers for power.

Residents generally seemed to favor 70 Cedar. But some noted concerns about lack of sidewalks, fast traffic, proximity of

Burgess School, and one woman said the open space around there is important for local well recharge.

Bridges said some of those issues will be addressed either by this project or the ongoing, neighboring athletic fields project. He noted the town will work on whichever site the people vote for.

If it's 480 Main, the project calls for renovating the existing two-story building and adding a one-story section behind it. Most of the offices will be in the former, with program, kitchen, game and exercise space in the latter, a new entrance on the side, and most of the green space around the building consumed by parking.

The other two will both have the same, one-story design, which basically features half the building as office space and half as program space. The centerpiece is a 2,000 square feet, dividable multipurpose room for events

Facilities Director Robin Chrabascz said both plans include an emergency generator and generally have the same equipment.

The various plans are available on the town Web site.

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

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Lake View 1,280' 5 Rm Townhouse - 10 Acres Park Like Grounds w/Panoramic Lake Views! Yr Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Move-in Condition! Appliance Kit! Din Rm w/Slider to the Composite Deck! Frplc Liv Rm w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & French Dr to the Deck! Updated Half Bath! Spacious Master w/Wall of Closets & Full Bath w/Recent Sky Light! 2nd Bedroom w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & Full Bath just outside its Door! 2 Bdrms & 2.5 Updated Baths! Garage w/Opener! Lakeside Heated Pool & One of the Best Sandy Beaches on the Lake! Canoe Rack! Rented Boat Dock through 2022, Longer Possible! Great Fireworks Viewing! \$335,000.00</p>	<p>DUDLEY WATERFRONT! 14 Elizabeth St! Sought After Merino Pond, AKA High Pond! Full Recreational - All Water Sports and Activities! Your Kids will Love the Sandy Beach! 7 Rm Colonial! 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Great Fireworks Viewing! \$335,000.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Appliance Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! CVac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! \$389,900.00</p>

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Sturbridge Lions & Rotary to host concert

STURBRIDGE — It is concert time again on the Sturbridge Common, and the Sturbridge Lions and Rotary Clubs, along with the Sturbridge Parks and Recreation Committee, are pleased to sponsor the concert on Thursday evening, July 29 at 6 p.m.

It will also be an evening to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the ending of World War II, as well as the 25th anniversary of the build-

ing of the Sturbridge Bandstand. This was the theme for last July's concert, but due to the Coronavirus entering our lives, all concerts last year were postponed.

This year, the Abletones will return in a "Tribute to Glenn Miller and the WWII Era." Glenn Miller, for the younger generation, was considered the creator of the Swing music years. He was also the first leader of the Army Air Force Band. He was

lost when his airplane crashed into the English Channel, and nothing was recovered.

Unique and easily recognized, his vision was a clarinet lead, backed by several saxophones playing in harmony. Add trombones, trumpets and a whole lot more, including a piano, and you now have the great Big Band sound.

Ballrooms were crowded back in the day with his renditions of "In

The Mood," "Moonlight Serenade," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Serenade in Blue," "Rhapsody in Blue," and many more.

In keeping with being "In the Mood," dancing with the Big Band on the green grass of the common is encouraged. For the silver haired generation, "Come strut your stuff."

Please bring your own chairs or blankets to sit on. Be comfortable and enjoy.

8 activities to keep kids entertained

What parent hasn't heard their child utter the familiar phrase "I'm bored" at some point? Despite a seemingly vast array of toys, electronics and other items at their disposal, children can be quick to sulk and say there's nothing to do. Parents can counter "I'm bored" with these eight boredom-busting activities that are certain to help pass the time in entertaining and sometimes educational ways.

1. **Craft time:** Pick a theme and gather the materials for the project. For example, kids can evoke a trip to the ocean by creating handmade sea creatures. Paint a paper plate and hang brightly colored yarn underneath it to create the "tentacles" of a jellyfish. Kids can use salt dough clay to fashion seashells, sea snails or crustaceans.

2. **Painting:** Shaving cream is a great sensory material that is relatively easy to clean up. Kids can whip up a batch of shaving cream paint and use it to finger paint on a table or even in the bathtub. Simply mix shaving cream with food coloring in a bowl, or use a muffin tin to separate the colors.

3. **Build a birdhouse:** Birdhouses or bird feeders can be made from scraps of material found around the house. Scavenge for spare lumber or other supplies in the shed or garage. An adult or older sibling can help cut the wood into pieces. Young chil-

dren may enjoy painting the house. Wood adhesive or screws can be used to assemble the project.

4. **Plan a garden:** Kids can help to design a garden the entire family will maintain and even be responsible for a special parcel that's all their own. Gardens can grow food, flowers and more. Add a touch of whimsy with figurines for a fairy garden or even small superhero figures for a spot for boys to tend.

5. **Box makeovers:** Tissue boxes or cereal boxes can be made into many different creations with paint or construction paper. Use a few craft supplies like pom-poms or wiggly eyes to turn boxes into "monsters."

6. **Boat races:** Build a small sailboat for each member of the family. Fill up a long, shallow container and take turns racing the boats by blowing on the sails.

7. **Leaf art:** Gather leaves and twigs from around the yard and then combine pieces to make them look like various animals.

8. **Spray park:** Create an at-home spray park with a garden hose and a pool noodle. Poke several small holes into the pool noodle on all sides. Stick a garden hose into the end of the pool noodle and hot-glue a wine cork into the hole at the other end. Turn on the water and let kids run through.

Head off kids' boredom by having plenty of ideas at the ready.



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Keep your baby sun-safe

Spending time outdoors is a summer-time tradition for people of all ages. Sunny summer afternoons may be especially cherished in 2020, when people across the globe have been forced to spend more time indoors as they adhere to social distancing guidelines implemented to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Parents of infants may be extra excited to get outdoors this summer. Chances to get out and about don't come around very often for parents of infants, and those chances may be even more rare as social distancing guidelines remain in place. But before parents rush out the door to soak up some summer sun, it's imperative that they take steps to protect their tiny tots from UV rays.

- Avoid exposing infants to the sun. The Skin Cancer Foundation notes that infants' skin is especially sensitive to the sun, so the organization advises parents to shield children six months and younger from the sun rather than using sunscreen. Instead of applying sunscreen to their infants, parents should keep them out of the sun entirely. Seek shade between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when the sun's rays are especially intense. When taking infants out in their strollers, make sure they are shaded at all times and avoid walking on the sunny side of the street.

- Dress babies for the sun. The SCF advises parents to dress their babies in brimmed hats and lightweight clothing that fully covers their arms and legs. Dressing babies for the sun may seem like common sense, but the SCF notes that researchers at the University of Miami found that only 43 percent of parents consistently cover their babies with hats, and even fewer (40 percent) cover babies with long-sleeved shirts and pants when going out in the sun.

- Consider sunglasses. Sunglasses are another way parents can protect their



Courtesy

Wide-brimmed hats and long sleeve shirts can help protect infants from the sun on warm summer days.

children from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays. Sunglasses can be an alternative for parents whose infants keep taking off their hats, as many baby-sized sunglasses are equipped with elastic straps to keep the glasses on. Sunglasses may be vital because the melanin in infants' eyes is still forming, and that development can be adversely affected if infants' eyes are exposed to UV rays.

- Introduce sunscreen at six months.

The SCF advises parents to begin applying sunscreen to their infants when their children reach six months of age. Choose a broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen with a minimum sun protection factor (SPF) of 15. The SCF notes that sunscreens that contain zinc oxide and titanium dioxide are good choices because these physical filters do not rely on absorption of chemicals and are therefore less likely to cause a

skin reaction. The SCF also advises testing the sunscreen on your baby's wrist before applying it all over the body. This can indicate if the product irritates the child's skin and needs to be replaced, or if it's safe to use.

In the rush to get outside, parents should make sure they don't forget to take every step necessary to protect their infants from UV exposure.

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To apply for the position or to see a full job description go to <https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/human-resources>. Applications must be received by July 24,2021. The position will remain open until filled.
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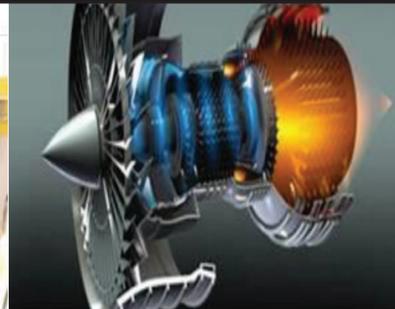
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