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Honoring the Fallen
Meet a group of Wellesley residents who are honoring the significance of World War I by bringing Memorial Grove back to life.

Setting the Stage for a Medical Future
We sit down for a face-to-face interview with Dr. Dennis A. Ausiello.

Welcome Home
The second in a series of articles that explores the multifaceted and illuminating accounts of how international families have settled in Wellesley and Weston.

Where Gratitude and Optimism Prevail
Faced with profound physical challenges, Ben Elwy lives life to the fullest with support from his loving family.

Timeless Charm
As Wellesley’s historic Hathaway House changes hands, we look back at its illustrious past and learn about the plans for its future.

They’re Back
Learn how to survive and thrive when your adult child decides to move back home.

From Sea to Shining Sea
Wellesley’s Frank Liu shares his family’s RV cross-country travel adventure.
20 The Green Scene
Ruth Furman provides tips on how to grow and care for roses, the most luscious residents of the summer garden.

26 10 Tips for “Green” Ways to Keep Your Lawn Green
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This page gives our readers the opportunity to express themselves creatively with writing, art, and photography. In this issue, artist Chelsea Sebastian shares her painting, *Truly Summer Night*. 
**OUTDOOR SUMMER FILM SERIES**

**DAVIS PLAZA | THURSDAYS | FREE ADMISSION**

Take advantage of the warm summer nights, and join us for our 3rd annual summer film series featuring musicals on the Davis Plaza. Included in the festivities will be art activities and tours of the galleries.

Free popcorn for the kids and free beer for parents!

**JUNE 28**  
*The Wizard of Oz* (1939)

**JULY 12**  
*The Muppets* (2011)

**JULY 26**  
*Mary Poppins* (1964)

**AUGUST 9**  
*Beauty and the Beast* (2017)

Tours at 7:00 pm  
Art-making activities at 7:30 pm  
Screenings start at dusk  
General seating  
BYO folding chairs and blankets

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**FREE FUN FRIDAY**  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 3, 10AM — 3PM | FREE ADMISSION**

Explore the Davis, participate in hands-on art making for all ages, self guided gallery activities, a treasure hunt, storytelling, multi sensory art kits, and Student Guide-led spotlight talks throughout the day. Take advantage of the warm weather and bring a picnic to enjoy outdoors on the Davis Plaza before or after your visit!

Free Fun Friday is generously sponsored by the Highland Street Foundation.

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**FALL 2018 EXHIBITIONS**  
**ALL EXHIBITIONS ON VIEW SEPTEMBER 21 — DECEMBER 16, 2018**

While the galleries are only open for special events this summer, we invite you to join us for our new exhibitions in the fall.

**Fall Opening Celebration**  
Thursday, September 20  
5:30 pm Artist’s Talk: Christiane Baumgartner  
Collins Cinema  
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Opening Reception Davis Lobby  
6:45 pm: Welcome Remarks  
Davis Lobby and Galleries

**Christiane Baumgartner: Another Country**  
Camilla Chandler and Dorothy Buffum Chandler Gallery  
Marjorie and Gerald Bronfman Gallery

**Windows Invitational: Daniela Rivera**  
Davis Plaza

**Jacob Lawrence: The Legend of John Brown**  
Morelle Lasky Levine '56 Works on Paper Gallery

**Sky Hopinka: Dislocation Blues**  
Joan Levine Freedman '57 and Richard I. Freedman Gallery

**A Critical Eye: James Gillray and the Art of Satire**  
Robert and Claire Freedman Lober Viewing Alcove
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Meander through our shop and you will instantly recognize our signature look. We have arranged one-of-a-kind furniture, accessories, lighting, rugs, fabrics and window treatments to spark your imagination. A one-stop shopping and design destination, Casabella has everything you need to transform your house into a well-loved home.
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all of us at WellesleyWeston Magazine suffered a tremendous loss in February when our beloved colleague and friend, Carol Samost, passed away. Carol was a valuable member of our team for the past eight years and contributed substantially to expanding our advertising client base to all corners of New England and beyond.

Carol was hard working, thoughtful, conscientious, detail-oriented, and motivated to do her best. She was extremely attentive to the needs of her clients and cared deeply about all of them. Judging by the number of condolence letters I received from Carol’s clients, the feelings were mutual. Most importantly, Carol was devoted to her husband and two grown sons. I know they will miss her dearly as I will. My heart goes out to them and Carol’s extended family and friends during this incredibly sad time.

As life is very precious, Wellesley resident Dr. Dennis Ausiello is doing his best to heal people facing health challenges. In “Setting the Stage for a Medical Future,” you’ll meet Dr. Ausiello, the former chief of medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), who spent the majority of his career studying the causes and possible cures for diseases. Today, along with other doctors and scientists, he is working to create CATCH, the Center for Assessment Technology at MGH. Their fascinating work involves measuring people in different ways in order to “understand the problems before they become problems.” Imagine apps to measure and motivate us to engage in healthy activities. Also, there could be implantable devices to track hormonal and other biological changes. They’re even considering ways to use the family car to collect important health data.

Also in this issue, we continue our series where we learn the stories of immigrant families who have settled in our area. And in “Where Gratitude and Optimism Prevail,” you’ll meet the incredible Elwy family. Their son, Ben, has a rare genetic disorder and has endured 37 operations during his 16 years. Ben doesn’t let his physical challenges get in his way, however, and joins his parents and sisters in making the most of each and every day — whether it’s traveling to cities around the world or volunteering and helping others close to home. They are inspirational role models for all of us.

Now that summer is here, I hope you’ll enjoy the sunnier days.

Beth
the rose is a symbol of love, gratitude, and appreciation, so a gorgeous pink rose bush was an appropriate gift given to us by a dear friend when my mother-in-law passed away. Looking at the lovely blooms in the plastic bucket waiting to be planted in our yard filled me with worry, however. The last thing I wanted was for this beautiful bush to meet the fate of so many other unfortunate plants that suffered at the mercy of my not-so-green thumbs.

But it was worth a try. My husband and I found a sunny spot in the corner of our yard where it would be viewed by us and passers-by. We held a ceremony of dedication and said a prayer to honor his mom and a prayer that the bush would survive. Five years later, I’m proud to say that through no special efforts on my part, the rose bush is a “Wow!” The pretty pink blossoms greet us all summer long and its vibrant hot pink color fills that corner of the yard. People walking by the house even stop to comment on its beauty and ask for my gardening advice. It almost seems to be saying, “Look at me! I’m here!” And it remains a constant reminder of my mother-in-law who, like the rose, was colorful and always filled the room with her presence.

You can learn all about roses and how to grow them in your own yard by reading Ruth Furman’s Green Scene article. She believes that everyone should have a rose bush and has some great ideas for how to select, plant, and care for them. It is that time of year when we strive to achieve beautiful lawns after all. As such, you’ll want to read our “10 Tips for ‘Green’ Ways to Keep Your Lawn Green”—whether you prefer the do-it-yourself approach or hire a lawn service.

Another great article in this issue is “They’re Back.” Our son lived with us for a year after he finished college while working in Boston. We loved having him back at home (most of the time). Apparently, however, he did not feel the same way as he told us last year that it was “the worst year of my life!” Maybe if I would have read Allison Ijams Sargent’s article before he moved home, things might have been different for him then, but I’m happy to report that we get along beautifully now.

Happy summer!
Summer is the season of flowers—ideally flowers that last all summer long, and for me there is no finer flower than the rose. Yet for many of you roses seem to be at the bottom of the list as they are thought to be pest and disease ridden and require too much attention. You may also think that when they are not in flower, their form isn’t as elegant as other shrubs. Okay, I’ll give you this last point. But, when in bloom, rose bushes are simply the most luscious and bodacious residents of the summer garden, and everyone should have at least one.

Dismiss the myth of roses being difficult to grow. Breeders got the message a couple of decades ago because they were tired of using chemicals detrimental to the environment to ward off disease, so they began to breed much healthier roses. New modern roses tend to be shorter and fuller with all the classic attributes of a rose: handsome foliage, good perfume, a range of colors, and a healthy plant. These bushier modern roses have fuller flowers with a classic, old-fashioned rose bloom. Basically, real flower power.
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Working in Wellesley for over 30 years, and raising his family in Weston, Greg Miller is no stranger to this neck of the woods. Neither are his partners and colleagues.

Do you know Greg and his firm, Wellesley Asset Management? Perhaps you should. Greg Miller, CPA, and the team at Wellesley Asset Management have been helping individuals, families, and even other investment professionals manage their assets for over 26 years. Greg has earned the Bay State’s #1 Financial Advisor ranking from Barron’s, as featured in the Wall Street Journal, for the fourth year in a row.

If you don’t know about Wellesley Asset Management, maybe now is the right time to get introduced. Greg and his colleagues invite you to come and pay a visit to their offices in the Wellesley Office Park, right off Route 9, and see how Wellesley Asset Management can help you achieve your investment goals.

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Another advantage of modern shrub roses is that there is no longer a need to have dedicated rose beds as they can easily fit into any beds and borders. They peek through fences, and you can make them into hedges or have them climb a trellis. Although sold as shrubs, many roses will happily climb if allowed, while some selections will do quite well in containers. It’s especially important with today’s smaller gardens, however, to make sure the pots get protection from frost over the winter months. There are a variety of choices to suit many different garden situations and needs. Deciding which rose (or three) to plant in that sunny gap will require a bit of consideration. The emphasis here is on sunny be-

The range of colors is wide, and you’ll have a difficult time choosing, but you’ll surely find colors to complement your existing palette.

PHOTOS BY DAVID WETHERBEJE (TOP AND BOTTOM LEFT) AND RUTH FURMAN (BOTTOM RIGHT)

Wellesley Weston Magazine | summer 2018
cause in order to produce a floriferous display, roses do need sun.

The first decision to make is where to put the roses. As I noted, a sunny site is a must. Next, determine what color will suit your garden. The range of colors is wide, and you’ll have a difficult time choosing, but you’ll surely find colors to complement your existing palette. And, of course, you want scent. Most roses make excellent cut flowers so you can enjoy them indoors as well, and it won’t take many to perfume a room.

Before you decide which rose is for you, head to your local garden center and wander through the rose section to see which colors and perfume appeal. Look for the David Austin line of roses, which are all stunningly beautiful with names that sound like they are straight out of 19th century English novels, ethereal just like the roses themselves. Check out Star Roses, the U.S. agent for Kordes roses, producers of the well-known Knock Out and Drift series, as well as a lovely selection of enticing cultivars.

Also, visit well-established rose gardens for ideas. In Boston, visit the James P. Kelleher Rose Garden in the Back Bay Fens, opposite the Museum of Fine Arts. And don’t miss the Rose Kennedy Memorial Rose Garden, in Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park in Boston’s North End. A day trip away is Elizabeth Park in Hartford, Connecticut, the oldest public rose garden in the U.S. And, Roseland Nursery in Acushnet, Massachusetts has the largest selection of roses in New England with a very knowledgeable staff.

For a long season of beautiful blooms, heavenly fragrance, and relative low-maintenance, choose a rose, and your garden will forever be a rosy haven. Have a joyful summer in your garden.

RUTH FURMAN is a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist (MCH). She trained in horticulture in England and spent many happy years working and gardening there. To reach Ms. Furman, email her at: Ruth@wellesleywestonmagazine.com.

“heavenly fragrance” the green scene
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52 PARK AVE, WELLESLEY
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Before we get to the tips, let’s acknowledge the built-in contradiction in the premise of this advice column. “A lawn is a very unnatural condition,” said Bruce S. MacDowell, Jr., owner of The MacDowell Company, a Weston landscape architecture firm. Left untended, your lawn will turn into a hodgepodge of wildflowers, weeds, and, perhaps, some grass. The key to establishing a lush expanse of lawn, MacDowell notes, is balancing stewardship with “managing what nature wants to do.” MacDowell, along with Laurie V. Sullivan, residential estate division manager for Greater Boston, Schumacher Companies, and Nick Kiernan, estate care manager, Sudbury Design Group helped to compile the following tips. For more local resources, see the box at the end of the article.

**10 tips for…**

**“GREEN” WAYS TO KEEP YOUR LAWN GREEN**

one Test the Soil
Fundamental to a healthy lawn is healthy soil. UMass Amherst offers a simple test kit that measures acidity, nutrient levels, and the presence of toxic substances. Equipped with the results, you can apply the right amount of lime (to adjust acidity) and fertilizer. Soil teems with microbes that break down nutrients into a form that grass can digest. Your goal is to keep those microbes happy. For more details, visit ag.umass.edu/services.

two Aerate
A core aerator machine, which you can rent at a local hardware store, removes plugs of soil and thatch, allowing water and air—and ultimately roots—to reach deeper into the soil. Aerate at the start and end of the growing season, more often in heavy-traffic areas, where the dirt has been compressed and water tends to pool. The deeper the roots, the better the grass will withstand periods of drought. Weeds thrive in compacted soil.

three Manage Watering
Water every three or four days for a prolonged period, rather than for short bursts every day. With a good soaking, water seeps deep into the soil. And roots follow the water. If you water daily, your root system will be shallower.
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10 tips

and your lawn more prone to drying out. Minimize fungal growth by watering in the early morning. If you have a large lawn with shady and sunny spots, install an irrigation system with timers to customize watering zones. Water daily only when establishing a freshly seeded lawn.

four Seed Wisely
Check with your garden center about which seeds flourish in your particular soil and sun conditions. Ideally, lawns like full sun, but some varieties tolerate shade. Consider shade-tolerant plants and flowers for particularly dark areas.

five Mow Carefully
Mow no more than a third of the blade of grass at a time. As a rule of thumb,
keep the grass 2.5 to 3 inches high in the spring and 3 to 3.5 inches in the drier summer. To get the best cut, keep your mower blades sharp and wait until the grass is dry. If you use a lawn service, stipulate at the outset that the company clean its equipment between jobs. You don’t want to pay someone to track another customer’s diseased or weed-infested grass onto your property.

six Let Clippings Lie
When clippings decompose, they’ll enrich the soil. Do, however, break up clumps of grass that could block the sun. Even better, use a mulching mower.

seven Spread Compost
A quarter-inch layer of fine compost will further enrich your soil. Use a wheelbarrow and shovel the compost about or rent a spreader machine. Afterward, water the lawn so that the compost will sink in.

eight Overseed in Late Summer
The best defense against weeds is a thick lawn. Spread site-appropriate seeds over your lawn in the fall up to October 15. The days are cooler, but the soil is still warm. Unlike in the spring, the new grass won’t be competing with weeds. Scratch up the surface, perhaps with an aerator, before seeding.

nine Choose Your Battles with Pests
In the fall, you may notice spots of your lawn browning. That could be a sign of Japanese beetle grubs. Before applying pesticides that could kill the microbes that help grass grow, pull up a square foot of lawn and count the grubs. If you have fewer than 10 and the root system doesn’t appear compromised, don’t worry. Otherwise, ask your nursery about biological agents that will target the grubs without otherwise harming your lawn.

ten Go Organic
It’s tough to stay on top of weeds but going organic (and skipping toxic herbicides) is better for the environment and your health. Use slow-release fertilizers containing water-insoluble nitrogen, which is broken down by microbes and then taken up by the grass. For organic weed control, use a product containing corn gluten. For existing weeds, use vinegar/acetic acid products.
As founding members of the Compass Wellesley office, the Donahue Maley and Burns Team was chosen by Compass to introduce its state of the art real estate technology platform to the Wellesley market and surrounding towns. We are honored and thrilled to have the opportunity to better serve our clients in one of life’s most important financial undertakings—the purchase or sale of a home.

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Wellesley resident and architect Jacob Lilley recently received Best of Houzz 2018 for design and service. This is the third straight year being recognized for the award. Jacob Lilley Architects is thrilled to be consistently acknowledged as a top design firm that meets the needs of their clients. For more information, visit www.jlaarchitects.com or call 781.431.6100.

Dean Poritzky, Principal/License Partner of Engel & Völkers Wellesley, is pleased to announce the addition of Greg Coutu, licensed real estate agent, to the team at the Wellesley office located at One Abbott Street. With 15 years of experience working for Sudbury Design Group, a top landscape architecture and construction firm in Massachusetts, Coutu has developed a passion for real estate and a true appreciation for quality construction and design that makes him uniquely qualified to advise his clients on the purchase and sale of real estate. Visit https://wellesley.evusa.com/en.

Carpenter & MacNeille (C&M) recently celebrated two new Bulfinch Awards from the New England Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA). The C&M project teams were honored at a gala at the Harvard Club of Boston on Saturday, April 28. The firm received top honors for the highest levels of mastery in both architectural design and craftsmanship. In 2013, C&M also won best in Residential Renovation of a Peabody & Stearns barn. For more information visit www.carpmac.com.

Wellesley Free Library will create a play space geared for 0–6 years-olds at Fells Branch Library that brings current research about early learning to life. Fells will close in June 2018 for interior renovations and will reopen in early November as a re-imagined space with increased hours and an engaging environment. And, it will still be the neighborhood place for adults to pick up holds and browse popular materials. To donate to the project, contact the WFL Foundation by emailing jseidman@minlib.net.

For the twelfth year in a row, Debi Benoit, principal of Benoit Mizner Simon & Co Real Estate (BMS), has been named the #1 broker in Wellesley. In addition to Benoit’s personal success, the company’s Wellesley office is celebrating its first-place finish in this highly competitive market. BMS’ three offices, Wellesley, Weston, and Needham, are managed by company principals Debi Benoit, Amy Mizner, and Sheryl Simon. With the close of 2017, Benoit emerged as the #1 broker in Massachusetts for single-family homes. For more information, please visit www.benoitmiznersimon.com.

Wellesley Free Library Director Jamie Jurgensen

michele chagnon-holbrook

The Davis Museum at Wellesley College presents a retrospective of one of the most influential American photographers in Clarence H. White and His World: The Art and Craft of Photography, 1895–1925. An important figure in early 20th-century photography, White played vital roles in the worlds of fine art and commercial photography. Tickets are required for this special exhibit, which runs through June 3, 2018. The Davis is open to the public Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The 2017 Wellesley Bank Charitable Foundation donations were in excess of $200,000 and given to 104 selected local nonprofit organiza-
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Donations in the following communities: Wellesley, Weston, Newton, Needham, Natick, Framingham, Waltham, Roxbury, Cambridge, and Boston. The foundation directed a significant portion of the donations toward low- to moderate-income organizations, at-risk youth, education, and community organizations. “We are thrilled that our foundation is able to financially support so many wonderful organizations within the communities we serve,” said Maureen Sullivan, foundation president.

Anna Thurber is gearing up for summer with tons of new blooms to freeze and photograph from her garden. The stunning pieces will be available on her website for purchase at www.annathurber.com. Have a special event or wedding this summer? Reach out to Anna for a custom piece using flowers from your event to create a lasting memory. Contact annathurber@mac.com for more information.

Vox Cambridge College Consulting is offering a four-day College Quest workshop July 30 through August 2 to be held at the Harvard Faculty Club in Cambridge. Students will start senior year with their college applications well under control and also learn how to master the college interview, complete college essays, get started on the common application, and more. Space is limited. For information and to enroll, visit www.voxcambridge.co or call 617.320.2724. Also see their ad on page 45.

The MacDowell Company, a Weston-based landscape architecture company, welcomes Michael Nowicki, RLA to the team. Mike graduated cum laude from the University of Massachusetts with a Bachelor of Science degree in landscape architecture and regional planning and has been a Massachusetts Registered Landscape Architect for over 10 years. Pursuing what has been a life-long passion in this field, he now boasts nearly two decades of experience as a designer and team leader on some of the most diverse and finest projects in the Boston area.


Jonathan Penta joins an elite group of business advisors as he recently earned the Certified Exit Planning Advisor (CEPA) designation through the Exit Planning Institute. The CEPA Program is the most widely accepted and endorsed professional exit planning program available, focused around cross-functional consulting and value acceleration. This achievement will help Penta to better prepare his clients for the transition of their business as this has become a rapidly growing need in the marketplace. For more information, visit financialservicesinc.ubs.com/team/pentawealthmanagement.

Patrick Ahearn Architect LLC is pleased to announce the elevation of Michael Tartamella AIA to managing principal. This new role in the firm recognizes Tartamella’s significant contributions and foreshadows both his and the firm’s continued success. Since joining Patrick Ahearn Architect in 2005, Tartamella has excelled in providing outstanding design and project management on many of the firm’s most significant projects, and he has demonstrated a profound aptitude and commitment to the firm’s unique approach to creating timeless architecture. For more information, visit www.patrickahearn.com. Michael Tartamella
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is pleased to announce that Melissa Dailey was the #1 affiliated agent in New England for 2017. Dailey brings 15 years of real estate expertise working with clients ranging from first-time homebuyers to seasoned real estate investors. “Melissa is a great agent and we’re incredibly proud of her success. Her dedication to her clients and hard work has garnered her an impeccable reputation among her peers and clients,” said Merit McIntyre, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

The Wiese Company will celebrate its seventh year donating their expertise, design service, and skilled labor for a public service project. This year’s project will help Voices Against Violence to renovate the kitchen in a shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence. The company hopes to help make the difficult stay for the residents of the home as pleasant as possible. If interested in supporting this renovation through a charitable contribution, please visit www.wiese.com/voicesagainstviolence.

The Wellesley Historical Society is delighted to welcome Amanda Fisher as its new executive director. Fisher assumed her role in March and Kathleen Fahey, the interim executive director and curator, has been working closely with her to ensure a smooth transition and is resuming her role as curator. Fisher has a Bachelor of Arts in history and American culture studies from Washington University in St. Louis and a Master of Arts in history from the University of Maryland-College Park. She has worked extensively in the advancement and nonprofit sectors.
 ► Wellesley resident and architect Jan Gleysteen, AIA, was recently honored by the National Association of Home Builders with a Best in American Living award for kitchen design. The award was presented at the International Builders Show over the winter. The winning design was also recognized by the Clarke Kitchen Design Contest. For more information about Jan Gleysteen Architects and their work, please visit www.jangleysteeninc.com or contact Jan Gleysteen Architects, Inc. at 781.431.0080.

 ► Former Weston resident Lori Meagher and her business partner, Janice Duplisea, announced the launch of Class2Career. An online tool that bridges the gap between the classroom and the workplace, Class2Career gives students a competitive edge during the interview process to prepare, align with employers, and network to land their dream job. Class2Career is also working with another Wellesley organization, KeynectUp, supporting students and organizations in the international education/study abroad field. For more information, please visit www.class2career.com or email info@class2career.com.

 ► Designer Bath & Salem Plumbing Supply, New England’s longest-standing provider of fine fixtures and accessories for the bath and kitchen, will host its annual tent sale at its Beverly showroom, located at 97 River Street, on Saturday, June 16 with deep discounts, prize opportunities, and family-friendly activities. A summer sale at Designer Bath’s Watertown showroom, located at 604 Pleasant Street, also kicks off on June 16 and will continue in both showrooms through June 30. For more information, visit www.designerbath.com.

 ► Jesamondo Salon & Spa proudly announces Thuy Do as its newest nail technician. With more than 10 years of experience, Do most recently worked at St. Tropez Salon & Spa and is excited to work with the extensive range of manicure and pedicure services that Jesamondo offers. Whether it’s an express manicure or intensive mani-pedi pamper package, Do and Donna Tognacci—Jesamondo’s expert nail technicians—are at your service to provide tranquility and beauty. Visit www.jesamondo.com or call 508.907.7171.

 ► ARID Newton-Wellesley Dental Specialty Group hosted a group of physicians in February for their third lecture series on the evidence for an etiological association between poor oral health and overall health. Dr. Touradj Ameli, a board-certified prosthodontist and implantologist, discussed the commonness and severity of bronchiectasis in patients with COPD due to increased sinus and
Suzanne Alyward, formerly of Wellesley and owner of SUSU’s, is now the creative director at Petticoat Row Bakery, located in the heart of historic downtown Nantucket at 35 Centre Street. If you’re missing Susu’s famous brownies or coconut cakes, stop by when on the island or order online and have them shipped to you. Petticoat Row is a year-round boutique bakery that provides grab-and-go box lunches, soups, and other light fare in addition to breakfast pastries and signature sweets. Call 508.228.3700 or email info@petticoatrowbakery.com for more information. Also, see their ad on page 155.

George Doherty, president of the Corcoran & Havlin Insurance Group of Wellesley, was recently honored and awarded the Distinguished Service Award at the Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents (MAIA) annual Big Event conference in Boston. Corcoran & Havlin, a member of Cross Insurance, is celebrating its 50th year anniversary. Since its founding in 1967, the company has grown dramatically and added offices in Medfield and Duxbury in Massachusetts. The agency is also a recipient of the prestigious Five Star Insurance Agency Award of Distinction. Visit www.chinsurance.com.

Pine Straw shops are filled with great gifts for Mother’s Day, graduations, Father’s Day, and summer travel. Owner Tracy Cranley recently added shoes to the mix, and you’ll love the great selection of summer apparel. While shopping at the Wellesley store, don’t forget to grab some fresh
flowers. Bouquets are available at just about any time and custom arrangements can be made to order with just a day or two’s notice. Pine Straw is located at 466 Washington Street in Wellesley. Visit www.livegivepinestraw.com.

Dr. William LoVerme and his team at Accurate Aesthetics Plastic Surgery, PC., provide non-invasive body countering. Vanquish Fat Removal has no downtime, is a FDA-cleared non-invasive treatment, and is easier than Cool Sculpt. You can lose two to four inches and the treatment can be done up until the day of vacation. Get ready for summer now! Visit www.AccurateAesthetics.com or call 781.263.0011.

Premier Dental Group of Wellesley, PC, is now offering a second option to their in-house dental membership plan. Patients can subscribe to either a preventative or comprehensive plan. This program is designed to help individuals without dental insurance get the affordable dental care they want and need. Please call their office at 781.237.3031 to find out more about these wonderful options. Visit www.premierdental-groupofwellesley.com.

Elza B. Design, Inc. was recently awarded Best of Houzz in Interior Design for 2018 in addition to being named Best of Houzz in Service for the sixth year in a row. On top of those accolades, the firm was named one of the Top Ten Interior Design firms by Boston Architects. For more information, contact Barbara Elza Hirsch at bhirsch@elzabdesign.com.

Greg Miller, CEO and co-founder of Wellesley Asset Management, has earned Massachusetts #1 ranking from Barron’s, featured in The Wall Street Journal, for four years in a row. Trusted advisors to high-net-worth individuals, Wellesley Asset Management is an SEC registered investment advisory firm with assets under management exceeding $2.5 billion. The firm specializes in the management of convertible bonds through separately managed accounts, mutual funds, and a private fund. For more information, visit www.wellesleyinvestment.com.

On Monday, February 12th, the Law Offices of Sonja B. Selami held their first Valentine’s Day media meet-and-greet at the stunning Wellesley home of co-host Ashley Bernon. Amid the beautiful floral arrangements and Valentine’s Day decorations, a lively crowd came together over Champagne and the music of Boston band Almost Owen to discuss happenings in the world of Boston real estate and media.

Dean Poritzky, principal/license partner of Engel & Volkers Wellesley, is pleased to announce the addition of Nathan Berkowitz, licensed real estate agent, to the team at the Wellesley office located at One Abbott Street. With a focus on large commercial transactions in non-traditional assets classes such as golf and resort, urban parking, and life science, Nathan has successfully transacted several billion dollars in business for key clients. His well-rounded view of the residential marketplace and his professional approach provide unique personal service to buyers and sellers.

Garage Headquarters is proud to announce the addition of Black Walnut to their Custom Wood Door Collection. These premium residential doors are meticulously handcrafted to your specifications with exceptional workmanship, superior woods, and professional hardware to create an impressive door that increases your home’s curb appeal and value. Look for their new ads featuring Baseball Hall of Famer Dennis Eckersley, whose home received an upgrade with Custom Garage Doors from Garage Headquarters.
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Tom Skelly, vice president of sales and strategy at Deland, Gibson Insurance, has been awarded the Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agent’s (MAIA) 2017 Pacesetter Award, the highest honor that MAIA bestows. The Henry F. Barry, Jr. Memorial Pacesetter Award is given annually to a person who is “setting the pace” and who has contributed his or her talent, time, and energy for the betterment of the agency system. It recognizes outstanding leadership and service to the agency community and the public.

On March 3, friends from the Wellesley High School class of 1999 hosted Plunge for Elodie, the first Boston-area fundraiser for the rare genetic disorder epidermolysis bullosa (EB). The event was inspired by 18-month-old Elodie Kubik, who suffers from EB. Watching Elodie’s mother, Wellesley native Emily St. Thomas Kubik, courageously face life with a child with EB motivated her hometown friends to turn their sadness into action. All proceeds will
professionals mingled while learning about new products and marking their favorites in the show-room. The Inspired Bath team along with representatives from Mr. Steam, Roben, Dornbracht, and Duravit were in attendance to answer questions about the featured products.

Meadowbrook Day Camp has announced new programs for 2018. Drobots, for grades 3 and higher, provides campers with a unique opportunity to engage in real-world STEM applications, drone flying, coding, and drone safety. The Leadership & Naturalist Training Program, for students in grade 8 or 9, teaches the ecology of New England’s landscape and develops essential skills that characterize strong leaders. The program contains an outdoors-based service learning project as well as a chance to earn CPR certification.

Eye Care and Laser Surgery (ECLS) of Newton-Wellesley recently welcomed Jennifer Barberio as their new practice administrator. Barberio started with Dr. Leibole and the team in September 2017 when she joined ECLS with close to 25 years of managed health care experience. Barberio is a lifetime resident of Newton and extremely familiar with Newton-Wellesley Hospital having worked at the Newton-Wellesley Physician Hospital Organization as a manager for the past 10 years. Visit www.eyecareandlasersurgery.com or call 617.796.3937 to schedule an appointment.

The Inspired Bath of Waltham hosted their first “Leave Your Mark” event in the showroom on March 22. Designers, architects, contractors, and industry professionals mingled while learning about new products and marking their favorites in the show-room. The Inspired Bath team along with representatives from Mr. Steam, Roben, Dornbracht, and Duravit were in attendance to answer questions about the featured products.

For the first time, Needham Bank is partnering with Babson College as part of the school’s Management Consulting Field Experience program. John Whittaker, Erica McLaughlin, and JT Sarno from the Bank’s marketing team are pictured here with the team of Babson undergraduates at their
midterm presentation. Needham Bank, with a Wellesley office located on 458 Washington Street, is a member FDIC, SIF, and Equal Housing Lender.

**Wellesley Dental Group** is excited to announce the addition of Kor Whitening to its arsenal of cosmetic procedures and enhancements. Kor whitening is perfect for patients who have always struggled with deep staining that is resistant to other types of whitening, as well as patients who report significant sensitivity to traditional methods. It’s a great option for anyone looking for safe, effective, and significant improvement to the color of their teeth.

**Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage** is pleased to announce Kathryn Alphas Richlen as the #2 affiliated agent in New England for 2017. Richlen brings 18 years of real estate expertise working with clients ranging from first-time homebuyers to seasoned real estate investors. “Kathryn has once again gone above and beyond. Her commitment responding to her client’s needs and executing a plan is unrivaled,” said Merit McIntyre, president, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. For more information, visit [www.ColdwellBankerHomes.com](http://www.ColdwellBankerHomes.com).

**The Barber Real Estate Group** of William Raveis Real Estate in Wellesley, featuring Ken and Stephanie Barber along with team members Stephanie Parkhurst, Anna Borelli, and Gina Anderson, hosted an exclusive viewing of their custom-designed listing at 62 Ledgeways Road in Wellesley.

**Derith Cass**, popularly known as “Coach D,” is now offering more FIERCE ways for women to live and love a healthier life. Choose one-on-one personal training, small group training, FIERCE fitness classes, behavior/habit coaching, and even an online membership to keep you connected between workouts. Contact Coach D at 832.221.4966 or email coach@fiercebychoice.com to schedule a complimentary coaching session. Visit [www.fiercebychoice.com](http://www.fiercebychoice.com).

**During the month of May**, Chase Young Gallery will hold a New Artist Exhibit, showcasing three new artists. In June, they will host a month-long exhibition for renowned artist, Bernd Haussmann. Haussmann is a local artist who has exhibited nationally and internationally for many years. Chase Young Gallery was established in 1990 with a continued dedication to the exhibition of exceptional contemporary painting and photography. They also offer in-home art and design consultations. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit [www.chaseyounggallery.com](http://www.chaseyounggallery.com).

Local photographer Andrew Kessler held a pop-up photography show called “Guards & Gardeners,” that featured local crossing guards and gardeners from the North 40 Victory Gardens. The event, held on March 1 at 77 Central Street in Wellesley, was open to the community. Andrew’s daughter, Kess Kessler, wrote the accompanying piece to the show. Profits from the show were donated to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, through the Pan Mass Challenge, which Kessler is hoping to ride again this year for the 15th time.
Dana Hall School is pleased to welcome Dr. Lauren Goldberg as the new director of the middle school. Previously the curriculum coordinator at the Foote School in New Haven, Connecticut, Goldberg is a career educator with more than 30 years of experience in classroom instruction, curriculum design, teacher training, research, and supervision. Located in Wellesley, Dana Hall’s Middle School is an independent day school for girls in grades 5–8.

Fastachi, one of the country’s top purveyors of artisanal roasted nuts, is now open at 24 Church Street in Wellesley. Fastachi owners Souren and Susan Etyemezian roast the nuts by hand, in small batches, and in steel drums for the very best flavor. The shop also carries handmade chocolates, gourmet snacks, and great gift items. To learn more, visit www.fastachi.com and see their ad on page 28.

One Wingate Way will welcome former Massachusetts governor and Northeastern University professor Michael Dukakis for a lecture on American politics on Thursday, May 17 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Dukakis will discuss current American foreign policy during the lecture, highlighting trends and predictions for the future. Dukakis was the longest serving governor in our state’s history and is an expert in political science. One Wingate Way is a luxury independent living community located at the crossroads of Needham, Newton, and Wellesley. For more information, visit www.onewingateway.com.

People’s United Bank is celebrating 175 years of providing financial services to the local communities they serve. From checking and savings to wealth and retirement services, People’s United has the expertise you need to help you reach your financial goals. Visit their convenient Wellesley branch at 200 Linden Square and chat with Jim Molla and see what their know-how can do for you. People’s United Bank, N.A. Member FDIC.

Darby Road HOME (DRH) is excited to be celebrating its four-year anniversary and the opening up of their Annex space. Throughout the month of May, they will be celebrating with prizes and discounts. To kick off the celebrations, DRH hosted an open house for all of their industry friends and family. It has been exciting venture for owner Michelle Coppolo as she has elevated the brand and brought great success to the design and custom upholstery side of the business. See their ad on page 23.

Liz (Luongo) O’Hearn, who now works for renowned plastic surgeon Dr. Leonard Miller at the Boston Center for Facial Rejuvenation, is now offering an exciting new choice in facial rejuvenation at the center’s Brookline location at One Brookline Place, #427. Clear + Brilliant™ is a non-ablative laser treatment that’s powerful enough to restore and refresh aging skin and gentle enough to treat the most delicate areas of the face, neck, chest, and hands. For more information, visit www.leonard-millermd.com or call 617.735.8735 to schedule an appointment, and see their ad on page 40.

Please send your interesting news items to jill@wellesleywestonmagazine.com. E-mail submissions only please; jpeg photos are welcome at 300dpi.
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119 WOODLAWN AVE, WELLESLEY
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190 WINDING RIVER RD, WELLESLEY
$4,750,000

194 CLAYBROOK RD, DOVER
$4,250,000

22 ORDWAY RD, WELLESLEY
$3,950,000

11 GREYLOCK RD, WELLESLEY
$3,795,000

38 PEIRCE RD, WELLESLEY
$2,995,000

164 FOREST ST, WELLESLEY
$2,750,000

134 EDMUND'S RD, WELLESLEY
$2,650,000

9 LIVEMORE RD, WELLESLEY
$2,495,000

30 BELLEVUE, WELLESLEY
$2,150,000

118 HUNDREDS RD, WELLESLEY
$2,150,000

15 FALMOUTH CIR, WELLESLEY
$2,100,000

8 CUSHING RD, WELLESLEY
$2,025,000

52 PARK AVE, WELLESLEY
$1,599,000

2 WOODBURY LN, NATICK
$1,350,000

279 ELMOTT ST, NATICK
$1,250,000

20 SHAW RD, WELLESLEY
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Sold 14 Hamlin Road, Dover $5,725,000 • Sold 27 Livingston Road, Wellesley $5,295,000
Sold 48-49 Concord Road, Weston $5,290,000 • Sold 100 Meadowbrook Road, Weston $5,175,000
Sold 18 Sanderson Lane, Weston $4,850,000 • Sold 30 Greylock Road, Wellesley $4,825,000
Sold 281 Country Drive, Weston $4,692,000 • Sold 121 Rolling Lane, Weston $4,600,000
Sold 47 Westerly Road, Weston $4,400,000 • Sold 27 Livingston Road, Wellesley $4,300,000
Sold 49 Lawrence Road, Weston $4,225,000 • Sold 22 Pelham Road, Weston $4,200,000
Sold 4 Summit Road, Weston $4,100,000 • Sold 84 Love Lane, Weston $4,130,000
Sold 92 Beaver Road, Weston $4,070,000 • Sold 100 Black Oak Road, Weston $3,950,000
Sold 456 Glen Road, Weston $3,900,000 • Sold 79 Nubaco Road, Weston $3,850,000
Sold 14 Miller Hill Road, Dover $5,800,000 • Sold 47 Young Road, Weston $5,800,000
Sold 12 Winding River Circle, Wellesley $5,785,725 • Sold 281 Country Drive, Weston $5,775,000
Sold 99 Winsor Way, Weston $5,605,000 • Sold 157 Beaver Road, Weston $5,650,000
Sold 51 Nubaco Road, Weston $3,649,000 • Sold 56 Chestnut Street, Weston $3,600,000
Sold 314 Glen Road, Weston $3,500,000 • Sold 22 Sears Road, Weston $3,500,000
Sold 21 Sanderson Lane, Weston $3,500,000 • Sold 56 Doubler Hill Road, Weston $3,475,000
Sold 19 Meadowbrook Road, Weston $3,400,000 • Sold 18 Walnut Road, Weston $3,350,000
Sold 266 Highland Street, Weston $3,325,000 • Sold 62 Glen Road, Wellesley $3,300,000
Sold 44 Walnut Road, Weston $3,300,000 • Sold 44 Caribou Back Road, Wellesley $3,300,000
Sold 30 Black Oak Road, Weston $3,250,000 • Sold 167 Beaver Road, Weston $3,187,000
Sold 26 White Oak Road, Weston $3,150,000 • Sold 132 Marlatt Road, Lexington $3,100,000
Sold 90 Meadowbrook Road, Weston $3,025,000 • Sold 215 Highland Street, Weston $2,970,000
Sold 21 Westerly Road, Weston $2,925,000 • Sold 207 Old Concord Road, Lincoln $2,912,000

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A CCRC for the North 40

The demand for a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) in Wellesley is real. Currently, it’s estimated that there are 3,000 people, or approximately 11 percent of the town’s population of 29,000, who are 70-plus years old. Many members of this population would like to downsize their homes but remain in town where they can be close to friends and family.

The CCRC concept is well established. It offers older people, who are more or less healthy, the opportunity to downsize and provides them with a home and lifetime healthcare. About 85 percent of the industry is nonprofit, as is the project being proposed here.

The CCRC provides a home and in-house health care, all under one roof. It also helps older people feel less isolated and lonely by providing common spaces for lounging, dining facilities, exercise spaces, meeting rooms, and study areas.

Wellesley has several possible locations that can work for the development of a CCRC. One possibility would be a sensitively designed facility on 22 acres in the center of the North 40, the parcel of land the town purchased from Wellesley College in 2014. The CCRC proposed here would be just under 200 garden apartments, connected around a common building and built so as not to compromise the wooded ambience of the area. The development would include a combination of one and two bedrooms, thereby accommodating both singles and couples. Approximately 250 persons could live in the apartments, amounting to just under 10 percent of the estimated 70-plus population.

“The proposed CCRC would open first to Wellesley residents, then to those from abutting towns, and also to those who may live elsewhere but also seek to be near their children and grandchildren who live here. The plan is to help the town to stay focused on balanced growth and to maintain its residential character.

How well will the project fit physically in the 47-acre parcel? A look at North Hill, lodged at the southeast corner of the Babson College property, helps illustrate how a carefully designed development fits very nicely into the community without compromising its neighbors. A preliminary site plan is available showing building, lawn, parking areas, the projects setbacks, and how all elements will work together.

The traffic impact from the development at the North 40 would be minimal for a couple of reasons. For one thing, seniors do not use their cars as frequently as younger people. And a community bus service would not only be a nice amenity for the residents, but it would further minimize traffic.

“With all the services Wellesley now provides its seniors, there’s still a missing gap.”
Another reason the North 40 is an ideal location for a CCRC is its close proximity for residents to downtown shopping, town hall activity, the Tolles Parsons Center, the Wellesley Free Library, and Wellesley College. And for walkers and those who enjoy nature, there is ready access to the town’s trails and Morse’s Pond.

Financially, the proposed project would be long-term leased from the town with the lease payments potentially covering Wellesley’s interest cost in financing its $35 million investment for the purchase of the property from Wellesley College. The project would be organized as a private nonprofit corporation, independent of town government, though subject to various approval rights the town might require.

In summary:

■ **THERE’S MAJOR GROWTH** potential here worth the investment of time, energy, and dollars needed.

■ **THE PROJECT WILL BENEFIT** the residents and town and the developer/operator.

■ **WITH ALL THE** services Wellesley now provides its seniors, there’s still a missing gap: the idea of a home where the seniors of Wellesley and abutting towns can live and age gracefully.

■ **THE TOWN HAS** ready demand.

■ **WELLESLEY HAS** a strong body of capable volunteer citizens to build the strong core group needed for pulling together the popular support needed to make a project of this magnitude happen.
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a multi-day ceremony at Hunnewell Field, the town planted more than 325 trees, each dedicated to every resident who was in the war, in an area that would be known as Memorial Grove.

Yet, nature and time slowly diminished the solemn tribute of that day. As the century passed, the people and the trees died. Memorial Grove isn’t recognized as such anymore and is better known as an unnamed patch of land near the Brook Path, State Street parking lot, and Hunnewell and Reidy fields.

But a group of residents aims to revive the memories and points to the significance of World War I by bringing Memorial Grove back to life. Last fall, to honor the six fallen soldiers, volunteers from the town’s...
Memorial Grove. He is also the treasurer of the Celebrations Committee, of which JoAnn is also a member. She has assumed the unofficial role of project researcher. One of her chief tasks is to find the descendants of the more than 325 Wellesley residents who served in World War I. With a list of those veterans' names—taken from the World War I memorial in Town Hall’s Greater Hall—JoAnn has mostly relied on the genealogical website Ancestry.com to try to connect the deceased with living descendants, so she can invite them to Wellesley’s Wonderful Weekend.

It hasn’t been easy. Not every recent branch of a family tree leads to a branch from 100 years ago, or more recent times. JoAnn will sometimes make a firm connection, but then receive no reply.

Celebrations Committee planted six eastern redbud trees on the site. This May, the committee will hold a dedication ceremony at Memorial Grove that will include the unveiling of a granite bench and engraved plaque. The event will coincide with the annual Veteran’s Day Parade, which incidentally, will be the 50th one in town history and will also commemorate the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day. Suddenly, World War I will be far from forgotten.

“We’re losing our history by pieces, here and there,” Wellesley resident Pete Jones said. Pete and his wife, JoAnn Jones, resident Tory DeFazio, and a few others have been finding those pieces and putting them back together.

Pete, a Marine Corps veteran, is the vice commander of American Legion Post 72, which is helping the Celebrations Committee revive Memorial Grove. He is also the treasurer of the Celebrations Committee, of which JoAnn is also a member. She has assumed the unofficial role of project researcher. One of her chief tasks is to find the descendants of the more than 325 Wellesley residents who served in World War I. With a list of those veterans’ names—taken from the World War I memorial in Town Hall’s Greater Hall—JoAnn has mostly relied on the genealogical website Ancestry.com to try to connect the deceased with living descendants, so she can invite them to Wellesley’s Wonderful Weekend.

It hasn’t been easy. Not every recent branch of a family tree leads to a branch from 100 years ago, or more recent times. JoAnn will sometimes make a firm connection, but then receive no reply.
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Still, she’s had success. As of February, 65 families had confirmed they are indeed related to the veterans. Fifteen have committed to participating in the Veteran’s Day ceremonies scheduled for the Wonderful Weekend. They will attend the Memorial Grove dedication ceremony, which is planned for Saturday, May 19, and then walk or ride in the annual parade through the center of town on Sunday, May 20.

Aside from the Greater Hall’s list of veterans, JoAnn has also worked from a different source to track down veterans. In 1917, before war’s end, the town wanted to honor those who had served by providing each of them with a gold signet ring engraved with the town seal. A ring then cost $4.75 (which would amount to roughly $100 in 2018) and the costs were covered by a subscription drive, with residents asked to pitch in what they could afford.

Using the list of ring recipients, not only has JoAnn had an additional resource to find veterans’ families, but she also discovered a wellspring of stories behind the men who served. For example, a ring made its way to resident Harold Rourke, but he later lost it while saving someone from drowning, JoAnn said. The ring was replaced.

Ernest Fisher received his ring while in the front-line trenches of France. A corporal in the Army 101st Infantry, Fisher said his gift made him forget about war and instead think of his hometown, he wrote in a letter that was published in the Sept. 13, 1918, edition of The Wellesley Townsman.

Jack Early probably got a ring, but it was his life story that captivated JoAnn and Pete. As researched by Joshua Dorin, a history buff and alternate member of the town Historical Commission, Early
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made a mark in the only 25 years he lived. He fought in the Champagne region of France in World War I, earning the Distinguished Service Cross for his leadership in a bold counterattack. He returned home to establish Wellesley’s American Legion Post and become the youngest elected selectman at age 23. Early died two years later, possibly of heart failure, and his funeral attracted hundreds of residents, who walked four miles to his burial place at Calvary Cemetery in Waltham.

The six Wellesley residents who died in the war also had stories, and the Memorial Grove tribute will likely stir interest in their lives. They are:

- Army Private Texas Burton, Company F, 367th Infantry, 92nd Division, was born in the British West Indies, moved to Wellesley, and died a month before Armistice Day, from a disease he had acquired in the war.
- Army Sgt. James Glencross, Company B, 317th Field Signal Battalion, also died a month before the end of the war, from wounds received in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, a battle in the Argonne Forest in France. He was born in New Brunswick, and married Minnie Frederick of Wellesley. He worked as a telephone foreman before the war.
- Army Private James Hickey, Company I, 302nd Infantry, 76th Division, was killed in
action. He had emigrated from Castletown, in County Cork, Ireland, and worked as a florist before being drafted.

- Army Second Lt. FRANKLIN INGRAHAM, Battery A, 1st Field Artillery, died in his native Wellesley after returning home with a disease he acquired during the war. He earned degrees from Harvard and MIT.

- Army Corporal RAYMOND MOORE, Company L, 9th Infantry, was killed in action in France. A native resident of Wellesley, he was a National Guardsman who was federalized to serve in the regular Army, after working as a chauffeur.

- Army Corporal PATRICK O’DONOGHUE, 151st Division, was killed in action precisely one month prior to Armistice Day, in Cornay, France. A native of Ireland, he eventually settled in Lower Falls and worked as a grocer’s clerk before being drafted.

On May 3, 1919, Wellesley residents who returned home from the war planted their own tree in Memorial Grove. The landscape, which included more than 325 trees and the cultiva-

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tion of a skating pond, was designed by architect Arthur Alexander, himself a veteran who was wounded in France. Six English elms were planted for the six soldiers who died.

On May 24, 1919, a "Welcome Home" celebration drew more than 4,000 of the town's then 6,000-plus residents, a remarkable turnout. Students from Wellesley College paraded through town, and the school's president, Ellen Pendleton, read the poem "Welcome," which was written by resident Katharine Lee Bates, who also wrote the words to "America the Beautiful."

It remains to be seen how many residents will attend the rededication of Memorial Grove this year, but at the very least, the efforts of the Celebrations Committee have put the World War I veterans back into a spotlight that slowly moved elsewhere after 1919.

Not only did most of the trees at Memorial Grove wither, but a ceremonial plaque for Ingraham and two Wellesley High School graduates who had lived outside town and died in the war was misplaced. The class of 1919 placed a plaque that memorialized Ingraham, Karl McKenney, and Francis Whitney in the high school, which was then located in the current spot of Wellesley Middle School. The plaque was lost 20 years later, but eventually discovered in a closet. It was rededicated at the current high school in 2012.

The plaque placed in Memorial Grove this spring will feature a QR code (matrix barcode) that will enable visitors to view a video history of the park and the town's history of honoring the veterans.

JoAnn and Pete couldn't be happier that their efforts to honor the veterans is finally nearing culmination. Although JoAnn's research met a lot of dead-ends, it also provided moments of wonder.

One day, a member of the Schofield family stopped by the Jones home and gave JoAnn a medal that his ancestor, Otho Schofield, had received from the King of Italy for bravery. Schofield, a well-known Wellesley doctor who would have an elementary school named after him, served in World War I and later led the medical detachment of the Massachusetts National Guard 110th Calvary. The relative had heard about JoAnn's research and the work to honor the veterans.

JoAnn didn't want to keep the medal; she intended to return it to the family if a place for public viewing couldn't be found in town. But the relative's willingness to entrust her with the medal illustrated that the bravery, sacrifice, and valor of those who fought in World War I were still held in high regard, and never really forgotten.
I almost wish we were butterflies and lived but three summer days — three such days with you I could fill with more delight than fifty common years could ever contain.
— John Keats
dr. dennis a. ausiello spent nearly two-thirds of his life teasing out the causes and possible remedies for diseases, starting from a perch at a lab bench and advancing to one of America’s most prestigious hospital positions: chief of medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH).

After 17 years in that top post, Ausiello is tackling “one of the little-known aspects of medicine”—what it means to be healthy.

“We’re very good at diagnosing and understanding disease and its progression to death, but we’re the only profession in the world that doesn’t know its own gold standard: We can’t diagnose wellness and its progression to illness,” said Ausiello, in an interview in the living room of his home in Wellesley Hills.

“It’s a little like bringing your car into the garage, and the mechanic saying, ‘Yep, you’ve got a broken carburetor here, but unfortunately, I don’t know what a normal carburetor looks like.’”

Ausiello, 72, has assembled a group of partners that includes faculty from Harvard and MIT, as well as scientists from high-tech and bio-pharmaceutical companies to create CATCH, the Center for Assessment Technology and Continuous Health at MGH.

“I didn’t want to build another big center,” he said. “I really wanted to build a SWAT team or a think tank that could engage partnerships with the molecular geneticists, with the instrumentation people, with the Googles and the Apples of the world.”

Ausiello envisions consortiums like CATCH setting the stage for a medical future out of Star Trek, where tiny implants and everyday objects like smartphones and automobiles collect galaxies of data that help doctors head off diseases long before they breach the body’s defenses.
With his many academic connections and his board positions on such companies as pharmaceutical giant Pfizer and Verily Life Sciences (a Google-spinoff that applies high-tech data collection to health initiatives), Ausiello brings together experts who normally wouldn’t cross paths.

“CATCH’s goal is to bring together disparate worlds,” he said. “Medicine has been very silo-ized for the 40 or 50 years I’ve been a participant. When I was a young researcher, if I wanted to work on the kidney, I had to be in the kidney unit. If you wanted to work on the heart, you were in the heart unit.”

“When you cross-fertilize biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and the digital world—and embrace the business world—you’ve got a cosmopolitan consortium,” he continued, with the potential brain-power and tools to understand everything that makes us tick.

That means parsing the human condition or phenotype: the interaction of body, behavior, and environment. Each of us is the unique product of our genetic code, the people who influenced us, the places we’ve lived, the stresses we’ve endured, and the microbiome—the millions of microbes that inhabit our bodies and interact with every organ.

“I find like-minded people who share this idea—human phenotyping—human measurement in a continuous and pre-disease state,” Ausiello said.

The challenge is mind-boggling. Not only is the phenotype a lot to measure, it is everchanging. “There’s not going to be a single diagnostic tool, a point on a curve, a certain test,” Ausiello said. “It’s going to be holistic assessment tools that understand fundamentally the body when it is working well and when it is not working well.”

Continuous in the CATCH environment does not necessarily mean all the time. “If you’re looking at someone’s heartbeat, that’s about as continuous as it gets, second by second,” Ausiello said. “If I’m measuring changes in cellular function at the immune level, that might be once a week or once a month.”

Compare that with how measurements are typically made. “You go to the doctor and he takes a snapshot—it’s very static,” Ausiello said.

“We can understand the problems before they become problems.”
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Over the coming decades, by measuring enough people in enough
different ways, “we can understand the problems before they become
problems.”

Take, for example, diabetes, a disease that Ausiello spent decades
studying as a renal specialist. “Blood tests tell us something about a
point in time, but without continuous measurement it’s very hard to
know what signals that you’re moving from health and progressing
to disease.”

Doctors today can identify people on the verge of Type II diabetes,
which generally occurs later in life. With the right tools and know-how,
doctors could eventually alert people a decade before they become
prediabetic.

By that time, however, the term Type II diabetes would be as outdated
as is apoplexy, which a century ago was a catch-all diagnosis for strokes
and heart attacks. Similarly, the elevated blood sugar that characterizes
Type II diabetes could stem from any number of causes, such as obesity,
chronic inflammation, or the combination of genetics and an abnormal
response to hormones.

The challenge, Ausiello said, is like peeling back the layers of an
onion: “How do we begin to stratify so that the word ‘diabetes’ can dis-
appear, and we can start looking at those pathways that are part of the
progression from wellness to disease?”

One of Ausiello’s early ventures was a partnership with Apple, spear-
headed by fellow CATCH founder Dr. Stanley Shaw, to create an app for
measuring and motivating healthy activities. “I call it Digital Clinical
Research 101,” Ausiello said. “It was the first effort to look at the mass
appeal of a clinical research enterprise.”

With its GlucoSuccess app, Ausiello’s team asked participants with
Type II diabetes to record data on physical activity, diet, body weight,
and blood sugar levels. Through the app, participants learned how their

“It seemed that the perfect match for science and my personality was
medicine.”
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behaviors affected their illness. “Theoretically, if we could get everybody with early Type II diabetes to change their behavior—largely through exercise and diet—we could significantly change the course of that disease,” he said.

Four other groups, including a cardiac team from Stanford, tailored the app to study their specialties. “I think collectively all five sites had 150,000 individuals sign up in a matter of weeks,” said Ausiello, adding that to recruit just a fraction of that number for a traditional clinical trial can take months, if not years.

Technology is in the works to make measurements passive and less intrusive, such as the continuous glucose monitors available to diabetes patients. Implantable devices could track hormonal and other biological changes. “Maybe we’ll be able to take pictures of meals in a much more sophisticated way to understand not only the total calories that are being taken in, but the importance and quality of each food group,” Ausiello said, imagining people whipping out their smartphones at breakfast. “Click.”

CATCH is working with MIT engineers to find unobtrusive ways to use the family car to collect data. “You can measure an EKG with the steering wheel—that’s been developed by MIT,” Ausiello said. “Sitting in a chair, I can measure my weight, my distribution, my movements. I can probably measure force by braking. I can measure my eye movements, my alertness.”

Your daily commute could provide doctors with a wealth of data that one day could reveal the early signs of arthritis, muscle disorders, perhaps even dementia.

***

Ausiello’s fascination with numbers goes back to his childhood in Revere, where he grew up the only child of first-generation Italian Americans. Recognizing his talent for figures, the local high school placed him in an
advanced science and math program—one of many that popped up across the country in the wake of the space race.

Graduating first in his class of 450, Ausiello was one of two graduates to go on to Harvard. He intended to pursue a career in chemistry, physics, or math, but he wanted to work with people and not just figures. “I tended to be a very outgoing guy,” he said. “It seemed that the perfect match for science and my personality was medicine.”

While in college he worked at Mass General Hospital and returned there for his internship and residency after earning his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania. He also played baseball for Harvard. “I always joke I was the best third-string catcher Harvard ever had,” he said. (Perhaps the acronym CATCH is no coincidence.)

Following a stint at the National Institutes of Health, Ausiello specialized in researching kidney function, or nephrology, at MGH. “What fascinated me about the kidney was that it was one of the very few quantitative areas of medicine,” he said. “There were formulas that could be associated with kidney function, how it handled water, and how it handled salt, how it handled acid.”

Research breakthroughs taking place at the cellular and molecular levels proved just as relevant for the kidney as for the heart. As Ausiello rose through the administrative ranks, he encouraged collaboration across specialties—anticipating his blueprint for CATCH.

Meanwhile, he and his wife, Susan, moved to Wellesley in 1975, where they raised their two sons, Jeff and John. Today, Susan manages the local Coldwell Banker office; Jeff is a producer for ESPN; and John, who trained under his dad at MGH (“a courageous young man to do that,” says Ausiello), is an endocrinologist in New York City.

Through his sons, Ausiello became involved in the town’s youth soccer league, coaching a team to a 50-game winning streak and two state titles over 1983 and 1984. “We had a very
disciplined team, but at the end of the day, it’s like with everything else: We had incredibly talented young players”—several of whom went on to become college All-Americans.

Be it youth sports or medical research, Ausiello said that “80 percent of good leadership” is identifying talent. “I always felt I should be the dumbest guy in the room,” he said. “You should always try to recruit or retain people who are smarter than you and to support them and bring them along. I’ve been fortunate to have had the opportunity to do that for hundreds of people.”

Today, Ausiello is more catalyst than mentor. “I’m raising ideas with often younger people who are going to take those ideas and make something with them and develop their own,” he said. “I have no pride in authorship here. This is not a religious experience. These ideas don’t emanate out of whole cloth from me. Lots of people are thinking about them.”

Will he see them to fruition? “I’m 72,” Ausiello said. “I think I have a good decade left in me. I have a 101-year-old mother. If I have half of her genome, maybe I can get into my 90s.”

“I think I have a good decade left in me.”

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Successful Immigration Tales

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Cheryl Balian Scaparrotta writer
Maura Wayman photographer

The Kumars: Pioneers Forging New Paths

It was a wintry day when Dr. Kaplesh Kumar landed at New York’s JFK Airport in 1970. With simple instructions from a friend in New Jersey, Kaplesh, a native of India, asked the taxi driver to take him to the Port Authority bus station in Manhattan. From there, he planned to take a bus to Hoboken, where his friend awaited him.

Upon arrival at the bus terminal, the taxi driver, learning that this was Kaplesh’s first visit to the United States, refused to accept a fare. “I insisted on paying him, but I had no idea what to give him, so I gave him about $7,” says Kaplesh, fondly recalling his first interaction in America. “People were so nice and helpful to me upon my arrival, and I’ve never forgotten that.”

Dr. Kumar and his wife, Savinder, are both natives of Lucknow, India (about 350 miles southeast of New Delhi), and have lived in Wellesley since 1978. Kaplesh recently retired from a busy professional life as an
engineer at Draper Labs in Cambridge. He also found time 20 years ago to attend law school and pass the bar exam in Massachusetts, eventually transitioning his career into an intellectual property lawyer and general counsel for Mayflower Communications Company, following retirement from Draper.

Savinder also recently retired, after working for several decades in the logistics department at TJX Corporation in Framingham.

In addition to busy professional lives, the Kumars raised two daughters, who attended Wellesley’s public elementary schools and graduated from Dana Hall. Today, the Kumars are members of the India Association of Greater Boston, and Kaplesh is its past president.

Cross-Continental Education

Back in 1970, Kaplesh came to the U.S. for higher studies, not thinking too far ahead.

“I was an undergraduate in engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Kanpur, which was set up with assistance from nine leading U.S. research universities,” he recalls. “Much of our visiting and permanent faculty was from America, including MIT. We were exposed to teaching and grading methods of America, and our curriculum closely paralleled it.”

Kaplesh says that after completing the rigorous IIT program, it made sense to continue his education in the U.S. “There was an expectation at IIT to do so. Subsequently, I came to Hoboken to study at Stevens Institute of Technology.”

When he arrived as a young man, Kaplesh didn't have a long-term vision of becoming an American citizen. “At that early stage, you don’t really know what you’re getting into,” he says. “I simply had the plan that I was coming to a new country to study. Beyond that, I had no idea.”

He continued his studies at MIT, earning a doctor of science degree. “I received a job offer at Draper Laboratory in Cambridge. The work was great, the people were great, and it was very enjoyable.”

When his studies concluded, his student visa status came to an end. With employment at Draper, he was able to receive his green card—a permit to work in the U.S.
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During a trip to India, he and Savinder were married, following which she too arrived in this country and settled into the lifestyle with new friendships, many of which have endured.

After a few busy, enjoyable years, the Kumars arrived at a crossroads.

“At a certain point, it didn’t make sense not to become a citizen,” they say. “We had made up our minds.”

So the couple went through the citizenship process, officially becoming citizens in 1982. “There was a ceremony at Faneuil Hall for my wife and me,” he recalls. “Our younger daughter, who was born during travel abroad, was also granted citizenship.”

The family recalls their strong feelings about that day. “It was anything but a ‘normal’ day. We understood the significance of this major commitment,” he says. “It was a statement saying, ‘This is how we want to spend the rest of our lives and where we belong.’”

Dr. Kumar is a distinguished scientist, engineer, and lawyer. He discovered rare earth-transition metal alloys that are the key enabling technology of the Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) battery, recognized in the late 1990s as one of the top 25 inventions of the past quarter-century by CNN.

Twenty years ago, he continued challenging himself. He attended New England School of Law, becoming admitted to the bar association in 1998. In fact, Kaplesh has been admitted to the Bars of Massachusetts, United States Supreme Court, United States District Court for the First District, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as a patent attorney.

Keeping Strong Ties

“When I arrived here almost half a century ago, there were very few Indians in this country,” Kaplesh points out.

The Kumars longevity in the U.S. offers a unique, evolving perspective on immigration.

“If you asked me 40 years ago what I missed in India, I would have a long list, because it was truly a complete break,” Kaplesh reveals. “In the early days, it was a big deal and very expensive to make a telephone call to India. When you finally got a connection, there was static on the line and hard to communicate with each other. We also wrote letters and telegrams, though a letter would take weeks to arrive.”

Today’s connected world has brought the Kumars much closer. “We feel closer than ever to India,” they reveal. “Now we email family and friends, and use Facetime and technology we didn’t have in the early days. And now there are so many Indian restaurants in the U.S.—which there weren’t 40 years ago—so we feel at home.”

With Savinder’s family in India, the Kumar daughters have traveled there many times. “We want them to have a sense of their roots. We both still have friends there from our
childhood, so it feels good to stay connected to them.”

The Robsons: To America, Fondly

One of the most memorable early experiences for Simon and Caroline Robson after coming to America took place shortly after they arrived in Boston from South Africa.

“I was expecting my second child, and Simon’s research colleagues at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital threw me a baby shower,” says Caroline, who today is vice chair of operations in the radiology department and a neuroradiologist at Boston Children’s Hospital (BCH). “We scarcely knew one another! The support and level of immense emotional and material generosity of Americans was and remains like nothing like we’ve experienced anywhere else in the world,” she enthuses.

The couple had left South Africa during the early 1990s—a period of intense civil unrest and apartheid. What was planned as two years of research abroad for Simon unexpectedly parlayed into 25 successful years for both physicians in the U.S. Back in 1993, Simon had a choice to conduct his post-doctoral research in several U.S. cities. “We chose Boston because we had friends and academic contacts here, and it seemed the best place from which to travel back to South Africa and Europe,” he says.

Today, the Weston residents have become firmly established in the U.S. medical community. Dr. Simon Robson has served as Chief
of the Division of Gastroenterology at Beth Israel, and is the Charlotte F. & Irving W. Rabb Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School (HMS). Caroline is the Chief of Neuroradiology at BCH and an Associate Professor of Medicine at HMS.

But their path wasn’t always so certain.

Exploring New Directions

“I came to Boston with Simon and our one-year-old daughter, and neither of us had a Massachusetts medical license,” explains Caroline. “In South Africa, you automatically receive a medical license to start practicing after graduating with a medical degree, but I didn’t know at the time that it isn’t the case here.”

Just by chance, a fellowship position opened up at BCH a year after their arrival. The role was perfect given Caroline’s experience as a pediatric radiologist. “I required two years of fellowship training in order to apply for a full Massachusetts medical license,” she recalls. She became the first pediatric neuroradiology fellow at Children’s Hospital, a newly created position. “It was such a gift,” she says definitively.

Meanwhile, the J1-study visa that allowed Simon to conduct research in transplantation and liver disease neared expiry. He had opportunities that weren’t feasible in South Africa, or most parts of the world. With Caroline’s new opportunity and a desire to extend the research sojourn, a green card for permanent residency was required. “We consulted a lawyer at the Harvard International Office and were told to apply for ‘first preference immigrant worker’ status,” Caroline recalls. “In our case, it referred to ‘extraordinary ability in the sciences.’”

“We were incredibly fortunate that our application was successful and we were able to obtain permanent resident status in the mid-1990s,” Simon says. Caroline, meanwhile, gained necessary experience and passed American Board of Radiology exams. Both became registered as medical practitioners with the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine.
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in South Africa, with economic decline and increasing crime. “At some point you realize the children are happy and thriving, and the careers are going well,” she states. “Once we decided to commit, we did so fully and didn’t look back.”

The Robsons say two factors that cemented their decision to become citizens. “What struck me about this country is that people value when you work hard, no matter whether you are a foreigner or an American, male or female, junior or senior faculty, or what college you attended. A job well done is appreciated and the work ethic is amazing,” says Caroline.

Simon also comments on the wonder of finding himself working at HMS. “Such abundant opportunities, critical mass of intellectual power, and potential for academic advancement,” he states.

By 2001, the couple had become American citizens, after a straightforward administrative
process. Their oaths of allegiance took place at Government Center in Boston on separate days—typical workdays with the highlight of a moving ceremony.

The Robsons were now integrated into their professional and community lives, became American in outlook, and added another daughter to their family. All three girls have attended the Weston public schools. Their eldest, Victoria, was born in South Africa, and graduated from HMS in May, prior to commencing a pediatrics residency. She studied abroad in Cape Town, engaging in research on HIV/AIDS projects. Eliza is in Atlanta, a creative associate after graduating from Vanderbilt, and Amy, the youngest, is entering middle school.

The family regularly returns to South Africa and England to maintain ties to family, friends, and their origins. “Our children are aware of deeply ingrained South African culture and values, such as high expectations for self discipline and resilience,” Caroline explains.

Their culinary traditions include “melkert,” a vanilla custard tart. At first, they missed eating “biltong,” a dried, cured meat, and Mrs. Ball’s, a South African chutney. “But now we can order it on Amazon!” Caroline laughs.

A quarter of a century later, the Robsons still say there’s something special about the spirit of America. “America works well on many levels; and the grit, strength, work ethic and generosity shown day-to-day is inspirational,” Caroline concludes.
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WHERE GRATITUDE and OPTIMISM PREVAIL
on December 28, 2017, Ben Elwy stood up for the first time since October 18 when he underwent his 37th operation in his 16 years of life. This last operation required four surgeons and eight hours in the operating room.

Ben, who has a very rare genetic disorder that affects the skeletal/muscular system called Schwartz-Jampel syndrome, had a tibia/fibula osteotomy, meaning both bones were cut, and a Taylor Spatial Frame was fixed on his leg for six months.

“Two wires, five pins, one screw, and six struts that we will loathe but try to appreciate every day. One day it will lead to a straighter and more functional leg,” explains Rani Elwy, Ben’s mom. “Starting next week, we will turn these struts every day, according to a computer algorithm, to get the tibia and fibula in the right place. Once we’ve achieved that, Ben will be able to walk again. As Abraham Lincoln once said, ‘This too shall pass.’”

Gratitude and optimism in the face of profound challenges. This sums up the modus operandi of the entire Elwy family that includes 16-year-old Ben, mom Rani, dad Sherin, and Ben’s 19-year-old sister Lucy and 12-year-old sister Charlotte.

Ben doesn’t readily speak about or draw attention to his difficulties with mobility, eyesight, or breathing. “I don’t like to make a big deal of my problems. Everyone has problems they have to cope with,” he states with matter-of-fact humility.

IN SERVICE TO OTHERS: allis ministerio*

Ben is a rising senior at Wellesley High School, a strong student whose favorite subjects are Latin and physics. His sister, Charlotte, attends Wellesley Middle School. Older sister, Lucy, a Wellesley High School graduate, is completing a year of public service in education as a City Year Boston AmeriCorps member. She works with fourth graders at the K-8 Tobin School in Roxbury before, during, and after the school day.

In 2017, both Lucy and Ben received the President’s Volunteer Service Award. President George W. Bush established the civil award in 2003 to honor volunteers who give hundreds of hours each year to helping others. Ben volunteers through Boston Cares, a nonprofit that connects volunteers to more than 250 projects each month. He has collected books for prisoners, sorted provisions at a food pantry, and he even rang the bell for Salvation Army in front of Roche Brothers on Christmas Eve while recuperating from his tibia/fibula osteotomy. And less than a month later, on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Ben joined his parents, younger sister, and other Boston Cares volunteers to make civics flashcards to help immigrants study for the U.S. citizenry exam.

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL: salus cura omnis

Ironically, Rani—an associate professor of health law, policy, and management at the Boston University School of Public Health and a research health scientist at the Veterans Health Administration—studies how

*Latin translations provided by Ben Elwy
people use healthcare. She received her doctorate when Ben was six weeks old and acknowledges that to keep her professional life in gear, she has spent many a late night writing grant proposals by her son’s bedside in the hospital.

“Health care is a fundamental right, not a privilege, for every human being. It should never be linked to employment,” asserts Rani, who was recently honored by the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Service as the author of the Best Research Paper of 2017. “The debate in Congress about funding the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to provide health coverage to low-income children is beyond me. Where have we gone wrong as nation? CHIP has historically had bipartisan support.”

As a federal employee working for the Veterans Health Administration, Rani appreciates that her family has the gold standard in health insurance. But even with their great coverage, they would be responsible for $30,000 a year in health-related expenses for Ben if it were not for the Kaileigh Mulligan waiver through the Commonwealth’s MassHealth (Medicaid) program. The waiver benefits children with severe special needs whose families are over the income level for MassHealth eligibility but require the same level of ongoing nursing and medical needs as a child living in a pediatric nursing home or hospital.

LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST:

Rani and Sherin met in London in a pub in the summer of 1991, just hours after Rani returned from two weeks in India, her father’s birthplace. After a few dates with Sherin, Rani decided to remain in the U.K. a little longer. A little longer turned into a full year packed with adventures to Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, and France, until she was forced by her visa limits to return to the U.S.

The well-traveled couple married in 1994. Over the first ten years of their marriage, they went to Indonesia, the Middle East, and all over
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Europe—the last three with their baby, Lucy, whom they took to India and Egypt. “We didn’t expect our lifestyle to change with our second baby,” explains Rani. “But when Ben started exhibiting signs of what would eventually be diagnosed as Schwartz-Jampel Syndrome, our journeys took us to top hospitals in Ann Arbor, Baltimore, and Boston to consult with specialists. We managed a few fun trips in between, carting respiratory and walking equipment and ordering oxygen for long plane rides. This included a trip back to London in 2004 to visit friends.”

However, a 2007 trip to San Francisco almost thwarted the Elwys’ travels forever. First, their bag with critical medical supplies, including Ben’s tracheostomy suction catheters, was lost. Fortunately it arrived on the next plane, and the Elwys managed to carry out their family vacation. But on the return flight, TSA agents made Rani remove Ben’s hip-to-ankle leg braces before walking with him through the metal detectors, all while 20-month-old Charlotte screamed to be held and hundreds of travelers waiting in line watched the mayhem. “I thought to myself, ‘I am never, ever doing this again,’” states Rani.

For four years, the Elwys didn’t step foot on another plane. Instead, they purchased a wheelchair-accessible van in early 2009 and traveled

But after Sherin’s mother died, Sherin felt the pull to take his children to see his mother’s homeland. Rani refused to suffer further humiliation and discomfort by airport security. Sherin was patient in his attempts to change his wife’s mind, and, finally, she acquiesced.

To Rani’s delight, she found traveling abroad in 2011 an easier, more disability-friendly experience than she had experienced in the United States. “Ben was treated with respect. Accommodations were made for equipment, medicine was tested without fuss, and my family was not rushed along. I was finally able to satisfy my hunger for travel with all of my children in tow,” exclaims Rani.

WORLD CITIZENS: cives mundi

For the next six years, the Elwys made one international trip per year, including to England, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, France, Italy, and back to Germany. Traveling as a family gave Rani insight into a country’s attitudes towards its most vulnerable citizens. She explains, “Psychologists often talk about ‘helping behavior,’ which many countries we have visited exhibit through accessible planning and kind citizenship, thereby creating a culture of inclusiveness.”

– Rani Elwy
Psychologists often talk about ‘helping behavior,’ which many countries we have visited exhibit through accessible planning and kind citizenship, thereby creating a culture of inclusiveness.’ True to form, Rani shared her family’s travel stories in the Courageous Parent’s Network blog in a 2017 post titled “Finding Accessibility and Inclusion Abroad” in order to encourage other parents of children with disabilities to experience the world.

Not surprisingly, Latin scholar and history enthusiast Ben’s favorite family trip was to Rome, despite the lack of accessibility for the majority of sights in the Old City. But to the Elwys’ surprise, the Coliseum, one of the oldest buildings in Rome, has an elevator.

Ben was also the driving force behind his family’s trip to Iceland to see the Northern Lights. “It was spectacular and beautifully accessible, and whose body won’t benefit from the 104 degree Fahrenheit geothermal silica springs? It was pure heaven for someone with a neuromuscular disorder,” explains Rani. What’s more, the family was thrilled that a country of only 300,000 had made universal design the hallmark of their land.

“During our visit, I started thinking, could Berlin be my son’s adult home?”

– Sherin Elwy
The Elwys never thought they would find a more accessible country than Iceland, that is, until they visited Oslo and Bergen in Norway. “It was the first place where we did all of our city travel by foot, boat, train, or bus. Without us asking for special treatment, train conductors, captains, and bus drivers would spot us in a crowd and escort us to the front of the line, allowing us to board before others. We were in travel heaven,” comments Rani.

Yet, after a second trip to Berlin, Sherin’s mother’s birthplace, the Elwys now consider that city the world’s most accessible capital. “During our visit, I started thinking, could Berlin be my son’s adult home? He’s a German citizen by birth through Sherin and speaks German fluently. This country, which committed the most unspeakable acts 75 years ago, just might be a great home for Ben.”

**GRATITUDE GIVEN, INSPIRATION RECEIVED:**

*gratia data, inspiratio accepta*

On January 2, 2018, after two and a half months at home recuperating from his tibia/fibula osteotomy, Ben returned to school.

Rani took to Facebook to express heartfelt thanks for the support of family and friends during this trying time, writing, “Thank you for your calls, texts, emails, FB messages, snail mail, treat and food drop-offs, home visits, and more. Each day someone provided us with words of support or actions that bettered our lives. We are so grateful to be part of these incredible in-person and virtual communities, and so humbled by your generosity of spirit and love. Thank you for keeping Ben and us in your thoughts all along. The road is still winding, but we see the light.”

One friend’s reply to Rani’s post aptly expresses the deep appreciation and respect the community holds for the Elwy family’s inspirational approach to life. “I’ve learned so much from Ben (and his mama). The ripple effect of his courage and your collective hope reaches far and wide. Onward with fresh hope!! I pray today that Ben is embraced by many back at school. And I pray for a hot cup o’ coffee for you… and then one more.”

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23 BROOKFIELD ROAD

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33 EDGEMOOR AVENUE

WELLESLEY | $979,000
14 ALBA ROAD
When you live in a town with a rich historical background like Wellesley, it can be difficult to catalog each and every building and take the time to consider its worth on a communal or cultural level. Places like the library, Town Hall, schools, and grocery stores, by their very definition, are valued because of the services they provide. Sometimes, however, the historic buildings and sites in town aren’t well recognized, despite having contributed to the growth of the community.

Take, for example, the historic Hathaway House at the corner of Central Street and Weston Road in downtown Wellesley. This building, a yellow clapboard farmhouse, sits discreetly beyond a row of generic storefronts, and can be easily missed when driving by. What is not appar-

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WellesleyWeston Magazine  |  summer 2018
It wasn’t until two Wellesley College professors were struck with the idea to give the building new life and reinvigorated purpose. Julia Swift Orvis and Phillips Bradley, both professors of history at the time, always commiserated in their disappointment that the college bookstore was the only place where students and professors could congregate to read the latest novels and poetry. Together they fantasized about a communal space where both members of the college and Wellesley residents could go to appreciate the literature they craved. Not long after the idea arose, Orvis and Bradley gathered the money and bought the Hathaway House in 1925. They opened the Hathaway Bookstore the same year. The opening was a great success with throngs of students and locals.

Originally built atop an older structure dating back to the 1700s, the current clapboard farmhouse was erected as the first building on Central Street in 1830 by local farmer Robert Smith. The building was later sold to William Carhart in 1846, and inherited by his sister-in-law, Rebecca Morse Hathaway, in 1872. After Hathaway died in 1900, the house sat empty and fell into disrepair for many years.
talk to anyone who lived in Wellesley before 1979 and you just mention ‘Hathaway House,’ you will always get a smile, a story, and an anecdote about how that place got them interested in reading and writing,” Hinchliffe says. Jeanie Goddard, a much beloved English teacher who taught at Wellesley High School for many years, agrees and says that alike, congregating at the quaint, refurbished farmhouse with stacks of books in their hands.

A short time later, the Hathaway Bookstore became the cultural bedrock of Wellesley, hosting many renowned authors, screenwriters, playwrights, and public figures to speak at events over its many successful years. Among the noteworthy visitors were William Faulkner, Julia Child, Lowell Thomas, Ruth Gordon, Alistair Cooke, Anne Sexton, and Sylvia Plath. In fact, an article by writer and local historian Beth Hinchliffe mentions that one of Sylvia Plath’s favorite pastimes was riding her bike down to the Hathaway Bookstore and spending hours between the shelves.

In a recent interview, Hinchliffe made it clear that the memories of the bookstore extend far beyond just the celebrities it attracted. “If you
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she found the sheer size and grandeur of the Hathaway Bookstore collection to be its crown jewel. "It was huge with places to sit and knowledgeable people with whom to discuss your choices. It was truly ahead of its time as a resource for book people and as a warm and comforting place to be."

Hinchliffe, both a Wellesley native and a Wellesley College graduate, remembers her time at the bookstore fondly as well, stating that it was in the Hathaway House where her passion, which would eventually bleed into a prosperous career, was born. "It was the most delicious, delightful experience," Hinchliffe says, musing on how the Hathaway Bookstore fostered an environment for those with a love of literature. "Every room was set up to encourage reading and enjoy reading." She remembers the bookstore as not only a cozy and pleasant environment that promoted a healthy appreciation of reading, but also as a community meeting place in a time when such luxuries as a community center didn't exist. So when the bookstore ran into financial troubles in the late seventies before closing for good in 1979, many residents were fearful that a beloved piece of history was going to fall into the wrong hands.

While there were initial rumblings that the Hathaway House and its land was going to be sold to the developers of a mini mall, this was not the case thanks to the generosity and hard work of Stuart Swan and his wife, Georgette. The Swans, who were then full-time residents of Chatham, fell in love with Hathaway House and purchased the building in 1981. Over the next few years, the couple painstakingly worked to restore the Hathaway house to its former beauty, and slowly added a few additions—even a living space—as their furniture company thrived within the building’s walls.

Today, Stuart Swan still talks about the positive energy that the Hathaway House seemed to emanate. “This building has a lot of happy chi, it has a wonderful persona, something that the new owner immediately picked up on.” Swan reinforced how much work and “sweat equity” he put into his business and the building itself throughout the years, and the effort shows. Though the building looks modest from the outside, on the inside, light pours in through large, clean windows, and each room is softened by a sweeping cream-colored carpet that spreads from wall to wall beneath lofty, yet unimposing ceilings. Overall, the interior possesses a youthfulness and charm that one wouldn’t expect from a house dating back to before the Civil War. When asked about selling the building and what prompted their move to Williamsburg, Virginia, Stuart smiles
and simply says, “I’m 81, what else is there left to say?”

New owner Eamon O’Marah, managing partner of Harbinger Development, has every intention of maintaining the Hathaway House’s structural and historical integrity. To reinforce that point, O’Marah has just recently hung a new sign outside the building that reads “Hathaway House,” topped with a golden pineapple, an international symbol for hospitality. O’Marah is part of a team of strategic real-estate developers and investors who were previously based in Boston. He had his eye on the property for nearly three years before he approached the Swans, and, when they agreed to sell, O’Marah says that the process was easy and harmonious.

A Dover resident, O’Marah says he has a deep love and respect for Wellesley, and considers Central Street and Hathaway House to be essential and unique commercial entities in town. “The building has a collaborative feel to it, but what’s really nice is that it has a very integrated community feeling. It’s part of the street, and it’s part of the neighborhood. You know the people who are in the buildings next to you. You step outside and you see people you know and I love that.” O’Marah’s vision for Hathaway House is to operate it as a shared space for professional businesses.

Places like the historic Hathaway House are, and always will be, indispensable.
a fire damaged the Hathaway Bookstore in June of 1944, people from all over the East Coast who had spent time there were devastated by the news, and soon a deluge of donations and contributions in the form of money, books, and kind words began pouring in. This one simple note, from a letter written by Margaret Deland, who gave a reading at the historic Hathaway House on January 19, 1942, sums up the value of Hathaway House perfectly:

"We are simply overcome by that loss to Wellesley of the Hathaway House. We have such happy memories of the charm of the house and of the gracious hostess, Miss Gordon. We can ill afford to lose those old houses so full of interest, reminding us of happier and simpler days. If you see Miss Gordon, please give her our condolences and our hope that what is apparently lost may soon be recovered. There are few centers like that in our noisy world."
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there is a “new normal” for many households in Wellesley and Weston these days. Once empty bedrooms now contain full-grown humans and their stuff; refrigerators and cupboards that were edited down now explode with goodies and washers and dryers shimmy and shake double time. Who or what has jumpstarted these serene households? Surprise! The kids are back. And not just for the summer. In 2016, the Pew Research Center reported that Americans aged 18−34 are now more likely to live with their parents than in any other living arrangement. This trend upends 130 years of data collection.

“In my day, for the most part, the reality was that we went off to college, and we made our own way,” says Wellesley resident Daphne Meredith. Now families find themselves in a second phase of parenting, a chapter that baby books don’t cover. Parents now must learn to co-exist peacefully with college graduates who are back home under duress or out of necessity. “The challenge is that when kids get out of college, parents think, okay, they are done now, they are adults. But they forget that college is a protected universe. The kids don’t pay for rent or utilities and some see home as an extension of that universe,” notes Joani Geltman, a leading parenting expert, author, and psychology professor.

Families and kids recognize that economic shifts have overwritten the old-fashioned job model of long-term employment with benefits. “I always assumed that when I graduated, I would get some cool job and my own place. But then, boom, the recession hit and jobs went out the window,” says Wellesley resident Michelle Mannheim. Many parents echo the reality of the new gig economy. “We were happy to be able to offer our son a place to land. The job situation is so fluid. What happens if he signs a lease and a job comes
"You can't live in our basement. Your brother beat you to it."
“I’m here to update your census form. Since you mailed the form in, have any of your children moved back in with you?”

They’re Back!

through in another city?” says S., a Wellesley resident who asked to remain anonymous in order to protect her son’s privacy. Add college debt and the triple whammy of first and last month’s rent plus security deposit required by some local landlords, and prepare to watch the perfect launch plan fizzle.

Instead of handwringing over a delayed send-off, many parents see these periods as stolen time with a son or daughter who may never live at home again. “We knew it wasn’t forever,” says E., a Weston parent who also requested anonymity. All three of her children came home for extended periods post-college. “We thought it was a treat to have them home as functioning adults, and we could appreciate who our kids were,” she said. Many kids return the compliment. “I felt very supported by my parents because I took the first job I was offered, and it was nice to be home to take some time to see if the job was a fit for me,” says Michelle Mannheim.

In addition to some breathing space, the other obvious upside to an extended homestay is the chance to save money. “I had a plan to live at home for one year in order to pay for grad school,” says Wellesley resident, Bill Pedersen. Michelle was able to finance her entire business school tuition through savings. Geltman warns, though, that while this

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ADVICE FROM THE EXPERTS

Here are some tips from Christina Newberry and Joani Geltman to help parents and their adult children navigate an extended stay at home.

- **PLAN IN ADVANCE.** Start from a place of understanding, but don’t assume everything will go smoothly. Parents need to acknowledge that coming home is difficult, but it’s important to review past behaviors and discuss how the living situation will be different going forward.

- **DISCUSS EXPECTATIONS.** Have a clear conversation with your adult child and put it in writing. Establish a contract that outlines the length of stay at home, contributions to the household, whether a boyfriend or girlfriend can spend the night, or any other ground rules that need discussing.

- **INSIST ON A COOPERATIVE HOUSEHOLD.** Parents should not take on too many household chores like doing laundry or making lunches.

- **CONTRIBUTE TO HOUSEHOLD FINANCES.** There should be some “remuneration” for extended time at home. Adults have monthly bills and should work with their children on getting used to that model. It can offset increased costs to the household, and it’s good for a child’s self-esteem. If the child is generating no income, he or she can do chores that would otherwise cost their parents money, like painting or cleaning the gutters. Everyday chores should be a given and not count toward rent.

- **COMMUNICATE.** Everyone needs to be open and honest about what they need to make the situation work. Regular check-ins help make sure that those needs are being met.

- **GET A JOB.** If grown children are looking for a full-time job, after a certain amount of time, those children should get a part-time job—no one should be loafing around.

- **SET GOALS.** Ask your job-seeking child for a weekly accounting of what was accomplished toward reaching his or her goal. How many calls were made? How many resumes sent? How many meetings were held?
is a laudable short-term goal, if the idea is to save money for an apartment upgrade, it can be easy to become fixated on the fanciest digs with the best amenities. This might cause adult children to overstay their welcome at home. “Some kids have higher expectations about lifestyles and won’t put up with crummy apartments,” she says. “But staying home until they can afford a palace is not good for kids or their parents.”

Indeed, the tension that percolates through even the most convivial households is how parents balance their roles as welcoming cheerleader with prodder-in-chief. “As a parent, you have to recognize when it’s time to give a gentle nudge. We need to help our son understand that he can take forward steps even if everything isn’t perfect,” says S. But parents need to rethink strategies that worked fine for headstrong high school students but are not so effective for twenty-something-year-olds.

For their part, kids who return home benefit from working on breaking out of well-established family patterns. “That didn’t happen in our house,” says Daphne Meredith, who had all three of her children home for a year. “They all fell right back into their prescribed roles.” Seeing children bedding down in rooms lined with trophies and posters can lull families back into rhythms better suited for middle school than for adults. “Parents find themselves sounding very parental: You are living in my house, you are going to follow my rules,” says Geltman. A few parents interviewed for this article shared that they had to remind their offspring to complete most basic chores. “Our son would leave a trail of stuff around the house and not do the dishes, etc. It brought up friction, not only between me and him but also between me and my husband,” says E. And all mothers admitted to buying most of the groceries and cooking most of the meals. “At one point I called my husband and said ‘I feel like I am a mother bird flying home to all of these chicks in the nest with their mouths wide open!’” says Daphne Meredith, “when instead those baby chicks should be cooking dinner for us!” Both Daphne and her daughter, Alexandra, are candid about her year at
home. “It was more claustrophobic than I would have thought,” says Alexandra. “There was an unnecessary power struggle with me and my parents that only happened while we were under one roof.”

Some flashpoints that flare in newly (and often hastily) reconfigured household are kindled by mismatched expectations. “So many conflicts arise because parents and their adult children have vastly different expectations for what the adult child’s stay at home will look like. Everyone needs to be open and honest about what they need to make the situation work and check in regularly to make sure those needs are being met,” says Christina Newberry, author of The Hands-on Guide to Surviving Adult Children Living at Home.

But parents admit that those discussions can be difficult as they can bring up feelings of embarrassment and disappointment. “Our son feels shame in the fact that he is still at home. I worry about what the experience and length of time at home is doing to his self-esteem and...”
confidence,” says S. But experts say that communication is crucial to making adult children feel supported and validated and can often offer a road map to independence. “You need to start from a place of understanding; you need to acknowledge that coming home is difficult. But it is a cooperative relationship now, and you all need to sign on to that,” says Geltman.

Both Geltman and Newberry insist that discussing money needs to be paramount in any successful family conversation. Although, both acknowledge it can feel awkward to discuss remuneration with beloved children who are already cash poor. “Parents need to remember that their primary goal is to help their adult child toward independence. It’s good for their self-esteem to feel like a contributing member of the household,” says Newberry. Both say that setting timelines for incremental upticks in financial contributions is best. “Parents can lay it out and say, ‘This is what we are willing to do and this is how long we are willing to do it for,’” says Geltman. She emphasizes that by keeping to a timeline, clear cut expectations can be met more easily. But no back pedaling. “Parents worry that their kids will be mad at them,” she says. “But they can’t get cold feet; they have to be willing to live with the consequences of their decisions.”

Wellesley resident Janet Mannheim’s third son came home after college, and she knew the best thing she could do was to “after a few months make him just a little bit uncomfort-
able at home.” This meant offering him no spending money and giving him errands and chores. “His job was to look for a job. We turned the screws just a tiny bit and it worked,” she observed. Her son is now happily employed and will be moving out soon.

Unprompted, all of the young people interviewed for this article expressed the wish for a frank discussion prior to their return home. “I didn’t have a firm plan. If I had to do it again, I would talk about a plan with my parents up front,” says Alexandra Meredith. A preemptive talk can soothe jangled nerves and give a little clarity to what can feel like an open-ended proposition. “It’s much harder when your kid comes home without a plan or without a job, and you’re just wringing your hands because you can’t make decisions for them,” says E. But a well-thought-out timeline and financial program can offer navigation to families who are tiptoeing through a potential minefield. “Looking back in hindsight, my parents and I never had a dedicated conversation about me coming back to live at home. It just sort of happened. But I think for some families to have expectations set out at the start would be helpful so there are no surprises,” says Michelle Mannheim.

Geltman puts it this way: “There are many baby steps to a successful launch—just keep talking and keep the lines of communication open. You all want the same thing: for them to get out there and start the next, exciting phase of their life.”
Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.

- Albert Schweitzer

#happyagents
From Sea to
I made a promise to our son, William, a few years ago that when he reached the age of 10, we would tour the United States. Since he would be turning 11 in the fall, my wife, Carol, and I decided to reserve our RV, plot out our trip, and get started as soon as summer break commenced.

After picking up the vehicle in Tyngsborough, we hit the road. Passing through Connecticut, a powerful storm dropped hail boisterously on the roof of the vehicle as we said goodbye to the East Coast. We were happy to arrive at the Tri-state RV Park that evening, located where New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania meet.

The next morning, we had brunch nearby at Stewie’s in Matamoras, Pennsylvania. We had decided ahead of time not to cook in the RV, but instead to experience food unique to each area and to hopefully meet new people at each locale. “We’re the only non-whites in this restaurant,” William quickly observed. However, the meal was tasty, the coffee plentiful, and the service pleasant. People enjoyed their meals with their families, just like we were.

Carol and I began our American journey nearly 17 years ago in Ohio, and we wanted William to see where we got our start. So, we stopped in Akron, once the world’s Rubber Capital, and we were happy to see that the apartment we rented was still there, but we were disappointed by the overall deterioration of the surrounding area. Columbus, the state capital, has fared better. We visited Buckeye Village, Ohio State’s student family housing, so William could see the rooms we rented. We gladly observed that the area remains largely unchanged with its lovely old buildings and peaceful ambience.
Once out of Ohio, we quickly passed the farmlands in Illinois and Indiana, and by late afternoon arrived in Independence, Missouri, the birthplace of Harry Truman. A little early for dinner, we ventured into Kansas City, just a short drive away. For the largest city in the state of Missouri, we found the cityscape to be underwhelming in its horizontal and vertical dimensions. We returned to Independence, and had dinner at A Little BBQ Joint. Reflective of the restaurant’s popularity, its sizable parking lot was full so I had to park the RV on a nearby street. Once again we were the only people of color in the crowd. The air was saturated with ethanol, the menu filled with red meat options, and we got a true taste of America’s heartland. “Be careful,” said the waitress as she returned my credit card at the end of the meal. I started to feel a bit uneasy, unsure if her words were just the Missourian version of “take care,” or if it had something to do with the NAACP’s travel advisory for the state. Walking out of the restaurant, we found that the other drivers had thoughtfully left some space ahead of our RV so that we could easily get out.

After touring the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum the next morning, we spent the entire afternoon crossing into Kansas on Interstate 70. Because I missed my usual morning coffee, the withdrawal effect was starting to get me. Once on I-70, we were surprised by the lack of service; the Kansas part of I-70 has a few rest areas, but none has a gas station or a store. I had to exit I-70 to buy a coffee. The hilly, grassy, yet otherwise desolate land along the highway was dotted with oil rigs; Kansas is surely a fossil fuel-friendly state. Heading west, one after another, the upward slope created an illusion that the road and the sky were merging ahead of us, and we were driving right into the cloudless sky.

By late afternoon, we arrived in Goodland, Kansas, near the state line with Colorado. The expansive view of both sky and land imparted a sense of unobstructed openness and unfettered freedom. Near the RV park, an old house stood in an open field under the broad sky, empty but full of old-time magnetism. As we ambled in the field, a woman let us know she owned the house, had recently moved it from another part of town, and was contemplating how best to renovate it. The house was special, and so was its owner.

At the other side of the RV park, we saw a wheat field, and the “amber waves of grain” that so impressed Katharine Lee Bates when she passed through Kansas during her historic train trip from Wellesley to Colorado Springs. In Goodland, we had a good view, a good meal, and a good chat. What more could we have asked for?

When we entered the Eastern Plains of Colorado, driving on I-70 was a breeze amidst flat farmlands. Close to Denver, we could see the Rocky Mountains touch the sky. On our way to the national park, we enjoyed the view at varying vistas. The height, the depth, and the scale
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were all extraordinary. When we entered the gate of Rocky Mountain National Park, I bought an interagency annual pass, planning to visit a few more national parks down the road. By that time, we were more than half a continent away from our Wellesley home. Yet the words of our townsman, Katharine Lee Bates, graced the back of the pass: “America the Beautiful.”

The temptation of snow was hard to resist. At a lookout, we sprung out of the RV, dashed toward the snowy slope, and started throwing snowballs at each other. It felt surreal to play with snow in the summertime, wearing summer clothes. At the Alpine Visitor Center, we hiked the trail to the summit. The effect of oxygen deprivation became so acute that we had to pause a couple of times to replenish our blood oxygen. Although we wore windbreakers at the summit, the wind gave me a hard time in steadying my hand to take a selfie.

On July 3rd, we drove mostly downhill on I-70 to Arches National Park in Utah. Colorado Plateau is largely desert, with spots of luxuriant oases. The Utah part of the plateau displays an unearthly landscape, with numerous mesas, canyons, and red rocks and features a dense cluster of national parks and monuments.

We arrived at Arches in late afternoon. Under the reddening setting sun, the Arch was glowing in a graceful amber hue, against the backdrop of a solid blue sky. Just a glimpse of the sight was worth all the sweating and panting it took to hike there. Satisfied, we hiked back to the parking lot, which was less strenuous as the air was starting to cool down.

We returned to Arches the next morning for Courthouse Towers, Balanced Rock, Double Arch, and Landscape Arch, some of the park’s most notable sights. After a fabulous lunch in the city of Moab, we left for Bryce Canyon and arrived by evening. It was the 4th of July. We watched part of the fireworks show from the RV park near the historic Ruby’s Inn.

Zion National Park is about 70 miles away from Bryce Canyon. We entered Zion from its eastern entrance on UT-9. A segment of UT-9
called Zion-Mount Carmel Highway, built in 1930, includes a mile long tunnel, followed by a wildly twisted road with many thriller switchbacks on a steep downward slope. It was quite an experience to drive along the historic road, which isn’t a highway in terms of speed, but of elevation and risk.

Moab, UT
July 3 - 4

Left: Frank, William, and Carol Liu at Balanced Rock in Arches National Park, Moab, UT
Right: Carol at Delicate Arch in Arches National Park

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The highlight of our visit to Zion was a three-hour up and back hike in the Virgin River Narrows, a narrow gorge within Zion Canyon. The day was hot and windless on land, but hiking in the water of Virgin River was pleasant and comfortable. The two steep and tall canyon walls act as a spatial filter, limiting the amount of sunshine that can reach the bottom; at the height of summer heat, the water felt cool, but not cold. The uneven rocks in the riverbed and occasional rapids presented a just-right level of challenge. First, you got your shoes wet. Second, you got your pants wet. And occasionally, you got your shirt wet. But who cares? It was all fun.

The next morning, we filled the tank with gas in Las Vegas to be sure to have enough fuel to cross the desert, where service was known to
be sparse. By midafternoon, we made it into Los Angeles where we briefly strolled the glamorous streets of Beverly Hills and drove through Hollywood. We ended up camping in Malibu, right next to the Pacific Coast Highway, a.k.a. California SR-1. Under the mystifying moonlight, we listened to the Pacific pounding on the shore and felt the ground trembling.

On July 8, our plan was to drive along the scenic SR-1 North to Monterey, but road closures due to recent landslides forced us to take a detour and spend more time on US-101. Here we saw many farms, reminding us that California is not only abundant in education, technology, and entertainment, but also in agriculture. Back on SR-1, we were able to access Big Sur from Monterey. The scenery along the coastline was mesmerizing and intoxicating. Under a blue sky, the setting sun, and some low-lying clouds, the ocean gleamed with a lustrous sheen, while wearing a thin veil of fog. The road wound through luxuriant vegetation, with waves being bounced off the shore, turning into a white ring of misty flowers.

No trip to California would be complete without a stop in the Napa Valley, and we spent an afternoon visiting a few wineries over the strong objection from William, a staunch prohibitionist. In and around Napa Valley, the sunshine is plentiful, the soil fertile, and the temperature swing minimal. In the competitive global wine market, Napa has solidly established itself as a top contender with good reason.
Now it was time to head back east. The next morning, it didn’t take us long to pass Reno, Nevada. We then spent about six hours crossing Nevada’s desert on I-80, where much of the land is uninhabited, and roadside service is scarce to none, obliging travelers to tread carefully. Once out of the desert, the landscape became completely different all at once as we reached Wendover, a town straddling the Nevada/Utah border. The Bonneville Salt Flats at both sides of I-80 were dazzling to the eyes. Continuing on I-80, we passed the Great Salt Lake and ended the day in Salt Lake City.

We spent much of the next day crossing Wyoming, and arrived after dusk in Keystone, South Dakota, at the foot of Mount Rushmore National Memorial where the likenesses of Presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt are carved into the graphite face of the mountain. At the Grand View Terrace, Lakota hoop dancer Jasmine Pickner led a group dance with tourists from all over the world to promote unity and harmony. Park Ranger Darrell Red Cloud, also a Lakota, accompanied the dance with his drum song. The sight was so moving that I could almost see Lincoln nod approvingly from the face of Mount Rushmore.

Before leaving, we went back to Keystone for lunch. Reminiscent of the area’s frontier days, the stores along Winter Street feature street-facing balconies on the upper floors, with actors impersonating outlaws swaggering down the street, guns at waist, cracking whips. The scene resembled the television series Deadwood, which depicts the area’s lawless past during the gold rush. The actual town of Deadwood is not far from Keystone.

We got on I-90 at Rapid City, fast-forwarding through South Dakota where we admired the simple beauty of vast grasslands for hundreds of miles. East of the Missouri River, we started to see more varieties of agriculture, and at dusk, we were welcomed in Welcome, Minnesota. The next day, we crossed the Mississippi River into Wisconsin, passing through the city of Chicago, Indiana, and ending up in Michigan.

On July 14, we drove through Cleveland, Ohio, and Erie, Pennsylvania, and by late afternoon, arrived in Niagara Falls, New York. The next morning, we visited Niagara Falls State Park and hiked in Niagara Gorge. Later in the day, we donned rain ponchos and boarded the Maid of the Mist, the boat that cruises the churning waters at the feet of the falls. We were awestruck by the unstoppable force of the waterfalls. It was a fine day, so were able to witness rainbows popping up everywhere.

On July 16, we returned to our Wellesley home, stretching our bodies that had been squeezed into an RV for so many days. Our road trip was complete at 7,800 miles.

At Moab Valley RV Campground in Utah, I chatted with a camper whose site was next to ours. The retiree from Orange County, California, pointed out, “An RV road trip is perfect for family bonding.” I could not agree with him more. The confine of RV is a gentle rope of love that bonds a family together and harmonizes it. For that, I am very thankful, and I’m glad that I fulfilled my promise to William. To my fellow townspeople, I hope you can find the time to take an RV trip too.
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There’s a definite synergy between fashion and architecture.

So, when Salwa Khoory approached her budding architect daughter, Juann, to join her in a new endeavor in 1985, Juann felt intrigued and ready to help. The business was a small atelier (“workshop for artists”) in the South End—a nook of sewing machines among the neighborhood brownstones.

More than 30 years later, this mother-daughter team is the force behind the L’élite brand—an empire of bridal and occasion gowns and accessories boutiques that include L’élite Bridal, L’élite Occasions, Musette/Vera Wang Bridal, and the newly opened Boston Bridal Rack.
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In addition to being a practicing architect living in Wellesley, Juann helps her mother build the family brand—literally. As a co-owner, she’s in charge of branding, marketing, and designing the spaces, as well as merchandizing, buying, and selling for the family owned and operated business. Through her self-proclaimed “timeless modernist approach,” she even designs each store.

“I became aware of fashion and design during my master’s degree studies in architecture at Carnegie Mellon University,” says Juann of her education and how it bridges into the fashion world. “We studied modernist and Bauhaus, form and symmetry, light and shadow, rhythm and movement of not only buildings but also music, poetry, and fashion. I look at a bridal gown as a reflection or extension of the bride wearing it. It’s the same as a house, a retail store, or a corporate headquarters.”

**The Beginning**

Working as a French teacher in Baghdad, Lebanon-born Salwa knew she wanted a change in her career path. Her oldest son, Ghassan, was attending Boston University, so the family made the decision to settle nearby. With 17-year-old Juann and 11-year-old son, Wissam, in tow, Salwa moved to America in 1982.

Salwa’s childhood memories of tailor-made clothing and an interest in sewing and needlework led the way. “I made silk-threaded embroidery, crochet, and needlework with my mother,” she adds. “My eyes were trained early on to appreciate handmade clothing and details in the design and quality in the fabric.”

Once settled in Newton, Salwa took a job with a Greek tailor in Brookline creating custom-made clothing and alterations. Soon after, she branched out on her own, opening The Shawmut Place in the South End in 1985.

In her own atelier, she saw a growing customer base restoring family heirloom wedding gowns and veils. Whether they were handed down from mother to daughter or from the frantic Filene’s “Running of the Bride” sale, Salwa transformed gowns in size or style or recycled the fabric for all new silhouettes.

**A Monumental Move**

As business bustled, it was time for another change. Salwa moved her home to Wellesley in 1989, and her business added a sister location a year later. Welcome L’élite. This small boutique on tony Newbury Street sold pret-a-porter suits and dresses from France, Belgium, and Italy, while Shawmut continued as the tailoring and custom bridal sides of the business.

“Both stores were complementary, combining the tourist and high-end shopping with a neighborhood atelier,” explains Salwa. “[The name]
L’élite comes from being elite in the brand,” adds Juann. “We started with a French brand as it’s familiar to the Lebanese culture, and French was the language of the country.”

In 1994, the Khoory duo became married to the concept of detouring L’élite to bridal, a deviation born of Juann’s own search for a sophisticated gown without the popular pouf of the day’s fashion. “I couldn’t find a dress I could wear that spoke to who I am,” she remembers. “It was in the early ‘90s and there were a lot of big puffy fairy tale gowns. So I designed my wedding gown with my mom.”

The sun-splashed Newbury location was soon filled with gorgeous bridal gowns from France and Italy. “The customers on Newbury were local and international, which led us to start thinking globally about bringing haute couture gowns in from Europe,” Juann continues. “This created a niche for us in the Boston area.” Soon the lines evolved to include American designers including Oscar de la Renta, Amsale, and Monique Lhuillier.

The location’s success was clearly paving the aisle for more to come. The Khoory family business was poised to take over the Back Bay bridal world.

Growing Businesses

It wasn’t too long before a designer synonymous with bridal couture fell in line with the Khoorys’ plan. In 2004, Salwa’s daughter-in-law, Gisele, joined the team and opened the world’s first stand-alone Vera Wang Bride a block away from L’élite. Married to Ghassan, Gisele came from Beirut, a
capital open to Parisian fashion. It was this European influence that gave her a keen eye to oversee all operations, from the look of the gowns to coordinating designers.

While brides take center stage at L’élite, the Khoory team knew there was an untapped beauty that required a moment in the spotlight. As such, L’élite Occasions opened in 2009—a unique boutique with a red carpet gown collection that dresses the mother of the bride/groom, a gala goer, and a girl on her way to prom or celebrating her bat mitzvah. The store carries designer styles not always seen in mainstream fashion boutiques such as Catherine Regehr, Liancarlo, Marchesa, and Monique Lhuillier.

The Khoory family wasn’t done. You might say their honeymoon was far from being over. Three years later, the Vera Wang Bridal location morphed into Musette. The newest, non-mainstream designers found a home in this luxury couture shop, from traditional and modern gowns to eclectic bohemian and retro styles.

“Our favorite part is when we bring the vision to the bride that she’s trying to describe but cannot see well. Or when we find a gown that matches her personality that she never thought of,” says Gisele of the moment that sparks a chill all over the room as hugs arise and tears flow.

The L’élite team also recently opened the only bridal outlet in the city in spring 2017, Boston Bridal Rack, within their Boylston Street atelier that today houses all of the tailors for Musette, Vera Wang, and L’élite. All the Khoorys’ businesses combine an impressive team of 35 designers, tailors, and sales staff.

Another exciting addition on the way is “customization,” as Juann proudly announces of the “Design Your Dream Dress” coming to their atelier. “With our in-house designers and tailors, we will serve the bride who wants to design her own gown at the L’élite Workshop. I think we’ll see more customization with Millennium brides. It’s already happening in other retail industries.”

A Bright Future
It takes effort to be earn repeat honors from Boston magazine, The Improper Bostonian, and The Knot. The team travels to New York City several times a year and once to Barcelona, bringing back the latest designers such as Peter Langner, Elie Saab, Zuhair Murad, Berta, Carolina Herrera, Reem Acra, and Ines Di Santos. The shops also run multiple trunk shows and hosts fashion shows.

Although The Shawmut Place closed a few years after Newbury Street opened, its tradition is kept alive for brides who desire a change here or a tweak there to an heirloom gown. “Recently a customer brought her mother’s dress that was damaged,” remembers Salwa. “She bought one
from L’élite that matched in color and took apart the fabric to redesign the new dress to her taste. It kept the sentimental feeling of wearing a dress that has a piece of her mother’s dress.”

Regardless of how modern brides are, Salwa sees the industry remaining a traditional in-person experience. And although she has stepped away from sewing, she still enjoys the interactions with her customers as she manages L’élite.

“[It’s] a very special experience shared by family and friends, whether buying the wedding gown, mother-of-the-bride dress, or bridesmaids dresses,” she explains. “It will be hugely missed if it all happens at a computer screen. Feeling the fabrics, seeing the colors, and how you move with the gown is crucial in selecting a dress.”

After all, it was family that created the L’élite brand. And it’s that feeling that guides Salwa’s love of the business after all these years.

“Besides my own family, I feel I have a big family especially when I see the bride coming back after five or ten years with her cousins and friends to help them find a dress at L’élite,” she says. “For example, last week we dressed a bride who used to be a L’élite flower girl!”

Juann wholeheartedly agrees. “Every time I am in one of these stores and see a bride saying, ‘Yes, this is the dress,’ with tears in her eyes, it gives me goose bumps. I start tearing up as well,” she says. “Finding the dress is like finding a soul mate. Usually there is only one, and when you find it, you know.”

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at the proverbial water cooler, Lee Rubin Collins learned great news from a fellow woman lawyer in the Boston office of the global law firm, Ropes & Gray. After battling infertility, Lee’s colleague was finally pregnant.

It was during this happy exchange that Lee learned about RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, an organization that didn’t cross her mind again for a couple of years—that is, until Lee and her husband, Jarrett Collins, were having difficulty conceiving their second child.

Infertility is a pervasive medical issue. According to the Centers for Disease Control, one in eight couples, or twelve percent of married women, have trouble getting pregnant or sustaining a pregnancy. And secondary infertility, the type Lee and Jarrett experienced, when it’s difficult to conceive a second child, is even more common than primary infertility.

It took two years and five grueling cycles of in vitro fertilization (IVF) for Lee to get pregnant. After giving birth to her second child, Lee decided to give up her partnership at Ropes & Gray and dedicate herself to helping others when they faced trouble having a baby.

Lee first joined the board of the New England chapter of RESOLVE, and one year later, the national board. “RESOLVE had changed my life; now it was my time to pay it forward,” explains Lee of her decision to leave her corporate life to become an infertility coach. Among other RESOLVE and volunteer advocates like Lee are dedicated to ensuring that all people challenged in their family building journey reach resolution.
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thing}s, RESOLVE (resolve.org) runs support groups and “Walks of Hope” across the country to create community and raise needed funds.

Lee intuitively understood the healing power of community. “I used to sit in the waiting room at the infertility clinic with my head buried in a magazine just like everyone else. One day, I looked around and thought to myself that all of these women were going through the same struggle that I was, so why on earth weren’t we talking to each other?”

So, Lee turned to the woman next to her and asked, “Are you doing IVF?” The woman looked up and said, “Yes.” To which Lee replied, “Me too. Which doctor are you seeing?” This broke the ice — Lee and her fellow waiting room friend had formed their own impromptu support group. The women exchanged emails so they could stay in touch between appointments. Lee did the same thing at every subsequent medical appointment.

Connecting with women going through the same difficult experience helped Lee feel less alone and she forged friendships that continue to this day. One of the most courageous women Lee met is named Angela, who saves money for years to afford one cycle of IVF. She also saves money to travel every year to Washington, D.C. for Advocacy Day, sponsored by RESOLVE. Angela explains that she does it for the child she hopes to have: “I want that child to know how hard I fought to have her and to make it easier if she has the same problem when she grows up.”

Earlier this year, Lee was elated to hear that Angela’s third cycle of IVF worked. But at six weeks, she tearfully told Lee that she’d had a miscarriage. “Despite a drained bank account and a broken heart, three months later, Angela was back at Advocacy Day because striving for justice keeps her going,” marvels Lee.

While Lee’s initial intention was to pay her success forward as an infertility coach, in 2003 the President’s Council on Bioethics took aim at reproductive medicine proposing non-consensual government tracking
Lee, with Representative Joe Kennedy III, is one of the hundreds of infertility volunteers who meet with their congressional representatives at RESOLVE’s annual Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C.

of IVF cycles and embryos. Lee switched gears. She put her legal mind to work to help lead RESOLVE’s efforts to counteract policies hostile to the interests of men and women trying to have babies. This clash brought into focus for Lee that infertility was not being treated fairly in society: “Few health insurance policies covered it, and now politicians were taking aim at us. From that moment, achieving fairness for individuals trying to start a family became my goal,” explains Lee.

In 2010, Lee authored a bill to improve the infertility insurance coverage in Massachusetts, which is one of just eight U.S. states with an insurance mandate requiring qualified employers to include IVF coverage in their health plans. Lee was clear about the positive impact of insurance coverage. A study published in The New England Journal of Medicine (August 2002) found that in states requiring insurance for IVF, the rate of triplets is significantly lower than in states where patients have to pay out of pocket. The authors of the study noted that mandatory coverage

Children’s Books
Find a list of books for children conceived by donor sperm, egg, embryo, or gestational carrier at CreatingAFamily.org, a National Infertility & Adoption Education nonprofit. Wish, The Pea That Was Me, and The Very Kind Koala are three of the many titles.
is likely to yield better health outcomes for women and their infants since high-order births are associated with higher-risk pregnancies.

One of Lee’s proudest advocacy wins was on behalf of wounded veterans. Spinal cord and other injuries can impair fertility, but since 1996 there had been a ban preventing the Veterans Administration from providing IVF when these men and women wanted to start a family. RESOLVE and other groups advocated hard, and, finally, in 2016, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs amended its fertility counseling and treatment regulations to include “IVF for eligible veterans with service-connected disabilities that result in infertility.” “At last, the men and women who serve our country have the chance of a future with a family,” proclaims Lee.

To this day, Lee continues to fight “embryo personhood” legislation around the country because of potential interference with IVF. “I just helped update RESOLVE’s Policy on Personhood Legislation because unfortunately, in 2017, ten states tried to pass ‘personhood’ legislation, and President Trump’s Health & Human Services Administration drafted a strategic plan that repeatedly references protecting human life ‘at every stage of life, beginning at conception,’” Lee explains.

In 2014, Lee received the RESOLVE Barbara Eck Founder’s Award for her significant leadership in the field of infertility. She is honored to join the company of IVF pioneers like the esteemed Drs. Howard and Georgeanna Jones. And in 2016, she delivered a TEDxBeaconStreet talk about the politics of infertility that is available on YouTube.

Whether advocating through legislative action or human compassion, Lee’s goal is to inspire people who have resolved their infertility to: “Take up ‘the obligation of the cured’ and support this cause throughout their lives.” No doubt that she has, and will, continue to motivate many men and women who now know the joys of parenthood—firsthand.
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**WESTON**

**Land’s Sake Farm Programs**

“One of the things that makes us really unique is our children’s garden, which is completely planted, maintained, and harvested by kids. It’s also a great way to get them to try fresh, locally grown, and delicious food.” – Pam Hess, Executive Director, Land’s Sake Farm
Magnificent waterfront estate with commanding views | Chatham $20M

Unobstructed, sweeping Buzzards Bay views | Falmouth $3.095M

Updated Antique with pool & guest quarters | Yarmouth Port $1.099M

Spectacular views, private beach & pool | New Seabury $2.695M

Custom 7 BR home on the Bay side | Truro $3.3M

Waterfront architectural landmark | Osterville $11.5M

6 acres, dock, beach, guest house, pool | Marion $6.495M

Arts & Crafts style home on 3.6 acres | Dover $4.175M

Coveted Back Bay Co-op, Charles River views | Boston $4.5M
Since 1985, this working farm has been a central part of Weston’s community, offering year-round after-school programs, as well as full- and half-day learning opportunities for kids all summer long. Programs are designed for children ranging from pre-school through middle school, but the farm also hires volunteer high school students as junior counselors and is piloting a high school community service program this summer.

Younger kids will do arts and crafts, meet at the “magic tree”—a cut leaf beech tree with a canopy of leaves, and learn to safely climb Japanese mountain ash trees with lots of branches within reach. Older kids will help prepare and pack food to donate as part of the farm’s hunger relief effort. Everyone will learn to care for the goats, rabbits, and chickens. And they will all harvest the gardens and cook and eat the variety of fruits and vegetables that come from them.

“The farm changes throughout the seasons, and everyone is welcome year-round to explore it or stop by the farm stand,” says Hess. The farm also offers Open Farmyard—a free, drop-in program—twice a week throughout the summer with activities that mirror the growing season and help instill an appreciation for our food sources.

With experienced educators who are passionate about what they do, your child is sure to have an engaging experience that will stay with them long after they leave the farm.

For more information, visit www.landssake.org. To register for programs visit the Weston Rec Center’s website, www.weston.org.

Weston Conservation Commission Programs

“Weston is pretty unique in that it’s so close to a major urban area, but it has an enormous amount of open space and trails, which are not always visible from the road,” – Emily Schadler, Conservation Stewardship Program Coordinator, Weston Conservation Commission

The Weston Conservation Commission owns and maintains 2,000 acres of protected land throughout Weston. “We want to be sure people know about all Weston has to offer and can fully appreciate it,” says Schadler. The Open Space and Recreation Plan is a great resource for people who want to learn more about Weston’s treasured open spaces. You can also sign up for Conservation Connection, the Commission’s quarterly e-newsletter, for the latest programming news. For additional information, visit www.weston.org/list.aspx.

Weston Forest & Trail Association Programs

This privately-run organization maintains more than 90 miles of trails including the new Mass Central Rail Trail, fire roads, and hilltop outlooks used for public enjoyment.
The Association offers monthly nature walks (Oct.–May) through forests and trails that focus on everything from birding to exploring. People of all ages and leashed dogs are welcome. To find out about other nature programs, become a member of the Weston Forest & Trail Association to hear about lectures, trail walks, and other programs. Or visit www.westonforesttrail.org.

A map showing all town trails can be purchased from the Conservation Department, along with Elmer Jones’s trail guide, *Walks on Weston Conservation Land*. Or you can pull up your trail location with the MapsOnline Trails App at www.mapsonline.net/westonma/trails.html.

WELLESLEY

Wellesley Recreation Department Programs

The Wellesley Recreation Department runs a variety of outdoor summer programs that help educate children about the environment.

PUDDLESTOMPERS™ Nature Exploration

“PUDDLESTOMPERS’ vision is for every child to internalize the beauty and fragility of the natural world, and to feel able and willing to engage with its wonders every day!” – Rachel Rock, Founder and Co-President, PUDDLESTOMPERS

PUDDLESTOMPERS’ curriculum is designed to connect the youngest naturalists, ages 2–8, to the open spaces in their commu-
nity. Through offering child/adult classes and half-day, drop-off programs, PUDDLESTOMPERS not only introduces kids to nature and wooded trails in their town, but also teaches them to respect local plants, animals, and birds. PUDDLESTOMPERS offers a variety of programming in Wellesley and Weston throughout the year, including a weekly drop-off program in the summer. For more information or to register, visit www.puddlestompers.com, or register through the Wellesley or Weston Recreation centers at www.wellesleyrec.org, or www.weston.org.

**Family Campout**

Traditionally held as summer comes to a close, the second annual campout in September is open to families and kids of all ages who want to experience the wonders of camping, close to home. It is held behind Bates Elementary School on Kelly Field, where representatives from The Wellesley Recreation Department, Wellesley Natural Resource Center, and the Boy Scouts will lead campers on nature walks and teach them about knot tying, fire building, and other outdoor activities. Tents are available if needed. This is perfect for first-timers or veteran campers!

**Family Fishing Clinic**

Held at Morses Pond in June, the Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife staff will introduce children and adults to the basics of fishing, from tying lures to casting lines, or challenge the most experienced anglers. This festival just might turn anyone into a fishing enthusiast.

For more information on Wellesley Rec Center nature programs visit www.wellesleyrec.org.

**Wellesley ECO Summer Camp**

“Our goal is to foster a love of the outdoors in Wellesley youth, educate them about how to protect our resources, and teach them practical outdoor skills like fishing, fire-building, and map-and-compass navigation.”

–Matthew Hornung, WCC Adviser and EcoCamp Program Director
EcoCamp is held one week each summer for rising 6th, 7th, or 8th grade Wellesley students who are selected by lottery. Co-sponsored by Wellesley’s Youth Commission and the Wellesley Conservation Council, the day camp is designed to expose kids to the wonders of the environment while educating them on outdoor skills. “They fish on Sabrina Lake, kayak on Morses Pond, and learn to identify invasive water plants like bittersweet vines which are six inches thick and can choke a tree down,” explains Pete Jones, board director of the Wellesley Conservation Council (WCC), who co-runs the program with Matthew Hornung, Lehigh University freshman and WCC board advisor, and Maura Renzella, director of Wellesley’s Youth Commission.

As part of the camp, kids also visit Mass Audubon’s Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary, where they learn about the ecological impacts of climate change, and Mass Horticulture’s Elm Bank, where they taste rose hips and original vegetation dating back to the days of the Pilgrims.

“It’s amazing to see these kids’ eyes light up when they realize everything they eat doesn’t come shrink-wrapped in the grocery store,” says Jones. Hornung adds, “Different kids get excited about different things, and they all take away something of their own. Next year [Summer 2019], we’re going to run a camp geared toward stay-at-home parents with similar objectives to EcoCamp.”

**Wellesley Free Library Programs**

The Wellesley Free Library is not only a go-to resource for books and media, it offers dynamic programming options free to the public—from lectures to hands-on activities—many of which focus on educating adults and children about our environment.

For instance, *Eyes on Owls*, taught by naturalist and owl enthusiast, Marcia Wilson, lets attendees meet six different live owls up-close and learn why it’s so important to protect them. *Living Sustainably in the*
Suburbs: Backyard Chicken Coop provides adults with all the information they need to successfully care for and keep laying hens. And Fairy Garden Terrariums encourages kids to use their imagination to plant a garden for fairies using flowers, wood, and rocks.

The library also partners with organizations like the Wellesley Conservation Council and Land’s Sake Farm in Weston to provide programs about bird watching, geology, conservation, and more. For information on upcoming events, visit www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org/events.

Wellesley Conservation Council Programs (WCC)

“I’ve lived in Wellesley for 70 years. The woods and open space we have here are a rarity, and we need to take care of them.” – Pete Jones, WCC Board Director

This privately run organization was founded in 1958 by a group of concerned residents who wanted “to protect and preserve natural areas in Wellesley, educate the public about the need for conservation, encourage the appreciation of natural history, and acquire and hold land for the benefit of the public.” Today, the Council continues to teach families about how important it is to have green space, clean air, and clean water. “The WCC has developed a number of programs to educate people about the flora, fauna, and trails in Wellesley,” explains Jones.

WCC holds two programs a year—one in the fall, which usually exposes primary school children to live animals, and one in the spring designed for adults. The WCC also does Sunday morning bird walks at Guernsey Sanctuary, Wellesley’s largest sanctuary, throughout the year. For more information visit www.wellesleyconservationcouncil.org.

Natural Resources Commission Nature Programs

“Our goal is to instill an appreciation for our environment and the rich resources we have at our disposal.” – Stephanie Hawkinson, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Natural Resources Commission (NRC)
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This town-run organization focuses on advocating for Wellesley's parks, trails, and conservation land and partners with Wellesley's DPW to maintain them. With 43 miles of trails that connect open spaces, all woodland trails are marked so anyone can enjoy them, year round.

Each fall and spring, the NRC trails committee holds a “kids’ day” to teach children about local plants and animals and leads a series of guided weekend nature walks for people of all ages. Throughout the year, the NRC organizes and supports activities that help protect our planet, including community clean-up days to pick up trash or pull invasive weeds, gardening workshops to encourage pollinator planting, and educational programs to highlight aquatic life in our ponds and streams. “We partner with the Wellesley library to create events such as Landscapes for Living, a community forum on organic lawn care and landscaping techniques led by an entomologist who has talked about the importance of having a large bird and bug population,” adds Hawkinson. If you’re interested in exploring Wellesley’s woodland trails this summer, visit www.wellesleyma.gov for maps and directions.

NATICK

Natick Community Organic Farm

Summer Programs

“Our programs give kids an opportunity to be outside, off their devices, and reconnect with nature.” – Heather McClurg, Program Director, Natick Community Organic

This nonprofit organization is a working organic farm that gives kids—ages 3.5 to 14—a unique opportunity to see first-hand not only how a farm works, but where so much of our food comes from. Younger farm-
ers will make leaf collages, pick fresh mint to make tea, “bake” a mud pie, or pet a bunny in a “bunny circle.” Older farmers might help collect flowers to sell at the roadside stand, pull carrots from the ground, or feed the pigs and goats.

No matter their age, kids will go to camp clean and curious and come home muddy and inspired. Each program is designed for a specific age group and is meant to teach our youth about food sources, ecology, respect for animals, and personal responsibility for our environment. Programs fill up quickly. Half-day and full-day options available. For more information visit www.natickfarm.org.

**Mass Audubon Programs**

Founded in 1892, Mass Audubon protects 37,500 acres of land across Massachusetts, making nature accessible to everyone, young and old. It also offers enriching summer camps where kids can explore, connect with nature, and develop their love for the outdoors. Broadmoor in Natick and Drumlin Farm in Lincoln are two of those camps right next door.

**Broadmoor Nature Camp**

Broadmoor wildlife sanctuary in Natick offers a range of summer camps for kids ages 4–14 that lets them explore the outdoors and learn to appreciate it. Kids will participate in nature-inspired games, crafts, and activities. Younger campers will discover frogs, turtles and dragonflies in the marsh and roam the fields, while older campers will canoe and journey beyond the sanctuary. For more information on Broadmoor Nature Camp, visit www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/broadmoor/summer-camp.

**LINCOLN**

**Drumlin Farm Programs**

“Our programs encourage campers to explore local habitats while connecting them to the joys and wonders of the natural landscape.” – Robin Stuart, Director of Education Programs, Drumlin Farm

At this 206-acre wildlife sanctuary and working farm, campers ages 4–18 will hopefully develop an appreciation for nature, the land, and wildlife. Campers will learn about sustainable farming and caring for farm animals. They will observe native birds and other wildlife, create nature-focused crafts, play games, sing songs, and even cook! And they won’t even realize how much they’re learning. For more information on Drumlin Farm programs visit www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/drumlin-farm.

**Beyond our Borders**

The organizations and programs listed here are just a handful of those available. With teachers, schools, and parents stressing the importance of protecting our planet and more and more of us working to educate the next generation about caring for our environment, almost every town has something unique and special to offer. All you have to do is look.
Robert Pillsbury’s cut-paper creations whirl, swirl, and twist in a three-dimensional dance. Influenced by his 40-year career as an architect, the Warren, Rhode Island artist with close ties to Wellesley painstakingly arranges hundreds of individual shapes into a design, and then gives that composition depth and complexity by stacking layer upon layer of more carefully-cut forms.

Freed from building codes and site restrictions that governed his professional practice, Pillsbury’s current creative endeavor results in intricate designs that play with geometry, often stray from symmetry, and are one-of-a-kind.

Each of his unique pieces, most measuring 30 x 30 inches, require at least 40 hours of precise work. First comes the concept, which might be shaped during one of Pillsbury’s hours-long bike rides along the Rhode Island shore. He can be inspired by anything from a birch tree’s texture to an image of a computer’s hard drive; from American quilts to Italian abstract art; and from a chair seat’s octagonal caning to the steel filigree on Rhode Island’s Mount Hope Bridge.

“The creative process for architecture is very similar to my creative process for my artwork,” he says, and making that artwork three-dimensional is an essential feature. Pillsbury’s process is an evolution that involves considering multiple options, as he progresses from sketching out a design to deciding on his final plan.
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With an idea for his creation in mind, Pillsbury sits down, carefully considers his design options, and begins by making a freehand sketch. Thanks to the technology of 3D software, he can then visualize variations without putting knife to paper. He experiments not only with the placement of shapes within the design but also with the orientation of the layers, shifting each layer to add movement and interest. Then, the software allows him to play with the piece’s dimensionality—which sections should be layered—all without putting knife to paper.

“I really have to think about how I am going to construct this to get the effect that I want,” he says.

While his first ventures into this art style were monochromatic—white on white—Pillsbury now incorporates color. The use of color adds yet another variable to his work and offers an opportunity to make it even more thought provoking. A blue, gray, and white piece zigs and zags to dizzying effect. Columns of navy, light blue, and white waves are staggered into a frothy sea, complete with bubbles. Gray, charcoal, and red latticing with a partly riven seam invites a closer look: Where is it knit together? What’s underneath?

Pillsbury groups his work into three styles: woven abstractions, geometric patterns, and realistic abstractions. Given the amount of preparation he puts into each design, one might think it would be tempting to duplicate a piece. But that’s not how Pillsbury works. No two pieces are exactly the same.

Besides dimensionality, another constant in his work is the delightful unexpected. Somehow, within his precise geometries, he makes room for playfulness. He’ll vary the symmetry with an unexpected pop of color, accent undulating wave forms with frothy bubbles that break free of the pattern or leave a space free from color or texture to let the imagination take over.

Once he’s planned his design, he superimposes the pattern onto his choice of colorfast, heavyweight archival art papers of varying textures. He pricks the paper at every spot where one line intersects with another. After each intersection is marked, he removes the template and, using an X-Acto knife, connects the dots, freeing the shapes from the paper. He glues each joint for stability—“It’s paper, and I want it to last”—and

**Golden Circles** (left) and **Lotus Swirl** (right)
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creates dimensionality by placing foam spacers between the layers at each intersection.

It’s not a forgiving method: Pillsbury completes many of his pieces by laying a single sheet of paper like a lattice over the entire composition. If he makes an error by connecting the dots the wrong way, or if the knife strays a bit too far, he must restart and cut the pieces all over again. “One slip of the mat knife, and I’m redoing something I spent four hours on,” he says.

Pillsbury began his architectural career building architectural models—including one of Boston City Hall—and relies on that hands-on experience. “I’m very good with a mat knife and an X-Acto knife,” he says. And, needing “something to retire to,” he adds, “I decided that cut-paper work was a natural transition.”

“The creative process for architecture is very similar to my creative process for artwork,” he notes. He works at his craft as he did his profession, beginning work each day in his studio at 8 a.m., breaking at lunchtime for a five- to seven-mile bike ride, and then returning to his workspace for the afternoon, making one piece at a time.

Each creation leads to another, although Pillsbury tries not to begin a project immediately after he’s completed one of his works. “I let it stew,” he says of his need to allow the inspiration to cook. Unlike other media where an artist might change course during the work, “I really have to have a plan before I start.”

Many of Pillsbury’s pieces are featured at florijnHOME in Wellesley Square, where customers value the workmanship, the modern colors and patterns, and the time involved in creating such sophisticated pieces, says Manager Erika Lozeau.

“Many of Pillsbury’s pieces are featured at florijnHOME in Wellesley Square, where customers value the workmanship, the modern colors and patterns, and the time involved in creating such sophisticated pieces, says Manager Erika Lozeau. 

“They are one-of-a-kind. It’s also very special to take a career of many years in architecture and turn that into a newly honed skill that creates works of art.”

FlorijnHOME features local artists to support those interested in art and design,” says Lozeau.

Sometime this spring, the shop will host an event in which customers can meet Pillsbury and learn more about his work. “He plans to give a demonstration/how-to so customers can have a better under-
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standing of how his work is created as well as the thought process around his pieces,” she says.

Last fall, Pillsbury shared his unique set of skills with students at Wellesley’s Tenacre Country Day School. As artist-in-residence, he spoke with students and parents about his work, and gave workshops in which he demonstrated his techniques. Then, students created pieces of their own. He taught four half-hour classes, but his students wanted more. “They even gave up their recesses” to work on their projects, he says.

Pillsbury was impressed with the students’ ability to adapt his methods for their own creations, which integrated weaving strips of paper, working with color, and layering.

“Our students were captivated and inspired by Robert’s presentation,” says Tenacre art teacher, Molly Curry. “During his visit, Robert had the chance to work with fourth and sixth graders in art class and he introduced his technique of cut-paper art to the students. Robert has a natural ability to connect with students and everyone felt successful at the end of the lesson.”

“Robert did a wonderful job speaking about his childhood, career, and his road to becoming the artist that he is today,” says Jessica Walters, Tenacre parent and co-chair of the Tenacre Art Gallery, which showcased Pillsbury’s work and which strives to present to students new techniques, skills, and perspectives. “The children were thrilled to be able to have in-class time with Mr. Pillsbury where they were inspired to create their own masterpieces of cut-paper. It was truly a rewarding experience for our students and community and we are most grateful that Robert was part of Tenacre this year.”

From creating architectural models, to designing buildings, to creating detailed three-dimensional birds out of thin sheets of cork, to architectural cut-paper portraits of structures, the constant thread in Pillsbury’s work is dimensionality.

The possibilities for Pillsbury’s work are ever-expansive. He’s begun doing more and more commissioned work for fans of his unique process, and it satisfies in more than one dimension.

“I love the production part of it,” Pillsbury says. “Luckily, people like the finished product, too. It’s ideal.”
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sanjiv chopra likes to tell this story about the late Beatle, John Lennon.

“When John was five years old, his teacher gave the class a writing assignment on what they want to be when they grow up. John wrote: ‘Happy.’

His teacher said, ‘John, you didn’t understand the assignment.’ To which John replied, ‘And you don’t understand life.’”

Regardless of living conditions, health, or income, all human beings want to be happy, says Chopra. “We can learn much from children.”

But with age, that clarity seems to muddle. Many people spend their adult lives searching for happiness, looking in the wrong places, finding temporary answers. Sanjiv Chopra, of Weston, and Gina Vild, of Wellesley, co-authors of The Two Most Important Days: How to Find Your Purpose and Live a Happier, Healthier Life, believe the desire to enjoy sustained happiness is hardwired into everyone’s DNA.

“The yearning is universal, transcending age, gender, geography, vocation, and personal circumstances,” they write, and yet everyone has the ability to find long-term happiness if they make the right choices.

Their new book offers motivation, research, and resources to help. Tellingly, the book takes its title from Mark Twain, who wrote, “The two most important days are the day you were born and the day you find out why.”

Sanjiv Chopra, professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and James Tullis Firm Chief, Department of Medicine, at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, is a former faculty dean for Continuing Medical Education at Harvard Medical School. He is the author of several books
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on health and leadership, and co-author with his brother, Deepak Chopra, of their joint memoir. Sanjiv Chopra and his wife, Amita Chopra, a pediatrician and meditation teacher, have lived in Weston for more than 32 years. Their son and two daughters graduated from Weston High School.

Gina Vild is associate dean and chief communications officer at Harvard Medical School. After moving to Wellesley 29 years ago, she was active in the local schools while raising her son and daughter. For nine years, she wrote a column in The Wellesley Townsman on education and children.

On a cold winter evening, the co-authors and I met at the Chopras’ home. Enticing aromas from the large open kitchen filled the adjacent living room where we spoke. Photographs of family and friends and mementos of their travels abroad lent a feeling of warmth and welcome. Vild and Chopra sat in a pair of marvelous golden armchairs whose arms are sculpted swans. The intricately carved chairs, like other pieces in the room, were designed by Amita’s sister in Delhi.

“A recent search on Amazon turned up 256,000 books on happiness,” began Vild, “So why did we write this one? What makes it different?”

It is the blending of genres, she said. Ancient wisdom. The words of great poets and the Buddha. Inspiring stories about real people who changed their own lives and the lives of those around them. Scientific and academic studies that support the teachings of ancient Greeks and modern thinkers alike. And finally, practical tools and resources that anyone can use to increase their own happiness.

Among the benefits can be longevity and better health.

They cite a formula developed by the psychologist Martin Seligman: 

\[ H = S + C + V \]

Happiness equals the “set point” we inherit, plus the “conditions of living,” plus “voluntary actions” or choices we make.

According to the formula, 50 percent of your happiness is determined by your genetically determined set point—the happiness level you are born with. Only 10 percent is based on how satisfied you are with your living conditions. A Beverly Hills mansion, a slum, or suburbia can be equally satisfying as long as one’s basic needs—food, water, a place to sleep—are taken care of.

But 40 percent of your happiness quotient comes from choices that are within each person’s control.

Mega lottery winners illustrate this point. Chopra said evidence shows that big winners in the lottery are euphoric for a fairly short period, as brief as three months. But within a year, many, if not most, return to their baseline level of happiness—their set point. Some are even less happy than they were before. Only those who donate some of their newfound wealth to charity or help others become happier than they were.

What, then, can you do to boost your happiness quotient long term? They encourage us to spend time with family and friends, practice
forgiveness, find compassion for others, and learn from failure. Express gratitude every day in large and small ways. They urge us to live in the moment, and not hide behind a smart phone or screen. To meditate daily, read poetry, and reflect.

Finding and nurturing deep friendships is central to good health, but, they acknowledge, it's not always easy to do. Among other benefits, regular exercise, pet ownership, and religion can lead to joining a community of kindred spirits.

Above all, happiness grows from choosing to help others in ways that interest you. Consciously embrace your life's unique purpose through self-awareness, service, and kindness.

“Having a purpose in life reduces stress, which, in turn, reduces substance abuse, anxiety, and depression,” says Chopra, a gastroenterologist and specialist in liver disease. “A sense of meaningfulness can even help manage pain.” He cited research that indicates expressing gratitude and serving others correlates to a better mood, more restful sleep, and improved cardiac health.

Chopra lectures at conferences and medical programs around the world. On his travels, he has met some extraordinary people who say their lives changed for the better when they witnessed an event or conditions that moved them to help others. Among them is Papá Jaime, who watched in horror as a truck accident killed a homeless child, one of the thousands who live in the streets of Bogotá, Colombia. In that moment, Papá Jaime found his life’s purpose, said Chopra. Since then, he has devoted himself to housing, feeding, clothing, and schooling children in need. He has educated more than 32,000 Colombian orphans, many of whom have become professional athletes, doctors, teachers, and computer scientists; and he runs a leadership organization that teaches compassion, service, and peace building.

Chopra and Vild do not expect all of us to change our lives as profoundly as Papá Jaime or others whose stories are in the book. But volunteering locally, helping neighbors, or working with others toward a particular goal can be tremendously rewarding.

Because it’s hard to break habits and identify a personal path to happiness, they compiled resources readers can use — activities, books, movies, websites, apps, and worksheets — to get started.

Asked whether writing the book opened any windows for them, both said as they worked together, writing on weekends and evenings, their circle of friends expanded to include people important in each other’s life. At the same time, Vild said when they embarked on the project, she unexpectedly found herself experiencing the unhappiest time in her life.

“Writing the book was a balm and a cushion for me,” she said. “It put things in perspective and helped me access forgiveness. I was learning as I wrote. The Buddha says ‘Every life has a measure of sorrow. Sometimes it is this that awakens us.’”
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there’s something about dining outdoors that merges the best of us with nature. Maybe it’s because it merges the refinement of human inventions like utensils, manners, and culinary artistry with those elements beyond our control: wind, sun, trees, temperatures, and the occasional bug or two. It reminds us, even subliminally, that we’re both civilized and uncivilized. And when it’s done right, it brings out the best of both aspects—melding the clink of wine glasses with the scents of herbs, garlic, and wine—all under dappled sun rays or soothing moonlight.

It’s a pleasure that’s been relished throughout Europe as long as anyone can remember; think traditional English picnics, Parisian sidewalk cafes, and outdoor trattorias in Italy’s cobblestoned piazzas. In fact, the Italian phrase al fresco in English parlance means “in the open air.”
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Of course, no one culture has a monopoly on the practice, and close to home, we have different ways of going about it — whether that means snacking on a tower of oysters in the shade of an awning, sitting down to a formal four-course dinner in a candlelit garden, or simply nursing cocktails while people watching on the patio of a bustling street.

One ideal place to do the latter is JUNIPER (13 Central Street, Wellesley, www.juniperwellesley.com) right downtown. Tucked into a diminutive but charm-filled space in front of the modern Middle Eastern bistro, its tree-shaded tables provide a terrific vantage point from which to watch the world go by. Shoppers and neighborhood employees stroll by around lunchtime, and evenings are filled with families, couples on dates, and groups of young kids headed for the abutting ice cream shops. While you’re there, don’t miss the kitchen’s phenomenal shakshuka, a traditional and spice-laden dish of Swiss chard, local eggs, feta, and crunchy crostini.

Across the street — and with equally excellent people watching — is BOCADO (45 Church Street, Wellesley, www.bocadotapasbar.com). The high-energy Spanish tapas hotspot may be frenetic and loud inside, but out on its raised patio, things are decidedly more serene. Come early evening, order up a pitcher of fruit-studded sangria with a platter of jamón serrano and manchego cheese, and relax back into your chair as the setting sun dances across your table.

Josh and Jen Ziskin, the couple that made La Morra a beloved favorite in Brookline, has duplicated that success in HERITAGE OF SHERBORN (33 N. Main Street, Sherborn, www.heritageofsherborn.com), the farm-inspired gastropub housed in a traditional New England home dating back to 1762. As if that isn’t inviting enough, out back there’s a sprawling, tree-lined yard and a flower-filled terrace — the kind of bucolic al fresco setting that you rarely find outside the deep rural areas. It fills up quickly, and all the more for weekend brunches, when the crowds roll in for big plates of salt cod cakes with poached eggs, prosciutto, and hollandaise and fresh-baked, hot donuts.

One setting you don’t see terribly often in our area is waterfront dining. BRELUNDI (16 Felton Street, Waltham, www.Brelundi.com) fills that
My passion for design and architecture has served me well, guiding my clients through the buying and selling process. Staging and envisioning the potential of a home is my expertise. Intuition, integrity, honesty and good listening are my keys to successful client relationships. I graduated Lasell College and attended Parson School of Design in NYC. After a fifteen year stint running my own event planning business, The Golden Penny, I entered the real estate world in 2005. I lived in Needham for 8 years and Wellesley for 25 years with my 2 children and my dog Frank. I’m very knowledgeable of the MetroWest market and Boston as well. Please think of me when you’re ready to explore the world of buying a home or listing your own. It would be my pleasure to help you along in this journey.

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void. The friendly, laid-back ristorante sits in the city’s historic watch factory building, and boasts a sizeable deck overlooking the Charles River. Breakfasts, lunches, and dinners here are all as relaxed as the atmosphere; Sicilian staples dominate the menus, with standouts like sage-laced chicken saltimbocca, fettuccine with littlenecks, and house-made pistachio gelato.

Meals outside **THE COTTAGE** (190 Linden Street, Wellesley, www.cottagewellesley.com) take a hybrid approach; diners are semi-enclosed, set back from the street but still with viewing access to the outside world.

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<th>Newton Wellesley Interventional Spine</th>
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<td><strong>Lorraine Gomba, MD</strong></td>
<td><strong>Omar El Abd, MD</strong></td>
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**local cuisine**  “the cool summer breeze”

There, among the oversized flower pots and umbrellas, dedicated regulars sip fresh watermelon juice cocktails and down hearty salads, spice-rubbed hanger steak, and the house’s justifiably popular creamy eggplant fries.

Sometimes the most delicious food isn’t found in any kind of fancy setting, but it still benefits from being enjoyed in an open-air space. Such is the case with **DUMPLING DAUGHTER** (37 Center Street, Weston, www.dumplingdaughter.com), the ultra-casual, serve-yourself spot that’s critically acclaimed, and for very good reason. Chef Nadia Spellman (whose parents, Sally Ling and Edward Nan Liu, are food-industry royalty; in the ’80s they owned the legendary Chinese fine dining restaurant, Sally Ling’s) has mastered her family’s way with authentic Chinese dishes. At Spellman’s own venture, customers walk up and order at the counter, then take a seat to dig in. But in nicer weather, they can also enjoy it outside in the fresh air at communal tables, along with fellow lovers of the spectacular glass noodles with beef and cilantro, pan-seared Shanghainese pork buns, steaming bowls of delicate three-day ramen, and light-as-air petit chicken dumplings with slow-cooked Sichuan sauce.

Long loved for its inspired and delectable Italian rustic food from northern Italy, **LA CAMPANIA** (504 Main Street, Waltham, www.lacampa-nia.com) is also a favorite for its epic wine list and cozy and intimate outdoor seating. The chefs and servers here are perfectionists to their cores, and the al fresco service is no exception. Sit back in the cool summer breeze and order a few of the house’s sublime specialties — the beef short rib ravioli with pecorino and roasted oysters with cream and speck are both standouts, as are the kitchen’s fresh-baked breads.

And for outdoor diners who long for true seclusion, there’s **PAPA RAZZI** (16 Washington Street, Wellesley, www.paparazzitrattoria.com). The Wellesley outpost’s locale may not look like much of an al fresco heavyweight from the outside parking lot, but head past the fully enclosed patio. There you’ll be joined over a glass of vino and a wood-fired wild mushroom pizza or a bowl of panzanella salad by birds, trees, and plenty of other locals who’ve also been fortunate enough to discover the space.
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for dedicated locavores and produce lovers, ours is a curious little corner of the world. Around these parts we go entire winters subsisting on extremely little from nearby farms—maybe some well-kept potatoes here, some hothouse tomatoes there. Other than that, it’s all produce that’s been shipped in from elsewhere, preserved, or canned. Then spring sets in, and along come the young, sharper earthy greens like fiddleheads, asparagus, and sweet-tart masterpieces like wild strawberries and rhubarb.

But, when the early summer hits, that’s when the floodgates open. Suddenly we’re inundated with an abundance of robust natural gems with huge, take-no-prisoners flavors: juicy peaches and cherries, deeply sweet tomatoes, berries of every stripe, corn on the cob, and velvety eggplant. Local produce enthusiasts know that here, when it rains it pours. Just months ago we had famine. But now, we feast.

So how, then, to wring the most intensely beautiful flavors possible out of those summer months, when our slice of New England is blessed with such vibrant-but-fleeting produce? Short of starting your own farm (after all, even the most impressive backyard gardens don’t have endless space), the easiest and most practical answer is to carve out as direct a relationship as possible with your local farms.
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The rise in popular desire to do just that in recent years explains the multiplication of the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) system, whereby consumers become members who purchase regular deliveries that include a mix of straight-from-the-fields produce from a specific farm. The Organic Food Guide lists no less than 89 of the organizations in Massachusetts alone. And few of their members seem to mind one of the key characteristics of CSAs: while subscribers are given a general sense of what kinds of produce they’ll receive, they don’t have total control. After all, just like real life on the farm, what you get depends on what the crops yield. So one week’s delivery might include fennel bulbs and mustard greens, whereas the next might bring wild ramps, fresh dill, and heirloom potatoes.

The most accommodating CSAs, however, go out of their way to balance what we commonly think of as staple veggies and fruits with their own specialty crops. Siena Farms (www.sienafarms.com), for example, offers year-round shares (you can also order them by the season) that are brought to you weekly, direct from their 50-acre farm in Sudbury. Theirs might include workhorses such as broccoli, radishes, and baby salad greens, alongside lesser-known vegetables like rainbow chard, fairy tale eggplant, Hakurei turnips, or oak leaf lettuce.

That balance is thanks to the efforts of owner and longtime farmer Chris Kurth. He and his wife, renowned chef Ana Sortun—she’s the chef/owner of Cambridge’s Oleana, among other award-winning eateries—named the farm after their daughter, Siena. So it’s little surprise that a farm taking a kid as its namesake also looks to include youngsters in the farm shares; late every summer, they offer tykes-specific boxes of the farm’s veggies, along with special recipes and extras surprises to inspire kids to dig in and cook up the season’s bounty.

Looking at the types of edibles often included in CSAs, it should also be mentioned that even some farms that focus on foods other than...
produce will sometimes offer spectacular field-grown products—places like the CSA from Walden Meat Co. (www.waldenlocalmeat.com) out of Billerica. In addition to feeding finicky local carnivores (all of their meat comes only from local farms that pasture-raise their cows, chickens, lambs, and pigs), their packages can also include savory goodies like black garlic, grass-fed butter, and delectable handmade strawberry-rhubarb jams.

CSAs, however, aren’t always everyone’s cup of tea—or pick of the crop, so to speak. Plenty of people prefer to see, poke, and select their zucchini in person—which is right where local farm stores and farmer’s markets come in. Local family-owned favorites like Volante Farms (www.volantefarms.com) in Needham grow and pluck their fruits and veggies right in their fields, along with others from dozens of other local farms that specialize in hard-to-find varieties. Starting in mid-summer, they pile their shelves with at least ten varieties of beautiful, shining heirloom tomatoes, thick cukes, jumbles of bright and delicate micro greens, and ears of corn so sweet, they could almost be eaten raw. (Their bakery also happens to churn out some of the most addictive cider doughnuts imaginable, but that’s a different story.)

GAZPACHO

This classic cold soup spotlights summer tomatoes’ sweet tanginess, and is the perfect foil for any hot evening.

1 unpeeled cucumber, halved
2 red bell peppers, cored and seeded
4 ripe tomatoes
1 red onion
3 garlic cloves, minced
3 cups tomato juice
¼ cup white wine vinegar
¼ cup olive oil
½ Tbsp. kosher salt
1 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

■ Roughly chop the cucumbers, bell peppers, tomatoes, and red onions into one-inch cubes. Put each vegetable into a food processor fitted with a steel blade and pulse until coarsely chopped.
■ After each vegetable is processed, combine in a bowl and add the garlic, tomato juice, vinegar, olive oil, salt, and pepper. Mix well and chill before serving.

Serves 4-6

Roughly chop the cucumbers, bell peppers, tomatoes, and red onions into one-inch cubes. Put each vegetable into a food processor fitted with a steel blade and pulse until coarsely chopped. After each vegetable is processed, combine in a bowl and add the garlic, tomato juice, vinegar, olive oil, salt, and pepper. Mix well and chill before serving.
Similarly, The Land’s Sake Farmstand (www.landssake.org) pops up in Weston Center June through October, and is open every day of the week except Mondays. If you stop by on your way home, you can grab something ultra-fresh and straight from the Land’s Sake fields for lunch or dinner. Be prepared for the produce bins to always look a little different, too—much like CSAs, the stock depends entirely on what the crops have bestowed and what’s already been picked or taken.

Then there are local farmer’s markets. These days plenty of towns are host to them every weekend, generally starting in June and wrapping up in late fall. Some are mid-sized like Waltham’s (www.walthamfarmersmarket.org), which spotlights more than thirty vendors peddling organic fruits and veggies grown nearby, plus other foods (from artisanal pastas to handmade candy) alongside crafts and jewelry. It’s held at School and Lexington Streets, in the Government Center lot at 119 School Street.

Other farmer’s markets in the area may be smaller in size, but are quickly branching out online to expand their seasons by behaving more as CSAs do. Wellesley’s (www.wellesleyfarmersmarket.com) is one case in point: Hosted on weekends throughout summer by the Universalist Unitarian Church (309 Washington Street), where it sets up stalls for a jumble of local farmers and vendors on the front lawn, the outfit has

```
SUMMER CORN SALAD

1 Tbsp. lime juice 1 1/2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
1/4 tsp. salt 1/4 cup finely chopped cucumber
5 tsp. olive oil 1/4 cup finely chopped red onion
1 1/2 cups fresh corn kernels, 2 Tbsp. minced fresh basil
removed from cob 1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

In a small bowl, whisk the lime juice, salt, and four tsps. of the oil. Set aside.
In a large pan, sauté corn in remaining oil until tender. Transfer to a bowl and add the tomatoes, cucumber, onion, and basil. Drizzle with dressing. Toss to coat.
Let stand for 5–10 minutes before serving, or refrigerate to chilled.
Sprinkle with cheese just before serving.
Serves 4
```
now partnered with a company called Farmers to You (www.farmerstoyou.com) — arguably the easiest way of all to get year-round access to fresh, local produce.

Run by a group of farming experts, the company has built its own close relationships with farms all over New England. And once you sign up online, they act essentially as produce curators, foraging the best goods from the farms and bringing them to your doorstep. Unlike the majority of CSAs, Farmers to You gives consumers notably more control over what they get. Peruse what’s available during the season on their website, decide what you want and how much, and then they source your requests with the farms — a sizable chunk of which are from Vermont, but they hail from all over the region. The harvest, meanwhile, includes the usual suspects (green beans, Boston lettuce, and carrots) plus the ultra-healthy (frozen spirulina cubes from Northern Spirulina in Burlington), the deep-flavored (organic oyster mushrooms from 1000 Stone Farm), and the esoteric (crispy, spicy black radishes from Dog River Farm).

All of which leaves the burning question: Just what to do with all this glorious bounty once you get it in your kitchen? This time of year, when local produce is at its apex, the answer is as simple as can be. Serve them with as little fanfare as possible — raw as much as you desire or in recipes like those that follow — and let their flavors sing.

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Summer in the City  Exploring East Boston  
LISA LESLIE HENDERSON  writer

if you have not been to East Boston (EB) recently, it’s time to go. This urban neighborhood offers a vibrant art scene, eateries from around the globe, and a natural coastline to explore by foot, bike, or boat. The waterfront neighborhood has a rich history — it’s a story of high hopes, achievement, conflicting interests, rapid growth, decline, and gentrification — and it has spectacular views of Boston.

Two hundred years ago, five islands located just outside of Boston Harbor comprised EB. Native Americans hunted and fished the islands’ orchards, meadows, and salt marshes, and Baptists secretly worshiped on them to avoid persecution by intolerant Puritans. The city of Boston officially annexed all five islands in 1636, but they remained undeveloped until 1833, when General William Sumner, then owner of Noddle’s Island, the largest of the five, formed the East Boston Company (EBC) to proactively develop EB. Boston had become the premiere shipping and trade port in North America and was bursting at the seams. Wealthy Bostonians
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were leaving the city’s cramped and filthy downtown neighborhoods. Merchants were exploring waterfronts beyond Boston’s crowded inner harbor to locate their operations. All eyes were on EB.

The EBC’s plan promoted beauty, order, and harmony. It called for a separation of residential and commercial spaces; upscale residential areas were clustered in the hills—Eagle Hill and Jeffries Point—while commercial activities were located near the waterfront. Streets organized in an orderly grid connected several quaint squares that provided residents with open space.

**Getting to East Boston**

It’s easy to get to EB. You can arrive by car, train, bus, or water taxi. The MBTA Blue Line links EB with downtown Boston via the East Boston Tunnel, the first North American subway to run beneath a body of water. The tunnel was originally designed for streetcars; when rapid transit came to town, it proved too narrow for standard train cars. Rather than enlarge the tunnel, they made smaller train cars designed exclusively for the MBTA Blue Line which are still in use today.

It’s also great fun to arrive by boat. East Boston-bound water taxis can be picked up at docks all along waterfront from the Seaport to Charlestown. All water taxis stop at Logan and at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina, where excursions begin; only selected water taxis service East Pier for access to Piers Park and the East Boston Greenway. This June the Institute for Contemporary Art expands its presence to include both the Seaport District and East Boston. A complimentary shuttle will transport museum goers across the Harbor in both directions.

A statue memorializes Donald McKay, famous for building some of America’s finest clipper ships.

This plan prompted the building of infrastructure that would entice wealthy residents, merchants, shipbuilders, and other industries to EB. New piers made it possible for ships to deliver freight and passengers directly into EB. Eastern Railroad’s terminal, located steps from the piers, enabled passengers and goods to travel up and down the coast. Warehouses lining nearby streets stored merchandise entering or exiting the country, and hotels served passengers traveling by ship and train. Regular ferry service connected EB and downtown Boston. In addition to promoting commerce, these ferries provided a source of fresh air for children suffering from asthma or whooping cough and for anyone needing to cool off on a hot summer day.

**Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina (BHS&M), 256 Marginal Street**

This gritty industrial shipyard is a fine place to start exploring. It’s a reminder of EB’s past, when it was the center of New England’s rapidly growing clipper ship industry. Donald McKay, a young master ship designer and builder, became famous for these fast and beautiful boats that were distinguishable by their three masts, square rig, and numerous sails. McKay built 30 clipper ships in all including some of America’s finest. His *Flying Cloud* set the record for the fastest trip along the “Golden
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Route,” from New York to San Francisco via Cape Horn. The boat and its navigator, Eleanor Cressey, a woman and student of astronomy, water currents, and weather patterns, were a rare and winning combination.

The go-go days of shipbuilding have passed, but there is still plenty to do at BHS&M. Catch a water taxi from the dock and explore Boston Harbor in a new way. If you prefer being in the water to being on the water, and if swimming through underwater ledges and sunken ships sounds like fun, charter a scuba/snorkeling trip with BOSTON SCUBA. They are a full service PADI dive shop complete with PADI certification courses. While near the water, look for the 1936 LIGHTSHIP NO. 112 NANTUCKET, whose headquarters are at BHS&M. This Nantucket Red colored boat with huge white letters bearing its name, helped ships navigate the dangerous Nantucket Shoals and was the last beacon seen by boats leaving the U.S. and the first for those entering.

The INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART (ICA) is expanding across the Harbor to the BHS&M this June. The ICA’s new and unfinished space, Watershed, will retain the feel of EB’s industrial past — a gallery will showcase EB’s history — while offering exciting contemporary immersive experiences. Its waterside lounge will open to the water and be a perfect spot for people and harbor watching. And its dedicated water shuttle will enable museum goers to toggle between the ICA’s Seaport location and this new outpost. Look for the large outdoor sculptures and the painting of the sea captain with the ruddy complexion which are courtesy HarborArts, a community of artists committed to using their talents to raise awareness about the health of oceans and waterways.

BHS&M is also home to DOWNEAST CIDER HOUSE (“Downeast”), a lively spot for tasting craft ciders. Founded by two friends during their senior

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**Boston Harbor is Alive and Well**

Boston Harbor was critical to Boston’s early development and success. However, as early as 1634, the health of the Harbor was in question due to its high content of raw sewage. In the late 1800s, the city of Boston greatly magnified the problem with the installation of a sewage and storm water collection system for the city and surrounding communities that discharged untreated storm water and residential, industrial, and medical waste directly into Boston Harbor and the Charles, Mystic, and Neponset rivers. In the 1950s, the stench and aesthetics of sewage floating in the water and washing up onto the shore, combined with the health dangers of swimming in and eating fish harvested from the Harbor, prompted the city officials to construct two primary sewage treatment plants, which separated approximately 50 percent of total solids from the water. This cleaner water was then released back into the Harbor to be carried away with the outgoing tide. Unfortunately, the captured solids were also released back into the Harbor. During the 1960s, these sewage treatment plants fell into disrepair, resulting in discharge of raw and partially treated sewage directly into the Harbor and its tributaries again.

In 1972, Congress enacted the Clean Water Act, which required sewage water to be disinfected. Boston’s reaction to the Act is a story of the best and worst in politics. In the end, the Boston Harbor clean-up was a massive public works project and a tremendous success. An engineering feat, the clean up involved construction of large raw sewage digestors, which turn sewage into fertilizer, and a 7.5-mile tunnel under the harbor floor that directs effluent away from the Harbor. Although controversial for residents on Cape Cod and along the coast of Massachusetts and Maine, these changes have significantly improved Boston Harbor’s water quality, restoring a vital natural resource and recreating a magical place for fun and recreation for all.

Beth Furman
year in college, Downeast serves a variety of seasonal flavors and some truly inventive blends. Book a tour of their new production facility through their website and enjoy free samples. Don’t miss KOPIES, the first Australian-inspired food business in New England—also in BHS&M. You’ll find barbequed grilled seafood, savory meat and vegetarian pies, healthy salads, and Australian pantry favorites such as, Milo, Tim Tams, and Brown Sauce. Pull up a stool and relax for a while with a classic Aussie lager.

Boston Harborwalk, Logan Airport (“Logan”)
You’re a stone’s throw from LOGAN AIRPORT and from the portion of the BOSTON HARBORWALK, the near continuous 43-mile walk along the New England shoreline, that offers up close views of the Harbor and the airport. The Harborwalk begins on Marginal Street, turns onto Sumner Street, and passes by the JEFFRIES YACHT CLUB, the oldest chartered yacht club on the East Coast. It continues through PORZIO PARK, all the way to the Water Taxi dock at Logan, where you are steps away from the PLACE OF REMEMBRANCE, Logan’s 9/11 memorial. Located across from the Hilton, the memorial is open to all 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is well worth a visit.
Golden Stairs and Golden Stairs Terrace Park, 6 Brigham Street

EB has been the first solid land that scores of immigrants have stepped on when they first arrived in America: Canadians came in the 1840s, followed by the Irish, then Russian and Eastern European Jews, and Italians. By the turn of the century, Boston had become the second busiest point of entry to the U.S. after Ellis Island. After passing through immigration, healthy men and families would climb these famous GOLDEN STAIRS from Marginal to Webster Street to pursue America’s “golden” opportunities. Dreams would be further stoked by the sight of some of EB’s most beautiful homes along Webster Street—take a look—although two-family homes, triple-deckers, and tenement houses were often first residences.

EB continues to welcome people looking for a better life, and the variety of restaurants and shops here reflect its diversity. Enjoy some of Boston’s best thin-crust-no-frills pizza at SANTARPIO’S and delicious Puebla’s-style Mexican food at ANGELA’S CAFÉ. LA SULTANA serves tasty Columbian baked goods and empanadas, and you won’t be disappointed with CAFÉ GOGU’S espressos, Italian pastries, gelato, and creative cocktails and appetizers.

Piers Park and Rockies Urban Wild, 95 Marginal Street

This beautifully landscaped park has spectacular views of Boston and Charlestown, perfect picnic spots, a children’s playground and splash pool, and an amphitheater where performances and other community events are held. The award-winning park also pays homage to EB’s past; its quaint, tree-lined pedestrian promenade extends over the water and leads to a replica of the original Noddle’s Island ferry stop. One of four shade pavilions is dedicated to sail boat builder Donald McKay. Piers Park is also home to the PIERS PARK SAILING CENTER (PPSC) a community sailing center, which offers free sailing lessons to city kids and an award winning Paralympic sports club.

Just across Marginal Street is ROCKIES, a project of the City of Boston's Urban Wilds Initiative, which protects remaining remnants of original ecosystems in urban areas. This piece of land is one of the largest re-
maining undeveloped spaces in EB; its grasslands and shrubs attract migrating songbirds and butterflies.

East Boston Greenway, Piers Park to Constitution Beach

This shared use pathway connects EB’s inner harbor with Boston’s outer harbor. Originally a railroad track, the land that comprises the Greenway became a dumping ground in the 1970s when the tracks were abandoned. The local Chamber of Commerce wanted to use the land for a truck route to Logan, but EB residents had other ideas. They cleaned up the tracks, and, in 2007, the Greenway opened.

Today you can walk run, or bike, from PIERs PARK to CONSTITUTION BEACH. Along the way you can stop in the beautiful EAST BOSTON LIBRARY, discover murals that celebrate EB’s past, play Bocce Ball at BREMEN STREET PARK—a former off-airport parking lot that has recently been transformed into an active-use park, pay your respects at TEMPLE OHABEI SHALOM CEMETERY, established in 1844, which enabled Jews to be buried in Massachusetts for the first time, and swim, fish, and build a sandcastle on a sandy beach. Eventually the Greenway will extend to BELLE ISLE MARSH, Boston’s largest remaining salt marsh, which has recently been restored by Urban Wilds. But don’t wait until then to visit this urban oasis! Today, you can watch the tide flowing in and out of this upper coastal intertidal zone, which is home to many plants and animals, from a beautiful pedestrian pathway.

Maverick Square

MAVERICK SQUARE was the center of EB’s early commercial and banking businesses. Today, MAVERICK MARKETPLACE, the first incubator space in EB, reflects the neighborhood’s changing economy. Stop in and support these growing businesses, which include the MAVERICK MARKETPLACE CAFÉ, where you can savor a coffee and a bite to eat, while enjoying live entertainment. The arts are an essential part of EB’s new economy. ATLANTIC WORKS GALLERY, a vibrant collaborative venue for art and ideas located in an old warehouse and along a pier on Broad Street, is not to be missed.
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About Town is the place to find Wellesley and Weston residents at noteworthy events throughout Greater Boston. For more information on the events shown and to view additional photos, visit wwmblog.com.

WellesleyWeston Magazine’s blog is the talk of the towns with the latest event photos, calendar listings, and conversations for the people who make things happen in Wellesley and Weston. Log on today and you might see yourself in our expanded About Town section. Post a comment by going directly to wwmblog.com or visit our Web site at www.wellesleywestonmagazine.com and click on About Town or wwmblog.

Benoit Mizner Simon & Co. Holiday Party

1 Debi Benoit, Jared Fried, Amy Mizner, and Sheryl Simon  
2 Noah and Lisa Pearlstein  
3 Traci Shulkin and Christine Sheckman  
4 Demian Wendrow and Traci Shulkin  
5 Amy Mizner and Christina Gavilellis

Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital-Needham Havana Nights Gala

1 Rebecca and Joseph Kannon, MD; John Fogarty, Roger Marino; and Kathy Campanella  
2 Steven Cohen, MD; Sonal Ullman, MD; John Fogarty, Kathryn Grannatt, MD; Joseph Kannam, MD  
3 Krista and Stephen Vanourney  
4 Stephen Vanourney, Seana Gaherin, John Fogarty, Maria Stephanos, Gail Fine, and Bill Fine

PHOTOS BY THERESA JOHNSON
about town

Jesamondo Holiday Party

The staff at Jesamondo

OUT MetroWest Come Out and Celebrate Gala

1. OUT MetroWest Board of Directors
2. Sawyer Bethel and Representative Jack Patrick Lewis
3. Donna Tambascio and Ineke Ceder
4. Dr. Asa Sevelius

Guards and Gardeners Pop-Up Photography Show

1. Phyllis Theerman, Amy Lutney, Liz Suneby, and Anne Bullion
2. Peter and Gina Solomon, Karen Packman
3. Rick and Kathy Hughto
4. Jessica Rosenbloom and Wendi McKenna
5. Thom and Tracy Cranley, Andrew and Betsy Kessler, Chrissie and John Lawrence
6. Trish Glass and Jen Lesnick

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Babson Food Day

For more information on these events and additional photos, visit wwmblog.com

Coldwell Banker Associates, Friends, and Family Celebrating The Spirit of Home to Benefit Community Servings

1 Andrew Zimmern welcoming attendees  2 Nancy Cushman (right) coaching attendees

Jingle, Sip and Mingle to Benefit Tenacity

1 Gil Dailey, Melissa Dailey, Kathryn Richlen, and Craig Richlen  2 Susan Ausiello, Joni Shore, Patti Pizzi, Tammy Macherides, and Beth Petrone  3 Melissa Dailey, Merit McIntyre, and Kathryn Richlen

1 Stacey Philipkosky, Lori Bass, Simone Fischer, and Erin Reeves  2 Donna Shea and Patty Sherman  3 Sona Scheermann, Beth Cohen King, and Kelly Renner  4 Alison Taunton-Rigby and Joanne Chadwicke  5 Nan Morgart, Nanci Gelb, Terri Tsagaris, and Leslie Harkavy

PHOTOS BY JOHN HARMON

Wellesley Weston Magazine | Summer 2018
"We have nothing but glowing things to say about First Republic – their focus on client service is extraordinary."

GILMARTIN MAGENCE LLP
Craig P. Gilmartin, Senior Partner (left); Yitz Magence, Senior Partner (right)
about town

For more information on these events and additional photos, visit wwmblog.com

Boss Lady at Sloane & Ivy

1 Hannah Fastov  2 Alyssa and Vita Melignano  3 Lisa Heyson and Melissa Fastov
4 Alyssa Melignano, Hannah Fastov, Kate Phelan, Janet Kraus, Kelly D’Amaro, and Trish Carey

Wellesley Historical Society Holiday Party

1 Jill Whiting, Jack Whiting, Ejaz Ali, Femina Ali, and Flo Hearn  2 Kathleen Fahey, Suzanne Frederick, and Sandy Joseph
3 Robin Gaynor, Melissa Padley, and Betsey Seeley  4 Martin Padley and Tom Paine  5 Nancy Kissan and Linda Kenerson
6 Larry McNally and Robert McConnell
The Bank on Campus

You visit prospective colleges, taking note of what bank is on or near campus. But why?

Is it ATM access?

That bank may have a machine there, but what about when you’re off campus, traveling, or home? They charge a fee on top of the ATM fee, all for the privilege of accessing your money from another bank’s ATM.

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Start a conversation with Wellesley’s personal banker, Stephen Walls, at 781-474-5541 or Stephen.Walls@NeedhamBank.com. You can also visit Stephen at 458 Washington Street in Wellesley. Or if you prefer, simply visit Open.NeedhamBank.com to get your account in as little as five minutes.
about town

Big Sister Association of Greater Boston’s Role Model Fashion Show

Visit the WellesleyWeston Magazine Blog
To post a comment or view expanded coverage of these events, calendar listings, and conversations for the people who make things happen in Wellesley and Weston, visit wwmblog.com.

For more information on these events and additional photos, visit wwmblog.com

Wellesley Spelling Bee

Seth B. Minkin Trunk Show at IMPULSE to Benefit Greater Boston Food Bank

Do You Have An Event You Want Us To Showcase?
Please send your photos and descriptions to: jill@wellesleywestonmagazine.com. Email submissions only please; jpeg photos are welcome at a minimum size of 3” x 4.5” at 300dpi.

1 Martha Bennett, Kelly McDermott, Lisa Collins, Amy Lund, Susan Kingsley, Stephanie Coughlan, Lisa Hughes, Jane Deery, and Mariann Youniss  
2 Glynis Faherty, Andrea Abbott, and Merry Abbott  
3 Collette Keenan, Stephanie Coughlan, Jane Deery, Aasma Baker, and Hilary Keates  
4 Bernadette Santangelo, Molly Sliney, Jayne Poe, Terry Wadsworth, and Debbi Phillips

1 Susan Ryan, Erica Recht, Thomas Fontaine, Becca Cahaly, and Eunice Groak
2 Janet Giesser and Lyn Sanville

1 Tina Kotikian, Silva Kotikian, and Rachel Friedman
2 Veronica Sagherian and Seth Minkin
3 Veronica Sagherian, Seth Minkin, and Carlen Singmaster
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<td>VOX Cambridge – College Consulting</td>
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Truly Wellesley Summer Night

Chelsea Sebastian
September 2017
40” x 30”

Chelsea Sebastian paints with acrylics on canvas at her Natick studio. Inspired by her town, many of her paintings depict scenes from the local landscape, including this vivid depiction of a lively summer evening along Grove Street. To learn more about Chelsea’s work, visit www.chelseasebastian.com and read Lisa Rogers’ article in the Spring 2017 issue of WellesleyWeston Magazine.

Truly Wellesley Summer Night
CHELSEA SEBASTIAN
SEPTEMBER 2017
40” x 30”

BE CREATIVE This page is designed to give our readers the opportunity to express themselves creatively. If you have a short piece of fiction or nonfiction (300-500 words), a poem, illustration, or photograph depicting life in Wellesley and Weston, we would love to hear from you. Please email your submissions to jill@wellesleywestonmagazine.com.
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