UMass Lowell celebrates Class of 2021

LOWELL — UMass Lowell recently honored local residents among its 4,582 graduates

Despite the pandemic, UMass Lowell was able to offer graduates the chance to safely celebrate their success through a combination of virtual ceremonies and the in-person presentation of their diploma covers with a family photo at the Tsongas Center at UMass Lowell May 12 through 14.

"For those of you joining us in person, we're thrilled that you are able to walk across the stage with family and friends present. As graduates, I imagine there is both a sense of tremendous pride but also a sense of relief in receiving your diploma after enduring a time when the world around you was under a siege of challenges,"said Chancellor Jacquie Moloney. «You, the Class of 2021, showed us the meaning of true grit and what it means to stay strong and to keep hope alive. I know you will join me in saying thank you to the faculty and staff who also had to dig deep to provide you with as great an experience as possible under the circumstances, and to your family and friends who were there for you when you needed them most. But I also want to thank each of you who are graduating. For just as UMass Lowell has impacted you, you have all left a powerful impact on us. In 1,000 ways, you, the Class of 2021, have enhanced and improved this universi-

The three-day Commencement celebration began on Wednesday, May 12. A ceremony for graduates who earned doctoral degrees featuring William Moylan, UMass Lowell Distinguished University Professor and architect of the university's renowned sound recording technology program, as the keynote speaker was held. A series of brief, small ceremonies on Thursday, May 13 and Friday, May 14 at the Tsongas Center recognized graduates who earned bachelor's and master's degrees. At these ceremonies, graduates, accompanied by up to two guests, walked into the Tsongas Center and then crossed the stage, received their diploma covers and had an official photo taken before departing. Strict social distancing and other safety measures were in place during all in-person Commencement events.

The virtual portion of the celebration online ceremonies viewable at www. uml.edu/commencement for the next year - featured a range of notable individuals with experience and knowledge to share with the Class of 2021.

Thursday's ceremony included the

presentation of an honorary doctoral degree to Ron Insana, senior analyst and contributor to CNBC and MSNBC networks, as well as the Chancellor's Medal for Public Service and Civic Engagement to Market Basket, the 104-year-old supermarket chain founded in Lowell that now employs more than 25,000 people and is well known for its generous profit-sharing plan, for two charitable foundations and support for scholarships for UMass Lowell stu-

Friday's ceremony featured Deepak Chopra - founder of The Chopra Foundation, a nonprofit entity for research on well-being and humanitarianism, and Chopra Globalreceiving a doctor of humane letters - who, along with UMass Lowell graduate and founder of The Born to Run Foundation Noelle Lambert, addressed the Class of 2021. Their speeches were viewable at www. uml.edu/commencement.

Local residents among UMass Class 2021

- * Samantha Bodo of Charlton, who received a bachelor of music degree in music performance
- * Devin Salviuolo of Charlton, who received a bachelor of music degree in

* Ryan DiLegge of Charlton, who received a bachelor of science degree in exercise physiology

* Kyle Mulcahy of Charlton, who received a bachelor of science in engineering degree in mechanical engineer-

Cody Kingman of Charlton, who received a master of science degree in mathematics

* Justine Grady of Charlton, who received a master of science degree in nursing

* Lance Harms of Charlton, who received a master of science in engineering degree in mechanical engineer-

UMass More on Lowell Commencement is available at www. uml.edu/commencement.

UMass Lowell is a national research university offering students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe. www.uml.edu

Real Estate 'RANSACTIONS

CHARLTON

\$700,000, 45 Main St, Garcia, Michael R, and Garcia, Christine E, to Sturbridge Ventures LLC.

\$536,100, 7 Hanson Rd, Mozinski, Barbara J, to Mutebi, Michael. \$435,000, 9 Flint Rd, Lemire,

Sean, to Mccauley, Matthew F, and Mccauley, Donna. \$348,000, 119 City Depot Rd, Smith,

Donald E, and Smith, Patricica, to Rodriguez, Nelson, and Rodriguez, Zueannette.

\$309,900, 108 Partridge Hill Rd, Oakes June O Est, and Oakes, Kim A, to Obrien, Kathleen M.



Community College presidents release joint statement on new vaccine policy

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D., joined the other 14 community colleges presidents in the Commonwealth in his support of a new COVID-19 vaccine policy that will go into effect January 2022.

Below is the statement issued by the 15 Massachusetts Community College presidents:

"During the last 18 months, the Massachusetts Community Colleges have prioritized the health and safety of our communities while also recognizing that many of our students have been disproportionally impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. While a significant number of students, faculty, and staff are already vaccinated or are in the process of becoming vaccinated, the 15 colleges are seeking to increase the health and safety of the learning and working environment in light of the ongoing public health concerns and $\,$ the Spring 2022 semester, will not be current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

With the number of new cases of COVID-19 across the Commonwealth in unvaccinated populations, the increased access and availability of vaccines in the Commonwealth, the Food &

Drug Administration's full and pending approval of available vaccines, and CDC guidance that the COVID-19 vaccine has been proven to be extremely safe and highly effective at preventing infection, severe disease, hospitalization, and death, the Presidents of all 15 Massachusetts Community Colleges announced today that they will require students, faculty and staff to be fully vaccinated by January 2022.

Students who seek to register for courses that do not include any in-person component, and who do not plan to come on campus for any reason for required to provide documentation of vaccination

As participants in the White House's COVID-19 College Vaccine Challenge, the Massachusetts

Community Colleges will continue to make vaccine clinics available on site. Further, the Massachusetts Community Colleges are committed to ensuring vaccination status is not a barrier to students and will continue offering a range of virtual learning opportunities and

This vaccine requirement is aimed at ensuring the safest learning and working environment possible for the more than 135,000 students we educate and train each year as well as our staff and faculty. Additional details about implementation will be forthcoming.'

You are in control every step of the way.

Where We Are Today

Met with the Board of Selectmen, including a public hearing, the Recreation Committee and Sturbridge Tourist Association, both voted to support the project, and the Trail Committee. We have hosted public open houses to engage with you about this project, and to gain input.

Next, the town's boards vote

Each of the town's governing boards will debate the proposal and vote on whether to take the next step in this process. The Board of Selectmen will vote to place this proposal on the warrant for the fall town meeting, thus giving the residents their next opportunity to weigh in on the project. At every step in this process, the residents of Sturbridge have the final say as to whether we take the next step in making this project a reality.

An Ongoing Partnership

We will need to get approvals from the town, state and federal government. The only way this happens is by engaging in a constant dialogue with you and developing a strong partnership with the community.

Present the Zoning Overlay District & Host Community Agreement

These two legally binding documents will govern every aspect of the project going forward providing critical protections for the community. The end result of this step is to have a draft agreement for the town government and, ultimately, the residents to consider. If approved, we all can take the next step to creating the Center.

Obtaining Local Permitting & State Authorizations

Upon approval from town meeting, we would begin the process of obtaining permits and state authorizations. At each step, we will be required to follow the rules put forth in the Overlay District and the HCA, as well as abide by the local and state regulations that require additional hearings and opportunities for public comment. Our goal is to partner with the residents of Sturbridge at every step so we can all succeed together.

Learn more about the proposal: www.commonwealthracingllc.com



BAY PATH LPN HONORED WITH P.E.O. GRANT



Leanne Reardon, LPN, of Harrington Physician Services (Pediatrics) of Southbridge, and a 2014 graduate of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. was honored at a P.E.O. Grant Certificate Presentation by the P.E.O. Sisterhood, Chapter AJ, Manchester. Photo shows standing from left, Joyce Halmers, Darlene Allen, (President Chapter AJ) Carol Powell, seated Bonnie Lindland and P.E.O. Grant Awardee Leanne Reardon, LPN. Standing far right is Lucy Falk, Chairman

of Program for Continuing Education. In a message to Reardon, she was notified that the P.E.O. organization is honored to announce that the prestigious P.E.O. grant in the amount of \$2,200 is awarded to provide funds to reach her educational goals. Susan Penrod, Chairman, Board of Trustees P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education wished Reardon "great success in the years ahead." Reardon is set to start the LPN to RN program at Quinsigamond Community College.

