

# Khamphan Houatchanthara receives Clinical Excellence Award from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

CHARLTON — Khamphan Houatchanthara of Southbridge, is the PN Class of 2021 Award Recipient of the Clinical Excellence Award. Houatchanthara received the award for her distinguished clinical performance throughout her training and education at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy.

Houatchanthara received the Clinical Excellence Award, an engraved crystal woven plate from Tiffany & Co., at the official Graduation and Pinning Ceremony at the Lakeside Pavilion of the Indian Ranch on June 25. Houatchanthara attended Southbridge High School in Southbridge, Ma and graduated in 2001. She completed her associate in Criminal Justice degree and her Certified Nursing Certificate at Quinsigamond Community College. She obtained her Medical Assistant Certificate at Bay Path Regional Vocational Night School in 2009. She has been with Simon Says Pizza Chef in Southbridge as a Manager since 1999.

While at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Houatchanthara was active with the UNICEF Club and various fundraising activities for charitable causes. She participated in the Admissions Panel Interview and the Mock Code Team. She received a Random Act of Kindness (RAK) recognition and honor cord. She is Dementia Care Certified, Mental Health First Aid Certified, and completed the COVID-19 Contact Tracing



(Left) Jennifer DeFilippo, MSN Ed, RN awarding Khamphan her Clinical Excellence Award. at Johns Hopkins University.

"We congratulate Khamphan for this immense honor and wholeheartedly applaud her family for their love and support. Khamphan is a revered practical nursing student for her kindness and provision of compassionate care. We are so very happy that she is recognized for her Clinical Excellence," said, Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director.

## STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

### ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

## Local non-profit CMDART seeks board members

REGION—The Central Massachusetts Disaster Animal Response Team, Inc. (CMDART) is currently seeking additional volunteer Board members to aid the administration of our non-profit 501C3 charitable organization that helps animals and pet owners facing man-made or natural disasters.

Since 2003, CMDART has aided local communities with public safety and prevention education where it involves pets and the people who love them. A new addition of Board members will help support our forward progress, assist a manageable distribution of tasks, and assist the establishment of strategic short and long-range goals. Central Mass residency required.

Candidates for the Board will hopefully have some knowledge of the workings of a non-profit organization, fund-raising, and group task/committee work. As a board member, you will gain some knowledge and experience in planning, finance

and emergency management; enhance and challenge your organizational and leadership skills; increase your professional network, help to improve the safety and welfare of pet owners and animals, contribute to a humanitarian cause that can prevent, respond to, and reduce suffering for pet owners and their animals.

During this year of Covid-19, the team has distributed personal protective equipment to hospitals, senior facilities and animal control, assisted local emergency planning to include efforts to help pet owners, has volunteered at local vaccine clinics, produced an on-line program about assistance animals, held a couple of fun yard sales, assisted local fire recovery sites, and distributed pet food to some local food pantries.

For more information and to submit a letter of interest to our organization, contact cmdartmembership@gmail.com or call 508-803-1989 and go to our Web site, www.cmdart.org, for more information.

## Brimfield Senior Center to host therapeutic drumming program

BRIMFIELD — The Brimfield Senior Center is pleased to host a unique program "Spirit of the Drum." Come join us for an uplifting and therapeutic drumming experience using authentic Native American Log Drums.

This workshop is designed to bring our senior friends together to experience the wonderful benefits of hand drumming. Today's technology has proven that hand drumming actually helps our immune system and reduces stress. The hand

drumming experience is therapeutic, fun and different. If someone can not exercise the ability to drum or just holding one is therapy enough. The workshop is being led by Cliff Madru and Elizabeth Sutton. Come share with us the Spirit of the Drum on Friday, July 23 at 10:45 a.m. Please reserve your space prior to July 20.

The Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield, 413-245-7253.

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## Friday's Child



Dominic  
Age 15

Hi! My name is Dominic and I would love to have a pet dog!

Dominic is a caring, creative, and funny boy of Caucasian descent. Whether is caring for them or just playing with them, Dominic loves every chance he gets to spend time with animals! When Dominic gets older, he'd love to become a veterinarian. Dominic is described as a kind and funny young man. In his spare time, Dominic also likes drawing and coloring. He is curious boy who has been known to take apart toys to figure out how they work and then put them back together. He loves cars as well. Dominic has been doing well in his current placement, and is hopeful to transition to his forever family. Dominic continues to work on his social growth and peer relationships.

Legally freed for adoption, a two-parent household would best support Dominic's everyday needs. A family would need to be open to services entering their home to work with Dominic on a regular basis. Dominic's three siblings also have a goal of adoption, so continued contact would be beneficial.

### Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

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