

WEBSTER TIMES

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Friday, April 15, 2022

Local Curves fundraises for Ukrainian refugees

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER – Children never make the decision to go to war, but are often subjected to it.

In Webster, members of the local Curves facility recognized that and are sending funds to a school in Poland to help displaced Ukrainian refugees.

According to Jeanne Frowein, the idea started as a conversation with a friend about possibly "adopting" a Ukrainian family there. But Jolanta Bugajski has relatives in Krakow, Poland, who were telling her it was far more than one family.

About three and a half weeks ago, Krakow Elementary School #12 had 13 refugee children, and was spending about \$60 per month per child for dinners (270 zloty in Polish currency). Frowein said the school only had enough funds for seven children at that time. By last week, the number had grown to 39. In most cases, they came with their families, but the local Catholic parish is also aiding another group of displaced orphan girls in nearby Gorlitz.

"Within a day and a half, we had \$500" collected from Curves members, Frowein said. That was the first Western Union transmission; they sent "another \$500 last Friday."

The plan is to keep doing it as long as the school year lasts (until late June, just like here).

"Many people want to help, but there are so many scams," Frowein noted.

Bugajski agreed, saying, "We're very happy about this. Every single penny goes directly to the school. ... I was so touched when Jeanne approached me to do this. She's very in touch with everything that's happening there."

The project was made possible by Bugajski's personal connection: her brother and niece Edyta live there, and her great-niece Ania is a student in that school. She said she came to Webster from Poland about 40 years ago from the town of Jaslo about two hours outside Krakow and returns to her homeland periodically. Bugajski is planning her next visit for this summer.

"Krakow is one of the oldest and most beautiful cities in Poland, where the kings used to live," she recalled, noting it's "like Boston," with many colleges and good public transit. But it's also crowded, with few vacant apartments for refugees, while the outskirts have the housing but are hard to reach for



Courtesy
Daniel, one of the students benefitting from the fundraising efforts of Curves Webster.

those without cars.

Historically, the Poles and Western Ukrainians have a connection. The area around what's now Lvov, Ukraine, was part of Poland between the world wars of last century, and Poland-Lithuania ruled all the way to the Black Sea during the 15th century.

Turn To **FUNDRAIDER** page A11

Leadership Council proposes internship, civic capstone programs

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – The Dudley-Charlton Leadership Council, or DCLC, has seen significant growth over the past school year. The student-led organization of Shepherd Hill Regional High School, previously known as the Superintendent's Council, has made great strides towards increasing accessibility to the high school for incoming students while also paving the way for future initiatives to provide students with real-world experience.

Three officers of the DCLC appeared before the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee on March 23 to present the Council's progress over the past year. The group has seen increased interest growing from 14 students in 2021 to 21 active members in the 2022 school year. The Council has continued its work on a website that served as their primary project of 2021 which allows incoming high school students to learn about the school and its numerous clubs and extracurricular opportunities and contains an ever-changing map of the school to reflect new teachers or relocated classrooms.

However, the main theme of the presentation to the School Committee was three new initiatives the Council has championed in the 2022 school year. The first was presented by Council Treasurer Trevor Wallace and is called the "Civic Capstone Project" which would provide students with opportunities to become a larger part of their local communities.

"This is one thing I've certainly been pushing for and that we've been discussing together as a group," Wallace said noting that the idea would be to make

Turn To **COUNCIL** page A11

Private roads seek betterment agreement with Dudley

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Three subdivisions could be on their way to entering into betterment agreements with the town pending the results of town meeting votes and the residents' willingness to invest in their streets.

Dudley Highway Superintendent Jeff Murray presented an update on petitions from residents of Partridge Hill, Tobin Farms and

Misty Meadows during a meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Authority at the end of March. He confirmed three placeholders were on the warrant for the upcoming annual town meeting for the agreements with each subdivision, however exactly how much it would cost the residents had yet to be finalized.

"The cost to bring those up to the town standard will be put out to all the residents so they'll still reserve their right

to change their mind if they so choose, but we would hope that they'll move forward with doing the work," Murray said.

Graves Engineering out of Worcester has been hired to provide estimates for the extend of the renovations.

Murray anticipates that the numbers will be acted on at the Annual Town Meeting with the work to take place over the summer. The process

would include a layout hearing and establish the groundwork for the subdivisions to potentially be accepted as town ways.

The town meeting vote would also contain an article that would allow for street acceptance during the fall town meeting.

The process would require ballot votes for the funding which Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda explained.

"We've been discuss-

ing this and trying to fine tune how it's going to work. We're waiting to get the final numbers

– The next step would be to bring those numbers to the residents of those private ways to see if they want to move forward with it," said Ruda.

"The Board of Selectmen would have to vote to put that on the June ballot in advance of the question passing at town meeting to borrow for the better-

ment. Then, of course, if it didn't pass at town meeting it would be null and void if it was voted at the ballot."

What this means is that the items would need to be approved at the Annual Town Meeting in order for any vote at the polls to be accepted. Officials fully anticipate having the estimate numbers in hand and presented to residents in time for the town meeting in May.



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as March Students of the Month at St. Joseph School: Pre-K 3-year-old: Nina Rudnicki; Pre-K 4-year-old: Kaja Bobinski; Kindergarten: Piper Zalewski; Grade 1: Cameron Blodgett; Grade 2: Charlotte Calnan; Grade 3: Sophia Surowaniec; Grade 4: Natalee Genduso; Grade 5: Gianna Pigeon; Grade 6: Jack Keller; Grade 7: Haleigh Creighton; Grade 8: Gianna Dicola-Keddy. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!

Turn To **GROWTH** page A11

The Barston Gavel returns home

Courtesy

Left to right: Bro. Dennis Robbins, Past Junior Grand Warden of Boston, RW. Robert Schremser, New Presiding Junior Grand Warden of Boston, RW. Russell Lowe, holding the Gavel our 24th DDGM R.W. Anselme Maxime, Wor. Bill Bellanger Master of Quinebaug Lodge, Past Junior Grand Warden of Boston RW. Chris St.Cy and chairman of the Gavel Grabbers Wor. Kevin O'Donnell. Back row from left to right: Bro. Brian Mandeville, RW. Edward Lavoie DDGM 29th District, Bro. Larry Olsen, RW. Dan Barston, (namesake of the Tribute Gavel) Bro. Dean Moss, Bro. Brian Beck. Also the brethren sitting at his desk in back ground who is always very busy is Bro. Robert St.Cyr Secretary and the back bone of Quinebaug Lodge who keeps members informed.



SOUTHBRIDGE — On Monday, April 4, Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge had a Fraternal visit from the 24th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master R.W. Anselme Maxime, along with some special guest who accompanied him to this fraternal visit.

At each fraternal visit, the DDGM usually has brethren in his suite from all around his District and beyond, accompany him at times. On this visit he had many brethren from Joel H. Prouty Lodge of Auburn. The Chairman of this mission is Wor. Kevin O'Donnell and they call themselves the "Gavel Grabbers". These men were on a mission to retrieve and bring back home "The Barston Gavel" which is heavy and weighs in at 34.5 pounds, filled with lead and hollowed out and filled with bird shot. Oxford Lodge had this gavel until December of 2021 which is when Quinebaug Lodge of Southbridge retrieved that gavel at a regular official

stated meeting and brought it to their lodge. This Barston Gavel from Joel H. Prouty Lodge of Auburn has done some traveling within the 24th Masonic District.

Other lodges in our district or state may come to collect any Traveling

Gavel or Sword by attending one of the official monthly meetings at any Masonic Lodges that have these items. To collect these items and return it to their lodge there must be a minimum of three people attending which must include the Worshipful Master, an officer and a fellow brethren. In return

the lodge that it was taken from must go to one of their meetings to retrieve it. This is how fellow Masons meet new brethren. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org and to find a lodge nearest to you.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from March 27 to April 9.

Angel Manuel Laureano, age 31, of Worcester was arrested on March 27 for driving an Unregistered and Uninsured Motor Vehicle and in connection with a warrant.

Katherine R. Gatto, age 24, of Webster was arrested on March 28 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Failure to Signal, and Speeding at a Rate of Speed Greater Than Was Reasonable and Proper.

Joel Batista-Viera, age 42, of Webster was arrested on March 28 for Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering, Larceny From a Building, and Burning a Building.

A juvenile, age 16, was arrested on March 28 for Carrying a Dangerous Weapon on School Grounds, multiple counts of Assault With a Dangerous Weapon, and multiple counts of Threatening to Commit a Crime.

A 33-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on March 28 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Resisting Arrest.

A 28-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 4 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Brittany A. Hodgdon, age 31, of Oxford was arrested on April 1 as a Fugitive From Justice on a Court issued Warrant.

Eric Terell Brown, age 37, of Winston Salem, N.C. was arrested during the same incident for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle and Possession of a Class B Drug.

Natalie Ann Sullivan, age 29, of Webster was arrested on April 1 for Possession of a Class B Drug and Withholding Evidence From a Criminal Proceeding.

Orlando Ortiz, age 55, of Webster was arrested during the same incident for Possession of a Class A Drug with Intent to Distribute and multiple counts of Distribution of a Class B Drug.

A 26-year-old female from Webster and a 45-year-old female from Webster, both of whose names have been withheld from publication, were issued summonses in lieu of arrest for Possession of a Class E and Class B Drug, respectively.

Hellen A. Itemere, age 68, of Worcester was arrested on April 3 for a Marked Lanes Violation, Failure to Stop for Police, Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol.

A 30-year-old female from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 4 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

A 44-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 7 for Resisting Arrest, Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, and multiple counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon.

publication was arrested on April 4 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Vandalization of Property.

Adam Hazzard, age 55, of Southbridge was taken into protective custody on April 4 and subsequently arrested for Misdemeanor Breaking & Entering and multiple counts of Vandalization of Property.

Jackson S. Sugrue, age 23, of Webster was arrested on April 7 in connection with a warrant of apprehension.

Jose Manuel Romero Colon, age 38, of Webster was arrested on April 7 in connection with a warrant.

A 41-year-old male from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on April 7 for Resisting Arrest, Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, and multiple counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon.

Jason R. Anderson, age 41, of Webster was arrested on April 7 in connection with multiple warrants.

REAL ESTATE

Dudley

\$581,000, 12 Ash Ln, Chipps Sr, Dennis A, and Chipps, Karen M, to Day, Samuel, and Courtney, Chelsea.

\$277,000, 52 Schofield Ave, Sabara, Rarython B, and Sabara, Ashley A, to All Ideal Homes LLC.

\$274,900, 4 Cross St, Malakie, Conor, to Sanchez, Rosy A, and Sanchez, Jhesy A.

\$216,200, 11 Marshall Ter, Rodriguez, Vicentico, to Cady, Mark, and Leblanc, Cheryll.

\$175,000, 414 W Main St, E Z Cashing LLC, to Double K Trucking LLC.

Oxford

\$1,350,000, 107 Southbridge Rd, Angers Trucking Inc, to Boulder Industrial Pk LLC.

\$270,000, 14 Quobaug Ave, Thompson, Kristi L, to Gambaccini, Andrew J.

\$210,000, 23 Lovett Rd, Curtis, Blanca, and Curtis, Kevin, to Dimopoulos, Triantafyllos, and Gingerelli, Gina.

\$185,000, 364 Main St, Wilmington Svgs Fund Soc, to SAV Homes LLC.

\$165,097, 364 Main St, SMS Enterprise LLC, and Wilmington Svgs Fund Soc, to Wilmington Svgs Fund Soc.

Webster

\$945,000, 10 Pebble Beach Rd, Vartanian, James, to Nowicki, Jeffrey, and Nowicki, Kaitlin.

\$435,000, 60 School St, Fatsis, Nectarios, to Medero, Alexander.

\$370,000, 115 Douglas Rd, Dumont Ernest E Jr Est, and Ganun, Jessalynn J, to Kruppert, Gordon, and Kruppert, Diane L.

\$322,500, 1 Bernard St, Markle, Hanna, and Markle, Corey, to Lacki, Stephanie.

\$250,000, 25 Elm St, Paddleford, Carl T, and Paddleford, Deborah A, to Mosher, Richard.

\$200,000, 47 Elm St, Hoyt, Alan J, and Hoyt, Leila C, to Griffin Holdings LLC.



Courtesy

K-9 OFFICER VISITS OXFORD WOMAN'S CLUB

Recently, Officer Ryan Kasik and the K-9 visited the Oxford Woman's Club's meeting to explain the job of the K-9 and the intense training they both went through.

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WAS \$999.99

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WASHER
OR DRYER
#NED4655EW
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WAS \$999.99

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KNIT & CROCHET GROUP

Thursday 5:30PM

- 7:30PM and Friday

10:00AM-12:00PM

All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS GROUP

Mondays @ 5:00PM

Have you ever wanted to learn to play D&D or are you a player looking to join a group? We have an experienced DM starting a group on Monday Nights. This is an online program! Free; registration required.

PRE-K POWER STORYTIME

Tuesdays @ 11:00AM

Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time! We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

POKEMON CLUB

Tuesdays @ 3:30PM

Calling all Pokemon

fans! Children ages 7 to 14 are invited to join our club. This meeting will be a great opportunity to meet other players and share ideas. Please make sure you bring your trading cards and anything else you would like to share and discuss.

TODDLER TIME
Wednesdays @ 11:00AM
Come join us for Toddler Time! We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs!

This is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

LEGO CHALLENGE CLUB

Wednesdays @ 3:30PM
Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

WIGGLES AND GIGGLES

Fridays @ 11:00AM

Ages 2-5 are invited to attend this fun, free program! Sing, move, play instruments, learn rhythm, and listen to stories with Lainey Hanlon.

Space is limited; registration required. Sponsored by the YMCA Community

and Family Partnership.

ADULT BOOK GROUP
Third Thursday, 6:00PM-7:30PM

The adult book group meets for an informal discussion of the month's title, which is available at the circulation desk a month prior to the meeting. For the current month's title see our website.

For more information contact Kathryn Ward at 508-949-0819

BUSHWACKERS: AN INTERNATIONAL POSTER EXHIBIT

Throughout the month of April

This poster exhibit, focusing on political satire, from the collection of Stephen Lewis will be on display in the Fels Room throughout the month.

Sponsored by the Dudley Cultural Council.

HENNA ART FOR ALL AGES

Tuesday, April 19

2:00PM-3:00PM

Drop in and get a free henna design from Wicked Good Henna.

Free; children under 12

must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

A N I M A L CAMOUFLAGE WITH HANDS ON NATURE

Wednesday, April 20

10:00AM-11:00AM

Come learn about animals which are able to vanish in plain sight!

Discover ways in which animals are able to blend like magic into their environment. Learn about how both predators and prey disguise themselves to increase their chances of survival.

Then become a nature detective and see if you can spot the hidden animal, in various nature scenes... it's not as easy as you think!

Includes a fun camouflage project to take home. This is for ages 5+

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

MUSIC & MOVEMENT WITH DEB HUDGINS

Thursday, April 21

10:30AM-11:00AM

This is a 30 minute interactive program featuring singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms.

These programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

AUTHOR JERRY PALLOTTA

Thursday, April 21

1:00PM-2:00PM

Jerry Pallotta is the author of the Who Would Win series and many other children's books. He'll speak about his writing, and attendees will be able to purchase his books and have them autographed by Jerry.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

RELEASING PAIN NATURALLY

Thursday, May 19

6:00PM-7:45PM

Do you find yourself thinking "when will this pain end?" "why do I still have this pain?" or "how can I get rid of this pain?" Brad and Pamela Thompson will introduce some of the most recent breakthroughs in our understanding of pain and introduce a powerful and natural pain-reducing technique.

Registration is recommended for this free program.

children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

DRUM CIRCLE WITH MIKE LEO

Saturday, April 23

11:00AM-noon

Come be part of a drum circle and play a variety of different drums.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

WORLD WAR WOMEN

Thursday, April 28

6:00PM-7:45PM

Judith Kalaora of History At Play embodies the spirit of women who risked their lives to defeat Fascism in WWII in this immersive reliving of the triumphs of our greatest heroines. From organizing the resistance to blowing up railroad tracks, descrambling German Enigma messages, and flying dangerous missions, these stories may be the most influential and often forgotten victories of the War.

Free. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn provided!

NEEDLE FELTING AN OWL

Saturday, May 14

10:00AM-1:00PM

Participants in this workshop will create their own needle felted owl with instructor Nicol Wander. No experience is necessary and all materials are provided.

Space is limited; registration is required.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment

THE BACYARD ORCHARD

Monday, May 2

6:30PM-7:45PM

There's nothing like fruit picked fresh off the tree! Growing fruit can be a challenge, but with a few helpful hints and the right techniques taught by the master gardeners at Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens you'll have enough apples, pears, peaches, and whatever else you like to feed the entire neighborhood!

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

YOGA WITH JULIE

Saturday, May 14

1:00PM

Monthly beginner-friendly yoga class, led by Julie St Francis.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

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Registration is recommended for this free program.

CRIMINAL EXPUNGEMENT SERVICES

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Monday, May 2

5:00PM-6:00PM

All tweens and teens in

grades 6-12 are invited to join.

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valuable leadership skills.

You can meet new people.

You can earn volunteer hours (please bring your form).

Pizza and

Yoga with Julie

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

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Registration is recommended for this free program.

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Saint Joseph School concludes successful winter athletics season



Courtesy photos

Members of the Saint Joseph School Cheer Team and their coaches pose with their Route 395 League Tournament Second Place trophy and the Mary Paul School Spirit Award.



Members of the Saint Joseph School JV Basketball Team and their coaches pose with their Route 395 League Tournament First Place trophy



Members of the Saint Joseph School Varsity Boys Basketball Team accept their Route 395 League Tournament Second Place trophy



Members of the Saint Joseph School Varsity Girls Basketball Team accept their Route 395 League Tournament Second Place trophy



Members of the Saint Joseph School cheer and basketball teams accept the Route 395 Sportsmanship Award



Saint Joseph School MVP's (Left to Right) Rocco Rudnicki, Maeve Sullivan, Hannah Watson, Leah Boudreau, Gabriela Pianka, and Andrew Bergeron

WEBSTER — Saint Joseph School concluded its winter athletics season when it hosted the 40th annual Route 395 League Basketball and Cheer Tournament from April 1-3.

The Saint Joseph School cheer team was awarded second place for their outstanding routine that was full of stunts, tumbles, cheers and awesome dance moves. The cheer tournament culminated with the Mary Paul School Spirit Award presentation to the Saint Joseph School Cheer Team. The recipient of the Mary Paul Spirit Award is determined by the schools that participate in the Route 395 League. Each athletic director is given the opportunity to vote for the cheer squad that they believe exhibits the most enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and school spirit. Congratulations, SJS cheerleaders!

Capacity crowds filled the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium throughout the weekend to watch exciting boys' and girls' basketball. Teams were recognized for their regular season records, as well as the tournament results. Saint Joseph School is proud to announce that their JV Boys, Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys all finished the season in second place in their divisions. The tournament also concluded with each Saint Joseph School team playing in Championship Games. We are excited to announce that the Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys finished tournament play

in second place. However, the JV Boys were victorious in their championship game and finished tournament play in first place. It was an incredible game that had everyone on the edge of their seats. Congratulations to all SJS basketball teams!

The basketball tournament culminated with the presentation of MVP trophies to varsity players and the Route 395 Sportsmanship Award to Saint Joseph School. Saint Joseph School MVPs include Varsity Girls — Leah Boudreau and Gabriela Pianka — and Varsity Boys — Andrew Bergeron and Rocco Rudnicki.

Like the Mary Paul Spirit Award, the Sportsmanship Award is determined by the schools that participate in the Route 395 League. Each athletic director is given the opportunity to vote for the school that exhibits the best sportsmanship which includes fair play, courtesy, school spirit and grace in winning and losing. Saint Joseph School is extremely proud of its student athletes, coaches and fans. It is an honor for our school to be presented the Mary Paul Spirit Award and the Route 395 Sportsmanship Award. Congratulations on a great season!

Members of the SJS Eagles Cheer Team include Hannah Watson, Gianna DiCola-Keddy, Maeve Sullivan, Haleigh Creighton, Avery Archambault, Alexis Archambault, Ariana Benson, Bella Kicilinski,

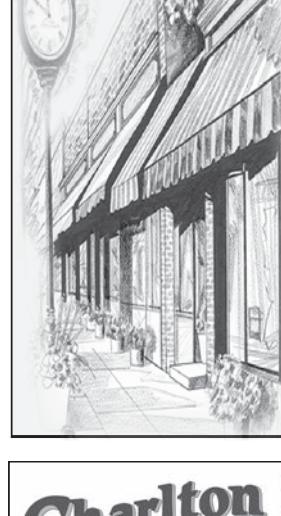
Lily Martin, Amelia Potem, Evelyn Macko and Sophia Surowaniec. The team is coached by Christy Creighton, Gina DiCola and Jessica Recko.

Members of the JV Boys Basketball Team include Colton Haase, Alan Kulpa, Jack Keller, Gabriel Gallant, Ryan Grupposo, Max Podgorny, Jake Martin, Adam Wozniak, Luke Surowaniec, Tobi Akindale, Jacob Parafinowicz, Simon Kowalczyk, Ryan Amaral, Ethan Ryan and Alan Rubin. The JV Boys team is coached by Jeffrey Grupposo and Steve Keller.

Members of the Varsity Girls Basketball Team include Hannah Watson, Ola Parafinowicz, Juliana Rudnicki, Gianna DiCola-Keddy, Gabriela Pianka, Leah Boudreau, Shayley Szela, Gianna Rosario, Emerson Bernard, Emily Macko, Molly Hachigian and Neli Kuznecki. The team is coached by Brenda Sullivan and Buzz Krysinski.

Members of the Boys Varsity Basketball Team include Rocco Rudnicki, Matthew Obrycki, Treyton Dery, Steve Mathu, Andrew Bergeron, Philopateer Basha, Paul Mankarios, Aiden Muchiru, Marcus Murhiru and Ike Rudnicki. The team is coached by Matt Sabacinski and Lisa Sabacinski.

The Saint Joseph School Athletic Program is directed by Mr. Joey Boudreau. For more information about Saint Joseph School, please call (508) 943-0378 or email info@sjs-webster.com.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Legends of spring

The first day of spring just passed us by on March 20. Now that we are over the hump and into the rainy/muddy season, we thought we would share some fun myths surrounding this blooming time of year.

The first story begins with Persephone and Demeter. Persephone was the goddess of spring and holds the most well known story of the season to date. Persephone is the daughter of Demeter, the goddess of agriculture and Zeus, the king of the gods. Persephone married Hades who kept her hidden against her will. Demeter set off to find her daughter and for every minute she was lost, not a crop would grow. Zeus then ordered his daughter to remain in the underworld for half of the year because she ate all of the fruit (pomegranate seeds), the other half of the year she spent with her mother. The idea is that every time Persephone goes into the underworld, winter arrives and the crops die, when she is with her mother, crops bloom.

According to Cherokee legend, the reason trees lose their leaves in the fall is because of the communication between animals and humans. Apparently, animals were able to communicate with humans and the world was utopian. Every year the birds would fly south for the winter. During one particular year, a Sparrow who was injured was not able to fly south, he sent his flock ahead without him so the would not freeze, meanwhile he sought shelter. The bird flew to an old Oak tree and was told that he could not seek shelter in its branches, the same thing happened with every tree the bird visited until he was finally granted permission to stay in a pine tree. The pine tree, not popular with the others because of its hard, sharp leaves welcomed the little bird. The Sparrow was forever grateful.

The Sparrow survived the winter and welcomed his family home during the warmer months. Because the other trees, turned on the Sparrow during a most vulnerable time, the creator cursed their leaves to die during the winter except for the pine tree.

The Shinto Sun Goddess and Bringer of Light, Amaterasu, according to legend, is in control of the sun's movement to insure rice and other crops will grow. This goddess is well known for her ability to spin satin. Her fame caused her brother Susanoo, the god of storms, to become extremely jealous. The angry deity destroyed his sister's weaving loom and wrecked her rice fields. The rampage caused one of Amaterasu's closest friends to perish, as a result she locked herself inside a mountain resulting in the disappearance of light. Because of this, crops would not grow. Uzme, the goddess of laughter traveled to the mountain where Amaterasu was hiding. She placed a shiny necklace on a tree, then began to dance causing the other gods to laugh. When Amaterasu heard the laughter she peeked out of her cave and slowly began to walk towards the necklace. At this, Uzme had the cave blocked and light was restored to the world.

Some actual facts concerning the spring season are as follows; in 1582, if Pope Gregory XIII would not have established the Gregorian calendar, then every 128 years the vernal equinox would have come a full calendar day earlier, which would put Easter in the middle of winter.

The famous myth about being able to balance an egg on its end on the spring equinox is not true. Attempting to balance an egg on its end is no easier on the spring equinox than on any other day.

During the springtime, birds are louder as they sing to attract mates and to warn enemies to steer clear.

The term "spring fever" refers to the psychological and physiological symptoms that go along with the arrival of spring, which include, daydreaming and restlessness. Over the years, scientists surmise the cause in the hormone shift could be due to the increase in sunlight and increased physical activity.

VIEWPOINT

THE DEADLINE to submit letters to the editor and commentaries for next week's newspaper is Friday at noon. SEND ALL ITEMS to Editor Brendan Berube at THE WEBSTER TIMES — news@stonebridgepress.news

Through the cross we have joy

"Christianity is a joyless religion." Alexander Schmemann once stated that this accusation, made by the French philosopher and atheist Frederick Nietzsche, described Christians who believed in God but who didn't seem to enjoy life. Schmemann responded to this accusation by saying "Christianity without Joy is incomprehensible... It is only as joy that the Church was victorious in the world."

Joy should be one of the most evident fruit the world sees in followers of Christ. Take a moment and think about this. When people see us and how we live, do they see joy? Will others describe us as people who radiate the fruit of the Holy Spirit – love, peace, hope, and joy?

Even though our Great Lenten journey is supposed to be a sober, serious discipline and a struggle that leads us to repentance, denial of self, and greater self-awareness, at the same time this holy season should be a time of cultivating and discovering joy. Pay attention to some of our Lenten hymns: "With joy we enter into the Fast... let us joyfully journey through the all-hallowed season of abstinence... There are 40 days in the Fast, let us keep each one of them with joy."

We read throughout Holy Scripture about the Good News of Great Joy with the coming of Christ. Our Lord says, "I have told you these things so that my joy might be in you and your joy might be complete." Saint Paul reminds us to "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. And give thanks in all circumstances. For this is the will of God." Nehemiah the Prophet says, "The joy of the Lord is my strength."

It is only as joy that the Church was victorious in the world!

To rejoice and radiate the joy of the Lord reflects who we are and what we believe. Joy reveals the essence of our faith. Without joy we clearly don't understand who Jesus Christ is and what He has done in the world. Without joy Christianity is a religion without grace and power. Authentically following Jesus Christ displays a way of life that impacts everything we do in our lives and fills it with joy.

Of course, this doesn't mean that we will act giddy all the time. Life is a deep mystery that sometimes takes us down dark, difficult, challenging paths filled with suffering and even terrible evil. We never sugarcoat the cross we have to carry in life. At the same time, we realize that "through the Cross joy has come into the world." Because of the Cross, darkness, evil, suffering, and death have been defeated!

It is only as joy that the Church was victorious in the world!

Think about it. Why do followers of Jesus Christ radiate inner joy?

Because we know the deepest foundation of hope is in the resurrection of



BEYOND

THE PEWS

• • • • •
BY FR. LUKE
A. VERONIS
SAINTS
CONSTANTINE
AND HELEN
GREEK
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CHURCH,
WEBSTER

Jesus Christ from the dead. We no longer fear anything, even death itself. Human life is the expectation of that which is at the end, and at the end is the joy of the Bridal Chamber, the joy of the Resurrection.

Because we know through the victory of Jesus Christ we experience "an explosion of cosmic joy at the triumph of life," as Dumitri Staniloae says.

Because through this triumph of life we discover the deepest meaning, purpose and direction that guides us every day.

Because no matter how dark and depressing the world may appear, what lies within us is greater than what lies outside. "In the world you will have tribulation," Christ said, "but be of good cheer for I have overcome the world."

Because Jesus Christ turns our whole being into a feast day of life. Whatever life brings, we travel these roads praising God and sail the rough seas singing His glory!

Through the Cross joy has come into the world.

So, how can we be filled with such joy? How can we learn to rejoice always and rejoice in all circumstances?

We need to open our hearts and be filled with the Holy Spirit, inviting the Source of all good things to dwell richly in us. Saint Isaac the Syrian reminds us to "constantly ponder on the Holy Word of God and always be filled with the incomprehensible wonder and joy of God."

Schmemann teaches us that "Joy is not something one can define or analyze. One enters into joy. And we have no other means of entering into that joy, no way of understanding it, except through the one action which from the beginning has been for the Church both the source and the fulfillment of joy – the very sacrament of joy, the Eucharist... The Liturgy is, before everything else, the joyous gathering of those who are to meet the risen Lord and to enter with Him into the bridal chamber."

Mother Teresa once noted, "A joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love." Therefore, we must cultivate lives burning with love. Love means sacrifice and when we embrace meaningful sacrifice in our lives, we discover ultimate joy.

Through the Cross, joy comes into the world.

Such joy is not a cheap joy, but a joy born out of pain. The source of Christian joy is forgetting self and focusing on others. The greatest obstacle to joy is death itself, yet the Resurrection changes the despair of death into joy. Saint Paul could write, "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain." Whatever God touches he turns into joy, even death.

Turn To BEYOND page A11

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Accountability needed on Oxford Board of Selectmen

To the Editor:

The recent Open Meeting Law complaints reported in the April 8 issue of the Webster Times speak to a lack of accountability on the part of the Board of Selectmen and Chairman Michael Daniels-Demers.

Daniels-Demers blaming the board's assistant for being grossly behind on meeting minutes is scapegoating. It is the legal responsibility of the board, and Daniels-Demers as Chairman, to ensure the minutes were written and reviewed in compliance with the law.

For anyone who may not have read meeting minutes before, they are just a summary of the discussion, not a transcript, and are not very detailed. If the assistant's workload is too much, Daniels-Demers could write the minutes himself. During executive sessions in the past where the assistant could not be present, the draft minutes were written by a board member. The fact that putting in a few hours of extra time in service of the law and the residents of Oxford was not even considered as an option by the board speaks to why so many townspeople are frustrated with the current board. This behavior is not isolated; in the same article in the Webster Times, the board (through

its attorney) claims that the video of the controversial Sept. 21 meeting was lost due to an inexperienced operator. It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure records of its meetings are properly captured. I have personally recorded nearly every selectmen's meeting since June of last year and I am just a private citizen without the resources of the town government behind me. I do not understand why the concept of a 'backup' recording for a legal public record is such a foreign concept. Some people believe in problems, I believe in solutions.

This issue illustrates why I am running for the Board of Selectmen, why I am running against Daniels-Demers, and why I believe I am the right person for the Board at this time. The residents of Oxford deserve someone who is willing to put in the extra time to do things right. The town needs a person on the Board willing to take responsibility for problems in the town and to fix them rather than seeking out who to blame. The community deserves someone willing to speak to their issues and give voice to their concerns. If you agree, I ask for your vote on May 17.

ROBERT J. KING
OXFORD

Thank you, O'Conner Insurance

To the Editor:

For all of us that have dealt with companies and agencies who force us to endure recorded directions, lightning speed numbers given to call or press and ear punishing music delays, I'm glad to report after experiencing a Mother Nature property damage event,

I called my insurance company, and not only did I get a live person to talk to, but to my relief, the most efficient and professional action to resolve my problem, of which I am grateful. Thank you, O'Conner Insurance.

ANTHONY E. SCARIGLIA, JR.
OXFORD

Storing unregistered vehicles



CHIEF'S CORNER

STEVE
WOJNAR

With the snow gone and leaves still off the trees, some things, normally out of sight, are now visible. I was asked a question regarding the storage of unregistered motor vehicles on properties here in town. Many people have unregistered cars or trucks on their property for one reason or another. I was asked to explain the Town By-law.

Article 280-8 is the section of the Dudley By-laws which pertains to storage of unregistered motor vehicles. Unless a person is the holder of a license, such as a car dealer, or unless given a special permit by the Selectmen, they cannot have more than one unregistered motor vehicle on a lot in Town. The vehicle can be assembled or disassembled for the purposes of this law. The term "lot" is defined as "a parcel of land held in identical ownership throughout including all contiguous land held in the same ownership."

Should someone request a special permit, a public hearing will be held, and the Selectmen "may" issue one if certain criteria are met. Some items of consideration include whether the vehicles constitute a nuisance and if they do "not adversely affect the neighborhood."

This By-law does not apply to vehicles stored within an enclosed building or if they are designed for farming or other agricultural purposes. Penalties for a violation are twenty dollars per day for each violation. This law is designed to avoid hazardous situations and the compiling of junk vehicles. Should you find yourself with a potential violation, it is good to know you have options. Many charities or scrap dealers will take old vehicles off your property at no cost. You may also receive a tax credit in some cases. Feel free to contact our office should you require assistance with this problem.

For those still seeking COVID-19 vaccination or other information, it can be found at www.dudleyma.gov or by calling 508-949-8036. We encourage everyone to continue to be safe. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. These times continue to be challenging and we, at the Dudley Police Department, greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department, 71 West Main St., Dudley, MA 01571 or email at wojnar@dudleypolice.com. Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Webster Times, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.news.

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.



We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

Will your money last as long as you do?

We all hope for long, healthy lives. But there's a serious "side effect" of longevity—the possibility of outliving our money. How can you help prevent this?

It's useful to know the seriousness of the threat. Consider this: About 41 percent of all U.S. homes in which the head of the household is between 35 and 64 are projected to run short of money in retirement, according to the Employee Benefit Research Institute.

While this statistic indicates a cause for concern, it certainly doesn't mean that you are necessarily headed for trouble—because there's a lot you can do to help build and manage enough resources to last a lifetime. Here are a few suggestions:

Consider your estimated longevity. On average, a 65-year-old man can expect to live another 17 years, while a 65-year-old woman can anticipate about 20 years, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Of course, you'll want to take into account your health and family history of longevity to arrive at a reasonable estimate. You can then use this figure to help determine how much money you'll eventually need. To play it safe, you might even want to try to build an income stream that can last beyond your estimated lifespan, possibly up to age 90.

Don't overlook health care costs. When budgeting for retirement, allow



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

enough for your health care expenses, which can be considerable. Even with Medicare, you can expect to spend anywhere from \$4,500 to \$6,500 per year, per person, for traditional medical costs. Also, you may want to prepare for two to three years of long-term care expenses, which currently range from about \$50,000 per year for home health care to over \$100,000 per year for a private room in a nursing home.

Keep building assets for

retirement. While you're working, constantly try to put away as much money as possible for your retirement years. Each year your salary goes up, increase your contributions to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. You may also want to contribute to an IRA, depending on your goals. And within your retirement savings, make sure you devote a reasonable percentage of your investment dollars to growth-oriented vehicles that align with your goals and risk tolerance.

Seek out sources of guaranteed income. As a retiree, you will receive Social Security benefits—and the longer you wait before claiming them, the bigger your month-

ly checks will be. But you might also consider investments that can provide a source of income you can't outlive, such as annuities.

Revisit your strategy before you retire. As you near retirement, you may want to review your investment strategy, possibly adjusting your risk level so that your portfolio would be somewhat less susceptible to market volatility. This is also a good time to review your spending needs in retirement.

Maintain a reasonable withdrawal rate. Once you are retired, you'll likely need to start withdrawing from your 401(k), IRA and other investment accounts. To avoid taking out too much money too early in your retirement, you'll need to set a reasonable,

sustainable withdrawal rate based on your assets, age and retirement lifestyle. A financial advisor can help you determine an appropriate rate.

It will take dedication and determination to help ensure your money doesn't run out during your lifetime. But you'd probably agree that it's well worth the effort.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com.

Memories of opening day fishing

Trout fishing officially opened in Massachusetts, which I consider to be official after the opening of Wallum lake in Douglas, Mass. this past Saturday. It is the only opening day for Mass. & Rhode Island anglers every year. Many anglers miss the opening day of trout fishing, that once was a big event, and it brought excitement to thousands of young anglers annually. As a youngster, opening day of trout fishing had my family excited, and we did not sleep well the night prior to opening day. My brothers and I would go shopping at the fair discount store for last minute items, and our fishing rods were ready weeks ahead of time.

The night before opening day, my dad sent us to bed early, in anticipation of the next day's fishing trip to numerous brooks in the valley that were stocked with brook trout. Lying in bed, I slept only a few hours before my dad came to wake us up, announcing it was time to go fishing. A quick breakfast and we were ready to go. My dad's old 1937 Pontiac was already running, and we were loaded into the old car, and headed to our first brook in Whitinsville called Prentice Brook, which is now directly across from Walmart.

We had dug worms a few days before for

our morning of fishing. My dad had to be back to work at the former Whitin Machine Works by 10 a.m., so we had to try to catch our limit of brook trout before he had to leave. After fishing Prentice Brook, Johnson Brook and Purgatory Brook, we often had limited out on eight- & 10-inch trout, in time for my dad to go back to work. Most of the trout were raised at the former Sutton

hatchery and stocked in local streams and brooks throughout the valley. The trout would be cooked for supper, after my dad returned home from work, so my brother Mel and I went fishing for the rest of the day, at the Meadow Pond in Whitinsville, catching numerous, bass, perch, pickerel etc. I have fond memories of those early days of my life fishing with my dad, who always found time to take us fishing.

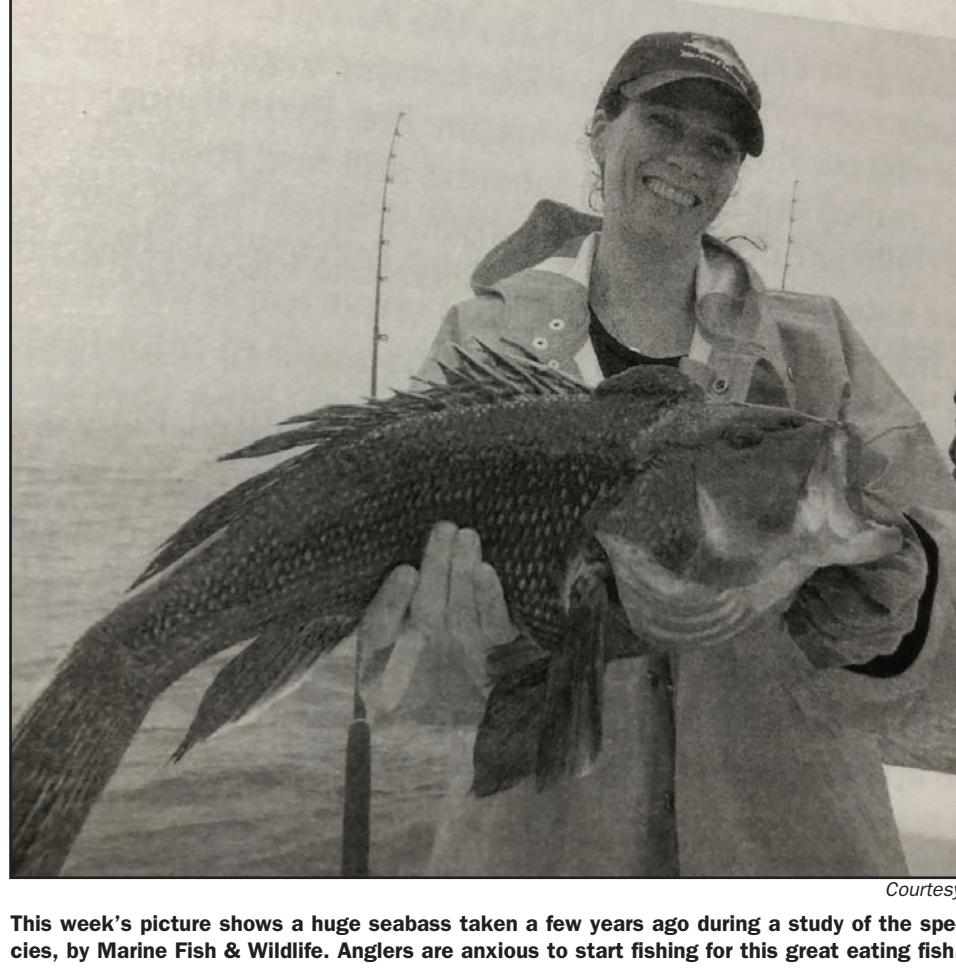
Migratory birds are on the move, coming back from their winter-feeding grounds, but there is a lot of problems with the bird flu in some neighboring states that could spell real trouble for the returning birds, and local

birds that do not migrate South every year. Reports of the bird flu killing more than 60 geese and ducks in one neighboring state, is enough to sound the alarm. This is not the first year that the bird flu has been detected in the Northeast. In all, our wildlife is having some major problems with disease & hopefully they can all be

addressed soon, before it becomes out of control.

With the closing of the Lower Forty fly fishing store in Worcester, Mass. not long ago, it has left the area with few options to purchase fly tying materials, other than to visit a big box store. This past week, my brother Ken was looking for someone to fix one of his favorite fishing rods, and was told to try Cote Fly and Rod Building Supply's in Leicester, Mass. It was a bit of a ride, but he and his wife decided to make the trek to Leicester & check it out.

Ken was amazed at the equipment and inventory in the shop, and was told about the business that his father and law had started years ago. Cotes is one of the last remaining rod building companies in the area, and he does excellent work, as Ken soon found out. Big box stores just do not have the employees that have many years of experience in the business, and finding some younger person to have the knowledge that Cotes shop has



Courtesy
This week's picture shows a huge seabass taken a few years ago during a study of the species, by Marine Fish & Wildlife. Anglers are anxious to start fishing for this great eating fish.

been hard to find. The late Paul Kukonen was another master in the art of fly tying and fishing rod repair, and Murats, located on Route 146 in Woonsocket, was another great store that did great work building fishing rods.

The Pout Pond Recreational committee

is planning another fishing derby in Uxbridge on May 7, in cooperation with Mass. Fish & Wildlife. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Tips to Decrease Stress with Everyday Activities



TAKE THE HINT KAREN TRAINOR

people who drank black tea were able to de-stress more quickly than those who drank a placebo tea. Moreover, the participants (who drank black tea four times a day for six weeks) displayed lower levels of the stress hormone cortisol after experiencing a stressful event, as compared to a control group who drank the placebo tea for the same period of time.

Exercise is a proven method of lowering stress levels, and many people make a workout part of their daily routine. And there's good news for those who don't go to a gym on a regular basis. Research reveals a daily 20 minute walk can be as effective as a mild tranquilizer.

And if you choose to take your daily walk along a country or scenic road you increase the stress busting efforts. According to a study performed by the Horticultural Therapy Association, simply look-

ing at trees and vegetation reduces stress, lowers blood pressure and relieves muscle tension.

It's no surprise pets play an important role in reducing stress. What is surprising is a research study that shows pets may be better at reducing stress than a loved one! According to a past report published in the journal Psychosomatic Medicine, researchers examined the effects of the presence of friends, spouses and pets on the level of stress associated with certain relatively unpleasant tasks. They found that compared with human support, the presence of pets was associated with lower perceived and actual responses to stress.

De-stress Strategies

*It's a known fact that color can alter our moods. "Cool" colors like violet, purple and green can soothe jittery nerves. Blue has shown to be the most calming color influence of all.

*A NASA-funded study revealed chewing gum can ward off stress. Scientists from Wheeling Jesuit University monitored the responses of 25 college students during simulated driving scenarios. The volunteers reported that chewing

peppermint gum lowered their feelings of fatigue or anxiety by 20%. Peppermint and cinnamon each decreased frustration by 25%, increased alertness by 30%, and made the ride seem 30% shorter.

*Meditation can be a powerful weapon in the fight against stress, and can work to head off a panic attack. Meditation and proper breathing can help slow the heart rate and calm nerves. A quick calming trick is to close your eyes and breathe slowly and deeply, focusing on the breaths.

*Another way to relieve stress naturally is to bring nature indoors with fresh flowers. Ongoing research leaves no doubt the therapeutic effects of garden flowers. In a study at Kansas State University, students thrust into a stressful situation responded positively to bright red geraniums in the room.

*Prayer helps you focus within and can offer a calm perspective on the world. A research study showed that that college students who practiced a religion were less stressed than their non-religious counterparts. Other research

suggests that those who are religious are less likely to have a stress-related mental illness.

*Taking a deep breath and stretching often not only brings instant relief to a stressed, frazzled body, but it has been shown to lower cortisol levels, which can help reduce stress and anxiety. Deep breathing can also cause a temporary drop in blood pressure.

*Naps are also therapeutic for diffusing stress. A study found that workers who nap for at least 45 minutes during the day had lower average blood pressure after suffering psychological stress compared to those who did not. The researchers, whose work is published in Springer's International Journal of Behavioral Medicine, noted: "Our findings suggest that daytime sleep may offer cardiovascular benefit by accelerating cardiovascular recovery following mental stressors."

*According to the Calm Clinic, whole grain snacks, blueberries, peaches, almonds, and dark chocolate are all good food choices with natural calming properties. Also, foods with magnesium, vitamin B12 (and other B vitamins), zinc, and antioxidants can be beneficial for help-

ing you deal with stress.

**

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

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

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

OBITUARIES

Robert 'Bob' Gomes, 85



PUTNAM -- Robert "Bob" Louis Gomes, 85, of Putnam and Webster (Lake), Mass., died Jan. 9, 2022. He was born Feb. 13, 1936, in Somerville, Mass., and was a 1953 grad of Dedham High School.

He married Carol (Papanti) Gomes and they had a daughter, Donna (Gomes) Gilbert of Thompson. Later he married Dianne (Kearns) Gomes.

Blessed with hands gifted in mechanics and music, he started his career at 15 at the neighborhood garage. In 1984 he opened Gomes Total Chrysler. In 20 years he transformed it from a small former gas station into a Chrysler Five Star showplace. After that -- retirement being a foreign word -- he opened Woodstock Piano & Music.

He was known for working hard, projects, generosity, and always giving people a chance. He played six instruments by ear.

Lake Winnipesaukee was his favorite place; he built two island cottages there. He celebrated 50 years as a Master Mason and was a former member of automobile organizations and the Putnam Rotary Club. He was a member of the South Woodstock Baptist Church.

Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 22 at the Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, with a Masonic Service at 7:30. The Church Service is at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 23 at the South Woodstock Baptist Church, Roseland Park Road. In lieu of flowers, donations: South Woodstock Baptist Church, PO Box 86, South Woodstock, CT 06281. Attn.: Trish. (in memo: "Camperships"). Why? We passed by a church summer camp each week and without fail he would talk about how wonderful it was when he went to church summer camp when he was a boy. He wants to help children that otherwise might not get that experience of a lifetime he had.

www.GilmanandValade.com.

Gilbert L. "Gil" Jackson, 60



WEBSTER - Gilbert L. "Gil" Jackson, 60, died Friday, December 3, 2021 at home after a short but courageous battle with leukemia. He leaves his wife of 30 years, Gail H. (Hicks) Jackson; a

son, Erik A. Jackson and his companion Cassandra Pelletier of Webster; a step-son, Matthew D. Bard and his wife Caitlin and 3 grandchildren, Liam, Aidan and Rory Bard, all of Wenham; a sister-in-law, Krissy Jackson of Palmer; and many supportive uncles, aunts, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his brother Gary in 2016 and by Matthew's twin brother Michael. He also leaves 3 loving cats, Bowie, Tovi and Vito. He was born on May 9, 1961 in Webster and raised in Dudley, the first child of Albert S. "Big Al" Jackson, Sr. and

Joyce Sledzik, 76



Joyce Sledzik, 76, of Dudley died unexpectedly Thursday, April 7, 2022 at her home. Joyce was born August 4, 1945 in Webster, MA. She is the daughter of the late Edward and the late Evelyn (Tellier) Galinski. .

She is survived by one daughter: Kim Cantara of Dudley and two sons: Kyle Sledzik of Dudley and Keith Cantara and his wife Kathy of Divide, CO. She also has one granddaughter, Ava Sledzik of Dudley.

Joyce graduated from St. Louis High School. She was a CPA for Tri-

Valley Elder Services in Dudley. She had a green thumb and loved her dog Abby. Most of all she enjoyed time spent with her family and her monthly lunch group that would meet at Point Breeze. She treasured time spent with her granddaughter Ava.

A graveside service will be held privately at St. Joseph Garden Of Peace Cemetery, Worcester Rd., Webster, MA. Please omit flowers and consider a donation to Second Chance Animal Shelter, 111 Young Rd. PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515

Bartel Funeral Home & Chapel 33 Schofield Ave. Dudley is directing arrangements. Joyce's guest book is at www.bartelfuneralhome.com.



Roland J. Lowe



Roland J. Lowe formerly of Webster, age 76 passed away peacefully in his sleep surrounded by family on March 25, 2022. Born January 17, 1946, in Worcester, Massachusetts to his loving mother June P. (Lowe) Langlois. He was predeceased by his brother Richard Crimp, Eugene P. Langlois, Brenda J. Langlois and Jamie Learned.

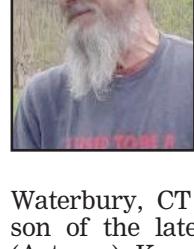
Decorous throughout out life, Roland emulated dignity with a sense of what is right, as the eldest of eight siblings, he was a member of the Mohegan Council, Boy Scouts of America, an altar server at St. Louis Church and attended Bartlett High School before joining the US Air Force.

A veteran of Vietnam Era & peace-time, MSgt Lowe (E-7) served from 1963 to 1989 as an Avionics Guidance and Con Systems Technician until promoted to Avionics Supervisor. He toured in the UK, Thailand, and Guam. Throughout his service he was stationed in Chanute AFB, Westover AFB, Ellsworth AFB, and Minot AFB, just to name a few.

There will be no calling hours. The family kindly requests that flowers be omitted and donations in his memory be made to a charity of one's choice.

Funeral service was held at Calvary Cemetery, Old Cemetery Road, Dudley, MA on Thursday, April 14 at 11:00 a.m. graveside Section, Avenue A Extension left entrance.

Daniel C. Knecht, 64



Webster - Daniel C. Knecht, 64, passed away on Tuesday March 22, 2022 while at the UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester after a long battle with Multiple Sclerosis.

Daniel was born in Waterbury, CT on February 23, 1958 son of the late Clifford and Amelia (Artman) Knecht. For many years Daniel worked as a machine operator; he was heavily involved with Civil War Reenactments working on several films such as Civil Action and the North and the South. Daniel enjoyed traveling, collecting antiques, and caring for his animals. Daniel hopes to continue the fight against MS by donating his brain for medical research.

Daniel is survived by his longtime and loving companion Carolyn Rocheleau of Webster; two sons; four stepchildren: Michael Gilman of Oxford, Chrissy Ferris of Webster, Karalee Curl of

North Grosvenordale, CT, and Tammy Hartland of Dudley; his brother Robert Hein of Sandy Hook, CT; two sisters: Dorothy Mackey of Waterbury, CT, and Edna Knecht of Newtown, CT; seven grandchildren: Jeremy, Dylan, Macy, Jacob, Harmony, Josh, and Julie; he also leaves many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Daniel also leaves behind his best friend Fred the Dog and Lucky AKA Jaws Almighty.

A Celebration of Daniel's life will be celebrated and announced at a later date.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please make a memorial contribution to St. Jude's Children's Fund or to the Dog Orphans Inc.

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Daniel.

*Send all obituary notices to
Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
to obits@stonebridgepress.news*



Spring into the growing season

Spring flowering bulbs and perennials are filling our landscapes with color. As your gardens come alive this spring, start making notes on needed improvements and provide some early season color and nectar for the pollinators. This will keep your landscape looking its best all season long and for years to come.



GARDEN

MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

and toads. You'll achieve lots of benefits from this one task.

Leave perennials stand until daytime temperatures are consistently 50 degrees. This allows overwintering eggs to hatch and insects to exit their winter homes. If waiting is not an option, cut most stems back to the ground and stack them out of the way. This allows the

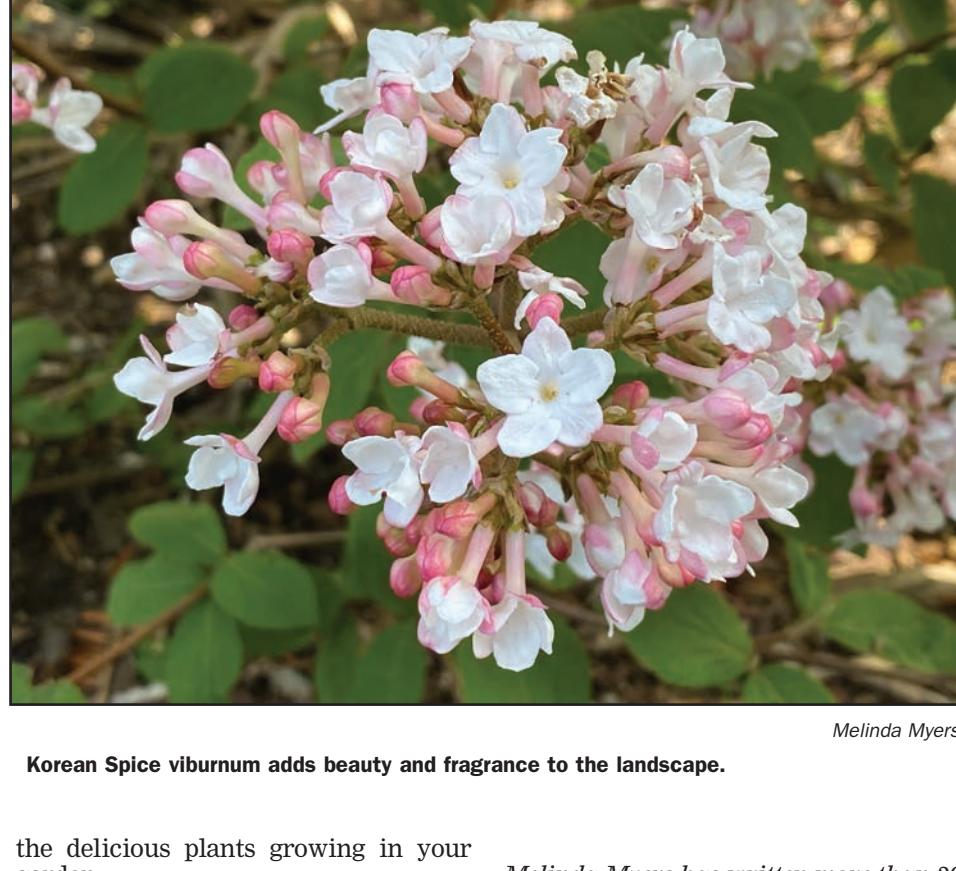
insects to exit their winter homes when the time is right. Leave some stems standing eight to 12 inches above ground so insects can form new homes. Chop up the removed plant material in mid-summer or fall to use as mulch in the garden or the compost pile.

Watch for animal damage and protect your plantings as needed. Fresh new growth in the spring garden makes a tasty treat for rabbits, deer, and other wildlife.

Many gardeners enlist the help of repellents to protect their landscape plants.

Always check the label for details on use, application rates and timing. Research has proven that odor-based repellents like rain and snow resistant Plantskydd (plantskydd.com) are more effective than other types of repellents. Plus, this will cause wildlife to avoid plants rather than taking a bite before they discover they don't like the taste.

Treat pathways used to access your landscape as well as key plants before the animals begin feeding. It is easier to keep them away before they find all



Korean Spice viburnum adds beauty and fragrance to the landscape.

the delicious plants growing in your garden.

Continue taking pictures of your landscape throughout the year. Make note of any challenges encountered and needed adjustments in care. Include any failures; all gardeners have them. These are just another step toward growing a healthier and more beautiful garden.

Then take time to enjoy the beauty of your landscape. Find a comfortable spot to sit, relax, listen to the birds, and take in all the wonders spring has to offer.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Tree World Plant Care* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

GROWTH

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The documents produced using these resources will help the Commission promote itself through activities at town events such as the annual Apple Festival. Lorkiewicz said they don't expect to expend all \$1,500 in the next year but have pinpointed that number as a starting point for future growth.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda recommended support for the funding which will come from free cash. Lorkiewicz said the specifics for any signage has yet to be finalized but they anticipate having signs at each entrance to neighboring towns and Connecticut. The Commission is also working on expanding its presence online including utilizing the town's website, social media and the Dudley Farmers website to promote future projects and events. The Commission's first major event of the year will be its first annual "Dudley Grows Together" Plant Hop on May 14, just in time for the spring gardening season.

FUNDRAISER

continued from page A1

Likewise, both spent time as part of the Russian Empire and were controlled by the USSR prior to 1991. Western Ukraine still has a significant Polish minority, but most of the current batch of refugees do not speak Polish or English.

"They came with nothing. Some came with shoes falling apart from walking in snow and rain and sleet," Bugajski said.

In most cases, they have housing, although she noted one family with five kids is still being housed in a college dorm. School #12 has been supplying some clothing, backpacks and other basic school supplies, and is also collecting funds to provide various extra-curricular activities, including judo, film-making and counseling.

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

COUNCIL

continued from page A1

the project a staple of each student's junior year experience. "We've been working towards ensuring that students at Shepherd Hill are getting a real-world experience of what it means to be a member of a community and what it means to be civically engaged. This project is going to really help embody that."

Going beyond civic engagement, the Council is also seeking ways to give students professional experience in the workforce. Council President Bronson Dubey presented an initiative which would establish an internship program connecting students with local businesses. Currently Shepherd Hill does not require internships to graduate which Dubey pointed out is contrary to many other districts.

"We do not have any sort of work study or public service internship type of experiences," said Dubey. "I felt that other schools have those opportunities, and it would be great for Shepherd Hill to get out in our community and have students find something that they're passionate about and get real life work experience."

Dubey added that he has spent the past few months working with the guidance department at Shepherd Hill to determine how the internships could be implemented in the curriculum.

Currently the district does offer teaching internships which Dubey said is considered a pilot program in the 2022 school year.

The third and final project was presented by Council Secretary Nicole Moore and is an attempt to increase the school's preparedness for medical situations. The Council's "EpiPen Project" seeks to make the titular life-saving device more accessible to different departments in the school.

"We've been trying to implement at least two (EpiPens) in the nurse's office, one in the gym and one in the cafeteria. We want to train cafeteria workers or anyone who can help in case faculty and staff have an allergic reaction to anything. We're trying to figure out the financial part of everything, but I think once we get it done it's going to be very helpful in case of an emergency," said Moore.

The project will also include installing boxes for quick access to the EpiPens if the need arises.

The Dudley-Charlton Leadership Council plans to continue to build on its relationship with students throughout the district as it takes on a bigger role in the larger picture of Shepherd Hill. Students and parents can learn more about the Council by visiting dclcwebsite.wixsite.com/dudley-charlton-leade.



**THE
PITCH!**
CHECK OUT THE
SPORTS ACTION!

A lesson in "Endurance"

come," said Shackleton.

After ten months, their ship sank. They were now living on shifting ice, with a fraction of their supplies and three lifeboats.

Forces beyond your control will try to shatter your determination. You must stay optimistic.

Shackleton recognized he wouldn't accomplish his dream. He changed his plan to achieve something more purposeful, to bring all his men home alive.

If you must retreat from your dream, you can transform it into something more meaningful.

Melting ice eventually forced them into their boats. Searching for a distant island and altering course for another, morale was low, and death seemed inevitable. One sailor marveled, "Shackleton never appears to be anything but the acme of good humor and hopefulness; he is one of the greatest optimists living!"

Some thought he was foolish, a blind optimist who falsely thought everything would be alright. Shackleton maintained his faith even when fiercely preventing a mutiny with his revolver.

At night, they slept on icebergs. One night, the ice split open, and a man fell in; risking his life, Shackleton was quick to pull him back.

They suffered constant storms, frostbite, frozen clothing, little food, and killer whales. The men broke down and wept, only able to continue because of Shackleton's sheer will. He never said a negative word; he always maintained every one of them would reach safety!

When you're on a mission to accomplish your dream, you'll sail through vicious storms. Waves will be high, and winds strong. When this happens, you must endure with a positive attitude.

Ernest Shackleton, a born adventurer, tried three times to get to the South Pole. He failed twice, but Shackleton was optimistic to the core. His third journey was legendary.

We can learn much from studying Ernest Shackleton's third trip to Antarctica.

In 1914, Shackleton left England with 27 men, bound for the South Pole aboard his ship "Endurance." They were aware that they might never return, but Shackleton's enthusiasm was so powerful they couldn't help but believe in their success.

They began their approach to Antarctica in dangerous waters. Whalers warned them not to proceed, but Shackleton staked everything on this mission; it was his last chance to achieve his dream.

They had to navigate through one thousand miles of thick ice fields. After six weeks, they were only one day away from Antarctica.

Suddenly, the sea froze around them; they could not move in any direction. The crew was troubled, but this is when Shackleton showed his greatness. He didn't show the slightest sign of disappointment. He calmly told them they must stay for the winter, never losing his optimism.

"Difficulties are just things to over-

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
—
TOBY
MOORE

Eventually, they found their island. The island had no supplies; there was no chance of rescue. Undaunted, Shackleton chose six men and set out for help eight hundred miles away through the world's roughest ocean, promising to come back and rescue the rest.

Soon the water was pouring into their boat. Around the clock, they bailed out water and worked the sails. Wave after wave almost flipped them into the icy waters. When all seemed lost, Shackleton demanded they be cheerful. Often, they whistled and sang songs in defiance of the terrible conditions.

Miraculously, they made it through 17 days of violent storms to land on the wrong side of the island. Knowing they couldn't survive another day on the water, and with three of his men almost dead. He hatched a plan to climb through the icy mountains twenty-two miles to the other side.

They didn't have the proper equipment, and twisted screws from their boat into the bottom of their shoes for traction. They went into the mountains, walking through ice fields, jumping crevasses fifty feet deep as they made their way. One slip would end them. Through it all, they never said one negative word, never one complaint. Thirty-six hours later, they reached a whaling station. Shackleton was true to his word. He went back and rescued every man.

Like Shackleton, when you find yourself in desperate circumstances, keep an attitude of optimism, knowing you'll come out on the other side better than before. Any negative thought, word, or action could make the difference between life or death.

BEYOND

continued from page A8

Saint Isaac the Syrian warns us that "there is no greater sin than to be insensitive to the joy of the Risen Christ." Never let anything that happens in life make us forget that Christ is Risen.

Thus, we learn to rejoice in our challenging circumstances because of the hope and strength of the Lord. Life is a mystery that may bring terrible,

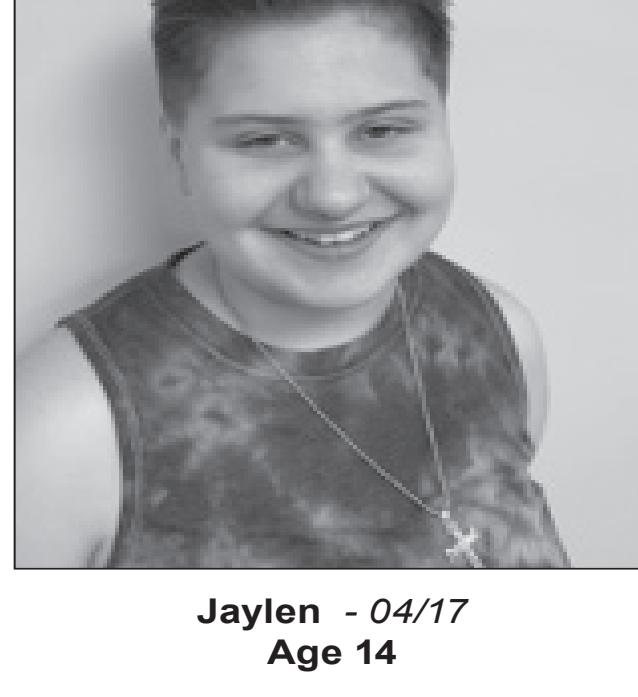
depressing, and seemingly hopeless circumstance, but the Lord is a steady rock that can never be moved by any circumstances. We "rejoice in the Lord" in our challenging circumstances because of our Lord.

To rejoice is a choice. We choose to open our hearts and minds to the Presence of God and keep our focus there. We cannot command ourselves to be joyful, but we can choose where to

focus our attention. We may have pain and failure. Grief may sweep over us. Death may threaten us. Yet our joy is not tied to these uncontrollable variants of life. Our joy lies deep in the love of God. Nothing shall be separate us from this love and joy of Christ.

Let us remember that through the Cross joy has come into the world. It is only as joy that the Church was victorious in the world!

Friday's Child



**Jaylen - 04/17
Age 14**

I love to listen to music!

Jaylen is a kind and caring child of Caucasian decent. He is very intelligent and is succeeding in all of his classes at school. He loves to read, do puzzles and play computer games. He does not like video games. In his program he is described as loving, independent, outgoing, and resilient. Jaylen loves to be outdoors and would like the freedom to go out with his friends. When older Jaylen would like to be either a veterinarian, dog trainer, pet sitter or zoo keeper. Like all kids Jaylen has his favorite things: favorite ice cream is "strawberry", favorite color is "candy red", favorite scary movie is "Lucifer" and his favorite people are "those who own and love animals". Jaylen is also artistic and likes to listen to music and create art. Jaylen is just beginning to question

and explore his sexuality. Jaylen receives therapeutic services in his program in eastern MA to help with anger and behavioral issues..

Jaylen very much wants to be adopted. He is legally freed and would like to join a caring family that can support his needs. He also wants to be part of his own adoption process and feels that he would like as family who has pets and maybe a family with some older children in their home. Jaylen's worker feels that he would do best in a home with structure and routine. Jaylen wants a home where he can feel safe and able to engage in activities with his family without feeling judged or disrespected. It is important for Jaylen to maintain contact with his grandparents and brother who live in western MA.1

Can I Adopt?

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

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.

LEGALS

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given by Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St Dudley MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on April 22, 2022 @ 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St Dudley MA 01571 the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges and expenses of notices of said vehicle: Vehicle: VIN# 1FMCU94128KD50427 Owner: Britney MacAulay, 32 Green St., Southbridge, MA 01550 April 1, 2022 April 8, 2022 April 15, 2022

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of Massachusetts Worcester County Juvenile Court Department 279 West Main Street Dudley, MA 01571 Docket No. 19CP0334DU CARE AND PROTECTION, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION,
TO: Christopher John Smith and/or father of Benjamin Nicholas Viera Smith: A petition has been presented to this court by DCF (Worcester), seeking, as to the following child, Benjamin N Viera Smith, that said child be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families. The court may dispense the rights of the person(s) named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the child named herein, if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the child would be served by said disposition. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: **06/17/2022 at 09:30 AM Pre Trial Conference (CR/CV)**

You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you.

If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter with a trial on the merits of the petition and an adjudication of this matter.

For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at 508-949-3070. WITNESS: Hon. Carol A. Erskine, FIRST JUSTICE, Brendan J. Moran, Clerk-Magistrate, DATE ISSUED: 03/21/2022

April 1, 2022

April 8, 2022

April 15, 2022

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Phetdalinh Pany to Sebastian Birritteri, Trustee of Oxford Lenders Trust (u/d/t dated August 15, 2019, recorded with the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 60909, Page 245), which mortgage is dated August 20, 2019, and recorded with the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 60909, Page 252, as affected by a modification to mortgage dated January 16, 2020, and recorded in Book 61752, Page 226, as affected by a second modification to mortgage dated October 6, 2020, and recorded in Book 63538, Page 104, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 o'clock P.M. on the 10th day of May 2022, upon the hereinafter-described mortgaged premises, known as and numbered as 149 Charlton Street, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singularly the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in the westerly part of Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the most easterly corner of land to be conveyed at an iron pipe driven in the ground on the Westerly line of Charlton Street and also being the most northerly corner of land now or formerly of Theresa Paige; THENCE by Charlton Street N 38° 40' W one hundred ninety-nine and five tenths (199.5) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at land now or formerly of Frederick W. Johnson and Mary Johnson;

THENCE by said Johnson land S 40° 40' W three hundred thirteen and nine-tenths (313.9) feet to an iron pipe set in a stone wall at other land now or formerly of Theresa Paige;

THENCE by a wall and said Paige land S 40° E one hundred fifteen and two-tenths (115.2) feet to an iron pipe at a corner of the wall and a wire fence;

THENCE by said Paige land N 55° E

three hundred nine and fifty-four hundredths (309.54) feet to the place of beginning.

Containing 48,282 square feet more or less.

For Mortgagor's title, see deed dated July 30, 2018, recorded with Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 59196, Page 198.

The premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens, and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens, or encumbrances is made in the deed, and subject to and with the benefit of all building, zoning, and other land use laws, including all permits and approvals issued pursuant thereto.

Terms of Sale: A deposit in the amount of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) by certified check or bank cashier's check will be required to be shown at the time and the place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of the purchase price is to be paid by certified check or bank cashier's check at the office of mortgagee's attorney, Law Office of Jonathan Gold, Riverside Center, 275 Grove Street, Suite 2-400, Newton, MA 02466, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

Sebastian Birritteri, Trustee of Oxford Lenders Trust

By its Attorney,

LAW OFFICE OF JONATHAN GOLD

Riverside Center

275 Grove Street Suite 2-400

Newton, MA 02466

(617) 375-0006

April 8, 2022

April 15, 2022

April 22, 2022

Notice of Public Hearing Dudley Planning Board

Proposed Zoning Amendments Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Dudley Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 27, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the Dudley Municipal Complex, Room 321-A, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571, on three proposed zoning amendments:

1. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Official Dudley Zoning Map by applying the Business 15 Overlay District to 9 properties on Southbridge Road identified as Assessors' map 229, parcel numbers 146-154, as shown on the map entitled "Proposed BUS-15 Overlay District on Southbridge Road". The proposed Zoning Map amendment is on file with the Town Clerk and Planning Board.

2. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Official Dudley Zoning Map by replacing the existing Groundwater (Aquifer) Protection Overlay District with a revised Groundwater (Aquifer) Protection Overlay District as shown on the map entitled "Proposed Groundwater (Aquifer) Protection Overlay District Based on Approved Zone II". The proposed Zoning Map amendment is on file with Town Clerk and Planning Board.

3. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Official Dudley Zoning Map by changing the zoning district for the property identified as Assessors' Map 211 Lot 9 from Conservation to Residential 87. The property is on the northwest corner of the intersection of Marsh Road, Dudley Oxford Road and Hayden Pond Road. It is shown on the map entitled "Zoning Map Amendment: Re-Zone Map 211 Lot 9 to Residential 87". The proposed Zoning Map amendment is on file with the Town Clerk and Planning Board.

The proposed amendments are on the Town web site and in the offices of the Planning Board and Town Clerk, 71 West Main Street, Dudley during the hours of 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Monday – Thursday and 8:00 am to noon on Fridays. Any person interested or wishing to be heard on the zoning amendments should appear at the time and place designated.

Guy Horne, Chairman

Dudley Planning Board

April 8, 2022

April 15, 2022

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given by Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St Dudley MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on April 29, 2022 @ 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St Dudley MA 01571 the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges and expenses of notices of said vehicle:

Vehicle: VIN# 1N4AL2AP9AN412530, 2010 Nissan Altima

Owner: Stanley Bernard, 14 Center Rd., Dudley MA 01571

April 8, 2022

April 15, 2022

April 22, 2022

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket No. 21 SM 001596 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Daniel J. Garney, Leah Kielinen-Garney

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

Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 4 Millbury Road, given by Daniel J. Garney to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Envoy Mortgage, dated December 20, 2013, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51878, Page 150, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/

have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton

Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 5/16/2022 or you may

lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of

noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 4/4/2022

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder

April 15, 2022

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 22 SM 000850 ORDER OF NOTICE

To:

Tanya M. Esposito

Joseph J. Esposito

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

Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 24 Russell Lane, given by Tanya M. Esposito and Joseph J. Esposito to "MERS", Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for CrossCountry Mortgage, Inc., "Lender" and its successors and assigns, dated April 3, 2019, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60230, Page 219, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/

have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton

Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 5/9/2022 or you may

lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of

noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 3/25/2022.

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder

April 15, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Worcester Probate and Family Court

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

(508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO22P1151EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Lorraine M. Kujawski

Date of Death: 01/12/2021

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jane Place of Webster MA**

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

The Petitioner requests that

Jane Place of Webster MA

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/03/2022**.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: April 04, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

April 15, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Worcester Probate and

Local students to appear in Western NE production of "Chicago"

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University Stageless Players return to the stage with three highly anticipated performances of Chicago on April 1-2. The dazzling and satirical "Chicago" gives the audience a glimpse into how fame, justice, and the media machine were portrayed in the roaring '20s. Filled with captivating performances of hit songs such as "All That Jazz," "Cell Block Tango," and "Razzle Dazzle" the sold-out shows production ended Stageless Players season on a high note.

"Chicago" tells the story of Roxie Hart, a chorus girl who murders a faithless lover and convinces her husband, Amos, to take the blame until he learns that he has been lied to which made him turn on Roxie. Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie met "Merry Murderess," Velma Kelly. There began their struggle for the spotlight and the headlines which led to them ultimately

joining forces in search of fame, fortune, and acquittal.

The production, with music by John Kander and book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse, was directed by Alexandria Escribano, choreographed by Aileen Merino Terzi and Karen McMahon, and musical direction was by Debi Salli. The performance was made possible by Student Senate, the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership, and the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts.

Allie Provost of Dudley plays Roxie Hart.

Hannah Zieminski of Dudley plays Mona/County Clerk/Featured Dancer/Student Choreographers & Captains.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts

as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

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

Dean College announces Spring 2022 Honor Societies inductees

FRANKLIN — Dean College is pleased to announce the students who have been inducted into the Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society, National Honor Society for Dance Arts, Golden Key International Honour Society, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, including:

Olivia Houlihan of Webster: Chi Alpha Sigma

Amanda Shields of Oxford: Phi Eta Sigma

Founded in 1865, Dean College is a private, residential college located in Franklin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.

LEGALS

A.C. 75A
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER, SS
21P1077PM PROBATE COURT

To all persons interested in the estate of Francis P. Prunier of Webster in said County, person under conservatorship. A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell at private sale – Public Auction – certain real estate of said deceased and that the petitioner may become the purchaser of said real estate.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the Twenty-Sixth of April 2022, the return day of this citation.

Witness LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this Eighth day of April 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
April 15, 2022

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicle Under G.L. C 255 Sect 39A

Notice is hereby given by Quality Autobody ,12 Mechanic St. Webster Ma. 01570 Pursuant to the Provisions of G.L. C 255 Sect 39A that on April 16,2022 at 9 am at 12 Mechanic St. Webster Ma. 01570 by Private Sale the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garage keepers Lien thereon for storage , towing charges , care and expenses of notices and sale of said Vehicle Description : Year 2005 . Make: Harley Davidson Model FLHT-CU Registration / State Unregistered VIN : 1HD1FCW105Y611545. Vehicle Owner : Progressive Casualty Insurance bx 157 Bellingham , Ma. 02019 By David Nalewajk owner of Quality Autobody Dated March 25,2022 This Notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. C 255 Sect 39A April 01, 2022 April 08, 2022 April 15, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO22P1108EA

Estate of:
Joseph Leo Robillard
Date Of Death: May 25, 2019
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Linda Robillard** of **Woonsocket RI**

Linda Robillard of **Woonsocket RI** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

April 15, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO22P1108EA

Estate of:
Alice M. Peters

Also Know As:
Alice May Peters

Date Of Death: January 25, 2022

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Gregory Peters** of **Webster MA**

A Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Gregory Peters of **Webster MA**

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without

supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

April 15, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

(508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO22P1077EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Francis P. Prunier

Date of Death: 03/21/2022

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **S/A - Sale of Real Estate**

has been filed by

Rebecca Amaral of **Fitchburg MA**

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

The Petitioner requests that

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/26/2022**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

Date: April 08 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

April 15, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO22P1095EA

Estate of:

Jeannine Anne Brodeur

Date Of Death: 10/19/2021

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Robert J Brodeur** of **Fiskdale MA**

Robert J Brodeur of **Fiskdale MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

April 15, 2022

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stonebridgepress.news





Jules Lusignan



T.A. King



Maureen Cimoch



Ellen Therrien



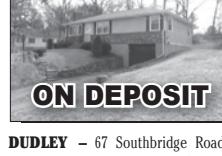
John Kokocinski



Adrienne James


www.LakeRealty.net • www.WebsterLake.net
111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444
 Licensed in MA & CT

Listings Always Needed - We're Always Busy Selling!



WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on 68 Acres of Park Like Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bed room with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet/Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$1,749,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 48 Hayden Pond Rd! Recently Renovated, beautifully appointed, 5 Rm Waterfront Ranch! Enjoy sunsets, fishing & all water sports! Vinyl Composite decking & vinyl railings! Open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings w/ skylights! Din Rm w/slider to covered deck! Kit w/garage counters & SS appliances! Liv Rm w/stunning views of the Pond! Comfortable Master w/generous closet & half bath! 2nd bedroom or office! Full bath w/washer/dryer hook ups! Full basement for storage or additional living space! Floating Dock! Shed! **\$525,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 301 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Like Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bedrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$320,000.00!**

WEBSTER - 9 Park Rd! Spacious 2 Family! 4/4 Rms! 22 Bdrms! 1/1 Bath! Easy Access! Walk to Webster Lake's Memorial Beach! Same Floor Plan, 13x15 Eat-in Kits, 13x22 Liv Rms w/Hrdwls, Spacious w/Hrdwls, Full Bath w/Linen Closets! 3 Season Porches, 1st Flr w/Composite Deck! "Budweiser" Oil Heat! Replacement Windows! 2 Car Garage! Lots of Potential! **\$309,900.00**

DUDLEY - 67 Southbridge Road! 6 Rm Ranch Set on 16,875' Lot! Applianced Eat-in Kitchen! Dining Area and Fireplace Living Room w/ Hardwood Floors! 3 Bedrms w/ Hardwood Floors and ample Closet Space! Spacious 11x14.5 Master! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Garage! **\$279,900.00**

WEBSTER - 6 Slater Street! Professionals Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1st Floor w/Waiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdw Flrs! 2nd Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Bath and additional office/bedroom! C/ Air CMVAC Security System! **\$349,900.00**

DUDLEY - 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 554 Rms! 2/2 Bedrms! 2/2 Bathms! Investors take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History, Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! Washer & Dryer Hookups in the Basement for Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Desirable School System! **\$336,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 65 Bates Point Rd - Eastern Exposure - Beautiful Sunrises! Year Round - Principle Residence - Second Home - Remodel - Tear it Down and Start Anew! The Choice is Yours! Set on a 12,449' Lot, 50x249', 50.7' Waterfront! Plenty of Area for Expansion! Surrounded by Million Dollar Homes! The Pallet is Yours to Create! 5+ Room Ranch with Full Walk-out Expandable Lower Level! Open Floor Plan! Applianced Kitchen, Dining Area and Living Room with Panoramic Water Views! 3 Bedrms! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Screened Porch! Detached Garage! Dock! Quick Closing! Summer is Just Around the Corner - Don't Delay! **\$710,950.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! **\$949,900.00**



43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570
Fine Realtor Associates to Serve You!

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508.943.4333

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

We Want
Your Listings!



Featured New Listing!

WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND #503

Magazine Worthy Decor! New Kitchen with Island, flooring, baths, gas fireplace, and so much more! Newer Furnace. Completely furnished. 6 rooms, 2-1.2 baths! 2 deeded boat slips. Salt Water Pool!

OPEN HOUSE • Noon - 3

4/22, 4/23, & 4/24. • Fri, Sat., & Sun.

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Brian Bohenko

Featured New Listing!



ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 7 SHINE AVENUE

Better than new! 3100 Sq.Ft. of spacious living! METICULOUS, OVER-SIZED CAPE w/CONTEMPORARY FLARE! CLEAN, UPDATED & SPACIOUS! .62 Acre Lot, 120'+ Rd Front, Private Backyard, 9 RMS, Front-To-Back Living Rm w/Frplc & scenic views. Open Flr Plan Kitchen/ Dining w/Slider to rear deck, 1st Flr Office, 2 Car Attd Garage, 2nd Flr Great Rm over garage. MSTR BR Suite w/MSTR Bath, 2 more LG BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, LL BATH! AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFERING! Central Air, Central Vac. BEAUTIFULLY landscaped grounds. **\$549,000.**

New Listing!



WEBSTER - 98 MINEBROOK RD

CAR/BOAT ENTHUSIASTS TAKE NOTE! 1.67 Acre Property Features 3 Buildings & 6 Garage Bays - 8', 10' & 12' Doors! Ample Space for all your TOYS! Close to I-395 & Webster Lake! A MUST SEE! - TOO MANY FEATURES TO LIST! *Cash or Special Financing due to its "Unfinished" status. **\$565,000.**

WEBSTER - 7 BRODEUR AVENUE



RARE FIND - TO BE BUILT - SPRAWLING 2,200 SQFT+ RANCH HOME! GARAGE Level 1/2 Acre Lot! FOUNDATION IS IN. Private backyard. GREAT LAYOUT! SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORS THROUGHOUT!

WEBSTER - 10 GRANITE STREET



CONTRACTORS TAKE NOTICE! Single Family, need of Repair, 1,900 SF 3 BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 6,200 SF Lot, Oil Heat, City Gas avail. Architectural Character! SOLD "AS IS" - Submit Offers, Cash or Rehab Financing. **\$199,900.**

WEBSTER - 32 MAPLE STREET



Two Family, 2,113 SF, 9 Rms, 2 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 16,917 SF Lot. Det'd Garages for 3 Cars Great Opportunity for Owner Occupant! **assisted sale \$297,000.**

LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD

Oxford - GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! LAND - 124 - Southbridge Road "ROUTE 20" VACANT LEVEL LOT - To be Subdivided from 124 Southbridge Rd LOT# 3 on a Preliminary Survey Plan will be 39,549 SF (0.905 ACRES) with 96.92' of Road Frontage, High Traffic, High Exposure Location. **\$419,000.**

Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80+- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.**

Webster - COOPER RD - 3 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & Sewer Access!

SORRY, SOLD! \$79,900.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.



SORRY, SOLD!

Killdeer Circle! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**

TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO



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SPORTS

Bartlett battles back from seven-run deficit, but Douglas prevails in the end



Bartlett shortstop Camden Heenan fires the ball over toward first base.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

DOUGLAS — Both the Douglas and Bartlett High varsity softball teams had much to be proud of following their early-season matchup on Tuesday, April 5 behind the home team's elementary and middle school. The Tigers and Indians both exhibited plenty of grit, determination and perseverance in a game that featured multiple lead changes and high-end drama.

In the end Douglas, which held a 9-2 lead before seeing it slip away, won the game in the bottom of the seventh inning, 12-11.

"We battle well together. I think we're equally matched," said Douglas head coach John Furno before turning his attention to finding a way to win after losing the lead. "That's character in a team, as far as I'm concerned, because we could have laid down and died. And this great group of kids, they didn't give up one bit."

Despite the loss, Bartlett head coach Courtney Stawiecki said that this game showed just how far the team has come in a few short years.

"I think our girls stepped up when they had to. The strides they've made in the program over the last three years is really amazing. They don't really

give up. They don't usually hang their heads," she said. "Sometimes they need a little inspiration to get them through, but they're really good at backing each other up. They play for each other, they care about each other."

This being the season opener for Douglas improved their record to 1-0, while the Indians are now 1-2.

The Tigers held a 1-0 lead after one inning before Bartlett took a 2-1 advantage into the top of the second. In the home half of the frame, Douglas regained the lead, 7-2, thanks to a six-run outburst. The Indians' catcher, Imani Washington, suffered an ankle injury late in the inning and needed to be replaced, although Washington did return later in the contest. Starting pitcher Taryn Gerber went behind the plate and Elisabeth Adams was inserted to pitch.

The Tigers scored twice more in the bottom of the third to surge ahead 9-2, but from there Bartlett battled back and made a game of it — something that impressed Stawiecki.

"The pitcher that went in, it's her first time throwing this year. She hasn't thrown since last June," Stawiecki said of Adams. "The starting pitcher that went in to catch [Gerber] had never caught a high school game in her life."



Starting pitcher Taryn Gerber of Bartlett winds up and delivers a pitch to the plate.

Stawiecki had more good things to say about Adams.

"Eli has totally stepped up. She's definitely one of those kids that anger fuels her, so getting called out on that illegal pitch [during the middle innings] made her step her game up."

The Indians began their comeback bid with a five-run top of the fourth inning to trim the deficit down to 9-7.

"I told my assistant coach, I can smell when this stuff is about to happen," Furno said of Bartlett's comeback.

The Indians then tied the game 9-9 in the top of the sixth, only for Douglas to regain the lead at 10-9 in the bottom of the inning. Bartlett then scored twice in the top of the seventh to keep the game alive and lead 11-10, but the Tigers had

last ups.

In the bottom of the seventh Douglas' Madison McDermott hit an RBI single to tie the game and Raine Beaulieu later scored on a passed ball to end it.

"I told her any passed ball, just take off. That kid, for an eighth grader, her head is in the game," Furno said of Beaulieu.

The Tigers are an extremely young team with seventh, eighth and ninth graders littered throughout the lineup, but Furno expects them to compete at a high level this season.

"This group, a lot of them having been playing since 8U together. They've won a lot of games together as youngsters and I've got my captain, Katie Peloquin, leading these kids. She knows she has seventh and eighth graders to nurture and it's working well," said Furno.

Some Douglas statistics from the game are as follows:

Ayla McDermott: 3 for 3
Raine Beaulieu: 2 for 4, scored winning run on passed ball

Madison McDermott: 3 for 5, 4 RBI; complete game pitching

Emilee Hamelin: RBI double

Katie Peloquin: 2 for 4, 2 RBI

Some Bartlett statistics from the game are as follows:

Isabella Mello: 3 for 4, 2 RBI

Camden Heenan: 2 for 3

Sienna Stawiecki: 2 for 4

Dakota Vaudreuil: 3 for 4, RBI

Vicky Spitz: 2 for 3

Camryn Phillips: 2 RBI

Nyia Gonzalez: RBI single

SPORTS BRIEF

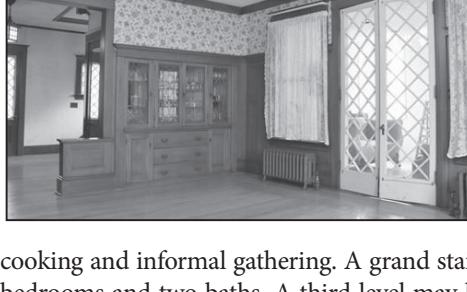
Sturbridge Legion signup and tryout dates

Any baseball players interested in playing Sturbridge Legion Baseball that are born on Jan. 1, 2003 or later are eligible to play. Signup date will be held on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to noon at Champeau-Vilandre Sturbridge Legion Post, 507 Main Street Fiskdale. Players should bring a photocopy of their birth certificate when they register at signups to insure their eligibility. All players that live in Sturbridge or attend Tantasqua Regional High School are all eligible to play for the Sturbridge team, also players from surrounding towns may also be eligible to play. Team will conduct tryouts Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday, May 22 from 1 to 3 p.m., both tryout dates will be held at Tantasqua Regional High School varsity baseball field. For more information you can contact team manager Jim Rosseel (774) 230-1784, email: jimrosseel@hotmail.com or coach Rich Wetherbee (508) 981-0897, email: qcards@aol.com.



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Jenna Gouin



Jenna Gouin of Webster, MA has recently affiliated with the Jo-Ann Szymczak Team at Remax Advantage 1 as a Client Coordinator. She has over ten years of experience in the health and human services industry, along with the education field. She has lived in Southern Worcester County her entire life, and is well versed in the multitude of resources available within the communities. She graduated from Worcester State University with a Bachelor's Degree, and continued her education at Nichols College where she attained a dual master's in Business Administration and Organizational Leadership.

I am confident that my energy, dynamism, and flexibility will enhance the client experience, whether they are buying or selling. I sincerely look forward to the many growth opportunities in the real estate field, and am eager to be a part of the Jo-Ann Szymczak Team at Remax Advantage 1!



SPORTS

Hit parade helps Bay Path overwhelm young Indians



Bartlett's Jacob Plasse winds up and delivers a pitch to the plate.

By Nick Ethier
Sports Editor

WEBSTER — The Bay Path Regional varsity baseball team may be young, but they sure can hit. When playing at Bartlett High on Friday, April 8, the Minutemen scored 24 runs on 20 hits while defeating a rebuilding Indians squad, 24-3, in five mercy-rule shortened innings.

"We're very young. The thing is, can the younger kids play at a higher level? So far, a lot of them are stepping

up," said Bay Path head coach Mark Sansoucy.

Freshmen at the top and bottom of the Minutemen's lineup produced in the victory. Dale Nussey batted leadoff and was 3-for-5 with a walk, 4 runs scored and a pair of RBI. Kaiden Brochu batted eighth and was 3-for-3 on a trio of triples, a walk, 3 runs scored and 3 RBI.

It helps Sansoucy that Nussey, Brochu, plus various other freshman can all play anywhere on the diamond, including the pitcher position.

"This year, I really feel comfortable putting any kid in any position. Sometimes you're a little weary, but I don't feel that way," said Sansoucy. "They're all baseball players. They don't throw, they pitch."

Luke Hill got the start for Bay Path and was relieved by Nussey, who finished the game.

Other offensive stars for the Minutemen included Zach Fritze (3-for-4, 2 walks, 4 runs, 3 RBI), Brandon Martocci (3-for-4, walk, 3 runs, RBI), John Schramm (4-for-5, run, 5 RBI) and Jon Nussey (2-for-3, walk, 3 runs).

Bay Path scored in each inning, including two runs in the first, four in the second and third, an eight spot in the fourth and six more in the fifth, as they improved to 2-1.

Bartlett, meanwhile, is another young squad that is still rounding out its roster and lineup.

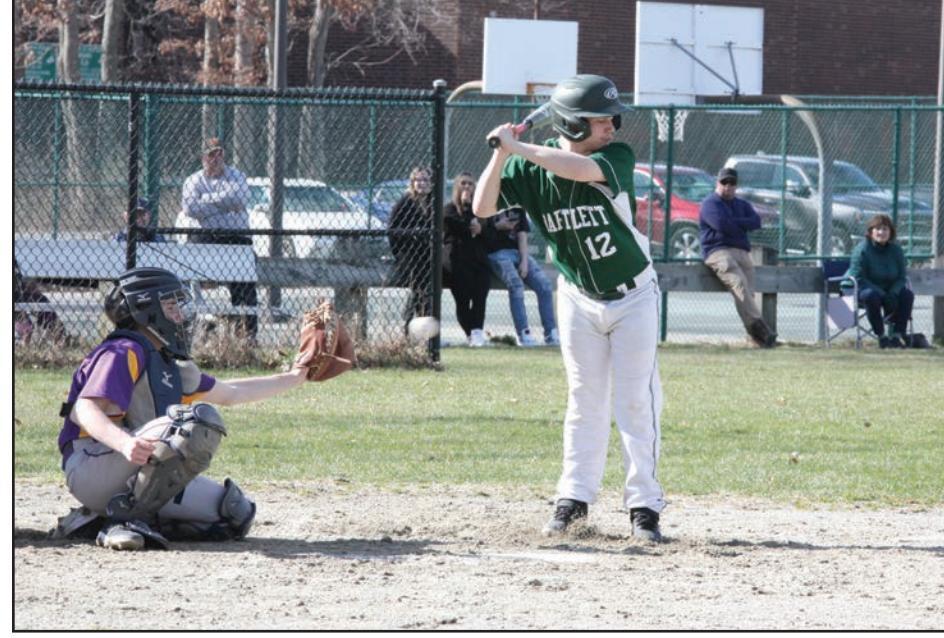
"We're a real young team. It's getting better and better every week. We're finding new arms and new players are stepping up doing new things," said head coach Keith Sebestyanski, as the Indians dropped to 0-4. "Some kids are playing out of position. We don't have the pitching staff like other teams — we only have two legit pitchers — so some are going to have to learn how to pitch."

Jacob Plasse, Adam Urato and Adam Phillips all took the hill for Bartlett. Offensively, the Indians did their damage in the bottom of the third inning. Peter Lavache ripped an RBI single into left field and Mason Sebestyanski (2-for-



Kole Sebestyanski of Bartlett backtracks from behind first base to make a catch in foul territory.

3) followed with an infield RBI single which was followed by an error to plate the third run.



Bartlett's Isaiah Zayas backs away from an inside pitch.

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Series — PJ Janton 359, Jason Mahan 342, Bruce Labay 338
Series over average — PJ Janton +38

Ten Pin City
Single — Division 1: Claudia Allen 208, Natalie Wood and Erika LaChance 177
Division 2: Kristine Russell 165, Diane Gagnon 161
Series — Division 1: Claudia Allen 547, Natalie Wood 463
Division 2: Kristine Russell 436, Evelyn Rivera 418

Tuesday Chet's Social
Single — Darren Mello 146, Tom Smith and Ryan Pelletier 132, DJ Devish 120, Ellen Fugatt 109, Erin Van Dam 108, Dawn Gleason 99
Series — Ryan Pelletier 346, Tom Smith 339, Darren Mello 333, Erin Van Dam 304, Ellen Fugatt 291, Diane Levesque 278
Series over average — Darren Mello +63, Dakota Boulay +37

Summit Tenpin
Single — Division 1: Butch Mattson 223, J.J. Blair 203
Division 2: Fred LaBonte 209, Donald Altieri 162
Series — Division 1: Bob Hanville 683, Derek Reynolds 528
Division 2: Donny Altieri 530, Kevin Ryder 473

Thursday Morning Coffee
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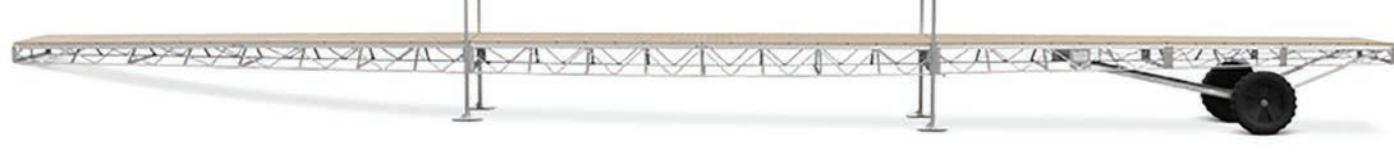
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