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Friday, January 14, 2022

Dudley officials side against mask mandate

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

Dudley – As the COVID-19 Omicron variant has taken hold, cities and towns across the country have struggled with how they could approach managing their local outbreaks. Here in Southern Worcester County, that conversation was conducted just before the holiday season in the form of a conference call between the region’s health officials and Harrington HealthCare.

Dudley’s Board of Health was one of many on the call where one of the main talking points was the potential return of mask mandates. When the pandemic began, states nationwide mandated masks in public spaces through the guidance of the CDC and federal government, but those mandates have since expired making any local regulation nearly unenforceable. The use of masks has also become a divisive topic for the nation at large as the pandemic has continued. This is why Dudley decided not to pursue reinstituting local mandates, according to Dudley Board of Health members who met with

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Dudley hires Moroz as newest officer

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The Dudley Police Department is welcoming its first female police officer in nearly a decade with the Board of Selectmen approving the hiring of Officer Paige Moroz to the force in late December.

Chief Steve Wojnar presented Officer Moroz for consideration on Dec. 20 where he spoke highly of the candidate noting that her hiring would be a landmark moment for the department.

“I’m very exciting about this because we haven’t had a full-time female officer for almost nine years. Sgt. Pam Daniels retired in 2012 and she worked part time for us for about three years until she passed away. It’s been something we’ve been trying to do for a long time, get a female officer back on board. Paige is a lifelong town resident. She’s worked with us for several years and has really done a great job,” said the Chief.

Moroz was softspoken in her statements to the board saying she is honored to serve the community she grew up in as the newest member of the police department.

“I’m very excited to be a full-time officer here. I thank the chief and everyone up here for giving me this opportunity,” said Moroz.

Selectmen spoke highly of Officer Moroz pointing out her character, community roots, and the positive word of mouth they received from citizens who have worked with her in the past. Moroz has most recently worked as a full-time dispatcher at the regional dispatch center in Webster, something Wojnar said provided her with valuable experience he expects will make her a great officer.

“It’s definitely a really challenging job over there and all of (the dispatchers) have really learned a lot. It really helps with your emergency response and prioritization and a lot of the things you have to do with the job. I think it’s really an asset,” said the chief.

Moroz’s hiring was unanimously approved. She will now participate in police academy training before becoming a student officer. This will eventually lead to her formal appointment by the Board of Selectmen.

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Courtesy

ST. JOSEPH STUDENTS COLLECT WINTER CLOTHING DURING ADVENT

During the Season of Advent, the St. Joseph School Student Council conducted its annual coat, hat, scarf, and glove drive in conjunction with the Webster Police Department. The Student Council collected 46 coats, 25 hats, 26 scarves, and 13 pairs of gloves from school families. Then, on Dec. 20, they presented the items to Webster Police Chief Michael Shaw. The items will be distributed at the Webster-Dudley Food Share. Pictured with Chief Shaw are (left to right) Gabriela Planka – Student Council Secretary, Alexandra Parafinowicz - Student Council President, Leah Boudreau – Student Council Treasurer, Ayla Reed – 5th Grade Class Representative, Aleksandra Kurowski – Student Council Vice President, Jacob Marcuccio – 4th Grade Class Representative, Andrew Bergeron – 8th Grade Class Representative, Molly Hachigian – 6th Grade Class Representative, Mrs. Mary Ann Weaver – Student Council Advisor, Aiden Muchiru – 7th Grade Class Representative, Webster Police Chief Micheal Shaw.

Applications welcome for Rita Gelinas Scholarship

WEBSTER — The Bartlett High School Guidance Department is once again offering the Rita Gelinas Scholarship for the study of math or science.

Students from the BHS Class of 2018 who will be immediately entering a graduate program in a math or natural science field are encouraged to apply. Funds are available up to \$5,000 per semester with a minimum award of 1,000 per semester for one year. Please pick up an application in the Guidance Department

or call Kim Granger at (508) 943-8552 ext. 34017. Complete applications are due to the Guidance Department by Friday, April 1 at 2 p.m.

The Rita Gelinas Scholarship is also available to students in the Class of 2022. Two seniors will be chosen

to receive up to \$10,000 a year for all four years of an undergraduate program. Applicants must have over a 3.0 (B average) and be pursuing a major in either a math or natural science field. The application process is very extensive so all applicants should start the process early. In

addition to other materials, students must supply their SAR (Student Aid Report through the FAFSA process) as well as the financial aid award letter from the college that the student will attend if given the award. Applications are due to

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State officials hold firm against school closure requests

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Despite pleas from the Massachusetts Teachers Association, state officials have remained firm in their decision to keep schools open full-time coming out of the holiday break.

Prior to schools reopening on the first Monday of the new year, Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) President Merrie Najimy issued an urgent request to state leaders.

“After consulting with our Environmental Health and Safety Committee and public health experts, the Massachusetts Teachers Association is calling on state Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley to keep all schools closed on Monday [Jan. 3],

except for staff COVID-19 testing,” Najimy said. “To protect the public health and the safety of our communities, it is urgent to allow districts to use Jan. 3 for administering COVID-19 tests to school staff and analyzing the resulting data.”

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley and Gov. Charlie Baker were in agreement to hold classes statewide on Jan. 3, with no days off for testing. Even with the surge of Omicron cases resulting from the holidays, state officials said they are not considering a return to remote learning. Both Riley and Baker emphasized the importance in-person learning plays in students’ educational and emotional

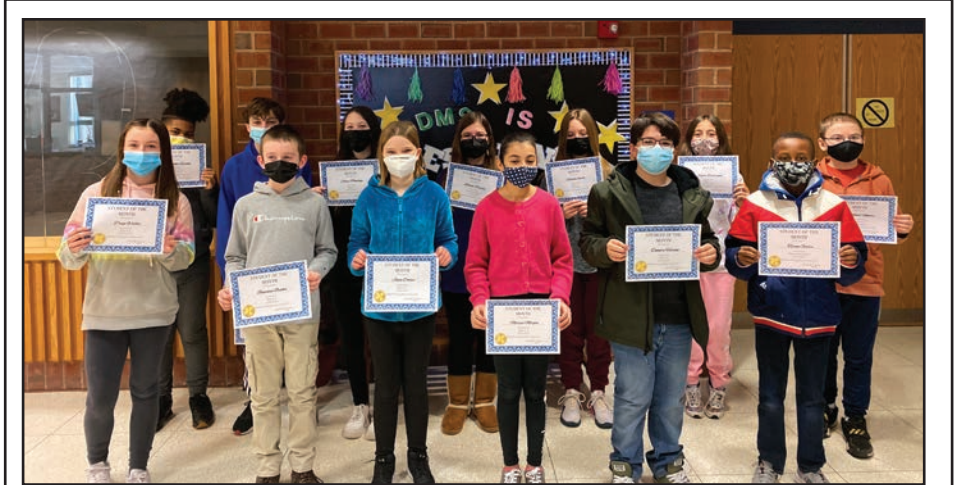
wellbeing.

“Kids need to be in school—school is safe,” Baker said. “There’s an overwhelming amount of evidence out there that keeping kids out of school, keeping them away from one another, keeping them away from trained and caring adults, did terrible damage to kids all over the country. It’s not going to happen in Massachusetts.”

State officials said the combination of vaccine availability, mask mandates in schools, and other safety protocols should be enough to ensure that students are safe in class without needing to return to remote learning.

But the MTA and thousands of educators and

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Courtesy

STELLAR STUDENTS

Dudley Middle School congratulates its December Students of The Month. 5th Grade - Demetri Harden, Kaylee Baillargeon, Marina Morgan, & Tyrone Giteru; 6th Grade - Benjamin Brooks, Mikhail Nemera, Paige Walker, & Christopher Feliciano; 7th Grade - Luciana Flores (not shown), Natalie Smith, & Max Tryba; 8th Grade - Avery Montigny, Jenna Donais, & Luciana Pirauli.

bankHometown raises \$39,200 for local food pantries

Morton, president and CEO of bankHometown, announced that the bank's 18th annual Neighbors Helping Neighbors fundraising drive raised \$39,200 for local food pantries. This brings the total amount raised over the 18 years the program has been in place to \$264,900.

The annual appeal is part of bankHometown's charitable giving program, called The Giving Tree, which reflects the bank's commitment to making a real difference in the neighborhoods it serves. Throughout the month of November, the bank invited customers, employees, and members of the community to donate funds at bankHometown branches. All donations received were matched, dollar for dollar, by bankHometown and the total divided among food pantries in Central Massachusetts and northeast Connecticut communities the bank serves. Each of these pantries received \$2,800 to help feed families in need:

Massachusetts:
Athol Salvation Army Food Pantry
Auburn Youth and Family Services, Inc. Food Pantry
CARE Food Pantry - Clinton
Food Share - Southbridge, Charlton & Sturbridge
Friendly House Pantry, Worcester
Friends of the Millbury Seniors
Ginny's Helping Hand, Inc. - Leominster
Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf
Sutton Senior Center's Michael A. Chizy Food Pantry
St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry - Webster
Connecticut:
Community Kitchens of Northeastern CT - Killingly
Daily Bread - Putnam
Friends of Assisi - Killingly
Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG)

"bankHometown would like to thank

everyone who selflessly donated to our Neighbors Helping Neighbors campaign," said Morton. "We're pleased that these food pantries will receive much-needed funds in time for the holiday season."

About bankHometown
Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts, and has \$1.3 billion in assets and 16 branches located throughout central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut. Through its sponsorship and charitable giving program, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2020, the bank and foundation donated more than \$346,000 and over the last five years donated more than \$1.4 million. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.



Courtesy
bankHometown's Central St., Killingly, Conn. office Branch Officer Kimberly Sweet (left) presents a check to Patricia Monahan of Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut, one of 14 pantries receiving donations from the bank's Neighbors Helping Neighbors fundraising campaign.

Dudley native named to SRU's fall 2021 dean's list

SLIPPERY ROCK, Pa. — Bridget Durward of Dudley was recognized on Slippery Rock University's dean's list for the fall 2021 semester. The dean's list consists of SRU undergraduate students who earned an adjusted semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, based on a schedule of at least 12 newly attempted and earned credits.

Slippery Rock University, founded in 1889, is a member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education. The University is shaped by its normal school heritage and characterized by its commitment to intellectual development, leadership and civic responsibility. SRU provides students with a comprehensive learning experience that intentionally combines academic instruction with enhanced educational and learning opportunities that will help them succeed in their lives, professional careers and be engaged citizens.

Today, SRU is a four-year, public, coeducational, comprehensive university offering a broad array of undergraduate and select graduate programs to more than 8,400 students. The University has earned full institutional accreditation through the Middle State Commission on Higher Learning and discipline specific accreditations.

Located in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania, the 660-acre campus is less than an hour north of Pittsburgh, one hour south of Erie, and 45 minutes east of Youngstown, Ohio. Two major highways, I-79 and I-80, intersect with seven miles of the University, conveniently linking it to the entire Commonwealth and its contiguous regions.

Chaya Lipman-Tessicini accepted into competitive, interdisciplinary science program at UMass Amherst

AMHERST — Chaya P. Lipman-Tessicini, Webster, is one of 73 undergraduates recently selected for the newest class of the Integrated Concentration in Science, or iCons, program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

More than 175 first and second-year students applied for one of the iCons spots through a process open to roughly 5,500 undergraduate students in business, science, technology, engineering and math.

The current iCons cohort, the 12th to participate, is the largest and most diverse in the program's history. The iCons Program builds on students' course of study by providing them with further skills needed to enter the modern workforce. Diverse teams of students collaborate, identify, and study innovative solutions to real-world global problems.

Dudley resident named to a leadership position with Nichols Student Government Association

DUDLEY — Abigail Karalus of Dudley is named secretary for the class of 2023, Nichols College Student Government Association. In this role Karalus will work closely with her fellow class officers to serve as a liaison between the administration, class of 2023 students as well as provide special programs for their class.

About Nichols College
The mission of Nichols College is to educate and enlighten students to capitalize on their ambitions and to become impactful, forward looking global leaders.

www.StonebridgePress.com

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Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!
To register go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021

KNIT & CROCHET GROUP
Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

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.

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.

BABY TIME
Fridays @ 11:30AM
Join us for a Baby Time story time! We will be doing songs, fingerplays, and reading to our babies!
This is geared for babies 0-15 months.

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 Laine Hanlon.

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

ADULT BOOK GROUP
Third Thursday, 6:00PM-7:30PM – beginning January 20th!
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. The first title will be Commonwealth, by Ann Patchett.

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

LEGO MASTER BUILDER DAN STEININGER
Monday, January 10 6:00PM-7:00PM
Dan Steininger is one of only eight official LEGO Master Builders in the entire world and he wants to share what it's like to have his dream job. He uses humor, great storytelling, and hands on

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

REDUCING PAIN NATURALLY
Thursday, January 13 6:00PM-7:45PM
Do you find yourself thinking “when will this pain end?” “why do I still have 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.

TEEN MOVIE NIGHT
Monday, January 31 6:00PM-7:30PM
All teens are invited to a showing of “Jurassic Park.” Pizza, popcorn, and drinks are provided.

Free; sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

JEWELRY JAM WITH KIM LARKIN
Thursday, February 3 6:00PM-7:45PM
Make a gift for your Valentine at this jewelry-making workshop for teens and adults and create a mixed-media necklace on colorful cording using a decoupage technique with scrapbook paper or text. Kim will bring an assortment of materials to inspire your creativity.
Free, but space is limited: registration required.
Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

YOGA WITH JULIE
Saturday, February 5 11:30AM-12:30AM
All ages are welcome at this beginner-friendly yoga class led by Julie St. Francis.

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
Monday, February 7 5:00PM-6:00PM
All tweens and teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join. You will gain valuable leadership skills. You can meet new people. You can earn volunteer hours (please bring your form).
Pizza and drinks will be served!

Free; Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

VALENTINE CRAFT FOR KIDS
Thursday, February 10 4:00PM-5:00PM
Come and create a Valentine craft! Ages 5+, please.

Space is limited; registration required.

WINGMASTERS
Thursday, February 24 11:00AM-Noon
Birds of prey are also known as raptors, and they are hunting birds characterized by hooked beaks and powerful grabbing feet armed with sharp talons (the word raptor comes from a Latin word that means “to seize”). Raptors can also boast the best eyesight and the sharpest hearing in the animal kingdom. Raptors include hawks, falcons and owls, and this presentation, which incorporates 5 live birds of prey, all native to New England, gives an overview of these different categories. The program is designed to explain predation, the birds’ place at the top of the food web, their different hunting adaptations and their status in a rapidly changing world. Because many birds of prey are declining in number, this presentation also features one or more of the endangered raptors that WINGMASTERS cares for, and explains why these species face an uncertain future.
Free; sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment

HOUSEPLANTS 101
Thursday, February 24 6:30PM-7:45PM
Join the master gardeners from Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens to learn everything you need to know to successfully grow houseplants. Learn about several kinds of houseplants, and how to identify common plant-growing problems, so you can beautify your home and purify the air you breathe.
Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

DEB’S SING AND SWING
Friday, February 25 10:30AM-11:00AM
Join Deb Hudgins for this interactive program featuring singing, music, dancing, stories, and a variety of fun props ranging from a parachute to pom poms.

Free; sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

SENSORY STORYTIME
Saturday, March 5 11:00AM-Noon
Children with special needs and their families are invited to this special program. We will read books, sing songs, and dance together.

Free; registration required

WEBSTER TIMES

ACCURACY WATCH:
The Webster Times is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected in a timely manner on page A3. We cannot run corrections based upon differences of opinion or unconfirmable facts. We will, however, print letters to the editor from area residents who wish to add their comments to our news coverage. If you find a mistake, please email news@stonebridgepress.news or call (508) 909-4106. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voicemail box.

DUDLEY
POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported only one arrest during the week of Dec. 31 to Jan. 7.
Cole A. Swett, age 39, of Webster was arrested on Jan. 6 for Use of a Motor Vehicle Without Authority and Receiving a Stolen Motor Vehicle.


For Advertising
Information
Call 508-764-4325
email: ads@stonebridgepress.news

PART TIME LIBRARY AIDE
PEARLE L. CRAWFORD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Town of Dudley is seeking a part time library aide. Duties include checking library materials in and out, helping patrons with computers and eBooks, shelving materials, producing event posters and flyers, and assisting with programs and summer reading. Ideal candidates will have excellent computer and customer service skills and ability to work as part of a team to meet with needs of patrons of all ages. Prior library experience a plus. Monday evenings and occasional Saturday hours are required.

Submit resume by January 22, 2022 to
dcarter@cwmars.org.

Applications are available at the town hall and online at
www.dudleyma.gov. EOE



Dudley Woman’s Club
to host Paint Party

DUDLEY — It’s time to have some fun and paint! Please join us for a DWC Paint Party at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17 at the Dudley Town Hall.
The \$30 per person tickets include one wine glass, all the supplies needed to turn that glass into a treasure, and step-by-step instruction by our one and only resident artist Andrea Kane. Appetizers and munchies will be provided and you’re welcome to bring a beverage of your choice to share if you’d like. While this is a fun night, it is also a club fundraiser so please consider inviting your friends and family to join in the fun!! Tickets may be purchased online at <https://www.dudleywomansclub.org/paintparty> If you are purchasing tickets for more than one person, please be prepared to enter your guests’ names and email addresses. In the event of inclement weather; a postponement notice and new paint party date will be emailed to all those signed up! So, come join in the fun, get an awesome wine glass created by you and support the Dudley Woman’s Club charitable giving projects!

Avrek Pietrzak named to Dean’s
List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Avrek Pietrzak of Dudley has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean’s List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the Dean’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the Fall semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Pietrzak is a Criminal Justice major at Plymouth State.
About Plymouth State University
Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

QVCC announces Fall 2021 Dean’s List

DANIELSON, Conn. — Quinebaug Valley Community College has announced the names of 178 students named to the Fall 2021 semester dean’s list.

Charlton
Caitlin Baer, Johnathan Tucker

Dudley
Molly Castano,
Brett
Spiewakowski

Southbridge
Jourhana Colon

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✿ ✿ ✿ Friday’s Child ✿ ✿ ✿



Christopher
Age: 13

I love to build things!
Christopher “Chris” is a twelve year-old boy of bi-racial descent who loves to be active and is described as playful. Christopher has many positive relationships with the peers and adults in his life. He is very active and enjoys climbing, building, playing outdoors, and going on outings in the community. Christopher also loves playing video games and building Legos and can entertain himself with them for hours.
Chris is in the 6th grade and continues to make good progress at school. He loves his school and has many positive relationships with his school staff. Chris continues to receive educational support and would do well with a family who can continue to advocate for his needs at school.

Legally freed for adoption, Christopher has a great relationship with his younger brother who he sees at least monthly. A family will need to be open to continued visits with his sibling. He also has an uncle that participates in these visits and is a support to him and would like to remain involved in his life. Christopher has reported that he’d like to live in a house with a mom, a dad, and some pets. He would do best in a flexible, playful home. A family could have no children or significantly older children than Christopher. While Chris’ social worker is ultimately seeking a permanent family for him, Chris would also benefit from forming relationships with other caring adults and would benefit from a Visiting Resource. Anyone interested in this opportunity should inquire about Chris.

Who Can Adopt?
Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you’re at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LG-BTQ singles and couples.
The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.
To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

✿ ✿ ✿ ✿ ✿ ✿

GLADYS E. KELLY LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880

Adult Programming
Book Discussion Group – January 24th 6:30PM
The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 pm. New members are always welcome! Next month's book discussion will be on Monday, January 24th at 6:30PM the meeting will take place via Zoom, and will be about the book The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone to 508-949-3880, or by email to ehale@cwmmars.org for inquiries.

Armchair Travel Series – The Wilds of Southern Belize – January 13th at 6:30PM
Located in Eastern Central America, Belize shares borders with Guatemala and Mexico. From the crystal blue ocean waters and inland to the nearby mountains, it is amazingly diverse. Wildlife along the Southern coast, and nearby rivers, includes magnificent tiger herons, fast flyers like the cinnamon hummingbird and the peregrine falcon, and large swimmers like manatees and crocodiles. Traveling inland to the rainforest brings sightings of spectacular butterflies, birds, like the black headed trogon, but also mammals like the elusive jaguar and bands of coatiundi. Join us for a virtual trip to see some of the stunning wildlife of Southern Belize.

Armchair Travel Series – New Zealand: Penguins, Parrots & Pods – January 20th at 6:30PM
New Zealand is home to many rare birds and marine mammals including the comical yellow-eyed penguin. Watch and listen as the yellow-eyed penguin returns from the ocean to feed its chick and the Antipodes Island parrot demonstrates “looks, personality and talent.” Not to be outdone, rare New Zealand sea lions make quite an impression as they interact on isolated South Island beaches, pods of rare Hector's dolphins frolic near coastal shores and dusky dolphins play with kayakers as they travel deep into the fiords of southern New Zealand. Join us for sights and sounds of animal personalities from this amazing country.

POSTPONED BY PERFORMER - Armchair Travel Series – Thru-Hiking the Appalachian Trail – January 27th at 6:30PM

Those who attend this program will be treated to a modern-day adventure. In March last year, Sam Ducharme set out on a 2,180 mile, 14 state backpacking trip from Springer Mountain, Georgia to Mt. Katahdin Maine. During his six-month journey he documented the rugged beauty of the Appalachian Mountains, the wildlife, the hardships encountered on the trail, as well as the people, culture and humanity at its finest. Come join him as he takes you through the trail towns, over the mountaintops and through the backcountry. The images and stories will leave you with a renewed awe of the beauty of our country and its people.

Yoga with Julie – Saturdays from January 8th through March 26th 10-11:15AM
Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the “uniting of movement with breath”. A typical class involves a centering of the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages and, finally, a rest and relaxation. Classes are free for Gladys Kelly Library patrons.

Candle Dipping – February 10th at 6:30PM
Learn to dip candles just like Laura Ingalls did in Little House on the Prairie. Participants are able to choose wax colors, scents, and shapes of candles, and may choose to hand dip or use candle molds.

Before Brooklyn book discussion with Ted Reinstein – February 24th at 6:30PM
Thursday, February 24 at 6:30, Ted Reinstein from WCVB-TV's Chronicle will be at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library to present his latest book, Before Brooklyn. This book tells the story of the little-known heroes who fought segregation in baseball, from communist newspaper reporters to the Pullman car porters who saw to it that black newspapers espousing integration in professional sports reached the homes of blacks throughout the country. There will be time for a brief Q&A after the presentation as well.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
Maker Mondays – Mondays from 3:30-4:30PM
This January we'll have Perler beads available for children and their caregivers to create with! Every month we will rotate our craft material, so stay tuned!

Build Night – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30PM
Every Tuesday in January we'll have Magnatiles for kids to create with! Building materials will change monthly, check back for more information!

YFCP Wiggles and Giggles – Every Friday from January 14th – February 18th 9:30-10:30AM
Join us for a FREE music & movement series created and facilitated by music teacher Laine Hanlon! Children, ages 2-5, with a parent/caregiver, will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm and listen to stories. “Wiggles and Giggles” fosters physical, cognitive, social and emotional learning through music and motion.

Siblings are welcome. Space is limited and registration is required each week. You can register at the Events Page on the Library's website.

Songs and Stories Storytime – Wednesdays at 10AM
Join Miss Emily Wednesday mornings at 10am (restarting Jan 5th!) to read books, sing songs, and do rhyme games. Meet other children and caregivers at this community event. After stories, catch up with other community members over a simple craft. This Storytime is best for children 0-5, but all ages are welcome!

Special Pajama Storytime – Wednesday, February 23rd at 10AM
Wear your favorite jammies or something comfy to this extra special storytime!

Children's Armchair Travel Series – Thursdays in January at 3:30PM
Tired of being home all the time? Join Gladys Kelly Youth Services as we travel the world this January! From Trinidad to China and Russia to India, we'll be learning interesting facts about each country and creating an art project every week. January 6th, learn about block printing used to make cloth designs and how the method was perfected in India! January 13th, transport yourself to Trinidad and Tobago where Carnival originated and decorate a fabulous mask. January 20th, travel to the cold, northern world of Russia where we will learn about stacking Matryoshka dolls and each make our own set! January 27th, travel with us to China and create decorations to welcome the Chinese New Year in February.

Working with Dangerous Animals – January 22nd at 12:30PM
Join Joy Marzolf to learn how animal keepers and scientists stay safe when working with dangerous animals, such as captive alligators or wild crocodiles. Meet some live animals at the end! Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

February Vacation Week Programs – February 22nd, 24th, 25th and 26th – 3:30-4:30PM
Tuesday, February 22nd – Wreck the Tech - Ever wondered what was inside a printer? We'll give kids screwdrivers and some old technology to take apart and explore. This program is best for ages 6 and up but all are welcome with a caregiver.
Thursday, February 24th – DIY Slime - Slime was so popular this Fall, we're bringing it back! This program is for all ages.
Friday, February 25th - Build Your Own Roadway - For all the vehicle-loving kids out there! Everyone will get a big piece of cardboard and a roll of road tape to create their own highway system. Hot Wheels provided for imaginative play after their creation is finished!
Saturday, February 26th – Learn Ukulele for Kids - Join Julie Stepanek as she shows the fundamentals of ukulele playing. You'll learn how to tune, strum and read chords. After a short lesson, you'll be able to play some fun and easy songs. No experience necessary. Bring your own ukulele or borrow one of hers.

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St., (508) 949-3845
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov
Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photo's, news and announcements
Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal.
Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing 9:30-10:30 am. Cost: \$3.00 per class
Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets.

Local students named to Stonehill Dean's List

EASTON — To qualify for the Dean's List at Stonehill College, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered.
Victoria Lindberg of Dudley and Alexa Trahan of Dudley have satisfied these requirements.
About Stonehill College
Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.
Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.
Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

Progressive Pitch 1:00 pm Mondays, Wednesdays, and 9-card Pitch on Fridays.
Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm
Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 or stop in and pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of additional activities and upcoming events.

ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

DUDLEY

DUDLEY TOWN HALL (508) 949-8000
Board of Selectmen (949-8001)
Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fridays.....8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Evening appointments if needed.
Note: Office hours are for selectmen's secretary and town administrator. S electmen do not hold office hours.
Town Clerk (949-8004)

Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday nights 5 to 7 p.m.
Fridays.....9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411)
Staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week
DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040)
Monday-Sunday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OXFORD

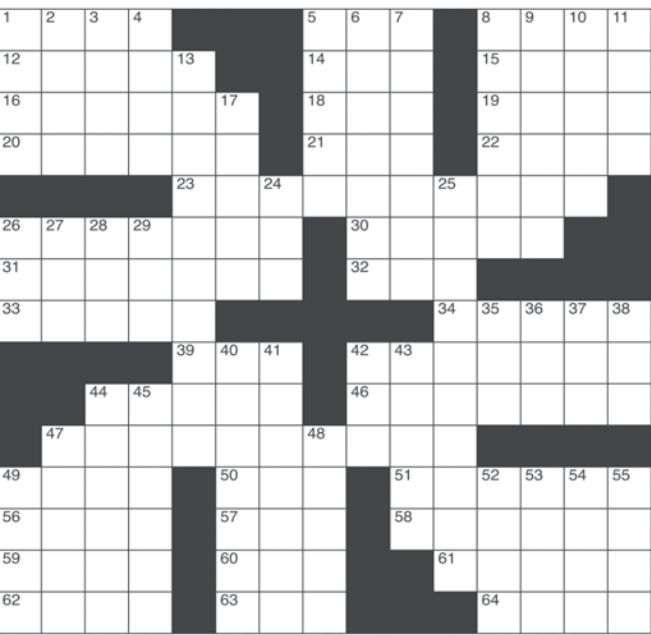
OXFORD TOWN HALL (508) 987-6027
Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours!
Monday, Tues., Thurs..... 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT (987-0156)
For emergencies, call 911
OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEBSTER

WEBSTER TOWN HALL (508) 949-3850
Office Hours:
Monday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-1212)
For emergencies, call 911
WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875)
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Requests

5. Calendar month

8. Invests in little enterprises

12. Bird sound

14. S. American plant cultivated for tubers

15. Car

16. Bullfighter

18. Hill (Celtic)

19. Strong criticism

20. Detector

21. When you hope to get there

22. Having the skill to do something

23. Legendary MLB broadcaster

26. Vulcanite

30. C. Asian mountain range

31. In a way, healed

32. Midway between east and southeast
33. Small appendages of insects

34. __ Greene, “Bonanza” actor

39. A place to bathe

42. Postal worker accessory

44. Classical music

46. A way of wrecking

47. Terminator

49. You eat three a day

50. Pointed end of a pen

51. NATO official (abbr.)

56. Genus of clams

57. Boxing’s “G.O.A.T.”

58. A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel

59. Covered thinly with gold paint

60. Bachelor of Laws

61. Red fluorescent dye

62. Engineering group

63. Female sibling

64. Adjacent

CLUES DOWN

1. What a thespian does

2. Footwear

3. Adjust spacing between

4. Witnesses

5. Who shows excessive fondness

6. Distinct form of a plant

7. National capital

8. Hunting expedition

9. Related to medulla oblongata

10. European country

11. Cola

13. Excluded from use or mention

17. Speak

24. Bloodshot

25. Make better

26. Keyboard key

27. Type of degree

28. Paddle
29. Peacock network

35. Not young

36. Baseball stat

37. One’s grandmother

38. Breakfast food

40. Bathroom features

41. Disease-causing bacterium

42. NY ballplayer

43. Got up

44. Prophet

45. Part of the mouth

47. Unnatural

48. Acronym for brain science study

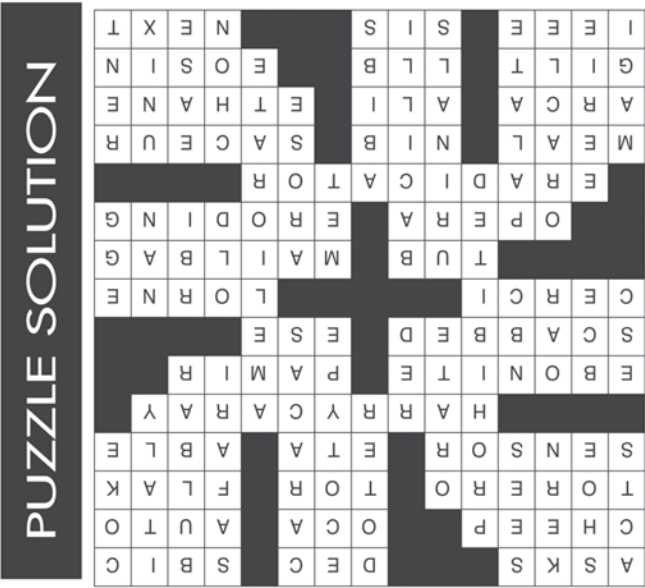
49. Three are famous

52. Languages spoken in Patagonia

53. Freedom from difficulty

54. Widely used OS

55. Many people pay it



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TO SUBMIT A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR:
E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news
OR send to Webster Times
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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WEBSTER
POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Dec. 26 to Jan. 1.

A 31-year-old female from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Dec. 26 for Intimidation of a Witness, Juror, Police Officer, or Court Official. Giovanni Thomas Carrasquillo, age 34, of Webster was arrested during the same incident in connection with a warrant.

Christy L. Lottridge, age 51, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 27 in connection with multiple warrants.

Jarquin Dyshawyn Baldwin, age 40, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 27 as a Fugitive From Justice.

A 41-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 28 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Jason E. Caplette, age 41, of Oxford was arrested on Dec. 28 for Possession of a Class A Drug and in connection with a warrant.

Melanie Anne Barrette, age 29, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 28 for Assault & Battery on a Police Officer; Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, and Resisting Arrest.

Shane L. Jefferson, age 32, of Worcester was arrested on Dec. 31 in connection with a warrant.

Christopher L. Wells, age 53, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 31 in connection with multiple warrants.

Nicholas Paul Dubois, age 22, of Thompson, Conn. was arrested on Dec. 31 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle, and Speeding in Violation of a Special Regulation.

John A. Fedorisky, age 35, of North Oxford was arrested on Jan. 1 for Speeding at a Rate of Speed Exceeding the Posted Limit, Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol (second offense), Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol.

REAL ESTATE

Dudley

\$500,000, 5 Prince Cir, Perzanoski, Scott C, and Perzanoski, Lianne, to Rekowski, Samantha E.

\$367,500, 10 Eagle Dr, Smith, Sarah, to Buchanan, Beth A, and Buchanan, Shawn J.

\$340,000, 15 Hall Rd, V& J LLC, to George, Judith.

\$316,100, 34 Oxford Ave, Olszta, Heather A, and Olszta, John P, to Prunier, Nicole N.

\$145,000, 1 Wysocki Dr #3, Parafinowicz, Barbara, to Rydzewski, Jessica L.

\$138,000, 5 Wysocki Dr #30, Anderson, Sean L, to Anderson, Lawrence, and Anderson, Rita.

Oxford

\$310,000, 1 Ballard St, Pattee, Beverly J, to Warford, Steven, and Warford, Danielle.

\$300,000, 162 Leicester St, Steinhauer, Eric, and Steinhauer, Chareddie, to Bourgeois, Alex.

\$175,000, 160 Main St, Pre Holdings LLC, to Melo, David S.

\$140,000, 7 Thayer Pond Dr #16, Varrichione FT, and Varrichione, Leona A, to Igoshin, Sergey N.

Webster

\$850,000, 62 W Point Rd, Moreland, Erin, to Whitehouse, R Todd, and Whitehouse, Valerie.

\$370,000, 30 Prospect St, Jaupaj, Krenar, and Zhuri, Bardhi, to Hernandez, Gerson O, and Morales-Hernandez, Kenny.

\$340,000, 56 Chase Ave, Coelho, Cleberson, and Lima, Mariana, to Joseph, Romario.

\$325,000, 52 Scenic Ave, Lerio, Robert P, and Lerio, Crystal M, to Ferris, Hannah C.

\$270,000, 160 High St, Rohr, Christine, to Diaz, Maria I.

\$150,000, 310-R Thompson Rd, B&C Realty Hldg 3 LLC, to 300 LLC.

Webster man arrested
in connection with vehicle thefts

DUDLEY — On Wednesday, Jan. 5 at approximately 12:31 a.m., Dudley police officers James Mastrogiovanni and Mariano Conte responded to a residence on Baker Pond Road, near the Charlton town line, for a report of a suspicious vehicle parked in a driveway. The reporting party did not know who the vehicle belonged to, and it was partially blocking their driveway. The vehicle was later determined to have been reported stolen

out of the Town of Paxton. At approximately the same time, Charlton Police Officers were investigating possible vehicle break ins on nearby streets in that area.

Dudley officers waited by the vehicle in question while others searched nearby for the potential suspect(s). After approximately two and a half hours, Officer Mastrogiovanni heard what sounded to be footsteps from a person approaching the suspect vehicle. The vehicle

had started and was believed to be in the process of trying to leave the area. It was stopped at that time.

The lone male suspect was identified as Cole A. Swett, age 39, of Webster. Officers discovered a backpack in his possession containing loose coins, lottery tickets, and other items of interest. These were believed to have been taken from vehicles in the area.

Mr. Swett was charged by the Dudley Police with Using a Motor Vehicle Without

Authority and Receiving Stolen Property (Motor Vehicle). He is expected to face other charges by the Charlton Police. Mr. Swett was held on bail for a court appearance Thursday at Dudley District Court.

The Dudley Police ask anyone in the Baker Pond Road area who believes their vehicle could have been broken into overnight to contact the Charlton or Dudley Police Departments.

Local students named to President’s
List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — 870 students have been named to the Plymouth State University President’s List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the President’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Fall 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester.

Juliette Dubey of Dudley

Julia Ryan of Dudley

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

Dudley named to leadership
position with Nichols Student
Government Association

DUDLEY — Albert Salonis of Dudley is named vice president for the class of 2024, Nichols College Student Government Association. In this role Salonis will work closely with his fellow class officers to serve as a liaison between the administration, class of 2024 students as well as provide special programs for their class.

About Nichols College

The mission of Nichols College is to educate and enlighten students to capitalize on their ambitions and to become impactful, forward looking global leaders.

Lasell University students named
to Fall 2021 Dean’s List

NEWTON — Students at Lasell University were recognized for their academic performance in the fall 2021 semester, including:

Victoria Mann of Webster

Hayden Wildes of Dudley

Students who receive this honor have completed at least 12 credits as a full-time student and have achieved a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.

UConn
announces Fall
Dean’s List

STORRS, Conn. — The University of Connecticut congratulates the following students on being named to its Fall 2021 Dean’s List.

Auburn
Grace Foulkrod, Lexis Johnson

Blackstone
Aaron Bolduc

Douglas
Mary Foley, Matthew Lathe

Dudley
Grace Gavin

Grafton
Olivia Rice, Lindsey Sawtelle

Sturbridge
Cameron Dungey

Sutton
Julianna Cushner, Annika Haerle

Upton
Ryan Conrad, Jonathan Romine, Tessa Stewart

Uxbridge
Kieler Langemo



Meryl J. Reichman, MD
Endocrinologist

Sarah Balko, RD, CDE
Certified Diabetes Educator

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OBITUARIES

Edward L. Bachand, 97



Edward L. Bachand, 97 of Dudley, Mass passed away on Wednesday January 5th at Webster Manor after a period of declining health. Edward was born on December 3, 1924 in Somerville, Mass, the son of Edward E. and Mary E.(Noonan) Bachand.

His wife, Constance A. (Pikora) Bachand predeceased him in 2014. He leaves 2 sons Thomas E Bachand and his wife Patricia of Woodstock, CT; and Daniel Bachand and his wife Debra of Dudley, MA; 2 grandchildren, Marissa Farbo and her husband Aaron; and Kevin E Bachand; 2 great grandchildren, Luis and Aleena Farbo. He leaves a sister, Mary LaRoche of Southbridge, and was predeceased by a

sister Ildea Skowron and a brother James Bachand.

Edward served in the Army during World War II with the 1st Infantry Division at the Battle of The Bulge. He worked at the Worcester Telegram & Gazette as a press operator - retiring in 1987, after 37 years of service. He enjoyed taking day trips with his wife, fishing, and enjoyed family time.

Private funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, Mass. Burial will be in St. Joseph Garden of Peace Cemetery - Webster, Mass. Donations may be made to the Dudley Veterans Council 71 West Main St Dudley, MA 01571



GARDENING

continued from page A8

mid spring. Check the seed packet for timing and planting directions. Create a seed starting chart or mark planting dates on your calendar to ensure seeds get planted at the recommended time.

Monitor the weather and follow the recommended planting dates for sowing seeds directly in the garden and moving seedlings outdoors. Use homemade or DIY cloches, floating row covers and cold frames to jump start the season. These capture warmth near the plants for an earlier start in the garden. They can also be used to extend the end of the growing season.

Start removing weeds as soon they appear throughout the season. These unwanted plants

compete with desirable plants for water and nutrients, and many are host to disease and insect pests. Pulling weeds is also a great way to reduce stress while improving the health and beauty of your garden beds.

Harvest flowers to enjoy in summer bouquets and arrangements. Pick a few extras to share with friends. Research has found immediate and long-lasting benefits generated from the gift of fresh flowers.

Pick vegetables regularly when they are at their peak for maximum productivity, flavor, and nutritional value. Share extra produce with family, friends, and the food insecure - many of which are children - in your community. Contact your local food bank, food pantry or Feeding America to donate garden fresh produce.

Cap off your efforts with a garden party. Invite fellow gardeners to bring a dish to share that incorporates homegrown vegetables. Share recipes, garden success stories, and begin planning for the season ahead.

For the recommended timing to do these and other gardening projects, check my monthly gardening checklists.

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

Frances G. Bernard, 85

Dudley - Frances G. (Tkacik) Bernard, 85, passed away peacefully in her sleep while surrounded by her loving family in the comfort of her home on Saturday January 8, 2022.

Frances was born in Dudley, MA on July 24, 1936, daughter of the late Joseph and Mary (Androsko) Tkacik. Frances worked as an accountant for the American Antiquarian Society prior to her retirement; she enjoyed knitting, crossword puzzles, and spending time with her family.

Being predeceased by her husband Raymond W. Bernard, Frances is survived by her daughters Jane Bradshaw of North Smithfield, RI, Julie Bernard and her fiancée Kevin Bridges of Saco, ME, and Jana Demers and her husband Jeff of Dudley with which she

made her home; predeceased by two brothers Joseph Tkacik of Thompson, CT and Edward Tkacik of Southbridge and Dick Tkacik of Webster; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She also leaves close friends and care givers, Tarah Traina, Jackie Duval, Jack and Rose Sadowsky.

Private funeral arrangement have been entrusted to the Care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to the Webster-Dudley Veterans Councils, 4 Veterans Way Webster, MA 01570.

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 Frances.

Roger J. Berthiaume, 84



WEBSTER - Roger J. Berthiaume, 84, passed away peacefully on January 4, 2022.

He was the son of the late Lionel and Germaine (Morgan) Berthiaume.

He leaves 5 sons, Barry and his wife Laurie of Webster, Roy and his wife Linda of Worcester, Danny of Thompson, CT, Mark and his wife Kirsten of Dudley, and Brian and his wife Kim of Webster; his brother Ronald and his wife Betty of Falmouth; 9 grandchildren, Barry Jr. and Kayla, Lauren, Tommy and Jillian, Johnny, Jack, Drew, and Morgan; 6 great-grandchildren; and many cousins, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother Richard.

Roger graduated from Bartlett High School in 1955 and from Fitchburg State College in 1959 and lived in Webster

for most of his life. He worked as a teacher for 25 years and then followed his passion for cooking by owning and operating the Continental Restaurant in Quinebaug, CT. He retired at age 75, finishing his working career practicing his trade and doing design work for Atlas Box and Crate in Sutton.

He was an avid sports fan following the Red Sox, Patriots and Celtics. In his youth, he played football and baseball and went on to officiate both sports for over 20 years. He enjoyed family gatherings, golfing, country music, dancing, Polkas, York Beach, the Mohawks and his regular get-togethers with his friends from the class of '55.

A celebration of his life and burial will be held privately at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street.

www.scanlonfs.com

LEGALS

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. WO21P4206PO
CITATION ON GENERAL
PROBATE PETITION
Estate of:
 Bryan Michael Hamel
Date of Death: February 21, 2018

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

Jenna L. Hamel of Oxford MA

requesting that the State of Massachusetts and the Town of Erving, Massachusetts produce a death certificate as set forth in said petition, and for such further relief as this Court deems proper.

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**

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.

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

Date: December 27, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

January 14, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO21P4222EA
Estate of:
 Norma E. Henault
Date Of Death: June 08, 2021
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Brenda Vezina-Jodaitis of Woodstock CT**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Brenda Vezina-Jodaitis of Woodstock CT

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.

January 14, 2022

Turn To **LEGALS** page **A13**



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150-300	\$2.55	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00

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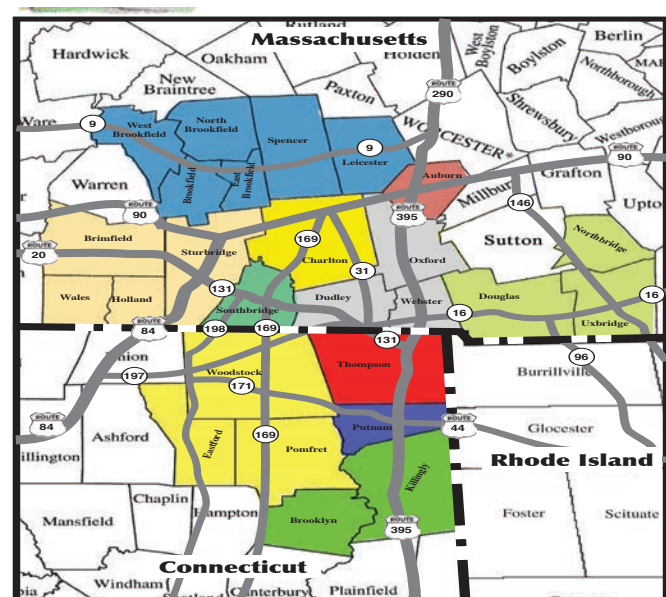
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Baby, it’s cold outside

Newsflash: it’s cold. Our little neck of the woods here has finally hit frigid sub-zero temperatures. Folks may be running low on fuel, or even running empty, causing frozen pipes to burst. Fuel companies are scheduled two weeks out in some cases, and several customers are feeling stressed due to the financial burden this cold weather brings. Our only advice is to hold on tight and think about how toasty things will be when temperatures soar into the teens and low 20s again.

The winter solstice on Dec. 21 has passed, and the days are getting longer...and, we hope, sunnier. One perk to this post-New Year’s time is that, well, the holidays are over. The hustle and bustle starts in late November and doesn’t calm down until the week following New Year’s. Is it overrated? Maybe. We hope you are all able to relax in the days ahead.

When weather hits sub-zero, it’s hard to remember why we live here. We live in New England because winter, for the most part, is fun and manageable. We love our snow sports, the smell of wood stoves cranking and the beauty of the snow-capped mountains.

Some of you may think of our ancestors who had to cut chords of wood by hand all year long just to prepare for the harsh New England winters. Houses way back when had no insulation or the walls were stuffed with straw and mud. Common houses were much smaller, therefore easier to keep heated with one wood stove. The fireplace was the focal point of a colonial home and was the place where family members would talk and work on small projects during the evening. The average size of a house according to today’s standards is about 2,600 square feet. A home of that size hundreds of years ago was often occupied by the wealthy, who were able to afford to put a wood stove in each room of the house. Children often slept in lofts where the heat would rise and often shared a bed with siblings, using body heat to keep warm.

In days of old, people used thick curtains and down comforters to keep the heat in. Before bedtime, many would use a bed warmer, which was a brass pan with a long handle that was filled with hot rocks. Foot warmers were popular as well. These fancy contraptions were made of a wood framed tin box also with heated rocks that would be placed by the feet under the comforter. This heating method was used for trips in the horse and buggy as well. Churchgoers would bring their own boxes of heat and blankets to keep warm during a Sunday service.

Important to note is the fact that over the years humans have increasingly adapted to warmer weather as a result of modern technology. Our ancestors were able to withstand much colder temperatures and remain more comfortable in colder temperatures than we do today. All of that aside, we are pretty lucky to have the conveniences we do during these cold blasts.

Since winter is not nearly over, here are a few tips with regard to winter survival. Avoid frost bite and frost nip at all costs. When the water molecules in your skin cells freeze, they die. Once this happens, they can cause damage to your muscular and nervous systems. Exposed skin can develop frostbite within 30 minutes with winds of 10 mph and a temperature of -5 degrees. If you are outside and find your hands freezing, the warmest place for them to go is under your armpits, the warmest part of your body.

Another culprit is hypothermia. When your body hits 95 degrees you’re entering the danger zone. When your organs start to drop in temperature they begin to shut down. If you notice yourself shivering or lacking coordination, it’s time to get warm fast. Other more severe symptoms include low energy, difficulty speaking, a weak pulse and the cessation of the shivers. It’s important to stay well nourished during any time spent outside, as your body needs that energy to stay warm. Always have a Snickers bar or something similar handy just in case. Staying hydrated is a must as you need water to keep your nervous system running properly. One rule of thumb is to never eat snow while trying to survive in frigid temperatures. Your body will be forced to warm it from the inside which wastes energy and can cause hypoglycemia. Try to keep your

Turn To **EDITORIAL** page **A9**

VIEWPOINT

The promise of change

The Good News of Jesus Christ is all about Change. Positive Change! Renewing Change! Life-Transforming Change! Christ offers hope that it is possible for everybody, and anyone, to believe that their life can change. If we commit to following Jesus Christ and allow His Spirit to guide us, we can be led out of the darkest and seemingly most hopeless depths of despair and realize that change is possible!

BEYOND THE PEWS

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By FR. LUKE A. VERONIS
SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, WEBSTER

hear much about repentance. We don’t like to be told we did something wrong, or that our actions and words are “sinful.” How often do you hear the self-help gurus of our “feel good” society speak about our fundamental need to repent?

Too often, society’s influential voices tell us to celebrate who we are, to feel good about where we are and to love ourselves as we are. Since society rejects any standard of absolute truth which may make us feel uncomfortable, they eliminate the line between good and evil, ignoring any need to fundamentally change. Instead, society teaches us that whatever anyone does is OK, as long as they are sincere about it.

In contrast to this worldview, Saint John the Baptist, as well as our Lord Jesus Christ, call out clearly “Repent!” Repent, and change your life. Repent, and turn toward the ways of God. Repent, and as you change your life, your life will change. Repent, and you will find hope in new life.

Repentance is the beginning of Good News precisely because it is the beginning of acknowledging a need we all have. No matter who we are, and where we’re at in life, no matter how we have failed to fulfill our divine potential and no matter how we have fallen away from God’s divine image within, there is always another chance to change, a second and third and hundredth chance to turn back.

We have a merciful and gracious God who patiently waits for our return. He longs to help us change and to help us fulfill the God-given potential He placed within each of us.

Our world is full of the darkness of ignorance, arrogance, and sin. Even though we live in an age of incredible knowledge - science, medicine, and technology are only a few fields that boast advances that previous generations couldn’t even dream about - we still give in to the most base passions and vices of life. We live in the age of the internet, where endless information is available at our fingertips within seconds. Maybe not too many people would accept that our contemporary society lives in the darkness of ignorance. Yet, ignorance comes in many forms.

When Jesus talks about darkness, He refers to

the darkness of the soul. The path of eternal knowledge leads into the Kingdom of Heaven. How many brilliant physicians and scientists and professors and businesspeople and other such “successful” people know very little about the authentic spiritual life and journey that leads towards union with God?

I remember talking at a retreat on the theme of confession, and after my talk a very successful elderly man came up to me and said, “Father, look, I’ve never gone to confession in my 70 years of life, and to be honest with you, I probably won’t ever go. I don’t need to. I’m a good person who hasn’t done any terrible things. I don’t feel the need to repent or go to confession.

This man’s attitude reflects the outlook of many people who live spiritually shallow lives. Such people compare themselves to the darkness of the world around them and since they haven’t killed anyone or committed adultery or done some other evil act, they think they are good.

Authentic goodness, however, means becoming like God and acting like God. Only God is good. The Gospel of Matthew states, “The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light.” With the coming of God as a human being, with the birth of Jesus Christ in the world, the divine light of God incarnate has shined forth. With the coming of Christ, people can now be enlightened with divine knowledge because anyone who wants to understand true goodness and love need only look at the person of Jesus.

Are we “good” when we compare ourselves with Christ? Absolutely not. Anyone who thinks they have no need of repentance and change in their life has never carefully read our Lord’s Sermon on the Mount, and reflected upon His words, “Be perfect, as my Father in Heaven in perfect.” Saint Paul says “we all fall far short of the glory of God.” Thus, we all need repent. Anyone seriously trying to journey towards God understands that repentance is our first step.

Repentance means not only turning away from our sin but also returning back to God. Repentances means changing the direction of our lives from whatever darkness we have embraced and struggling down the difficult, narrow path that leads to divine love. Change is possible for every one of us. Yet it all begins with Repentance. “Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Where can I shoot?

CHIEF’S CORNER

STEVE WOJNAR

Firearms regulations and questions are always popular. We receive many reports of people shooting in wooded areas, either for hunting or target practice. One question we seem to deal with frequently pertains to where people are authorized to lawfully shoot. I was asked to provide some information on this, including shooting on one’s own property.

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 269 Section 12E is the law pertaining to the discharge of a firearm within 500 feet of “a dwelling or other building in use.” It does not cover property lines; it pertains to the actual location of structures. For example, someone is shooting on their own property and app. 100 feet from your boundary. If your house, or other applicable building, is further than 500 feet away, the activity is lawful. There are several exceptions present in this statute. One of these allows for shooting within this distance “with the consent of the owner or legal occupant thereof...” A person would therefore be allowed to shoot in their own yard and not be in violation.

Another important point to take under consideration, is the presence of neighboring homes or buildings nearby. If these places would be within 500 feet of where the shooting is taking place, a person would need consent of those property owners. Penalties for a violation can include a fine of up to \$150 and/or a jail term of up to three months. For hunting purposes, people must be lawfully present and / or have permission of the property owner to do so. It is important to know where you plan to hunt, secure the proper permissions, and pay particular attention to sign postings, which may prohibit this type of activity.

The discharge of firearms must always be taken seriously with the appropriate precautions. Bullets cannot be recalled in the event of a mistake. It is also advisable to notify neighbors if you will be target shooting. Often the sound can cause concern if people are not aware of what is occurring. It is also important to have a proper backstop for the bullets to land and be sure there is plenty of safe distance behind the target area. You do not want stray or missed bullets to cause injury or damage. Always be aware of your surroundings, exercise the appropriate care, and be cognizant of the possibility of a ricochet.

The increase in COVID cases remains a concern. For those still seeking vaccination information, it can be found at www.dudleyma.gov or by calling 508-949-8036. We encourage everyone to be safe. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. During these challenging times, 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 swojnar@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.

Make gardening your New Year’s resolution

The New Year is filled with resolutions that usually involve dieting and exercise. Gardening is a great way to help accomplish these two resolutions, while also improving your mood, reducing blood pressure, maintaining flexibility, burning calories and much more.

Resolve to grow your own vegetables and eat healthier in the New Year. Get your family and friends involved in planning ways to include gardening into your lives.

Explore ways to incorporate vegetables and herbs into your landscape. Vegetable gardens are not the only option. Tucking vegetables into flowerbeds, mixed borders and container gardens can expand your planting



GARDEN MOMENTS

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MELINDA MYERS

space. Look for new compact and colorful vegetable varieties that fit nicely into small spaces, planters, and ornamental gardens.

Take an inventory of any leftover seeds and make a list of those seeds and any plants you need to purchase. The earlier you order, the more likely you are to obtain the items on your list.

Don’t wait to start your year of healthful gardening and eating habits. Start by growing microgreens in January. They are quick, easy and require no special equipment. Plus, recent research found that many contain as much as 25 times more nutrients than the leaves of the full-grown plant.

Organize a seed swap with family and friends in winter. It is a great



Melinda Myers

Compact vegetable varieties can be tucked into ornamental container gardens if space is an issue.

way to extend your plant budget and experiment with new seeds. Turn old seeds that are no longer viable into artwork with sheets of paper or small pieces of wood, glue, and some creativity.

Start vegetable, herb, and flower seeds indoors in late winter through

Old Man Winter brings safe ice

Old Man Winter arrived this past week, and made a lot of anglers very happy with the first safe ice of the season. Extreme caution needs to be practiced on the first ice of the season, as not all areas on a pond or lake are safe, or have the same thickness as others. It is best to check first ice with a chisel cutting a small hole in the ice as you navigate the pond or lake you are fishing to ensure it is safe .

Jig fishing is the most productive way to catch fish especially yellow perch. Cutting a few holes with an ice auger is a lot easier way to fish than chopping holes with

an ice chisel.

Back in my younger days, very few anglers had a power auger to cut holes, and we had to chop holes in the ice before fishing. There were more anglers jiggging through the ice than people using ice fishing tilts. There were many Swedish people from Worcester that only used homemade jig sticks and lures to catch fish.

The homemade fishing rods were called dead sticks, as no reel was attached to the stick. When a large fish was encountered, they would ask their fellow fishing buddy to cut the hole larger in order to



THE GREAT
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land the fish. The fish was held with a small gaff under the ice until the hole was cut larger, enabling the fish to be brought threw the hole.

Because the fishermen would sometimes cut more than 100 holes a day, they would cut the holes very small, just large enough to bring a perch through. The Swedish fishermen also made

their own fishing lures which were often made out of brass and lead. They were extremely well made and lasted for years if they were not lost to a big fish. The Meadow Pond in Whitinsville was a favorite pond to fish for perch, and anglers could catch as many as eight or ten perch from one hole. When the action stopped another hole was cut in an effort to stay with the school of perch. Cutting holes every few minutes kept the fishing hot. The Meadow pond is still a great pond to ice fish today providing an abundance of four- and five-pound bass annually, but

fishermen need to keep the ice free of junk. If you bring it in, be sure to bring it out. More on ice fishing next week!

This past week, the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club lost a longtime member & friend Wilhelm Huber. “Willie,” as most of us knew him by, was kitchen chairman for many years, but also worked daily to keep the club clean. The late Joan St. Andre, former board of health chairman, stated that the kitchen was the cleanest and most up to date that she had inspected annually, during Willie’s tenure. The coffee pot was always full with fresh

hot coffee for members that attended the daily conversations at the club, as Willie often was the first to open the club at 4 a.m.! He loved the club and the members, and often made soup or some other form of food for members to eat. Because of failing health, his annual chicken soup was not available this year for deer hunter to enjoy after daily hunts . He will be sadly missed by all that knew him. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends. Funeral services will be private!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Snow Facts and Trivia

The Old Farmer’s Almanac predicts frigid temperatures and overall average snow for the region this winter. However, the tried-and-true guide warns of more storms and snowfalls this month, and perhaps a big post Valentine’s Day storm in February.

But this should come as no surprise to hardy New Englanders who have had plenty of practice battling Old Man Winter through the years. Hot on the heels of last week’s snowstorm, this column will feature a roundup of informative and interesting snow facts and trivia:

Timeless “Snowisms”

Snow has always been a common topic of conversation for New Englanders, and in 1896 Hadley, MA native Clifton Johnson of nearby Hadley, MA, put together a volume of collected proverbs titled, “What They Say in New England - A Book of Signs, Sayings and Superstitions.” Read

on for his entertaining musings on snow:

*If the breast-bones of the Thanksgiving chickens are light in color, there will be a good deal of snow in the winter following. If the color is dark, there will be little snow.

*If the snow on the roof melts off, the next storm will be rain. If it blows off, you can calculate on snow.

*The day of the month on which the first snowstorm comes gives the number of storms you can expect in the following winter.

*If the ice on the trees melts and runs off, the next storm will be rain. If it is cracked off by the wind, the storm that comes next will be snow.

*Snow that comes in the old of the moon is apt to last. Snow that comes in the new of the moon is apt to melt quickly.

*When it begins to snow, notice the size of the flakes. If they are very fine, the storm will be a long one; if large, the

storm will soon be over.

**

Snow or No?

Old New Englanders often used nature to predict whether or not a winter will be particularly snowy. Here are some examples that are signs snow will be abundant:

* Squirrels begin gathering food in September

*Black bugs crawl about in the fall.

*Hogs gather sticks, straw, to make a bed.

*Birds eat up all the berries early

*Birds huddle on the ground

*Muskrat houses are built big.

*Beaver lodges have more logs and the north side of a beaver dam is more covered with sticks.

*Squirrels’ tails grow bushier

*Fur or hair on animals such as horses, sheep, mules, cows, and dogs is thicker than usual

*Squirrels build nest low in trees.

*An ant builds its hill high



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

*Hornets and yellow jacket nests heavier

*More than usual amount of caterpillars

*Caterpillars have heavy coats

*You see a caterpillar crawling before the first frost

*Crows gather together

**

Know Your Snow: Are we having a storm? Maybe a squall? Perhaps a flurry? Here’s help on ID-ing the white stuff:

Snowstorm: When large amounts of snow falls.

Flurry: Snow that falls for short durations and with varying intensity; flurries usually produce little accumulation.

Squall: A brief, but intense snowfall that greatly reduces visibility

and which is often accompanied by strong winds.

Snowburst: Very intense shower of snow, often of short duration, that greatly restricts visibility and produces periods of rapid snow accumulation.

B l o w i n g Snow: Airborne snow particles raised by the wind to moderate or great heights above the ground; the horizontal visibility at eye level is generally very poor.

Drifting Snow: Snow on the ground that is blown by the wind to a height of less than 1.5 to 2 meters (5 to 6.5 feet) above the surface.

R e s o u r c e s

*The Weather Channel

*National Snow & Data Center

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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.

Latest antique news



I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and a great start to the new year. It’s been several weeks since my last antique news update and there is much to report on.

There was big news out of England at the end of 2021, when research found that a United Kingdom-based antiques dealer’s 2019 auction purchase was actually a very valuable historic relic. Dealer Paul Fitzsimmons spotted a gilded oak bird at an English auction. Although it was covered in soot, he “instantly realized that it was a valuable object,” according to Smithsonian Magazine. Although he didn’t then know that the bird was the badge of Anne Boleyn, he “knew that it had some sort of royal connection because it had the crown and scepter, and it was a royal bird.” Anne Boleyn was Henry VIII’s second wife, whom he beheaded in 1536. Boleyn had begun to use the falcon and roses badge around the time she married Henry VIII. It’s believed that the falcon and roses were part of the palace’s decorative scheme at the time. After her death, Henry VIII tried to remove all traces of Boleyn, including the falcon and rose badges. It’s believed that the wooden falcon was in Boleyn’s private quarters and had been stashed away by one of her supporters.

EDITORIAL

continued from page **A8**

heart rate up as cold temperatures cause your heart rate to decrease. A higher heart rate will generate heat within your body however be sure not to do so much that you start to sweat, cold and sweat are never a good combination.

We hope none of you ever find yourselves in a situation where you need to implement any of the information above, however knowledge is power. Stay warm, summertime is just about six months away, where we will of course crank the air conditioning and complain about the heat and humidity.

Fitzsimmons paid \$101 for it at that 2019 auction. It’s estimated to be worth \$270,000. He plans to offer it on long-term loan to Hampton Court Palace.

Elsewhere, a Massachusetts estate sale find is also making news in England. “The Art Newspaper” reported that an Albrecht Dürer sketch was purchased from a Concord, MA estate in 2016. They write that “The Virgin and Child with a Flower on a Grassy Bank” was in the collection of architect Jean-Paul Carlhian. A man who wishes to remain anonymous purchased the sketch for \$30 from Carlhian’s daughters at an estate sale of



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his belongings. The buyer and seller didn’t believe that it was an original work, and the buyer stored it in his home. Clifford Schorer of Agnews Gallery in London heard of the sketch when visiting Boston in 2019 and arranged to see it. Schorer told “The Art Newspaper” that when he first saw the piece he thought, “it was either the greatest forgery I have ever seen—or a masterpiece.” Experts have examined the piece more carefully and found that there are two attributes that seem to prove it is in fact authentic. His signature (initials) and the ink used match those that appear in more than 200 of his other sketches. It is believed that the sketch may be worth \$50 million. Now that’s a stroke of good luck.

The kindness of strangers

I spent the New Year celebrating with my girlfriend in a beautiful, small, old town in northwestern Illinois named Galena. We had a wonderful time.

Our dinner reservations were at the very historic Desoto Hotel, and to our surprise, nobody was there! People celebrated in the hotel outside of the restaurant, but the restaurant itself was empty. I asked the waitress, “where is everybody?”, she responded, “A big winter storm is coming!”

After dinner, we walked down Main Street and commented on how calm the weather was. There wasn’t a storm.

New Year’s Day was sunny and cold. The weather was nice, so we decided to stay longer and visit some shops we hadn’t seen. By mid-afternoon, the clouds rolled in, accompanied by heavy snowfall.

One of the locals cautioned us from driving home; we thanked her and explained how we had to get back home and go through the blizzard.

I felt confident; I’d driven through many snowstorms all over the nation. I figured we could make it home in seven hours, moving slow.

From the start, many times, I almost went off the road. Carefully, I pressed forward; every mile seemed to be more dangerous. I said to myself, “they will put salt on the roads; there will be

snowplows...” But I saw no sign of a snowplow.

Suddenly I felt the car being pulled to the right. I turned to the left to steer the vehicle back on course, but I drove into a ditch four to six feet deep. The snow piled so high in the ditch, it appeared even with the road, and looked as if there was no ditch at all. Within a couple of seconds, my car was deep in a pile of snow.

My girlfriend was understandably upset. “It’s no big deal!” I reassured her as I called AAA roadside assistance. To our surprise, the weather was so bad they shut down service for this part of the country; nobody was coming to save us.

The roads were empty. We were in the middle of nowhere with nothing but the heavy snow on a dark winter’s night.

It’s been such a mild winter this year; I didn’t bring the proper clothes with me. I didn’t have a pair of gloves, a winter jacket, a stocking cap let alone a shovel. It was about 17 degrees, and there wasn’t much I could do. I tried to calm my panicked girlfriend.

About 30 minutes later, we noticed a light in the distance. The light became brighter and brighter, and it turned out to be a big white pickup truck. The driver slowly pulled up and shouted, “Do you need help?” My girlfriend noticed

I was playing it cool, so before I could answer, she was yelling, “Yes! Help us, please!”

After about 15 minutes of shoveling and clearing snow out from under my car, he found where he could hook a chain and try to pull us out. Within 30 seconds, my car was pulled right out of the snow and back on the road.

My girlfriend jumped out of the car, and we both thanked him profusely. I didn’t have any cash on me; all I had was a bottle of wine leftover from the New Year celebration. I insisted he take it; we also offered to send him cash through an online app, but he refused. He helped us simply because we needed help.

As we drove home, my girlfriend cried tears of joy. We were blown away by his kind nature and how willing he was to help. We talked about it the whole way home.

Last week, I wrote about how one of my new year resolutions was to help people more. This man who helped us left a significant impact on me. People need help sometimes. It meant so much to us that he took the time to help while his family waited patiently in the car. I want to say thank you again, kind stranger.

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WEBSTER – 20 Scenic Ave! Views of Webster Lake! 7 Rm Colonial! Work-in Appliance Kit! Dining Area w/Cathedral Ceiling! Living Rm w/ Pine Flooring, Hearth & Woodstove! 1st Flr Bdrms, 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full Baths! Expandable Walk-out Lower Level! Buderus Oil Heat! Recent Roof & Siding! **\$299,900.00**

WEBSTER – 8 Riverside Dr! Super Convenient 9 Rm Colonial! Work-in Appliance Kit w/Granite Island & Dining Area! 24' Living Rm w/Laminate Wood Flooring, Slider to Composite Deck! 3-5 Bdrms Total! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths Total! Finished Lower Level! Oil Heat! Roof 2019! **\$399,900.00**



DUDLEY HAYDEN POND WATERFRONT – 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/quartz 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! **\$439,900.00**

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Featured New Listing!

WEBSTER - 17 BROUDER AVENUE



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DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautiful family home! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, newer widows & heating system. Mini split system. Hardwoods. Lg eat-in kitchen /Corian counters & Island. Warming fireplace with handsome mantle. Generous dining room, spacious enough for your family gatherings. lower level fireplace family room. Harmon pellet insert! 2 car garage. Reduced **\$340,000.**

WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



SORRY, SOLD!

Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3,012 SF +/- living area. 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 updated Baths. 2nd Flr - Granite Countertops! High ceilings & Hardwood Floors, Modern Kitchens. Manicured 13,525 SF Lot with a Hip roof 3 car garage! **\$439,900**

WEBSTER - 10 THOMPSON RD



SORRY SOLD!

2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEBSTER BUSINESS DISTRICT! A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14,875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE. **\$195,000**

WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE



SORRY SOLD!

LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE, HUMBLE ABODE, THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK? Convenient Location, corner lot! 1288 SF +/-, 4 BRS w/1st Flr Mstr BR, Half Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combination! 3-Season Porch. 2nd Flr - 3 BRS, Reshingled Roof. Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Part finished walk-out bsmt! Garage! **\$215,000**

THOMPSON CT - 15 WAGER RD



SORRY SOLD!

Cape with 3 bedrooms, gleaming hardwoods, stone fireplace. Septic (2019), replacement windows, family and dining room, fresh paint throughout! Generator hook up, and updated Buderus boiler with holding tank. Garage under. This one maybe for you! assisted sale **\$279,900.**

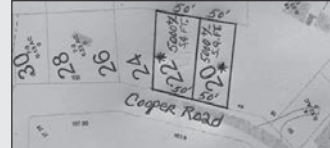
Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island



SORRY, SOLD!

Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY! **\$389,900.**

WEBSTER - 20 & 22 COOPER RD



LAND with Sewer & Water access! Excellent Opportunity for New Homes! Boat Ramp Near by! **\$24,500., each.**

LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD/CHARLTON

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

Oxford - 4 Leicester St. - Approx. 8.47 Acres! River Frontage.

NEW PRICE \$79,500.

Webster - DOUGLAS RD 26 ACRES! on SUGARLOAF HILL 1000 +/- of frontage! **SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000.**

Webster - COOPER RD - 2 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & SEWER Access. Zoned Lake Res.! **\$24,500. Each**

OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS = 16,224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting! **\$449,000.**

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



SORRY, SOLD!

Unit 1404 Marina side! of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**

WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Hardwood Floor & Carpet, Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural! Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**

WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



SORRY, SOLD!

Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms. 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**



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SOLD

Dudley: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, gas heat

17 Nelco Avenue ~ **\$345,000**

SZYMCHAK SELLS



SOLD

Oxford: 3 bedrooms, 2 Baths, sided, great location

3 Elm Street ~ **\$310,000**

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LEGALS

LEGALS

continued from page A6

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT
21 SM 001407
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
James E. Adams
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq) Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2019-SL2, U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in North Oxford (Oxford), numbered 9 Thayer Pond Drive, Unit 9-2, Thayer Pond Village Condominium, given by James E. Adams to Fleet National Bank, dated February 5, 2003, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 29319, Page 171 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 February 7, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on December 24, 2021.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
20480
January 14, 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. WO21P4277EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Robert W White, Jr.
Date of Death: 11/16/2021

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by
Neil R White of Danielson CT requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that
Neil R White of Danielson CT 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 02/01/2022.** 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: December 31, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
January 14, 2022

State of Connecticut
COURT OF PROBATE
Northeast Regional
Children's Probate Court
DISTRICT NO. PD59
NOTICE OF HEARING
TERMINATION OF
PARENTAL RIGHTS
NOTICE TO

Tiffany M. Lilley, whose last known residence was in the town of Webster, MA.
Pursuant to an order of Hon. Philip A. Wright, Jr., Judge, a hearing will be held at Central Connecticut Regional Children's Probate Court, 1501 East Main Street, Suite 203, Meriden, CT 06450 on February 8, 2022 at 10:00

AM, on a petition for Termination of Parental Rights concerning **Lawson R. L.**, a minor child born to **Tiffany M. Lilley** on August 10, 2015 at Hartford, CT. The court's decision will affect your interest, if any, as in the petition on file more fully appears.
RIGHT TO COUNSEL: If the above named person wishes to have an attorney, but is unable to pay for one, the Court will provide an attorney upon proof of inability to pay. Any such request should be made immediately by contacting the court office where the hearing is to be held.
By Order of the Court
Dalianice Del Valle, Clerk
January 14, 2022

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGEE'S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 3 George Street f/k/a 6 George Street, Dudley, MA 01571
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Charles D. Corkran and Linda J. Corkran to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for 1-800-East-West Mortgage Company, and now held by **LoanCare, LLC**, said mortgage dated November 30, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42154, Page 145, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to Bank of America, N.A., successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP FKA Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP by assignment dated October 4, 2011 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 47984, Page 146; said mortgage was assigned from Bank of America, N.A. to EverBank by assignment dated August 5, 2013 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 51406, Page 254; said mortgage was assigned from EverBank to Green Tree Servicing LLC by assignment dated April 23, 2014 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 52385, Page 367; said mortgage was assigned from Ditech Financial LLC f/k/a Green Tree Servicing LLC to New Residential Mortgage LLC by assignment dated February 18, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 60058, Page 252; said mortgage was assigned from New Residential Mortgage LLC to LoanCare, LLC by assignment dated February 19, 2021 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 64555, Page 191; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on February 8, 2022 at 02:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Dudley, being a certain tract or parcel of land, with the buildings thereon situated on the southerly line of Tracy Street, otherwise called George Street, Dudley, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the premises to be conveyed said corner being located on the southerly line of said Tracy Street, sixty-seven (67) feet easterly of the intersection of the easterly line of First Avenue, with the southerly line of Tracy Street; THENCE southerly one hundred twenty (120) feet along land now or formerly of one Michelski; THENCE easterly by said Michelski's land now or formerly, fifty-eight (58) feet to a chestnut post; THENCE north by land of Jennie S. Chase, now or formerly, one hundred twenty (120) feet to Tracy Street; THENCE westerly by the southerly line of Tracy Street, fifty-eight (58) feet to the point of beginning. Subject to building restrictions. Being the easterly portion of lots numbered 7 and 8 on Plan of Fairview and Fairview Addition, dated June 6, 1916, and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 27, Plan 44. For mortgagors' title, see deed in Book 16961, Page 98.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.
For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated March 31, 1995 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 16961, Page 98.
TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.
FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale. Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
1080 Main Street, Suite 200
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Attorney for LoanCare, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
401-217-8701

January 14, 2022
January 21, 2022
January 28, 2022

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SPORTS

With game on the line, Wolverines persevere to beat Bartlett

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — Seeking their first game-playing win of the season, the Leicester High girls’ varsity basketball team had the opportunity when playing at Bartlett High on Thursday, Jan. 6. With the game on the line, the Wolverines led the Indians by a score of 38-33 as play headed to the fourth and final quarter.

Leicester had close encounters leading up to the game with Bartlett, losing to Millbury High, Grafton High, Northbridge High and Blackstone Valley Tech by a combined 19 points, or less than five a game.

“Last time, we played BVT. We were

up by 12 at half and lost by seven. That was an opportunity where we didn’t know how to win yet, so it was nice going into halftime and fourth quarter with the lead...and we pulled it out,” said first-year head coach Chris Barry, whose Wolverines took the fourth quarter by storm, outscoring the Indians 16-4 to take a 54-37 decision.

The Wolverines are actually 3-4, as they picked up technical victories over Southbridge High and Murdock High since those two schools cancelled their seasons. But this win meant a lot to Leicester, especially since they weren’t equipped with their full roster.

“We’ve got a couple of girls out due to COVID, some of our starters, so we didn’t really know what to expect com-

ing into the day,” explained Barry. “The girls who should do the good job did it. Ayva Connor stepped up in the fourth quarter; Sarah [O’Connor] made some shots, Jahmaira Pye played well [and] Sarah Brouillard played well at the end. It was really nice.”

Connor tallied a team-high 14 points, scoring seven of those in the fourth quarter. O’Connor had 11 points, Pye 10, and Brouillard produced 9 points and a game-high 12 rebounds.

“We don’t really have a go-to scorer. We have a lot of girls that can score 10 to 12 if they hit their shots and we move the ball, which we did a great job of doing tonight,” said Barry.

Bartlett, meanwhile, is 4-3. Head coach Kashawn Hampton liked the way

his team battled back in the second and third quarters after trailing 19-10 after the initial eight minutes. They won the second period, 9-8, and the third frame, 14-11, to make a game of it.

“We started to play aggressive defense. I think communication improved. I think that once we started to get into our groove we started to accomplish our plays,” he explained.

Hampton noted that the Indians hadn’t played in a couple of weeks and in the downtime have added new plays.

“We implemented some new stuff and I think that once we get that down I think we’re going to be good,” he said.

Tiffany Salazar led Bartlett with 19 points, including five 3-pointers, while Camden Heenan chipped in 9 points.

MOHEGAN BOWL FALL LEAGUES, WEEKS ENDING JAN. 2, 9

Monday Men’s Business
Single — Nate Walker 140, Dan Labay 135, Jason Mahan 134
Series — Dan Labay 369, Nate Walker 358, PJ Janton 355
Series over average — Nate Walker +70

Ten Pin City
Single — Division 1: Edna Miranda 171
Division 2: Bernice Stackpole 185, Marie Piegorsch 183
Series — Division 1: Edna Miranda 493
Division 2: Marie Piegorsch 455, Trini Thies and Bernice Stackpole 424

Tuesday Chet’s Social
Single — Ryan Pelletier 138, Dave Lamontagne 135, Joe Pranaitis 119, Dawn Gleason and Kathryn Ward 108, Ellen Fugatt 107
Series — Ryan Pelletier 350, Joe Pranaitis 322, Dave Lamontagne 320, Ellen Fugatt 301, Kathryn Ward 283, Dawn Gleason 280
Series over average — Charlie Legacy +42, Ellen Fugatt +40

Wednesday Women’s Industrial
Single — Lynne Smith 132, Monique Pierangeli 104, Roberta Zacek 97
Series — Lynne Smith 343, Monique Pierangeli 303, Annette Bent 269
Series over average — Lynne Smith +40

Summit Tenpin
Single — Division 1: Mark Nichols 218, Ron Suprenant 196
Division 2: Donny Altiery 166, Dawn Kupiec 144
Series — Division 1: Bob Hanville 638, Mike Smith 532
Division 2: Robin Altiery 471, Edna Miranda 409

Thursday Men’s Industrial
Single — Ryan Pelletier and Mark Gulino 138, Dan Mungovan 125
Series — Ryan Pelletier 365, Mark Gulino 350, Dan Mungovan 343
Series over average — Roger Gauthier +56

Monday Men’s Business
Single — Tim Labay 136, Dan Labay 134, Sandor Bosci, Mike Marrier, and Jason Mahan 128
Series — Dan Labay 354, Sandor Bosci 351, Tim Labay 345
Series over average — Sandor Bosci +36

Ten Pin City

Single — Division 1: Claudia Allen 190, Dawn Kupiec 149
Division 2: Kristine Russell 188, Shirley Smith 182
Series — Division 1: Claudia Allen 546, Edna Miranda 402
Division 2: Marie Piegorsch 472, Kristine Russell 451

Tuesday Chet’s Social
Single — Tom Smith 126, Dave Lamontagne 116, DJ Devish 115, Kellee Tella 107, Diane Levesque and Erin Van Dam 102, Dawn Gleason 100
Series — DJ Devish 330, Tom Smith 319, Ryan Pelletier 318, Dawn Gleason 280, Erin Van Dam 273, Diane Levesque 271
Series over average — Frank Genatossio +16, Patti Hurm +29

Wednesday Women’s Industrial
Single — Lynne Smith 122, Jayne Hinchliffe 113, Deb Baucé and Tara LaLiberte 100
Series — Lynne Smith 323, Deb Baucé 290, Jayne Hinchliffe 286
Series over average — Deb Baucé +41

Summit Tenpin
Single — Division 1: J.J. Blair 223, Mark Nichols 215
Division 2: Scott Lamica 182, Robin Altiery 155
Series — Division 1: Bob Hanville 582, Ron Suprenant 549
Division 2: Edna Miranda 514, Fred LaBonte 437

Thursday AM Coffee
Single — Maribeth Marzeotti 112, Carolyn Josti 107, Barbara Penniman and Pat Johnson 97
Series — Barbara Penniman and Jessica Agazarian 268, Carolyn Josti 264, Priscilla Piekarczyk 263
Series over average — Carolyn Josti +54

Thursday Men’s Industrial
Single — Ryun Therrien 132, Bo Gauvin 123, Mark Gulino 121
Series — Ryun Therrien 358, Bo Gauvin 356, Mark Gulino 340
Series over average — Ryun Therrien +58

Thursday Mixed Tenpin
Single — Chris Wong Kam 177, Tony Chausse 169, Tim Johnson 168, Carol Chausse 169, Brenda Johnson 133, Janine Bolduc and Carol Buchanan 114
Series — Todd Gaucher 532, Tony Borowy 466, Frank Bosma 446, Ann Hebert 499, Denise Wong Kam 370, Barbara Choiniere 345



Nick Ethier photos

Bartlett’s Victoria Spitz works her way around Leicester’s Ayva Connor.



Tiffany Salazar of Bartlett drives into the paint on her pursuit toward the basket.



Bartlett’s Camden Heenan rushes the ball down the court on the fast break.

Webster Little League registration now open

Webster Little League 2022 spring baseball registration is now open online at WebsterLittleLeague.com for boys and girls ages 5-14 (age on Aug. 31). Multiplayer discounts are offered. Final day to register is Jan. 31.

More information is available online and during the registration process. Don’t forget to sign up for coaching and volunteer opportunities when registering — especially Tee-Ball and Coach-Pitch parents! Follow us on Facebook too, at Webster Little League.

Webster Little League Baseball is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We were chartered in 1972 and will be celebrating our 70th year this spring! Any questions, please email websterlittleleague@gmail.com.

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MANDATE

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the Board of Selectmen on Dec. 20 to recap the discussion with Harrington HealthCare.

“It didn’t sound like a lot of the boards that were on the call felt that it was a good idea,” said Board of Health member and Public Health Nurse Roberta Johnson. “The more we talked about it, we thought the way to help with the surge is probably to get more vaccines out there and vaccinate more of the population. I don’t think the masks are going to be well heard if we mandate them.”

Board of Health Chair Jennifer Cournoyer concurred saying the best option is to increase awareness not to implement a mandate that health officials are ill equipped and unable to

enforce.

“The health agents and Boards of Health at this point have enough going on with COVID to try to implement a mask mandate and then act upon it,” Cournoyer said. “Basically, back when COVID started and the state came down with the mask mandate half of the phone calls every day were ‘I just saw somebody without a mask walk into Park n’ Shop please go investigate’ or ‘at this pizza place somebody didn’t have their mask on.’ That’s not something we feel equipped to handle at all - There’s no way that this can be done. There’s no way to enforce it. There’s no penalty. It’s basically just saying this is what we want you to do and personally I just don’t think our board can do that and police it and implement it.”

Selectmen agreed, complimenting the Board of Health on making a “wise” decision to avoid mask mandates. Town

Administrator Jonathan Ruda, who also attended the conference call, even noted that Harrington admitted the mandates would be unenforceable and agreed with the Board of Health’s assessment.

“There’s really no taste for local Boards of Health going around enforcing mask mandates. We certainly would be happy, I think, to issue guidance in terms of when it’s a good idea to wear a mask and when it isn’t. We have a draft memo for the Board of Selectmen to show how we’re going to handle things internally in terms of those who are vaccinated and those who aren’t. We thought the best way to approach this is to make the vaccination completely available to people who want it,” said Ruda.

The Board of Health has initiated a survey online to get a better reading on what the public needs for resources to continue to combat COVID-19. The town also procured a hundred vaccines and has discussed potentially working with

neighboring Charlton on a dual-town clinic. Before the discussion concluded Roberta Johnson read the details of the memo she produced with recommendations for how citizens should respond to a potential COVID-19 infection.

“If you don’t feel well, please stay home and consider if you have (symptoms) and you’re vaccinated to test because it could be (COVID),” said Johnson. “If it’s not and you don’t feel well reach out to your doctor to see if it’s maybe something different. We still have the flu. We still have strep throat. We still have the common cold.”

Johnson further stated that the guidelines say those who are vaccinated and are not showing symptoms do not need to quarantine while those who are symptomatic should at least be tested even if vaccinated. Those who are unvaccinated and are showing symptoms should test and quarantine in accordance with CDC recommendations.



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REQUESTS

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school staff members across the state contend that schools are not currently safe with COVID-19 cases surging.

The MTA has long demanded greater access to COVID-19 tests, officials said. Earlier this month, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education announced the arrival of 200,000 tests for school staff, but MTA leaders said that number isn’t nearly enough for con-

tinued testing.

As of last week, the nation was averaging over 500,000 new COVID-19 cases per day. Reports have widely suggested the Omicron variant may be less severe than previous variants, but daily COVID deaths in the U.S. have frequently exceeded 2,000 since the start of January.

On multiple days last week, new daily cases surpassed 700,000 nationwide. In Massachusetts, the surge has caused thousands of teachers and other school staff members to be out of work

due to positive tests.

MTA officials said they agree with state leaders that in-person education is vital, but they said more needs to be done to ensure it happens safely for students, staff, and visitors.

“The MTA is committed to making sure that in-person learning continues as long as it is safe—and that students, school staff, families, and communities are protected as the new year begins to unfold,” Najimy said.



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SCJHOLARSHIP

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the BHS Guidance Department by 2 p.m. on Friday, April 1.

If you have any questions about either of these scholarships please contact Kim Granger in the Guidance Department at Bartlett at (508) 943-8552, ext. 34017.

MOROZ

continued from page 1

Her hiring will allow her to work under a reserved or waiver status while in the academy.

Later in the meeting, Wojnar and the selectmen also declared an opening for a sergeant position in the department as a result of the promotion of Sgt. Marek Karłowicz to Lieutenant. The chief said he will be working with Public Safety Consultants, LLC to perform an assessment center to fill the position with a potential appointment as early as February.

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