

WEBSTER TIMES

Free by request to residents of Webster, Dudley and the Oxfords

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Friday, January 7, 2022

Oxford receives \$50,000 for fire station roof

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD – The selectmen finished off the old year in traditional fashion, by renewing a very long list of business licenses over the course of two late-December meetings. But in the process, they formally appointed Michelle Jenkins to be Town Clerk (after about a year serving in an interim capacity), addressed an Open Meeting Law (OML) complaint, and got some good fiscal news from the Legislature.

Taking the latter first, Rep. Joe McKenna announced Oxford was earmarked \$50,000 for the North Oxford Fire Station roof replacement project in the first round of state-level American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. He noted that money will be easier to use than the town's funds coming directly from the federal government, which have "significantly more strings attached."

The project itself was approved at October's Town Meeting, and Town Manager Jen Callahan said she recently opened the bids for the work. They ranged as high \$270,000, with the winner bidding \$189,000.

McKenna said Oxford and other towns will have "three additional opportunities ... to pursue dedicated ARPA funding like this," and he expects similar chances when the Build Back Better bill clears Congress. In light of those things, he told them "don't be afraid to ask big," noting Callahan has already proposed five or six local projects for such funding.

Regarding the OML complaint, new chair Mike Daniels said it was filed by Casey Fleming targeting the extensive backlog of unapproved meeting minutes. The board had approved several of those a few minutes earlier – some dating back to March and April 2021 – and voted to finish the list on Jan 11. Furthermore, they voted to require future minutes be approved within three meetings.

Daniels also praised Jenkins for doing "quite the amount of work in a short period of time" to make the clerk's office more efficient and bring it "into the 21st century." Callahan added Jenkins has improved the town's election process and made data and record retrieval more efficient, and she was recommending keeping Jenkins as clerk "in perpetuity."

Jenkins said she wants to finish several ongoing projects.

In the second meeting, the board got its semi-annual update from Aquariopn Operations Manager Paul Lawson. Among other things, he said the Prospect Hill

Turn To **ROOF** page **A10**



Courtesy

Officer Luis Pacheco, Officer Ryan Daniels, Chief Steve Wojnar, and Officer Tyler Smith pose with donations made to help support local families for the holidays.

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – For the tenth year, the Dudley Police Department held their annual toy drive and distribution, helping 25 families and around 60 kids enjoy the holiday season with gifts under the tree.

The department collected donations throughout the holiday season including toys, cloths, and other items distributing them to families on Dec. 20, right before the Christmas holiday. The annual collection and distribution has become a staple of the holidays for

the department during the last decade mostly supported by local donations. As with every year of the program, 2021 put a spotlight on both the hidden need for support in the community as well as the generosity of those who live in Dudley.

"The community has really been terrific with this whole thing throughout the years. Any time we're asking for anything like this they step up," Chief Steve Wojnar said of the 2021 program. "A lot of people probably don't recognize or think there's a need in our area for these things, but the need is there. Our

big thing is to keep it all local and to take care of families that are in need here in Dudley. We're just really pleased with all the support we get from the community for things like this."

Hundreds of gifts and thousands of dollars were donated to help support local families dating back to Thanksgiving. Chief Wojnar said the donations didn't top the numbers seen in December of 2020, but the generosity still shined all the same.

"We got solid donations this year. I think we received more last year which might have

been a combination of the lockdown and people looking for ways to give back. We still received a real good turnout from all the different groups. The schools ran drives, and that support was great," said the chief. "I've been with the department for 33 years now and chief for coming up on 19 years in January and the people of town have never disappointed me in any way. Any time there are times of need or programs like this the people have always stepped up to support us. These programs are always a

Turn To **TOY DRIVE** page **A10**

Sheriff shares the warmth during annual coat drive



Courtesy

Karl Lundell, Jose Vazquez, Pastor Janice, Matthew Pardee, Sheriff Evangelidis, Izabela Niebyski, and Christopher Forsman.

WEBSTER – Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and the Worcester County Sheriff's Office distributed 80 new winter coats and cold weather gear to men, women, and children at Webster-Dudley Food Share and Reconciliation House.

On Dec. 9, the Sheriff's Office traveled to three towns, visited five charitable organizations, and delivered more than

250 coats to those most in need this holiday season. In total, the Sheriff's Office expects to deliver more than 3,600 coats by the end of distribution.

"I want to express my deep gratitude to Sheriff Lew Evangelidis for his generous sharing of the winter coats and jackets donated through his annual coat drive," said Reconciliation House Board of Directors President, Rev. Janice

Ford. "So often our residents arrive at RHI in the winter months without appropriate outerwear. The coats we receive from Sheriff Lew's coat drive are often the difference between a comfortable and challenging winter."

The coat drive is held in partnership with St. Francis Community Health Foundation, Central Massachusetts Agency on Aging, The

Krock Foundation, Tito's Handmade Vodka, and dozen's more community partners through the state. Since launching on Nov. 10, the coat drive has raised \$66,000 through grants and donations- including a \$20,000 grant from St. Francis Community Health Foundation.

"This coat drive is an affirmation that our country, and community, stands united in care and compassion in a time where division is considered mainstream," stated Worcester County Sheriff, Lew Evangelidis.

He continued, "No matter who you are, no matter where you come from, we are more alike than different. Our coat drive demonstrates how communities can come together, leaving their difference at the door, and achieve something really special."

This marks the second year new winter coats were purchased for the coat drive due to the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional deliveries were made to Tradewinds Clubhouse, House of Destiny, and the Catholic Charities of Milford.

Stevens Mill, COVID among defining stories of 2021

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The year 2021 saw the town of Dudley recover from a pandemic, mill projects take shape, and municipal improvements take center stage setting the up a bright future for the municipality. Looking back on the last 12 months, Dudley has certainly been busy as local government officials worked to bring citizens back to the table after the limitations of 2020 and continue to move several initiatives forward for the betterment of the town.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda reflected on the past year in a post-2021 interview where he highlighted numerous accomplishments including water quality improvement initiatives such as approval of stormwater regulations at town meeting, and completing a water line project and sidewalk installations on Mason Road. However, the planned renovation and reuse of the Stevens Mill was among the most talked about initiatives of the year. Voters approved a TIF district and agreement for a Mill District and the renovation of the mill while other smaller elements of the project took shape.

"Grant funding was awarded for the engineering and design of sewer and infrastructure in and around the Stevens Mill. A peer-reviewed traffic study in and around the Stevens Mill Project, at the intersection at Schofield Avenue and Village Street and in the surrounding neighborhoods will open increased grant opportunities to address the decades-old traffic issues," Ruda said.

Also among the 2021 accomplishments were progress on increasing access to online licensing, permitting and complaint reporting for town departments, something many communities have worked on as a result of the turn to remote meetings and online business due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Speaking of the pandemic, probably the biggest accomplishment

Turn To **2021** page **A10**

PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Avenue, Dudley
508-949-8021
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.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS GROUP
Mondays @ 5:00PM
Have you ever wanted to learn to play D&D or are you a player looking to join a group? We have an experienced DM starting a group on Monday Nights at the pearle!

If you have a Player's Handbook or dice bring them with you. We will have extras for anyone who needs them.
Free; registration required.

POKEMON CLUB
Tuesdays @ 3:30PM
Calling all Pokemon fans! Children ages 7 to 14 are invited to join our club. This meeting will be a great opportunity to meet other players and share ideas. Please make sure you bring your trading cards and anything else you would like to share and discuss.

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+

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

YOGA WITH JULIE
Saturday, January 8 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 Friends of the Library.

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?" or "how can I get rid of this pain?" Brad and Pamela Thompson will introduce some of the most recent breakthroughs in our understanding of pain and introduce a powerful and natural pain-reducing technique.

Registration is recommended for this free program.

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 cord 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.



Courtesy

DUDLEY WOMAN'S CLUB HOSTS HOLIDAY PARTY

Recently, the members of the Dudley Woman's Club held their holiday festivities at the Dudley Municipal Complex. Plenty of fun, food and games were enjoyed by all! Our giving project donated gift cards for our local veterans as well as gifts/gift cards for local teenagers through the Dudley Police Department Toy Drive. Happy New Year!



Charlton Oil
Company Propane
508-248-9797

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL
0-50	\$5.50	300-500.....	\$2.35
50-75	\$3.25	500 PLUS.....	\$2.20
75-150	\$2.85	Duel Fuel.....	\$3.50
150-300.....	\$2.55	Drop off Tanks..	\$3.00

Tanks Filled to 80%
Driver Discretion

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!
• Monday price 1/3/22 was **\$2.99** per gallon*
100 gallon minimum
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT www.charltonoil.com
"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change




Community Connection

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD
Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Crooked Creek Farm
~ est. 1992 ~
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up now!

Quarter, Half sides of beef available!
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com
Email: crookedcreekfarmma@gmail.com
Find Us on Social Media



Grab 'N' Go Home-style Lunch, Dinner, and Tasty Treats Catering Available!

Hearthstone Market & Catering

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm

hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com



St. Joseph School holds Christmas pageant



WEBSTER — On Sunday, December 19th, St. Joseph School students presented their holiday Christmas Concert to an excited crowd in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium. Act I included performances by the Pre-K 3 and 4-year-old students, Kindergarten students, and students in Grades 1 through 4. Then, following the reading of the poem "Christmas" by Student Council President Alexandra Parafinowicz and a blessing by Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski, the official St. Joseph School Christmas tree was lit.

Act II, choreographed and directed by Fifth Grade Instructor and Drama Club Advisor Ms. Kelly Bailey, featured the play Glory to God in the Lowest by Little Big Stuff Music. The story highlighted the life of simple and lowly shepherds outside the town of Bethlehem on the night that Jesus was

born. When the angels proclaimed the most significant news the world had ever heard, they didn't deliver it to the high and mighty but easily disregarded night shepherds. Little did the shepherds know that the promised king, the Messiah from the line of King David, was born that night, right there in Bethlehem, and would grow up to be both the Lamb of God and the Good Shepherd! The cast included: Shiloh - Alexandra Parafinowicz, Tabbie - Maeve Sullivan, Ezra - Matthew Obrycki, Abigail - Gianna DiCola-Keddy, Skippy - Laura Ibrahim, Jenny - Emily Macko, Census Taker - Alissa Perron, Hannah - Faith Muga, Lucas - Jacob Singer, Sara - Rosemary Basha, Zion - Gabriel Rudnicki, Abraham - Ethan Ryan, Prop Assistants - Simon Kowalczyk and Jacob Parafinowicz, Sounds and Lights - Mr. Joey Boudreau. In addition,

musical numbers that Music Teacher Andrew Pariseau taught featured the entire cast and the 5th - 8th Grade classes singing backup. Songs included "Life in the Hills," "What's the Big Idea?" "Let's Go to Bethlehem," "The Birthday of King Medley," and more! In addition, fifth grade student Simon Kowalczyk performed Silent Night on his accordion, and 5th Grade student Ayla Reed performed a dance solo. The show, which came to life on the stage of the Daniel & Catherine Ivascyn Performing Art Center, culminated with the arrival of St. Nicholas, who presented gifts to students. The gifts were made possible by the generosity of the St. Joseph Home and School Association. It was a spectacular event that reminded everyone in attendance of the true meaning of Christmas.

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.

Oxford launches planning processes for updated Hazard Mitigation Plan

OXFORD — The Town of Oxford is moving forward with a joint effort to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and complete its first Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Plan. An updated Hazard Mitigation Plan will help the town assess community risk from natural hazards and plan actions to reduce future hazard risk. The MVP planning program is a state-funded effort that will help Oxford identify climate change impacts, assess local vulnerabilities, and develop a climate change adaptation action plan. Once Oxford completes the HMP and MVP planning processes, it will be eligible for additional state and federal grant programs that fund projects to reduce disaster risk and build resilience to climate change. The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) is assisting Oxford with both of these planning projects.

Oxford requests input from residents to inform both plans. To submit your thoughts on natural hazards (like flooding, snowstorms, or hurricanes) and your concerns about climate change, please participate in a brief survey at <https://arcg.is/1miSS10>. The public is also invited to attend a presentation and provide comments on the HMP and MVP projects during the Planning Board meeting on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

For more information or to submit comments to the project team, please contact Jared Duval (Oxford Department Public Works Director) at jduval@oxfordma.us, Tony Sousa (Oxford Town Planner) at tsousa@oxfordma.us, or Mary Hannah Smith (CMRPC Project Lead) at mhsmith@cmrpc.org.

Dudley police hold annual Holiday Card Contest



Courtesy

Dudley Police Sergeant Dean Poplawski, Officers Chandler Boyd and David Carpenter, Chief Steve Wojnar, with Sage Webster and her winning design.

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department held their 12th annual Holiday Card Contest with the fourth-grade students from Dudley Elementary School. All fourth graders were given the opportunity to submit a drawing which would be used as the cover picture of the holiday card sent out by the Dudley Police Department for 2021. The program was on hiatus last year due to the pandemic, however, everyone is glad to have it back in action. It is designed to solicit the help of local children to promote the fun and excitement of the holiday season. Officer David Carpenter and Sergeant Dean Poplawski headed the program on behalf of the department.

Well over 100 entries were submitted. The winning design was made by Ms. Sage Webster. On Tuesday, Dec. 21, Sage was presented with a poster sized copy of her drawing, a box of cards for family and friends, and a gift card to acknowledge her efforts. The Department sent the holiday cards out to numerous businesses and citizens in the town and local area. They were also sent to area police departments and numerous other locations, including our local professional sports teams, Governor Charlie Baker, and President Biden.

The Dudley Police Department would like to thank Dudley Elementary Art Teacher Dawn Gravel for her work coordinating this program. Special thanks also go out to Principal Kelly True and all the teachers and students for all their participation and efforts in making this program a success.

MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
MLS

Aucoin Ryan Realty
Your Neighborhood Realtor

201 South Street
Southbridge, MA 01550
508-765-9155 1-800-784-0445
FAX 508-765-2698
www.AucoinRyanRealty.com
SpiroThomo@gmail.com

Spiro Thomo
Broker
Licensed 35+ years
508.765.0465
774.200.8043

DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported only one arrest during the week of Dec. 24-31.

Daniel Mark Faulkner, age 60, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 29 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol (second offense), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle.

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

If you're leaving your employer, do you know your 401(k) options?

At Edward Jones, we can explain options for your 401(k), including leaving the money in your former employer's plan, moving it to your new employer's plan, rolling it over to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or cashing out the account subject to tax consequences.

To learn more, call today.



Dennis Antonopoulos
Financial Advisor
5 Albert St
Auburn, MA 01501-1303
508-832-5385

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



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 – Tales of a Reluctant World Traveler – January 6th at 6:30PM

Join us Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 6:30 PM for a performance from Randy Ross of his one-man show: *Tales of a Reluctant World Traveler*. "Sixteen weeks, four continents, three bungee jumps, and I couldn't come home soon enough." This is the story of how a Boston homebody turned a solo trip around the globe into a comedy novel and an acclaimed one-man show. The one-hour multimedia event includes a humorous travel slideshow, readings from his novel *God Bless Cambodia* and performances from his show *The Chronic Single's Handbook*.

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 coatimundi. 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.

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.

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.

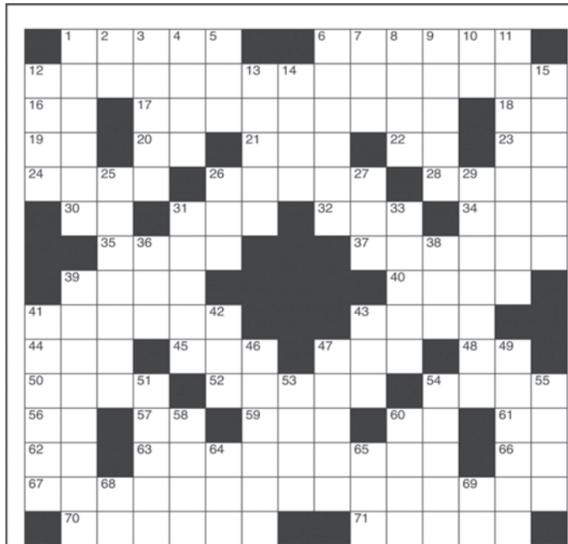
February Vacation Week Programs – February 22nd, 24th, 25th and 26th – 3:30-4:30PM

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.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Struck firmly
- 6. Shirt part
- 12. Nevertheless
- 16. Article
- 17. Adornment
- 18. Educator's helper
- 19. Healthcare pro
- 20. Atomic number 28
- 21. Extinct flightless bird
- 22. Mystic syllable
- 23. College sports decision maker (abbr.)
- 24. Edible mushrooms
- 26. Venerable English monk
- 28. Surrounded by
- 30. Forming fractional numbers from 4 onwards
- 31. Eastern France river
- 32. Short cry or yelp
- 34. Brew
- 35. Ornamental box
- 37. In a way, surfaced
- 39. Attired
- 40. Peculation
- 41. Netted
- 43. It shows you paid (abbr.)
- 44. Payroll firm
- 45. Antidiuretic hormone
- 47. Japanese classical theater
- 48. The first two
- 50. Ancient burial chamber
- 52. Type of card
- 54. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 56. Hectoliter
- 57. Morning
- 59. NYC subway dweller
- 60. Law enforcement
- 61. Sodium
- 62. Elevated subway
- 63. Facility where wild animals are kept
- 66. Integrated circuit
- 67. Seaman's tool
- 70. Drink to
- 71. Small group

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Poem
- 2. Everest is one (abbr.)
- 3. Olympic legend Jesse
- 4. Portable tent
- 5. When you hope to get there
- 6. Unwavering
- 7. Back muscle
- 8. Within
- 9. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- 10. Six
- 11. Involved as a necessary part
- 12. 2002 Liotta, Patric film
- 13. Living thing
- 14. Type of gin
- 15. Moved around in pursuit of fun
- 25. Makes light bulbs
- 26. Story of one's life
- 27. Small island in a river
- 29. A type of bliss
- 31. Genus of large herons
- 33. A way to make dry
- 36. One's grandmother
- 38. Vocal style
- 39. Pronunciation mark
- 41. American Indian chief or leader
- 42. Insecticide
- 43. Go bad
- 46. Capital of Zimbabwe
- 47. Polish river
- 49. Cast out
- 51. People of India and Sri Lanka
- 53. Cleaning fabrics
- 54. Very skilled
- 55. Pouches
- 58. Restaurant must-have
- 60. Native Americans from Arizona
- 64. Remaining after all deductions
- 65. Fleece
- 68. Dorm official
- 69. It cools your home

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
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.

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.



TO PLACE AN AD:
ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE
MIKAELA VICTOR
(508) 909-4126
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
(508) 909-4103
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL: obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 508-909-4149
OR send to Webster Times
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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

WEBSTER TIMES
PUBLISHED BY
STONEBRIDGE PRESS
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
frank@stonebridgepress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DI NICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagernews.com

THE WEBSTER TIMES (USPS#024-928) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS, INC., 25 ELM ST., SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WEBSTER TIMES, P.O. BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550



StonebridgePress.com

If it's important to you,

It's important to us.

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.

Dudley selectmen finalize fee increases

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – After much debate, the Dudley Board of Selectmen has agreed to increase numerous building and permit fees following a presentation in December that showed Dudley has been holding steady in its fee schedule since 2012 while costs have only gone up.

In early December, Nichols College intern Olivia Antonson presented her findings after researching Dudley's permit fees and comparing them to five local communities. The research, which focused on electrical, gas, plumbing and building fees, showed Dudley was among the lowest in most fee cate-

gories among the sample communities which included Webster; Oxford, Southbridge, Charlton and Sturbridge. At the time only three of the five selectmen were present for the discussion and a decision was postponed until the entire board could address it together. All five members participated in the follow-up discussion on Dec. 20 where it was decided to embrace Antonson's recommendations and increase the fees accordingly.

However, the decision was not without debate. Selectmen were divided on how much to increase fees as well as the priority and reasoning for the move. Projected salary increases and other costs were presented by

Antonson that would all be covered by the increased fees with the consensus being the increases would be a preemptive measure to make sure Dudley was staying ahead of those increases while also bringing the town in line with other local communities. This perspective was summed up best by Selectman John Maris who waiting until late in the debate to explain his support for the changes.

"Occasionally, we're asked to do stuff like this. When it comes to the ambulance fees, we do that to keep pace with other towns because that is a revenue generator for that department. This I see as a cost covering plus. It's planning for the

future, but we don't know exactly what the future will bring. None of those curves are very smooth on where we think they're going to go. I'd rather be able to cover it than have to take it from somewhere else," Marsi said.

Selectman Jay Johnson was the most cautious member of the board saying he wanted to see a more concrete plan of how the fees would be used to justify the increases before he supported any changes.

"We need a plan looking forward and we need to understand how much it's going to cost to do that," Johnson said. "We have to define what we need in the future. So, if we're seeing that we have

a potential for a staffing salary increase and so many years or decades then we just plan accordingly. If you're picking a number based on covering costs plus some buffer for variation, then let's do that. My whole point of disagreeing (at the first meeting) was we didn't have a plan. Some of this can be put into a plan. We have to do some things and we have to prepare for the future. I can get behind that with a little bit more detail."

Prior to the vote Selectman Kerry Cyganiewicz made a proposal to increase all fees by 30 percent, something he felt would not only bring the fees in line with other communities but provide a buf-

fer for increases in years to come. However, the board eventually decided to follow the recommendations in Antonson's report except for commercial plumbing where they added an additional \$25 increase on top of her recommendation. The vote was a 4 to 1 decision, with Johnson as the only dissenting vote.

The resulting changes present an average increase to electrical and plumbing fees of \$25 over the previous numbers while building construction fees will increase by an average of one dollar over the previous fees per \$1,000 with no changes to the minimum fees.

Dudley Veterans Office receives donated ham dinners



Courtesy

Pictured, left to right: Stephen Rogerson, VFW Post Commander; Jim Brinker, VFW Post Surgeon; Dick Norton, Post Vice Commander; Bob Allan, Post Adjutant.

DUDLEY — On Wednesday, Dec. 15, Kim Brennan and Stef Bellerive, nurses from the ACU and Peri-Operative Services Department of Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, Conn., delivered many Christmas Baskets to the Dudley Veterans Office.

The donated ham and fixings came from the generous support of the fellow employees of the hospital, family and friends of Kim and Stef. These wonderful women are always eager to support veterans in our Community and have committed to this being a yearly event. Volunteers from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 654 of Webster and Dudley assisted the Dudley Veterans Services Officer, Stephen Rogerson, in distributing the Christmas Baskets to those veterans and families needing a little extra at this time. As this is a time of giving and of celebration, please remember the veterans who have served and those who are serving still. Keep in mind that the communities of Webster and Dudley have a very large veteran population for which we should be proud and grateful.

On behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 654 Webster/Dudley and the Dudley Veterans Services Office a sincere thank you to the generous caring folks at Day Kimball Hospital who took so much pleasure in the act of helping veterans, please accept our warm wishes for a joyful and Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year. Merry Christmas and healthy New Year to all the citizens of the towns of Webster and Dudley.

REAL ESTATE

Dudley

\$469,900, 2 Menzone Dr, Wescott Custom Homes LLC, to Daveau, Miranda, and Daveau, Ryan.
\$415,000, 199 W Main St, Cloutier, Alice A, and Cloutier, Alice, to Smith, Pauline.
\$330,000, 317 Mason Road Ext, Decker, Michael, to Gerwig, Ethan C, and Bishop, Candice.
\$315,000, 6 Mill Rd, Mandalaywala, Amol, and Mandalaywala, D C, to Hence, Diana.
\$299,900, 177 W Main St, Antos, Ronald, to Aguirre, Christopher A.
\$168,000, 34 Intervale Rd, Koszewski, Kenneth P, and Koszewski, Karen J, to Ken & Nilda Remodeling LLC.
\$323,000, 1 Woodmere Rd, Klewec, Stasia, and Parda, Czeslaf, to Parda, Dennis C.
\$55,000, 49 W Main St, Rosa, Vital, to Cirineu, Marisa M.

Oxford

\$540,000, 39 Sacarrappa Rd, Santella, Judith E, to Wood, Mark P, and Wood, Heidi.
\$438,000, 10 Beverly St, Langdon T, and Caplette, Doris E, to Fracalossi, Fernando P.
\$380,000, 58 Walnut St, Aguilar, Rebecca L, and Aguilar, Rebecca, to Abreu, Jose H.
\$330,000, 18 Marcam Village Rd #18, Matthews, Danielle M, and Johnson, Daniel R, to Bernard, Kayla, and Bernard, Robert F.
\$310,000, 45 Old Howarth Rd, Fafard, Donald F, and Fafard, Marilyn J, to Almstrom, Kevin D, and Almstrom, Elizabeth N.
\$305,321, 4 Prospect St, Lane, Kathryn M, and USA HUD, to USA HUD.
\$250,000, 1 Carol Dr #1, Skeates, Marissa, to Lubertowicz, Janine N.
\$129,000, 12 Thayer Pond Dr #2, Narcisi, Jonathan, and Narcisi, Kristin, to Majewski, Christopher.
\$545,000, 3 Walters Dr, Page, Dorothy, to Piscillo, Mark W, and Como, Heather J.
\$450,000, 15 Dolge Ct, Damon, Nathaniel, and Rappleyea, Bathany, to Mckler, Nathan, and Riley, Sharrie.
\$350,000, 1 Henry Marsh Rd #A, Evans, Robert W, and Evans, Rachel A, to Teiko, Theophilus N.
\$330,000, 12 Vine St, Perryman, Megan A, and Perryman, Marc J, to Drahos, John A, and Drahos, Joyce E.
\$320,000, 15 Mayfair Cir, DJ Land LLC, to Adams, Grover C.
\$310,000, 3 Elm St, Simoneau, Ronald E, and Simoneau, Ann M, to Robbins, Mark.
\$23,000, 9 Foster St, Warebi, Olutu J, to Wariebi, Gina.

WEBSTER

\$1,800,000, 20 Westwind Dr, Stinson, Crissy, and Stinson, Shane, to Laramie, Michael, and Laramie, Kim.
\$825,000, 64 Worcester Rd, Kunkel Bus Co Inc, to Ryan Family Holdings LLC.
\$575,000, 22 Lake Pkwy, Kunkel, Scott G, and Kunkel, Kathleen, to Rivernider, Chad.
\$455,000, 19 Malden Dr, Pageau, Kevin, to Matos, Victor J, and Dematos, Rayza J.
\$440,000, 102 Beacon Park #102, 102 Beacon Park LLC, to Bacon, Stephanie C.
\$345,000, 46 Lakeside Ave, Phuong-Tran, Jenny, and Duong, Minh, to Tutu, Lydia.
\$340,000, 22 Poland St, Preissler, John P, and Preissler, Catherine V, to Henriquez, Miriam M, and Pineda, Andrea G.
\$230,000, 14 Everett Ave, Bergeron, Sheryl A, to Bergeron, Matthew.
\$225,000, 23 Cody St, Luby, Michael T, to Fournier, Angelie M, and Fournier, Ryan A.
\$193,000, 5 5th Ave, Elite Rivers LLC, and Sun West Mortgage Co Inc, to Khalili, Hossein.
\$40,000, Brookside Ave #94, Westview Estates Inc, to TCP Homes Inc.
\$424,950, 17 Douglas Rd, Nguyen, Kim, to Keach-Martineau, Judith, and Martineau, Ronald B.
\$330,000, 52 Lake St, Paulino, Cirilo A, and Paulino, Carmen, to Santaliz, Edwin, and Santaliz, Sheena.
\$230,000, 85 Lakeside Ave, Raymond Muriel M Est, and Johnson, Jean L, to Colecchi, Judith.
\$225,000, 2 5th Ave, Solomon-Biando, Judith, to Sunyvale LLC.
\$215,000, 370 Thompson Rd, Guarnieri, Bethene L, and Guarnieri, Kenneth F, to EKT Investments Inc.
\$200,000, 58 Lake St, Zisk, Christina, to Ofofu-Ansah, Kwame.
\$185,000, 10 Thompson Rd, Mckay, Christine L, to Rodrigues, Luiz H.

WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from Dec. 12-25.

Louann A. Raia, age 36, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 12 for Violation of a Harassment Prevention Order.

Zachary Paul Bailey, age 33, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 13 in connection with a warrant.

A 61-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 14 on multiple counts each of Felony Daytime Breaking & Entering and Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order, Arson, and Vandalization of Property.

Debra Rose Recore, age 66, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 15 in connection with a warrant.

Sabrina A. McIntyre, age 39, of Putnam, Conn. was arrested on Dec. 15 in connection with a warrant.

Ashton M. Brown, age 24, of Barre was arrested on Dec. 16 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License (subsequent offense) and in connection with a warrant.

A 20-year-old female from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 17 for Assault & Battery and simple Assault.

Adanna Eshe Duany, age 19, of Worcester was arrested on Dec. 18 for Disorderly Conduct, Resisting Arrest, and multiple counts of Assault & Battery on a Police Officer. Elizabeth Anne Raquel Duany, age 22, also of Worcester, was arrested during the same incident for Disorderly Conduct, Assault & Battery on a Police Officer, Resisting Arrest, and Assault.

Kevin Opoku Twumasi, age 26, of Worcester was arrested on Dec. 20 in connection with a warrant.

Heriberto Gonzalez, age 27, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 20 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle and multiple counts of drug possession.

Leah M. Wright, age 25, of Webster

was arrested on Dec. 20 in connection with a warrant. Kristan Carattini, age 20, of Webster was arrested during the same incident for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle and in connection with multiple warrants.

Ariah B. Goodine, age 22, of New Bedford, Mass. was arrested on Dec. 21 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle, and in connection with a warrant.

A juvenile, age 17, was arrested on Dec. 21 in connection with multiple warrants.

A 20-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 21 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Kidnapping.

Ronald J. Vancelette, age 50, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 21 in connection with a warrant.

Christopher Matthew Hollows, age 21, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 22 for Failure to Stop for Police, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and Speeding at a Rate of Speed Exceeding the Posted Limit.

Carina D. Allen-Parkhurst, age 33, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 22 in connection with a warrant.

A 32-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 23 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Kamel Javon Williams, age 40, of Foxborough was arrested on Dec. 23 in connection with multiple out of agency warrants.

A 41-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 25 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Blade Alan Deso, age 40, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 25 in connection with a warrant.



Courtesy

LEGION HELPS VETERANS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

WEBSTER – Commander Ron Handelson and the Webster/Dudley American Legion Post 184 family recently helped spread some Christmas cheer to local veterans. The event took place at the Webster Manor Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, with help from the staff. Special thanks goes to Director Corey Beaudette and Activities Director Bryana Gilligan and her staff.

Local veterans presented with Quilts of Valor



DUDLEY — On Tuesday, Nov. 30, Mr. Joseph Abdella, USMC veteran and Mr. Peter Bucci, US Army/Air Corps veteran, were presented with the Quilt of Valor in gratitude for their military service when their country called during WWII. This Quilt of Valor was hand made

by volunteers in our community to show appreciation to the veterans who sacrificed during war time and many of whom were injured in their duties. These Quilts were given to Mr. Abdella and Mr. Bucci at Brookside Rehabilitation Facility with their family at their side.

The mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. The presentation of the Quilt was done by Foundation representative, Theresa Perreault and Stephen Rogerson, Veterans'

Services Officer who presided over the presentation.

On that same day, the Dudley Senior Knitters Group led by Chris White gifted every veteran with a lovingly hand-knitted Afghan just in time for the coldest time of the year and also as a

small Christmas gift of appreciation for those who served. The Dudley Senior Knitters Group meet once a week at the Dudley Senior Center to knit and chat while creating their projects. I am saddened to learn that the Group is now down to just a handful of women which start-

ed at a rowdy group of twenty. If anyone would be interested in joining the group please contact Chris White at phone 508-949-6260 or at email chrisw515@gmail.com If anyone is available on Thursdays and would like to have a little fun knitting, please consider joining.



Courtesy

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as November Students of the Month at St. Joseph School: Pre-K 3-year-old: Ryder Johnson; Pre-K 4-year-old: Gracelyn McGrail; Kindergarten: Amalina Khozami; Grade 1: Michael Kamangu; Grade 2: Charlotte Dollar; Grade 3: Abigail Rubin; Grade 4: Alexis Archambault; Grade 5: Simon Kowalczyk; Grade 6: Ryan Grupposo; Grade 7: Brett McCarthy; Grade 8: Hannah Watson. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!



Winter Home & Auto

This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.
 Call 508-764-4325
 or email ads@stonebridgepress.news
 for more information

AUTO BODY / REPAIRS

KEARNS COLLISION REPAIR
 Since 1969
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers
 Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal
 Warranted Work & Repairs
 Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services
 Diagnostics • A/C Repair
 Tune Ups & Engine Repair
 Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS
 Alignments • Tires...and more
 Major Insurance Referral Shop
 Honoring All Insurance Estimates
 1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)
 Northbridge, MA 01534
 Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231
www.kearnscollision.com
 Fully Certified • RS# 2678

BUILDER

Todd A. Ethier TAE
B·U·I·L·D·E·R
 INCORPORATED
Remodeling Expert
 ♦ FINISHED BASEMENTS
 ♦ ADDITIONS ♦ GARAGES
 ♦ SIDING ♦ ROOFING ♦ DECKS
 ♦ WINDOWS ♦ DOORS
 ♦ KITCHEN ♦ BATHS
 Quality Building Since 1985
 Licensed & Insured
 508-764-2293 ♦ 774-230-3967

Cleaning Services

HOUSE CLEANING AVAILABLE
 Reasonable rates.
 Weekly, bi-weekly
 or monthly times available.
 ~ Bonded ~
 ~ Fully Vaccinated~
 Call Wendy for a FREE estimate at:
 774-262-9166

BEST WINDOW COMPANY

KUBALA HOME IMPROVEMENT
 The Door and Window Experts
 MACSL100114 | MAHic150118 | CTHic0619712
 Award Winning High Performance Windows & Doors
 100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | Lifetime Warranty
508-784-1550
 ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ f

TREE SERVICE

McNeely Tree Service
 Insured • References
 • 101' Aerial Lift Rental
 • Hazardous Tree Removal
 • Stump Grinding
 • Bobcat Rental
 • Lot Clearing
 • Storm Clean-up
 • Firewood \$240/cord (2 cord min)
 • Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified
 All Major Credit Cards Accepted
 H: 508-867-6119 C: 508-523-1175



1108656

This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

APPLIANCE REPAIR

John Shea's Appliance Repair
 A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
 All Makes & Models
 Friendly Same Day Service
 Get It Done Right
 CALL US FIRST!
 508-867-7124
 508-853-8105
 Cell: 774-200-1391

ELECTRICIAN

ALDEN Electrical Contractors, Inc.
 LICENSED ELECTRICIAN
 New Construction
 Remodelling
 Kitchen & Bath
 Service Updates
 W. Brookfield, MA
 1.774.230.9606
 Talden1987@gmail.com
 Fully Insured
 Accepts credit card payments & free online bank transfers
 Licenses:
 MA-13705-21777A,
 NH-13932M, RI-B013781

ELECTRICIAN

TNT ELECTRICAL SERVICES
 Timothy N Tripp
 Licensed Electrician
 67 Hillcrest Drive
 Southbridge, MA 01550
 774.601.3107
 tntelectricalservicesinc@gmail.com
 - Fully Insured -
 MA#100257JR
 Master 100075MR



Handyman

No Job Too Small Home Improvement
 -Insured-
 MA Reg #174661
 • General Carpentry
 • Laminated Floors
 • Remodeling
 • Kitchen, Bath & Cellar
 • Painting
 • Handyman Services
 • Floor Leveling
 • Power Washing and MORE!
 See Our Work Online
nojobtoosmallhomeimprovement.com
 Tel. 508.414.7792
 Sturbridge, MA

MASONRY

C J MASONRY HARDSCAPE
 RETAINING WALLS
 OUTDOOR LIVING CONSTRUCTION
 Chimney Repair
 Foundation Repair
 Steps, Patios
 Pool Surrounds
 Pressure Washing
 Property Maintenance
 Water Proofing
 Delivery of Aggregate
 Cord Wood
 Brian French
 (413)222-5542
frenchyn45@gmail.com

Pest Control

ACCURATE PEST CONTROL
 Full Pest Control Services
 Over 28 yrs. experience
 Reasonable Rates
 Owner Operated
508-757-8078
 Ask for David or Jason
 Hight
 Auburn MA



PLUMBING

JOHN DALY Plumbing
 Water heaters, Faucets, Toilets, New pex water piping, Outside hose connections replaced or added, Dishwashers, Garbage disposals, Water fillers, Tub & shower valves, Tub & shower replacements
 Any repair or replacement needed.
 Buy your own fixtures & faucets, or I will supply.
 Serving all of Worcester County
 Lic.#MPL-21763
 Since 1988
 Call John 508.304.7816
 We are home owners' plumbers!
jdman714@aol.com

ROOFING

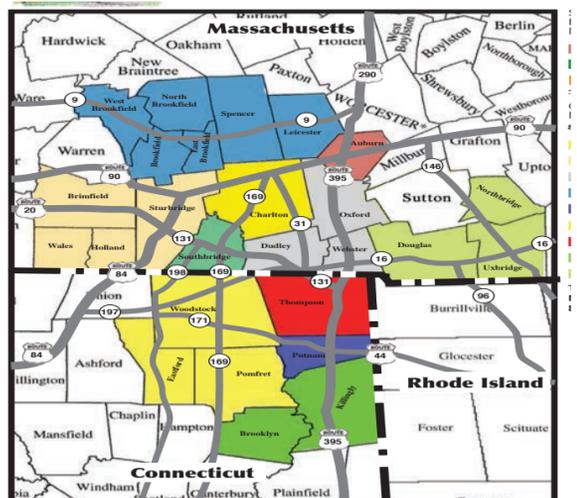
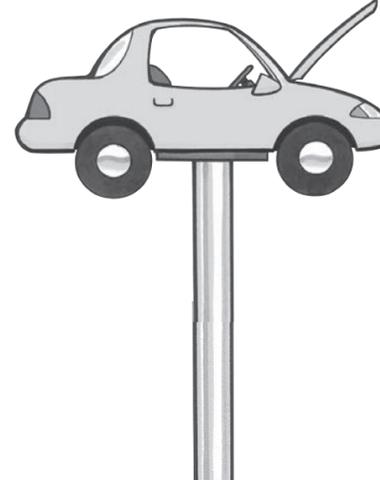
David Barbale ROOFING
 Roofing/Gutters
 Repair Work
 Fully Licensed and Insured
 MA LIC #CS069127
 MA HIC. LIC #1079721
 INS. #CAC032585
C: 508-397-6709
O: 508-248-6709
davidbarbale.com

ROOFING

GUARANTEED Roofing & Building Maintenance LLC
 Roofing, Siding, Gutter and Gutter Cleaning
 Contact:
 Daniel Truax
 508-450-7472
gbmaintco.com
 Senior Citizen Discount
 Credit Cards Accepted
 Over 30 years of satisfied customers
 Fully Insured - Free Estimates
 A+ Rating BBB
 MA HIC Lic #146620
 MA CSL #099487

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING
 When you need a roof, hire a roofing company, that's what we do!
 Call Bill Toll-Free 1-866-961-Free
 508-765-0100
 Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available
 MA Reg #153955
 CSL #095459
 CT-HIC #0638641
 Fully Insured, Free Estimates
 Family Owned and Operated
 Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards
 ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+



Advertise on this page for one low price!
 Get 7 papers.
 Call 508-764-4325

- Spencer New Leader
- Sturbridge Villager
- Charlton Villager
- Southbridge News
- Webster Times
- Auburn News
- Blackstone Valley Tribune



WEBSTER TIMES
 A STONEBRIDGE PRESS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
 25 ELM STREET, SOUTHBRIDGE MA 01550
 TEL. (508) 764-4325 • FAX (508) 764-8015
 www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

VIEWPOINT

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

Me before you? A New Year's resolution

"Me Before You." It's an interesting title of a movie that my wife and I watched. "Me Before You." When I saw that title, I wondered what that meant? What would the movie be about - Me Before You. It sounded quite self-centered.



BEYOND

THE PEWS

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

Well, it turned out that it was a love story about a charming self-giving woman trying to win over a tragic, self-centered, paraplegic man. Parts of the movie reflected a delightful love story, yet in the end as the title warned, the man put himself before everyone else - before his parents and even before the woman who loved him - and he chose to end his life, to kill himself, to commit euthanasia. He did this because he considered his life his own, and he felt he could do whatever he wanted with his life.

The entire spirit of this man in the movie is so contrary to the "Good News of Great Joy" we heard at Christmas a few days ago and with the entire message Christians believe and hope in through the gospel. Our faith teaches us that it can never be "Me Before You." In fact, our life as Christians is not even our own. Life is not about me. According to Holy Scriptures, when one becomes a follower of Jesus Christ, we understand how our life is God's and our journey through life is a journey into fuller and more complete union with God.

If we truly celebrated Christ's birth at Christmas and invited Him to be born anew in our hearts and lives, then we understand that we are changed people! Life is not focused on ME but on God! Encountering Jesus and allowing Him to be born anew in our lives transforms our motives, our values, our attitudes, and our entire worldview! Meeting Christ daily means we can't stay the same because we discover a new potential, a divine calling and destiny. Remember Saint Athanasios' words that "God became man so that we could become godlike."

Any life that is self-centered, or that is superficial, focused on material things, concentrated on power and fame, and basically a life without eternal meaning, should no longer be satisfying. In Bethlehem, and then in Nazareth and Galilee, and eventually in Jerusalem and Golgotha, we discover a better way to live, a new path to walk, a life with eternal meaning and significance, a life of sacrificial and divine love.

As we end one year, and begin a new one, here lies a vision that can inspire us. Many people think about New Year Resolutions - how to lose weight or to be more responsible with one's money and pay off some debts, or to exercise more, or to read more, or to spend more time with our loved ones, or whatever else it may be - and the purpose of resolutions basically is to improve one's life.

Yet maybe our resolutions are too small and maybe our vision is limited! If we truly want to better our lives, then first discover what the purpose in life is. Why were we created? What is our purpose during this brief sojourn on earth? What does God expect from us? Wouldn't our Creator know what's best for us? And if so, are we seeking to discover the abundant life that God desires for each one of us?!? Are we prepared to

learn that life is not about ME but about my Creator and my relationship with Him and with my neighbor?

Let's think of the New Year as a new and exciting journey. Whenever someone begins a journey, they need to know their destination. If we have no clear destination then we can go and go and go, but never get anywhere! Worse yet, we can go around in circles and end up in places we had no intention to visit.

Let's make our goal in 2022 to develop a more intimate, authentic, life-giving relationship with our Creator. Let's learn to love God more so that we can then learn to love our neighbor better.

Although many evaluate success as having more money, pleasure, entertainment, and enjoyment in life, success for the saints of God always implies faithfulness to God's commandments, especially His greatest commandments to love God and to love our neighbor.

If we make this our greatest New Year's resolution then we will discover an exciting path of transformation! Here are some suggestions on how to achieve this. First, strive to connect and communicate with God on a daily basis. This implies setting aside time each day to talk with Him and to listen to Him - through disciplined prayer, reading of Holy Scriptures, and simply dwelling in His Presence.

Second, apply God's teachings and commandments each day in our lives. At times, this may not be what we want to do. Sometimes God calls us to follow a difficult path of loving and serving and forgiving those who are difficult to love and serve and forgive. Yet, we don't do it because it's easy, or because we want to do it. We do it because our love for God compels us to imitate Him. Remember, we can only come as close to God as we are to our worst enemy and love is the central way we can draw closer to God.

Third, learn to share this newfound faith with others, becoming witnesses of God's love to the world. Our faith is not a private affair but something we offer to those around us. Jesus challenges us to become light to the world. He commands us to be the salt that flavors the society we live in. Never consider your faith a private affair!

Finally, join together with others on the same journey of faith. There is no such thing as an individual Christian. Followers of Jesus are the Church, a community of believers walking together on the same journey with the same destination. Make this journey with one another.

It is through these disciplines that we can experience a life with eternal meaning and significance.

Remember, life is not about me. It is not "Me Before You." Life is about our Creator and our relationship with Him! Life is about our love for God and our love for our neighbor. God and His commandments take first priority in life. As we live and walk with Him, we will discover how beautiful life can be. May the year 2022 be the year that we discover this eternal beauty.

Vehicle registrations



CHIEF'S CORNER
 STEVE WOJNAR

I was asked, during a recent coffee hour visit at Joshua Place, for information on vehicle registrations. The question was, how soon before the expiration date can I renew my vehicle registration? Also, when can I place the registration sticker, I receive, on my number plate? Can it be done immedi-

ately, or must I wait until the month it expires?

Currently in Massachusetts, all new vehicle registrations call for the issuance of two white plates with red characters. The registration sticker is to be placed on the upper right corner of the number plate which is affixed to the rear of the vehicle. The sticker is color coded with a two-digit number printed in black. This will indicate the year of expiration. Registrations are good for two years. According to Mass DOT / Registry of Motor Vehicles, a person can renew their registration up to six months before it is due to expire. If yours is due in December, you can renew as early as July. Many of these transactions can be completed on-line or in person at a Registry Office. Due to the COVID-19 protocols in place, appointments may be required for in person transactions. Please check in advance if you plan to do this in person. More information can be found at: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/renew-your-vehicle-or-trailer-registration>.

As for when you can attach the new sticker, according to the Registry, it can go on your vehicle immediately. There is no need to wait for the old one to expire. It is always good practice to place these on your vehicle as soon as possible. It can be easy to misplace them or simply forget to do this in time. Feel free to do so whenever you can. Vehicle owners will generally be mailed reminders to renew registrations. This may not always be the case, however, so it is important to periodically check for the expiration of your registration as well as your driver's license.

Thanks to everyone who donated gifts, money, and gift cards for our annual holiday toy drive. This year was another success. Many local families had a Merry Christmas thanks to your generosity. Thanks also for the many food donations our department received during the holidays. Not conducive to dieting, however, so let the New Year's resolutions begin! We greatly appreciate the support we receive from our residents and thank everyone for their assistance with all our community events.

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Despite election, on Oxford Select board being right remains "a woman thing"

To the Editor:

Change up on the board was hotly anticipated ever since the infamous video of the September meeting, when Vice Chair Meaghan Troiano's disclosure of government mismanagement prompted Chair Dennis Lamarch to call for police backup. Member Cheryll Leblanc judiciously called to adjourn the meeting rather than continue the embarrassment, while Mike Daniels stared in open mouthed silence. Only after this display did Oxfordites notice the February meeting, when Dennis ranted to Meaghan "You just got to be right. It's a woman thing."

With the reorganization finally here, the large crowd in attendance on Dec. 7 reacted angrily to board newcomer Norman Leblanc voting against appointing Meaghan Troiano

as chair or even vice chair. Instead, the men on the board courageously banded together to give the role of chair to the only other first term member, Mike Daniels. Apparently, an open discussion of the problems facing Oxford is too much for Norman Leblanc as well.

Is it any surprise that the candidate whose platform consisted of denying having a secret agenda upon election immediately voted for maintaining secrecy and silence? Being right doesn't need to be a woman thing. It is just that the men on our select board need to stop trying so hard at being wrong.

AVERY MILLER
 OXFORD

Thank you for a successful Christmas Fair

To the Editor:

The First Congregational Church of Dudley's 2021 annual Christmas Fair was a huge success! We wish to thank all of the businesses and individuals who donated goods, services and gift baskets to our virtual online auction, who made and bought baked goods for our bake sale, who bought quilt raffle

tickets, and who made cash donations. And a special congratulations to Deb Quinn from Douglas, who won the homemade quilt by Elaine Barthelmes.

MARY KUNKEL
 CHRISTMAS FAIR COMMITTEE
 FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DUDLEY

EDITORIAL

Snowy weather is nothing new

The first big snow dump of the season has come and gone, leaving us with anywhere between three and eight inches of snow, depending on where you are. As with most things, we like to think about how our ancestors handled certain situations. On a personal note, it was during a snowy drive last winter that we writer became more grateful for studded snow tires and heat, after thinking about how those before us dealt with travel during snowstorms.

During the winter of 1717, a storm dumped four feet of snow creating snowdrifts of up to 25 feet. Passing through the snow-covered roads was too much for a postman who traded his horse for a pair of snowshoes. Objects similar to skis were attached to carriages as a means of winter transportation.

Streets had to be passable for wood and food deliveries. When the roads were not passable townspeople would gather together in large groups and dig out a path. The snow was placed into the back of a horse-drawn cart by gangs of men and driven to the closest river to be dumped. Salt was also used on streets, but many people complained because it ruined their shoes and clothes.

Fast forward to 1840, when the first snowplow patent came to be. It wasn't until 1862 that the first snowplow was put into use. The plow was attached to a cart and pulled by a team of horses. Soon after, many cities began to use the horse-drawn snowplow.

Typically, the use of the horse-drawn plow was only used to clear main streets, leaving side streets and sidewalks snowed in by large piles often blocking entrances to businesses. Many business owners actually brought lawsuits against the plowing companies as a result because their customers could not gain access to the storefronts.

The solution to that conundrum, was the hiring of snow shovelers to accompany the plow. The blizzard of 1888, however, was too much for the "modernized" plow, leaving many people trapped inside their homes. This emergency was the catalyst cities needed to begin coming up with a better plan for snow removal. One idea was to stay on top of the storm as it started, instead of waiting for it to end. Different men driving the plows were assigned to certain neighborhoods as well.

The invention of the automobile brought with it a crutch and a new possibility as far as snow removal went. The crutch being that an entirely new method needed to be engineered and put into use. In New York in 1913, a dump truck could be seen on city streets. Seven years later, the first snow loader, came on to the scene. It had a big scoop with a conveyor belt. The snow would go into the scoop via the belt, then dumped into the back of the truck. From there, off to the river it went.

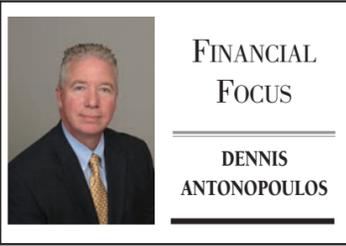
It wasn't until 1959 when the weather was able to be predicted more accurately, allowing towns and cities to better prepare for any incoming storms.

Reading old diaries of our New England ancestors gives the perfect window as to what it was like to experience a bitter cold winter, prior to modern practices. Below a quote literary critic Van Wyck Brooks.

"All praise to winter; then, was Henry's feeling. Let others have their sultry luxuries. How full of creative genius was the air in which these snow-crystals were generated. He could hardly have marveled more if real stars had fallen and lodged on his coat. What a world to live in, where myriads of these little discs, so beautiful to the most prying eye, were whirled down on every traveler's coat, on the restless squirrel's fur and on the far-stretching fields and forests, the wooded dells and mountain-tops, -these glorious spangles, the sweepings of heaven's floor."

— The Flowering of New England, 1815-1865

Watch out for tax scammers



FINANCIAL FOCUS
DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

Sadly, identity theft happens throughout the year – but some identity thieves are particularly active during tax-filing season. How can you protect yourself?

One of the most important moves you can make is to be suspicious of requests by people or entities claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service. You may receive phone calls, texts and emails, but these types of communication are often just “phishing” scams with one goal in mind: to capture your personal information. These phishers can be quite clever, sending emails that appear to contain the IRS logo or making calls

that may even seem to be coming from the IRS. Don’t open any links or attachments to the emails and don’t answer the calls – and don’t be alarmed if the caller leaves a vaguely threatening voicemail, either asking for personal information, such as your Social Security number, or informing you of some debts you supposedly owe to the IRS that must be taken care of “immediately.”

In reality, the IRS will not initiate contact with you by phone, email, text message or social media to request personal or financial information, or to inquire about issues pertaining to your tax returns. Instead, the agency will first send you a letter. And if you’re unsure of the legitimacy of such a letter, contact the IRS directly at 800-829-1040.

Of course, not all scam artists are fake IRS representatives – some will pass themselves off as tax preparers. Fortunately, most tax preparers are honest, but it’s not too hard to find the dishonest ones who might ask you to sign a blank return, promise you a big refund

before looking at your records or try to charge a fee based on the percentage of your return. Legitimate tax preparers will make no grand promises and will explain their fees upfront. Before hiring someone to do your taxes, find out their qualifications. The IRS provides some valuable tips for choosing a reputable tax preparer, but you can also ask your friends and relatives for referrals.

Another tax scam to watch out for is the fraudulent tax return – that is, someone filing a return in your name. To do so, a scammer would need your name, birthdate and Social Security number. If you’re already providing two of these pieces of information – your name and birthdate on social media, and you also include your birthplace – you could be making it easier for scam artists to somehow get the third. It’s a good idea to check your privacy settings and limit what you’re sharing publicly. You might also want to use a nickname and omit your last name, birthday and birthplace.

Here’s one more defensive measure: File your taxes as soon as you can. Identity thieves often strike early in the tax season, so they can file their bogus returns before their victims.

To learn more about tax scams, visit the IRS Web site (irs.gov) and search for the “Taxpayer Guide to Identity Theft.” This document describes some signs of identity theft and provides tips for what to do if you are victimized.

It’s unfortunate that identity theft exists, but by taking the proper precautions, you can help insulate yourself from this threat, even when tax season is over.

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

Deer season ends with some impressive harvests

Deer hunting improved dramatically last week, when a coating of snow fell in our area. Tracking deer helped numerous hunters bag a deer during the light snowfall, but it did not last long as the rain washed most of it away in the following few days. Deer hunting closes this Friday in Massachusetts, and results of the harvest from Mass. Fish & Wildlife should start trickling in by the middle of January. Some real impressive deer were harvested locally, with numerous does weighing in at more than 130 pounds dressed. Some big bucks were also harvested, but few hunters wanted to share their photos. Reports of mutable deer were still being caught on trial camaras set up by sportsmen. There should be no shortage of venison this year for many families.

News of the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers show preparing for their event in Providence, R.I. in March was great



THE GREAT OUTDOORS
RALPH TRUE

news for local sportsmen. The event is a top rated must attend show, and if Covid is kept under control, it will hopefully happen. I understand that the Marlborough show and the Providence sportsmen’s show has not been confirmed to date. Captain Mel True has already canceled his event because of the Covid threat ,but has already confirmed his reservations for the Providence show.

Reports from Jerry’s Bait & Tackle of anglers fishing rod & reel in freshly stocked trout waters & are catching some nice rainbow trout was good news. Ice fishing is off to a bad start so far this year, and if we do not get some colder weather soon, it will make for another short season locally. This is the time of year that I normally catch a good mess of yellow perch for the frying pan, but I am forced to eat some of my tautog and seabass that I caught this

past summer. It really is not a problem to have!



Courtesy
This week’s photo shows a youngster with his dad ice fishing at the Whitinsville Fish & Game club ice derby a year or two ago!

The new Mass. Fish & Wildlife Web site has been a major problem for some sportsmen looking to purchase a hunting or fishing license as a Christmas gift for friends or family members and themselves. Even local stores that sell licenses were not able to get them without problems. One local sportsman drove to Westborough to ensure his purchases would be ready for the holidays. Previous license information was unavailable on the new site, and required the buyer to find an old license to complete their purchases. Deer permit zones required some sportsmen to get their licenses without completing the paperwork. Hopefully, the problems will be rectified soon.

Now is a good time to check out your freshwater and saltwater fishing gear, and make all of the necessary repairs on rods, reels, etc. Tying fly’s and repairing fishing lures, by applying a fresh coat of paint, and new hooks will insure you that you are ready for this upcoming fishing season. If you have a small boat that can be accessed easily, you can still fish local lakes and ponds, which may become an annual event because of climate change.

This week’s photo shows a youngster with his dad ice fishing at the Whitinsville Fish & Game club ice derby a year or two ago! Hopefully, we will have safe ice soon, but until then, staying off thin ice is highly recommended.

Wishing everyone a happy New Year! Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Oxford’s tax dollars would be better spent on sidewalk repair

To the Editor:
I am writing in support of Ray Lentine’s letter in the Dec. 10 issue of the Times.

Mr. Lentine notes the islands are a traffic hazard, and of equal importance, they make walking around Oxford Center more difficult. Crossing the streets given only one set of traffic lights with a too short Stop/Walk period and poorly marked crosswalks makes crossing hazardous, even if one is fleet of foot. Anyone with mobility issues, using a cane or wheelchair or managing a child in a stroller, is at greater risk. In addition, the mid-section of the islands creates a false sense of security. Pedestrians have no assurance that drivers in the opposing lane will stop or slow for them. At minimum, crosswalks should be equipped with pedestrian accessible Stop/Walk signals.

The hundreds and thousands of tax dollars used for the islands and tubs of plantings could be far better spent on repairing existing sidewalks and adding sidewalks to other areas of our town.

Two years ago, I tripped on a broken sidewalk in the Town Center. I received a serious concussion. Fortunately, our Oxford EMTs arrived very rapidly and provided me with excellent care and transport to the Harrington Hospital Emergency Department. This incident was reported to the Town Manager’s office. Given my age, born in 1941, that I suffered no broken bones was very fortunate. That section of walk remains unrepaired. As do many other defective walkways.

In addition to repairing and adding sidewalks, Oxford could consider expanding the town van operations with longer hours of operation, additional drivers and more vans. There is a significant population who cannot drive due to disability or age. The van driver does an excellent job, but she cannot serve a town of 13,000 people spread over 27 square miles alone.

Sincerely,

MONA HOWARD
NORTH OXFORD

Where is the transparency?

To the Editor:

The Dec. 24 article by Webster Times Correspondent, Jason Bleau, regarding complaints about inappropriate books in the SHRHS library exemplifies the parental frustration experienced during school committee meetings. The material brought to the forefront attempts to normalize behavior that both straight and gay parents expressed strong objection and disgust. Yet, rather than take action to remove the books, not even a committee was put into place to address their concerns during the meeting. The Massachusetts State Senate voted to pass Bill SB2495 in September, which will soon be going to the House for vote. Excerpts from the “Get Real” portion of the curriculum have appallingly graphic content. How will the DCRSD handle this proposal?

This is one of many issues of concern addressed since the in-person meetings resumed in June 2021. The School Committee agenda included a citizens’ forum, and their policy states that “Open Communications with the public is critical to the proper functioning of the School Committee.” But the citizens forum has been changed to citizens’ comments whereby parents and tax paying citizens are allowed to express comments within a certain scope defined by the committee for a limited three minutes and the school committee do not answer questions. Where is the open communication and transparency?

Did the DCRSD administration and school committee not know that Equity Training was a tool of CRT? Critical theory, not just race theory, and indoctrination is being infiltrated into various subjects, literature, social studies, history, etc. through federal, state and union programs. A recent survey for the upcoming Strategic Planning Workshop featured the DCRSD “Profile of a Graduate” which emphasizes Technological Literacy of Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Initiative and Self-Direction, Communication and Collaboration, Empathy, Resilience and Global Aware Citizens. No mention of the basic skills here of Math, the Sciences, Social Studies and History. If the basics and love of one’s country aren’t the main feature who will support and stand to defend it?

This is just the tip of the iceberg for concerns. There is no silver lining of the pandemic, but it did allow parents the precious time to become aware of what has been seeping into the school curriculum and materials. As the virus subsides and life goes back to a hurried lifestyle, parents need to stay aware of what is being introduced into their school district.

MARCIA WAGNER
DUDLEY

Friday’s Child



Photo by Jonathan Cabot

Damien
Age: 15

My name is Damien and I like to play basketball and flag football!

Damien is a smart and outgoing teenager of Portuguese descent. He likes making others laugh and has a great sense of humor. Damien does well with other peers and adults. He enjoys playing basketball and flag football. Damien also likes LEGOs, video games and magic cards. He does well in school with extra support. Damien’s dream is to become a lawyer.

Legally freed for adoption, Damien would do best in a family of any constellation. He would prefer a two-parent household. He would do well as the youngest or only child in the home. He would like a family that would help maintain his connection to his birth mother and paternal aunt. Damien would benefit from caregivers that are patient and supportive.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



2021
continued from page A1

according to Ruda is simply that town officials and citizens were able to work around COVID-19 and the many hurdles of the past two years to get business done effectively.

“Following the lead of Dudley residents, local government didn’t throw-up its hands when faced with the pandemic and say, ‘oh, well,’ simply waiting for state or federal government to provide guidance. The Town of Dudley was among the first towns of its size in the area to strongly advocate for the vaccines for residents and to deliver the vaccine not only through providing Dudley staff to register and serve

residents at Harrington Hospital, and to use local paramedics and nurses to vaccinate our most vulnerable in their homes and at the Town Hall, but to also, at the end of 2021, independently and successfully seek-out the booster to deliver locally to residents, business owners and their employees,” Ruda said. “Our projects didn’t stall because of COVID, they continued very much on track. We didn’t use the pandemic to further delay compliance with new and old regulatory obligations, we took on the issues head-on, and are addressing

them - We are now able to say that we not only kept delivering services, but we demonstrated that we were able to keep our community moving forward and ‘open’ to a better future. Residents expected nothing less and inspired their local government to do the same.”

Looking ahead to the future, Ruda listed off numerous priorities for 2022. Among them are focusing on regulatory and compliance projects including dams, the capped landfill, and continued work on the town’s public water supply and stormwater systems as well

as focusing on the Brandon Road bridge that closed this year. The new year will, of course, also bring a focus on the new budget while Dudley will also potentially see the addition of retail cannabis to at least one of their cannabis projects in July. The town will also continue to make strides where possible on mitigating the impact of COVID-19 which will certainly continue to play a factor in town and public business, at least for the start of 2022.

Taking stock of 2021

ROOF
continued from page A1

tank renovation was nearly complete, after being delayed by weather during the summer. The North Main Street well manganese treatment project design is about half complete and should be ready for bidding next year with construction in 2023, but he noted Aquarion is still seeking approval from the Army Corps of Engineers to build on that site.

The board also set Wednesday, May 4 as the date for the Annual Town Meeting, with the warrant open from Feb. 1 to March 21.

Additionally, Callahan announced receipt of 1,300 covid home test kits, which she’s working with the Board of Health to distribute on Jan. 6 and Jan. 20. Each kit has two tests, and larger households can get up to four kits. She also noted Town Hall now has a mask mandate for all staff and visitors, and there are likely to be more covid-related changes coming in January, after the Board of Health’s next meeting.

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

TOY DRIVE
continued from page A1

reminder that we have really great people in town and we’re fortunate to have a great community that tries to help those less fortunate and in need.”

Among the 2021 donors were Dudley Elementary School, Shepherd Hill Regional High School, and Nichols College as well as the seemingly endless number of private donors who contributed to the cause. Chief Wojnar also credited Sergeant/Lieutenant Marek Karlowicz, and Officers Luis Pacheco and Chandler Boyd for coordinating and organizing this year’s drive.

Another New Year is upon us. It’s amazing how the years keep slipping by, each year seemingly moving faster than the year before. As I take stock of 2021, I encourage you to do the same.

New Year is a mixed bag of emotions for me. As I reflect on 2021, I think of many things. I think of the people who helped me, I think of the people who harmed me, I think of the goals I gave up, and the goals I didn’t give up.

As we move into 2022, I have to wonder, have I headed in the right direction? If not, how can I change course? Do I positively impact others? Am I surrounded by people who positively influence me? How am I performing at work? Am I giving it my all? Am I aggressively pursuing my dreams? Am I helping others accomplish their dreams?

I am thankful for those who helped me in 2021. Many positive things occurred this year that couldn’t have happened without the help from friends, family, and strangers. Thank you all; you make me feel gratitude that should last a lifetime. I need to make sure I let you know how much I appreciate you and help you in any way I can in 2022 and beyond.

This year, I want to focus on helping those who helped me and those who haven’t helped me. I want to become a blessing in as many people’s lives as I possibly can. It reminds me of a quote by Zig Ziglar, “You can have everything in life you want, if you will just help other people get what they want.”

As I think of those who harmed me in 2021...

I want to say thanks to you as well. Thank you for making me more robust, aware, flexible, and diplomatic. I’m tempted to feel anger and revenge, holding onto this poison forever. As I’ve written in the past, it doesn’t do any

good to feel that way. It will only cause more harm. Please forgive my trespasses and anything I’ve done to impact you negatively. Let’s move into a place of mutual respect this year. “Don’t go into the new year holding a grudge from last year, we cannot move forward if we are stuck in the past.” That’s excellent advice by Pastor Joel.

I should feel satisfied with the goals I did accomplish in 2021. When I achieve a goal, the good feelings are quickly replaced by acknowledging that I’m still not where I want to be, and the sense of accomplishment quickly fades. This year I will take the time to feel good about my successes, whether they be little or big. I don’t know who said it but I think it’s true, “Success is a series of small victories.”

The hardest thing to think and write about are the failures of 2021. Many things I wish I had done differently, goals I didn’t take seriously enough, times I snapped at loved ones while under pressure, the food I ate that made me feel unhealthy, the negative thoughts I harbored for too long, the days when I was lazy and let procrastination take hold. There are more failures in 2021 than I can count. I wish I could go back and fix my

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

TOBY
MOORE

mistakes but it’s just a fantasy, the only thing that can be done is to focus on change. Changing my personality, my habits, my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I guess Winston Churchill said it best, “Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”

Every day the sun rises again reminding us we can start over. Every year gives us another chance. If, at first, you don’t succeed, try again. If you’re still alive, you’re still a contender.

Let’s be resolved to become better people, do the things we ought to do and let the pieces fall where they may. Hold firmly to our dreams, yet be relaxed about how they occur. In 2022 let’s be determined, happy, flexible, free from worry, free from doubt, free of anger and hatred. Let’s choose to feel optimistic and seize the New Year!

No Substitution

“If you want to know what’s going on in your town – whether the news is about the mayor or taxes or high school football – there is no substitute for a local newspaper. Wherever there is a pervasive sense of community, a paper that serves the special informational needs of that community will remain indispensable...”



Stonebridge Press
In Print and Online
www.stonebridgepress.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. WO21P4198EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
William J Jedrzynski
Also known as:
William Jedrzynski
Date of Death: 11/08/2021

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Katherine E Bushey of Dudley MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Katherine E Bushey of Dudley MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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 01/25/2022**. 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 INFORMAL 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 24, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
January 1, 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. WO21P1950EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Estate of:
Kenneth A Sitko
Also known as:
Kenneth Andre Sitko
Date of Death: 05/15/2021
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by:
Janet A Sitko of Thompson CT requesting that court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent’s real estate at a private sale.
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 01/18/2022**.

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.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 21, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
January 7, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court**
Docket No. WO21P3467EA
Estate of:
Allen E. Wright
Date of Death: April 6, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Joyce E Wright of Webster MA**
Petitioner **Christine Chausse of Carmel ME**
Joyce E Wright of Webster MA
Christine Chausse of Carmel ME
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 7, 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. WO21C0575CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Erin Elizabeth Murdock

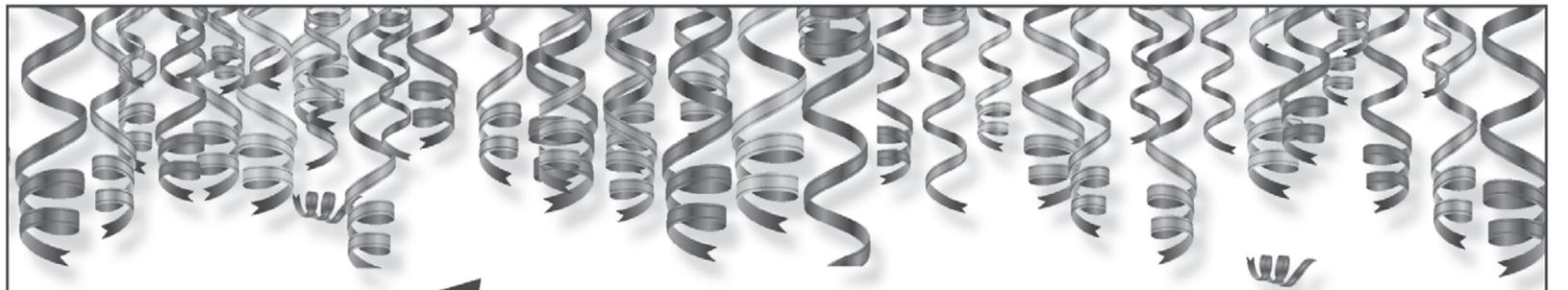
A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Erin Elizabeth Murdock of Dudley MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Erin Elizabeth Quaiel

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/18/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.**
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,

First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 15, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
January 7, 2022

**(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
21 SM 000075
ORDER OF NOTICE**

To:
Heirs, Devisees and Legal Representatives of the Estate of Edward M. O’Toole; Edward M. O’Toole Jr.; Cheryl A. Faucher; Timothy J. O’Toole; Patricia A. Palumbo; Denise M. Jussaume; Michelle L. Ryan and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq): Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquest Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-R7, claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 22 Hudson Road, given by Edward M. O’Toole to Ameriquest Mortgage Company, dated June 22, 2005, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36670, Page 345, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant’s/Defendants’ Servicemembers status.
If you 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 grounds of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on December 21, 2021.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
19-010824
January 7, 2022



This Month Only!

New Year's

Window & Door Sale!



This New Year's Sale only lasts until January 31st!



RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT



Buy 1 window or door, get 1 window or door

40% OFF¹

Minimum purchase of four.



with

\$50 OFF

every window, patio door and entry door¹

No minimum purchase required.



\$0

down

0

monthly payments

0%

interest

until 2023!¹

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.

- With our special **Cold Weather Installation Method**, our team works room by room, window by window, so your exposure to the cold weather will be minimal.
- Poor-quality vinyl windows can crack and cause drafts this time of year. Our windows' composite Fibrex® material is **two times stronger than vinyl**.
- We are the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, a family-owned American company that builds affordable windows for those with a **deep sense of pride in their home**.



RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT



First in Customer Satisfaction with both Window and Patio Door Retailers and Manufacturers, 2 years in a row

Book a **FREE Virtual or In-Home Appointment** before **January 31st!**

1-800-209-2746

For J.D. Power 2021 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 1/31/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 1/1/2022 and 1/31/2022. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$50 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 1/31/2022. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

REAL ESTATE



Jules Lusignan



T.A. King



Maureen Cimoch



Ellen Therrien



John Kokocinski



Adrienne James



www.LakeRealty.net • www.WebsterLake.net

111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444
Licensed in MA & CT

Listings Always Needed – We’re Always Busy Selling!

 SOLD	 SOLD	 ON DEPOSIT	 NEW LISTING	 ON DEPOSIT
WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet/Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! \$1,749,900.00	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	WEBSTER - 6 Slater Street! Professionals Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1st Floor Waiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdwd Flrs! 2nd Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Bath and additional office/bedroom! C/Airt C/Vac! Security System! \$349,900.00	DUDLEY - 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 55/4 Rm! 2/2! Bdrms! 2/2! Bathrms! Investors Take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History! Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! Washer & Dryer Hookups in the Basement for Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Desirable School System! \$349,900.00
 NEW LISTING	 ON DEPOSIT	 SOLD	 SOLD	 SOLD
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	WEBSTER LAKE - 701 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Like Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! \$299,000.00!	WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Laurelwood Drive! 90' Waterfront! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! Half Acre, 22,729', of Natural Privacy! 6 Room Custom Built Cedar Home with 2 Car Attached Garage! Dining Area and Fireplaced Living Room with Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! First Floor Master Bedroom with Full Bath! 2 Second Floor Bedrooms and Second Full Bath, Large Second Floor Expansion Area! Additional Garage Space Under! Lighting Strike Fire Damage Repair Required! Tons of Potential! \$889,900.00	WEBSTER LAKE - 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! \$949,900.00	

hope2own.com
508.943.4333
Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

We Want Your Listings!

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

Featured Listing!

WEBSTER - 20 & 22 COOPER RD

LAND with Sewer & Water access! Excellent Opportunity for New Homes! Boat Ramp Near by!

\$24,500., each.

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

 SORRY, SOLD!	 SORRY, SOLD!	 ON DEPOSIT	 SORRY SOLD!	 SORRY SOLD!
DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD Beautiful family home! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, newer windows & 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. Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3,012 Sq-ft 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 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 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 Cape w/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 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.	SOUTHBRIDGE - 140-148 HAMILTON ST. Multi-Families - 4 Buildings! 9 Occupied Residential Units! 1 Occupied Commercial Unit! Huge BONUS, Drive through Heated Garage, can accommodate up to 18 Vehicles! \$975,000.	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 SUGERLOAF 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 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

 SORRY, SOLD!	 SORRY, SOLD!	 SORRY, SOLD!	 SORRY, SOLD!
WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL. 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 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 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. 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. \$600,000.

This is the place to sell your home!

Your ad will be mailed to 50,000+ households throughout Southern Worcester County.



Call your local sales representative today!
1-800-367-9898

PUT YOUR TRUST IN US TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE
Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254

ReMax Advantage I • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604

CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

 ON DEPOSIT	DUDLEY NEW LISTING: 3 units, Unique duplex style, 2 units- 2 bedrooms ea., modern bath & kitchens, 1st flr unit possible 3 bdrms, Sided, Detached garage, Updated electrical service 92 West Main St ~ \$425,000	 PRICE REDUCED \$60,000	WEBSTER 6 Units: Sided, 6 (1) bedroom units, Recent roof, Detached barn 227 School St ~ \$525,000
 ON DEPOSIT	WEBSTER 1.5 acres, 26' living/dining room, Fireplace, 2 baths, 2100 sq.ft., 2 car garage 63 Klebart Avenue ~ \$429,900	 ON DEPOSIT	WEBSTER 4 bedroom, 1/2 acre lot, Fireplace, Small barn or workshop 56 Ash Street ~ \$234,900

Ask about the Homes For Heroes Program for Buyers or Sellers
* Reward and Incentives Call Diane or Jo-Ann

Tips to Keep New Year Resolutions

Let's face it, New Year resolutions are difficult to keep. Even the firmest intentions can lose steam come March. So what's the secret to willpower longevity? The key factors to resolution success are attitude and commitment. Oftentimes New Year resolutions are self-improvements, and that requires a lifestyle change. Taking on the challenge with an eye to the future can increase the odds of your New Year resolution turning into a longtime success.

The following strategies are geared toward arming you with the tools to expand your January vows into lifelong achievements. Happy New Year!

A national study released by Retailmenot.com revealed the top seven resolutions for 2022. The survey found that 85 percent of consumers will set a New Year's resolution, and nearly half (49 percent) are likely to spend money to keep their resolutions.

According to the survey, Americans made the following New Year resolutions for the upcoming year:

Saving money 44 percent; Exercise more, 35 percent; Losing weight, 30 percent; Spending more time with family, 28 percent; Paying off debt, 27 percent; Reduce stress, 22 percent; Travel more, 19 percent.

While losing weight and saving money have long headed annual New Year resolution lists, spending time with family, reducing stress and traveling are also important goals for the coming year, no doubt influenced by the past two years of

stress and restrictions.

Rules from the Experts to Turn Annual Resolutions into Daily Habits

Rule #1: Stop Overachieving
Whittling your resolutions down from a top ten list to one or two increases the odds of long term success. With a focus on one main goal, your "eye is always on the prize."

Rule #2: Adjust your Attitude
So you hate working out? Resent pinching pennies? Can't bear to say no to sweets?

Remind yourself you are doing this of your own free will! Remember the "fake it till you make it" research that reveals even a forced smile boosts your happy genes, thus actually making you happier! The phenomenon is called "facial feedback," and according to Psychology Today, it works because the brain senses the flexion of certain facial muscles and interprets it as "Oh I must be happy about something."

No one is forcing you to get on the treadmill or give up your \$6 morning Latte – it is your choice. You are choosing to improve your life. Sometimes reminding yourself that you are willingly partaking in the sacrifice can get you through the tough times.

Rule #3 Be Accountable
Taking pen to paper or using a fitness or budget app can be powerful, and research repeatedly reveals that holding yourself accountable, be it via an exercise chart, daily



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

food or budget tracker, is very effective to making long term changes.

Rule #3: Break it Down
It sounds like common sense to break goals down into manageable tasks, but people don't always take the time to practice it. Make a plan with mini goals. When you achieve each goal, document it. Again, the power of the written (or typed) word solidifies the commitment.

Rule #4: Group Therapy
There's a reason why group programs are successful. Misery (and merriment) loves company. With plenty of support groups available online there is no reason not to seek out others striving for the same end results as you. Posting in a group that promotes healthy eating, frugality or even organization skills can boost your willpower and give you "shots" of encouragement. Not ready to join in a discussion? No worries. Just visiting a FB or other internet group with information and resources can aid you in your journey of improvement.

Rule #5: Make it Fun!
When's the last time you had fun achieving a goal? It's easier than you think to stay the course if it's a pleasant trip. Besides, who ever

said a self-improvement plan has to be grueling? For example, watch the Food Channel while you're on the treadmill. You will get your "food fix" virtually (and with no calories!); Make a game of your budgeting: Challenge yourself to save a certain percentage at the grocery store each week, and up the ante when you reach your goal; Or simply play your favorite music while you are organizing that messy closet.

Rule # 6: Motivate Yourself

Motivational speakers spark results, but you can use simple tools to be a self-motivator. Look up inspirational quotes, and post them where you'll see them every day. You might also want to repeat an affirmation every day to solidify your vow. Research the habits successful people and take a cue from them on how to carry on and achieve success even after failures. Remember Thomas Edison's famous quote. After someone remarked his light bulb experiments failed, he said: "I have not failed 10,000 times. I have successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work."

Success Strategy
You've likely heard it before but here is some advice to successfully "break a bad habit": Experts agree that it takes a minimum of 21 days to change a behavior, so the first thing to do is count ahead 21 days and mark the day you'll be officially "home free" from your habit on a calendar. How to get through the

21 days? First write down your goal and list the positive reasons you want to change your habit. These exercises will help build commitment. Next share your goals with your family and friends. Making a commitment public leaves little room to back out, plus you'll benefit from a support system. Each day review your list of reasons for quitting or changing. Reward yourself verbally, each hour if necessary, working up to a great treat at the end of a successful week. And remember if you fall off the wagon, jump back on immediately before you fall completely back into your old habit. It pays to remember research reveals only 40 percent of habits are broken on the first try. Besides, there's always next year!

(heading) Famous Quotes

Here's a dose of inspiration from successful people:

"If you set your goals ridiculously high and it's a failure, you will fail above everyone else's success." - James Cameron

"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them." - Walt Disney

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out." - Robert Collier

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary." - Vidal Sassoon

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going." - Jim Ryun

"You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it." - Margaret Thatcher

"Develop success from failures. Discouragement

and failure are two of the surest stepping stones to success." - Dale Carnegie

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will." - Vince Lombardi

"The successful warrior is the average man, with laser-like focus." - Bruce Lee

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.



MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 1-800-367-9898 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

DeVries Dolber Realty LLC
Our Families working hard for your Family's Real Estate needs.

Randy & Shirley DeVries (The DeVries Team)
508-320-1018
randy@devriesdolber.com
shirley@devriesdolber.com
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

Angela Dolber
508-826-8553
angela@devriesdolber.com

Janet Dolber
508-887-5136
janet@devriesdolber.com

DeVries Dolber Realty, LLC
971 Providence Road
Whitinsville, MA 01588
www.devriesdolber.com

Jules Lusignan
#1 in Sales 2006-2021
South Worcester County
\$168,655,280.00 SOLD

Lake Realty
A 42 Year Company!

111 East Main St., Webster, MA
Thinking of selling? Call 1-800-552-7444
www.LakeRealty.net
www.WebsterLake.net

FREE OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS
when you advertise in this section

Mary Hicks Realtor®

CENTURY 21
North East

Direct: 508.612.4794
Home Office: 508.867.2222
www.maryahicks.com

Happy New Year and thank you all for your business!

270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
maryangela87@yahoo.com
Each office is independently owned and operated.

Sandi Grzyb
Exit Beacon Pointe Realty!
I look forward to serving you in all of your real estate ventures!

- Buying
- Selling
- Investing

Contact Info:
774.230.3500 | 508.943.6960
sandigrzyb@aol.com

Exit Beacon Pointe Realty
435 Shrewsbury St. Worcester, MA 01604

ERA Key Realty Services
"Put 37 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"

Donna Flannery
508-885-6665
donnaflannery.com
donnaflann@aol.com

Kayleen Flannery-Sauvageau
508-612-9843
Kayleen00@aol.com

415B Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562

REAL ESTATE REDEFINED

49 MAIN STREET, STURBRIDGE, MA

Patrick Sweeney
Realtor
License #9529769
(774) 452-3578

Carrie Abysallh
Realtor
License #904677
(508) 641-0150

Licensed in MA and CT

Buying or Selling? — Are you eligible for a Hero Reward

Average Hero Reward® Savings: \$2400
NO RED TAPE • NO HIDDEN FEES • NO CATCH

Receive significant Hero Rewards savings when you buy, sell or refinance a home with our real estate, mortgage, title and home inspection specialist

ReMax Advantage 1
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01604

Jo-Ann Szymczak
CRS, GRI, SRES
508-943-7669
774-230-5044

CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

Licensed in MA & CT

EXIT
EXIT Real Estate Executives

Why call the Michelle Terry Team to sell your home?

We have a great marketing plan that includes:

- Home staging services
- Home warranties
- 3D videos
- Professional photography
- Ramped up open houses!
- And so much more...

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

130 W. Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562
Michelle Terry • Broker / Owner
michelleterryteam.com

Give us a call today! 508-202-0008

Facebook icon

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION
CALL 508-764-4325

OBITUARIES

Rosemary Roy, 86



Putnam, CT – Rosemary Roy, 86, of Woodstock Avenue, formerly of Liberty Highway, passed away on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 after a brief illness. Rosemary was born December 7, 1935 in Putnam CT, the daughter of the late Adelard Roy and Viola (Murray) Spaulding.

Rosemary was a 1954 graduate of Putnam High School. She worked at Gerber Scientific and was a designer for Stanadyne Automotive Corporation for many years prior to her first retirement. Once “retired,” she worked for a number of years at the Home Depot in several departments (her favorite being tools) and was climbing ladders at work into her early 80’s – even when told she should stay closer to the ground. Rosemary was also a skilled artist, carpenter and woodworker and could draw, build, and/or fix, most anything.

Rosemary was a free spirit who traveled across the country on her own and truly lived life on her own terms. She was a friend to creatures big and small

and rescued many pets over the years; all of them becoming her family. She was filled with compassion and would never hesitate to lend a helping hand to an animal or friend in need.

Rosemary is survived by several nieces and nephews, wonderful friends, extended family members, and her three cats. She also leaves her second family, Pauline Dina, Debra Keeler, Donna McGowen, Steve Adamczyk, Alex Dina, and her “little clown,” Alexis Dina-Conte, to whom she will always be “Mimi.” She was predeceased by her siblings June, Shirley, Joyce, Robert, Sonny, Donald, and Eugene as well as her dear friend, Al Dina.

In lieu of flowers please make donations in Rosemary’s memory to your local animal shelter.

A Celebration of Rosemary’s Life will be held at 11:00 am on Wednesday January 12, 2022 at the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA.

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 Rosemary.

Michael J. Yurkevicius Jr, 51



Charlton - Michael J. Yurkevicius Jr, 51, passed away on Tuesday December 28, 2021 at the UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester.

He leaves his mother Margaret (Lynch) Yurkevicius, his brother Steven Yurkevicius; his girlfriend Shannon; aunts, uncles, cousins, and dear friends; his father Michael J. Yurkevicius Sr passed away in 2013.

Mike worked for the Telegram & Gazette, the City of Worcester, and the town of Webster as a Policeman for many years; he always enjoyed a good laugh and time at the farm. Mike was polite, appreciative, generous, and had

a strong love of God. He will be deeply missed by his mom, brother, and those who held him dearly in their hearts.

All were welcome to attend the Funeral Mass on Friday December 31, 2021 in St. Louis Church at 10:00 am, please meet at the church. All those attending are kindly asked to wear a face mask and observe current health guidelines. Due to current health concerns, Mike’s committal services will be private.

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

Marion Estella Antos, 94



Shrewsbury / Dudley - Marion Estella (Selfridge) Antos 94, passed away December 30, 2021 at Shrewsbury Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Shrewsbury where she has been a resident since 1998.

Her husband of 43 years Edward S. “Eddie” Antos died July 2, 1992. She leaves 2 sons, Steven E. Antos and his wife Cynthia K. of Thompson, CT., James M. Antos and his wife Nancy of New Ipswich, New Hampshire, a son-in-law Gerald Bacon of Thompson, CT. 8 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

She was born in Medford, October 25, 1927 a daughter of the late Bertram J. and Ange Rose (Frederick) Selfridge and lived in Dudley since 1952, prior to moving to Shrewsbury. Marion graduated from Westford Academy in 1945 and later graduated from Burbank School of Nursing in 1949.

She was predeceased by a daughter

Patricia R. Bacon in 2001 and a brother Frederick.

Marion was a registered nurse for many years and did private duty for insurance companies and families, she was also the school nurse for Tantasqua Regional School District from 1971-1981, retiring in 1989.

She was a member of the Dudley First Congregational Church, the Dudley Grange and the Red Hat Society.

Calling hours will be Friday, January 7, 2022 from 9:30-10:30 AM at the ROBERT J. MILLER FUNERAL HOME and LAKE CHAPEL, 366 School St., Webster followed by a Funeral Service at 11 AM at the Dudley First Congregational Church, Center Rd., Dudley Hill followed by burial in Corbin Cemetery in Dudley with her beloved husband and daughter.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one’s choice.

To leave a message of condolence or share a message, please visit: RJMillerfunerals.net

Amy Lavanchy, 53



Webster / Sturbridge - On Saturday December 18, Amy Lavanchy, loving daughter, sister, aunt, cousin and friend, passed away peacefully in Boston at the age of 53 after a courageous battle

with cancer. Amy was born in Beverly Massachusetts in 1968 to Allen D and Mary E Lavanchy (Noonan). She graduated from Tantasqua High School in Sturbridge, MA in 1987 and worked at Mapfire Insurance (formerly Commerce Insurance) in Webster MA for 33 years.

Amy was a kind, warm-hearted person who loved her family and friends (who she considered family) more than anything. She called everyone “honey” or “hon” and made the people she interacted with feel special. One of her best-loved pastimes was seeing live music and saw her favorite band Pearl Jam more than 70 times. She was also a passionate Patriots fan and loved watching games with her friends, wearing Patriots gear from head to toe, cheering them on. Amy’s favorite season was summer where she spent as much time as she could at the beach. One of her treasured vacations was a trip she took to Hawaii to see Pearl Jam in concert,

combining her love of the beach with her love of the band.

Amy was preceded in death by her mother, Mary. She is survived by her father Allen and his wife Constance Curtis of Brewster, MA, her brother Doug Lavanchy and his husband Kenji Yokoo of San Francisco CA, her sister Laura Hall and her husband Norman Hall of Southbridge, MA, her sister Heidi Wilson and her husband Mark Wilson of Falmouth MA, her niece Sarah Hall of Salem MA, her niece Megan Hall of Southbridge, MA, her niece Emily Hall of Southbridge MA, her niece Maddie Hall of Southbridge MA, her niece Olivia Wilson of Falmouth MA, her nephew Ben Wilson of Falmouth MA, as well as many beloved cousins and friends.

Burial services were private for immediate family only, but there will be a memorial service for Amy in the Springtime, details to be determined.

The family would like to thank the doctors, nurses and healthcare workers at the Rhode Island Hospital, the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women’s Hospital for taking such wonderful care of our Amy. Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 assisted the family with arrangements. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Roland G. Lavalley, 83



WEBSTER – Roland G. Lavalley, 83, died Thursday, December 30, 2021, at the Overlook Masonic Health Center in Charlton. He was predeceased by his wife of 46 years, Barbara A. (Bardy) Lavalley

of Webster who died in 2005. He is survived by his friend and caretaker, Sylvia Annese of Webster; three nephews and one niece, John, Jeff, Paul, and Christine. He was predeceased by two brothers, Normand Lavalley and Roger Lavalley, who both died in 2006; and his longtime friend William Annese who died in 2021. He was born in Webster, son of the late Theodore and Rita Rose (Cardinal) Lavalley, and lived most of his life in Webster. He attended Bartlett High School in Webster and was a member of the Army National Guard for 21 years.

Mr. Lavalley worked in the meat department at Shaw’s Supermarket in Webster for 22 years, retiring in 2004. Previously, he worked at Iandoli

Supermarket in Worcester, Milford, Clinton, Southbridge, and Webster for 25 years. He also worked as a constable in Thompson, CT, for 9 years. Mr. Lavalley was a member of St. Louis Church and the Knights of Columbus Council 228, both in Webster, for many years. He enjoyed traveling with his wife Barbara.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at St. Louis Church, 15 Lake St., Webster. Those attending are respectfully requested to meet directly at the church. Burial will follow at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Webster. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Louis Church, 15 Lake St., Webster, MA 01570, or to the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 3, 357 Main St., Webster, MA 01570 (to support the Webster Police). Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.



Dawn Laurens Lindstrom, 56



Dawn Laurens Lindstrom, age 56, of Dudley, MA passed away peacefully in her home on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 surrounded by her loving family after a long, courageous battle with ovarian cancer.

Dawn lived a fulfilling life as a mother, wife, sister, daughter, and friend to many.

Dawn was born January 6, 1965 in Putnam, CT, and spent the majority of her life in the Webster and Dudley area. She graduated from Bartlett High School and then attended Fisher Junior College in Boston, where she studied Fashion Merchandising and became a very successful account executive for Estée Lauder. Dawn and her husband owned and operated RCA Optical in Webster where Dawn worked for nearly 25 years.

Dawn is survived by her loving husband Christopher, and her amazing children Ryan Dugan, Christopher and his fiancée Madison Snyder, Alec, Ingrid, Annaka and Eda. She also leaves her mother Geraldine (Wade) Grzyb and her husband David of Dudley, her father Robert Laurens and his wife Teresa of Woodstock, CT, a sister Robin Laurens and her fiancé Peter Lamarine of Southbridge, stepsisters Abigail Gonyea of Woodstock, CT, Teresita Taoubi of Glendale, NY, and Jennifer Bretton Lebel of Yarmouth,

ME, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

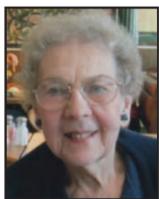
Everywhere that Dawn went she was surrounded by her family, friends, and beloved pets. She had a smile that could light up any room and had a unique way of making everyone feel special and loved in her presence. She was passionate about scrapbooking, baking, fashion, talk radio and sports. She was deeply guided by her Christian faith. However, the role she cherished most was being a mother. She was truly happiest when she was in the stands or on the sidelines cheering on her beloved children in all their endeavors. Dawn’s spirit and love of life will continue to shine and endure through her children and all who knew and loved her.

Calling hours were held at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA on Monday, January 3, 2022 from 3:00 - 7:00 pm; a Catholic Funeral Mass took place at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 18 East Main Street, Webster, MA on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 11:00 am. The burial service will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that donations be made to a fund in Dawn’s memory “Mumma Dawn Fund” make checks payable to Raymond James account 196L3848 in the memo section. Mail to Raymond James Attn: Treasury Dept. 880 Carillon Pkwy Saint Petersburg, FL 33716

#LindstromStrong www.bartelfuneralhome.com

Theresa M. Rohr, 94



WEBSTER – Theresa M. “Tessie” Rohr, 94, passed away peacefully at Webster Manor on December 25, 2021. She was a lifelong resident of Webster and the daughter of Charles and Julia (Druzbecki)

Strzelewicz. She was preceded in death by her husband William K. Rohr in 1963, her son David Rohr in December, 2020 and her sister Charlotte Strzelewicz in July, 2020. She is survived by her daughter Kathleen “Kathi” Rohr and her husband Patrick Courtney of Southampton.

She was a parishioner at Saint Joseph Basilica and a graduate of St. Joseph’s Elementary School and Bartlett High School. Other than the years at home raising her young children, Tessie was employed in the meat department at various grocery stores in Webster and later in Sturbridge. She is fondly remembered as being able to tell a good joke and help a customer choose a good cut of beef to serve for Sunday dinner.

Tessie lived a quiet life of working, reading and socializing with friends but also loved her family trips to the New York World’s Fair, to Misquamicut Beach and to various amusement parks where she was the first in line for the scariest rides. A highlight of her life

was her travels to England to visit her friend Pat whom she met through an ad in the Webster Times for a pen-pal exchange during World War II; they remained pen pals and buddies for 74 years, still sharing stories about dancing to big band music and travels.

When Tessie retired from Shaw’s Market she joined the Webster Senior Center where she enjoyed card games, exercise groups and various bus trips. She also became a member of their dancing group, the Silver Dippers, entertaining local nursing home residents with both her dance moves and her jokes.

She spent her latter years as a well-cared for resident of Webster Manor, still enjoying exercises, social activities and telling jokes. Tessie will be sadly missed but remembered with a smile.

Her funeral was held Friday, December 31, at 10:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Dudley. The family received relatives and friends from 9:30 AM to the time of the Mass of Friday morning in the church. Donations in her name may be made to Webster Manor Patient Activities Fund, 745 School Street, Webster, MA 01570. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster.

www.websterfunerals.com

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

Start seeds outdoors with winter sowing

Save money and indoor space used for starting seeds indoors with winter sowing. This easy technique allows you to start transplants from seeds outdoors without a greenhouse or cold frame.



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

Fill the bottom with moist potting mix. Plant seeds according to the package directions. Gently water until the excess runs out the bottom of the container.

Growing your own transplants from seeds can save you money and is often the only option for new, unique, and other hard to find plants. Not everyone has the time, equipment, and dedication to watering that's needed to start plants indoors.

All you need are flower and vegetable seeds, milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles, duct tape and a quality potting mix. Check the seed packet for information on planting details and timing. Winter sowing dates vary with the growing climate, individual gardener, and seed variety you are planting.

Try starting hardy perennials and self-seeding annuals sometime winter through early spring. Other flowers and vegetables seeds are typically winter sown about the same time you would plant them indoors

or a month or two before the transplants get moved into the garden. Keep a record of your planting dates and results to help you fine tune your planting schedule and increase future success.

Drill four to 12 small holes in the bottom of the jug for drainage. One winter sower fills the container with water and pops it into the freezer or outside in below freezing temperatures. Once frozen solid, he drills the holes into the container. The ice prevents the plastic container from collapsing during the process.

Next, partially cut the jug to create a hinged lid. Make your cut about three to four inches above the bottom, leaving the area by the handle attached so it forms a hinge. The bottom of the milk jug handle is usually a good guide.

Fellow gardener, Patricia, uses rolled newspaper or the cardboard tubes from toilet paper to help space and eventually transplant her winter sown seedlings. She makes newspaper pots by wrapping 22 and a half by five inch strips of newspaper around a two and a half inch diameter by four inch tall jar. She folds the end to create the bottom for a three and a half inch tall pot. Secured with staples, she sets the pots or toilet paper rolls in the milk jug, fills with potting mix, tops them off with about half an inch of seed starting mix and then plants her seeds.

Label the inside and outside of the jug with a permanent marker. Close the lid and seal it shut with duct tape. Remove the cap before setting your milk jugs in a sunny location outdoors where rain and snow can reach it. Keep them handy to prevent waterlogged soil



Melinda Myers

Winter sowing allows gardeners to start transplants from seeds outdoors by repurposing milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles.

during extremely wet weather.

Water your outdoor seed starting chambers during snow-free and dry weather. This will be much less often than those seedlings growing indoors under artificial lights.

Your plants will be ready to move into the

garden at the normal planting time. Just open the lids, harden off the plants and move them into the garden.

MelindaMyershaswritten 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.

Swissturn/USA transitions to 100 percent employee ownership

OXFORD — Swissturn/USA of Oxford announced today that it has transitioned to a 100 percent employee-owned company as of Dec. 23. The Swissturn ESOP had previously owned 49 percent of the company. Swissturn first started toward employee ownership in 2015 when the ESOP purchased 30 percent of the company stock. A second transaction in 2018 brought the ESOP an additional 19 percent of the company's stock shares.

Swissturn CEO and former owner Kenneth Mandile said, "The transition to full employee ownership reflects my confidence in the employee-owners of Swissturn and in the management team. Employee-ownership helps to ensure the continuation of Swissturn as a part of our local community and it protects jobs. Employee-ownership enhances Swissturn's reputation as a great company to work for at a time when so many companies are struggling with employee recruitment and retention."

Employee-ownership comes at no cost to Swissturn's employee-owners. The company will make annual contributions to the Swissturn Employee Stock Ownership Plan so that new shares can be allocated to the employee-owners' accounts every year.

Rick Laviolette, President of Swissturn, said "It's only natural that we transition to 100% employee ownership. We believe in the power of employee engagement to drive extraordinary business results because we have already seen it in action. There is no greater policy for promoting employee engagement than by making the employees into owners."

ESOP plans have generated tremendous retirement wealth for millions of plan participants. According to the National Center for Employee Ownership (NCEO), "there are approximately 6,482 ESOPs in the United States, holding total assets of over \$1.6 tril-

lion." (ref. <https://www.nceo.org/articles/employee-ownership-by-the-numbers>)

According to the National Center for Employee Ownership (NCEO) there are over 13.9 million participants in ESOPs. The NCEO said that "ESOPs paid out over \$137 billion dollars to participants in 2019." Manufacturing companies like Swissturn make up 21 percent of all ESOPs, this ties professional services as the largest industry segment of ESOPs. Massachusetts has 115 ESOPs that include more than 22,000 participants.

Employee ownership provides much greater job stability to employees when compared to non-ESOP employees, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the organization Employee-Owned S Corporations of America (ESCA), "A 2021 John Zogby Strategies survey – in partnership with ESCA – of mid- and lower-level employees at employee-owned private companies tells an encouraging story about the financial stability of S ESOP employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Survey results found that

employee owners reported significantly less financial adversity, more stable jobs, better housing security and consistent retirement savings than non-ESOP employees.(ref. <https://esca.us/studies-and-surveys/2021-john-zogby-survey-finds-that-s-esop-employees-fared-better-in-the-covid-19-pandemic-than-non-esop-employees/>)

Swissturn/USA currently has approximately 60 employees. It is a contract manufacturer of precision machined components for a variety of industries. Swissturn was founded in 1987 in Waltham, Mass. and has been located in Oxford, Mass. since 2003.

The Swissturn ESOP transaction was facilitated by Maselan & Jones, P.C. of Boston. GreatBanc Trust Company of Lisle, IL is the Trustee of the Swissturn ESOP. GreatBanc was assisted by the valuation firm of Atlantic Management Company of Portsmouth. Empire Valuation Consultants LLC of West Hartford, Conn. provided seller side valuation services. Citizens Bank provided financing.



Courtesy

Pictured, left to right: James Brinker, VFW Post Surgeon; Rinkie Lithicum, DAV Chapter Commander; Stephen P. Rogerson, VFW Commander and Veterans Services Officer for the Town of Dudley; Representative Peter Durant of Dudley; Senator Fattman with his son; Representative Joe McKenna of Webster; Victor Jankowski Commander Veterans Council of Webster and Dudley; Stephen Wojnar Police Chief Town of Dudley.



Courtesy

On Saturday, Dec. 18, members of Oxford Masonic Lodge delivered Holiday Poinsettias to local Widow and Veteran Masons of their Lodge. Pictured from left to right are: Wor. Jerome H. Michaelson, R.W. Robert Schremser, Bro. Richard D. Majercik II and Wor. Bryan R. Wilson.

Local legislators mark Wreaths Across America Day

DUDLEY — Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 2,500 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. Massachusetts State Sen. Ryan Fattman, Rep. Peter Durant, and Rep. Joseph McKenna presented wreaths of remembrance at the Court of Honor in the Dudley Municipal Center at 71 West Main St., Dudley, as well as at the Court of Honor on 350 Main St., Webster, at the Town Hall.

Due to Covid related circumstances, the veterans were unable to hold these wreath laying ceremonies last year (2020). This year the National Wreaths Across America Day was designated as Dec. 18. The wreath presentation began in Webster at 10 a.m. under the watchful and grateful eyes of Fire Chief Brian Hickey of the Webster Fire Department along with several fire fighters, several veterans representing VFW Post 654, DAV Chapter 53 and the Veterans Council of Webster and Dudley and Dudley Police Chief Stephen Wojnar along with several Dudley Police Officers and last but not least the Veterans Services Officers for both the towns of Webster and Dudley.

Takes years to build, seconds to break and forever to repair

TRUST

To find out how you can earn more trust from your neighbors. Contact your sales representative StonebridgePress.com

SPORTS

Rams find form in third quarter to take down Bartlett



Nick Ethier photos

Bartlett's Ethan Minarik drives the ball closer to the basket on a Shepherd Hill defender.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — After leading for much of the first half versus rival Bartlett High on Thursday, Dec. 23, the Shepherd Hill Regional boys' varsity basketball team actually found themselves trailing by a point, 23-22, as teams went to the locker rooms for intermission. The Indians ended the half on a 10-2 run, which included a pair of deep 3-pointers from Ethan Minarik.



Colin Minarik of Bartlett stops on a dime while entering the paint.

"That's obviously a very good basketball team over there, and I told them all week that the punch was coming," explained Rams' head coach Mike Rapoza. "All it takes a minute or two of a breakdown and Ethan makes a couple of shots. At halftime I told them we let them off the hook and let them back into the game. We always say, 'as long as we don't make the same mistakes twice, we'll be OK.'"

And Shepherd Hill presumably did not make any mistakes twice, as

they took the third quarter by storm. They outscored Bartlett in the frame, 20-7, to take a 42-30 lead into the final frame. And the Indians could never cut the deficit down to a two-possession game, as the Rams ultimately won a 57-46 decision.

"We're trying to get back to a more defensive mindset and we set a tone, we locked into the game plan that we had, and we were able to string together a few baskets and put them on their heels," Rapoza said of his team's second half performance.

Shepherd Hill's Ryan Brooks had a

tremendous second half, pouring in 12 of his 16 points and grabbing 5 of his 9 rebounds over the final two quarters.

"This is the one team we don't want to lose to," Brooks said of playing Bartlett. "We're down one at halftime and we're all angry...and everyone came out firing."

When asked how his second half was so effective, Brooks' response was candid.

"I try and see in the first half what they do and how they react. In the second half usually people are more tired and you get to pick your spots more," he explained.

The Rams' strong third quarter included a 16-2 run. In the frame they also outrebounded the Indians by a 10-5 margin. They won the overall battle of the boards, too, 42-27.

Shepherd Hill was paced offensively by Alec Fasolo, who finished with 17 points, while Iverson Ramirez-Ruggles added 10 more.

Rapoza, who spent two years as the JV coach and is now in his first year at the varsity level, has his team at 3-1. The 2016 Shepherd Hill graduate — a four-year starter followed by four more playing years at Anna Maria — has fulfilled a dream of becoming a head basketball coach.

"It's the best. I'm very fortunate to have a team full of great kids. They come in every day and work hard. They come out every game and compete as hard as they possibly can. They make my job easy. It's a ton of fun," he said.

On Rapoza's coaching staff is Anthony Grzembski, a Bartlett grad, so it was his first time coaching against his alma mater. And Grzembski's father, Ed, is a longtime assistant on the Indians' side, making the game a family affair.

"Having Ant on the coaching staff is so good for these guys, especially with me being a big man and he being a guard, it works really well," the 6-foot-6 Rapoza said of the 5-foot-9 Grzembski.

Bartlett, now 2-2, was led in scoring by Zach DeJesus (24 points, 10 rebounds) and Minarik (18 points).

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.

Correction: Shepherd Hill's Alyse Biron named Midland Wachusett League All-Star

In the Dec. 24, 2021 edition of the Webster Times, a list of Shepherd Hill Regional student-athletes that were named Midland Wachusett League All-Stars from the fall season was posted. That list, which was sent to Stonebridge Press from a league representative, named Elise Biron as a volleyball All-Star for the Rams. The correct spelling of Biron's first name is Alyse. We apologize for the error.

Home Town Service,
BIG TIME RESULTS

Town-to-Town CLASSIFIEDS

1-800-536-5836

Place your ad today!

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

FIREWOOD
Cut, Split & Delivered
Green or Seasoned
Call Paul 508-769-2351

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:
Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need. 24/7 Support Generous Reimbursement, \$1000 Sign-On Bonus. Call For Details.
Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care.
(508)829-6769

LIVE BAIT FOR ICE FISHING
Open 24/7
Spencer
508-885-5416

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED:
WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Rags, Uniforms, etc.
Over 40 years' experience.
Call David
(508) 688-0847.
I'LL COME TO YOU!

Full-Time Assistant Town Clerk
Town of Charlton

Under the general direction of the Town Clerk, the Assistant Town Clerk performs professional and administrative work to assist the Town Clerk in the organization and maintenance of vital records and official municipal records. This position requires some additional hours, including evenings and weekends, during elections and Town Meetings. Please see job description for complete list of qualifications and responsibilities.

Please apply online at <https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources> no later than January 6, 2022. Hourly rate: \$24.78.

The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.

Remote Office Assistant Needed Periodically

Email management, listing items for sale, drafting letters, basic computer help.

Pay based on work load weekly.

Call JD 508-450-8926

HOMEMAKERS / PC AIDES WANTED

Part Time Jobs
Flexible Hours
Must have car

Work in Milford, MA area
Call **PRIMARY HOME CARE** at
(508) 478-3500
for more information

Town of North Brookfield Water Department Employment opportunity

Title: Water Treatment Operator **Location:** North Brookfield Water Department

The Town of North Brookfield Water Department is seeking a candidate for the full-time position of Water Operator.

The North Brookfield Water Department provides drinking water to 80% of the population of the town, drawn from our surface water reservoir, Horse (North) Pond. This position requires operation of the Bell Hill Water Treatment Plant, a US Filter Microfloc package plant including upflow clarifiers run by the SCADA operating system. This position includes meter readings, replacement and repair as well as distribution system maintenance, construction and repair. Also included are lawn mowing, snow shoveling, general cleaning, brush cutting and all similar chores to maintain area in and around the treatment plant, raw water pump station, reservoir and distribution system. A complete job description is available upon request.

Requirements for the position of Water Operator include a high school diploma or GED; and 1T Massachusetts Drinking Water Operators License or a 1-T Operator in training. This is a 40 hour a week position, Sunday-Thursday, coverage on alternating holidays and on-call weekends. Interested candidate must have a valid Massachusetts's driver's license and must be available for overtime work when necessary. Training schedule will be Monday- Friday until successful candidate has met the requirements needed to assume this position schedule.

Starting hourly rate - \$21.65. Step one is an entry level pay scale with yearly potential increases to a maximum step 5 pay scale of \$28.43 over a five year period as duties, licensing, and experience expand.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume via email to jfnbwd@gmail.com or can be mailed to: North Brookfield Water Department 14 Bell Road, North Brookfield, Mass. 01535

Applications will be accepted until Friday January 28, 2022 for this position.

The North Brookfield Water Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Hiring?
Reach More Local Applicants

Email: ads@stonebridgepress.news
Phone: (508) 764-4325

Help Wanted

SPORTS

Minutemen explode early with plenty of points in romp over Tri-County

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Regional girls' varsity basketball team entered its holiday break in style on Wednesday, Dec. 22, easily dispatching Tri-County

Regional 51-22 to improve to 4-0. The Minutemen won't play again until Jan. 3, after press time.

"We've got a real good unit this year with some really nice freshman, [including starters] Kendall Bond and Alison Welton," said Bay Path head

coach John Selen. "We're really blessed with them coming in this year."

Both freshmen made an immediate impact in the Minutemen's victory versus the Cougars. Welton poured in two quick baskets to give her team a 4-2 lead, and Bond followed with a free throw and shortly thereafter a made jump shot as Bay Path surged to a 17-4 first quarter lead, which included a 14-0 run.

Welton added another two baskets in the second quarter and teammate Amber Girard canned a pair of 3-pointers as the Minutemen held a sizeable 31-12 advantage at the halftime break.

"We're off to a real nice start and it's a fun team to coach," said Selen.

Welton showed a model of consistency in the third quarter, again scoring two baskets. In total, Bay Path won the frame 9-6 as they turned to the final quarter holding a 40-18 lead.

The Minutemen then won fourth quarter scoring 11-4 to account for the 51-22 final. And, you guessed it, Welton scored two more baskets in the frame to finish with a game-high 16 points. Bond had 5 points and secured a game-high 11 rebounds.

Selen said that he does not know the freshmen heading into Bay Path beforehand.

"You're just hoping for the best," he noted of first-day tryouts before saying, "It's like I just won the lottery, you know?" followed by a chuckle when thinking about his talented roster.

In the win over Tri-County (2-2), the Minutemen's Bethany Lasell scored 10 points, while Girard finished with 9 more on a tri of 3-pointers. Maggie Mullaly had 6 points and 9 rebounds as



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Alison Welton looks to drive into the lane on Tri-County's defense.

Bay Path won the battle of the boards, 44-30.

"It's a real good group of kids as far as the chemistry goes. They're all getting along and sharing the ball. It's a good team effort from us," said Selen. "What can you do to make your teammates better? That's what they really try to do on the floor — find the open person and do things when you don't have the ball."

The Minutemen also executed a strong fast break game plan, which will continue to be in store for 2022.

"The young kids are fast, so we're really trying to up-tempo it as much as we can and score the easy ones when we can," said Selen.

MOHEGAN BOWL FALL LEAGUES, WEEKS ENDING DEC. 12, 19, 26

Monday Men's Business
Single — Mike Nardone 136, Ryan Pelletier and Bruce Labay 134
Series — Mike Nardone and Ryan Pelletier 373, Jon Dufield 347
Series over average — Mike Nardone and John Guillotte +43

Ten Pin City
Single — Division 1: Edna Miranda 213, Natalie Wood 194

Division 2: Lynn Webb and Bernice Stackpole 154, Kristine Russell 152
Series — Division 1: Natalie Wood 566, Edna Miranda and Claudia Allen 516

Division 2: Shirley Smith 418, Kristine Russell 409

Tuesday Chet's Social
Single — Ryan Pelletier 129, Tom Smith 126, DJ Devish 121, Erin Van Dam 118, Ellen Fugatt 106, Dawn Gleason 94

Series — Ryan Pelletier 371, DJ Devish 324, Joe Pranaitis 322, Erin Van Dam 315, Ellen Fugatt 285, Dawn Gleason 276
Series over average — Luke Lamontagne +39, Michelle Kimball +38

Wednesday Women's Industrial
Single — Annette Bent 107, Monique Pierangeli 105, Lynne Smith 104

Series — Monique Pierangeli 299, Lynne Smith 295, Marie McNally 294
Series over average — Deb Gevry +59

Summit Tenpin
Single — Bob Hanville 218, Derek Reynolds 168, Dawn Kupiec 158
Series — Mike Smith 558, Bob Grant Jr. 448, Kevin Ryder 462

Thursday AM Coffee
Single — Nancy Zumpfe 120, Ruth Penniman 110, Tammy Moran 100
Series — Priscilla Piekarczyk and Nancy Zumpfe 271, Pat Johnson 267
Series over average — Nancy Zumpfe +61

Thursday Men's Industrial
Single — Ryan Pelletier 128, Kevin LeTourneau 121, Joe Pranaitis and Bo Gauvin 116
Series — Ryan Pelletier 347, Bo Gauvin 322, Chris Andros 317
Series over average — Bill Werner +42

Thursday Mixed Tenpin
Single — Frank Bosma 170, Randy Schlegel 164, Zach Merchant 157, Denise Wong Kam 156, Brenda Johnson 148, Carol Buchanan and Miranda Jones 128
Series — Todd Gaucher 472, John Caskey 430, Chris Wong Kam 417, Carol Chausse 408, Jenn Andino 362, Barbara Choiniere 359

Monday Men's Business
Single — Jason Mahan 145, Ryan Pelletier 131, Keith Labay and Jon Dufield 130
Series — Jason Mahan 388, Jon Dufield 372, Ryan Pelletier 361
Series over average — Keith Labay +66

Ten Pin City
Single — Division 1: Natalie Wood 211, Joanne LaBonte 181
Division 2: Kristine Russell 159, Doll Gardecki 153
Series — Division 1: Natalie Wood 544, Claudia Allen 454
Division 2: Shirley Smith 404, Kristine Russell 386

Tuesday Chet's Social
Single — DJ Devish and Ryan Pelletier 128, Charlie Legacy 111, Joe Pranaitis 110, Erin Van Dam 127, Kathryn Ward 101, Dawn Gleason 99
Series — Ryan Pelletier 332, DJ Devish 325, Ben Allaire 312, Erin Van Dam 304, June Carpenter 265, Dawn Gleason 263
Series over average — Ben Allaire +42, Erin Van Dam +22

Wednesday Women's Industrial
Single — Lynne Smith 116, Shanna Boucher 103, Cheri Demers 102
Series — Lynne Smith 311, Monique Pierangeli 290, Shanna Boucher 285
Series over average — Candy Powers +61

Summit Tenpin
Single — Division 1: Bob Hanville 236, J.J. Blair 196
Division 2: Joe Harvard 187, Shirley Smith 153
Series — Division 1: Mark Nichols 604, Ron Suprenant 547
Division 2: Kevin Ryder 463, Dawn Kupiec 426

Thursday AM Coffee
Single — Margaret Lorenczykova and

Elaine Timilty 107, Jessica Agazarian 98

Series — Jessica Agazarian 270, Elaine Timilty 266, Jackie Arpin 265
Series over average — Elaine Timilty +44

Thursday Men's Industrial
Single — Mike Manseau 138, Ryan Pelletier 133, Chris Andros and Jeff Therrien 129

Series — Ryan Pelletier 393, Jeff Therrien 357, Bo Gauvin 338
Series over average — Mike Manseau +67

Thursday Mixed Tenpin
Single — Todd Gaucher 187, John Caskey 178, Randy Schlegel 151, Carol Chausse 161, Kaitlyn Buchanan 157, Janine Bolduc 132

Series — Chris Wong Kam 531, Frank Bosma 453, Sean Blake 397, Ann Hebert 419, Brenda Johnson 393, Denise Wong Kam 362

Monday Men's Business
Single — Eddie Lavin 152, Matt Bergeron and Tim Labay 134

Series — Matt Bergeron 379, Eddie Lavin 370, Tim Labay 366
Series over average — Eddie Lavin +61

Ten Pin City
Single — Division 1: Natalie Wood 203, Edna Miranda 192

Division 2: Lynn Webb 163, Shirley Smith 161
Series — Division 1: Natalie Wood 578, Edna Miranda 521

Division 2: Charlene Hebert 433, Lynn Webb 429

Tuesday Chet's Social
Single — Joel Boulay 137, Ryan Pelletier 135, Joe Pranaitis 124, Erin Van Dam 104, Mikayla Van Dam 103, June Carpenter 101

Series — Ryan Pelletier 360, Tom Smith 324, Joe Pranaitis 323, Erin Van Dam 302, Mikayla Van Dam 284, Ellen Fugatt 275
Series over average — Doug Bergstrom +34, Mikayla Van Dam +53

Summit Tenpin
Single — Division 1: Ron Suprenant 234, Max Gullekson 188

Division 2: Fred LaBonte 158, Scott Lamica 147

Series — Division 1: J.J. Blair 603, Butch Mattson 582
Division 2: Dawn Kupiec 446, Edna Miranda 406

Thursday Men's Industrial
Single — Ryan Pelletier 125, Joe Pranaitis and Jeff Therrien 121

Series — Ryan Pelletier 350, Mark Gulino and Jeff Therrien 326
Series over average — Paul Grady +36

Thursday Mixed Tenpin
Single — Frank Bosma 177, Tim Johnson 170, Zach Merchant 166, Ann Hebert 138, Brenda Johnson 118, Denise Wong Kam 115

Series — Todd Gaucher 508, Chris Wong Kam 455, Sean Blake 415, Carol Chausse 414, Barbara Choiniere 352, Jenn Andino 339

Rockets rally to defeat Woodstock Academy in overtime



Jason Mckay photo

The Auburn High varsity ice hockey team celebrates its 3-2 overtime victory versus Woodstock Academy on Monday, Dec. 27.

AUBURN — The Auburn High varsity ice hockey team may have trailed in its game with Woodstock Academy at the Horgan Arena back on Monday, Dec. 27, but the rallying Rockets forced overtime and ultimately won a 3-2 decision.

Nolan White (Dillon Winkelmann assist) and Will Reece (Cooper C'Miel assist) both tallied second period goals to tie the score at 2-2 and, just 15 seconds into overtime, White scored again, and again from Winkelmann, as Auburn triumphed in victory.

The Rockets, a co-operative team consisting of athletes from Millbury High, Shepherd Hill Regional and Tantasqua Regional, in addition to Auburn High, improved to 3-2 after beating the Centaurs.

www.StonebridgePress.com



Family Health Center Southbridge

Free Health Benefits Advising

Hablamos Español

Are you uninsured? Do you have questions about health insurance? We can help!

32 Orchard Street
Southbridge, MA 01550
(508) 860-7935

Open weekdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
www.FHCW.org/Southbridge



WINTER SALE

OVER 1,500 BICYCLES INSTOCK

MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: Reg. \$299 NOW \$189⁹⁹
FULL: Reg. \$499 NOW \$269⁹⁹
QUEEN: Reg. \$599 NOW \$299⁹⁹

1000s OF APPLIANCES

IN STOCK FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY

GIANT TOY DEPARTMENT

20% OFF ALL LEGOS!

18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$799 ⁹⁹ \$699⁹⁹	SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1699 ⁹⁹ \$1299⁹⁹	KITCHENAID DISHWASHER Reg. \$999 ⁹⁹ \$899⁹⁹	OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN Reg. \$299 ⁹⁹ \$219⁹⁹	STAINLESS SMOOTH TOP STOVE Reg. \$799 ⁹⁹ \$699⁹⁹
DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER Reg. \$549 ⁹⁹ \$479⁹⁹	SLEDS, TOBOGGANS, SKATES			DELUXE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399 ⁹⁹ \$399⁹⁹
FAMOUS MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE Reg. \$549 ⁹⁹ \$599⁹⁹	DELUXE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$499 ⁹⁹ \$479⁹⁹	LG FRONT LOAD WASHER Reg. \$899 ⁹⁹ \$799⁹⁹	GE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$649 ⁹⁹ \$599⁹⁹	100s of FREEZERS IN STOCK!

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000
Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons

WHITCO

Mon.-Fri. 10-9; Sat. 9-8; Sun. 12-7
140 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-9343

HELP US HELP YOU STAY HEALTHY IN THE NEW YEAR. STAND WITH US AGAINST COVID-19.

At UMass Memorial Health, we are committed to bringing health and healing to you, our community. This is what we stand for. We stand up against pain and pandemics. We're doing everything we can to protect our patients, our employees and our community from the harm of COVID-19. Despite our best efforts, we continue to see so much avoidable illness and death caused by this horrible pandemic.

We can't succeed without you.

Our hospitals are overflowing with patients, many of them critically ill. The COVID-19 pandemic has strained our ability to provide you and your loved ones with the immediate care you may need. Every day, amidst the crush of patients with COVID-19, we're working relentlessly to care for patients suffering from strokes, heart attacks, cancer, and car accidents. It's not sustainable.

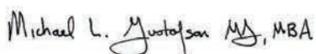
COVID-19 is seriously threatening your access to health care, and we can't end the pandemic on our own. We need your help to stop the spread of this terrible disease. So much is at stake.

We know these are challenging times. Stand with us against COVID-19, so we can continue to provide you with the care you need when you need it.

Sincerely,



Eric Dickson, MD
President and CEO
UMass Memorial Health



Michael Gustafson, MD
President
UMass Memorial Medical Center



Shlomit Schaal, MD, PhD
President
UMass Memorial Medical Group



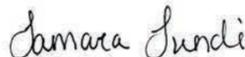
Doug Brown
President
UMass Memorial Community Hospitals



Edward Moore
President
UMass Memorial Health -
Harrington



Steve Roach
President
UMass Memorial Health -
HealthAlliance-Clinton Hospital
and UMass Memorial Health -
Marlborough Hospital



Tamara Lundi
President
UMass Memorial Health -
Community Healthlink



WANTED

30 GRANDPARENTS

that want to hear their grandchildren.

Call today for your appointment!



HEALTH NOTIFICATION - Are You Hard of Hearing?

We are asking qualified people to come in for a FREE* Hearing Evaluation, evaluate Miracle-Ear's latest advanced digital hearing solutions, love the improvement in their hearing and keep the hearing aids at tremendous savings! This is a wonderful opportunity to determine if hearing help is available for your hearing loss at a very affordable price.

- FREE Complete Hearing Test
- FREE Video Otoscope
- FREE Package of Batteries
- FREE In-Office Repairs

2 FOR \$895

Miracle-Ear MINI™ Hearing Aids

Valid on MINI Solution 1 only. Expires 1/14/2022.

ASK ABOUT OUR EASY, AFFORDABLE FINANCING OPTIONS

BETTER HEARING EVENT!

January 10th - 14th

We have a factory trained specialist ready to help you start your hearing journey

MIRACLE-EAR HEARING AID CENTERS

HOLDEN	AUBURN	MILFORD
800 Main St. #15-A meoffer.me/holden	Heritage Mall 567 Southbridge St. meoffer.me/auburn	Quarry Square 196 E. Main St., Unit #26 meoffer.me/milford



CALL 1-888-387-3068 CODE: DA163467

Great Careers Start in Your Neighborhood!



NEW location:
132 Torrey Road, Southbridge

Apply Today!
QCC.edu/SB



Stuck in a dinner rut?
No time to cook?
Let us help!

We have a large variety of home cooked meals offered daily.

Wednesday is FAMILY DAY.
Complete meals starting at \$32.95!

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street
Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm

hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com

*Hearing test is always free. Hearing test is an audiometric test to determine proper amplification needs only, not a medical exam. R. Frasier MA #202.