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Friday, June 12, 2020

# Hundreds turn out for Floyd rally

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — With violence in other parts of the country hitting the news, Webster showed how peaceful protest is done last Saturday.

Several hundred people of all ages and races came downtown to stand – and, for a while, lay face down – in opposition to racism as symbolized by the recent murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis. In this case, police were not opposing the protestors and nobody was in riot gear. In fact, Chief Michael Shaw helped organize the event.

“The first step is naming racism for what it is – a senseless learned response to an imagined threat,” said Rev. Janice Ford, one of the first speakers while the crowd was still gathering at French River Park.

She prefaced that comment by noting “There is no innate human response to simply seeing the color of a person’s skin,” and went on to advocate for a simple solution: “make friends with somebody different from you,” because “it’s all about relationships.”



Gus Steeves

The crowd makes its way across Main Street to the Town Hall lawn during last weekend’s rally in Webster.

“We need to become metaphorically blind [in the sense of blindfolded Justice] if our vision

is causing us to see the other through eyes tainted by a learned response to distrust, fear and

hate,” she said.

To many of the participants, those relationships – namely between

African Americans (and minorities overall) and those in power – have been strained for a long

time. Several signs cited that issue, including “We were taught justice for all, not justice for only some” and one clearly noting “The system isn’t broken. It was built this way.”

But others proclaimed a sense of unity the face of that problem, arguing that “White silence = violence,” “Silence is complicity. Racism is a pandemic,” and ultimately recognizing “History has its eyes on us.”

Many representatives of those who will write that history participated. When one speaker asked those under 18 to raise hands, about a fifth of the crowd did so.

One was organizer Abigail Cooper, 15. Clad in a bright orange African-style dress, she noted in too many circumstances today “black skin is viewed as disposable,” despite the fact the US was “built on our own backs.”

“I am a black woman in America, and I will die a black woman in America,” Cooper said. “But I don’t want to die because I’m a black woman in America.”

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## Residents voice concerns about transfer station contract

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Over the past five months, the town of Dudley has engaged in discussions concerning the future of the town’s transfer station contract with Casella, as it is set to expire at the end of June. Talks continued on June 4 during a livestreamed

public hearing where citizens voiced clear frustration over how the situation is being handled.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda has made the transfer station a priority issue in 2020, recommending the town consider more cost-effective and fair options than the current Casella contract. Ruda spent part

of the meeting detailing four options currently on the table. Option one represents a pay as you throw model in partnership with Pratt Trucking eliminating permits. This plan comes with a \$4 fee per 13-gallon bag and \$5 fee per 30-gallon bag for residents with those numbers decreasing to \$2 and \$3 respectively for

seniors. Recycling would be disposed of for a flat fee of \$2 per bag. Option two would be a similar plan but include senior, veteran and first responder permits at \$156 a year. Option three would be to maintain the current model with Casella with projected permit fees of

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## School race is main ballot contest

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — Even in the face of pandemic, democracy will go on.

Webster’s town election was moved from May 4 to June 15 (this coming Monday), and there’s still time to cast a ballot in person although mail-in voting has been happening for weeks now.

This year features just one major contest: three people vying for two School Committee seats. Incumbent Kelly Seddiki seeks to remain there, while long-time teacher Linda Millet and bus driver Linda Perno hope to join the board.

Current member Dave Hurton is not seeking re-election, nor is Michael Makara, who was appointed to fill a seat until the election. The fact he didn’t take out papers means there are no listed candidates for a one-year seat.

KELLY SEDDIKI

Seddiki, who seeks her second term, said she got involved “out of a strong desire to be part of positive change in the community.” Like many parents, it started with her own kids in the system. By the time her daughter was in fourth grade, she’d joined the school council, and participated in the search that led to hiring Superintendent Ruthann Goguen-Petrunas.

During that process, she said, she “got to see how this thing works” and could use her 20 years of experience in human services to help the process. That prompted her to run for office three years ago. Since then, Seddiki feels Goguen has “done an amazing job,” especially of developing community connections and creating “opportunities that were not available three or four years ago.” Among them are better curriculum, various activities, and improved test scores.

She credits a lot of the turn-around to the committed staff and administration, which is “an area of strength [we’ve had] for a long time. Those folks are all in it for the right reason.”

Despite that, she said she thinks “there are always areas of improvement.” Her “pet project” is to get more parent volunteers into the system and generally promote an “ongoing relationship between parents and the classroom.”

That doesn’t mean getting directly involved in school operations as a committee member. Seddiki noted the board’s job is to take “a 30,000-foot view of the district” and, in her case, “continue to ask tough questions and push the envelope a bit.”

“I’ve always been someone who has really wanted to make sure everybody has the same opportunity regardless of where you start off in life,” she said.

Seddiki is a 1998 Bartlett graduate with two kids in the system. She works at Open Sky Community Services (formerly Alternatives) in human resources.

LINDA MILLET

Millet, by contrast, has seen the district from the trenches. Until retiring last year, she taught grades 3-6 for 32 years, serving 15 of them as teachers’ union president.

That has given her a somewhat less rosy view of

## St. Joseph School holds graduation ceremony



Courtesy

The St. Joseph School Class of 2020 poses for a group photo following the eighth Grade Mass in January.

WEBSTER — On Saturday, June 6, the St. Joseph School Class of 2020 held their graduation ceremony following a special 1 p.m. Mass in St. Joseph Basilica.

Twenty-five eighth grade students were recognized by their Home Room Teacher, Mary Ann Weaver. Each eighth grade student received a St. Joseph School Graduation Certificate, as well as recognition for their academic excellence and participation in clubs and organizations.

Toriana Baldassari: End of Year Honor Roll – Credit, Drama Club, LEGO Robotics; Peter Barbale: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors; Robert Broden: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors, Drama Club, Math Club & Math Olympiad Trophy for being the highest individual scorer at St. Joseph School, Student Council Vice President; Sophia Buffone: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors, Children of Mary, Drama Club; Bridget Carrascal: Drama Club and School Band; Roksan Chruslicka: End of Year Honor Roll – High Honors, Certificate of Achievement in Social Studies, Math Club; Riana Conlon: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors; Kyleigh Czechowski: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors, Perfect Attendance, Altar Server; Jack Dooner: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors, Certificate of Achievement in Language Arts and Science, Altar Server, School Band; Shamer Martinez: End of Year Honor Roll – Honors, Certificate of Achievement in Vocabulary; Tessa McCabe: End of Year Honor Roll – High Honors, Certificate of Achievement for overall academic achievement, Drama Club, LEGO Robotics; Noalani Perez: End of Year Honor Roll – High Honors, Drama Club, Math Club, LEGO Robotics; Katrina Piekiniak: End of Year Honor Roll – High Honors, Drama Club, Choir, Math Club; Daniel Gronek: End of Year

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# Local students earn placement on Assumption College’s Dean’s List

WORCESTER — Assumption has announced those students who have been named to the College’s Dean’s List for the spring 2020 semester. Students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters. Local students include:

Nicholas Abruzzise of Webster, Class of 2023  
Spencer Bodreau of Oxford, Class of 2021  
Bailey Brescia of Oxford, Class of 2023  
Nicole Duquette of Webster, Class of 2020  
Julie Dwyer of Webster, Class of 2023  
Catherine French of Dudley, Class of 2020  
Katherine Gatto of Webster, Class of 2021  
Rebecca Jalbert of Oxford, Class of 2023  
Sarah Keohane of Oxford, Class of 2020  
Kelly Knutelski of Oxford, Class of 2023  
Jaclyn Landry of Oxford, Class of 2023  
Amy Rosebrooks of Oxford, Class of 2020

Abigail Shaw of Oxford, Class of 2021  
Hannah Yash of Webster, Class of 2021

“This semester, our students faced unprecedented challenges due to the global pandemic,” said Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D., president of Assumption College. “Following a rapid transition to remote learning, students adapted to the new form of education delivery amid difficult circumstances. The Assumption community is proud of these students who, despite the distractions of the COVID-19 situation, were able to remain focused and maintain a commitment to their academic programs.”

Founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption in Worcester, Assumption College is a Catholic liberal arts institution that offers undergraduate students 33 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, and professional studies; as well as master’s and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs—each through an educational experience that is grounded in the rich Catholic intellectual tradition. The curriculum enables students to gain a depth and breadth of knowledge that leads to professional success and personal fulfillment. Students—whether on the Worcester campus or at the College’s Rome, Italy, campus—become engaged participants in Assumption’s classic liberal arts education, exploring new ideas and making connections across disciplines. To prepare for the workforce, students learn cutting-edge theory and best practices, conduct innovative research, and develop excellent communication and critical-analysis skills. Assumption graduates are also known for their thoughtful citizenship and compassionate service to their community. For more information about Assumption College, please visit [www.assumption.edu](http://www.assumption.edu).

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Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.

# Why dental hygiene is essential for overall health



The importance of maintaining clean teeth and healthy gums goes beyond having fresh breath and a white smile. Many people are surprised to discover that oral hygiene plays an integral role in overall health.

Research indicates that oral health mirrors the condition of the body as a whole. Also, regular dental visits can alert dentists about overall health and pinpoint if a person is at a risk for chronic disease. An oral health check-up also may be the first indication of a potential health issue not yet evident to

a general medical doctor.

**HEART DISEASE**

According to the Academy of General Dentistry, there is a distinct relationship between periodontal disease and conditions such as heart disease and stroke. Joint teams at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom and the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Ireland, found that people with bleeding gums from poor dental hygiene could have an increased risk of heart dis-

ease. Bacteria from the mouth is able to enter the bloodstream when bleeding gums are present. That bacteria can stick to platelets and subsequently form blood clots. This interrupts the flow of blood to the heart and may trigger a heart attack. Brushing and flossing twice daily and rinsing with mouthwash can remove bacteria and keep gums healthy.

**FACIAL PAIN**

The Office of the Surgeon General says infections of the gums that support the teeth can lead to facial and oral pain. Gingivitis, which is an early stage of gum disease, as well as advanced gum disease, affects more than 75 percent of the American population.

Dental decay can lead to its own share of pain. Maintaining a healthy mouth can fend off decay and infections, thereby preventing pain.

**PANCREATIC CANCER**

In 2007, the Harvard School of Public Health reported a link between gum disease and pancreatic cancer. In the ongoing study, 51,000 men were followed and data was collected beginning in 1986. The Harvard researchers found that men with a history of gum disease had a 64 percent increased risk of pancreatic cancer compared with men who had never had gum disease. The greatest risk for pancreatic cancer among this group was in men with recent tooth loss. However, the study was unable to find links between other types of oral health problems, such as tooth decay, and pancreatic cancer.

**ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE**

Various health ailments, including poor oral health, have been linked to a greater risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease. In 2010, after reviewing 20 years’ worth of data, researchers from New York University concluded that there is a link between gum inflammation and Alzheimer’s disease. Follow-up studies from researchers at the University of Central Lancashire in the United Kingdom compared brain samples from 10 living patients with Alzheimer’s to samples from 10 people who did not have the disease. Data indicated that a bacterium — Porphyromonas gingivalis — was present in the Alzheimer’s brain samples but not in the samples from the brains of people who did not have Alzheimer’s. P. gingivalis is usually associated with chronic gum disease. As a result of the study, experts think that the bacteria can move via nerves in the roots of teeth that connect directly with the brain or through bleeding gums.

These health conditions are just a sampling of the relationship between oral health and overall health. Additional connections also have been made and continue to be studied.

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Evening appointments if needed.  
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Town Clerk (949-8004)  
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Thursday nights.....5 to 7 p.m.  
Fridays.....9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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# Dudley residents complete training as correctional officers



Robert Brooks

Patrick Donovan

WEST BOYLSTON — With his newest class of eleven recruits ready to graduate after completing numerous interviews, mental health screenings, physical fitness metrics and a rigorous 12-week academy at the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and his department were ready for their latest recruits to take their official oath and begin active duty on the line at their correctional facility.

A normal rite of passage for the fifty-two previous Basic Recruit Training Academies has been a large graduation

ceremony full of Sheriff’s Department traditions with friends and family. Many of the ceremonies are held at Anna Maria College in Paxton. This year’s WCSO Basic Recruit Training Academy #53, like graduation ceremonies around the country in the era of Coronavirus, was very different.

A private, socially distanced and masked ceremony provided by Sheriff Evangelidis was held on the grounds of the Sheriff’s Department. In all, eleven recruits and a small group of the Training Staff were in attendance.

During the very brief ceremony, a masked Sheriff Evangelidis thanked the recruits for “stepping up to assist the Department in our critical mission of public safety, especially during this challenging time that we all find ourselves in,” while sharing he “could not be more proud of this class.”

Officer Robert Brooks and Officer Patrick Donovan, both Dudley residents, were among the graduating recruits.

During the ceremony, the recruits avoided the traditional cadence style entrance, presenting of the colors and customary pinning. Instead, eleven recruits remained stoic, masked and socially distanced in their seats until it was time to stand to take their official oath as Correctional Officers. All were grateful to have a ceremony, which was streamed on Facebook Live for their families to see.

“In this uncertain time, we felt it was important to recognize the hard work and accomplishments of our newest correctional officers. I know the recruits and their families appreciated the small, safe and private ceremony we provided. Now, they will begin the important work done every day at the Sheriff’s Department to help protect public safety and make Worcester County a safer place,” said Evangelidis.



## ACCURACY WATCH:

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

## DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 29 to June 5.

Jarrid Anthony Deso, age 19, of Dudley was arrested on May 29 in connection with a warrant.

Melinda Deso, age 37, of Blade A. Deso, age 38, both of Dudley, were arrested on May 29 in connection with warrants.

Emily Ann Parker, age 33, of Dudley was arrested on June 1 in connection with an out of agency warrant.

Chase C. Walker, age 22, of Dudley was arrested on June 1 in connection with an out of agency warrant.

## WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 31 to June 6.

Frank Ogua, age 33, of Webster was arrested on May 31 for Operating Under the Influence of alcohol, Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle, Operating so as to Endanger, a Marked Lanes Violation, and a State Highway Traffic Violation.

Jose R. Rodriguez, age 36, of Webster was arrested on May 31 in connection with a warrant, and subsequently charged with Disorderly Conduct (subsequent offense), Disturbing the Peace (subsequent offense), and Interfering with a Police Officer.

Marian Czudek, age 39, of Webster was arrested on

May 31 in connection with a warrant.

Jessica A. Kell, age 25, of Uxbridge was arrested on June 3 for Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, Unlicensed/Suspended Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and several counts of Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute. Nathan L. Couture, age 22, of Webster was arrested during the same incident for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, and several counts of Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute.

An adult male whose name has been withheld from publication was taken into protective custody on June 4 for assaulting a family or household member.

An adult male whose name has been withheld from

publication was arrested on June 6 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Jeffrey M. Roy, age 57, of North Grosvenordale, Conn. was arrested on June 6 for Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, Assault & Battery with Dangerous Weapon, Assault & Battery on a Police Officer, Failure to Stop for Police, and Operating So As to Endanger.

Christopher T. Mullins, age 24, of Webster was arrested on June 6 for Assault & Battery on a person older than 60 or Disabled.

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# QCC releases Spring 2020 semester Dean and Merit Lists

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has released its Spring 2020 semester Dean and Merit Lists. A total of 578 students were named to the College's Dean's List and 1035 students were named to the Merit List.

Students named to the Dean's List must have a Quality Point Average (QPA) of 3.5 or higher and have earned 12 or more credits in a given semester. Students named to the Merit List must have a QPA of 3.5 or higher and have earned 6 or more credits in a given semester, but fewer than 12 credits.

For more information, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).

## DEAN'S LIST

Auburn: Brighid Campbell, Gracie Curtis, Corey Duff, Catherine Forde, Dawson Gemme, Jason Henry, Nicholas John, Quinne Masiello, Benjamin Rackett, Haley Rivers, Rheina Viruet

Brimfield: Allyson Chase, Kenneth Farrell, Alexis Fluegel, Madison Miller, Jennifer Polesnak-Custance, Jonathan Rubio

Brookfield: Quintin Aubin, Justin Zielinski  
Charlton: Matthew Beals, Elaine Bond, Rebekah Diaz, Lucas Lanier, Paige Leite, Robert Oraz, Jeffrey Pearlstein, Christopher Rapoza, Shannon Ross, Rebekah Ukpong

Cherry Valley: Hunter Guinto, Robert Howard, Alec Iott, Sarah Kacevich, Krissy Lindner  
Douglas: Kristina Chacon, Daphne Sevilla

Dudley: Erin Bernard, Gabrielle Boivin, Jessica Clark, Jacqueline Coggans, Joy Goguen, Veronica Helock, Francesca Johnson, Montana Josey, Meaghan Krajcik, Conner Meece, Aidan Murray, Mick Sullivan, Meroon Zahrah

East Brookfield: Allison Hingston  
East Douglas: Amy Ackerman, Bethany Buller, Dominic Corso, Adam Gaulin, Jenna Glode, Sarah Happy, Jacob Masi

Fiskdale: Carina Holt, Tristan Shaw  
Leicester: Grace Ankrah, Tiffany Beer, Sajed Chreim, Anastasia Cichowski, Jillian Dube, Dylan Havey, Kristina Jarowski, Austin Le, Ayla Martinez, Meaghan St. George, Lindsay Tucker

North Brookfield: Skye Guertin, Jay Mason, Michelle Nguyen, David Vincent  
North Uxbridge: Sarena Gervais

Northbridge: Joshua Desjardins, Tyler Hewitt, Brian Iarussi, Tyler Novitch, Lauren Springer, Donovan Tames

Oxford: Gabriella Blackwell, Kayla Brodeur, Nathan Hagopian, Luke Knowles, Samantha Lemay, Trenton Lovejoy, Paul Maynard, Abigail Rice, Madeline Tomlin, Felecia Violette

Southbridge: Kevin Brady, Edgardo Camacho, Caiden Ellis, Breanna Filion, Jaime Fuentes, Jessica Harvey, Megan Hufault, Dalizbeth Rivera-Szczypien, Dianis Sanchez, Justin Santiago

Spencer: Chantel Croteau, Joseph Hamel, Nelmarie Irizarry, William Marrier, Morgan Mercadante, Johnny Nguyen, Dustin VanDyke, Savannah Vangel  
Uxbridge: Anthony Abate, Gabrielle Casey, Marcus Cruz, Jenna Dagle, Erika Ethier, Mark Jordan, Michaela Randall, Christopher Videto

Wales: Lilyth Bourque

Webster: Carolyn Almanzar Gutierrez, Destiny Baldwin, Anthony Barnardo, Tom Bednarz, Audrey Ducharme, Maikael Gwargious, Timothy Hansen, Sokkheng Khem, Joshua Kichar, Eric Lefebvre, Antonia Lopez, Orion Walker

West Boylston: Kingsley Duodu, Matthew George, Dylan Hemenway, Sarah Maino, Sophie Mulhearn, Jaycie Opuda, Zackery Vanvleck, Brady Weldon

West Brookfield: Robert O'Shea, Marissa Parker, Leah Robillard, William Walker

Whitinsville: Alexandra Clauss, Rachel Fremeau, Jameson Murray, Sharon Ridley, Anastasia Robinson, John Roche, Allison Salamack, Braelyn Sessa, Bishop Soliman Hanna, Marie Soliman, Cody Spencer

## MERIT LIST

Auburn: Michelina Balsavich, Faith Barbieri, Bright Bremang, Caleb Buckley, Elizabeth Burch-Elder, Chantal Champagne, Hannah Chapdelaine, Lyndsey Delorto, Adam Easty, Rebecca Forrett, Danielle Hastings, Desiray Hayes, Thi Thanh Huynh, Anelia Hyland, Tia Leo, Abigail Lloyd, Indra Nagassar, Lolitha Ntonmeu Messa Tiako, Joseph Paine, Abigail Randall, James Robertson, Laura Ruzzoli, Brian Smith, Dylan Tang, Dien Truong, Jonathon Wambach

Blackstone: Christina Boyan, Alexa Boyt, Eric Lawler, Thomas Saladin, Cassidy Tellstone, Justyne Tellstone, Patricia Wozniak

Brimfield: Amber Beaulieu, Amanda Childs, Steven LaRocco, Noah Pestaina

Brookfield: Shawna O'Day Kida, Angela Palmere

Charlton: Rasa Auskalnyte, Danielle Cadarette, Byron Dean, Gwen Earnest, Chelsie Elliott, April Foskett, Riley French, Victoria Gaspar, Alexander Hayward, Chase Mannila, Amanda McDermott, Ashley Steelman, Jennifer Vezina

Cherry Valley: Tiara Bates, Sarah Gaffney, Alferid Hussin Shifa, Inutu Mwinga, Esther Njeri, Brandi Sagendorph, Nehemiah Wanjiku  
Douglas: Kattie Turgeon

Dudley: Celia Bohaboy, Shawn Coltran, Alexandra Cowher, Amanda Cronauer, Michael Cyrek, Gregory Gunsalus, Cassidy Hamilton, Stedroy Hortance, Hannah Lawson, Travis McDonald, Danielle Moore, Elizabeth Naumann, David Njoroge, Abigail Northrop, Jacinda Peters, Tiffany Sousa, Melesia Swanston-Alonzo, Owen West, Ashley Westgate, Eridania Zapata

East Brookfield: Madison Hatt, McKenna Lamothe, Amber Wadden

East Douglas: Amanda Alexion, Carol Benson, Holly Callahan, Samantha Drew, Brendan L'Italien, Nathan Milliken, Emily Muscatell, Earl Parfitt, Michael Purvis

Fiskdale: Brianna Lawrence, Victoria Masse, Jaime Pingree, Phillip Sipe, Rosalyn Sosik, Ryan Zahr, Warren Zelenak

Holland: Edward Fisher, Sean Higgins

Leicester: Colleen Beaudreau, Owen Boisvert, Erica Campbell, Taylor Chouinard, Sherri Frotten, Kristen Johnson, Lilly Kinney, Jamie Pasternack, Christina Penney, Maria Rosado, Miosotis Rosado, Jonah Wicklund

North Brookfield: Meghan Brill, Harold Burroughs, Cassandra Chouinard, Kelsie Fantasia, Melissa Fontaine, Leo Gauthier, Jessica Jesky, Jordan Olson, Stephanie Ranellone

North Oxford: Salvatore DeMalia, Alyssa Durham, Alexandria Hays, Shannen Hennessy, Stefanie Weaver

Northbridge: Juliana Asante, Kyran Bishop, Emily Massoni, Giovan Panzanella, Crystal Tardie, Anthony Zanca

Oxford: Regan Arraje, Richard Audette, Amber Comptois, Nicole Cosway, Nichole Donahue, Lindsey Donnelly, Tommy Estevez, Aliya Guillotte, Jennifer Gum, Carolyn Hodge, Audrey Hopkins, Jacob Laplante, Justin Mosher, Denise Otano, Nicholas Rawson, Ethan Smith, Olivia Spring, Kathryn Tagg, Heather Wilcox

Southbridge: Andre Beaudet, Karl Benkert, Felicia Boucher, Melissa Boudreau, Jessica Brunell, Audrey Clark, Jacquelinet Conde Arias, Awtumn Courville, Melinda Cruz-Rios, Ashley Deorsey-McNeaney, Tanishia Espino, Kirtianna Ferschke, Kiley Gouin, Maria Hernandez-Santos, Melynda Marcano, Luz Marquez, Javier Melendez, Kyle Morrill, Sean Moynagh, Amy Nadeau, Erik Newton, Krystal Pagan, Brady Parent, Matthew Porra, Mariana Powell, Tanner Renaud, Stephanie Rivera, Christina Ruberti, Snejdy Sagastibelza, Austin Skarnes, Cassandra Smeltzer, Gabriel Varner, Natyarie Villanueva, Tyler Webster

Spencer: Mikayla Battaglia, Michelle Beauchemin, Rebecca Beers, Carley Burns, Tyler Carter, Draven Casey, Jacob Cormier, Andrew De Klerk, Grace Diaz, Elizabeth Garber, Melissa Groccia, Jennifer Jarmulowicz, Victoria Kouyoumjian, Melissa Luukko, Meghan McCaffrey, Rhiannon McIntyre, Erin McTiernan, Rose Ngigi, Peninah Okuku, Amanda Pedjoe, Tania Rivera, Mark Robillard, Whitney Simonovitch, Kristi Sharp, Leif Torres, Yujia Wei

Sturbridge: Brian Cardrant, Tiondra DeBoise, Kristen Gaudet, Ethan Hunter-Mason, Agnieszka Orłowska, Jeannine Szumski

Uxbridge: Joseph Cafarella, Jason Dullaghan, Michael Dumican, Caitlyn Ellis, Shannon Gilmore, Stephanie Gosselin, Mycala Labbe, Taylor Lee, Gabrielle Morrow, Jocelyn Murzycki, Mariangela Pereira, Matthew Stark, Katie Vautrain

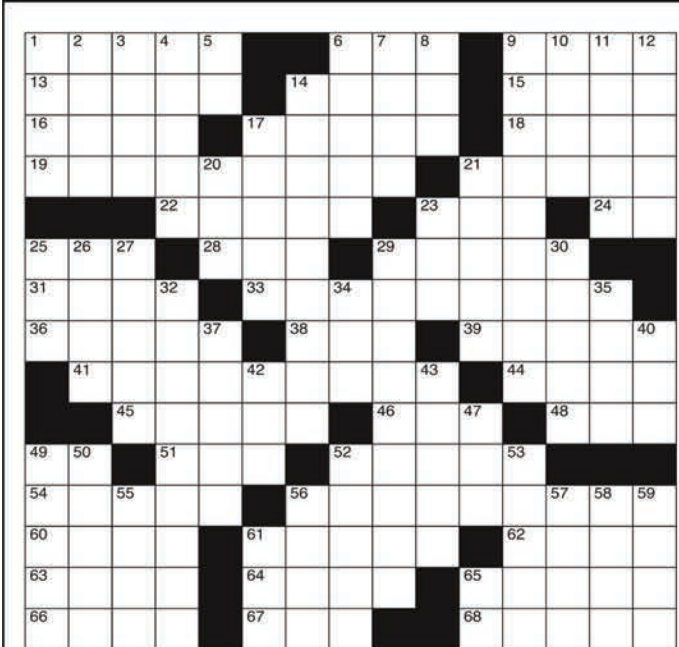
Wales: Stephen Hughes, Janelle VanHook

Webster: Krystle Bedrick, Ashley Belanger, Natalya Cazarreal, Tirso Cristian, Emily Cutler, Katelyn DiTullio, Tyler Ellis, Edna Makepeace, Jamie Marshall, Alexis Mazza, Eunice Osei, Sabina Potem, Heather Quinn, Joe Ramos, Ivette Rivera Toribio, Michael Russo, Sarah Mae San Agustín, Sara Soule, Apryl Vancellette, Gage Velez, Andrea Woodford

West Brookfield: Jenna Chisholm, Savannah Finney, Karen Laprise, Alexandra Mendenhall, Jasper Roche, Payton Wooldridge

Westborough: Audrey Buck, Franklin Burkey, Kevin D'Alto, Sowmya Gontla, Daniel Leinweber, Tania Montanez, Jennifer Morrissey, Caroline Nakabiili, Christopher Xu

Whitinsville: Forrest Amtmann, Jocelyn Arriaga, Jill Beschi, Kelly Buurma, Adam Dullea, Casey Hibbard, Nikole Kamishlian, Ian Kelly, Kimberly Lloyd, Melissa Lozeau, Rebecca Malo, Emily Miller, Charlotte Murphy, Juli Nasralla, Alexander Romero, Raquel Sabatino, Katie Sansoucy, Ian Schopf, Christina Woods



## CLUES ACROSS

1. American composer  
6. Very fast aircraft  
9. Workplaces  
13. A mount on a surface  
14. Small freshwater fish  
15. Double-reed instrument  
16. Canadian flyers  
17. Famed astronomer  
18. Smooth, shiny fabric  
19. Profited  
21. Conspiracy  
22. Infections  
23. Chum  
24. Secondary school (abbr.)  
25. Resistance unit  
28. Sound unit  
29. Ancient city of Egypt  
31. Crease  
33. Polished  
36. For goodness \_\_!  
38. College basketball tournament
39. Scorchers  
41. Describe precisely  
44. Thick piece of something  
45. Frocks  
46. Indicates near  
48. Senior enlisted US Army member  
49. A note added to a letter  
51. A nose or snout  
52. Clumsy  
54. Satisfied to the fullest  
56. Display of strong feeling  
60. Popular awards show  
61. Cuisine style  
62. Expresses pleasure  
63. Monetary unit of the Maldives  
64. Utah city  
65. Fight  
66. Messenger ribonucleic acid  
67. Body part  
68. Suspiciously reluctant

## CLUES DOWN

1. Fruit of the service tree  
2. At some prior time  
3. Mongolian city \_\_ Bator  
4. Strongboxes  
5. Russian river  
6. Gurus  
7. Horse mackerel  
8. Pearl Jam's debut album  
9. Confines  
10. First month of Jewish ecclesiastical year  
11. Famed Idaho politician  
12. Prevents from seeing  
14. Indicate time  
17. Male parents  
20. Tab on a key ring  
21. The Great Dog constellation: \_\_ Major  
23. Frying necessity  
25. Former CIA  
26. The leader  
27. Produces
29. London soccer club  
30. Closes  
32. Region in the western Pacific Ocean  
34. Not present  
35. Small drink of whiskey  
37. Begat  
40. Helps little firms  
42. Pointed end of a pen  
43. Fencing swords  
47. Inches per minute (abbr.)  
49. Hymn  
50. Philippine island  
52. Flemish names of Ypres  
53. A way to inform  
55. Small lake  
56. Linear unit  
57. Central Japanese city  
58. Partially burn  
59. Sports award  
61. Part of your foot  
65. Atomic #21



# Quinsigamond Community College to continue remote instruction this fall

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College will continue remote instruction for the Fall 2020 semester. According to QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja, the decision was made to ensure the safety of the College's students, faculty and staff.

"We did not make this decision lightly. The administration felt this was in the best interest of the QCC community with the continued uncertainty of COVID-19," President Pedraja said. "Due to the pandemic, we feel it's most prudent to leverage our experience and expertise with online and remote instruction and unprecedented support. This will allow for little to no disruption of services in the Fall, should the virus spike as predicted later this year. We will continue to monitor the situation, and follow the medical advice of local, state, and national organizations. A limited number of courses, such as labs or clinical experiences that require direct hands-on participation and cannot be delivered remotely, will be offered on campus, as long as we can do so safely."

QCC has a long history of online education and has offered hundreds of courses remotely prior to the pandemic. In early March, the College adapted quickly to the changing landscape and transitioned its in-person spring semester courses to remote instruction, in addition to delivering its full array of support services remotely.

Today, college students are facing an uphill battle as many are rethinking their fall college plans and looking for impossible guarantees from four-year schools that dorms will remain open for the academic year. Students looking for the "on campus" experience could find themselves

back home and out thousands of dollars in a few short weeks or months, should residential schools find they must move to a remote form of education delivery as they did this Spring.

"This pandemic is one that is transforming how we look at higher education," President Pedraja continued. "Right now, no one knows what the future holds and while we all want to be optimistic, we must be cognizant that our world may be forever changed. Making smart higher education decisions now, will pay off substantially in the future."

For more information on QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).

# Nichols students receive academic awards & scholarships

DUDLEY — Seventeen Nichols College students were recognized at the Academic Awards ceremony this spring. Their awards cover a variety of achievements, including overall academic achievement as well as excellence in specific majors such as English, Mathematics, Economics, Criminal Justice Management, and Business.

James Wolverson, of Webster received the John H. McClutchy, Jr. '72 Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship is given to a student who demonstrates financial need and an aptitude for quantitative analysis; preference is given to a graduate of one of these high schools: Thompson (public or parochial); parochial schools in Windham/ Worcester counties; Shepherd Hill; Bartlett; Southbridge; Burrillville; and public schools in Windham/ Worcester counties. The scholarship is renewable for subsequent years provided the recipient remains in good standing. Selection is made by Mathematics faculty.

William Tashjian, of Dudley received the Class of '55 Professor John Katori Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship was created by the Class of 1955 in honor of their graduating class and in memory of their classmate, John Katori, former accounting professor. Scholarship selection is open for all returning students entering their junior year, with a preference for students specializing in accounting. Selection is determined by Accounting faculty.

About Nichols College  
Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

# Congratulations, QVCC Class of 2020

DANIELSON, Conn. — Nearly 150 Quinebaug Valley Community College students will receive degrees and certificates in QVCC's 48th commencement, which will be virtually celebrated on QVCC's Facebook and Instagram pages. Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

Auburn: Kelsey L. Gallo  
Dudley: Kerrissa Danielle Cobb  
Oxford: Rosanne Marie Wheeler-Flint  
Southbridge: Brent Andrew Bohm, Kathryn Elizabeth Bohm, Kristen Anne LaFleche  
Webster: Jennifer L. McKinstry

# Ruda offers peek at Dudley reopening plans

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The first phase of reopening the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is under-way, and the town of Dudley is looking ahead to what this process will mean for the community and when town buildings and amenities might welcome the public once more.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda gave a brief layout of some of the town’s reopening plans prior to a public hearing on June 4, and said the town is preparing for an official reopening on July 6 with reduced schedules at the town hall.

“We’re still waiting for a local aid number and a chapter 70 number which hinders our ability now to actually reopen,” said Ruda, who noted that several employees are currently furloughed. “I don’t know how much further or how much deeper I have to cut for our June 22 town meeting.”

The Town Administrator didn’t provide too many more details on what

a reopened town hall would look like, or if this would include welcoming a limited number of residents back into the building. Those details may depend on staffing and other factors as the phased reopening progresses.

It’s not just the town hall that the town is looking at reopening, however. The town beach, a popular source of recreation for residents during the summer months, may be one of the first town amenities to welcome back a certain number of guests just in time to offer relief from the hot weather.

“We’re still waiting for a little more guidance that will come further down the line in Phase 2. If we can (reopen the beach), we’re going to shoot for a July opening,” Ruda said. “I want to try to get some funding through the Care Act because we may have to have people stationed at the bath house and the restroom facilities. I’d like to get a lifeguard there, but it may be a model where there’s no lifeguard on duty simply because of the lateness of the opening and our budget cuts.”

The Dudley Library

has been up front with their reopening plans. In May Library Director Drucilla Carter revealed their concept for accepting a limited number of visitors to the facility in the months to come. Ruda said he believes the library is shooting for a September reopening. Ruda also provided a brief update concerning the annual promotional held at Dudley Middle School. The ceremony celebrates elementary schoolers moving up to the middle school and middle schoolers graduating to the high school level. Ruda implied that they hope to hold the ceremony in some for in the near future.

Finally, the Town Administrator addressed the potential for restaurants to open outdoor serving areas in the weeks to come. He said the town is working on a streamlined process to help restaurants reopen while ensuring they are following health codes and COVID-19 guidelines.

“We’re looking at putting together a local application that will be available to businesses,” said Ruda. “It will be in concert with the governor’s announcement.

That will allow local business owners to come in, they’ll have the Board of Health there, the fire chief there, the building inspector there and we’ll be in a situation where we can fast track reopen-

ing. If they need to modify their outside seating capability we should be in a situation where all their requirements are met and get things back to business. For me that’s a great sign.”

Ruda is expected to provide further updates on Dudley’s reopening plans at upcoming Board of Selectmen meetings to be livestreamed on Zoom and Facebook Live.

## Oxford’s Elizabeth Schoemer named Salutatorian at Marianapolis

THOMPSON, Conn. — Elizabeth Schoemer, daughter of Markus and Kathleen Schoemer of Oxford was named the Marianapolis Preparatory School Class of 2020 salutatorian, earning the second highest academic spot in a class of 99 students. Elizabeth delivered the salutatory address at the School’s virtual graduation on May 30.



Elizabeth attended Oxford public schools prior to Marianapolis. She has a younger sister, Hannah, who is a sophomore at Marianapolis. With nine honors and seven AP® level courses, she earned the AP® Scholar with Honor recognition and was inducted as a member of both the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society. Elizabeth is a member of the Campus Activities Board and a Wellness Leader. She currently serves as the Head Coordinator of Spiritus, as a Peer Leader, and she is the Vice President of the Community Service Council. She received the St. Anselm College Book Award in 2019. During her time at Marianapolis, Elizabeth has been very involved in the dance program.

When asked what she would miss most about Marianapolis, Elizabeth responded, “It would be cliché to admit that there are countless things I will find bittersweet when I reminisce about my time at Marianapolis. Besides the overwhelming sense of comfort and support that the community provides, it will be the minutiae that I have overlooked throughout my time that I will one day miss most of all.”

She continues by saying she will miss the Dining Hall chicken tenders, the walk to her car parked by the water tower, Morning Meeting announcements, and of course her friends.

“Elizabeth has done a tremendous job for us in and out of the classroom,” remarked Head of School Joseph Hanrahan. “Elizabeth is a dedicated student who exemplifies all that is good about Marianapolis. She cares deeply about bettering our community as witnessed by the many roles she plays -- student leader, community service advocate, and a flag bearer of our Catholic faith. Trinity College is blessed to have Elizabeth join its community.”

Elizabeth will be attending Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. in the fall, where she plans to major in Engineering.

## COVID-19 relief response from MAPFRE

REGION — Tri-Valley, Inc. is pleased to announce a donation of \$8,000 from the Fundación MAPFRE.

Due to COVID-19, the need for home-delivered meals has grown and safety measures employed have greatly increased the cost of meals. The Foundation is supporting home-delivered meals for seniors during this pandemic and will also provide the necessary tools for our care managers to work remotely to ensure that meals and other essential services run efficiently.

Elisabeth Prince, Executive Director of Tri-Valley, Inc. stated, “We are thankful for the generosity of the Fundación MAPFRE for stepping up to help our response to the needs of our seniors during this pandemic. This support is key, not only to independent living, but to the health and well-being of our seniors.”

As an ‘essential’ service, Tri-Valley continues to provide services to seniors and younger disabled individuals. We are delivering Meals on Wheels, providing Care Management, In-home Services, Protective Services, and our Information & Resource team is fielding calls during this pandemic. If you need assistance, please give us a call at 508-949-6640; if you would like to make a donation, please mail to Tri-Valley, Inc., 10 Mill Street, Dudley, MA 01571 or donate online atwww.trivalleyinc.org.

Tri-Valley, Inc. is a private, non-profit agency providing in-home and community-based services in 25 towns located in South Central Massachusetts. The Agency receives funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and from the Federal government, under the Older American’s Act, processed through the Central Mass Agency on Aging.

## Tyler Lavigne named to Dean’s List at Plymouth State University

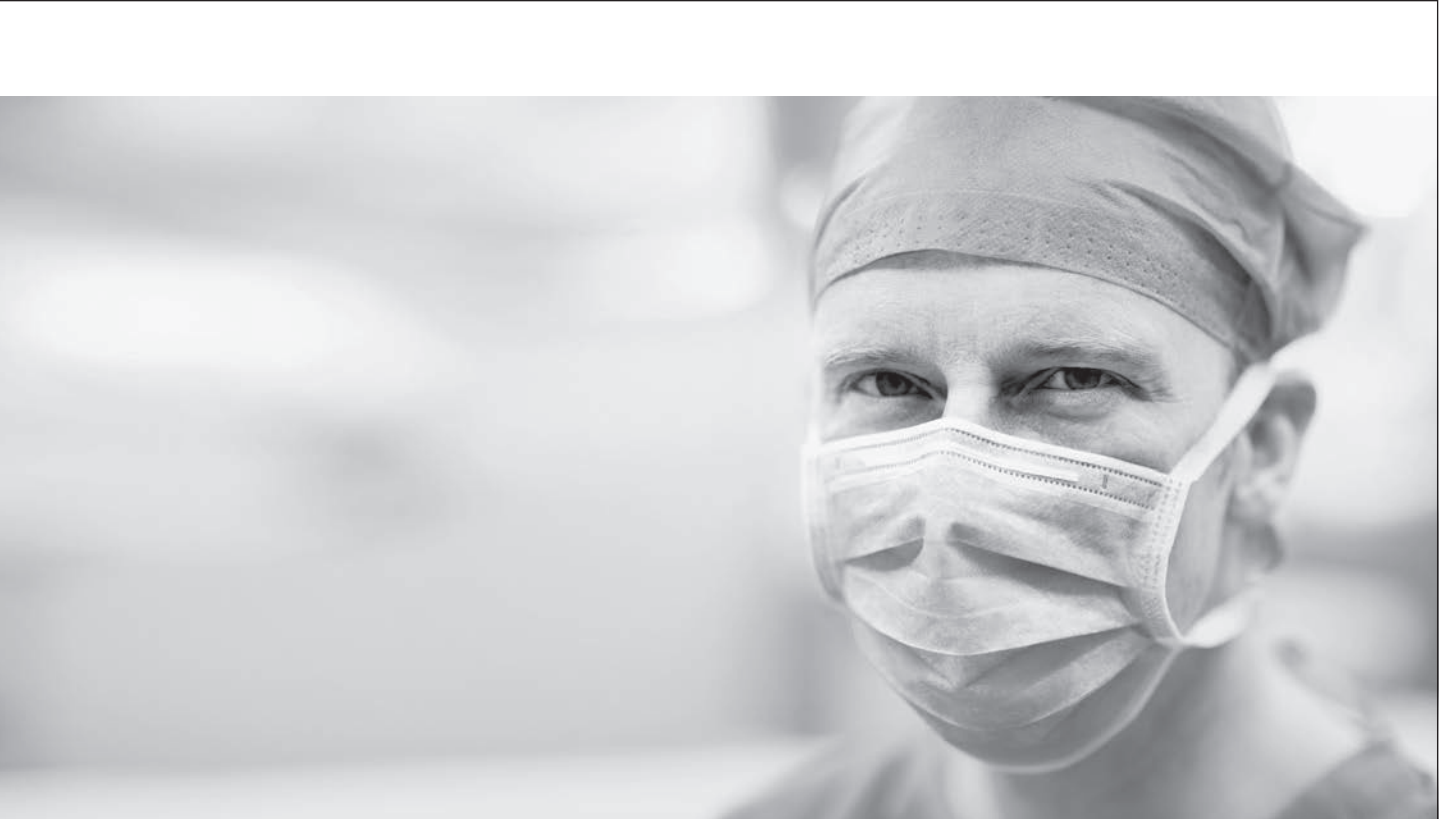
PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Tyler Lavigne of Dudley has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean’s List for the Spring 2020 semester. To be named to the Dean’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the spring semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Lavigne is a Marketing major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

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

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

RALLY

continued from page A1

Praising Cooper for being “our future,” Tamara Beland cited the famous erroneous translation of Webster Lake’s Native name as an example of the problem, part of which comes from social media moderators who use their platforms to spread hate, fearmongering and division.

By contrast, she argued, “We are not on sides. We are one Webster.” She praised Shaw for listening to the young people who came forward proposing the protest and for being willing to “join them and show them we are community.”

Indeed, several local officials participated, including three selectmen – Randy Becker, Andrew Jolda and Lisa Kontois – Town Administrator Doug Willardson and State Rep. Joe McKenna. The latter was the only one who spoke except Shaw, noting he’s never had the fear of police many black Americans have. Police and public officials, he argued, need to set an example “that every person should be treated equally.”

“I’m not happy that any of us have to be here to talk about how all lives matter,” he said, describing Floyd’s murder as “the despicable actions taken by a coward and his accomplices.”

“This is not Republican vs. Democrat. This is not right vs left. It’s right vs wrong,” he added.

Another white speaker, Troy Repekta, later phrased the same idea a bit differently: “This isn’t black vs white. It’s right vs wrong and all vs racism.” He noted he “lost friends” for supporting the Black Lives Matter movement but wrote them off.

While all lives matter, Repekta added, “Not everybody’s lives are in danger due to their skin color.”

For Jared Rice, the protest is not just about police brutality in the case of Floyd and others, but about a “a broken system” those acts symbolize. He said he was “out here for people who have been brutalized,” but “I hate being judged and am tired of judging people.”

“I’ve never seen something that was broken be fixed by kicking it and putting a band-aid on it,” he said before citing what he sees as the only solution: “Look at yourselves really quick. We are responsible for this,” and need to fix it collaboratively.

Similar urgings to keep it peaceful and cooperative wove through many speakers’ words, poems and songs. That included Chief Shaw, the last speaker at Town Hall.

“All my brother and sister officers were disgusted” and “sickened” by the news of Floyd’s killing by a police officer while other cops watched, Shaw said. “Your message is heard loud and clear. ... Change is never easy. You all can’t do it yourself, but ... together we are unstoppable.”

“Don’t let us forget,” he added. “We want to work with you. Show us how.”

Related rallies of various sizes have happened across the region in recent days, including Worcester, Barre, North Brookfield, Sturbridge and Northampton.

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

Webster First donates more than \$5,000 to local food pantries

WORCESTER — Webster First has been a proud community credit union since it first opened in 1928. It’s been an essential part of the credit union’s mission to show support for their communities by getting involved with local causes and organizations, and giving back through charitable donations.

During these uncertain times in which COVID-19 has affected the lives of the people in their communities, Webster First recognizes the importance of being there for them now more than ever. That’s why Webster First has donated more than \$5,000 to food pantries across their field of membership, to help support the people in the communities that they serve.

Below is the full list of food pantries and food banks that received a monetary donation:

- Auburn Youth & Family Services Food Pantry
- Douglas Community Food Outreach Program
- Friends of the Spencer Seniors Grace Ministries United Parish Food Pantry
- Greater Boston Food Bank
- Our Father’s House Neighbor’s Table Project Just Because Rutland Food Pantry Wachusett Food Pantry Webster-Dudley Food Share Winthrop Community Food Pantry Winthrop Veteran’s Food Bank/ Winthrop American Legion Post 146
- Worcester County Food Bank
- About Webster First
- Webster First Federal Credit Union serves the financial needs of Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk, and Worcester Counties. Webster First is one of the largest credit unions in Massachusetts with over \$1B in assets and serving over 77,000 members.

ELECTION

continued from page A1

the superintendent’s tenure. Although she agreed with Seddiki that Goguen has done a good job with community outreach, “on a personal level, she could get to know the students and staff better.”

Millet’s vision for her first term is to improve staff retention and have more of the teachers living in Webster. She’d also like to see the School Committee be more involved with the schools themselves, in terms of having meetings in each school and talking to kids, staff and parents about the needs and how the board can help.

“I want to make sure we can grow,” Millet said. To her, that means “getting kids to be active learners once again,” restoring classes and after-school activities that promote community involvement and showcase their talents, and getting them various services they need.

“They’re the source of what they need, and that’s why we need to talk to them,” Millett said.

“It’s all about having the community and parents feel comfortable being part of the school,” something she said has been an issue for many years in parts of the community.

Short-term, she said she wants to see “a good plan” for bringing the kids back to school in light of the Covid-19 issues because “that’s going to be very difficult.” That will mean including parents, kids, staff and administration in the process, Millet said.

She noted her father served on the Board of Selectmen in the 1950s, and her brother was once on the Finance Committee.

LINDA PERNO

Perno did not return a

Facebook message seeking comment over the weekend, but her campaign page noted she’s a long-time bus driver and now division manager at AA Transportation.

“I have no personal agenda in running for School Committee,” she wrote. “I understand the importance of what a successful school system can mean to a community. Webster is my hometown, and I would like to be a part of making this great town even greater by providing the tools our students need to succeed.”

Among other things, she cites wishing to “hold the district accountable,” provide communication, professional development and “personnel, technology and instructional materials to achieve expected levels of learning;” and “educate the community regarding the costs and benefits of a high performance school system.”

Perno notes she’s lived in town since 1996 with her husband Michael.

“Anyone who runs for an elected position needs to serve with a sense of humility and compassion,” Hurton said. “Working in the field of education has always been a very challenging profession but it has become even more difficult with unfunded mandates, unproductive standardized testing demands, and an increased demand for social and emotional support in our schools. These realities have increased the need for any School Committee member to understand his or her role of oversight and provide support for administrators.”

Minus the school-specific stuff, that could also be said of people running for selectmen. This year, there are two candidates for two open seats. Incumbent Andrew Jolda seeks a third term, while Planning Board member/Library Trustee Thomas Klebart seeks to fill the

seat being vacated by Don Bourque.

ANDREW JOLDA

Jolda said the last six years have been years of change in town government, particularly with a new administrator (Doug Willardson), new library, ongoing policy review, new personnel committee, and other issues.

“I’m hoping to continue that momentum,” he said. “... I like to believe I bring an open mind and a willingness to engage the people.”

But he noted he doesn’t come to the board with personal goals as much as to “look to the community for input” on what the needs are and work on those. In that vein, Jolda hopes to continue improving the water and sewer systems, economy and overall quality of life while addressing blight issues.

Jolda noted he grew up in town since 1993, eldest of five children, and is a small business owner, having recently started a company that does contract processing for mortgage bankers. He has a master’s in organizational leadership from Nichols College, which he said helps him to recognize “there’s always need for improvement” and to “see things from other points of view.”

THOMAS KLEBART

Klebart comes from a clan with deep roots in Webster, deep enough to have a road named after them. His grandfather served “12 or 13 terms” as selectman in the early 1900s, as did his brother later, and his father’s “lifelong involvement” included the housing board. Klebart himself is currently on the Planning Board, president of the Library Trustees, and a board member of Literacy Volunteers.

Like Jolda, he grew up in Webster, where he “married the girl next door” (Rena).

TRANSFER

continued from page A1

\$300 and \$225 for residents and seniors respectively that could change yearly. The fourth option is a publicly operated proposal with Pratt Trucking at a fixed cost of \$360 for residential permits and \$235 for senior permits guaranteed not to increase for three years. This plan also includes a \$320 permit fee for veterans and first responders and a \$396 permit fee for non-residents.

Ruda has stated on several occasions that due to the changing market for recycling and the fact that Dudley has actually lost money under the current contract the Casella plan would be the least desirable option for the town. During the public hearing Ruda also noted that the current model would possibly require cuts in an already lean budget for 2021 to make up for the projected financial losses.

During the nearly three-hour discussion, many commenters acknowledged that a change might be necessary, but they made it clear they do not want selectmen to rush into any decisions. The overwhelming opinion was that selectmen and the town administrator are moving too fast to implement a new plan especially under cur-

rent meeting limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These concerns boiled over when it was brought up that the town had the option of extending its Casella contract until October, a fact that had been presented during past selectmen meetings, giving the town an opportunity to buy more time to discuss new options.

Peter Fox, a former selectman and a member of the Personnel Board, recommended that the Board of Selectmen hold off on making any final decision until the next calendar year. While he acknowledged the increase in permit fees Fox felt they were manageable and agreed with others that it felt like the process felt rushed.

“I would strongly recommend, for now, that the Board of Selectmen seriously consider staying with our current plan with the increases to the residents to \$300 and the seniors to \$275 and keeping that plan for the year 2021. That will allow the Board of Selectmen and the administrator much more time to iron out all the bugs and the confusion and the questions. Don’t rush into this. Take your time. Promote the recycling center. This increase is extremely modest in my opinion. I think the Board of Selectmen have a responsibility that whatever decisions that they make let’s

get it right the first time,” said Fox.

Selectmen went on the defensive later in the meeting, when they were accused of possibly railroading the issue in hopes of a specific outcome, namely the pay as you throw option, and that the public wasn’t being presented with enough information. Selectmen and the town administrator took these comments seriously. Town Administrator Ruda said he worked hard through communications with local news publications and discussions at selectmen meetings to make sure everyone was aware of these proposals and the reasons behind his insistence for change. He also added that while a contract decision such as this does not require public approval Ruda felt that it was proper to approach the citizens for their input and he plans to take their comments to heart.

“I certainly wish we had more time, and that we weren’t operating under the circumstances that we’re in right now,” Ruda said. “It’s been very difficult to communicate anything under the current circumstances and being up against the contract it’s always a consideration. I think the best tool that I’ve gotten so far has been the feedback here tonight. Everyone seems to care about the future of the recy-

cling center. I wish I could have communicated it better. Under the circumstances I tried to put out everything I could.”

Selectman John Marsi further responded to claims that selectmen were pushing for a specific result saying he didn’t appreciate the accusations and that no selectman had made up their minds.

“We’re a data driven board. We always have been,” said Marsi. “I want everybody to feel they’ve been heard. We’re not just going to rush into this. I know what everybody hears, and they gossip about it, it’s just not going to happen like that. We’ve never rushed into a decision that wasn’t right for this town. This board has a track record and I’m going to stand by it.”


Several other selectmen ensured citizens that their minds were not made up. Selectman Kerry Cyganiewicz made it clear he had not stated a preference for any specific option on the table while selectman Jason Johnson said the town is looking at “appropriate issues” and he doesn’t feel like the transfer station discussion is being rushed.

The Board of Selectmen was expected to further discuss the fate of the transfer station contract and possibly vote on the matter during a meeting on June 8.

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

ties as well as notable service to the St. Joseph Community. The student’s name is also engraved on a plaque displayed in the school: Kyleigh Czechowski; Sister Mary Valenta Akalski Scholarship Award - given to students who will be continuing their education at a Catholic High School: Toriana Baldassari, Robert Broden, Roksana Chruslicka, Riana Conlon, Tessa McCabe, Katrina Pikielniak, Wiktorja Potem (Marianapolis Preparatory School), Matthew Krysinski and Adrian Sobczak (St. John’s High School); Arthur McLean Scholarship - presented to a student who will be continuing his/her education at Marianapolis Preparatory School: Wiktorja Potem.

Finally, Athletic Director Joey Boudreau presented the Coach “Reggie” Proulx Memorial Athletic Award. This award recognizes an eighth grade girl varsity basketball player for her dedication, sportsmanship, and commitment. St. Joseph School is proud to announce that the 2020 recipient is Wiktorja Potem. Her name will be engraved on the plaque and prominently displayed at the school. In addition, Mr. Boudreau announced the creation of a new Athletic Award: The Richard J. Skrocki Founders Athletic Award. Mr. Skrocki was instrumental in creating the boys’ basketball program at St. Joseph School in the early 1970’s. He started the team and coached until 1978. In later years, he was also involved in the girls’ basketball program. Mr. Skrocki is a science teacher, as well as Dean of Students at St. Joseph School. He is highly respected by his colleagues and students. The award, named in his honor, will be presented annually to an eighth grade boy varsity basketball player who also exhibits dedication, sportsmanship, and commitment on and off the basketball court. The 2020 recipient is Daniel Gronek. His name will be engraved on the plaque and prominently displayed in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium. Congratulations, students!



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*BRENDAN BERUBE*  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

United  
we stand,  
divided  
we fall

In the 6th century B.C., Aesop shared a fable about the Lion and The Four Oxen. The story, if you have not heard it, goes like this....

A lion used to prowl around a field where four oxen dwelled. Several times, he would try to eat them but whenever he approached the four oxen would back their tales up to each other with their bodies pointed outward in different directions. No matter what direction the lion approached, he was met by the horns of one of them and could do nothing. Finally, the oxen began quarreling amongst themselves, and so each went off to a pasture of their own in a separate corner of the field. Then the lion attacked them one by one and soon made an end to all four.

Aesop's moral to this tale has become one of the most well known sayings of our time, "United we stand, divided we fall." President Abraham Lincoln parroted the sentiment in his acceptance speech, made in the year 1858: "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

As of late, it seems the division throughout the country and even in our small communities has grown deeper. What we noticed, however, is that most well minded, kind, compassionate, intelligent people all want the same things. To be happy and successful. The arguments ensue, when people have different ideas on how to reach such a state of success in our government, and even in our own lives. When one person thinks we should reach A by doing X and Y, and another thinks we should reach A by doing Z, tempers flare. We want to remind you, that there is no reason to get heated when talking to a friend or colleague. Getting heated at a stranger is even more inappropriate. It's ok if someone disagrees with you. Remain calm.

What needs to unfold is the ability to hear each other out with a listening ear. Where one person's experience ends, another's begins. Solutions always appear in that middle area, where compromises are made.

To be steadfast in your beliefs is important, but it's even more important to exercise some flexibility, that is where growth takes place. This is where we can learn from someone who doesn't think the same way we do. It does not make a person weak, when there is a mind shift. It makes them smart.

We're seeing a lot of arguing on social media, people publicly going back and forth and the thread never ends with any real change being made. If you want to have a meaningful, productive conversation with someone online, take it to a private message, where the world isn't watching. In the public eye, we all can be defensive.

Now, there are extremists on both sides of any argument, in those cases, there's not much you can do. There are people who want to see things through one lens and one lens only. Fine, let them. You will also see ignorance and evil come flying out of the mouths of those you never thought capable, fine let them. Remember that the majority of the people in this country want to unify. It comes down to common sense. United we stand, divided we fall. That statement couldn't ring truer.

Be strong enough in character, where you are a leader, whether in your own community, at work or in your own family. Unity should always be the end goal. Therefore, if you see someone that disagrees with you, and you want to unify, have a conversation that will do just that.

Sometimes simply saying, "Hey the country is really divided right now, how can we start to unify on a small scale?" That question puts both people in a position to come up with a solution that works for everyone. Then the domino effect takes hold. Then unity happens, then change, then success.

In the words of author Ken Blanchard, "None of us is as smart, as all of us."

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Politics is our best hope for protecting our democracy

To the Editor:

I agree with part of Gary Moore's column "Remaining Optimistic in a Negative Media World." But given the present dangerous situation, people have to be realistic. We have to work to protect our Constitution. Stay in touch

with your members of Congress to urge them to strengthen our democracy. Politics can be nasty business, as Mr. Moore says, but it's our best tool for protecting our country.

OLIVIA PRUNIER  
OXFORD

Please consider me as a write-in

To the Editor:

My name is Richard Clark, and I am currently on both the Pearle L. Crawford Library Board of Trustees and the Dudley Planning Board. I attempted to secure the required number of signatures for both open offices in order for my name to appear on the June 15 Town of Dudley Ballot. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and a number of family health concerns, I was unable to do so.

As I understand it, there are no candidates on the printed ballot for either position. I have been both appointed and elected to the Library Board of Trustees in the past and am currently

completing a one-year unexpired term. This is my first year on the Planning Board and again it is the remainder of an unexpired term.

I have faithfully participated in the meetings of both boards, and hope to continue to do so. I ask for your consideration on June 15. When you do vote, please remember to fill in the oval on the ballot and write in the name of your choosing.

Thank you for your time, and please remember to vote on June 15.

Be well and stay safe,

RICHARD CLARK  
DUDLEY

All Saints has risen to the challenge of a changed world

To the Editor:

On New Year's Eve 2020, as we toasted and readied our resolutions, could any of us have anticipated how the world would change in just a few months? Would any of us have believed it if a prophet had shared their premonition of how the world would soon change?

In this surreal time, I am writing to sing the praises of the entire staff of All Saints Academy. More than two months ago, when this quarantine first began, we all had to shift and reinvent our daily routines. I myself teach in a neighboring community, where there was "no plan", when we first learned that March 13 would be our last day of on site learning. To quote my superintendent, "We were building a plane, while flying it." We began virtually teaching a week later.

All Saints, on the other hand, immediately rose to the occasion. All the teachers were trained on that Friday, and gathered up all the materials students would need, in the coming weeks. By Saturday the 14th, all families received an email directing us to come to the Negus Street parking lot on Sunday afternoon. We arrived to a precision like organized pick up. The staff directed us to drive one way into the parking lot where each teacher had carefully labelled a bag containing all the learning materials our student would need for the next few weeks of learning, books, white boards etc. You pulled up, your child's teacher came to the car and deposited your student's thoughtfully

gathered materials into your vehicle., no contact. It was a well orchestrated military-like operation. The entire staff, teachers as well as office personnel and administration greeted us with a smile and a wave of encouragement. They were up and running on Monday the 15th, with no lapse in learning at all. We were given an easy to follow weekly calendar outlining classes for each day. In addition to the academics, these calendars include enrichment activities provided by the Art, Music and Technology teachers, they've even managed to offer Phys Ed. When it became clear that the quarantine would be more than a few weeks, a second pick-up was organized.

Furthermore, in addition to attending to our student's educational needs, they set up Virtual meetings with parents to check in with us, and our families, getting our feedback. How's it going? How's your student finding the workload? Is it too much? Should we add additional opportunities? They were truly interested in the mechanics of the distance learning plan as well as in the mental well being of our families? I cannot express how their preparedness and organization provided stability during this transition and alleviated the stress of one more thing, as we began to work from home.

Kudos and sincere thank you's to the amazing staff at All Saints!

Very truly yours;

PAULINE MUELLER  
WEBSTER

Please consider me for Library Trustee position

To the Editor:

I would appreciate your consideration in the June 15 town election as a write-in candidate for Dudley's Library Board of Trustees.

I just learned of a recent vacancy on the board, and would love to serve as a Trustee.

I have been a longtime patron of the library and enjoyed many of the excellent services provided.

My children participated in Story Time and Summer Reading programs

and I have benefited from so many of the adult programs offered over the years.

Several years ago, as Treasurer of the Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library, I filed all the federal paperwork to qualify the library for 501(c)(3) status so we could accept donations for the construction of the current building, which has served the community for ten years already.

I would like to be involved again by planning policy and programming

It has been an honor to serve our community

To the Editor:

You may have heard that I have retired after 23 years of service as Executive Director of the United Way of Webster and Dudley, and that we have merged with the United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge and Charlton to form the United Way of South Central Mass.

I wish to express my appreciation to all of our wonderfully generous individual donors and corporate partners, without who we could not have accomplished so much. I hope you will all con-

tinue to support the new United Way. I also wish to thank all the members of our Board of Directors over all our years of service for their friendship and kindness. Their volunteer commitment to our organization guided our mission and success.

Special thanks to Director Brian Perry, who is the longest serving member of our Board with over 30 years of continuous service. And to President Bill Keefe, who will continue to serve as President of the new United Way. Many of our current Board members will be continuing on in service to the

Keep your shoes on when driving



CHIEF'S  
CORNER

STEVE  
WOJNAR

As strange as it seems, given our current situation, summer will be officially upon us soon. A common question I am asked during this time is, can a person drive a vehicle with bare feet? I wanted to take this opportunity to provide some information on this.

The short answer, in Massachusetts, is yes you can. However, many other states do not allow this. Even though it is not prohibited specifically by law, I would advise against driving this way. Should an accident or other violation occur, the driver could be liable. One potential violation is "impeded operation." It is found under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 Section 13 and states in part, "No person, when operating a motor vehicle shall permit to be on or in the vehicle or on or about his person anything which may interfere with or impede the proper operation of the vehicle or any equipment by which the vehicle is operated or controlled..." This definition covers many situations. The key phrase here is "on or about your person." If the lack of footwear impedes the safe and proper operation of the vehicle, such as injuring your foot while moving between pedals, this can have a direct impact on your driving. A violation of this law carries a \$35 civil fine.

It is important to observe the proper care while driving a car. Appropriate footwear should be one piece of equipment every driver uses. This small precaution could make a big impact in preventing an accident.

In addition to the Coronavirus Pandemic, there is a great deal of turmoil taking place in our state and around the country. We continue to serve the people of Dudley and work with the community to improve the quality of life for everyone. I continue to thank the men and women from my department for their continued dedicated service to the Town of Dudley during these trying times. Thanks also go out to the many Police Officers, Fire and Emergency Services members, public works and government employees, hospital workers, grocery and retail workers, and all other "essential" personnel for their continued hard work and service.

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.

alongside the Trustees, Director and fine staff, and assist the Friends moving forward.

Please write my name and address in, below the published Library Trustee candidate names, and fill in the oval to the right.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

KATHY SANDSTROM  
DUDLEY

new United Way of South Central Mass. as well.

I wish to thank the community for the opportunity to help so many people over my time in service. I also want to thank all of our funded partners, who really are making a difference for local residents every day! It has been an honor to serve, and my heart is filled with gratitude and joy!

Sincerely,

Janet Schaffer

FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
UNITED WAY OF WEBSTER AND  
DUDLEY

Attacks on Chief Straw are unwarranted

To the Editor:

I have been a Webster resident since 1986, moving here with my parents; during that time, I have grown to love this town and work to improve it. I have served on the Fire Department for 23 years, I have served on the Zoning Board of Appeals, Board of Health, Conservation Commission and the Finance Committee. I have served in one way or another since I was 16 years old, and I am now 45.

I know our current Chief of Police, personally and professionally. Chief Shaw is someone who is genuine, humane and empathetic. These are no faults, these are strengths! Chief Shaw rose through the ranks of the Webster Police Department until he was made

Chief, and it was a great achievement for a great man! I have worked with Chief Shaw through many issues over my career and he was always professional and empathetic.

Chief Shaw does not deserve any of the abuse he is currently taking. The Chief was one of the first people I saw to come out against the murder of George Floyd, and that makes me proud! Both as someone I can call my friend and someone that I know would not stand for that type of behavior from any of his officers. My wife and son were at the same demonstration and my wife and son laid down on our Main Street the same as the Chief did! I support Chief Shaw!

The behavior must stop in this country, and the behavior of calling for his

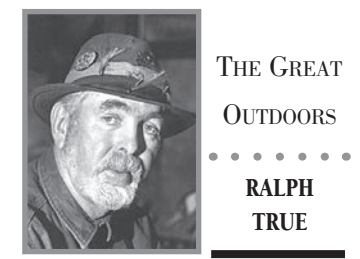
resignation must stop right now! I am proud he is the Police Chief of my community, and I wish more people that call themselves leaders of this country take a lesson from Chief Shaw! He did the right thing.

In closing, I support this protest, I support those that are afraid to go out at night or afraid to be pulled over for the color of their skin, their sexual preference or any other hate that goes along with it. I believe in the good of people, and I believe all lives matter!

Sincerely,

MATHEW M. FITTON  
WEBSTER

# A service for those who served



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH  
TRUE

Charter boat Captain Mark Pettitt of “Firehouse Charters” in Plymouth volunteers his services every year to servicemen & women that love fishing. Pettitt is part of a group called the Veteran Anglers Association. The Veteran Anglers organization have five boat Captains that offer their services to the program with two boats in Connecticut, one in Rhode Island and one boat in Maine and Massachusetts! The organization is funded by donations, and by numerous functions that are held each year. If you would like to donate to this worthy program or find out more about the group, contact Mark Pettitt at 1-508-326-3185. This week’s picture shows a veteran angler with a cod he caught on one of the recent trips aboard Captain Pettitt’s boat.

fished the Providence River hoping to catch a legal-size fish to take home for the dinner table, but that did not happen. There were thousands of (porgies) in the river and snagging a few to fish with was easy, but there were very few bass in the area feeding on them. Many reports still say that the stripers are late, and by the time you read this column things could be totally different. We did manage to lose a few live porgies to bluefish in the area as this week’s picture shows. It is amazing how the bluefish could steal half of the porgy without getting hooked. I also tried placing the hook a bit farther back, but the bluefish managed to miss the hook by less than one half inch. Because of a new law, we are required to use circle hooks when using live bait or chunk baits this year and many anglers dislike them already. Love or hate circle hooks they are here to stay for a while.

Freshwater anglers are still catching some nice fish in local lakes and ponds, but finding live bait to fish with is becoming a lot harder to purchase. Local Bait & Tackle shops have reported a shortage of shiners, which is a favorite bait to



fish with for many freshwater anglers.

Back in the day mummy chubs were caught in the salt-water tributaries of the state & were used to fill the shortage of bait back then. Chubs were a lot cheaper to buy back then, and were a lot more active even after having a hook stuck through them. They were a favorite bait for ice fishermen also.

They were easy to keep for the next day of fishing by simply placing them in some seaweed and kept in an old refrigerator or cooler. Catching your own live bait is not as easy



as it was 20 or 30 years ago. Many rivers and small ponds still have a small population of redbfin shiners, but you need to know where to go. Purchasing a minnow trap at your local tackle shop and doing a bit of research could have you locating some live bait. No special license is needed. My brother Ken and his son Mark trolled some streamer fly’s at Webster Lake and had a great day catching Browns, Rainbow trout, along with a couple of small mouth bass last week.

In the last 20 years or so, a large decrease in the bullfrog

population was noticed by this writer. Living on the banks of the West River in Uxbridge I could always listen to the frogs from my front porch during early morning and evening hours. I was excited to hear the croak of the bull frogs again this spring, and hope that their populations have started to rebound, at least in my area.

I know that the snake population has increased over the past years and are more than likely responsible for the decline. At one time, Fish & Wildlife was requiring a license to harvest frogs, but realized it was not that popular, and dropped the frog license. Frog legs are a delicacy, but are rarely eaten by today’s residents.

This past week, a good friend and fellow sportsmen Roy Underwood of North Uxbridge passed away in a local rest home after a lengthy illness. Roy loved the outdoors and enjoyed Pheasant hunting and goose hunting with his good friend Bob Brooks. He was a life member of the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family, and many friends.

*Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!*

## Manage mosquitoes for a safer and more enjoyable summer

Don’t let the buzz of mosquitoes keep you indoors. Most mosquitoes are a nuisance, causing rashes and itching but some species can transmit diseases that can make you sick. Understanding how they breed and spread disease can help you gain the upper hand in the battle against these pesky insects.

Mosquitoes serve as a carrier (vector) in the spread of certain diseases. It starts when they feed on an animal infected with heartworms or an animal or person with West Nile, Saint Louis Encephalitis, Zika or other mosquito-vectored disease. The young heartworm or virus is taken in with the mosquito’s blood meal. The heartworm larvae or virus is then transmitted to other organisms when the mosquito feeds on them.

Always take precautions when traveling to other regions. Find out about the health risks of the area and come prepared. Consult with your doctor and be sure to pack repellent and the appropriate clothing.

At home, start by eliminating mosquito breeding grounds. These insects



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

need standing water to reproduce. The larvae hatch and feed on tiny organisms in the water. Once they morph into adults, they leave the water and look for animals and people to dine upon.

Get rid of any standing water to eliminate breeding grounds in your landscape. Clean clogged gutters where water can collect and mosquitoes can breed. Empty water that collects in any items left outside. Change the water in your birdbath at least once a week or anytime you water your container gardens.

Toss an organic mosquito control, like Mosquito Dunks and Mosquito Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com), into your rain barrel, pond or other water feature. Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population, while Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of mosquito control. The active ingredient is Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis, a naturally occurring soil bacterium that kills the mosquito larvae but is safe for children, fish, pets, beneficial insects and wildlife.

Invite the songbirds into your backyard with birdhouses, birdbaths and feeders. Most of them feed on insects,



Photo Courtesy

**Mosquitoes serve as a carrier in the spread of certain diseases, including West Nile, Saint Louis Encephalitis, Zika and other mosquito-vectored diseases.**

including mosquitoes and garden pests, while adding color, motion and beauty to your landscape.

Keep the garden weeded. Mosquitoes rest in shrubs, trees and weeds during the day. Removing weeds and managing neglected garden spaces will make your landscape less inviting to these pests.

Further protect yourself by wearing light colored clothing, long sleeves and long pants when enjoying the outdoors. Apply EPA-approved repellents as

directed on the label.

Use a fan when sitting on the porch or even working in the garden. The gentle breeze helps keep the weak-flying mosquitoes away.

Then add a bit of ambience to your next party by lighting a few citronella candles. Citronella oil and the scented candles do have some mosquito-repelling properties. Scatter lots of candles throughout the party and within a few feet of your guests for some short-term relief.

And be sure to keep mosquitoes out of your house. Repair windows and screens that may be providing easy access into your home.

Taking a few precautions will help you manage these pests so you can enjoy the outdoor summer activities you love.

*Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda’s Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers’s Web site is www.melindamyers.com.*

## I’m optimistic that common sense will prevail

What a mess ...

The tragic and unjustified death of George Floyd has shaken the soul of our nation and broken our collective hearts. It is compounded by the realization that he was murdered by someone we should have been able to trust. It wasn’t just murder but preceded by eight agonizing minutes of torture. There is no excuse for what happened. There is no justification possible. I grieve for the Floyd family. I believe we all do.

As usual, a tragedy, that should spur positive change, has been hijacked, not for George Floyd or his family, but for a political ideology. The conversations are now all being directed by the extremists and it’s turned into violence and more death.

What about the “Common-Sense Majority?” I’ll coin the phrase here. I think it’s a great descriptive label for most Americans.

What does the “common-sense majority” want? They want to be safe. They want to be left alone to raise their families, build their careers, and start small businesses. They want the opportunity to own their home and pursue the American Dream.

There is no color attached to the common-sense majority. I believe most black, brown, and white parents want the same. They want to build a happy and successful family and safe life. Above all, they want to know when their kids leave home, they’ll safely return.

Yes, black lives matter. I have no problem saying it. I believe it. It doesn’t mean that all lives don’t matter, it just means that the average black person in America is at greater risk. Unfortunately, the idea that black lives matter has been hijacked to become a political hashtag and the common-sense majority see it. Most are just afraid to say it because if you disagree with any part of the narrative, you risk being verbally assaulted.

Looting, burning, and destroying property is not a form of legitimate protest. Those politicians and political leaders defending these actions are only perpetuating the problem to gain favor with those committing violence.

We all know the name George Floyd and should ... but does the name

Miosotis Familia ring a bell? Probably not. She’s not given much attention at all and there is a reason.

ABC reported, “An on-duty New York City police officer was killed early Wednesday after a gunman walked up to a police vehicle and fired one round through a window, authorities said. Officer Miosotis Familia, a 12-year veteran assigned to the New York City Police Department’s 46th Precinct’s anti-crime unit, was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx, where she was pronounced dead at 3:37 a.m. ET. She was 48 years old, according to police sources.”

What the above statement didn’t say, is she was black. Much was made of George Floyd’s color but not Miosotis Familia. Did her black life not matter? The truth is that her story didn’t fit the narrative, so her life didn’t matter to this movement. Her death didn’t advance their agenda, so there will be

they believe in. I know most protestors are peaceful and well-meaning, law-abiding citizens who are saddened and hurt. Unfortunately, the criminal element arrives, and the legitimate protestors go home as their protest is hijacked by an angry mob with a violent and destructive purpose.

The common-sense majority will not violently protest, loot, or burn buildings. They deeply care but will not hurt others or destroy property to make their point. They support common sense politicians and vote out, for example, those who believe a nation without police would not devolve into chaos and mob rule.

The common-sense majority of all race, religion or political leanings must stand up and be counted. I believe they will. We cannot let our nation devolve into a lawless society run by those manipulating emotion and causing harm for their political gain. Yes, I said we. I am a



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING  
.....  
GARY W.  
MOORE

member of the common-sense majority.

We as a nation are better than this.

I continue to grieve and pray for the family of George Floyd. We must demand justice, but I also grieve for the family of Officer Miosotis Familia. Does her family not deserve justice also?

I’m optimistic. Common sense will prevail.

*Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.*

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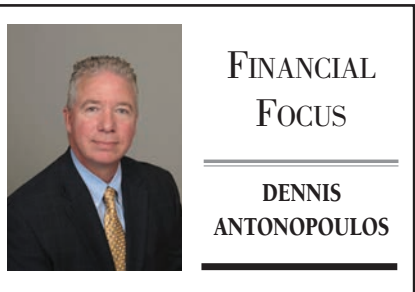
# Know risk tolerance at different stages of life

As an investor, you'll always need to deal with risk of some kind. But how can you manage the risk that's been made clear by the recent volatility in the financial markets? The answer to this question may depend on where you are in life.

Let's look at some different life stages and how you might deal with risk at each of them:

When you're first starting out ... If you're early in your career, with perhaps four or even five decades to go until you retire, you can likely afford to invest primarily for growth, which also means you'll be taking on a higher level of risk, as risk and reward are positively correlated. But, given your age, you have time to overcome the market downturns that are both inevitable and a normal part of investing. Consequently, your risk tolerance may be relatively high. Still, even at this stage, being over-aggressive can be costly.

When you're in the middle stages ... At this time of your life, you're well along in your career, and you're probably working on at least a couple of financial goals, such as saving for retirement and possibly for your children's college education. So, you still need to be investing for growth, which means you'll likely need to maintain a relatively high risk tolerance. Nonetheless, it's a good idea to have some balance in your portfolio, so you'll want to consider a mix of investments that align with each of your



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goals.

When you're a few years from retirement ... Now, you might have already achieved some key goals – perhaps your kids have finished college and you've paid off your mortgage. This may mean you have more money available to put away for retirement, but you'll still have to think carefully about how much risk you're willing to take. Since you're going to retire soon, you might consider rebalancing your portfolio to include some more conservative investments, whose value is less susceptible to financial market fluctuations. The reason? In just a few years, when you're retired, you will need to start taking withdrawals from your investment portfolio – essentially, you'll be selling investments, so, as much as possible, you'll want to avoid selling them when their price is down. Nonetheless, having a balanced and diversified portfolio doesn't fully protect against a loss. However, you can further reduce the future risk of being overly dependent on selling variable investments by devoting a certain percentage of your portfolio to cash and cash equivalents and designating this

portion to be used for your daily expenses during the years immediately preceding, and possibly spilling into, your retirement.

When you're retired ... Once you're retired, you might think you should take no risks at all. But you could spend two or three decades in retirement, so you may need some growth potential in your portfolio to stay ahead of inflation.

Establishing a withdrawal rate – the amount you take out each year from your investments – that's appropriate for your lifestyle and projected longevity can reduce the risk of outliving your money. Of course, if there's an extended market downturn during any time of your retirement, you may want to lower your withdrawal rate temporarily. As you can see, your tolerance for risk, and your methods of dealing with it, can change over time. By being aware of this progression, you can make better-informed investment decisions.

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](mailto:dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com). Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

# Summertime Lawn Care Tips

A recent past column touched on a few lawn tending tips. Based on a request from a reader for more basic lawn tips, the following compilation of hints and ideas from past columns is offered:

If the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence - it may be time to review the basics of lawn care.

A beautiful lawn is worth the effort. And properly groomed grass doesn't offer only aesthetic benefits. An average sized lawn creates enough oxygen to meet the needs of a family of four every day, is a natural provider for our ecosystem, and can boost property value by nearly ten percent! Need another reason invest time and energy into your lawn? Ponder this: The front lawns of a block of eight average houses have the cooling effect of about 70 tons of air conditioning-enough to cool 16 average houses. On a hot summer day, grass can be 10 to 14 degrees cooler than exposed soil and as much as 30 degrees cooler than concrete or asphalt. And it also provides oxygen. A 50' x 50' well-maintained grass area will create enough oxygen to meet the needs of a family



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

**Watering Your Way to a Lush Lawn:** When and how much you water your lawn can determine lawn success. If you subscribe to the old rule of thumb of watering for a short time each day, you may want to rethink your strategy. Lawn experts claim a healthy lawn with a good root system doesn't require watering more than one to three times per week. The bottom line? Your lawn needs about an inch of water once every seven to 10 days to grow strong roots.

Still not convinced when it comes to watering less is more? Keep in mind frequent shallow watering leads to shallow root growth because roots only grow where the soil is moist. Shallow root growth can make a lawn more susceptible to heat stress and drought damage. On the other hand, if you water too much and saturate the lawn, you run the risk of suffocating grass roots. In saturated soil, deep roots can't get air and die. The only roots that survive will be those near the surface.

Your goal in irrigating should be to wet the soil where the grass roots are growing, no more and no less. To achieve this, experts advise wetting the top six inches of the soil thoroughly. To gauge how long you should run your sprinkler to achieve the six inch mark, place a few tin cans around the yard and run the sprinkler for a set amount of time. Then measure the accumulation to figure out how long it will take to equal six inches.

Despite the best intentions, watering a lawn thoroughly enough to wet the soil at least six inches deep is often easier said than done. Most sprinkler systems apply water much faster than the soil can absorb it. As a result the water just runs off, especially if you have a sloped landscape. To control runoff, take periodic pauses in watering by turning off the sprinklers to allow the water to seep in.

Compacted soil is another cause of water runoff. Soil compaction also restricts air, water and nutrient entry and slows root development. Remedy this by aerating the soil. Keep in mind lawns with deep roots can be watered less often than lawns with shallow root systems.

Also, let the weather work for you. Keep a rain gauge to determine how often you will need to water your lawn. For example, if it rains an inch, you can skip watering until next week!

**Water at the Right Time of the Day:** Early morning is by far the best time for watering lawns. For optimum efficiency and success, try to water in the wee morning hours. The high humidity and morning dew adds to the moisture quota, and evaporation of the water is lessened during this time. If you cannot water in the morning, irrigate after sunset. But remember, early morning watering helps to prevent lawn diseases that can be caused by watering at night because it gives your lawn time to dry by night fall.

**Mowing Minders:** Experts say a common mowing mistake is cutting your grass too short, particular for cool season grasses. Higher heights usually provide for a deeper root system, looks better, and is less likely to have weeds invading, particularly crabgrass.

Lawn pros advise adjusting your blade so that you never remove any more than one third of the grass leaf at any one cutting. By doing so, you can safely leave clippings that will quickly decompose and add valuable nutrients back into the soil.

The direction you mow your lawn is also important. For best results, your lawn in a different direction with each mowing.. Altering the direction gives you an even cut and will prevent your grass growing in a set pattern.

To ensure a good cut, make sure your lawn mower blade is sharp, which may translate into sharpening it at least three times during mowing season.

Want to up your odds of a lush lawn? Try mowing during the moon phases. Here's how: If you want your lawn to grow, mow it during new or first quarter moon. If you want your lawn to grow more slowly, mow it during a full or last quarter moon.

**Lawn Statistics:** That patch of backyard grass is much more beneficial than you think. Consider these lawn statistics:

\*Healthy, dense lawns absorb rainfall six times more effectively than a wheat field, four times better than a hay field, and prevents runoff and erosion of our precious top soil. It also traps much of the estimated 12 million tons of dust and dirt released into the US atmosphere annually. Lawns also purify water entering into underground aquifers–its root mass and soil microbes act as a filter to capture and breakdown many types of pollutants.

\*Increases real estate market value and saleability. A Gallup Survey reported 62% of all US homeowners felt investment in lawns and landscaping was as good or better than other home improvements. The investment recovery rate is 100-200% for landscape improvement, compared to a deck or patio that will recover 40-70% of installation cost. Proper and well maintained landscaping adds 15% to a home's value according to buyers.

\*Recovery rates among hospitalized patients are often quicker when their rooms view a landscaped area compared to patients with non-landscaped views.

\*Playing fields covered with dense turf have proven safer, as demonstrated by a simple egg drop test. When a dozen raw eggs were dropped from a height of 11 feet onto a two-inch thick piece of dense turf, none broke; two thirds broke on thin turf from that height, and from just 18 inches, all broke on an all-weather track.

# Gillian Guillemette named to President's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Gillian Guillemette of Webster has been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Spring 2020 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Spring 2020 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Guillemette is an Early Childhood Education major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

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

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**Hi! My name is David and I love board games!**

David is a very polite boy of Caucasian descent. He has a great sense of humor and loves to be silly with others. David loves to take on new challenges. He enjoys swimming and has been considering playing sports as well. David loves to play outside and shows his inventive and imaginative skills when doing so. A big interest of David's is playing board games, especially Monopoly, which he explains is his greatest talent. David has expressed his many goals and aspirations, including his interest in being a police officer when he is older.

Legally freed for adoption, David does well with structure, routine and clear and concise expectations. He also would do well with having his own bedroom. He has no preference for family constellation but would like at least one other child in his new home. He currently has contact with his siblings, and it is very important that this is maintained after adoption as well. David would do very well in a family that could supply clear rules, structure, and expectations for him. Ultimately David expresses his wish to be safe and secure in a home and have the ability to still have a relationship with his siblings.

**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 617-6273 or visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



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<sup>1</sup>DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 7/11/2020. You must set your appointment by 7/4/2020 and purchase by 7/11/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 25% off your entire purchase and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 5/31/2020 and 7/11/2020. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. 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. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

OBITUARIES

C. Robert Phipps, 78



SOUTHBIDGE- C. Robert Phipps, 78, passed away on Tuesday, June 2nd, in the Webster Manor Nursing Home, Webster, after a long illness. His wife of 48 years, Diane C. (Poirier) Phipps, passed away in 2011. He leaves his daughter, Kimberly A. Blake and her husband Robert of Bedford, NY; his brother, Scott W. Phipps of Hobe Sound, FL; his sister, Susan L. Grandone of Fiskdale; two granddaughters, Megan Blake and Erin Blake; and nieces and nephews. He was born in Southbridge the son of the late Chauncey W. and Margery E. (Simpson) Phipps. Bob was a graduate of UMass Stockbridge School of Agriculture. Bob was the course superintendent

of the Shorehaven Country Club in East Norwalk, CT for 24 years, retiring several years ago. He was previously the course superintendent at the Wethersfield Country Club in Wethersfield, CT and the Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge. When not working the course he enjoyed playing golf. Robert's funeral service was held on Tuesday, June 9th, at 12:00pm in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial will follow in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Tuesday, June 9th, from 10:00am to 12:00pm, prior to the service. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241. www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Willis M. Moore, 79



Willis M. Moore, 79, ended his battle with cancer on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, at his daughter's home surrounded by his loving family. Willis is survived by his wife of 58 years, Rose (Nichols); four wonderful daughters, Deborah Paddleford and husband Carl of Webster, Diane Contois and husband Stephen of Charlton, Denise Carrier and husband Steven of Oxford, and Darlene Ilvonen and husband James of Oxford; 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; sister Donna Charbonneau and husband Donald of Southbridge, and brother David Moore and wife Elaine of Townsend. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. Willis was born on July 24,1940 in Charlton MA, a son of late William H. Moore and Geraldine Chadwick, and was raised in Oxford. He attended Oxford Schools until joining the National Guard. He worked as a journeyman folder at Colonial Press in Clinton. He was on the assembly line at General Motors, starting in

Framingham and relocating to the Baltimore Plant in 1993. He retired with Rose to Buffalo, South Carolina in 2006 and continued his active lifestyle. Willis was socially and physically active throughout his life, he enjoyed gardening, camping, hiking, mowing, and spending time with family and friends. While resting, he could be found with his nose in a sudoku book. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. His family and friends will always remember him as a strong, hardworking, generous, devoted man, who could be stubborn at times, but was as genuine a person as any, having positively touched the lives of everyone around him. As a member of St. Augustine Church in Union S.C., he enjoyed his church family as well as tending to the grounds. After his diagnosis, Willis always remained in positive spirits saying, "I had a good life". He will be dearly missed, thought of often, and never forgotten. The family would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of support and kindness through this difficult time. There will be no services held at this time under the current circumstances.

Jacquelyn "Jacquie" Signore, 84



CHARLTON – Jacquelyn "Jacquie" (Beckwith) Signore, 84, passed away peacefully, May 28, 2020 at The Overlook Post Acute Unit, Charlton, MA where she received wonderful loving care from the staff and hospice. She was predeceased by her high school sweetheart and husband of 54 years, Joseph A. Signore (2008); and her significant other of 5 years, Bill Goss (2018). She is survived by her 3 daughters and their husbands, Beth and Guy Allard of Wallingford, CT, Kim and Rafe Torres of North Brookfield, MA, and Sue and Bill Hilliard of Jacksonville, FL. She also leaves 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Jacquie grew up in West Haven, CT. Upon graduating from high school she

enrolled in Hartford Hospital School of Nursing. She married Joe soon after. As his career took off, they found themselves moving quite often. She became an expert in dealing with new schools, doctors, and moving companies all while raising three daughters. Eventually they retired to Chatham, MA where they enjoyed many happy years. Even after moving to The Overlook in 2014, she still carried a piece of the Cape in her heart. She had many friends at The Overlook. Her sense of humor and quick wit made her a pleasure to be around. She was very independent and enjoyed helping others when she could. She was an avid reader, liked jigsaw and crossword puzzles, knitting, needlepoint, drawing, genealogy, and her nightly wine. Besides being a DAR member, a PEO member, and treasurer of The Brew Crew at The Overlook, she was involved in many clubs and committees during her years there. She leaves behind her loving family and many good friends who will miss her very much. Please raise a glass of fine wine in her honor. As per her wishes, there will be no memorial services. If anyone would like to do something in her memory, please donate to The Overlook's Employee Appreciation Fund. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements. paradisfuneralhome.com

*Memorial to:*

**Emanuel J. Leo**

**6/16/1926 ~ 4/9/2013**

*Darling Husband Manny,  
Now, I've reached your era —  
80 yrs. This month,  
and we're even closer!*

*My life with you was pure poetry —  
but, no fancy words come close to my  
life with you!*

*You're all the things that make a  
person wonderful.*

*Thank you for making my life  
complete. You're known as being a  
real gentleman. A great memory.*

*See you in Heaven!*

*Love, Linda*

Charles Demetrios Zeotas, 91



WEBSTER -Charles Demetrios Zeotas age 91 passed away Sunday, May 31, 2020 at his home. He leaves his nephew and niece James P. Skoutas of Stuart, FL and Dorothea A. Sullivan of Port St. Lucie, FL also two great nephews, one great niece, four great great nephews and three great great nieces. He was predeceased by two sisters Rita Gionis of Providence, RI and Kathleen Zeotas-Skoutas of Pawtucket, RI. He was born in Webster son of the late James Zeotas and Anastasia

(Pappas) Zeotas and lived here all his life. He was Korean War, US Army Veteran. Charles was retired from Cranston Print Works in Webster. There are no calling hours and all services are private. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.



Anna E. Wolfenden, 93



CHARLTON - Anna E. (Clarke) Wolfenden, 93, passed away peacefully after a short period of declining health on Sunday, May 31, 2020 at UMass Memorial Medical Center- University Campus. She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Clifford Wolfenden, who passed away in 1999. Mrs. Wolfenden was born in Rochdale, daughter of the late Harry and Minnie (Beckwith) Clarke. She was a lifelong resident of Charlton and graduated from the former Charlton High School. She is survived by her children, Julie Wolfenden of Charlton, David

Wolfenden and his wife Susan of North Myrtle Beach, SC, and Timothy Wolfenden of Dudley; a sister, Ruby Vitkus of Dudley; and two grandchildren, Derek and Greta. She was predeceased by her three sisters; Grace, Mae and Dorothy; and five brothers, George, Theodore, Harry, Charles and Walter. The family would like to thank the Life Care Center of Auburn and UMass Memorial Medical Center- University Campus for their kind and compassionate care. Funeral services and burial in West Ridge Cemetery in Charlton will be private. The family kindly requests for flowers to be omitted. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements. paradisfuneralhome.com

Benedict Kacavich, 94



WORCESTER -Benedict Kacavich, 94, a loving husband and great father, passed on to our Heavenly Father on May 18, 2020 while at home with his three surviving children by his side.. He joins his loving wife of 53 years Barbara, a daughter Deborah, and son Stephen.. He leaves behind a son Andrew and his wife Wanda of CT/FL, daughters Lynda Smith of Worcester and Doreen Emond and her husband Ben of Oxford.. He also has 4 grandchildren, Ericka Tynan and husband Michael of Portsmouth, Va Matthew Emond and wife Carolyn of Brooklyn, NY Myranda Hurst and husband Joshua of Hudson, NH and Kayla Smith of Webster.

He was a Navy Veteran that served in WWII.. A Plumber by trade and jokester and all around Great Guy known by all he met. He spent his last 20 years "snowbirding" to his Largo, Fl home. He loved to play golf, shuffleboard, and other leisure activities. We'd like to thank the VNA Hospice of Worcester for their compassionate and loving care he received from them. "There's no place Like Home" was one of his favorite sayings, and now he is in his Eternal Home with our Lord and Loved Ones.. Due to the current circumstances of Covid19, a life celebration will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the VNA Hospice 120 Thomas St Worcester, Ma 01608 Forever in Our Hearts.. We Love You Dad!!!



Joel D. Sulminski, 38



OXFORD – Joel D. Sulminski, 38, died suddenly on Sunday, May 31, 2020, after a long battle with addiction. He is survived by his parents, Paul J. and Susan R. (Anderson) Sulminski of Oxford; his brother, Erik P. Sulminski of Worcester; many aunts and uncles, including James Sulminski of North Oxford with whom he lived for a period of time; many cousins; and his family at GAAMHA. He was born in Worcester and lived most of his life in Leicester and Oxford before recently moving to Gardner. He graduated from Leicester High School in 2000. Joel was currently was working as Community Based Support at GAAMHA Day Services-STREAM in

Gardner. He also had worked for several transportation companies as a driver. Previously, he worked at Morgan Construction (currently Siemen's Corporation) and Metso Automation. He loved playing baseball when he was young, and enjoyed working out at the gym, fishing, skiing, and going to the beach, even with his parents. Memorial calling hours are Friday, June 12, 2020, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Gathering restrictions require social distancing, mask wearing, and limited capacity in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to GAAHMA, 208 Coleman St. Ext., Gardner, MA 01440, or to a local food bank of your choice. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangement. paradisfuneralhome.com

Mary A Lynds



Mary A Lynds (Borden) Webster MA, April 6, 1945 - June 6, 2020 (momma) Left this earth in peace, with her daughter (Kim) by her side. Her family: (predeceased) Mother and Father Margaret and Louis Borden MA, (predeceased) Son Joseph Boucher NC, loving daughter Kimberly Banaczuk, and husband Michael MA, grandchildren Michael Gunderman and Victoria Banaczuk, estranged son David Boucher, estranged daughter Lori Fisher, Sister (predeceased) Gloria M. Osborn MA, Sister Rita J. Leanna, husband Robert Fla, Brother Jude L. Borden and wife Bonnie Fla, several nieces, nephews, and grandkids. Friends Weeshee (Lisa) and Shawn, MA. Also husband to her children Bill Boucher of MA and (predeceased) 2nd husband of 39 years, Ronald Somers. Momma, although my heart breaks, I feel your spirit, knowing I held your hand and comforted you, your body's

soul was at peace. The most amazing fun-loving, hot-tempered woman I know I am proud to be your daughter. You earned those pink fluffy wings and new crown of holy gems. Mom loved hearing God's words, church, making sugar cookies for the PD and FD every Christmas, a free spirit, feisty and kind, she told many tales and stories of her siblings especially Rita stories. You are in the Lord's house now momma. You will be cherished by all who met and loved you. Your love will be forever with us. Make sure to send us those pink skies. The Lord is pure love, and so are you. I know you love me and am proud I am forever grateful to be your daughter. Webster Manor special thank you, Katie, Lori, Emily, for keeping her busy and in contact during these difficult times, Nurses, Wendy/ Amy and to all the staff that cared for her. Thank you for allowing me to have the words I love you one more time and to be able to comfort her before passing into the pearly gates of Heaven. Mom does not want us to weep for long, she has fishing with Joey to do, her dance with Ronnie and some major catching up to do with loved ones. SLEEP WITH ANGELS my Queen-butterfly kisses, until we see you again. I miss you till I see you (Kimmie)

**At Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, we take great pride in caring for our families, and will work tirelessly to provide you with a beautiful, lasting tribute to your loved one**

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# OBITUARIES

## Michael J. Mahoney, 63

CHARLTON- Michael J. Mahoney, 63, passed away June 3, 2020 in his home.

He leaves behind his mother, Mary (Fairbanks) Mahoney of Auburn, 2 daughters, Shannon Griffiths of Mashpee and Jaime Mahoney of Hyannis, 2 brothers, Thomas J. Mahoney of Charlton and Dan Mahoney of Auburn, a sister, Donna Grennon of Webster and a grandson, Zachary Griffiths, and his companion Pat Smith.

Michael was born in Worcester, March 12, 1957, son of the late Donald

Mahoney, he graduated from Auburn High School and worked at Linder's in Worcester, prior to that he was employed at Reed and Prince.

He was an avid antiques collector, cars was a favorite and he also enjoyed going to yard sales and swap meets.

There are no calling hours. Services will be private.

The ROBERT J. MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd., is assisting the family with arrangements.

To leave a message of condolence, please visit: [RJMillerfunerals.net](http://RJMillerfunerals.net)

## Richard E. Doyle, 84

CANTERBURY, CT- Richard E. Doyle age 84 passed away Wednesday June 3, 2020 at his home. Husband of the late Sally F. (Gorman) Doyle who died in 2019. He leaves a son Wayne Doyle and his wife Dawn of Marlborough, CT, two daughters Kathleen Loomis of Putnam, CT, and Keely Doyle of Plainfield, CT, three grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He also leaves a sister Arline Scheibeler of Plainfield.

He was born in New Haven, CT son of the late Edward E. Doyle and Rose (Roy) Doyle living in Canterbury most of his life. Richard owned and operat-

ed Doyle's Autobody for 53 years retiring in in 1962. Richard enjoyed, hunting, fishing, racing cars at Waterford Raceway, gardening and skydiving. A celebration of life for family and close friends will be held June 21, 2020 from 1 – 3 PM at 495 Westminster Rd., Canterbury, CT. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

## Bonnie Lou Williams, 82

PROVIDENCE, RI/ DUDLEY - Bonnie Lou. (Porter) Williams age 82 passed away at the Charlesgate Nursing Center, Providence, RI. She leaves three daughters, Edna Gazaille of Woonsocket, RI, Melanie Dunlevy of Charlton, MA and Amy Durand of Cranston, RI, a son Roderick Thompson of Cumberland, RI, two brothers Daniel Porter f Minnesota, and William Porter of Washington, twelve grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. She had a sister who predeceased her Carolyn Boucher of Apple Valley, Minnesota.

She was born in Sioux City, Iowa and lived in Dudley for several years

as well as Milford NH and of recent Providence, RI. She was a certified nursing assistant and had worked at the Sandlewood Nursing home in Oxford, MA.

There are no calling hours and services are private at the Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton, MA at a later date. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

## Oswaldo Gonzalez, Sr., 57



WEBSTER - Oswaldo Gonzalez, Sr., 57, died Thursday, June 4, 2020 in UMass/Memorial University Campus after an illness.

He leaves his wife of 17 years, Lisbet (Rodriguez) Gonzalez; 3 children, Oswaldo Gonzalez, Jr. and Jose DeLeon, both at home, and Gabriela DeLeon and her fiancé Reynaldo Pitts of Randolph, MA; a grandson Zain Pitts; his mother, Ezequiela (Torres) Gonzalez of Adjuntas, Puerto Rico; 3 brothers, Angel Jr. of Leicester and Roberto and David of New York City; 4 sisters, Lisa of New York City, and Migdalia, Marilyn and Myrian, all of Pennsylvania; and numerous aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces and cousins.

He was born in Adjuntas, Puerto Rico on May 15, 1963 and was raised in Worcester, a son of the late Angel Louis Gonzalez, Sr. He graduated from

Dougherty Memorial High School in Worcester in 1981. He had lived in Webster for over 20 years.

Mr. Gonzalez was currently working for Allegro Microsystems in Manchester, NH as a test equipment technician.

He was a member of Saint Louis Church. He loved all New England Sports, especially the Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots and liked to play baseball. He tried to help everyone that asked him. He was an amazing husband, father, brother, son, friend and co-worker.

The funeral was held Wednesday, June 10, at 11:00 AM in Saint Louis Church, 14 Lake Street (please meet at the church). Burial will be in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. Visitation was held on Tuesday, June 9, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, with current guidelines in place.

[www.scanlonfs.com](http://www.scanlonfs.com)

## Esther M. Giambattista, 89



DANIELSON - Esther M. (Brisson) Giambattista age 89 passed away Saturday, June 6, 2020 with her loving family at her side. She was the wife of the late Dominic Giambattista who died in 1971. She leaves five daughters; Brenda Souza and her partner Paul Moninski of Danielson, Pamela Coutu and her husband Robert of Claremont, NH, Cynthia Laseter of Danielson, Sheila Kinney and her husband George of Plainfield, CT and Tina Veillette and her husband Michael of Stanford, CT, three sons; Wayne and David Giambattista and Tony Giambattista all of Danielson, fifteen grandchildren; Tammy, Jamie, Brandie, Amy, Tanya, George, Joshua, Sarah, Alexis, Abbygail, Lindsey, Michela, Bryce,

Lennon and Harrison, ten great grandchildren; Amanda, Vera, Fisher, Adrianna, Kameron, Adeline, Jaiden, Trenton, Poriana and Kensie. She also leaves two sisters, Arlene and Celia. Esther had a son who predeceased her, Dennis Giambattista of Danielson.

She was born in Putnam, CT daughter of the late John Brisson and Abbie (Monroe) Brisson living in Danielson most of her life. She enjoyed cooking, bingo and caring for her grandchildren. There are no calling hours, graveside services in Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson, CT are private. Please omit flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Friends of Assisi Food Pantry, 77 A Water St., Danielson, CT 06239. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

# Oxford resident graduates from Saint Anselm College

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — On May 16, what would have been the class of 2020's commencement day, Saint Anselm College celebrated its graduating seniors with a Celebration in Honor of the Completion of Graduation Requirements. The event streamed live from the Abbey Church where College President Joseph A. Favazza, Ph.D., addressed the class and then certified that they had completed their graduation requirements. Dean of the College Mark Cronin, Ph.D., then read each of the 483 graduates' names.

Natasha Antkowiak of Oxford was conferred the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

At the lectern in the Abbey Church, Dr. Favazza reminded the graduates of five things he hoped they would recall as alumni of Saint Anselm College. He told them to be thankful; remember they aren't the center of the universe; being smart is less important than being kind; great lives include failure; and, finally, there are three things that last: faith, hope, and love. In addition he stated, "Remember, your Saint A's experience has taught you to figure what is worth

believing in, hoping for, and loving, and what is not." "You have made us proud as students; you will make us proud as alums."

The college community worked diligently to provide the class of 2020 with an experience that would not replace their commencement but would celebrate their accomplishments until their in-person graduation exercises occur at a later date when the coronavirus has subsided to the point where a large gathering would be possible.

About Saint Anselm College Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a four-year liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in southern New Hampshire near Boston and the sea-coast, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts and nursing programs, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics and a vibrant culture of community service.

# LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO20P1241GD  
NOTICE AND ORDER:  
Petition for Appointment of  
Guardian of a Minor  
In the interests of  
Gregory Steven Moreno Bernal  
of Dudley, MA  
Minor  
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED  
PARTIES**

**1. Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **05/06/2020** by **Gregory S Moreno Bernal** of Dudley, MA will be held **06/26/2020 09:00 AM Guardianship of a Minor Hearing**

Located **CR 9, Worcester Probate & Family Court, 225 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608**

**2. Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and  
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

**3. Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

**4. Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will

be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

**5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

**THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE:** An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.  
Date: May 8, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate

June 12, 2020

**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. WO20P1321EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Raymond Normand Gauthier  
Also known as:  
Raymond N. Gauthier  
Date of Death: 02/07/2020**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Beverly J. Gauthier of Webster, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Beverly J. Gauthier of Webster, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an 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 08/04/2020**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**  
Date: May 21, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

June 12, 2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
Docket No. WO20P1178  
Estate of:  
Anthony J. Kudzal  
Also Known As:  
Anthony Joseph Kudzal  
Date Of Death: February 10, 2020  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Patricia Blake of Thompson CT** Petitioner **David Blake of Thompson CT**

a will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Patricia Blake of Thompson CT David Blake of Thompson CT** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
June 12, 2020



# REAL ESTATE



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**NEW LISTING**

**OXFORD** – 377 Main St! 9 Rm Center Hall Colonial! .59 Acre Corner Lot! Charm of Yesteryear! Eat-In Frplcd Granite Kit w/Updated Cabinets, Frplcd Din Rm w/Built-in China Cabinet & Butler Closet! Gracious Foyer! Spacious Frplcd Liv Rm! Breezeway to a Home Office or an Unfinished Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm or Craft Rm! Sit on the Front Porch and Enjoy Morning Coffee or Evening Tea! Huge 2-Car Garage w/Loft-Storage Area! Mature Tree Studded Yard! **\$349,000.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**DUDLEY** – 8 Tanyard Rd! 5 Rm 3 Bdrm Ranch! Some Sweat Equity Needed! 13,000' Lot! Eat-in Kit! Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flrs & Picture Window! Mudroom/Sunroom! Bdrms w/Hrdwds & Ample Closet Space! Full Tile Bath w/Linen Closet! Unfinished Lower Level! Gas Heat! C/Air! Garage! **\$249,000.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**DUDLEY** – TOBIN FARM ESTATES! 9 Tobin Rd! 7 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Federal Front Colonial! Move Right In! 2 Story Grand Entry w/Gleaming Hrdwds in the Din Rm, Liv Rm & Kit! Frplc Fam Rm w/Cathedrals & New Wall to Wall! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, SS Appliances & Din Area! Tiled Mudrm! 2nd Flr w/Open Balcony! Master w/Full Bath & Walk-in Closet! Comfortable Bedrooms! Full Hall Bath w/Laundry! New Wall to Wall in Bdrms! Private Backyard w/Deck & Hot Tub! 2 Car Garage! Shed! Fire Pit! **\$449,900.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carpet! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**WEBSTER** – 110 S. Shore Rd! Across the Street from Webster Lake! Killdeer Island! Access to Swimming & Boating w/Killdeer Island Club Assoc. Membership! Perfect 1st Home or Summer Retreat! 7 Rms! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! 12x25' Deck w/Water Views! Garage! Don't Delay! **\$249,000.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT** – 3 Lakeview Rd! Middle Pond – Reid Smith Cove! Ideal Summer or Yr Round 6 Rm Ranch! Western Expo – Beautiful Sunsets! Near All the Excitement that "Indian Ranch" provides, Dining, Concerts & the Indian Princess! An Arched Bridge to Your Own Private Island, a Great Place to Enjoy the Lake from! Open Fr Plan! Being Sold Fully Furnished! Recent Kit w/Quartz Counters, Breakfast Bar, SS Appliances, Tile Flr & Recessed Lighting! Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr, 6x14 Lake Facing Picture Window & Stone Frplc! 3 Remodeled Bdrms w/Ceiling Fans & Hrdwd Flrs! Master w/Bath & Laundry Closet! Screen Porch w/Lake Views! Dock! Carport! Shed! Still Time for this Summer! **\$598,900.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 23 Beacon Rd! Killdeer Island – Middle Pond – Southern Exposure – Full Day Sun! Level 90' Waterfront Lot w/1,011 Square Feet! Meticulously Maintained 5+ Rm, 2 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Home w/Room to Expand! Soaring Cathedral Ceiling Family Rm w/Stone Fireplace Opening to the Maple Cabinet Kit & 4 Season Sunroom w/Anderson Slider to the Expansive Deck! 2nd floor Lake Facing Master w/Master Bath, Huge Closets & Slider to It's Lake Facing Deck! C/Air! 2 Car Garage! Lake Living at its Best! Listed by Another – "SOLD" by Century21 Lake Realty! **\$645,000.00**



**NEW PRICE**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/ Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$999,900.00**



**NEW LISTING**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrooms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,900.00**



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**WEBSTER - 195-199 THOMPSON RD**



3 ACRE COMMERCIAL SITE — APPROX. 550 FT ROAD FRONTAGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RTE 193 A/K/A THOMPSON ROAD. STRATEGICALLY NESTLED BETWEEN TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) ON-RAMPS & TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF-RAMPS. PROPERTY DIRECTLY ABUTS I-395! 48'X80' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING, 7,680 SF TOTAL (3,840 SF MAIN / 3,840 SF LOWER LEVEL) FULL LOWER LEVEL USE AND ACCESS THRU DRIVE IN GARAGE DOOR! BUSINESS ZONED (GB-5) MUNICIPAL WATER, SEWER AND NATURAL GAS! HIGH TRAFFIC – HIGH EXPOSURE – LOCATED RIGHT AT THE TRAFFIC LIGHT INTERSECTION OF RT 193 AND I-395 OFF RAMP! TWO (2) FINISHED OFFICES & LAV – MANY POSSIBLE USES – WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED??!

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**Dudley** - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer. **SOLD \$70,000**


**Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2**-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest **\$132,900**

**Webster** - Potential 6 Buildable Lots! Water/ Sewer Access, Zoned Lake Residential **\$129,400.**

**Webster** - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake. 1+ acre, artesian well, Septic Design, Etc. **\$130,000**

**Oxford** - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Highly possible to be subdivided. **\$99,900**


**DUDLEY - 25 MARSHALL TER.**



**ON DEPOSIT**

Custom Hip Roof Ranch! 1,480+/- Sqft. One Level Living, Spacious Open Floor Plan. Combination Kitchen/Dining w/Breakfast Bar, Cooktop Range & Built-in Oven, 3 Large Bedrooms w/Large Closets, Linen Closet, 1st Floor Laundry Room, Hardwood Floors, Separate Bath Tub & Shower. Forced Hot Water Heat by Oil w/High End Cast Iron Baseboard, Recently Shingled Roof, Overlooks Attractive, Level Landscaping! **\$274,900.**

**WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD**



**2 BUILDABLE LOTS**

Potential from 10,000+ sq. ft. Lot. Need to be divided. Town Water/Sewer. Zoned Lake Res. **\$24,500. Each =Total \$49,000**

*On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg*


**Featured New Lake Listing!**



**WEBSTER LAKE - 100 LAKESIDE AVENUE**

**WEBSTER LAKE!** PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room, up-scale features & amenities! Nicely situated on a 25 acre level peninsula, 180+/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline, exceptional views, professional landscaping & privacy. All you need to live is located on the 1st floor... including a grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining, half bath & laundry, formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! It Truly is a Great Opportunity to Own Something Special! Remember, Timing Is Everything!

**\$1,075,000.**



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**WEBSTER LAKE – 32 JACKSON RD**

**DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL! EXTREMELY UNIQUE** 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened-in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds!

**\$375,000**



# REAL ESTATE

# VERC Enterprises opens new location in Webster

WEBSTER — VERC Enterprises (<http://vercenterprises.com>), a leading convenience store and Mobil/Gulf/Irving/Shell gasoline operator with locations throughout Massachusetts and New Hampshire, continues its expansion in the Central Massachusetts with the opening of a location in Webster.

The newest location is at 137 East Main St., Webster. It is a convenience store, with Dunkin Donuts on premises, Gulf gasoline, and a car wash.

The site has been in operation for approximately 40 years. Leo Vercollone, Chief Executive Officer, said that VERC Enterprises hopes to upgrade the facility over the next year, pending approved town permitting.

"We are pleased to become part of the Webster community," he said, noting that the company also recently opened two additional Central Massachusetts locations in Athol and in Bellingham, MA earlier this year.

The Webster location brings the total count of VERC Enterprises locations to 34.

## ABOUT VERC ENTERPRISES

VERC Enterprises is a leading, independent chain of convenience stores and gasoline stations, with locations throughout Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The company began 50 years ago with a single car wash in Marshfield. The original business was founded by Eugene Vercollone. Today, the business remains under family ownership, with Mr. Vercollone's sons Leo and Paul serving as CEO and Senior Vice President, respectively. Longtime VERC team member Jim Fitzgerald serves as the company's President. With nearly 400 employees, VERC is a leader in hiring individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and has more than 20 percent of its workforces comprised of IDD (Intellectually/Developmentally Disabled) citizens. VERC maintains ongoing partnerships with organizations including Best Buddies, ARC of Greater Plymouth and others to provide employment opportunities for IDD individuals. VERC is also working with the state's Re-Entry program to provide



employment opportunities for former inmates who have been rehabilitated. VERC Enterprises has been recognized by the Boston Business Journal as a Best Place to Work in Massachusetts and as a Leader in Diversity; the company has also been repeatedly honored by the Boston Globe as a Best Place to Work in Massachusetts. In 2017, VERC was named Employer of the Year by


both the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind and The ARC of Greater Plymouth, and Employer of the Year for Hopeful Journeys in 2017. For additional information, please visit the website, [www.vercenterprises.com](http://www.vercenterprises.com), or call 781-934-7300. To learn more about VERC, please view: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/videoseries?list=PLesS-4W9hjtufdf6GhvnfUKMk2l2Q-r-MM>



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**Dudley:** Privacy & Inground pool, Custom built 4 BR colonial, 4 Bedrooms, 17' Kitchen, 1st flr laundry, Garage, Town services.  
**11A Paglione Dr - \$253,500**



**Charlton:** New Construction, Gas heat, cathedral ceilings, living room w/recess lighting, 3 bedrooms, master bedroom suite, completely finished lower level w/family room and full bath.  
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O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen.

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- Five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in business, financial management, municipal financial or accounting environment; experience in municipal cash management desirable; or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities to perform the essential functions of the job
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For complete job description visit [www.brimfieldma.org](http://www.brimfieldma.org). Board of Selectmen under job opportunities. Application deadline is June 17, 2020 or until position is filled. The Town of Brimfield is an equal opportunity employer.

June 2, 2020

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# Meghan Pratt of Dudley among University of Scranton undergraduate Class of 2020

SCRANTON, Pa. — Meghan E. Pratt of Dudley was among the more than 875 candidates whose bachelor's degrees were conferred at The University of Scranton's virtual undergraduate celebration ceremony on May 31. Degrees were conferred to graduates in a group who had completed their academic degree requirements in August and December of 2019, as well as January and May of 2020. A formal commencement ceremony, at which graduates will be individually recognized, will take place on Oct. 25 at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza, Wilkes-Barre.

Pratt earned a Bachelor of Science degree in counseling and human services from the University of Scranton.

Members of the University's undergraduate class of 2020 represent 14 states including California, Connecticut,

Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Undergraduate majors with the most graduates are nursing, exercise science, biology, accounting, occupational therapy and marketing.

Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., president of the University, addressed the graduates at the virtual ceremony, and conferred degrees on candidates presented by Brian P. Conniff, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Sam Beldona, Ph.D., dean of the Kania School of Management; and Debra A. Pellegrino, Ed.D., dean of the Panuska College of Professional Studies.

Members of the class of 2020 speaking at the ceremony were Colleen C. Rohr, Norristown, a marketing, operations management and philosophy triple major and

member of the University's Business Leadership Honors Program and its Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program; Hailey Marie Kindt, Easton, a neuroscience and philosophy double major and member of the University's undergraduate Honors Program and its Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program; and Fahad Ashraf, Clarks Summit, a biology and philosophy double major and member of the University's Special Jesuit Liberal Arts Honors Program.

Also speaking at the ceremony were Lauren Rivera, J.D., assistant vice president for student life and dean of students; Rev. Herbert B. Keller, S.J., vice president for mission and ministry; and Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D., provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. Congratulatory remarks to the class of 2020 were also

given by Scranton Mayor Paige Cagnetti; U.S. Senators Bob Casey and Pat Toomey; and former cast members of NBC's The Office Leslie David Baker (Stanley), Kate Flannery (Meredith) and Oscar Nunez

(Oscar). An archived recording of the ceremony can be seen here (www.scranton.edu/commencement).

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## Lauren Kusek inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society

LEICESTER — Becker College is proud to announce that Lauren Kusek, of Webster, has been inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society. Kusek is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Youth Education.

The Theta Nu Chapter of the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society is recognized throughout the country as a group of students who are

beyond the traditional college age and who have excelled in continuing education programs. The purpose of Alpha Sigma Lambda is to recognize scholastic achievement by non-traditional students. To be considered for nomination, a student must have completed at least four semesters at Becker and have earned a minimum of 50 credits at Becker College. Students selected must possess a GPA

between 3.5 and 4.0. Of these students, only the top ten percent are selected for induction.

Founded in 1784, Becker College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world attend Becker College, which has campuses both in Worcester and Leicester, Massachusetts. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.



Courtesy

### WEBSTER RESIDENT NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT ASSUMPTION

Assumption University congratulates Katherine Gatto on being named to the Dean's List in recognition of her academic performance during the spring semester of 2020.

## Tyler Lavigne named to Dean's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Tyler Lavigne of Dudley has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean's List for the Spring 2020 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the spring semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Lavigne is a Marketing major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

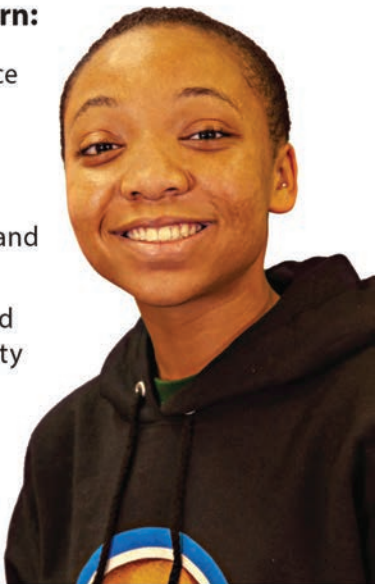
Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances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

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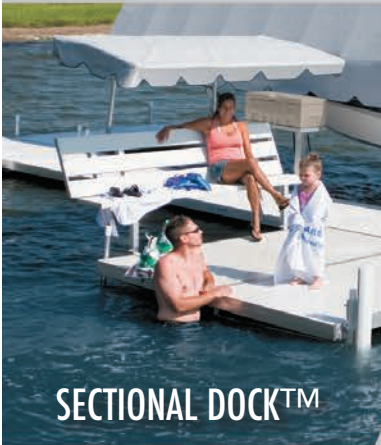
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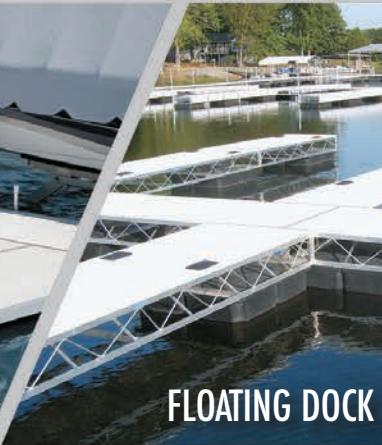
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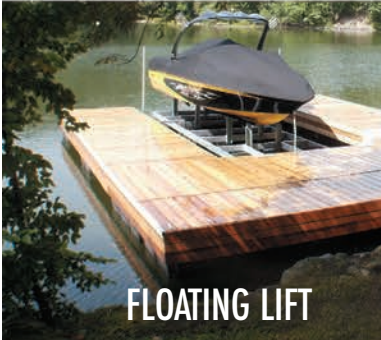
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