

# WEBSTER TIMES

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Friday, August 6, 2021



Courtesy

## MUSIC AT THE BANDSTAND

The Oxford Woman's Club was very pleased to host five young students from surrounding towns that put on a very enjoyable concert at the Oxford Bandstand on July 25. The group called "Don't Tell Dan" played Oldies and Jazz for the pleasure of the listening public. The Woman's Club also offered water and snacks and several raffle baskets to help towards our fundraiser of providing Scholarships for deserving graduates who reside in Oxford. For information about the Oxford Woman's Club, contact Paula Parker at 508-987-2804.

## Sign installation on I-290 I-395 to begin Sunday

MARLBOROUGH/WEBSTER — The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing that it will begin installation of the new milepost-based signs at all exits along Interstate 290 and Interstate 395, between Marlborough and Webster, on Sunday, Aug. 8.

This is the final corridor to be completed under the Statewide Exit Renumbering Project. The sign installation operations, which will take place nightly during overnight hours from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. the

following day, are anticipated to be completed in approximately two weeks.

As part of this project, the existing mileposts on I-290 will be replaced with 'dual' mile markers showing mileage for both I-395 and I-290. This work will be done following the completion of the exit renumbering conversion.

MassDOT has completed converting the exit numbers on the following corridors to a milepost-based numbering system, per Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements: Interstate 84

Interstate 90  
Interstate 91  
Interstate 93  
Interstate 95  
Interstate 190  
Interstate 195  
Interstate 295  
Interstate 495  
Route 2  
Route 3  
Route 6  
Route 24  
Route 25  
Route 128  
Route 140  
Route 146  
US Route 3

All work is weather dependent and construction dates may be adjusted as conditions warrant.

Turn To **SIGNS** page **A15**

## Ruda receives high marks in annual review

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda received high marks in his annual review by the Board of Selectmen for 2021.

The five selectmen graded Ruda's performance based on five criteria, each with a weighted percentage of the average score and graded on a scale of one to four with four being the highest possible grade. With the numbers were tallied Ruda received a perfect score in three of the five criteria with selectmen calling for minor improvements in interdepartmental coordination and communication with the Board of Selectmen. Ruda received perfect scores for the specific per-

formance criteria set for him by the selectmen, his relations with employees, the community and outside governments, and fiscal management.

One overarching compliment selectman gave Ruda in their reviews was his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. Selectman Steven Sullivan, who gave Ruda a perfect score in all five categories, said the Town Administrator excelled at helping the town through one of the most complicated years in recent memory.

"In the face of the pandemic, the toughest year, all of these initiatives stayed on track," Sullivan said.

He later spoke of the Ruda's leadership, commenting "I think Jonathan leads by example. There's nobody in

the town hall nor in the community that drives by that can say Jonathan doesn't lead by example. His truck is always here — No one can say that he hasn't led by example. I think that shows with the employees who appreciate that Jonathan's here."

Selectman Kerry Cyganiewicz, who only gave Ruda one score lower than a four for communication with selectmen, took the time to praise the Town Administrator financial prowess during a year when budgets were tighter than ever.

"(Ruda) sought out grants, CARES Act, federal funds, state funds, and it's no secret here in Dudley, we do more with less. Even with a pandemic he still figured out a way to get every-

Turn To **RUDA** page **A14**

## BVO hearing postponed due to lack of a quorum

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — Sometimes, situations handled incorrectly in the past return to trouble people in the present.

That's what Gary Innamorati, owner of Gary Jackson Motors, discovered when he approached the Planning Board about turning 498 Main St. into a used car lot. He already has one on Route 20 in Charlton.

Chair Richard Escolas told him a previous owner got approved for up to 35 cars on that lot back in 1989, but it apparently never went through the Planning Board. In late April, the town surveilled the site using a drone. It found significant tree cutting had opened an area that was mostly dirt, and what was paved last year was not properly built to include such things as berms and catch basins to prevent automotive fluids from flowing into the neighboring conservation land, he said.

"I'm of the opinion what's down on the

ground now is unacceptable," he noted.

To Innamorati, the 35-car permit was "news to me," and he asked if it'd be possible to transfer it to his name. But, because the property hasn't been used that way in some time, Planner Tony Sousa said there is no longer a valid "Class 2" (used car sales) license there, and for Innamorati to get one requires going through a police background check, among other things.

Innamorati noted the current user seems to be storing trucks there.

After some back and forth, the board told Innamorati he'd need to take his proposal to the town's informal Technical Review committee, a group of key department heads and representatives from development-related boards who can tell project proponents what they'll need for plans to get public hearings. The board then rejected Innamorati's paperwork as not yet meeting those requirements.

On the other hand, it discussed and accepted a plan to convert the carriage house of 275 Main Street into a two-unit bed and breakfast. That will get a public hearing on Aug. 23.

The meeting's major issue, however, had to be postponed since only four members were present. That was the ongoing hearing for a new cannabix-growing facility known as Baystate's Very Own (BVO, LLC) on Pioneer Drive, which had begun at the June meeting.

BVO got its host community agreement (HCA) from the selectmen back on April 27. At a previous March meeting with them, owner Ken Lucas said he plans to have up to 4320 flowering plants of 15-20 strains in four growing rooms "once we're fully operational" a couple years after opening. He predicted five harvests per year per room, with production totalling 5700 to 6840 pounds of usable canna-

Turn To **BVO** page **A15**

## Dudley establishes priority list for Complete Streets

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — The town of Dudley is seeing progress towards potential receiving Complete Streets funding according to Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda who provided an update to Selectmen on July 26.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation funding requires a list of priorities in order for Dudley to be considered and the town's Planning Board, which serves as the Complete Streets Committee, finalized a list that was presented to selectmen for consideration.

"As we continue to proactively work toward encouraging development the natural side effect is increased traffic in all methods of travel, and I can tell you that without taking any sort of a study or survey I can see on a daily basis and increase over the last five years in the amount of traffic on the roads and so forth. As we continue to develop, we need to proactively try to address some of that," Ruda said in his report. "(The prioritization Plan) outlines the rank of priority for each project measured first by the local need and then

Turn To **LIST** page **A15**



Courtesy

## VIEW FROM THE PAST

South Main Street in Webster can be glimpsed as it appeared in 1946 in this photo posted recently on the Webster and Dudley Massachusetts Past, Present, and Future Facebook page.



**3RD ANNUAL**

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# Bay Path alumna, LPN to RN grad has a wide perspective



Danielle Southall-Scotto

CHARLTON — Over ten years, Danielle Southall-Scotto, formerly of Southbridge, now of Brooklyn, Conn., rose through the ranks, from a resident care assistant to wellness nurse, from

## DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of July 23-30.

Javier Pagan, age 28, of Webster was arrested on July 24 in connection with an out of agency warrant.

Angel Raul Mercado Fernandez, age 23, of Dudley was arrested on July 24 for Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, and Resisting Arrest.

Carina D. Allen-Parkhurst, age 33, of Dudley was arrested on July 26 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, operating a vehicle with No Inspection Sticker, and in connection with multiple warrants. Jeremy L. Kowalczyk, age 39, of Dudley was arrested during the same incident in connection with multiple warrants.

Chelsie Marie Doran, age 28, of Dudley was arrested on July 29 in connection with multiple warrants.

## WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of July 25 to Aug. 1.

Chad M. Purdy, age 43, current address unknown, was arrested on July 26 for Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order and in connection with a warrant.

Tierra Gonzalez, age 22, of Charlton was arrested on July 26 in connection with a warrant.

Carina D. Allen-Parkhurst, age 33, of Dudley was arrested on July 26 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, operating a vehicle with No Inspection Sticker, and in connection with multiple out of agency warrants. Jeremy L. Kowalczyk, age 39, of Dudley was arrested during the same incident in connection with multiple warrants.

John Otero, age 34, of Southbridge was arrested on July 27 in connection with multiple warrants.

Jerry Jose Rojas, age 29, of Southbridge was arrested on July 27 for Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute, Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, and operating a vehicle with an Obstructed or Nontransparent Window.

Melissa Christian, age 53, of Dudley was arrested on July 27 for Distribution of a Class B Drug and multiple counts drug possession.

Robinson Flores Rivera, age 25, of Southbridge was arrested on July 27 for Distribution of a Class A Drug. A 36-year-old from Worcester was issued a summons in lieu of arrest during the same incident for Possession of a Class A Drug.

Joseph Charles Niemiec, age 56, of Dudley was arrested on July 27 for Distribution of a Class B Drug.

Steven M. Smith, age 53, of Webster was arrested on July 27 in connection with a warrant.

Bernard Raymond Krasnecky, age 34, of Webster was arrested on July 28 for Disorderly Conduct, Possession of a Class A Drug, and Disturbing the Peace.

A 25-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on July 29 for Assault & Battery, Assault, and Vandalization of Property.

Natalee Anne Scott, age 29, of Webster was arrested on July 31 for Refusal of a Motor Vehicle Operator to Identify him- or herself, Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Andrew o. Callender, age 30, of Webster was arrested on Aug. 1 for Vandalization of Property. Callender was subsequently charged with Carrying a Firearm Without a License, Improper Storage of a Firearm, being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm, and possession of a Large Capacity Feeding Device.

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) floor nurse in a subacute rehabilitation unit in a skilled nursing facility to now, a Registered Nurse (RN)!

When she reflects on that time, she admits it was difficult, but she is also extremely grateful. It is a time of immense pride in her own tenacity toward earning her Associate in Science in Nursing (ASN) degree from Excelsior College with a 3.0 GPA. For Danielle to make the transition from LPN to RN, she completed the ASN and took the NCLEX-RN, the National Council Licensure Examination for RN licensure.

Her knowledge and compassion helped her lead through the challenges of navigating the year of COVID-19, working full-time at the Milford Regional Physician Group in Northbridge, MA and completing all her course work including taking a two-part test that is a clinical examination also known as CPNE.

“Goal-directed, hardworking, compassionate, dedicated...all these words describe Danielle,” said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. “Danielle graduated at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in 2017, was the recipient of the Academic Excellence Award and was inducted to the National Technical Honor Society.”

Southall-Scotto completed her secondary education in 2007 at Bay Path

Regional Vocational Technical High School with honors, National Honor Society.

“The Excelsior College’s program is essentially a self-taught program,” said Southall-Scotto.

“I am grateful to Bay Path for helping to lay a foundation for me to complete this, without a good foundation I would have never made it through,” she concludes.

As a practical nursing student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Danielle was a member of the Mock Code Team. She competed in the SkillsUSA Medical Math category and won a gold medal in District, a gold medal in state, and a bronze medal at the national competition in Louisville, Kentucky. According to Southall-Scotto, she plans on continuing with her academic progression and earns her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree “after working as an RN for a little while.”

WEBSTER TIMES

ACCURACY WATCH:

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

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# QCC’s Early Childhood Education Lab School to reopen this fall

WORCESTER — The Children’s School: Quinsigamond Community College’s Early Childhood Education Lab School will reopen its doors in Fall 2021. The school is currently enrolling children for the 2021- 2022 academic year, under the leadership of new Director Kristen Fuller.

“After careful review by our Administration and the QCC Board of Trustees, we made the decision to renew our commitment to the Children’s School: Early Childhood Education Lab School and the opportunities it affords our students and the young children in our community,” said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D.

The Children’s School: Early Childhood Education Lab School serves as a lab/training site for students majoring in Early Childhood Education and is an integral part of the program. It provides supervised student participation and field placement experience for Early Childhood Education Associate Degree students.

“I am very excited to have joined a team of dedicated professionals and to have children return to the QCC campus,” Ms. Fuller said.

“The School was established as a resource for QCC students, but has become a true model of collaboration and commitment to top-notch, high-quality education and care of children between the ages of two years, nine months to five years,” Ms. Fuller said, adding that the School will have a daily capacity of 28 children.

The Children’s School: Early Childhood Education Lab School was the first center granted the highest level on the Massachusetts Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). The QRIS is a method used to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early child care, early child care education, and after-school settings.

For more information visit [www.QCC.edu/childrenschool](http://www.QCC.edu/childrenschool).

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).



**PEOPLE FACT:**

THIS IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO TYPICALLY LIVE TOGETHER AND TAKE CARE OF ONE ANOTHER.

ANSWER: FAMILY

**Math Blocks**  
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10. The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

5	1		9
	0	4	6
7		6	22
14	10	13	

9	6	7
4	0	2
3	1	5

Solution

**Get Scrambled**

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

MFIYAL NFU

Answer: Family Fun

THIS DAY IN...  
AUG 6

**HISTORY**

- **1806:** THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE ENDS.
- **1926:** GERTRUDE EDERLE BECOMES THE FIRST WOMAN TO SWIM ACROSS THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.
- **1996:** THE RAMONES PLAY THEIR FAREWELL CONCERT AT THE PALACE IN LOS ANGELES.

**New word**

**PARTICIPATE**

take part

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Family
- SPANISH:** Familia
- ITALIAN:** Famiglia
- FRENCH:** Famille
- GERMAN:** Familie

Did you know?

FAMILIES CAN GET SOME EXERCISE AND ENJOY ONE ANOTHER’S COMPANY BY ENGAGING IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES TOGETHER, INCLUDING PLAYING SPORTS.

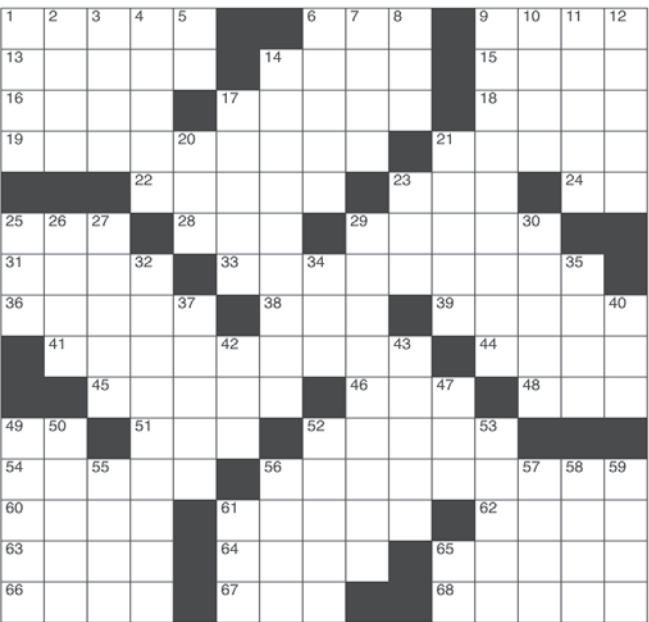


GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: ROLLER COASTER



CLUES ACROSS

1. Ponds

6. “Unbelievable” musicians

9. Invests in little enterprises

13. Longtime Utah Jazz coach

14. Small sailboat

15. “Luther” actor

16. Round Dutch cheese

17. Detects underwater objects

18. Harsh, grating noise

19. Steward

21. Fencing sword

22. Painful places on the body

23. “Sleepless in Seattle” actress Ryan

24. Sodium

25. Engineering degree (abbr.)

28. Small lump

29. African antelope

31. Electronic point of sale

33. Carefully chooses

36. Ringworm
38. Unrefined

39. Drenches

41. Type of pants

44. Son of Noah

45. Spiritual being

46. Upton Sinclair novel

48. Journalist Tarbell

49. Atomic #21 (abbr.)

51. Born of

52. Rich tapestry

54. S. China seaport

56. Being without clothes

60. Surrounded by

61. Remains

62. Away from wind

63. Dried-up

64. One who can see the future

65. A very large body of water

66. Digs up earth

67. Type of screen

68. Old Norse poet

CLUES DOWN

1. Millisecond

2. Spanish city

3. Sudden, very loud sound

4. Type of chair

5. Tin

6. Sea eagles

7. Broad volcanic crater

8. Some animals have it

9. Ottoman palaces

10. Divulge a secret

11. “A Doll’s House” playwright

12. “It’s a Wonderful Life” director

14. Poisonous perennial

17. Gulf in the Aegean

20. Clothes

21. Chairs

23. Family of regulator genes

25. NY ballplayer

26. Impressive in size or scope

27. Jacques \_\_, Fr. biologist

29. Manhattanite
30. Genus of lemurs

32. Sings to

34. River in southern Italy

35. Supplemented with difficulty

37. Farewell

40. Senior officer

42. Utah resident

43. Begets

47. Boy

49. Violently break

50. Brief appearance

52. Expressed pleasure

53. A light informal meal

55. Fabric with smooth finish

56. One billionth of a second (abbr.)

57. Ancient Greek City

58. Close tightly

59. Commit

61. A way to communicate (abbr.)

65. Heavy metal

PUZZLE SOLUTION

D	T	V	K	S		D	O	T		S	E	O	H	
N	V	E	O			H	E	E	S		E	R	E	S
E	E	T	V		S	E	H	S	V		D	I	W	V
S	S	E	N	D	E	K	V	N		N	V	C	V	W
			S	V	H	H	V		E	E	N		C	S
V	D	I		T	I	O		A	L	I	E	D		
W	E	H	S		S	A	O	R	N	D	R	O	C	
S	K	V	O	S		M	V	H		V	E	N	I	L
	E	A	I	L	C	E	T	E	S		S	O	P	E
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H	E	B	V	S		H	E	K	V	L	E	R	V	C
D	S	V	H		H	V	N	O	S		W	V	D	E
V	B	L	E		N	V	H	D		N	V	O	T	S
C	I	B	S		F	M	E		S	E	R	E	M	

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# Local students graduate from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College graduated 245 undergraduate students this spring. An in person commencement celebration was held for the class of 2021 on May 15.

Shawn Blanchard of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Criminal Justice.

David Brooks of Webster graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Criminal Justice Management.

Bridget Canavan of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in International Business.

Hanna Carrabba of North Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting.

Zachary Cournoyer of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Sports Management.

Nicholas Czernicki of Webster graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting.

Trevor Foley of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Finance.

Hunter Girard of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business

Administration, majoring in Human Resource Management.

Nathan Gomez of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Management.

Soley Graham-Clinton of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Communications.

Jacob Greenough of Webster graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Sports Management.

Karen Gregoire of Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in General Business.

Katarzyna Hellstrom of Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in General Business.

Ronnie Joseph of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Sports Management.

Ryan Lathrop of Webster graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting.

Michael Micciche of Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Psychology.

Sara Painchaud of Dudley grad-

uated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Management.

Noah Plant of Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Management.

Katherine Quezada of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Marketing.

Cameron Riley of Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in General Business.

Molly Sklarz of Webster graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Hospitality.

Mireya Tapia of Webster graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Psychology.

Lauryn White of Dudley graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Criminal Justice Management.

**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.

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## QCC's Respiratory Care program receives credentialing success award

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's Respiratory Care Program has received the distinguished Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) Credentialing Success Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). The College has joined a select group of programs that received this national recognition based on a high-level performance of key accreditation metrics.

"The students of QCC have labored diligently to strive for excellence in this respected profession by earning the highly-desirable, Registered Respiratory Therapist credential. I am thrilled with their success and demonstration of skillfulness in their chosen profession," said Professor Emerita Karen Kaletski Dufault.

This award is presented as part of CoARC's continued efforts to value the RRT credential as a standard of professional achievement. The CoARC views the RRT credential as a measure of a program's success in inspiring its graduates to achieve their highest educational and professional aspirations.

To earn this prestigious award, programs were required to have three or more years of outcome data, hold accreditation without a progress report, document RRT credentialing success of 90 percent or above, and meet or exceed core thresholds for the Therapist Multiple Choice (TMC) examination high cut score and retention. QCC had a three-year (2017 – 2019) average of 100% of students who achieved the high cut score. The CoARC threshold for retention is 70% and QCC had a 96% retention rate for the same 3-year average (2017-2019).

"This is the first time that the program has achieved this recognition and it could not have been done without the leadership of Karen Dufault, who was the previous program coordinator/director until she retired in 2020," said Assistant Professor of Respiratory Care, Keith Hirst.

He added that Amy Hogan, current director of clinical education, along with all the current and past clinical instructors, clinical sites, and Advisory Board members, QCC administration, and graduates of the program also played a large role in this award.

"Over this same time frame we had 100% job placement rate within six months of graduation, as well as 100% employer and graduate satisfaction rates," Mr. Hirst said.

To learn more visit QCC's Respiratory Care Program.

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

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\$385,000, 3 Misty Meadow Ln, Chase, Andrew P, to Rodriguez, Alberto, and Rodriguez, Jose A.

\$215,000, 50 Plantation Rd #50, Winklemann, Ronald P, to Maestro, Samantha.

\$20,000, 8 Sutton Ave, 8 Sutton Avenue NT, and Dooley, Charles A, to Oxford Bus Mens Assn Inc.

Webster

\$592,500, 503 Treasure Island Rd #503, Belsito, Joseph, and Belsito, Kelly, to G M Glick T, and Glick, Gary M.

\$405,000, 22 Nelson St, Lulu, Michael, to Mota, Aline.

\$289,900, 6 Crosby St, Wilmot, Mark A, to Booker, Elijah.

\$61,000, 55 Ash St, Denietolis, Brian M, and Denietolis, Kristina M, to Denietolis, Brian M.

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DKH

DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

EVENT SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m.

Registration

11:00 a.m.

Speedway Laps

12:00 p.m.

Depart for Cruise

1:30 p.m.

Arrive at

Black Dog Bar & Grille

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# Guide to Harvesting Your Backyard Crop

It's harvest time and backyard gardeners everywhere are anticipating the well earned fruits of their labor. From plucking peppers to cutting cauliflower, proper harvesting ensures optimum flavor and nutrients from your home garden. Read on for the ways to up the odds of culling "the cream of the crop" from common vegetable and fruit plants.

Experts say the most important rule at harvest time is to pick vegetables daily. Plucking them as soon as they ripen not only offers superior taste, but this practice encourages plant production. Simply stated, harvesting on the day that the produce ripens can help you yield more from your seasonal crop. Furthermore, gardeners should be aware that some vegetables are best harvested when they appear premature. Examples include summer squash, zucchini and green beans, all vegetables can become tough and lose flavor when they are allowed to sit on the vine too long. Seed company Burpee offers expert advice on harvesting common fruits and vegetables:

Herbs. Pinch or cut back herbs frequently to keep them producing more stems and leaves (the parts we eat) and to keep them from blooming, which changes the flavor. If that means you have surplus thyme or oregano, dry it in a brown paper bag. Basil, especially, needs frequent pinching back to keep it bushy and productive. At some point in July or August everybody has too much basil, which is

why the Italians invented pesto (find many recipes on the internet).

Tomatoes. There is a huge range of tomato varieties. Many kinds are red when ripe, but some are orange, yellow, striped or even green. Learn what to expect from your variety and monitor the plant closely as its due date nears. Generally, a tomato is fully ripe when it releases easily from the stem. If you misjudge a bit it's no tragedy, because tomatoes will ripen somewhat after picking. But they develop the fullest sweet flavor if they ripen in the sun on the vine. Once you have picked the first few tomatoes of a particular variety, you will get a feel for what a ripe one will look and taste like. Some tomatoes are "determinate" types, which will stop bearing after a few weeks. Most are "indeterminate" kinds, which will keep flowering and setting fruit until killed by frost, although colder weather will slow production. It's a good idea to pick your green tomatoes a week or so before your area's average first frost date. The more mature ones will ripen indoors if they are stored at room temperature, wrapped in newspaper so they don't touch. Or make fried green tomatoes.

Peppers. Peppers are mature and ready to eat when full-sized but still green. If left on the vine longer, they will change color to red, orange, yellow or brown, depending on the variety, and will deepen in flavor and become less crisp in texture. Hot peppers left to change color will get hotter. So whether you pick at the green stage or later



TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

will depend on the variety and what you plan to use the pepper for. As with tomatoes, the first few you pick will teach you to gauge ripeness.

Lettuce. It's important to pick lettuce before hot weather encourages the plant to "bolt," or develop a flower stalk, which makes the leaves taste bitter. With leaf lettuce and many other greens, you can "cut and come again" while the leaves are young and tender, no more than five inches long. Use scissors to cut the largest leaves individually from the plants. When the smaller leaves get big enough, harvest those. You may be able to come back to a plant two, three or four times, a few days apart, before it gives up in the summer heat. To prolong the lettuce harvest, look for bolt-resistant varieties and sow seeds several times at two-week intervals. A tent of shade cloth or translucent row cover -- or a site in part shade -- also may delay bolting in hot climates. In late summer, sow green seeds again for a fall crop.

Green beans. Green beans are an easy vegetable to harvest. Pick the pods when they are a little shy of their maximum size, to be sure that they are tender, with immature seeds. If you delay, the seeds will mature and harden and the pod will become tough. Don't pick green beans in the

morning when the dew is still on the vines; wait until they are fully dry to avoid spreading disease. Be sure to keep up with regular picking to encourage the vine to keep flowering and producing pods.

Peas. For garden peas, pick a test pod and open it when the seeds have begun to swell inside. You're looking for peas that are round but still tender. Pick peas just before you are ready to shell and cook them. For snow peas and sugar snaps, taste a pod when it nears full size. You want a crisp, crunchy, fresh-tasting pod, in which the seeds have started developing but are nowhere near round. Pods left too long on the vine get tough and stringy.

Cantaloupes, muskmelons and honeydews: Harvesting melons can be tricky, even for melon farmers. You can thump the melon and listen for a dull, hollow sound or sniff it to see if it smells sweet. A ripe cantaloupe or muskmelon will begin to have a tan or yellowish color beneath the corky "netting" on its skin. A honeydew will feel smooth, not hairy. Cut the stem rather than breaking the fruit off, which creates a wound that invites the fruit to rot. Let the fruit ripen for another day or two at room temperature before cutting into it.

Watermelons. When the spot beneath the melon, where it sits on the ground, turns yellowish, rather than white or green, the melon is close to ripe. The rind also gets tougher, so test it with your thumbnail to how easily it dents. For

old-fashioned full-sized watermelons, the traditional ripeness test is to thump and listen for a dull, hollow sound, but this may not work as well with the smaller "icebox" varieties. Ultimately, you'll have to cut one open and decide if it's ripe, and use that as a standard for the rest of the crop.

Cucumbers. Check the seed packet to see how large your variety of cucumber will get and how long that is expected to take. But bear in mind that you can pick cucumbers at any stage, depending on what you want to use them for. Smaller ones will be more tender, with thinner skins and fewer immature seeds. Too-old cucumbers get dry and woody. Like melons, cucumbers should be cut from the vine, not pulled.

Sweet corn. Timing is everything with sweet corn. The kernels begin to lose sweetness and flavor the instant the ear is picked, so the great advantage of growing your own is so you can wait until the last minute. The traditional rule was to get the pot of water boiling to cook the corn and then go out and pick it. Sweet corn is ready to eat when you can feel full, rounded kernels beneath the husk; the silk at the top of the ear is drying out; and a squished kernel produces a milky sap.

Root vegetables. Read the seed packet to see how long it should take before you start checking to see if your variety of carrots, beets, turnips, radishes or parsnips is ready for harvest. When it's about time, loosen the soil gently and pull one up to see how big it is. Root veg-

etables are more tender and delicate in flavor if eaten younger and smaller; as they get older and larger, they get tougher, woodier and more pungent. If that's okay with you, you can store some root crops right in the cold ground after the tops die. Spread a thick layer of leaves, straw or other mulch to keep the ground from freezing so you can still dig them up, and you may be able to harvest carrots, turnips or parsnips.

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

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

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



# Community Connection

*Your guide to local businesses and events! To join us, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news.*



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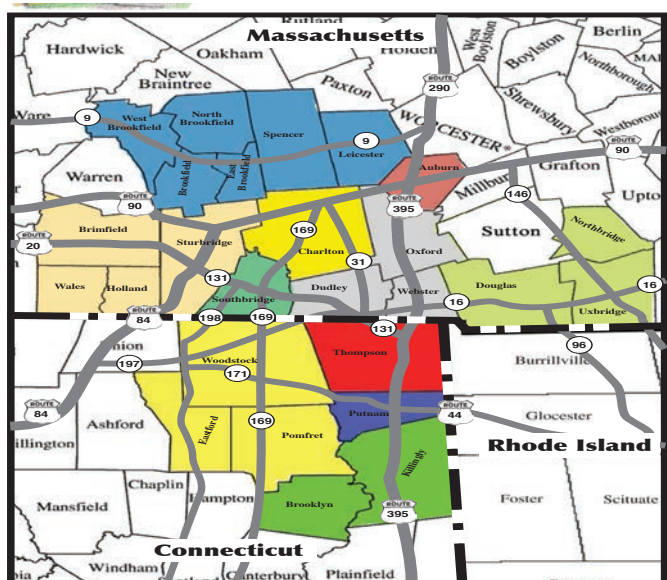
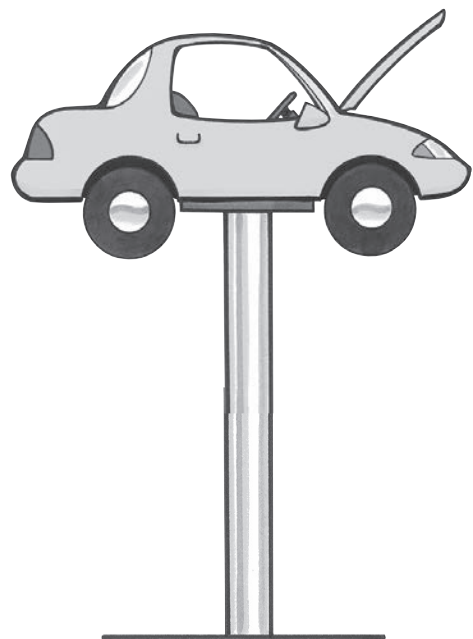
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*BRENDAN BERUBE*  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Olympic trivia

It's nice to have a distraction from the rollercoaster that was 2020, with the summer Olympics plastered all over television and social media. Watching athletes from all over the globe show off what they've been training for shows us all what can be possible when we set a goal.

With that said, we thought it would be interesting to share some Olympic trivia.

In 1998, Surya Bonaly, a figure skater from France fell during the winter games in Nagano. Since she knew she lost a chance to medal, she decided to do a move that had been banned since 1976. She did a backflip and landed on the blade of one skate. No one has attempted the trick since then, making her Olympic performance, one to remember.

From 1912 through 1954, individuals could earn medals for art, as long as it was inspired by a sport of some kind. The art could include painting, literature, sculpture or music. Eventually, this was tossed out, as most professional artists sell their work to earn a living.

In 2002, during the Winter Olympics, speed skater Steven Bradbury of Australia was racing in the 1,000 meter short track finals and was lagging behind. During the race, the leaders crashed into each other, leaving Bradbury far enough behind to avoid the collision. He was able to skate by and win gold.

The first modern Olympic Marathon (26.2-mile road race) took place in 1904. Most of the runners had never run that far before. One competitor showed up to the start line in dress pants. Fourteen out of the 32 racers were able to finish. One racer, Fred Lorz who won, actually jumped in a car for 11 miles of it due to a cramp. Another runner, Felix Carvajal ate a rotten apple halfway through and stopped to take a nap. He finished fourth. The gold officially was given to Thomas Hicks who was carried over the finish line having hallucinations that he had 20 more miles to go.

During the summer of 1992, the Lithuanian basketball team did not have enough money to compete in the Summer Olympics due to the collapse of the Soviet Union. Coming to the rescue and offering aid to the team was, unexpectedly and, frankly, bizarrely, the Grateful Dead, the rock band with a legendary reputation for imbibing, shall we say, 'illicit substances.' Beyond donating money to make the trip possible, the band allowed the team to sell Grateful Dead merchandise. The team competed in tie-dyed uniforms, and took bronze.

In 1984, McDonald's offered free food every time an American won a medal. During those summer games, the Soviet Union boycotted the games, leaving many open spaces for medals available. This ended up costing the fast food chain a significant amount of money.

True sportsmanship was shown during the Winter Olympics in 2006, held in Torino, Italy, when skier Sara Renner broke her ski pole halfway through an event. Bjornar Haakensmoen, the Norwegian ski coach handed her a spare. The Canadians went on to win silver, while the Norwegians took fourth. To show gratitude the Canadians gifted Haakensmoen with five tons of maple syrup. Both governments waived import duties.

The medals for the Tokyo Olympics are made from recycled electronics to include cameras, smartphones and laptops.

The McDonald's in the Olympic Village is free for all athletes and coaches; however, in 2016 in Rio, McDonald's capped the amount of items that could be ordered at one time to 20.

From 1900-1920, Tug of War was an Olympic sport, with Great Britain winning the most medals and the USA coming in a close second.

In 1936, two Japanese pole vaulters, who were friends had to compete against each other to decide who took silver and who took bronze. The requested that they share the honors, but were told no. Shuhei Nishida and Sueo Oe had their medals cut in half and fused together, into the medals of friendship.

In 2012, women were finally allowed to compete in boxing. Since 1991, anytime a new event is introduced to the games, women must be included.

Dr. Spock, a well known pediatrician and author, won Olympic Gold as part of the 1924 U.S. rowing team.

VIEWPOINT

Let your light shine before others

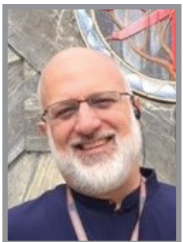
“Let your light shine on others that they may see your good works and give glory to God.”

Jesus Christ said, “I am the Light of the world.” Yet Jesus also told His followers, “YOU are the light of the world.” He challenged His followers to reflect and shine His divine light of love and mercy and grace on others. So how do we do this? How do we share God's light in the world as individuals and as communities of faith?

I want to focus on how we, as the Church, can radiate God's Divine Light! For example, our Orthodox Church of Saints Constantine and Helen has a responsibility to shine Christ's light in Webster, in Central Mass, and throughout the world. That means not only every member walking out of our Church every Sunday as shining torches, but it also means as a Church Family to share our blessings in a communal manner!

Recently, our Church shined the light of Christ's love to the world at large by paying off \$3.5 million in medical debt for 2,200 families in New England. We didn't know these families. They don't know who we are. Yet, we reached out to these families who have been struggling for some years to pay off their medical debt, and in the name of God we wiped out their debt! Their credit scores had been ruined. They experienced stress from debt collection agencies hounding them for the money for months on end. They probably have been struggling to figure out how to move forward in their lives. Then, unexpectedly, they get a letter in the mail that says:

“We are sending this letter to share the good news that you no longer owe the referenced medical debt to the provider listed in this letter because RIP Medical Debt bought and abolished the debt. The funds provided for this act of debt abolishment were generously provided by Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster, MA. The forgiveness of this debt is a no-strings-attached gift. You no longer have any obligation to pay this debt to anyone, at any future time.”



BEYOND THE PEWS

BY FR. LUKE A. VERONIS  
SAINTS  
CONSTANTINE  
AND HELEN  
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Imagine if you were a family that unexpectedly received such a letter. Actually, we just received a response from one of the recipients, who said, “I am so grateful to have RIP medical debt and the Church abolish such a significant amount of debt! As a single mother of two, this has taken a huge weight off my shoulders!! It is so nice to know that there are people out there that are willing to help in such a time of need and care about the struggle that others go through. THANK YOU!!!!!!”

What a beautiful way for our Church to “Let your light shine on others that they may see your good works and give glory to God.”

We live in a post-Christian society where many people are turning away from God and His Church, focusing on certain scandals or on society's general indifference toward religion. This apathetic spirit has created an indifference to communities of faith. Yet, through trying to “Let your light shine on others that they may see your good works and give glory to God,” we gave 2,200 families a reason to reflect on the blessing of God and His church in their lives.

In similar fashion, a year and a half ago, our Church did something else quite creative to shine God's love on others. We gave away \$30,000 in the “Good and Faithful Steward Challenge,” giving each parishioner a cash gift of \$300 or \$200 or \$100 and asking them to use the gift to bless someone else in need.

I could share many stories of the ways our parishioners shared God's blessing with those in need. One parishioner commented, “When my husband offered our gift to someone in need, the man looked at us in disbelief. Many tears flowed from both my husband and this man together in a garage sharing a gift that was so needed for his family. He expressed such gratitude and awe that a Christian church would give this money to the parishioners to make a difference to others in need. The concept of this challenge created a wonderful joy within us.”

Someone else shared, “I gave the money to


four people I saw on the street. First, I saw a mother pushing her baby carriage through the snow and thought how they must not have a car. I gave them the gift and they were so surprised and happy. Later, I saw someone rummaging through the trash can outside Dunkin Donuts. I went over to him and gave him a little gift. He couldn't believe it. I helped two other people as well. Then when I shared this experience with my son-in-law, he gave me \$50 and told me to give it to someone else in need. Giving is contagious and makes us all feel so good! Each time I felt such a joy in giving to others. It made me feel so blessed and I shared that blessing with others!”

These two events of the Medical Debt relief and the Good and Faithful Steward Challenge weren't gimmicks. They were creative ways that our community used to share God's light to the world. We are all blessed and God expects us to share His blessings with others. Our community of faith is so blessed and as a Church we want to find ways to share His love and light with others.

In October our Church will start up our Living Bread Luncheon, a monthly meal we offer to the larger Webster and Central Mass community on the first Saturday of every month. We don't simply offer a delicious meal but we offer an experience of Christ-centered hospitality. We warmly welcome our guest, many of whom come two hours before we serve our meal, talking with them, listening to their stories, treating them with honor and respect as VIP guests. Before COVID, we had created a community with these regular guests. When I see some of them around town at the super market, they sincerely tell me how much they miss the fellowship and how our fellowship and meal was a highlight of the month for them.

“Let your light shine on others that they may see your good works and give glory to God.” Paying off \$3.5 million of medical debt relief for 2,200 families or having our parishioners give away \$30,000 to those in need or offering our monthly Living Bread Luncheon, these are a few creative ways to share Christ's light as a Church Family. We pray that this may inspire other communities of faith to imitate us for the glory of God!

Keep those plates visible



CHIEF'S CORNER

STEVE WOJNAR

I recently received a question relative to motor vehicle license plates. A person wished to know the rules regarding license plate holders or decorative brackets. I was asked to address what is, or is not, allowed.

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 Section 6 and the Department of Transportation provide rules and regulations regarding the display of number plates. The General Laws state in part, “number plates shall be kept clean with the numbers legible and shall not be obscured in any manner by the installation of any device obscuring said numbers, and during the period when the vehicle or trailer is required to display lights the rear register number shall be illuminated so as to be plainly visible at a distance of sixty feet.” According to the Massachusetts Registry, license plate frames or holders are not “illegal,” provided they do not cover any part of the writing on the plates. Number plates are to be “undamaged, securely mounted, clean and clearly visible. No bumper, trailer hitch or other accessory may interfere with a clear view of the license plates.” It is also important, if you wish to use a clear or plastic cover over them, it must meet all requirements for visibility.

If a license plate holder meets these qualifications, they may be permitted. However, for a vehicle to pass annual inspection, the holder or frame cannot cover or obscure any portion of the writing on the plate. If this happens, the vehicle will not pass, and the holder would need to be removed. These situations are decided on a case-by-case basis by the people operating the inspection stations. Their opinions can differ at times. Take a few moments to review your situation. If you require clarification on your vehicle, you may want to contact or stop in at your local inspection station, or a Registry of Motor Vehicles office for an opinion.

Monday, Aug. 2 marks a sad milestone. This would be Molly Bish's 38th birthday. Molly disappeared from her lifeguard post at Comins Pond in Warren, Mass. on June 27, 2000. Her body was discovered in nearby Palmer, Mass on June 9, 2003. Although some persons of interest have been identified over the years, the case remains unsolved. Since her disappearance, Molly's parents, John and Maggie Bish, and her siblings, Heather and John Jr. have been tenacious in their fight to find Molly's killer. They have also undertaken many initiatives to protect children. They have taken a devastating situation and turned it into many positives. I had the privilege of getting to know this wonderful family and the honor to participate with them in many programs designed to protect children and prevent future incidents of abduction. They are active in the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Massachusetts Missing Children's Day, and many others. I recently worked alongside Heather and other professionals on the Massachusetts Missing Children's Task Force, designed to propose legislation to assist in preventing abductions and aid law enforcement in their efforts to solve cases. It is a personal honor to know the Bish's and it would be extremely satisfying to solve this case. Please take a moment to remember Molly and her terrific family in your thoughts this week. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Mass State Police tip line at 508-453-7575. One of many heartfelt videos has been posted on Heather Bish's Tik Tok Page: user691003173431 (@heatherkbish) TikTok | Watch user691003173431's Newest TikTok Videos

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dudley Grange grateful to Janet Malser Humanities Trust

To the Editor:

The Dudley Grange would like to thank the Janet Malser Humanities Trust for the generous award towards the purchase of a new furnace system.

The Dudley Grange hosts the Annual Strawberry and Apple Festivals, supports public interest programming and holds their monthly meetings in the historic Dudley Grange also known as

Washington Hall. The new furnace will enable the Dudley Grange to continue to provide community service to the Dudley - Webster area.

KAREN-BETH GILLON  
DUDLEY GRANGE #163

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

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

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along

with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

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

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

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!



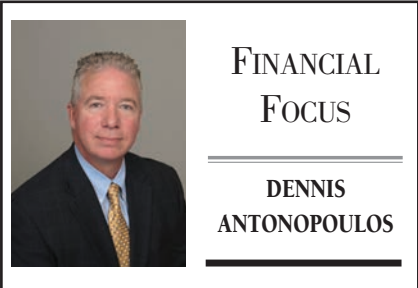
# Who should own a 529 plan?

If you have young children (or grandchildren), you may be thinking of ways to save for their future educational needs. You might consider a 529 plan, which offers tax advantages and other benefits. But a 529 plan also brings with it a key question: Who should be the owner?

You could choose to own the 529 plan yourself and name a child or grandchild as the beneficiary. And as the owner, you're free to name another family member as a beneficiary if the original one chooses not to use the 529 plan assets for qualified educational purposes. You can also designate a successor owner, so that the

assets won't have to go through probate if you pass away.

As an alternative, you could establish a custodial account (commonly called UGMA or UTMA). In a custodial account, the 529 plan is owned by the minor child, who is also the beneficiary, and the child gains full control of the account once he or she is of legal age (usually 18 or 21). Until the child reaches this age, you, as custodian, control the account and you can designate a successor custodian to step in if you become incapacitated or pass away. Generally, the beneficiary cannot be changed unless the child passes away.



The end results of a custodial 529 plan are similar to those of a traditional, parent-owned plan. The ownership model won't affect the amount accumulated in the plan, and the custodial and traditional arrangements will have the same impact on the beneficiary's eligibility for need-based financial aid. In both a custodial 529 plan and a traditional 529 plan, the assets are

reported as parental assets on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). A maximum of 5.64% of parental assets are looked at for financial aid calculations, compared to 20% of student assets.

So, which is preferable – a traditional or custodial 529 plan? There's no one right answer. But keep a few points in mind:

Taxes – If you move UGMA/UTMA assets into a custodial 529 plan, you could incur taxes. Before making this decision, consult with your tax advisor.

Beneficiary's control

of assets – Upon reaching 18 or 21, a child gains control of a custodial 529 account and can use the assets for any purpose. If the money isn't used for qualified educational expenses, the child will incur taxes and penalties.

Grandparent ownership – Grandparents can choose to own a traditional 529 plan account or open a custodial 529 plan account for a grandchild. A grandparent-owned 529 plan's distributions could hurt a student's eligibility for need-based federal financial aid, but distributions from a custodial 529 plan account are not reported on the FAFSA. However, if you're a grandparent, and you're considering opening either type of 529 account, you might want to check

with a school's financial aid office well before the money is needed.

Think carefully before deciding on the ownership of a 529 plan and get the help you need from your tax professional and financial advisor. A 529 plan can be a valuable tool, so you'll want to maximize its benefits.

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.

# Adventures with Molly



**Fishing on the Helen H in Hyannis. Lots of sea bass and porgies. From left to right: Logan Henchey, five, Mason Letellier, nine, Brendan Packard, nine, Nate Packard, Mike Letellier, Mykayla Kenmuir, 14, Lexi Letellier, 15, and Eva Henchey, eight.**

By Ralph W. True, Sr.

Planet earth is under attack on all fronts again. Wildfires in the West and floods in other parts of the country, along with mud slides, are extremely devastating to the people and wildlife, in the areas. Not to forget to mention tornadoes that are ripping apart whole towns in their path. Now we need to deal with a new Delta variant of Covid-19. Will life ever get back to normal? Whatever that is!

Finally, my little 13-inch beagle Molly has opened up on rabbits,

and had the longest drive of her life in my backyard this past Sunday afternoon. She started to bark in the backyard, so I walked down to the back gate to see what all of the commotion was about. I spotted a cottontail rabbit a hundred feet or less from the back gate. I quickly opened the gate and she shot out of the gate entrance like a bullet. She was quickly vocal as she ran towards the rabbit that quickly disappeared into the brush. Soon she was barking and yodeling as she trailed the elusive rabbit. The rabbits seem to have as much fun as



**This week's second picture shows my beagle Molly after a great hunt on a cotton tail rabbit.**



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH  
TRUE

the beagle, as they try to outsmart the dog.

I could hardly believe what my ears were hearing. For years, this writer had owned beagles that I ran on snowshoe hare a couple of times a week at the Douglas state forest with a couple of friends. Back in the day we had a half dozen dogs or more chasing and driving rabbits for hours. Rabbit populations are exploding throughout the valley and show no signs of slowing down. Maybe the Blackstone Valley Beagle Club could once again have their members hunting rabbits and owning beagles like we once did back in the day. Unfortunately, there are very few snowshoe hare to run the dogs on, but cottontail are still a

lot of fun to hunt and train the beagles on. This week's picture shows the happy beagle Molly.

Every dog had a different bark. Some yodeled, some squeaked, some had a distinct bark, so that every dog owner could identify his dog. Hopefully, Molly will continue to improve before the hunting season. Maybe just maybe, she will continue to be vocal and hunt down a few pheasant for me to harvest, as beagles are great for hunting both rabbits and pheas-

ant. Hunting season is not far away! I know I am rushing it!

Captain Mel True, Jr. had a party of anglers enjoyed a day of fishing on his boat "Fish Net Charters" last week. The four anglers landed their limit of stripers, but not before releasing 30- & 40-pound fish because they were too large or too small. Then they limited out on large seabass, and finally finished catching a good number of huge bluefish. Sounds like they had a good day.

Freshwater bass fishing also remained strong this past week with this week's photo showing



**The third picture shows Frank Padula with an impressive largemouth bass he caught recently .**

an angler with a 5.5-pound beauty. One local angler reported catching 16 largemouth bass last week at a small pond in Uxbridge, while fishing from his kayak. The largest was three and a half pounds! Numerous small-mouth bass were also reported last week.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will hold another Chicken Bar-B Q this Sunday along with another archery shoot which is open to the public. Come on down.

Take A Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## Friday's Child



Photo by Shaanon Cabral

Trey'von  
Age 9

Trey'von will also need to maintain three visits per year with his sibling.

### Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



**Trinity Catholic Academy Presents:**  
**The 26th Annual TCA Golf Tournament**  
Saturday, September 25, 2021  
Heritage Country Club • 85 Sampson Road, Charlton, MA  
Prizes, Gifts And Contests: Raffle • Table Prizes • Closest to the Pin • Longest Drive  
HOLE IN ONE = \$10,000 CASH PRIZE • PUTTING CONTEST = \$5,000 CASH PRIZE  
Steak or Chicken Luncheon in the Clubhouse  
Registration begins at 6:30am with coffee & pastry • Shotgun start at 7:30am Cost: \$130 per golfer.  
For more information visit: <https://trinitycatholicacademy.org/golf-classic/>

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# All We Know Is Local

**StonebridgePress.com**



# OBITUARIES

## Bernard P. “Ben” Guillette, Jr., 57

Dayville – Bernard P. “Ben” Guillette, Jr., 57, formerly of Grosvenordale, passed away peacefully on July 23, 2021 at his home. Born in Southbridge, MA, he was the son of Bernard and Dorothy (Magnant) Guillette, Sr.

Ben was a graduate of Marianapolis Preparatory School and Quinebaug Community College. Ben was also an Avid sports fan, especially UConn Girls Basketball. Mr. Guillette, Jr. worked for Kentucky Fried Chicken as a Regional Manager for many years. Most recently, he was employed by Crabtree & Evelyn in Woodstock, CT.

Bernard is survived by his son, Taylor A Guillette and his sister, Mary E. Sheehan and her husband, Joseph Sheehan, of Auburn, MA.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Bernard’s family from 10:00 am to 11:00 am on Monday, August 9, 2021, at the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00 am at St. Joseph Church, 20 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hartford Health Care- Hospice Care, 81 Meriden Ave, Southington, CT 06489 or to Backus Hospital- Oncology Department, 330 Washington St., Norwich, CT 06360. For memorial guestbook visit [www. GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com)

## Louis P. Kozlowski, 89

Louis P. Kozlowski, 89, of Dudley passed away peacefully, with his wife at his side, on Wednesday July 21, 2021 at Overlook Masonic Health Center of Charlton, MA. He leaves his wife, Shirley (Filipski) Kozlowski; his son, Kerry Kozlowski of Woodstock, CT; his daughter: Nancy Wilcox and her husband Doug of Ft. Myers, FL; two granddaughters, Janel Fink and her husband Zach of Seattle, WA and Derin Dietz and her husband Ian of Mons, Belgium; and three great-granddaughters: Marlie and Nora Dietz, and Ada Fink.

He was born January 31, 1932 in Dudley, MA, the son of Peter and Sophie (Kokernak) Kozlowski. He married Shirley Filipski on July 16, 1955, and was able to celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary with her at Overlook, just before his passing. Louie was a builder and talented carpenter, working as a contractor and Clerk of Works for many years. He served as a health agent for the Dudley Board of Health for 20 years. He built a house on Marsh Road for his

family in 1969 and lived in it until his death. He could always be found fixing or improving something in it. His favorite past-time was enjoying vacations on the Falmouth Shore, Cape Cod, and in the Berkshires. He adored his three great-granddaughters and was known to crawl on the floor to play with them even in his late 80s. He loved swimming in pools, sitting outside with his wife on the porch, and playing chess. He will be deeply missed by his family.

Louis’ family is deeply indebted to the wonderful staff at Overlook Masonic Post Acute Rehabilitation Center, who treated him with great care, love, and dignity in his last days.

There are no services at this time. A memorial service will be held at a later date, with his beloved wife, once she passes.

Bartel Funeral Home, of 33 Schofield Ave. Dudley, is assisting with arrangements. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude Children’s Hospital or St. Andrew Bobola Church.

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

## Linda Mary Albuquerque Welker, 70

Linda Mary Albuquerque Welker, 70, of Lowell, Ohio, passed away on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born on October 23, 1950 in Webster, MA to the late Paul and Mary Theresa (McManus) Albuquerque.

Linda is survived by her husband, Brian J. Welker of Lowell; son, Mark Dennis Giles (Gail); brother, Paul Nelson Albuquerque (Karla), all of Oxford, MA; three granddaughters, Jade Dominique, Brittany Kemp and Sophia Rose Giles, all of Oxford.

Linda was a graduate of Oxford High School and Quinsigmond Community

College. She enjoyed being with her family, crocheting and computer time with friends on Pogo.

Abiding with her wishes, there will be private memorial services for the family. Her family would like to extend a special thank you to all the caregivers of Amedisys Hospice for their support during this difficult time. The Lowell Chapel of Cawley & Peoples is honored to assist Linda’s family with cremation arrangements and offers online condolences as well as many other services by visiting their website, [CawleyandPeoples.com](http://CawleyandPeoples.com) or by visiting their Facebook page.

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



# LEGALS

### PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is considering providing financial support through the National Housing Act following the Healthcare Mortgage Insurance Program pursuant to Section 232, Handbook 4232.1 REV-1 for the following project proposed to be repairs beyond routine maintenance at 11 Pontiac Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, MA Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed project may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 1721000047 - EBI Consulting, AMG, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or via telephone at (585) 815-3290.

August 6, 2021

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: July 29, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
August 6, 2021

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. WO15P0572PM  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE  
OF PETITION FOR RESIGNATION  
OF A CONSERVATOR  
Respondent Incapacitated Person/  
Protected Person  
In the interests of:  
Brian H Goodrich  
Of: OXFORD, MA

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by:  
**Patricia A Goodrich of OXFORD, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court Accept the Resignation of the Conservator.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardian and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

### 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 08/17/2021.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: July 20, 20121

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
August 6, 2021

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. WO21P2129EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Jay E. Sibley

### Date of Death: 02/16/2021

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Petition for Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **James J. Sibley of Winter Haven FL** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **James J. Sibley of Winter Haven FL** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/24/2021.**

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: July 20, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
August 6, 2021

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Webster is soliciting bids for the construction of sidewalks on East Main Street from Paradis Lane to Park Ave a distance of approximately 950 feet. Plans, specifications and other contract documents can be obtained starting 8/11/21 online at [www.theengineeringcorp.com/bids/](http://www.theengineeringcorp.com/bids/).  
Deadline for questions 8/25/21 at noon. General bid deadline 9/1/21 at 2:00 pm. Bids to be opened at Town Hall, 350 Main Street, Webster.  
August 6, 2021  
August 13, 2021

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. WO21P2234EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Jesse Aaron Brooks  
Date of Death: 06/22/2021

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Elizabeth V. Brennan, Esq. of Worcester MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Erin Bradbury Esquire of Holden MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/31/2021.**

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

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
Docket No. W021P2399EA  
Estate of:  
Elsie Leonore Faneuf  
Also Known As:  
Elsie L Faneuf  
Date Of Death: March 18, 2020  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **William A. Faneuf of Blue Hill, ME** Petitioner **Edward J. Faneuf of Orange, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate  
**William A. Faneuf of Blue Hill, ME**  
**Edward J. Faneuf of Orange, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

August 6, 2020



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- You must call by August 14<sup>th</sup>



Early  
bird  
special! ★

★ Before  
August  
14<sup>th</sup>!

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on every window<sup>1</sup>

**SAVE \$725**  
on every patio and entry door<sup>1</sup>  
Minimum purchase of four.

AND

2 **6.25% OFF**  
your entire project<sup>1</sup>  
Minimum purchase of four.

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your entire project when you set  
your appointment by August 14<sup>th</sup><sup>1</sup>  
Minimum purchase of four.

WITH

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**ON DEPOSIT**



**ON DEPOSIT**



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**ON DEPOSIT**



**ON DEPOSIT**



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**DUDLEY** – 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/ Guest Closet! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6x27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner – Pride of Ownership! **\$509,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' AC'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

**STURBRIDGE** Big Alum Lake! 243 Big Alum Rd! 6.58 Acres of Privacy! Sub-Dividable! West Expo – Beautiful Sunsets! 3,313' 10+ Rm Cape w/3 - 4 Bdrms & 4 Baths! Features Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar & Tile Flr! Frp'd Din Area! Din Rm w/3 Walls of Glass & French Dr to the Deck! Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm w/Hearth & Wood Stove & Wall of Picture Windows! Spacious Liv Rm w/Pine Flr! Office! Full Bath w/ Laundry Closet! 1st Flr Master w/Slider to the Inground Pool, Walk-in Closet, Marble Bathrm w/Separate Tub & Shower & Dble Vanities! 2nd Flr w/2 Spacious Bdrms, Lots of Closet Space & Pine Flrs! Full Hall Bath! Lower Level w/Game Rm, Wine/Root Cellars! Utility & Storage! 2 Car Attached Garage w/Office/In-Law Suite Above! New Driveway Access needs to be Installed! Cosmetic Repairs Needed! **\$679,900.00**

**SUTTON** – 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/ Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! **\$549,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 305 Beacon Park! Lake View 1,280' 5 Rm Townhouse - 10 Acres Park Lake Grounds w/Panoramic Lake Views! Yr Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Move-in Condition! Appliance Kit! Din Rm w/Slider to the Composite Deck! Frp'd Liv Rm w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & French Dr to the Deck! Updated Half Bath! Spacious Master w/Wall of Closets & Full Bath w/Recent Sky Light! 2nd Bedroom w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & Full Bath just outside its Door! 2 Bdrms & 2.5 Updated Baths! Garage w/Opener! Lakeside Heated Pool & One of the Best Sandy Beaches on the Lake! Canoe Rack! Rented Boat Dock through 2022, Longer Possible! Great Fireworks Viewing! **\$335,000.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** – 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Appliance Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! C/Vac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! **\$400,000.00**



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**\$179,900**

**WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.**



**ON DEPOSIT**

EXTRAORDINARY FIND! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. IDEAL property for YOU! 3,012 SF +/- 12 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Updated Full Baths, 2 Modern BEAUTIFUL Kitchens w/PSSCALE Cabinets, 2nd Flr has GRANITE Countertops! High Ceilings & HARDWOOD Floors! Grand Front Entry! LARGE WELL MANICURED 13,525 SF LOT. 3 CAR DETACHED GARAGE! Municipal Water & Sewer, 2 Oil Heating Systems, Radiators, 1st flr Hot water by Natural Gas  
**\$439,900.**

**FEATURED NEW LISTING - WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET**



**ON DEPOSIT**

A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE-AVERAGE, TOP NOTCH-HIGH QUALITY-TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED! Apt# 1 - 1,536 SF +/- & 3 BRs on the 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF +/- & 2 BRs on the 1st floor. 1st Flr. HWBB By Oil, 2nd Flr apt. HWBB by natural gas. Spacious Rooms, High Ceilings, hardwood flrs! granite tops. Enjoy the L-Shaped Covered Farmers Porch! Level Lot!  
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**ON DEPOSIT**

Heritage Pines Condo Town House - Everything one would expect and then more! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, all Hardwood floors, granite, stainless steel appliances. central air, 2 decks, 2800 sq ft +/- of finished living area., and so much more!  
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**ON DEPOSIT**

WELCOME TO MIDNIGHT FARM! 1876 Antique Colonial. Included separate Building - Studio/Store both situated on 2.5 Acres that have been Professionally Landscaped and are surrounded by Conservation Meadows and Woodlands. 5 Bedroom, Lg Living room, Fireplaced Dining room, Library, Master Bedroom, Full Bath & Renovated Kitchen! 3 Stall Garage! Picturesque Location!  
**\$455,000.**

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**LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS**

Webster - Douglas Rd (Rte. 16) 26 ACRES on Sugarloaf Hill. 1000 +/- ft of road frontage

**SORRY SOLD! \$200,000**

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided!  
**\$89,900**

Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE.  
**\$115,000.**

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **ON DEPOSIT! Each \$24,500.**

**WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

large 3 Family- a rare find! 1st Floor spacious 2 bedroom apartment. 2 - 2nd floor, 3 bedroom apartments Walkout basement to off street parking.  
**\$289,900.**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



**Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island**

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! A WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle, you won't want to miss! Offers a prime waterfront location! 64' of water frontage and a gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! Nicely arranged floor plan. 5 rooms 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lowerlevel to nice size patio! Garage.  
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**WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO**

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



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(P) Land	(L) Mobile Home	(A) Apartment	(W) Waterfront

ADDRESS	STYLE	TIME	PRICE	REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE
<b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 8</b>				
<b>DUDLEY</b>				
10 Mill Rd	S	Noon-1:30	\$354,900	Hope Realty Laurie C. Sullivan c: 508.525.0611

**To have your open house listed in this directory.**  
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**42 Mill St ~ \$359,900**



**DUDLEY:** Foundation & permits for water & sewer, 50' Ranch, Walk out basement, 2 car garage, Built your own Ranch  
**44 Alton Dr ~ \$149,900**

**WEBSTER Coming Soon!**

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**2 Car Garage**  
**2 bedrooms each unit**  
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# Positively Speaking

Benjamin Franklin said, "... nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

He wasn't the originator of the phrase, but he certainly helped to cement it as a mainstream idiom here in America.

I've begun to feel that the idiom isn't precisely true. Sure, death comes to us all, and we all must pay taxes. To me, it makes more sense to say, "nothing is certain, except loss and taxes."

All of us deal with loss in our lifetimes. Coping with a loss is never easy. Loss comes in many forms and all shapes and sizes.

Some people can go through life not losing much at all, and others sometimes lose everything.

Zig Ziglar said, "It's not what happens to you; it's how you handle what happens to you that will make the difference..." Two brothers had an alcoholic father. One brother became a happy, successful person, and when asked why he said, "I had no choice; my father was an alcoholic." The other brother became a miserable alcoholic, and when asked why he said, "I had no choice; my father was an alcoholic."

The brothers had the same experience but created different narratives.

When I was younger, I met a beautiful girl. I don't believe in love at first sight, but this was the closest thing to it. It was a short relationship, only seven months.

## POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

She left me abruptly after telling me many times that she loved me. I felt as if my whole world was ending. I became bitter and hostile for a time, and despite my positive upbringing, it was the first time I'd lost something that had such profound meaning. My reaction made things much worse. I created a narrative in my mind that became a destructive thought pattern that brought even more heartache; I allowed it to fester, nourished it, and it became my personality for a time.

My father, Gary W. Moore, the founder of this column, lost a business that he poured into his heart and soul. He built a business from scratch that sold state-of-the-art water filtration systems. He had a factory, sales

teams, and offices around the country. His offices in New Orleans had become his most profitable. The future seemed bright; little did he know that loss was knocking at his door.

It all started when his business partner embezzled several hundred thousand dollars. Then the managers of his most profitable sales offices in Louisiana made counterfeit water filters, selling them, keeping the money, bypassing the inventory process. Sales slumped, lawsuits were filed. Then came Hurricane Katrina; it destroyed all of his offices in New Orleans. The business had collapsed. Through all of this, he was determined to recover. Limping along, barely surviving, the housing collapse of 2008 brought it to an end.

He could have become negative. He could have

positioned himself as a victim. He could have given up, and nobody would've blamed him.

He did the opposite and seamlessly moved into a new career as an author. He convinced himself that he would succeed, that it would only be a matter of time before his books would sell. It wasn't long, and his books were selling. An Oscar-winning producer optioned his first book, and his second book was adapted into a screenplay by a different Oscar-winning producer! What are the odds? Did it have anything to do with the narrative he created in his mind?

Gary passed away on July 14. It was a terrible loss for the whole family. He was our anchor.

For the past several years, I spoke to my father daily. We have

written screenplays together and started what we think will be a very successful business.

As I move forward without him, sometimes the thoughts creep in, "I can't do this, I wasn't meant to succeed, my business will be an utter failure without my dad."

Observing my father and studying how other successful people cope with loss, I know enough to kill those thoughts right as they manifest. I am instead telling myself what my father would have said to himself if he were in my position, "I can do this; I was born to win; the business will be wildly successful!"

Toby Moore is a columnist.

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**OAKHAM** - This gorgeous reproduction colonial offers 13.42 incredible acres of privacy at the end of a cul-de-sac! Inside you will find a cabinet packed cherry kitchen with granite counter tops and very high-end appliances including a subzero fridge & a vented gas cook top! Great sized dining room with a cathedral beamed ceiling, skylights & lots of natural sunlight from the huge picture window! Formal living room with a pellet stove, large 1st floor bedroom and a 1st floor full bathroom, 3 more good sized bedrooms, a 2nd full bathroom and a nice sized open loft on the 2nd floor! Finished bonus room in the lower level along with a large storage room! Beautiful pine floors throughout, a mud room & a 2 car attached garage! The impressive lot offers rebuilt stone walls, an open field, manicured landscaping, a tiered patio with pretty flower gardens, a large detached garage/barn, separate heated workshop, a Quonset hut, gazebo and a huge paved driveway! **64 Grey Oaks Lane \$539,900**

**WEST BROOKFIELD** - Gorgeous waterfront on Lake Wickaboag! Nothing but the best finishes throughout all 3 floors! Amazing chefs kitchen with high end appliances, grand dining & living rooms, sun filled sun room with a balcony, 3 large bedrooms including a spoiling master suite with a huge walk in closet and custom master bathroom! Huge finished walk out lower level! Amazing lake views from every single room! Wonderful roof top deck for entertaining, 2 car garage, manicured grounds & an oversized dock! All of the high end furniture and the pontoon boat are included! **\$950,000** Call Michelle Terry 508-735-8744

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# Create your own backyard paradise

You don't need a plane ticket, tank full of gas or train ride to enjoy a bit of paradise. Create your own in a small alcove, large patio, or deck in your own backyard.

Start by visualizing what paradise looks and feels like to you. A table and chair surrounded by beautiful plants makes a wonderful space to relax, read a book and enjoy some alone time. For some, it means a patio or deck filled with colorful planters and surrounded by ornamental grasses, vine covered trellises, flowering shrubs, and evergreens. These will help define the space, provide privacy, mask unwanted noise, and provide a great space for entertaining.

Don't let a lack of space, patio, or deck stop you from building a backyard getaway. Look for those underutilized areas. Perhaps it is a back corner of the yard, space next to the garage, side

yard or a spot under a big shade tree. A vine covered arbor, piece of indoor-outdoor carpet and a few planters can turn any space into a backyard retreat.

Once you identify the space and desired function, think about the ambience you want to create. For a tropical escape, include leafy plants like elephant ears and bananas in pots, wicker furniture, a water feature and colorful flowers like begonias, hibiscus, and mandevilla. Don't overlook hardy perennials. Plants like big leaf hostas, variegated Solomon's seal, crocosmia, cassia and others help create the look and feel of the tropics. Continue this theme by using bamboo, wicker, and wood for any needed screening.

If it is a visit to the Mediterranean you prefer, include stonework, planters with silver foliage plants like dusty mill-



GARDEN MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA MYERS

er, and sage and a few evergreens. Use upright junipers and grapevines trained on arbors for screening. An urn or topiary make an attractive focal point. Fill the garden space with herbs, blue oat grass, calendula, salvia, and alliums.

For a casual visit to England, craft yourself a cottage garden. Construct a narrow path leading through an archway at the entrance to your secret garden. Create an informal collection of flowers, herbs, and medicinal plants. Use a birdbath, piece of garden art or water feature as your focal point.

If it's the north woods you prefer, make a fire-

pit the focal point, add some rustic furnishings and complete the scene with native plants. Or let your personality shine with a colorful bistro set, garden art, and flowers of orange, red, and yellow.

As your vision comes into focus, it is time to start putting your ideas on paper. A simple sketch will help you define the space, arrange the plants, and identify the appropriate furnishings and building materials. It is much easier to move items on paper than once they are set into the ground.

Always contact your local underground utility locating service at least three business days in advance. It's free and as easy as calling 811 or filing an online request. They will contact all the appropriate companies who will mark the location of their underground utilities in the designated work area. This reduces the risk of injury and inconvenience of accidentally knocking out power, cable, or other utilities as you enhance your landscape.

Because this important step is often over-



Melinda Myers

If you want a tropical escape, include leafy plants like elephant ears and banana plants in pots, wicker furniture, a water feature and colorful flowers like hibiscus and mandevilla.

looked, August 11th has become National 811 Day. It's a reminder to include this important step when undertaking any landscape project, large or small. And remind others to do the same.

Once complete, you'll simply be able to step out your back door and enjoy your slice of paradise.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 garden-

ing books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## RUDA

continued from page A1

thing balanced and everything done," Cyganiewicz said.

Overall, Ruda received an average score of 3.87 out of 4 when all the numbers were tallied. Ruda himself thanked selectmen for their confidence in him but acknowledged that the score shows

a need for improvement in some areas.

"I want to thank the board for an outlier rating in an outlier year," said Ruda, who admitted he though employee, community and intergovernmental communication, for which he received a lowest score, would have been his lowest grade. "Thank you for setting the bar to exceed my expectations."

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shows me the way  
to reach my ideal,  
you who gives me  
the divine gift to  
forgive and forget  
all the wrong that  
is done to me, and  
you who are in all  
instances of my  
life with me. I, in  
this short dialogue,  
want to thank you  
for everything, and  
affirm once more  
that I never want to  
be separated from  
you no matter how  
great the material  
desires may be. I  
want to be with you  
and my loved ones  
in your perpetual  
glory. Amen

L.R.

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Please submit application, Resume,  
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go to <https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/human-resources>. Applications must be  
received by August 19, 2021. The position  
will remain open until filled.

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



**BVO**  
*continued from page A1*

bis per year. Estimating the value will fall to \$3000 per pound (it's now about \$4000), that would bring in around \$17 million a year, Lucas said.

The plan includes around 15 jobs, including management, office sup-

port, six growers and five trimmers, with annual salaries starting around \$35,000. Describing his goal as “to fill it with honest, good people who deserve chances,” he said he wants to specifically employ minorities, women, veterans, disabled people and LGBTQ people, and plans to

reserve at least 20 percent of the jobs for them. He said he expects staff to start at about half-capacity with workloads gradually increasing and salaries likewise.

Sousa said the June Planning Board hearing saw some nearby businesses raise concerns about odor. Since

the HCA states the town can act on “five or more complaints from households,” he urged the board to modify that in the special permit to

include businesses. Otherwise, they had to delay doing anything to Aug. 9, since state law requires at least five members to vote on spe-

cial permits.

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

**SIGNS**  
*continued from page A1*

MassDOT's Statewide Exit Renumbering Project is converting all exit numbers on roadways, per Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements. Previous to this project, interstates and major roadways in Massachusetts have always utilized a sequential exit numbering method.

For information on the scheduled installations, please visit: <https://new-massexits.com/#it-schedule>. If needed, a GIS shapefile with the specific numbering information is available on Massachusetts' GeoDOT site.

**LIST**  
*continued from page A1*

by grant funding eligibility benchmarks such as safety, ADA accessibility, pedestrian mobility, vehicular and freight operations and transit access. It also estimates the amount of the funding requests that will be required to complete each project and it puts in desired construction start dates and timelines so now we have something to point to when we go for grant funding.”

Ruda called the plan a “safety oriented” doc-

ument and many of the priorities in the top ten involved the Dudley-Oxford Road, Ramshorn Road and the Center Road areas where students from Shepherd Hill students are often seen traveling or warming up for sports along the roadways, many of which lack proper sidewalks.

“I don't know how many times we've seen the field hockey team or cross-country team dangerously running, doing their practices up and down the street and how dangerous our sidewalks are to support a regional high school the way we

do,” said Ruda. “A project of that scope and scale would be a \$200,000 grant request.”

Selectmen called it an ambitious plan but applauded Ruda and the Planning Board for their work on the document. Ruda specifically thanked the Planning Board and Town Planner Bill Scanlon for their time, effort and research calling their commitment a prime example of a volunteer board having a direct impact on the betterment of the community for both residents and businesses.



# HIRING EVENT!

**HIRING ON THE SPOT AT THE HEALTH CENTER!**  
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# Welcome to our 3rd Annual Summer Scramble!

We've decided to change it up for Summer and instead of a crossword puzzle, we've created a scramble. We hope you'll enjoy this challenging puzzle!

Please find the answers (business names) on the ABC's of SUMMER on page 2.

We will unscramble for you and announce a winner of a \$25 Gift Card to an ABC Business in the August 27th issue.

Please mail to ABC's of Summer Scramble, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550 or take a pic and email to [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news) by August 18.

Good luck!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Newspaper you saw this in, circle one: Spencer New Leader, Auburn News, Southbridge News, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Webster Times, Blackstone Valley Tribune

We love your feedback comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ABC'S OF SUMMER SCRAMBLE

(These are not in alphabetical order)

1. VUTAREDEN TURSO FO NEWRRA \_\_\_\_\_

2. SBEN LTAECK HPSO \_\_\_\_\_

3. ATKL OF EHT NWOT \_\_\_\_\_

4. NCEPRES LFYMIA DETANL \_\_\_\_\_

5. ERIN OYMANHE \_\_\_\_\_

6. LRUAUMXOE DORF \_\_\_\_\_

7. SYAGR TETGSRU \_\_\_\_\_

8. AWKRHCDI RERMSFA VEOA-REOCIPT \_\_\_\_\_

9. CCTRUEAA TPES OCNTRLO \_\_\_\_\_

10. RERMICO WSEREJLE \_\_\_\_\_

11. ERSKAN OCINLLISO \_\_\_\_\_

12. RCATNLE ONE LEFDEAR ECDRIT \_\_\_\_\_

13. SEHFR ASTRT ETH NOGMVI WREC \_\_\_\_\_
14. BAUGOAQ TIAIANROIEBHTL \_\_\_\_\_

15. OSETINEDGRB SPESR \_\_\_\_\_

16. CRANEMIA DTCINSOU OLI \_\_\_\_\_

17. SNAL PIANT TCGREEN \_\_\_\_\_

18. MOARC OWINWD SVEIRECS INC \_\_\_\_\_

19. NGSIIHG NEYERG ITEVALNESATR \_\_\_\_\_

20. TDEAUTE GOTNIW AND VYCEOERR \_\_\_\_\_

21. DOYSWO TAUO ODBY \_\_\_\_\_

22. CHIOCE TP AHPLCISY ARYPTEH \_\_\_\_\_

23. CULEN SAMS PZZAI \_\_\_\_\_


24. ENATLEVC \_\_\_\_\_

25. NAHSSEE OLSAN DAN PAS \_\_\_\_\_

26. HLICAL RTIE DNA UATO VEREICS \_\_\_\_\_







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# Rick Laviolette appointed president of Swissturn/USA



**Rick Laviolette**

OXFORD — Swissturn/USA, Inc. of Oxford, has appointed Rick Laviolette as its new President.

Mr. Laviolette has more than 25 years' experience working in manufacturing in both operations and business development. He has a proven track record of moving companies forward through the development of strategic plans and driving continuous improvements.

Mr. Laviolette's previous positions include Vice President, ASC Solutions, President and CEO of Resolute Composite Technologies, and Executive vice President Business Development and Owner, Pixley Richards.

Mr. Laviolette holds a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering-Product Design from UMASS, Amherst, a Master's degree in Business Administration, from Lesley College and a Certificate in Strategic Leadership from Harvard University. Rick and his family reside in RI. His appointment concludes a three-month national search process.

Kenneth Mandile, who had been President of Swissturn since 1997, will remain on as CEO and consultant to Swissturn. On Mr. Laviolette's appointment, Mr. Mandile described him as "a charismatic and forward-thinking leader who brings a wealth of operations and manufacturing experience."

"He believes committed employees are the backbone of the organization and he has a passion for developing a positive work culture," said Mr. Mandile.

Swissturn is an employee-owned (ESOP) contract manufacturer of CNC Swiss screw machine products.

# SUMMER EATS

**FREE MEALS FOR KIDS & TEENS**

**Free Breakfast and Lunch  
during the summer!**

**Oxford High School  
June 21st – August 13th  
9:00 a.m. – 11 a.m.**



**Grab and Go** meals will be available for pick-up each **weekday morning** located at the main entrance of Oxford High School.

The menu can be found on the Oxford Public Schools website:  
[https://www.oxps.org/apps/pages/food\\_menus](https://www.oxps.org/apps/pages/food_menus)

Please call our office at 508-987-6056 if your child has a food allergy.  
*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

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# St. Andrew Bobola preparing for annual yard sale

DUDLEY — St. Andrew Bobola Church, 54 West Main St., Dudley, will be holding a Yard Sale on Friday, Sept. 17, starting at noon and Saturday, Sept. 18 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Start your fall cleaning early and drop off any useable, gently used donations at the rectory. Please call head any day until Tuesday, Sept. 14 to arrange drop off at the rear of the church by calling 508-943-5633.



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# GRILL SALE

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