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Friday, March 18, 2022

## School District seeking new Principal for Shepherd Hill

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARTON – Shepherd Hill Regional High School will be under new leadership this fall following the announcement that Principal William Chaplin will not be returning to his position after the conclusion of the school year.

Superintendent Steven Lamarche made the announcement official on March 2 during a budget roundtable with the School Committee acknowledging Chaplin's years of service to the district and his decision not to seek a new contract.

"I want to thank Principal Chaplin for his six years of service in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District and at Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

He has moved mountains and has certainly been dedicated to the children, students and staff as well as the communities of Dudley and Charlton. We certainly wish him well in his next endeavor," Lamarche said.

A week later during the School Committee's March 9 regular meeting the hiring process for a new principal was officially put in motion with Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Dr. Brian Ackerman facilitating the search. Dr. Ackerman presented a proposal for a search committee comprised of one or two School Committee representatives, two representatives from the district offices, one middle school and one elementary school principal, the high school assistant principal, two or three teachers including at least one

from Shepherd Hill, and two to three parents as well as a student from Shepherd Hill.

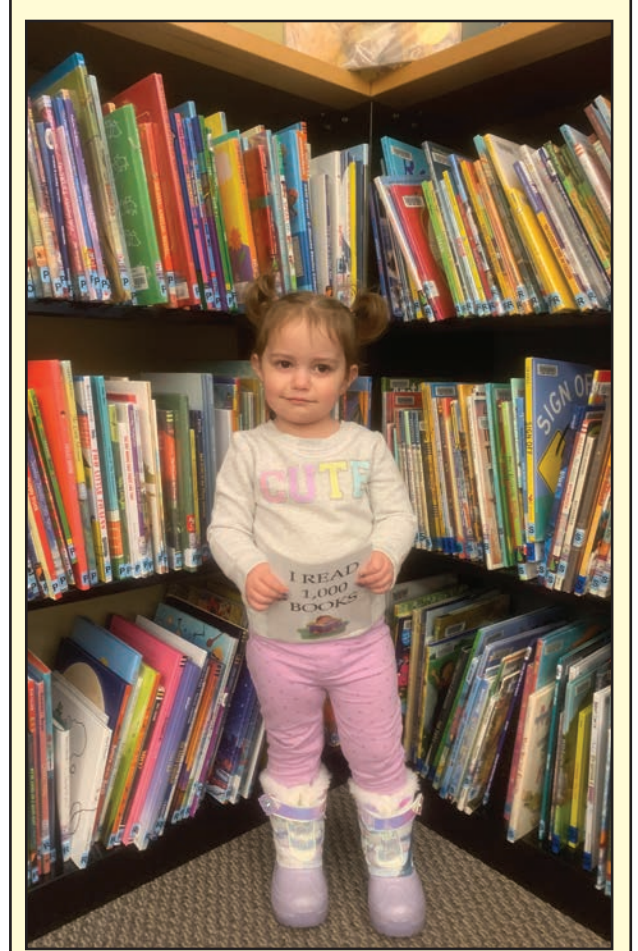
Dr. Ackerman also revealed that a survey would be released to the community and stakeholders allowing citizens to express their thoughts on the requirements for a candidate for the position as well as submit their interest in serving on the committee.

"Obviously we want folks to be able to offer wide ranging and expansive feedback and that would, of course, be shared with our committee," said Dr. Ackerman.

Members of the School Committee felt that the search group should be more focused on the staff from Shepherd Hill, including requiring that the teachers on the committee be from only the high school. They also wanted the committee

to be on the smaller end of the projected member numbers. Dr. Ackerman noted that the membership laid out was an attempt to capture all different angles of student needs in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District and apply them to the search for Shepherd Hill's new principal. Cathleen Carmignani and Jeanne Costello were appointed to represent the School Committee in the principal search.

The current timeline would see the job posting remain open until March 22 with applications reviewed on March 23 and 24. Eight candidates would be interviewed on the first week of April before cutting the pool to two or three candidates and picking a top candidate to be presented to the School Committee on April 27.



Courtesy  
 Alyssa Landry (aged not-quite three) of Dudley just completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Pearle L Crawford Memorial Library.

## Shooting suspect Surrenders to Dudley police

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The Dudley Police Department has made an arrest nearly a year after a shooting incident occurred in April of 2021.

Police Chief Steve Wojnar revealed to the Board of Selectmen in his report on Feb. 28 that a suspect was taken into custody earlier in the month in connection to the shooting of a 26-year-old male resident of a home on Green Street on April 28, 2021. The initial report of the incident indicated multiple individuals had forced their way into the first-floor apartment and confronted the victim. A female resident and two children were also home at the time. Police didn't confirm in the report whether one or multiple people were responsible for the act which left the single male victim with several gunshot wounds. The victim later recovered from his injuries.

Wojnar said Dudley Police didn't hunt down the suspect, but rather he returned

Turn To **SUSPECT** page **A15**

## Selectmen greenlight zoning change process

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD – Selectmen voted March 8 to formally start the process of sending several zoning changes to this spring's Town Meeting.

The proposals call for amending the zoning boundary as defined by Chapter 2.3.7, expanding the marijuana overlay district along Route 20, changing sections of Route 20's south side from Residential-3 to General Business, and creating a new chapter governing large-scale battery storage sites. The board sent all four back to the

Planning Board for public hearings slated for Monday, April 11.

According to Planner Tony Sousa, the overlay proposal is "identical" to one Town Meeting narrowly rejected last year. Normally, he said, that rejection would mean it cannot be revisited for two years except that the Planning Board had voted its support beforehand. It's also "consistent with the Master Plan," and is only "clearing up a boundary issue on Route 20," Sousa added.

The Chapter 2.3.7 change is a largely techni-

cal one, but Sousa said it has tripped up quite a few property owners over the years. At issue is an odd phrasing by which the "lot of record" at the time the bylaw was approved (1987) controls what can be done with roughly 200 lots that are now split between two zoning districts. In many cases, those lots have changed significantly and may not even exist, so Sousa said the Planning Board wants to get rid of that term to "simplify" the process. He said it will still be subject to special

Turn To **ZONING** page **A15**

## Airport Road reconfiguration taking shape

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Plans are taking shape for the reconfiguration of the Airport Road intersection near Nichols College in Dudley as part of a lengthy initiative to improve pedestrian and commuter safety through the use of Shared Street and Spaces Grant funding.

The Board of Selectmen and Planning Board heard details of the project during a joint meeting on March 7 from Faye Rhault, Assistant Transportation Planner with the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission, who explained that the project involves not only revamping the Airport Road intersections, but also improving connectivity between Nichols College, Shepherd Hill Regional High School and Mason Road School to downtown involving Mason Road, Dudley Oxford Road, Dudley Hill Road, Airport Road and West Main Street.

"This was a Complete Streets project that was identified as a priority area due to the high crash location," said Rhault. "People also tend to speed through the corridor and there's very much needed pedestrian accommodations at this intersection especially with Nichols College being so close by and a lot of notable pedestrians go down to West Main Street on this road."

The Shared Streets and Spaces Grant that would fund the project is a reimbursement grant established in 2020 by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation in response to COVID-19. It is intended to help create outdoor spaces and recreation but also provides funding for speed mitigation and equipment for related projects targeting intersections or roadways heavily effected by traffic volumes or persistent traffic law violations. The Airport Road section of town is one of several dangerous intersections in the area and sees a large number of traffic violations and crash inci-

Turn To **AIRPORT ROAD** page **A15**



Courtesy

## VETERANS COUNCIL INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

On Wednesday, March 2, the Veterans Council of Webster and Dudley held installation of officers for the upcoming year. The Veterans Council is an organization which coordinates with other military service organizations such as, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans and the Polish American Veterans in Webster and Dudley. The Veterans Council synchronizes the events which all organizations take part in to be able to act as one unit such as the Honor Guard for Military Veterans, the Parades, and the maintenance and upkeep of the military monuments, and various other activities. This organization is instrumental in maintaining communication and order between all the differing organizations in our community. All veterans in our community should get involved with one of the above mentioned veteran's organizations. Everyone has something valuable to contribute and it is an opportunity to have your ideas heard and perhaps help to make our towns of Webster and Dudley a better place for us all to live.



# STELLAR STUDENTS



Dudley Middle School congratulates its Students of the Month. 5th Grade - Miranda Carlson, Lena Gago, Liliana Kay, & Kourtney Tucker; 6th Grade - Madison Boggio, Amal Joudi, Stephanie Krysinski, and Valerie Rivera Santaigo (pictured separately); 7th Grade - Austin Bass, Celia Ares, & Patrick Morn; 8th Grade - Molly Fitton, Alexa Zannotti, & Jaxon Sitko.

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## PROSPECTIVE PLUMBERS

Courtesy

At Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School, freshman plumbing students recently worked on copper soldering frame projects. Pictured at back right is Jameson Burke. At front (L-R) are Seamus O'Rourke and Connor Belanger. Projects are used to help students understand the importance of using a tape measure, finding measurements, problem solving, as well as the proper use of a torch to solder. Also below is a picture of the project drawing students use to draw, calculate measurements, and fabricate. Upon completion, students will air test their projects to ensure that soldering is proficient. Students will also create a time and material bill for the project that they will pass in for credit.

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# Guest speaker has Master Masons asking Questions

SOUTHBIDGE – On Monday, March 7, the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge welcomed one of Boston’s Best local authors, guest speaker David Brody. He is an Amazon bestselling fiction writer and author of 16 novels. The Lodge was open to the public and was packed with Master Masons and people from the community who came to listen to what he had to say about “Exploration of America before Columbus.”

His children call him a “rock nerd” because of the time he spends studying ancient stone structures. He believes there is evidence of exploration of America prior to Columbus. He is a graduate of Tufts University and Georgetown Law School. He has served as a Director of the New England Antiquities Research Association (NEARA) and is an avid researcher in the subject of pre-Columbus exploration of America. In his first 12 books, he writes about the Knights Templars American series. This series is an Amazon Kindle top 10 bestsellers. Eight titles have become the #1 bestseller in their category. Due to his extensive knowledge in this area, he has frequently appeared as a guest speaker on documentaries airing on the History Channel, Travel Channel, PBS, and Discovery Channel.

During his presentation, David showed numerous slide shows of artifacts and sites from around New England which offer evidence of exploration of North America before Columbus in 1492. In Westford, Medieval stone of a blade punch-marked into the bed-rock stone which looks like a Knights Templar sword. Also, a big rock called the Westford boat stone, is a ship carving into the stone, possible is related to a Scottish Earl Prince Henry Sinclair in 1398. Newport Tower in Rhode Island, carbon-dating was done on the mortar stone indicates 1400 construction. Also, the Rune Stone in Narragansett Bay, you can only see the inscriptions



engraved on the stone at low tide. In Maine a medieval stone carving on a rock called the Spirit Pond Rune Stone near Popham beach. Also, up in Nova Scotia, Oak Island, he talks about the Knights Templar who visited that Island. His list goes on and on about all the discoveries made and all the stones, carbon-dating tested back prior to 1492 before Christopher Columbus. If you are a history buff and want to read additional interesting information about this pre-discover of artifacts prior to Columbus, go to westfordknight.blogspot.com.

This was a very educational evening for the Master Masons and the public who attended and listen to guest speaker David Brody. Many questions were asked after the presentation and many of his books were up for sale for those interested in his writing. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org to find a lodge nearest you.

Photo: Author and one of Boston’s bestselling fiction writers David Brody answering questions with all his books

on the screen in the background that he has written. It was a very interesting and educational evening for all those who attended.

## Durant proposes pause to gas tax

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

BOSTON – With the price of gas reaching well over \$4 a gallon in some parts of the state over the last month, state lawmakers have begun examining ways they can ease the pain at the pump for their constituents.

State Rep. Peter Durant, whose district includes Dudley, Southbridge, Spencer and parts of Charlton, is one such lawmaker who proposed an amendment to the state’s supplemental budget to suspend the gas tax to a certain point. The move would have eliminated the tax once unleaded gas goes above \$4 a gallon and then reinstated it when the price fell below \$3.70. Rep. Durant said the move was intended to help alleviate the growing financial impact of increased gas prices on commuters throughout the state.

“The price of gas is going through the roof. We have decided as a country to stop buying oil from Russia, which I support. That’s a good thing, but it’s going to drive the gas of price up more,” Durant said in an interview. “We in Massachusetts are looking at divesting ourselves from Russia and that’s going drive up the cost of goods. All of these things have cumulative effects so we’re trying to provide at least some relief to the taxpayers.”

The State House on Representatives took up the amendment on March 9 where it was defeated effectively keeping the tax in place for now. However, Durant promised this wouldn’t be the end of the road. He said lawmakers have already begun examining other options to help provide relief wherever possible.

“We’re still going to push for something along these lines,” said Durant. “At this point, the Republican caucus is looking at filing a separate bill that would provide taxpayers with relief from the gas tax. We’re not quite sure what that’s going to look like. It could incorporate some of what I put forward or it could create a timeframe or a tax holiday kind of thing. We have a budget coming up and additional supplemental budgets and ARPA funds that need to be spent so we’re looking at different ways we might be able to still progress with this.”

Rep. Durant acknowledged that the situation is difficult for state lawmakers as the implications of the situation in Ukraine are handled more on an international scale or by the federal government leaving state governments waiting for answers. He said this was just one way that state lawmakers could try to make a difference, but it won’t be last.

### Dudley Water Department HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Dudley Water Department will begin hydrant flushing in April and continue through May and June.

Flushing of hydrants will be conducted during normal business hours in most areas. (Normally between 8am-2pm Monday – Friday)

During flushing operations, you may notice dirty or colored water, please do not be alarmed this is normal and does not pose a health risk.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call The Dudley Water Department at: 508-949-8007 or sewerwater@dudleyma.gov

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# Saint Joseph School classes welcome back mystery readers

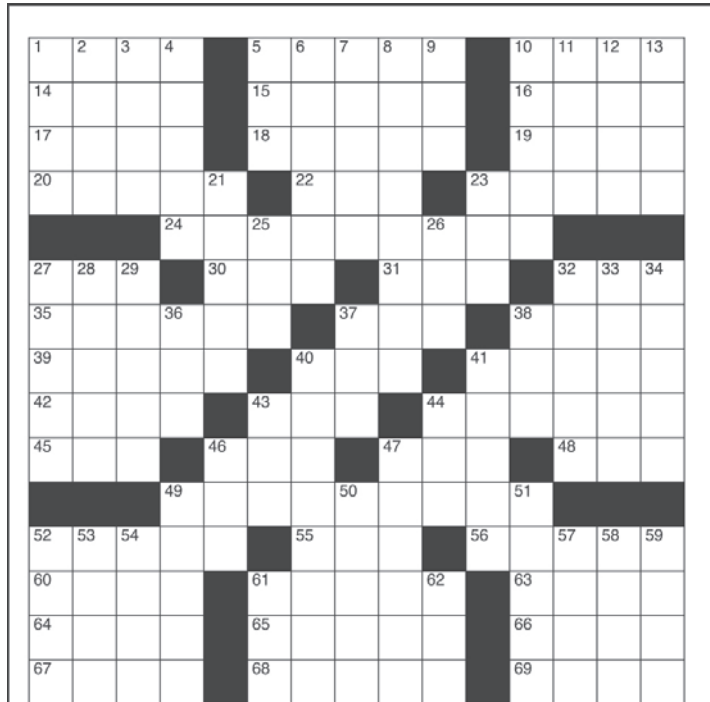
WEBSTER — This past week, two Mystery Readers were revealed at Saint Joseph School, one to Mrs. Cozza's Kindergarten students and one to Mrs. Maynard's First-Grade students. It was a thrilling experience for both classes for many reasons. First, the guests helped culminate the "Read Across America" celebration at Saint Joseph School. But, more importantly, students were excited for their return because the program had been suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Mystery Reader Program was implemented at Saint Joseph School six years ago to stimulate students' imagination and language skills by having books read aloud to them.

In addition, the program encourages anyone with a close relationship to a student – parent, grandparent, sibling, or friend – to get more involved in the classroom by reading aloud their favorite book. Approximately two weeks before a Mystery Reader's arrival, the class receives clues about the person. The students know a hint has arrived when the flag is up on their classroom's mailbox. Then, the clues are read to the students and help build suspense. They also help keep the students guessing about who their visitors will be. This past week, the Saint Joseph School kindergarten students received three clues: their Mystery Reader likes football, has dogs, and really likes steak for

dinner. While the First-Grade students learned that their Mystery Reader loves watching Disney movies, enjoys making pierogies and has two children at Saint Joseph School. After much excitement and speculation, the Mystery Readers arrived and were greeted with cheers in each classroom. State Trooper Greg Spahl, parent of kindergarten student Emillia and Mrs. Marta Wozniak, parent of First-Grade student Anna had the opportunity to read their favorite books to the classes. It was an excellent experience for the students as well as the guests. Saint Joseph School looks forward to hosting more Mystery Readers!

Courtesy

State Trooper Greg Spahl, dad of Saint Joseph School Kindergarten student Emillia Spahl, reads his favorite book to students.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of footwear
- 5. Studies a lot all at once
- 10. Adventure story
- 14. Hundred thousand
- 15. Former U.S. Vice President
- 16. Ruler
- 17. Indian city
- 18. Similar
- 19. Ship as cargo
- 20. Volcanic craters
- 22. Boxing's "GOAT"
- 23. Bullfighting maneuvers
- 24. London soccer team
- 27. Score perfectly
- 30. No (Scottish)
- 31. SoCal hoops team (abbr.)
- 32. Woman (French)
- 35. Unwanted attic "decor"
- 37. Peter Griffin's daughter
- 38. Broad, shallow crater
- 39. Large instruments
- 40. Low bank or reef
- 41. \_\_\_ and Venzetti
- 42. Oil group
- 43. Father
- 44. Aggressive men
- 45. Pairs well with green
- 46. Travelers need it
- 47. Digital audiotape
- 48. Midway between northeast and east
- 49. Chemistry descriptor
- 52. S. China seaport
- 55. Sound unit
- 56. Heavy cavalry sword
- 60. Thick piece of something
- 61. Spa town in Austria
- 63. Boyfriend
- 64. Norse personification of old age
- 65. Type of box
- 66. Tie together
- 67. Fiber from the coconut
- 68. Chicago mayor
- 69. Old English letters

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Type of sauce
- 2. Pattern of notes
- 3. Plant with long seedpods
- 4. Map out
- 5. Numbers cruncher
- 6. Make a mental connection
- 7. Italian tenor
- 8. N. America's highest mountain peak
- 9. Witness
- 10. Arabic given name
- 11. Music awards
- 12. "The Immoralist" author
- 13. Area units
- 21. Units of loudness
- 23. Political action committee
- 25. Bar bill
- 26. Witch
- 27. A theatrical performer
- 28. 2-door car
- 29. \_\_\_ and flowed
- 32. Paper-\_\_\_ art medium
- 33. City in Georgia
- 34. Irregular
- 36. College sports conference
- 37. Angry
- 38. Partner to cheese
- 40. S. American mammal
- 41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 43. Split pulses
- 44. Disfigure
- 46. Cow noise
- 47. Erase
- 49. Chadic language
- 50. Reward for doing well
- 51. Paid TV
- 52. Millisecond
- 53. Other
- 54. Colombian city
- 57. Necklace part
- 58. Every one of two or more people
- 59. Regrets
- 61. They come after "A"
- 62. Horse noise

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# Fresh food on the agenda

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

**SOUTHBRIDGE/WEBSTER** — Southbridge and Webster both have access to more fresh food.

In Webster, it's going on now, with the weekly Mobile Farmers' Market at Golden Heights Building 19 on Wednesdays from 1:30-3:30 p.m. That's not yet happening in Southbridge, but Regional Environmental Council's Ashley Carter is planning for this year's summer market.

For REC, it will actually be the third year in Southbridge, but the first with significant promotion. In 2020 it was at Renaissance Medical Group in Sandersdale, but the effort "never really launched," Carter told the Agricultural Commission recently, adding "We never got members from the outside community." Last year, it shifted to the Central Street Lot where "it wasn't an overwhelming amount of customers" but she thought it successful considering it started late (in August).

This year, REC is still seeking a location, but planning to start "like, the third week of June." At present, the plan is to continue running it 11-2 on Wednesdays, but that might depend on the location's needs.

"I think we barely tapped the iceberg as far as outreach," Carter noted. "...We don't want to step on other people's toes; we want to be a benefit to farmers and customers."

To Ellen Nysten, food service director of Webster schools, the market's existence there has already done that. She sees REC as "a really good partner for the schools," in part because many kids have parents who don't really know how to cook. That manifests as kids "who don't have that experience at home, so they're resistant" to eating fresh fruit and vegetables at school.

Ironically, though, that means the market has been more suc-

cessful in Golden Heights – a senior complex – than its original home of North Village. In the former, Nysten speculated, it's because most residents grew up learning to cook and often had their own gardens, something not that common in North Village's younger population.

In both, though, "people say they have had a hard time affording fresh produce," so the mobile markets fill an important need, she added.

Jasmine Quinones of Southbridge's Kiva Center, a mental health provider which helped bring REC to town, agreed, noting food underlies almost everything else. (She didn't say this, but it's the base of Maslow's "hierarchy of needs" pyramid.)

"We don't have a lot of services the big cities have, but the need is as significant," she said. "...Kiva can't address people's mental health needs if they aren't eating correctly or clothed correctly."

In time, Quinones added, she'd like to see the market "hit all of South County," with local farmers and gardeners at a couple sites every week in Brookfield, Spencer, Warren or elsewhere. A key part of that will be working with the bus system to provide free or discount shuttle service to where possible.

Both women noted they see the much broader availability of such services in Worcester as something to emulate here. Nysten noted Webster also used a USDA Farm to School grant to create a "kids' market" at Park Ave School last October with curriculum and story time for kindergarteners.

"That went so well, we'd love to have it for one grade a year," she said. She'd also like to have the regular farmers' market at the school, but admitted

that would take some logistical planning to work with parents picking up their kids.

Gus Steeves can be reached at [gus.steeves2@gmail.com](mailto:gus.steeves2@gmail.com).

## DUDLEY POLICE LOG

**DUDLEY** – The Dudley Police Department reported only one arrest during the week of March 4-11, and credited a second arrest to the Webster Police Department.

Dante Lanausse, age 29, of Dudley was arrested on March 6 in connection with a warrant and for Possession of a Class B Drug.

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 Fridays ..... 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
*Evening appointments if needed.*  
 Note: Office hours are for selectmen's secretary and town administrator. Selectmen do not hold office hours.  
 Town Clerk (949-8004)  
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 PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER  
 FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
 860-928-1818 EXT. 103  
[frank@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:frank@stonebridgepress.news)

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
 RYAN CORNEAU  
 860-928-1818 EXT. 102  
[ryan@salmonpress.news](mailto:ryan@salmonpress.news)

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**  
 JIM DI NICOLA  
 508-764-6102  
[jim@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jim@stonebridgepress.news)

**EDITOR**  
 BRENDAN BERUBE  
 508-909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
 JULIE CLARKE  
 860-928-1818, EXT. 305  
[julie@villagenewspapers.com](mailto:julie@villagenewspapers.com)

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## PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley  
508-949-8021

Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!  
To register go to [www.crawfordlibrary.org](http://www.crawfordlibrary.org) or call 508-949-8021

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

**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS GROUP**

Mondays @5:00PM  
Have you ever wanted to learn to play D&D or are you a player looking to join a group? We have an experienced DM starting a group on Monday Nights. This is an online program! Free; registration required.

**PRE-K POWER STORYTIME**

Tuesdays @ 11:00AM  
Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time! We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

**POKEMON CLUB**

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

**TODDLER TIME**

Wednesdays @ 11:00AM  
Come join us for Toddler Time! We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs! This is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

## GLADYS E. KELLY LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster  
508-949-3880

Adult Programming

**Friends March Book Special – Month of March**  
MARCH is for MYSTERIES. Check out these featured authors: Patricia Cornwell, Andrew Greeley, Lawrence Sanders, John Sandford. As always, featured authors \$3.00 for a bag of books! HAPPY Sleuthing!

**Yoga with Julie – Saturdays from January 8th through March 26th 10-11:15AM**

Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the “uniting of movement with breath”. A typical class involves a centering of the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages and, finally, a rest and relaxation. Classes are free for Gladys Kelly Library patrons.

**Spring Concert Series – Carlos Odria Trio – March 10th at 6:30PM**

The Carlos Odria Trio (COT) is a high-energy acoustic ensemble that performs original compositions and arrangements of jazz standards and Latin American popular music. It delivers an exciting blend of international styles such as bossanova, Afro-Peruvian grooves, rumba flamenca, and cumbia with an improvisational approach inspired by the rich tradition of American jazz.

**Musical March – Matt Yorke performs songs by The Highwaymen – March 17th at 6:30PM**

Longtime New England singer/songwriter Matt York will perform the songs of Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson and Waylon Jennings and tell stories of their careers. The four songwriting legends joined forces in the 1980's to form the country supergroup The Highwaymen. However, prior to that, they'd each established themselves as stars and their careers intersected many times since the 1960's. York has twice been nominated as Best Male Artist by the New England Music Awards and his latest release was named one of the Boston Globe's best albums of 2019. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Webster Local Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

**Book Discussion Group – March 21st 6:30PM**

The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 pm. New members are always welcome! Next month's book discussion will be on Monday, March 21st at 6:30PM the meeting will take place via Zoom, and will be about the book Nobody Will Tell You This but Me by Bess Kalb. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone to 508-949-3880, or by email to [ehale@cwmars.org](mailto:ehale@cwmars.org) for inquiries.

**Musical March – The Softer Side of Celtic – March 24th at 6:30PM**

The Softer Side of Celtic combines the music, stories, and history of Scotland, England, and Ireland in a way that will keep your audience on the edge of their seats. There will be singing,

**LEGO CHALLENGE CLUB**

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

**WIGGLES AND GIGGLES**

Fridays @ 11:00AM  
Ages 2-5 are invited to attend this fun, free program! Sing, move, play instruments, learn rhythm, and listen to stories with Lainey Hanlon.

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

**ADULT BOOK GROUP**

Third Thursday, 6:00PM-7:30PM  
The adult book group meets for an informal discussion of the month's title, which is available at the circulation desk a month prior to the meeting. The February title will be The Hare With Amber Eyes.

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

**TEEN CRAFT: BRACELET MAKING**

Monday, March 14 5:00PM-6:00PM  
Teens are invited to bring their creativity and drop in to make a bracelet using a variety of materials at this free program.

**SING AND SWING**

Thursday, March 17 10:30AM-11:00AM  
Join us for this interactive program featuring singing, music, dancing, stories, and a variety of fun props ranging from a parachute to pom poms.

laughing, clapping, and perhaps a wee bit of foot stomping. The concerts are interactive; questions and input from the audience are encouraged and become a part of the event.

**Children's and Young Adult Programming**  
Maker Mondays – Mondays from 3:30-4:30PM

This March we'll have magic scratch paper available for children and their caregivers to create with! Every month we will rotate our craft material, so stay tuned!

**Build Night – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30PM**

Every Tuesday in March we'll have marble runs for kids to create with! Building materials will change monthly, check back for more information!

**Chickens Around the World – Saturday, March 26th at 12:00PM**

This program features chickens from around the world; Speckled Sussex from England, Blue Andalusians from Spain, Glossy Black Sumatras, Araucana from South America, Cuckoo Maran from France, and others who lay different colors and sizes of eggs.

Learn the history and unique characteristics of these breeds, along with basic animal husbandry skills. Children can pet the chickens and depending on the season we bring baby chicks along.

**Children's Book Sale – April 19th – 21st**

The Friends are celebrating April vacation week by hosting a Children's Book Sale! Join us in the lobby from Tuesday, April 19th through Thursday April 21st to purchase your favorite stories.

**Folktales From Asia – May 9th at 10:30 AM**

Parents' Choice Award-winning storyteller Motoko enchants families (ages 5 and up) with fun folktales from Asia, combined with songs, mime, and origami. Every child receives Motoko's original paper sumo game! This program is funded by a grant from the Webster Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

**Touch a Truck – May 14th at 10AM in the Town Hall Parking Lot**

Our second annual Town of Webster Touch A Truck event will be held on May 14th at 10AM in the Town Hall parking lot. Vehicles from the Fire, Police, and EMS departments will be there in addition to others! Kids can climb in and explore the vehicles. Parking is available at the Library.

Free; sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

**COSY BOOK NIGHT**

Monday, March 28 6:00PM-7:00PM  
Kids up to age 10 are invited to join us for an evening of crafts, stories, and hot cocoa. Pajamas are encouraged and bring your favorite stuffed animal to this free program.

**YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Monday, April 4 5:00PM-6:00PM  
All tweens and teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join. Why join? You will gain valuable leadership skills. You can meet new people. You can earn volunteer hours (please bring your form). Pizza and drinks will be served!

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

**MASS MURDER: MASSACHUSETTS' MOST INFAMOUS MURDER CASES**

Thursday, April 7 6:30-7:45PM  
Historian Christopher Daley presents an entertaining and fascinating look at some of Massachusetts' most infamous murder cases, both solved and unsolved. Audiences that like mystery, suspense and a little blood and gore will love this lecture! It is fully illustrated with photographs and artwork culled from archival, microfilm and literary sources, and many of the murder sites and historical locations have been photographed in order to give the audience a sense of the modern day context of the crimes.

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

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

Saturday, April 9 10:00AM-1:00PM  
The annual Easter Egg Hunt is back! Join us to hunt for eggs in the children's room, have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny, and do a fun activity. The first 100 children will receive an Easter gift bag! This event is geared to children ages 2-10.

Please note that the children's room will be closed during this event.

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

### LOST DOG

Small, 15 lb, female Beagle mix. White and tan with a diamond-shaped white patch on her neck and brown eyes. No collar but microchipped and may be skittish.

Please call with info:  
203-605-4487.

REWARD for her safe return.



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## Friday's Child



Syriana (03/20)  
Age 15

I love dogs!

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/4949>

Syriana is a caring 15 year old girl of Dominican/Puerto Rican descent. Syriana describes herself as pretty, awesome, and a talented artist. Those that know Syriana would describe her as a nice girl who is a little silly and imaginative. Syriana enjoys being creative and working on art projects. She has a love for all animals, especially horses; in fact, Syriana is a great horseback rider!

Syriana's favorite subjects in school are math, language arts, science, and social studies. She especially enjoys learning about different ways to solve math problems. Currently, Syriana's least favorite subjects are gym and music. Syriana has shared that when she grows up, she wants to be a role model for others and raise money for those in poverty.

Syriana is legally freed for adoption and is looking forward to becoming part of an adoptive family! Syriana would like a dog, the opportunity to take gymnastic and art classes, and to be able to go to Disney Land and Lego Land someday. Syriana shared that she would like a potential adoptive family to know that she is brave but afraid of insects, spiders, and worms. Syriana would like a mom, mom and dad or a two mom family. Syriana's three wishes for a family are to respect her, to be nice, and to let her choose a name for the family dog. An ideal family for Syriana would be a family that has had parenting experience.

**Can I Adopt?**

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

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

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



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# School Committee signs off on proposed 4 percent budget increase

BY JASON BLEAU  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – The Dudley Charlton Regional School District has finalized its budget proposal for the 2023 fiscal year after weeks of discussion, presentations, and debate.

Following a final workshop on March 2, the committee took a vote on March 9 to put forth a \$53.7 million spending plan increasing the budget by 4.03 percent over the current year.

“This is in essence what you would call a level service budget,” Superintendent Steven Lamarche said during the March 9 meeting. “It’s trying to take everything we have, as much as we can possibly capture with the adjustments that we make from year to year and try to move that forward. There are other budgetary constraints

within this proposed budget at 4.03 percent - We did lower the fixed cost with the (employee) insurance rate. That did help us with this particular budget. We do have contractual obligations as well moving forward. In essence, those are combined close to \$2 million for a budget increase. In trying to make that work and balance the budget at 4.03 percent we are targeting class sizes of 22 and we’re being more thorough in that process.”

The 4.03 percent option was one of three proposals under consideration, each with decreasing bumps in the budget complimented by sacrifices in staff and services to illustrate how the district would get to those numbers. The 4.03 percent was the largest increase brought to the table and included the loss of six full-time positions: one foreign language and

one science teacher from Shepherd Hill Regional High School as well as an elementary school teacher who are all retiring and won’t be replaced, and the loss of three other full time teachers in the middle schools. The Out of District Coordinator will also be cut. The other two proposals of 3.23 and 1.7 percent, respectively, would have resulted in even more cuts including losing another foreign language position, a librarian, a data specialist, custodian and more depending on the plan. These potential cuts received backlash from several citizens and educators who spoke up at the March 9 meeting urging the district to maintain as many positions as possible.

District Director of Finance and Operations Richard Mathieu warned the school committee that the higher increase may

be a tough sell to the community at large. However, he supported and recommended the 4.03 percent as the best option and felt the outspoken audience at the meeting showed there is support.

“We’ve heard, certainly in my seven years here but even prior to that, how difficult it is for the towns to support us at the levels that the schools would like to be supported. Yet, we’ve seen evidence tonight of what this district can do and will do with appropriate resources,” said Mathieu. “We have to have support from our towns, and I think after the last couple of years during the years of obviously COVID and major uncertainty with everything we’ve met their requests and we’re hoping they can meet our request.”

Several members of the school committee made their voices heard

before the vote supporting the larger increase and expressing the need for continued public support.

“I think we need to continue to have the conversations and really meet with our towns,” committee member Kenneth Laferriere said. “We can find a way. We just need to continue to collaborate with the towns and build relationships and have those conversations.”

Committee member Jamie Terry added her own emotional plea.

“We have amazing educators in this district. Each year this budget will cost an increase of roughly \$1 million simply because of the contract obligations of the salaries. Put another way, if the district doesn’t put forth an increase in the budget each year, then personnel will need to be cut in order to meet the contractual require-

ments alone,” said Terry. “The time has come for these communities to decide if we are going to support our school district and continue to attract families because of the phenomenal educators that we have or if we are not.”

The School Committee voted unanimously to put forth the 4.03% budget option which would result in \$15.2 million assessed to Charlton and \$10.2 million assessed to Dudley. The difference would be funded through Chapter 70 (state) monies for a total budget of \$53,779,262. A full presentation of the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 spending plan has been made available on the Dudley Charlton School Committee page of the district Web site.

# Oxford schools seek voter support for roof projects

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — For the second or third consecutive year, the schools will be seeking major repair funding from the Mass School Building Authority, after the School Committee voted unanimously to submit roofing requests to the Accelerated Repair Program.

On Feb. 28, Business Manager Justin Leduc said the previous applications were rejected for various reasons “but big ticket items are coming very quickly – the roofs at the high school and both elementary schools.” The high school, however, is too young (built in 2002) for the ARP, so Leduc said he intends to submit that and even larger needs at the middle school to MSBA’s core program again in April.

Back in 2020, Garland Roofing Co assessed the needs and identified about \$5 million in total repairs, but Leduc noted “that’s a big ask.” He said he

“takes it with a big grain of salt because it’s a roofing company,” but agreed that some of the needs are legitimate, as there are leaks.

“There is a sense of urgency, and I am still addressing these things,” he noted.

Specifically, the MSBA statement of interest states the key needs are in sections of Barton and Chaffee that are the “ballasted EPDM” sections, where the life span is “8-12 years,” but they’re 16 years old at Chaffee, 19 at Barton. It also states, however, that the age of the section needing replacement is 32 years (i.e., dates to 1990, which is what Leduc said) and have seen patching and other limited repairs over the years.

“Problems will become more and more frequent with each passing year,” the application states. “Ballasted EPDM roofs are no longer utilized because of their incredibly low life cycle and require a ton of maintenance.”

Other roof sections, it adds, are in decent condition, but “3 tab shingles are

made fairly cheaply and typically only last 15 to 20 years. Standing seam metal is a much better option ... and should last 40 to 50 years (if done correctly).” That work, it notes, should be done “in the next five years or so.”

Leduc said Garland’s report identified this work as covering about 19,000 square feet at Barton costing \$570,000, and 11,000 sq ft at Chaffee costing \$345,000.

“Since then, we’ve seen a 30 percent increase in the cost of building materials, so it’s a rough estimate of \$1.2 million (now),” he said.

Note that he stated those figures before corporate profiteering blamed on the war in Ukraine sent the cost of oil and many products dependent on it through the roof. (According to OilPrice.com, it peaked about March 7 above \$120 a barrel, but was down to \$107 as of Sunday evening March 13. Gas prices in Southbridge, normally the region’s lowest, were still over \$4.25

a gallon then.)

Leduc noted he’d talked to the Finance Committee about needing a “bare minimum” of \$1.7 million for the three school roofs.

“Whatever they can do to assist the town with paying for this would be good,” Leduc said, noting the town will likely need a debt exclusion since “it’s not something they have laying around.”

Before reading the lengthy formal motion to vote on, Member Palmira Griffin said, “I’ve seen the tragedy of Woodward. ... That whole building had to ripped down because the town didn’t take the time to invest in reroofing, and I’m concerned we’re going to have the same problem here.”

She described it as “extremely crucial we do this.”

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

# United Way awards \$60,000 to after-school programs in Southbridge and Webster



SOUTHBRIDGE — Pre-K students to Seniors in high school will benefit from three programs recently designated as recipients for United Way of South Central Massachusetts funds on behalf of

the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education After School and Out of School grants.

The first round of grants was specifically for out of school time programs that would benefit students in towns

that have a high need for assistance to help students re-engage and rebound from almost two years of restricted learning opportunities.

United Way of South Central MA Executive Director, Mary O’Coin, announced the grants on Monday, March 7, “After reviewing the applications that were received the ASOST-R Grant Committee selected the following programs to receive this first round of funding. We look forward to receiving more applications in the coming months for Summer 2022 programs and next school year’s after-school programs. These grants are making it possible to offer ‘out of the box’ thinking for students of all ages.”

Southbridge Public Schools applied for a before school “Smart Start” program for Pre-K to second-grade stu-

dents at Eastford Road Elementary School. The purpose of this program is to offer families a before-school option that will impact and increase student attendance, prepare students for their school day and enrich early literacy and social skills by be encouraging students to participate in “Play,” “Act” or “Construct” activities embedded with foundational school readiness and pro-social skills.

The second program in Southbridge is Growing, Reaching, and Developing (GRAD). GRAD is designed for the enrichment, empowerment, and development of High School students. This program fosters learning and awareness in the issues of food insecurity. High School students will learn the power of growing and harvesting, the benefits of healthy eating, and the importance of

eliminating hunger. The program will be held at Catholic Charities, 79 Elm St. location and be run as a collaboration with Miurka Torres, Catholic Charities South County Area Administrator and Worcester based 2Gether We Eat. Ms. Torres stated, “Catholic Charities is excited to raise awareness about food insecurities and social justice by empowering our community youth to be agents of change and transforming learned STEM knowledge into action.”

The third program will take place at the Boys and Girls Club of Webster and Dudley. Offering an onsite Robotics and Stem program provided by Our Bright Future. Students from Webster and Dudley Middle Schools will have an opportunity to register for this robotics program, which includes entering the exciting world of programming Lego Mindstorm robot-

ics and creating unique objects for 3D printers. During these sessions students will also receive homework help and an opportunity to participate in planned sports activities.

OBF Founder and CEO Kwasi Acheampong stated, “This is a huge win for the students of Webster/Dudley. Our robotics program has a heavy focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), and allows students to learn in a fun hands-on way. Students learn how to design, build, and program a robot to complete tasks. In our 3D printing program, students create objects using 3D modeling software and then program a 3D printer to make the object.”

To learn how your student can participate in these programs please contact the locations listed with each program.

# Dean at Bryant Zhuhai campus named provost at Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College has appointed Daniel J. Borgia, PhD, dean and professor of finance at Bryant University-BITZH, as provost, to start on April 1.

“Dan is a seasoned and versatile institutional leader who will bring Nichols College to the forefront of curricular innovation, engagement, and impact,” said Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M. “His vast international experience and scholarship will advance our mission of creating global leaders.”

At Bryant University-BITZH, a joint cooperative program between Bryant and Beijing Institute of Technology Zhuhai, Borgia oversees all aspects of academic leadership, including program planning, development and management, a position he has held since 2017. Previously, he was dean of the Richard J. Wehle School of Business at Canisius College, associ-



Daniel J. Borgia

ate dean in the College of Business at the University of Idaho, initial associate dean at

community to provide our students with an outstanding education, place graduates in significant professional roles, and help Nichols realize its full potential and advance its national and international reputation.”

A former China Fulbright Scholar, Borgia has written extensively on international business and finance with reference to China, working capital financing, entrepreneurial finance, and financial education. He is a prolific author and co-author with close to 100 peer-reviewed articles, presentations, and proceedings.

Borgia received his PhD at Kent State University, his MBA at Gannon University, and his BS at Cornell University.

He succeeds Mauri Pelto, PhD, who transitioned from vice president of academic affairs to the role of associate provost and special advisor to the president for accreditation and assessment.

Nottingham University Business School China, founding faculty member at Florida Gulf Coast University and founding Director of its Institute of Chinese Studies.

“I am incredibly honored to be named provost at such an important time in Nichols College history,” said Dr. Borgia. “I am excited about the contributions that I believe I can make to this great institution and look forward to working with President Sulmasy and all members of the college com-

# Worcester Academy announces Honor Roll And Headmaster’s List

WORCESTER — Worcester Academy proudly announces its Honor Roll and Headmaster’s List for Semester 1 of the 2021-2022 School Year. The honors represent the achievements that each of these Worcester Academy students has earned through academic excellence, challenge, and personal growth. Among the students are:

Deryn Flynn of Dudley, Class of 2022, First Honors.  
Matthew Grniet of North Oxford, Class of 2022, Headmaster’s List.  
Maria Holland of Webster, Class of 2022, Headmaster’s List.  
Joseph Berberian of Webster, Class of 2023, Headmaster’s List.  
Christopher Best of Webster, Class of 2023, First Honors.  
Sydney Ryder of Oxford, Class of 2023, Headmaster’s List.  
Sophia Buffone of Oxford, Class of 2024, Headmaster’s List.  
Andrew Grniet of North Oxford, Class of 2024, Headmaster’s List.  
Jason Stien of Webster, Class of 2024, First Honors.  
Kortnie Adams of Webster, Class of 2025, Second Honors.  
Colin Farraher of Webster, Class of 2025, Second Honors.  
Brooke Goodrich of Oxford, Class of 2025, Headmaster’s List.

About Worcester Academy  
Founded in 1834, Worcester Academy is an independent day and boarding school for boys and girls in grades 6 to 12 (and postgraduates). Located in the thriving city of Worcester, the Academy provides an exceptional and time-befitting educational experience that fosters personal growth, nurtures a sense of belonging and well-being, and develops intellect and understanding through authentic community engagement and real-world experiences. Students, who are joyful and curious, define what it means to “Achieve the Honorable” and are equipped to honorably impact the world wherever they go.



# Webster Public Schools anticipates Integrated Preschool openings

WEBSTER — In September 2022, the Webster Public Schools Integrated Preschool Program anticipates openings in both the morning and afternoon preschool sessions. This program provides children with and without special needs a quality early childhood educational experience. Each class will meet for either morning or afternoon four half-day sessions at Park Avenue Elementary School. The program follows the Webster Public Schools calendar.

Preschool applications can be picked up at the District Administration Office, Student Services Department. Please note that we are located at 77 Poland St. in Webster; in back of the Bartlett High School campus. Applications are also available on the Special Education Page of the district Web site (<http://www.webster-schools.org>).

Applications will be accepted between March 1 and March 31 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Completed applications should be dropped off at the Student Services Office. Applicants should bring a certified birth certificate for their child as well as proof of residency (i.e. a signed lease, utility bill or statement showing your current address). At the time of application, you will be asked to complete a registration

packet which will be maintained with your child's application and forwarded to the school if your child is chosen for an open slot.

An open house for all applicants will be held at the Park Avenue Elementary School in June 2022. All applicants will be expected to attend a screening appointment to be held during March and April 2022. Applicants will receive notification of their screening appointment at the time they complete their application. Upon completion of the screening process, children determined eligible to fill slots as typical, or non-disabled peers, will be maintained on an enrollment list and a lottery will be held, if necessary, during the week of May 4 to determine who will be placed into the available slots. Should we receive more applications than we have space for, applicants not placed at this time will remain on a waiting list to be considered for future openings. The enrollment waiting list will be maintained at the Student Services Office and will be used to fill vacancies that become available. Parents of children who remain on the list after all vacancies have been filled will be contacted to verify that they wish to remain on the list.

Final registration will take place by the end of May 2022. All registration

forms, including immunization and health examination forms, must be received at the time of application in order for your child to be considered for placement.

There is no registration fee and no tuition for the Integrated Preschool Program.

Children must be four years old before Sept. 1 and be a resident of the Town of Webster at the time of application, in order to be eligible for enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year.

Transportation to and from the preschool program is the responsibility of the parent.

Please submit your completed application in person at the Student Services Department, Webster Public Schools Administrative Offices, 77 Poland St., Webster, during the designated enrollment dates and times. Applications received after the enrollment period will be considered if slots are available. Late applications will be added to the waiting list.

Any questions can be directed to the Student Support Services Department at 508-943-3646 x 40021.

## WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of March 6-12.

A 30-year-old male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on March 7 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Sylvia M. St. John, age 28, of Charlton was arrested on March 8 in connection with a warrant. Salvatore A. Albanese, age 32, also of Charlton, was arrested during the same incident in connection with multiple warrants.

Justin M. Bell, age 38, of Dudley was arrested on March 10 for Possession of a Class B Drug and in connection with multiple warrants.

Tara Dupuis, age 41, of Windham, Conn. was arrested on March 10 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol (second offense) and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Jared Michael Daniel Poirier, age 26, of Webster was arrested on March 10 in connection with a warrant.

Jonathan Jesus Morales, age 23, of Dudley was arrested on March 10 in connection with multiple warrants. Claire Louchah Exantus, age 21, of Webster was arrested during the same incident for a Motor Vehicle Equipment Violation, Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, and Refusal of a Motor Vehicle Operator to Identify themselves.

Deborah May Gevry, age 56, of Webster was arrested on March 11 for Operating Under the Influence of Drugs, Failure to Stop or Yield, Failure to Signal, and Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol.

Andrew David Sanbourin, age 32, of Northbridge was arrested on March 11 for Operating Under the Influence of Drugs.

Brian Keith Coburn, age 51, of Webster was arrested on March 11 in connection with multiple warrants.

Joshua J. Wonoski, age 31, of Webster was arrested on March 11 in connection with a warrant.

Jesse Paul Gevry, age 39, of Webster was arrested on March 11 in connection with a warrant.

Natalie Ann Sullivan, age 29, of Webster was arrested on March 11 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License.

A 32-year-old from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on March 12 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License and a Motor Vehicle Equipment Violation. Wilmarie Santana Ortiz, age 31, of Webster was arrested during the same incident in connection with a warrant.

# Nocivelli elevated to marketing vice president at Nichols College



Megan Nocivelli

DUDLEY — Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M., has appointed Megan Nocivelli, DBA, currently interim provost, to the new position of

vice president for marketing. She will also serve as the interim vice president of enrollment management until a successor is named.

Nocivelli's role as interim provost, a post she has held since November 2021, will conclude in April when newly name provost, Daniel Borgia, PhD, will begin his tenure.

"Dr. Nocivelli brilliantly stepped up to serve as interim provost, and I have come to appreciate her counsel and her many valuable contributions to Nichols," said President Sulmasy. "I look forward to her expertise and enthusiasm helping us in our

quest for enhanced prominence."

The former national director of marketing at Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Busch Entertainment Corporation, Nocivelli has been at Nichols College for 11 years where she was promoted from visiting professor to assistant professor of marketing to associate professor. She was also chair of the Faculty Senate.

"Having seen the transformation and career-readiness of our graduates, I am very excited to focus my marketing experience on telling the story of Nichols College. Nichols is on the move and it

is my job to bring the vibrant academic and campus life to prospective students," she said, adding, "Our outstanding experiential education in all aspects of business and our challenging liberal arts programs on our beautiful New England campus, make Nichols the perfect choice for students academically and socially."

A Holden resident, Nocivelli is a graduate of Saint Michael's College and earned a Doctor of Business Administration degree with marketing focus from Wilmington University, Delaware, in 2018.

## WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.  
(508) 949-3845  
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photo's, news and announcements

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal.

NOW OPEN! The Bomba Beauty

Salon at the Webster Senior Center is open Mondays - Fridays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Walk-ins Welcome! Please call (508) 341-8724 for more information.

Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing 9:30-10:30 am. Cost: \$3.00 per class

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets.

Progressive Pitch 1:00 pm Mondays,

Wednesdays, 13-card Pitch on Thursdays and 9-card Pitch on Fridays.

Mahjonn group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm

Webster Senior Center and Best of Times are offering a trip to the Danversport Yacht Club for a Chicago Tribute Show on Wednesday, May 25th. Trip price of \$98.00 per person includes show ticket, transportation, luncheon, meal tax & gratuity. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office House Numbering Program will create

a custom wooden sign with your house number free of charge. Please contact the Webster Senior Center if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you. (508) 949-3845

The Friends of the Webster Senior Center will hold a general meeting on Wednesday, March 30th at 10:00 am. All are welcome to attend.

Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 or stop in and pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of additional activities and upcoming events.



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# There's a right time for everything

It's not an easy lesson to learn, but I've realized that there's a right time for everything. As long as you keep believing, the time for realizing your dreams will come to pass. We don't always know why things happen the way they do, and it's sometimes hard to see the big picture.

I worked with my father and his publisher Ted for many years to turn their books into films. The first producer I approached was an Academy Award winner and produced the first film I starred in. He enthusiastically agreed to make my father's first book, but it ended up falling through. What happened? It wasn't the right time.

Soon after, I had meetings with the head of a production company owned by an Academy Award-winning producer of "Schindler's List." They optioned the book and contractually agreed to make the film. They hired me to co-write the screenplay, and when we finished the script, they paid casting directors, held auditions, and even scouted shooting locations in Vancouver. Suddenly, after we had almost finished pre-production, they decided to stop. What happened? It wasn't the right time.

Shortly after that, I met with a six-time Oscar-nominated Irish director. He agreed to direct the film and re-write the screenplay. When he finished the script, the project didn't move forward. What happened? It wasn't the right time.

Oddly enough, we found another Academy award-winning producer to write, produce and direct another of my father's books. After writing the screenplay and making much headway, the project came to a halt. What happened? It wasn't the right time.

Five years ago, I excitedly called my dad and Ted. I explained a new plan

to get the books made into movies and simultaneously start what I thought would be a revolutionary business. We spent over a year developing and fine-tuning the concept.

We found an investor that believed in our idea and gave us the money to make it happen. We hired what we thought was an innovative and forward-thinking web developer to bring our concept to fruition.

He contractually agreed to build it within six months. During the six months, I worked tirelessly to do everything necessary to help him finish the job.

I promoted the platform heavily as we moved closer to launch based on his word. Towards the end of the six months, the platform seemed to work, but something wasn't right. To my horror, I discovered he only built a shell of what he was supposed to make, and it was only about 15 percent complete. I looked like a fool. Here I was promoting the platform to hundreds of people, and I was being lied to the whole time. He ran off with the money, and some said my dream, but I didn't see it like that; if you believe in your genuinely believe in your dream, nobody can steal it from you.

For three long days, I prayed hard for a miracle, and on the fourth day, my brother-in-law, a military contractor whose job has always been top secret, told me he heard what happened and that he could help finish the platform. I had no idea he knew how to code.

It turned out to be a blessing in disguise that our previous developer was so deceitful. My brother-in-law explained that the way he built the platform was so shoddy it would have broken down as soon as a dozen people logged in. It wasn't the right time, and he wasn't the right developer.

Determined never to let that happen again, I learned to write code by enrolling in UCLA Coding Boot Camp. Since graduation, my brother-in-law and I have put on some final touches before launching the next phase. I'll say this; It's starting to look like the right time.

This story is almost a little too personal for me to write about, but I decided to do it in the hopes of helping you overcome the hurdles in your own life and encouraging you to carry on. Things won't always happen the way you want. Believe strongly in your dreams but be relaxed about how they occur. Things will happen when and how they should, and it's not always what you expect.

# Boost your garden's harvest while reducing pest problems

Boost this year's harvest and reduce pest problems with less effort, while being kind to the environment. Employ row covers, chicken wire cloches and crop cages to prevent damage without the aid of chemicals.

Floating row covers of spun-bonded or woven materials let air, light, and water through to the covered plantings. The warm air that is captured protects the plantings from frosty temperatures. The coverings also prevent birds from dining on newly planted seeds and eliminate damage by certain insects like flea beetles, onion maggots, seed corn maggots, and leafhoppers that may infect lettuce, celery, and carrots with aster yellows disease.

Cover susceptible seeds and transplants at planting to prevent the insects from reaching the plants. Insects like flea beetles and onion and seed corn maggots overwinter as adults in the soil near the previous season's planting. Move susceptible plants to a different part of the garden to avoid trapping the insects under the row cover with their favorite food source.

Double the benefit with less effort by planting short season radishes with long season cole crops such as cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower. Harvest the radishes as the larger vegetable plants need the space. This will provide two harvests from one row. The row cover eliminates problems with root maggots on radishes, cabbage worms on cole crops, and rabbits from dining on them all.

Basil and beans are favorites of Japanese beetles. Cover these at planting and since they do not need pollination to enjoy the harvest, leave the fabric in place throughout the season. Just lift to harvest and replace.

Cover squash at planting to prevent birds from dining on newly planted seeds and to reduce the risk of squash vine borer and squash bugs. The fabric prevents these insects from accessing the plants. Remove the covers when flowering begins to allow pollinators access to the blossoms. Don't use row covers when planting squash in the same location as the previous year. Since squash vine borer insects will overwinter in the soil near the squash plants, the row cover will trap the insects and provide easy access to the plants. Continue to monitor for these pests throughout the remainder of the season.

Loosely drape the row cover fabric over the planting and secure the



Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Co.

Plant protection tents protect plants from cold and wind, animals, and insect pests.

## GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS



edges with boards, pipes, stones, or landscape pins. Commercial setups like the 3-Season Plant Protection Tent include a framework and fabric covers, making it easy for gardeners to cover and access the plantings. Systems like this include two covers; one to protect plants from cold and a second lighter weight fabric for preventing insect damage during the warmer growing season. Reuse the fabrics as long as they remain intact.

Self-supporting mesh enclosures like Pest Control Pop-Ups (gardeners.com) are another option for protecting plantings from insects, birds, and animals. Look for products like this that are simple to install and fold flat for easy storage when not in use. Finer mesh products keep out insect pests while larger mesh wire covers protect plantings from birds and animals, including hungry squirrels dining on greens and ripe tomatoes. Various sizes and designs provide coverage for individual plants, raised beds and berry bushes.

Make this the year to be proactive at preventing and minimizing pest damage throughout season without the use of chemicals. Your efforts will be rewarded with a bountiful harvest.

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

## REAL ESTATE

### Dudley

\$255,000, 2 Progress Ave, DIM REO 2021 NR2 LLC, to Pineda, Adister.

### Oxford

\$360,000, 36 Wheelock St, Lindell, Kathleen, and Anderson, Judith A, to Madaio, Paul B, and Madaio, Lisa M.

\$360,000, 8 Prospect St, Carter Estate Mgmt LLC, to Eason, Grady.

\$350,000, 640 Main St, Mcdaniel, Kenneth F, to Paquette, Jessica L.

\$325,000, 12 Sutton Ave, Iacovone FT, and Iacovone, Linda, to Aldulaimi, Ehab.

\$288,750, 45 Church St, Gardell, Mark E, to Denning, Mark P, and Denning, Ashley M.

### Webster

\$1,490,000, 31 5th Ave, SK Ferranti LLC, to 31-33 Fifth Avenue LLC.

\$1,490,000, 33 5th Ave, SK Ferranti LLC, to 31-33 Fifth Avenue LLC.

\$850,000, 63 Wawela Rd, Calnan, Sarah L, to Feldblum, Erica L.

\$727,000, 24 Aldrich St, Dupont Aldrich LLC, to Murphy, Edward J, and Murphy, Jeanette J.

\$727,000, 24 Aldrich St, Dupont Aldrich LLC, to Baystate Inv Fund LLC.

\$727,000, 28 Aldrich St, Dupont Aldrich LLC, to Baystate Inv Fund LLC.

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\$530,000, 32 E Main St, Dupont 32 East Main St, to Baystate Inv Fund LLC.

\$530,000, 34 E Main St, Dupont 32 East Main St, to Baystate Inv Fund LLC.

\$453,000, 9 Lake St, Dupont 9 Lake Street LLC, to Baystate Inv Fund LLC.

\$425,000, 4 Meringo Ave, Mason, Stephanie N, and Mason, Christopher T, to Vazquez-Gonzalez, Julian, and Gonzalez-Reyes, Marielly.

\$330,000, 1 Eddy St #C, Potem, Tomasz, and Zambrzycka, Magdalena, to Nkansah, Nadia, and Nkansah, Daniel.

## ST. PATTY'S DAY DUDLEY WOMAN'S CLUB STYLE



Courtesy

Recently, the Dudley Womens Club held its March meeting at the Dudley Municipal Complex. Jill St. Cyr from "It Starts At Home" (in the red sweater) shared her charitable organizations mission to introduce children to helping prepare crock pot meals at home. Then the club ladies shared a game or two of "LCR" with potted spring plants as prizes. Our hostess committee (in the St. Patty's hats) supplied our monthly goodies and added to the festive atmosphere!



Courtesy

## DUDLEY RESIDENT NAMED MAPFRE COMMUNITY CHAMPION



MAPFRE Foundation recently named MAPFRE employee Carol Watroba of Dudley among its 2021 Community Champions, as part of its annual corporate volunteer award program. The program recognizes employees who are passionate about volunteering and participate in activities during the year to help their communities. Watroba, who works at MAPFRE in Webster, was recognized for her various community activities, including assisting the Webster/Dudley Veteran's Council with Memorial Day Flag placements at local cemeteries, and volunteering at the Best Buddies Friendship Walk held at the MAPFRE campus in Webster and the Dudley Boy Scouts yard sale.

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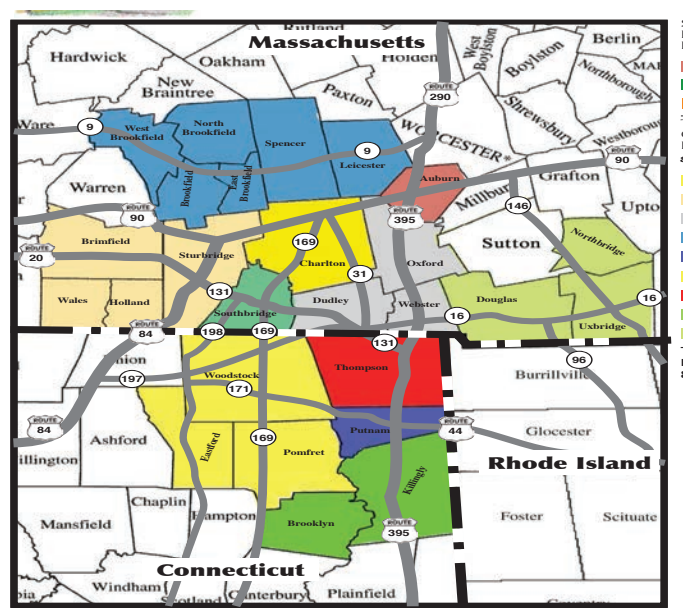
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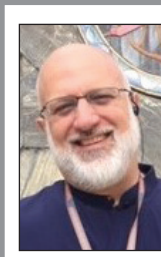
**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
 EDITOR

# VIEWPOINT

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

## Do you want to meet God?

How many of us would like to meet God? Think about this. To meet God face to face. Would we be excited and anticipate such a meeting with joy, or would we be afraid, quite fearful to truly encounter Him?



### BEYOND THE PEWS

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

There is a fascinating story in the life of Saint Innocent, the great Russian missionary who spent 50 years evangelizing the people of Alaska and Siberia throughout the early part of the 19th century. This was a missionary who traveled 12,000 miles in one year over the frozen wastelands by dogsled and through the freezing waters in a one-man kayak. Once, when he arrived on the island of Akun for the first time, he was greeted by all the villagers who were dressed festively to welcome him on his arrival. They even knew his name. He was taken aback, wondering how they knew who he was and how did they know to wait for his arrival? It was his first time ever to visit this village. Yet all the villagers told him that their old Ivan Smirennikov, the local shaman had told them who he was and when he would arrive. When St. Innocent spoke with Ivan, he realized this man knew many things about the Orthodox Christian faith, even though the last missionary to be on the island was there 30 years ago. Yet this shaman was teaching and guiding the people on how to pray and how to live a virtuous life in Christ. When he asked the man how he had all this sacred knowledge, the shaman shared that every day for the past 30 years two spirits in human form people in white vestments would visit him and they taught him all about Christ and the Orthodox Christian way. After further discussion, St. Innocent came to the conclusion that this man wasn't being deceived by some demons, but he was actually meeting angels who were teaching him. When he asked the sha-

man if he could meet his two friends. The angels gave their approval to meet St. Innocent, even though they wondered why it was necessary. But as Saint Innocent thought further about this possible encounter, he hesitated. "What if I see these angels, and they confirm all that the old man has said? How can I appear before them? Sinful that I am, I am unworthy of speaking to angels, and it would be pride and presumption on my part if I dared to go to them. Meeting angels might make me too proud of my faith or think too highly of myself. So I, the unworthy one, finally decided not to go to them."

Think of that. Saint Innocent was too humble to dare approach and encounter these angels. So, what about us meeting God. Do we truly want to encounter God? Yes, it can be the most beautiful encounter in our lives, coming face to face with Love Incarnate, the Source of all Divine Love, but it's also an awesome and fearful thought. Who are we to meet God?? Still, the greatest and deepest desire of our soul is to meet its Creator. Our hearts remain restless until they rest in God, as St. Augustine says.

With this in mind, let's think about the well-known story in the Gospels about the Final Judgment. It is the story of the sheep and goats, how the Judge will place the righteous on his right hand and the unrighteous on His left hand. "I was hungry and you fed me. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and in prison and you visited me. Whatever you did to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did to me." Or "whatever you didn't do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you didn't do to me."

St. Maria Skobtsova of Paris reflects on this parable by noting that "when someone turns their spiritual world toward the spiritual world of another person, they encounter an awesome and inspiring mystery .... They come into contact with the true image of God in man, with the very icon of God incarnate in the world, with a reflection of the mystery of God's incarnation and divine manhood."

Do you want to meet God? Well, Christ is telling us that we can meet Him in the other person, especially in the most marginalized of people, if we have the eyes of faith to see, if we cultivate a pure heart of love that we understand the other as Christ Himself.

Jesus Himself addresses us in every beggar, in every person in need. Our communion with people too often passes on the level of an earthly encounter, yet St. Maria of Paris tells us that we can have an authentic mystical encounter with God Himself through these people!

"We can venerate the image of God in our brother or sister. Of course, this mystical encounter will reveal another mystery - one that will demand our most dedicated efforts.... We will perceive that the divine image in the human person is veiled, distorted and disfigured by the power of evil." Yet we don't focus on someone's disfigurement and distortion. We look at their beauty, a beauty in the image of God.

Seeing Christ in every other person, especially in the "least" of others is "the beginning of an eternal companionship with God" as Fr. Alexander Schmemmann describes it.

Let me repeat this profound observation. Schmemmann reminds us that we can "begin an

Turn To **BEYOND** page **A15**

## Moving? Remember to update your firearms license



### CHIEF'S CORNER

STEVE WOJNAR

This past week, I was asked a question regarding firearms licensing. The person was moving to another community, and wondered what they needed to do in relation to their license to carry. He wished to know his options.

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 140, sections 129B and 131

contain the procedure a firearms license holder must follow when re-locating. It states in part "A cardholder shall notify the licensing authority that issued such firearms license, the chief of police into whose jurisdiction such cardholder moves, and the commissioner of the Department of Criminal Justice Information Services of any change of address within 30 days of its occurrence." License holder must fill out the "Change of Address Notification" form. These are available at local police departments or online at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/address-change-form-2/download>.

Once this is complete, you must make a legible photocopy of the front of your firearms license or identification. The form and the photocopy can be sent (via certified mail) to the three locations. These include the police department that issued your license, the police department into the city/town where you have moved, and to The Firearms Records Bureau 200 Arlington Street, Suite 2200 Chelsea, MA 02150 ATN: Change of Address Notification. These steps should satisfy the process and your new community will be your licensing authority. Failure to follow this process can be cause for revocation or suspension of the license. If you are moving out of state, you will need to check with the new jurisdiction to determine their process. Since licensing requirements vary from state to state, you will need to understand what you can, and can't, do in these cases.

The laws relative to firearms can be confusing at times. Anyone with questions should reach out their local licensing authority. This extra step can ensure you will follow the laws and avoid any unnecessary problems.

COVID-19 cases in our area are declining and many of the mandates are going away. For those still seeking vaccination or other information, it can be found at [www.dudleyma.gov](http://www.dudleyma.gov) or by calling 508-949-8036. We encourage everyone to be safe. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. During these challenging times, we, at the Dudley Police Department, greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department, 71 West Main St., Dudley, MA 01571 or email at [swojnar@dudleypolice.com](mailto: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.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Why I resigned from the Oxford Board of Selectmen

To the Editor:

When I was originally elected to the Board of Selectmen, nearly five years ago, it was easy to work with the Town Manager. While everyone certainly had their differences at times, the government aspect included transparency and the ability to communicate thoughts, ideas, and opinions. The board members were welcomed into the town hall, regardless of if they agreed or disagreed with the Manager's opinions. Unfortunately, times changed.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as an elected official for the residents of Oxford. I took pride in my duties and always tried to be a voice for the people, to the best of my abilities. As a board member, I tried to be present and approachable and always made it my priority to do what I felt was best for those that elected me to the seat.

My dedication to the residents is what made my decision to resign such a difficult one. Please know that it is not a choice that I made rashly; it is one that I thought about, and agonized over, for quite some time. It has become painfully clear to me that the trajectory of Oxford has changed drastically. We have entered a time that if you question the opinion of those that hold the power to stifle your voice, or try to speak out for transparency or better communication, your voice is silenced by whatever means possible. I have seen this happen to a multitude of people, myself included. For example, I was publicly chastised during an open meeting while trying to point out the truth of an issue at hand, and it turned into a "woman thing"; I was texted that I'm a "power-hungry beast," and had the police called on me to silence me when I had been given the floor to speak - all by the same individual. More troubling than that, the Manager had her personal

attorney request my emails, phone calls and texts over a petition that came out to put articles on the town warrant - a records request that could have been avoided had there been a simple phone call asking me if I was involved in it. Notwithstanding all that, I have been petitioning the board for months to allow for an open forum during meetings, for the residents to be able to speak and participate in meetings. To the best of my knowledge, my request has never been discussed. Recently, important meetings, such as ones to approve significant contracts, have been scheduled on days that it is well known that I would be working at my full-time job and unable to attend. But, I digress.

To the residents who have put their faith in me and kept me in this seat for so long, I offer you my sincerest apologies and deepest gratitude. I love Oxford, and have been raising my family here, so this is a very difficult decision to make; however, it is one that I must make at this time. Because I feel that Oxford is lacking transparency and effective communication and I am not comfortable with the current trends in Oxford, moving forward, I will no longer hold the elected seat. While I would love to continue to advocate for the people of Oxford, it is no longer possible in the elected official capacity. Should you need me moving forward, please know that just because I no longer hold the elected seat, it does not mean that I am not approachable, and I do not care.

I am grateful to the community for allowing me the opportunity to serve on the board, and I offer my best wishes moving forward.

Respectfully,

MEAGHAN TROIANO  
 OXFORD

International Women's Day may seem like a new progressive holiday however it stems back to 1909 when planners organized a day for Women on Feb. 28 in New York. One year later, the International Socialist Woman's Conference announced that a day for women be held each year.

Fast forward to 1917 in Russia, where, on March 8, women were given the right to vote. In 1975, the holiday was adopted by the United Nations.

The long and the short is that this day is a day to celebrate women past, present and future. With that said our staff chose to highlight the women that we feel have had a standout role in influencing how our world operates today. The list was endless, therefore naturally hard to choose, so in order to prevent a 200-page editorial we narrowed the list down to our favorites.

Social reformer Emmeline Pankhurst founded the Women's Social and Political Union in 1903 to campaign for the parliamentary vote for women in Edwardian Britain, 'Deeds, not words' being its motto. Pankhurst is described as a charismatic leader and powerful orator; Pankhurst rallied thousands of women to demand, rather than ask politely, for their democratic right in a mass movement that has been unparalleled in British history. The battle did not come without consequences, she endured 13 imprisonments, leading her name and cause becoming known throughout the globe.

At the age of 15, Claudette Colvin was arrested at the age of 15 in Montgomery, Alabama when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white woman. This event gave the famous Rosa Parks the courage to do the same. Colvin was one of five plaintiffs involved in the federal court case filed by civil rights attorney Fred Gray in 1956, in which they challenged bus segregation. The outcome was that a judge ordered that the local laws in regards to bus segregation were unconstitutional. To find Colvin's name in a history book is rare. This in part because she was an unmarried teenager who apparently was with child. Colvin went on to become a nurse's aid. In an interview in 2005, Colvin said, "I feel very, very proud of what I did. I do feel like what I did was a spark and it caught on."

As for recognition, Colvin said, "I'm not disappointed. Let the people know Rosa Parks was the right person for the boycott. But also let them know that the attorneys took four other women to the Supreme Court to challenge the law that led to the end of segregation."

Colvin's family has been trying since 2016 to have her recognized and honored in the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Colvin was not invited officially to the opening of the museum in 2016.

Marie Curie is the next on our short list. Curie was a Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist who was the first to delve into radioactivity. Curie who was born in 1867, was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, and the only person to win it two times. Collecting several firsts, Curie was the first woman to become a professor at the University of Paris. In a time when most women spent their days in the home taking care of their children and husbands, Curie had to smash several ceilings for her own advancement. Curie was known for her honesty and moderate lifestyle. All of her prize money, she donated to scientific research and refused to copyright the radium-isolation process so that her fellow scientists could continue research unhindered. In 2011, Poland and France declared the year would be "The Year of Marie Curie." She became the first woman to be entombed on her own merits in the Pantheon in Paris in 1995.

In 1933, Eleanor Roosevelt turned the position of First Lady from benign symbol to an active and intellectually vigorous power center. Roosevelt served as the United States Delegate to the UN General Assembly from 1945 to 1952. Roosevelt was the topic of much controversy for her outspoken nature, especially in regard to civil rights for African-Americans. She was the first, First Lady to hold regular press con-

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# Use your financial strategy like GPS

When you're driving these days, it's pretty hard to get lost because your smartphone's Global Positioning System (GPS) can get you just about anywhere. And as an investor, you can have a similar experience by employing another directional tool – a personalized financial strategy.

Let's look at the parallels between your GPS and this type of strategy.

To begin with, your GPS pinpoints your exact location at the start of your trip – in other words, it tells you where you are. And when you create a financial strategy, your first step is to evaluate your current situation by answering these types of questions: What are your assets? How much do you earn? How much do you owe? How much are you contributing to your IRA, 401(k) or other retirement accounts? Once you've got a clear picture of your finances, you'll be ready to begin your journey toward your long-term goals.

Once your GPS has identified your starting point, it will then show you where you want to go and the routes to help you get there. And it's the same with your financial strategy – you want it to help lead you to a particular place in your life. In fact, a well-designed strategy can show you the steps you need to take to help reach more than one destination – to a place where you can send your children to college, a place where you can retire comfortably, a place where you can leave the type of legacy you want, and so on.

Here's another element of your GPS that applies to your financial strategy – the warnings. You're certainly familiar with those thick red lines your GPS shows to indicate traffic slowdowns ahead. And while they're annoying,



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS  
DENNIS  
ANTONOPOULOS

they're also useful in cautioning you that you may arrive at your destination later than you had originally planned. Your financial strategy can also express "warnings" about events that could hinder you from reaching your goals.

These obstacles might include an illness or disability that could keep you out of work for a while, or the need for some type of long-term care, such as a nursing home stay or the services of a home health aide. Your financial strategy can not only identify these threats, but with the guidance of a financial professional, suggest potential solutions.

In addition to providing warnings about things such as heavy traffic and road construction, your GPS can change your route if you miss a turn or if you decide, for whatever reason, to go

a slightly different way. Your financial strategy can also show you alternatives, if it's comprehensive and overseen by a financial professional, who, using specialized software, can create hypotheticals – illustrations that provide alternative outcomes for different steps, such as retiring at various ages, investing different amounts each year or earning different rates of return. These hypotheticals can be quite helpful to you as your chart your course toward your goals, especially if you need to change your plans along the way.

Your GPS and your financial strategy are two great tools for helping get you where you want to go.

*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.*

## The terrors of tuna fishing



Courtesy

This week's picture shows some big cod taken on the Clipper fleet boat only a few years ago. It is unlikely this type of fishing will ever return for charter boat anglers. The Clipper fleet has ceased operation!

An early turnout at the Providence Saltwater fishing show last week was great, but the late turnout of anglers on opening day was a bit disappointing to show exhibitors and promoters of the event. Saturday and Sunday, however, the turnout was very good, with a lot of sales of fishing equipment, and charter boats picking up

numerous bookings for the upcoming 2022 season. We live in a whole new world today, and the effects of the Covid outbreak and the war in Ukraine are going to have a log lasting effect for years to come. After speaking with numerous anglers that did attend the show, they reported that had a great time.

My brother Ken & I arrived at the show early on Friday, and got to speak with numerous show exhibitors that were hopeful this year would be back to the years past, but were not too optimistic. We were surprised to bump into former police chief Jack Creighton of Uxbridge on Friday at the show. He is an active saltwater fisherman that enjoys all kinds of fishing activities, more so after his retirement. He now resides on the Cape, and does not have far to go to go fishing! He mentioned that he had made a booking for a bottom fishing trip with Captain Mel True this year. I am sure he will have a great time, if the weather cooperates.

Numerous boat captains were also concerned about this year's fishing season regulations, that were still not finalized. With the rising fuel prices, new concerns about increasing their fares for anglers, was something they were reluctant to do, but may have no other way to stay in business.

I spoke with numerous charter boat captains that take out anglers to catch tuna. The last few seasons have been great according to their reports, and they are hopeful that this season will be as good. The only tuna fishing this writer did was by accident, and it nearly got my brother Mel and I killed back in our early days of

saltwater fishing. Fishing out of one of my early fishing boats, which was a twenty-one MFG vessel, we were at the end of a day's fishing out at Block Island, R.I. The weather was perfect, with light winds and sunny skies. We had caught numerous fish species and were headed back to the mainland, happy with the great day of fishing.

I decided to attach a large point Judith plug to my 20-pound test line, and after letting it out a few hundred feet in back of the boat, we sat back to enjoy the day. We trolled the single plug hoping to catch a big striper. As we got back to the area of old harbor, we observed a huge fish roll in back of the boat. The rod quickly started to bend, and the reel was screaming as the line peeled from the spool. I quickly grabbed the rod, and I was extremely excited. I told my brother to grab the steering wheel and turn us around, as there was not much line left on the spool. We started to chase the huge fish to retrieve some of the line. We worked the boat around numerous lobster pots and soon found ourselves back to the other end of the island.

"Break it off, Ralph," my brother yelled. "You are not going to land that tuna, and you do not have a permit to keep it anyway."

Not listening to his

recommendation, I told him to keep steering the boat, and be quiet. I just want to get him in and take a picture. Suddenly, we found ourselves in a thick fog bank that had rolled in. The wind started to pick up and we had lost all sense of direction. I started to put a bit of pressure on the huge fish and the line snapped.

After realizing the predicament we were in, I quickly took control of the steering, and tried to gain some sense of where we were. Only using a compass heading we were fortunate enough to hear some waves breaking off of the shoreline, and I was relieved that we ended up at the far end of the island. I told my brother to check our gas supply, as I knew we were running low. He reported that we were lucky to have a gallon of gas left.

"We are in trouble," I stated.

"I told you to break the fish off a long time ago," my brother stated numerous times.

I was ready to throw him overboard!

We soon found ourselves at the entrance to Old Harbor on the island. I do not know how the motor was still running. As we slowly maneuvered the boat alongside a boat dock, the engine stalled! We were out of gas! I tied the boat up, and grabbed the empty tank hoping to get some gas.



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
RAPH  
TRUE

No gas here! I had to take a taxi to the other side of the island to get some gas. After spending a large sum of money for the taxi fare and six gallons of gas, we were on our way to the mainland. It was an extra-long ride back to the mainland as the seas were a bit rough, and I had to listen to my brother whining. It sure was a fishing trip to remember! My brother Mel passed away a few years go & is sadly missed, but our memories of our fishing will never fade!

Freshwater fishing on lakes and ponds should see numerous anglers breaking out their boats to do some early fishing in the coming days and weeks, but anglers are reminded that Wallum Lake in Douglas is closed to all fishing, as the lake is governed by Rhode Island regulations, and will not reopen to fishing until the second Saturday in April. Fishing Cape ponds should be providing some great freshwater fishing if you can afford the gas to get there. Taking along another angler to share the expenses, could help alleviate the pain at the pump.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

As noted in last week's column, for many New Englanders, the silver lining of a long, cold winter is the promise of the season's first sweet maple syrup. The centuries old-ritual of tapping sugar maple trees remains a familiar sight on country roads. Thus, in recognition of the state's longtime annual tradition of tapping trees, March has been designated Maple Month by the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association.

I thought it fitting that this week we continue the celebration of marvelous maple! Read on for more virtues of the sweet stuff as well as some recipes and fun facts about maple:

**Virtues of Maple:** While most people favor the thick, sweet syrup as the crowning glory of a stack of pancakes or plate of waffles, the virtues of maple are many, and the syrup is being rediscovered as a natural and diverse sweetener.

Pure maple syrup, with its rich, unique flavor is quickly being appreciated by those who prefer a natural, unprocessed sweetener. The natural syrup contains the same calories as sugar, and offers a higher concentration of minerals than honey.

In addition to the extraordinary taste, there are many more virtues of maple. The zinc supplied by maple syrup acts as an antioxidant and has other functions that can decrease the progression of atherosclerosis.

Moreover, research reveals manganese, the other trace mineral supplied in maple syrup, can help raise the level of HDL (the "good" cholesterol). Maple syrup also includes small and trace amounts of calcium, B2, B5, B6, riboflavin, potassium, pantothenic acid, pyridine, phosphorous, niacin, iron, bio-

tin, and folic acid.

In fact, according to Maine Maple Producers Association, the medical journal Pharmaceutical Biology revealed that pure maple syrup contains up to 24 different antioxidants.

These antioxidants, in the form of phenolic compounds, are beneficial for reducing free radical damage that can cause inflammation and contribute to the formation of various chronic diseases.

Note: Whenever possible, select darker, grade B maple syrups since these contain more beneficial antioxidants than the lighter syrups do.

**Making the Grade:** The first maple syrup, produced in the beginning of the season is usually light amber. As the season continues, medium, dark and finally Grade B syrup is produced.

\*Grade A Light is very light, which has a delicate taste, is used to make maple sugar candy and is also a favorite for crepes or waffles.

\*Grade A Medium Amber, is a bit darker, and has more maple flavor. It is the most popular grade of table syrup, and is usually made after the sugaring season begins to warm, about mid-season.

\*Grade A Dark Amber, is darker yet, with a stronger maple flavor. It is usually made later in the season as the days get longer and warmer.

\*Grade B is made late in the season, and is very dark, with a heavy maple flavor. It's often used for cooking and extracts.

### Maple Syrup Facts:

It takes approximately 40 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of maple syrup.

It takes one gallon of syrup to produce

## Maple Syrup Part II

eight pounds of candy or sugar.

The sugar content of sap averages 2.5%, of syrup 66.5%.

A maple tree is usually at least 45 years old and 12 inches in diameter before it is tapped.

As a tree increases in diameter, more taps can be added: up to a maximum of four.

Tapping does no permanent damage to the tree and only about 10% of the sap is collected each year.

Each tap yields an average of 10 gallons of sap per season: that yields about one quart of syrup.

Warm sunny days (above 40 degrees F) and frosty nights are ideal for sap flow.

The Maple season may last 4 to 6 weeks, but sap flow is heaviest for 10 to 20 days.

Sap flowing in high volumes is called a "run."

The harvest season ends with the arrival of warm spring nights and early bud development in the trees.

**Maple Syrup Recipes**  
The following recipes are easy and delicious ways to add a taste of pure maple syrup to your meals.

**New England Maple Marinade**  
This marinade combines maple and spices that flavors meat perfectly.

Ingredients: ½ cup maple syrup, 1/4 cup soy sauce, 1/4 cup sherry, 1/4 cup ginger, 3/4 tsp dry mustard, 1/8 tsp nutmeg, 1/4 tsp cloves, ½ tsp salt  
Directions: Mix together all ingredients well. Marinate the meat overnight. Grill, basting frequently.

**Old Fashioned Maple Syrup Cold Cure**  
Old New Englanders tout this concoction as a remedy for the common cold.

Ingredients: 1 part maple syrup, 1 part lemon juice, 2 parts whiskey, 4 parts ice  
Directions: Combine all ingredients

and shake or stir. Sip and sleep well.

**Maple Beef Stew**  
A perfect cold weather comfort food, this tasty beef stew can also be cooked in a crockpot.

Ingredients: 1/4 cup flour; ½ cup dry red wine; 1 clove of garlic – crushed; 1/4 tsp celery salt; 1 ½ lb stewing beef in cut in 1 inch cubes; 19 oz can of chopped tomatoes; ½ cup dry red wine; 1/4 cup maple syrup; 4 potatoes – peeled and diced; 2 carrots – peeled and sliced

Directions: Combine flour, salt and pepper, garlic and celery salt. Add beef. Pour into a casserole dish or crock pot. Add remaining ingredients and ½ cup water. Cover and simmer over low heat for 2 ½ to 3 hours. (Or cook for longer in the crock pot on medium)

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.



# LEGALS

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Trial Court of Massachusetts  
Probate and Family Court,  
Worcester Probate and Family  
Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO19A0070CW  
Notice of Petition  
for Termination of Parental Rights  
G.L.c. 210 Section 3  
In the matter of:  
Jaidon DeGroat**

**TO: Lisa Tranter of Southbridge, MA** and any unknown or unnamed father, parent(s) of the above named child.

**\*A putative father will not have standing as a party to this case without a voluntary acknowledgement of parentage or an adjudication of paternity.**

A petition has been presented to said court by Department of Children and Families, representing that the parent(s) of the said child lack(s) current ability, capacity, fitness and readiness to assume parental responsibility for the child; that the petitioner's plan for the child will serve the child's best interests; and, requesting that this Honorable Court enter a decree under the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 210, Section 3, that shall have the effect of terminating the rights of the person (s) named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the custody, guardianship, adoption or other disposition of the child named herein.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your Attorney must file a written appearance

in said Court at: **Worcester on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 AM) on 05/17/2022.**

You are entitled to the appointment of an Attorney if you are an indigent person. An indigent person is defined by SJC RULE 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving AFCD, EAEDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, food stamps, refugee resettlement benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager/Adoptions Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed above to obtain the necessary forms. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 10, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate.

March 4, 2022

March 11, 2022

March 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
Docket No. WO22P0346EA  
Estate of:  
Henry Lewis Koebke  
Also Known As:  
Henry L. Koebke  
Date Of Death: May 1, 2021  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Holden C. French of Dudley MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Holden C. French of Dudley 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.

March 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
Docket No. WO22P0348EA  
Estate of:  
Margaret F. Marrier  
Date Of Death: January 17, 2022  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the

above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Sandra C. Kunkel of Dudley MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Sandra C. Kunkel of Dudley 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.

March 18, 2022

**(SEAL)  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF  
THE TRIAL COURT  
No. 89TL086116  
COMPLAINT TO  
FORECLOSE TAX LIEN**

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and to

Mary Teja, deceased, formerly of Thompson, in the State of Connecticut; Margus T. Teja and Louise Teja, both deceased, both formerly of Worcester, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Teodor M. Teja, deceased, formerly of Woodstock, in the State of Connecticut; Natalie Pilarski, also known as Natalie (Demeter) Pilarski, deceased, formerly of Cheektowaga, in the State of New York; Linda Carlin, also known as Linda Diane Teja, deceased, formerly of San Diego, in the State of California; James Nicola, deceased, formerly of Trumbull, in the State of Connecticut; Paraskeva Nicola, also known as Mary V. Nicola, Vasil G. Nicola, and Marie Nicola, all deceased, all formerly of Bridgeport, in the State of Connecticut; Helen Nicola, also known as Elena Nicola, also known as Elena Olszyk, now or formerly of Shelton, in the State of Connecticut; Mary Ellen Demeter, also known as Maryellen Secrist, now or formerly of Madison Heights, in the Commonwealth of Virginia; Geraldine D. Teja, now or formerly of Woodstock, in the State of Connecticut; Matthew D. Teja, now or formerly of Natick, Middlesex County, and said Commonwealth; Christian M. Teja now or formerly of Holbrook, Norfolk County, and said Commonwealth; Erroll Maas, Daniel Carlin, and Peter Carlin, all now or formerly of San Diego, in the State of California; Elaine M. Burke, now or formerly of Bradenton, in the State of Florida; or their heirs, devisees, or legal representatives:

Whereas, a complaint has been presented to said Town of Webster, Worcester County, said Commonwealth; to foreclose all rights of redemption from the tax lien proceeding described in said complaint in and concerning a certain parcel of land situate in the Town of Webster in the County of Worcester and in said Commonwealth, bounded and described in said complaint as follows:

A certain parcel of land with buildings thereon, situated rear-8 1/2 Wellington Str. in Webster, Mass. as described as the Worcester County Registry of Deeds, Book 2137, Page 474, recorded August 11, 1917 and supposed to contain about 1/8 acre.

If you desire to make any objection or defense to said complaint you or your attorney must file a written appearance and an answer, under oath, setting forth clearly and specifically your objections or defense to each part of said complaint, in the office of the Recorder of said Court in Boston (at the Courthouse located on Three Pemberton Square, Room 507 in Boston, MA 02108), on or before the second day of May in the year two thousand and twenty-two.

Unless an appearance is so filed by or for you, your default will be recorded, the said complaint will be taken as confessed and you will be forever barred from contesting said complaint or any judgment entered thereon.

And in addition to the usual service of this notice as required by law, it is ordered that the foregoing citation be published forthwith once in Webster Times a newspaper published in said

Webster.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court, this eighth day of March in the year two thousand and twenty-two. Attest with Seal of said Court. Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
Plaintiff's Attorney: Elaine A. Byrne, Esq. Coppola and Coppola, 40 South Street, Marblehead, MA 01945  
Tel: (781) 639-0140  
March 18, 2022

**NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN OF DUDLEY  
WATER SEWER COMMISSIONERS**  
The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners will be holding a **Public Hearing on Wednesday April 6th at 6:30pm** in Room 315 at the Dudley Town Hall regarding:  
**The increase of Water and Sewer Rates.**

Scott Zajkowski, Chairman

March 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family  
Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO22P0739EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Cindy A Caradonna  
Date of Death: 12/12/2021**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by

**James N Caradonna of Oxford MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **James N Caradonna of Oxford MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/12/2022.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: March 09, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

March 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family  
Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO22P0613EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Betty Jane Dupree  
Date of Death: 01/11/2022**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Stephen D. Dupree of Bellevue WA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Stephen D. Dupree of Bellevue WA** 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 03/29/2022.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

Date: March 01, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

March 18, 2022

**(SEAL)  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF  
THE TRIAL COURT  
22 SM 000539  
ORDER OF NOTICE**

To:

Christine A. Millett; John J. Millett Jr and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*):

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 28 Tower Street, given by Christine A. Millett and John J. Millett, Jr. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for M&T Bank, dated October 14, 2008, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43423, Page 68, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before April 11, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Chief Justice of said Court on February 28, 2022.

Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder

March 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate  
and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO22C0057CA  
CITATION ON PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME  
In the matter of:  
Jodi A Hogan**

A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Jodi A Hogan of Dudley MA**

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Jodi Ann Richards**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/29/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.**

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

Date: March 03, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

March 18, 2022



# SPORTS

## Rams nearly pull off upset in State Tournament, but No. 2 Mansfield prevails



Shepherd Hill's Nicholas Veronis takes and makes a free throw versus Mansfield.



Zachary Wennerberg of Shepherd Hill surveys the court while looking for a teammate to pass the ball to.



Shepherd Hill's Iverson Ramirez-Ruggles drives into the lane versus Mansfield in first half action.



Lucas Miglionico of Shepherd Hill dishes a pass off while being defended tightly.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

MANSFIELD — Mike Rapoza said that Mansfield High is “one of the best teams in the state for a reason,” so the Shepherd Hill Regional boys’ varsity basketball head coach knew that his Rams would need to play a strong game in order to pull off the upset.

And when No. 15 Shepherd Hill took on the second-ranked Hornets in a Division 2 State Tournament Round of 16 game on Tuesday, March 8, the Rams nearly stunned the home crowd. In a game that was close throughout, Mansfield found a way to survive the scare and win a 47-44 decision.

“I could not be any more proud of them, of that effort. We came in understanding how hard we knew we were going to need to fight...it was all there,” said Rapoza. “To our credit, down by five, six, seven a couple times and we clawed our way back one way or another.”

The Hill trailed by seven points, 38-31, as play moved to the fourth quarter after a back-and-forth first half that had the teams tied at 12’s after one quarter and with the Rams leading by one point (21-20) at the break. With under three minutes remaining, the Rams’ Ryan Brooks got inside for a basket to cut the deficit down to 43-41. Then, a minute later, Shepherd Hill tied the score when senior Iverson Ramirez-Ruggles batted up a Brooks miss and the put-back found the bottom of the net.

But Mansfield’s Matt Hyland — who Rapoza called “a super talented player,” — got to the basket for two points and the lead with 1:30 remaining.

Ramirez-Ruggles connected on a free throw a couple of Rams’ possessions later, and following the Hornets missing free throws down the stretch, Shepherd Hill had the chance to take the lead. Brooks, a junior, collected a pass at the top of the arc, drove to his right and took a contested shot from about 10 feet. Unfortunately for The Hill, the attempt did not go in.

“There’s no other person that I trust more than Ryan Brooks on this team,” Rapoza said. “We run a lot of our stuff through him. He’s an incredible playmaker, an incredible scorer and we’re very fortunate to get him for one more year after this.”

“They did a good job defending,” Rapoza continued when speaking of Brooks’ shot. “They forced him to take a tough shot — still a shot I like — and

it just didn’t fall.”

Mansfield’s Caden Colby scored his only points with a second to play on a pair of free throws, upping the lead to 47-44. The Rams called a timeout and drew up a play where newly inserted Matthew Kustigian, a pitcher on the baseball team, heaved a deep pass down the length of the court. The ball was batted away, though, and bounced out of bounds as time expired.

“It’s tough with a second to go,” Rapoza said of the last-ditch effort. “You’ll take whatever you can get.”

Mansfield was led by the play of Hyland (22 points, 7 rebounds) and Trevor Foley (14 points, 7 rebounds).

“Hyland is going to have his no matter what we do, and he made some plays down the stretch. And Foley made some big blocks, three or four blocks on layups,” Rapoza said of the Hornets’ impressive tandem.

Brooks led The Hill with 14 points and seven rebounds.

“I am just so incredibly proud of these guys,” said Rapoza. “To go from the last three seasons combined for 13 wins and now to 19-4 and win the league and everything else, I’m so happy for the seniors. They played unbelievably well all year. There’s a ton to build on here.”

## Dudley Blue Devils fifth grade girls’ D2 basketball team goes undefeated



Courtesy photo

The Dudley Blue Devils fifth grade girls’ D2 basketball team included, from left, (back row) Coach Carlo Vivenzio, Olivia Vivenzio, Caroline Fuentes, Amelia Donahue, Victoria Norton, Lilly Brissette, McKenna Doyle, Haley Paquette, Coach Rich Norton, (second row) Emma Hopper, Ava Cincotta, Kourtney Tucker, and (front/center) Miranda Carlson.

On Sunday, March 6, Dudley’s Blue Devils fifth grade girls’ D2 basketball team went undefeated and won the Central Mass. Youth Basketball League (CMYBL) 2022 Championship. Their coaches, Rich Norton and Carlo Vivenzio, did an amazing job and set a perfect example of teamwork and camaraderie throughout the season. Congratulations to them all!

# Hiring?

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Help Wanted

## MOHEGAN BOWL WINTER LEAGUES, WEEK ENDING MARCH 13

Monday Men’s Business  
Single — Sandor Bosci 136, Jon Dufield 135, Michael Kustak 133  
Series — Jon Dufield 353, Mike Nardone 352, Mike Marrier 348  
Series over average — Jim Gatzke +50

Ten Pin City  
Single — Division 1: Claudia Allen 182, Natalie Wood 165  
Division 2: Lynn Webb 173, Marie Piegorsch 172  
Series — Division 1: Claudia Allen 531, Natalie Wood 481  
Division 2: Lynn Webb 441, Marie Piegorsch 438

Tuesday Chet’s Social  
Single — Tom Smith 130, Dave Lamontagne 121, Ryan Pelletier 120, Erin Van Dam 117, Mikayla Van Dam 114, Diane Levesque 103  
Series — Ryan Pelletier 351, Tom Smith 350, Dave Lamontagne 329, Erin Van Dam 295, Diane Levesque 276, Karen Dupuis 271  
Series over average — Michael Henault +31, Nancy Genatossio +47

Wednesday Women’s Industrial  
Single — Monique Pierangeli 124, Lynne Smith 118, Diane Kroell and Linda Bernier 102  
Series — Lynne Smith 333, Monique Pierangeli 309, Roberta Zacek 287  
Series over average — Diane Kroell +30

Summit Tenpin  
Single — Division 1: Butch Mattson 229, Bob Grant Jr. 220  
Division 2: Kevin Ryder 178, Shirley Smith 134  
Series — Division 1: Derek Reynolds 636, Mark Nichols 567  
Division 2: Donny Altiery 521, Edna Miranda 418

Thursday Morning Coffee  
Single — Pat Blake 103, Cheryl Hackenson 102, Lorraine Brezniak 100  
Series — Lorraine Brezniak 286, Barbara Penniman 275, Carol Montpelier 266  
Series over average — Cheryl Hackenson +37


Thursday Men’s Industrial  
Single — Mark Gulino 125, Ryan Pelletier 119, Bo Gauvin 118  
Series — Ryan Pelletier 350, Mark Gulino, Bo Gauvin, and Bill Sgariglia 334  
Series over average — John Healey +50






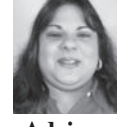
Thursday Mixed Tenpin  
Single — Chris Wong Kam 208, John Caskey 192, Tim Johnson 164, Brenda Johnson 154, Carol Buchanan 138, Jenn Andino 130  
Series — Frank Bosma 587, Todd Gaucher 514, Randy Schlegel 498, Carol Chausse 420, Donna Boucher and Janine Bolduc 353







# REAL ESTATE



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**WEBSTER 7 BROUDER AVENUE**

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**WEBSTER - 10 THOMPSON RD**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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


**KILLINGLY CT - 5 BALOUVILLE RD**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Extremely Large Duplex! 1000+/- square feet of living space per unit! 4 bedrooms each unit. assisted sale **\$169,900**


**WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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

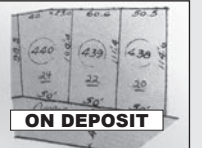
*Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island*



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

**WEBSTER - COOPER ROAD -**



**ON DEPOSIT**

3 Exceptional Parcels! Abutting each other. Excellent for New Homes! Access to Town Water & Sewer. very close to Webster Lakeside Beach & Boat Launch! All three lots **\$79,900.**

**LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD**

**Oxford - GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! LAND - 124 - Southbridge Road "ROUTE 20" VACANT LEVEL LOT - To be Subdivided from 124 Southbridge Rd LOT# 3 on a Preliminary Survey Plan will be 39,549 SF (0.905 ACRES) with 96.92' of Road Frontage. High Traffic, High Exposure Location. **\$419,00****

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

**Oxford - 4 Leicester St. - Approx. 8.47 Acres! River Frontage. SORRY, SOLD! \$79,500.**

**Webster - COOPER RD - 3 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & Sewer Access! ON DEPOSIT \$79,900.**

**On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg**

**WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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

**TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**Unit 1404 Marina side!** of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,900.**

**WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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

**WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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

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### DUDLEY

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- 6 rooms, kitchen, dining room, living room and three season room

**126 Old Southbridge Rd~ \$469,900**



**ZONING**

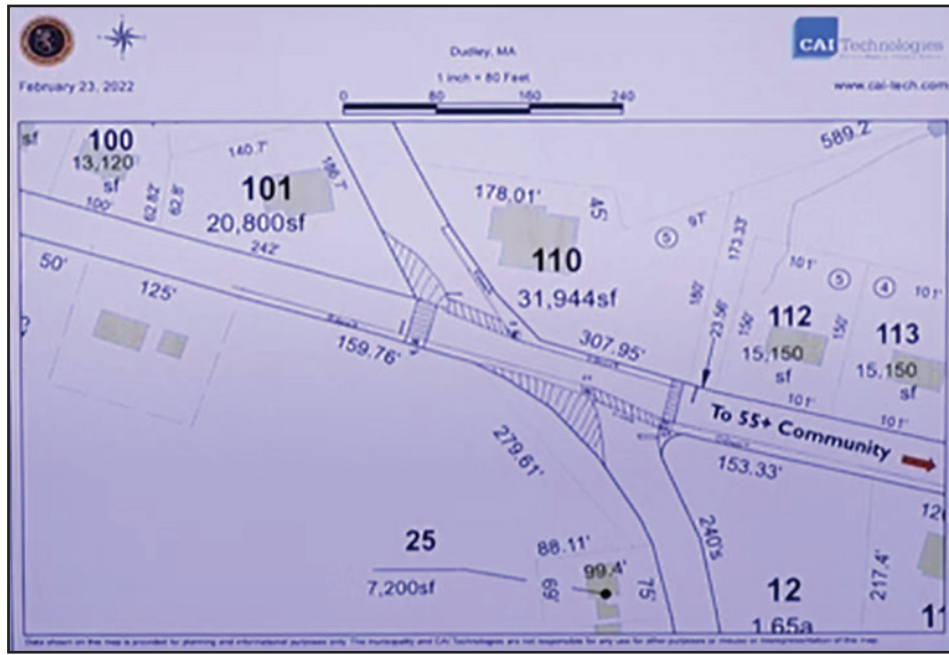
continued from page 1

permit. Regarding battery storage, Sousa said his department has not yet seen anyone file plans, but has had "several inquiries in the last 6-8 months," so they thought it wise to draft regulations. Right now, such proposals would have to be filed under "miscellaneous" uses, but there's "nothing there to guide the board or a prospective applicant," he said. "Miscellaneous isn't the best fit."

Additionally, the board voted to hold a special election to fill the year remaining in Meaghan Troiano's selectman's term, after she recently resigned. However, when a resident in attendance specifically asked who they were replacing, Chairman Mike Daniels asked the man to leave without answering. (He had been previously warned for making a brief statement without the board recognizing him first.) The special election will be held the same day as the regular election later this spring. It also approved submitting a new

application to the Mass School Building Authority for the state's "accelerated repair process" for Chaffee and Barton schools. Town Manager Jen Callahan said the schools submitted a bigger project proposal last year for the Middle School, but MSBA rejected it, suggesting this instead. During his very long formal motion, Daniels said the project calls for "replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems ... to increase energy conservation and reduce energy cost." Specifically, it calls for roof repairs or replacement due

to leaks, with those roofs being the originals from 1990 and "well beyond life expectancy." Daniels also cited windows, boilers, heating and ventilation as being covered by this process. Selectman Norman Leblanc praised the idea, saying the fact the state will provide a large part of the cost (if it accepts) "will go a long way in saving us money." (For more details, see related School Committee story elsewhere in this week's edition.) Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



A mockup of the proposed reconfiguration of the Airport Road intersection in Dudley.

**AIRPORT ROAD**

continued from page 1

dents due to its unique build. Rhault noted that the Dudley Police Department collected data that shows how dangerous that intersection has become. "Surprisingly enough, a lot of people went right through the stop sign, or some people slowed down to ten miles per hour and just kept going. More people than not did not stop. This is going to hopefully be a really big improvement at that intersection and make it a lot safer for Nichols College students and residents in the area," Rhault said. She presented a rough sketch of what the improved intersection would look like which showed tighter roadways encouraging drivers to slow down. Sections of the road would be blocked off with flex posts before being removed entirely while four new pedestrian crossings would be

installed. While none of Dudley's town officials denounced the project, some felt the problems it seeks to fix are more complex than they appear. Planning Board Vice Chair Richard Clark pointed out that the intersection is home to a new bar owned by Nichols College which could certainly create new traffic and that the parking lot at that location, which once served as a restaurant and clubhouse for the nearby golf course, is an often-overlooked factor in that area of town. "The parking lot right now is just this wide open space. I have seen on occasion people exit from the parking lot without regards to any stop sign, and there is none posted at the parking lot - I think we need some way of addressing that traffic flow. Additional to that is the fact that what is presently identified as a golf course and restaurant is transitioning into something called 'The

Den' which will be effectively an extension of the Nichols Campus in terms of a bar. That changes the game significantly," said Clark, who clarified that he wasn't against the project and actually felt these kinds of changes were "40 years overdue." Board of Selectmen Chair John Marsi offered a simple comment summarizing his board's thoughts acknowledging that there's still plenty of work to be done, but they are headed in the right direction. "From our standpoint, anything that we can do to improve public safety while looking at all the other concerns is a good thing," said Marsi. Right now, the plan remains in the development and concept review phase with a final design expected for a public forum in late June and potentially begin work in July to meet the twelve-month deadline required through the grant.

**SUSPECT**

continued from page 1

to Dudley after living out of state. "The individual was in Florida. He came back up here and was able to turn himself in," the Chief told selectmen. "It was

not an easy case. There were a lot of moving parts. It was good to get that going and get some justice for those individuals." Dudley Police Department records name the suspect as 38-year-old Konan Dessus with an address in St.

Petersburg, Florida. Dessus was arrested on a warrant at the Dudley Police Department on West Main Street. Chief Wojnar said his department put "a lot of good work" into the case and hopes to see it wrapped up now that a suspect has come forward.

**BEYOND**

continued from page 8

eternal companionship with God" through our interactions with the least of people we encounter here on earth. Our relationship with God begins here and now through our relationship with the least of our brother and sisters!

the way we treat Jesus. We express our love for Christ by loving the "other." And this interaction with Christ in the other doesn't have to be through some great deeds. Our intimate interaction can take place in the simplest of actions, through simply noticing a person in need and offering them help in a spirit of love. Simple things done with great love. Noticing the other and recognizing in them the image of God. Understanding this sacred encounter with God will keep us from offering abstract love to some anonymous poor person. The person in need has a name, has a

face, has an identity and when we strive to know this person, when we offer concrete and personal love to them, we will come to know them and through knowing them, we will meet Jesus Christ Himself. Think about that. Christ puts an equal sign between himself and anyone in need. This is how we have an opportunity to meet God every day. So, do you want to meet God? If so, then go out and meet Him, with fear, in humility and with deep love, go out and meet Him in the least of our brothers and sisters we meet every day!

**EDITORIAL**

continued from page 8

ferences, host a weekly radio show and to speak at a national party convention. She was so bold to even disagree with her husband on certain policies. After her husband's death, Roosevelt spent her remaining years in active politics. She was the first chair of the UN Commission on Human Rights and chaired John F. Kennedy's administration's Presidential Commission on the Status of Women. Roosevelt was nicknamed the 'First Lady of the World.' Last but not least is Agent 355, who was instrumental to the Patriot cause during the Revolutionary War. Agent 355 was a part George Washington's Culper Spy Ring. With the fear of a trip to the gallows in the back of her mind every day, Agent 355 managed to continue to help get crucial information to the General. Unlike the women we mentioned before, Agent 355 used

her role as a quiet unassuming woman to make monumental gains that led to our freedom today. The identity of '355' is not yet known, however she is referred to as 'lady' 355 in Washington's code book. The only direct reference to '355' was from ringleader Abraham Woodhull (known as Samuel Culper Sr.) to Washington in which Woodhull described her as 'one who hath been ever serviceable to this correspondence.' We hope that one day her true identity will be discovered. While we pay homage to strong women who have done incredible things, this does not negate the influential women we come into contact with in our everyday lives. As women we don't have to smash ceilings or gain notoriety to make a difference. We can be positive, powerful and influential in our everyday lives which in turn creates a domino effect that can last years after we're gone.

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# OBITUARIES

## Robert Harry Renaud, 56



Mill Spring, NC: Robert Harry Renaud, 56, formerly of Webster, passed away on Feb. 12, 2022, after a long battle with kidney disease.

Bob was born in Southbridge on Nov. 8, 1965, and attended Southbridge Schools before moving to North Carolina in 1991. There he started his own carpentry business, "Odd Job Bob's", doing everything from handyman work to building homes. In 2018 Bobby married the love of his life, Shelia (Goins) Renaud. Words cannot express the wonderful care she gave him during his terrible illness, nor can his family ever thank her enough.

Along with his wife Shelia, Bob

leaves his mother, Diane (Michaels) Irwin of Webster; his son, Scott Robert Renaud Randall and his companion Kim of Hendersonville, NC; his sister, Christine Sprouse and her husband Dennis of Sturbridge; his two brothers, Jeffrey Materas and his wife Elaine of Southbridge and Steven Materas and his wife Ronda of Pomfret, CT; and many nieces and nephews. Bobby was predeceased by his beloved Pepere, Harry L. Michaels and grandmother, Joy E. Michaels and nephew, Michael J. Sprouse.

Bobby's funeral service will be held at a later date. There are no calling hours.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge is directing the local arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

## Kristine Johnson Ciak, 71



Kristine Johnson Ciak, 71, of Webster died Wednesday, March 9, 2022 after a long illness. Kristine was born in Worcester, MA. She is the daughter of the late Runo C and the late Louise M (Greiner) Johnson.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 42 years Kenneth Ciak and one daughter: Kriste Warner of Worcester granddaughter Brandy Warner; three sisters: Donna Murphy of Auburn, Elaine Hamlin of Ravena, NY and Kathy Smith of Ravena NY, and two

brothers: Donald Smith of NY and Phillip Smith of NC, .

Kristine retired in 2017 from Comm. Of Mass as office manager of Human Resources at Dept of unemployment, previously worked at Paul Revere and UNUM Insurance. She loved tennis, golf and was a champion racquet ball player.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held 10:00 am on Saturday, April 23 at St. Louis Church, 14 Lake St., Webster. Please omit flowers donations to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital @ St.jude.org or to the Neurology Dept. at Brigham and Woman's Hospital 75 Francis St. Boston ,Ma 02115 www.bartelfuneralhome.com

## Pauline B Wilga, 89



Pauline B Wilga, 89, of Dudley died Sunday, March 13, 2022 at her son Gary's home in Thompson Ct. Pauline was born October 12, 1932 in Southbridge, MA. She is the daughter of the late Francis and

Leona (Larochelle) Vincent.

She was predeceased by her husband of 50 years Raymond G Wilga in 2011.

She is survived by three sons: Gary Wilga and his wife Sandra of Thompson, Jeff Wilga and his wife Pam of Thompson and Michael Wilga and his wife Michelle of Dudley.

She leaves six grandchildren Shannon, Danielle, Katie, Evan, Garrett and Anthony.

2 great grandchildren Teagan and Gracyn. Several nieces and nephews.

She was employed as a Book Keeper at Keys Department Store , Mammoth Mart , AO and United Lens. . Pauline and Ray Retired to Harwich 1990 and enjoyed several winters in Florida Pauline was a member of St. Anthony Of Padua Church, she enjoyed shopping and spending time with her family

A Mass of Christian burial will be held 11:00 AM Thursday, March 17 at St. Anthony Of Padua Church, 24 Dudley Hill Rd., Dudley .Burial will be at a later date in St. Anthony Cemetery. Calling hours were Wednesday, March 16 from 4 to 7 PM at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley. Please omit flowers donations to St. Anthony of Padua Church 24 Dudley Hill Rd. Dudley, Ma 01571

## Richard Paul Ravenelle, 75



Richard Paul Ravenelle, 75, of Dudley died peacefully on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at home, surrounded by his loving family. Richard was born on November 22, 1946 in Southbridge, MA.,

the son of the late Gerard and Florence (Lamoureux) Ravenelle. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Louise (Guerin) Ravenelle , and three children: Dena Kobel and her husband Mark of Webster; Kerri Angelo of Putnam, CT, and Brian Ravenelle and his wife Lori-Ann of Webster. He also leaves his grandchildren Nicholas, Drew (Paige), Brady, Patrick, Alex, Hunter, Katie, Riley, and Emily, and his great-grandson Bretton, as well as many cousins, godchildren, nieces, and nephews. Richard was a 1964 graduate of Notre Dame High School in Southbridge, and attended St. Anselm's College in Manchester, New Hampshire. He worked most of his life in the retail automotive parts industry, and retired in a management posi-

tion. After retirement, he worked part time as a courier for both Oxford Insurance and Hometown Bank, which he continued to do until recently. He was a long-time member of the Webster Lodge of Elks, where he was Exalted Ruler in 1976.

Attending the many events that his children and grandchildren took part in, spending time with his close friends, and taking occasional trips to the casino were some of "Dickie's" favorite activities. His greatest moments, however, were those spent with his family, laughing and joking with them all. The memories of "Pepe" will lovingly be recalled by all whose lives he touched. A Mass of Christian burial will be held 12:00 pm on Saturday, March 19 at Sacred Heart Of Jesus Church, 18 East Main St. Webster . Calling hours will be held at the church prior to the Mass from 10:30 am to noon. The family kindly requests that flowers be omitted, and donations in his memory can be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital-stjude.org. Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Ave. in Dudley, is directing arrangements. www.bartelfuneralhome.

## Barbara J. Vosburg, 88



WEBSTER - Barbara J. Vosburg, 88, died Monday, March 7, 2022 in UMass/Memorial University Campus after an illness.

She leaves a brother, Russell L. Vosburg and his wife Aline; her niece Debra Bair; her nephews George Bair, Jimmy Vosburg and Eric Vosburg; 4 great-nephews, 2 great-nieces and 3 great-grand-nieces. She was preceded in death by her brother Vernon Vosburg and by her sister Beverly Bair.

She was born in Worcester on March 14, 1933, a daughter of Alden and Jennie (Rothenburg) Vosburg and lived in Webster for the majority of her life. She graduated from Bartlett High School in 1951 and was the lead singer in the musicals there. She moved to Sturbridge in 2000 and then took up residence at Christopher Heights in Webster recently.

Barbara worked as an office clerk

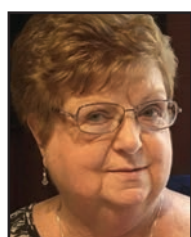
for Massachusetts Electric for 33 years before retiring in 1993. In her retirement, she was a packer at Shaw's Market in Sturbridge.

She was a lifelong member of the Church of the Reconciliation and sang soprano in the church choir for many years. An avid lover of cats, she brought many rescues into her home where they thrived under her loving care.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, April 6 in the Church of the Reconciliation, 21 North Main Street. Burial will be in Mount Zion Cemetery, Webster. Donations in her name may be made to either the Church of the Reconciliation, 21 North Main Street, Webster, MA 01570 or to Second Chance Animal Services Adoption Center, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street.

www.websterfunerals.com

## Maureen T. Bolduc, 78



NORTH OXFORD - Maureen T. (Wright) Bolduc, 78, formerly of Main Street, died Friday, March 11, 2022, at Notre Dame Health Care Center in Worcester, after an extended period of declining health. She

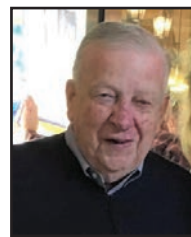
is survived by her husband of 60 years, John A. Bolduc Sr.; four children, John A. Bolduc Jr. and his wife Charlene of Webster; Cherie A. Sirard and her husband Paul of Charlton, Stephen R. Bolduc and his wife Angela of Sterling, and Suzanne Peregrin and her fiancé Mark Robbins of Oxford; her brother, Richard Wright of Worcester, a sister Deborah Letourneau and her husband Philip of Shrewsbury; two sisters-in-law, Wendy Wright of Marstons Mills, and Lucy Wright of Worcester; seven grandchildren, Jesse, Michael, Jeffrey, Madlyn, Delaney, Nicholas, and Alyssa; and several nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by three brothers, George Wright Jr., James Wright, and Thomas Wright. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late George M. and Madlyn A. (Hughes) Wright Sr., and lived in North Oxford since 1973. She attended Commerce High

School and graduated from David Hale Fanning School of Health Occupations in Worcester.

Mrs. Bolduc was a licensed practical nurse at the Family Health Center in Worcester for 10 years, retiring in 2009. She worked at several area healthcare facilities as an L.P.N. since 1978. Her family meant everything to her, especially her grandchildren. She loved family gatherings and socializing with friends and family. She was a member of St. Ann's Church in North Oxford and enjoyed reading, cake decorating, gardening, and attending farm auctions with her husband. She was a Patriots and Red Sox fan, and had a keen interest in learning the rules of football.

A funeral will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2022, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Ann's Church, 652 Main St., North Oxford. Burial will follow at North Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours were Wednesday, March 16, 2022, from 5-8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Notre Dame Health Care Center, 559 Plantation St., Worcester, MA 01605.

## Thomas Scanlon, Sr., 87



Thomas "Tom" Scanlon, Sr. of South Deerfield, MA was peacefully called home on March 8, 2022 at the age of 87. Tom was born in Webster, MA in 1934 to the late James Peter Scanlon (b. Doonaha, and Alice Cecilia (Ryan) Scanlon (b. Webster, MA).

Tom grew up in Central and Eastern Massachusetts which was very prevalent from his "par the ca" Boston accent that we all knew and loved! He had 7 siblings: Margaret Scanlon, Nancy Scanlon, Donald Scanlon, Butch Scanlon, Mary Scanlon Sumner and Twin Stillborn Scanlon. He attended Saint Louis High School, Webster, MA class of 1953 and then went on to put himself thru school to earn a degree in Accounting. He worked for the State of Massachusetts for 20 years as an accountant/auditor and left in 1979 to start his own accounting firm which he ran for 30 years with 14+ employees before retiring in 2009. Tom was very well respected and well known in the municipal accounting and auditing field. He valued every one of his tax clients and he truly looked forward to meeting with them annually which always was more of a social gathering than a tax meeting.

Those that knew Tom can attest to his outgoing and larger than life personality, endless energy, his heart filled generosity to help others in need and his devotion to his faith, family, friends and community. You did not need to be blood related to be considered family to Tom. You knew if he liked you if

he endlessly picked on you. He enjoyed traveling and watching his beloved Boston Red Sox, which he never missed a game!

Among his many organizations he belonged to over the years he was a part of the Town of Deerfield Zoning Board of Appeals - 6years, Frontier Regional School Committee - 9years, Chairman Town of Deerfield Finance Committee - 25 years (1970), Knights of Columbus, Massachusetts State Treasurer for Jr Chamber for Commerce - 9 years, President of South Deerfield Rotary Club, Member of AICPA and the Massachusetts Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Tom leaves his devoted and loving wife of 59 years, Margery (Podlesney) Scanlon, his daughter Karen and son-in-law Tom Hoffa of East Longmeadow, MA, his eldest son Dr. Michael and daughter-in-law Dr. Karla Scanlon of Columbia, CT, his son Thomas Jr and daughter-in-law Holly Scanlon of South Deerfield, MA, his pride and joy his five grandchildren, Jacob Scanlon of Glastonbury, CT, Kersten and Kaitlyn Scanlon of Columbia, CT, Samantha and Sydney Scanlon of South Deerfield, MA and many nieces, nephews and friends. He will be greatly missed.

Visitation was held at Wrisley Funeral Home in South Deerfield, MA on Friday, March 11th, with Funeral Mass on Saturday, March 12th at Holy Family Roman Catholic Church, 29 Sugarloaf Street, South Deerfield, MA. Burial will be in the spring.

In lieu of flowers you can send donations in Tom's honor to Sisters of St. Joseph, 577 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104, or Covenant House (helping youths) at www.covenanthouse.org

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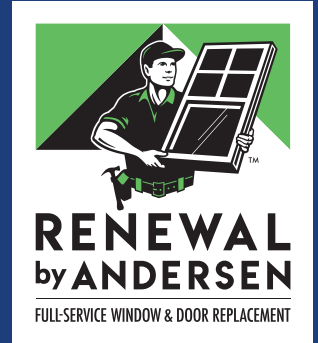
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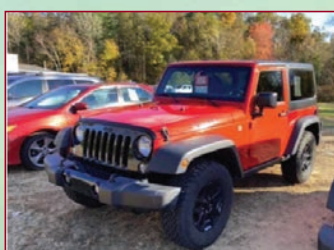
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