

WEBSTER TIMES

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Friday, February 26, 2021

Schools seek 5 percent budget increase

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER – The schools intend to seek a 5-percent budget increase for fiscal 2022 to add special education, academic intervention and other services.

As Business Manager Monique Pierangeli put it at the Feb. 9 School Committee meeting, they see a need to “make up any lost ground. ... We can’t afford to lose any more than what we’ve lost.”

At the time, she was summarizing the budget plan, which calls for an increase in the town’s share of just over \$1.1 million, to \$22.8 million. Under state funding rules, she added, the minimum local contribution is \$19.67 million. Both of those figures include various indirect services the town provides the schools routinely, such as insurance, plowing, retirement support and the like.

Last year, she noted, the schools agreed to accept a 0.55 percent cut “and found ways to make do.” Thus this year’s desired increase “is not a big ask” if averaged over two years, she said.

At a previous meeting, Superintendent Ruthann Goguen told the committee her plan was to reduce the number of paraprofessionals at Park Avenue to add special ed staff, create a grade 1 and 2 resource room. At the middle school, she hopes to hire another coun-

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LOCAL TEEN ATTAINS EAGLE SCOUT RANK

Courtesy

Jacob Scotti, son of Dan & Betty Scotti of Oxford, earned his rank of Eagle as a member of Charlton Troop 165. For his project, Jacob replaced the sign in front of the Charlton Grange on Main St. in Charlton. The previous sign was hidden by bushes and was difficult to read. The new sign has been moved closer to Main St., lights have been added and the sign incorporates the long history of the union of Charlton Grange #92, American Legion Post #391 and ScoutsBSA Troop #165. The sign was generously donated by Diversified Sign Co. in Charlton. Jacob graduated May 2020 from Shepherd Hill Regional High School.



New Highway Superintendent looks to update Dudley’s driveway regulations

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Dudley’s new Highway Superintendent is hitting the ground running as he sets his sights on bringing the town’s driveway paving regulations up to date with modern standards.

During a meeting with the Board of Selectmen on Feb. 8, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey Murray addressed the current driveway permit process in town, and said he feels that the requirements need to be changed to reflect a need for proper paving practices and aprons to prevent potential problems with drainage.

“If you look in the planning documents for a new subdivision it actu-

ally shows detail that’s actually showing this, a driveway apron that extends from the edge of the paved roadway back to the town’s property line or the rear of the sidewalk which often times match each other. Basically, what it does is it causes the water to stay on the road,” Murray said. “If the water doesn’t stay along the edge of the curb lines or reach the catch basins and it enters the property through the driveway, if we have a garage that’s downgraded from the driveway it’s a potential problem with a homeowner that the town would be responsible for the runoff going into their property or having a wet basement or any types of issues like that.”

Murray admitted that

the planning documents can be difficult to read so he would like to update the policies to bring requirements with current standards and make them much clearer to applicants. The updates would require two-inch binder course, two-inches of top and twelve inches of gravel at the base as well as clarifying that the first fifteen feet of the driveway are to be paved.

Selectman Steven Sullivan, a former Planning Board member, said he felt that updating the policies to include both ascending and descending gradients as proposed was a good step in the right direction.

“There’s no descending standard in our regulations, but we have ascend-

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School board examines pandemic’s effects on students

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER – Covid-era student mental health became a serious issue at the most recent School Committee meeting now posted on the district’s Web site (the Feb. 9 meeting).

“Our current schedule wasn’t meant to be sustainable because it requires so much self-motivation and requires students to be on top of things on their own,” said Student Representative Vivian Poplawski, a senior. “... I think I speak for everyone when I say we have mostly lost all of our motivation.”

She said she particularly sees it among seniors, but it’s “prevalent” among all grades of students who are “passionate about learning.”

Although many are still doing the work, they “just do not put in any effort. ... they just show up for class and float through their day.” In general, she said they are “not handling it well.”

Part of the issue, she added, is the fact they aren’t getting a rotating schedule, and in general need “more engaging school days.”

Superintendent Ruthann Goguen noted the administration has been doing a lot of professional development regarding such issues, with forums ranging from the serious (watching for suicide signs) to the “fun” (how to engage kids in class in various ways). They’ve also been trying to improve outreach to “high-risk students,” although in this

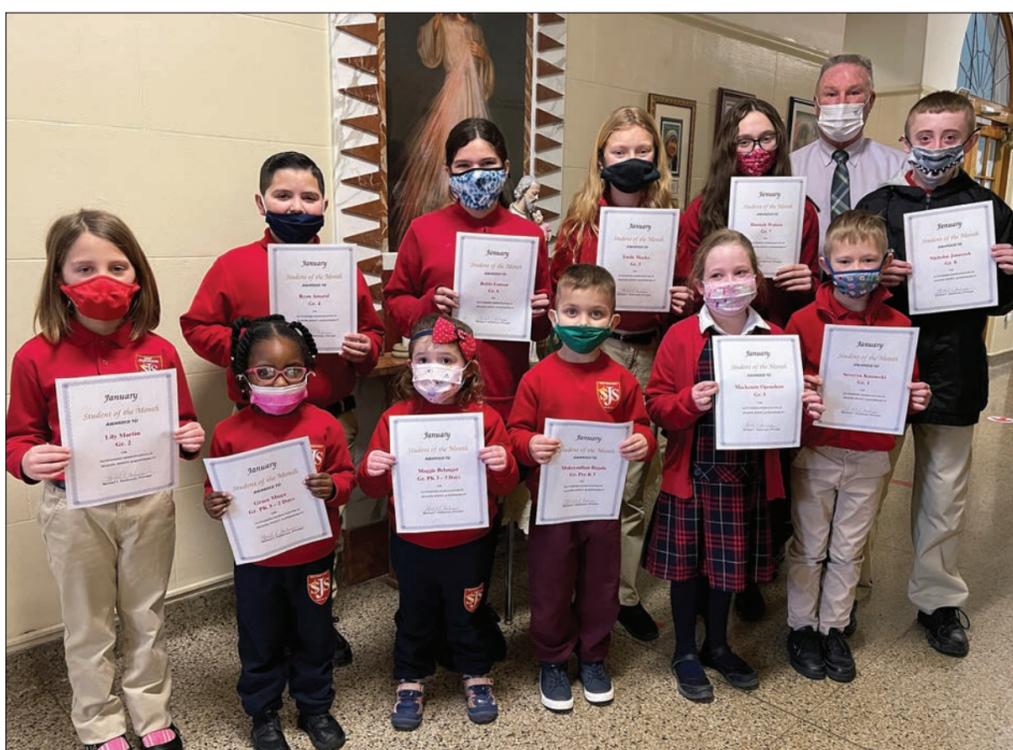
case, Poplawski noted the students she’s referring to are not typically “high risk.”

“There seems to be a disconnect between the population of students you’re referencing and the lion’s share of the outreach efforts are going to a different population who equally need them,” Chair Kelly Seddiki observed, noting Poplawski has mentioned such concerns before.

When she asked Poplawski if the schools are trying to address her concerns, Poplawski said she has seen more Guidance Department effort to talk to “kids who have good grades but are struggling.”

Principal Fran Thomas agreed this is an import-

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Courtesy

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following St. Joseph School students who were selected as January Students of the Month: Pre-K 3-year-old – 2 Day Program: Grace Muga; Pre-K 3-year-old – 3 Day Program: Maggie Belanger; Pre-K 4-year-old: Maksymilian Bujala; Kindergarten: Mason Lucier; Grade 1: Severyn Kuznecki; Grade 2: Lily Martin; Grade 3: Mackenzie Openshaw; Grade 4: Ryan Amaral; Grade 5: Emily Macko; Grade 6: Bobbi Enman; Grade 7: Hannah Watson; Grade 8: Nicholas Janeczek. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!

Webster Water Department receives award from MassDEP

WEBSTER — The Webster Water Department was recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Program (MassDEP) and the Awards Committee as a recipient in the 2020 Public Water System Award Program. The Water Department achieved one of the top compliance scores for the 2019 calendar year in the Regional Recognition category of the award program.

The citation read, in part, “The MassDEP Drinking Water Program is pleased to extend its congratulations to Webster Water Department for its outstanding performance in 2019. MassDEP realizes that it is no easy task to keep up with the ever-evolving federal and state drinking water regulations. Your compliance efforts have not gone unnoticed. MassDEP encourages you to continue this level of excellence in carrying out your work of protecting and supplying safe and fit water to our citizens.”

Over the course of four years, the Town of Webster completed the piloting, design and construction of a new 2.75 million gallons per day water treatment plant with greensand filtration media to treat elevated levels of iron and manganese in the groundwater. The treatment plant went online in December 2019 treating water from the rehabilitated Well 01G at Station 2 while new well pumps and level transducers were installed in Wells 04G-08G at Station 1. Once Wells 04G-08G could be pumped to the new plant, MassDEP approved a final activation of the 2.75 MGD Memorial Beach Water Treatment Plant with all wells online

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YOUR TEETH MATTER

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH



Visit one of these Professionals to improve your family's oral health.

Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.

Simple ways to maintain braces

Many adults recall having braces as children. While braces have evolved dramatically over the last few decades, modern braces benefit teeth in much the same ways as those adults recall from their youth.

Braces are often recommended to help straighten crooked teeth, correct misaligned bites and/or address overcrowded teeth. Maintenance is essential to ensure braces are effective and provide long-lasting benefits, and the American Association of Orthodontists offers these tips to protect braces and prevent patients from developing tooth decay

- Avoid certain foods. Hard, sticky, crunchy, or chewy foods should be avoided. Many can-

dies and snacks fit that description, so parents of children with braces and adults with braces of their own should make sure these foods are not readily available around the house. The AAO specifically mentions foods such as caramel, gummies, licorice, jelly beans, and even soft drinks among the foods to avoid when wearing orthodontic braces.

- Be extra cautious around Halloween. The days surrounding Halloween can be an especially difficult time to maintain braces. Candy is everywhere come the end of October, but people with braces must be diligent in avoiding hard-shelled peanut candies and nut-filled candies.

- Brush twice per day, but be careful. The

experts at Oral-B® note that careful cleaning is required when wearing braces. Plaque bacteria can be easily trapped inside and around braces, so it's especially important that people with braces carefully brush each day. Removable parts, including elastics, should be removed prior to brushing. Clean each tooth individually in a circular motion, tilting the brush as necessary to reach small front teeth.

- Continue regular visits to your orthodontist as well as your dentist. Regular visits to the orthodontist are required when wearing braces. These visits are necessary so braces can be adjusted and orthodontists can make sure there are no signs of gum disease. But Oral-B® notes



that it's just as important to continue visiting the dentist while wearing braces. Dentists can perform routine services designed to protect tooth surfaces from decay

while wearing braces, making dental visits a vital component of orthodontic maintenance. Orthodontic braces help people have healthy, beautiful smiles.

Maintenance while wearing braces is vital to avoid disease and produce a mouthful of pearly whites.

How parents can get kids excited about brushing their teeth



Dental hygiene is an important component of a healthy lifestyle, but it's an element youngsters rarely embrace

with open arms. Parents know that getting kids, especially young children, to brush their teeth is not always so easy.

In recognition of that, the American Dental Association suggests the following strategies to make brushing teeth something kids will look forward to.

- Make it fun. Brushing teeth may not be considered a fun activity, but who's to say it can't benefit from a little levity? The ADA recommends turning tooth brushing sessions into dance parties and/or sing-alongs. Youngsters might be so busy cutting a rug or listening to mom and dad belt out a few hits that they don't even realize they're cleaning their teeth at the same time. If singing and dancing aren't cutting it, then incorporate another fun activity, like reading a child his or her favorite story, into daily brushing sessions. The ADA advises adults and children to brush their teeth for two minutes twice a day, so activities need not be too advanced. But a fun activity that allows kids to do something other than brush their teeth can be a great way to help them meet the "two minutes, two times" guideline.

- Reward good behavior. Parents can reward youngsters who brush their

teeth without incident by offering praise or allowing them to pick a bedtime book when brushing at night.

- Put kids' favorite characters to work. The ADA notes that many popular children's television shows and books have stories about brushing teeth. Watch these stories with your children, then reference the stories and characters if kids are reluctant to brush their teeth. Parents also can find toothbrushes and/or toothpaste that feature kids' favorite characters to get youngsters more excited to brush.

- Become a storyteller. Parents also can make up their own stories, explaining to kids how they can be superheroes who brush away the bad guys that cause cavities.

- Brush alongside your children. Kids love to mimic their parents, so moms and dads can brush alongside their youngsters in the hopes they'll follow suit.

Many children may never jump at the chance to brush their teeth. But parents can employ a few savvy strategies to make daily brushing sessions more fun for youngsters.

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Thursday nights.....5 to 7 p.m.
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DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411)

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DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040)

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OXFORD

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Town Clerk (987-6032)
Monday-Friday.....9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT (987-0156)

For emergencies, call 911

OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)

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WEBSTER TIMES

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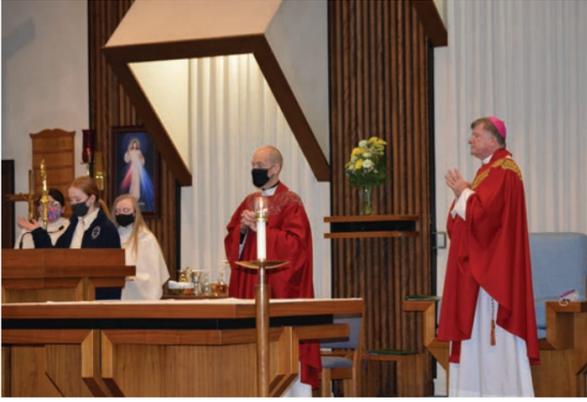
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All Saints Academy celebrates “Faith, Excellence, and Service” during Catholic Schools Week



WEBSTER — The 2021 motto of the National Catholic Schools Week is “Faith, Excellence, and Service.” Students from All Saints Academy spent this past week, and will continue into the next, celebrating how they live by that motto.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from Feb. 7-21.

Jaquin Dyshawnd Baldwin, age 39, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 8 for being a Fugitive From Justice on a Court Warrant, and was subsequently charged with Resisting Arrest and Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute.

Derrick E. Bethune, Jr., age 28, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 8 in connection with a warrant.

Christian Johnson, age 44, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 8 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Child Endangerment while Operating Under the Influence, and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Michael Philip Blake, age 19, of Worcester was arrested on Feb. 10 for Breaking & Entering (Misdemeanor), Trespassing, Vandalization of Property, and in connection with multiple out of agency warrants.

A 30-year-old female from Douglas whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Feb. 11 for Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order.

Nicole E. Shiner, age 26, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 11 for Possession of a Class E Drug. A 24-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested during the same incident for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Joel E. Griffith, age 45, of Dudley was arrested on Feb. 12 in connection with multiple warrants, and was also issued a summons for Possession of a Class B Drug. Alicia M. Caffrey, age 45, of Dudley was arrested during the same incident for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, as was Ramon S. Negrón, age 50, of Dudley for Distribution of a Class B Drug.

Shawn M. Perrin, age 47, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 12 in connection with a warrant.

Zachary T. Renihan, age 23, of Oxford was arrested on Feb. 13 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, a Marked Lanes Violation, and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Jeremy J. Adams, age 44, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 15 for Breaking & Entering into a Vehicle or Boat during the Daytime (a Felony) and Conspiracy. Angel Louis Torres, age 25, of Webster was arrested during the same incident on the same charges.

Peter Szczotka, age 32, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 16 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License, and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle.

Mark A. Desourdy, age 42, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 17 for Conspiracy to Violate Drug Laws and multiple counts of drug possession. Trent D. Nicholopoulos, age 31, of Webster and Elexis T. Jutras, age 26, of Southbridge were arrested during the same incident, also on multiple counts of drug possession and Conspiracy to Violate Drug Laws.

Steven A. Amons, age 69, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 17 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Use of a Motor Vehicle Without Authority, and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Tracy M. Benoit, age 41, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 18 for Trespassing. Danielle Ann Porter, age 37, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 19 in connection with a Warrant of Apprehension.

Jayxavien Jesus Mejais Nunez, age 19, of Webster was arrested on Feb. 19 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Use of a Motor Vehicle Without Authority, Failure to Stop for Police, Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, Resisting Arrest, and Trespassing.

But this isn't a one time or one week only demonstration of that. The motto is at the heart of Catholic schools everywhere and students, staff and their families live by it every day. The planned activities and festivities are only one way for Catholic school communities across the nation to celebrate the way they are connected to faith, education, community, and the nation.

The faculty and staff at ASA strive to guide students to be good citizens of the world, to love God and neighbor and to enrich society with the messages of the Gospel and by the example of faith.

At All Saints Academy, this guidance permeates each school day throughout the year. Recently, the students replicated a stained-glass cross that illustrated how each of them live their lives by Jesus' example.

Some of their examples included: “Jesus, use me to spread positivity and creativity,” and “Jesus, use me to spread hope.” Students were also treated to special presentations about vocations and careers.

Former faculty and staff members came back to surprise students and virtually visit with each class to speak to them about a future full of possibilities.

All Saints Academy provides a loving and nurturing environment in which students strive for excellence, both academically and personally, because the focus is on the whole child: mind, body and spirit. By providing in person instruction since August, students and staff have been working hard to excel in a challenging and changing environment. The students have recently been working hard on creating mini-poetry anthologies to share virtually with

families and special persons in a Poet-Tea event. Additionally, students in all grade levels created a giant flag of the United States made up of all the countries that represent their collective heritages, demonstrating that while we can acknowledge and celebrate our differences, we still have much in common.

The entire school community serves others in one form or another. This year, because of the pandemic, students cannot personally serve at area establishments that need help, so they are helping in other ways. In the fall, the school held a food drive and collected over 2,000 items that were donated to local area food pantries. As the school marked the 100th day of school milestone this winter, Operation 100 was well underway. Students and families donated cake mixes, cooking oil, shelf-stable milk and frosting to create Birthday Bags for food deprived children, because all children deserve to celebrate their birthday with cake. They also collected and created First Responder Care kits, containing various personal care items along with snacks and bottled water, because it is important to care for the ones who take care of everyone else. The original goal was to create a combined 100 gift bags, but the response has been overwhelming. As such, they will likely reach 100 gifts each for the Birthday Bags and First Responder Care Kits.

All Saints Academy and its families are proud of the accomplishments of their students. While Catholic Schools week happens once a year, they know that living in faith, excellence and service takes place every day throughout the year.

WEBSTER TIMES

ACCURACY WATCH:

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

DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Feb. 12-19.

Joel E. Griffith, age 45, of Dudley was arrested on Feb. 12 in connection with multiple warrants.

Kelvin Edgardo Torres, age 36, of Southbridge was arrested on Feb. 16 in connection with an out of agency warrant.

Oxford Women's Club offers scholarships

OXFORD — The Oxford Woman's Club is happy to announce the offering of three \$750 scholarships to be awarded to graduating seniors residing in the Town of Oxford and who attends school in Oxford, Dudley, Charlton, Southbridge, Shrewsbury, Worcester and Thompson, Conn.

Applications will be available at their schools or by contacting Anne Marie Palermo, Chairperson of the Oxford Woman's Club Scholarship Committee. Please plan to contact by emailing to simplyannie14@gmail.com (for confidential use only). All applications must be postmarked no later than Saturday, April 17. The Oxford Woman's Club's mission statement “Working together for our community.”



Day Kimball Healthcare's Women's Health Team

Front Row: Amna Aziz, MD; Elena Poloukhine, MD; Robyn Martin, APRN; Lacey Luneau, PA-C; Regan Murchison, MD
Back Row: Andrew MacKenzie, MD; Julie Van Saun, PA-C; Devon Jacobson, MD; Erica Kesselman, MD

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Tips for seed starting success

You created your wish list, ordered some or all of the seeds you will need, and they are beginning to arrive. Make the most of your investment with a bit of planning.

Starting seeds at the proper time, indoors or directly in the garden, ensures a good start to the growing season. Check the back of the seed packet for planting times and directions. Consult your local Extension Service's website for more details on the best time to plant in your area.

Organize your seeds by when they need to be started. You can create your own system or invest in one like Gardener's Supply's seed envelopes and dividers. This system allows you to organize seeds by type, planting season, color, garden location and more. Use your storage system to keep leftover seeds organized for future plantings. It will also save you money on future seed orders. Just

be sure to place the seeds in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

Enter planting dates on your calendar as well. Months pass quickly and it is easy to miss important planting times. Creating a planting calendar will help you plant seeds at the proper time for the maximum benefit.

Gather seed starting equipment and supplies if starting seeds indoors. You will need a quality seed starting or potting mix and clean containers. Use yogurt and other small food containers for starting seeds. Drill holes in the bottom and clean them before planting. Avoid disease problems by sanitizing old plant containers. Soak them in a one-part bleach and nine-parts water solution for ten minutes. Then rinse in clear water before filling with planting mix.

Or try one of the new plastic-free, environmentally friendly seed starting options. Use a paper

pot maker (gardeners.com) to convert newspaper into biodegradable plant pots. Consider cow pots made of composted manure that provide nutrients in a biodegradable pot. You can leave your seedlings in these containers when moving them into the garden.

Create your own pot-free seed starter with Gardener's Supply soil blocker. It presses moist potting mix into blocks that hold their shape. The blocks can be moved directly into the garden, reducing transplant shock.

Follow the directions on the seed packets for depth and care. Most seeds prefer warm conditions but do not need light to sprout. Keep the planting mix moist. Cover the containers with a sheet of plastic to conserve moisture and extend the time between watering.

Once you see any green, it is time to move the seedlings into bright light or under artificial

lights. Keep the lights on for no more than 14 to 16 hours and four to six inches above the top of the plants for best results.

Once your plants are actively growing, you can begin fertilizing if needed. Check the planting mix to see if a fertilizer has been added and how long it will be effective before adding more. Follow the label directions on the fertilizer you select.

Share the fun and workload with friends and family. Perhaps you will start tomatoes for everyone, another person handles the peppers and yet another person the eggplants. Or just share extra seeds since each packet usually contains more than most gardeners have space to grow.

Most importantly, have fun.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts



Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Paper pot makers make it easy to transform newspaper into biodegradable plant pots that are perfect for starting seeds.

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 Gardeners Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

The positive power of influencing others

A few weeks ago, we spoke of the power of influence and that we become the average of the five people we spend the most time around. People often brush aside the idea that they are influenced by others. To do so is foolish. We are all influenced, and we all influence others.

Today, I want to speak with you about the power of influence we have over others. Let me first break down the difference between casual influence and purposeful influence. Casual influence is the impact you have on others by just who you are. Purposeful influence is in mentoring others. Let's focus on the power of influence you can have on others and we will call it mentoring.

Mentoring is about helping another person learn through a one-to-one relationship. It's a common practice for transferring knowledge

and promoting best practices and procedures in the workplace, as well as being an effective way to develop new leaders. Serving as a mentor can play a powerfully influential role in younger generations and can benefit you as well as the mentee.

We spend a lifetime learning, gathering information and experiences. My oldest son once told me, "When a person dies, it's as if a library full of one-of-a-kind books burns to the ground. Unless shared, all your knowledge, information and experience are lost." If we allow that to happen it's as if a lifetime of learning is wasted.

What experience and information do you have that can benefit others if shared?

I don't care who you are, what your education level is or what you do or have done for a living, you have something



POSITIVELY SPEAKING

GARY W. MOORE

inside your head and heart that would benefit others to know.

A few years ago, our community was desperate for substitute teachers. I have a degree in education, so I began. I continued doing so two days a week until I was diagnosed with stomach cancer.

I also started a drum line and color guard in association with Youth for Christ and found weekly opportunities to set an example and share life experiences with eighth grade through high school age students. Many of those students came from broken homes and did not have a father

figure in their lives. I found it to be an incredibly rewarding experience for me as well as them.

What experience do you have to share? Are you a musician, athlete, business professional or tradesperson? If so, you have experience to share. Do you know how to cook or work in a kitchen? Do you know how to repair cars? Are you a computer coder or hardware tech? We all know something that will benefit others.

What I've learned most of all about mentoring, is what young people want and appreciate most is your time. They may not express it in words, but when you connect with a young person, they benefit from the experience and are grateful whether they express it in words or not.

Where can you go for mentoring opportunities?

Your church, service club or fraternal organi-

zations often have opportunities. I know most, if not all school districts, need substitute teachers. Organized sporting activities or community dance, theater, or musical organizations ... the list is endless. All that is required of you is to take the step to let them know you are available ... and be available to spend time. I know of no studies to verify this, but I believe those who volunteer find happiness and joy in the experience.

Once I'm a little further along in my healing process, I'd enjoy starting a young writer's group to provide mentoring and encouragement to those interested in the craft as a hobby and/or career. I don't want my library to burn to the ground without sharing the information and experience in my head and heart. When we do so, we live on through the lives of others.

What about you? Are you a "Hey you kids! Get off my lawn!" kind of person or would you like to make a positive difference in the lives of the next generation? That's a serious question and I'd like you to answer. If you are willing to share your experience and time with others, jump in.

There's never been a time when optimists are needed more to provide positive mentoring to the next generation. Will you answer the call? Will you share what you know?

Will you join me?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.





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OBITUARIES

Edwin P. Konicki, 82



WEBSTER - Edwin P. "Ed" Konicki, 82, died Friday, February 12, 2021 in UMass/Memorial Healthcare after a brief illness.

He leaves his wife of 44 years, Jane E. (Hoye) Konicki; a son, Mark Konicki; 2 daughters, Sherrie Konicki and Maureen Langlois and her husband Paul all of Webster; 4 step-daughters, Lynne Demond of Evansville, Indiana, Debra & Ronald L. Kokernak Jr. of Webster, Donna & Matthew Annese of Woodstock, CT, Kim & Jay Bernier of Dudley; 3 brothers, John H. Konicki, Sr. of Charlton, Lionel E. Konicki of Putnam, CT and Rev. William C. Konicki of Webster; 2 grandchildren, Corey and Samantha Langlois, 3 step-grandchildren, Cameron J. & Katherine Bernier and Tallia Annese. He was predeceased by his sister, Margaret A. Clarke and his two brothers Alfred and Jules Konicki.

He was born on December 2, 1938 and raised in Webster, a son of Florian and Alice R. (Champagne) Konicki. He graduated from Bartlett Trade School in 1959, and immediately joined the Air Force. He was a veteran of the United State Air Force,

and was part of the Strategic Air Command stationed in England. He was so proud to have served his country.

After returning from England Mr. Konicki worked as a carpenter in

the building trades and had his General Contractors license. He thoroughly enjoyed helping his family and friends with their building projects. Ed was later employed as a custodian at Park Ave Elementary, upon retirement he was a crossing guard for several years at the Lake Street crossing, where he was always smiling and waving at friends.

He enjoyed building puzzles this last year, reading any novels he could get his hands on, old cars, building projects and going out to eat.

His greatest treasure was the time he spent with his wife, Jane, they were each others constant companions, they would have their morning meetup and decide their plans for the day, they were always off on the road heading somewhere, most likely hatching a plan to visit friends on the Vineyard which Eddie especially enjoyed around the time for the Fair in August.

A private graveside service with military honors by the Webster-Dudley Veterans Funeral Honor Guard will be held in Mount Zion Cemetery. Donations in his memory may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, 60 Walnut Street, Wellesley Hills, MA 02481. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster.

www.websterfunerals.com



Theresa A. Jankowski, 90



WEBSTER - Theresa A. (Dudek) Jankowski, 90, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, February 18, 2021. Her husband of 48 years, Stanley J. Jankowski passed away in 1998.

She was the mother of two loving daughters: Maryann J. Mackowiak, wife of Daniel Mackowiak of Northborough; and Marlene J. O'Day, wife of John F. O'Day, Jr. of Auburn. Her grand children and great grand children were her pride and joy. She was "Gram" to: Laura Fairbanks and her husband Michael of Westborough; Craig Mackowiak and his wife Amy of Abingdon, MD; Meghan Murphy and her husband Kevin of Andover; and Jack O'Day of Minneapolis, MN. Three of her great grand children called her "GG:" Jonathan, Gavin and Emery; and two called her "Baba:" Teagan and Maeve.

Theresa came from a large family. She was predeceased by her three brothers and two sisters. But she leaves many nieces and nephews.

In her later years, Theresa enjoyed the special friendship and companionship of Norman A. Czyzewski of Webster. Together, they made growing older much more pleasant.

Born in Oxford, MA on May 27, 1930, Theresa was the daughter of Frank and Lucy (Mikos) Dudek. She graduated from Oxford High School in 1948, and lived in Webster from the time she was married.

Theresa spent all her working years in banking - beginning with the First National Bank of Webster, and then with its successors Guaranty Bank & Trust and The Bank of New England. She retired in 1992 as an assistant manager.

Beyond family and career, Theresa was devoted to her church, The Saint Joseph Basilica in Webster, as well as to many of its activities. She was a member of the parish council; one of the founders of the Friends of Saint Joseph School Fund; and served on the Church's bereavement committee. Theresa was a past president of the Sacred Heart Society and of the St. Joseph Women's Club. She was also a member of the Holy Rosary Sodality and the Saint Anne Society. For several years, Theresa volunteered with the Hubbard Regional Hospital Guild.

Her funeral was held Wednesday, February 24, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School St. in Webster, with a Mass at 11:00 AM at the Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb St. in Webster. Burial followed in the Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visitation was held in the funeral home from 4:00 to 6:00 PM on Tuesday, February 23, and from 9:30 to 10:30 AM on Wednesday, February 24, prior to the funeral. Current health guidelines will be in place; everyone in attendance must wear a mask. Donations in Theresa's name may be made to the Fund for Saint Joseph School, 47 Whitcomb St., Webster, MA 01570.

www.websterfunerals.com

Marion E. Lambert, 86



OXFORD - Marion E. (Fanion) Lambert, 86, of Charlton Street, died Sunday, February 14, 2021, at the Life Care Center of Auburn. She was predeceased by her husband, Henry "Bud" J. Lambert

who died in 1998. She is survived by two children, Timothy H. Lambert and his wife Cheryl of Oxford, and Dale L. McKay and her husband James of Oxford; seven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and several nephews and nieces. She also had two brothers. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Theodore and Esther (LaPrade) Fanion, was raised in Auburn and lived most of her life in Oxford.

Mrs. Lambert worked at Krintzman

Dusting Mill in Oxford for several years, as well as working at several other jobs throughout her life. She enjoyed going to flea markets, arts and crafts, crocheting, sewing, gardening, woodworking, reading, and trips to the casino with her husband. She enjoyed visits from her friends, especially Theresa Greene.

The family would like to thank the Life Care Center of Auburn for the exceptional care given to their mother over the past 10 years.

A funeral will be held privately due to gathering restrictions. Burial will be private at Worcester County Memorial Park in Paxton. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, P.O. Box 91891, Washington, DC 20090-1891. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

Margaret A. 'Peggy' Brooks, 70,



PIC
WEBSTER - Margaret A. 'Peggy' Brooks, 70, passed away February 13, 2021 at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She leaves behind her husband, Kenneth R. 'Ken' Brooks, Jr., a son Kenneth R. 'Kenny' Brooks, III and his wife Maria of Palm City, Florida and a

Daughter, Judy A. wife of Jason M. Stien of Webster, 6 grandchildren. Cole, Gabriella, Jason 'J.J.', Ava, Jade, and Jonah.

Peggy and Ken would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 15th.

She graduated from Stoneham High School and worked as a certified nursing assistant over 30 years in the Bedford area prior to moving to Webster.

Peggy was a family oriented person and enjoyed being with family and friends, especially her grandchildren, and was always the life of any get together.

She enjoyed baking, especially her famous cupcakes which she shared on many occasions and always brought extras for friends. If the occasion was for 12, she baked 24. Her personality was genuine and she was an outgoing friendly, kind person who made friends easily.

Peggy will be missed by many. Calling Hours were Wednesday, February 24, 2021 from 5-8 pm at the ROBERT J. MILLER FUNERAL HOME and LAKE CHAPEL. 366 School St. with Social Distancing and Face Mask protocols in place.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice.

To place an on-line condolence or to Share a memory of Peggy, please visit: RJMillerfunerals.net

Mary M. Brouillette, 89

DUDLEY- Mary M. (Jakubowski) Brouillette age 89 passed away Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at the Univ. Of MA Healthcare Center Hospital, Worcester, MA. She was the wife of the late Albert R. Brouillette who died in 2016. Mary leaves her very special niece and care giver MaryEllen Gromelski of Worcester. She also leaves several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, Anthony Jakubowski, Edward Kaczmarek and Hank Kaczmarek all of Dudley. She was also predeceased by her sisters, Magdalen Gromelski and Helen Ryznal of Webster, Irene Billings of Milford and Wanda Jarosz of North Grosvenordale, CT.

She was born in Dudley daughter of the late Michael Jakubowski and Helen (Lazarowski) Jakubowski living

in Dudley for the past 58 years. She was a clerk for the American Optical Company retiring in 1984.

Calling hours in the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA were held Monday, February 22, 2021 from 8:30 AM till 9:45 AM with a Mass of Christian burial at 10 AM in St. Andrew Bobola Church, Dudley, MA with burial in St. Joseph Garden of Peace. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA is directing arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle. Please omit flowers and donations may be made to community cat connection, Thompson Rd., Webster, MA in her memory.

Wilma A. LaFave, 71



SOUTHBRIDGE- Wilma A. (Keith) LaFave age 71 passed away on Tuesday February 16, 2021 at Harrington Hospital, Southbridge due to complications of Covid-19.

She was the wife of the late Earl M. LaFave. She leaves two sons, Philip Keith and his wife Wendy of New Smyrna, FL, William L. LaFave and his wife Wendy of N. Brookfield, MA, two daughters, Donna Keith of Jewett City, CT and Jamie Menard of Southbridge. She also leaves her granddaughter Kayla LaFave with which she made her home with. Wilma also leaves 13 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, a brother David Keith of Lisbon, CT, and two sister, Pamela Jezierski and Laura Keith both of Knightsdale, NC. She also leaves her dog Buddy and cat Maxwell Button.

Wilma was predeceased by three sisters, Donna Hebert of Putnam, CT, Wendy Larson of Zephyr Hills, FL and Barbara Lamontagne of Webster.

She was born in Worcester daughter of the late William Keith and Alice Belack and lived in Southbridge for the past year prior to that living in Webster. She owned and operated Wilma's Cleaning Service. She was a member of the United Church of Christ in Webster and a new member of the House of Destiny in Southbridge. She a former member of the Webster-Dudley Rotary Club. She enjoyed scrap books and photography.

There are no calling hours. A celebration will be held at a later date and will be announced. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence.

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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

How about this weather?

“How about this weather?”

If ever there was an easy, non-challenging conversation opener, this is it. You can be in line at the grocery store, serving jury duty or pushing papers around at work – it doesn't matter where you are - this line never fails.

Everyone seems willing to talk about the weather. It's a built-in, slam-dunk, easy topic that allows complete strangers to either commiserate or celebrate, depending on the daily meteorological situation.

So, what is it with the weather? Why do we love to discuss, comment and re-hash it?

Weather is complicated, frustrating and ultimately uncertain. Weather breaks our hearts and lifts our moods and forces daily choices for everyone. Weather drives our decisions, affects our attitudes and makes fellow survivors out of strangers.

Weather is our most true common denominator. No matter what our life circumstances - student, professional, retiree – when you live in the same geographic area, you and your fellow community members have the weather in common.

Weather doesn't care about politics or sports teams or vacations or the date on the calendar. It is an equal opportunity annoyer and a great equalizer – everyone has to drive in snow, or dash to the car in the rain, or stand in long lines at the fair in the hot sun. Almost everyone has had a picnic cancelled, a vacation spoiled or a ball game rained out.

But weather is also the unexpectedly warm, sunny, sweet-smelling spring morning that causes smiles and banter with co-workers. It's the light snow flurries that add sparkle to early December and prompts holiday greetings between shoppers. It's the crisp, snappy feel of fall football games and the slow, sultry, humidity of summer evenings spent on backyard patios. It's the backdrop of every day of our lives.

So, what is it with the weather? Maybe we love the topic because it's universal. Maybe we love the excitement of something that will change – either for the good or the bad. Maybe it's that it is temporary and fleeting and some-thing to either be withstood or enjoyed, knowing that it will not last. Maybe it's simply because weather is always with us... whether we like it or not.

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

Our new normal

Lord willing, we all are hoping to get back to “normal” sometime this year. Yet, what will the “new normal” look like once the pandemic is past? How has this new life of social distancing, wearing masks and being concerned of getting the virus or passing the virus on to others changed us? What long-term impact will the pandemic have in our lives? Has the past year permanently changed us, our relationships with others, and even our understanding of God and His Church?

These are serious questions to reflect upon and to pray about. The pandemic has presented a serious challenge for all of us but hopefully it has also acted as a wake-up call which will help us see more clearly what is most important in life.

When I was sick with COVID for 15 days, feeling miserable with a fever, body aches and extreme fatigue, the experience helped me appreciate life, health, my family and friends, and even my faith and the Church in so many ways I too often took for granted. Not serving in the Divine Liturgy for three Sundays in a row was the longest I was away from the church in my entire life. Some days when I felt too tired to even pray reminded me of how precious the treasure of faith is that we have. I sincerely missed seeing people even for those three weeks and realized what a special gift we have in friends and in our Church family!

I am praying that this pandemic, and the time some people are having away from the church, will only help them come to a new realization of what a special gift we have in our communities of faith. Hopefully we've



BEYOND THE PEWS

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

come to understand that despite the unexpected challenges of this pandemic, and the surprising events of whatever life may bring, God is still always with us. In fact, God's presence is sometimes most consciously felt when we face the extreme difficulties and challenges of life, and hopefully the pandemic has made us realize this.

To be honest, though, I'm not sure everyone will come to the same conclusions that I have reached. I'll admit that I am praying for everyone to come to a renewed relationship with God and a deeper appreciation of their faith during the pandemic, yet I am also afraid that the difficulties of this past year may only have disconnected too many people from their community of faith, from one another, and even from God.

I'm concerned that too many people haven't been to Church in almost a year. Others have come to worship and shared in Christ-centered fellowship very sporadically. Habits are being solidified where Sunday is no longer the Day of the Lord, the Day of Resurrection, the Sabbath Day which we consciously dedicate to God in a special way. Early on during the pandemic, some people found comfort in worshipping and participating via the live stream services our churches offers. Yet, watching the Divine Liturgy or some other service on television is not the same as participating in person, where we receive the life-giving Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and share in the

nourishing Christ-centered fellowship of our Church Family. Someone commented to me that watching the services on live stream compared to participating in person is similar to looking at a beautiful scene of a summer day at the beach on TV compared to being present and experiencing the warmth of the sun, smelling the ocean air, and jumping in the refreshing water. Watching someone on TV can never be compared or replace the actual experience of being there, especially in the worship and fellowship of the Church.

So, what is happening with each one of us? How are we adapting? Are we aware of the changes that may be occurring in our lives and in the new habits that are being formed? The Christian life has always been about spiritual disciplines. Disciplines don't come about automatically and are not easy to develop. They take time and effort. They take sincerity of heart and desire.

We live in a secular world that tempts us to compartmentalize our faith into a small corner of our life, to minimize the importance of our relationship with God, or even to focus on the material world and the here and now instead of remembering that we are but sojourners during a very brief life on planet earth. We discover the answers to the deepest questions of life, we find the purpose and meaning of why we exist, and we discover a path of peace, hope, love and joy when we prioritize our pursuit for God. May we not give in to the temptations of our secular society, and may this pandemic only highlight our need to always “seek first the kingdom of God.”

An arrest vs. a summons



CHIEF'S CORNER
STEVE WOJNAR

Criminal court proceedings continue during the pandemic. Crimes are still occurring. To limit personal contact, many offenders are being summoned to appear at court, as opposed to being arrested. I was asked to provide some information about the differences, if any, between the two.

Criminal charges against a person can be initiated by either an arrest or a summons. Eventually, they will end in the same place. When a person is arrested, they are physically taken into custody and processed (or booked) at the police station. A court official will determine if the subject is eligible for bail (money to assure they will appear at court) or held without bail for an appearance at the next sitting of the court. When at court, the case is reviewed by the Clerk Magistrate and the individual is processed through the Probation Department. They are then arraigned (formally notified of the charges against them) before the judge. He or she will determine if the person is to be held, with or without bail, or released pending their next appearance.

In the case of a summons, a criminal application, with the list of offenses, is filed at the Clerk Magistrate's Office. If sufficient evidence (more commonly known as “probable cause”) is presented, the Clerk's office will issue a notice to appearance for the person. In the case of a felony (serious crime that can include a state prison sentence) the person can be either notified of a date to appear for arraignment or a warrant for their arrest can be issued. Whichever occurs, the person will follow the process mentioned above. For misdemeanors (lesser offenses), a notice to appear or an arrest warrant can be issued. In most misdemeanor cases, the defendant is given the opportunity to appear at a hearing before the Clerk Magistrate. If “probable cause” is found at that point, the subject will be scheduled for arraignment before the judge. There is the possibility the matter can be dismissed by the Clerk, based on insufficient evidence, or it may be resolved at that hearing.

Regardless of the path, the defendant will likely end up in the same place. Often victims can be frustrated if a person is not physically taken into custody. They could believe the suspect has avoided justice. This is not the case. In some instances, arrests are not authorized by law. Therefore, a summons is the only way for this to proceed. Depending on circumstances, as with the pandemic, a criminal summons may be the most viable option to initiate the process. Certainly, criminal charges or arrests, are always determined on a case-by-case basis. Bottom line, whether it is a physical arrest or summons, these matters will end up in court for the appropriate criminal proceeding.

As the pandemic continues, we ask everyone to stay safe and continue to take the necessary precautions to protect yourselves. We continue to serve the people of Dudley and work with the community to improve the quality of life for everyone. I thank the men and women from my department for their continued dedicated service to the Town during these trying times. Thanks also go out to the many Police Officers, Fire and Emergency Services members, public works, health care, government officials, and all other “essential” personnel for their continued hard work and service. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community. Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department, 71 West Main St., Dudley, MA 01571 or email at swojnar@dudleypolice.com. Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kneejerk reactions and unnecessary change

To the Editor:

Chief Wojnar deserves true appreciation for his response in an article of Jan. 15 issue in the Webster Times responding to Gov. Baker's signing the new law, “An Act Relative to Justice, Equity and Accountability in Law Enforcement in the Commonwealth.” Gov. Baker's caving to a call for action following protests against police brutality across the nation was a short-sighted, in fact kneejerk, reaction, as Chief Wojnar said, making local police feel like they are made to pay a price for activities and actions totally out of the local police control. Chief Wojnar should be applauded for standing up for his force and those of Massachusetts.

This “kneejerk” reaction coalesces with the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee's pledge to hire faculty on a more diverse basis, including accepting students of more diversity after BLM erupted following the George Floyd death. The school committee was

responding to parents who were then naive of BLM's founding and purpose. Let us hope as the time has passed since that dreadful event those who called for action have been educated of Susan Rosenberg's role as one of the founders and of BLM's true agenda.

The School Committee's acquiescing to being more diverse is like admitting to prior insensitive practices, which we know is not true. Isn't true diversity hiring on merit of all applicants devoid of their background, race or creed? Hiring practices focused on background or race is anything but diversity, but puts those factors on an unequal basis. Unless there have been events I've not been made aware of, true diversity has been the ongoing practice of hiring and accepting students on equal merit at Dudley Charlton Regional all along, with no need of change.

MARCIA WAGNER
DUDLEY



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

If you're close to retirement, you'll have several financial issues to consider. But you'll want to pay attention to one of the most important of these issues: health care costs. How can you prepare yourself for these expenses? First, get an early start on estimating health care costs. More than two-thirds of those planning to retire in the next 10 years say they have no idea what their health and long-term care costs will be in retirement, according to the Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study. And some people don't worry much about these costs, which may

be considerable, thinking that Medicare will pay for most of them.

While Medicare does cover many medical expenses, it also has its own costs. You probably won't pay a premium for Part A (inpatient/hospital coverage), since you likely had this cost deducted from your paycheck when you were working. But if you are hospitalized, you'll have to pay deductibles and coinsurance (the percentage of costs you pay after you've paid your deductible). Part B (doctor's visits) requires a premium, deducted from your Social Security checks, and you must pay an out-of-pocket deductible. After you meet this deductible for the year, you typically pay 20 percent of the Medicare-approved amount for most doctor's services. And when you enroll in Part D (prescription drug plan), you will likely also

have to pay a monthly premium, an annual deductible and coinsurance or copays.

To help pay for the Medicare deductible, coinsurance and copayments, you may want to get supplemental insurance, known as Medigap. Premiums for Medigap vary, depending on the plan you choose.

As an alternative to original Medicare, you could select Medicare Advantage (sometimes called Part C). Medicare Advantage plans are offered by private companies approved by Medicare, but the benefits and costs vary by plan. These plans generally will incorporate Medicare Parts A and B and will provide additional medical coverage, such as prescription drugs.

When you incorporate all the above, the annual out-of-pocket costs for traditional medical expenses likely will be about

\$4,500 to \$6,500 per year, per person – not insignificant, but certainly a number that can be addressed by careful planning.

But there's one more expense to keep in mind: long-term care. The average cost of a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000 per year, according to the insurance company Genworth. And Medicare typically pays few of these expenses.

Clearly, between regular medical costs associated with Medicare or those not covered by it, and costs resulting from the possible need for long-term care, your health care bills can mount. To meet these costs, you need to plan ahead – and take action.

For example, it's essential that you incorporate health care expenses into your overall financial strategy. You can also work with a financial profes-

sional to run some “what-if” analyses to see if your strategy would be derailed by a potential long-term care stay. And the professional you work with may be able to suggest specific protection vehicles that can help you meet the costs of long-term care.

The best time to prepare for your health care costs during retirement is well before you retire. So, if you haven't already started, now is the time to do so. When it comes to paying for health care, the fewer surprises, the better.

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.

Pre-retirees: Plan now for health care costs

Discussing duck boxes



The recent cold weather has made a lot of ponds safe to fish on, and it also made the ice safe enough for Mass. Fish & Wildlife personnel to visit the hundreds of Wood Duck boxes that are erected throughout the state. Each year, repairing and cleaning out boxes in numerous bodies of water needs to be addressed. The state is not the only entity that has taken on the interest in helping the Wood Ducks by erecting boxes. Numerous Fish & Game Clubs have taken on the task of placing Wood Duck boxes on their property, and in local rivers and swamps. When checking and cleaning boxes, it is like opening a gift, revealing weather the box was successful in a duck hatching her eggs. The sign of empty shells in the box is very satisfying.

Paul Soars has maintained a number of Wood Duck boxes on



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

the Uxbridge property for years. Efforts by both Fish & Wildlife and local clubs and private citizens have kept the Wood Duck population in good shape. At one time, the Wood Duck population was in bad shape, but with the erection of Wood duck boxes over the years, the population is high enough to allow a three-bird daily bag limit during the hunting season. At one time, only a single Wood Duck was allowed in the daily bag limit of ducks.

Over the years, Boy Scout troops and other outdoor groups have built numerous duck boxes, and actively moni-

tored and repaired them every year. Any group that is interested in finding out more about building and monitoring them should call the Mass. Fish & Wildlife in Westborough. They can get you started, and also have plans, as to building the boxes and all other information that you will need to get started. This writer contacted the Boys Trade school back a number of years ago, and was successful in getting the carpenters section of the school to build more than 100 boxes in one year. All we did was to supply the wood from a local sawmill and passed them out to sportsmen that erected them in suitable habitat. The Wood Duck is a migratory bird that will return to New England every spring. This year's migration is due to arrive in a few weeks.

This past week, ice fishermen were out in force again trying to enjoy the

outdoors and to catch the big one. Reports were coming in from all over the state about lunker bass, pike, pickerel, perch and some large trout. One local angler caught a two pound rainbow trout at the Whitinsville Fish and Game Club's fishing derby this past Saturday, that netted him a \$500 purse. More than 80 anglers entered the derby which was a record turnout. This week's picture shows Patrick Soullier with his derby winning trout.

There were a lot of youngsters also fishing, which was nice to see. The second picture shows young Sophie, waiting patiently for a bite on her jig stick! She was social distancing and wearing her mask. The bite was a bit slow, but everyone had a great time. A report of more than five or six anglers that fished Wallum Lake this past Saturday caught nothing, while another

group caught a couple of bass, but no trout. That is the way Wallum Lake is. Do not forget that Wallum Lake closes to all fishing on Feb. 28!

Mass. Fish & Wildlife released their proposals for an increase in 2022 hunting and fishing licenses, permits and stamps and a new stamp for pheasant hunting for 2022. They are only proposals! The partial list is as follows: Resident fishing license \$40, Resident hunting license \$40, Resident sporting license \$75, all stamps and permits \$20 each. A new Pheasant and Quail license will cost \$20. Most Non-Resident permits could be \$40 each! For a complete list of all license changes and permit changes, go to the Mass. Fish & Wildlife Web site. Saltwater licenses are also up for an increase for 2022.

Mother Nature had been kind to all wildlife this winter, until this past

couple of weeks. With very little snow this year, finding food was relatively easy after the heavy acorn crop of last year. Female deer are now carrying their young, but should have no problem finding food and navigating the recent snow left by the last two storms. The snow should be gone in the next two weeks.

The Whitinsville Fish & Game Club will hold their annual Game dinner on March 27. The event will be a takeout only dinner with all of the usual great food. Tickets are \$20 each. Go to their Web site at www.whitinsvillefishgame.com to purchase your tickets. A raffle will also be held. At this time of Covid-19, numerous Rod & Gun Clubs are doing everything they can to keep the lights on, and they need your continued support.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep them Rods Bending!

An Array of Handy Tips

This week's column will feature a potpourri of assorted tricks and tips to make everyday life a little easier. From fix-it hints to painting pointers, read on for an array of tried and true strategies:

**
During the long, cold winter creativity often results in a room redo! Here's a tip from pro painters: If you are painting a baseboard or old fashioned radiator with enamel paint (made for this purpose) the finish will last longer if the surface is warm. The enamel will "bake" on the metal for a chip-proof finish.

**
One more another painting tip: Here's the best way to quickly and easily remove latex paint from your brush. Immediately after use, swish brush vigorously

in a pail filled with a quarter cup liquid fabric softener to a half gallon of water and watch paint disappear! As a bonus, the fabric softener makes bristles silky again!

**
Salt has many virtues way beyond seasoning! New toothbrushes soaked in salt water don't need to be replaced as often. Did you know if you marinate fish in salt water the scales will come off easier?

And, to extend the life of flower blooms, simply add a little salt to your fresh flower vase.

**
Attention Do it Yourselfers: Did you know nonstick vegetable spray such as Pam can be used to lubricate sticky locks, metal gears, and even bicycle chains? And never use oil for squeaky



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

door hinges, use a dab of Vaseline - for a dripless job well done!

And don't toss out those rusty tools. Soak them in hot vinegar for a quick fix.

**
Go for Garlic: Garlic is praised as an antibacterial, anti-viral and anti-fungal remedy but before you gorge on garlic, take note: Garlic must be fresh for optimal benefits. Garlic's active ingredient is destroyed within an hour of smashing the clove. So eat fresh garlic, or run it through a juicer in a vegetable drink for

best results.

**
Is that squeaky floor board are driving you crazy? You can tighten loose boards by using 50 mm screws instead of nails. Just Pre-drill the boards to stop the wood splitting.

**
Frosting a cake can be "a piece of cake" with this top tip from bakers! If you're frosting and the tiers of your layer cake lean like the Tower of Pisa, prop them back up by inserting strands of uncooked spaghetti through the cake for support. Just be sure to pull them out after the frosting has set.

**
Cut cleaning time in half with these tips: After washing grout and tile, rub liquid turtle wax car wax on, and polish when dry. It makes the tiles

twice as easy to clean next time.

When you clean your refrigerator or freezer, wipe the inside down with straight white vinegar and allow it to air dry. It will discourage future growth of mold and mildew and instantly deodorize your refrigerator.

**
Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great 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.

Celluloid collectibles



Celluloid was considered the first semi-synthetic plastic. According to Britannica, "some historians trace the invention of celluloid to English chemist Alexander Parkes, who in 1856 was granted the first of several patents on a plastic material that he called Parkesine." The Atlantic magazine attributes development to the United States inventor John Wesley Hyatt who is said to have created celluloid in 1869. Celluloid was created to replace ivory billiard balls but proved to be unsuitable for that purpose. According to the Atlantic, "because celluloid could be made to imitate expensive or rare materials - such as ivory, tortoiseshell, and mother-of-pearl - it was soon employed in the manufacture of fancy goods affordable for the growing middle class." It increased in use during

the 1880s and it was used to make postcards, game pieces, toys, advertising novelties and souvenirs, jewelry, knitting needles, straight razor handles, and imitation linen collars and cuffs." "In 1882, John H. Stevens, a chemist at the Celluloid Manufacturing Company, discovered that amyl acetate was a suitable solvent for diluting celluloid," according to Britannica. The new clear celluloid was used to create flexible films. Celluloid was used in motion picture films into the 1930s.

Because celluloid was so widely used, we often find it in local estates. Dresser/vanity sets are some of the more common celluloid items we encounter. Years of heat exposure often affected the sets and they can become very brittle. A typical set in good condition sells for around \$20. A vanity set in a color other than ivory can bring a little more.

Most celluloid is affordable to collect, but there are some celluloid collectibles that command strong auction prices. For example, cels (Merriam Webster: "a transparent sheet of celluloid on which objects are drawn or



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
.....
WAYNE TUISKULA

Painted in the making of animated cartoons") from older cartoons can be quite valuable. In 2017 a cel from 1937 of the Evil Queen from Snow White sold for \$25,000 and a Charlie Brown Christmas cel sold for \$50,000. Because celluloid deteriorates over time there aren't a large amount of advertising signs in pristine condition. Three nice examples sold very well at auction. A Chancellor Cigar sign depicting a 1910 woman went for \$12,000. An Ingram's Witch Hazel Salve sign sold for \$13,000 in 2012 and a 1902 hanging celluloid Coca Cola sign reached \$19,000 in 2011. Rare celluloid

toys can also bring high auction prices. A 1930s waddling Donald Duck toy went for \$13,000 in 2014 and a celluloid Mickey Mouse on a metal scooter with the original box brought \$37,000 in 2008.

Older pinback buttons were also made of celluloid with metal backing. Some have brought astronomical prices. A rare "Buck Rogers 25th Century" celluloid pinback went for \$2,700 in 2019. A Franklin D. Roosevelt for Senate pinback brought \$3,750 in 2016. As you might expect, sports pinbacks are very popular. Few examples of a one and

a half inch Mickey Mantle Fan club button are known to exist. One sold for over \$23,000 last year. A pinback advertising a Detroit beer company is even more rare. The pinback is the only one known to exist depicting Babe Ruth and the 1916 World Champion Boston Red Sox. It sold for nearly \$63,000 last year. I'm sure celluloid manufacturers weren't expecting the objects they made inexpensively for the middle class to sell for five figure sums over a century later.

We will have some celluloid objects from the estate of a long-time collector in our May multi-estate auction. We are still accepting quality items such as antique paintings, gold jewelry, sterling silver and older collectibles such as coins, sports memorabilia, advertising signs, and comic books for the May auction. We are also currently running an online auction of model railroad trains, die-cast cars, pressed steel trucks, and models that ends on March 10th. See our Web site for details: <https://centralmassauctions.com>.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Scott Roseen and Karen Roseen to Household Finance Corporation II, dated April 1, 2003 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 29550, Page 155 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. is the present holder by Assignment from Household Finance Corporation II to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A. as trustee for LSF8 Master participation Trust dated September 11, 2014 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 52797, Page 325, and Assignment from U.S. Bank Trust, N.A. as trustee for LSF8 Master participation Trust to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. dated April 3, 2017 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61008, Page 371, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 11 Dalessandro Avenue a/k/a 11 D'Alessandro Avenue, Dudley, MA 01571 will be sold at a Public Auction at 1:00 PM on March 8, 2021, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon of every nature and description and all the privileges and appurtenances there-to belonging, situated on the westerly side of D'Alessandro Avenue, in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, and being Lot #15 on Plan of Lots surveyed for Stanley Deren et al, Dudley, Mass., dated August 28, 1952, drawn by Henry A. Racicot, Engr., and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 184, Plan 13, and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the southeasterly corner thereof, at a stake on the westerly line of said D'Alessandro Avenue, said stake being at the northeasterly corner of Lot #16 as shown on the aforesaid Plan; Thence North 82 Deg. 18' West by the northerly line of said Lot #16 for a distance of ninety-eight and seventy-three hundredths (98.73) feet to a stake at land of John Ruda, Jr., Thence North 6 Deg. 18' East by land of said Ruda a distance of eighty-three and sixty-five hundredths (83.65) feet to a stake at the southwest-erly corner of Lot #14 on said plan. Thence South 81 Deg. 19' East by the southerly line of said Lot #14 a distance of one hundred and fifty hundredths (100.50) feet to a stake on the west-erly line of said D'Alessandro Avenue; Thence South 7 Deg. 39' West by the westerly line of said D'Alessan-dro Avenue, a distance of eighty-two (82) feet to the point of beginning. Subject to the following restrictions: 1. No building or part of a building shall be erected or maintained there-on with thirty (30) feet of the street line. 2. No house shall be built there-on at a less cost than six thou-sand and 00/100 (6,000.00) dollars. 3. The premises and any building there-on shall be used for trade or manufac-ture but for residential purposes only; 4. No stable shall be erected there-on and no horses, cattle, swine, or poultry shall be kept on the premises. Subject also to the rights of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Worcester Coun-ty Electric Company to erect and maintain poles and wires, as record-ed with the Worcester District Reg-istry of Deeds, Book 3359, Page 56 and in Book 3489, Page 407. Being the same property conveyed from Henry R. Gelineau, not stated to Scott Roseen and Karen Roseen, hus-band and wife/T/B/E by Deed record-ed 5/29/1998, in Book 20005, at Page 130, in the Register's Office of Worces-ter County, Massachusetts.

For mortgagor's title see deed record-ed with the Worcester County (Worces-ter District) Registry of Deeds in Book 20005, Page 130.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforce-able encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certi-fied check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign writ-en Memorandum of Sale upon accep-tance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designat-ed by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mort-

gage shall control in the event of a ty-pographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc.
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Roseen, Scott, 19-036572
February 12, 2021
February 19, 2021
February 26, 2021

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage dated September 27, 2005 from Marce-lo C. Miranda and Fabiana S. Miranda to Downey Savings and Loan Association, F.A. recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 37405, Page 359, as affected by modification agreement recorded in Book 48917, Page 77, the undersigned U.S. Bank National Asso-ciation as Legal Title Trustee for Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust being the present holder of said mortgage by Assignment of Mortgage dated January 27, 2010 from Federal Deposit Insurance Corpo-ration as Receiver of Downey Savings and Loan Association, F.A. to U.S. Bank National Association recorded in Book 45536, Page 252, and Assignment of Mortgage dated January 31, 2019 from U.S. Bank National Association to U.S. Bank National Association as Legal Ti-tle Trustee for Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust recorded in Book 60058, Page 78, for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of fore-closing the same will be sold at Public Auction at: **11:00 A.M. on Thursday, March 11, 2021**

upon the hereinafter-described prem-ises, known as and numbered as 25 Su-san Drive, Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singularly the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land shown as lot #67, 25 Susan Drive, Dudley, Worces-ter County, Massachusetts, as shown on a plan titled "Subdivision of Land Prepared for Robert F. Raffi, Jr., Trust-ee of Foxwood Realty Trust Owner-De-veloper Phase IV", dated July 28, 1997 which plan is recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 722, Page 11 (sheet 3 of 4), to which plan reference may be made, and more particularly described as fol-lows:

Beginning on the westerly side line of Susan Drive at the South East corner of land now or formerly of Raymond L. Marchi and shown as Lot 69 on said plan; thence

North 87 degrees 46' 51" West along Lot 69 for a distance of Two Hundred Twenty One and 15/100 (221.15) feet to a point; thence

North 02 degrees 20' 26" West along land now or formerly of Raymond L. Marchi for a distance of One Hundred and 12/100 (100.12) feet to a point; thence

South 87 degrees 40' 15" East along Lot 65 for a distance of Two Hundred Seven and 72/100 (207.72) feet to a point, thence

South 01 degrees 24' 47" East along a curve with a radius of 760 feet along Susan Drive for a distance of Eight-teen and 74/100 (18.74) feet to a point; thence

South 07 degrees 15' 42" West along a curve with a radius of 655.00 feet along Susan Drive for a distance of Eighty Three and 02/100 (83.02) feet to the point of beginning.

Being the same premises conveyed to the herein named mortgagor(s) by deed recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds herewith.

For mortgagors title see deed recorded in Book 37405, Page 356.

The above-described premises shall be sold subject to all easements, restrictions, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, outstanding tax titles, building, zoning and other land use laws and all permits and approvals issued pursuant thereto, including, without limitation, orders of conditions, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to said Mortgage, if there be any. Said premises are to be sold subject to the right of redemption of the United States of America, if any there be.

TERMS OF SALE: The highest bidder shall be required to make a deposit of \$10,000.00 to the holder of said Mortgage, in cash or by certified or bank cashier's check at the time and place of said sale of said premises. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid to said holder in cash, by certified check or bank cashier's check, and thereupon the deed shall be delivered, in thirty (30) days from the date of sale at the firm of Cunningham, Machanic, Cetlin, Johnson, Harney & Tenney, LLP, Attorneys for said holder, 220 North Main Street, Suite 301, Natick, Massachusetts. The successful bidder shall be required to sign a Memorandum

of Terms of Sale. The description of the premises contained in said Mortgage shall control in the event of an error in publication. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale. U.S. Bank National Association as Legal Title Trustee for Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust, Present Holder of Said Mortgage, By its Attorneys,
CUNNINGHAM, MACHANIC, CETLIN, JOHNSON, HARNEY & TENNEY, LLP
220 North Main Street, Suite 301
Natick, MA 01760
(508) 651-7524

February 12, 2021
February 19, 2021
February 26, 2021

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Andrew D. Corbett to Mort-gage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mackinac Savings Bank, FSB, its successors and as-signs, dated September 10, 2015 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 54276, Page 292, subse-quently assigned to U.S. Bank Nation-al Association by Mortgage Electronic Registration System, Inc. as nominee for Mackinac Savings Bank, FSB., its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 58457, Page 66 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on March 12, 2021 at 2 Pineview Road, Dudley, MA, all and singular the prem-ises described in said Mortgage, to wit: The land in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the northerly side of Pineview Road, so-called, being Lot #117 on a plan of land in Dudley Hill Re-alty Co. Inc. by J.R. Kleindienst, Engr., dated June 9, 1956 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 217, Plan 10, bounded and described as follows: Beginning on said Pineview Road at the southwest-erly corner of said Lot #117; Thence northerly by Lot #118 on said plan, one hundred twenty (120) feet; Thence easterly by Lots #116 and #104 on said plan, eighty (80) feet; Thence southerly by Lot #103 on said plan, one hundred twenty (120) feet; Thence westerly along said Pineview Road, eighty (80) feet to point of be-ginning.

For title see Bk 54276 Pg 290

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attor-ney's fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOL-LARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or be-fore the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agree-ment immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgag-ee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a re-turn of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mort-gage shall control in the event of an er-ror in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
Present Holder of said Mortgage,
By Its Attorneys,
ORLANS PC
PO Box 540540
Waltham, MA 02454
Phone: (781) 790-7800
19-010680
February 19, 2021
February 26, 2021
March 5, 2021

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Susan B. Larose to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as nomi-nee for Sherwood Mortgage Group, Inc., dated January 30, 2006 and re-corded in Worcester County (Worces-ter District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38334, Page 206 (the "Mortgage") of

which mortgage The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Asso-ciation fka The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as successor to JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Asso-ciation, as Trustee for Residential As-set Mortgage Products, Inc., GMACM Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-HE1 is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Sys-tems, Inc. (MERS) solely as nominee for Sherwood Mortgage Group, Inc. its successors and/or assigns to The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Compa-ny, National Association fka The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as successor to JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., GMACM Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-HE1 dated November 5, 2015 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 54567, Page 1, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 76 Old Douglas Road, Webster, MA 01570 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on March 23, 2021, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon in Webster, situated on the southerly side of Old Douglas Road, being shown as Lot #13 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Webster, Massachusetts, sur-veyed for Finecamp K.O.A., Inc." dated September 4, 1986 by Para Land Sur-veying, Inc., recorded with Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 565 Plan 19. Being the same premises conveyed to the herein named grantor(s) by deed recorded with Worcester District Reg-istry of Deeds in Book 12386, Page 1. For mortgagor's title also see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 10992, Page 115.

The property will be sold subject to the redemption rights in favor of the Inter-nal Revenue Service by virtue of the tax lien recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58731, Page 43.

The property will be sold subject to a first mortgage in the principal sum of \$135,000.00 given to Medford Sav-ings Bank dated February 7, 2002 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 25949, Page 211.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforce-able encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certi-fied check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign writ-en Memorandum of Sale upon accep-tance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designat-ed by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mort-gage shall control in the event of a ty-pographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association fka The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as successor to JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Prod-ucts, Inc., GMACM Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-HE1
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Larose, Susan B., 17-030004
February 19, 2021
February 26, 2021
March 5, 2021

DUDLEY BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners will be holding **Public Hearing** via zoom and live on You Tube at 6:30PM on Wednesday March 3, 2021 re:

The increase of Water and Sewer Rates

Anyone wishing to be heard on this matter should contact **Jennifer Cournoyer @ 508-949-8007 or sewerwater@dudleyma.gov**
Scott Zajkowski, Chairman
February 26, 2021

Dudley officials reflect on recent storms

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Late January and early February saw Mother Nature finally embrace the New England winter, dumping snow all across the region through numerous storms putting local highway department workers through their first true tests of the season.

In Dudley, town employees rose to the occasion impressing the town's new Highway Director Jeffrey Murray

who told selectmen on Feb. 8 that he had received numerous compliments from town officials and citizens at large concerning the work of his personnel.

"The past several week's we've had some storms to contend with and in the big storm I did get several emails or calls with some praise for the employees saying it was a job well done. I have gotten calls with some service complaints or a miss or skip. I will encourage residents to call the highway department if any-

body has some concerns or if there was potentially a service that was missed near their property or on their street. We certainly want to hear from them because we don't know what we don't know," Murray said.

The topic of snow was brought up by several department leaders over the course of the meeting. Water & Sewer Superintendent George Patrinos took a moment in his report to remind citizens to make sure their hydrants are shoveled out and exposed to

ensure emergency personnel have access to the primary water source in case of a fire.

"Right now, with these storms coming upon us every couple days, the wind rows are going to get bigger and bigger and it's going to effect the hydrants. We'll do what we can to get out there and shovel or plow the hydrants out, but if the public can help us in that matter, it's a great thing as far as emergencies for the fire department to get at the hydrants," Patrinos said.

Police Chief Steve Wojnar added to this saying that the winter isn't slowing down anytime soon and that residents need to remain diligent and informed as new storms roll through.

"Storms are going to be a challenge. Kudos to the fire chief and his crew and Jeff and his crew for all the work that they're doing. Two things we can ask is to make sure people pay attention to the parking bans, we try to get those out as soon as we can – and also, it's going to be very important to

clear off your sidewalks. I believe it's Article 8 of our bylaws that requires property owners to clear the sidewalks in front of their respective homes or businesses," Chief Wojnar said.

Since the Feb. 8 meeting, several more, albeit smaller, storms have pushed through the region and while spring may be on the horizon, it's good to remind citizens that winter isn't over until it's over especially in new England.

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P0498EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Sandra C Benoit
Date of Death: 01/10/2021**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Deborah R Stearns of Oxford MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Deborah R Stearns 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 03/23/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: February 17, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate

February 26, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21C0037CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:**

Savannah Marie Beach-Campbell A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Savannah Marie Beach-Campbell of Dudley MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Savannah Marie Beach**

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 03/08/2021. 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: February 09, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate

February 26, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P0373EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Sylvia Teresa Connor
Date of Death: 09/14/2017**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by Michael James Connor of Lilburn GA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Michael James Connor of Lilburn GA** 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 03/10/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: February 09, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate

February 26, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO20P0267EA
Estate of:**

Kevin L. Gardell
Date of Death: 12/02/2019
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Mark E. Gardell of Webster MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, First and Final and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 03/09/2021**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a time-

ly written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

February 09, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

February 26, 2021

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM
Notice of License Application pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 91 Waterways License Application Number**

Pier/ Dock Construction

*NOTIFICATION DATE:

Public notice is hereby given of the application by **Christopher Roberts** to maintain an existing or construct and maintain a proposed: [pier/dock, boat ramp, ramp, float(s), pile(s), boat lift, boat house, retaining wall/seawall, bulkhead, rip rap, groin(s), residential, NWD building, other] at **32 Jackson Road, Webster MA**

The Department will consider all written Comments on this Waterways application received by within 30 days subsequent to the "Notification Date". Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten citizens or more to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program by the Public Comments Deadline will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4) (c). The group of citizens must include rio less than five citizens who are residents of the municipality in which the proposed project is located.

Additional information regarding this application may be obtained by contacting the Waterways Regulation Program at 617-292-5929. Project plans and documents for this application are on file with the Waterways Regulation Program for public viewing, by appointment only, at the address below.

Written comments must be addressed to: MassDEP's Waterways Regulation Program **Boston** located at:

MassDEP

P.O. Box 4062

Boston, MA 02211

February 26, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200**

**Docket No. WO21P0499EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:**

Alphie J Benoit

Date of Death: 12/16/2020

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Deborah R Stearns of Oxford MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Deborah R Stearns 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 03/23/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a time-

ly 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: February 17, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate

February 26, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO21P0372PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405
In the matter of:
Cynthia Tryba
Of: Webster, MA
RESPONDENT**

(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lanessa Extended Care Center of Webster, MA

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Cynthia Tryba** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Kerri Miller of Webster, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **03/09/2021**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: February 08, 2021

Stephanie K Fattman
Register of Probate

February 26, 2021

DUDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

DUDLEY — Dudley Middle School has released its honor roll for the second term of the 2020-2021 school year.

Grade 5

High Honors: Madison Boggio, Aislyn Butzke, Colson Caron, Cecelia Donahue, Alyssa Grammer, Ella Hanson, Ariana Jurski, Olivia Kac, Tyler Koszewski, Stephanie Krysinski, Carly Moody, Caleigh O'Grady, Damian Torres, Avery Walker, Riley West

Honors: Adyson Austin, Morgan Brooks, Mario Colon Pagan, Kaitlyn Donais, Brady Farmer, Christopher Feliciano, Madyson Fitzgerald, Julianna Grant, Amal Joudi, Elisabeth Kalmin, Reid Kelley, Nolan Koebke, Aleksa Kruszewski, Skylur Lashua, Arian Latour, Wesley Lawless, Sophia Lindberg, Annalie Mannion, Ryan Mason, Colt Moroz, Chase Murzycki, Mikhail Namera, Trueness Onyekwere, Gabriella Pace, Kyn Phommachanh, Bradey Reilly, Carter Richards, Rianna Ruo, Jacob Ruskin, Oscar Salcedo, Paige Walker, Colby Wells, Sarah Whitcraft, Felix Wierbik, Christopher Zajac, Graham Zimmer

Grade 6

High Honors: Joya Adib, Lacie Andrews, Hannah Boudreau, Cameron Brockway, Miya Chauvin, Cameron Chickering, Benjamin Cryan, Carter Gendron, Thomas Ide, Olivia Jankowski, Ashley Jerome, Maria Jordanoglou, Nazih Joudi, Kelsey Karlowicz, Kaylin Marsh, Elaina Nelson, Jamison Paradise, Jean-Paul Salem, Ethan Straw, Alek Zurawski

Honors: Cailyn Andrews, Madison Antos, Celia Ares, Jackson Bond, Alyssa Bonneville, Noah Bouffard, Dominic Coccia, Jack Connole, Ryan Cronin, Kayden Daigle, Cody DeLorenzo, Parker Devish, Nathan Dion, Madisson Drewry, Molly Dwyer, Mia Ferris, Julia Ferschke, Elijah Fournier, Luke Gadoury, Elijah Garcia, Avianna Gauvin, Damian Golemo, Kylie Henry, Logan Hill, Sebastian Janusz, Brandon Jerome, Emma Kokocinski, Abigail Lonchaidis, Dylan MacCormack, Julie Anna Marchetti, Jayden Miglionico, Natalia Milewski, Alexis Moore, Colin Navin, Kayla Paquette, Kiera Pederson, Renata Plewa, Logan Rada, Troy Roberts, Michaela Santiago Barnes, Christopher Snow, Dylan Snow, Christopher Willey

Grade 7

High Honors: Lily Connole, Jenna Donais, Hallie Dzivasen, Matthew Edmiston, Madison Ermlick, Molly Fitton, Alyssa Forbes, Nathaniel Grant, Natalie Habib, Katie Hogan, Michael Hogan, Brianna Jankowski, Riley Lepage, Jacoby Lorente, Michael Lulu, Julian Marquez, Natalie Megas, Hayley Phommala, Luciana Piarulli, Jesslyn Reddick, Ashley Reilly, Nathan Rouille, Jake Rousseau, Tristan Semo, Sarah Starczewski, Emily Staruk, Meghan Traverso, Chase Vangel, Marina Wahba, Paige Warner, Haylee Zurowski

Honors: Maya Arambula Cortez, Arianna Belanger, Natallie Habib, Riley Bowes, Juan Castañeda, Aubrey Demers, Felicity Durando, Nadia Dziobak, Andrew Fasolo, Hannah Germain, Anthony Gonya, Molly Grant, Ava Hanson, Nicolina Holland, Lillian Horner, Christian Joubert, Liam Kay, Connor Kelley, William King, Iris Lathrop, Kason LeBlanc, Paige Leone, Carlos Liriano, Sierra McCloud, Avery McLaughlin, Isabella Mello, Delaney Navin, Benjamin Nocchi, Makenna O'Connor, Aiden Perzanoski, Blake Remillard, Riley Ritchie, Marcelina Sikorski, Jaxon Sitko, Lucilla Tryba,

Emily Walker, Adrienne Warner, Paige Werner, Alexa Zannotti

Grade 8

High Honors: Sarah Arnold, Jackson Chechosky, Philippe DaSilva, Lillian Deuyour, Ashley Dickhaut, Lily Durda, Madison Freeman, Hailee Gelinis, Alex Giarnese, Jonathan Hutchinson, Harrison Jordanoglou, Madeline Joyce, Timothy Krysinski, Maggie Montville, Lindsey Paradise, Krish Patel, Amber Quadarella, Hazel Rucci, Zoie Unger

Honors: Rose Bell, David Boyce, Caleb Briggs, Aiden Caron, Matthew Chatterton, Ryan Choinski, Dakota Dancause, Emma Dwyer, Caroline Freeman, Trinity Gosselin, Alicia Graveson, Elyana Groccia, Bishop Ibrahim, Skylar Johnson-Mello, Aurora Lavigne, Izabella Lorente, Jeffrey Martel, Emma McLaughlin, Colin Moody, Brendan Moran, Sullivan Morse, Naya Nayfeh, William Nixon, Sadie Mae Nobert, Nathaniel Nocchi, Brooklyn Page, Ava Pederson, Brad Piekarczyk, Isabel Poplawski, Hannah Roberts, Kyle Sgariglia, Jonathan Vitkus, Kaeden Zajkowski Gonzalez

PEARLE L. CRAWFORD (DUDLEY) LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave.
Dudley, MA 01571
508-949-8021

Join us for one of our virtual programs at the Pearle!

To register go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021

STORYTIME ON FACEBOOK LIVE

Wednesdays at Noon

Join Miss Lida for a live storytime on Facebook, every Wednesday at noon, and then stop by the library for a free take-and-make craft kit!

No Facebook account

is needed for this free program. Just point your browser to <https://www.facebook.com/crawfordlibrary> to access the video. Can't tune in at noon? Recordings of each week's storytime are available on the Facebook page beginning Wednesday afternoon.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

First Friday of every month at 11:00AM

Join Deb Hudgins on Facebook for Music and Movement, one of our most popular programs! Nothing gets kids on their feet and hav-

ing fun quite like songs, dance and silly stories, and Miss Deb has been

No Facebook account is needed for this free program. Just point your browser to <https://www.facebook.com/crawfordlibrary> to access the video.

HANDS ON NATURE PRESENTS BACKYARD BIRDS

Monday March 22

6:00PM-7:30PM

Meet the birds in your backyard with this fun free program for kids.

Free; registration is required. Participants will receive a link to the Zoom meeting 24 hours before the event. Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

TRACING YOUR IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS

Thursday March 25

6:00PM-7:45PM

Most of us are here today because someone, somewhere, left everything they knew for something unknown. Find out how, find out why, find out more. This

talk will give you the tools you need to identify the place of origin of your European ancestors. Margaret Fortier will cover how to start, what to watch out for, and how to use the whole family to find what you are looking for. Case studies tracing local immigrants will illustrate the method.

Free. Registration required. Participants will be emailed a zoom link 24 hours before the program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

GROWING A SUMMER SALAD WITH BLACKSTONE VALLEY Thursday April 8 6:00PM-7:30PM

Is there anything better than a fresh summer salad? Join Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens for this Zoom presentation where they will cover all the basics of growing your own lettuce, tomatoes, and cucumbers.

Free; registration required. Participants will be emailed a link to the Zoom meeting 24 hours before the event. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Dudley Cultural Council announces grant recipients

DUDLEY — The Dudley Cultural Council is pleased to announce the following recipients of grants for Cycle 47, 2021:

Jay Mankita, "Chain Reactions @ Home From Household Materials, Tool, Toys, etc.," to be held online at the Pearle L. Crawford Library in Spring/Summer of 2021. Date to be determined.

Mark Chester, Photographer; "The Bay State: A Multicultural Landscape" — Photographs of New Americans, April 1 thru 30 at the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library;

Kirk Whipple — "Duo Pianists" to be held on local cable access TV between March and December 2021. Date to be determined.

Dr. Jess "The Machine" Green, "Chainsaws, Cheeseburgers and Rock n Roll" — Live at the Dudley Middle School. Date to be determined.

Dudley Grange — "Summer Musical Concert Series," June 5, July 10, and Aug. 7;

Michelle Jervis — "New Greenspace/Park" at 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA, construction to begin in 2021.

Dudley Grange — "Old Fiddlers of Rhode Island" Oct. 2;

"Hip Hop Dance Chair Exercise for Seniors" to be held at the Dudley Senior Center. Date to be determined.

Please check your local news media for specific dates when they become available.

Council members include Ginni DiDonato, Chairperson; JoAnn Brinker, Treasurer; Mary Kunkel, Secretary; Marilyn Kramarz, Audrey Resener, Sheryl Bernardo, Patty Biron, members.

Local students named to Western New England University Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD — Close to 750 students have been named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List at Western New England University. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must achieve a GPA of 3.30 or higher.

"We are so proud of our Dean's List students who demonstrated an unwavering commitment to excellence in their studies despite the unique challenges of our fall semester," commented Dr. Robert E. Johnson, President.

"Of the roughly 3,000 colleges and universities tracked by the College Crisis Initiative, Western New England University was among just 27 percent nationwide that resumed primarily 'in-person' teaching last

fall. Our Dean's List students stayed focused and engaged; they should be very proud of their achievements. Well done, Golden Bears!"

The following students have earned their place on Western New England University's distinguished Dean's List: Dhruvansu Thakkar, of Webster, working toward a BS in Computer Science.

Rhylan Hopkins, of Dudley, working toward a BSBA in Finance.

Allie Provost, of Dudley, working toward a degree in Business.

Devon Teague, of Dudley, working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering / Mechatronics Concentration.

Annabell Whitley, of

Dudley, working toward a BS in Chemistry.

Hannah Zieminski, of Dudley, working toward a BS in Actuarial Science.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,690 students, including 2,486 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.

Paige Richard of Dudley named to the University of Hartford Dean's List

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Paige Richard of Dudley has been named to its Dean's List for Fall 2020.

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 4,600 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students representing 49 states and 47 countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversity perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. For more information, visit hartford.edu.



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Local students named to Western New England University President's List

SPRINGFIELD — More than 500 students have been named to the Fall 2020 President's List at Western New England University. To qualify for the President's List, students must achieve a GPA of 3.80 or higher.

"Making the President's List is a notable achievement under any circumstances, but particularly so during the unique challenges of our fall semester. It is an honor to salute our students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence," commented Dr. Robert E. Johnson, President.

"Of the roughly 3,000 colleges and universities tracked by the College

Crisis Initiative, Western New England University was among just 27 percent nationwide that resumed primarily 'in-person' teaching last fall. Our President's List students stayed focused and engaged; they should be very proud of their accomplishments. Well done, Golden Bears!"

The following students have earned their place on Western New England University's distinguished President's List:

Sadie Smith, of Oxford, working toward a BSE in Biomedical Engineering.

Kelsi Mitchell, of Webster, working toward a BS in Forensic Biology.

Anthony Hakala, of Dudley, working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Brittany Priest, of Dudley, working toward a BA in Psychology.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,690 students, including 2,486 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.



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WEBSTER LAKE – 11 Henry Road! Bates Point - Middle Pond & Panoramic Views + Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Never 2 the Same! 3,184' 9 Room Fully Furnished Colonial Built from the Ground Up as a New Home in 2005! This Home Features 4 Bedrooms, 2 of which are Master Suites, 1 of which Overlooks the Lake, 4.5 Bathrooms, 2 of which have Separate Showers & Whirlpool Tubs, 3 of which have Double Granite Vanities, 2 Complete Granite/Stainless Kitchens! The First Floor Open Floor Plan with Hardwood Floors Features an Eat-in Kitchen with LP Gas Jenn-Air Range, Double Drawer Dishwasher & Trash Compactor! Spacious Formal Dining Room with Crown Moldings & Chair Rails! Lake Facing Great Room/Living Room with Gas Fireplace, Wet Bar with Bottle Cooler, Surround Sound & Slider to Composite Deck! Half Bath with Laundry Closet! The Second Floor with 4 Bedrooms! Comfortable Front 16x16 and Back 17x17 Masters with Tray Ceilings, Recessed Lighting, Ceiling Fans, Surround Sound & Full Tile/Granite Bathrooms! Full Hall Bath for the other 2 Bedrooms! Fully Finished Walk-out Lower Level with Full Summer Kitchen, Family Room with Gas Fireplace, Surround Sound, Slider to Paver Patio & Full Bath! Buderus 3 Zone Oil Heat! 3 Zone Air Conditioning! Central Vac! Security! 2 Car Heated Garage! Boat Dock! **\$1,099,900.00**



CHARLTON – 74 Daniels Road! Completely Renovated 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Gambrel w/Attached In-Law Apt! Picturesque 3.39 Acres! Deeded Water Rights to South Charlton Reservoir! Extensive Updates! House w/New Roof, Siding, Kit, Bthrms, Windows, Int Doors, Electrical, Flooring, R60 Insulation in Attic, Water Heater, Well Pump & More! In-Law w/Open Flr Plan, Kit, Bdrm w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Laundry! Both Fully Applianced! 2 New Driveways, Irrigation, AG Pool! Shed! Security! Generator Hookup! **\$489,900.00**



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OXFORD - 12 WINTER STREET
Home "Sweet" Home! TOTALLY Renovated! New Roof - Updated Electrical - New Heating System!! Bedroom, 1.5 Bath - 2 Story Conventional Home. Dead-End St. Rare find, Large Lot .77 Acre - Inside -Neutral Palette of Complimentary Paint Colors throughout the Entire House! Loads of Character! **\$281,000.**

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ON DEPOSIT

THOMPSON - 25 TERRACE DRIVE



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assisted sale **\$325,000.**

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



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Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided!
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Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE.
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Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res!
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WOODSTOCK - 33 DEER MEADOW LANE



SORRY, SOLD!
Beautiful 2,422 Sq Ft Colonial! 4 Bedroom! 3 Bath! Fireplace, 2 Car garage! So much more!
assisted sale **\$415,000**

DUDLEY - 22 ROBERTS ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!
Lovely 3 bedroom Ranch! Single door 2 car garage with storage! Eat-in kitchen. Fieldstone Fireplaced Living Room! 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Remodeled bathroom! Lower Level fieldstone walls/ fireplace! In-ground pool - 3.58 ACRES includes extra lot.
\$312,000.

WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY



SORRY, SOLD!
NEW TO THE MARKET! Custom Sprawling Split 2800+ SF Central Air! Kitchen, Dining Room, Cathedral Ceiling Living Room, 3 Bedrooms! Granite Counters & New Flooring! New Boiler - Hot Water Tank - Oil Tank! FULL finished Lower Level w/ Full Bath & Laundry! THERE'S MORE! 2 Car Garage, renovated to include Hydro Heat, AC & 1/2 Bath! Great for Fitness Studio, Game Room or Home School! Over 1.4 Acres!
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WEBSTER - 52 CUDWORTH ROAD



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Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



SORRY, SOLD!
WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind. Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180'+/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining / formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/ private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Remember, Timing Is Everything!**
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Lake Shirley - 647 Reservoir Rd



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STUDENTS

continued from page A1

ant issue, and this year's senior class is the first who won't get a senior rally or participate in several other normal events and extracurricular activities. Had this happened when he was a senior, he added, he'd probably have said "sayonara, I'm out of here."

"A lot of things that keep kids grounded that make school fun aren't happening right now because of the restrictions we face," Thomas said. "... A whole bunch of things are missing that are the heart and soul of a high school experience."

Goguen and Student Support Director Kathleen Baris urged Poplawski to participate in ongoing discussions of how

to address student mental health concerns. Baris noted they're in the process of organizing an action plan for each of the schools.

Regarding Covid more generally, Goguen said the district has been looking at the viability of having more in-school class time, but is seeing issues primarily with space needs for lunches. Although the state allows three-foot spacing in classrooms, it still requires six feet at lunch, and she said Webster has so far been using six feet for all in-school functions in agreement with the teachers' union. Switching to three feet would require "a number of steps" that might not work in all schools.

"I know for sure we wouldn't be able to fit all our students back at Park Avenue and possibly the middle school," Goguen said. She noted Park

Ave might have space at kindergarten level, and Bartlett had some space for more kids recently.

Some districts that are trying to meet state time-on-learning have gone to half-day sessions, sending kids home at lunch. But, to her, doing that "would disrupt a lot of parents with working schedules."

Before Poplawski's remarks, Member Kathleen Napierata said she feels "the model has been working, from what I see." Many kids are still staying home, and she believes the push for more in-school time is largely coming from parents who already have kids in class.

Goguen said the administration is reaching out to parents whose kids have missed two or more weeks of in-person classes to see if they intend to keep their kids all-remote for the rest of the year.

If they do, she added, she'd like to open their seats to a wait-list of kids.

Member Nick Adamopoulos asked if the district would be setting criteria for expanding in-person classes, including number of teachers vaccinated and increased rapid testing availability. He noted he expects growing federal and state pressure to return the kids to class.

Goguen said they will do that "following the safety guidelines." She specifically stated she does not want to mandate staff get vaccinated, seeing that as "a personal decision." Ideally, though, she'd like to see 80 percent get it and have the state change the space criteria for lunches before fully reopening.

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



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SCHOOLS

continued from page A1

selor and reorganize the grade 7 and 8 teams “to ensure 90 minutes of ELA and math,” cut one STEM section and replace it with a foreign language, and restore band and chorus. At Bartlett, there are no plans yet to fill library vacancies.

The committee, however, praised the school for recently creating several technology and career-related programs. Among them are the WPI/Dell challenge, the One Goal program (which helps kids deal with college application process), Project Lead the Way (featuring classes and internships in health care and manufacturing areas), and Girls Who Code.

As usual, a significant share of the school’s budget is coming from the state and federal governments, in the form of state Chapter 70 grants and several federal programs. This year, those include Covid funds from what’s called

the ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) II grant. Chapter 70 is allocated using a fairly complex formula that includes such factors as local median income, special education and low-English percentages, and cost of employee benefits.

Back in 2019, the state changed the funding law to slowly increase local school aid over the course of seven years, but Pierangeli said it’s been mixed in practice. While Webster has benefited from the way the state calculates low-income figures (by tallying 1,165 students, when just 1,103 are certified by state aid programs), it is “almost a year behind already” in growth of special education funding. That’s because the increase in aid is being stalled at fiscal 2020 rates.

Overall, she added, Webster is one of the state’s 29 districts that saw a more than 5 percent drop in enrollment this past year (from 2,023 to 1,870). Those numbers include “anyone we’re fiscally responsible for,” including anyone going to district schools, charter and

out-of-district special education students, but not private schools, Bay Path or homeschoolers. The state’s funding formula is generally not penalizing towns for lower enrollment this year; Chapter 70 funding overall still rose, and most districts expect the numbers to bounce back. In many cases, the decline was due to parents holding back kindergarteners for an extra year due to Covid.

Goguen cited recent data to show that Webster has significantly more “high needs” and “economically disadvantaged” students that state average, somewhat more special education kids, and lower-than-average rates of low-English speakers.

“With each different population, there are different needs and we are trying to address those needs through our budget,” she said. “... I do believe our fiscal 22 budget meets the needs of our students” with the new staffing it calls for.

Pierangeli also summarized the district’s capital needs. Those are largest

at the high school, but the administration is hoping to get most of them met by the ongoing feasibility study for renovation there. If the state ultimately approves a project, Webster stands to get 76.8 percent reimbursement for most costs, rather than having to pay the entire bill if it tries to fix the various issues on its own, she said.

“We’re starting to see items that need repair” at the Middle School, which opened in 2005, she added. Some of them are things where the warranties expired – namely, windows, where many “have lost their seals.” Other needs there include replacing the phone system (which she thinks can be funded with Covid money), upgrading the HVAC units to computer-controlled ones (adjustments now need to be done by people climbing to the roof), parking lot sealing, and replacing lights with LEDs.

She noted there are no capital needs at Park Avenue because of its newness. *Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.*

AWARD

continued from page A1

on Jan. 31, 2020. The Department held a ribbon cutting and open house ceremony on July 18, 2020 to celebrate the completion of the project. Water qual-

ity in Town has improved significantly and the Department reports discolored water complaints have reduced dramatically.

Superintendent Greg Woods said he was happy the Department received the award.

“It is nice that the staff, the Commissioners and all those involved with implementing this project get recognized for their efforts. It was a long process but we’re seeing the benefits for their work,” Mr. Woods said, adding that the Department is continuing with improvements this year with the replacement of water mains on Lincoln Street, Whitcomb Street and Nelson Street.

The five-member Water Sewer Commission is reviewing future system improvements as part of a long-term capital improvement plan. The Commission currently has a vacancy and residents interested in serving on the Board should contact the Town Administrator.

DUDLEY

continued from page A1

ing standards. So, if it’s a descending driveway below the road it could cause an issue with the way the water runs,” Sullivan said. “I think it makes a lot of sense – I think that’s a good place to start. I’d like to see that move quickly through the process.”

Selectmen and the Town Administrator asked Murray to bring examples of current industry standards to a future meeting for potential adoption as well as visual examples that could better show what the updated regulations would require.

Students named to Dean’s List at RIT

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — The following local residents made the Dean’s List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the 2020 Fall Semester. Undergraduate students are eligible for Dean’s List if their GPA is greater than or equal to 3.40 for nine credit hours of traditionally graded coursework; they do not have any grades of “Incomplete,” NE, D, or F; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Mildness Onyekwere of Dudley, who is in the computer science program. Seth Champoux of North Oxford, who is in the mechanical engineering program. Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 18,600 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.

The university is internationally recognized and ranked for academic leadership in business, computing, engineering, imaging science, liberal arts, sustainability, and fine and applied arts. RIT also offers unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation. Global partnerships include campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai and Kosovo.

3RD ANNUAL ABC’s of the Seasons

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"I am Definitely glad to be a part of the team as well. I feel like I'm home and everyone has been wonderful." — Nicole V. (LPN)

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