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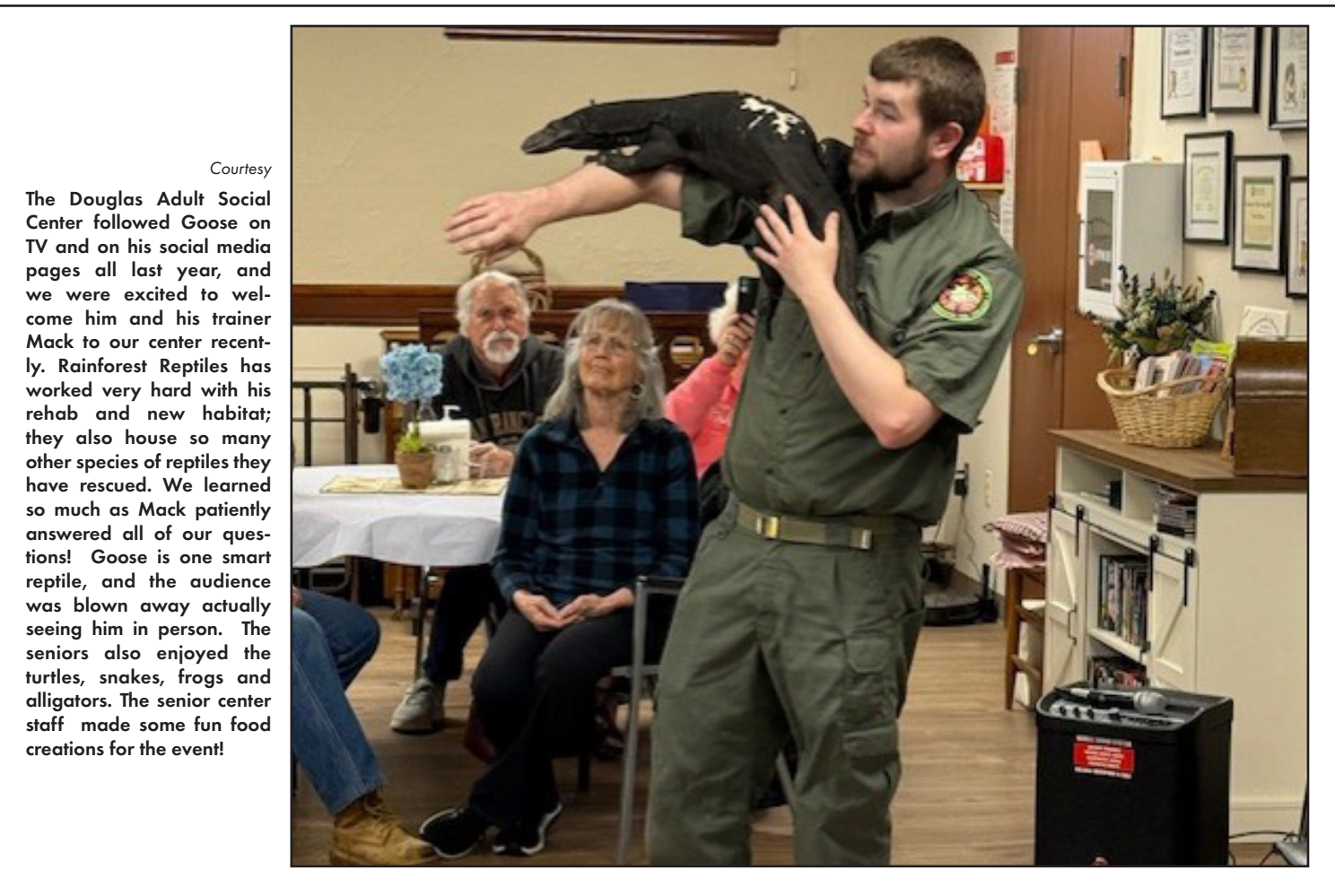
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Free by request to residents of

Douglas, Northbridge, Uxbridge, Linwood, Whitinsville and North Uxbridge

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Friday, May 8, 2026



Courtesy

The Douglas Adult Social Center followed Goose on TV and on his social media pages all last year, and we were excited to welcome him and his trainer Mack to our center recently. Rainforest Reptiles has worked very hard with his rehab and new habitat; they also house so many other species of reptiles they have rescued. We learned so much as Mack patiently answered all of our questions! Goose is one smart reptile, and the audience was blown away actually seeing him in person. The seniors also enjoyed the turtles, snakes, frogs and alligators. The senior center staff made some fun food creations for the event!

Soter and McKenna nominate Karen Spencer of Uxbridge as Commonwealth Heroine

BOSTON — State Representatives Michael J. Soter and Joseph D. McKenna are proud to announce the nomination of Karen Spencer, Executive Director and Founder of Girls on the Run (GOTR) Worcester County, as a 2026 Commonwealth Heroine. This prestigious recognition, awarded by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW), honors women who have made extraordinary contributions to their communities and the Commonwealth through their leadership and volunteerism.

The Commonwealth Heroine award recognizes women who typically operate outside the spotlight but perform vital work to improve the lives of others. Each year, state legislators nominate one constituent who has demonstrated significant initiative and passion in areas such as education, healthcare, and community empowerment.

Karen Spencer founded the Worcester County chapter of Girls on the Run in 2014 after seeking a program that would help her daughter and other young girls build confidence and resilience. Under her leadership, the organization has grown from a small pilot serving 69 girls at three sites into a county-wide staple. To date, the program has empowered thousands of participants across Worcester County, utilizing a curriculum that combines physical activity with social-emotional learning to help girls navigate life experiences.

“Karen Spencer is a true Commonwealth Heroine whose leadership has taken a small pilot program to county wide staple empowering more than 6,000 girls to build confidence, resilience, and healthy relationships,” said McKenna. “Her unwavering commitment and her sacrifices to keep the program going through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic—embodies the very best of public service and makes her deserving of this honor.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Spencer’s dedication was put to the ultimate test when schools closed and the program faced financial jeopardy. To ensure the organization could maintain its office in Whitinsville and keep staff employed, she took a personal pay cut. She successfully pivoted to virtual lessons and fundraisers, ensuring that the girls, many of whom were facing unprecedented isolation, maintained access to the program’s tools for self-awareness and emotional health.

“Karen’s vision for Girls on the Run has transformed the lives of young women throughout our region by fostering an environment of grit and inclusion,” said Soter. “Her selfless leadership during the pandemic ensured that this vital resource remained available when our youth needed it most. It is an honor to recognize her tireless work and the lasting positive impact she continues to make on the families of Worcester County.”

The MCSW will be celebrating the 23rd Annual Commonwealth Heroines Class of 2026 on Wednesday, June 24 at the Massachusetts Statehouse in the Gardner Auditorium from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Opening remarks will be made by MCSW Chairwoman Mary-dith Tuitt, followed by a special recognition of all honorees.

Northbridge Elementary students shine in handwriting contest

NORTHBRIDGE — More than 600 students at Northbridge Elementary School showcased their writing skills this spring as part of a schoolwide handwriting contest, marking the culmination of a highly successful instructional initiative focused on improving penmanship in the early grades.

At the start of the school year, the school introduced the Handwriting Without Tears program in grades K–2, pairing explicit instruction with daily guided practice to build strong handwriting foundations. Teachers participated in professional development at the beginning of the year to ensure consistent, high-quality implementation across classrooms.

The program’s success is rooted in its structured, developmentally appropriate approach, which aligns with the Science of Reading. Lessons incorporate multisensory strategies and hands-on tools that help students build fine motor skills, strengthen letter formation, and develop confidence in writing. One standout feature is “Mat Man,” a student-favorite activity that uses wooden shapes and lines to construct a “stick” figure that contains all the building blocks of the shapes and lines required for proper letter formation.

The initiative was led by pre-school teacher, Clarissa Flannery, who extended the program beyond the classroom. Throughout the year, she facilitated workshops for families, local preschool and

daycare providers, and homeschool communities to support early literacy and handwriting readiness. She also shared the program with the school’s PTA, further strengthening school-home connections.

In addition, teachers implemented a universal handwriting screener with each student to identify those who would benefit from targeted small-group instruction, an added layer of support that contributed to the program’s success.

The year concluded with a schoolwide handwriting contest, where students selected and carefully copied short passages. Entries were judged on legibility, letter formation, spacing, capitalization, and punctuation. Participation was strong across all grade levels, and winners were announced at the district’s Celebration of Learning & Belonging event on April 15, 2026.

Students in Pre-K through Grade 1 were recognized at the classroom level. In Grades 2–5, the following students were honored for outstanding achievement:

Grade 2:

Amara Bergeron, Gianna DeVita, Emma Luberto, Jackson Robidoux, Marjore Santos, Penny Smith, Loreiai Truscott

Grade 3:

Madelyn Blye, Cadence Brooks, Brayden Cote, Julianna Giguere, Ella Inman, Vincent Moro, Leah Walsh

Grade 4:

Turn To CONTEST page A8

Blackstone Valley Chamber welcomes “Main Street Matters Tour” to support Local businesses

WHITINSVILLE — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce (BVCC) is excited to welcome the Main Street Matters Tour, to support local Blackstone Valley businesses. This event will take place on Thursday, May 28 from 8:30-10 a.m. at the BVCC Offices, located at 670 Linwood Ave., Suite 5, Whitinsville. This event is free and open to all local business owners and professionals.

Main Street Matters Tour is a statewide initiative designed to bring small business owners together for meaningful conversation, collaboration, and insight into the issues impacting local communities. Presented by National Federation of Independent business (NFIB), Retailers Association of Massachusetts (RAM), and The Massachusetts Restaurant Association (The MRA), this event provides an opportunity for attendees to engage directly with fellow business leaders, share challenges, and gain a deeper understanding of current legislative and economic issues facing small businesses across the Commonwealth. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss key topics including rising energy costs, health insurance premiums, Massachusetts tax rankings, labor mandates, and

Turn To TOUR page A8

A career of courage and public service

KEVIN BARRY INSPIRES AT PLUMMER PLACE

NORTHBRIDGE — Members of the Dull Men’s Club gathered at Plummer Place, home of the Northbridge Senior Center, for a memorable presentation by Kevin Barry, whose life story of courage, discipline, and public service left a lasting impression on all in attendance.

Raised in Hopedale and a graduate of Hopedale High School and Worcester State University, Barry went on to serve in the United States Marine Corps before embarking on a distinguished career in law enforcement. He was selected for the Rhode

Island State Police from a highly competitive pool of 4,300 applicants competing for just 34 positions, graduating from the academy in 1994.

Over the course of his career, Barry served in a variety of specialized roles, including narcotics, detective work, and as part of a high-level drug detection team targeting organized crime. Following the events of 9/11, he contributed to federal efforts as a member of the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force and trained at the FBI Academy in Quantico.


Reflecting on his years in uniform, Barry noted,

“My career: the days were long, but the years were short.”

Barry also shared personal insights and candid observations, emphasizing the importance of discipline, teamwork, and integrity. He spoke about the rigor of state police training in New England, the realities of working in high-pressure environments, and even the unique experience of working with a German Shepherd in the K-9 unit that required learning commands in German. Now retired from active law enforcement for five years, he has turned his

Turn To BARRY page A8






Enjoy the day - run, fetch, play!

PAW of the WEEK


CHESTER

5 YR./59 LB./MALE/RETRIEVER/CATTLE DOG MIX



About Me: Hi, I'm Chester - equal parts sweet, silly, and snuggly. I'm the kind of guy who will happily toss a toy around one minute and then roll over for belly rubs the next. I love my people deeply and bond closely with "my" humans. Once you're in my circle, you're in for life. I'm happiest when I'm playing, relaxing near you, or soaking up affection. I have a big heart, a playful streak, and a soft side that just wants to feel safe and loved.



A Few Honest Notes (Because Communication Matters)
I'm not a cat guy - it's just not my vibe.
I've been around other dogs at the rescue and have done fine, but I didn't have much proper socialization before coming here. When dogs rush up to me, I can feel unsure and a little overwhelmed. Because of that, I'd feel most confident being your one-and-only pup while I continue building skills and confidence at my own pace.
Vet visits used to make me nervous too - especially nail trims and being confined for exams. But guess what? I've made amazing progress. With the help of our awesome trainer, Jackie, I learned to file my own nails (yes, I'm basically a DIY king), and I've been muzzle trained so I can safely and successfully handle checkups and vaccinations! With a little medication beforehand and the right support, I'm doing so much better already. I'm proof that patience and training truly work.



Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor the Pawfect Life Rescue PAW of the WEEK!

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UniBank announces leadership promotions at Annual Meeting

WHITINSVILLE — UniBank, the largest Mutually-Owned Community Bank headquartered in Central Massachusetts, announced leadership promotions at their recent Annual Meeting held at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Sutton.

Recipients of Senior Vice President promotions include Cindy Gleason, Stacey Johnson, and Matt Wally. Vice President promotions include Keith Lippert, Dori Asllani,

and Shannen Gray. Assistant Vice President promotions include Meredith Corey and Andrew Foley. Officer promotions include Vinny Mazzarella, Misty Caiola-Croak, Will Dennis, Caitlyn Freeman, and Maureen Crehan.

Chris Foley, President of UniBank, said, "These leadership promotions reflect the depth of talent we've built at UniBank and our continued commitment to developing leaders from

within. Each individual has demonstrated exceptional dedication to our customers, our communities, and our mission, and I'm confident they will continue to move the bank forward in meaningful ways."

Ed Augustus, CEO of UniBank, said, "The new promotions are well-deserved and underscore our belief that strong leadership, collaboration, and a shared vision are essential to serving our communities and shaping our future."

in Whitinsville, MA with assets of \$3 Billion as of December 31, 2025. A full-service, mutually owned community bank, UniBank has branches in Central Massachusetts and the MetroWest region of Massachusetts. UniBank is dedicated to contributing to the overall quality of life and economic health of the communities it serves, while maintaining an elevated level of financial soundness and integrity. UniBank is an Equal Housing Lender and Member FDIC. NMLS #583135. The company website is www.unibank.com.

About UniBank
UniBank is headquartered

Blackstone Valley Tech to host Annual Golf Tourney June 8 & 9

UPTON — You'll want to mark your calendar for BVT's 27th Annual Golf Tournament, taking place on Monday, June 8, and Tuesday, June 9, at Highfields Golf & Country Club in Grafton. Hit the links, show off your skills, and help raise funds for a great cause benefiting the Valley Tech Education Foundation and Athletic Department programs.

Registration is available for individual golfers (\$150) or foursomes (\$600), and includes 18 holes on the championship course, a golf cart, and a buffet dinner. Participants can also enjoy a silent auction and raffles, all in support of this meaningful cause.

Not a golfer? You can still get involved by sponsoring a tee, putting green, or golf cart—an excellent opportunity to showcase your company name in the event program and during the event.

Whether you join for one day or both, this event promises fun, friendly competition, and community spirit. For full tournament details, sponsorship opportunities, raffle donations, or to register and pay online, visit: www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/golftournament.

Be sure to register by the May 21 deadline to secure your spot.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.

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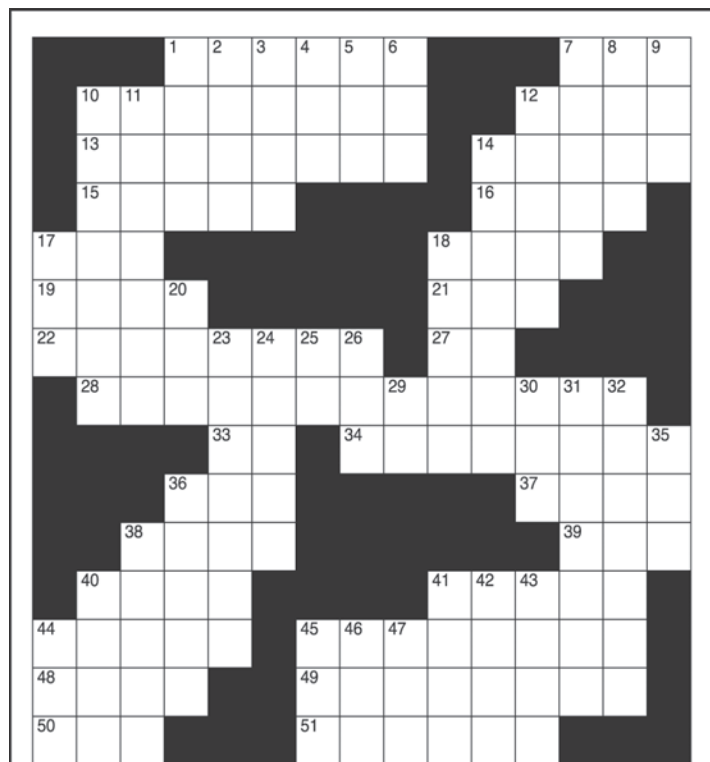
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CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Large dung beetle | 28. Beloved March holiday |
| 7. Gambling game ___lo | 33. 12th letter of the Greek alphabet |
| 10. Further along | 34. More impudent |
| 12. Type of tobacco | 36. Indicates center |
| 13. Looked for | 37. Young woman (French) |
| 14. Silk fabric | 38. A cause of distress |
| 15. Computer method to solve equations | 39. Santa's helper |
| 16. As fast as can be done (abbr.) | 40. Hillside |
| 17. Tear | 41. Many wombs |
| 18. Brews | 44. Is afraid of |
| 19. "Famous" cookie baker | 45. Popular baked goods ingredient |
| 21. Women's Army Corps | 48. Popular computers |
| 22. Front parts of an animal | 49. Conceiving of |
| 27. It's causing quite a stir | 50. Google certification (abbr.) |
| | 51. Sturdy |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Peruse quickly | 25. Trauma center |
| 2. Automobiles | 26. Habitual twitching |
| 3. Razorbill genus | 29. A place where checks are exchanged (abbr.) |
| 4. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo! | 30. Decimeter |
| 5. Consumed | 31. Hinged surface in a wing |
| 6. A place to sleep | 32. Shouting |
| 7. Small seeds | 35. Sports official |
| 8. Legendary law man Wyatt | 36. Volcanic craters |
| 9. Female sheep | 38. Supportive device |
| 10. Indigenous peoples of eastern Siberia | 40. It's part of a rosary |
| 11. A place ships dock | 41. Two-toed sloth |
| 12. Reciprocal of sine | 42. Body art |
| 14. Discomfort | 43. Let out |
| 17. British Air Aces | 44. Foreign medical graduate |
| 18. Exit sleep | 45. Nonprofit journalism organization (abbr.) |
| 20. Solar energetic particle | 46. Couples say it |
| 23. Plagues characterized by starvation | 47. Bird's beak |
| 24. Short musical composition | |

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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R	I	P								A	L	E	S				
A	M	O	S							W	A	C					
F	O	R	E	F	E	E	T			A	I						
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BLACKSTONE
\$485,000, 10 Huntington Ave, Pizarro Holdings LLC, to Garcia, Edwin Abdulio-A.
\$155,000, 4 Chestnut St, Rass Investments LLC, to Millville Investment LLC.

NORTHBRIDGE
\$800,000, 30-32 Spring St, Superior Realty Trust LLC, to Chilton Res Prop LLC.
\$500,000, Main St, Chirchigno, James L, and Chirchigno, James, to Wackerhage, Djonathan, and Wackerhage, Camilla.
\$327,500, 125 Heritage Dr #125, Brown Ft, and Johnson, Arielle H, to Blanding, Claudia A.
\$275,000, 35 School St #35, Bowse, John C, to Gulledege, Suzanne.

UXBRIDGE
\$799,900, 100 Turner Farm Rd, Tf Rt, and Frateschi, Edward A, to Ramsdell, Nicholas, and Costa, Erin.
\$550,000, 578 Aldrich St, 2026 Eames Ft, and Eames, Karen M, to Eames, Jacob.
\$490,000, 223 Mendon St, Wilson Sr, Dana L, to Hladick, Cheryl, and Hladick, Rebecca Lynne.
\$450,000, 26 Rivulet St, Rfgm Investing LLC, to Mcconnell, David Russell.
\$425,000, 218 Hartford Ave, Doubleday, Scott A, and Doubleday, Mona L-Fougere, to Belleville, Jane.
\$360,000, 3 Strathmore Shire Dr #1, Hladick, Rebecca, to Lowell, Jillian Marie, and Lowell, Hunter W.

Ware
\$270,000, 7 Webb Ct, Azusa Rt, and Kirchner 2nd, Dominic, to Stromberg, Peter, and Harvey, Melinda.
\$237,000, 30 Warebrook Dr, Sidur, Emily Murphy, and Murphy-Sidur, Deborah Ann, to Barnes, Melannie L.
\$191,344, 37 Pleasant St, Smith, Stephen G, and Citibank Na, to New Res Mortgage Loan T, and Citibank Na Tr

UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge High School has released its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.

Grade 8

High Honors: Sophia Aldrich, Myah Anderson, Blaze Baldwin, Olivia Balicki, Charley Beland, Lila Berard, Owen Black, Charlotte Braun, Dylan Carter, Hunter Chappel, Reece Clinton, Enzo Colonna, Bailey DeMarco, Jacob Derouen, Quinn Gilmore, Evan Goryl, Erin Guertin, Ethan Hamilton, Dominic Harlow-Freeman, Aurora Hawkins, Tycen Jones, Kingsly Kaiser, Ruth Keane, Henry LeBlanc, Jaelyn Loja, Avery Lynch, Tyley Martin, Khloe Martins, Jacob Mastroianni, Julie Mikhaeil, Avery Mitchell, Julia Nakazano, Keira Nicoll, Julia Olson, Gavin Pezzullo, Madeline Pidgeon, Carlo Roffo, Ella Ryan, Aryan Saini, Kyrie Sannicandro, Owen Shay, Curtis Sockwell, Olivia Specker, Emelia Tibbo, Ayla Troland, Colton Trottier, Lekshara Velmurugan, Tristyn Woodall

Honors: Kaylee Almy, Isaac Bandstra, Ezra Burbank, David Chappel, Talia Chinappi, Nathan Costigan, Bledon DeSousa, Daniel Donahue, Jayden Dubois, Emily Guilherme, Kellyn Hankey, Isabela Hernandez, Landyn Jastremski, Phoebe Keniston, Hudson Kirshenbaum, Julius Kumah, Lily Labrecque-Brodeur, Ella Lafontaine, Emma Malloy, Abigail Mandile, Leslie Mendoza, Max Petruzzelli, Emma Ramos, Julia Rodrigues, Nicholas Rota, Lucas Spratt, Brayden Vaidya, Cayden Welch, Nola Welch, Nola White, Veronica Zereski

Honorable Mention: Kingston Baldwin, Andrea Barch, Camden Belanger, Teagan Belanger, London Botsford, Emma Bruyere, Jack Couture, Eleni Demetroules, Edith Doe, Gavin Ferreira, Zoe Grimala, Ryan Ivanoski, Parker Osper, Alicia Ramirez, Xavier Rego, Reagan Roy, Sophia Vadenais, Flynn Wellington, Marcin Wilczewski

Grade 9

High Honors: Kylie Alicea, Amelia Belanger, Oscar Berard, Alice Black, Patrick Brauning, Michael Brosnahan, Madeleine Buckley, Michael Caffrey, Julianna Casper, Emily Charbonnier, Jacob Dubois, Gavin Dwyer, Calum Fortin, Max Gaudet, Shane Hamm, Cameron Hendricks, William Khondker, Joseph King, Alexander Livingstone, Mackenzie Matthews, Mila McElreath, Ayla Moore, Adriana O'Connor, Evelyn Palumbo, Cole Pezzullo, Edward Pino, Guilherme Resende, Greyson Rollins, Thomas Rosborough III, Caroline Roxo, Isabel Roxo, Abigail Simonds, Hailey Thompson, Kamiela Torku

Honors: Trevor Barbuto, Thomas Charron, Aiyana Cosme, Fabiano DeAguiar, Ryan Desautels, Miguel Freire, Sean Freiwald, Dylan Gallagher, Samantha Gaultz, Benjamin Gergous, Thomas Johnson, Kamryn Lachapelle, Nathan Loveless, Mia Manning, Adrianna Mone, Luan Moreira-Sardinha, Gia Polselli, Loudon Quimby, Nathan Smith, Alexandra Soter, Olivia Stoico, Armen Von Rueden, Lucas Wills, Willie Wilson

Honorable Mention: Kaiden Aponte, Hadleigh Avila, Hunter Bouchard, Ryleigh Cronin, Owen Hughes, Anns Jean Phillippe, Trinity Lapio, Ryan Lavergne, Corey Levesque, Ethan Najarro, Leo Pino, Brynn Power, Skayla Sokol, Jack Trottier, Greyson Weaver

Grade 10

High Honors: Cayden Almy, Taylor Anderson, Evan Bourgeois, Cooper Burdick, Emily Cabral, Matteo Casasanta, Jaidyn DeLuca, Lily Derouen, Jacob Dzivasen, Bryana Fernandes, Ryan E. Fitzgerald, Paige Foley, Emily Geshelin, Liam Gover, Everett Hazel, Benjamin Johnson, Ashton Khondker, Jessica Labonte, Bronwyn LaChapelle, Katelyn Laflamme, Matthew Lambert, Madyn Lane, Abigail Livingstone, Ryder Lovell, Clayton Maracle, Kevin Marchand, Olivia Mazzola, Julia McDonnell, Carly McKay, Nathan Najarro Rivera, Thomas Newhall, Ishani Patel, Allie Patnode, Shea Paxton, Marissa Pirrotta, Zoey Pominville, Gabriel Rodrigues, James Sadd, Lily Savoia, Emmett Sharr, Benjamin Snyder, Mason Soucy, Abigail Specker, Hope Tibeado, Lile Twohig-Mann, Haley Walsh, Avery Wood

Honors: Cooper Bartlett, Desmond Botelho, Kendra Cabana, Aiden Danforth, Elliot Gnatek, Kelly Greene, Casey

Griffiths, Emma Harney, Balin Jones, Sarah Logan, Blake Mace, Isaac Nagle, Nadia Nolan, Elijah Norman, Hayden O'Toole, Connor Osper, Julianna Remuck, Ava Rosborough, Benjamin Rota, Lily Trottier, Malik Uddin, Kevin Vietro, Matthew Yarger

Honorable Mention: Kaylee Arsenault, Emily Calderon, Chanthina Chhun, Anthony Dos Anjos, Logan Fleming, Aiden Jennings, Naome Keniston, Jacoby Martins, Reagan Moriarty, Kayro Neves, Blake Rosborough, Piper Sullivan, Sarah Szajna, Jaxon Thomas, Lucas Troiano

Grade 11

High Honors: Carolina Adarve Alonso, Ammar Alomar, Bradley Anderson, Iain Andrews, Clarah Avery-Boyer, Aaron Barry, Aubrey Beland, Gabriela Belanger, Aubrey Bouchard, Cahill, Madison Cammuso, Isabela Chapman, Aiden Costigan, Parker DaCosta, Skylar Daniels, Joao Pedro DeSouza, Dylan Demers, Parker Dery, Ethan DeVito, Miranda ElTurkmani, Alyssa Friis, Brianna Fuoss, Savannah Gassett, Caleb Gaultz, Olivia Gauthier, Nathan Goryl, Brian Guertin, Mallorie Halfelder, Jordan Hilgenberg, William Hinchcliffe, Nola Jean Philippe, Lyla Jordan, Brooklyn Kaferlein, Grace Kibe, Emrie Kling, Madison LaBonte, Sydney Loiselle, Mary Lowrey, Braelyn Matheson, Lilianna McClintock, Benjamin O'Neill, Nathan Oliveira, Mia Ouellette, Vibhav Patel, Emma Peloquin, Aidan Power, Katherine Pratt, Charlie Roy, Eliasa Roy, Hannah Samolinski, Noah Samolinski, Chawanvit Sillapachairuang, Maddilyn Silva Kole Silvestro, Lelia Sjogren, Annabel Smutok, Sarah Stark, William Stark, Gabriel Stone, Samuel Weeks,

Honors: Addie Blood, Blake Burr, Joseph Cascella, Xavier Chan, Kerry Desruisseaux, Allie Gauthier, Cameron Gray, Samantha Huth, Tyler Joyce, Maxwell Kammerer, Elizabeth Moriarty, Blake Oliver, Emmanuel Ramla, Lukas Tierney

Honorable Mention: Susana Casper, Austin Clancy, Daniel Ferreira, Mathias Lalakidis, Dawsen Levesque, Nicolis Polselli, Yosselin Ramirez, Anne Rejouis, Frederick Romano, Zachary Veneziano, Erik Ward, Madison Webber, Benjamin Yoffe

Grade 12

High Honors: Alexander Aldrich, Mitchell Andre, Lillian Arnold, Aidan Arsenault, Ella Bain, Amelia Blood, Gaurav Boyalla, Sebastian Bradwin, Maxwell Brayman, Lauren Cabral, Julianna Casucci, Kason Chludenski, Finnegan Cove, Adriana Cugini, Samuel Dow, Brady Esposito, Alison Fleming, Jadyn Flood, Nicholas Fortier, Zachary Fortier, Savannah Gaskill, Kendall Gilmore, Lola Grube, Camden LaChapelle, Ethan Lachapelle, Lily LaLiberte, Julianna Lopes, Hailee Lussier, Daniel Mach, Brayden Mackin, Cameron McIsaac, Niamh McSweeney, Erin O'Day, Skylar O'Neill, Julia Brynn Okenquist, Krish Patel, Keira Paul, Liam Powers, Liam Palmer-Ramirez, Jake Richardson, Jacob Rivet, Erin Roche, Emmalyn Romano, Julian Rosenburg, Thayla Santos, McKenna Savage, Brian Stumpf, Thatcher Sweeney, Andrew Tamsky, Jacob Tavares, Zachary Turcotte, Eabha Twohig-Mann, Sydney Vanderzicht, Cody Veneziano, Grady Walsh, Austin Walusiak, Gabriel Woodrow

Honors: Angelica Afonso, Jeremy Barry, Jeremiah Bourguignon, Emerson Burns, Morgan Charbonnier, Tyler Constantineau, Hunter Douangsavanh, Heidi Doyon, Colin Dwyer, Joshua Fontes, Sophia Freire, Mazen Hamza, Nicky-Anna Locke, Migui Medeiros, Wilson Obiocham, Enzo Pimentel, Alex Rivera, Hunter Sheard, Riley Spicer

Honorable Mention: Taylor Bettencourt, Novelle Bousquet, Malaika Cabrera, Gianni Casasanta, Dante Crites, Logan Erickson, Jacob Ethier, Stephen Leach, Gabriella Mazier, Leigha Thomas

Whitinsville Christian School launches A La Carte classes designed for homeschooled students

WHITINSVILLE — Whitinsville Christian School is pleased to announce the launch of WCS Select, a new program offering a la carte classes specifically designed to support homeschool students and families.

WCS Select provides homeschool students with access to high-quality, Christ-centered academic courses, allowing families to customize their child's educational experience while remaining rooted in their chosen homeschool path. The program offers flexible enrollment options, giving students the opportunity to participate in individual classes, connect with peers, and benefit from experienced faculty and campus resources.

"Our WCS Select program reflects our commitment to meeting families where they are,"

said Sarah Bowler, Head of School. "By supporting homeschooling students with flexible, high-quality resources and community connection, we're expanding what personalized education can look like."

As it has across the country, homeschooling participation in Massachusetts has risen, with approximately 3.3-3.4 percent of K-12 students learning at home in recent years. This steady growth highlights the increasing demand for flexible, high-quality educational partnerships such as WCS Select.

Through WCS Select, students can engage in a range of academic subjects while experiencing the benefits of a structured classroom environment and a vibrant Christian

school community. Offerings include a range of courses from Outdoor Preschool to AP

Biology. The program is designed to complement, not replace, the homeschool experience, offering families added support, enrichment, and connection.

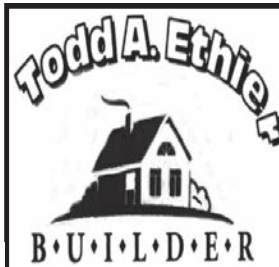
WCS Select reflects Whitinsville Christian School's broader mission to partner with families in providing an education that nurtures both academic excellence and spiritual growth. By expanding access to its programs, the school continues to serve a diverse and growing community of learners throughout the region.

For more information about WCS Select, visit whitinsvillechristian.org/wcs-select, or call the office of admissions at 508-372-3278.

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Friday's Child



Cristian
Age 12
Registration #9325

Cristian, who goes by CJ, is a cheerful and affectionate young boy who brings joy to those around him with his frequent smiles and laughter. He is polite, respectful, and enjoys connecting with others. CJ thrives during community outings—whether it's going to the movies, visiting local parks, or spending time outdoors when the weather is nice. CJ has a special love for animals and enjoys sharing his drawings, proudly naming different animals and mimicking the sounds they

make. He is creative and expressive, with interests in coloring, drawing, and practicing his writing skills. CJ's favorite color is red, and he especially loves Spiderman. If he could choose, he'd happily eat chicken and rice every day. CJ shows and receives affection through high-fives and hugs, making him a warm and engaging child who enjoys meaningful connections with others.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/34301707102>

Can I Adopt?

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

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with. To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org. Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Quiet leadership that shapes a stronger community

Recognition often shines brightest on those in highly visible roles. Yet the strength of a community is just as often built by individuals working steadily, quietly, and with little expectation of recognition. The recent nomination of Karen Spencer as a 2026 Commonwealth Heroine offers a timely reminder of how much impact one person's commitment can have.

The Commonwealth Heroine award, presented by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women, is designed to highlight exactly that kind of work. It honors women who may not always be in the spotlight, but whose efforts make measurable and lasting differences in the lives of others.

Spencer's work through Girls on the Run Worcester County reflects a model of leadership rooted not in recognition, but in response to need. What began as a search for a program to support her own daughter grew into an organization that has reached thousands of girls across the region. That trajectory is not accidental. It is the result of sustained effort, thoughtful planning, and a clear understanding of what young people need to succeed.

Programs like Girls on the Run address something that communities sometimes overlook. Academic achievement is only one part of a child's development. Confidence, resilience, emotional awareness, and healthy relationships are just as essential. These are the qualities that shape not only successful students, but capable adults.

Over the past decade, Spencer's leadership has helped ensure that those skills are being nurtured locally. Growth from a small pilot program to a countywide presence does not happen without persistence. It requires building partnerships, securing funding, adapting to challenges, and maintaining a clear mission through each phase of expansion.

That mission was tested in a profound way during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many community programs struggled to survive as schools closed and in-person services were disrupted. For youth programs in particular, the loss of structure and connection created real risks for children already facing uncertainty.

In that moment, leadership was not about maintaining the status quo. It was about adaptation. Spencer's decision to take a personal pay cut to keep the organization operating speaks to a level of commitment that goes beyond professional obligation. It reflects an understanding that, for many participants, the program was not optional. It was essential.

The pivot to virtual programming ensured that girls continued to have access to support, guidance, and connection during a period of isolation. That kind of responsiveness is often what defines whether a program endures or fades.

It is also worth noting that this work does not exist in isolation. Community programs succeed when they are supported by families, volunteers, educators, and local leaders. Recognition like the Commonwealth Heroine award serves not only to honor an individual, but to highlight the broader network that makes such efforts possible.

In towns across the Blackstone Valley and Worcester County, similar stories are unfolding every day. Coaches, mentors, volunteers, and nonprofit leaders are investing time and energy into the next generation. They are building confidence, fostering inclusion, and helping young people navigate an increasingly complex world.

These contributions may not always make headlines, but they shape the long-term health of a community. When young people are given the tools to succeed, the benefits ripple outward, into schools, workplaces, and civic life.

Awards like this one provide an opportunity to pause and recognize that work. They remind us that leadership is not defined solely by position or title. It is defined by impact.

As the Commonwealth prepares to honor its 2026 class of heroines, the recognition of Karen Spencer stands as a reflection of the values that sustain strong communities. Dedication, resilience, and a commitment to lifting others are qualities worth celebrating.

And perhaps just as important, they are qualities worth continuing.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saint Stash

To the Editor:

It's time to be an ordinary conservative American and love your Revolutionary War history. It's our 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence! Our Semi-quin-centennial!

Can you pronounce it? "Sem-ee-kwin-sen-ten-ee-uhl." Now, on to history.

Saint Stash. Ever heard of it? It is not an exotic Caribbean island resort that you might find on Saint Kitts or Nevis. My Learned Friend might say that it sounds like a Pot Combustibles shop. But St. Stash is the affectionate name for St. Eustatius, a leeward island in the West Indies.

Who cares about St. Eustatius, you say? We ought to care because this tiny island significantly contributed to the winning of the Revolutionary war. It's all about weapons and ammunition!

St. Eustatius was named after the legendary Christian martyr, Eustace. He was martyred in 118 AD at the command of Emperor Hadrian. Eustace had been a Roman general who had a vision of the cross and converted to Christianity. For this sin against the Empire, he was exiled, lost his family and land, but when the Barbarians attacked Rome, the Emperor called him back to lead the Roman army.

Once again a General, Eustace defeated the Barbarians. Unbeknownst to him, his sons were among his own soldiers. General Eustace took shelter in the house of a woman whom the sons recognized as their mother! Family reunion!

Peace reigned for a moment. Because Eustace and his family were Christians and refused to worship Roman gods, they were martyred. Similar to our culture today. You vil' obey the Fake gods of Woke-ism, Communism and so-called "Equity!"

In the 1700's, St. Stash's large harbor - near St. Kitts, Nevis, and Antigua - made it ideal for contraband trade. In 1756, it was a neutral free Dutch port. No customs duties. No taxes. It flourished as an "emporium for all the world." St. Stash merchants sold weapons and ammunition to anyone willing to pay. Intrepid American privateers stepped right up to buy for General Washington.

On Nov. 16, 1776, the 14-gun American brig, Andrew Doria, commanded by Captain Isaiah Robinson, sailed into St. Stash. Flying the colors of the fledgling U.S., it fired a thirteen gun salute (one for

each American colony). The Governor of St. Stash replied with an 11 gun salute, protocol to a sovereign flag.

It was the first international recognition of American independence, also known as the "First Salute." In 1939, President Roosevelt presented a plaque to St. Stash, commemorating this historic event.

Captain Robinson purchased munitions and gave a copy of the Declaration of Independence to the Governor. The British had earlier captured another copy of the Declaration on its way to Holland on board an American privateer. The sacred Declaration was wrapped in documents written in a "secret code" - Yiddish. It was addressed to the Jewish merchants in Holland.

The British bitterly protested Americans trading with St. Stash. They protested with good reason: half of all American military supplies used during the Revolutionary War were purchased from St. Stash. And guess what? We won!

A little known fact concerned General George Washington's only visit outside the colonies. In 1751, he went to Barbados with his brother to seek a cure for his brother's TB. Instead, Washington at age 19 contracted smallpox. His illness was brief, but provided him with Providential Immunity. It inspired him to inoculate his army. Armed with immunity and Providence, he won the Revolution War.

In 1780, the British declared war on Holland. A British Admiral attacked St. Stash and ordered the landing commander to seize Jewish citizens for "the Jewish people of St. Stash were notorious in the cause of America and France." On the right side!

The next time you see a Pot shop, think of Saint Stash. Remember that We the People owe a debt of gratitude to St. Eustatius, the island in the West Indies, the Jewish citizens of it, and the Netherlands who helped us win our freedom.

Coincidence? These events demonstrate that the U.S.A. is founded on Judeo-Christian principles, twice blessed, by the God of the Old Testament and the God of the New Testament. The Bible is a powerful thing. God is power.

With no apologies for being an ordinary, Christian, Conservative flag-waving American,

BEV GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

A grifter's gotta grift!

To the Editor:

In addition to all the money that King Trump and his family have grifted while in office - the crypto scams, the weekly golf trips and the millions made charging the secret service for rooms while protecting him, the pardons for a \$1 million campaign contribution, selling boxes at the Kennedy Center for the Arts, millions made off bibles, books, shoes, non-existent cell phones, and even guitars bearing his name (168 "Trump" products in all), the Great Grifter now wants our government to pay him billions of dollars for damages he has suffered due to our trying to hold him accountable for his malfeasance in office. To Trump, that's a greater miscarriage of justice than being shot dead by ICE agents on the streets of Minnesota! After all, he is "above the law!"

Trump is now seeking \$230 million in damages, for the document raid at Mar-a-Lago, and the supposed "weaponization of the DOJ." ('Projection' is the greatest GOP 'Jedi mind trick'.)

The Florida raid was the result of a court-approved investigation into Trump's unlawful retention of government secrets. Federal agents seized illegally removed and classified documents from a bathroom, a ballroom and an office at Mar-a-Lago. Trump and several of his employees were charged with willfully retaining classified national defense documents, obstructing justice, conspiring to conceal records, and making false statements. Thanks to Trump-appointed judge Aileen Cannon, and empty suit Attorney General Merrick Garland, the case was delayed and delayed until Trump was re-elected and the charges had to be dropped. Cannon even kept Jack Smith's final report detailing his proof of the charges, from being made public. A perfect example of Republican's highly touted 'transparency'.

Other than declaring that he "declassified all the documents in my head," Trump doesn't have a shred of exculpatory evi-

dence in this case. But apparently, breaching the sanctity of Melania's closet was 'crossing the Rubicon' for Orange Julius, so he's suing his own government. Trump conveniently forgets that he authorized the exact same raid on John Bolton's house.

The "weaponization of the DOJ" refers to the probe into the Trump 2016 campaign's ties to Russia. Robert Mueller proved that Russia interfered with the 2016 election, and filed criminal charges against 26 Russian nationals, three Russian organizations and Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort, who Trump subsequently pardoned. Mueller also wanted to charge Trump, but existing law prevented charging a sitting president with a crime. No wonder Trump said he was glad that Mueller died. Books have been written about Trump's ties to Russia, Russian oligarchs, and Russian mobsters. Eric Trump admitted that the Trump organization didn't need American banks, because they get all the money they need from Russia. Yet, Trump is fixated on keeping any link to Russia off his public record, no matter how obvious and overwhelming the evidence. So he's suing his own government.

Speaking of "weaponizing the DOJ," Trump is after James Comey - again. Comey became a target when he refused to declare fealty to Trump during his first term as president. Trump's initial attempt to charge Comey with something failed, so now we have the heinous "86 47" conspiracy! Comey posted a meme showing seashells on a beach arranged to form the pictograph '86 47.' Seems innocent enough. But Trump claims that '86' is the mob shorthand call to kill someone - and in this case, the 47th president - him. Having seen just about every gangster movie ever made, I have never seen '86' used in any context therein. According to AI: "The phrase '86' (or '86'd') is primarily used in the American hospitality industry (restau-

Turn To LETTER page A5

The quiet way our mothers shape us

There's a certain quiet to a Sunday morning in May that feels different from the rest of the year. Maybe it's the way the light comes in softer, or the way people seem to move a little slower, a little more thoughtfully. Or maybe it's just that we all know what the day is, even before we say it out loud.

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET

By CHARLES

Mother's Day has a way of doing that. It doesn't need much announcement. It settles in gently, like a familiar song you haven't heard in a while but still remember every word to.

I was thinking the other day about how we tend to mark time in our lives. We remember the big things, of course, the graduations, the weddings, the first jobs. But when you really sit with it, it's often the smaller, quieter moments that come back the clearest. And more often than not, there's a mother somewhere in the middle of those memories.

Not always in the foreground, mind you. Sometimes she's just off to the side, making sure everything is running the way it should. Packing lunches, folding laundry, reminding someone about an appointment, or standing in a doorway watching the whole thing unfold.

It's funny how much of that work goes unnoticed at the time. Not unappreciated, exactly, just... assumed. Like the sun coming up in the morning. You don't always stop to think about it because it's always been there.

I can remember, years ago, coming home after a long day, the kind where nothing seems to go quite right. You're tired, maybe a little irritated with the world, and not particularly good company. And there she is, asking how your day went, as if she's got all the time in the world to listen to the answer.

And she means it. That's the part that sticks with you.

There's a steadiness to mothers that's hard to put into words. Not all of them are the same, of course. Some are quiet, some are talkative, some are firm, some are gentle. But there's usually a thread that runs through all of them, a kind of quiet determination to make things better for the people they care about.

You don't always see it when you're young. In fact, I'd say most of us miss it entirely at the time. We're too busy growing up, figuring things out, making our own mistakes. It's only later, when life has had a chance to knock a few corners off us, that we start to understand what was really going on.

I've come to believe that a lot of what we carry with us into adulthood, the good habits, the sense of right and wrong, the way we treat other people, has roots that go back to those early days. To kitchens and living rooms and car rides where lessons were taught without ever feeling like lessons.

And if you're lucky, those roots hold firm.

Mother's Day, for all the cards and flowers and phone calls, isn't really about any of that, at least not entirely. Those things are nice, and they matter, but they're more like symbols than anything else. What the day really does is give us a reason to pause.

To notice. To think about the people who shaped us in ways we didn't always recognize at the time. To pick up the phone if we can. To say thank you, even if it feels a little overdue.

And for those who can't make that call anymore, it's a day to remember. To sit with those memories and let them come as they are, sometimes warm, sometimes a little bittersweet.

I don't think there's a right way to spend the day. Some folks gather with big family dinners, full tables and loud conversations. Others keep it quiet, maybe a visit, maybe a walk, maybe just a moment to themselves.

But however it's spent, there's something steady about it. Something that reminds us that no matter how much the world changes, some things remain constant.

The care. The patience. The way someone showed up, day after day, whether we noticed or not.

You don't need a grand gesture to recognize that. Sometimes it's enough just to stop, look around, and understand, maybe a little better than we did before, what was given to us along the way.

And if you happen to find yourself on Main Street this weekend, passing by the shops and the familiar faces, you might notice something else too. A few more people carrying flowers. A few more smiles exchanged. A few more quiet moments tucked into an otherwise ordinary day.

That's Mother's Day, I suppose. Not loud, not showy. Just present, the way it's always been.

And if you ask me, that feels about right.

LETTER

continued from page A5

rants and bars) to mean an item is sold out/unavailable, or to refuse service and eject a customer. It is widely used to signify removing, discarding, or canceling something, with roots dating back to the 1930s, often used in kitchens to efficiently communicate with staff.” Since Trump thinks he invented the words “groceries”, “equalize”, “fake”, “caravan”, “bigly”, and the phrase “prime the pump,” I guess he’s entitled to his personal interpretation of “86.” He just can’t use it as a basis to charge someone in court. Unless he is “weaponizing the DOJ!”

Trump also had his DOJ fire Maureen Comey because she is James Comey’s daughter, and conveniently, the lead New York DOJ attorney in the Ghislaine Maxwell case. She should have been the one interviewing Maxwell in prison, not Trump toadie fan-boy Todd Blanche. (We still haven’t received an answer as to why Maxwell, convicted on five federal counts related to sex trafficking and conspiring to lure underage girls for sexual abuse by Jeffrey Epstein, was transferred to a minimum security ‘resort’ facility, after being interviewed by Blanche. But you can use your imagination here....

Last month, Trump filed another claim against the federal government - a \$10 billion lawsuit over the 2019 leak of his tax returns by a contractor for the Internal Revenue Service. Experts in tax law say the case has some big flaws. For one thing, the statute of limitations has expired. In addition, the leak took place during Trump’s first term in office, so the president is suing the government for actions that occurred when he was in charge. The IRS contractor is currently serving prison time for the leak. I assume the real ‘damage’ he incurred was the tax returns serving to fracture his “successful businessman” charade. That, and the fact that he was found guilty of tax fraud don’t seem to matter one whit to the MAGA cult.

“There is a glaring conflict of interest

with Trump being on both sides of the claim,” said Edward Whelan, a former lawyer at the Justice Department and a political conservative who once clerked for the late Justice Antonin Scalia. “It is outrageous that he and those answering to him would be deciding how the government responds to these extravagant claims.” Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche was one of Trump’s personal attorneys. The 2nd-in-command at Justice, Stanley Woodward, represented Trump’s valet, who was charged as an alleged co-conspirator in the Mar-a-Lago case. Are they going to rule against the boss?

“The fear that many have is that the Department of Justice will simply fold and ask Donald Trump the individual how much money Donald Trump’s administration should funnel to him,” said Whelan, the former DOJ lawyer. Even Stephen King couldn’t make this stuff up.

Trump told us his new ballroom, originally costing \$200 million, would be paid for by donor contributions he was receiving. Now, it’s going to cost \$400 million, plus the cost of the previously undisclosed subterranean bunker, and both will be paid for by our tax money. So where did the millions in donor funds end up? We can afford ballrooms and bunkers, but not health care? Not education? Not childcare? Forbes reported the Trump family’s total net worth nearly doubled to \$10 billion in just the first year of his second term in office, with Trump’s own net worth reaching \$7.3 billion. (That’s “Billion with a ‘B’!”) And these figures are 8 months old. After 5 bankruptcies, the Trump’s magically became financial geniuses.

Joe Biden’s personal wealth increased by an estimated \$2 million during his presidency. (That’s \$Million with an ‘M’). This rise was primarily driven by the increased value of his real estate holdings in Delaware, which appreciated by roughly \$1.8 million, rather than salary or investments...or grift. But the immigrants!!!!!!

RICK BEVILACQUA
WHITINSVILLE

PLUMMER PLACE

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

The following events will take place at Plummer Place, Home of the Northbridge Senior Center. We are located at 20 Highland Street in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508) 234-2002. Northbridge residents have priority for all programming and events. Please call the main office to sign up for special events and programs, so we can plan accordingly.

Medical Drivers

We are in need of medical drivers for out-of-town medical appointments. This is a very important service that we provide for seniors who cannot drive themselves to their medical appointments. If you are interested and can spare any time, it would be most appreciated. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage. For more information, please call the main office.

Regular Programs:

- Meditation with Kelly
- Every Thursday morning at 9:30am
- Book Club:
- 3rd Wednesday at 10:30am
- Please call Kelly to find out what book we are reading.
- Brew Crew:
- First Wednesday at 9:30am
- Wednesday, June 3rd
- Guest Speaker ~ Adam Gaudette, Northbridge Town Manager
- Dull Men’s Club:
- 4th Tuesday at 9:30am
- Tuesday, May 26th
- Guest Speaker ~ Mark Dermugrditchian, Armenian-American author, musician, motorcycle enthusiast and longtime Massachusetts resident.
- Scrabble:
- First and Third Mondays at 9:30am
- Women’s Collective:
- 2nd Thursday at 10:00am
- June 11th: Mary Brunelle, “Eating for Health the Mediterranean Way”
- Please call Amy for more information.
- Writing Your Way
- 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm
- Please call Lori for more information.

Special Events and Programs:

- Tuesday, May 12th
- 10:30am-11:30am Rod Lee’s The Poison Pen Author Talk
- At the heart of “The Poison Pen Club” are two rival writers who begin as intellectual opponents but gradually become obsessed with outmaneuvering each other through increasingly personal, sharp political critiques and dangerous “letters.” As the exchanges grow more hostile, the threat of physical violence

looms over the narrative, turning words into something that feels alarmingly real. You won’t want to miss this one! Sign up in the main office.

Tuesday, May 19th

11am - 12pm Radio Turns 100 ~ “The Sound That Shaped Our Lives”

From crackling early broadcasts to the voices Boston grew up with, this program brings a full century of radio to life! Join us for an engaging journey through time. This program is designed to entertain, inform, and stir memories with Mike Morin, presenter and a crowd favorite at Plummer Place. Sign up in the main office.

Wednesday, May 20th

1pm-2pm Confidence, Caution and Control ~ Three Keys to Staying Steady on Your Feet

Join us for an informative discussion about easy, practical ways to reduce your risk of falls and stay active and independent at home. This program will be led by a nurse, physical therapist, and an occupational therapist who will share helpful insights about how vision, memory, home environment, medication, strength and balance can all affect fall risk. Together, we will explore simple strategies that can help you stay safer and more confident in your daily activities. We will also discuss how small changes can make a big difference in preventing future falls. Sponsored and presented by our friends at Seraphic Springs Health Care. Sign up in the main office.

Thursday, May 21st

1:30pm -2:30pm Jimmy “Rag Tag” O’Neil Concert

Oldies, Sing-a-Long, & Fun!
When “Jimmy Rag Tag” is in the house, it’s like turning on a vintage broadcast set and letting the past play through the speakers. The songs everybody knows bring back fond memories. It is amazing how everyone remembers the words to the songs we all grew up with and love. Sign up in the main office.

Wednesday, May 27th

1pm -2pm The Art of Cats
Cats have long captivated us, going beyond their role as mere pets to become powerful symbols and icons in art, literature, and more. From ancient civilizations to modern society, the allure of cats has left a mark on our culture, inspiring countless works of creativity and fascination. Do you have a story to tell about a cat? We hope you can join us for this wonderful program. Sign up in the main office.

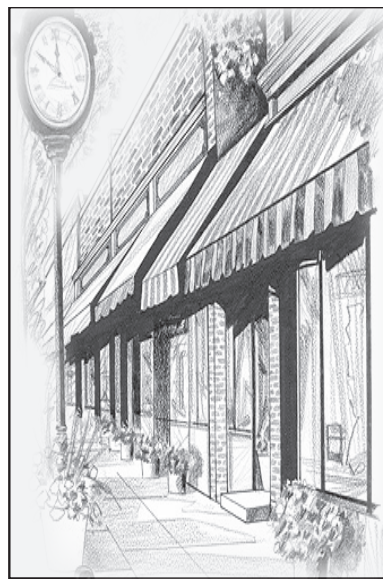
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It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.



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Courtesy

The Valley Photo Center Photo Club has an exhibition of member's work in the meeting room at the Wilbraham Public Library at 25 Crane Dr., Wilbraham, that will be on display until May 29. There will be a meet the artists reception at the library on Wednesday, May 13 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Please join us to see the exhibit and take to some of the makers. The exhibit and reception is free and open to the public. For more information about the club, visit <https://thevalleyphotoclub.yolasite.com/>. Photos were made with a grant from the Springfield Cultural Council for an exhibit in Springfield.

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WHITIN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

UXBRIDGE — Whitin Intermediate School has released its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.

High Honors

Grade 6: Lukas Ambrosino, Rain Anwer, Zachary Bromberg, Teagan Caffrey, Zander Castonguay, James Charron, Aria Clement, Alexis Coger, Gabrielle Connors, Makenna Creighton, Kailey Czubyk, Leighton D'Alessandro, Brayden Daley, Shae Desmeule, Connor Dion, Gabriella Ellis, Austin Escalera, Theodore Foley, Benjamin Ford, Eloise Gauthier, Dharahas Gurrarn, Isabel Heldenbergh, Connor Hendricks, Hadley Ivanoski, Quinn Kaferlein, Jack Lavallee, Ivy Leaming, Grace Leone, Timothy Longenbaker, Henry Lucius, Madelyn Manzov, Daniel Mastroianni, Grayson Matthews, Sadie Matulewicz, Molly Mitchell, Samira Mohamed, Sophia Morreale, Emmett Norman, Scarlett O'Toole, Ahmad Pagganwala, Cholbe Rosborough, Jack Ryan, Gabriella Sawash, Jackson Searle, Savannah Sokol, Jacob Soucy, Lillian Spratt, Liliana Weir, Emma Whitten, Hunter Wilson

Grade 7: Brayden Affonce, Riley Barnicle, Zachary Black, Mia Blanchard, Benjamin Brauning, Jackson Buckley, Tatum Burke, Cameron Cote, Oliver Coutu, Annalee DeBalsi, Angelina Ekladious,

Nathalie Gomes, Lauren Gover, Sri Gurrarn, Jason Hutchinson-McLellan, Mya Jackman, Amyra Jalotra, Madeline Jansen, Kaitlyn Johnson, Tuiafetoa Kruse, Miller Neshe, Vidhya Patel, Olivia Racki, Drew Rollins, Robert Turcotte, Ella Twomey, Charlotte Vanderzicht

Honors

Grade 6: Gracie Almquist, Bentley Belanger, Drew Benson, Brody Boucher, Ryder Boucher, Lily Bristowe, Molly Cann, Cooper Charron, Gabriella Collazo, Dean Cunniff, Arianna Demery, Jacob DeToma, Breklynn Deveau, Robert Do Rosario, Jacob Dubovsky, Patrick Freiwald, Shawn Garcia, Aiden Hatch, Aubrey Huth, Kaiden Kelly, Dayton Lopez, Natalie Lynch, Harrison Martin, Hadley Morrisette, Landon Mushel, Liam Narbeth, Jaden Ouwing, Kaydence Pasacane, Rylin Pellegrino, Olivia Reneau, Sophia Rivera, Juliana Sobrinho, Cody Timmerman, Georgia Vanderzicht, Arianna Vickers, Isshaan Vishnu Kumar, Waverly Wood, Frank Zaik

Grade 7: Jaxton Bates, Roma Bradstreet, Willow Brayman, Liam Brodeur, Ike Burns, Sadie Cahill, Carsyn Cammuso, Jordan Charron, Virginia Clinton, Ariella Correia, Anna Desouza, Mya Fano, Nathan Fark, Madelynn Fitzgerald, Maverick Fitzgerald, Aiden Forss, Logan Kustan, George Lalakidis, Matthew LaPorta, Samuel Lavergne, Benjamin Lynch, Brayden McGrath, Owen McSweeney, Nathan Moore, Bayla Morris, Mila Pachomski, Jordan Poirier, Saket Rathod, Parker Rollins, Riley Studley, Shivaan Trivedy, Brianna Troland, Peyton Whitlock, Rowan Woodall



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Annual St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive set for May 30

UXBRIDGE — The St. Vincent de Paul Annual Clothing Drive at St. Mary Church in Uxbridge will be held on Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. to noon in the church parking lot (77 Mendon St.).

We accept all worn, stained, but clean clothing and textiles to be recycled at all times in our bins. Proceeds from recycling the fabrics are returned to our conference to help meet local needs.

Only on the day of the drive, if you wish to donate new/gently used infant

and children's clothing, or clothes that could benefit our veterans, please keep those items separate and our members will distribute them directly to those in need.

If you have other good/usable clothing that you would like to be repurposed rather than recycled, the following local agencies accept clothing to families and individuals in this area. We partner closely with these agencies.

Hope's Thrift Closet, Whitinsville (www.bve-mergencyshelter.org/hope-

s-thrift-closet)

The Blessing Barn in Mendon: (www.theblessingbarn.com) or

Catholic Charities in Milford (www.ccworc.org).

Currently, our Diocesan SVDP conference does not have a store to accept clothing donations. We will announce when a new SVDP store opens in our area. On behalf of our friends in need, we are extremely grateful for your continued, generous support! God Bless!

Maria Pinheiro recognized by Stonehill College at 2026 Student Life Awards

EASTON — Maria Pinheiro, a member of Stonehill College's Class of 2028 from Uxbridge, was recently honored at the institution's Student Life Awards, held Sunday, April 26. This program celebrates campus community members for their outstanding contributions to the betterment of Stonehill.

Visit Stonehill College's Web site for more information on the 2026 Student Life Awards.

About Stonehill College Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 387-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100

academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional fields, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

Blackstone Valley Gardeners hosting annual plant sale Saturday

UPTON — The annual Blackstone Valley Gardeners (BVG) plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 9 from 8 a.m. until noon - or until all the wonderful plants are sold. The sale will be held at the Upton VFW, 15 Milford St. (Route 140) in Upton. There is ample parking and garden club members will be on hand to help you with your purchases and to

answer questions about the various plants. The sale will go on rain or shine.

Plants from members' gardens will be featured in pots large and small. Larger pots will be priced at \$6 (or 3 for \$15) and smaller ones at \$4. This is a great opportunity to buy perennial plants very reasonably with the assurance that they will thrive in your garden. The plants

are donated by garden club members to support the programs that are featured at BVG meetings. They come from local gardens and are well suited to our area. Whether you have sun or shade, wet or dry conditions you are sure to find something to brighten your garden at the BVG sale on May 9.

Reserve a space at Community House Vendor Fair

UXBRIDGE — If you're looking for a venue to display your goods, a vendor fair is being planned for Sept. 26 at the Community House in Uxbridge at 8 Court St. Table space is available for a donation of \$30. We are hoping for a wide variety of vendors. Participants are encouraged to bring their own tables but tables will be available for an additional donation of \$10/ \$15, depending on size.

We are hoping by starting early in the fall, we will all have a chance to enjoy the day, before the busy holiday season begins. The fair is being sponsored by the Uxbridge Congregational Church which is located behind the common. The Community House is next to the church

and easily accessible at 8 Court Street. Parking is available

The fair will be an inside event and will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., regardless of the weather. Set up time will be 8:30 a.m.

Please call to reserve your space. For more information, please call or send an email to dataless1@yahoo.com or call 508-244-7849. We hope you will join us, have fun and display your items to the community.

New Bocce League open to community

SOUTHBRIDGE — Bay Path Continuing Education & the Southbridge Italian Club have teamed up to launch an exciting new bocce league on Tuesday nights throughout May and June.

Bocce is a game that all can enjoy—no special skills or talents are required! If you can roll a ball, you can play! These two community organizations are thrilled to bring this sport to a wider audience. Both Bay Path Continuing Education and the Southbridge Italian Club are dedicated to offering various events for people to engage, socialize, and have fun. This new league is a perfect fit. Here are the details:

Tuesdays: May 12 – June 30 (eight weeks)

Teams of four to eight players \$240 per team

One game per week at either 6 or 7 p.m. Maximum of eight teams – don't wait! Only team captains need to register for their team.

A brief informational captain meeting will be held before the season starts.

Gather your friends (18 and older), form a team, and come join us for a fantastic time on the court!

Games will be held at: Italian American Club 20 North St., Southbridge

To register your team, call Bay Path Continuing Education at 508-248-5971, ext. 1715. Spots for teams are limited, so don't hesitate—call today!

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CONTEST

continued from page A1

Victoria Beqiri, Kylie Bolduc, Emma Doyon, Whitney Garland, Kira Patel, Luther Rolen, Julian Vidinha

Grade 5:
Gracie Baker, Cameron Bennett, Charlotte Brooks, Olivia Carasco, Isabelle Cormier, Steffany Elias Perez, Mia Pinheirho

The impact has been both measurable and meaningful. Compared to

the previous school year, occupational therapy (OT) screenings were reduced by 50%, and occupational therapy evaluations saw a significant decrease. Additionally, nearly half of Student Support Team referrals for fine motor weaknesses (45%) were successfully addressed through classroom-based handwriting interventions, without the need for formal OT services.

As school leaders look ahead to next year, they hope to not only continue

this program in Preschool through Grade 2 but begin to extend it systematically to the older grades, with a focus on proper cursive letter formation.

Northbridge Elementary School continues to prioritize research-based practices that support early literacy and student success. The handwriting initiative highlights how intentional instruction and strong community engagement can lead to meaningful outcomes for students.

TOUR

continued from page A1

unemployment insurance concerns.

The BVCC is also proud to partner with the Webster Dudley Oxford Chamber of Commerce to bring this important conversation to our business communities.

"This unique opportunity for business owners to come together, have their voices heard, and stay informed about the issues shaping our local and state business environment," said BVCC Executive Director, Liz O'Neil.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to pre-register in advance by visiting www.blackstonevalley.org/ events.

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and

concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.

BARRY

continued from page A1

focus to his own business, "Picked to Serve."

A lively discussion followed the presentation, with many expressing appreciation for Barry's willingness to share some very candid and thoughtful moments of his career. Events like these continue to enrich the Northbridge Senior Center's offerings, bringing meaningful experiences and fostering community connection.

For more information about upcoming programs at Plummer Place or the Dull Men's Club, please contact Amy Cowen, program and volunteer coordinator, at (508) 234-2002.



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Massasoit Art Guild announces Spring Small Works show at Leicester Public Library

LEICESTER — The Massasoit Art Guild will present its Spring Small Works Art and Photography Show from April 30 through May 27 at the Leicester Public Library, offering visitors a chance to view a wide range of compact-format artwork created by guild members from across the region.

The members-only exhibition will feature original pieces limited to a maximum size of 12 by 14 inches, measured by outside frame dimensions. Artists may submit up to two entries each. Organizers said the smaller format encourages experimentation and accessibility while allowing a broad range of styles and media to be displayed in a shared community setting.

The show will be judged as a single category rather than divided by medium. Awards will be presented for first, second and third place, along with an honorary mention. A People's Choice selection will also be recognized. Ribbon prizes will be awarded to winners.

Artwork drop-off and check-in is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the library's ground-floor Community Room. Later that day, the guild will host a public meet-and-greet reception with participating artists from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the same location. Organizers encourage all participating artists to attend the reception to connect with visitors and fellow exhibitors.

The exhibition will remain on display during regular library hours through May

27. Pick-up for submitted artwork is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., again in the Community Room.

Registration for the show opened Feb. 22 and continues through April 15, or until available space is filled. Advance registration is required, and artists must complete the entry process through the guild's website.

Guild representatives said the annual small works exhibition provides an opportunity for artists to present new material while also introducing local audiences to the range of talent within the organization. The show is designed to be approachable for both established artists and newer members interested in exhibiting their work publicly.

Support for the exhibition is provided in part through a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

Additional information about show rules and registration is available through the Massasoit Art Guild website. Questions may also be directed to the organization by email at massasoitartguild@gmail.com.

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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. WO26P1361EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
David Phillip Hayes
Date of Death: 04/26/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Kevin O'Rourke of Blackstone 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: .
Kevin O'Rourke of Blackstone MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the estate 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 05/19/2026**.

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. Kathryn M. Bailey,

First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 24, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 8, 2026

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. WO26P1357EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Bruce Ripley Morrison, Jr.
Date of Death: 02/15/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy** has been filed by **Maria C. Morrison of Millville 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: .
aria C. Morrison of Millville MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate 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 05/19/2026**.

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.

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Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 24, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 8, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Worcester Probate and Family Court
CITATION ON PETITION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRS
Docket No. WO26P1450EA
Estate Of:
William J Meers
Date of Death: June 9, 2024

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **A Petition for Determination of Heirs and Probate Will filed by Suzanne.C. Meers of Blackstone, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as 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 05/19/2026**.

Massachusetts Determination of Heirs
The determination of heirs of the decedent may be reconsidered if it is shown that 1 or more persons were omittel from the determination and it is also shown that the persons were unaware of their relationship to the decedent, were unaware of the death or were given no notice of any proceeding concerning the estate, except by publication.
WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 30, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 8, 2026

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. WO26P1354EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate Of:
Paul F Donnelly
Date of Death: March 8 , 2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Nicole Messier of Charlton 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: .
Nicole Messier of Charlton MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate 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 05/26/2026**.

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. Kathryn M. Bailey,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 24, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 8, 2026

Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, SV Design unveil new resource center for homeless individuals

WORCESTER — Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc. (CMHA) is thrilled to announce the groundbreaking of a transformative project in collaboration with the City of Worcester and SV Design on Friday, May 1. The renovation of the existing 20,000 square foot mill building at 134 Gold St. will revitalize the historic structure, creating a drop-in style day center, complete with essential resources and programs for the local community. This project aims to provide a safe and welcoming environment for the homeless population in Worcester, addressing an urgent need for supportive services.

“As we break ground on this vital project, we are reminded of the power of collaboration. Together with the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, we are not just renovating a building; we

are transforming lives and affirming our dedication to community well-being and inclusivity,” said Thad Siemasko, Founding Principal of SV Design.

Allegrone has been selected as the contractor for this project, bringing their expertise to ensure the renovation meets the highest standards of quality and efficiency. The first floor of the new facility will house a Day Resource Center, equipped with essential amenities including warmth, showers, laundry facilities, and a commercial kitchen. This center will serve as a welcoming space for clients to access technology for telehealth, resume building, and skill development, with case managers available to assist in securing housing and employment. The first floor will also feature two consultation rooms, designed to facilitate local partnerships that

provide mental and physical wellness services to clients. This comprehensive renovation will enhance the facilities for those in need, creating a supportive environment where individuals can access essential services and resources.

The project is committed to a community-centric design that addresses safety concerns regarding site access and includes extensive community engagement to ensure that it meets local needs effectively.

“This groundbreaking wouldn’t be possible without dedicated community partnerships,” said City Manager Eric D. Batista. “The city is successful when public and private partners work together for the betterment of our community. I want to thank Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance for its leadership not only on this project, but for all its work to uplift

vulnerable populations in our community. This Day Resource Center is a major step forward in the municipality’s work to address homelessness and connect individuals with secure housing, services, and employment. We look forward to working with CMHA to bring this vision to life.”

“We are excited to break ground on this much-needed Resource Center and grateful to the City of Worcester for their partnership,” said Leah Bradley, CEO of Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc. “Together, we are taking a significant step toward providing hope and tangible help for our neighbors experiencing homelessness.”

This groundbreaking marks a significant step forward in addressing homelessness in Worcester and highlights SV Design’s dedication to creating spac-

es that foster community well-being.

About SV Design SV Design specializes in beautiful and functional architecture and interiors that transform lives through exceptional design. For more than three decades, SV Design has built a reputation from Boston’s North Shore to the Cape and beyond for residential, institutional, multi-family, commercial, and community spaces of character and integrity. SV Design’s multidisciplinary team engages closely with clients to identify opportunities, anticipate challenges, and steward projects from site planning to the details of décor.

For more information about SV Design, please visit www.svdesign.com or email annemarie@svdesign.com.

About Central Massachusetts

Housing Alliance The Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance (CMHA: The Housing Alliance) is dedicated to addressing homelessness and promoting long-term housing stability. Founded in 1984, CMHA combines advocacy, education, and direct services to support individuals and families in need. Recognizing the dignity of all, the organization mobilizes a comprehensive regional response to ensure that everyone has access to a safe, stable, and healthy place to call home. Through its various programs and initiatives, CMHA strives to create lasting change in the community by fostering awareness and providing essential resources for those affected by housing insecurity.

For more information about CMHA, please visit www.cmhaonline.org or email lbradley@cmhaonline.org.



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Safe Boating certificate courses scheduled at Milford and Webster locations

REGION — The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Tri-State Flotilla, Massachusetts will be instructing two upcoming boating safety classes that meet current state mandated educational requirements.

The Boat America Course is offered in a one-day format developed to provide the skills and confidence needed to explore the coast and inland waters by boat. Basic knowledge and skills are needed to have safe and enjoyable boating experiences. This course is perfect for families that have just purchased any type of boat or are planning to in the future, and for the boater keeping up with changes to boating regulations and laws. Basic marlinespike seamanship (knots etc.) will also be included.

Successful completion of the course will certify any minor, from 12 to 16 years of age, to operate a powerboat, including a Personal Water Craft / Jet Ski (for 16 & 17-year-old operators), on all Massachusetts waters; in conjunction with the Mass. Environmental Police. Approved by National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) it will also cover the requirements to operate a vessel in most other states & many countries where boating safety education is mandatory including RI and CT.

The Hanson-Milone Boater Safety Act, signed into Mass. Law, will now requires ALL Mass. motorboat operators to complete an approved Safe Boating Certificate course before April 1, 2026, for any-

one born after 1/1/1998, and by April 1, 2028, for boaters born before 1/1/1998. Enforcement of the new law will begin on September 1, 2026. This course meets the new Mass. requirement. Most boating insurance companies offer a discount on premiums for successful completion of this course. Participants 16 years old and under must be accompanied, in person, by a registered parent/guardian. SPACE IS LIMITED so register soon:

Webster Fire Department – Saturday, May 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Webster Fire Department Classroom, 55 Thompson Rd., Webster
The registration deadline is

May 10. Contact our Public Education Officer Phil Kubat for registration or additional information: email phil.uscgaux@verizon.net or call (508) 478-3778.

To locate the BA meeting certification requirements, and other USCG Auxiliary courses offered go to: https://www.cgau.org/boatinged/class_finder/index.php

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit www.cgau.org

JUNIORS NAMED TO BAY PATH HONOR ROLL

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School congratulates the following students in grade 11 on being named to the honor roll for the third quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.

High Honors
Lillian Lauren Araujo, Alyssa Rose Bonneville, Alexia Rose Brown, Sagesse Mpolo Budimbu, Clara Mae Burlingame, Jenna Lynne Cianci, Naomi Natania Cooper, Trinity Chevelle Crompton, Brianna Nyarkoa Dwomoah, Dylan Michael Filipkowski, Aria Faith Fournier, Brooke Nicole Fuller, Aliyah Marie Gauvin, Adrian Dariusz Golemo, Liam Reed Greenwood, Emma Grace Harrington, Julia Abigail Holton, Kelsey Rose Karłowicz, Finnian John Keefe, Nicholas Isaac Meneguzzo, Jonny Ly Nhan, Autumn-Rayne Rondeau, Jordyn Alexandra Sabotka, Owen Wajer Sanford, Kayla Lynn Schroeder, Travis Jacob Tong, Timothy Nicholas Tripp, Brady Matthew Weeks, Lucy Vivian Zaleski

Honors

Anais Annette Alamo-Abad, Monica Jelis Alvarez-Rivera, Salette Hellen Alves, Winifred Donna Aucoin, Collin William Bachand, Kennadie Taylor Balunas, Boden Richard Barrell, Benjamin Whitman Bassett, Samantha Mackenzie Belanger, Brett Julius Beltzer, Kayleigh Rose Bissell, Alexandria Helene Blanchard, Olivia Raychal Burgos, Bella Kristina Calnan, Michaela Sarah Carter, Dominic William Cincotta, Liam Zachary Colon, Benjamin Jackson Cryan, Eric Murphy Day, Hunter William Defosse, Livia Cassandra Deluca, Nathan Stephan Donnelly, Madisson Clara Drewry, Zachary Michael Dumas, Molly Elizabeth Dwyer, Jackson Christopher Edwards, Ava Lila Erkoç, Samantha Lynn Fleck, Ely Eric Gemboski, Emma Lynn Grensavitich, Kaebrielle Amberleigh Hammond, Vikram Kanchan Jha, Jayme Douglas Kenney, Alexander James Kowalski, Filip Tadeusz Kulma, Abena Kwartemaa Kwarteng, Benjamin Mitchell Labbe, Sangey Dawa Lama, Owen David Lemansky, Bret Robert Leonardi, Perry Khai Lima, Apollo Ridge Logan, Emily Arlene Malia, Julie-Anna Marie Marchetti, Christopher Warren Martin, Aaron Robert Mazur, Finn McDaniel, Colin Archak McIlvaine, Ava June McKellick, Joshua Daniel McLaughlin, Miles Joseph Moriarty, Miguel Angel Mosqueda, Nathaniel Thomas Munson, Kayla Rowan Murphy, Thomas Andrew Nault, Melany Tuyet Ngo, Anastasia Marie Nieuwenhoff, Daniel Anthony Nowlan, Corey Amoako Ntim, Jacey Okyere-Tawiah, Izabella Grace Paquin, Matthew Dean Parmenter, Kiley Marie Paronto, Aylah Mae Patraw, Mayli Ann Pedersen, Iban Alexander Pelaez, Katie Ann Putnam, Sophia Morrigan Ramirez-Murphy, Ava Marie Rennie, Isabella Lynn Richard, Danie Roemer, Jake Albert Roemer, Leilani Marie Rohena Torres, Jariel Noel Rosario, Eziajah Gianni Santiago, Anthony Mark Savasta, Logan James Schoff, Ella Lanmei Schofield, Michael Ryan Scott, Isabella Christina Sepulveda, Lucas Clement Silva, Julia Rose Simpson, Zachary Stephen Sirard, Addisyn Theresa Skeates, Brady Patrick Smith, Rebecca Marie Smith, Alexander Gregory St. Jacques, Amelia Jean St. Petyer, Sean Michael Francis Sullivan, Marley Ray Talbot, Eskil John Tranes, Nicholas Aiden Tremblay, Kyle Dennis Twombly, Sophia Ann Vigeant, Jazzelle Gia Wolverson, Nico Anthony Yacavace, Jackson Robert Young, Payton Cailee Ziemski

Principal's List

Trevor Riley Amaral, Riley Norman Baillargeon, Vincent Louis Balducci, Nolan Scott Barton, Dominic Francis Carofaniello, Evalynn Rose Cedillo, Lizzy Choiniere, Madelyn Lily Creelman, Maya Janara Cronin, Liam Michael Cunniff, Destiny Love Fortunata Daviau, Elias Noah Erraihani, Jacob Paul Ferguson, Michael Conner Fitzpatrick, Jinnette Lynn Goguen, Jady Marie Goodwin, Aidan Joshua Hodgdon, Dominik Ignatovich, Brady Nicholas Johnson, Owen John Kennedy, Maximilian Thomas Lapriore, Damon Janes Libby, Jared Thomas Magnusson, Alexis Kayla Moore, Samantha Jean Morley, Chase William Nixon, Kiera Ashley Pederson, Jacob Jan Perry, Dane William Potenti, Trevor Anthony Rose, Korban Christopher Roy-Bouthillette, Jaelynn Elizabeth Royea, Benjamin Michael Rucher, Genevieve Rose Salinas, Isaiah Omar Santiago, Allison Maris Smith, Hadleigh Anne Splaine, Duane Caden Stephens, Kara Marie Trevarthan, Bryce Joseph Vautour, Dashiell Robert Williams

Athol Savings Bank donates \$2,500 to support veteran grave maintenance in Central Massachusetts

WORCESTER — Athol Savings Bank (ASB), a Division of Cornerstone Bank, has donated \$2,500 to Mulch For Military to support the maintenance and beautification of veteran graves across nine cemeteries in Central Massachusetts.

The funding will be used to purchase approximately 53 grave markers that will be installed as part of ongoing, volunteer-driven efforts to preserve and honor the resting places of military veterans. The initiative focuses on maintaining military grave markers and ensuring that veteran memorials remain visible, re

Mulch For Military has steadily expanded its impact since its founding, now serving nine cemeteries throughout the region. The organization engages local volunteers in hands-on stewardship activities that honor those who served.

“We are proud to support Mulch For Military and their mission to honor veterans in such a meaningful and lasting way,” said Daniel Zona, president of Cornerstone Bank and former president and CEO of Athol Savings Bank. “This work reflects the deep respect our communities have for those who served our country.”

The donation reinforces Athol Savings Bank, a Division of Cornerstone Bank’s ongoing commitment to community investment and support for local initiatives that preserve history, promote civic pride and recognize the sacrifices of veterans.

About Athol Savings Bank, a Division of Cornerstone Bank

Founded in 1867 in Athol, Massachusetts, Athol Savings Bank, a Division of Cornerstone Bank, has built a legacy of local service, integrity and trust for over 150 years. As a mutual savings bank, we answer to our customers, not shareholders, offering personalized financial solutions with a focus on community values. We are committed to continuous improvement, planned growth and delivering strength, stability and security to those we serve. As “A Solutions Bank,” we strive to meet the evolving needs of our customers and communities every day. Athol Savings Bank is a Division of Cornerstone, Bank.

Girls on the Run Worcester County will host 5K event May 17

WORCESTER — Girls on the Run Worcester County will host its 5K event on Sunday, May 17 at Polar Park in Worcester.

This spring season, Girls on the Run Worcester County is supporting more girls than they ever have in a single season, reaching 986 girls throughout Worcester County. Girls on the Run is a physical activity-based, positive youth development program that uses fun running games and dynamic discussions to teach life skills to girls in 3rd to 8th grade. During the eight to ten-week program, girls participate in lessons that foster confidence, build peer connections and encourage community service while they prepare for an end-of-season celebratory 5K event.

Participation in the 5K event on May 17 is open to the public and all proceeds from the event will benefit Girls on the Run Worcester County. This season’s 5K event is expected to

bring together approximately 4,000 participants including program participants, their family, friends, and community members. Registration is \$55 or \$65 for day of registration and includes a finishers medal. This event is not chip timed as Girls on the Run volunteer coaches coach their girls to run at their “happy pace” and the goal is to cross the finish line.

The doors will open at Polar Park at 8:30 a.m., and the run will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 17 at Polar Park. Early arrival is suggested. For more information about the event, how to register and volunteer opportunities, visit www.gotr-worc.org.

About Girls on the Run Based in Charlotte, N.C., Girls on the Run is a nonprofit organization with local Councils in all 50 states. Founded in 1996 with 13 girls, Girls on the Run has now served over 2 million girls. Over the

course of the program, girls in 3rd-8th grade develop essen

tial social, emotional and physical skills to successfully navigate life experiences. The program culminates with girls positively impacting their communities through a service project and being physically and emotionally prepared to complete a celebratory 5K event. With the largest 5K series by number of events in the world, Girls on the Run hosts more than 330 5Ks per year. Girls on the Run is included as a top research-based program in a Social-Emotional Learning Guide developed by researchers at Harvard University and has been recognized by the National Afterschool Association (NAA) as one of the most influential afterschool programs. Girls on the Run is offered in more than 13,000 across the US. Visit {council website} to learn how to get involved in your community.

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BHS Class of 1986 seeks community's help locating classmates for 40th reunion

REGION — As the Bartlett High School Class of 1986 prepares to celebrate its 40th reunion on Sept. 26, organizers are asking the community for assistance in locating classmates who have not yet been reached through social media or via text.

To make the process simple, the reunion committee has created a short contact-information form and is encouraging residents, friends, and former

classmates to help spread the word. If you know someone on the "missing classmates" list, organizers ask that you text them the link to the form so they can update their information.

Contact Info Form: <https://tinyurl.com/BHS1986-40Years>

If it's easier, you may also complete the form on a classmate's behalf—so long as you have their current contact details. Organizers emphasize that any

help tracking them down is truly appreciated, as personal connections often succeed where digital outreach falls short.

A list of classmates the committee is hoping to locate appears below. With the community's support, they hope every member of the Class of '86 will have the opportunity to join this milestone celebration.

Peter Allain
Beth Antonopoulos

Marie Aperges
Andrew Baca
Austin Bailey
David Beardley
Frank Belanger
Carolyn Bembenek
Richard Bernier
Sheila Bialoncik
Beth Bialy
Jason Borski
Doreen Bourget
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Daniel Chapdelaine
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Aaron Dorcas
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James Gardner
Jeffrey Gatto
Tina Giakoumis
Alicia Goudreau
Richard Guerin
Robert Hamm
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Jane Houle
Todd Hufault
Joseph Hughes

Melissa Jankowski
Thor Johnson
Nena Johnston
Lisa Kozlowski
Robert Krasnecky
Jill Krause
Michael Kryger
Rick Lawson
Deborah Leite
Linda Lifer
Patricia Majewski
Renee Marchand
Jennifer Marsh
Jennifer Mason
John Meagher
Fumiyo Mochizuki
Deborah Munsch
Brett Napierata
Wayne Parmentier

Brian Poplawski
Gary Poplawski
Edward Powers
William Radcliffe
James Remy
Debra Ross
Collin Salmon
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**Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
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Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bath, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage. **\$649,900.00**

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