

STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

©2026, Issue #25

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Thursday-Friday, June 25-26, 2026

Spirit of Brimfield 250 celebration marks nation's Semiquincentennial with a stroll back through time

BRIMFIELD — The historic town of Brimfield along with the Towns of Holland and Wales, successfully marked the nation's 250th milestone semiquincentennial with the spectacular "Spirit of Brimfield" celebration on Saturday, June 13.

Blessed with beautiful weather and smooth operations, the event brought history to life and drew community members and visitors together in a vibrant display of town pride.

From start to finish, the ambitious schedule of events executed flawlessly while honoring our dedicated local volunteers, as well as the



cemetery tour, which saw well over 100 attendees in two hours. Attendees were treated to an immersive journey through Brimfield's past, learning about these foundational figures and the unique stories that shaped the town over the last two and a half centuries.

The celebration culminated in a breathtaking grand finale fireworks display. Onlookers from all over the region packed into prime viewing areas, filling the night air with cheers as a brilliant array of colors illuminated the sky, putting a perfect exclamation point on a historic weekend.

"We couldn't have asked for a more perfect celebration." Turn To **SPiRiT** page **A6**

Charlton Land Trust, Historical Society team up for talk on land and the American Revolution

CHARLTON — Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust (CHPT) and the Charlton Historical Society (CHS) will collaboratively present a free lecture entitled "Land, Revolution, and Charlton" by James David Moran on Tuesday June 30 at 7 p.m. in the Rider Tavern.

The talk will examine the way people in 18th-century Charlton and Massachusetts understood and used the land, and how these ideas and practices led to rebellion and then revolution from Great Britain. Charlton also played a significant role in Declaring Independence, and this will be described by Moran in his talk. The CHPT and CHS are collaborating on this program in celebration of the nation's 250th anniversary.

While most Americans today don't think of land as being a catalyst for the American Revolution, it was a central component in how the British colonist understood their own identities. Owning land was the key to political and economic agency and power and the need for more land put rural Massachusetts farmers on a collision course with King George and his parliament. This talk will demonstrate how Charlton and other rural Massachusetts communities were at the forefront of the fight for independence at the start of the American Revolution.

James David Moran served as the first director of outreach and then as vice president for Programs and Outreach at the American Antiquarian Society for 28 years. He has over forty years' experience creating award-winning cultural and educational programming. Additionally, he is a writer, director, and producer who has created 14 plays, 12 of which have been produced; most of these have been commissioned and are based on historical themes. These include "The Chains of Liberty" for the Worcester Revolution of 1774; "Preserving All Others" and "Isaiah Thomas-Patriot Printer" for the American Antiquarian Society; and "Portraits Come Alive" and "Portraits of Freedom" for Mechanics Hall. His innovative radio program, "The History Show," appeared on 151 public radio stations in 47 states. He lives in Charlton, Massachusetts, with his wife, Elizabeth and cat, Bingo.

Copies of "The History Show" will be available for sale at the June 30 program, with the proceeds supporting both sponsoring institutions. "Land, Revolution and Charlton" is free and open to the public.

About CHPT

Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust acquires and maintains open space properties and conducts programs to enlighten and entertain people of all ages about protecting and enjoying the natural world. CHPT owns 19 conservation properties in Charlton, totaling over 200 acres of natural land open to the public. CHPT works with landowners, developers, and the town to balance healthy economic growth with conservation of important natural resources and historically significant places. CHPT relies on donations of land and funds to make new conservation projects possible and on the volunteer help of its members and friends to preserve conservation areas for the public benefit. For more information and to check out all our properties, go to CharltonTrust.org or follow up on Facebook (Charlton Heritage Preservation Trust) and Instagram (CharltonTrust).

About CHS

The Charlton Historical Society collects, preserves and shares the history of Charlton, Massachusetts. The Society maintains the Number Two Schoolhouse and the historic Rider Tavern, which serves as home to the Society. The CHS regularly offers tours, talks, and activities for all ages in the Rider Tavern, a twenty-two-room tumpike inn restored to its original 1799 condition. The private, nonprofit CHS also offers programs throughout the community. For more information <https://charltonhistoricalsociety.com>.

founding families whose deep roots in town trace all

the way back to Brimfield's very beginning. A major

highlight of the day was the highly anticipated historic

Local author's bilingual memoir shares journey of resilience and healing

SOUTHBRIDGE — Ashley Daniels Ramos, MSW, DSW(c), a Southbridge resident, social worker, mother, advocate, and doctoral candidate, is proud to announce the release of her debut memoir, "What I Carried," on July 21. The memoir will be available in both English and Spanish, allowing the story to reach a broader audience of readers, survivors, families, and helping professionals.

"What I Carried" is a deeply personal account of resilience, identity, and transformation. Through honest reflection, Ashley shares her experiences navigating childhood trauma, sexual abuse, foster care involvement, motherhood, and the

challenges of finding her voice while overcoming adversity. The memoir follows her journey from survival to healing and purpose, ultimately leading her to a career dedicated to supporting others.

Today, Daniels Ramos works within behavioral health and care management systems, helping individuals and families navigate complex challenges at Advocates, Inc. Her unique perspective of having lived through many of the systems she now serves offers readers a powerful message of hope, perseverance, and growth.

"My hope is that readers see themselves somewhere within these pages," said Daniels Ramos. "No matter

what we carry, our stories matter. Healing is possible, and our experiences do not have to define our future."

In addition to sharing her personal journey, the memoir explores themes of family, identity, resilience, motherhood, education, self-discovery, and the strength required to move forward after difficult experiences. By publishing the book in both English and Spanish, Ashley hopes to increase accessibility and create opportunities for more readers to connect with the story.

Ashley Daniels Ramos, MSW, DSW(c), is a social worker, doctoral candidate, advocate, entrepreneur, and author from Southbridge, Massachusetts. Drawing

from both professional experience and lived experience, she is passionate about helping others find their voice, navigate adversity, and build lives rooted in resilience and purpose.

She currently works in behavioral health and care management while pursuing her Doctor of Social Work degree. She is also the founder of Solune Collective™, a wellness and reflection brand focused on helping people carry less and live with greater intention.

A book signing event is planned at the Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge. Additional event details will be announced soon.

RMV to open new location at Southbridge Marketplace

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) will open a new location at Southbridge Marketplace in Fall 2026, according to an announcement from Capital Group Properties.

The new RMV branch will occupy approximately 7,702 square feet at the shopping center on East Main Street (Route 131), adjacent to Advance Auto Parts and Oasis Nail Salon.

The Southbridge RMV location will offer a full range of services consistent with other RMV branches, including REAL ID trans-

actions, road tests, driver's license and state ID issuance and renewal, as well as other vehicle related services such as title transfers, registrations, and registration updates.

"The addition of the RMV is part of a larger effort by Capital Group Properties to reinvest in Southbridge Marketplace," said Sam Bartoes, Leasing Manager for Capital Group Properties. "The company is advancing major renovations across the center, including a new façade, modern glass storefronts,

new siding, granite curbing, and brick sidewalks designed to enhance curb appeal and create a more inviting shopping environment."

Southbridge Marketplace is a 113,000 square foot shopping center located near Interstates 84 and 90. The property was acquired by Capital Group in January 2025 and continues to serve as a key retail destination for the surrounding community. Leasing opportunities remain available, with spaces ranging from 2,000 - 14,000 square feet.

The RMV is the newest addition to the list of tenants at Southbridge Marketplace, which includes Big Y World Class Market, Aubuchon Hardware, Advance Auto Parts, Family Dollar, Anytime Fitness, and McDonalds.

For additional news and updates about Southbridge Marketplace, please visit <https://capitalgroupproperties.com/retail-property/southbridge-marketplace>.

Learn more about the Registry of Motor Vehicles at: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-registry-of-motor-vehicles>.



Students get blasted with pastels at the start of Tantasqua Regional Junior High School's annual Color Run on June 12. Photo courtesy of the school's Facebook page.

Courtesy Photo

Ruth Wells Center spotlights three unique artists this June

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts, located at 111 Main St. in Southbridge, is thrilled to feature three unique artists for the June show. Gallery hours are Saturday and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. throughout the month. Admission is free and all are welcome to view our local talent.

Found items become flights of fancy, and remind us to be curious.

Elegant watercolors remind us how achingly beautiful this world can be.

Both majestic and fun, wild-life photographs remind that we live alongside the extraordinary.

Stop by, enjoy things worth looking at, have some refreshments,

and help welcome three gifted Southbridge artists who will be in the gallery and look forward to seeing you. All are welcome, and admission is free. The artwork is available for purchase.

David Baggarly was born (1963) and raised in Mattapoisett, graduating in 1985 with a BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art, in Baltimore, Maryland. Previously residing in Baltimore, Providence, R.I., and the New Bedford region, he and his wife have recently been residing in Southbridge MA. David has been a professional artist since 1985.

Baggarly's work has been exhibited around the nation for over 30 years, including most recently his fifth solo exhibit at Colo Colo Gallery, New Bedford; and a solo exhibit at Starlite Gallery in Southbridge. He has recently exhibited at the Danforth Art Museum, Framingham; the Newport Art Museum, Newport, R.I.; the New Bedford Art Museum; and URI, Providence, R.I. His works hang in numerous public and private collections, including MEDITECH Inc. (Fall River facility), Concordia College (Michigan), Johnson & Wales University (R.I.), and the National

Conference of American Bishops (Washington, D.C.). David has also received grants from, among others, the LEF Foundation (CA) and the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. His work is currently represented by Colo Colo Gallery of New Bedford.

Barbara O'Brien "I began drawing and painting at a young age, inspired by my artistic older sister Margaret. Later, I was greatly influenced by my mother-in-law, the artist and teacher Christine O'Brien, as well as my instructors at the School of the Worcester Art Museum. My husband Tom has also been a

constant source of support and remains my most valued critic. After exploring various media, I returned to watercolor painting this past year. My love of nature is a prominent theme in my work, and I am grateful to be able to pursue this passion. I also feel very fortunate to have access to the Open Studio at the Ruth Wells Center for the Arts"

Jim R. Wilton Self-taught and versatile, Jim Wilton is well-known in Worcester County and far beyond for his paintings and photography. He's always busy with commission work and has been shown locally several

times. Jim has self-published two coffee-table photo books and his work has appeared in magazines. He is also a busy presence on Etsy and Facebook where he loves talking with the public about the subjects in his work. He's at his happiest when his work connects with people and makes them feel happy too. Wilton is a valued member of our Board here at the Ruth Wells Center and photography this month. We are pleased to be showing his

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall This two-bedroom cottage near Tignish provides sweeping views of the ocean, the beach, and the North Cape lighthouse. Enjoy kayaking, bicycling, walking the beach, swimming in the warmer Gulf Stream waters, and exploring the community of Nail Pond and the many PEI attractions. Full Appliances. The cottage sleeps six comfortably. Weekly rent is only \$1,100. Contact Scott, for more information at 603-254-5032, or scottm@plymouth.edu.

YEAR-ROUND SHORT-TERM RENTAL Egrets Landing-31A - LIGHTHOUSE POINT CONDOMINIUMS -TYBEE ISLAND, GEORGIA

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What should you do in the new year? Get your "estate needs in order". No one likes to talk about death, that is why you should have everything done in advance. Make sure your hard-earned money and investments are left to those you want. Call me for a free consultation. Also, handling all types of real estate matters.



Cournoyer & Cournoyer, P.C.
Attorney Don Cournoyer, Jr.
Cell: 508-868-7943
don@cournoyerlaw.net



Charlton Public Library to host Repair Café

CHARLTON — The Charlton Library is looking for Fixers for our first Repair Café! Are you good with tools? Do your friends often ask you for advice? Do you enjoy building, maintaining, and fixing things? Are you free on

Saturday, Oct. 24? Reach out to Betsy Perry, Library Director, at 508-248-0452 or perryb@cwmar.org for more information.

What is a Repair Café?

A Repair Café is a gathering of volunteers who offer to consult

on and possibly fix items that would otherwise go to landfills. The Repair Café concept is an attempt to reverse our society's throw away culture. We throw out vast amounts of stuff, even things with almost nothing wrong and which just need a simple repair. The problem is that most peo-

ple don't know how to fix things and often it costs more to have an expert repair something than to simply replace it. But replacing things rather than repairing them wastes raw materials and energy, increases carbon dioxide emissions and expands our overflowing landfills.

The Repair Café will be held Oct. 24 at Charlton Public Library in partnership with Charlton Business Alliance, Charlton Lions Club, and Keep Charlton Beautiful.

Charlton Public Library is located at 40 Main St.

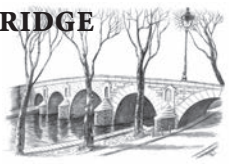
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Friday's Child
Trendiva
Age 9
Registration #9437
Trendiva is a bright, kind, and curious young girl with a warm and engaging personality. She enjoys learning, sharing her thoughts with others, and exploring the world around her. Trendiva makes connections easily when she feels comfortable and supported, and she takes pride in her accomplishments. She is thoughtful, creative, and self-aware, showing maturity as she works on positive habits and personal growth. Her resilience, kindness, and eagerness to try new things make her a joy to be around. Trendiva is a creative learner who especially enjoys math and reading. She loves hands-on activities and projects, such as planting a chia seed fairy garden, and enjoys opportunities to express her creativity. She also takes pride in helping around the home and demonstrates responsibility in her daily routines. Trendiva responds well to encouragement, consistency, and structure, and she thrives when given opportunities to learn, create, and connect with others. With continued support and guidance, Trendiva will continue to grow and shine. She would benefit from a nurturing and encouraging family that can support her academic interests, creativity, and social development while helping her build confidence and explore new experiences.
https://www.mareinc.org/child/50901156408
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.

STONEBRIDGE
PRESS



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EDITOR

A celebration worth remembering

The Semiquincentennial celebration held in Brimfield on June 13 was more than a community event. It was a reminder of why small towns continue to matter in an age when so much of modern life feels disconnected from place, history and one another.

The "Spirit of Brimfield" celebration succeeded because it accomplished something increasingly rare. It brought people together not around controversy or crisis, but around a shared appreciation of where they come from and the stories that connect them.

Across the country, communities are marking the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding in different ways. Some celebrations focus on national figures and historic milestones. Brimfield, along with neighboring Holland and Wales, chose a different approach. The focus was local. The day highlighted the families, volunteers, institutions and traditions that have shaped this corner of Massachusetts for generations.

Perhaps no event captured that spirit more clearly than the historic cemetery tours. The strong attendance demonstrated that people remain deeply interested in the lives of those who came before them. Cemeteries are often overlooked as quiet places of remembrance, yet they are among the most important records a town possesses. Every stone tells a story. Every name represents a family that helped build the community we know today.

The popularity of the tours reflects an important truth. History is not something that exists only in textbooks or museums. It lives in the landscapes we pass every day, the roads we travel, the homes we preserve and the stories we continue to tell.

The success of the celebration also serves as a tribute to the volunteers who invested countless hours behind the scenes. Community events of this scale do not simply happen. They require planning, fundraising, coordination and an extraordinary willingness to give time and energy for the benefit of others. While attendees enjoyed the festivities, many volunteers were working long before the first visitors arrived and long after the final fireworks faded from the sky.

Their efforts paid off. By all accounts, the event ran smoothly, attracted strong participation and showcased the very best qualities of small-town life.

The evening fireworks provided a fitting finale, but the true significance of the day was not found in the display overhead. It was found in the families gathered together, the neighbors reconnecting, the children learning local history and the shared pride visible throughout the community.

As the nation approaches its 250th birthday, celebrations like Brimfield's remind us that America's story is ultimately a collection of local stories. The country's history was built town by town, family by family and generation by generation. Understanding those local roots helps strengthen our appreciation for the larger national story.

The "Spirit of Brimfield" celebration honored the past, but it also pointed toward the future. Young residents who attended the events now have memories of their own to carry forward. The stories shared this year will become part of the community's living history.

That may be the greatest success of all. Long after the tents are packed away and the fireworks are forgotten, the connections formed and renewed during the celebration will endure.

For one June day, Brimfield, Holland and Wales demonstrated what community pride looks like at its best. That is a legacy worth celebrating, not only during a Semiquincentennial year, but every year.

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

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.

OPINION

The mystery of the empty front porch

A few evenings ago, I was taking a walk through a neighborhood not far from home when I noticed something I couldn't stop thinking about. The porches were beautiful.

Fresh paint. Hanging flower baskets. Rocking chairs. Porch swings. Flags fluttering in the breeze. Everything looked exactly the way a New England front porch is supposed to look in June. There was just one thing missing.

People.

Not a single person sat on any of them.

Years ago, front porches were practically community centers. On a warm summer evening, families would gather outside after supper. Neighbors would stop and chat while walking by. Children played in the yard while adults exchanged news, complaints, weather observations, and the occasional town rumor. You didn't need a formal invitation. You simply happened to be outside at the same time. Some of my strongest memories involve those kinds of evenings. Not because anything important happened, but because nothing important happened. Someone waved from across the street. A neighbor wandered over with a question about their lawn mower. A passing dog stopped to make friends. You sat for an hour and somehow learned everything that had happened in town during the previous week.

Today, most of those conversations occur elsewhere. Some happen online. Some happen by text message. Some never happen at all. The porch itself hasn't disappeared. The purpose of the porch seems to have changed. Many of them have become decorative spaces instead of gathering places.

Now, before someone points out that people are busier than they used to be, I understand that. Summer schedules are packed. Youth sports seem to occupy every available hour. Many people work longer days than previous generations. But I don't think busyness tells the whole story. I sus-

LANTERNS ALONG MAIN STREET

By CHARLES

pect we've become remarkably good at retreating indoors. Air conditioning certainly deserves some of the credit. Once temperatures climb into the 80s, a comfortable living room can be difficult to resist. Streaming television, smartphones, laptops, and every other form of entertainment are waiting inside.

The front porch, meanwhile, offers only fresh air and the possibility of an unexpected conversation. Maybe that's exactly why it mattered. Porches created opportunities for small connections that weren't planned or scheduled. They allowed neighbors to become familiar with one another without making a special effort. You learned who always walked their dog at sunset. You knew which neighbor grew the best tomatoes. You recognized the sound of someone's laugh before you ever saw them coming down the sidewalk.

Communities are built from those small interactions. Not grand events. Not official meetings. Not carefully organized programs. Just people seeing each other regularly. The funny thing is that I don't believe we've stopped wanting those connections. Every time a power outage knocks out the Internet for a few hours, people seem to emerge from their houses. Suddenly, neighbors are talking again. Children appear in driveways. The street feels alive. It's as though the desire was there all along, waiting for a reason to come outside.

This summer, I may try an experiment. Instead of heading indoors after dinner, I might spend an evening on the front steps with a cold drink and no agenda. Maybe nobody will walk by. Maybe the whole neighborhood will remain tucked away behind screens and air conditioners. Or maybe someone will stop and say hello. If they do, I suspect we'll find plenty to talk about.

After all, the porch is still there. Perhaps all that's missing is us.

TO THE EDITOR

Your generosity is deeply appreciated

To the Editor:

The Emily Dabrowski Memorial Scholarship Committee has announced the recipients of the 2026 scholarships. This is the tenth year that community members have generously provided these funds. In honor of the 10th anniversary, we have chosen 10 recipients and awarded different amounts totaling \$10,000! These winners from Charlton and Dudley have a history of volunteering in our community and have shown kindness to others, animals and our environment.

The 2026 Emily Dabrowski Memorial Scholarships recipients are:
From Bay Path Vocational High School, Nicholas Jalbert
From Shepherd Hill Regional High School:
Molly Fitton
Anthony Graves
Andrew Heywood
Sarah Miller
Hayley Phommala
Adam Rydlak

Adrienne Warner
Amelia Westbury
Alexa Zannotti

Please help me in congratulating these fine, young people. The scholarships are in memory of my daughter, Emily, who died during her senior year at Shepherd Hill. To make a donation to the Emily Dabrowski Memorial Scholarship Fund, please contact Saver's Bank in Charlton at 508-248-4255.

If you would like to participate in the Golf Tournament, it will take place at the Heritage Golf Course on July 26. Please contact me for more information at Diane01507@gmail.com.

I'd like to thank everyone who has donated to Emily's scholarship fund. Your generosity is deeply appreciated!

Thank you,

Diane Dabrowski
Charlton

Got Space? we do.

Contact Mikaela Today

774-200-7308

mikaela@

stonebridgepress.news

Clare Jetter of Holland receives degree from American International College

SPRINGFIELD — Clare Jetter of Holland has graduated from American International College (AIC) with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

On Saturday, May 9, the College conferred degrees to graduates in the Class of 2026, receiving bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees from its School of Health Sciences, School of Education, and School of Business, Arts, and Sciences.

The ceremony featured a keynote address by Femita Ayanbeku Bradley '14, a world-class Paralympian, advocate, nonprofit founder, and AIC alumna. Bradley also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in recognition of her achievements as an elite athlete and advocate for individuals with disabilities.

Devonte Dillion '17, MBA '19, CEO

and co-founder of Dilligence Training and vice president and co-founder of DT Cares, delivered the alumni address, welcoming graduates into the AIC alumni community and marking their transition into the next stage of their academic and professional journeys.

In her keynote address, Bradley reflected on her experience as an AIC student and the foundation it provided for her career as a Paralympian and advocate.

"Standing here today in front of you all feels surreal, because I remember sitting exactly where you are," she said. "I remember I was full of ambition, full of uncertainty, full of pressure, but best of all I was full of possibility."

A three-time Paralympian and the fastest female amputee in the United

States, Bradley emphasized the importance of resilience and discipline developed during college and carried into life after graduation.

"We often celebrate graduation like it's the finish line, but the truth is, it's only the starting point," she said. "The real success of college is not simply getting your degree; it's the things you do after you get your degree."

She encouraged graduates to focus on their own paths rather than comparisons with others.

"Your life is not a race against the person sitting next to you," Bradley said. "Some of you will move fast. Some of you will take a little more time, and some of you will change

directions completely. Whatever your path is, you are not behind."

AIC congratulates the Class of 2026 and looks forward to seeing all that its newest alumni will accomplish in the years ahead.

Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences. AIC supports and advances education, diversity, and opportunity for its students and the community.

Nathan Wright of Sturbridge named to University of Alabama Dean's List

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Nathan Wright of Sturbridge was named to The University of Alabama Deans List for Spring Semester 2026.

A total of 14,306 students enrolled during Spring Semester 2026 at The University of Alabama were named to the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).

The UA dean's and president's lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.

For more information, visit news.

ua.edu.

The University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state's flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service. With a global reputation for excellence, UA provides a forward-thinking environment and over 200 degree programs on a beautiful, student-centered campus. A leader in cutting-edge research, UA advances discovery, creative inquiry and knowledge through more than 30 research centers. As the state's largest higher education institution, UA drives economic growth in Alabama and beyond.

Joshua Hyde Public Library

306 Main St., Sturbridge
508-347-2512
mayent@cwmar.org

Summer Reading Program 2026
Week of June 29 through July 4

The Library will be closed Saturday, July 4th for the Fourth of July.

STORY TIMES

SUMMER BABY TIME - Join us for rhymes, songs, and lap bounces.

Mondays at 10:45am - 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27 & 8/3

SUMMER TODDLER TIME - Join us for stories, songs, rhymes, and a craft.

Tuesdays at 10:45am - 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, 7/21, 7/28 & 8/4

FRONT LAWN FRIDAYS - Join us for stories and outdoor play.

Fridays at 10:45am - 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24 & 7/31

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Registration is required. All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult caregiver.

DINOSAUR PAINTING WITH POP UP ART SCHOOL

Tuesday, June 30 at 2:30pm. For ages 8 to 12.

MAKE IT MONDAYS - At 3:30pm. For ages 7 to 12.

June 29 - 3D Collage Dinosaurs
WEDNESDAY MORNING MOVIES

- At 10:30am - All movies are rated PG
July 1 - Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs

SCAVENGER HUNTS - In the Children's Room
Dinosaurs - June 24 through July 7

SUMMER COLORING CONTEST
Pick up a coloring page at the library and return it by August 5. Entries will be displayed in the stairwell and one winner from each age group (3-5yrs; 6-9yrs; 10-12yrs) will be chosen by the staff.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Registration is required.

TEEN CRAFTERNOONS - For ages 12 to 18.

Thursday, July 2 at 3:30pm - Chainmail Bracelets

TEEN & ADULT PROGRAMS

Registration is required.

COLOR ME CALM

Wednesday, July 1 and Wednesday, August 5 at 5:30pm. Registration is not required.

SUMMER TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS
Week of June 29 - Air Dry Trinket Bowl

All programs are sponsored by the Friends of the JHPL.

To register for programs and for more information go to sturbridgelibrary.org.

Elms College announces Dean's List for Spring 2026

CHICOPEE — Elms College has named the following students to the dean's list for the spring 2026 semester. Congratulations to all the students who are named to the list!

Mark Maslon of Brimfield

Olivia Morin of Wales

Elms College is a co-educational Catholic college offering a liberal arts curriculum that prepares students holistically for a purposeful life in

a diverse and interconnected world. Founded in 1928 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Elms College has a tradition of educating reflective, principled and creative learners, who are rooted in faith, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, responsive to civic and social obligations, and capable of adjusting to change without compromising principle.

Hofstra University congratulates Spring Dean's List students

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Hofstra University congratulates the students named to the spring 2026 Dean's List for their outstanding academic achievements. Students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 during the semester to make the Dean's List. Students include Chase Brush of Charlton.

Hofstra University's primary mission is to provide a quality education to its

students in an environment that encourages, nurtures, and supports learning. At Hofstra, new ideas take shape through collaboration, engagement, and interaction. Hofstra students create their success with small classes and dedicated faculty, alongside a beautiful campus, plus all the opportunities of New York City within easy reach.

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The Superintendent/Primary Operator will work under the direct supervision and authority of the Brookfield Water Commissioner. This position is responsible for all aspects of supervision, planning, administration, operations-maintenance and customer service of the Brookfield Public Water Department, D1/T1 system.

In accordance with MA DEP regulations, the Superintendent/Primary Operator must be available to the system within one hour travel time.

For more information and a copy of the Position Description, please contact the Brookfield Water Department at 508-867-2930 X17 or via email: hchisholm@brookfieldma.us

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Gateway Players holding auditions for "The Outsider"

SOUTHBRIDGE — Gateway Players Theatre in Southbridge is hosting auditions for "The Outsider" written by Paul Slade Smith. Auditions will be held on Sunday, July 12 and Tuesday, July 14 at 6:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall at Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm St., Southbridge.

Auditions will consist of cold-readings from the script. Show dates are Oct. 9, 10, 16, 17 and 18. Rehearsals will be on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., starting Aug. 3. Character information is listed below. This is an adult production. Directed by Patrick Bracken, and Produced by Ed Humphries. For more information, please contact Gateway at 508-764-4531, or Ed Humphries at ehumphires72@gmail.com. Presented by permission through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals, A

Dramatists Play Service Title
Ned Newley doesn't even want to be governor. He's terrified of public speaking; his poll numbers are impressively bad. To his ever-supportive Chief of Staff, Ned seems destined to fail. But political consultant Arthur Vance sees things differently: Ned might be the worst candidate to ever run for office. Unless the public is looking for the worst candidate to ever run for office.... A timely and hilarious comedy that skewers politics and celebrates democracy.

The production is seeking seven actors to fill the following roles:

PAIGE CALDWELL - female 20s to 40s; a professional publisher. A smart, confident woman who sees politics as a series of contests to be won.

DAVE RILEY - male 30s/40s; The Chief of Staff to the new Governor. Very smart but - despite years of experience in government, endearingly earnest and naive on the subject of politics.

LOUISE PEAKES - female 30s to 50s; A temp employee hired as the Governor's executive assistant. Personable, likable, impressively confident AND entirely inept. Without knowing it, she has the air of a politician about her.

NED NEWLEY - male 50s/60s; The new Governor. A person of impressive ability but a complete lack of confidence. A man awaiting permission to enter a room in which he is already standing.

ARTHUR VANCE - male 50s/60s; One of the most experienced and successful political consultants in the country. He's a showman, but his excitement is 100% genuine and it's contagious.

RACHEL PARSONS - female 30s; A TV reporter. Straight forward and honest, and inquisitive by nature - she's seen enough of life - and politics - to be cynical but she's more apt to make a wry joke.

A. C. PETERSON - male; 30s to 50s. A TV cameraman - a working man who is just fine being the person you didn't notice was there. He has a low tolerance for idiocy and would rather not interact with anyone. This doesn't make him unfriendly - just a mystery.



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SPIRIT
continued from page A1

tion," said Tom Stewart. "Between the flawless weather, the incredible turnout for our sold-out historic cemetery tours, and the sight of so many families packed together enjoying the fireworks, it was a fitting tribute to our nation's rich 250-year legacy. We are deeply grateful to our volunteers, local businesses, and everyone who came out to make memories that will last for generations."

The Spirit of Brimfield committee extends its sincere thanks to local law enforcement and emergency services, whose hard work ensured the entire day went off without a hitch. And to all our sponsors and donors—we could not have done it without you. Special thanks to our guest the honorable State Representative Todd Smola and the honorable State Sen. Ryan Fattman.

For photo galleries from the event or more information on the town's ongoing historical preservation efforts, please visit www.fohbrimfield.org or follow on Facebook -<https://www.facebook.com/SpiritofBrimfield250>, watch the video on YouTube www.YouTube.com/@HistoricBrimfield.



Cornerstone Bank donates \$4,500 to Golf Fights Cancer Golf Marathon

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank donated \$4,500 to support the successful 2026 Golf Fights Cancer 100-Hole Golf Marathon benefiting DetecTogether and its mission to promote early cancer detection education.

Held June 4 & 5 at Juniper Hill Golf Course, the annual fundraiser brought together golfers of all skill levels who played 100 holes to raise funds for cancer-related organizations and programs focused on awareness and early detection.

"DetecTogether is helping people better understand the importance of early cancer detection and encouraging them to take an active role in their healthcare," said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. "We are proud to support Golf Fights Cancer and the organization's efforts

Courtesy Photo

(Right) **Jim Sandagato**, Cornerstone Bank SVP Commercial Lender; **Jim Coghlin Sr.**, Founder of DetecTogether and Chairman of Coghlin Cos., Inc.; **Brady Coghlin**, Supply Chain Analyst at Coghlin Companies; and **Tricia Scannell Laursen**, President of DetecTogether.



to educate communities and help save lives."

Cornerstone Bank has supported the event for several years, contributing \$21,000 over the last three years.

Founded by Jim and Nancy Coghlin and their family, DetecTogether works with healthcare professionals, workplaces, schools and fire departments to provide education focused on recognizing cancer warning signs earlier and improving outcomes through early detection. According to DetecTogether, nearly 40 percent of people will receive a cancer diagnosis in their lifetime, and approximately half of cancers are diagnosed at a late stage.

The Golf Fights Cancer Golf Marathon challenged participants to complete approximately 100 holes of golf while raising funds to support cancer education and advocacy initiatives. The event once again brought together supporters from across the region to advance the fight against cancer through education, awareness and early detection.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone, which is a subsidiary of PeoplesBankCorp, MHC, operating independently under its own name and brand, provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations. With the addition of Athol Savings Bank, a Division of Cornerstone Bank, in 2026, Cornerstone offers customers access to 17 branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts, the most in Worcester County. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Nichols College, Anna Maria College announce partnership to support students' degree completion

DUDLEY — Nichols College and Anna Maria College have announced a partnership to transition Anna Maria's respected public safety and administration programs to Nichols, including its signature fire science program. The two institutions have finalized a proposal outlining the terms of the partnership, which will be submitted to the necessary higher education regulatory agencies, and expect formal approval of the plan soon.

"Nichols College is committed to enabling Anna Maria College students enrolled in its fire science and other vital programs to continue on a clear and seamless pathway toward graduation," said Nichols President Bill Pieczynski. "Our proposal is intended to preserve an important regional pipeline for fire and emergency management profession-

als across New England. We will also fully support Anna Maria students in other majors we already offer such as business administration, criminal justice, psychology and sport management as they transition from their cherished institution to a new home at Nichols. We share a commitment to active, hands-on learning within a small, close-knit community and look forward to welcoming these students to Nichols."

Anna Maria announced on April 23 that it would cease academic operations at the end of the spring 2026 semester after 80 years of operation.

Under the terms of the proposal and subject to securing the necessary regulatory approvals, Anna Maria's in-person Bachelor of Science (B.S.) programs in fire science and emergency management; online B.S.

degree completion programs in fire science and criminal justice; and online Master of Public Administration and Master of Science in criminal justice would transition to Nichols. The Anna Maria B.S. in fire science program is the largest in New England and boasts outstanding certification exam pass rates. Nichols will adopt their existing Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education Initiative (FESHE)-aligned curriculum to ensure that current Anna Maria students remain on track to graduate and that the popular and well-regarded program continues to thrive. Additionally, Nichols intends to bring on several of Anna Maria's dedicated faculty to support the transition and provide continuity for students.

To facilitate quick onboarding, any Anna Maria student in good standing is guaranteed acceptance to Nichols. Further, Nichols' tuition is within 1% of Anna Maria's, and Nichols will match each student's institutional grant up to \$32,000. Housing is available for those students who plan to reside on the College's 200-acre campus in Dudley. Anna Maria alumni are eligible for the same 10% discount that Nichols alumni receive for graduate coursework at Nichols.

"Our responsibility is to ensure that our students are able to move forward and complete their education," said Anna Maria President Sean Ryan. "Nichols has an excellent criminal justice program and is a business school widely respected for its career preparedness, leadership outcomes and commitment to students. We are confident that this proposal with

Nichols College provides a strong and stable path forward for our students."

Anna Maria students seeking information about transferring to Nichols are encouraged to visit: www.nichols.edu/annamaria. The two institutions will share additional information with students, their families and the public as it is available.

About Nichols Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and

businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols College transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused

on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

About Anna Maria College was founded in 1946 by the Sisters of Saint Anne and has operated continuously as a Catholic liberal arts institution in Paxton, Massachusetts, for 80 years. www.annamaria.edu

www.annamaria.edu

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LOCALLY GROWN FAMILY BUSINESS

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)

- \$240 per team
 - One game per week at either 6 or 7 p.m.
 - Maximum of eight teams – don't wait!
 - o Only team captains need to register for their team.
 - o A brief informational captain meeting will be held before the season starts.
 - o 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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OBITUARIES

Jill A. Arsenault, 70

Jill A. Arsenault (Fanning), 70, of Vero Beach, Florida, passed away on June 12, 2026, after an illness, leaving behind a life that was as bright, lively, and unforgettable as the best beach day anyone ever had. She was born on December 12, 1955, in Worcester, Massachusetts, and she spent her years with the kind of energy that made people smile before she even said a word. She was the tiny, spunky, bold blonde with amazing nails who somehow managed to be both the life of the party and the person everyone wanted to sit next to when the music stopped and the good stories started.

Jill was the beloved wife of Daniel Arsenault and the proud mother of William Arsenault of Charlton. She also embraced her stepchildren with the same warmth and loyalty she gave to everyone in her orbit, including Liza Morrill of Woodstock, Connecticut, Tara Fortin of Charlton, and Joseph Arsenault of Millbury. Her grandchildren, Zia Donais, Jacob Fortin, Ava Arsenault, Kayla Fortin, and Lily Morrill, were among the lights of her life, and she loved every moment spent with them, especially the noisy,

joyful, wonderfully chaotic moments that made a house feel like home. She is also survived by her sister, Gail Fanning of Charlton, her nieces Bridget Gammetto of Dudley and Tara Cummings of Charlton, her nephews Liam, Gavin, Finnian, Jameson Groh, and Will and Alexander Gammetto, along with many cousins and friends who were lucky enough to know her. Jill was predeceased by her sister, Lisa J. Cummings, and by her parents, William P. and Mary T. (Brosnahan) Fanning.

Jill retired from Memorial Hospital, where she worked as a surgical technologist, a role that suited her steady hands, quick mind, and calm presence. She brought skill and care to her work, and she had the kind of personality that could make even a stressful day feel a little less serious. She was the sort of person who made others feel welcome, whether she was in a hospital corridor, at a family gathering, or standing on the beach with the wind in her hair and the sun doing its best to keep up with her.



Jill loved the beach and was happiest when she was near the water, boogie boarding like she had a personal appointment with every wave. She was known for being high energy, so happy, and always ready for a good time, which meant that any event she hosted was not just an event but a full production, complete with warmth, laughter, and probably a little more food than anyone had planned for. She loved time with family, time with her grandkids and nephews.

Her cooking became part of her legend. Jill was famous for her amazing spaghetti dinner, apple crisp, and fudge. She loved lobster, loved to read, and even loved watching horror movies. She was loving, kind, and funny, and she had a way of making people feel both deeply cared for and delightfully teased at the same time.

Her friends and family will remember her as generous, loving, and full of life, with a laugh that could change the mood of a room and a presence that made ordinary moments feel spe-

cial. She was always at the beach in spirit, if not in person, and she carried that same open, breezy, joyful energy everywhere she went. Jill had a gift for making people feel included, and she did it with style, humor, and the kind of confidence that can only come from being exactly yourself and knowing that is more than enough.

As Robin Williams once said, "Comedy is acting out optimism." Jill lived that quote without ever needing a microphone. She brought optimism, humor, and heart into every corner of her life, and she did it with the timing of a comedian and the soul of someone who understood that laughter is often the best way to love people well. Her family and friends will miss her deeply, but they will also carry her with them on every beach day, every shared meal, every funny story, and every moment when a little extra kindness is exactly what is needed.

Calling hours will be held from 9:30 AM - 11 o'clock on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at Saint Joseph's Church, 10 H Putnam Road extension Charlton, MA, 01507 followed by a mass of Christian burial at 11 o'clock in the church.

LEGALS

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Under G.L. c.255 Sec.39A Notice is hereby given by Cruise Control Transportation Inc. Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that on or after **JUNE 27, 2026** at Cruise Control Transportation Inc. the following motor vehicle/s will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle:

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VIN:1N6AA07C58N334649
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER:
John Derosiers
16 COLONIAL RD
WEBSTER ,MA 01570

VEHICLE :2008 Chrysler PT Cruiser
VIN:3A8FY48B98T13599
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER:
Amber Rae Pagan
555 WORCESTER ST ,APT 207
Southbridge, MA 01550-3300

VEHICLE :2013 Hyundai SONATA
VIN:5NPEB4AC8DH744888
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER : Daryll Jason Proto
93 PAULINE AVE
WEST HAVEN, CT 06516

VEHICLE:2010 Honda Accord
VIN:1HGCP2F84AA188696
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER: Longbao Xing
16 CROSS ST, APT 303
NEW CANAAN CT 06840-4841

VEHICLE :2008 Hyundai SANTA FE
VIN:5NMSH73E28H222102
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER: Dieubon Charles
171 MECHANIC ST ,
SOUTHBRIDGE ,MA 01550-1971

VEHICLE :2011 Acura MDX
VIN:2HNYD2H26BH532872
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER: Aldrin D Ocampo 49 WYMAN ST
Lynn .MA 01905-1817

VEHICLE:2006 Toyota Corolla
VIN:2T1BR32EX6C644435
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER: Amanda DE Oliveira Silva
38 COLUMBIA ST, APT 1
WORCESTER MA 01604-4676

VEHICLE :2010 Ford Focus
VIN:1FAHP3GN7AW141492
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER: Lisando Perez 57 Wilkinson St.
Putnam CT 06260-2142

VEHICLE :2011 Subaru Legacy
VIN:4S3BMBC69B3246796
LAST KNOWN REGISTERED OWNER: Brian Kevin Connolly
804 SOUTH ST,
SOUTHBRIDGE MA 01550-2156

VEHICLE : 2010 HONDA CIVIC
VIN:JHMF3F21AS004743
LAST REGISTERED OWNER :
Thais Costa Ramos
17 Orchard St Apt 1 ,
Danbury, CT 06810-2757

VEHICLE :2009 Chevrolet Malibu
VIN:1G1ZG57B994173294
LAST REGISTERED OWNER :

Brynna J West
200 MAIN ST ,APT 1
Sturbridge ,MA 01566-1258

VEHICLE:2003 Honda Civic
VIN:2HGES26793H509747
LAST REGISTERED OWNER :
Jaide Hunter (413) 472-0134 950
North Pleasant St
Amherst MA 01002

VEHICLE :2020 Toyota RAV4
VIN:2T3F1RFVXLW108625
LAST REGISTERED OWNER :
Joel Laureano
245 Cabot St ,Apt 303
Beverly Ma,01915
June 12,2026
June 19,2026
June 26,2026
(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 26 SM 001948 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Lauren M. Boucher; Joshua N. Boucher and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Sturbridge, numbered 17 Wallace Road, given by Joshua N. Boucher and Lauren M. Boucher to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for EMM Loans LLC, dated October 27, 2022, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68407, Page 47, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated May 22, 2024 and recorded at said Registry in Book 70660, Page 258 and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before August 3, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on June 16, 2026. Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
June 25, 2026

NOTICE OF SALE Lein Sale

Request a Notice of Lein Sale be Published on the following listed Units
Household & Misc, Items
Unit No 335
Christine Oday
7 Follam Hill Rd
N. Brookfield, MA 01535
Household & Misc, Items
Unit No 125
Diane Curran
1320 Arenidaday Mesilla #1245
Las Cruces, NM 88005
Household & Misc, Items

Unit No 421
Paul LaForte
53 Waterville St
North Grafton, MA 01536
Household & Misc, Items
Unit No 379
William Kingsland
PO Box 23
Siloam, NC 27041
Household & Misc, Items
Unit No 643
Amanda Leaming
33 Leno Rd.
Holland, MA 01521
Household & Misc, Items
Unit No 321
Belinda St. John
PO Box 176
Charlton, MA 01507
LEIN SALE WILL BE HELD:
Date: 7/8/26
Time: 12 Noon
Location: 94 Brookfield Rd., Charlton MA 01507
June 26, 2026
July 3, 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. WO26P1727EA INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Estate Of:
Lillian Miskavich Talbot
Also Known As: Lillian M. Talbot
Date of Death: 08/28/2024

To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Charles L Talbot of Southbridge MA**
Charles L Talbot of Southbridge MA has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
June 25, 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. WO26P1906EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Ramona Santiago
Date of Death: 02/04/2026
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of**

Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Gloria E. Lopez of Springfield 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: .
Gloria E. Lopez of Springfield 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 07/14/2026**.

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: June 16, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
June 25, 2026

Town of Brimfield Conservation Commission Public Hearing Notice

In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, the Brimfield Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, July 08, 2026, at 5:30 PM to review a Notice of Intent (NOI) submitted by Green Hill Engineering, c/o Dana L. Manning. The NOI proposes to construct a single-family home, deck, septic and well.

Project Location: 33 Seventh Street, Brimfield, MA 01010, (Assessor's Map (5A-B-11))

Meeting Location: Public Participation will be In-Person at Hitchcock Academy at 2 Brookfield Road, Brimfield, MA 01010 on July 08, 2026, at 5:30 PM. Any person(s) interested or wishing to be heard on this request should appear at the time and place designated. A copy of the permit application and plan may be inspected at the Brimfield Town Annex in the Conservation Commission Office, Salisbury Annex Building, 2nd Floor, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010 or contact the office at 413-245-4100 ext. 1101.

Roger deBruyn & Joseph Venezia
Co-Chairs
June 17, 2026
June 25, 2026

Town of Sturbridge kicks off inaugural Kids Market

STURBRIDGE — The Town of Sturbridge and the Sturbridge Recreation Department under Recreation Director Andrew St. George is excited to introduce the very first Sturbridge Kids Market to take place on Sunday, Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. on the Town Common. Though separate from the Farmers' Market, the event will take place during the Market to ensure a broad audience for these creative young-resident businesses.

St. George describes this as a fun, hands-on opportunity for young entrepreneurs to launch their own small businesses! He added that the goal is, "Giving participating children the opportunity to experience a real market environment while showcasing their creativity and entrepreneurial spirit to the community."

The program is open to children entering grades 3-8 this fall and participants will create and market their own products, learn basic business and financial skills, and interact with customers in a real market environment. St. George says that the goal is to build confidence and entrepreneurship skills as well as experience what it's like to run a business.

Types of businesses that may be represented are those that produce hand-made crafts, artwork, jewelry, games,

or decorations. Some may showcase inventions or services. St. George says that the goal of the program is to encourage imagination, responsibility, problem solving, and community involvement in a supportive and exciting environment.

Participation is limited to 10 vendors for the first year, and applications will

be reviewed to help ensure a diverse and balanced market featuring a variety of products and ideas.

Applications are accepted through June 18, with selected participants notified by July 1st.

Town Administrator Robin Grimm said, "This is a great opportunity for our young residents to become engaged

in the community and learn valuable business skills. I am thankful to our Recreation Department as well as the Recreation Board for this creative initiative."

Director St. George presented this to the Sturbridge Selectboard at a recent meeting where it garnered praise from all of the members.



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New England Water Ski Collective to host State Slalom Championships at Buffumville Lake

CHARLTON — The New England Water Ski Collective (formerly known as the Webster Water Ski Collective) is proud to announce that it will host the Massachusetts State Slalom Championships on July 15 at Buffumville Lake, located on the Oxford/Charlton town line. A competitors practice session will take place on July 14 for this event.

This event marks the first time in many years that a Massachusetts State Slalom Championship tournament will be held in the Commonwealth. The New England Water Ski Collective is honored to bring this prestigious competition back to Central Massachusetts, where it will showcase the best water skiers from across the state and surrounding regional area.

How Slalom works
Slalom skiing is one of the most popular and recognizable disciplines in water skiing. Performed on a single ski, it is the skill that many beginners aspire to master — and what elite skiers make look effortless.

In competition, a slalom course is comprised of six fixed buoys positioned 11.5 meters (37.73 feet) to the left

and right of the boat's centerline. The centerline itself is marked by boat guide buoys spaced 2.1 meters (6.89 feet) apart to ensure precise boat path alignment.

A successful pass requires the skier to:

- Enter through the starting gates
- Pass around the outside of all six buoys
- Exit cleanly through the end gates

Only after clearing the exit gates is the pass considered complete.

Depending on a skier's category and ability level, rope length begins as long as 18.25 meters (60 feet) and can shorten to an incredibly challenging 9.75 meters (32 feet). After each successful pass, the rope is shortened — increasing the difficulty — while boat speeds can increase up to a maximum of 36 mph depending on division.

As rope lengths shorten and speeds increase, the physical demands grow dramatically. Professional skiers are known to generate cross-course speeds between 60–75 mph across the wake as they accelerate from one buoy to the next.

Final scores are recorded

based on boat speed, rope length, and the number of completed buoys. The skier who can complete the most buoys at the shortest rope length and highest speed earns the victory.

Competition will be conducted under the standards of the American Water Ski Association (AWSA), whose official rules govern sanctioned tournament slalom events.

Supporting conservation and accessibility

Tournament profits will be donated to support conservation efforts and improvements to the grounds at Buffumville Dam, maintained by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

In addition, the New England Water Ski Collective plans to install accessible beach mats at Buffumville Beach this summer to improve shoreline access for individuals with mobility challenges — ensuring more members of the community can safely enjoy the lake.

Built on partnership and community

The Collective's Slalom/Competition Team has worked diligently to build partnerships with regional

ski teams, individual competitors, and the Army Corps of Engineers to bring this championship event to life. The coordination of athletes, officials, volunteers, and site logistics represents months of collaboration.

Led by director Joe Zmetra, the New England Water Ski Collective's competition team is especially excited to see many of its own members compete on home water as they pursue qualification for AWSA Eastern Regionals and Nationals.

Zmetra reflected on the athleticism required in the sport: "Slalom is as much about strength as it is about precision. The skier has to generate incredible power across the wake, maintain perfect form in and out of their cuts, and carry maximum velocity into each turn. At the buoy, you need the ability to stop on a dime, change direction instantly, and set up your next cut with total control. It's a balance of explosiveness and technique — and when it all comes together, it's an amazing thing to watch."

All abilities — one passion
The championship represents more than just competition — it reflects the

Collective's mission of "All Abilities — One Passion."

"Our team is incredibly excited to bring the Massachusetts State Slalom Championships back to Central Massachusetts," said Leonardo Topa, President of the New England Water Ski Collective. "All three divisions of our organization have worked together to make this event possible, while also supporting our other major initiatives this season — including our Learn to Ski programs and our traveling adaptive ski clinics. This tournament shows how our organization continues to grow while making sure everyone has the opportunity to get out on the water and enjoy the sport we love."

The New England Water Ski Collective is eagerly awaiting the warmer weather as it prepares to begin a busy season that will see its members actively skiing and competing across the New England region.

About the New England Water Ski Collective

The New England Water Ski Collective is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization devoted to making water skiing and water sports

accessible to all. Through its Adaptive, Competitive, and Recreational ski teams, the organization works to remove barriers to participation and grow the sport throughout the New England region.

As a nonprofit, the Collective relies on the generosity of donors, community partners, and sponsors to help expand programming, host events, and provide opportunities for athletes of all abilities.

If you are interested in donating to support our Adaptive, Competitive, or Recreational ski teams, please contact our Sponsorship Coordinator, Juliet, at Juliet@NewEnglandWaterSki.org

By supporting the New England Water Ski Collective, you are helping ensure that more individuals — regardless of age or ability — have the chance to experience the thrill and community of water skiing.

For more information about the Massachusetts State Slalom Championships or the New England Water Ski Collective, please contact New England Water Ski Collective at (774) 495-0165 or comp@newenglandwaterski.org.



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MTD Micro Molding appoints John Clark as Chief Executive Officer

CHARLTON — MTD Micro Molding has named John Clark its Chief Executive Officer, effective June 10.

Clark brings more than two decades of expertise in tooling, operations, and high-precision medical manufacturing — and a deep, firsthand understanding of what it takes to reliably produce increasingly complex miniaturized medical components.

Clark first joined MTD in 2008 as a toolmaker and became a key leader during a transformative period of expansion, overseeing the completion of the facility addition that doubled MTD's manufacturing footprint. His return earlier this year — one of several strategic additions to MTD's leadership and technical team — began as Director of Operations before MTD named him CEO. He came back because he believes there's no team in the industry that does what MTD does.

"Customers today are more informed about micro molding than ever," said Clark, "asking detailed questions about equipment, process discipline, and technical capabilities. What they're looking



for is what MTD has been developing for decades. This isn't a new niche for us. We're the ones who defined — and continue to redefine — what this work requires."

MTD recently optimized what may

be the smallest overmold design in its 50-year history — one example of the complex programs the company is taking on. In the first five months of 2026, MTD produced four million components across 45 production molds, including tiny orthopedic implants with dead-sharp tips, thin-wall components for minimally invasive procedures, bioresorbable implants, and intricate multi-step overmolded devices. MTD has also reactivated internal lab and testing equipment to advance its materials analysis capabilities, supporting more precise polymer characterization across complex programs.

This reflects a year of deliberate investment in the leadership, technical depth, and

operational foundation that make MTD an effective single-source partner for its customers, from concept through validated production. While many manufacturers focus on what's easily producible, MTD starts by understanding why each spec matters.

"By investing ahead of industry needs and developing capabilities before they're required," said Clark, "we help our customers bring the next generation of medical devices to market with confidence."

"Dennis used to say that what made MTD special was the team's mentality — taking on the projects that start with some element of impossibility and finding a way to conquer them," said Darlene Tully, Owner of MTD Micro Molding. "John has carried that mentality throughout his career here. He doesn't make promises he can't keep, and he builds teams and processes that deliver on the ones he does. That's the foundation of every customer relationship MTD has, and it's why I trust him to lead this company Ever Forward."

About MTD Micro Molding

MTD Micro Molding is a single-source manufacturer in Charlton, specializing in minimally invasive medical and healthtech devices — from complex overmolded applications to bioabsorbable implants. Leveraging deep expertise and advanced in-house capabilities in tooling, molding, automation, and metrology, MTD partners with customers to solve micro manufacturing challenges and achieve validated production, faster speed-to-market, and long-term price stability.

Learn more at mtdmicromolding.com

"Escape to Margaritaville" with the Gateway Players

SOUTHBRIDGE — Gateway Players Theatre in Southbridge presents "Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville," with book by Greg Garcia and Mike O'Malley, music and lyrics by Jimmy Buffett. Performance dates are July 31 and Aug. 1 at 7:30 p.m. & Aug. 2 at 2 p.m. at the Southbridge Middle/High School Auditorium, 132 Torrey Rd., Southbridge. Directed by Patricia Haddock, Produced by Kathi Grenier, Music Director Chris Rubenacker, and Choreographer Harlie Packard. Presented by permission through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for seniors and youth under 18. Tickets may be reserved by calling Gateway at 508-764-4531. Online credit card ticket sales are available at <https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/gateway-players/jimmy-buffett-s-escape-to-margaritaville>

The cast includes: Andrew St. George, Sarah Tonkin, Jonathan Martin, Abi Simpson, Billy Bolster, Gwen O'Brien, Peter Amaral, Chris Lam, Asher McCoy, Shawn Davis, Hillary Robertson, David

Yutzler, Ray Petrelli, Cheri Cooper, Mari Cordero, Emma Holtz, Tiffany Betty, and Lydia Woznicki.

On a small island in the Caribbean, vacation goes and the laid-back staff of the Margaritaville bar flirt, unwind and sip drinks under the sun. When an ambitious tourist named Rachel arrives with her friend Tammy for a much-needed vacation, she finds an unexpected romance with Tully, the island bartender and musician. As paradise collides with real life, both are faced with deciding what they want beyond the sandy beaches of Margaritaville. This tropical romantic comedy has plenty to laugh at and a sweet love story — all underscored by Jimmy Buffett's classic tunes, including "Cheeseburger in Paradise," "Margaritaville," "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere," "Fins," "Volcano," and many more. With a book by Emmy Award winner Greg Garcia ("My Name is Earl," "Raising Hope") and Emmy nominee Mike O'Malley ("Survivor's Remorse," "Shameless"), this hilarious, heartwarming musical is the party you've been waiting for!

Eastern students make spring 2026 Dean's List

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. — Eastern Connecticut State University recently released its Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester, recognizing 1,216 students for maintaining high GPAs.

Among them are Cooper Way of Charlton, a full-time senior majoring in English; Hannah Johnson of Holland, a full-time senior majoring in physical education; and Cristal Hernandez of Southbridge, a full-time senior majoring in communication, film, and theatre.

To qualify for Dean's List, full-time students must complete a minimum of 12 credits in letter-graded courses with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher in the semester. Part-time students are eligible if they've accumulated 15 or more credits

of letter-graded coursework with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Eastern Connecticut State University is the state of Connecticut's public liberal arts university, serving upwards of 4,000 students annually on its Willimantic campus. A residential campus offering 41 majors and 68 minors, Eastern offers students a strong liberal arts foundation grounded in a variety of applied learning opportunities. Ranked among the top 25 public institutions in the North by U.S. News & World Report in its 2025-26 Best Colleges ratings, Eastern has also been awarded 'Green Campus' status by the Princeton Review 15 years in a row. For more information, visit www.easternct.edu.

Local residents inducted into

National Scholastic Honor Society

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Local Saint Anselm College students, including Caraline Stewart of Brimfield, have been accepted into the Tau chapter of the Delta Epsilon Sigma National Scholastic Honor Society for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Students are considered for membership if they have completed at least 50% of the credit requirements for their degree and are ranked in the top

20% of their class. Candidates also must have demonstrated dedication to intellectual activity and service to their community.

Founded in 1939, Delta Epsilon Sigma (DES) is the national scholastic honor society for students, faculty, and alumni of colleges and universities with a Catholic tradition. Their purpose is to recognize academic accomplishments, foster scholarly activities, and encourage a sense of intellectual community among its members. The Tau chapter at Saint Anselm College is one of 119 DES chapters

nationwide and has inducted 763 members to date.

Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a nationally-ranked four-year liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in the greater Boston region in southern New Hampshire, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, commitment to inclusiveness, a highly successful nursing program, and a legacy of community service.

Delaney Bodamer of Charlton named to Spring Provost's List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Delaney Bodamer of Charlton achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA during the spring 2026 semester, earning a spot on the Provost's List at Hofstra University. Delaney's major is Theater Arts.

Hofstra University's primary mission is to provide a quality education to its students in an environment that encourages, nurtures, and supports learning. At Hofstra, new ideas take shape through collaboration, engagement, and interaction. Hofstra students create their success with small classes and dedicated faculty, alongside a beautiful campus, plus all the opportunities of New York City within easy reach.

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