

WEBSTER TIMES

Free by request to residents of Webster, Dudley and the Oxfords

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Friday, August 28, 2026

Strategic Master Plan Committee seeks public’s input

WEBSTER — The Webster Strategic Master Plan Committee (SMPC) wants to hear from Webster residents.

In June, the Board of Selectmen appointed the committee to develop a Strategic Plan that will guide Webster over the next decade. The Committee is in the information gathering phase of the project. It is reaching out via the town’s NotifyMe system to ask residents to answer some questions about Webster. The answers will provide a better understanding of the community’s thoughts about a future Webster. It will help lay a basis for the development of strategic goals and objectives.

The SMPC is not starting from scratch. Webster is fortunate to have a wealth of information available to assist the Committee in developing the strategic plan. Key is the prior Master Plan which will be updated in this effort. More recent plans cover demographics, economic development, land use, hazard mitigation, community development, and town services. These plans have been generated to allow the town to apply for resources in specific areas. They will be very useful in building a strategic plan. One

Turn To INPUT page A10



Courtesy

Last week, the Webster Police Department held its physical fitness test for candidates currently in our hiring process. The test was administered by Chief Shaw, Lieutenant Trainor and several other Officers & Detectives. The test consisted of push-ups, a plank, one-and-a-half-mile run and a 300-meter sprint. The department would like to congratulate those who passed the assessment and have moved on to the next step in our hiring process. If you are interested in becoming a Webster Police Officer, keep an eye out for future testing opportunities! Good luck to those candidates who have progressed to the next phase of the process! Photo courtesy of the department’s Facebook page.

Two men arrested after melee at Dog Park

WEBSTER — On Thursday, Aug. 6 at approximately 7:37 p.m., Officer Nicholas Trinque of the Webster Police Department was patrolling Main Street when he observed a fight at the Black Bull Meat Market. Officer Trinque radioed for other Officers to assist as both men had injuries.

As additional officers arrived, they learned this altercation stemmed from a previous fight at the dog park on High Street. Officer

Aaron Suss proceeded to that location and observed two men, one of which was lying face up on the ground with blood all over him. The man was breathing but was unconscious. Webster EMS was requested to respond.

Officers continued their investigation and learned that multiple men were at the dog park sitting at one of the tables drinking alcoholic beverages. At one point, one of the men, Mr. Derick Brock, started arguing with another man

(who is 63 years of age) and began punching him, causing serious injuries. This resulted the group of men all fighting each other in a melee. Another one of the individuals involved, Mr. Robbie Hryzan, kicked another in the face with a shoe on, resulting in injuries. It was also reported that Mr. Brock was armed with a knife during the fight.

As a result of the incident, Mr. Brock and Mr. Hryzan were arrested without incident.

Derick Brock, 41, of Brandon Road, Dudley, was arrested for A&B on a Person Over 60 Causing Injury and Disorderly Conduct. Robbie Hryzan, 56, of Main Street, Worcester, was arrest for A&B with a Dangerous Weapon and Disorderly Conduct. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Dudley-Charlton Regional School District sets public information meeting regarding Sept. 29 special election

DUDLEY — The Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee has called a district-wide special election in both Dudley and Charlton seeking voter authorization to borrow \$11,183,735 for capital improvements.

School District officials have set a public information meeting for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 2 at Shepherd Hill Regional High School, 68 Dudley-Oxford Road. Dudley residents are invited to learn more about the district’s plan for capital improvements and ask questions.

Dudley’s share of the borrowing is \$5 million, with Charlton voters considering the remaining share in a concurrent district-wide election. A simple majority of the combined ballots cast in both Dudley and Charlton will decide the question.

The Special Election polls will be open at the Dudley Municipal Complex from noon to 8 p.m. on Sept. 29.

Saint Joseph School celebrates Kindergarten Class of 2026



WEBSTER — On Wednesday, June 10, Saint Joseph School Kindergarten students and their families gathered in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium to celebrate an exciting milestone as the students participated in their Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony. Dressed proudly in traditional Saint Joseph School red and white caps and gowns, the students processed into the gymnasium as family members, faculty, and friends looked on with pride.

The ceremony began with welcome remarks from Kindergarten Instructor, Mrs. Alicia Maurer,

followed by the students leading the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, The Our Father, and The Hail Mary. The graduates then showcased their talents through musical performances of “One Small Voice,” “Hosanna!,” and “Kindergarten Graduation,” inspired by songs from the beloved musical Grease.

One of the highlights of the morning was the students sharing what they hope to become when they grow up. Their dreams reflected both creativity and ambition, with students sharing aspirations of becoming teachers, singers, a

nurse, police officer, astronaut, soccer player, veterinarian, zoologist, artist, baker, banker, builder, construction worker, gymnastics coach, ballerina teacher, dog sitter, reading teacher, and even a Savannah Bananas baseball player. The wide variety of responses brought smiles to the audience and served as a reminder of the limitless potential within this special group of students.

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of graduation certificates by Principal Beth Boudreau, followed by a special slideshow celebrating memorable moments

from the school year and the many accomplishments of the Kindergarten Class of 2026.

This year, 23 students proudly advanced to First Grade: Joel Anobah, Gloria Basha, Wesley Goulet, Maeve Haynes, Anna Berry, Zuzanna Bialik, Faustyna Kicilinski, Giovanni Laramee, Alex Chruslicki, Emy Corbin, Lillith Marchand, Elliette Nowicki, Sadie Dejorda, Milena Deptula, Eve Pytko, Sonny Saad, Marcus DiTullio-Cedeno, Sophia Dowd, Robert Thrun, Brody Walker, Charles Dziedzic, Aceson Wright, and Emilia Dziobak.

Saint Joseph School Kindergarten students are taught by Mrs. Alicia Maurer, with the support of Mrs. Sandra Gibson, whose dedication, encouragement, and care helped prepare these young learners for a successful transition into First Grade.

Congratulations to the Saint Joseph School Kindergarten Class of 2026. We wish each of these students continued success as they begin the next chapter of their educational journey!

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Bites, Books & Blooms Ticket Sales begin Aug. 24



A Book in Bloom from Flower Garden Florist & Gifts of Webster.

WEBSTER — Don't miss out! The fourth annual gala event, "Bites, Books and Blooms" is coming to the Gladys E. Kelly (Webster) Library on Wednesday, Sept. 23, from 6 to 8 p.m. The Friends of the Library invite you to an evening of live music, food, a beer and wine cash bar, and, of course, Books in Bloom. Local florists, clubs, churches and some crafty individu-

als are busy designing displays made from flowers and whatever props spring to their imaginations to represent their chosen book or poem. For example, Flower Garden of Webster created this take on Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets featuring Hedwig in some mood-setting vegetation. Owner Lisa Grzyb hints that her submission this

year might require a power source-? We can't wait to see what it will be! As in past years, Bistro Eighty Ates will provide delicious hors d'oeuvres, and the Latin jazz and instrumental trio RioFlow (led by Peruvian-born guitarist Dr. Carlos Odría) will lend a smooth vibe to the evening. Tickets, \$50 each, will go on sale on Aug. 24 on the library Web site, gladyskellylibrary.org, and in-person at the library. Proceeds from ticket sales help to keep

all programs free to the public. Stop by the library to hear what's available to our community: yoga classes, book clubs, historical walks and talks, trivia nights, Dungeons & Dragons events, children's book character appearances, music programs, Lego building, and many more! While you're there, we hope you'll want to sign up as a Friend of the Library, too, to add your support and stay informed about all the events and opportunities.

Generous supporting individuals and businesses have donated more than 20 gift baskets and gift certificates to the fundraiser as well. These and a 50-50 raffle prize will be awarded to some lucky winners at the BB&B. Come as you are or "dress to the nines" and make this a great night out while supporting the community!

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Dudley's First AgriFest & Family Fun Day set for Sept. 12

DUDLEY — The Dudley Agricultural Advisory Commission and the Dudley Recreation Commission are excited to announce a AgriFest & Family Fun Day, on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dudley Municipal Building, 71 West Main St. Rain or Shine!

This exciting community event will give local residents and visitors an opportunity to engage with local farmers and vendors. It's a great way to support local agriculture while bringing the community together for a fun-filled day.

Event features include:

-Heaviest Tomato Contest - Think you've grown a prize-winning tomato? Enter our Heaviest Tomato Contest for a chance to win a gift card prize! Contest entries must be brought to the event in person—photos will not be accepted.

Free family fun for everyone In addition to shopping from local farms:

- Food vendors
- Live music
- Access to Dudley's new Fun Zone Playground
- Family-friendly activities

Local farm vendors wanted Local farms are invited to participate by selling farm products or promoting agricultural-related services.

Whether you offer farm-raised meats, riding lessons, fresh produce, flowers, or other agricultural services, we'd be happy to include you in this event.

Reserve your space Farmers or Food Vendors interested in participating should reserve a vendor space by emailing:

LLorkiewicz@dudleyma.gov Please Note: Vendors will be reviewed by the organizers and upon approval must provide their own tables, tents, and display equipment.

Vendor Registration Deadline — Friday, Sept. 4.

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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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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A plan for Webster should belong to Webster

Long-range planning can sound like the sort of work best left to consultants, committees and municipal officials. There are statistics to compile, land-use maps to study, economic trends to consider and reports stretching back years to review.

But the most important ingredient in Webster’s new Strategic Master Plan cannot be found in any report. It is the people who live here.

The Webster Strategic Master Plan Committee is now asking residents to help shape a plan intended to guide the town for the next decade. That request deserves a strong response from the community.

Webster is not beginning this process with a blank sheet of paper. The town already has substantial planning work available covering demographics, economic development, land use, hazard mitigation, community development and municipal services. The Community Wide Preservation Plan completed last year adds another valuable piece by examining both Webster’s history and opportunities for revitalization.

Those documents provide data and professional analysis. What they cannot provide on their own is the everyday experience of living in Webster in 2026.

Residents know which intersections cause headaches. They know which neighborhoods have changed, where development has helped and where concerns remain. Business owners understand the challenges of operating here. Parents see the needs of young families. Senior citizens can identify obstacles that may not be obvious to younger residents. People who have lived in Webster for generations bring one perspective, while newer residents can bring another. All of those voices have value.

There is also something encouraging about the committee’s approach. Residents are being surveyed, but that is not the only source of information. The committee also plans focus groups involving business, community and government representatives, interviews and updated statistical research. Taken together, those efforts should provide a much fuller picture of Webster than any single method could accomplish. The greater challenge will come after the plan is written.

Municipal shelves everywhere contain impressive planning documents that were carefully researched, professionally presented and gradually forgotten. Webster officials appear to recognize that danger. The stated intention of creating a “living plan,” potentially accompanied by annual action plans and progress reviews by the Board of Selectmen, may ultimately be as important as anything contained in the final document.

A strategic goal without responsibility, deadlines or follow-through is little more than a wish.

That is why the eventual plan should identify realistic priorities and establish ways for residents to see whether progress is being made. Not every objective can be accomplished immediately, and circumstances will inevitably change over a decade. A useful strategic plan should be flexible enough to respond to those changes without losing sight of the larger direction residents have chosen.

Webster also has an opportunity to recognize that planning for the future and preserving the past are not competing goals. The town’s mill history, its connection to Samuel Slater and the neighborhoods and institutions that developed over generations are part of Webster’s identity. Thoughtful revitalization can build upon that history rather than erase it.

The committee expects to begin drafting long-term goals and objectives in October, with completion of the plan scheduled for February 2027. That makes the current information-gathering period especially important.

Residents who have complained about something in town, praised something that works particularly well or thought, “Webster really ought to...” now have an opportunity to turn that observation into useful input.

Ten years from now, people will still be living with decisions Webster makes today. The best way to make those decisions reflect the community is for the community to participate.

Viewpoint

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The next six years matter

To the Editor:

While I respect Ed Markey and am grateful for his decades of service to Massachusetts, when I cast my vote in the Democratic primary, I will be voting for Seth Moulton. I won’t be voting based on gratitude for the past. I’ll be thinking about the next six years and what they may demand of us.

These are not ordinary times. Our institutions are being tested, our politics are increasingly polarized, and too many elected officials seem more interested in protecting their positions than challenging a system that isn’t working in Washington.

I believe Massachusetts needs Seth Moulton in the U.S. Senate.

Moulton has served his country as a Marine and Massachusetts in Congress. More importantly to me, he has shown a

willingness to lead when leadership carries a cost. He has challenged his own party, pushed for generational change and demonstrated the independence that I believe we desperately need in Washington.

This isn’t about age. And it isn’t about diminishing Senator Markey’s accomplishments. It’s about recognizing that there are moments when experience must be matched with new energy, urgency and a willingness to disrupt the status quo.

I believe this is one of those moments.

Primarys are too important to leave to someone else. On September 1, please show up. Vote. And if you believe Massachusetts is ready for its next generation of leadership, join me in voting for Seth Moulton.

Thanks,

RAQUEL COLBY
WEBSTER

Vote for Jeremy Whalen

To the Editor:

As the Sept. 1 Democratic primary approaches for Massachusetts’ 1st Congressional District, it is time for a fresh generation of leadership. Please join me in voting for Jeromie Whalen to replace long-time incumbent U.S. Rep. Richard Neal.

While Rep. Neal has a long history in Washington, he has grown comfortable, distant, and increasingly reliant on corporate PAC money. Central Massachusetts deserve a representative who is visible, reachable, and directly engaged with the everyday struggles of working families rather than corporate donors.

Jeromie Whalen—a public high school teacher and community builder—brings authentic energy and a people-first platform

to this race. His campaign focuses on the issues that actually impact our neighbors:

- Fighting for affordable housing and a true living wage.
- Championing Medicare for All and robust public education.
- Demanding a fair tax system where the wealthy pay their fair share.
- Refusing corporate PAC money to remain strictly accountable to the district.

Politics should be personal, transparent, and grounded in community. It is time to pass the baton to a public servant who listens, shows up, and leads with humanity. On Sept. 1, vote for Jeromie Whalen.

Sincerely,

RICK HANAUER AND MARY WELLS
OXFORD

Manchaug Pond vs. Webster Lake

To the Editor:

If you Google “Webster Lake Association,” you will see the heading “Preserving Webster Lake.” If you Google “Are weeds good for New England lakes?” you will read a resounding: Yes. The predominant weed in Webster Lake is Coontail (nickname given to it because it looks like a racoon’s tail). The Google description: “...a native perennial plant that provides good ecological benefits by housing fish and FILTERING WATER.” It goes on: “Provides crucial hiding spots for small fish (which largemouth and smallmouth bass need to grow and flourish) and macroinvertebrates.”

I am a fisherman, and have been fishing in Webster Lake since 1978. It was one of my favorite bodies of water to spend a day. It always (and the unexaggerated word is “always”) gave up 6 and 7 pound giant largemouth and consistent three-and-a-half-to-four-pound smallmouth. You would also catch a trout or two. Those days have, over the past four or five years, completely disappeared.

As a tournament bass fisherman, I am penalized if a fish dies. Therefore, all bass boats are equipped with aerated livewells to keep the fish alive until the 3 p.m. weigh-in. What’s important for readers to know is that these tournaments end with all the fishermen talking about their day and the lake we just spent 8 hours. The conversations will always talk about the quality and the number of fish caught. The picture painted is disturbing.

Comparing Manchaug Pond in Sutton to Webster Lake is quite telling. As the

“crow flies” the lakes are about two and a half miles apart. Almost every tournament in Manchaug produces several six- and seven-pound bass. The lake is magnificent, as Webster Lake was several years ago. The question has to be asked and asked by the organization that claims it is “Preserving Webster Lake,” What has happened to Webster Lake?

The answer is that chemicals that kill the all important Coontail, is killing the lake. The hired killers are doing a great job. The weed, which replenishes itself every summer, is killed off usually by July. In shallow water, where skiers and swimmers don’t go, Coontail can mat over, but this unused water isn’t bothering anyone. I have witnessed weed kill in small bays and even in Stump Pond to the left of Memorial Beach. That area is 3’ deep and full of rock and huge stumps. Nobody is going to ski or swim there – and that is just one example of the killing.

What do the people on Manchaug or Sutton do to keep their lake so pristine? They have harvesters (my word) chop and collect the weed. They look like paddle boats in reverse. They chop and collect and sell the grass as fertilizer. No chemicals, no poison — Webster Lake will be healthy again. And don’t say you don’t know how. Someone that cares about the life of Webster Lake - call someone in Sutton. Someone there knows how to do it right.

RAY LENTINE
OXFORD

We must decide if we will allow an authoritarian state to exist

To the Editor:

I am the direct beneficiary of being a child of the 1950’s and 1960’s, and then an adult in the 1970’s. I was a paperboy for many years, and along with millions of other Americans, we had Walter Cronkite, Chet Huntly and David Brinkly and great newspapers like the Webster Times to report daily on true things in the world. As I was delivering my papers every day, reading the headlines and listening to the icons of the news world at that time, I enjoyed some trust of what was real and true. Some wisdom was a natural benefit. That trust and integrity no longer exist for many.

Not long after 1974, we, as a nation, began to experience significant conscious disinformation from our elected government leaders and media, including many individuals going to jail for information crimes, news papers going bankrupt and the advent of cable news. This turbulent information ecosphere continued to grow even through the invention of “alternative facts” for things we saw with our own

eyes but were instructed not to believe. Currently, our democracy is being systematically destroyed by national leaders and media that lie like the rest of us breath. It is a difficult situation that a growing part of our population believes the lies because of ideology and have limited truth checking resources. Alternative facts do not exist; dogs and cats are safe.

It is my belief that if the majority of we the people (i.e., the electorate) who are frightened by the events that have quietly swamped our world and democratic values with regard to attacking of our allies, elimination of soft power, squandering or national credibility and allowing rampant corruption, we the people will need to decide if we will allow an authoritarian state to exist in America 250 years after our democracy was formed. I think not. Our democracy provides for an unquestionable path to correcting this situation at the ballot box in November. I encourage everyone to make use of it.

BILL MAY
DUDLEY

Build confidence in your 401(k) decisions



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In its simplest form, saving can mean putting money into a jar, adding to it and letting it grow slowly. A 401(k), or other workplace retirement plan, is a step beyond that. It’s more like a garden than a jar. Once you understand the basics of your 401(k), it becomes easier to feel confident in your decisions.

In a jar, your money only grows when you add more. In a garden, what you plant can begin to grow on its own. Your investments can earn returns, and those returns may in turn earn additional returns. That’s called compounding, and it can have a meaningful impact over time. Like a garden, however, growth is not guaranteed. Markets can rise and fall, and investments can lose value.

Most workplace retirement plan contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, which lowers today’s taxable income; you’ll pay taxes when you withdraw it in retirement. Some plans also offer a Roth option: you contribute after-tax dollars and withdrawals in retirement can be tax free. Your plan administrator can provide more information.

Many 401(k) plans include an employer match, either up to a set dollar amount, perhaps \$500, or a percentage of your salary, typically 3–5 percent. Contributions you make, as well as those from your employer, can grow over time. Try to contribute at least enough to capture the full match; anything less means you’re leaving money on the table.

Now the question is how to invest your contributions inside your 401(k). The menu of investment options may seem complicated, but most fall into a few common categories.

Stock or equity funds focus on stocks, which represent ownership in companies. Because they’re tied to company performance, they have the potential for higher growth over time, but their value can go up and down in the short term. When you’re decades from retirement, that short-term volatility matters less; you have time to ride out the swings.

Bond funds invest in loans made to governments or corporations. These tend to be more stable than stock funds but typically grow more slowly. They can help balance the ups and downs.

Balanced or blended funds hold a mix of stocks and bonds in a single investment. Target-date funds combine different types of investments in one fund. As you move toward a specified retirement year, the fund gradually adjusts to focus more on stability and less on growth.

The earlier you start planting, the more time your money has to grow. Even small contributions early in your career can end up as large amounts later, simply because they had more time to compound.

If you change jobs, keep in mind that your employer’s contributions may not be fully yours immediately. It depends on your plan’s vesting schedule, so it’s worth checking before you go.

The most important steps in a retirement plan are getting started, contributing consistently and taking advantage of what your plan offers. With a little knowledge, you can feel more confident moving forward. The garden is yours. Start planting.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Burnap family: The Revolutionary War connection

BY HELEN POIRIER
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Burnap family can be traced back eight generations to Hertfordshire, England in the late 1400s, during the reign of King Henry VII. It was Thomas Burnap, Sr. (1625-1691), who made the trip over to Reading MA sometime before 1689 when Thomas Jr., Ebenezer’s great grandfather, was born. Ebenezer was born on Oct. 13, 1757, in Sutton. He married Thankful Singletary, (born 30 Oct 1762, at Sutton, daughter of Amos and Mary [Curtis] Singletary), about 1796. They had a daughter, Sabrinia. Thankful died in 1808. Ebenezer then married Ruth Tucker in 1809 in Charlton and had daughter Mary, and sons Erasmus and Ebenezer. He was a blacksmith by trade, and lived in Ward [Auburn] until 1803, when he moved to Oxford and bought an estate near Town’s Pond, but returned to Ward in 1810. According to the history of Oxford, the Pratt house in Oxford was conveyed 13 May 1803, by Sylvanus Town to Ebenezer Burnap, and by him in 1815 to Elias Pratt, Jr.

Ebenezer Burnap was a major landowner on Pakachoag Hill in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. According to the “Historic Houses of Auburn,” the house at 340 Pakachoag St. was built by Ebenezer Burnap circa 1795. His land may have extended down to 406 Pakachoag Street with a house that was built about 1840 on land that was originally owned by James Nichols, Gershom Rice Jr., and William Bancroft between 1772 – 1781. The farm that was created was bought by Joseph Dorr in 1785. Joseph sold the house and land to Ebenezer Burnap in 1795, but after Ebenezer’s death in 1820 the heirs divided the estate and sold part of it to Tyler Putnam in 1843. The house was known as the Tyler Putnam house or the Rufus W. Putnam house. Rufus was related to General Israel Putnam, Revolutionary War hero from Connecticut. Ebenezer’s father-in-law, Captain Jonathan Tucker, also served in the Revolutionary War.

Ebenezer served as a private in the Revolutionary War in Captain James Greenwood’s company in Colonel Ebenezer Learned’s regiment out of Oxford which marched on April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775 in Lexington, then to Roxbury and served two days. He was also listed with Captain Isaac Bolster’s company in Colonel Learned’s regiment according to the muster roll dated August 1, 1775. He enlisted May 1, 1775, and served three months and 8 days. The company returned from Roxbury, Oct. 7, 1775, according to the “Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors Who Served in the Revolutionary War.” His brother, Timothy, also served in Captain Samuel Sibley’s company and Captain Arthur Dagget’s company in the Colonel Learned’s regiment at this time. Timothy went on to serve in Captain Jonathab Carriel’s company in Colonel Josiah Whitney’s regiment at Point Shirley 1776 and served until November 1776. He was involved with the march from Sutton to Providence RI on the alarm of December 10, 1776. He was with Captain Jonathan Woodbury’s company in Colonel Jacob Davis’s regiment on the march July 30, 1780. He was discharged Aug. 8, 1780, after serving 13 and a half days at Rhode Island.

Early town records show that Ebenezer was a tax bondsman for Benjamin Carter Jr. in 1785, who didn’t pay his taxes that year. Ebenezer guaranteed that Benjamin would pay all he owed to the town as a tax bondsman. He was also the moderator for a town meeting held on May 5, 1786.

Burnap family apparently left a lasting impression on the town of Auburn by having a street and a lane named after the family In the Pakachoag area. Burnap Street and Lane can be found between Southbridge Street and Pakachoag Street with Burnap Lane running parallel to Southbridge Street.

After Ebenezer’s death, the family seemed to have moved to the Cabot Vermont area. Several of the children are buried there with other family members. His son, Ebenezer Tucker Burnap, was also well thought of in the town as stated in his obituary of November 1900, “Mr. Burnap has always been a much respected and prominent townsman, managing his own affairs with shrewdness and carefulness yet always being lenient and kind to his debtors”.

This article is made possible by the Auburn Historical Society & Museum, 41 South St. The museum is open Tuesday and Saturday mornings 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and may be reached at auburnmuseum@verizon.net or 508-832-6856, www.auburnhistoricalmuseum.org or follow us on Facebook at Auburn Historical.

The annual mystery of the missing household scissors

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET
By CHARLES

There are certain objects in a house that apparently do not belong to anyone. Scissors are one of them.

My wife and I have purchased enough pairs of scissors during our marriage that, mathematically speaking, we should be able to open a small barber shop. Yet when I actually need a pair, there are none to be found.

This happened again recently when I needed to cut the tag off something. Simple job. Thirty seconds, maximum.

I opened the kitchen drawer where the scissors are supposed to live. No scissors.

I checked the other kitchen drawer, even though scissors have never lived there. No scissors.

Then came the junk drawer, which is less a drawer than an archaeological site. I found three expired coupons, several batteries of uncertain strength, a key that nobody can identify, two rolls of tape and a tiny screwdriver apparently designed to repair eyeglasses. But no scissors.

At this point, I asked my wife the question every married person eventually asks. “Have you seen the scissors?” This is different from asking, “Where are the scissors?”

The second question suggests that the other person has some responsibility for their disappearance. After three decades of marriage, you learn these distinctions.

She had not seen them. Or, more accurately, she had not seen “the good scissors.”

That was when I remembered that our house has categories of scissors. There are the good scissors. There are the old scissors. There are the little scissors.

There are scissors that came with some kind of sewing kit and are apparently forbidden for ordinary use.

And somewhere, allegedly, there is a pair of scissors in the garage. I went to investigate.

Anyone who has ever entered a garage looking for one specific item knows how this goes.

You begin with scissors. Ten minutes later, you are holding an extension cord, wondering why you own four nearly empty cans of spray paint and trying to remember when you bought a snow shovel with a cracked handle.

I did find a pair of pruning shears, but even I

understood that using those to remove a clothing tag would represent an unnecessary escalation.

So I returned to the house. By now, the original task had become irrelevant. This was no longer about cutting a tag. This was about solving a mystery.

I checked the desk. I checked a basket in the living room. I looked in the drawer where we keep pens, even though the pens themselves rarely seem to be there. Then I spotted them.

The scissors were sitting on a table approximately six feet from where I had begun my search. I picked them up triumphantly.

My wife looked over.

“Those aren’t the good scissors,” she said.

Apparently, victory has many definitions. I cut the tag anyway.

Later that day, I started thinking about all the other household objects that seem to operate under the same rules. Tape measures vanish immediately after being used. Pens migrate from room to room. Flashlights are plentiful until the power goes out. The one screwdriver you need is always missing from the otherwise complete set.

And socks? I am not even going to discuss socks. Some mysteries are beyond the reach of science.

What fascinates me is that these things never seem to disappear permanently. They merely go somewhere else for a while.

A missing tape measure eventually appears on a workbench. The flashlight turns up in the car. A pen emerges from underneath a pile of mail.

And the scissors will inevitably return to the kitchen drawer.

That is, until the next time I need them.

I suppose every home has its own small ecosystem, with objects circulating mysteriously among rooms and family members. Maybe that is why, after all these years, I have stopped asking who moved something.

There is rarely a satisfactory answer. Besides, I have learned the safest approach.

When you finally find the scissors, use them quickly. Then put them back exactly where they belong.

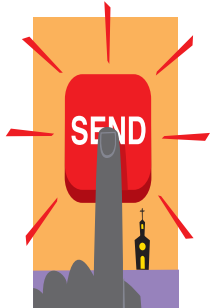
That way, when they disappear again, you can be absolutely certain it was somebody else.

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.

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Special Events
How to do Business with the State of Massachusetts: A Practical Guide for Brazilian Entrepreneurs –Thursday, August 27th at 11:00am
In this workshop, you'll learn how public contracting works in Massachusetts,

what certifications and registrations are required, where to find bid opportunities, and the first steps to becoming eligible to work with state and local agencies. We'll discuss common misconceptions, practical tips, and resources available to help small businesses compete successfully. This session is designed for Brazilian entrepreneurs who want to expand their business, diversify their clients, and better understand how to access the public sector. No previous experience with government contracts is required. **Please note, this presentation will be offered in Portuguese**

Mount Wachusett Hiking Guide and History Presentation – Thursday, August 27th at 6:30pm
Join author Matt Landry for an engaging presentation on the trails, stories, and rich history of Mount Wachusett.

Based on his book Mount Wachusett Hiking Guide and History, this talk combines a brief overview of the hiking trails, with fascinating local history, offering something for both outdoor enthusiasts and those who simply love the mountain. It's a meaningful look at one of Massachusetts' most beloved landmarks, and the many ways it has inspired adventure, community, and connection over the years.

Dustin Pari: The Montauk Project: Stranger than Fiction – Thursday, September 3rd at 6:30pm
This engaging new program explores the enduring legend of the Montauk Project—an alleged series of secret Cold War-era experiments said to involve mind control, psychic research, and inter-dimensional phenomena—and examines how these claims influenced

popular culture. Attendees will learn how the original concept for the hit television series Stranger Things was rooted in the so-called “Montauk Project,” before the story was relocated to the fictional town of Hawkins, Indiana. Blending documented history, conspiracy lore, and television storytelling, the program invites participants to consider how government secrecy, 1980s nostalgia, and speculative science converge to create one of modern pop culture’s most compelling mythologies.

Adult Programming
Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm
The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Monday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Mondays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room and Generations in Webster

Losing a loved one is never easy. Please know that you are not alone. If you need support in trying to navigate the changes in your life, join us in a place of safety and comfort with others who have also experienced loss. This grief support group is a place to find understanding as we explore our grief, share coping strategies, and begin to heal.**Saturday Session in August will be held offsite at Generations in Webster.**

Yoga – Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Join Meg at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Digital Literacy Bootcamp 1: Workplace Software Applications – Monday August 31st– September 8th at 5:30pm
Turn To KELLY page A7

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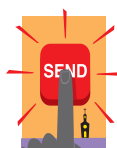


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40 Schofield Ave., Dudley 508-949-8021 To register for events or sign up for the newsletter, go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021. The Library will be closed on September 7th in observance of Labor Day. The September featured artist is Jim Socki. A variety of his pieces will be on display for you to enjoy in the Fels Room whenever the Library is open. Jim will be here on Thursday, September 3rd for a meet and greet from 5:00-7:00.	Every Thursday 5:30-7:45 and Friday 10:00-12:00. All stitchers are welcome to this informal group. Bring your project and enjoy the company! Yoga with Buffy Every Friday 10:00-11:00 Join Buffy for Friday Yoga! Take time to relax, stretch, and recharge at this weekly Friday session. Registration is required: wideopenyoga@gmail.com . A co-payment is required to attend. Once Upon A Crime Book Club-A Deadly Game: The Untold Story of the Scott Peterson Investigation by Catherine Crier Friday, September 4th 11:00-12:00 Do you have a passion for true crime and examining the details of each case? This book club is for you! The “Once Upon A Crime Book Club” meets the first Friday of every month in the adult reading area. All books will be pre-ordered and available for pick up at the circulation desk. Birding Tours: A Tool for Conservation Thursday, September 10th 6:00- 7:00 Join us for a talk exploring the primary drivers of decline in birds, the threats they face as our climate changes and human-induced habitat loss continues and how individuals can make a difference in their own backyards and through ecotourism. The Office of State Representative John Marsi Monday, September 14th 10:00-11:00 A representative from the Office of John Marsi will be here to answer questions. Pearle’s Genealogy Group Monday, September 14th 4:00-5:30 Let’s regrow our genealogy group! Facilitated by Patricia M. St. Marie,	Professional Genealogist. Violin Voyages Monday, September 14th 6:00-7:00 Violin Voyages: Music from Around the World with Abigail Epplett. Let the music transport you around the world, inspire your imagination, and create a warm, memorable experience. Come relax, listen, and enjoy the timeless beauty of violin music. Create a Button Heart Sign Thursday, September 17th 6:00-7:00 Get creative with this fun and easy craft! Paint colorful wooden buttons and arrange them into a beautiful heart design on a wooden sign. Perfect for all skill levels, this charming handmade decoration is a wonderful way to enjoy some creative time and make something special to take home. Registration is required. Ages 17+ Facial Scrub Workshop Monday, September 21st 6:00-7:00 Enroll in this hands-on workshop where you’ll learn to craft two different scrubs using simple pantry staples like sugars, oatmeal, a delightful array of carrier oils, and aromatic essential oils. We’ll dive into the properties, benefits, and proper usage of each ingredient, emphasizing a 100% natural approach with no added preservatives. This workshop is absolutely perfect for both beginners and anyone seeking to venture into the world of homemade exfoliants. Each participant will take home two beautifully packaged 2 oz. jars of scrubs alongside comprehensive information that will empower them to create countless batches in the future. Registration is required. Ages 17+ Crawford Library Book Group Thursday, September 24th 1776 by David
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McCullough 6:00-7:30 Books are available at the circulation desk for check-out one month before the discussion. No Registration Required The Missing Piece Puzzle Race Thursday, September 24th 6:00-7:30 Teams will compete against each other, with the ultimate goal of completing a puzzle faster than their opponents. Registration is required- ONLY ONE PERSON FROM EACH TEAM SHOULD REGISTER. Teams can have up to six members. The first team to assemble the puzzle wins! Dudley Board of Selectmen Office Hours Saturday, September 26th 10:00-12:00 Have a question, concern, or idea to share? Stop by the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library during Board of Selectmen Office Hours. This is an informal opportunity to meet with members of the Board, ask questions, discuss town issues, and learn more about what’s happening in the community. No appointment is necessary—residents are welcome to drop in during the scheduled office hours. There might even be refreshments! “Cook the Book” Book Club-Today Loves Food; Recipes from America’s Favorite Kitchen Monday, September 28th 6:00-7:00 “Cook The Book” Book Club will meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 6:00 You will pick one recipe from the book selected for the month-the dishes don’t have to be complicated or fancy, any recipe from the book is fair game, except alcoholic beverages-sorry! Prepare the recipe at home and share it at the library. We cannot reheat or keep food warm, so consider this	when choosing your recipe. You are responsible for bringing serving utensils. We will provide paper goods and utensils for eating. Children’s & Family Programming Storytime with Polly Every Monday at 10:00-10:45 For ages 2.5-5 and their caregiver (but babies and toddlers are welcome to join as well!) Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, scarves, shaker eggs, moving our bodies to music, activities, bubbles, a craft, and free play! Wiggles & Giggles for Littles Sept. 17, 24, and Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 10:15 - 10:45 am YFCP is pleased to offer a FREE 7-week music series for children, ages 6-24 months, with a parent/caregiver. Ms. Laine will introduce music, movement, instruments and stories to your little ones. Registration is required. Please note, you are registering for a 7-week series. This series is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP) and hosted by the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library. YFCP is a Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) grant funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts. R E G I S T R A T I O N REQUIRED Wiggles & Giggles Sept. 17, 24, and Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 11:00 - 12:00 Join YFCP and Ms. Laine for a FREE 7-week music series held here at the Pearle L. Crawford Library. Children (ages 2-5) with a parent/caregiver, will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm, and listen to stories. Siblings are welcome. Please note, you	are registering for a 7-week series. This series is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP) and hosted by the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library. YFCP is a Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) grant funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts. R E G I S T R A T I O N REQUIRED Pokemon Club Thursday, September 17th 6:00-6:45 Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon Club where you can meet other Pokemon fans and trade cards if you want to! Best for ages 6 and up. No registration required. This is not a drop off program. Make Your Own Stuffie- Spots the Pigles Friday, September 25th 2:00-2:45 Join us to make an adorable NO SEW stuffed piglet to call your very own! We’ll supply all the materials, including a rainbow wishing star to place inside your stuffie, and a take-home bag with a birth certificate! This program is for ages 6-12 and registration is required. (Please note that there is another program in a few weeks to make a different stuffie - please only choose ONE session.) Teen Programming Off the Hook Crochet Club Thursday, September 3rd 6:00-7:00 Ages 12-17 Welcome to Off The Hook Crochet Club — where kids turn yarn into awesome! From colorful creations to cool new skills, this club is all about learning, laughing, and stitching together. No experience needed — just bring your imagination (and your needles)!
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KELLY continued from page A6 Build the digital skills you need for work, education, and every day life! This hands-on, 5-Day Digital Literacy Bootcamp is designed for adults who want to develop confidence using the most common workplace software applications, specifically Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Google Docs. If you have any questions, email websterabelinkages@webster-schools.org or call (508) 949-8282. Registration through Adult Basic Education is required. Midnight Society Book Group – Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30pm Love to read spooky books all year round? Join us for a horror book club where we will meet and discuss a book every month! This month we’re reading The Last House on Needless Street by Catriona Ward. The Final Frontier Sci-Fi Book Group – Thursday, September 3rd at 6:00pm Want to explore outer-space from the comfort of your own home? Want to discuss speculative futures? Join Assistant Director Evan Hale for a Sci-Fi Book group where we will look at classic and modern sci-fi titles. This month’s book is Binti by Nnedi Okorafor. Cookbook Club – Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00pm Join our cookbook club this month as we cook recipes from the same book. We always have a great time eating and discussing our experiences with the book. We’re reading, cooking from, and discussing Jenn Lueke’s book, Don’t Think About Dinner. Programming for All Ages Library for All –Mondays and Fridays at 10am Library for All is an inclusive program for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please let us know if you need any special accommodations! Join us every Monday and Friday! The 1st week of the month is coloring, the 2nd week is LEGO, the 3rd week is chair yoga, and the	4th week of the month is painting. Puzz Fest – Thursday, August 20th at 6:00pm Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We’ll have snacks to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. Registration is required. Children’s and Young Adult Programming NEW Toddler Storytime – Mondays, 10:30am STARTS on September 14th Join us every Monday from 10:30–11:30am for a storytime designed for toddlers and their caregivers! We’ll read stories, sing songs, and enjoy fingerplays together before diving into hands-on sensory free play. Together we’ll build early literacy skills, spark curiosity, and discover the joy of learning through play! Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces! August’s Theme: Friendship Bracelets! Kids will make their own bracelets to share with family and friends. All creations left behind will be displayed in the Children’s program room for the rest of the month. Tiny Groovers –Tuesdays at 10:30am Returns on September 8th! Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids’ tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week. Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm Returns on September 8th! Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!
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As we begin the Fall portion of our annual programs, we will put your memory to the test as Premier Swing Band performs the most iconic TV theme songs – from beloved sitcoms to

classic comedies and even today’s favorites. This lively interactive program is full of laughter and guaranteed to bring back great memories. No matter your age, challenge yourself to

match decades of television shows with their timeless classic tunes and modern melodies. So, if you think you can remember these tunes and their shows, or maybe they may jog a few

memories, join us for a night of fun, amusement and reminiscing.

The show is free and open to all. This presentation is funded with assistance of the Dudley Cultural

Council. Light refreshments will be served after the performance.

For more information, please check www.theblacktavern.com.

LEGALS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
The Worcester Community Action Council, Inc.’s Heating Emergency Assistance Retrofit Task Weatherization Assistance Program is currently accepting proposals for the following activities:
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RFP packages with complete specifications may be obtained on or after Wednesday, August 26, 2026, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm at: Worcester Community Action Council, Inc. 18 Chestnut St, Suite 500, Worcester, MA 01608
Inquiries may be made by calling (508) 754-1176 Ext. 158. Completed packages must be received at WCAC, Inc., 18 Chestnut St, Suite 500, Worcester MA 01608-1810 no later than 4:30 pm on Friday September 11, 2026.
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August 28, 2026
September 4, 2026
September 11, 2026

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Owner: Bridgette Rocheleau, 177 North Main ST, Webster, MA 01570

Vehicle: VIN# 4T1BE46KX7U558818
2007 Toyota Camry, Reg:-----
Owner: Jomarie Angeliz Garcia Casanova, 126 Centerbury ST, Worcester, MA 01571

Vehicle: VIN# 4S3BMBC67E3019207
2014 Subaru Legacy, Reg:-----
Owner: Laurie Russell, 17 Central Ave APT 1, Dudley, MA 01571

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A
August 14, 2026
August 21, 2026
August 28, 2026]

(SEAL)
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002628
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:
Kyle Lamoureux; Elizabeth Boffoli
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq): Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Dudley, numbered 2 Pine Street, given by Kyle Lamoureux and Elizabeth Boffoli to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Allied Mortgage Group, Inc., dated November 19, 2021, and record-

ed at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66614, Page 119, 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 September 28, 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 August 14, 2026.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
August 28, 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.
WO26P2464EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
Robert Alan Heywood
Also known as:
Robert A. Heywood,
Robert Heywood
Date of Death: 10/21/2021

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by
Dana Kelly of Providence RI requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: .
Dana Kelly of Providence RI be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2026**.
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: August 12, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 28, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
Premises: 10 French River Circle, Oxford, MA 01540

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert M Krawetz and Sarah E Krawetz to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Evolve Bank & Trust, and now held by **Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC**, said mortgage dated February 8, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County

(Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54921, Page 251, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Evolve Bank & Trust, its successors and assigns to First Guaranty Mortgage Corporation by assignment dated November 19, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 59736, Page 287; said mortgage was assigned from First Guaranty Mortgage Corporation to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment dated June 24, 2024 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 70670, Page 240; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on September 30, 2026 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the westerly side of French River Circle, shown as Lot 12 on a plan entitled “Definitive Plan of French River Estates, Oxford, Massachusetts owned by French River Realty Trust”, dated February 8, 1989, as revised, drawn by A. F. Paige Associates, Registered Engineers and Surveyors, Auburn, Massachusetts, recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 627, Plan 73, and bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the westerly side of French River Circle at the north-easterly corner of the herein described premises and at the southeasterly corner of Lot 13 as shown on said plan; THENCE North 83 degrees 55’ 09” West by said Lot 13, a distance of 244.24 feet to a point; THENCE South 73 degrees 21’ 16” East as shown on said plan, 99.00 feet to a point; THENCE South 08 degrees 08’ 44” West as shown on said plan, 115.00 feet to a point at Lot 11; THENCE North 86 degrees 20’ 34” East by said Lot 11, a distance of 231.30 feet to a point on the westerly side of French River Circle; THENCE Northwesterly by said French River Circle and by a curve to the left, the radius of whose arc is 150.00 feet, a distance of 125.00 feet to the point of beginning. CONTAINING 21,787 square feet of land, according to said plan. SUBJECT to twenty foot wide drainage and walking easement of which ten feet approximately affects said premises along the northerly boundary of said premises; and SUBJECT to twenty foot wide walking easement along westerly boundary of said premises, all as shown on said plan. SPECIFICALLY reserving all of the Grantor’s right, title and interest in the street and ways as shown on said plan but granting to the Grantees, their heirs, successors and assigns the right to pass and repass over said ways as may be consistent with town ways in the Town of Oxford together with those others legally entitled thereto.
The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor’s Title see deed dated January 12, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54921, Page 248.
TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
August 28, 2026

September 4, 2026
September 11, 2026

(SEAL)
**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002632
ORDER OF NOTICE**
TO:
Joshua E. Steeves
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq): Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 55 Sunny Avenue, given by Joshua E. Steeves to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, dated August 28, 2007, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41773, Page 274, and modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on February 12, 2016, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54939, Page 96 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 September 28, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on August 14, 2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
29719
August 28, 2026

**PUBLIC NOTICE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM
Notice of Simplified License Application pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 91 26TM P-021729**

NOTIFICATION DATE: August 28, 2026
PERMITTEE: Thomas W. Gorski, Jr and Karen A. Gorski
PROJECT SITE ADDRESS: 13 Pavilion Avenue, Webster, MA 01570
Public notice is hereby given of the application for a Chapter 91 Simplified License by Thomas W. Gorski, Jr and Karen A. Gorski to construct/maintain a Dock in the waters of Webster Lake at 13 Pavilion Avenue, Webster, Worcester County

The Department will consider all written comments on this Chapter 91 application received by within 30 days of the “Notification Date”.
Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten citizens or more to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4)(c). The group of citizens must include at least five citizens who are residents of the municipality in which the proposed project is located.
Project plans for this Chapter 91 application are on file for public viewing electronically, by request to dep.waterways@mass.gov.

If you do not have access to email, please leave a voicemail at {617} 292-5929 and you will be contacted with information on alternative options.
It is recommended that public comments be filed electronically with dep.waterways@mass.gov when possible. Alternatively, comments may be mailed to the Waterways Regulation Program at: 100 Cambridge St, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114.
August 28, 2026

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Laurence Shuman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Financial, Inc., dated January 15, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53272, Page 329, as modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on September 22, 2020, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 63306, Page 273, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Financial, Inc., its successors and assigns to NewRez LLC f/k/a New Penn Financial, LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on July 12, 2019, in Book No. 60690, at Page 364

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on September 11, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 23-8 Thayer Pond Drive, Unit 23-8, a/k/a 23 Thayer Pond Drive #8, Thayer Pond Village Condominium, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:
Unit “23-8” Phase V in Thayer Pond Village Condominium, created by Master Deed dated September 28, 1983 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 7930, Page 203, as amended by Amendment dated November 4, 1986 and recorded in Book 9945, Page 366, by Amendment dated December 8, 1986 and recorded in Book 10040, Page 198, by Amendment dated February 27, 1987 and recorded on March 2, 1987 in Book 10255, Page 51 in accordance with M.G.L. c. 183A. The post office address of the Unit is 23-8 Thayer Pond Drive, North Oxford, Massachusetts.

Said Unit is laid out as shown on a plan attached to Unit Deed recorded with the Worcester District Registry of deeds in Book 10291, Page 310, to which is affixed a verified statement in the form prescribed by M.G.L. c. 1 83A, Section 9, and which plan is a copy of a portion of the plans filed with an amendment to the Master Deed. Percentage interest after Phase V .6550%. Interest after all phases .5814%

The Unit is conveyed together with:
(a) The above-listed Percentage Interest in the Common Areas and Facilities of the Condominium, which shall be reduced upon the annexation of each subsequent phase of the Condominium pursuant to the provisions of the Master Deed.

(b) All rights, easements, agreements, interests and provisions contained in the Master Deed, the Declaration of Trust of Thayer Pond Village Condominium recorded with said Deeds in Book 7930, Page 233, and any rules and regulations promulgated from time to time thereunder (the “Declaration of Trust”),

The Unit is conveyed subject to and with the benefits of:

(a) The provisions of M.G.L. c. 183A, as amended.

(b) The provisions of the Master Deed, the Declaration of Trust, both as they may be amended.

(c) All easements, covenants, restrictions, conditions and other matters of record, insofar as now in force and applicable.

The Unit is intended to be used solely for residential purposes and is subject to the further restrictions set forth in the Master Deed.

For mortgagor’s(s”) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53272, Page 326.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A Deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for

recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
29003
August 14, 2026
August 21, 2026
August 28, 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.
WO26P2626EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
**Karen Ann Siegmund
Date of Death:06/05/2026**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Cindy Siegmund of Dudley 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: .
Cindy Siegmund of Dudley MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Withoutl Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2026**. 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: August 12, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 28, 2026

INVITATION TO BID
The Town of Webster Department of Public Works is requesting sealed bids for two (2) new 2026 Ford F450 4x4 cab/chassis and one(1) new 2026 F550 4x4 cab/chassis or equal. Sealed bids will be received at the Town of Webster Highway Department 23 Cudworth Road, Webster, MA 01570, until 10:45 am September 8, 2026, and bids will be publicly opened at 11:00 am. The Town of Webster is seeking proposals from qualified vehicle dealerships and authorized vendors for the purchase of fleet vehicles. Preference may be given to vendors that can demonstrate the ability to provide prompt, reliable, and local warranty, maintenance, and repair services to support fleet operations and maximize vehicle availability. The Town values vendors with the capacity to provide timely service that minimizes vehicle downtime and helps ensure efficient fleet operations. Delivery of the specified vehicles shall be on or before November 15, 2026. The Invitation for Bid (IFB) is available August 19, 2026 on Commbuys or by request made to the following: Webster Highway Department rjones@webster-ma.gov, 508-949-3862 ext. 1041. All envelopes must be marked “BID TRUCKS”
Office hours are Monday- Friday 7:00 am - 3:00 pm
The Town of Webster through its Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any all bids if deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.
August 21, 2026
August 28, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01876
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P2573EA
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
Estate Of:
**Dorothy Sosnowski
Also Known As:
Dorothi Sosnowski
Date of Death: June 13, 2026**
To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Gary L.A. Sosnowski of Woodstock CT**
Petitioner **Kevin Sosnowski of Bluffton SC**
a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Gary L.A. Sosnowski of Woodstock CT
Kevin Sosnowski of Bluffton SC
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.
August 28, 2026

Notice is hereby given by School Street Towing 17-31 School St., Webster, MA 01570 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A, that on 12 September 2026 @ 9:00 AM at: 17-31 School St., Webster, MA 01570 by Private Sale
The following motor vehicles will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper’s lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

Vehicle Description:
Year:2016 Make: Jeep Model: Wrangler
Registration#/State: UnReg.
VIN# 1C4BJWDGXGL191791
Name and address of vehicle owner: Brian J Lehtola, 7 N Sturbridge Rd., Charlton MA 01507
by: Frank A Czechowski Jr.
Dated: 15Aug2026

Vehicle Description:
Year:2023 Make: VW Model: Jetta
Registration#/State: 6FEG67
VIN# 3VW7M7BU9PM057331
Name and address of vehicle owner: Matthew Whalen, 3 Boyden St Ext Apt 1, Webster, MA 01570
by: Frank A Czechowski Jr.
Dated: 15Aug2026
This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A
August 28, 2026
September 4, 2026
September 11, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court,
Bristol Probate and Family Court
Office of Register
Suite 240
40 Broadway
Taunton MA, 02780
Docket NoBR23P0044GD
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR
EXPAND THE POWERS OF A
GUARDIAN**

In the interests of:
Brenda Mcmillan of Webster, MA
RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Lanessa Extended Care of Webster, MA in the above captioned matter requestig that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian .The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/ or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appear-ance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **09/11/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of

your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal af-fairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Paul Cronan, First Justice of this Court.
Date:July 30, 2026
August 28, 2025

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
CHERRY VALLEY AND ROCHDALE
WATER DISTRICT WARRANT
SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING**
To: Cheryl Balkus, District Clerk
Cherry Valley and Rochdale
Water District

Greetings:
You are hereby directed to notify the VOTERS of the Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District to meet in the district office at 148 Henshaw Street Leicester, Massachusetts 01524, on Thursday the seventeenth day of September two thousand and twenty-six (September 17, 2026) at seven P.M. (7:00 P.M.), then and there to act on the following articles:

ONE: KETTLEBROOK WATER MAIN Article: To see if the district will appropriate \$800,000 or any other amount to pay costs of replacing the Kettle Brook water main, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount should be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

You are hereby directed to serve this WARRANT by posting an attested copy at the Leicester Fire Department, Company No. 2, 226 Main Street, Cherry Valley, MA; Rochdale Post Office, 1138 Stafford Street, Rochdale, MA; at the Church Building, 672 Pleasant Street, Rochdale, MA; at the Leicester Town Hall and the Oxford Town Hall seven (7) days at least before said meeting.

Given under our hands, this 17th day of August 2026.
Respectfully submitted,
John Shocik, Chairman
Robert Jones, Commissioner
Michael McCormick, Commissioner
A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:
Cheryl Balkus, District Clerk
August 28, 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.WO26P2721EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
**Marc A. DiPietro
Date of Death: 03/21/2026**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Gina M. DiPietro 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: .
Gina M. DiPietro of Charlton MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/22/2026**. 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: August 21, 2026
Stephanie Fattan,
Register of Probate
August 28, 2026

OBITUARIES

Carolyn M. Denette, 89

Carolyn M. (Anderson) Denette, 89, originally from Webster, MA, died on August 20, 2026, with her family by her side. Her husband of 62 years, Edward J. Denette, passed away in 2020. She is survived by her son, Allen and his wife Ann, daughter Susan, and three granddaughters, Nan, Allyson and Meaghan. She was predeceased by her parents, Carl and Mildred (Bell) Anderson, and a sister, Christine M. (Anderson) Lockwood.

Carolyn received her Associate degree from Becker Junior College in Worcester, MA in 1956 and worked for Bell Telephone and the Webster school system for a number of years. She then worked at Nichols College in Dudley, MA in various roles before retiring in 1997 as the Assistant Director of Advancement. Carolyn spent her summers growing up on Baker Pond in Charlton, MA and enjoyed spending

time at the family cottage with her own young children later in life before having a waterfront home on Webster Lake for over 30 years. She was a warm and generous woman, an avid baker and exceptional cook, who enjoyed reading, playing Scrabble and never missing an episode of Jeopardy. Her greatest joy was becoming a grandmother and taking great pride in her grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the staff of Christopher Heights of Marlborough, MA for their assistance and care of Carolyn over the last 2 years.

Private graveside services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are being directed by Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA. www.bartelfuneral-home.com to leave a condolence.

Norman A. Czyzewski, 101



WEBSTER—Norman A. Czyzewski, 101, formerly of Webster MA passed away peacefully on August 20th 2026 surrounded by his family. His wife of 49 years, Emily T. (Kisielewski) Czyzewski, died in

1999.

He leaves two sons, John Czyzewski and his wife Dorothy of Norfolk, and Mark Czyzewski and his wife Monique of Worcester; his four grandchildren, Dr. Vanessa Davis-McKay and her husband Kyle of Dallas, TX; Laura Botzler and her husband Jason of Devon, PA, Timothy Czyzewski and his wife Dr. Laura Linville of Arlington, VA, and Joanna Czyzewski and her partner Nick Shayler of New York, NY; four great-grandchildren, Jack, Tim and Ben Botzler, and Jamie Czyzewski; a sister, Nancy “Honey” Capistrand of Southbridge; and many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his daughter Alane Davis who passed away in 1995, by his five brothers and six sisters, and by his dear friend and longtime companion, Theresa Jankowski who died in 2021.

He was born October 27, 1924 in Southbridge to Anthony and Aniela “Nellie” (Kasprynska) Czyzewski and graduated in 1943 from Cole Trade School in Southbridge as a machinist.

With the United States at war Norman answered his country’s call. His training as a machinist qualified him for the United States Army Air Corps. He was assigned to the 6th Aircraft Repair Unit Floating and served aboard the repair ship the USS Brig. Gen. Alfred J. Lyon. He attained the rank of Staff Sargent and served in the Pacific Theater and was later stationed in Japan.

Mr. Czyzewski was employed by the American Optical Company and was a member of the Quarter Century Club. Using the GI Bill he attended Fitchburg State College, graduating in 1973 with a BA in Education. Norman was a teacher at Tantasqua Regional High School where he taught Machine Shop and related sciences for twenty four years. He was a certified vocational guidance counselor and a certified United States Department of Labor Occupational Health and Safety instructor. He was a member of the Massachusetts Teacher Association and National Education Association.

Norman was a daily communicant and

active member of Saint Joseph Basilica. He was an active member in the parish’s Holy Rosary Sodality and the Sacred Heart Society. Deeply devoted to his faith, Norman found great joy in his service to the church particularly his membership in the Basilica choir. Norman happily volunteered his time each Monday morning to clean and tidy the pews after a busy weekend of Masses.

Norman always maintained a beautiful yard and a wonderful garden. In his later years he became an excellent cook and baker. Above all he loved spending time with his family. Many happy memories were made beneath the shade trees of his backyard and during holiday seasons around his table. He was a joyful man who enjoyed life’s simple pleasures, always generous with both his time and his talents.

Norman’s family would like to offer a special note of thanks to the kind and compassionate staff at Notre Dame Long Term Care facility in Worcester. It was there that Norman was blessed to spend his final years. At Notre Dame he became an avid bingo player. Norman particularly enjoyed participating in the Bell Choir where he often charmed both residents, staff and guests with his beautiful renditions of Polish Christmas carols and Patriotic anthems. The exceptional care and unique Catholic culture which Notre Dame provided were a great comfort to Norman and his family will always be profoundly grateful.

His funeral will be held on Tuesday, September 1 from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, with a Mass at 10:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial will follow in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace with military honors provided by the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council Honor Guard. Visitation will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 PM on Monday, August 31st in the funeral home. The family requests that flowers be omitted and instead memorial contributions be made to the Fund for Saint Joseph’s School, 47 Whitcomb St., Webster, MA 01570 or to Project New Hope (which is an organization which assists veterans struggling with food insecurity), 70 James St. Suite 155 Worcester MA 01603. www.websterfunerals.com

INPUT

continued from page A1

example is the Community Wide Preservation Plan issued last year. It summarizes Webster’s history as a mill town and explains its unique relationship to Samuel Slater—Father of the American Industrial Revolution. But it also provides solid approaches to revitalize key areas of Webster, while preserving and learning from its history. In addition to the call to the community for their ideas, the SMPC is updating

statistics; conducting focus groups for business, community, and government; and doing interviews.

The SMPC recognizes that a plan is only useful if it is used. One key task is to lay out an approach for turning the plan from goals to actions. While it is too soon to say what this process will be, it could include such things as town annual action plans and progress reviews by the Board of Selectmen. It is the intention of the Webster Board of Selectmen to make this a living plan.

Once the information gathering phase is done and the Committee has evaluated all the information, it will begin to draft long term strategic goals and objectives. The drafting phase will begin in October. A completed plan is scheduled for February 2027. You can follow the progress of the SMPC on the Webster town Web site (www.webster-ma.gov) by going to the Strategic Master Plan page. You can also sign up for NotifyMe on www.webster-ma.gov.

Help shape Oxford’s future by taking Master Plan survey

OXFORD — What should Oxford look like 10, 20, or even 30 years from now? That question is at the heart of the Town of Oxford’s Master Plan process—and residents are being asked to help provide the answer.

The town is encouraging residents, business owners, property owners, and anyone who has a connection to Oxford to participate in the Master Plan survey. The survey provides an opportunity for the community to share its thoughts about the future of the town, particularly how Oxford should approach land use and development.

A Master Plan is more than a planning document. It establishes a long-term vision for the community and provides a framework to help guide future decisions about growth, development, infrastructure, housing, open space, transportation, and other issues that affect the character and quality of life in Oxford.

One of the most important components of developing a successful Master Plan is understanding what residents value about their community—and what they would like to see change.

Oxford has experienced significant growth and change over the years, and additional changes are likely in the future. Decisions about where and how development occurs can have lasting impacts on neighborhoods, businesses, natural resources, municipal services, and the overall character of the community.

The Master Plan survey gives residents a chance to weigh in on these issues.

Do you think Oxford has the right balance of residential, commercial, and industrial development? Are there areas where additional development would make sense? Are there places where development should be limited or carefully managed? What characteristics of Oxford are important to preserve as the community grows?

These are the types of questions that community members can help address through the Master Plan process.

Importantly, residents do not need to be experts in planning, zoning, or development to participate. The survey is designed to gather the opinions and experiences of the people who live, work, own property, operate businesses, and spend time in Oxford every day.

Every response helps provide a clearer picture of the community’s priorities. While the survey is only one part of the Master Plan process, broad participation will help ensure that the plan reflects the community rather than the views of only a small group of residents.

The Master Plan will ultimately serve as a roadmap for Oxford’s future. It can help the Town identify priorities, establish policies, and make informed decisions about how land is used and how future development should occur.

Your participation matters. Whether you have lived in Oxford for decades or recently made the community your home, you have a perspective that can contribute to the conversation.

Take a few minutes to complete the Master Plan survey and help shape the future of Oxford.

Oxford’s future is a community decision. Make sure your voice is part of it.

To take the survey, visit <https://cmrpc.typeform.com/oxfordmp>.

Paper copies are available t Town Hall, the Public Library, and the Senior Center.

Girl Scout troops welcome new members

AUBURN — Girls entering grades K and 1 in the fall are invited to join Troop 65600, which meets in Auburn every other Tuesday 5:30-6:30 p.m., and Troop 655999, which meets every other Thursday in Dudley from 6-7:15 p.m. Girl membership registration fee is \$111, and is active until September 30, 2027. Financial Assistance is available.

Girl Scouts is the premier organization for girls to learn about leadership, financial literacy, life skills, the outdoors, community service, science and technology.

Girl Scout programming is customizable for all types of learners!

Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

You can register for a spot in the troop at <https://go.gscwm.org/troop65600>

Questions? Email info@gscwm.org or call 508-365-0115.

About Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves nearly 6,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of over 2,500 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together while building their personal leadership qualities. GSCWM supports girls by giving them extraordinary opportunities to explore, experience, and learn about their world and helps girls recognize that they are vital members of their communities.

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9am until 3pm FREE
24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items **ONE DAY ONLY**
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CREDIT CARD ACCEPTED!

Grouped Items: **Electronics** - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TV's) **Tools** - hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. **Furniture** - Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc.. **Housewares** - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances **Sporting goods** - Bikes, skis, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment **Clothes** - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags **Kids toys and baby items** - high chairs, bouncy, games, **Antiques**

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Novena to St. Jude
St. Jude, glorious Apostle, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the true Church invokes you universally as the Patron of things despised or, pray for me, who am so miserable, pray for me, that finally I may receive the consolations and the succor of Heaven in all my necessities, particularly (make request), and that I may bless God with the Elect throughout Eternity. Amen. (repeat each day sincerely until granted; publish as granted.) HEK

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MLS #73512426 \$ 615,000

*** June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan* Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Maureen Cimoch * Bryan Pelletier**

Webster- 3 Oakwood Dr



Presenting a meticulously maintained Colonial! This inviting home, spans 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths. Offers a refined living experience designed for comfort & convenience. The kitchen is a culinary enthusiast's delight, featuring a dining area w/picturesque views! Sleek stainless steel appliances, elegant maple wood cabinets & stone counters that provide both functionality & aesthetic appeal. The living room offers a sophisticated ambiance, enhanced by hardwood floors, crown moldings & custom built-in shelves. For special occasions enjoy the formal dining rm & a cozy everyday fireplace family rm w/sliders to a very private deck. Also provides a 2 car att'd garage for secure parking & storage. Discover the exceptional lifestyle afforded by this distinguished residence! We invite your inquiry & a private viewing! **MLS#73523347 \$589,900**

Featured New Listing!
24 Laurelwood Dr
Webster Lake Waterfront



On the shores of prestigious Webster Lake! Experience ultra-luxury lakefront living with direct water access. This young modern craftsman lake home is masterfully designed to maximize panoramic Western views through a two-story architectural tower. The home boasts 3,790 +/- square feet of sophisticated, three-story living space, complete with multilevel waterside decks, a radius stone faced patio, and a tiered landscape with its own waterfall. From morning coffee to sunset gatherings, you will enjoy every minute overlooking your waterfront. The 1,735 +/- square feet main level features a spacious open floor plan, welcoming you into a kitchen, dining, and living area tailored for intimate social hosting. The living room flows seamlessly onto an expansive open deck and into an exquisite sun-drenched sitting room. A magnificent primary bedroom suite offers a private full bath, double sink vanity, walk-in closet and dressing room. The purposely designed lower level delivers effortless, large-volume entertainment, featuring a full second kitchen and a sprawling recreation room that opens to a substantial lakeside patio. With 2 additional bedrooms and bath, this level easily serves as a private guest floor. This Lake property is designed to create long-lasting memories! **MLS#73563787 \$1,750,000**

Webster ~ 33 Slater Street



Sprawling fieldstone faced Ranch! Located on a +/- 0.5-acre, 2 car garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplacesFHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom **MLS # 73500183 NEW PRICE \$479,900**

Webster - 18 DiDonato Ave



THIS IS THE ONE: AN AFFORDABLE-ONE-LEVEL-MOVE-IN-READY-RANCH! Offers 980 SF+, 2 BRs, 1 Bath & partially finished walk-out LL Family Room. Situated on a 7,104 sf level lot w/80' road frontage, a fenced backyard, & 2 CAR GARAGE! Conveniently located in East Village. First Time Offered!
MLS #73534105 \$333,000

SORRY, SOLD!

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction- Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lakeside beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 3 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage **MLS # 73534271 \$649,000**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa
Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!
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VIEW REALTOR MLS # 73507605 FOR MORE DETAILS\$999,900.

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60 WAKEFIELD AVE



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30 Knollwood \$849,900

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\$545,000
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* 1st Floor Familyroom
9 Colonial Rd \$545,000

HOLDEN- 1500 sq. ft. RANCH



* 2 Baths *1/2 Acre Lot
*Family Room *3 Bedroom
1994 Main St. \$519,000

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Auburn resident sets out to raise awareness for Frontotemporal Degeneration

REGION — The Jim Tobin Memorial is inviting the community to support two upcoming events dedicated to raising awareness of Frontotemporal Degeneration (FTD), advancing research, and advocating for families affected by the disease.

The Third Annual Jim Tobin Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 at Holden Hills Country Club. Registration is now open for foursomes at \$500 per team, and individuals who do not golf are welcome to attend the Italian buffet lunch for \$40 with advance registration. The event will also feature raffles, contests, and sponsorship opportunities. Net proceeds will benefit the Frontotemporal Disorders Research Center at UMass Chan Medical School and The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD).

On Sunday, Sept. 6, Auburn resident and David Prouty High School graduate Devyn Tobin will take on the “From Lab to Legislator” Walk, a 40-mile one-man journey from UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester to the Massachusetts State House in Boston. Wearing a 40-pound weighted vest to symbolize the weight FTD places on families, he hopes to increase public awareness, support research, and encourage legislative action for those living with Frontotemporal Degeneration.

Both events honor the memory of Jim Tobin, a longtime Spencer resident, Air Force veteran, husband, father, and grandfather who lived with FTD. Many members of the Tobin family, including Jim’s wife, continue to call Spencer home and hope the community will join them in honoring Jim’s legacy and supporting efforts to improve the lives of families affected by FTD.

For golf registration, sponsorship information, or to learn more about the awareness walk, contact jimtinmemorial@gmail.com or visit the Jim Tobin Memorial social media pages.

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov
Senior Center hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photographs, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities, upcoming events, and our monthly lunch menu. You may also join our email list to view our newsletter online. You do not have to be a resident of Webster to participate in our activities and programs. ALL Seniors are welcome!

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least three business days in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation for 65 and up, and \$5 for 55- 64 is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread, and dessert. This week’s menu: Tuesday, 9/1: Meatballs with onion gravy, bowtie pasta, roasted brussels sprouts. Wednesday, 9/2: Marinated pork loin, cornbread stuffing,

California blend veggies. Thursday, 9/3: Chicken with BBQ sauce, mashed potatoes, mixed veggies. Friday, 9/4: Soup du jour, NY pastrami sandwiches, coleslaw.

Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays-Fridays 8:30 am-3:00 pm.

A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Webster Senior Center from April through December. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.

Come down to Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center! Call 508-341-8724 for an appointment. Bomba Beauty Salon is open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am- 1:00 pm, and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am-3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

Chair Dancing Exercise classes with Forty Arroyo are the perfect workout for any fitness ability! The cost is a recommended \$3.00 donation per class. A new video class will be offered Thursday and Friday mornings, free of charge.

Line Dancing with Forty will be held on the 21st and the 28th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm for \$3 a class. Donations go directly to Shriner’s Children’s Hospital. Everyone of any skill level is welcome! Closed toed shoes are required.

Bingo is every Tuesday and starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm.

We offer Movies every Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 pm! September’s movies will be ‘King Creole’ on 9/2, ‘Support Your Local Sheriff’ on 9/9, ‘Touch of Evil’ on 9/16, ‘Indiscreet’

on 9/23, and ‘Thunder Road’ on 9/30

Do you like to play Cribbage? Our weekly Cribbage group meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm. Feel free to join us!

Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center! Come join us for six-card or thirteen-card pitch! Six-card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm. Beginners welcome!

We now have an official Bridge group! We will be meeting every Friday from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm in the upstairs activity room. All that are interested are welcome to join!

The Worcester County

Sheriff’s Office House Numbering Program will create a custom wooden sign with your house number free of charge. One sign per senior household. Please contact the Webster Senior Center at (508) 949-3845, if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you.

Senior SAFE is a program that supports fire and life safety education for seniors. The Webster Fire Dept. will do a home visit to ensure that you have the correct smoke and CO2 alarms, and that they are working properly. This is at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT THE DUDLEY SENIOR CENTER

Please call ahead for reservations for the Brown Bag lunch, Memory Café and Potluck lunches: 508-949-8015.

September 3: We are celebrating September birthdays with cake and ice cream following the Tri Valley lunch. Please RSVP for this if you are interested in ordering a lunch from Tri Valley.

September 9: Brown Bag lunch will be a ham or turkey panini. The cost for this event is \$5. Please call to RSVP for this lunch or sign up in the Dudley Senior Center.

Starting September 14: Join us every Monday from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. to learn to knit. Bring your own knitting or help create Healing Hearts for Cancer Patients, no sewing involved.

September 17: Memory Café at noon featuring Donna Lee’s “Connie Francis Tribute.” Lunch will be assorted sandwiches, macaroni salad, chips, pickles, and root beer float. The cost for this event is \$5. Please call to RSVP or sign up in the Dudley Senior Center.

September 23: Potluck lunch of ham, pasta salad, baked beans, and pineapple cake. The cost for this event is \$5.

Please call to RSVP or sign up in the Dudley Senior Center.

Once a reservation is made, you must give 24-hour notice if you are unable to make it. No shows will be charged \$5, also seating is limited to 45 people.

Monthly activities at Dudley Senior Center: Tuesdays at 1 p.m. – Pitch League; Tri Valley lunches served Mondays and Thursdays.

Senior Center Closed: August 27 through September 1 for voting and Monday September 7 for Labor Day.



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