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Friday, September 13, 2024

Free by request to residents of Douglas, Northbridge, Uxbridge, Linwood, Whitinsville and North Uxbridge

# Little Free Library is all about reciprocity

**WHITINSVILLE** — You've all seen them, here and there on the side of the road, in front of people's houses, along the sidewalks, in town commons, little boxes with doors and lots of books inside with signs that urge, take a book, share a book. They all look different. Some are made to look like little houses, churches, and even rocket ships. They are all very colorful and inviting. They're called Little Free Libraries.

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization based in St. Paul, Minn. Their mission is to be a catalyst for building community, inspiring readers, and expanding book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led, Little Free Library book-exchange boxes. Their vision is a Little Free Library in every community and a book for every reader.

They believe all people are empowered when the opportunity to discover a personally relevant book to read is not limited by time, space, or privilege.

ValleyCAST, the arts & culture arm of Open Sky Community Services at the Alternatives' Whitin Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, has wanted to install a Little Free Library on the complex grounds for years, but life gets busy, and it just kept getting pushed to the back burner. Until one day, an email set it all in motion. Heather Elster, Executive Director of the Whitin Community Center, sent Cristi Collari, the Director of ValleyCAST, an email on Dec. 20, 2023, with a picture of a bright green, reproduction British telephone booth asking, "Can you use this?" The tourist company in Boston where Elster's son Jordan works was offering it for free.



Courtesy

Replica of a British telephone booth turned Little Free Library with (left to right) Maintenance Technician, Coleen Fournier, new Stewards, Ashley Bathrick and Eric Pogorzelski, and Director of ValleyCAST, Cristi Collari at the Alternatives' Whitin Mill, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville.

The catch? It must pick it up before the end of the year.

When Collari saw the picture, she immediately thought "Little Free Library!" Collari responded to Elster with a resounding "Yes!" Then Open Sky's Property Services Supervisor, Roseanna Lamontagne,

scrambled to arrange transport before the deadline, no easy task during the busy holiday season.

Then the real magic happened. Coleen Fournier, one of Open Sky's Maintenance Technicians, took on the project. Fournier built side by side shelves for the inside out of scrap

wood and refinished and weatherproofed the whole thing with exterior paint in the authentic red of British telephone booths. Fournier even created a sign that reads "ValleyCAST Little Free Library" for the inside. Collari then registered their Little Free Library and purchased and installed their charter sign #191805 which reads "Take a book. Share a book" at the top of the door.

ValleyCAST and two individuals who attend the Open Sky Employment Program at the Whitin Mill, Eric Pogorzelski and Ashley Bathrick, have volunteered to be stewards of the library going forward. Eric and Ashley will work with ValleyCAST and the community to keep the library clean and well stocked.

Collari encourages the community to get involved by donating books, art supplies, and small works of art. Collari also encourages anyone interested to stop by and find a book to read, art

supplies to create with, and/or small works of art to bring home. "Little Free Libraries are all about reciprocity and the Alternatives' Whitin Mill was created on that same principle, so it just makes sense to have a Little Free Library on the property," says Collari. "It's also another nice way to give back to the community."

More than 400 million books have been shared through registered Little Free Libraries across the country, profoundly increasing book access for readers of all ages and backgrounds. To find more Little Free Libraries in your area download the Little Free Library mobile app and check out their map.

To learn more about the Little Free Library and/or how to start your own Little Free Library, visit: [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org).

To learn more about Open Sky Community Services, visit: [www.openskycs.org](http://www.openskycs.org).

To learn more about ValleyCAST, visit: [www.openskycs.org/valleycast](http://www.openskycs.org/valleycast).

## Douglas Scarecrow Contest announced

**DOUGLAS** — There's going to be more Fall fun in Douglas this year with the start of a new October tradition. The Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. is excited to announce the First Annual Douglas Scarecrow Contest and hopes the community comes out to participate by entering their original handcrafted scarecrows.

This is a perfect project for families, individuals, groups, organizations and businesses to show off their creativity by entering scarecrows into the contest. For more information, guidelines and entry form, email the Douglas Common Preservation Society at [lynnparesky@aol.com](mailto:lynnparesky@aol.com) — entry deadline is October 6th. Flyers with entry forms will also be available at some local businesses. The Douglas Common Facebook Group Page can also be visited to view the flyer.

This free event, sponsored by The Slovak Catholic Sokol, will be a fun way to celebrate the season. Participants will put their scarecrows on display at the Douglas Common on Saturday, Oct. 12, where they will remain on display through Oct. 31 to be enjoyed by the entire community.

Scarecrows will be judged on Oct. 26 for Most Creative, Funniest and Scariest, and the lucky winner of each category will be awarded a \$50 Amazon Gift Card.

Don't forget to enter by the Oct. 6 deadline to be part of this new Douglas tradition. The more entries, the merrier.

## Whitinsville Golf Club launches Buy a Brick campaign

**WHITINSVILLE** — The Roaring Twenties were a memorable decade for sports in the Blackstone Valley, where its factories sponsored great baseball teams and leagues in the summer, great basketball teams and leagues when it got cold, great candlepin bowling leagues year-round.

In 1925, the valley's sports heritage was enhanced with the opening of the Whitinsville Golf Club. While most of the mills and their teams are gone now, Whitinsville Golf Club has endured, evolved and improved. It has become one of the jewels of the Blackstone Valley and one of the great golf courses beyond the valley. It has acquired an international reputation as being among Donald Ross' best designs.

As such, the club has embarked on plans for a commemorative Centennial Celebration next year. The celebration is off to an early start with a Buy a Brick campaign featuring the installation of an

ornate standing clock near the tee box for the first hole. A wall of honor will be erected surrounding the clock with the donors engraved brick for all to see.

Any person, or business, interested in buy a brick can find more information at <https://polaren-graving.com/whitinsvillegolfclub>.

Also, noted golf historian Steve MacQuarrie is writing a book chronicling the long history of Whitinsville Golf Club. It will be published next year in conjunction with the centennial event.

Through its 99 years, the club has produced great golfers, great architects and even great superintendents. It has recognized that by awarding a trio of honorary lifetime memberships.

Longtime pro Gary Young is the PGA Tour Senior Vice-President of Rules & Competitions. Former superintendent Dave Johnson is now the Director of Grounds at the legendary Country Club in

Brookline. Former member Rob McNeil owns a management firm, Northeast Golf Company, and is also a golf course owner.

Whitinsville Golf Club has been rated the second-best nine hole course in the world by Golf Magazine and the 10th best in Massachusetts. It was the home course of the 1984 state champion Northbridge High golf team. Its ninth hole is consistently called one of the finest Par 4s in all of golf and was ranked as the best finishing hole ever by PGA pro Ben Crenshaw.

For years, it was the home nine of noted course architect Brian Silva and was also where LPGA member H.B. Duntz got her start as a professional.

No Donald Ross layout can be said to have had humble beginnings. He was the Babe Ruth of golf architecture. Whitinsville Golf Club was one of his finest creations, though, and remains one of the most enduring parts of his legacy.

# UniBank awards major sponsorship

**DOUGLAS** — Showing its tradition of strong community support, UniBank is once again a Major Sponsor of the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc.

Targeted for the expense of eight new reindeer decorations, as well as a repeat of lighting up the trees and gazebo with holiday lights and spritzers, their donation will make the holiday season shine magically again this year at the Douglas Common. Their donation will also assist with costs of other maintenance and decorations throughout the year, including this year's electrical project, expanded Fall decorations and the purchase of tulip bulbs for the new garden beds being installed around the two new replacement cherry trees.

Karen Yacino, Vice President and Manager of the Douglas Branch, was happy to present UniBank's \$6,350.00 sponsorship check to the Douglas Common Preservation Society Committee Members Kathy Sgrue-Richards, Bonnie Lepage, Lin Ives and Lynn Paresky on Sept. 5 at the Common.

Michael Welch, CEO of UniBank, said, "The Town of Douglas has been integral in the growth of UniBank, and we are grateful for the consumers who bank with us, businesses who place their trust in us, and to the entire community that allows us to give back, as that's the true core of our mission. Karen Yacino and her team at our Douglas branch understand the needs of the town as many of our employees live there too



Courtesy

Pictured are Kathy Sgrue-Richards, Bonnie Lepage, Karen Yacino, Lin Ives and Lynn Paresky. and are in tune with the pulse that beats prosperity into Douglas. We are more than grateful for this opportunity to donate to the overall well-being of

the town. When local people, businesses and communities do business with other local businesses that is when the magic happens and all prosper."

Come visit the Common with your family and friends to view its Fall decorations, including the entries in the First Annual Douglas Scarecrow Contest (being displayed Oct. 12 through Oct. 31), as well as to view the magical holiday display during the month of December. The Common will be a stop on the Second Annual Winter Stroll scheduled for Dec. 14. As you Stroll through Douglas, stop in at the Common for hot chocolate and caroling hosted by the Sunshine Club between 5 and 6:30 p.m. — and use this opportunity to take some beautiful family photos.

Beautifying, maintaining and decorating the Common is the year round work of volunteers who make up the Douglas Common Preservation Society. The Society relies on the support of many members of the community, both businesses and individuals, to make this possible. All sponsors who donate between July and Thanksgiving will be recognized on a second Recognition Banner placed at the Common during the month of December. Your tax-deductible donations should be mailed to Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc., 76 NW Main St., Douglas, MA 01516 if you would like to support this worthwhile cause. Memorial Donations will also be recognized on the Recognition Banner with a memorial message.



# Mosquito-borne illnesses on the rise

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — With fall youth sports back in session and community harvest festivals getting underway, residents are urged to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites.

Last week, the state Department of Public Health (DPH) announced two additional human cases of West Nile virus (WNV), bringing the total number of human cases to six in 2024.

Last month, the state confirmed its first human case of Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) since 2020. The man in his eighties resides in Worcester County.

WNV and EEE are both typically spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito.

“The risk of West Nile virus in Massachusetts will continue until the first hard frost. While the temperatures may be a bit cooler, September is still within the peak time for West Nile virus activity in Massachusetts,” said Public Health Commissioner Robbie Goldstein. “As we all adjust to our post-summer schedules, one routine that everyone should continue is using mosquito repellent when outdoors.”

According to the DPH, the risk of human infection with WNV is currently elevated in parts of Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Hampden, Plymouth, and Worcester Counties.

For EEE risk levels, the towns of Leicester, Charlton, and

Southbridge were all listed in the moderate-risk zone, as of press time.

Webster, Oxford, Sutton, and Douglas were listed in the state’s critical-risk zone for EEE. Meanwhile, Uxbridge and Northbridge were listed in the high-risk zone.

Many towns in the high-risk and critical-risk zones have rescheduled sporting events and other activities to daylight hours. Communities are also taking several other measures to reduce mosquito populations.

“Webster is fortunate to be involved with the Central MA Mosquito Control Project, who conducted town-wide spraying on August 20, 2024,” read a statement released by the Webster

Health Director. “However, ground-based mosquito spraying cannot and does not eliminate risk, and must not be viewed by the public as a solution to EEE risk.”

Local communi-

ties saw no shortage of rain this past summer, which led to increased mosquito activity, experts said.

While EEE can infect people of all ages, individuals under 15 years of age or over 50

are at greatest risk for serious illness. Symptoms of EEE include high fever, muscle pain, headaches, and seizures. Symptoms can occur up to two weeks after a person is bitten by an infected mosquito.

There were 12 human cases of EEE in Massachusetts in 2019, leading to six deaths. In 2020, five human cases and one death were reported.

WNV can cause fever, headaches, and rashes. The illness can sometimes be serious or fatal.

Tips for protecting your family against mosquitoes include avoiding outdoor activities during peak mosquito hours from dusk to dawn. If you must be outside during these hours, be sure to apply insect repellent and maximize clothing coverage of exposed skin.

Residents can also reduce the number of mosquitoes around their homes by draining sources of standing water. Mosquitoes often lay their eggs in small pools,

wheelbarrows, rain gutters, and drains. Residents are advised to frequently empty flowerpots and wading pools, in addition to changing the water in birdbaths daily.

It is also important to make sure that window and door screens fit tightly and do not have holes or openings, officials said.

Local officials continue to add resources to help residents prepare their properties and access the latest updates on EEE. Many towns, including Spencer, feature information on their websites.

Additional information about EEE and WNV, as well as reports of current and historical virus activity in Massachusetts, can be found on the state’s Web site: [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov).

## Douglas Adult Social Center

331 Main St.  
(508) 476-2283  
Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-noon

DAILY ACTIVITIES: All our daily activities are free of charge.

Monday: Painting class 9:45 to 11:45, Balance & Strength Exercise 12 pm, Mat Yoga 2 pm  
Tuesday: Walking club 9 am, Cribbage 9:30 am, Zumba 9:30 am, Bingo 12:00 pm, Technology Class 1pm (call to make an appt.)

Wednesday: Balance & Strength 10 am, Darts 10 am, MahJong 1 pm

Thursday: Walking club 9 am, Chair Yoga 9:30 am, Pitch 9:30 am, Hand and Foot card game 12:30 pm

Friday: Balance & Strength 10 am

SEPTEMBER EVENTS:

Lunch & a movie on Thursday September 19 @ 11:30. “Arthur the King” starring Mark Wahlberg. Soup and a sandwich will be served. Lunch is \$4.00 per person, payable when you sign up. Please sign up before September 16.

History of Baseball in the Blackstone Valley Thursday September 26 @ 11:30. FREE lunch will be served. Menu is based on our theme, baseball. Bill Ballou will be here to educate us on this topic. Did you know the Yankees & the Red Sox played in Douglas at Soldiers Field? Come in and learn some interesting local history. Please sign up before September 20.

Wellness clinic dates Monday September 23 & Monday September 30. Stop in between 10 and 12 for a blood pressure check, or to discuss concerns you may have.

Flu Shot Clinic on Monday September 30, from 10 am to 1 pm. Please call to schedule your appointment to come in for the flu vaccine. Hannaford Pharmacy will be here giving the vaccine and your vaccine will be added to your medical chart. Please bring your insurance card and ID. There is one form that will be available to fill out and sign.

SAVE THE DATE!!! First week in October: Our annual SMILE DAY celebration will be on Thursday October 3 @ 11:30. FREE luncheon & dessert will be served. Our surprise entertainment will begin @ 12:30. Please sign up before September 30.

SUNSHINE CLUB EVENTS: Wednesday September 18 @ 6:30 pm Collette will be here to present our September 2025 trip. From September 7 to 16, 2025 we will “Discover British Landscapes.” Come in to hear about where we are going, what there is to see & do, and how much the trip costs. If you are interested please call the center to sign up.

PLEASE CALL (508) 476-2283 TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS & CLASSES

Check our website for events that may not be listed here <https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center>

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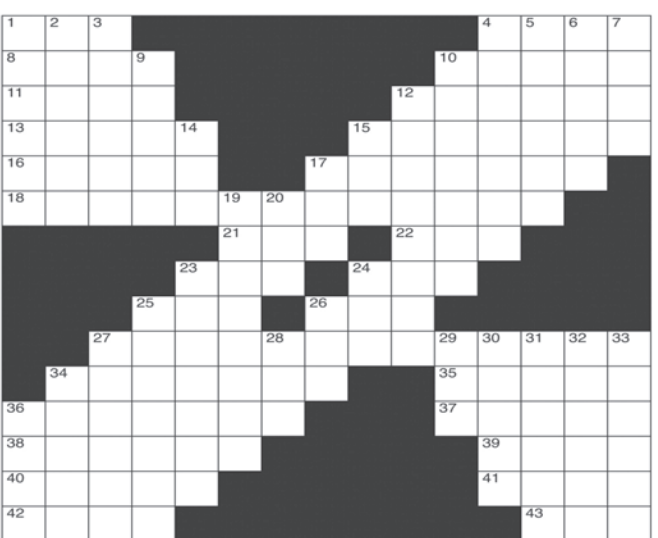


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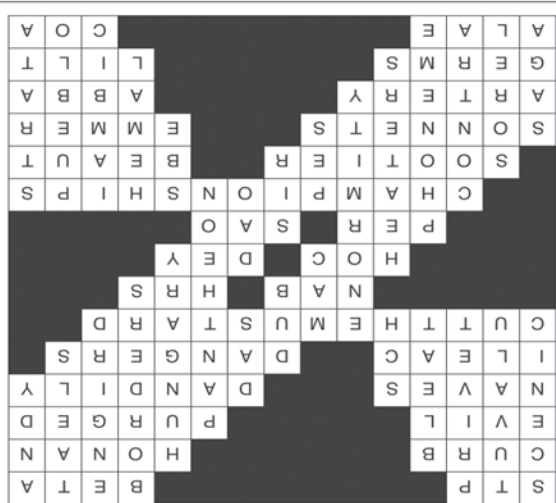
### CLUES ACROSS

- Engine additive
- A type of test
- Curtail
- Irish surname
- The opposite of good
- Got rid of
- Central parts of a church building
- Stylistically
- Intestinal
- Negative potential outcomes
- Lived up to a standard
- Snag
- Time units (abbr.)
- Ad
- “Partridge” actress Susan
- For each
- Paulo, city
- League titles
- More intensely black
- Slang for lovely
- Petrarch is known for them
- Old Eurasian wheat
- Body part
- Swedish rock group
- They’re worth avoiding
- Rising and falling of the voice
- Wings
- Enzyme import for respiration

### CLUES DOWN

- Idyllic
- South Pacific island nations
- Shrub of the olive family
- Boundaries
- Encircle
- Weights
- Samberg is one
- Sheep sound
- European country
- Respected group of people
- Trigraph
- Prosecutors
- Assign a nickname
- Huge size
- Partner to cheese
- Fastballs
- Principle underlying the universe
- Distinct units of sound
- Title of respect
- Against
- Foot (Latin)
- One point east of due south
- Concerning the blood
- Type of pentameter
- North American peoples
- Layers of rock
- Georges, French philosopher
- Lengthy tale

### PUZZLE SOLUTION



## PET of the WEEK



### MEET MADDIE, 1.5 YEAR OLD

Meet Maddie, a sweet and affectionate girl ready to meet her new family! Maddie is a moderately active girl who loves spending time outdoors, especially in the woods. She’s very loving and enjoys snuggling up with her family, always eager for pets and attention. While she’s great with people and children, Maddie would thrive best as the only pet in the home. She can be nervous at first, so would do best with teens or adults. Maddie is crate trained and views her crate as a cozy, secure spot. She’s fantastic in the car and enjoys going for rides. Housetrained and comfortable in a fenced backyard, Maddie is a well-rounded companion who loves her home environment. If you’re looking for a loyal, affectionate friend who will bring warmth and joy into your life, Maddie could be the perfect match for you.

Apply for Maddie today and let the fun begin at [baypathhumane.org](http://baypathhumane.org)  
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Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society’s Pet of the Week!

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TO THE EDITOR:  
E-MAIL:  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)  
OR send to Blackstone Valley Tribune  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER  
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The Blackstone Valley Tribune (USPS 024-873) (ISSN 0745-8673) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Blackstone Valley Tribune, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

## REAL ESTATE

### BLACKSTONE

\$530,000, 103 Mendon St, Monti, Joseph P, to Seven Kids LLC.

\$520,000, 146 Mendon St, Daylor, Danielle, to Miller, Dena, and Miller, Evan.

### DOUGLAS

\$469,900, 26 Nautical Way #26, Northbrown LLC, to Healy, Rachel, and Hippert, Garrett.

\$411,000, 807 NW Main St, Macconnell, Ian D, and Macconnell, Linda J, to Alexander, Eileen F, and Lavin, Thomas D.

\$240,000, 302 South St, Carrington Mtg Loan T 200, and Wells Fargo Bank Na Tr, to 302 Douglas LLC.

\$145,000, 38 Hemlock St, J & M Homes LLC, to Rogiej Inc.

\$865,000, 6 Laurel Glades, Crowley Hmtead Ft, and Leatham, Jillian, to Toupin, Wesley, and Toupin, Danielle.

\$495,000, 19 Wixtead Ct, Toupin, Wesley M, to Brito, Brent.

\$325,000, 70 Martin Rd, Bloniasz, Keith R, and Bloniasz, Lee A, to Cloverhill Properties LLC.

### NORTHBRIDGE

\$580,000, 16 Linkside Ct #16, Haskins, Frank J, and Haskins, Keila A, to Roy Jr, Philip L.

\$530,000, 30-32 Edgemere Ave, Wethersfield Village LLC, to Caguana-Caguana, Zoila A.

\$469,000, 127 School St, Aukra, Imad, to Bureau, Steven S, and Plazas, Paola.

\$450,000, 122 Quarry Rd #122, Barron, Catherine L, to Donovan, Ryan B, and Donovan, Oktovi H.

\$426,000, 317 Fowler Rd, Mabry Frank Edward Est, and Mabry, Frank L, to Andrews, Michael K, and Andrews, Amber L.

\$650,000, 137 Conservation Dr, Sanderson, Steven A, and Sanderson, Lisa M, to Nunn, Austin J, and Mctomney, Michaela M.

\$470,000, 108 Upton St, Burokas, Kevin, and Burokas, Kerry, to Franco, Brian E.

\$465,001, 455 School St, Yonika, Lee A, to Tolman, Nicholas.

### UXBRIDGE

\$705,000, 148 Rivulet St, Barbara C Hall T, and Maharay, C E, to Barnatt, Anne E, and Barnatt, Brian S.

\$509,900, 74 Pouts Ln #74, West River Homes LLC, to Rattigan, Kellie E.

\$407,000, 12 Fletcher St, Rfgm Investing LLC, to Caffrey, Sean.

\$395,000, 54 Witek St, Austin, Bradley J, and Austin, Alicia, to Shaw Development Inc.

\$220,000, 310 Douglas St, King Mary E Est, and Allaire, Kathleen M, to Riel, Nathan.

\$220,000, 314 Douglas St, King Mary E Est, and Allaire, Kathleen M, to Riel, Nathan.

\$125,000, 64 Homeward Ave, Manning, Brenda L, to Bd Homes LLC.

\$35,000, 105 Richardson St, Spoor Lt, and Spoor, Christian C, to Piotrowski, John, and Piotrowski, Kim.

\$1,200,000, 385 Chestnut St, Brong, Rachel, and Brong, Jared, to Dykiel, Juliane, and Iarussi, Nicholas J.

\$1,046,000, 318 Sutton St, Parr, Anne E, and Parr, Alan D, to Nelson Ft-2018, and Nelson, Kim A.

\$1,000,000, 355 Pond St, Freeley David W Est, and Freeley, Michele C, to Hoffmann, Nicholas F, and Hoffmann, Jeannine M.

\$620,000, 105 Richardson St, Spoor Lt, and Spoor, Christian C, to Clarke, Richard E.

\$572,000, 53 Pouts Ln #53, West River Homes LLC, to Boucher, Richard D, and Boucher, Christine R.

\$285,000, 13 Bailey St #B, Benoit, Monica L, to Bassick, Annemarie.

\$275,000, 621 Blackstone St, Kincaid, Jeaninne, and Kincaid, William, to Smith, Paul M.

\$100,000, 255 Mill St, Kevin & Kaitlyn F LLC, to Hoffman, Nicholas F, and Hoffman, Jeannine M.



# Five years later, Bay Path LPN reflects on professional success

CHARLTON — In June 2019, David Macharia, LPN was with his fellow graduates and their families at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Graduation and Pinning Ceremony at the Great Room of The Overlook. There was a mixture of excitement and uncertainty in the air. The graduates were excited about the moment, but aware of the challenges of successfully passing the NCLEX-PN and entering the workforce.

“Starting a career especially in healthcare is a challenge,” stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director. “There are no quick fixes or standard remedies but as much

as it is challenging, it is also a privilege. A privilege because our graduates then dig deeper to discover more gifts that they have and shine further.”

“With a certificate in practical nursing from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, our graduates had everything they needed to get started. They are ready to change the world,” she said. “Our nurses can help our struggling healthcare system, provide health teaching, help us lead a health revolution, develop new health strategies, further promote healthy lifestyle, alleviate suffering, and inspire others.”

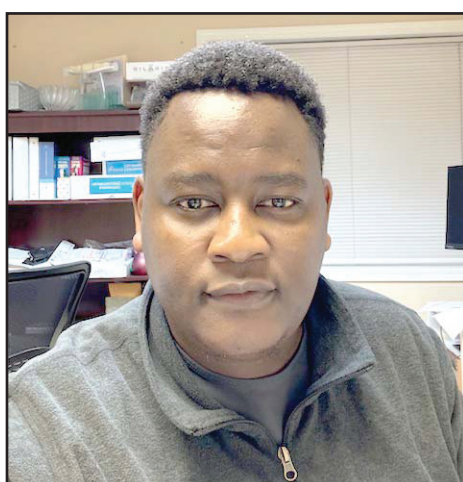
In the five years since, David Macharia, LPN,

from the class of 2019 has grown in many ways and blazed his own trails he himself did not even consider at the time.

“I am abundantly blessed, and I am forever grateful. I have a great sense of responsibility. I strive to improve the quality of life of all residents,” said Macharia.

After graduating from Bay Path, Macharia passed the NCLEX-PN on his first try.

“I secured a job as an LPN at Benchmark community in Framingham, transitioned to nurse supervisor at their memory care unit (Tatnuck park community), moved to Washington state and began my Skilled Nursing career



at Alderwood Manor, Columbia Crest Center, Manorcare Skilled and Long-Term Center, Franklin Hill's Health and Rehabilitation, finally getting an opportunity to lead as a Resident Care Manager at Touchmark Community. After a year and a half, I stepped away to open and run my

adult family home ARAMAH AFH LLC. All in the span of five years,” Macharia said.

Macharia's care, leadership, demeanor, and focus are what have made him a top nurse. He was instrumental in facilitating scholarships for practical nursing students at Bay Path. He continues with

his philanthropy, which he says is very uplifting.

“David is caring, attentive, patient and gracious, and he does it all with the utmost humility,” Bolandrina explained.

“He was equally attentive when he was a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. I am glad he continues to update us with his nursing journey and successes. We are proud of his accomplishments,” Bolandrina added.

While at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Macharia was

elected Student Representative, was a member of the UNICEF Club, a member of the Mock Code Team, a recipient of MassHire Grant, District & State Champion for SkillsUSA Medical Math earning silver medals, attendee for SafeTALK and Innovation Summit at Northeastern University, nominee for Clinical Excellence Award and the Massachusetts Vocational Association Outstanding Post-Secondary Student of the Year Award. He is certified in

Mental Health First Aid and Dementia Care.

Macharia concluded that attending Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy “was one of the best opportunities God gave to me, through it my life and the lives of my family have been positively impacted. I thank God for the men and women who guided me throughout the journey and the patient centered approach they emphasized, it has allowed me to serve so many in my community.”

## Bay Path LPN receives DAISY Award

CHARLTON — Kelsey Roman, LPN, an alumna of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and an LPN at the Baystate Medical Center, has received the prestigious DAISY Award.



Courtesy

A national program, the award is presented to nurses who go above and beyond for their patients and community. She was nominated by Katie Dambeck, RRT, for her determination and life-saving patient advocacy.

Roman's recognition is particularly special because it is the first time in Baystate Medical Center's history that an LPN has been honored with the DAISY Award. The DAISY Award recognizes the outstanding professionalism and compassion that nurses bring to patients and families every day. It was established

by the DAISY Foundation in California in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, who died at age 33 of an autoimmune disease. DAISY is an acronym for “diseases attacking the immune system.”

According to Dambeck, “Kelsey activated RRT to the bedside of a patient with concerns regarding his extremely

large, semi rigid abdomen. He had increasing pain and shortness of breath. My immediate assessment, as a seasoned surgical nurse, was completely in line with her concerns. I knew upon sight of this patient's abdomen that we were moving towards a surgical emergency. I was able to discuss the plan of care

with the providers at bedside, who agreed to consult surgery. The following day, while rounding, Kelsey brought me back to the bedside with continued concern. I agreed with her and assisted in administering a Harris drip enema per the medical recommendations. I had to leave the bedside for an emergency, but upon my return that evening, it was very clear that Kelsey continued to strongly advocate for her patient throughout the day. As it turned out, the patient had an impending perforation. Kelsey continually communicated with her providers, performed multiple time-consuming interventions, and brought RRT to the bedside to support her concerns.”

Dambeck added that that the patient was out of Surgical ICU, “alive and ambulat-

ing on the post-op unit, all because Kelsey trusted her instincts and did not give up and showed tremendous compassion to her patient.”

Roman graduated from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy with the Class of 2019. While at Bay Path she was a Horatio Alger CTE scholarship recipient, an officer for the UNICEF Club, a student representative, and a district champion for SkillsUSA Health Knowledge Bowl earning a Gold Medal. She volunteered for MRC, the Paxton Fair, the Bay Path College Fair, and the Safety Fair in Marlboro. She is certified in Mental Health First Aid and Infusion Therapy/Central Line Care.

## Cornerstone Bank committed to helping families achieve financial wellness

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank is once again proving its deeply rooted commitment to the economic well-being of the community it serves. The bank recently donated \$5,000 to the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation (QVDC), a non-profit organization that helps local small businesses grow and prosper.

Cornerstone's donation is focused on giving low-to-moderate income residents unique access to financial security. The contribution goes to the QVDC's Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club, a program that offers a free, 12-month matched savings plan along with advice from professional advisors on spending, borrowing and reducing debt.

“This program not only sets participants up for personal financial growth, but it also has a direct impact on their families, and a positive ripple effect on the local economy,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “Industry studies suggest that a healthy financial life leads to good mental and physical well-being.”

This donation marks Cornerstone Bank's second gift to the Financial Fitness Club, which has generated positive results. Participants typically spend a year learning about how their relationship with money affects their lives. The program shows them how to make a habit of saving every month, sticking to a household budget and working to protect credit scores.

“We're thrilled to have a hand in helping individuals and families reach their financial goals,” said Tallman. “We're confident the economic security people gain from the Financial Fitness program will lay the foundation for achieving even bigger dreams.”

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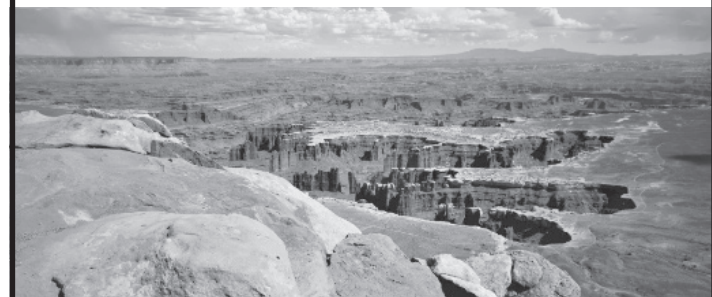
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## Friday's Child

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Korben is a sweet boy with complex medical needs. He enjoys having books read to him and loves to listen to music and TV shows. He is reported to enjoy being around other peers and will babble as a form of communication. The adults in Korben's life describe him as a happy, silly, and loving young boy. Korben loves to have preferred adults read to him and spend time with him.

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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

### Raising the bar for decency and leadership

There was a time when being American meant standing for something bigger than ourselves—when looking out for one another, showing respect, and upholding certain standards was simply the way things were. But somewhere along the way, we've lost our way a bit. The tone of our politics has shifted from a place of professionalism and decorum to something more like a never-ending reality show.

The truth is, politics was never meant to be a joke. It's about the serious business of leading a country—of shaping policies that affect all of us, from the farmers in the heartland to the teachers in our towns. Yet lately, it feels like decency and respect have taken a backseat to personal attacks, name-calling, and divisiveness. It's not just embarrassing—it's harmful. We deserve better, and it's time we demand better.

As Americans, we need to band together and make kindness a priority once again. Not just in our daily lives, but in the way we engage with politics. Our leaders should be held to higher standards. They should represent us with dignity and professionalism, not petty squabbles and cheap shots. Politics should be about problem-solving, not point-scoring.

Imagine what we could accomplish if we focused on bringing people together instead of tearing each other down. Kindness doesn't mean we all have to agree on everything, but it does mean treating each other with respect—even when we disagree. The strength of America has always been in our diversity of thought and background. But diversity only works when there's a foundation of decency and empathy.

We have to stop lowering the bar and start raising our expectations. Our political leaders should exemplify the best of us—people who are informed, compassionate, and ready to fight for what's right, without losing their humanity in the process. Let's return to a time when class, integrity, and decorum mattered in public life. When we disagreed with one another civilly, knowing that, at the end of the day, we're all on the same team.

America is at its best when we care about our neighbors, when we stand up for those who can't, and when we hold our leaders accountable to a higher standard. Together, we can make America kind again. Not just in the way we treat one another, but in how we demand professionalism, decency, and class from our leaders.

The future of this country depends on all of us—not just the people we elect, but the expectations we set. Let's set them high.

## No candidate deserves your vote if they can't articulate their agenda

To the Editor:

I would like to give a quick shout-out and a sincere thank you to the Democrats from Missouri and New York for getting rid of those two radical members of Congress, Cori Bush and Jamaal Bowman. You have to give credit where credit is due. The Democrat voters in those districts threw them out of office kicking and screaming after they both lost their respective primaries. The nation will be a much better place without these two. Keep up the good work. You have a few more like them to get rid of, but there is hope in this world yet.

It has been well over a month since the Democrat party dumped Joe overboard. Now that Joe is out to pasture and the conventions are over, it might be a good idea to remember that there are still two hot wars going on that we are involved in. Things are escalating in Europe with recent Ukrainian incursions into Russian territory. At the same time, we have an armada of ships surrounding the Middle East that are in harm's way. The world is on fire.

Now that Kamala Harris is the new leader of the Democrat party, do you think it is too much to ask if maybe she could update us every once in a while? Maybe tell us what is going on? Maybe give a press conference and give us her

### Letter submission policy

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

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

## OPINION *Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The true cost of the deportation promise

To the Editor:

What can you get 95,994 of... for \$300 billion? The number and cost of estimated chartered flights and bus trips to remove an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants from the US (MJ). See the immediate problem with the MAGA mass deportation promise? And Trump's stated number might be closer to 15 to 20 million, according to CNN. Double those flights. Double those dollars. And we are just getting started, folks, on the total cost of Trump's mass deportation promised chaos.

"On Day 1 of my new administration, I will seal the border, stop the invasion of people pouring through our border, and send Joe Biden's illegal aliens back home where they belong," Trump said. (ABC)

Let's pair this with John Bolton's statement: "Look, Trump can't tell the difference between what's true and what's false." "It's not that he lies a lot, because to lie, you have to do it consciously. He just can't tell the difference." (Hill)

Imagine combining these two disparate ideas – mass deportation day 1 with an ex-president whose grasp on reality is tenuous, at best. He has to identify the location of every person he hopes to deport. And, of course, Trump already has the address for each person across the country and knows where to find them at work as "they are harvesting our strawberries, picking our apples, landscaping, building homes, cleaning hotel rooms, running kitchens and carrying for our babies and the elderly;" for American citizens. Guess he expects them to all quietly march to the nearest exit when he says so. He will likely deputize the National Guard to 'raid schools, hospitals, churches, businesses, homes, shelters, and parking lots while the good 'German citizens' stand by and watch them being transported to detention camps. Think they will use trains too – to emphasize that they are dealing with 'cattle' instead of human potential? The massive building of detention camps will magically appear like that wall Mexico was providing for the US. Grenier(AILA): "Building such facilities is like Stalin's building of his gulags." Sounds like a 'red' move. The mysterious someone/s will have to find, herd, water, feed, and provide medical care for those human beings you just rounded up. Our tax dollars at work – aren't you proud? Hope they don't have any pets or other relatives that might rely on them for care.

Ever consider what it will do to families where their children were actually born in this country, or are you expecting that Trump will dump the future workers of America with their parents? And is the Supreme Court going to allow Trump to get rid of birthright citizenship?

If cost is paramount, camp deaths are allowable, right? This is only a part of the total costs. Please add the cost of paying all the people who are running those camps.

"We probably won't have time for all staff to be trained by inauguration day. So Let's add the cost of all the lawsuits," Meissner states. "Using untrained agents to enforce immigration law would generate enormous violations of civil rights, create racial profiling, and sweep up large numbers of us citizens who are not required to carry any documents." National Guard and possibly the military could be diverted as they are deployed to these nontraditional roles. Anyone concerned with national security and what our adversaries would think about where our attention is really focused? Add the probable costs of now having new border checks at all state borders waiting to be staffed. I guess if you look funny to the untrained eye, you will need your papers to prove who you are. Everyone is a suspect – make sure you carry your papers at all times.

Fun fact: "Realize (WP) 9 million of the total immigrants have been in the country since before 2010 through two Democrat and two Republican administrations. Do you know what that means? "Mass expulsions would be illegal even under a nationwide rollout of expedited removal," which Trump expanded during his regime. Because "it cannot be applied to immigrants who have been in us longer than two years." The legal implications are enormous unless, of course, with Trump, we are finally done with the rule of law. The Fifth Amendment 'entitles aliens to due process of law in deportation proceedings.' Trash that. International humanitarian standards and norms would be violated. "Potential rights violations of citizens and legal residents mistakenly deported or detained" would mount. Trump could violate the Posse Comitatus Act by using the military for deportations. Local law enforcement issues could also present legal challenges. There could be a few imminent domain legal hurdles – those locals might resent

their property being taken for 'camps.'

MAGA voted down bipartisan immigration reform, so we might be a little low on immigration judges and lawyers. How long does it take to train and import enough of those people to service all those detained immigrants? Oh, and what do you think about those folks whose birth country has no interest in their return? Are we going to have permanent detention camps... in America?

Immigrants pay billions in taxes, start businesses that employ Americans, and help rebuild in the wake of climate disasters. Subtract all those immigrants paying into social security every year – about 13 billion a year: Subtract their tax contribution of about 35.1 billion a year: Impact on GDP: "immediately contract by 1.4 percent, and, eventually, by 2.6 percent. In 20 years, the US economy would shrink nearly 6 percent – \$1.6 trillion." "Trump's plan would lead to a dire shortage of low-wage workers, which would bring on a recession while reigniting inflation." (Shapiro)

Over 10 percent of the current construction labor market will be escorted to the exit, along with 32 percent of all roofers. Do you realize we currently face a shortage of about 500,000 workers in this industry? But who really needs new housing? What MAGA dark money is going to replace all of that? So, MAGA, where is the proof based on any actual research that this would actually work or be of benefit to our "country's economic health, let alone its moral health?"

Please, someone, prove how this massive expenditure cures "they are poisoning the blood of our country" — a false premise. National Review has a recent assessment of the 'Don's race': "He's losing because he's a weak, unpopular, undisciplined candidate running at the head of a weak, minority electoral coalition. That's the truth, whether anyone wants to hear it or not." Trump's mass deportation 'final solution' will likely score him the ultimate 'win,' securing the title of the worst president in the entire history of the United States for building his infamous 'gulags.' On that note, we will stop now for a moment of silence so the J. McCarthy/s of Uxbridge can formulate their 'praise response' for this use of 'We the People's' tax dollars to pursue another MAGA 'red herring' of a dream. Healy, you're so obviously a lightweight!

Linda Lacki  
Northbridge

## Remembering a hero that should not have been

To the Editor:

Many of our alleged leaders are choosing to repeat the darkest days of America's recent past for their mutually assured political benefit. Doing so without asking the appropriate questions or stating the pertinent facts in the most solemn of ways. So perhaps, in the almighty spirit of it all, the entirety of this valley should reacquaint itself with one of the more notable end results of such mindless fervor and vitriol?

Did you feel... so small, as if no one would ever see you like a hero at all? How could we know? How could we see that special hero you were and will always be?

It is true throughout all of the ages, since that very first hero's fall. When there's a hero waiting to happen, the hero alone hears that call.

Now that you're gone, we know it's true. A loving hero once lived among us and that hero was you. We had these eyes though they did not see this tragic future we all must live through, as if it was destiny.

Now that you've joined all the ages as we ever-mourn. Always shrouded within your funeral's pall. We know you were a hero waiting to happen. Yet, did we really know you at all?

Ev'ry tomorrow brings a darkness to each new dawn. Even bright skies so

clear and blue share their deep sorrow that you're gone. How do we learn to live with destiny, when we just didn't see what was to be? What was to be?

You were a hero waiting to happen, only when blinded through tears do we now see. You were a hero waiting to happen, so we could live in this land of the brave and the free. Yes, you were a hero waiting to happen.

Oh say can you see... what was to be, what was to... be?

Rest in peace, Officer Tarentino, within Thee's hallowed halls of blue lives lost.

Stephen Gambone  
Northbridge

thoughts as to where she wants to take this nation? Maybe defend her proposals? Nope. No press conferences — no interviews. Madam Word Salad says nothing. All we get is the teleprompter baloney sandwich she feeds us telling all the great things she stands for: And that goes for that clapping seal she has for a running mate too. The only thing missing with him is the big beach ball balancing on the tip of his nose. And speaking of Tim Walz, can you just imagine what the press would be saying if it were a Republican candidate for vice president that collected copies of "Mein Kampf" or Chairman Mao's little red book and passed them out as gifts? Or what would the press say if it were a Republican arrested for going almost 100 mph in a 55 mph zone while driving drunk? That's Tim Walz for you, though. "Weird," don't you think?

Just when do you think the press and the American people will demand that Kamala Harris starts answering questions? As of this writing, it appears never. So, since she won't give a news conference, I thought I would give you a little taste of what a Kamala Harris news conference might sound like. So here we go.

Question: Madam Vice-President, would you tell us what your vision for America is?

Kamala's Answer: Thank you for that important question that I have given much thought to. I want everyone to know I'm for freedom. I am for world peace. I am against war. I am for a strong econo-

my. I want a chicken in every pot – pot in every chicken – happiness for all – and get this, everyone, you're going to love this one — free nachos for everybody!

Kamala's Press Secretary: Thank you, everyone, but the press conference is over: Kamala will answer another question next month.

I know if you have listened to her long enough, it's hard to tell if that's the real Kamala Harris or if it's MAGA Jim making fun of her. And I'll tell you why I would say that. This next quote from Kamala Harris is on her Great Hits Volume 3 album. This is from two years ago, when she was asked to give her thoughts about the war in Ukraine. The sitting Vice President of the United States said this, and I quote: "So Ukraine is a country in Europe. It exists next to another country called Russia. Russia is a bigger country. Russia is a powerful country. Russia decided to invade a smaller country called Ukraine. So basically, that's wrong..." Well, thank you, Madam Vice President, for that thoughtful analysis that a six year old child could give.

The truth is, if it's up to Kamala Harris, she would never give a news conference again before the election because she is incapable of doing so. She and her advisors are afraid that comments like the one I just quoted will come out. Despite being Vice President for the last three and a half years, she has no deep understanding of world or domestic problems, and cannot possibly memorize all the

things she's supposed to say. So when she tries to speak without the teleprompter, she has no idea of what she's talking about and sounds like a fool.

Whether you love Donald Trump or you hate Donald Trump, at least you know where he stands on the issues. He takes questions from the press all the time. If you don't like what he has to say, then don't vote for him. Kamala Harris throws these policy bombs out there and then won't take questions about them. Is that too much to ask of a presidential candidate to explain and defend their vision of where they want to take this country? No candidate deserves your vote, no matter what political party they belong to, if they will not or cannot articulate their agenda to you.

So far, there is only one debate scheduled. ABC on Sept. 10. Donald Trump has agreed to more. Kamala Harris has not. Why not, Kamala? Just show up, no notes, and have at it. You're the tough prosecutor who claims to know Trump and people like him. Well then, have three debates with him and explain yourself to the American people.

I hope there are three debates. The more, the better. But if there's only one debate, or none, it will be because of the same reason there are no news conferences – Kamala will be afraid that Madam Word Salad might show up.

Thanks for reading.

Jim Krikorian  
Whitinsville

## Uxbridge conducting Needs Assessment for residents aged 55 and over

To the Editor:

The Town of Uxbridge is asking residents aged 55 and over to complete a Needs Assessment Survey and share their views to assess the needs of the Town's older adult population.

The Town of Uxbridge has partnered with the Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston to conduct a needs assessment of the experiences, interests, and long-term needs of residents aged 55 and over. The study, led by the Council On Aging (COA) and supported by the Town of Uxbridge, will inform plans to build programs and ser-

vices that support Uxbridge's growing population of older adults.

The linked survey is one piece in the assessment process which includes qualitative and quantitative methods of study. By completing the survey, you can have your voice heard about living in Uxbridge. Your heartfelt feedback is appreciated and essential for the Town to effectively respond to the community's needs. Your responses to the survey are anonymous.

All residents aged 55 and older will receive a printed survey in the mail, along with a postage paid return envelope. The survey will also be available online at

www.uxbridge-ma.gov/council-aging. Residents who need assistance are also welcome to complete the survey via telephone by calling 617-287-7413. It should take about 15 minutes to complete.

Please complete the survey and return it by Oct. 11.

Together, we will maintain Uxbridge as a strong, vibrant community for people of all ages.

Sincerely,

Lisa Bernard  
COA Director  
Uxbridge  
LETTERS CONTINUED page A5



## Investing during an election year

BY CHRISTOPHER MALLON  
SVP & PROGRAM MANAGER

THE CAPSTONE PLANNING GROUP

Presidential elections, with their high stakes and intense media coverage, can create a sense of urgency and uncertainty that tempts investors to make emotional decisions. The idea that the outcome of an election will dramatically alter the investment landscape is pervasive, but history and financial theory suggest otherwise. While the upcoming election has the potential to increase short-term volatility, long-term investors should be cautious about making rash decisions on presidential elections.

It's natural to want your candidate to win, but when it comes to investing, be leery about placing too much emphasis on this one factor. Historically speaking, staying invested has a much larger impact on your long-term investment returns. The chart below shows how U.S. stocks have performed under different parties dat-

ing back to 1933. Although past results are not predictive of future returns, a \$1,000 investment in the S&P 500 Index made when Franklin D. Roosevelt took office would be worth almost \$22 million today.

During that time there were eight Democratic presidents and seven Republican presidents. The key takeaway? Over the long-term, U.S. stocks have trended higher regardless of which political party has been in the oval office.

Unfortunately, some individuals can become so emotionally attached to one political candidate and party they'll make extreme decisions on their entire portfolio. These individuals will say things like, "If [blank] gets elected I will take all of my money out of the market" or "I will only invest if the [blank] party wins". They'll often move money to the sidelines and sit in cash for extended periods of time. Below we'll analyze the potential consequences of this mindset in more detail. What would happen if

an investor placed \$100,000 in the S&P 500 back in 1950, and only kept their money in the market when their "preferred political party" was in the White House? Well, they would have around \$3.0 million if they only invested during Democratic presidency years and \$1.0 million if they only invested in Republican presidency years. Not bad...but for perspective, they would have \$31.7 million if they bought and held the S&P 500 over the entire timeframe!

Contrary to what the media may portray, research indicates that markets do not consistently favor one political party over the other. While some argue that Republican administrations are more favorable for business due to their policies on taxation and deregulation, others will note there have been periods of strong market performance under Democrats due to fiscal stimulus and social spending.

Investors who focus solely on the presidential

race may also overlook the importance of congressional elections and the potential for a divided government. Historically, the stock market has delivered higher average returns when Washington is split (i.e., a Democrat President with Republican Congress, or a Republican President with Democrat Congress). Why? Because Wall Street prefers clarity, and splitting control makes radical policy change less likely. Come this November, there will be 34 seats in the Senate along with 435 seats in the House up for election.

Ultimately, markets are influenced by a complex array of factors—economic data, corporate earnings, global events, monetary policy, technological innovations, and more.

Sophisticated investors typically adhere to a long-term strategy that is based on fundamentals rather than short-term events like elections. Warren Buffett, one of the world's most renowned investors, also advises against making investment decisions

based on political events. Come this November, focus on maintaining an appropriate asset allocation based on your financial goals and risk profile.

About The Capstone Planning Group

The Capstone Planning Group is an experienced wealth management team conveniently located at Cornerstone Bank. The team offers comprehensive financial planning, asset management, and insurance. To learn more about the team and schedule a courtesy consultation please visit [www.thecapstonegroup.com](http://www.thecapstonegroup.com) or call 508-764-0046.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Hypothetical illustrations are ex-dividends. All indexes are unmanaged and can't be invested in directly. The modern design of the S&P 500 stock index was first launched in 1957. Performance back to 1950 incorporates the performance of the predecessor index, the S&P 90. Sources: LPL Research, Bloomberg 06/24/24, Capital Group, "3

mistakes investors make during election years"

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CONTINUED

### Climate change hysteria is proving Reagan right

To the Editor:

"The nine most terrifying words in the English language are 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help,'" said President Reagan.

From the Kamala-Biden green climate geniuses who brought you climate hysteria and the climate "emergency":

Woods Hole scientists are preparing to dump 60,000 gallons of sodium hydroxide [bleach] into the ocean to increase the amount of carbon dioxide that the ocean can absorb in order to slow down climate change.

At first blush, would any sentient being think this is a good idea? Do you think "man" is capable of controlling the ocean? Or changing the climate or making the sun shine less brighter and not heat up the earth? How many rainstorms have these scientists created? Can they stop one drop of rain from falling? Can they make one drop of rain fall? I am waiting...

Why not just construct a big umbrella over the Earth? Or invent a giant carbon dioxide absorbing machine, run on solar? Oh, wait. God already invented that machine. A tree. Children, it absorbs carbon dioxide and produces oxygen! Wow.

Here are the facts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture:

"The power of a tree is wondrous...and has superhero qualities." Children, can you say photosynthesis? "Leaves pull in carbon dioxide and use the energy of the sun to convert this into sugars that feed the tree. One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for four people." The DOA says: "hug a tree and give thanks."

Thanks be to God. Yet the human hubris at Woods Hole is earth-shaking.

The National Marine Fisheries is raising a red flag. They published a warning that this dumping of bleach into the ocean "could adversely affect federally-managed species and other NOAA trust resources." Seriously.

This is all proposed for an area from Martha's Vineyard north to above Provincetown. There are 35 federally managed fish species in this area with "essential fish habitats." The Non-

Environmental Protection Agency has approved two research permits for this cockamamie scheme. It is something that the Three Stooges would think up.

"Strict environmental protection protocols" would be maintained during this endeavor, said scientists. The EPA agrees with Woods Hole that this research would not harm the ecosystem. This is what your Deranged Green scientists are doing with your tax money. Destroying the planet, one ocean at a time.

The National Marine Fisheries Service sharply disagreed with the EPA. The NMFS said that this proposed project would "injure or kill all life stages of federally managed species." No kidding.

Surprise, surprise: fishermen and environmentalist think this is a stupid idea.

Friends of the Earth notified the EPA that "ocean alkalinity enhancement is under moratoria by the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity due to the risks and uncertainties that these technologies entail to biodiversity and ecosystems."

The New England Fishermen's Stewardship Association says that the proposal area is where 30 to 40 per cent of all Northeast fishing is conducted.

How about they try it first, in a Petri dish, in a lab? Remember when they mocked President Trump when he said that bleach kills Covid? He did not invent it. Fauci and other scientists told him. Now, what do we see everywhere? Bleach wipes for every surface at home, in supermarkets, gyms, and schools.

I am not a scientist but a humble housewife and can tell you what bleach in the ocean will accomplish: it will turn the water from a gorgeous green blue to clear and it will kill everything in the water. No advanced degree in science is necessary.

Oh, and, this year, the Senate [with the tie broken by Kamala] approved \$500,000 for an "anti-racist oyster reef."

Thank you, Democracy-Demolition-Derby Kamala, for making it so very easy to vote for Make America Sane Again.

Bev Gudanowski  
Uxbridge

### Russia...Russia...Russia...

To the Editor:

Our own Manchurian Candidate, Donald Trump, typically dismisses all allegations of Russian collusion with the derisive exclamation "Russia, Russia, Russia!" If you remember "Marsha, Marsha, Marsha," he is the Jan Brady of our times.

Russia was successful in influencing the 2016 election in Trump's favor: Trump's campaign advisor, Paul Manafort, went to jail for, among other things, selling battleground state polling information to Russian disinformation farms. Coincidentally, battleground state Electoral College votes threw the election in Trump's favor, even though he lost the popular vote by 7 million votes.

Russia assumed that Trump would win reelection in 2020, so focused more of their effort on Republican lawmakers. Rep. Mike Turner (R-OH), chair of the House Intelligence Committee, has admitted that Russian propaganda has now seeped into the base of the Republican party... It's infected a good chunk of my party's base."

Here we go again. The Justice Department announced Wednesday that it is seizing 32 domains tied to a Russian influence campaign, directed by members of Russian President Vladimir Putin's inner circle, accused of spreading propaganda to influence voters in the U.S. elections. Court documents allege that RT, a Russian state media network previously called Russia Today, deployed nearly \$10 million to finance and direct a Tennessee-based online content creation company, Tenet Media, the home of several high profile right wing influencers. These influencers, with millions of fans online, posted nearly 2,000 videos in English focused on key domestic and foreign issues to "amplify divisions in the United States." The documents named two Russian nationals as defendants.

• While the court filings block out the names of presidential candidates and parties, context in the documents makes them identifiable.

• For example, in a Good Old U.S.A. Project document, a section on "Target Audiences" identifies residents of "conservative states... who more often vote for candidates of the U.S. Political Party A." Guess who?

Why it matters: "The sites we are seizing today were filled with Russian government propaganda that had been created by the Kremlin to reduce international support for Ukraine, bolster pro-Russian policies and interests, and influence voters in the United States." Attorney General Merrick Garland said in a statement Wednesday.

Russia needs Trump back in office. He is on record saying he will end the war in Ukraine by stopping U.S. support, and forcing Ukraine to cede territory to Russia. This is terribly irresponsible, as usual with Trump's foreign policy disasters, because it provides Putin with a strong reason to continue to fight until there is a change in the Oval Office. By undermining Ukraine with irresponsible talk of land concessions, Trump is prolonging the war and the bloodshed. As an added benefit, it gives Putin more reason to interfere in our elections, to help Trump's presidential campaign. Yet American-flag waving, patriotic Republicans have no issue supporting a guy who is the favorite of dictators like Putin and Orban!

Putin has another useful idiot. After being refused a position in a Harris/Walz administration, nutty-as-a-fruitcake RFK Jr. pledged his troth – I always wanted to use that word – and fealty to Don the Con, in exchange for the promise of a cabinet position. Good luck with Trump honoring his commitments, Bobbys. So Trump has sold out America to the oil industry, Wall Street millionaires, Elon Musk, Russia, and now to RFK Jr... for the hand-full of his bat-guano crazy supporters – not to mention Tulsi Gabbard? Trump is becoming Amazon's biggest rival in the retail marketplace: "Buy a piece of America – free sneakers, bible and NFT's with every \$million purchase!" As for Jr's history of saying "memorable things", here are a couple that Bev neglected to mention: COVID-19 was "targeted to attack Caucasians and Black individuals"; "Over 100 studies" prove that "autism is caused by vaccines"; and "Wi-Fi radiation opens up your blood-brain barrier; so all these toxins that are in your body can now go into your brain." That's a guy I want in my government!

Bev still refuses to answer my question from last week's Opinion, regarding what she most admires about Trump. I'll have to assume "all the above" is her answer. Among the – ahem – 'misinformation' in her "Harris and Walz fear the truth" opinion, there were some whoppers: it wasn't Biden/Harris who took credit for peace in the Middle East, it was Trump/Kushner. Remember the Abraham Accords?; "tossing abortion law back to the States, per the Constitution." I'm pretty sure that abortion was never mentioned in the Constitution, Bev. Although Project 2025 has lots to say about it. The rest of her post read like a parody of kid-lit.

Starting next week – the Top 10 Ways Trump Hurt America as President. Go Pats!  
Rick Bevilacqua  
Whitinsville

### Be SMART when handling guns

To the Editor:

We are hardly a month into the new school year, and already, two students and two teachers will never return home after this latest school shooting in Georgia. Other students and faculty have been injured, and the community has been traumatized. All of us parents and grandparents have once again been reminded of just how vulnerable our beloved children are when they are sent off to school.

While the details of this latest shoot-

ing are still unclear, we know that the shooter's access to a gun made this tragedy possible.

With that in mind, and with recognition that firearms are now the leading cause of death among children, I urge all of us, especially gun owners, to Be SMART:

Secure all guns in your homes and vehicles (Lock them up apart from ammunition. Don't just hide them)

Model responsible behavior around guns

Ask about unsecured guns when your children go to play in others' homes

Recognize the role of guns in suicide

Tell your peers to Be SMART.

Visit [BeSMARTforKids.org](http://BeSMARTforKids.org) to learn more or to volunteer to become a community educator.

Let's keep our kids safe!

Nancy O'Sullivan  
Grassroots 4GVP (for Gun Violence Protection)  
Uxbridge

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# Local nonprofits receive \$91,000 boost from Webster Five Foundation

AUBURN — The Webster Five Foundation is pleased to announce that 18 Massachusetts nonprofit organizations will benefit from \$91,000 in grants during the Foundation's third cycle of grants this year.

Each quarter, the Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations or programs that support expanding or improving access to education, culture and the arts, social services, charitable activities and community development.

The following organizations were

awarded funding from the Webster Five Foundation in this grant cycle:

- Community Legal Aid - \$10,000 to support its Language Access Project, which provides necessary and free legal services to low-income and elderly residents in Worcester County regardless of their primary language.
- Legendary Legacies - \$3,000 and a match of up to \$2,000 to support its Reintegration, Food Transport and Employment Preparation programs for formerly gang-involved and previously



Courtesy

Participants in United Way of Central Massachusetts - Women's Initiative, which received \$2,500 from the Webster Five Foundation. The awarded grant monies will be utilized to support the Dollar Scholar program, which provides girls aged 10-14 with basic financial literacy skills and valuable knowledge to support their college, career and life plans.

## Cahill celebrates 10-year work anniversary at Bay Path

CHARLTON — Cheryl Cahill, MSN Ed, RN, of Oxford celebrates her 10-year work anniversary at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. She joined Bay Path as part-time faculty in 2015. Prior to Bay Path, Cahill was a Clinical Instructor at Worcester State University, and an ENPC Instructor & PALS Instructor at UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester.



About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy

Cahill worked as a staff nurse in both the Pediatric Emergency Room and Adult Emergency Room at UMass Memorial Medical Center.

Since 2014 she has had multiple presentations such as "Prezi Technology," "Curriculum Analysis," "Can simulation replace clinical experience," "Demonstration Teaching Strategy," "An Act for Patient Limits in all Hospital Intensive Care Units," "American Association of University Professors," and "National Nurses United," all at Framingham State University. At Bay Path she presented "Geriatric Pharmacology," and "Civility-Self Learning Module." She is an active Advisor to practical nursing students, represented Bay Path in Best Practice for Simulation, and have taught many courses such as Structures and Functions of the Human Body, Principles of Pharmacology, Dementia Care Certification, and Domestic Violence training. She was a past UNICEF Club advisor and is active with the Mock Code Team preparation and training. She had also taught clinicals at Harrington Hospital and Southbridge Rehabilitation.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing, 250 Washington St., Boston, MA 02108 617-973-0900 or <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/board-of-registration-in-nursing>. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education, 7840 Roswell Rd., Building 300, Suite 325, Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 or [www.council.org](http://www.council.org). Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges 209 Burlington Rd., Suite 201, Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022; [www.neasc.org](http://www.neasc.org).

Cahill obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. She completed her Master of Science in Nursing Education at Framingham State University. She is a member of the Massachusetts Nurses Association, the National Nurses United, and the Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society (Theta Kappa Chapter).

incarcerated individuals in Worcester:

- Mustard Seed Catholic Worker Community Inc. - \$2,500 towards its Summer Enrichment Programming for Low-Income Youth. The Mustard Seed Catholic Worker is a house of hospitality inspired by the vision of Dorothy Day.
- Old Sturbridge Village - \$7,000 for its Educational Outreach to grades 3, 4, 5 and 8 Webster Public School students and teachers for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester - \$2,500 to support the Music Matters Financial Aid Program, which provides tuition assistance to program participants from low-and-moderate income families.
- Pernet Family Health Service - \$4,000 for its Youth Program Enrichment Activities, which ensures summer activities are accessible to low-income students and their families by removing the barriers of transportation and fees.
- Regional Environmental Council, Inc. - \$5,000 as the first installment of a \$25,000 multi-year grant to support the organization's capital campaign to develop the Center for Urban Agriculture and Food Security, located in Worcester's Main South neighborhood.
- RIA, Inc. - \$1,500 towards its SheFund: Supporting Emergency and Basic Needs, Housing, and Education for Survivors, which offers community-based services to adults with experience in the commercial sex trade.
- Safe Exit Initiative (f/k/a Living In Freedom Together, Inc.) - \$5,000 for its HARBOR Drop-In Center, which provides individuals with experience in the sex trade and sex trafficking and individuals at a higher risk of entry into the sex trade with access to health and social services.
- Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts, Inc. - \$5,000 to support its Food Security program, which provides foods and meals meeting the cultural and dietary needs of its food-insecure clients.
- Tri-Valley, Inc. - \$6,000 to support its Money Management Program, which assists low-income elders who are at risk of losing their independence due to an inability to manage their own finances.

• United Way of Central Massachusetts - Women's Initiative - \$2,500 to support the Dollar Scholar program, which provides girls aged 10-14 with basic financial literacy skills and valuable knowledge to support their college, career and life plans.

• United Way of South Central Massachusetts - \$1,500 and a match of up to \$1,000 towards the purchase of capacity building software for its program applications, known as eCimpact.

• Worcester Area Mission Society, United Church of Christ - \$3,000 to support the Pre-K Plus program, which prepares children who do not have access to early education to enter kindergarten successfully.

• Worcester Earn-a-Bike, Inc. (WEAB) - \$1,000 to support its Youth Earn-a-Bike program, a mentoring and skill building program designed to empower Worcester's youth.

• Worcester Youth Center, Inc. - \$3,500 for its Core Programming, which provides free structured programs and support groups to youth aged 14-24.

• YWCA Central Massachusetts, Inc. - \$15,000 to support the Financial Literacy for Domestic Violence Survivors program, which empowers participants to learn resources and strategies to address the financial and safety challenges when ending an abusive relationship.

• Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library, Inc. - \$15,000 as an installment of the ten-year \$150,000 gift to the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library. Each grant installment has been used for the library's building enhancements as well as additional services.

"At Webster Five, our role as a community bank is to be a supporter of progress in our community," said Don Doyle, President/CEO, Webster Five. "These grants are our way of acknowledging and amplifying the profound impact these nonprofits have. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to contribute to their essential work and to support their continued success."

Since its inception in 1996, the Foundation has awarded \$4,128,370 to 298 organizations. The next round of grant recipients will be awarded later this fall.

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## Millbury FCC hosting flea market Oct. 19

MILLBURY — The Millbury First Congregational Church at 148 West Main St. in Millbury is sponsoring a Flea Market and Craft Fair on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Anyone wishing to reserve table space, please call Jeri Stead (508-865-5371).

The \$25 inside area consists of a large supper table plus a card table. An outside reservation is \$15, and those chancing the weather need to provide their own table.

"The Kitchen" will be selling coffee and muffins, and at lunch time, hot dogs will be served. There will also be a Bakery Table, and a Church Flea Market Table.

## Crop Hunger Walk set for Oct. 26

WHITINSVILLE — The Blackstone Valley Crop Hunger Walk will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26. The walk will start at 9 a.m. at the Village Congregational Church in

Whitinsville, with registration at 8:30 a.m. For more information, contact the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church office at 508-234-2275.

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# Foraging, Part 2: Finding food underfoot

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — Continuing down to the ground from last week, long-time forager Karen Monger often finds food in forms that many people literally step on or over.

Some of them are super-common, like dandelions; some are commonly seen as a nuisance, like burdock; and some have the reputation of being toxic, like mushrooms. But in fact, many of them are both edible and tasty.

As she noted while speaking at Charlton Library two weeks ago, "Edible does not always mean palatable. It just means 'does not have toxins.'" That's especially true of mushrooms, which our society has a tendency to avoid harvesting for fear of poison.

Monger said she specifically looks for about 40 tasty species, but hundreds of them are edible (with the above caveat), about 40 will make you sick,

and fewer than 10 will kill you. There are thousands of mushroom species worldwide.

"Americans can be pretty cavalier about what's out there," she noted, adding that many more plants are toxic than mushrooms. "... It's very important to me everybody stay safe" while picking and eating wild foods.

A key part of that is finding good information. "I'm not your mom, and I'm not the foraging police," she said before noting there are a very wide variety of written resources on foraging out there. AI is writing "a lot of bad things to sell on Amazon," so people need to make sure the writer is a real human with some experience foraging.

That said, many plant and fungi species are entirely edible, and often have multiple uses. Take chicory, noted for its blue flowers. That's been long used as an additive in and substitute



Gus Steeves

A few samples of edible mushrooms. Monger also had some mushroom jerky the audience could try.

for coffee, with its root being ground and roasted until it's "black and crispy." The plant is a perennial and "mildly invasive, so you're doing a good thing if you're digging up chicory," she said.

Maybe even more common is the dandelion, whose ground and roasted root is also sometimes a coffee substitute, while the flowers and leaves can be turned into tea, jelly, wine or a salad vegetable. Typically, dandelions are best when eaten young; they tend to become fairly bitter with age.

Often right next

to it, you'll find chickweed, which she noted "tastes a little bit like corn." It's notable for having five-part "very deeply-split white flowers" and a tiny line of hairs down the length of its stem "like a mohawk."

Not far away is likely to be the very invasive garlic mustard, which Monger described as "such a bully." It was brought over from Europe intentionally by colonists who wanted edible plants they recognized (it's called "Jack by the hedge" in England); it tastes "a heck of a lot like horseradish" or wasabi. People can



Gus Steeves

Library Director Karen Wall and forager Karen Monger talk after the presentation.

eat the first-year roots or leaves, but they need to be cooked/boiled to eliminate cyanide.

Mushrooms At the same level, many mushrooms are edible, Monger said. One of her favorites is maitake, sometimes called "hen of the woods," but the name in Japanese means "the dancing mushroom." That's identifiable by the fact it's a "polypore," having many holes on the underside of its umbrella; other species do, too, including the two "chicken mushrooms" ("chicken of the woods") which are also edible.

Maitake is "slightly parasitic," favors red

oaks, and has a "savory, meaty, roasty flavor" where "really well-cooked maitake feels like bacon." She noted it "can get ridiculously large," showing a photo of her husband carrying an 80-pound maitake. (That shroom produced two quart jars of dehydrated mushrooms.)

The "chicken mushrooms" (Laetiporus species) are best noted for being bright orange on top and growing often on dead trees and oyster mushrooms (Pleurotus spp) fell "like you're eating a juicy pork chop" when crushed and fried. Another popular type

is the porcinis, recognizable by their "hamburger-bun-shaped cap" and "white netting on the stem."

Going underground, Native Americans often dug up and ate groundnuts (Apios americana, with various common names including American potato bean), a legume in the peanut family. This plant has very thin, flowering vines and the edible roots "look like teeny, tiny potatoes" that taste like water chestnuts, Monger said.

Burdock roots are also edible; Monger digs those in the fall, finding the first-year plants best. Those are identifiable by their fuzzy leaves; the roots can be cooked in stews or pickled, among other uses. She noted the gobo found in Asian markets is cultivated burdock.

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

## More than 100 vehicles take part in Harrington Hospital Auxiliary Classic Car Show

THOMPSON, Conn. — The Harrington Hospital Auxiliary held its 15th Annual Classic Car Show on Sunday, Aug. 25 at Bogey's Ice Cream Stand/ Thompson Speedway. A total of 142 vehicles participated in the show.

Judges awarded trophies in several categories; a general raffle and a 50/50 raffle were held. DJ Bruce Marshall of Valley Classic Hits 97.7 FM spun a variety of oldies throughout the day.

First place Mopar went to Dick Langmeyer and his 1974 Plymouth Duster; Second place Mopar was awarded to Joseph Makowski and his 1967 Dodge Dart.

First place GM was given to Jim Nicholson and his 1967 Chevrolet Malibu convert-



Courtesy

Second place Mopar was awarded to Joseph Makowski and his 1967 Dodge Dart.

ible; Second place GM went to David Borey and his 1967 Chevrolet Chevelle Malibu.

Steve Fiorillo received 1st Place Ford for his 1967 Ford Mustang Fastback and Rich Russell and his 1964 Ford Galaxy 500 XL took home 2nd Place Ford.

First place Open Class went to Phil McClure's 1932 Ford Five-Window Coupe, while Jim

Arsenault and his 1990 Mazda Miata walked away with 2nd place Open Class.

Scott Hale and his 1971 Chevrolet pick-up received Best Truck in Show and John Piader's 1933 Chevrolet factory five received Best Street Rod. Kevin and Karen Moran received the trophy for 2000 and up for their 2018 Ford Mustang

GT. Thomas and Denise Mottola's 1929 Ford Model A received Participant's Choice.

The Harrington Auxiliary would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the Classic Car Show's sponsors: B & M Excavating Companies; Earthworks Construction and Septic; E.J. Stochaj; Long

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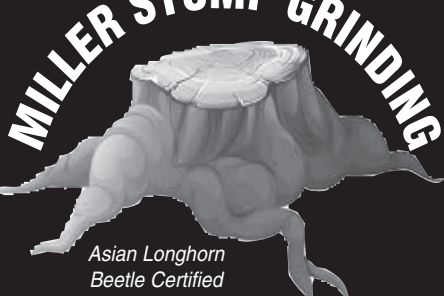
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# OBITUARIES

## Anthony "Tony" W. Kilinskas, 86

OXFORD – Anthony "Tony" W. Kilinskas, 86, of Sutton Avenue, died Saturday, September 7, 2024, at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester. He was the son of the late Anthony M. and Mary (Shivick) Kilinskas and was a lifetime resident of Oxford. He leaves behind 3 sisters: Jeannette Marsh of Princeton, Carol Clouthier and her husband Robert of Oxford, and MaryAnn Johnson and her husband Dana of Deerfield, NH. He's lived with Carol & her family, including Robert's mother Pauline, since 2022 when the family dairy farm was sold. He also leaves a niece & 6 nephews: Robert, Michael, David and Richard Marsh, Brian Clouthier, Catherine and Christopher LaCross; many great-nephews and great-nieces and many cousins and a long-time friend, Roger Fish.

Tony graduated from OHS in 1955 and then graduated from the UMASS Stockbridge School of Agriculture in Amherst in 1957, after which he returned to the family farm, helping his parents manage & operate the dairy farm until his parents retired from farming in 1970. He also worked



at Lapa's Oxford Fruit Farm during apple harvest season and then the New England Newspaper Supply Company in Millbury until he retired in 2000.

Tony was well-known for his flower gardens. He was a member of the New England Lily Society and won many awards at lily shows. He was a past president of the club.

Until his mother died in 2001, Tony & his mother supplied many beautiful bouquets of lilies, gladiolas, dahlias and other flowers for the altar at St. Roch Church. Tony was a lifetime member of St. Roch Church.

A funeral will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2024, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main Street, Oxford, followed by a Mass at 10:00 A.M. at St. Roch's Church, 332 Main Street, Oxford. Burial will follow at St. Roch's Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours are Tuesday, September 10th, 2024, from 4-7 P.M. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Mary Kilinskas Scholarship Fund in care of St. Roch's Church.

## Elaine S. Berglund, 83

Uxbridge- Elaine S. (Chalmers) Berglund, 83, of Uxbridge passed peacefully away in Worcester on September 2, 2024

She was the wife of David E. Berglund. Elaine had worked as a staff assistant for Tufts Veterinary School for 21 years before her retirement in 2003.

She was born March 10, 1941 in Milford, MA the daughter of the late Edson and Florence (Hatch) Chalmers. She was a 1959 graduate of Uxbridge High School and received an associate degree from Quinsigamond Community College.

In addition to her husband David of 45 years, she is survived by her three sons, David C. MacGregor and his wife Lynn of Schenectady, NY, Stephen MacGregor and his wife Kelly of Oxford, and James MacGregor and his wife Barbara of Seabrook, NH; her sister, Virginia Morris of Whitinsville; nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. She was predeceased by a sister, Linda Chalmers-McCreary.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 11:00AM in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Uxbridge. [www.bumafuneralhome.com](http://www.bumafuneralhome.com)

## Plummer Place

### Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

(508) 234-2002

Plummer Place Café is catered by The Neighborhood Kitchen right here in Northbridge. We will serve delicious meals on Tuesdays for \$8.00 per meal right here at Plummer Place. You must call to sign up, space is limited. Please note we are no longer serving lunch on Mondays.

We are accepting donations for our Plummer Place Café. Heavy duty plasticware utensils, heavy duty plates large and small, bowls, napkins, plastic cups, crystal lite packs, bottled water either large or small, creamers, decaf coffee and regular coffee, Shaw's gift cards. We appreciate all donations to help our café run successfully!

Calling all singers: join our first ever Plummer Place Singers Group. Rianne Richards will lead you as a group, to develop your skills, to enjoy the camaraderie, and to perhaps sing for others. If you would like to join this group, please call the Center to sign up. They will meet every Thursday at 2:30pm, and the cost is \$5 per week.

Pitch League started on Monday, September 9th at 9:00am. They are still looking for new players! \$2/week, call Plummer Place with any questions.

"Writing Your Way" will meet Thursdays from 2:00-3:30pm. They will meet every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. All writers are welcome to share your writing with others, get motivated to write your story, and get feedback from fellow writers! Lori Gannon is the instructor for this class, call the Center for more information.

The Honeybee and Its Relationship to Man: a Presentation by Ken Warchol, Wednesday, September 25th at 9:30am. Ken is a 6th generation beekeeper and a life-long resident of Northbridge. He will discuss honeybees and the hobby of beekeeping with a visual presentation. Ken will also bring a few kinds of honey for tasting! Please sign up at our main office.

"Has Anyone Seen \$500 Million in Art Lying Around Boston?", Thursday, September 26th at 10:00am. In 1990, two men dressed as Boston police officers entered the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, stayed for about 90 minutes, and left with 13 pieces of valuable art. Not any of the priceless items have been found. Bob Ainsworth, the author of "Duped", a fictional account of the robbery, will review the actual details of the theft, the suspects, and the motives behind the world's most valued art theft. Sign up at our main office.

## Stephen J. O'Connell, 46

Stephen J. O'Connell, 46, of Uxbridge affectionately known as Steve by his loved ones, passed away peacefully at his home on August 31, 2024, with his cherished family by his side.

Steve was the beloved husband of Laura H. (Hollister) O'Connell, with whom he shared 20 years of marriage with unwavering love and partnership. Together, they raised a beautiful family in Uxbridge, including their daughter Meadow E. O'Connell and their sons Logan T. and Chase S. O'Connell. Steve's legacy of love and laughter is also carried on by his brother, David J. O'Connell of Pascoag, RI, and his sister, Erin L. Paul, along with her husband Jon of Newtown, CT. His joyful spirit will be fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews, Tyler and Anderson Paul, as well as Calder, Sterling, Averill, and Mostyn Holland, and the numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins who were an integral part of his life.

He was born on November 7, 1977, in Providence, Rhode Island, the son of Stephen and Janice (Jessop) O'Connell of Smithfield, RI and was a graduate of Smithfield High School in RI. Steve furthered his education at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, where he earned his Civil Engineering Degree in 1999 as captain of the tennis team. His career as a civil engineer with Eastland Partners was marked by dedication and a commitment to excellence, traits that endeared him to his colleagues and clients alike.

Steve's infectious sense of humor and his ability to quote scenes from just about any movie brought joy to all who knew him. His friendly demeanor made him a



loyal friend to many. Steve had a unique ability to make the most out of every situation he was involved in, often running on what came to be affectionately known as "O'Connell time."

His interests were as varied as they were passionate. He was an avid sports fan and active athlete in numerous sports. A lover of music, Steve found solace and joy in melodies and lyrics. His faith was important to him, and he was an attendee at Valley Chapel in Uxbridge. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the Whitinsville Christian School community and athletics program.

Above all, Steve's world revolved around his family, who were the center of his life. He relished in the simple pleasures of family gatherings, sharing stories, and creating memories that would last a lifetime. His legacy is one of laughter, love, and the power of optimism, even in the face of life's challenges.

Steve's life was a testament to the idea that the quality of one's character is measured not by material success, but by the impact one has on the hearts and lives of others. Funny, optimistic, and friendly—these words only begin to scratch the surface of a man who was so much more to those who had the privilege of knowing him.

A Celebration of Steve's life was held Saturday, September 7, 2024 at 11 AM in Valley Chapel, 14 Hunter Rd, Uxbridge. There are no public visiting hours.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Whitinsville Christian School, Athletic Fund, 279 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville, MA 01588.

[www.bumafuneralhome.com](http://www.bumafuneralhome.com)

## Peace Pilgrim

It's easy to feel like everything is falling apart these days. The economy is uncertain, with prices climbing and jobs becoming more unstable. We hear endless news about war and global unrest, and as elections approach, the sense of instability only grows. Many of us lie awake at night, wondering how we'll make it through these difficult times.

Wouldn't it be nice to let go and trust that everything will be OK?

That's precisely how Peace Pilgrim lived her life. In 1953, she set out on a mysterious journey that would last nearly 30 years, walking over 25,000 miles zigzagging across the United States.

She gave up her name, her possessions, and her home, choosing to live with nothing but the clothes on her back, a comb, a pen, and a few small pieces of paper. She had no money, no food, and no specific destination, yet she walked without fear, relying on the kindness of others for food and shelter.

Her mission was to spread a message of peace, and through her unwavering faith, she trusted that everything she needed would be provided.

Peace Pilgrim lived in simplicity. "Unnecessary possessions are unnecessary burdens. If you have them, you have to take care of them!" she would often say. Her life was proof that there is great freedom in simplicity.

She believed that "those who have enough but not too much are the happiest." With nothing but her faith and her message, she showed that peace and contentment come from within, not from material things.

Throughout her journey, she encountered challenges that would have caused most people to lose hope, but her trust never wavered. She believed that "a pilgrim is a wanderer with a purpose." Her purpose was to spread peace, and she trusted that

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life would support her in that mission. And time after time, the help she needed arrived—often in mysterious ways.

Once, while walking through the Rocky Mountains, she was caught in a fierce snowstorm with no shelter in sight. It seemed impossible that she could make it through the night. But instead of panicking, she kept walking, trusting that something would come. Sure enough, just as the storm became unbearable, a stranger appeared, offering her a warm coat and a place to stay. The stranger had no reason to be there but had felt an inexplicable urge to drive down that road.

Another time, while walking through the Mojave Desert, she went days without food. Hunger gnawed at her; but she remained calm. She knew that help would arrive when she needed it. And sure enough, a man driving down that empty road stopped to offer her food and water. He had felt a nudge to take a detour, not knowing why, but was surprised to find her there.

She once said, "for light, I go directly to the Source of light, not to any of the reflections." She trusted not in the material world but in a deeper, spiritual source. She showed that peace comes from within, which can produce a knowing that everything will be taken care of.

The true mystery of Peace Pilgrim wasn't just how she survived physically, but how she radiated such calm and positivity in every situation.

"When you find peace within yourself, you become the kind of person who can live at peace with others," she said.

And indeed, wherever she went, people felt drawn to her message of peace. Her calm, centered presence inspired thousands of people.

Though her identity remained unknown for many years, it wasn't until after her death in 1981 that people learned she had been born Mildred Lisette Norman. She had lived a normal life before experiencing a spiritual awakening that led her to dedicate her life to peace.

Despite her hardships, she always remained positive, saying, "Keep your feet on the ground and your thoughts at lofty heights."

The secret may be found in trusting the journey and believing in the goodness of others and the world. By following the example of Peace Pilgrim, we can learn to embrace uncertainty, knowing that even in the most trying times, life provides exactly what we need.

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## LEGALS

### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

Docket No. 24 SM 003160  
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: **Kathleen A. DeChesare** and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

**SHAP Acquisition Trust HB2** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Uxbridge, numbered 222 Pond Street, given by Kathleen A. DeChesare to Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, a Subsidiary of IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., dated December 12, 2007, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42196, Page 281, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a com-

plaint 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 10/14/2024 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 8/30/2024 Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder September 13, 2024

### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

Docket No. 24 SM 003078  
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: **Linda M. Barry** and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

**Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust, Series 00MC 2005-HE6, Asset -Backed Series -Through Certificates, Series 00MC 2005-HE6** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Uxbridge, numbered 206 Hazel Street, given by Linda M. Barry and Paul R. Barry to H&R Block Mortgage Corporation, dated April 25, 2005, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District)

Registry of Deeds in Book 36189, Page 325, 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 10/14/2024 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 8/27/2024 Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder September 13, 2024



# LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate**  
**and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**(508) 831-2200**  
**Docket No. WO24P2756EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR**  
**SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A**  
**PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**  
**Estate of:**  
 Paul H. Hullar  
 Also known as Paul Henry Hullar  
**Date of Death: 09/23//2022**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Sale of Real Estate** has been filed by:

**Margery A. Harrington of Lynn 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:  
**Richard E. Chace, III of Uxbridge, 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 09/24/2024**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

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

Date: August 27, 2024  
 Stephanie K. Fattman,  
 Register of Probate  
 September 13, 2024

**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. WO24P2930EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR**  
**FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
**Estate of:**  
 Karen Reeves  
**Date of Death: 05/21/2024**

To all interested persons:

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

**Northbridge Rehab Center LLC b of Northbridge 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:

**Northbridge Rehab Center LLC b of Northbridge 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 10/01/2024**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,**

**First Justice of this Court.**

Date: August 27, 2024  
 Stephanie K. Fattman,  
 Register of Probate  
 September 13, 2024

**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. WO24P2468EA**  
**INFORMAL PROBATE**  
**PUBLICATION NOTICE**  
**Estate of:**  
 Esther R. Patnode

Also known as Esther Patnode  
**Date of Death: 06/01//2024**

To all interested persons:

A Petition interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of **Milton F Patnode of Douglas MA** a **Will has been admitted to informal probate**.

**Milton F Patnode of Douglas MA** been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
 September 13, 2024

#### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 32 Glendale Avenue, Uxbridge, MA 01569

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Gilbert Grenon to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for First Horizon Home Loan Corporation, and now held by **The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York as Trustee for First Horizon Alternative Mortgage Securities Trust 2004-AA7**, said mortgage dated November 23, 2004 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 35165, Page 312, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Horizon Home Loan Corporation to The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee for First Horizon Alternative Mortgage Securities Trust 2004-AA7 by assignment dated March 27, 2015 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 53521, Page 349; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on October 7, 2024 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

*The land in said Uxbridge, with the buildings thereon, on the easterly side of Glendale Avenue, easterly of the easterly side of North Main Street, which is Lot numbered 69 as shown on a plan of Uxbridge Gardens, made by F. T. Westcott, C.E., dated May 1917 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 31, Plan 7, which lot is more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly line of Glendale Avenue at the southwest corner of the lot herein described; THENCE easterly 80 feet, more or less, along the line of Lot 70 as shown on said plan to a point at land now of formerly of Providence and Worcester Railroad; THENCE southerly by said land now or formerly of said Railroad, 40 feet more or less to a point; THENCE westerly along the line of lot 68 as shown on said plan, 80 feet, more or less, to a point on the easterly line of Glendale Avenue; THENCE northerly along the easterly line of Glendale Avenue, 40 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. Also granting hereby a triangular trace of land adjoining the first described tract and being a portion of Lot No. 70 as shown on said plan, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a corner of Lot No. 69 aforesaid on the easterly line of Glendale Avenue; THENCE easterly by the line of Lot No. 69, 80 feet to the railroad, THENCE westerly by land now or formerly of Ernest A. Lane, 80.15 feet to the line of said street; THENCE by said street line southerly, 5 feet to the place of beginning.*

*Together with a right to pass and repass over land of said Lane adjoining the granted premises to and from said Glendale Avenue to the of said premises. For title reference see deed from Savers Co-Operative Bank date February 2, 2000 and recorded at Book 22473, Page 367. Property Address: 32 Glendale Avenue, Uxbridge MA*

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 February 2, 2000 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 22473, Page 367.

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 The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York as Trustee for First Horizon Alternative Mortgage Securities Trust 2004-AA7  
 Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 217-8701

September 6, 2024  
 September 13, 2024  
 September 20, 2024

(SEAL)  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**LAND COURT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**  
**Docket 24 SM 003099**  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

To:

Donna L. Dubeau as Trustee of the DDEKJ Realty Trust, and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (*et seq*): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Uxbridge, numbered 94 Carrington Lane, Unit #29, Carrington Landing Condominium, given by Donna L. Dubeau to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Citibank, N.A., its successors and assigns, dated April 3, 2013, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50713, Page 1, and now held by 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 October 14, 2024, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on August 28, 2024.

Attest:  
 Deborah J. Patterson  
 Recorder  
 24-004895  
 September 13, 2024

**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. WO23P4349EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR**  
**SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A**  
**PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**  
**Estate of:**  
 Paul H. Hullar  
 Also known as Paul Henry Hullar  
**Date of Death: 09/23//2022**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Sale of Real Estate** has been filed by:

**Margery A. Harrington of Lynn 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:

**Richard E. Chace, III of Uxbridge, 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 09/24/2024**.

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

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

Date: August 27, 2024  
 Stephanie K. Fattman,  
 Register of Probate  
 September 13, 2024

(SEAL)  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**LAND COURT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**  
**24 SM 003193**  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:

Patricia E. Leandres and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*):

Freedom Mortgage Corporation claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Douglas, numbered 39 Hilltop Drive, given by Patricia E Leandres to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, dated April 15, 2022, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67447, Page 32, 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 October 21, 2024 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 September 5, 2024.

Attest:  
 Deborah J. Patterson  
 Recorder  
 September 13, 2024

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**Karen Beane,**  
*Mortgage Originator, UniBank*  
NMLS# 485228

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