



# Auburn News

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Friday, March 20, 2026

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## Town of Dudley, local nonprofit partner on diaper drive



Courtesy

From left: Dudley Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda, Dudley Police Lt. James Annese, Dudley Asst. Town Administrator Olivia Antonson, Dudley Health Agent Justin Lapham, Dudley Assessor Clerk Kathy Sandstrom, Dudley Woman's Club Director of Giving & Service Paula Roy.

DUDLEY — A newly formed partnership between the Town of Dudley and the Dudley Woman's Club rallied donors to aid families who turn to the Webster-Dudley Food Share for diapers.

When recently asked 'what is your constant and immediate need,' the folks at the Webster-Dudley Food Share said, "Diapers." With this, the Dudley Board of Health and Dudley Woman's Club teamed up to sponsor a February Diaper Drive.

"When the Webster-Dudley Food Share identified diapers as one of their most constant needs,

the Dudley Woman's Club and our Board of Health quickly stepped forward to organize this effort," Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda said. "The Town is always eager to support initiatives like this that bring people together to help our neighbors."

The month-long initiative sought disposable diapers of any size to assist families who rely on support from the Food Share.

A collection bin located in the Dudley Town Hall lobby was quickly overrun with donations. And by month end, 5,478 items valued at \$3,343 were donated to the Food Share.

"I thank the Dudley Woman's Club, our Board of Health, and everyone in the community



From left: Dudley Woman's Club Director of Giving & Service Paula Roy and Jim Alkire of the Webster-Dudley Food Share.

who responded in such a remarkable way. Filling the Town Hall collection bin

with thousands of diapers for local families reflects the spirit of Dudley and its

greater community," Ruda said.

## Bartlett High School Mentoring program celebrates growth at community breakfast

WEBSTER — Community leaders, educators, and mentors gathered for a breakfast celebration hosted by Big Brothers Big Sisters to recognize the growth of its mentoring program and the partnerships helping it succeed.

The event brought together supporters of the program which included representatives from Cornerstone Bank and United Way, as well as school leaders from Bartlett High School.

During the breakfast, program organizers thanked attendees for taking time out of their busy schedules to celebrate the achievements of the mentoring initiative. Special

recognition was given to community partners Nicole Gaylord of Cornerstone Bank, Kristen McCarthy of United Way, Superintendent Monique Pierangeli, Principal Gina Nieves, and Special Education Teacher Barbara Smalarz for their continued support of the program.

In addition, organizers acknowledged Delaney, who helped establish the program and provided guidance during its early development. Barbara Smalarz, who serves as the school's primary contact for the initiative, was recognized

Turn To BREAKFAST page A9

## Oxford High School inducts 24 students into National Honor Society



OXFORD — Oxford High School honored academic excellence and student leadership during the 2026 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, welcoming 24 new members into the Huguenot Chapter. The event recognized students who exemplify the four pillars of the National Honor Society: scholarship, leadership, character, and service.

Principal Ms. Czernicki opened the evening by welcoming students, families, faculty, and members of the Oxford School Committee. She emphasized that induction into the National Honor Society represents not only academic achievement but

also a commitment to leadership and community service.

NHS Co-Advisors Mrs. Kristyn Aganis and Miss Emma Harper then addressed the audience, describing the ceremony as the most important tradition of the chapter and a celebration of the school's future leaders.

Ceremony highlights tradition and honor

The ceremony began with the presentation of the colors by the Oxford High School Naval Junior ROTC Color Guard, commanded by Lieutenant Junior Grade Taliah Valentin. Senior Rosy Krantz performed the National Anthem, setting a respectful and celebratory

tone for the evening.

Members of the NHS officer team then explained the four pillars that guide the organization:

President Gwen Gustafson spoke about leadership and the responsibility of inspiring positive change.

Vice President Veronica Griffin highlighted scholarship and the pursuit of intellectual growth.

Treasurer Ethan White described character as the moral compass guiding ethical decisions.

Secretary Kate Mayo emphasized service as a meaningful way to support others and strengthen communities.

Historian Ava Benway

lit the central membership candle, symbolizing the chapter's unity and members' shared commitment.

2026 National Honor Society inductees

Students were called forward to receive their membership pins, certificates, and candles, which were lit from the central flame before taking the National Honor Society oath.

Senior Kaius Monson

Juniors Makalieg Boyle-Muniz Marie Cosentino

Sophomores Sabrina Adamiak Travis Beaudette

Turn To NHS page A6

## Dudley secures \$1.3 million in state funding needed to reopen Mill Race Bridge



DUDLEY — A temporary bridge to reopen the Brandon Road/Hill Street crossing over the French River on the Dudley and Webster town line has been fully funded by the state's "millionaires' tax" and FAIR Program funds. Work will begin this spring.

The two-bridge crossing was constructed in 1937 and closed indefinitely in 2021 causing headaches for businesses and motorists seeking to bypass traffic congestion on Main Street in Webster.

In June 2021, MassDOT Turn To FUNDING page A6

# PET of the WEEK



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Looking for a fun, affectionate adventure buddy? Benji might be your guy! Benji is a young, handsome pup with a big heart and a playful personality. He's social, affectionate, and loves spending time with his people. One of his favorite things in the world is a squeaky toy—he'll proudly carry it around and show it off. Whether he's heading out for a walk, playing with toys, or settling in close for cuddles, Benji is happiest when he's with his people. Benji seems happiest when he's out and about taking in the sights and smells around him. He's a strong, enthusiastic walker who sometimes gets excited when he spots other dogs or interesting activity nearby. Benji would thrive in an active home that can give him exercise, enrichment, and continued training. With guidance and lots of love, this sweet, goofy boy is ready to be an amazing companion.

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# Big Bunny shoppers come through again!



Courtesy

From left to right: Brother Clay Tull, seated Brother Paul Davidson, Brother Will Proper, and Brother Larry Burbridge. We Master Masons thank all the Big Bunny Shoppers for all their generous support for such a worthy event.

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE  
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM TOWNE MASONIC LODGE  
SOUTHBRIDGE

**SOUTHBRIDGE** — On Saturday, March 7, the Major General Salem Towne Masonic Lodge (MGSTL) Community Outreach Program was in full swing at Big Bunny Supermarket in Southbridge. This event was a Food Drive to collect food donations for the Food Share pantry located at 446 Hamilton St. in Southbridge. MGSTL Masonic Lodge volunteers spent five

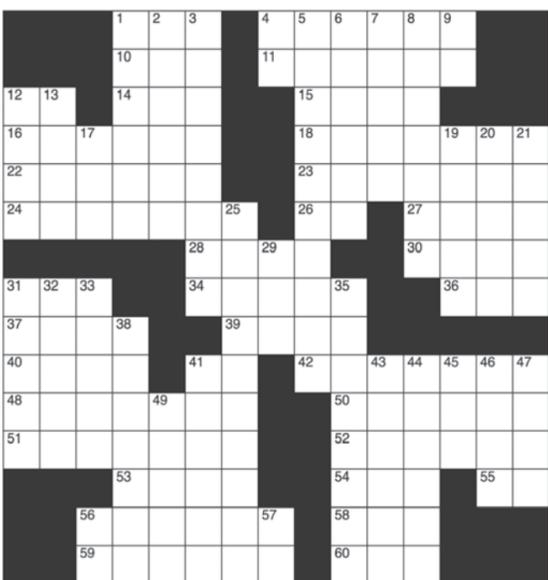
cloudy, wet cool hours in Southbridge collecting food donations. The food share provides services for the towns of Southbridge, Sturbridge, Holland, Wales, Brimfield, and Charlton. The uncomfortable weather did not stop, Big Bunny Market shoppers that morning and shoppers were very generous and supportive of the food drive.

Shoppers from Big Bunny market and community members donated food and other items. One couple donated three bags of food and an additional \$100. We had a gentleman stop his car in front

of our table open his trunk and handed a box full of food. Shoppers donated so many boxes of pasta and canned goods items. By the time the MGSTL Masonic Lodge members put all these single items in paper bags along with the paper bags already full of what the shoppers have given us, we were able to collect and donate 86 bags of groceries. We were able to collect for the food share 3 pick-up trucks full of food. We also collected \$184 in cash donations thanks to the generosity of the Big Bunny shoppers. The lodge volunteers unanimously decided to take the \$184 and went back into the supermarket and purchased a lot more groceries and a lot of baby food for the Southbridge Food Share Pantry. A special thank you to Big Bunny market owners Pete and Jon Courmoyer and the staff at Big Bunny for supporting their community and allow-

ing us Master Masons to run this food drive.

The volunteers of the Southbridge Food Share were all smiles and very, very happy to see 3 pick-up trucks full of grocery bags that were collected from the food drive. President of the Food share Karen Engell and Treasure Renee Proulx and a few more volunteers, was so appreciative and grateful to see those trucks full of food collected by us Master Masons and for doing this food drive. The way this community came together to meet our challenge we Masons made to the community, to fill 3 pick-up trucks full of food was amazing. Times are tough in this economy right now with Easter around the corner, and families not getting enough food assistance. The Food Share was very grateful to the Major General Salem Towne Masonic Lodge of Southbridge for picking the Southbridge Food Share as part of their Community Outreach Program again this year. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to mass-freemasonry.org to read to and to find a lodge nearest you.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Inclined to do
- 4. Sketches
- 10. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- 11. Atomic #58
- 12. Dorm official
- 14. Small Eurasian deer
- 15. Southern constellation
- 16. Workers' groups
- 18. Former
- 22. Excellent
- 23. Romance language related to Spanish
- 24. Reference
- 26. Equally
- 27. Dirty towels
- 28. A cargo (abbr.)
- 30. Ammunition
- 31. You get one in summer
- 34. Slang for trucks with trailers
- 36. Swiss river
- 37. Exchange rate
- 39. British School
- 40. College teacher
- 41. Foreign Service
- 42. Horse gear
- 48. Cost to fly
- 50. A salt or ester of boric acid
- 51. Mocking
- 52. One who bird-watches
- 53. Concluding passage
- 54. A major division of geological time
- 55. Sodium
- 56. A way to produce
- 58. Soak
- 59. Laughed loudly and harshly
- 60. Affirmative

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Moth species phalonia \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Quantum of energy
- 3. Break the law
- 4. Location of White House
- 5. Official cancellation of a decision
- 6. Where rockers work
- 7. Cut of beef: \_\_\_\_\_ mignon
- 8. Nocturnal burrowing reptile
- 9. Atomic #62
- 12. Genus of evergreen shrubs
- 13. Flowering plant of the legume family
- 17. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 19. Tropical fruit
- 20. Hot fluid beneath the earth's crust
- 21. James \_\_\_\_\_, painter
- 25. Popular dessert
- 29. Payment (abbr.)
- 31. Cuisine style
- 32. Genus of true flies
- 33. City in western France
- 35. Arrogance
- 38. One holding a position of command
- 41. Weekday
- 43. An evening party
- 44. Print errors
- 45. Not good
- 46. Egyptian Sun god
- 47. East German town
- 49. Olfactory property
- 56. Atomic #37
- 57. "Pollock" actor Harris





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# Friends of the Auburn Library present "Herbs and the Art of Healing in the Middle Ages"

AUBURN — On Friday, April 17, please join the Friends of the Auburn Public Library at a Fundraising Event to support the library titled "Herbs and the Art of Healing in the Middle Ages" presented by Professor Giovanni Spani, Professor of Italian and Medieval Studies in the Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the College of the Holy Cross.

In the Middle Ages, herbs, flowers, and perfumes were integral to daily life, intertwined with medicine and magic. Medicinal plants and herbs formed a major part of the pharmacopeia. Medical practice followed Hippocratic tradition, viewing the body as composed of four humors balanced by four elements. Treatments

included bleeding, cupping, leeching, and various surgical interventions, using herbal preparations for anesthesia and wine as antiseptic. This presentation examines medieval healing techniques for the cure of multiple diseases as documented in medical manuscripts from different European libraries.

Professor Spani holds a Ph.D. in Italian philology from Indiana University (Bloomington, IN) where he specialized in paleography, codicology, history of the manuscript production and textual culture. Prior to joining Holy Cross, prof. Spani held teaching positions at Trinity College, Middlebury College, and Bowdoin College. His area of interest includes Italian literature of the Middle Ages, Medieval Italian history and historiography, and

his research mainly focusing on the history of medieval medicine.

The presentation will be held on Friday, April 17, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at The Pakachoag Center, 203 Pakachoag St., Auburn. Doors open at 6 p.m., and admission is \$20 (Cash, Check, PayPal). Seating is limited so Pre-registration is required by emailing friendsaofaurnnplibrary@gmail.com.

Libraries need Friends – it's just that simple. The Friends of the Auburn Public Library is a group of citizens who volunteer their time to help financially support the Auburn Public Library (APL). Friends of the APL is an independent, non-profit 501(c)3, volunteer organization dedicated to raising money through donations, book sales and other activities, and to donate

those funds to the Library for materials, services and programs not funded through the municipal budget.

Watch for all the upcoming Friends event dates. You will find notices in the Auburn Library Lobby and postings on our Facebook group page 'Friends of the Auburn Public Library - Auburn, Massachusetts'. Meetings are typically held the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Merriam Room (please check the Library Calendar in case of a change.) New members are always welcome! And please add your email to our contact list by writing to friendsaofaurnnplibrary@gmail.com because you can never have too many Friends!

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# Luke Patton elected to membership in Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, La. — Luke Patton of Princeton was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at University of Massachusetts.

Patton is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent

of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning."

About Phi Kappa Phi  
 Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's

oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi inducts approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni annually. The Society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in the United States and its territories. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The Society's mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning." For more information, visit www.PhiKappaPhi.org.

# Oxford United Methodist Church to host baked haddock dinner March 27

OXFORD — The Oxford United Methodist Church will hold a baked haddock dinner on Friday, March 27, offering residents a chance to enjoy a traditional New England meal while gathering with neighbors and friends.

The dinner will be served from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the church.

The menu features baked haddock as the main course, accompanied by clam chowder, rice pilaf, and carrots. The meal will also include beverages and dessert.

Organizers say the dinner is intended to bring members of the congregation and the wider Oxford community together for an evening of food and fellowship. Church suppers have long been a staple of small-town life in Central Massachusetts, providing both a social gathering and an opportunity to support local congregations.

Tickets are priced at \$18 for adults and \$7 for children.

Community dinners such as this one remain a common way for churches and civic groups to welcome residents of all ages. In many towns across the region, Friday night suppers serve as informal meeting places where neighbors catch up, families gather for an affordable meal, and local organizations raise support for their programs.

Organizers encourage residents to arrive early, as church dinners often draw steady crowds.

**Todd A. Ethier**



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BRENDAN BERUBE  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

# Small acts that carry a community

In towns like Dudley, the measure of a community is rarely found in large headlines or sweeping initiatives. More often, it shows itself in the quieter moments when neighbors notice a need and respond without hesitation.

A recent diaper drive organized by the Town of Dudley and the Dudley Woman's Club is a good example of how these small acts of care make a real difference.

When organizers from the Webster-Dudley Food Share were asked about their most immediate need, the answer was simple and direct: diapers. Unlike canned goods or other pantry staples, diapers are rarely donated in large quantities, yet they are essential for families with infants and toddlers. They cannot be substituted or stretched, and they represent a steady, unavoidable expense for parents already struggling to make ends meet.

Once that need became clear, local leaders and volunteers stepped forward quickly. The Dudley Board of Health partnered with the Dudley Woman's Club to organize a month-long collection effort in February, placing a donation bin in the lobby of Town Hall.

The response from the community was remarkable.

By the end of the drive, donors had contributed 5,478 diapers and related items valued at more than \$3,300. The collection bin that began as a modest gesture quickly overflowed with donations, reflecting the generosity of residents who were willing to lend a hand to neighbors they may never meet.

That outcome says something important about small-town life.

In many places, people often speak about "community spirit," but in Dudley and surrounding towns, that phrase still has real meaning. Residents understand that helping others is not someone else's responsibility. It belongs to all of us.

What makes this effort especially meaningful is that it was built through partnership. Municipal leaders, volunteers, and a local nonprofit organization each played a role. The town provided a central location and helped spread the word. The Dudley Woman's Club organized and encouraged participation. The Webster-Dudley Food Share identified the need and ensured donations would reach families who depend on them.

When those pieces come together, the result is more than a successful donation drive. It becomes a reminder of how communities function best.

Efforts like this also show how local government can play a constructive role beyond budgets and bylaws. When town offices open their doors to initiatives that support neighbors in need, they help strengthen the social fabric that keeps communities resilient.

At the same time, volunteer organizations such as the Dudley Woman's Club continue a long tradition of service that has defined civic life in towns across Massachusetts for generations. Their work often happens quietly, but it remains essential.

And of course, none of it would matter without the residents who took the time to participate.

Every package of diapers dropped into that collection bin represented a decision by someone to help a family they may never know. It was a simple act, but for parents who rely on the Food Share to get through a difficult week, it can make a very real difference.

The lesson from this effort is not complicated. Communities thrive when people pay attention to the needs around them and respond with kindness.

The diaper drive may have lasted only a month, but the example it sets should last much longer. In a world that often feels divided or distant, it is encouraging to see a town come together around something as basic and meaningful as helping its youngest residents and the families who care for them.

In the end, that is the quiet strength of small towns: neighbors helping neighbors, one simple act at a time.

# Viewpoint

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

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CENTRAL REGION ANNOUNCES FREE THROW RESULTS

On Saturday, March 7, the Massachusetts Knights of Columbus State Council held its Central Region Free Throw Competition at Nichols College. Placing first was 13 year old boy Grayson Dollar (pictured), representing Webster Council 228 and District 14. Grayson will now advance to the State Finals being held April 11th in Hopkinton. Also placing second were Cameron Blodgett, in the 10 year old category and Jordan Ashton in the 14 year old group. Thanks to Nichols College for their support and all the volunteers from the K of C and three Shepherd Hill High School students that donated their time.



Courtesy

## Auburn Time Capsule awaits

BY HELEN POIRIER  
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The date is Thursday, April 23, 1970, and it was a typical damp, overcast spring day in the mid-'40s for a temperature. There's a large crowd of people gathered behind the fire station at Drury Square where a monument to Dr. Robert Goddard is being installed and dedicated. Just before the top of the monument was placed on its base, a time capsule is recessed into the cement. Inside were items deemed important enough for future generations to find and maybe understand a bit more about what life was like during the time period. The Auburn Historical Society together with the Auburn Rotary Club seemed to have been instrumental in this project. At the end of the inventory list, the names Kay Sheldon and Jean Tessier were recognized for compiling the history of the town while William E. Wallace, Jr. was mentioned for the capsule and compiling the inventory within the capsule typed on Auburn Historical Society, Inc. letterhead.

Fast forward to 2025 and Goddard Park is being renovated for the 100th anniversary of Dr. Robert Goddard's launching of the first liquid fuel rocket on Pakachoag Hill. The monument is being moved and

unexpectedly to anyone a time capsule is found. The Auburn Fire Department opened it to reveal the contents. The first two sealed envelopes have the name of the Auburn Historical Society on them. Chief Coleman brought the capsule to the Auburn Historical Society & Museum to have the contents revealed and an exhibit created for the Centennial Celebration the weekend of March 14 to 16. The Auburn Historical Society & Museum, working together with the Auburn Public Library, had one item on display at the library on Saturday in the Merriam Room and the rest at the Auburn Historical Museum. Some of the items in the time capsule included church records from all the churches in town, items from the Yankee Drummer Restaurant, media from the day, old photographs and more. Be sure to come to the museum to see more of what was in the capsule.

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

## The lost art of knowing your town

The other day, I needed to stop at a small local bank branch to take care of a simple errand. Nothing complicated, just the sort of quick visit that most people expect to finish in a few minutes.

While I was waiting, I noticed something that used to be fairly common in Massachusetts towns but feels a little rarer these days.

The teller greeted nearly every person who stepped up to the counter by name.

Not loudly, and not in a showy way. Just a friendly, matter-of-fact kind of greeting. "Morning, Bob."

"How are you today, Linda?" One fellow walking out the door paused long enough for a quick conversation about someone's daughter who had recently gone off to college. Another customer asked about the progress of a new roof being put on the teller's house.

None of it lasted long. A minute here, 30 seconds there.

But it reminded me of something that used to be second nature in small towns: people knowing one another, not in the grand sense of lifelong friendships, but in the simple recognition that comes from sharing the same streets, shops, and sidewalks for years.

There was a time when nearly every town had places like that.

The hardware store where the owner remembered what kind of paint you had bought the year before.

The diner where the waitress didn't need to ask how you liked your eggs.

The post office where the clerk might mention that your neighbor had picked up a package earlier that morning.

LANTERNS  
ALONG  
MAIN  
STREET  
By CHARLES

None of these connections were particularly dramatic. They were small, everyday acknowledgments that people lived side by side in the same place.

Over the years, many parts of life have grown more efficient, which is not always a bad thing. Self-checkout lanes move quickly. Online banking saves a trip across town. Packages arrive at the door without anyone needing to stand in line at the counter.

Convenience has its advantages. But sometimes, I wonder if we've quietly traded away a few of those small human moments along the way.

When everything is done through a screen, there are fewer chances to run into someone you know. Fewer moments when a casual "How are you?" turns into a short conversation about a local ball game or the latest town project.

And those small conversations matter more than we sometimes realize.

They help knit a town together. In Massachusetts communities, where many residents have lived for decades and families often return generation after generation, those everyday connections create a sense that a place belongs to the people who live there.

You are not simply passing through. You are part of the town's ongoing story.

That doesn't mean everyone needs to know everyone else's life history. No one expects that.

But there is something reassuring about walking into a familiar place and seeing a face that recognizes yours.

A quick greeting. A nod.

Maybe a short conversation about the weather, or the Red Sox, or how quickly the kids seem to grow up.

By the time I finished my errand at the bank that day, I had heard at least half a dozen people greeted by name. Some lingered to talk. Others hurried off to their next stop along Main Street.

The teller returned to her work without much fuss.

To her, it probably felt like a normal morning.

And perhaps that's exactly the point. In the best small towns, the quiet habit of knowing one another doesn't feel unusual at all. It simply feels like the natural way a community should work.

A town where people recognize one another, even in small ways, is a town where neighbors are never very far apart.

## Ask these two questions before buying a home



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You may have heard that buying a home is better than renting. After all, why "throw money away" on rent when you could be building wealth through homeownership? Financial professionals say the decision isn't that simple.

The answer depends on your personal and financial situation. Before you begin house hunting, ask yourself two key questions: Can you afford to buy? And should you buy?

Can you afford to buy? While being ready to purchase a home means having enough money for a down payment and a monthly mortgage, other financial obligations are involved.

It's important that your debt levels are manageable before you buy. Without a mortgage, it's ideal for your monthly debt payments to be less than 20 percent of your gross monthly income. With a mortgage, debt payments should stay lower than 35 percent.

You'll also need to cover homeowner's insurance premiums with a deductible, pay annual property taxes, hold emergency savings for the costs of major repairs such as roof or driveway replacement and build flexibility into your budget for routine expenses like HVAC tune-ups and lawn care. Don't forget the upfront costs, such as closing costs, that come with homebuying. They typically run between 2 and 6 percent of the purchase price.

Should you buy? One of the biggest factors in deciding whether to buy or rent relates to time. The longer you plan to stay in your house, the more likely it is that buying makes financial sense. Generally, professionals say it doesn't make sense to buy unless you're planning to stay in the home at least three to five years.

When you buy a home, you face high purchasing costs right away. Initially, you build equity slowly, since most of your mortgage payment goes to interest. Staying in your house longer offers more time to build equity. Overall, the total cost of buying could be lower than renting.

Many factors can impact whether it will be more cost effective to rent than buy. Job stability, potential reduction in income for one or both spouses, mortgage rates, rental costs, the rate at which homes are appreciating in value and the cost of homeowners insurance all come into play. Fortunately, many online calculators account for these factors and help you compare your options.

Beyond the numbers. When deciding whether to buy a house, don't just look at the cost. Buying a home is more than an investment. Your home is where you live your life. So, you should consider your lifestyle and preferences. Buying might be more suitable if you need stability, want to personalize your home and are comfortable with tying a portion of your wealth to a house. Renting offers more flexibility and fewer maintenance responsibilities.

Ultimately, choosing to rent or buy comes down to understanding your finances, your plans and what you want from the place you call home. Take the time to assess costs and lifestyle trade-offs to help make a choice that supports your long-term goals.

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

## 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.

## GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC

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508-949-3880  
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Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Adult Services Librarian Jessica Fontaine at [jfontaine@cwmar.org](mailto:jfontaine@cwmar.org)

**Adult Programming**  
**Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes** – Tuesdays at 6:00pm  
The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. No pre-registration is required. For more information, email us at [info@lvscm.org](mailto:info@lvscm.org).

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

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

**Yoga** – Saturdays at 9:30am  
Join Julie or Lauren at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

**Yoga Nidra with Jess** – Fridays at 8:15am

Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidra practice to start your day. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position for a guided relaxation (yoga nidra). This program takes place before the library officially opens. Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door. If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing.

**Expressive Arts Workshop: Soul Collage** – Thursday, March 19th at 6:30pm

This spring equinox, we will be hosting a Soul Collage

session centered around healing, mindfulness, and growth. Participants will have the opportunity to craft their own tarot and oracle inspired card to welcome the new season. This session will focus on creating a personal, meaningful keepsake entirely by hand. In order to create our card, we will use a mix of natural and found materials. Participants are encouraged to bring along any small trinkets or items from home that hold special meaning to them as well -- this can be in the form of photographs, postcards, buttons -- anything that sparks comfort. These personal touches are what give each card its unique story. Throughout the workshop, we'll also be incorporating tips on mindfulness, breathwork, and coping skills to help guide the creative process and create a calming, intentional atmosphere. No prior art experience is needed!

**Cozy Wednesdays: Silent Book Club** – Wednesday, March 25th at 6:30pm

Looking for a quiet escape? Join us for the first meeting of our Silent Book Club. The community room will be as cozy as it gets. Bring a book or borrow one from the library and enjoy an hour or two of silent reading. Quiet discussion is permitted. We'll provide the tea and atmosphere, you choose your book!

**The Chatty Chapter: A Genre Book Group** – Thursday, March 26th at 6pm

Join The Chatty Chapter, our genre book group! Each month we read a different genre. March's genre is romance: *Never Been Shipped* by Alicia Thompson. Extra copies are available at the circulation desk. To be added to the group list, please email Jess at [jfontaine@cwmar.org](mailto:jfontaine@cwmar.org)

**Winter Armchair Travel Series for Seniors: Vienna** – Friday, March 27th at 10:00am

In this Vienna city tour, we will visit its remarkable historical center with an expert in local history. We'll explore its spectacular monuments, quiet streets and unique elegance, gaining a broader view of the city and the many forces that have shaped this remarkable area.

**Programming for All Ages**  
**Library for All** – Mondays and Fridays at 10am

Library for All is an inclusive program for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please let us know if you need any special accommodations! Join us every Monday and Friday! The 1st week of the month is coloring, the 2nd week is LEGO, the 3rd week is chair yoga, and the 4th week of the month is painting.

**March Miniatures** – Thursdays in March at 5:00 and 6:00pm (only 5pm on 3/19)

We're embracing March Miniatures this month! Each Thursday we'll be making miniature-sized crafts for you to take home. March 19th – Mini Bookshelves, and March 26th – Painted Pots. Registration is required.

**Pokémon Party 2** – Saturday, March 21st 11am-1pm

Calling all Pokémon fans! Join us for a Pokémon Party packed with games, crafts, and Pokémon themed activities!

**Children's and Young Adult Programming**

**Play-Doh Storytime** – Mondays at 10:30am

Join us for an engaging storytime filled with interactive stories and Play-Doh fun! Kids are invited to explore, squish and make new creations each week. This sensory-friendly program is perfect for young learners and their grown-ups.

**Creators Club** – Mondays from 4:00-5:30 PM

We will have a variety of craft materials available to put your creativity to the test! Come explore our newly rebranded Monday night program: Creators Club! March's theme is: Pet Rocks!  
Kids will decorate their own pet rock to take home.

**Tiny Groovers** – Tuesdays at 10:30am

Join Miss Paige for a new storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids' tunes using while instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

**Mighty Builders** – Tuesdays at 4:00pm

Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!

**Tween Cupcake Wars** – Wednesday, March 25th at 5:30pm

Time for a cupcake battle! Kids ages 7-12 are invited to join our Cupcake Wars, as they compete in random teams to decorate cupcakes based on a surprise theme. Anonymous judges will vote, and one duo will take home a prize! Due to limited supplies, registration is required.

**Rockabye Beats** – Saturday, March 28th at 10:30am

Join us for Rockabye Beats – an interactive music and movement program full of singing, dancing, instruments, a sprinkle of Spanish, and lots of silly fun! Perfect for young children and their grown-ups. This program is generously funded by a grant from United Way of South Central MA.

## Local students elected for membership in Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, La. — Emma Pelloni of Dudley and Jake Rosen of Auburn were recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at University of Massachusetts.

The two were among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning."

About Phi Kappa Phi  
Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi inducts approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni annually. The Society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in the United States and its territories. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The Society's mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning." For more information, visit [www.PhiKappaPhi.org](http://www.PhiKappaPhi.org).

## OXFORD SENIOR CENTER

323 Main St.  
(508)987-6000  
Laura Wilson, Director

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Email: [seniorcenter@oxfordma.us](mailto:seniorcenter@oxfordma.us)

Web site: [www.oxfordma.us](http://www.oxfordma.us)

Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center

Monthly CHATTER Newsletter [www.oxfordma.us](http://www.oxfordma.us)

**Weekly Activities:**  
Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 am – Cribbage

Tuesdays @ 9:15am – 10:00 am Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost \$3.00 per class

Wednesdays @ 9:15am – 10:15 am Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost \$3.00 per class

Tuesdays and Wednesday @ 10:15 am - Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint)

Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.

Wednesdays @ 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay seated (2) have fun!

Thursdays @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Dominoes

**Monthly Activities:**

Let's Talk Oxford History – 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1pm - Sponsored by the Oxford Historical Commission

Men's Coffee Group –

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30am – coffee and pastry are served.

Book Club – 1st Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library

Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month @ 12:45pm ~ March movie - " Jerry & Marge Go LARGE"

Senior Safety with Oxford Fire/EMS - 3rd Friday of the month @ 12:30pm

BEANO – 4th Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – arrive by 12:30pm to purchase your BEANO sheets.

**March Presentations:**

Worcester Superior Court Justice William Ritter will be at the senior center to discuss what a day is like being a judge in judicial system. ~ Tuesday, March 24th @ 12:30pm

Learn how the Registry of Deeds and the Probate Court work together for the Residents of Massachusetts ~ Tuesday, March 31 @ 12:30pm

**Bus Trips:**

June 18th ~ Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum & lunch at Margaritaville \$ 129 pp

December 3rd ~ Cookies & Carols Cruise w/lunch at the Cheesecake Factory \$ 139 pp

\*Stop by the senior center to pick up a flyer with full trip itinerary. No calls accepted for sign-up.



# Community Connection

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**NHS**  
continued from page A1

Andrew Collins  
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Pietro Falsarella  
Tyler Fedorisky  
Davi Fracalossi  
Calleigh Furtado  
Laura Grenier  
Olivia Hammond  
Caroline Harty  
Noel Jandrow  
Ella Kasprzycki  
Keith Kirkpatrick  
Beatriz Luna  
Brooke Nitti  
Adam Sliwoski  
Krystiana Sobocinski  
Lucas Staniunas  
Mia Urbaz  
Keagan Vanarsdalen  
Seniors honor educators who made a difference

A highlight of the ceremony was the Senior Educator Recognition, where graduating NHS members delivered heartfelt speeches honoring teachers, counselors, coaches, and staff who had significantly impacted their academic journeys.

Students shared personal reflections on mentors who inspired them, supported their growth, and helped them through challenging moments.

Justine Anderson honored Ms. Ripley, recognizing her patience and encouragement in helping students build confidence in math.

Rachel Arndt honored Ms. Fournier, her kindergarten teacher, who inspired her love of school and future career in early childhood education.

Sarah Arndt recognized Mr. Richards for his compassion, leadership, and willingness to support students in difficult moments.

Cassidy Burke honored Ms. Button, her coach and mentor, who inspired both athletic growth and a deeper sense

of purpose through FCA.

Delaney Burke recognized Mrs. Castillo, praising the positive and nurturing learning environment she creates for preschool students.

Jaelynn Caracciolo honored Missi McConnell for her patience and encouragement, which helped her step into a leadership role at Best Buddies.

Savannah Cioppa recognized Mr. Pietro for his kindness, humor, and constant support for students.

Keegan Comeau honored Mrs. Gasco for her guidance and encouragement throughout the college planning process.

Anna Costa Heroux recognized Mrs. Harvey for the many ways she supports students every day in the school office.

Conner Dawe honored Mr. Ethier, whose passion for history inspired students to engage deeply with the subject.

Chloe Gabis recognized Master Chief Youngsman, whose mentorship through ROTC helped her build confidence and leadership skills.

Veronica Griffin honored Ms. Castonguay, who inspired her leadership journey through her work on the student council.

Gwen Gustafson recognized Mr. May and shared humorous and meaningful stories about her experience as his athletic intern.

Addisen Monsen honored Mr. Harvey, thanking him for his unwavering support and guidance through difficult personal challenges.

Kaius Monson recognized Mrs. Borgeson, whose Unified PE program helped him experience the joy of supporting others.

Samuel Paradise honored Mr. Frykberg, a coach and teacher who helped him rediscover his love for soccer.

Paige Reynolds recognized Mrs. Stone, whose engaging physics class inspired her aspiration to become an engineer.

Ava Vincent honored Ms. Harper, thanking her for her kindness, encouragement, and belief in her students.

Vanessa Walker recognized Ms. Looby, whose teaching helped build her confidence and love of learning.

Ethan White honored Mr. Bell, whose engaging Spanish classes made language learning memorable and fun.

Looking ahead  
The ceremony concluded with remarks from Mrs. Aganis, who thanked the School Committee, faculty, staff, Naval Junior ROTC unit, Oxford High School's Food Services, and Oxford High School Music Department for their contributions to the evening.

"As members of the National Honor Society, these students represent the very best of Oxford High School," she said. "Their dedication to scholarship, leadership, service, and character reflects the values we hope to see in the leaders of tomorrow."

The celebration ended with applause for the new members and their mentors, followed by light refreshments outside the auditorium.

**FUNDING**  
continued from page A1

ordered the crossing closed when a dry bridge on the Dudley side, known as the Mill Race Bridge, was deemed unsafe.

Dudley Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda then launched what became years of appeals to federal and state legislators to secure special funding and grants to reopen the roads.

Working with MassDOT and the town's engineering consultant Tighe & Bond, a plan was developed to install a temporary "Acrow" modular bridge that would be borrowed from MassDOT until a permanent bridge could be installed.

Work ensued to demolish the unsafe structure and ensure the temporary bridge project would be shovel-ready, while Ruda continued to pursue funding to cover the \$1.3 million cost.

It was announced in July 2025 that local legislators state Sen. Ryan Fattman, state Rep. John Marsi and state Rep. Joseph D. McKenna had secured \$600,000 from the state's "millionaires' tax" funds toward reopening the bridge.

At the time, Ruda said the town was planning to use a large portion of its state Chapter 90 funds to bridge the funding gap. "I wasn't happy about it, but short of asking voters to approve a tax increase to pay for the rest of the project, we were stuck," Ruda said.

In a February 27, 2026, letter to MassDOT, Ruda wrote, "Without additional assistance, the town would be required to use a substantial portion of its Chapter 90 roadway allocation to fund the remain-

ing balance. Doing so would significantly limit the Town's ability to address roadway maintenance, repair, and infrastructure improvements across multiple locations throughout the community. The town therefore respectfully requests FAIR Program assistance in the amount of \$758,586 to complete the funding necessary to advance this project."

MassDOT responded favorably. In a March 16 letter, District Highway Director Barry Lorion wrote, "Through the FAIR Program, the community will receive \$758,586 in additional funding beyond the \$600,000 Fair Share supplemental transportation earmark authorized in December 2025, for a total funding commitment of \$1,358,586."

"The town appreciates the help from our local legislators and MassDOT, and I'm especially thankful to Rep. Marsi for supporting Dudley's request for the release of additional funding from the FAIR Program," Ruda said.

The Funding for Accelerated Infrastructure Repair (FAIR) program is funded by "Fair Share"

(millionaire's tax) revenue to repair, replace, and rehabilitate municipal-owned bridges.

The proposed permanent solution for the overpass would eliminate the Mill Race Bridge by re-grading the area to replicate its primary purpose, which was flood control.

In a January 2023 letter, MassDOT deemed the permanent bridge eligible for funding and approved the estimated cost of \$6,235,000. At the time, it was reported that state and federal money would fund the \$6.2 million project, but such a project would be years away.

**Comedy Night fundraiser – more than a music scholarship**

WEBSTER — Join us for the second annual Comedy Night Fundraiser to benefit the More Than Music Scholarship in Memory of Shawn Marengo.

This scholarship supports graduating Seniors from Shepherd Hill Regional High School who exemplify leadership, community service, and academic excellence. It provides meaningful financial assistance to a deserving student pursuing

higher education or vocational training, ensuring Shawn's legacy continues to make a positive and lasting impact on the community he loved.

Event Details:  
Date: March 28  
Time: Doors open at 6 p.m., show begins at 7 p.m.  
Location:  
PACC, 37 Harris St., Webster, MA 01570  
Tickets:  
\$25 in advance

\$30 at the door  
Tickets may be purchased online at:  
<https://www.funny4funds.com/events/more-than-music-in-memory-of-shawn-marengo-scholarship/1707>

This event is presented in collaboration with Steven Donovan and Funny 4 Funds. We hope you will join us for an evening of laughter in support of a wonderful cause.

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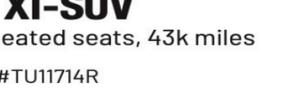
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# Park Avenue Faculty Spotlight



WEBSTER — Each year, Park Avenue is filled with remarkable student learning — made possible by the dedication, creativity, support, and, most importantly, the hope carried by the extraordinary staff here in our town. This week, we are proud to highlight two more exceptional members of our PAE team: Brandon Meece (third grade teacher) and Kim Forget (second grade teacher).



Kim Forget, second grade teacher, is an incredible educator whose passion for teaching shines through in everything she does. A true master teacher, she is constantly thinking about how to support, inspire, and celebrate her students. Her classroom is a place where children feel valued, encouraged, and excited to learn. Forget goes above and beyond to create meaningful experiences for her students — even organizing a special school event during Heart Month this year to celebrate and support one of her students. It is this level of care, thoughtfulness, and dedication that makes Kim so special. Her students absolutely love her, and they are truly lucky to have such a compassionate and talented teacher guiding them each day.

As one colleague shared, “Kim is always thinking about her students first. The care and creativity she brings to her classroom make such a difference for the children she teaches.”

Thanks for your dedication! Brandon Meece, third grade teacher and member of the PAE Instructional Leadership Team (ILT), is a wonderful educator who cares deeply about his students and colleagues. Meece brings energy, positivity, and a great sense of fun to his classroom, making learning engaging and memorable for his students. He is a highly sought-after teacher in third grade, known for the strong relationships he builds with his students and the high expectations he sets for them. He believes in helping every child reach their full potential and works tirelessly to support their growth both academically and personally. His commitment to his students and the broader PAE community makes him a valued and respected member of our team.

As one colleague noted, “Brandon has a special ability to connect with kids while also pushing them to do their very best. His classroom is a place where students feel supported, challenged, and excited to learn.”

Thanks for your dedication!

## Oxford Lions Club offers scholarships

OXFORD — The Oxford Lions Club is currently accepting applications for three \$1,000 scholarships. The recipients will be selected on the student’s academic performance, community service, and financial need. Graduating high school seniors who are residents in the Town of Oxford that will be continuing their education at an accredited college or trade program are eligible to apply.

The Al Dubois Scholarship is named for a former teacher and Oxford Lion president who believed in helping student with special needs. The Lions Club also has two other scholarships available.

Students that are home schooled or at an accredited High School are eligible and encouraged to apply, if they reside in Oxford.

Applications are available at the Oxford High School Guidance Department, Bay Path Regional Technical High School Guidance Department or the Oxford Public Library. Applications must be received by March 27.

March: “Legends of Oxford” with Rob Racicot  
3/19/26 - 6pm  
Carbuncle Beach House

Join us for light refreshments as Mr. Racicot recounts folklore legends of Oxford:  
The Oxford Pirate  
Devil’s Den  
Legend of Carbuncle Pond  
Oxford’s Haunted Library

Presented by the Oxford Community Center

### CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY

**LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEK!**

3/13 Stephen George  
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# Anniversary Sale!

## Biggest Sale of the Year!

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# IT’S MARCH MAYHEM!

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# LEGALS

## Public Hearing on FY' 2027 Proposed Budget

On Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at 5 West Street, the Auburn School Committee will hold its Public Hearing on the proposed FY' 2027 budget for the Auburn Public Schools. This Public Hearing is being held in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 38N.

The proposed FY 2027 school budget is \$33,968,107.62. The total amount requested reflects a 3.92% increase from the amount appropriated in FY' 2026. The school department's budget was created in a fiscally responsible manner in full recognition of the financial challenges before us as individuals and a community.

As residents of the Town of Auburn, we are sending you an invitation to the Public Hearing, a meeting which is open to all. The draft budget is posted on our district website. You are encouraged to visit the site by accessing [www.auburn.k12.ma.us](http://www.auburn.k12.ma.us) hover over the word District at the top and click on School Budget.

In addition to having the opportunity to ask questions on April 8th, please know that if you have questions regarding the proposed budget prior to or following the Public Hearing, Dr. Chamberland would be happy to answer them. She can be reached at 508-832-7755 or via email at [echamberland@auburn.k12.ma.us](mailto:echamberland@auburn.k12.ma.us)

Thank you for your continued support of the Auburn Public Schools and we look forward to sharing our proposed budget with you on April 8th at 5:30 p.m.

March 20, 2026

## Town of Dudley Public Hearing Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:35pm in the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA in the Veteran's Memorial Hall, Room 321A.

The purpose of this Hearing: To Act on an Application for a Class II License for Prestige Plus Auto Sale LLC located at 257 West Main St. Unit 1, Dudley, MA 01571. Applicant: Katarzyna Gumowska Bobinska.

Anyone wishing to be heard should appear at the date and time specified or submit their concerns in writing.

Jana Deschenes, Chair

Dudley Board of Selectmen  
March 20, 2026

## LEGAL NOTICE

The United Way of South Central Massachusetts, Inc., will hold its **ANNUAL MEETING** on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at the Boys & Girls Club of Webster-Dudley in Webster, MA. The purpose of this meeting will be to nominate and elect the Corporation Treasurer, Secretary and Board of Directors; to receive reports and to act upon any other business presented.

Kristin McCarthy  
Secretary/Clerk

March 19, 2026

March 20, 2026

## CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Docket No. WO26P0708EA  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200  
**Estate of: Richard Francis Moylan, Jr.**

**Date of Death: 01/29/2026**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Amanda Rossi of North Brookfield, 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 **Tiffany Sousa of Dudley, MA** and **Amanda Rossi of North Brookfield, 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 04/14/2026.**

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

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

**WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.**

**Date: March 09, 2026 - Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate**  
March 20, 2026

Notice is hereby given by: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on March 20, 2025 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571, the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:

Description of vehicles:

Vehicle: 2015 Ford Focus

VIN# 1FADP3K23FL380803

Owner: Paul Bonczyk 2 Trinity Ave Worcester MA 01605

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.225, Section 39 A  
March 6, 2026

March 13, 2026

March 20, 2026

## TOWN OF DUDLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 71 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY MA 01571

Please take notice that: Scott Szymczak

Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section 2.04.00

Location: 2 Norman Lane

In the following respect: Applicant is seeking a variance of 24 ft on right side setback and 200 ft on lot coverage for a proposed garage.

The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday April 2, 2026 @ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be heard relative to this Public Hearing.

Please contact Amanda Holmes at 508-949-8012 or [building@dudleyma.gov](mailto:building@dudleyma.gov) to attend the meeting.

George Slingo, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals

March 13, 2026

March 20, 2026

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF DUDLEY WATER SEWER COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners will be holding a **Public Hearing on Wednesday April 8, 2025, at 6:30pm** in Room 315 at Dudley Town Hall, 71 West Main Street, Dudley MA 01571 to discuss the following:

**No proposed increase on Water rates.**

**Proposed Tier rates on Sewer and an increase on Sewer rates a 2% increase on the base rate and usage and Tier II will be for 7100+ cubic feet at a rate of \$14.79 per 100 cubic feet. The Flat Rate will increase from \$650 to \$1300, which is a 100% increase. (The flat rate is for people who have Sewer only and do not have a meter)**

**Create a fee for Hydrant Flow Tests – the proposed fee is \$300 per test.**

Scott Zajkowski, Chairman

March 20, 2026

March 27, 2026

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage dated November 10, 2022 given by Daniel Yarnie to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust u/d/t dated October 25, 2022 (recorded in Book 68416, Page 212), said mortgage recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68476, Page 194, and which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **10:00 a.m. on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026** on the premises at 64 Leicester Street, Oxford, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:

Property Address: **64 Leicester Street, Oxford, Massachusetts 01537**

The following parcels of land in Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts: Lots 26A and 26B as shown on that certain plan recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 407, Plan 119.

Lots 27 and 28 as shown on that certain plan recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 78, Plan 1.

Lot 2 as shown on that certain plan recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 817, Plan 116.

For title see deed recorded herewith [Book 68476, Page 190].

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements,

public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens and rights of any tenants and parties in possession, if there be any, or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. The successful bidder will pay all costs of recording the foreclosure deed and any other foreclosure documents including, without limitation, all state and county excise stamp fees, and shall also be responsible for any Title V inspection and repair requirements.

Terms of sale: A deposit of Fifty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$50,000.00) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale.

The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check to Mirrione, Shaughnessy & Uitti, LLC, 2 Batterymarch Park, Suite 202, Quincy, MA 02169 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

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

Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust

u/d/t dated October 25, 2022

Present holder of said mortgage

By his Attorneys,  
Mirrione, Shaughnessy & Uitti, LLC

2 Batterymarch park, Suite 202  
Quincy, MA 02169

March 13, 2026

March 20, 2026

March 27, 2026

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Level 3-Critical Drought Posted: March 10, 2026

On March 09, 2026 the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental affairs (EEA) issued a **Level 3- Critical Drought Declaration** for the Central Region of Massachusetts. As required by MassDEP & EEA, the Town is following the guidance and response actions in the Massachusetts Drought Plan and instituting a **MANDATORY BAN** on all non-essential water use as required by our MassDEP Water Management Act Registration.

**March 9<sup>th</sup> EEA Message to Municipalities:** *Although Massachusetts received up to three feet of snow in February, that snowfall has not yet helped improve drought conditions. Most of that water is still locked in snow because February temperatures stayed well below freezing; the ground was also frozen. Even when it melts, the three feet of snow equals only about two and a half inches of water, which is not enough to fully recharge rivers, lakes, ponds, and groundwater after months of below-average precipitation and overall substantial water deficits. The above-normal temperatures that Massachusetts is now experiencing and the upcoming rains will start to slowly replenish water systems and be reflected in monthly totals for the month of March.*

*"This drought has been building since 2024, and we're still seeing the effects in low streamflow and lower water levels across the state," said **EEA Secretary Tepper**. "Even though we had a snowy February, it won't be enough to replenish the groundwater after such a long period of drought. That's why it's important for everyone to be mindful of how we use water. Small actions can help protect our water supply while conditions recover."*

This mandatory water ban is for daily "non-essential" water use from public water sources and shall be in effect until **further notice per the EEA**.

**Non-essential outdoor water uses that are subject to mandatory restrictions include:**

- irrigation of lawns via sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems;
- filling swimming pools;
- washing of vehicles, except in a commercial car wash or as necessary for operator safety; and
- washing exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks, except as necessary to apply surface treatments such as paint, preservatives, stucco, pavement or cement.

### Recommendations for Residents and Businesses:

- Minimize overall water use
  - Follow state water conservation actions and any local water use restrictions
  - Monitor total household water use shown on your water bill for sudden increases, which often indicate leaks. Use the **MA Home Water Use Calculator tool** (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/interactive-water-conservation-tools>) to evaluate household water use or self manage your own water usage thru our new customer web portal Neptune 360: <https://www.webster-ma.gov/242/Water-Department>
  - Fix any toilet or faucet leaks immediately. Check for leaks in homes and businesses regularly by:
    - o Checking water meters for constant dial movement
    - o Using dye tabs to check for toilet leaks
    - o Conducting regular inspections of all pipes and fixtures, including those located in utility rooms, crawlspaces, and other hidden areas
  - Use dishwashers rather than handwashing dishes. Run the dishwasher only on a full load
  - Aggressively reduce indoor water use by:
    - o Taking showers and avoiding baths
    - o Reducing shower length and consider using a shower timer
    - o Running washing machines only on a full load
    - o Not letting water run while brushing and shaving
    - o Replacing old fixtures and appliances with water-efficient ones.
- Make sure toilets, faucets, and showerheads are **Water Sense labeled** (<https://www.epa.gov/watersense/watersense-products>)
- Stop all non-essential water use

State Drought Condition (by Region)	Nonessential Outdoor Water-Use Restrictions
Level 1 (Mild Drought)	1 day per week watering, after 5 p.m. or before 9 a.m. (to minimize evaporative losses)
Level 2 (Significant Drought)	Limit outdoor watering to hand-held hoses or watering cans, to be used only after 5 p.m. or before 9 a.m.
Level 3 (Critical Drought)	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use
Level 4 (Emergency Drought)	Ban on all nonessential outdoor water use

### Enforcement will include:

- Written warning of first offense;
  - \$50 fine for second offense;
  - \$100 fine for each subsequent offense;
  - **Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense.**
- March 20, 2026

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**BREAKFAST**

continued from page A1

for her consistent communication, coordination of interviews, and ongoing efforts to move the program forward.

Program growth and student impact

The past year has marked a period of significant expansion for the mentoring initiative. According to program leaders, the num-

ber of mentor matches has doubled, and more than twenty (20) high school students are now actively serving as mentors.

"These are young leaders who are choosing to show up, invest their time, and make an impact in someone else's life," organizers said during the event.

Mentoring relationships typically involve one-on-one meetings where students spend time talking, playing games, or helping

with homework. While these activities may appear simple, program leaders emphasized that they help build trust, strengthen relationships, and encourage younger students to believe in themselves and their futures, as well.

One mentorship highlighted during the celebration was the match between Alejandro and Kalicio, who have been paired for 14 months. Program organizers pointed to their rela-

tionship as an example of the consistency and dedication which help mentoring relationships thrive.

School honored with community award

During the event, Bartlett High School was presented with the Cornerstone "In Your Corner" Award, which recognizes an exceptional program partner whose support helps advance the mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters. The award honors

organizations that demonstrate a strong commitment to collaboration and youth mentorship. School leaders were recognized for their administrative support and for encouraging student participation in the program, helping it expand and reach more young people. Principal Gina Nieves accepted the award on behalf of the school.

Community support remains key

Organizers closed the event by thanking attendees and partners for their continued support of mentoring programs in the community. Support from schools, businesses, and local organizations are playing a vital role in creating meaningful mentoring relationships that can have a lasting impact on young people's lives.



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## LEGALS

(SEAL)  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT**  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT  
Worcester ss  
2026 SM 000757  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:  
MICHELLE NGILA  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act 50 U. S. C. c. 50 § 3 901 et seq.:

**STEVEN A. ROSS, TRUSTEE OF QS LENDING TWO TRUST**  
Claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster numbered 791 School Street given by MICHELLE NGILA Trustee of 791 School Realty Trust to Steven A. Ross Trustee of QS LENDING TWO TRUST dated November 6 2025 recorded or filed with Worcester (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 72839 Page 372 has filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's 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 04/20/2026 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 3/6/2026.  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
March 20, 2026

(SEAL)  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT**  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT  
Docket Number:26 SM 000774  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:  
Frederick Reeks III aka Frederick William Reeks III and Elise Urella aka Elise Adrian Urella  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq)  
TH MSR Holdings LLC  
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in 5 Wyman St, Webster, MA 01570, given by Frederick Reeks III and Elise Urella to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation

its successors and assigns dated December 20, 2021 and recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 66830, Page 34, 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 04/27/2026 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 3/6/2026.  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson Recorder  
March 20, 2026

**Docket No. WO25E0010PP**  
**Petition to Partition Citation (A.C.92A)**  
**Commonwealth of Massachusetts Worcester Probate & Family Court**  
To Tiffany M. Charlestown and to all other persons interested.  
A petition has been presented to said Court by Bobbie F. Holland of Webster

in the County of Worcester representing that he hold as tenant in common an undivided part or share of that certain land lying in Webster in said County Worcester and described as follows:  
See Attached  
setting forth that he/ she desire that all the aforesaid described part of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than five hundred and sixty thousand (\$460,000) dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof.  
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twenty fourth day of February 2026 the return day of this citation.  
Witness, Kathryn M. Bailey, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-first day of April 26.  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
March 13, 2026  
March 20, 2026  
March 27, 2026

# OBITUARIES

## Charlotte J. Carpick, 98



DUDLEY – Charotte J. (Kondek) Carpick, 98, died peacefully Thursday, March 12, 2026, after a period of declining health. Her beloved husband of 69 years, Louis J. Carpick, died in 2020.

She leaves a sister, Genevieve K. Pioppi and her husband N. William Pioppi of Sturbridge, several nieces, nephews, grandnephews, great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews. She was preceded in death by 5 brothers, Charles, Louis, Walter, John and Henry Kondek and by 3 sisters, Stasia Balkurna, Josephine Grzych and Joan Lesniewski.

She was born at home on August 18, 1927, the daughter of Stanislaw and Franciszka (Nycek) Kondek and lived in

Dudley most of her life.

Mrs. Carpick was a lens inspector for 39 years at the former American Optical Company in Southbridge, retiring in 1985. She was a member of its Quarter Century Club.

She was a communicant of Saint Andrew Bobola Church and belonged to the former Holy Rosary Sodality for many years.

Her funeral will be held on Saturday, March 21, at 11:00 AM in Saint Andrew Bobola Church, 54 West Main Street (please meet at the church). Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace, Webster. Donations in her name may be made to Saint Joseph Elementary School, 47 Whitcomb Street, Webster, MA 01570. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster.

www.websterfunerals.com

## James B. Burgess, Jr., 41



James B. Burgess, Jr., 41, of North Grosvenordale, CT, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on Friday, March 6, 2026, at Hartford Hospital. He fought a long and hard battle

from having a very large brain mass.

James was born December 26, 1984, in Southbridge, MA. He is survived by his parents, James B. Burgess, Sr. and Janice (Keegan) Burgess of North Grosvenordale; his sisters, Melissa Johnston and her husband Ryan of Woodstock, CT, and Angela Hill and her husband Joseph of Woodstock, CT. He was the proud uncle of his nephew Blake, niece Mila, nephew Thomas, and was eagerly awaiting the arrival of another niece, Avery.

James enjoyed meeting people and worked for several years as a door-to-door salesman of internet services. He

later worked as a machine operator and had been employed by Western Express, Stellar, and Nutmeg Cardboard.

He had a deep love for music, especially playing his guitars for family and friends. He also enjoyed the outdoors, hiking, and playing disc golf. He valued spending time with those he loved and enjoyed many concerts with his friends. He also had a special place in his heart for animals, specifically his cats and dogs.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 13, at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 24 Dudley Hill Road, Dudley, MA. Burial will be held at a later date. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, March 12, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA. Family and friends are warmly invited to attend.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in James's memory to Community Cat Connection, MA or Paws Cat Shelter, CT.

### How to Submit an Obituary

#### Guidance in Your Time of Need.

Posting an obituary is a meaningful way to honor the life of someone who has passed, share the loss with the community, and support the grieving process. It celebrates their life, family, memories, and accomplishments while bringing people together in remembrance. An obituary also helps loved ones find comfort and closure during a difficult time preserves the individual's story as an important part of the family's history and legacy.

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## Mary Kliss, 96



Mary (Rock) Kliss, age 96, of Webster died Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at Rose Monahan Hospice Home of Worcester, MA. Mary was born February 22, 1930 in Gardner, MA. She is the daughter of

the late Joseph and the late Irene (Landry) Rock.

She is survived by one son: Kenneth Daviau of Webster, A loving and devoted grandmother to her 4 grandchildren, Kristen Marier of Putnam, CT; Corey Marier and his wife Stephaine Marier of Putnam, CT; Craig Marier and his wife Debra Marier of Danielson, CT; Kyle Marier and his wife Ashley Marier of Thompson, CT. Two great granddaughters, Amaranda Marier of Thompson, CT; and

Neveh Marrier both of Thompson, CT Predeceased by her Husbands Stanley Kliss and Raymond Daviau her daughter, Cheryl Marier, and brother, Arthur Rock.

Mary graduated from St. Louis High School in 1949 and lived in Webster all her life.

was employed by American Optical as an Inspector, worked many years at Webster Shoe and in retirement worked at K Mart in Webster.

A Celebration of life will be held Wednesday April 1, 2026 at 10 AM at High Point Church 1208 Thompson Rd. Thompson Ct. Bartel Funeral Home 33 Schofield Ave. Dudley is directing arrangements.

Please No flowers. Donations to the charity of one's choice. [www.bartelfuneralhome.com](http://www.bartelfuneralhome.com)

## Michael Mahan, 89



WEBSTER – Michael Mahan, 89, died Thursday, March 12, 2026 in Lanessa Extended Care Facility after a period of declining health. His wife of 50 years, Claire A. (Cournoyer) Mahan,

died in 2008.

He leaves 3 children, Michelle M. Ford of Holden, and Mark J. Mahan and Jason R. Mahan, both of Webster; 4 grandchildren, Zachary Ford and his wife Rebecca of Holden, Stefani Ford of Webster, Kimberli DiMascio and her husband Jared of Seekonk, and Kristin Maforti and her husband Nick of Wethersfield, CT; 4 great-grandchildren, Chase, Liam, Claire and Riley; several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, including Agnes "Candy" Davis of Webster whom he helped raise; nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by an infant daughter Maryann in 1965 and by his brother Neal Mahan last

August. He was born on March 8, 1937 in Webster, the son of Joseph and Ruth (Boelter) Mahan and was a lifelong resident. He graduated from Bartlett High School in 1956.

Mr. Mahan was a patrolman on the Webster Police Department for many years. He also owned and operated Webster Masonry from 1970 until his recent retirement.

He was a member of the 200 Sportsman's Club for over 60 years. He belonged to the TSKK where he was once on the Board of Directors. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

A graveside service in Mount Zion Cemetery will be held at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. Donations in his name may be made to Bartlett High School Grid Iron Club, 52 Lake Parkway, Webster, MA 01570. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street.

www.websterfunerals.com

## Peter J Olsta, 78



Peter J Olsta, age 78, of Eastham, MA and Glenmont, NY died Thursday, March 12, 2026. Peter was born on November 3, 1947 in Webster, MA, son of the late Juliet (Rulli) Olsta and the late Joseph

Jarmolowicz. He graduated from Bartlett High School, and received his bachelor's degree from Lowell Tech and his master's degree from RPI.

He is survived by his daughters Lisa (Michael) Sullivan of Smithtown, NY, and Michelle (Anthony) Marino of Glenmont, NY; grandchildren: Caroline Robinson, Eva Robinson, Ben Robinson, Adam Marino, Eliana Marino, Sadie Marino, Emily Sullivan, and Grace Sullivan; sister Mary (Ed) Kunkel of Dudley, MA, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. He was predeceased by his wife of 49 years, Carol (Nadeau) Olsta.

Peter was a business executive in the plastics manufacturing industry spending his career at DuPont, Albany International, Crellin Plastics, Sonoco Plastics, and Pittsfield Plastics. More recently, Peter spent his time volunteering for Nauset Neighbors on Cape Cod where he made many new friends while driving seniors to medical appointments. He was just awarded Volunteer of the Year this past week.

Peter was devoted to his family, especially his grandkids (and grand-dogs). Through the years he has been a fixture

on the sidelines, bleachers, and audiences of all the kids' sporting events and performances. He was their number one fan. He was avid wood-worker who loved to build custom furniture for his family and friends.

Peter loved bringing people together, especially at his home on Cape Cod. He loved "small world" stories and connected with people wherever he went. Peter was a gifted athlete having success in football, basketball, and most significantly, baseball. He was a proud inductee of the Hall of Fame at both Bartlett High School and UMass Lowell.

Peter touched the lives of many, often filling the role of Dad and Poppy to an extended circle of family and friends. He enjoyed exploring low tide with his grandkids, watching sunsets from the deck, enjoying a nice meal, and running the family football pool. Peter was a devoted fan of all New England teams especially the Patriots and the Red Sox.

Calling hours will be Thursday, March 19 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Nauset Neighbors, Alzheimer's Association, or the charity of your choice are kindly appreciated.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, March 20 at Sacred Heart Of Jesus Church, 16 East Main St., Webster, MA followed by a luncheon at Point Breeze at 114 Point Breeze Rd, Webster, MA

## Friday's Child

Ana is mature, insightful, and incredibly understanding. They have a thoughtful way of looking at the world and bring a level of self-awareness that truly stands out. Ana's favorite colors – black, blue, red, and white – reflect their bold and expressive personality. Ana enjoys staying active and taking care of themselves. They participate in kickboxing, practice yoga, and enjoy spending time at the pool. Volleyball is a particular favorite, and they would love more opportunities to play and continue building their skills in the sport. Creative and artistic, Ana expresses themselves in many ways. They have a strong musical side and can play the bass clarinet, showcasing both talent and dedication. Whether through athletics, art, or music, Ana brings passion and depth to the things they love.

**Ana**  
**Age 15**  
**Registration #9008**

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/22622764828>

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

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with. To learn more about adoption from foster care visit [www.mareinc.org](http://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.

## OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL RECOGNIZED AS GOLD COUNCIL OF EXCELLENCE

Every year, high school Student Councils across Massachusetts attend the Massachusetts Association of Student Councils (MASC) conference in Hyannis. It is a three day leadership conference filled with keynote speakers, workshops, and engaging activities for students and advisors. Eighteen members of the Oxford High School Student Council attended this conference and returned home as a Gold Council of Excellence. This award is given to Student Councils that are diverse in the community and school activities they plan throughout the year. Senior Student Council President Cassidy Burke attended this conference for the third time this year. She states, "We work hard all year with all our events and it all pays off at this conference where we get to share our achievements with other councils and receive the well-deserved Gold Council award."

Courtesy



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

Featured Listing ~ New To Market!  
Webster ~ 33 Slater Street



Sprawling 62'x30' fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan w/15'x13' kitchen, 15'x22' living rm, 13'x11' dining rm, 10'x28' breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors, replacement windows/doors & more, more, more! How do you like it? Call today to schedule a showing! \$525,000

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd  
New Construction - Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lakeside beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage \$649,900.00

### On the shores of Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake Waterfront Listing!!  
On Indian Point # 10 "Private Rd"



ASTONISHING Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! Sun drenched from early morning sunrise till sunset! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! Recent Kitchen & Bath! Primary Bedroom w/walk-in closet. Hardwood Floors. 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$ 900,000.

Webster Lake - 302 Kildeer Island



Renovated + move-in ready lakefront home w/1,700+/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Primary suite w/private bath! 2 add'l bedrooms, 2nd Full bath. Lower level family room w/walkout to water. Wraparound deck, new vinyl railings, terraced yard, sandy beach, professional landscaping. Many updates \$775,000

Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!!



Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF, 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! \$1,100,000



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### DUDLEY WOMAN'S CLUB HEARS FROM DIETITIAN

DUDLEY – The March meeting of the Dudley Woman's Club, themed "Muumuus & Mimosas," was fun and informative as we heard from dietitian Victoria Fabbo along with Stephanie Graves from the Overlook Health Center in Charlton about brain health and avoiding dementia. As a thank you to our presenters, the club donated \$200 in their name to Thin Blue Ride, a charity that provides support to active military personnel and first responders facing cancer.

For the March Giving Project, club members donated comfort and creative supplies valued at \$286 to dementia patients at the Overlook.

The more than 75 DWC members of various ages and backgrounds from Dudley, Webster, Southbridge, Charlton, Uxbridge and several Northern Connecticut towns work together to uplift and support our communities.

For more information about the club, please visit [www.dudleywomensclub.org](http://www.dudleywomensclub.org).



Courtesy

Saint Louis Parish had a beautiful celebration of Irish culture, great food, music, and fellowship on March 14. Celebrating Saint Patrick's Day was a great way to bring all generations and cultures together. Happy Saint Patrick's Day to all.




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