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Friday, October 16, 2026

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Senator Richard T. Moore Community Room dedicated at Gladys E. Kelly Public Library

WEBSTER — Friends, family members, former colleagues, community leaders and public officials, and former State House staff gathered Sunday afternoon, Oct. 4, for the dedication of the Senator Richard T. Moore Community Room at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

The dedication honored Moore's more than four decades of public service and his longstanding commitment to Webster and the surrounding community. The program brought together former legislators, local officials, library trustees and staff, representatives of Nichols College, members of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, and others whose lives and careers have intersected with Moore's.

In accepting the honor, Moore said he was "humbled and deeply grateful" to the Trustees of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library for naming the room in his honor.

"I hope that the meetings and gatherings held in this room will always reflect the values that make a community strong — civility, respect for differing views, a willingness to listen to one another, and a shared commitment to the betterment of the community," Moore said. "A library is one of the places where people can come together to learn, to exchange ideas and to work together. I am deeply grateful to the Trustees for giving me the opportunity to have my name associated with a place that can serve Webster in that way for generations to come."

Timothy Ryan — Courtesy

State Rep. Joseph McKenna left, and State Rep. John Marsi, right, present former State Senator Richard T. Moore with a citation in honor of being named the Richard T. Moore room at the Gladys E. Kelly Library in Webster.

The program was chaired by Shawn Collins, a longtime member of Moore's staff who served as his legislative director, chief of staff and general counsel. Collins recalled that Moore's influence could be seen throughout the community, including the library, the

Turn To DEDICATION *page* A14

Dudley Fall Town Meeting set for Oct. 19

DUDLEY — The Fall Town Meeting is set for 7 p.m. Oct. 19 in the Connie Vanco-Galli Auditorium at Shepherd Hill Regional High School. If needed, the meeting will continue Tuesday, Oct. 20.

Voters will consider eight warrant articles, with several addressing town finances and proposed zoning changes involving Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).

In financial matters, the FY2027 Supplemental Budget proposes a $431,500 allocation of so-called free cash, which is recently state-certified revenue from the last fiscal year.

The allocation includes $68,500 for administration; $130,000 for the Finance Appropriation and Advisory (FAA) Reserve Fund; $10,000 for Information Technology; $4,000 for municipal expenses; $83,000 for police; $86,000 for fire, and $50,000 for highway. If approved, the total budget, including state assessments, enterprise funds, offsets and overlay, would be $31.46 million.

The Supplemental Budget also proposes transfers from free cash of $80,000 to the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund and $131,172 to the general Stabilization Fund, which are the town's savings accounts.

The Water-Sewer Commission seeks voter approval to use $500,000 from Water Enterprise retained earnings to fund the replacement of spent granular activated carbon media inside one of the town's two PFAS filtration tanks.

The Planning Board seeks voter approval to establish a new ADU bylaw that would allow certain ADUs under state law and establish rules for larger or additional ADUs. The ADUs would be limited to 900 square feet, or half the floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is smaller. The proposal also provides a process for allowing up to three ADUs on a lot. Short-term rentals would be prohibited in ADUs.

Dudley receives historic Declaration of Independence reproduction

DUDLEY — State Rep. John J. Marsi, Jr. presented a framed reproduction of the Declaration of Independence to the Dudley Board of Selectmen on Monday as a gift to the town in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary.

The reproduction is based on the Ezekiel Russell printing of the Declaration produced in Salem in 1776. According to information accompanying the document, it was created using a historically accurate press and linen-cotton paper designed to closely resemble the original.

"Two hundred and fifty years ago, every town in the Commonwealth received a copy of the Declaration of Independence, and it was delivered by horse or by buggy — however they got it there — to every town to be read and written into their town records so that everybody could understand what was happening nationally in the birth of our nation," Marsi said.

Marsi noted that Massachusetts was the only state to undertake such an effort in July 1776.

As the country commemorates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration, the nonprofit organization Revolution 250 worked to recreate that historic tradition by providing reproductions to communities across Massachusetts.

"There's a nonprofit group called Revolution 250 that recreated those same conditions 250 years later to have us — I'm the horse and buggy — have the honor to bring this to my towns and gift this to them," Marsi said.

Marsi explained that considerable care went into making the reproductions historically authentic, noting, "This paper is like the original formula of the linen paper that the originals were printed on, using the same type of replica Franklin printing press with movable type," Marsi said. "This was pressed in the same location, a printing house in Salem, Massachusetts."

The document was presented on behalf of Marsi and State Sen. Ryan C. Fattman. Marsi said the two legislators wanted to make sure the reproduction was protected so it could be displayed and enjoyed by the community for years to come.

"Once we were handed these, it also became a historic document," Marsi said. "Senator Fattman and I got together, and I said we can't just hand this to people because what if it gets damaged or destroyed? I decided to frame it and gift it to the town so everybody can see it."

Board of Selectmen Chairman Christopher Starczewski accepted the gift on behalf of the community.

"On behalf of the residents of the Town of Dudley, we're so appreciative, and it's with great gratitude that we accept this wonderful gift," Starczewski said.

The framed reproduction commemorates both the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and Massachusetts' historic role in ensuring its words reached communities throughout the Commonwealth.

The gift will be displayed in the Dudley Municipal Complex.

Keep Webster Beautiful rallies community for successful Second Annual Fall Cleanup

WEBSTER — Building on the grassroots momentum and recent community recognition surrounding its launch, Webster residents rolled up their sleeves this past Saturday for the Second Annual Webster Fall Cleanup, proving that local environmental stewardship is stronger than ever.

Organized under the "Keep Webster Beautiful" banner, the official local chapter founded by recent Environmental Leadership

Turn To CLEANUP *page* APB

PET of the WEEK

BAYPATH
Humane Society of Hopkinton

Meet Mimi & Bentley

Mimi and Bentley are a sweet bonded pair who are looking for a loving home where they can stay together. These two rely on each other and are happiest when they have their best friend by their side.

Bentley is the more outgoing of the pair and is usually the first to show you that everything is okay. Mimi is a little more nervous and needs some time to warm up to new people and new surroundings. Once they get to know you and feel comfortable, though, both Mimi and Bentley are incredibly sweet and affectionate.

They are looking for an experienced dog owner and an adult only home who understand that some dogs need a little extra time and patience to build trust. Their ideal home will give them the opportunity to settle in at their own pace, with plenty of consistency, reassurance, and positive experiences.

If you're willing to let these two special dogs take their time getting to know you, you'll be rewarded with two very loving companions. Mimi and Bentley are ready to find someone who will give them the patience, understanding, and forever home they deserve.

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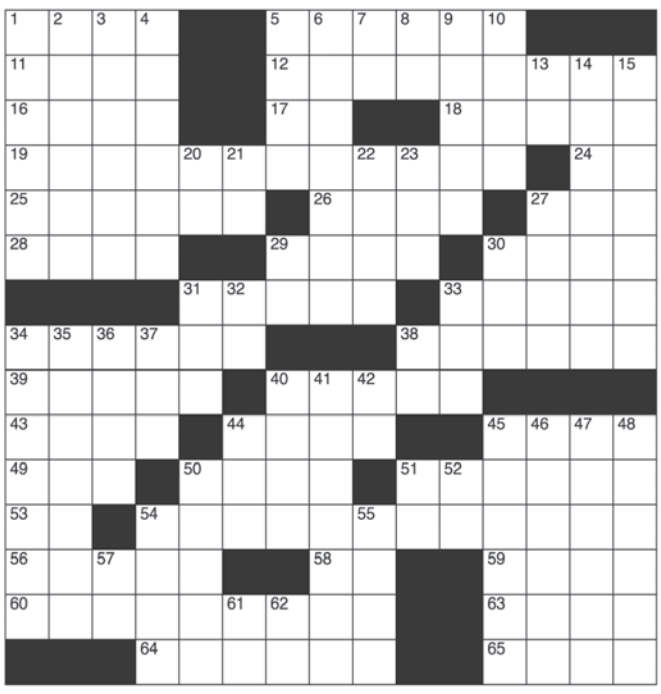

CLUES ACROSS

1. Nocturnal rodent
5. Requesting
11. Give temporarily
12. Frivolousness
16. Military arm
17. "Westworld" actor Harris
18. Persian Gulf port city
19. Air hostesses
24. Partner to "Pa"
25. Percussion instrument
26. Raincoats
27. Lower the light
28. Asian mountain range
29. Every one of two or more
30. Lack of difficulty
31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
33. Reduces in size
34. Make an impact
38. Serviceman
39. A French river
40. Prehistoric people
43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
44. "Layla" singer Clapton
45. Ancient Greek sophist
49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
50. "Top Gun: Maverick" actor Powell
51. A way to disentangle
53. Atomic #93
54. Manifesting approval
56. Indigo bush
58. Larry and Curly's pal
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Fencers
63. Masses of fish eggs
64. Passerine birds
65. Arrange systematically

CLUES DOWN

1. Colorless part of blood
2. Of a main artery
3. Photog's tool
4. Blues Traveler hit "But __"
5. Grew older
6. Not the leader
7. __ Lang: country singer
8. A driver's license is one
9. Nests of pheasants
10. Antelopes
13. One quintillion bytes
14. Japanese lute
15. A type of cat
20. It cools your home
21. Dorm official
22. Pouches
23. German trigraph
27. Form of Persian
29. __ route
30. Upper body part
31. Bridge building degree
32. Indicates position
33. Political action committee
34. Edible nuts
35. Front part of a quadruped
36. Locate
37. Geological time
38. Of I
40. Northern Utah city
41. They work in the trenches
42. Hammer is one
44. Tall deciduous tree
45. Performers
46. Slang for mistake
47. More open
48. Most slick
50. Provokes
51. Home of the NCAA's Flyers
52. Sodium
54. Large fish of the mackerel family
55. Not one
57. __ and behold
61. Atomic #21
62. "The Great Lakes State"

PUZZLE SOLUTION

Dudley Conservation Land Trust celebrates permanent protection of Antos Farm

DUDLEY — On a beautiful, sunny autumn morning, the Dudley Conservation Land Trust (DCLT) hosted a community celebration to honor the 100-year history of Antos Farm and celebrate its permanent protection as a new 23-acre wildlife sanctuary on Marsh Road.

The event kicked off with a guided trail walk that drew at least 40 hikers, followed by a main ceremony attended by nearly 70 community members ranging in age from three to 98 years old. The century-old property has been permanently secured under DCLT's care following a complex legal journey and an intense grassroots community response, saving the land from development.

"We are gathered this morning to celebrate a monumental double milestone," said Heather Radcliffe, Vice President of DCLT. "First, we honor the incredible 100-year history of Antos Farm, founded right here in 1926. Second, we celebrate its permanent protection as a new sanctuary under DCLT's care. Having you all here makes this hard-fought victory complete."

Radcliffe also emphasized that DCLT is an independent, 501(c)(3) all-volunteer nonprofit organization rather than a branch of local government, noting that every acre managed and trail cleared is driven entirely by grassroots citizens donating their time.

The event celebrated the deep human history rooted in the property, warmly welcoming 98-year-old Stella (Antos) Roukat, who represents the event's senior attendee and was born right on the farm to founders John and Josephine Antos. More than 30 descendants of the Antos family traveled to the event, with Larry Antos delivering personal remarks on behalf of the family. Larry was explicitly thanked by the trust for his unwavering partnership in championing DCLT as the property's rightful new stewards. Securing the deed back from a developer required a profound financial commitment from DCLT, which was only possible because of the enduring power of legacy gifts left by the late Chet Kulisa and the late Nancy Vajcovec.

Beyond historical preservation, the 23 acres establish a critical link in a growing regional wildlife corridor connecting the towns of Dudley and Oxford.

"Antos Farm is a vital, living piece of a growing regional wildlife corridor linking Dudley and Oxford," explained Liza Moran, President of DCLT. "Think of it as a permanent green highway for nature. This corridor fixes habitat fragmentation by creating a continuous, unbroken path of protected, wild land."

The corridor protects local biodiversity—allowing animals like bobcats and native birds to safely migrate. The project connects directly with existing DCLT holdings and neighboring Mass Audubon lands.

State leaders also praised the milestone. State Sen. Ryan Fattman mailed an official legislative citation to honor the sanctuary, and State Rep. John Marsi presented a second citation in person, speaking on the importance of preserving the community's unique character.

Following the event, Moran and Radcliffe issued a special thank you to the entire DCLT Board of Directors for their relentless behind-the-scenes hard work that made both the conservation project and celebration successful.

Moran reminded attendees that securing the deed is just the beginning, stating, "Today, the true work begins. And we now carry the solemn, joyful responsibility to steward this land forever."

Moran formally introduced the official day-to-day guardians of the sanctuary: David Radcliffe and his son, Charlie, who will serve as the property's stewards. She also recognized a young volunteer, Fiona, applauding her contributions to DCLT's digital outreach, brand-new website construction, photography and video assets, and webpage design.

The event concluded with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the main property sign, where Moran, Radcliffe, Roukat, Antos, members of the Antos family, and Marsi gathered for a group photograph. Following the formal presentation, attendees were invited to continue celebrating local heritage at the annual Apple Fest.

"Today, we are incredibly rich in land, rich in community, and rich in shared purpose," Liza concluded. "Antos Farm is now safe, wild, and free for the next 100 years and beyond."

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$455,000, 39 Barbara Ave, Dhego, Timon Grodya, and Aslimwe, Solomon, to Huynh, Jennifer.

DUDLEY

$600,000, 19 Eagle Dr, Pgb Investments LLC, to Nayfeh, Ghassan K, and Chamoun, Rajaa Yakoub.

$473,000, 58 W Dudley Rd, Mongeon, John L, to Seraphin, Joseph R, and Seraphin, Jean M.

$424,900, 11 Mason Rd, Mccullough, Cullen, and Mccullough, Rachel, to Jarosz, Pamela.

$375,000, 151 Baker Pond Rd, Alice E Lott Ft, and Trudo, Wendy Jean, to Delin, Joshua, and Howland, Kayla.

OXFORD

$635,000, 7 Hartwell Rd, Mahlert 2nd, Richard L, and Mahlert, Teresa J, to Nziavake, Sifa, and Dhego, Timon G.

$355,000, 145 Main St, North East Prop Alternati, to Mechanic St Assoc Rt.

$340,000, 6 Melissa Ln #C, Wang, Chen, to Reymonde, Rome.

WEBSTER

$215,000, 10 Vecchia St #D, Brunner, Krysta Janelle, to Lebel, Deborah.

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Oxford Town Hall (508) 987-6027
Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours{

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Wednesday .....9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday.....9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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Dudley Little League celebrates excellence, service, and legacy

Courtesy

DLL Umpire Director Joe Maple, District 5 Umpire Bob Kersting.

DLL President Dan Colella, members of the Paire Family, members of the Lebeau family, with award recipient Carter Lebeau.

Nellie's daughters, Joanne O'Connor and Patty Biron, DLL VP of Softball Amanda St. George, DLL President Dan Colella, with recipient Kaliope Howard.

DUDLEY — On Tuesday, Sept. 29, the Dudley Little League Board of Directors gathered with coaches, players, family members, and friends to recognize outstanding members of the league and community.

The Nellie Twardzik Thompson Outstanding Softball Athlete Award honors the legacy of a lifelong Dudley resident and pioneer in the game of baseball.

Nellie Twardzik Thompson was nationally recognized for becoming the first female to play on a boys' varsity baseball team in April 1935. Her love of the game continued well beyond high school, as she went on to play for several semi-professional baseball teams, including her own team, "Nellie's All-Stars."

In 2006, Nellie's contributions to the game were recognized when her high school letter and first baseman's glove were placed on permanent display at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

Each year, Dudley Little League presents the Nellie Twardzik Thompson Outstanding Softball Athlete Award to a player who demonstrates exceptional athletic ability, relentless effort, outstanding sportsmanship, and a genuine love for the game.

The 2026 Nellie Twardzik Thompson Outstanding Softball Athlete Award was presented to Kaliope Howard. Nellie Twardzik Thompson's daughters, Patty Biron and Joanne O'Connor, were on hand for the ceremony and took part in the presentation of the award.

The evening also included the presentation of the John Paire Award for Baseball Excellence, which honors the legacy of the late John Paire.

Mr. Paire was a longtime educator and former Principal of Dudley Middle School who tragically passed away in 2017. Throughout his time in the Dudley-Charlton school community, he became known for a simple but powerful philosophy: Be Better.

Dudley Little League presents the John Paire Award for Baseball Excellence annually to a graduating Majors Division baseball player. The award recognizes a player who demonstrates outstanding ability, sportsmanship, respect for the game, and the qualities of a great teammate.

The recipient is someone who personifies the "Be Better" philosophy by continually striving to improve, carrying himself the right way, and positively representing his teammates and the game of baseball.

Members of John Paire's family, Janice Szlyk and Renee Paire, attended the ceremony and presentation of the award.

The 2026 recipient of the John Paire Award for Baseball Excellence is Carter Lebeau.

Dudley Little League also recognized District 5 Umpire Bob Kersting for his outstanding service and his commitment to the development of our players.

Throughout the season, Kersting consistently went beyond simply making calls on the field. He took the time to explain rules, talk players through game situations, and use those moments as opportunities to teach. His patience, knowledge of the game, and willingness to work individually with players made him an important part of their development and overall Little League experience.

Kersting's approach represents exactly what youth sports should be about: teaching the game, supporting young athletes, and helping them become better players and teammates.

Join Oxford Democratic Town Committee for Get-Out-The Vote early voting rally

OXFORD — Please come out on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10 a.m. to noon in front of Oxford Town Hall for a Get-Out-The-Vote rally to encourage early voting! The 17th marks the start of early voting at the Senior Center behind Town Hall. Two local candidates for State Representative, Jen Heck (18th Worcester district) and Nick Lazzaro (7th Worcester district), will speak and be available to talk to voters.

This event is hosted by the Oxford Democratic Town Committee. For more information, contact Rick Hanauer at 508-344-7018.

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Brendan Berube
Editor

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

Editorial

A lasting tribute to a lifetime of public service

There is something particularly fitting about honoring a lifetime of public service by naming a room in a public library after the person who helped make that library possible. It is a tribute that reaches beyond plaques, ceremonies and speeches, creating a lasting connection between one individual's contributions and the community that benefited from them.

That was the significance of the Oct. 4 dedication of the Senator Richard T. Moore Community Room at Webster's Gladys E. Kelly Public Library. The gathering celebrated more than four decades of public service, but it also offered an opportunity to reflect on what effective leadership should look like, particularly at a time when public confidence in government and its institutions is frequently tested.

Moore's career demonstrates that the most meaningful accomplishments in public office are not necessarily those that attract the greatest headlines. Often, they are the investments, partnerships and decisions that continue improving people's lives long after the officials responsible have left office.

Consider the library itself. While state construction grants helped communities throughout Massachusetts improve their library facilities, securing those resources required knowledgeable and persistent advocacy. Moore's efforts to obtain the maximum reimbursement available under state law helped Webster realize a project that continues to serve residents of every generation.

Today, the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library provides far more than shelves of books. It offers access to technology, educational opportunities, cultural programming and a welcoming environment where people can gather regardless of their backgrounds or circumstances. That is precisely the kind of institution worth fighting for.

Moore's contributions extended well beyond Webster. His involvement in Massachusetts' landmark 2006 health care reform legislation and subsequent efforts to control health care costs reflected an understanding that public policy ultimately matters because of its effect on ordinary families.

His continued advocacy for older adults, people with disabilities and caregivers through Dignity Alliance Massachusetts further illustrates that public service need not end when an elected official leaves office.

Yet perhaps the most important lesson from the dedication was found in Moore's own remarks about what he hopes the community room will represent. He spoke of civility, respect for differing opinions, a willingness to listen and a shared commitment to improving the community. Those principles deserve particular attention.

Disagreement is inevitable in any healthy democracy. Residents will differ over budgets, development proposals, school policies and the appropriate role of government. Such differences are neither surprising nor inherently harmful. What matters is whether people can discuss them respectfully and work toward solutions despite their disagreements.

Unfortunately, public discourse too often rewards confrontation rather than cooperation. The loudest voices receive the greatest attention, while the quieter work of compromise, constituent service and practical problem-solving goes largely unnoticed.

Moore's former chief of staff, Shawn Collins, recalled a straightforward philosophy that guided the senator's approach to constituents: "If they reached out, they deserved an answer."

That simple standard should apply to every person entrusted with public responsibility, whether serving in the State House, on a local board or in a municipal office.

Residents deserve to be heard. They deserve honest answers, even when those answers are disappointing. And they deserve representatives who understand that holding public office is an obligation to serve, not a privilege to be exercised selectively.

The dedication also reminds us of the importance of recognizing individuals while they can appreciate the gratitude of their communities. Too often, expressions of appreciation come only after someone has passed away. Webster's library trustees deserve credit for choosing to honor Moore during his lifetime.

Ultimately, the greatest measure of this tribute will not be the number of people who attended the dedication or the distinguished guests who offered congratulations. It will be what happens inside that room in the years ahead.

If residents gather there to learn, exchange ideas, resolve differences, support their neighbors and strengthen Webster, the room will fulfill the very purpose Moore described. And that would be a fitting legacy indeed.

Friendly's, ghost, and seafood

BY HELEN POIRIER
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It was in 2024 that Ronnies Seafood and Ice Cream closed. It had been in operation for 67 years, being opened by Edmund and Florence Lemansky in 1957 at 871 Southbridge St., the business was originally on Route 12 in Oxford and moved in 1956. Before the ice cream building came, there was the area for playing basketball while waiting for your order to come. Many believe that the ice cream shop was more satisfying after eating an order of clams and scallops. It was fun to see what items of decorations were added to the ice cream shop when it opened each season, memorabilia from movies, comics or the latest fad all added to the fun of getting that ice cream cone. The ice cream flavors offered satisfaction to a wide range of taste buds. The lines for one's favorite flavor were just as long as the line to get fried clams. It was a good thing they were in two different buildings across the parking lot. Customers arrived in some memorable ways through the years, like in the late '70s to early '90s, two women would arrive on horseback and get ice cream cones. The ride back to the other end of Prospect Street where the horses live would sometimes get delayed when the chestnut morgan would stop when he heard the crunch of the cone and would not budge until he got the cone. The next time the rider asked for any broken cones to give the crafty steed so that both horses would return home.

Ed was born in 1913 in Worcester to John and Frances Denkozy Lemansky. According to the 1940 census he was married to Florence and living on Warwick St. in Worcester. By the 1950 census they were living on Pierce Street in Auburn and Ed was a watchman in a textile mill with three children, Ronald, Richard, and Robert. In a 1996 article, Ed stated that the reason he and his wife opened Ronnies was to put his son, Ronald, through WPI and thus the reason for its name. Eventually Richard ran the Auburn location, while Robert was in charge of the Charlton place. Throughout his life, Ed was a very busy man. According to his obituary Ed was assistant to the Bell Company president for 20 years, owned and operated Acme Package Store in Auburn, had a landscape contract business, drove a school bus for R.H. White Bus Company, and he was a parks commissioner in Auburn for 35 years. He was a member of the Rotary Club and Knights of Columbus. He was awarded the Riley Citizen of the Year award and the Democrat of the Year Award from the Auburn Democratic Town Committee.

Quite a few years ago, the Clam Box had a location in Auburn at 916 Southbridge Street where it splits off to Route 20 and is now a dentist's office which opened after 2016. The Clam Box was a restaurant that straddled the Auburn/Oxford line. The ice cream window was in Oxford and offered a smaller variety of flavors than Ronnies, but just as good. The Auburn Clam Box was the fourth "branch" of the Clam Box Seafood Restaurant that is now located in East Brookfield and was opened in 1955 in Brookfield. The original owner of that business was Ernest J. Hibbard. When he died in 1960 his son, Richard who graduated from the Culinary Institute of America took over. Other Clam Box locations included Dresser Hill in Charlton and Kay's Dairy Bar in Westminster.

The oldest ice cream establishment still in operation in town is Friendly's Ice Cream, located at 871 Southbridge Street. There was also a location at the Auburn Mall when it opened in 1971. That site hosted former Patriots quarterback, Steve Grogan in 1994 who served up ice cream, autographed footballs and pictures to "kickoff" Friendly's Easter Seals fundraising drive.

Friendly Ice Cream was started in 1935 by the Blake Brothers, Stewart "Prestley" and Curtis, in Springfield Massachusetts. The name evokes a place where families would enjoy going to get a comfort meal that would end with an ice cream sundae. According to Fifty plus advocate.com, the idea of opening a business came from the boys' mother who saw an article about new freezer technology. They borrowed money from family and friends and sold double dip ice cream cones for half the price of their competitors. This had people lined up at their doorstep.

In the later part of the 1980s, the "apostrophe s" got added to the name and the company put their ice cream into grocery stores. The company grew to having 850 restaurants throughout the United States. Curtis Balde died in 2019 at the age of 102 and Prestley passed in 2021 at 106. There are about 87 Friendly's Restaurants left in the United States with most of them in the eastern part. The two equestrians tried doing a ride up to the window at the Friendly's near Park n Shop with the horses, but the horses weren't keen on going next to the takeout window to order.

The last ice cream in town offers the most unique surroundings to enjoy one's cone. "Crystal Caves" and "Robbie's Place" were opened 1995-96 by the Powell family. The Powell family ran the Auburn Driving Range at 513 Southbridge Street in 1991 for 5 years before embarking on Crystal Caves. It is located on the former Grangers property which was sold to the Auburn Masonic Charitable Association. The Ice Cream shop is named "Robbie's Place" after Debbie Powell's son and is in the original Granger house, which was built in 1920, with the original fixtures such as stairs, molding and ghost. When Crystal Caves Family entertainment Center was opened there was miniature 18-hole golf course complete with a 20-foot waterfall, batting cages that included baseball, softball, slow and fast pitch, "the trampoline thing", a cappuccino cart, and mascot, Buttons the Bear. There are over 48 flavors of hard ice creams as well as soft-serve, low-fat frozen yogurts, sherbets and sorbets. Flavors complement the seasons with wild blueberries and peaches in the summer and pumpkin and apple crisp in the fall. They open in April and go to November, weather permitting. It offers jobs for local teenagers to which many return year after year. As for the ghosts, many of the employees over the years as well as the owners will tell you about being alone in the historic gambrel house and hearing footsteps upstairs, doors closing, and experience shivers. What flavor of ice cream does a ghost prefer?

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

Letters to the Editor

Jen Heck will bring us a brighter future

To the Editor:

As the upcoming election approaches, we are writing to express our strong support for Jen Heck, candidate for State Representative in the 18th Worcester District.

Jen Heck will give us the kind of dedicated, community-first leadership our district urgently needs. She is deeply committed to addressing the daily concerns of local families, from strengthening our public education system and improving local infrastructure to advocating for economic policies that support both small business owners and working households. Jen understands that public service is about listening to constituents, building consensus, and delivering transparent, accountable leadership on Beacon Hill.

We have had several conversations with Jen, and what stands out most about her is her collaborative approach and genuine willingness to engage with residents across the district. She has proven herself to be an active listener who puts people above partisan politics, ensuring that every voice in our community is represented.

We encourage our fellow neighbors and voters in the 18th Worcester District to join us in voting for a brighter future for our community. Please join us in casting your vote for Jen Heck for State Representative!

Sincerely,

Rick Hanauer
Mary Wells
Oxford

Nick Lazzaro for State Rep

To the Editor:

As the Nov. 3 general election approaches, our community faces an important choice for our next State Representative. I am writing to express my strong support for Democratic candidate Nick Lazzaro to represent the 7th Worcester District.

Having observed his dedication to public service, including his previous work as a Selectman in Millbury, I know Nick has the integrity and proactive vision required to deliver meaningful results for our local towns.

Nick's platform directly addresses the heavy financial pressures on working families and seniors in our district. He is genuinely committed to making Massachusetts more affordable by taking on rising costs, holding utility companies accountable, and expanding property-tax relief for seniors.

Crucially, Nick is running on a platform of government accountability. He stands firmly behind the public demand for a legislative audit—a measure that Massachusetts voters overwhelmingly backed by over 72 percent. He also supports requiring the legislature and the governor's office to fully comply with public records laws. Our state government needs this level of transparency, and Nick is the leader who will fight to deliver it.

For a state representative who will listen to residents, protect our pocketbooks, and demand transparency in Boston, please join me in voting for Nick Lazzaro on Nov. 3!

Mimi Mumm
Oxford

The family conversation your estate plan is waiting for

Financial Focus

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

Finishing your estate plan is a big step, but failing to notify the people involved can lead to confusion and complications when it's time to use it. Since the events that bring those plans into action, such as an accident, serious illness or hospitalization, rarely come with a warning, talking with your family about your estate plan before a crisis occurs can provide clarity and help reduce uncertainty, conflict and stress later

Would your loved ones know what to do?

About half of Americans turning 65 today will need some form of long-term care, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. If you became unable to make medical or financial decisions, documents such as powers of attorney and advance directives can help ensure someone you trust can step in. Just as important is making sure your loved ones know those documents exist and where to find them. Without access to them, even close family members may be unable to access bank accounts, pay bills or make medical decisions on your behalf without going through a court.

Who should be included in an estate plan conversation?

When you're ready to talk with loved ones, start with anyone named in a formal role in your estate plan, such as a financial power of attorney, health care proxy, trustee or executor. You may also want to include family members who are likely to be involved in your care or inherit assets.

Think about the dynamics of your family as you plan the conversation. Some families are comfortable discussing everything together, while others communicate more effectively through smaller group discussions or one-on-one conversations.

What should your family know about your estate plan?

Start with your values and the goals behind your decisions. Explaining what matters most to you can help family members better understand your wishes.

From there, review practical details, including who serves in key roles, where important documents are stored and how to contact your estate-planning attorney. You may also want to discuss your care preferences if you were to lose independence and any decisions that family members might find surprising. For example, if inheritances will not be divided equally, sharing your reasoning now may help prevent misunderstandings later.

Most importantly, leave time for questions. The goal is not to cover every possible scenario in a single meeting. It's to create understanding and give loved ones confidence about what matters to you.

If a single conversation feels overwhelming, consider breaking it into a few shorter discussions over time.

Need help starting the conversation?

Many people worry about how family members will react or feel unsure about where to begin. A financial advisor can help you prepare for the conversation and, in some cases, facilitate it. Having a neutral third party involved can help keep discussions productive and ensure everyone leaves with greater clarity about your wishes.

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. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors, cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

OBITUARIES

Pauline Butler, 85

OXFORD – Pauline (Capuano) Butler, 85, of Liberty Lane, died on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at Southbridge Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Southbridge. She is now at peace, in the loving arms of Jesus, her savior.

She was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Donald F. Butler who died in 2023. She is survived by her daughter, Darlene M. Chachi of Oxford; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. She was predeceased by two sisters, Janet P. Combs and Marie E. Perry.

She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Samuel and Marguerite (Blanchard) Capuano, was raised in Millbury and lived in Sutton, North Oxford, and Webster, before moving to Oxford. She graduated from Millbury High School in 1959.

Mrs. Butler was a nanny for many years, which brought her immense joy. She enjoyed camping with her family and friends for over twenty years. She was a devoted fan of the Hallmark Channel and never missed a new movie.

Mrs. Butler was an avid animal lover, supporting various charities for animals of every kind. Most importantly, she was a devoted mom to her daughter Darlene, always offering endless love and support.

A private graveside service will be held at St. Brigid's Cemetery in Millbury. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Second Chance Animal Services, P.O. Box 136, 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

Peter Doyle Barry, 74

Peter Doyle Barry, 74, passed away on Monday, August 5, 2026, at his home in Vancouver, Washington after a long illness.

Peter was surrounded by his wife, Julie Clift Barry , his son Mark, and daughter Thea. Peter is survived by his daughter Marnie Skowron of Florida and his two granddaughters Reese and Ava Skowron.

Peter was the son of Donald P. Barry and Ellen Gaynor Barry of Webster, Massachusetts.

Peter grew up in Webster, MA and attended schools there.

Peter was predeceased by his brother Philip John and his brother-in-law, Robert Melican and is survived by his sister Beth Melican of Worcester, MA., Anne Priest (James) of Leasburg, N.C. and his brother Mark Barry (Sandra) of Bennington, VT.

Twenty-seven years ago, while living in Texas, Peter met the love of his life, Julie Clifton. They were married in Texas and eventually moved to Vancouver, Washington, close to some of Julie's family.

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to obits@stonebridgepress.news

Ernest J. "Ernie" Gadoury Jr,

Ernest J. "Ernie" Gadoury Jr, of Webster, MA passed away peacefully at Umass Memorial Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, MA on October 8, 2026 after a brief illness.

Ernie was predeceased by his wife Margaret "Peggy" Gadoury (Lord), his brother Robert Gadoury, his sister Ann Tennyson, a grandson Jared Trucheon and his loyal dog Maggie.

He was the son of the late Ernest J. Gadoury Sr. & Agnes Swierzbin.

Ernie is survived by 8 children, Catherine Lamica of Charlton, MA, Ernest Gadoury of Milford NH, Elizabeth Rybacki of Laconia NH, Ellen Jordan of Southbridge, MA, Linda Trucheon of Spencer, MA , Gary Normandin of Thompson, CT, Stephen Normandin of Webster, MA & Amy Jones of Southbridge, MA, along with their spouses.

Ernie leaves several grandchildren & great grandchildren, nieces & nephews, whom he loved very much.

Ernie was born & raised on June 19, 1942 in Webster where he lived all of his life. Ernie graduated from Barlett High School in Webster, MA.

Ernie worked at American Optical in Southbridge, where he met the love of his life Peggy. Ernie & Peggie were married on September 11, 1976 in Norwich CT. Ernie also worked at Cranston Print Works in Webster, MA where he retired from in 2009.

Ernie was an avid sports fan, and always rooted for the New England Patriots, Boston Red Sox. When football season came around or it was the playoffs of any team, Ernie would say "Don't bother me, I'm watching my sports. He was known for walking around the neighborhood with his dog Maggie and talking to everyone he would see during his walk. He loved his coffee black & Coke a Cola cold.

Ernie lived at home with his caregivers his son Stephen and his daughter in law Pamela Welcome for the past 7 years before he went into the hospital.

Ernie will be deeply missed by his family; he is now with beloved Peggy and Maggie in heaven.

The family would like to send their sincerest gratitude to the staff at Harrington Hospital, the staff at Brookhaven Hospice, and the staff at Gianaris-Gliniecki & Beauregard Funeral Home in Webster for helping us through this difficult time.

In lieu of flowers the family would like donations to be made to the ASPCA in Ernie's name.

All are welcome to attend Ernie's Celebration of Life on Saturday October 24, 2026 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm with a prayer service at 2:30 pm in the Gianaris-Gliniecki & Beauregard Funeral Home, 366 School Street Webster, MA.

A guestbook is available at www.ggb-funerals.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Ernie.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voters deserve an explanation in plain English

To the Editor:

There's a reserve fund for emergencies, a stabilization savings account, another commitment for general stabilization, cost-saving measures, budget management directives and layoffs of department assistants.

Before Dudley voters meet Oct. 19 to consider the latest town budget, could the people running the town explain in plain English just what citizens will be voting for and why. I mean plain English. Not the bureaucratic pablum or the fiscal-speak so often used to frame the budget - the language that only bankers and accountants understand; language that even seems to mystify some of the selectmen.

Now, we know that a chunk of the budget is coming from — surprise, surprise — a "recently state-certified" windfall of $678,672 left over from last year's budget. Instead of providing more fodder for distrust, couldn't town officials have informed voters weeks if not months ago about this imminent surplus? This was no surprise to them. Voters would have understood that the surplus could not be used in the new budget without state certification. But why not explain that it very likely would be available as free cash before the budget was finalized, just as it is every year?

So, $130,000 of that surplus goes into a reserve fund for emergencies, $211,172 into "stabilization" savings accounts and $131,172 for "general stabilization." (How stable do we need to be?) Just what does all that mean and why are they doing it that way?

More distributions: $80,000 for capital improvement,(like what?) $83,000 for police, $86,000 for the Fire Department and $50,000 for the Highway Department, although this sum of $219,000 couldn't possibly run those three essential departments. Then there's unspecified amounts for legal expenses, the heating system in the Senior Center, information technology, auditing costs and assessing work.

Could someone up there please explain what actually are the total operating budgets of these departments — specifically, how the money will be used and where the money is coming from? What cuts, if any, were made? How about specific details about those "cost-saving measures" and "budget-management directives" that have been imposed but described in only vague generalities? How many employees were actually laid off? From what jobs? How much money was saved?

And do those cost-cutting measures make as little sense as closing the town hall to the public two days a week while allowing staff (who will continue to be paid) access to do their work? How do you save money by merely locking the doors? This only hurts seniors, who use the space for various activities organized by volunteers, without much help from town employees., and veterans, who deserve better. Anyway, doesn't much of the work of town officials involve dealing with the public? And if they really can't be bothered by troublesome citizens, they could simply pull down those roll-top, metal blinds that cover every office, many of which are down even when people are supposed to be there.

Voters need to know that town officials are still working in their best interests, and not just taking vengeance for rejecting the override.

FRANK MAGIERA
DUDLEY

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.

TOWN OF POMFRET
POSITION OPENING – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Qualified self-starter wanted for Town of Pomfret Highway Department. Must hold Class B CDL license/valid medical card and have a background in operating heavy equipment. Position includes, but is not limited to, assignments on all municipal road work including road grading, snowplowing, landscaping, building maintenance, and any other duties as needed and assigned. Mechanical aptitude in heavy equipment repair and five years of driving/equipment operation experience is preferred. Thirty-five hour work week but must be available to work nights and weekends as needed, able to lift up to 100 pounds, pass a DOT physical and drug screen, and consent to random drug/alcohol testing as required by the DOT. Salary dependent upon qualifications and experience. Attractive benefit package. Interested persons should forward resume/application and three references to the Selectman's Office, 5 Haven Road, Pomfret Center, CT 06259. Position open until filled. Application form available at www.pomfretct.gov/first-selectmans-office . EEO/AA

Green Path Cannabis in Southbridge, Massachusetts, is proud to offer a monthly record expungement program! Each month, Green Path will choose one interested person to receive legal services to evaluate and assist their petitions to seal or expunge a criminal record of cannabis possession. Green Path will give hiring consideration to qualified participants as well as their spouses and children if an employment vacancy exists.

Please apply for consideration at greenpathcannabis.com or email kailyhepburn@kailyhepburnlaw.com.

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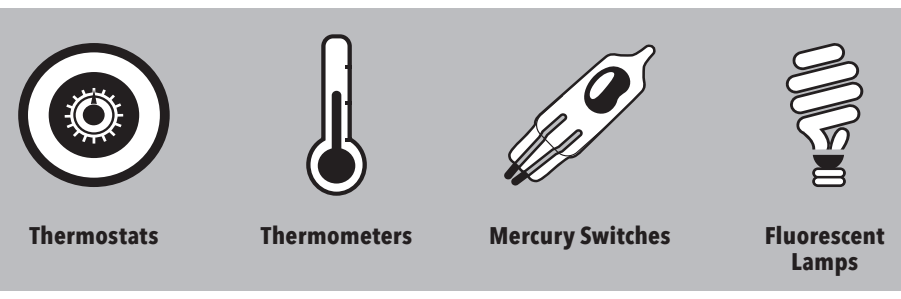

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Ken Gamache to present talk on history and evolution of Cranston Print Works

WEBSTER — The Samuel Slater Experience will host a special presentation by Ken Gamache, President and CEO of Cranston Print Works, doing business today as QT Fabrics, on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 1 p.m.

Gamache will share the history of Cranston Print Works, reflect on his decades in the textile industry, and discuss how the company has evolved since the closure of its Webster plant in 2009. The program offers former Cranston Print Works employees and members of the community an opportunity to reconnect, reminisce, and learn about the company's transformation.

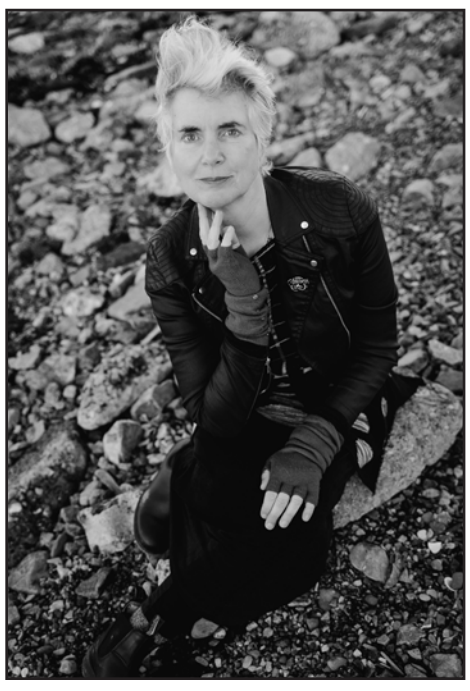
The face of Cranston Print Works today is vastly different from the bustling manufacturing operation that once ran three shifts a day. Under Gamache's leadership, QT Fabrics operates with employees working remotely across the country, focusing primarily on high-end quilting fabrics sold through independent specialty fabric stores throughout the United States.

A graduate of Bartlett High School, Gamache earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Nichols College and an MBA from Anna Maria College. He began his career with Cranston Print Works in 1978, working third shift in the print room. Over the years, he held a variety of positions, gaining firsthand knowledge of the textile industry before ultimately becoming president and CEO.

Cranston Print Works operated manufacturing facilities in Cranston, Rhode Island; Fletcher, North Carolina; and Webster, Massachusetts, with the Webster mill being the last to close.

Gamache and his wife, Carol (Trepanier) Gamache, have been married for 42 years and now reside in their circa 1773 home in Durham.

The presentation is free, but advance registration is required. Register by visiting samuelslaterexperience.org, by calling 508-461-2955 or by emailing admin@samuelslaterexperience.org. The Samuel Slater Experience is located at 31 Ray St. in Webster and free parking is available. Join Ken Gamache on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 1 p.m. to hear the remarkable story of Cranston Print Works and discover what has become of one of New England's historic textile companies.



Author Suzanne Strempek Shea brings new memoir to Booklovers' Gourmet

WEBSTER — Join Booklovers' Gourmet, located at 72 East Main St. in Webster, is welcoming back Massachusetts-based author Suzanne Strempek Shea and her new memoir, "Compositions," on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 2-4 p.m.

An extraordinary memoir about the author's early years in a close-knit 1960s and '70s Polish-American Massachusetts grade school and community, "Compositions" details a life that revolves in a circle of faith and family. Written in the author's voice and point of view from her first eight years of school, the humorous and poignant essays show a past still fully present. Graduation photos lining the walls include students' parents who once sat in the same classrooms with the same wooden desks, same windows, same blackboards, and some of the same nuns. Strempek Shea learns new words — bubbler for water fountain, sodality for club, lavatory for bathroom, Father for priest even if he wasn't hers. One snowy afternoon, looking at all the familiar faces, companions from early morning to afternoon, Monday through Friday, from for as long as she can remember, she realizes she likes school, thanks in part to the nuns who taught patiently, sang folk songs beneath a tree, and danced the hula, and despite the ones who wielded a croquet stick or hurled textbooks. Reverence is everywhere: dropped bread receives a kiss, swimmers bless themselves before diving, parishioners walk on their knees each Good Friday.

The miracles in "Compositions" that Strempek Shea prays for – a horse or at least a pony, her grandfather's health – never take place. Yet something no less tender and beautiful does as she spins childhood in a kaleidoscope of close-to-the-bone observations and stories written as energetically as if the author had always been waiting to tell the world all she knew. Read them and realize you've always been waiting for that, too.

This event is free and open to the public. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase. To RSVP, please call 508-949-6232 or email deb@bookloversgourmet.com.

Suzanne Strempek Shea is the author of six novels and six works of nonfiction. Her freelance journalism and fiction have appeared in publications including Yankee, The Bark, Golf World, The Boston Globe, The Irish Times, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Brevity, Down East, and ESPN the Magazine. Awards for her books include the New England Book Award and the Oskar Halecki Prize. Her journalism was shortlisted for the Penney-Missouri Awards, and her creative writing was recognized in Best American Fiction. She taught at University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA program in creative writing for 18 years, and for 12 years was inaugural writer-in-residence and director of the creative writing program at Bay Path University in Longmeadow, Mass., where she created its MFA in creative nonfiction. She co-directs the Dingle Writers' Workshop in Ireland and the Iota Short Forms Conference in Downeast Maine. She is married to lifelong journalist Tommy Shea. They divide their time between Bondsville, Massachusetts, and Howth, Ireland.

"How is it possible for a collection of personal essays to read like the finely rendered dream of a masterful novel? The authentic voice here alone is worth the price of admission for it captures the very soul of its bright, precocious narrator who happens to be Catholic and Polish-American and growing up in the 1960s in a neighborhood so tight-knit that it is a cultural canyon from which there's no exit until it's time to leave. But in Suzanne Strempek Shea's immensely capable hands, I predict that you will want to stay right here – as I did - in these moving, often funny, and deeply compelling pages. Compositions is a gem," raves Andre Dubus III, New York Times Bestselling Author of the Oprah Book Club Pick "House of Sand and Fog."

Stock up on your winter reading at Oxford Library's fall book sale

OXFORD — The Friends of the Oxford Free Public Library Fall Book/Bake Sale is scheduled for Oct. 15-17. The sale will be held on Thursday, Oct. 15 from noon to 7 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 16 from noon to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Oxford Free Public Library, 339 Main St., Oxford, in the downstairs meeting room.

We accept cash or check only. Great books at bargain prices. Thousands to choose from, and all are in good to excellent condition. Hardcover and trade size paperbacks are $1, smaller size paperbacks are 50 cents and children's books range from 25 cents to $1. There is also a selection of "Special books at special prices." We offer a great "half price" deal on classroom books for teachers on Thursday and Friday. The last hour of the book sale on Saturday, from 1 to 2 p.m., you have the option of buying a provided bag and filling it for only $10. Dealers are welcome on Saturday only.

The Friends of the Oxford Free Public Library was formed and incorporated in 1992. As a non-profit, our purpose is to maintain a membership of people who are supportive of the library and its ongoing programs. All money donated through dues or fundraisers goes directly back to the library to support children's programs, reading programs, museum passes, and other services. We are always looking for new members, supporters, and volunteers. Membership dues for the current year can be paid at any time. The membership year runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. If you have already renewed your membership or are a new member, thank you. Membership forms are available at the library adult circulation desk and also at the book sale. Please include your email address. This is a wonderful opportunity to stock up on books for your winter reading.

Poets at Large presents Arsego and Aeroelastic Flutter Oct. 24

POMFRET, Conn. — Poets at Large will continue its seventh season on Saturday night, October 24th with a wide variety of spoken word. The show begins at 7 p.m. at The Vanilla Bean Café, 450 Deerfield Rd. in Pomfret, Conn. and featured that night will be Sharon Arsego and performance artist duo Aeroelastic Flutter. Suggested donation is $10.00.

Sharon Arsego is from Bristol where she works as a senior administrative assistant for the city. She has three published collections including Scenes and Sonnets which is an ekphrastic collaboration with Massachusetts photographer Wendy Tobin. Arsego is an active participant in various arts and culture communities, has been a featured spoken word performer for two seasons of The Soul Session in Bristol, and also writes for The Bristol Magazine. Learn more at sharonarsego.com.

Aeroelastic Flutter is a spoken word and sound collaboration, combining the often-absurdist poetry of Jim Whitten with the guitar work and sound exploration of Nicholas Pecsok. Their project experiments with lo-fi audio and borderline performance art, challenging audiences to reevaluate how poetry can be performed and defined.

Linda Blakesley will do an extended read in the open mic segment. Blakesley is a poet from Coventry, CT who hosts a monthly open mic in connection with the Coventry Arts Guild, providing a platform for new and veteran poets. Linda works in adult education.

Poets at Large has brought more than 150 published and awarded poets to the area since 2020 and dozens of people have participated in the open mic portions during that time. Poets at Large is a project of Windham Arts. All events are ADA compliant and are recommended for ages 16 and up. Readings for the rest of the season are sponsored in part by donations from bankHometown, Charter Oak FCU, WHZ Financial and The Putnam Area Foundation. Contact karen.warinsky@gmail.com to sign up for the open mic; 5-minute max as time allows.

Girl Scout troops welcome new members

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

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

Girl Scout programming is customizable for all types of learners!

Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

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

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

About Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts

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

Explore "Haunted Mills of New England" at Samuel Slater Experience

WEBSTER — Some souls linger beyond their lifetime. This Halloween season, join authors and paranormal investigators, Thomas D'Agostino and Arlene Nicholson, as they take you on a journey to New England's most haunted factories and mills. This special presentation is complete with voices of the spirits who remain, featuring recordings and photographic evidence of what lies beyond our senses.

New England is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Samuel Slater started the era in the 1790s and it was not long before factories sprang up everywhere in the region. The conditions were very dangerous and many tragedies took place. Some of those tragedies still reverberate within the walls of the ancient buildings. Although many of the early factories and mills have crumbled over time for one reason or another, the spirits that met with an unfortunate demise or were deeply tied to their place of employment still linger among the remains.

Hear their stories and their voices at the Samuel Slater Experience on Friday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. Admission is $5 each. Purchase your spot online, at the box office, by calling 508-641-2955 or emailing admin@samuelslaterexperience.org. Refreshments will be available for a donation.

Pearle L. Crawford Library, Dudley Recreation Commission to host Poetry Slam

DUDLEY — The Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library and the Dudley Recreation Commission invite residents of all ages to take the stage for a community Poetry Slam on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the wooded stage area of the Dudley Fun Zone Playground, 71 West Main St., Dudley.

Participants are encouraged to bring a poem, spoken-word piece, or other creative writing to share. Performers may take the stage solo, with a parent, or with friends.

No poetry or performance experience is necessary, the event is designed to provide a safe, welcoming space where everyone can express themselves and be heard.

No pre-registration is needed. Those wishing to perform can simply sign up when they arrive.

Creative pieces should be three minutes or less and must be family friendly. Performances should be free of profanity and adult subject matter.

A prize will be awarded for the best creative piece, and light snacks and refreshments will be provided for attendees.

All ages are welcome to attend, whether they plan to perform or simply come out to listen and support local creativity.

Webster, Dudley to honor veterans with 21st annual Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11

WEBSTER/DUDLEY — Veterans, community organizations and residents will gather Wednesday, Nov. 11, for the 21st annual Veterans Day Parade, continuing a tradition of honoring the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

This year's parade will feature Vietnam War veteran Armand Jalbert, who served in the U.S. Army, as grand marshal. Retired U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. William Conley Jr. will serve as guest speaker during the ceremonies.

The annual observance will begin at 11 a.m. at the Veterans' Court of Honor at the Dudley Municipal Complex, where participants will gather for a ceremony recognizing the service and sacrifices of military veterans.

The program will include a prayer led by the veterans' chaplain, a three-shot ceremonial volley by the honor guard and the playing of Taps. Conley will then deliver a commemorative address.

Following the Dudley ceremony, veterans and participating organizations will march in procession to the Webster Veterans' Court of Honor, where a second ceremony will feature another chaplain's prayer, ceremonial volley and the playing of Taps.

The ceremonies are expected to conclude at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Andrew Kozlowski, a U.S. Air Force veteran, will serve as parade chairman and master of ceremonies. He is joined in organizing the event by co-chairmen James Brinker, U.S. Army; Gary Jacobson, U.S. Air Force; Victor Jankowski, U.S. Army; Alan Martin, U.S. Army; Richard Norton, U.S. Air Force; Ronald Prest, U.S. Navy; and Stephen Rogerson, U.S. Army.

The parade will feature representatives of several veterans organizations, including the Webster/Dudley Veterans Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Polish American Veterans and Disabled American Veterans.

Ladies Auxiliary units, Sons of the American Legion and participating Scouting organizations will also take part.

The procession will be led by the honor guard carrying the colors and ceremonial weapons, followed by Jalbert in a vehicle. Representatives of the participating veterans organizations and community groups will follow in the designated marching order.

All former military personnel are welcome and encouraged to participate, regardless of whether they belong to a veterans' organization.

Marching veterans assigned to the honor guard and other organized units are asked to assemble with their respective colors and ceremonial weapons at the St. Louis School yard parking area, next to the gymnasium at the bottom of the entryway, by 10:15 a.m. Bus transportation will depart at approximately 10:30 a.m. for the Dudley Municipal Complex.

Other veterans wishing to march should report directly to the Dudley Municipal Complex by 10:45 a.m. Participating Scouting organizations should also assemble at the complex at 10:45 a.m.

Organizers have arranged three vehicles for veterans who would prefer to ride rather than march. Those planning to use the vehicles should report to the Dudley Municipal Complex by 10:45 a.m.

An additional vehicle will be positioned at the rear of the parade to assist anyone who experiences difficulty completing the march.

For safety, marchers are asked to maintain approximately 30 feet of separation from vehicles and other designated groups in the procession.

Following the ceremonies, the Polish American Veterans on Ray Street in Webster will host refreshments for parade participants. All participants are invited to attend.

Kozlowski emphasized that the purpose of the annual observance is to recognize both those currently serving in the military and those whose service has concluded.

The parade offers residents of both communities an opportunity to come together in appreciation of the sacrifices made by generations of American service members.

Organizers encourage veterans to participate and residents to attend the ceremonies in Dudley and Webster as the communities mark Veterans Day together.

Booklovers Gourmet to host parenting workshop

WEBSTER — Booklovers' Gourmet, 72 East Main St., Webster, is hosting a free workshop with Jessica Butler, "How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen So Kids Will Talk," on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. To RSVP, please call 508-949-6232 or email deb@bookloversgourmet.com.

Do you struggle to find the right things to say to your kids? Do you feel like your child "tunes you out" when you talk? Does it feel like you and your child fight more than talk?

Based on the celebrated book "How to Talk So Kids Will Listen & Listen So Kids Will Talk" by Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish, this interactive session will provide attendees with an introduction to practical, effective methods of communication that will make their relationship with children of all ages less stressful and more rewarding.

This discussion will help you:

-Learn specific skills that help children recognize and cope with their negative feelings, such as disappointment, envy, frustration, anger.

-Understand ways to accept children's feelings, limit unacceptable behavior, and still maintain goodwill.

-Learn ways to invite cooperation that will leave everyone feeling good about themselves and each other.

-Understand alternatives to punishment that enable parents to express their strong disapproval as well as encourage children to assume responsibility for their behavior.

Join the fun at Seventh Annual Scarecrows on the Common event

OXFORD — Fall is in the air, and it's time once again for one of Oxford's favorite autumn traditions! The Oxford Community Center is delighted to host the Seventh Annual Scarecrows on the Common on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the event of extremely inclement weather, the rain date will be Sunday, Oct. 25.

Community members of all ages are invited to help transform the Town Common into a festive fall display by creating and entering a homemade scarecrow. Whether you are a resident, school group, town department, community organization, or local business, this is your chance to showcase your creativity and community spirit. Participants will have the opportunity to compete for prizes in categories such as Most Creative, Best Town Spirit, and Funniest Scarecrow.

In addition to the scarecrow contest, visitors can enjoy a lively day filled with fun and entertainment, including a vendor fair, live performances by DW and The Shakemakers, appearances by the beloved Sutton Dancing Witches, and exciting children's games hosted by Oxford Community Center staff.

Scarecrow entry forms will be available beginning Oct. 1 at the Oxford Community Center, 4 Maple Road, and at Oxford Town Hall. Registration and additional event details can also be found online at oxfordma.myrec.com.

Bring your imagination, celebrate the season, and join your neighbors for a memorable day of family-friendly fall fun. We look forward to seeing the Town Common filled with creativity, laughter, and community spirit!

For more information, visit oxfordma.myrec.com or contact the Oxford Community Center.

St. Roch Church to hold annual yard sale Oct. 17

OXFORD — St. Roch Church will welcome bargain hunters and treasure seekers to its annual yard sale Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 334 Main St.

The annual sale will offer shoppers an opportunity to browse donated items while supporting the St. Roch community. Organizers are inviting residents to stop by throughout the day to search for bargains and unexpected finds.

Community members can also help make the sale a success by donating items ahead of the event. Donations will be accepted at the Saint Ann Center, located at St. Roch Church, during three scheduled Saturday drop-off periods.

Donations may be brought to the center Saturday, Sept. 26; Saturday, Oct. 3; and Saturday, Oct. 10. Drop-off hours on each date will be from 9 a.m. to noon.

The church is encouraging residents who may be cleaning out closets, basements, attics or other areas of their homes this fall to consider contributing suitable items to the sale rather than discarding them.

The yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. In the event of rain, the sale will be postponed to Saturday, Oct. 24, during the same hours.

St. Roch Church is located at 334 Main St. in Oxford.

Charlton Library Friends hold Trivia Night

CHARLTON — The non-profit Friends of Charlton Public Library will hold a Trivia Night on Thursday, Oct. 15 at the Charlton Beagle Club, 103 Bond Rd. in Charlton. The event will take place from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Friends invite the general public to test their knowledge and challenge their friends as they attempt to answer a variety of questions provided by Wise Guys Trivia. In addition, attendees will have an opportunity to enter a raffle to win prizes such as gift cards to a variety of local businesses, including grocery stores, book and coffee shops, entertainment venues, photography and fitness studios, restaurants, and more. Other prizes include seasonal gift baskets. A cash prize will be awarded to the overall winner.

The Friends extend sincere thanks to Savers Bank our most generous sponsor for their support. We also thank Better Life With Yoga, Blush Photography, Volume Hair Studio of Southbridge. Alternatives For Health, Booklover's Gourmet, Entertainment Luxury Cinema, Golden Nails, Sturbridge Coffee Roasters, Ted's Package Store, Worcester WooSox, and Tree House Brewery for their donations.

Tickets are $10 per participant and can be purchased at the Charlton Public Library circulation desk or at the door the evening of the event. All proceeds enable the Friends to support the mission of the Charlton Public Library as it brings enrichment, musical, and educational programs, and more to the community-at-large. The Friends of Charlton Public Library appreciate your ongoing support.

For more information, please email charltonfriends@gmail.com or call 774-230-1410.

Dudley's annual Spooktacular returns

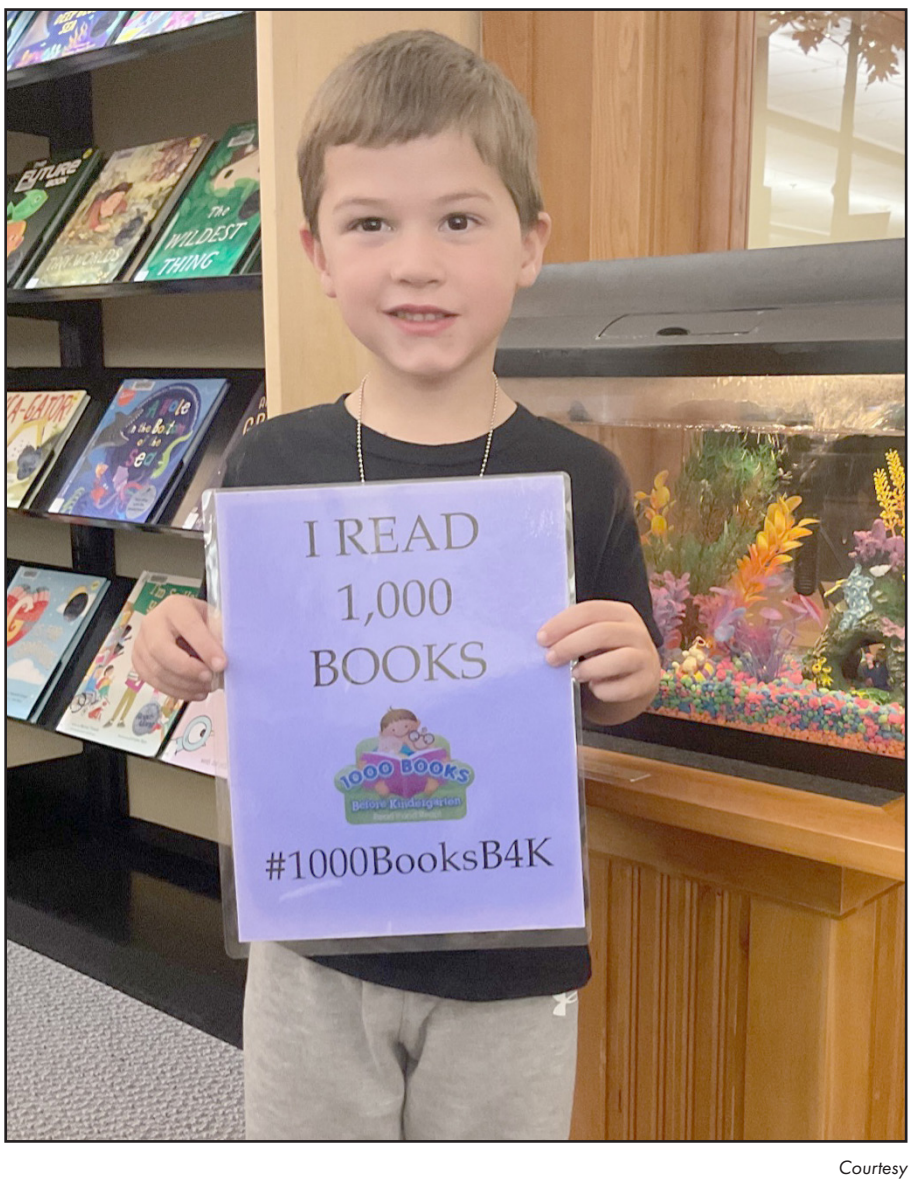
DUDLEY — Those known to haunt the halls have been scurrying about, transforming parking lots and lawns in preparation for a frightfully fun—and free—Halloween celebration for ghosts and goblins of all ages.

Dudley's annual Spooktacular returns Thursday, Oct. 29. Hosted by the Dudley Recreation Commission and Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library, the event promises plenty of tricks, treats and Halloween fun from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Festivities begin at 4 p.m., when families are invited to gather in costume at the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library, 40 Schofield Ave., for some family-friendly fun before the parade begins. At 5 p.m., a gaggle of ghosts, goblins and other costumed characters will receive a police escort as they parade up Brandon Road to Town Hall, 71 West Main St.

Once there, families will be greeted with plenty of frightfully free fun, including games, live music, a balloon artist and the always-popular Cauldron of S'mores.

And no Halloween celebration would be complete without a costume contest! Prizes will be awarded for the scariest, funniest and most unique costumes.



Courtesy

Jackson, one of our Children's Room Patrons from Dudley, has successfully completed the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge at the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library. Among his favorites are "Snoopy" by Charles Schulz and the "5 Minute Stories" collection. Congratulations, Jackson, on this wonderful accomplishment! We are incredibly proud of your dedication to reading and learning! The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program encourages families to read together every day, helping children develop early literacy skills while strengthening the bond between parent and child. The mission of the 1000 Books Foundation is to promote reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers, laying the foundation for a lifetime love of books and learning. The Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library's 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program is generously funded by the Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library.

The fine art of doing nothing

Lanterns Along Main Street

By CHARLES

There was a time when a man could sit on his front porch for half an hour without anybody assuming something was wrong with him.

He didn't need a book. He didn't need a telephone. He certainly didn't need a device strapped to his wrist reminding him that he hadn't taken enough steps. He could simply sit.

I was thinking about this the other afternoon when I found myself with an unexpected hour to spare. The lawn didn't need mowing, the laundry was caught up, and there was nothing particularly urgent demanding my attention.

Naturally, I became suspicious. At my age, an empty hour usually means I've forgotten something.

I wandered around the house looking for a task. I straightened a picture that wasn't crooked. I opened the refrigerator despite having eaten lunch twenty minutes earlier. I checked the weather, although I could have obtained essentially the same information by looking out the window.

Finally, my wife asked what I was doing.

"Nothing," I said.

"Well, you're making an awful lot of noise doing it."

She had a point.

Somewhere along the way, we've developed the peculiar belief that every waking minute ought to be productive. If we're not working, we should be improving ourselves. If we're not improving ourselves, we should be exercising. If we're not exercising, we should be cleaning something, fixing something or planning something.

Even relaxing has become a competitive sport.

People now keep track of how well they sleep. Imagine explaining that to your grandfather.

"How'd you sleep last night, Grandpa?"

"Fine."

"Yes, but what was your sleep score?"

I suspect the conversation would end right there, possibly with an invitation to go split some firewood.

When I was younger, the older men in the neighborhood seemed to understand something we've largely forgotten.

They could sit outside and watch the world go by without feeling obligated to participate in every passing moment.

One fellow I remember used to spend summer evenings in a lawn chair near his driveway. He'd wave at passing cars, occasionally offer an opinion about the weather, and otherwise appear perfectly content.

As a boy, I couldn't understand it. There were bicycles to ride, baseballs to throw and entire afternoons to fill with adventures. Why would anybody choose to sit still?

Now, some 40 or 50 years later, I think that man may have been the smartest fellow on the street. He wasn't bored. He was paying attention. There's a difference.

These days, we seem almost frightened of silence. Sit in a waiting room and everyone reaches for a phone. Stop at a traffic light and somebody is checking a screen. Even a walk through the neighborhood can become an opportunity to listen to a podcast about becoming a more efficient human being.

I have nothing against technology. I appreciate being able to find directions without unfolding a road map the size of a bedsheet. And I rather enjoy knowing the answer to a question without spending three days looking through encyclopedias.

But I wonder whether we've traded away something valuable in our determination never to be idle. So, that afternoon, I conducted a little experiment. I took a chair outside, sat down and decided not to accomplish anything. At first, it was surprisingly difficult. I noticed a branch that needed trimming. Then I remembered a loose hinge on the shed door. A few minutes later, I started mentally composing a grocery list. I resisted.

Eventually, I began noticing other things. A squirrel was engaged in what appeared to be a bitter territorial dispute with another squirrel. A neighbor was teaching a young child to ride a bicycle. Somewhere down the road, a dog barked three times and apparently decided he'd made his point. The breeze shifted. A few leaves skittered across the driveway. The afternoon sun moved slowly across the yard.

Nothing extraordinary happened. And that was rather nice.

After a while, my wife came outside and asked whether I was feeling all right.

"Perfectly fine," I told her.

"What are you doing?"

"Practicing."

"Practicing what?"

"Doing nothing."

She considered this for a moment.

"Well, don't overdo it."

Then she went back inside.

I sat there another 20 minutes, enjoying the rare sensation of not being behind schedule.

The world continued turning without my assistance. Nobody called to ask why I hadn't completed a task. No great catastrophe resulted from my failure to be productive. Eventually, I got up and went inside.

I can't say the experience changed my life. The bills still need paying, the lawn will eventually need mowing, and that shed hinge isn't going to repair itself. But I did come away with a modest realization.

We've become so accustomed to measuring our days by what we get done that we sometimes forget to appreciate the days themselves.

There ought to be room for an occasional afternoon that produces absolutely nothing except a little peace of mind.

I'm thinking of making this a regular habit. Perhaps 20 minutes every afternoon, weather permitting.

Of course, knowing me, I'll probably start keeping track of how much nothing I accomplish. And then I'll have to figure out whether I'm getting better at it.

Courtesy

The Knights of Columbus Webster/Dudley Council # 228 would like to thank everyone who contributed to our recent Tootsie Roll Toll Booth at the Dudley bridge on West Main St. Special thanks go to NAPA auto supply for the use of their parking lot and to the owner of Dudley Auto Repair and Art's Repair for his generous donation. All money collected is used for the State Charity Fund that allows Councils to apply for grants for families of children with disabilities and to groups that service them.

Walk to support the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

OXFORD — Join Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf volunteers and others on Sunday, Oct. 18, for the annual Crop Hunger Walk. Everyone is welcome!

The walk begins at the First Congregational Church, 355 Main St., Oxford, at 1 pm. Please arrive at 12:30 p.m. to sign in and gather to walk an easy three and a half miles through Oxford together. A small monetary donation is suggested.

We're looking to raise $4,000 this year, which will help stock the shelves of the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, Oxford's community food pantry, in the weeks ahead.

To participate, go to: https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/event/oxfordma

and follow the steps from there, or just show up on the 18th. Volunteers will be at the church to help you get started.

For more information, check the Oxford Food Shelf page on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/OxfordMAFoodShelf) or call 508-987-1062.

The Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf is a free non-profit food pantry in Oxford MA. We are available to every resident in Oxford who needs groceries to help feed themselves or their family.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf.

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The Bartlett High School Class of '63 enjoys getting together. This year some locals gathered on Oct. 2 to catch up and share life events. As usual, great food was provided to accompany the conversations. The event was organized by Barbara Sherry Plasse and Daniel Duteau. Front row, seated, left to right: Georgianna Angelo DeWitt, Diana Jajko Komorowski, Jane Pierzchala Grady, Nancy Dziedzic Tabor, Marlene Giroux Piehler, Linda Valentinetti Cournoyer and Barbara Sherry Plasse Second row, Standing, left to right: Christine Horanzy Ross, Betty Girard Babcock, Linda Balta Smalarz, Pamela Bell Guanci, Delores Vandale Cloutier, Patricia Thompson Biron, Patricia Waldron, Carol Zackiewicz Harvard, Janice Kozub Kokernak, Francis Burke, Betty Lou Chase Yancik and Patricia Fijal Williams. Back row, left to right: Theresa Gelineau Laabs, Daniel Duteau, John Makowski, Kenneth Chauvin, Jeffrey Zajac and Frank Magiera.

Flag project helps Park Ave students explore communities

WEBSTER — At Park Ave, we are fortunate to have such a dedicated and hardworking team of teachers. Our teachers put countless hours into developing engaging lesson plans, meaningful learning experiences, and classroom routines and procedures that help our school run smoothly. We want to celebrate these curriculum highlights and recognize the incredible work our teachers do every day for our students.

One great example is the work of Art Teacher Callan D'Ascanio, who helped students create grade-level flags to represent their place within the Park Ave community. Students learned that while Park Ave is one large community, there are also smaller communities within it—our grade level and our classroom. Older students expanded the conversation by exploring larger communities beyond our school, including our town, state, country, and world. The project also connected directly to our core expectations: Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. Students discussed how being a positive member of a community means making choices that support and respect those around us; the students all designed an individual picture that was ironed on to their grade level flag.

The flags will become part of special Park Ave ceremonies and events, including Community Meetings and Field Day, giving students an opportunity to proudly represent their grade while coming together as one school.

"It's a fantastic idea and helps build a sense of community," said Matthew Aronian, Dean of Students. "The flags give students something to be proud of while reminding them that each grade is an important part of our larger Park Ave community. Another cool piece I learned is that 4th grade flags will be retired each year and hung from the rafters."

Thank you to Callan D'Ascanio and everyone at Park Ave for creating meaningful experiences that help our students learn, grow, and feel connected. Together, we are building a community that is Safe, Responsible, and Respectful.

Courtesy

Two first graders holding their grade level flag with pride.

Community Connection

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Friday's Child

Jeremiah
Age 14
Registration #8413

Jeremiah is an easygoing and friendly boy who enjoys staying active and loves all kinds of sports. Football is one of his favorites, and he especially enjoys shooting hoops and spending time playing basketball with his friends. When he wants some quiet time to himself, Jeremiah enjoys playing video games. Jeremiah is described by his friends and teachers as funny, kind, and a natural leader. He is a positive role model to those around him and enjoys making others laugh. His easygoing personality and ability to connect with others make him a great friend and someone people enjoy spending time with.

https://www.mareinc.org/child/21182352036

Can I Adopt?

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

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

Dudley Woman's Club's most popular fundraiser returns!

DUDLEY — The Dudley Woman's Club most popular fundraiser is back! Pocketbook Bingo will be held Sunday, Nov. 8 at the PACC, 37 Harris St. in Webster.

Doors open at 1 p.m., with Bingo starting at 2 p.m. Tickets are $35 per person for this fun afternoon of BINGO with the gals plus the chance to win 10 designer handbags!

Lots of laughs, giveaways and raffles. The DWC's voluntary Giving Project for this event is socks, hats and gloves for the Webster-Dudley Food Share. Tickets online at www.dudleywomansclub.org/pocketbookbingo

Our thanks and appreciation goes out to the local businesses who are sponsoring this event and in turn supporting local charities, including Body by Tabitha, Exile Vapor, Fins & Tales, Hometown Bank, LeBlanc Oil, Marzeotti Group Realty Inc., O'Connor & Co. Insurance, P & P General Contractors, Inc., Peek Services, Polish American Citizen Club of Webster (PACC), Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, and Webster First Federal Credit Union.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 1 Westwood Drive, Auburn, MA 01501

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by William J. Richinick to Sovereign Bank, and now held by **Santander Bank, N.A. f/k/a Sovereign Bank, N.A. f/k/a Sovereign Bank**, said mortgage dated September 28, 2011 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 47972, Page 164, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** November 5, 2026 at 02:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, being lot #3 on plan of Westwood Acres, recorded in Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 270, Plan 106, bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the lot herein described at land of owners unknown on the easterly side of Burnett Street;
THENCE S. 2 degrees 18 minutes E. by said Burnett Street, eighty-nine and forty hundredths (89.40) feet to a point;
THENCE by a curve to the left having a radius of 10 feet, connecting Burnett Street and Westwood Drive, fifteen and seventy-one hundredths (15.71) feet to a point on Westwood Drive;
THENCE N. 87 degrees 42 minutes E. by Westwood Drive, ninety-five (95) feet to lot #4 on said plan;
THENCE N. 2 degrees 18 minutes W. by said lot #4, ninety-two and eighty-one hundredths (92.81) feet to a point;
THENCE N. 88 degrees 42 minutes 20 seconds W. by land of owners unknown, one hundred five and twenty-one hundredths (105.21) feet to the point of BEGINNING.
Being the same premises conveyed to the grantor by deed of J.E. Murray ET UX dated October 18, 1963 and recorded at Worcester district registry of deeds, book 4414, page 1.
Subject to restrictions, reservations, easements, covenants, oil, gas or mineral rights of record, if any.
Being the same premises conveyed to William James Richinick from William J. Richinick by deed (subject to a life estate of William J. Richinick) dated 1//8//2003, and recorded on 9//3//2003, at book 31498, page 18, in the Worcester County, MA.
Assessors Parcel Number: MAP: 3: BLK: 32
ATI order Number: 201109210604
Source of Title: Book 31498; Page: 18

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated January 8, 2003 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 31498, Page 18.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Santander Bank, N.A. f/k/a Sovereign Bank, N.A. f/k/a Sovereign Bank
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
October 2, 2026
October 9, 2026
October 16, 2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 26 SM 003213
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: Magda Rodriguez and Miguel A. Torres

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Selene Finance, LP
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 23 Boyce Street, given by Magda Rodriguez and Miguel A. Torres to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for LoanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns, dated December 14, 2021, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66781, Page 131, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 11/16/2026 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 10/5/2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
October 16, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Joshua E. Steeves to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, dated August 28, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41773, Page 274, as modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on February 12, 2016, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54939, Page 96, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns to Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc., recorded on November 9, 2011, in Book No. 48095, at Page 215

Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc. to Residential Credit Solutions, Inc., recorded on April 3, 2014, in Book No. 52185, at Page 146

Residential Credit Solutions, Inc. to Federal National Mortgage Association, recorded on October 28, 2014, in Book No. 52967, at Page 209

Federal National Mortgage Association to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, recorded on January 10, 2020, in Book No. 61727, at Page 110

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on November 6, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 55 Sunny Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

The land with the buildings thereon, in Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, Shown as Lot 8 on a plan entitled: "Definitive Subdivision sunny Shores Section II Webster, Massachusetts, Lotting Plan Owned by Sunny Shores, Inc., Old Worcester Road, Webster, Massachusetts, Massachusetts Developer: CJP Realty Trust 31 Charlton Road, Dudley, Massachusetts, prepared by Bouley Brothers, Inc., Professional Land Surveyors, 75 Hammond Street, PO Box 2215, Worcester, Massachusetts 01613.", said plan is recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 767, Plan 81, to which plan reference is hereby made for a more particular description.

Lot 8 contains 14,852+/- square feet, according to said plan.

Subject to a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants dated May 22, 2001 as Instrument No. 70475 in Book 24076, Page 46.

Expressly reserving the fee in the streets, but together with benefits of a right of way in common with others thereto over the street and ways on plan recorded in Plan Book 767, Plan 81.

Subject to easements and restrictions as shown on plan recorded in Plan Book 767, Plan 81.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39365, Page 214.

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

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Ten Thousand ($10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC S/B/M NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
29719
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026
October 30, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P3218EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Peter P Rovezzi
Date of Death: 07/27/2026
To all interested persons:

A Petition for **S/A Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Carla F. Carroll of Worcester 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: .

Carla F. Carroll of Worcester MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/27/2026.**

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: October 01, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

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

Please take notice that: Christopher & Lisa Majka
Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.04.00 Density Regulations
Location: 1 Sophies Way
In the following respect: A 10ft variance on the rear setback for inground pool.
The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday November 5, 2026 @ 6:00PM at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may heard relative to this Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Holmes at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
Steve Watroba, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

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

Please take notice that: E S Landscaping
Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.04.00
Location: 169 West Main Street
In the following respect: Applicant is appealing the determination of building inspector pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Sec 15, concerning temporary office trailer and concrete block
The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday November 5, 2026 @ 6:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be heard relative to this Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Jacobson at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
Steve Watroba, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

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

Please take notice that: Bradley Wright
Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 7.01.00 Driveway/Curb Cut Permit
Location: 0 Pierpont Road
In the following respect: Applicant is seeking special permit to have four houses on one driveway.
The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday November 5, 2026 6:00PM at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may heard relative to this Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Holmes at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
Steve Watroba, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P3278EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Gary Francis Napierata
Also known as: Gary F Napierata
Date of Death: 09/04/2026
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Peter Bannister of Webster 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: .
Peter Bannister of Webster 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 11/10/2026.**
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: October 05, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

A.C. 78A
Docket Number WO25P4190
THECOMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS
PROBATE COURT
To all persons interested in the estate of Dianne Guntharp of Webster in said county, person under conservatorship. A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell - private sale -certain real estate of said $462,000.00 (Four hundred and sixty-two thousand) for maintenance and praying the petitioner may become the purchaser of said reale state.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney shall file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 17th day of November 2026, the return date of this citation.
Witness Kathryn M. Bailey, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 7th day of October 2026.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

A.C. 78A
Docket Number WO12P3452
THECOMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS
PROBATE COURT
To all persons interested in the estate of Tod Porter of Douglas in said county, person under conservatorship. A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell - private sale -certain real estate known as Lot 2 of said $125,000.00 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) for maintenance and praying the petitioner may become the purchaser of said reale state.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney shall file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 17th day of November 2026, the return date of this citation.
Witness Kathryn M. Bailey, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 7th day of October 2026.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

A.C. 78A
Docket Number WO12P3452
THECOMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS
PROBATE COURT
To all persons interested in the estate of Tod Porter of Douglas in said county, person under conservatorship. A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell - private sale -certain real estate known as Lot 23.1 of said $125,000.00 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars) for maintenance and praying the petitioner may become the purchaser of said reale state.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney shall file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 17th day of November 2026, the return date of this citation.
Witness Kathryn M. Bailey, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 7th day of October 2026.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P3304EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Barbara M. Dusoe
Date of Death: 08/25/2026
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Donald W. Schmidt Pawtucket RI and Kim L Doucette of Deerfield NH** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: .
Donald W. Schmidt Pawtucket RI and Kim L Doucette of Deerfield NH 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 11/03/2026.**
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: October 06, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
26 SM 003198
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
Nayuska Mendes Custodio
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 *(et seq)*:
Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Dudley, numbered 5 5th Avenue, given by Nayuska Mendes Custodio to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, dated August 19, 2024, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70912, Page 228, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.
If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the abovementioned 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 November 16, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on October 2, 2026.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
October 16, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P3203EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Mark Christopher Correia
Also known as: Mark C Correia
Date of Death: 07/29/2026
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Erin Correia of Medford 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: .
Erin Correia of Medford 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 11/03/2026.**
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: September 29, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

A.C. 78A
Docket Number WO25P4190PM
THECOMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS
PROBATE COURT
To all persons interested in the estate of Dianne Guntharp of Webster in said county, person under conservatorship. A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell - private sale -certain real estate of said Dianne Guntharp for maintenance and praying the petitioner may become the purchaser of said reale state.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney shall file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the third day of November 2026, the return date of this citation.
Witness Kathryn M. Bailey, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this eighth day of October 2026.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
October 16, 2026

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by John A. Matteau, Jr. to MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A. dated July 30, 2009, recorded with Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 44693, Page 174, which mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage by Assignment dated March 21, 2013, recorded in Book 50738, Page 90; further assigned to The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by Assignment dated December 22, 2016, recorded in Book 56573, Page 23; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust XI-A by Assignment dated November 20, 2025, recorded in Book 72921, Page 65, of 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 11:00 AM, on the 17th day of November, 2026, at the mortgaged premises described and known as 21 Linwood Street, Oxford, Massachusetts described in said mortgage, to wit:
Being Lot #1 as shown on a Plan of Lots drawn for A. Esposito by Vincent F. Kubic, Surveyor, dated February 26, 1954 which plan is recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds Plan Book 215, Plan 77. Beginning at an iron pin on the westerly line of the Old Worcester Road one hundred eighty-six and 3/100 (186.03) feet northerly of a Massachusetts Highway bound; Thence N 38 deg. 45' E by Old Worcester Road ninety-five (95) feet to an iron pin; Thence N 63 deg. 47' W one hundred ten (110) feet along a proposed road to an iron pin; Thence S 40 deg. 10' W ninety-five (95) by Lot No. 10 to an iron pin; Thence S 63 deg. 47' E one hundred twelve and 42/100 (112.42) feet by a Lot No. 2 to the place of beginning.
The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The Mortgagee further reserves the right to open the bidding at the time, date and place appointed for sale, and if no bids are received, or the bids received are deemed unacceptable to Mortgagee, to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation.
Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any.
In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.
TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) will be required to bid and be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale at the Law Office of Michael J. Murphy, 5 Commonwealth Road, Suite 4A, Natick, Massachusetts 01760. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of any typographical error in this publication.
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.
WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB,
AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST XI-A
Present holder of said mortgage,
By its attorney,
Michael J. Murphy, Esq.
Law Office of Michael J. Murphy
5 Commonwealth Road, Suite 4A
Natick, MA 01760
Tel: (508) 650-9252
October 9, 2026
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

For Legal Advertising Information
Call 508-909-4127 • email: legals@stonebridgepress.news

Neurologist and author Pria Anand to speak at Worcester Senior Center

WORCESTER — On Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 10:30-11:30 a.m., author and neurologist Pria Anand will discuss her book "The Mind Electric: a neurologist on the strangeness and wonder of our brains." This program will take place at the Worcester Senior Center, 128 Providence St., Worcester. Books will be available after the program for sale and signing. Registration is required. To register for the program only, call 508-799-1232. To register for the program and reserve a lunch, call 508-799-8070.

In "The Mind Electric," Dr. Anand reveals—through case study, history, fable, and memoir—all that the medical establishment has overlooked: the complexity and wonder of brains in health and in extremis, and the vast gray area between sanity and insanity, doctor and patient, and illness and wellness, each separated from the next by the thin veneer of a different story. Moving from the Boston hospital where she treats her patients, to her childhood years in India, to Isla Providencia in the Caribbean and to the Republic of Guinea in West Africa, she demonstrates again and again the compelling paradox at the heart of neurology: that even the most peculiar symptoms can show us something universal about ourselves as humans.

Dr. Pria Anand is an Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Boston University School of Medicine and the winner of the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award for her book, The Mind Electric. She is the Director of the Neurology Residency Program and the Chief of the Division of Hospital Neurology, and her academic work primarily focuses on neuro-infectious diseases and neurologic health equity. Dr. Anand's writing has appeared in Time Magazine, The Boston Globe, The Washington Post, The New York Times, Ploughshares, and elsewhere. She lives in the Boston area with her family.

This program is hosted by the Worcester Talking Book Library, Worcester Senior Center, and Dementia Friendly Worcester. Additional sponsorship provided by AARP Mass. and RegalCare Worcester. Books available for sale by TidePool Books.

Bay Path named 2026 School of Recognition by Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is the only regional vocational technical school in Massachusetts named a 2026 School of Recognition by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The annual honor goes to a small group of schools for progress toward state accountability targets, especially improved achievement in English language arts and math. This year, 56 public schools statewide made the list.

Bay Path met 60 percent of its state accountability targets this year, up from 49% in 2025. That moved the school into DESE's "substantial progress" category and placed it in the 76th percentile of Massachusetts high schools. The gains came while Bay Path's roughly 1,200 students also trained across 23 vocational programs. The students come from Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, North Brookfield, Oxford, Paxton, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer and Webster. Bay Path is the only school from those ten towns on this year's list.

"As a school community we are very proud of this accomplishment," said Kyle Brenner, Superintendent/Director. "Over the past several years, we have been intentional about building strong systems of learning. We've raised academic rigor, strengthened curriculum and instruction, and brought our academic and vocational programs into closer alignment. This recognition reflects the work of our entire school community."

Bay Path students demonstrated measurable academic growth in the following areas:

English Language Arts achievement increased 3.4 points.

Mathematics achievement increased 3.8 points.

English Language Arts growth exceeded typical growth.

Mathematics growth exceeded typical growth.

Four-year graduation reached 98.9 percent.

The annual dropout rate was 0 percent.

Chronic absenteeism decreased from 11.1 to 10.2 percent.

"These numbers represent real progress for our students," said Dean Packard, Bay Path principal. "This is what happens when educators collaborate around student needs, when students take ownership of their learning, and when adults across our building refuse to settle for what was good enough yesterday."

About Bay Path

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School prepares students for both college and careers through a rigorous blend of academic coursework and hands-on technical training. Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Bay Path serves ten Southern Worcester County communities: Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, North Brookfield, Oxford, Paxton, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, and Webster. Opening in 1972 atop Muggett Hill, the school has spent more than five decades offering 23 career areas alongside its academic program.

Healing Heroes Foundation launches equine-assisted recovery program

WHITINSVILLE — Responding to the growing need for mental health resources for first responders across Massachusetts, the Healing Heroes Foundation announced the launch of its Equine-Assisted Recovery Program.

The skills-based program utilizes horses as a bridge to mindfulness and grounding to combat high stress and post-traumatic stress disorder that heavily impact firefighters, EMTs, law enforcement officers, military veterans, and other first responders. Healing Heroes Foundation is a Massachusetts-based nonprofit dedicated to fostering community, connection, and camaraderie across first responders, military members, veterans, and their families.

"This experiential, relationship-based program provides the space, community, and support for first responders to ground themselves and engage with one of nature's most empathetic creatures," says Jaime Nicholas, Co-Director of Healing Heroes Foundation. "First responders across the country are facing significant mental health and wellness challenges, and we felt a responsibility to help address that need here in Massachusetts by introducing a unique program that fosters meaningful connection and mental well-being so first responders don't have to navigate life's challenges alone."

Hosted in Whitinsville, the eight-week Equine-Assisted Recovery Program is made possible through partnerships between the Healing Heroes Foundation, Cornerstone Community Care, and Superior Stables. At the end of the program, participants will be connected with financial health resources through a partnership between Healing Heroes Foundation and First Responders Credit Union.

The program is led by Christina Cronin, LICSW, President and Clinical Director of Cornerstone Community Care. Participants will engage in structured interactions with the horses through activities such as observing, grooming, leading, and other groundwork designed to support mindfulness, self-regulation, communication, and connection.

Among the horses participating in the program is one cared for by a U.S. Army veteran and current psychiatric registered nurse, further reflecting the program's connection to the communities it serves.

The Healing Heroes Foundation has filled two cohorts of participants for its Equine-Assisted Recovery Program, showing a regional demand for this innovative resource. With a focus on solidifying the curriculum and measuring outcomes with its inaugural cohort, the organization's long-term goal is to grow the program's impact and geographical reach so this critical resource can be available to first responders across the state. It is currently in talks with additional Massachusetts stables.

Equine-assisted approaches have proven to meaningfully complement clinical therapy, exposing participants to a more active, relationship-based setting. Interactions with horses such as approaching, handling, leading, and caring can make abstract concepts like consent, trust, self-regulation, and communication more tangible.

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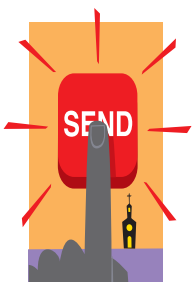

A Trinity Tradition: Nature's Classroom

BY ANGELA SYMOCK
PRINCIPAL
TRINITY CATHOLIC ACADEMY

SOUTHBRIDGE — Were you one of the lucky students who attended Nature's Classroom as a sixth grader? For the past 26 years, I've had the privilege of watching Trinity students head off on this special adventure and return with stories, stronger friendships, and memories that last long after the week is over.

A few years ago, I was lucky enough to experience Nature's Classroom from a different perspective when I had the opportunity to chaperone alongside my daughter's sixth-grade class. What a blessing! I was able to see firsthand the learning, laughter, teamwork, and joy that takes place throughout the week. It is so much more than a field trip—it is an experience that challenges students, brings them together, and creates memories they will carry with them for years to come. Nature's Classroom has become such a cherished Trinity tradition, and each year our sixth graders add their own chapter to that tradition.

To our parents who make sacrifices to ensure their children can have this experience: well done! Your support makes these opportunities possible, and the value of giving our students experiences like this is truly priceless.

Here's to another generation of Trinity sixth graders learning, exploring, laughing, and making memories at Nature's Classroom!

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880
Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!
Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Assistant Director, Evan Hale, at ehale@cwmars.org

Special Events
Tiny Art Show – Starting November 2nd
Calling all art lovers! The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library is hosting a Tiny Art Show, showcasing miniature pieces of art from our community. All creators are invited to participate -- no matter their age or skill level! Starting Monday, November 2nd, pick up your 3 in. x 3 in. canvas from the main Circulation Desk or the Children's Desk. All mediums are strongly encouraged! For example, if you want to submit a 3 in. x 3 in. photograph or a 3 in. sculpture that is welcome. Keep an eye on our calendar for some fun drop-in events to complete your submissions with us! Important Dates: Canvas Pick Up: November 2nd-21st Art Submission Deadline: Tuesday, November 24th! Please be sure to complete the submission form with your artwork. Artwork on display: All of December
Adult Programming
Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm
The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Monday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Mondays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room
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 9:15am
Join Meg at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Digital Literacy Course: Essential Computer Skills – Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30pm, beginning September 29th
Ready to get comfortable using a computer? This six-week course is designed for adults with little or no computer skill or experience who want to build confidence using technology for everyday life, work, and education. Students will learn the essential computer skills needed to navigate today's digital world. Through hands-on instruction and guided practice, participants will gain confidence using a computer, the internet, and common online tools in a supportive, beginner-friendly environment. Classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, through November 10th, at 5:30-7:30PM. If you have any questions, email websterabelinkages@webster-schools.org or call (508) 949-8282 to register.
Registration through Adult Basic Education is required.

Angel of the Battlefield: Author Talk with Paul Macek – Thursday October 15th 6:00-7:30PM
Join us in welcoming local author Paul Macek, for a talk about his recent book, Angel of the Battlefield. Discover one week in the life of Clara Barton at the Battle of Antietam. Learn how Clara cooked her famous hardtack meal, or how she survived giving water to a soldier as a bullet passed through the sleeve of her dress and killed the soldier. Clara, as the greatest heroine America ever produced, reminds all of us that the finest side of human nature embodies the value of compassion for those in need.

"The perfect harmony that existed between them" Queer Stories from Historic New England's Collection – Monday October 19th 6:30PM
For more than a decade, Historic New England has told stories about its collections that engage not simply with the ideas of gender and sexuality, but with specific histories of queerness that have so often been suppressed and overlooked within material and archival history. Curator of Collections Erica Lome shares stories about queer life in New England. These stories include those who lived and worked at Historic New England's sites and stories intimately tied to objects in the collection.

Art Guild Northeast Artist Reception – Tuesday, October 20th, 5:00-7:00PM
Have you seen the October art exhibit? Stop by for our artist reception to get to know the artists and ask questions about their incredible work.
The Nest: Entrepreneur Movie Night – October 21st 6PM
Have a side hustle, a small business or an idea you've been wanting to start? Join us for Entrepreneur Movie Night! We'll watch the story of the entrepreneur behind the Ring video doorbell, who started in his garage and kept going after Shark Tank said no. Then meet other side hustlers and entrepreneurs from Webster, and leave with local help to start your own idea. Stay until the end for a chance to win a $50 gift card!
Marching Still: A Musical Tribute to Civil War Poetry – Thursday, October 22nd, 6:30-7:45
Marching Still is a collection of poems about the American Civil War set to original music composed, arranged, & performed by composer Ryan Mascilak.
"Balance" All Levels Yoga – October 27th 6:30-7:30PM
Join Anais at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. This class aims to release tension, build stability, and leave you feeling refreshed, grounded and restored. A typical class includes awareness of breath, linking breath to movement, and fluid transitions through mindfully aligned poses that target both sides of the body equally. Class ends with a restorative period of rest. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.
Programming for All Ages
Library for All: Crafts –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! September-February, the crafts will rotate between coloring and painting. We'll provide the space and supplies, you bring the creativity!

Puzz Fest: Halloween Edition – Thursday, October 22nd 6:00-8:00PM
Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We'll have snacks to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. All teams will get to keep their puzzle. Registration is required. Please only register 1 person per team; you cannot complete the registration process online if you say there are more attendees. We do not need to know how many people are on your team, but the maximum is 5.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
NEW Toddler Storytime – Mondays, 10:30am
Join us every Monday from 10:30–11:30am for a storytime designed for toddlers and their caregivers! We'll read stories, sing songs, and enjoy fingerplays together before diving into hands-on sensory free play. Together we'll build early literacy skills, spark curiosity, and discover the joy of learning through play!

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm
Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces!

Tiny Groovers –Tuesdays at 10:30am
Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids' tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

STEM Beginnings: Young Scientists – Thursdays starting 10/1, 10:30AM
Children, ages 3-6, with a parent/caregiver will learn STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) concepts through hands-on activities, storytime, challenges, and simple experiments in this weekly STEM series facilitated by STEM Beginnings. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to help their child and join in the fun during each class! Siblings are welcome and must be supervised. Registration is required. "Young Scientists" is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP), a Massachusetts Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) Grant program funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

Tween Game Night: Board Games – October 19th 5:30-6:30PM
Welcome to our brand-new Tween Game Night, happening twice a month for kids 7-12. Each session will offer a different type of game: Board Game Night: Learn a new board game or bring your friends along to play some games together. Caregivers are encouraged to participate in the fun!
Video Game Night: Challenge your friends to some friendly competition! Every month will feature a different multiplayer game including Mario Kart, Nintendo Sports, Just Dance, Overcooked, Super Smash Bros and more! Due to limited space, registration is required.

Haunted Library – Thursday, October 22nd 4:00-6:00PM
Step into our Haunted Library! Kids of all ages can explore the spooky Children's Room, enjoy gentle frights, and make a craft. Costumes encouraged!
The Children's Room will be closed 1:00-4:00 PM in order to set up for this event. Thank you for your understanding.

Annual Pumpkin Glow – October 29th 4PM and 5PM
It's that time of the year again! Join us for our Annual Pumpkin Glow program where kids are invited to carve or paint their very own pumpkin to be put on display for Main Street Trick-or-Treat. In case of rain, this program will be moved indoors.

Dudley Town Hall will close to public two days each week

DUDLEY — Effective Oct. 20, Town Hall will be closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
The Board of Selectmen's decision to close two days each week followed the Sept. 29 Special Election, in which voters rejected a proposed Proposition 2½ override earmarked for the Police, Fire and Highway Departments. As a result, the Town must operate within its existing recurring revenues, current appropriations and available one-time resources.
Since the start of FY2027, several Town Hall positions have been eliminated.
The administrative assistants in the Selectmen's Office and Accounting Office were laid off. An assistant position in the Treasurer/Collector's Office will not be restored. The Administrative Assistant in the Assessor's Office has been eliminated. The employee responsible for managing the Town website, information technology,
Dudley Cable Access TV and served as administrative assistant to the Highway Department, has departed, and the position has been eliminated.
Given current staffing and budget limitations, closing the entire building two days each week is necessary to provide the remaining office staff with uninterrupted administrative time to keep Town Hall functions operating effectively.

Samuel Slater Experience hosting free history talk on Poverty Point Mystery and Indigenous Lithic studies

WEBSTER — Though the United States has just celebrated her 250th Anniversary, these lands hold ancient Indigenous history that can be studied through lithic artifacts and other cultural remains. Learn about some of these archeological sites and their cultural significance for the peoples across what would become the United States.
Focusing on the enigma of the Poverty Point Mound in Louisiana, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Joe Iamartino will walk through how environmental and cultural changes during the Little Ice Age affected Native communities, including those in New England. The presentation will examine this evidence through color photographs and maps, connecting archaeological sites and environmental change to a broader story of Native life before European arrival.
The Poverty Point Mystery talk will be held on Oct. 24, at the Samuel Slater Experience in Webster at 11 a.m. This presentation will then repeat at 1 p.m. To register, please purchase your free ticket online, call 508-461-2955 or email admin@samuelslaterexperience.org.

First Congregational Church of Dudley to host turkey dinner

DUDLEY — First Congregational Church of Dudley will host a turkey dinner Saturday, Nov. 7, with two seatings available for area residents.
The dinner will be held at the church, 135 Center Road, with seatings scheduled for 4:30 and 6 p.m. Tickets are $18 for adults and $10 for children ages 6 to 12. Children age 5 and younger may attend for free. Reservations are required by Friday, Nov. 6, and may be made by calling 508-943-7320. Takeout meals will also be available, but must be ordered in advance.
First Congregational Church is located at 135 Center Rd. in Dudley.

A special event in partnership with Mechanics Hall – Club 321 meets WICN's Brian Barlow Concert Series

WORCESTER — Experience an unforgettable evening with blues and R&B legend Greg Piccolo and Heavy Juice at Club 321 on Oct. 22 at 7 p.m.
Join us at Club 321 for an unforgettable night with blues and R&B legend Greg Piccolo.
With a career spanning more than six decades, Greg Piccolo has helped define the sound of American rhythm & blues with his unmistakable tenor saxophone tone and powerhouse vocals—evoking the golden era when "sax was king." From forming his first band at just 13 in Westerly, R.I., to becoming one of the most respected voices in the genre, Piccolo has spent a lifetime dedicated to groove, grit, and timeless musical storytelling.
As a longtime leader and key creative force behind the acclaimed Roomful of Blues, he helped shape the band's signature horn-driven sound, leading them to international recognition, Grammy nominations, and worldwide touring success over a celebrated 25-year run. In 1994, he launched Heavy Juice, a more intimate and flexible project that opened the door to deeper artistic exploration. Since then, Greg has continued to tour, record, and evolve—delivering music rooted in tradition but alive with energy and swing.
This Club 321 performance is a rare chance to experience a true master of blues and R&B in an intimate setting. Expect big tone, deep groove, and a night of music that moves from the first note to the last. Join us for an extraordinary night in the heart of downtown Worcester. Experience a different side of Mechanics Hall, in our intimate Washburn Hall, transformed one Thursday night a month into your favorite club. Club 321 offers cabaret-style seating, handcrafted cocktails from the full bar, and an inviting atmosphere that brings audiences closer to the music. Come sip handcrafted drinks from our full bar and enjoy cabaret-style seating. An unforgettable evening in the heart of downtown Worcester!
General Admission Tickets: $30
VIP Ticket: $50
Enhance your Club 321 evening with premium reserved table seating and one complimentary drink per ticket. Enjoy the best views of the performance while relaxing in one of Worcester's most unique listening rooms. VIP Ticket and Drink Ticket can be picked up at Will Call on the night of the performance, beginning at 6:15 p.m.
Mechanics Hall Members: 10 percent discount off a single ticket
Time: Doors 6:15 p.m. | Show 7 p.m.
Cash bar and refreshments available for purchase
Support for the WICN Brian Barlow Concert Series comes from Westboro Toyota, Duquette Law Group and Gorman Richardson Lewis Architects.
About WICN Public Radio
WICN Public Radio 90.5 FM is an independent, nonprofit public radio station serving
Central Massachusetts and beyond. Through award-winning jazz, roots, blues, world
music, and locally produced programming, WICN connects listeners with the arts, culture, education, and conversations that enrich the region. WICN's mission is to inspire, entertain, and engage diverse audiences while supporting the cultural vitality of the communities it serves. Broadcasting throughout Central New England and streaming worldwide, WICN brings exceptional music and local voices to audiences wherever they are.
The Brian Barlow Concert Series and Emerging Artist Series is dedicated to the memory of WICN's late General Manager and his legacy of supporting emerging talent and live music.

DEDICATION

continued from page A1

former Hubbard Hospital emergency room, French River Park, local schools and efforts to protect the town from a proposed mega-dump.

"He taught me most of what I know about public service and public policy," Collins said, describing Moore's commitment to ensuring that communities such as Webster had a voice on Beacon Hill. He also emphasized Moore's approach to constituent service: "If they reached out, they deserved an answer."

The afternoon included remarks by Webster Board of Selectmen Chairman Tom Klebart; Nichols College President William C. Pieczynski; former Massachusetts Senator Stephen M. Brewer; and former Massachusetts Senate President Stanley C. Rosenberg. Mary Freeley represented Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell's Elder Justice Unit.

A letter from Hillary Rodham Clinton, former First Lady, United States Senator and Secretary of State, was also read during the program.

The dedication also highlighted Moore's substantial contributions to Massachusetts health care policy. During his Senate career, he served as chair of the Legislature's health care financing committee, was one of the principal architects of the 2006 Massachusetts health care reform law, and served as the Senate's lead negotiator on the 2012 health care cost-containment legislation.

His public service has continued since leaving the Senate. He helped establish Dignity Alliance Massachusetts, a statewide organization advocating for dignity, autonomy and justice for older adults, people with disabilities and caregivers.

A special focus of the dedication was the story behind the library itself. According to Collins, Webster was among the communities participating in the state's library construction program, which provided grants covering a portion of construction costs. Moore worked to ensure that Webster received the maximum reimbursement permitted under state law.

The result helped make possible the library building that now serves Webster residents with books, computers, internet access, educational programs and community meeting space.

The Senator Richard T. Moore Community Room will provide a gathering place for library programs, community meetings, educational activities and other events for generations of Webster residents.

The dedication concluded with a musical salute to Moore's career by longtime friend Barry Lawton, who dedicated the song, "My Way," to the senator, followed by a reception for guests. Moore and his wife, Joanne, are Godparents to Lawton's twin son and daughter.

CLEAN UP

continued from page A1

Award recipient Linda Sopp, the event was led by Betsy and Dave Krueger, who have organized land cleanups for the past two years. Serving as the event leads, they pre-scouted areas of town in need of cleanup, organized volunteer sign-ups, and prepared maps to hand out to volunteers. Fifteen dedicated volunteers fanned out across various areas of town to tackle accumulated litter and debris. By the end of the day, the team successfully collected over 40 bags of garbage, alongside numerous large items that were generously hauled away and disposed of by the Town of Webster.

The successful event was a true collaborative effort drawing support from across the community. Organizers expressed deep gratitude to Town Conservation Agent Rich Parent for his continued partnership and guidance, as well as to Police Chief Shaw and the Town Administration for help in promoting and providing resources for the cleanup. GreenPoly also provided essential logistical support through a generous donation of recycled garbage bags, and Neil Rhein, Founder and Executive Director of Keep Massachusetts Beautiful, shared his ongoing expertise in helping establish the local chapter.

The core group of volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to the cleanup included Kern Bayard, Bob Beaumont, James Cacciapuoti, Laura Sterzcala, Lisa Dalterio, Bob Gordon, Nick Hetzel, Robin Jewell, Kelley Padgett, Dave Krueger, Donna and Arthur Redding, Linda Sopp, Ellen Thompson, and Bob Wilson.

While organizers noted that there were several target areas they were unable to reach on Saturday, enthusiasm within the group remains high. The team hopes to organize additional "pop-up" cleanups to address remaining spots before the colder winter weather sets in. Residents interested in participating, supporting future initiatives, or following the group's progress are encouraged to check the Keep Webster Beautiful Facebook page for regular updates.

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Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12) Commercial Opportunity!

Corner Lot, 275' +/- Road Frontage, Extremely High Traffic Count, 6,200 SF (75x80) Commercial Building, Currently 2 Units -> Potential for More. Economical, Efficient Natural Gas FHA Heat & Cooling. Its close proximity to Successful National Franchised Businesses generates Significant Commerce at this Location. Convenient Access.
MLS #73512426 **$ 615,000**

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

Webster- 3 Oakwood Dr

Presenting a meticulously maintained Colonial! This inviting home, spans 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths. The living room offers a sophisticated ambiance, enhanced by hardwood floors, crown moldings & custom built in shelves. Also provides a 2 car att'd garage for secure parking & storage. **MLS#73523347** **$589,900**

Featured New Listing! 24 Laurelwood Dr Webster Lake Waterfront

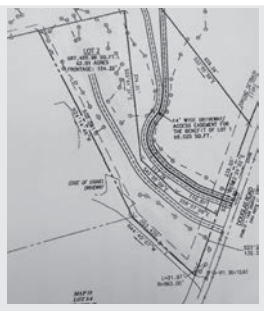
On the shores of prestigious Webster Lake! Experience ultra-luxury lakefront living with direct water access. This young modern craftsman lake home is masterly designed to maximize panoramic Western views through a two-story architectural tower. The home boasts 3,790 +/- square feet of sophisticated,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

Webster ~ 33 Slater Street

Sprawling fieldstone faced Ranch! Located on a +/- 0.5-acre, 2 car garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces-FHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/ sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom
MLS # 73500183 **$464,900**

Featured New Listing! Webster Lake Waterfront - 86 Bates Point Rd

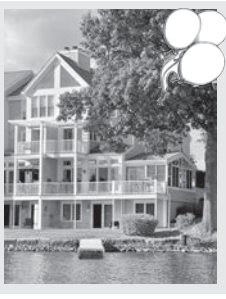
This Beautifully Maintained Two-Level Waterfront Panoramic WATER VIEWS from almost every Single Window!! 50 Ft of Sandy Shoreline!! Front-row Northwest-facing Sunsets !!.. Offering a sweeping Wall of Windows to enjoy watching Mother Nature at her Finest!! Wood Flooring!!...This Main Level has an Effortless Layout adding a Roomy Convenient Bedroom & Large Closet, Full bath, 1/2 Bath & Laundry!!... Downstairs, the Walk-out Lower Level Transitions into a phenomenal Guest Retreat with 2 Bedrooms, Living space, and Full Bath!!..2 Car Garage! **MLS#7356983** **$1,050,000.**



Webster - Douglas Rd (Rt 16) ANR Lot # 2

Building Lot, 2.01 +/- acres, 154' road frontage, Surveyed and portioned out of a larger tract of land, Zoned ASFR (Agricultural Single Family Residential) Located near State Land
~ A Great Value at $69,900.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Webster Lake Waterfront 22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa

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Webster Lake ~ 60 Wakefield Ave ~ Corner Lot!

Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW home! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!
Go To MLS # 73582966 $277,500.

Webster Lake ~0 Wakefield Ave

Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW HOME! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!
Go To MLS # 73582967 **$247,500**

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Attorney for Mortgagee
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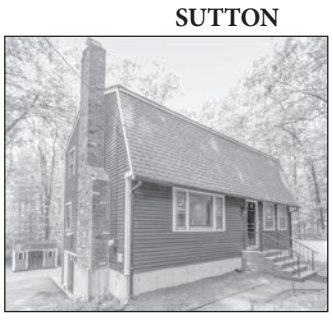

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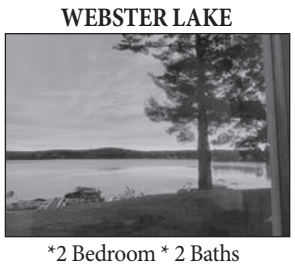

*2 Bedroom * 2 Baths
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Atkins scores school-record six touchdowns as Bartlett defeats North, 40–8

WORCESTER — Jaesean Atkins scored a school-record six touchdowns Saturday, Oct. 3, powering Bartlett to a 40–8 victory over Worcester North at Foley Stadium.

Atkins rushed for 187 yards and five touchdowns on 22 carries and returned a kickoff 78 yards for another score. Bartlett finished with 296 rushing yards and 314 yards of total offense, while its defense held North to 105 total yards and five first downs.

"Our defense played an outstanding game, and Jaesean's record-breaking performance was a reflection of the work the team put in at practice this week," said Bartlett head coach Dane Laboissonniere. "Our offensive line, tight ends and fullbacks—Alex Kapulka, Tyler Whiting, Alex Torres, Jordan Miller, Ryan Blackmore, Cam Forsythe, Cam Hast and Jameson Gerber—were instrumental in paving the way. It was an unselfish, complete team effort."

Courtesy

Jaesean Atkins finds an opening on one of his six TDs on the day.

Atkins opened the scoring with a 32-yard touchdown run in the first quarter, then added a four-yard scoring run. His two-point conversion pass to Alexander Curran gave the Indians a 14–0 lead.

North answered with a 4-yard touchdown run and a two-point conversion in the second quarter to cut the margin to 14–8. Atkins responded by returning the ensuing kickoff 78 yards for a touchdown. Kapulka added the two-point conversion run, giving Bartlett a 22–8 halftime advantage.

The Indians kept North off the scoreboard throughout the second half. Atkins added two four-yard touchdown runs in the third quarter before completing his record-setting afternoon with a 24-yard scoring run in the fourth.

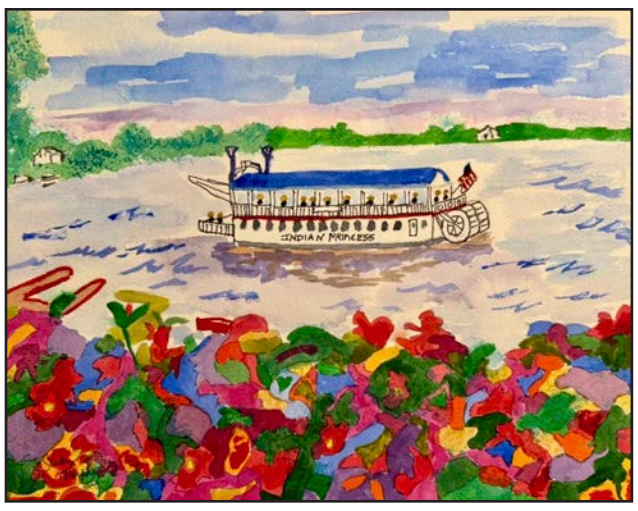
Claypool complemented Atkins with 91 rushing yards on eight carries and completed an 18-yard pass to Whiting. Kapulka added 25 yards on four carries as Bartlett finished with 16 first downs.

Defensively, Atkins and Kapulka each recorded eight combined tackles and assists. Forsythe added seven, while Montesinos contributed six. Whiting recorded four, including a tackle for loss. Bartlett limited North to 67 rushing yards and 38 passing yards, allowing just one conversion on eight third-down attempts.

The victory was Bartlett's second straight, following its 42–12 win over Abby Kelley.

The Indians return home Friday, Oct. 9, to host Quaboag in their homecoming game. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m.

Booklovers' Gourmet spotlights local artist Judy Murphy



WEBSTER — An Art Show titled "The Colors of Life" by Judy Murphy, will be on display at Booklovers' Gourmet in Webster Oct. 6-31 in the cafe gallery. A public meet and greet with the artist will take place on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 2-4 p.m.

For more information, call 508-949-6232. Booklovers' Gourmet is located at 72 East Main St. in Webster, and has been a community gathering space since 1995.

As a child, Murphy won coloring and poster contests, but never pursued art until she retired. Color is her main inspiration. She can stop and find the beauty in any person, place or thing. Her style is said to be unique, quirky, fun, illustrative and easily recognizable. While most of her paintings are watercolors, she continues to expand her skills through courses at the Worcester Art Museum and as an active member of the Blackstone Valley Art Association.

Saint Joseph School honors priests

Courtesy

Saint Joseph School Grade 3 students Rayna Parslow and Camden Bergman join Father Richard Polek and Father Anthony Kazarnowicz at the altar of Saint Joseph Basilica after presenting them with gifts in recognition of Priesthood Sunday.

WEBSTER — Saint Joseph School in Webster recently recognized Father Richard Polek and Father Anthony Kazarnowicz in observance of Priesthood Sunday, celebrated this year on Sept. 27.

Following the school's weekly Friday Mass on September 25, Grade 3 students Rayna Parslow and Camden Bergman presented gifts to the priests on behalf of the entire school community. The presentation followed remarks by Principal Beth Boudreau, who thanked both priests for their service to Saint Joseph School and Saint Joseph Basilica.

Priesthood Sunday is an annual celebration honoring the vocation of the priesthood and recognizing the dedication and faithful service of Catholic priests. It also provides an opportunity to pray for priests, for an increase in vocations, and for those discerning a call to the priesthood.

Father Richard, pastor of Saint Joseph Basilica and headmaster of Saint Joseph School, and Father Tony are important members of the school community. Through their celebration of Mass and the sacraments, their prayers and spiritual guidance, and their presence at school events, they help students grow in faith and deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Their support strengthens the school's Catholic identity and reminds students that faith is at the heart of everything they do.

The students, families, faculty, and staff of Saint Joseph School expressed their gratitude to Father Richard and Father Tony for the many ways they serve the school and parish communities.

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