

Auburn News

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Dudley reopens Mill Race Bridge



DUDLEY — A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Brandon Road/Hill Street crossing over the French River on the Dudley and Webster town line reopened the roadway to travelers on Aug. 28.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, state Rep. John J. Marsi said the road opening was a team effort at all levels of town and state government.

"I appreciate the partnership with Town Administrator Ruda, state Sen. Fattman, state Rep.

McKenna, Webster officials and the MassDOT team on this very successful local project that cost the Town of Dudley taxpayers zero dollars. I especially recognize Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda because he was the quarterback of this," Marsi said.

Christopher Starczewski, Chairman of the Dudley Board of Selectmen, said Ruda served as the constant anchor holding the thread together alongside former Town Planner Bill Scanlan, the Highway Department

under Superintendent MJ Gatzke, and engineering partners at Tighe & Bond, who helped craft a shovel-ready solution using a temporary Acrow modular bridge.

"We didn't do this alone. A town border might split technical responsibility, but it doesn't divide our people. We owe deep gratitude to Webster

Town Administrator Rick LaFond, his predecessor, and Webster's leadership for standing shoulder-to-shoulder with us," Starczewski said, adding, "We also owe immense thanks to MassDOT District 3, including Highway Director Barry Lorion and Bridge Engineer Mo Nabulsi, who worked with us to find real solutions."

Starczewski thanked Dudley's state delegation who fought for the funding every step of the way.

"Sen. Ryan Fattman and Rep. Joe McKenna were steadfast champions on Beacon Hill. And state Rep. John Marsi brings a special story to this day: John sat on the Dudley Board of Selectmen when this bridge closed. He lived the frustra-

tion as a local official, and when he went to the State House, he brought that fight with him," he said.

The \$1.3 million temporary bridge was fully funded by the state's "millionaires' tax" and FAIR Program (Funding for Accelerated Infrastructure Repair) in March.

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Dudley sets public information meeting on Sept. 29 Special Election

DUDLEY — The Dudley Board of Selectmen has called a special election seeking voter approval for two ballot questions.

The Board has set a Public Information Meeting for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 14 at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main St., where Dudley residents are invited to learn more about the Town's Special Election comprising two ballot questions.

Question 1 seeks voter approval to override the limits of Proposition 2½ for \$717,630 to protect Police, Fire, and Highway services from budget cuts.

Question 2 seeks voter approval to debt exclude from the limits of Proposition 2½ a sum of \$5,018,583 over 14 years

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Dudley's Alex (Kallgren) Revane named to Eastern Alumni Hall of Fame



Alex (Kallgren) Revane

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. — One of only three four-time All-Little East Conference selections in

Eastern Connecticut State University field hockey history, Alexandra (Kallgren) Revane has been chosen for induction into the Eastern Athletics Alumni Hall of Fame, it has been announced by chair Scott Smith.

Kallgren '18 becomes the second field hockey selection in the 29-year history of the field hockey program and the first to gain induction based exclusively upon her field hockey exploits (Mo Deegan, a field hockey-lacrosse standout between 2001 and 2005, was a 2014 inductee).

Kallgren is the final-announced member of the five-person Class of 2026, following the announced induction of former four-year All-Little East Conference volleyball player Adrianna Mihalek '17, who maintains the program standard for career kills; Max Fantl '10, a former four-year All-LEC forward and two-time LEC Offensive Player-of-the-Year in soccer and an all-conference lacrosse midfielder and four-year member of the program; Christian D'Ambrosio, the former 22-year head wom-

en's soccer coach who won a record 240 matches and 13 LEC regular-season and playoff titles from 2000 through 2021; and two-time baseball All-America and current home run and RBI leader Melvin Castillo '11.

The 32nd induction ceremony is scheduled for Oct. 17 at 5 p.m. at the campus's Fine Arts Instructional Center's Concert Hall and Lobby, with a social to follow. For ticket information, contact Scott Smith at 860-465-4326 or at smithsc@easternct.edu.

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New school year off to a successful start at All Saints Academy



WEBSTER — All Saints Academy is off to a wonderful start! The first week of the 2026–2027 school year was a huge success, filled with excitement, friendship, faith, learning, and new beginnings.

The week began with students and families gather-

ing for a special evening of reconnecting and catching up on summer adventures while enjoying ice cream and delicious treats from a food truck and the 8th grade class. It was a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together before the start of another

exciting year.

The following day, students in Grades 1–8 returned to the classrooms, eager and ready to learn, grow, and make new memories. Teachers welcomed students into engaging learning environments as they began building class-

room communities, establishing routines, and preparing for a year filled with academic challenges and opportunities.

On Wednesday, our youngest learners in Preschool and Kindergarten officially joined the ASA

Turn To ALL SAINTS page A8



Help shape Oxford’s future by taking Master Plan survey

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Strategic Master Plan Committee seeks public’s input

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

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

The SMPC is not starting from scratch. Webster is fortunate to have a wealth of information available to assist the Committee in developing the strategic plan. Key is the prior Master Plan which will be updated in this effort. More recent plans cover demographics, economic development, land use, hazard mitigation, community development, and town services. These plans have been generated to allow the town to apply for resources in specific areas. They will be very useful in building a strategic plan. One example is the Community Wide Preservation Plan issued last year. It summarizes Webster’s history as a mill town and explains its unique relationship to Samuel Slater—

Father of the American Industrial Revolution. But it also provides solid approaches to revitalize key areas of Webster, while preserving and learning from its history. In addition to the call to the community for their ideas, the SMPC is updating statistics; conducting focus groups for business, community, and government; and doing interviews.

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

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

Oxford Democratic Town Committee hosting candidate forum

OXFORD — The public is invited to a community conversation with Democratic candidates on Sept. 12 from noon to 2:45 p.m. at the Oxford Free Public Library.

Come hear from and ask questions of state representative candidates Nick Lazzaro (7th Worcester district), Jen Heck (18th Worcester district), and possibly others prior to the Nov. 3 state election. Refreshments will be available.

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

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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A bridge reopened by persistence and partnership

For more than five years, the closed crossing at Brandon Road and Hill Street represented the kind of infrastructure problem that can be particularly frustrating for a small community.

Everyone could see the problem. Everyone understood why it mattered. The difficult question was how to pay for the solution.

On Aug. 28, Dudley and Webster finally had an answer as officials cut the ribbon on the temporary bridge over the French River and reopened the roadway to traffic.

The accomplishment deserves recognition not only because an important local connection has been restored, but because of how it happened.

When the Mill Race Bridge on the Dudley side of the crossing was deemed unsafe and the two-bridge crossing was closed in June 2021, Dudley faced a challenge familiar to municipalities throughout Massachusetts. Aging infrastructure requires attention, but local resources are limited and the cost of major bridge work can overwhelm a town budget.

The easiest response might have been to accept that reality and allow the crossing to remain closed indefinitely. Instead, local officials kept working.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda and others pursued state and federal assistance, worked with engineers and MassDOT, and continued looking for a financially realistic way to restore the roadway. Webster officials joined that effort because, as Dudley Board of Selectmen Chairman Christopher Starczewski aptly observed, a municipal boundary may divide responsibility, but it does not divide the people who depend upon the road.

That cooperation eventually produced a practical solution: a temporary Acrow modular bridge supplied by MassDOT while officials continue working toward a permanent replacement.

Equally important is how the project was funded. More than \$1.3 million in state money was secured for the project, including \$600,000 in Fair Share funding and another \$758,586 through the Funding for Accelerated Infrastructure Repair program. According to MassDOT District 3 Highway Director Barry Lorian, the Mill Race Bridge became the first Central Massachusetts project to receive this type of FAIR funding.

For Dudley taxpayers, the result is particularly significant. The crossing has reopened without requiring local tax dollars for the bridge project and without consuming Chapter 90 money that the town needs for other road work.

That is an example of municipal government doing the difficult, often unglamorous work of finding a way forward when the obvious solution is financially out of reach.

Credit belongs across municipal and political lines. Dudley and Webster officials cooperated. State Reps. John Marsi and Joseph McKenna and state Sen. Ryan Fattman advocated for funding. MassDOT District 3 helped identify a workable path. Town employees, engineers and contractors turned that funding into a functioning crossing.

There remains more work ahead. The modular bridge is temporary. Dudley’s proposed permanent solution would eliminate the Mill Race Bridge and regrade the area to maintain its flood-control function. Finding the money and completing that work will require another round of planning, advocacy and cooperation. But the reopening provides reason for confidence.

Small towns cannot solve every multi-million-dollar infrastructure problem alone. State programs are most effective when they give municipalities the ability to address genuine local needs, particularly bridges and roads that have become unsafe or unusable.

At the same time, funding opportunities accomplish little unless local officials are prepared to pursue them persistently and have projects ready when opportunities emerge.

For five years, a closed bridge was a reminder of an unresolved problem on the Dudley-Webster line. Now it stands as something considerably more encouraging: evidence that persistence, cooperation and creative use of available resources can eventually reopen a road that once appeared likely to remain closed for years to come.

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

From a Queen to a King, a Haus to an Inn: Auburn Ice Cream Shops, Part 3

BY HELEN POIRIER
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Believe it or not, where a used car dealer is now there was a neighborhood ice cream place at the corner of South Street and Route 20. According to a long-time resident of the area, it was called Dairy Queen, but the then owner lost the franchised and Bernhard Meyers took over and changed the name to “Dairy King.”

Bernhard was born in Dortmund, German and came to the United States in 1959, acquired the property and ran the business. He got his U. S. citizenship papers in 1965. He was a member of the First Congregational Church and the Kiwanis Club. He also held a position on the Auburn Board of Health in 1985 filling a one-year term. He was married to Frieda K. Lehmann for 40 years until his death at 70 in September of 1994. They had two sons who were both in the Air Force. The Dairy King eventually became the Auburn Sandwich Shop and was a favorite eatery of the area. It remained some type of restaurant, with the exception when it was Joseph’s Produce, until recently when a car dealership is occupying the lot. Many a child enjoyed stopping on the north side of Washington Street at 87 South Street to enjoy a cone of their favorite flavor of ice cream. Some of the quotes from the survey of favorite ice cream places Pam thought that the Dairy King “sank you,” and Coby remembers it as Meyer’s Dairy Queen.

This was a very busy intersection of Washington Street, across from the Dairy King was a filling station owned by the Kann family. Miland D. Kann ran the filling station at 499 Washington Street and lived at 495 Washington. His mother, Mabel, owned a store at 947 Washington Street as well as a home at 58 Stone Street, her other son, Arthur who ran the Grafton Filling Station had his home at 54 Stone Street. The Kann family had been in that area since the mid-1940s. Miland was born in 1916 and was only three when his father died and his mom, Mabel, eventually, took charge overseeing the businesses. He graduated from Mary D. Stone school in June 1931. He served in the Army in WWII in Europe and was the rank of Tech 5. Miland married his wife Dorothy in November 1941. They had twin daughters, Dorothy and Donna. He worked as a civil engineer for the DPW in Worcester for 23 then retired in 1981. The family were members of the First Congregational Church

to-ops, press releases and asking for your vote every two years. It should mean showing up, listening, and being available to the people who sent you to Beacon Hill in the first place.

On Saturday, Sept. 12, from noon to 2:45 p.m. at the Oxford Public Library, the Oxford Town Democratic Committee will be hosting a “Community Conversation” with the Democrat candidates for State Representative, Nick Lazzaro and Jen Heck.

Both are asking for the privilege of representing our communities at the State House, and both want to meet and hear from the people they hope to serve.

So please, come meet the candidates, ask questions, raise concerns and learn where they stand on the issues that affect you.

Regardless of your political affiliation, please stop by and join the conversation.

You may agree with the candidates, you may disagree, but at least they want to have that conversation, and that seems like a pretty good place for representation to start.

JOHN FLATTERY
OXFORD

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Come have a conversation with your candidates

To the Editor:

I’m not sure when it happened, but somewhere along the way our State Representatives stopped holding regular “office hours.”

Office hours used to mean something. They were regularly scheduled opportunities at libraries, town halls, coffee shops or other community locations where constituents could sit down with their State Representative without having to request a formal appointment at his/her office.

Office hours give regular people a chance to raise concerns about their towns, their schools, their taxes, or anything else affecting their lives. More importantly, they give State Representatives an opportunity to actually get to know the communities they were elected to serve.

That type of accessibility should be a basic part of being a State Representative.

Unfortunately, residents of the 7th and 18th Worcester Districts have gone without that kind of regular face to face access from their current State Representatives for too long.

Representation should be more than pho-

There must be options other than taxation

To the Editor:

Here we go again. The town of Dudley wants to hold another election on Sept. 29, after it got voted down. I guess no don’t mean no.

I understand they are looking for money, but why does it have to come after we homeowners said enough is enough? Why should they continue to come after homeowners when they have other options to find the money? Sometimes, you need to think outside the box.

As a business owner, why can’t they find money elsewhere I can think of numerous ways the town can earn money.

One, sell the land they have available. Partnered with Nichols College, they have dorms available during the summer which they don’t use. Fields unoccupied, courts, not being used. They can have tournaments, camps; this would give money to the town by renting out dorms. Getting kids involved opens up food service to donations, etc. This would be a win/win situation for Nichols, which can be used as a recruiting tool.

You can have concerts, movies, Dudley Day Care. Look at the needs for this community and that’s where the town can make the money.

The problem with towns, cities, state —

Build confidence in your 401(k) decisions



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The disappearing art
of knowing
how to get there

Dudley Woman’s Club to
kick off 19th year with
Meet & Greet

I have reached the age when I occasionally give directions that are completely useless to anyone under 40.

“Go down past where the old hardware store used to be, take a right at the building that was the bank, and if you get to the old gas station, you’ve gone too far.”

Perfectly clear. At least to me.

The problem is that the hardware store has been gone for 15 years, the bank became a dentist’s office and the gas station is now an empty lot. This is how directions used to work in small towns. Nobody needed a street address. You needed landmarks. Turn by the white church. Go past the cemetery. Take the second left after the school. If you see the pond, you missed it.

Some directions required an advanced understanding of local history. “Take the road behind Johnson’s.” Johnson’s had closed in 1987, but everybody still called the building Johnson’s because nobody could remember what had replaced it.

Today, of course, we have GPS. You type an address into your phone and a pleasant voice tells you exactly where to go. Usually.

I have developed a complicated relationship with this woman. I appreciate her assistance, but I question some of her decisions. She occasionally attempts to send me down roads that no sensible Massachusetts resident would voluntarily travel. I have looked at certain suggested turns and thought, “You clearly aren’t from around here.”

There are roads in New England that technically qualify as roads but should not be treated as such. They might appear on a map as perfectly reasonable shortcuts. What the map does not explain is that the pavement ends halfway through, there is a bridge that looks as though Calvin Coolidge personally inspected it, and the final mile is wide enough for approximately three-quarters of a Subaru.

A local knows better. The GPS does not.

What fascinates me most is how quickly I have surrendered my own sense of direction. There are places I have driven to several times, yet I could not find them again without my phone. That bothers me.

Years ago, if I drove somewhere once, I paid attention. I remembered the turns. I noticed the landmarks. I built a little map in my head. Now I follow the blue line. Turn left in 500 feet. Turn right at the light. Continue for 2.3 miles. I obey without learning anything.

Sometimes, I wonder what would happen if the satellites disappeared tomorrow.

I suspect millions of Americans would simply remain wherever they happened to be. There would be people stranded at supermarkets three miles from their houses.

“Do you know how to get home?”

“No, but I think I live northeast of here.”

My generation likes to complain that younger people cannot get anywhere without GPS, but we should probably be careful with that accusation. We are becoming equally dependent. The difference is that we remember when getting lost was part of going somewhere. You could make a wrong turn and drive five miles before admitting something wasn’t right.

This inevitably led to one person in the car saying, “I thought you knew where you were going.” That sentence has probably ended more pleasant Sunday drives than flat tires. Naturally, nobody wanted to stop and ask for directions. That would have required admitting defeat. Instead, we drove around confidently while having absolutely no idea where we were. Eventually, you found a convenience store, a police station or somebody standing beside a mailbox. The directions you received might include three roads that had changed names, a barn that had burned down and somebody named Earl. Yet somehow, you got there.

I don’t want to give up GPS. It is one of those inventions that is undeniably useful, and I have no desire to return to unfolding a road map across the steering wheel while traveling 55 miles per hour. But every once in a while, when I am heading somewhere familiar, I leave the phone alone. I make myself remember. Past the church. Left at the common. Over the little bridge. Right where the old store used to be.

Somewhere along the way, I usually realize that I still know where I am. And I rather like that feeling.

Despite its name, membership and club events are not limited to Dudley residents. Women from all towns are welcome.

The Meet & Greet will give prospective members an opportunity to meet current members, make new connections and learn about the club’s plans for the coming year. Attendees are encouraged to bring a friend or several.

In keeping with the evening’s theme, guests are welcome to wear their “cowgirl glam,” although Western attire is not required.

Community service will also be part of the opening gathering. The club’s voluntary Giving Project for September will collect school supplies for the Boys & Girls Club of Webster-Dudley. Attendees who would like to participate may bring school supplies to donate.

The Dudley Woman’s Club has made charitable giving and volunteerism a central part of its activities while also providing opportunities for members to socialize and become more involved in their communities. Last year, the organization similarly opened its club year with a gathering at The Mill @ French River and emphasized that its membership extends well beyond Dudley.

The Sept. 10 Meet & Greet is open to members and nonmembers alike.

OXFORD — As the leaves begin to change, it’s the perfect time to clear out the clutter and uncover hidden treasures! On Saturday, Sept. 19, Oxford residents are invited to take part in the Fall Town-Wide Yard Sale, a community favorite that turns neighborhoods into one giant bargain-hunting destination.

Whether you’re looking to downsize, make a little extra cash, or simply connect with neighbors, this is the perfect opportunity to give your gently used items a second life. Residents can host their own yard sales at home or reserve a space at Joslin Park near the Oxford Bandstand, where shoppers can browse multiple sellers in one convenient location.

To be included on the official yard sale map or to reserve a space at Joslin Park, register through the Community Center at www.oxfordma.myrec.com. Registration closes Sept. 15 to allow time for maps to be prepared. Maps will be available online, at the September Oxford Farmers’ Market, and at the Community Center beginning at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18.

The cleanup doesn’t stop there!

Also on Sept. 19, the Oxford Department of Public Works will host a Community Shredding Day from 9 to 11 a.m. at the DPW Administrative Office, 450 Main St. This free service is available exclusively to Oxford residents and provides a safe, secure way to dispose of sensitive documents and unwanted paperwork.

For more information about Shredding Day, contact the DPW at 508-987-6006.

So, mark your calendars, gather your treasures, and get ready for a day of deals, decluttering, and community fun. After all, your unwanted items could become someone else’s perfect find!

Letter submission policy

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

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

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Bites, Books & Blooms Ticket Sales begin Aug. 24

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

props spring to their imaginations to represent their chosen book or poem.

For example, Flower Garden of Webster created this take on Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets featuring Hedwig in some mood-setting vegetation. Owner Lisa Grzyb hints that her submission this year might require a power source? We can't wait to see what it will be!

As in past years, Bistro

Eighty Ates will provide delicious hors d'oeuvres, and the Latin jazz and instrumental trio RioFlow (led by Peruvian-born guitarist Dr. Carlos Odría) will lend a smooth vibe to the evening.

Tickets, \$50 each, will go on sale on Aug. 24 on the library Web site, gladyskellylibrary.org, and in-person at the library. Proceeds from ticket sales help to keep all programs free to the public. Stop by the

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

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



Courtesy

*Samuel Slater Experience
hosting author talk with
Chloe Chapin*

WEBSTER — Samuel Slater Experience will host an historical talk, *A Perfect Fit: Samuel Slater's Mills, Daniel Webster's Wardrobe, and the Fashioning of a Republic* by author Chloe Chapin. The program will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 11 a.m. at the museum, 31 Rav St., Webster.

Samuel Slater and Daniel Webster were towering figures in nineteenth-century America, united by friendship, a Massachusetts town, and a textile revolution. While Slater is famous for his cotton mill in Rhode Island, he also helped establish America's first woolen mills in Webster, Massachusetts. Slater's friend Daniel Webster was not a handsome man, but boy did he love to have his portrait painted. Images of Webster show he was a very fashionable dresser, dressing in the most current fashions for suits. In this talk, dress historian and former Broadway costumer Chloe Chapin uses these two men

to tell the story of American industry and men's fashion. She will explore how the rise of factory-produced cottons and wools allowed American statesmen to project power, civility, and republican equality through the dark, tailored suit. Drawing from her new book, *Suitable*, Chaplin reveals how the mills of New England wove the fabric of the modern man.

This talk is free hosted at the Samuel Slater Experience in Webster. The talk will be approximately one hour, followed by a short Q&A session and opportunity for book signing. Copies of Chapin's newly published book, *Suitable*, will be available for purchase at the Samuel Slater Experience shop. Attendees will receive a small discount card to use toward museum admission. Register for this talk by calling 508-461-2955, or emailing admin@samuelslaterexperience.org.

Auburn resident sets out to raise awareness for Frontotemporal Degeneration

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

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

benefit the Frontotemporal Disorders Research Center at UMass Chan Medical School and The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD).

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

Degeneration.

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

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

Girl Scout troops welcome new members

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.

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>

Friday's Child



Jacob
Age 16
Registration #9468

putting them back together. He is currently in the process of fixing his scooter, which is one of his favorite activities. If Jacob could ride his scooter every day, he absolutely would! When he's not out riding, Jacob enjoys a variety of activities that keep him entertained and active. He loves playing video games, listening to rap and hip-hop, playing sports, and going hiking. Jacob enjoys being on the move and having opportunities to explore and try new things. His determination and hands-on nature shine through in the way he approaches projects and hobbies that interest him. With his resilience, sense of humor, and wide range of interests, Jacob is a unique and engaging young man who brings plenty of personality to everything he does.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/54938075946>

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/54938075946>

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.



A huge blessing for Park Avenue Elementary

WEBSTER — UMass Memorial Health — Harrington Hospital recently delivered an assortment of school supplies, including much-needed backpacks, to Park Avenue Elementary for our teachers and students. The school’s faculty and staff could not be more grateful for their generosity.

Amy Puliafico, Principal of Park Avenue Elementary, graciously accepted the generous donation on behalf of the school community.

“This generous donation means so much to our teachers and students. In a community where many families face financial challenges, having these supplies available for our classrooms is a tremendous



blessing. We are incredibly grateful to Harrington Hospital for supporting our school and investing in our children,” exclaimed Amy Puliafico with a smile.

These supplies will go directly into Park Avenue Elementary classrooms and provide valuable resources for teachers and students throughout the school year. The generosity of Harrington Hospital is a wonderful reminder of the impact that community partnerships can have on our children and families.

Courtesy
Harrington Hospital employees hold backpacks with Jess Ochocki (Assistant Principal of PAE) and Amy Puliafico (Principal of PAE).

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Special Events
Mount Wachusett Hiking Guide and History Presentation – Thursday, August 27th at 6:30pm
Join author Matt Landry for an engaging presentation on the trails, stories, and rich history of Mount Wachusett. Based on his book Mount Wachusett Hiking Guide and History, this talk combines a brief overview of the hiking trails, with fascinating local history, offering something for both outdoor enthusiasts and those who simply love the mountain. It’s a meaningful look at one of Massachusetts’ most beloved landmarks, and the many ways it has inspired adventure, community, and connection over the years.

Dustin Pari: The Montauk Project: Stranger than Fiction – Thursday, September 3rd at 6:30pm
This engaging new program explores the enduring legend of the Montauk Project—an alleged series of secret Cold War-era experiments said to involve mind control, psychic research, and inter-dimensional phenomena—and examines how these claims influenced popular culture. Attendees will learn how the original concept for the hit television series Stranger Things was rooted in the so-called “Montauk Project,” before the story was relocated to the fictional town of Hawkins, Indiana. Blending documented history, conspiracy lore, and television storytelling, the program invites participants to consider how government secrecy, 1980s nostalgia, and speculative science converge to create one of modern pop culture’s most compelling mythologies.

Bites, Books, and Blooms: Friends of the Library Annual Fundraiser – Wednesday, September 23rd at 6:00pm
Enjoy local hors d’oeuvres, beverages, music, and books in bloom. A magical night of stunning floral displays inspired by books, plus local food and live music! Proceeds benefit the Friends of the library. This is a ticketed event. You must purchase a ticket to participate.

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

free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Midnight Society Book Group – Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:30pm
Love to read spooky books all year round? Join us for a horror book club where we will meet and discuss a book every month! This month we’re reading The Last House on Needless Street by Catriona Ward.

The Final Frontier Sci-Fi Book Group – Thursday, September 3rd at 6:00pm
Want to explore outer-space from the comfort of your own home? Want to discuss speculative futures? Join Assistant Director Evan Hale for a Sci-Fi Book group where we will look at classic and modern sci-fi titles. This month’s book is Binti by Nnedi Okorafor.
Cookbook Club – Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00pm
Join our cookbook club this month as we cook recipes from the same book. We always have a great time eating and discussing our experiences with the book. We’re reading, cooking from, and discussing Jenn Lueke’s book, Don’t Think About Dinner.

Programming for All Ages
Library for All: 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 – Thursday, September 17th at 6:00pm
Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We’ll have snacks to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. Registration is required.

Goose Returns!! – Saturday, September 26th at 11:00am
Join us in welcoming back our dear friend Goose, the Water Monitor Lizard. Our pals from Rainforest Reptile Shows will be here with Goose to welcome him back to where his lore began.

Children’s and Young Adult Programming
NEW Toddler Storytime – Mondays, 10:30am STARTS on September 14th
Join us every Monday from 10:30–11:30am for a storytime designed

for toddlers and their caregivers! We’ll read stories, sing songs, and enjoy fingerplays together before diving into hands-on sensory free play. Together we’ll build early literacy skills, spark curiosity, and discover the joy of learning through play!

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm
Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces! August’s Theme: Friendship Bracelets! Kids will make their own bracelets to share with family and friends. All creations left behind will be displayed in the Children’s program room for the rest of the

month.
Tiny Groovers –Tuesdays at 10:30am Returns on September 8th!
Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids’ tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm Returns on September 8th!
Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!

We are in the process of selling out some of our current stock to make room for new Fall Models. Because of this, we are offering savings throughout the store!

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BRIDGE

continued from page A1

In June 2021, MassDOT ordered the two-bridge crossing, constructed in 1937, closed when a dry bridge on the Dudley side, known as the Mill Race Bridge, was deemed unsafe. Ruda then launched what became years of appeals to federal and state legislators to secure special funding and grants to reopen the road.

Working with MassDOT and the town’s engineering consultant Tighe & Bond, a plan was developed to install a temporary “Acrow” modular bridge

that has been borrowed from MassDOT until a permanent solution is funded.

Marsi announced in July 2025 that he, Fattman and state Rep. Joseph D. McKenna had secured \$600,000 from the state’s “millionaires’ tax” funds toward the project.

Ruda appealed to MassDOT for the \$758,586 needed to reach \$1.3 million from the FAIR Program. MassDOT responded favorably.

In a March 16 letter, District 3 Highway Director Barry Lorion wrote, “Through the FAIR Program, the community will receive \$758,586 in additional funding beyond

the \$600,000 Fair Share supplemental transportation earmark authorized in December 2025, for a total funding commitment of \$1,358,586.”

At the ribbon cutting, Mr. Lorion said FAIR is a new program that directs state funding toward closed and restricted bridges under local jurisdiction.

The Mill Race Bridge, he said, was the first such use of the funding in Central Massachusetts.

The (FAIR) program is funded by “Fair Share” (millionaire’s tax) revenue to repair, replace, and rehabilitate municipally owned bridges.

“During COVID, Dudley

lost both a vital bridge and its Town playground—one an infrastructure priority, the other a quality-of-life priority. Then, as today, we had more time than money—but we never stopped moving forward,” Ruda said, adding, “Both are now complete: the playground through grant funding and Webster-Dudley-Oxford Chamber fundraising, and the bridge without raising local taxes or sacrificing the Chapter 90 funds our roads depend upon.”

“I am proud of the past and present Town staff who carried these projects forward, and grateful to Rep. John Marsi; Sen. Ryan Fattman; Rep. Joseph

McKenna; MassDOT District 3; Tighe & Bond; Rocchio Construction; and the people of Dudley and Webster. Local government faces the same pressures felt in every household. The road ahead requires support and productive engagement—but these projects prove what we can accomplish when we rise together, sacrifice together and refuse to let difficult challenges divide us,” Ruda said.

Ribbon cutting ceremony speakers included Jeff Faulkner and Dylan Felty of Tighe & Bond and state Rep. Joseph D. McKenna. Also in attendance were Amanda Hellyar from state Sen. Fattman’s office;

Dudley Selectmen Steve Sullivan, Jana Deschenes and Cindy Iwanski; Webster Selectman Elaine Davies; Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda; Assistant TA Olivia Antonson; Town Accountant Sarah Mongeau, and the teams from MassDOT District 3, Tighe & Bond and Roccio Construction. Dudley Police Department was also there to support the event.

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

REVANE

continued from page A1

A four-year starter at midfield and forward between 2014 and 2017, the Dudley, MA native was ranked either first or second on the team each season in goals, assists and points with one exception, when she ranked third in assists as a sophomore in 2015. Nine years after playing her final match, Kallgren remains the all-time leader in points (93) and game-winning goals (9), shares the all-time lead in goals (37) and is second in assists (19) (Kallgren had stood alone atop the all-time goals list until her record was tied by All-Region forward Emma Sanson in the fall of 2025).

Three times chosen to the LEC second team and once to the third team, Kallgren is one of only three players in program history named to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) national Senior Team, when she played in the last NFHCA North-South Senior All-Star Game conducted, in 2017 (the game was discontinued after 2017, although a national Senior Team is still selected by the NFHCA).

Through a commitment to strength and conditioning, Kallgren “was able to build, basically, what we call, a ‘bullet-proof body.’”, says former Eastern strength and conditioning coach

Mike Jones. “She was very durable and able to go out there, game-after-game, and perform. She always had a great work ethic, and she can certainly thank her parents (Duane and De) for that. She already had that work ethic from home, and she applied the work ethic to [the strength and conditioning room].”

Kallgren led the team in points and goals in each of her first two seasons (in 2014 and ’15), with her career-highs of 29 points (equalling the season record at that point) and 12 goals (second-most in a season at that point) in 2015 helping launch the most successful season to that point in program history. With the program managing only

one winning record in its first 17 years, the 2015 club set or tied 12 current team season records in winning 13 of 20 matches

In that 2015 season, the Warriors set season records to that point for overall wins, winning percentage (.650), consecutive wins (six) and LEC wins (8-3 record). Placing fourth in the 12-team conference (its highest finished to that point), the Warriors won twice in the playoffs at home (their first home LEC playoff games in the 18-year history of the championship) over Westfield State University (3-0) and Fitchburg State University (2-1) to stretch their winning streak to six and reach the LEC title game for the first time, where they lost a one-goal road decision.

In that year’s LEC playoffs against Fitchburg, Kallgren set up the tying goal with 20 minutes left when Brianna Passero sent home the rebound of a shot by Kallgren that was saved, and Kallgren’s 12th goal of the year four minutes later proved as the game-winner.

Today, Kallgren stands as one of only four players in program history with as many as two matches of three or more goals. Her first hat trick came against Westfield State in

the LEC opener at home in her fourth career game in mid-September – a 6-1 victory that snapped a nine-game losing streak against the Owls; her second hat trick proved to be the final goals of her career and sparked a 5-4 road win over four-time defending LEC playoff champion Keene State in mid-October of her senior year – the team’s first victory over Keene in 15 years that guaranteed the Warriors of a fourth straight LEC playoff berth (Kallgren assisted on a fourth goal in that match that gave her a career-high seven points, which remain tied for the third-most in a match in program history).

After joining the program as freshmen in the fall of 2014, Kallgren, Katie Jankura and Maddie LaRusso became the first players in program history to qualify for the LEC playoffs in each of their four seasons, with Kallgren and Jankura serving as senior captains in 2017.

In her career, Kallgren appeared in all 72 possible matches (starting all but three) and contributed at least one point in more than half of those matches. Through 2025, Kallgren is the only player in program history with two of the Top 10 scoring seasons and is one of only two play-

ers with two of the Top 10 marks for goals in a season.

Kallgren graduated with a B.S. Degree in Sport Management and currently serves as a health fitness professional. She resides in her hometown with husband Michael and infant daughter Lillian.

MEETING

continued from page A1

to fund the town’s share of Dudley-Charlton Regional School District’s proposed capital borrowing.

The Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee has called a district-wide special election in both Dudley and Charlton seeking voter approval to borrow \$11,183,734 for capital improvements across all seven district schools.

The School District and Town special elections will be held concurrently on September 29. Voters in Dudley will receive two separate ballots. For more information, visit <https://www.dudleyma.gov/m/newsflash/Home/Detail/149>.

Polls will be open for both special elections from noon to 8 p.m. on Sept. 29 at the Dudley Municipal Complex.

ALL SAINTS

continued from page A1

family, bringing even more excitement and energy to our hallways. These early years are an important foundation for a lifelong love of learning, and our youngest students are already beginning to explore, discover, create, and develop the social and academic skills that will help them flourish.

Faith was also at the heart of our opening week. Fr. Javier warmly welcomed students back to school, and Fr. Lucas LaRoche visited

All Saints Academy to bless our school as we begin a new academic year. During this beautiful liturgical rite, Fr. LaRoche sprinkled the school with holy water and offered prayers to sanctify our educational environment.

The prayers invoked Christ to grant peace, assign guardian angels to watch over our school, inspire teachers with wisdom and knowledge, and guide students in virtuous work. In addition to blessing the school building, Fr. LaRoche blessed each classroom, as well as the

gym, nurse’s office, and playground, praying for a year filled with faith, learning, friendship, joy, and God’s blessings.

What a beautiful way to begin the 2026–2027 school year! We are incredibly grateful to Fr. LaRoche and Fr. Javier for their continued prayers and support of our school community, and to the families who entrust their children to our care each day. Together, we look forward to a wonderful year filled with faith, learning, growth, and friendship.

LEGALS

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002710
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
Stefany Beaman
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for Freddie

Mac SLST 2025-2 Participation Interest Trust
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 24 Meadowbrook Road, given by Stefany Beaman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp., dated October 15, 2007, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41960, Page 158, and modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on February 3, 2022, and recorded

with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67059, Page 188 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 attor-

ney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before October 5, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on August 24, 2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
28674
September 4, 2026

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YARD SALE

SATURDAY, SEPT 19TH

Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley

Early Birds (8am to 9am) • \$10.00 per person fee 9am until 3pm FREE

24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY Pick your items and Make an offer! CREDIT CARD ACCEPTED!

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

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, FRIES AND DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE

LEGALS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Worcester Community Action Council, Inc.'s Heating Emergency Assistance Retrofit Task Weatherization Assistance Program is currently accepting proposals for the following activities:

HEATING SYSTEM SERVICE CONTRACTORS: for new installations, cleaning and repair of natural gas and propane furnace/boilers, oil furnaces/boilers, electric baseboard heating systems, solid fuel heating systems, air source heat pumps and heat pump water heaters.

ASBESTOS ABATEMENT CONTRACTORS: for asbestos removal from pipes and boilers, and boiler removal.

CHIMNEY SERVICE CONTRACTORS: for inspections, liner installations/replacements and potential cleanings in conjunction with heating system installations.

RFP packages with complete specifications may be obtained on or after Wednesday, August 26, 2026, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm at: Worcester Community Action Council, Inc. 18 Chestnut St, Suite 500, Worcester, MA 01608

Inquiries may be made by calling (508) 754-1176 Ext. 158. Completed packages must be received at WCAC, Inc., 18 Chestnut St, Suite 500, Worcester MA 01608-1810 no later than 4:30 pm on Friday September 11, 2026.

This advertisement is subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposals. Small, women and minority owned businesses and individuals are encouraged to apply.

WCAC is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Marybeth Campbell, Chief Executive Officer, Worcester Community Action Council

August 28, 2026

September 4, 2026

September 11, 2026

Notice is hereby given by: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on September 25, 2026 at 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571, the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:

Description of vehicles:

Vehicle: 2025 OTH MC Moped

VIN# L2BB6BCH1SB126065

Owner: Mark A Williame, 47 Orchard Hill Dr Bldg C, Oxford, MA 01540

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

September 4, 2026

September 11, 2026

September 18, 2026

Notice is hereby given by School Street Towing 17-31 School St., Webster, MA 01570 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A, that on 12 September 2026 @ 9:00 AM at: 17-31 School St., Webster, MA 01570 by Private Sale

The following motor vehicles will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

Vehicle Description:

Year:2016 Make: Jeep Model: Wrangler Registration#/State: UnReg.

VIN# 1C4BJWDXGL191791

Name and address of vehicle owner: Brian J Lehtola, 7 N Sturbridge Rd., Charlton MA 01507

by: Frank A Czechowski Jr.

Dated: 15Aug2026

Vehicle Description:

Year:2023 Make: VW Model: Jetta

Registration#/State: 6FEG67

VIN# 3VW7M7BU9PM057331

Name and address of vehicle owner: Matthew Whalen, 3 Boyden St Ext Apt 1, Webster, MA 01570

by: Frank A Czechowski Jr.

Dated: 15Aug2026

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A

August 28, 2026

September 4, 2026

September 11, 2026

Public Notice MARICOPA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Petitioner's Name: Christopher Ngari

Mailing Address:

30117 W Welfar Ave

City, State, Zip: Rockeye, AZ 85396

Phone Number: 774-242-6781

Petitioner's Name:

Christopher Ngari

Case Number: FN2026-070585

SUMMONS

Respondent's Name: Nancy Friendsen

THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO :

Nancy Friendsen

YOU ARE SUMMONED and required to appear and defend within the time applicable in this action in this court. If served in Arizona, you shall appear and defend within 20 days of service on you of the Summons and Petition, excluding the day of service. If served outside of Arizona, you shall appear and defend within 30 days of service on you of the Summons and Petition, excluding the day of service. Direct service is complete when made. Service by publication is complete 30 days after the first publication.

If you fail to appear and defend within the time applicable, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition.

In order to appear and defend, you must file a Response in writing with the clerk of this court, accompanied by the necessary filing fee, within the time required, and you must serve a copy of any Response on the Petitioner.

A copy of the pleading being served may be obtained from the Clerk of Superior Court, Maricopa County Courthouse, 201 W Jefferson St, Phoenix, AZ 85003.

Requests for reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities must be made to the court by parties at least three (3) working days in advance of a scheduled court proceeding.

If this is an annulment, divorce, or legal separation, either party can ask the court for counseling or mediation to try to reconcile or to come to agreements about the case outside of court. You can find a form at the Law Library.

Leave this blank. This is for the court to fill in.

SIGNED AND SEALED this date: May 11, 2026

Clerk of Superior Court

Revised May 2024

Clerk of Superior Court

By Deputy Clerk: /s/

September 4, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 10 French River Circle, Oxford, MA 01540

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert M Krawetz and Sarah E Krawetz to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Evolve Bank & Trust, and now held by Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, said mortgage dated February 8, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54921, Page 251, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Evolve Bank & Trust, its successors and assigns to First Guaranty Mortgage Corporation by assignment dated November 19, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 59736, Page 287; said mortgage was assigned from First Guaranty Mortgage Corporation to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment dated June 24, 2024 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 70670, Page 240; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on September 30, 2026 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the westerly side of French River Circle, shown as Lot 12 on a plan entitled "Definitive Plan of French River Estates, Oxford, Massachusetts owned by French River Realty Trust", dated February 8, 1989, as revised, drawn by A. F. Paige Associates, Registered Engineers and Surveyors, Auburn, Massachusetts, recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 627, Plan 73, and bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the westerly side of French River Circle at the north-easterly corner of the herein described premises and at the southeasterly corner of Lot 13 as shown on said plan; THENCE North 83 degrees 55' 09" West by said Lot 13, a distance of 244.24 feet to a point; THENCE South 73 degrees 21' 16" East as shown on said plan, 99.00 feet to a point; THENCE South 08 degrees 08' 44" West as shown on said plan, 115.00 feet to a point at Lot 11; THENCE North 86 degrees 20' 34" East by said Lot 11, a distance of 231.30 feet to a point on the westerly side of French River Circle; THENCE Northwesterly by said French River Circle and by a curve to the left, the radius of whose arc is 150.00 feet, a distance of 125.00 feet to the point of beginning. CONTAINING 21,787 square feet of land, according to said plan. SUBJECT to twenty foot wide drainage and walking easement of which ten feet approximately affects

said premises along the northerly boundary of said premises; and SUBJECT to twenty foot wide walking easement along westerly boundary of said premises, all as shown on said plan. SPECIFICALLY reserving all of the Grantor's right, title and interest in the street and ways as shown on said plan but granting to the Grantees, their heirs, successors and assigns the right to pass and repass over said ways as may be consistent with town ways in the Town of Oxford together with those others legally entitled thereto. The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated January 12, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54921, Page 248.

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

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00)

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC

23 Messenger Street

2nd Floor

Plainville, MA 02762

Attorney for Carrington Mortgage

Services, LLC

Present Holder of the Mortgage

(401) 217-8701

August 28, 2026

September 4, 2026

September 11, 2026

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. WO26P2751 EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate Of:

Ronald M McCann

Date of Death: 05/17/2016

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **David W Mccann of Douglas 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: .

avid W Mccann of Douglas MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Woithout Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: August 21, 2026

Stephanie Fattman,

Register of Probate

September 4, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 26 Perryville Road, Webster, MA 01570-3073

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Virginia D. Gogolinski to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgag-

ee, as nominee for Genworth Financial Home Equity Access, Inc., and now held by **Longbridge Financial, LLC**, said mortgage dated September 28, 2011 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 47914, Page 339, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Genworth Financial Home Equity Access, Inc. to Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. by assignment dated January 25, 2016 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 54873, Page 209; said mortgage was assigned from Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. to Broad Street Funding Trust I by assignment dated August 16, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 59398, Page 330; said mortgage was assigned from Broad Street Funding Trust I to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of RMF Buyout Acquisition Trust 2018-1 by assignment dated June 4, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 60582, Page 143; said mortgage was assigned from Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of RMF Buyout Acquisition Trust 2018-1 to Reverse Mortgage Funding, LLC by assignment dated November 19, 2021 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 66665, Page 378; said mortgage was assigned from Reverse Mortgage Funding, LLC to Longbridge Financial, LLC by assignment dated October 30, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 69944, Page 161; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on October 6, 2026 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon of every nature and description and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in the Town of Webster, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin at the northerly line of Perryville Road fifty three and twenty one hundredths (53.21) feet westerly from a proposed W. C. H. bound point and at land of William H. Sherwood;

Thence N. 18° 16' 28" W. by land of said William H. Sherwood one hundred fifty seven and fifty eight hundredths (157.58) feet to an iron pin; Thence S. 67° 44' 20" W. seventy nine and forty nine hundredths (79.49) feet to an iron pipe; Thence southwesterly one hundred seventy and forty one hundredths (170.41) feet on Goodwin Street, so called, to the northerly line of said Perryville Road; Thence easterly by the northerly line of said Perryville Road one hundred eighty one and sixty five hundredths (181.65) feet to an iron pin and the point of beginning. Less and excepting that parcel that was conveyed to William H. Sherwood in Book 4402 at Page 478 of the Worcester County Registry of Deeds. For Title reference see deed as set forth in Book 6071 at Page 304 of the Worcester County Registry of Deeds.

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 November 18, 1976 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 6071, Page 304.

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 Longbridge Financial,

LLC

Present Holder of the Mortgage

(401) 217-8701

September 4, 2026

September 11, 2026

September 18, 2026

OBITUARIES

Lorraine E. Morin , 87



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Lorraine E. Morin, who left this world peacefully on August 16, 2026, at the age of 87. Lorraine was born on January 26, 1939, in the charming town of Oxford, Massachusetts, to her loving parents, Louis and Edith Ceppetelli. She bravely battled Parkinson's disease with grace and determination until her passing.

Lorraine was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend whose warmth and generosity touched the lives of many. She was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 63 years,

Robert E. Morin; her cherished daughter, Michelle Ablondi; and her dear sisters, Doris Ali and Mary Girardin.

She leaves behind a legacy of love through her surviving family members: daughters Lynn Morin and Jeanine Smith (husband Robert); sons Gary Morin (wife Sharil), Wayne Morin (wife Marilene), and Robert L. Morin (wife Megan). Lorraine was also the proud grandmother of nine wonderful grandchildren, each of whom was a source of immense joy and pride.

A graduate of Bartlett High School, Lorraine pursued a career in business and became a highly respected leader during her tenure at Greater Media Cable TV. Her colleagues admired her strength, wisdom, and leadership, qualities that also made her a beloved mentor to many.

After retiring from Greater Media, she went on to work for the family business, Morin Jewelers and Gifts, where she remained until she was in her 80s. There, she enjoyed making gift baskets and managing the day-to-day aspects of the business alongside her husband and son, Robbie.

Lorraine's commitment to her community was evident through her founding of the

Parent Teacher Association at Saint Anne School, where she also dedicated countless hours as a volunteer. Her passion for helping others and nurturing young minds was a testament to her caring nature.

Lorraine found great joy in life's simple pleasures. She was an enthusiastic fan of football and the Boston Celtics, often spending her Sundays enjoying the games with her late husband, Robert. Her love for gardening was apparent in her pristine yard, where she tended to her flowers with great care. A talented cook, Lorraine delighted in preparing meals for her family and friends, and her kitchen was a place where love and laughter flourished. She also had a passion for travel and collected bells from her various journeys, each one serving as a cherished memory.

Those who knew Lorraine would describe her as kindhearted, generous, and unfailingly caring. Her ability to make everyone feel valued and loved was truly remarkable, and her spirit will continue to inspire all who were fortunate enough to know her.

A memorial Mass to celebrate Lorraine's life will be held on September 17, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, located on East Main Street in Webster, Massachusetts. Lorraine's family kindly requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made in her memory to the Parkinson's Foundation.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to Lorraine's caregivers, whose dedication and compassion provided comfort and support during her final days. Lorraine was a fighter, and her legacy of love and strength will forever remain in our hearts.

May she rest in peace, reunited with those she loved dearly.

Bartel Funeral Home is making the arrangements
www.bartelfuneralhome.com



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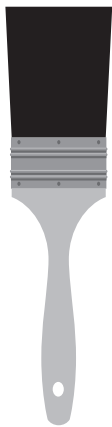
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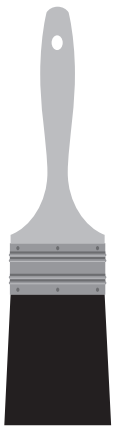
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OXFORD SENIOR CENTER

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

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Email: seniorcenter@oxfordma.us
Web site: www.oxfordma.us
Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center
Monthly CHATTER Newsletter www.oxfordma.us

The senior center will be closed on Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day

Weekly Activities:
Mondays and Fridays at 10:00 am –

Cribbage
Tuesdays from 9:15am – 10:00 am
Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost \$3.00 per class
Wednesdays from 9:15am – 10:15 am
Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost \$3.00 per class
Tuesdays at 10:15 am - Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint)
Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.
Wednesdays from 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm
Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay seated (2) have fun!
Thursdays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Dominoes

Monthly Activities:
Let's Talk Oxford History – 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1pm - Sponsored by the Oxford Historical Commission
Men's Coffee Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:30am – coffee and pastry are served.
Book Club – 1st Friday of each month at 12:45pm – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library
Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month at 12:45pm – September movie is "CODA"
Senior Safety with Oxford Fire/EMS - 3rd Friday of the month at 12:30pm
BEANO – 4th Friday of each month at 12:45pm – arrive by 12:30pm to purchase your BEANO sheets.

Presentations:
Medicare Presentation- ELITE Benefits Advisors will be at the senior center Tuesday, September 15th at 12:30pm. This presentation is to help make sense of upcoming changes in 2027.

Bank Hometown- Representatives will be at the senior center on Tuesday, September 29th at 12:30PM. They will be here to discuss the ID watchdog and also have an announcement about an upcoming name change in October.



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We Want Your Listings!

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



ON DEPOSIT

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

Webster - 18 DiDonato Ave



SORRY, SOLD!

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

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



Open House Saturday 12-2

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

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction- Craftsman Style home



OPEN HOUSE FRIDAY 4 - 6:30
Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lakeside beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 3 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage **MLS # 73534271 \$649,000**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa
Open House Saturday & Sunday 12-2
Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!
Most Luxurious & Largest on the Lake!



Presenting a distinguished condo residence that will provide an exceptional waterfront lifestyle! Offers an expansive 4600 sf+ featuring 4BRs, 4-1/2 baths, 3 frplcs & more, all designed for relaxation & convenience! Nothing quite compares! Priced to Sell.
VIEW REALTOR MLS # 73507605 FOR MORE DETAILS\$999,900.

Featured New Listing!
60 WAKEFIELD AVE



RARE WEBSTER LAKE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY ~ Two (2) Strategic Building Lots with Direct Waterfront Ownership. Discover an unmatched real estate package combining the financial benefits of off-water property taxes with the luxury of premium, direct Webster Lake access. This rare offer features two cleared, build-ready contiguous lots paired with a commanding 2/3 fractional ownership interest in a prime waterfront parcel, complete with a private beach and boat dock. **MLS# 73564208 \$525,000**



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128 Old Southbridge Rd \$640,000

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- * 3 Bedroom
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- *Hardwood Flooring
- *3 Bedroom * Gas Heat
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9 Colonial Rd \$545,000

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Courtesy

Master Masons from across New England gather before the Salem Towne House for a special event marking the 250th anniversary of the nation’s founding. Behind the cannon stands Most Worshipful Timothy S. McGavin, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, holding a white gavel and wearing a colonial hat and purple-and-gold tassel apron, accompanied by his suite. Also pictured in period clothing are members of the Colonial Craftsman Degree Team, cannoneers from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Noble Train Artillery, and members of the Sons of the American Revolution Team.



The cart road and cemetery, lined with tiki torches, with the Meeting House visible just before dusk.



Members of the Noble Train of Artillery fire a Revolutionary War-era cannon in front of the Salem Towne House before the ceremony begins.

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM TOWNE LODGE
SOUTHBRIDGE

STURBRIDGE — On Thursday evening, Aug. 20, Major General Salem Towne Lodge (MGSTL), together with the Colonial Craftsman Club Masonic Degree Team of Massachusetts, held a 3rd Degree ceremony on the common at Old Sturbridge Village (OSV).

The parking area near OSV’s bright blue Security and First Aid building was filled with cars bearing license plates from across New England, reflecting the strong turnout for this special event commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation. A security attendant directed Master Masons to the main OSV common area. Although the evening was warm, cloudy, and muggy, with scattered showers, the weather did not discourage Master Masons from attending and participating in the degree. Brethren from across New England, along with representatives from the Grand Masonic Lodge in Boston, gathered to take part in and witness this historic ceremony.

Master Mason Degree ceremony held at Old Sturbridge Village

MGSTL members and volunteers conducted the special 3rd Degree in front of the Salem Towne House, where Master Masons met 230 years ago.

The Salem Towne House was built in 1796 in Charlton for the Towne family, who were prominent members of the community. It was moved to Old Sturbridge Village in 1952. General Salem Towne was active in local affairs, and both he and his son, Salem Towne, Jr., were Master Masons. A dedicated Mason, General Towne later brought honor to his hometown through his skill and knowledge. According to research from Masonic genealogy, Masonic meetings were held in the Towne family home from about 1796 to 1804, drawing Master Masons from surrounding communities.

MGSTL members and volunteers set up part of the OSV common in front of the Salem Towne House with tiki torches, illuminating the area and recreating the atmosphere experienced by Master Masons of that period. MGSTL also provided pop-up tents for shelter in the event of heavy rain. As part of the special degree, cannoneers from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts Noble Train Artillery fired a Revolutionary War-era cannon, accompanied by a musket volley from the Sons of the American Revolution musket team. Before the 3rd Degree work began, dinner was served at the nearby Bullard Tavern and enjoyed by those in attendance.

The degree included several unusual and memorable elements, including a wagon and cemetery scene. The walk to the cemetery was eerie yet exciting, with tiki torches providing the only light along the cart road. The final portion of the degree was completed inside the nearby Meeting House. With its soaring steeple, large front pillars, traditional pews, echoing acoustics, and creaking floorboards, the building captured the feel of an old New England meeting house and helped transport attendees back in time. One Master Mason called it one of the most memorable ceremonies he had ever witnessed, noting that the execution and atmosphere could not have been better. From the cannon and musket fire and chiming steeple bell to the candlelit tiki torches and illuminated cemetery, every detail added to a hauntingly beautiful and historically fitting setting. We extend our sincere appreciation to Brother Sean LeBlanc of Major General Salem Towne Lodge for leading and coordinating this outstanding event, and to all the Master Masons who volunteered and participated in this special degree. Special thanks also go to Sandie and Derek Heidemann, Directors of Research, Curatorial, and Preservation at OSV, for their assistance in making this a memorable occasion. For more information about Freemasonry or to find a lodge near you, please visit our official Web site at www.massfreemasonry.org.

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Most Worshipful Timothy S. McGavin, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, fires one of the cannon volleys that opened the ceremony.