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# Auburn News

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Friday, July 18, 2025

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## School Committee issues response to letter from Charlton selectmen

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

CHARLTON — The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee has issued a unified decision refusing to issue a letter at the request of the Charlton Select Board to condemn antisemitism and hate, adding a new chapter to the ongoing debate between the elected bodies.

In June, the Select Board voted 4-1 to send a letter to the School Committee requesting that they issue a public statement condemning hate and antisemitism. The letter was the culmination of a months-long back and forth dating to early March regarding concerns brought forth by Charlton Selectman David Singer who has made several public attempts to procure an official statement from school officials. Representatives of the School Committee have consistently stated that their stance against hate and antisemitism has been made clear in the student and staff handbooks, as well as district policies. The committee acknowledged the letter from the Select Board during a meeting on July 10, and decided in a unanimous vote not to issue an official written statement. Several members of the committee and the superintendent made their own verbal responses on the record concerning the Select Board’s letter and allegations contained within.

In March, Singer approached the School Committee as a private citizen requesting that the committee issue a written statement denouncing controversial material made available in a member-only page of the MTA for educators to reference when teaching about the ongoing Israel-Hamas War. Singer eventually brought this matter to the Charlton Select Board, first as a citizen and then as a selectman, condemning the committee’s lack of action, the social media content of one of its members – which he deemed antisemitic - and revealing that he had been made aware of unconfirmed incidents of hate within the schools. In June, the selectmen granted his request to issue a formal letter asking, but not requiring, the School Committee to issue a written statement. The School Committee officially addressed the letter for the first time in a public forum on July 10.

After an extensive discussion where several members aired their frustration with the Select Board’s request, the School Committee voted not to respond to the letter in any written capacity. Some members felt that the Select Board acted beyond their reach by making a request to another autonomous elected board. Members were also concerned about the accusations of antisemitism within the hallways, which school officials said there was no evidence of such activity taking place, and that the Select Board was attempting to dictate what material should be used within the schools when there is a procedure and a subcommittee that exists to address those concerns. It was also noted that Singer had only approached the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee and not Bay Path or the Southern Worcester County Education Collaborative (SWEC) about the MTA material.

Superintendent Steven Lamarche issued a verbal statement responding to the Charlton Select Board, which he stressed was not a letter and was not intended to be issued to the selectmen in writing. He read the statement into the record, calling some of the claims “unfounded” and defending the district’s policies and procedures for addressing hate and antisemitism. He also acknowledged Singer’s concerns over reported incidents, which he stated had been investigated. According to Lamarche, there was no evidence that such situations had occurred between students, but that if those incidents did occur the district has a procedure in place to address them.

“I ask that we not allow conjecture to distract from the real work of educating and supporting all students and staff of the Dudley Charlton Regional School District,” said Lamarche. “As a district, we are steadfast in our commitment to uphold the civil rights and liberties of all individuals. We do not and will not tolerate discrimination based on race, color, sex, gender, identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness. These values are not negotiable. They are the fabric of our schools and guide the work we do every day on behalf of the children and families we serve.”

The superintendent added that any incidents should immediately be brought to his office’s attention to allow for timely action and response. He promised to ensure that any credible reports be addressed. He also repeated prior responses to Singer’s concerns about the MTA material that the district’s teachers are guided by their own professional judgement, and that the educators “do not blindly access or use MTA materials.”

The School Committee ultimately arguing that the Superintendent’s words and the district’s own long-standing policies within their handbooks speak for the committee’s position. Several members voiced their own deeper concerns regarding the situation, with some members asking if they should consider seeking a formal apology from Singer or asking the Select Board to redact from their letter implications that a lack of a public statement from the School Committee has led to an increase in acts of hate in the schools.

School Committee Chair Kelly Szela closed the discussion saying that while they may disagree with how the

Turn To **LETTER** page **A1**



Visitors fill the community room in The Pearl L. Crawford Memorial Library to hear some delightful acoustic music, continuing the libraries support of local music.

DUDLEY — The Pearl L. Crawford Memorial Library in Dudley has been a staple of the community for nearly 125 years providing access to resources and programs that have encouraged and inspired a sense of community throughout Dudley. While its current facility on Schofield Avenue has only been a small part of that history, it has helped the library thrive as a cherished asset for current and future generations to enjoy and embrace.

The Pearl L. Crawford Memorial Library celebrated 15 years at its current location on July 10 honoring its longevity and perseverance over the last half-decade that included the addition of new programs, a pandemic, and a budget crisis that closed its doors for a short time. Through it all the community’s appreciation of The Pearl only seems to have grown.

Library Director Nicole Messier said the past year alone has shown a lot of continued support for the library which has consistently solidified itself as a place to socialize, stay informed, find a new book, access online resources, and allow children and adults alike to engage in an increasingly expansive variety of creative activities.

“It’s been a wild year,” said Messier. “The enthusiasm you see in this library trickles down and the community feels that so it’s pretty great to be a part of it. What I love to say most is that it’s all about the people here.”

Longtime Library Trustee Benjamin Craver looked back on the past 15 years and

Turn To **PEARLE** page **A14**

## Dudley names two new officers to police force



New Dudley Police hires Scott Crevier and Jeff Forcier were welcomed by selectmen on July 7.

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department has confirmed the hiring of two new officers bringing in experienced law enforcement personnel to help round out the force.

Officers Scott Crevier and Jeff Forcier, who both most recently served the Sturbridge Police Department and bring a combined amount of more than 45 years of experience to Dudley, were appointed by the Board of Selectmen on July 7 at the request of Police Chief Marek Karłowicz. The board had previously

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## Ocean State Job Lot celebrates grand opening of Auburn store

AUBURN — Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL), the region’s premier discount retail chain with 177 locations across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, celebrated the opening of its newest store in Massachusetts last week with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 416 Southbridge St. in Auburn.

The 43,000 square foot space, formerly home to Big Lots, marks OSJL’s 55th store in the Commonwealth and its tenth in Worcester County.

OSJL executives joined Auburn officials including Interim Town Manager Dori Vecchio, Town Clerk Ginger Buteau, and Economic Development

Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL) Auburn, MA Store Team Leader Alison Altomonte cuts the ribbon at the Auburn store grand opening celebration, along with Representatives from Ocean State Job Lot and the Town of Auburn. This is OSJL’s 55th store in the Commonwealth and its tenth in Worcester County.

Turn To **JOB LOT** page **A14**

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# Auburn and the American Revolutionary War- part 5: Privates Daniel Dodge, Robert Fitts, & Abel Partridge

BY HELEN POIRIER  
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUBURN — Just prior to the publication of a previous article on Colonel Jonah Goulding a Minuteman Burial Marker was installed and dedicated to the four men who fought in the Revolutionary War for the town and are interred at the West Auburn Burial Ground. Jonah got most of the attention being an officer and an important family name in town, but the other Patriots were just as important to the war effort. Besides Jonah, Privates Daniel Dodge and Robert Fitts answered the alarm on April 19, 1775. Private Abel Partridge joined a few years later.

Daniel Dodge was born on Dec. 14, 1760, in Dudley, and died Aug. 21, 1827 in

(Ward) Auburn. He married Elizabeth Parsons on Jan. 26, 1785, in Ward. Elizabeth was born in Palmer July 27, 1765. She died March 5, 1834, in Auburn. They had one child named Betsey, who was born Nov. 27, 1790, in Auburn. She married John Gates Barnard and had 5 children. Betsy died April 23, 1875, in Auburn.

As for Daniel's military record, he was listed in Captain Peter Coburn Company and served with the 11th Massachusetts Bay Provincial Regiment (1775) and served for eight months. This regiment served in the Siege of Boston until it was disbanded. Capt. Coburn commanded a Dracut Company and led them to Lexington on April 19, 1775. Daniel subsequently enlisted on June 26, 1778, for one year starting Jan. 1, in Captain Samuel Lamb's Company, under Colonel Nathaniel Wade's Regiment, and served in Rhode Island.

In 1785 Daniel served the town as a hogreever. He answered calls about hogs that were getting into people's gardens. Daniel's family descendants seemed to have stayed in Auburn well into the 1920s.

Robert Fitts was born in Sutton on March 27, 1757. According to the family story, he lived much of his early life with his uncle Abraham Fitts who was one of the founding families of this town. When Robert was a teenager, he became his uncle's substitute in the Revolutionary War. He was a private in Capt. John Crowl's company of minutemen who marched with Col. Ebenezer Learned's regiment out of Oxford. He marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, and served 10 days. It also seems that he appeared on a list of field officers on the return of Capt. William Campbell's company dated Oct. 7, 1775.

When Robert married Phebe Patch on August 25, 1778, in Oxford he had only the clothes on his back as the family story continues. Phebe was born in May 2, 1759 in Wenham MA and she died in 1842. Her parents were Andrew and Anna Dodge. Robert and Phebe raised 11 children. Robert died in 1831. His tombstone reads: "The sweet remembrance of the just, shall flourish when they sleep in the dust."

Abel Partridge was born in 1765 in Medfield, the son of Abel & Hannah [Cheyney]. He died Oct. 28, 1826, in Ward. In 1801 he married Sarah Stearnes of Medfield. They had two daughters, Betsey, who was born in 1802

and married Isaac Willard, and Polly, born in 1804. According to the 1810 census 4 people were living in his house, one adult female over 44 and two female children under 10. The family doesn't seem to be in the 1820 town census.

Private Partridge enlisted for the town of Ward, June 25, 1779, in Capt. Cole's Company, Colonel Denn's regiment, for nine months. From Feb. 20 – Dec. 31, 1780, he was part of Capt. Wade's Company, Colonel Michael Jackson's 8th regiment. Continental Army. In a descriptive list dated Jan. 7, 1781; Capt. Abner Wade's company, Col. Michael Jackson's 8th regiment it listed Abel as 17 years old, five feet seven inches. Complexion light; hair light; residence of Ward, enlisted February 20 by Lieut. Bancroft at West Point enlistment during the war.

He participated in Shays Rebellion as a Lieutenant in Captain Jonah Goulding's company of Regulators. Though there was a warrant issued for him, he somehow managed to avoid arrest until the collapse of the rebellion. In 1787, special town meetings were held to address the General Court, The Governor and Council and Major-General Lincoln of Worcester on the behalf of all the men convicted of treason and sentenced to hang for their part in the rebellion. Abel did petition the General Court for a pardon on Feb. 7, 1787, and was released on bail in March. Abel had to pay a fine of 100 pounds to the state, and "recognize in 300 pounds to keep the peace for five years." So, he had to behave or lose his money.

It also seemed that Abel had his pension under an act of the House of Representatives on March 18, 1818, but it had been suspended in May of 1820. He had Mr. John Quincy Adams bring to the House of Representative a petition from Abel for a continuation of the pension granted him under the act of the 18th of March 1818. The petition was sent to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions. His annual allowance was \$96, and he had received \$181 by 1820. No record was found as to whether he got his pension reinstated. Abel remained in Auburn until his death in 1826.

Future articles will look at the Revolutionary War soldiers buried in the Center Burial Ground next to the First Congregational Church.

This article is made possible

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

## Roger Williams University announces Spring Dean's List

BRISTOL, R.I. — Select students have been named to the Spring 2025 Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

Brendan Bowles of Auburn  
Shay Carlson of Auburn  
Kayla Conway of Auburn  
Elexa McFadden of Auburn  
Lauren Smith of Auburn  
Brooklyn Bonczyk, of Dudley

About RWU  
Roger Williams University is a comprehensive university with a liberal arts core and professional programs, with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the state capital of Providence, Rhode Island. Across eight schools of study, we provide real-world learning focused on social and environmental justice, small classes, and direct access to faculty and staff. Our students create powerful combinations of degrees, credentials, research and internship opportunities, study-abroad programs, and involvement in clubs, student organizations, and athletics. Our Northeast location facilitates a strategic network between New York and Boston for community-engaged research and career opportunities for our students and alumni. Graduating with a unique skill set and the passion to make an impact in their careers, our students become the changemakers and leaders our world needs next.

## Roger Williams University announces 2025 graduates

BRISTOL, R.I. — The following students received their degrees in May as part of the Class of 2025.

Brendan Bowles of Auburn  
Shay Carlson of Auburn  
Kayla Conway of Auburn  
Elexa McFadden of Auburn  
Christina Winsky of Oxford

### About RWU

Roger Williams University is a comprehensive university with a liberal arts core and professional programs, with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the state capital of Providence, Rhode Island. Across eight schools of study, we provide real-world learning focused on social and environmental justice, small classes, and direct access to faculty and staff. Our students create powerful combinations of degrees, credentials, research and internship opportunities, study-abroad programs, and involvement in clubs, student organizations, and athletics. Our Northeast location facilitates a strategic network between New York and Boston for community-engaged research and career opportunities for our students and alumni. Graduating with a unique skill set and the passion to make an impact in their careers, our students become the changemakers and leaders our world needs next.

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### Mount Zion & Lakeside Cemetery Shrubs/Bushes/Tree Removal

The Town of Webster asks citizens to help respect and preserve the memorial space so it is visibly pleasant.

Starting in July 2025 until completed the Town of Webster Cemetery Department will be conducting of removal of all overgrown bushes/shrubs/trees larger than the monument and or growing onto other lots.

The town cemetery staff will remove shrubs/bushes/trees in an effort to secure, safeguard, dignity, and aesthetics of the memorial gravesite.

### Planting of bushes/shrubs/trees are no longer acceptable.

The Town of Webster will be conducting a cleanup program twice a year in April & October. This will include items not in compliance with our rules & regulations.

The Town would also like to remind all citizens of the cemetery rules & regulations, which are located on the website at www.webster-ma.gov. Any questions or concerns please contact the Highway/Cemetery Department at 508.949.3862 ext. 1041.

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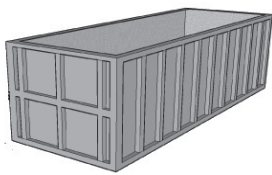
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**Adult Programming**  
Yoga – Tuesdays at 6 p.m.  
Join Julie or Lauren at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Yoga Nidr – Wednesday Mornings at 8:15 a.m.  
Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidr practice to start your day on Wednesdays. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position for a guided relaxation (yoga nidr ). If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing. This program takes place before the library officially opens. Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door:

Library for All – First Two Mondays; Last Two Fridays 10 a.m. (Chair Yoga or Craft)  
This program includes one chair yoga class and one craft project that will be held on first two Mondays and the last two Fridays of the month. Either join Jess for a one-hour relaxing Chair Yoga class or join us for our craft program. Check the online calendar to see which event is scheduled. No experience necessary. This program is for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please call ahead if special accommodations or requirements are needed.

The Nest: Local Success Stories with Mary Anne Fontaine from Empire Travel – Monday, July 21st at 6:00pm

Mary Anne Fontaine brings a rare blend of deep travel expertise and local community connection. Mary Anne began her travel journey at Empire Travel in 1989. Since then and through many changes, the agency has adapted to the new travel norms. Mary Anne and her team continue to strive to create unique experiences within all budgets. Her presentation at the nest will feature her story as a business owner in an industry that is ever-changing and stories from the road that inspire wanderlust and community connection.

Houseplants 101 – Tuesday, July 22nd at 6:30pm  
Grow houseplants to make you happy, clean your air and beautify your home. We will review several of the easiest plants to grow and will also learn to identify common plant-growing problems.

Genre Book Group: Nonfiction – Thursday, July 24th at 6:00pm  
Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for our Genre Book Group. Each month we'll read a different genre. July's genre is nonfiction. We'll be reading the Small and the Mighty: Twelve Unsung Americans who Changed the Course of History, from the Founding to the Civil Rights Movement by Sharon McMahon. Copies are always available at the circulation desk.

Adult Book Group – Monday, July 28th at 6:30pm  
Join the Adult Book Group this month for Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books by Kirsten Miller. Copies are always available at the circulation desk.

E for All: Smart Goals Workshop – Monday, July 28th at 6:00pm  
Join E for All for a SMART goals workshop in Spanish. SMART goals help you work more efficiently and get more done with your time!

Trivia Palooza 2 – Tuesday, July 29th at 6:00pm  
Join Evan and Jess for General Knowledge Trivia. Assemble your team (up to 5 people) and put your thinking caps on! Registration is required. The winning team gets a prize!

Crafts with Kate: Creative Correspondence – Thursday, July 31st at 6:30pm  
In this class from Creative Bug, Kate and your video instructor will guide you through making

unique postcards, addressing envelopes decoratively, and trying out wax seals. Kate's enthusiasm for written correspondence will leave you inspired and you'll go home with at least one unique piece of mail. This program is for adults and teens. Registration is required.

**Programming for All Ages**  
Puzz Fest – Thursday, July 24th at 6:00pm  
Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us in the Community Room to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We'll have snacks to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. All teams will get to keep their puzzle.

**Children's and Young Adult Programming**  
Summer Eats – Mondays – Thursdays July 9th-August 14th from 12:00-1:00pm  
A totally free-of-charge program that provides free meals to all kids and teens, ages 18 and under, at locations all across Massachusetts during the summer months. Held on the Library Lawn. All kids and teens eat for free.

Maker Mondays – Mondays from 3:30-4:30 PM  
Feeling artistic? We will have a variety of craft materials available to put your creativity to the test!

Toddler Playtime--- Tuesdays at 10:00 AM  
Kids 0 to 6 are invited to get their wiggles out with weekly obstacle course and fun.

Mini Block Party – Tuesdays from 3:30-5:00PM  
Play with magnets, wooden blocks, and Legos.

Kim the LEGO Lady – Tuesdays at 4pm  
Do you love building, creating, and having fun with LEGO? Look no further! Kim the Lego Lady is here and we want YOU to be part of our LEGO CLUB adventure. Join us for interactive building challenges, new skills and create fabulous imaginative builds. For Ages 5-11.

Friendship Bracelets – Wednesdays at 11AM  
Grab your bestie and come make beaded bracelets in the children's program room. This is a self-guided program, all materials are provided. Ages 8 and up.

Nintendo Switch for Tweens and Teens – Thursdays, 2-4pm  
Teens and tweens are invited to play games on our Nintendo Switch.

Outdoor Messy Play – Thursdays, 3:30-4:30pm  
Outdoor Messy Play is back! We supply the messy materials for your children to play with, along with a hose for washing off outside afterwards! This program is extremely messy, please dress in something you don't mind getting dirty or stained.

Play-doh Storytime – Fridays at 10AM  
Join Youth Services Librarian Andrew for stories, play-doh, and fun! This storytime is geared toward ages 2 to 5, but siblings are welcome.

Beginner Origami-Fridays at 3:45PM  
Are you interested in making origami, but you don't know where to start? You can start here. And if you do know how to make some origami, feel free to come make some as well. For kids of all ages.

JJK's Summah Readin' Roadtrip – Tuesday, July 17th at 6:00pm  
The author of the Lunch Lady series, the Star Wars Academy series, and more, is coming to the Webster Library to give an author talk and live drawing session! Dive into Jarrett Krosoczka's creative process and the journey of bringing stories to life! Watch the magic happen as Jarrett illustrates characters from his beloved books and offers cartooning tips! Attendees are invited to get extra insights into the world of graphic novels.

Mr. Vinny the Bubble Guy – Friday, July 18th at 4:00pm  
Using giant homemade bubble wands, a sound system full of music, and a lot of funny family entertainment experience, Mr. Vinny gets kids of all ages and adults involved in bubble chasing games.

Mobile Quest Adventures: Green Screen Movie Magic – Monday, July 21st at 3:00pm  
Future Spielbergs take to the green screen to create postcards, commercials, and mini-movies. They could find themselves walking on the moon, riding a rollercoaster, or in the middle of their favorite movie. Mobile Quest Adventures provides the green screen, camera, and props. The participants provide the creativity. For ages 8 and up. Registration is required.

Wingmasters: Birds of Prey – Monday July 21st at 10:00am

Birds of prey are also known as raptors, and they are hunting birds characterized by hooked beaks and powerful grabbing feet armed with sharp talons. This program is designed to explain predation, the birds; place at the top of the food web, their different hunting adaptations and their status in a rapidly changing world. This program is for ages 7 and up. Please no video recording.

Kulina Folk Art : By the Sea Soap Workshop – Tuesday, July 22nd at 3:00pm

Join us as we explore the world of soap creation using glycerin based soap. Our process eliminates the need for traditional soap making techniques because we won't be using lye. Each participant will have the opportunity to craft their own unique and fragrant soapy creation. Dive into the immersive experience, as we work together to embed white soap sea shells into the colored soap, creating a whimsical element. At the end of the workshop, you will have a 4.50 oz. soap. Let your creativity shine as you design your own personalized soap masterpiece! Registration is required.

Wiggles and Giggles for Littles – Wednesday, July 23rd and 30th at 10:00am

Come sing, dance, and make music with Lainey Hanlon! For Ages 6-23 months and their caregivers.

Wiggles and Giggles – Wednesday, July 23rd and 30th at 10:30am

Children ages 2-5, with a parent/caregiver, will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm and listen to stories with music teacher, Laine Hanlon.

Ants on a Log Musical Performance – Thursday, July 24th at 10:00am

Ants on a Log plays music for children and other childlike people. Their award-winning music centers positivity, social justice, and silliness. Full of humor and harmony, Ants concerts are energetic, interactive, and a delight for children and adults.

Firefly Fields Mobile Petting Zoo – Monday, July 28th at 10:00am

From adorable bunnies and fluffy chicks to gentle goats and friendly ponies, the Firefly Fields traveling farm is a fascinating world of discovery and hands-on interaction. You will have the opportunity to pet, feed, and learn about the animals under the guidance of experienced staff.

Laser Tag for Teens – Monday, July 28th at 6:00pm

Up to 20 participants ages 12-18 may take part in an outdoor laser tag match. Sneakers and shoes are required. No flip flops. As a lot of running is required, participants with conditions such as asthma must have proper medication at all times.

Zozo's Balloon Twisting Workshop – Tuesday, July 29th at 3:00pm

Join Zozo the Clown on July 29th for a fun and interactive balloon twisting workshop! This hands-on session is a perfect introduction to the basics of balloon sculpture for kids ages 8 and up. Participants will learn how to make a dog, a sword, and a flower, and take home their very own balloon creations!

## WEBSTER POLICE

### LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of June 29 to July 5.

A 20-year-old male and 19-year-old female from Webster both received a summons in lieu of arrest on June 29 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Dallas J. Sewall, age 30, of Webster was arrested on June 30 for Disorderly Conduct.

Damien Nicholas Nowak, age 25, of Worcester was arrested on July 2 for Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, and Resisting Arrest.

**For Advertising Information**  
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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  
Website: www.oxfordma.us  
Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center

Lunches are served on Tuesdays and Fridays @ 11:45 am. Meals are prepared by our in-house cook! Please call at least 48 hours in advance to reserve a lunch or come in and sign up. DINE IN for \$5.00 and TAKE OUT for \$6.00. (suggested donation) All meals come with a beverage and dessert.

Weekly Activities:  
Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 am – Cribbage  
Tuesdays @ 9:15am – Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost \$3.00 per class  
Wednesdays @ 9:15am – Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost \$3.00 per class  
Tuesdays and Wednesday @ 10:15 am - Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint)  
Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.  
Wednesdays @ 1:00 pm – Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay seated (2) have fun!  
Thursdays @ 10:00 am – Dominoes  
Fridays @ 9:00 am – Walking Club (weather permitting) Wear your comfy shoes and meet at the senior center.

Monthly Activities:  
Let’s Talk Oxford History – 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1pm - Sponsored by the Oxford Historical Commission  
Blood Pressure Clinic – 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 10:30 am  
Men’s Coffee Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30am – coffee and pastry are served.  
Tri-Valley Inc. Options Counseling - 3rd Tuesday of each month from 12:30pm – 2:30pm. By appointment.  
SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) – 3rd Wednesday of each month. By appointment.  
Book Club – 1st Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library  
Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month @12:45  
BEANO – 4th Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – arrive by 12:30pm to purchase your BEANO sheets.

BUS TRIP:  
Red Apple Farm, Smith’s Country Cheese, and lunch @ The Inn at East Hill Farm – September 11th \$129 pp. Spots are still available for this taste of New England day trip at a great price! Call 508-987-6000 or stop at the senior center to get more information and to sign up.

## DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the month of June.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on June 8 for Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering into a Building and Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order.

Dorothy Murzycki, age 55, of Dudley was arrested on June 10 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor) and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Jared M. Paquette, age 32, of Oxford was arrested on June 12 for Operating Under the Influence (liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, driving at a rate of speed exceeding the posted limit, and multiple counts of Carrying a Firearm while Intoxicated.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on June 12 for Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order, Disorderly Conduct, and Assault & Battery on a Police Officer.

Derick E. Brock, age 40, of Dudley was arrested on June 13 for Assault & Battery on a person over the age of 60 and/or Disabled, Assault & Battery resulting in Serious Bodily Injury, Resisting Arrest, and multiple counts of Assault & Battery on a Police Officer.

Jeffrey Peter Devault, age 56, of Dudley was arrested on June 17 in connection with multiple warrants.

Daniel Durda, age 20, of Dudley was arrested on June 30 as a Fugitive From Justice on a Court issued Warrant.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



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# Webster Senior Center

5 Church St.  
(508) 949-3845  
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov  
Senior Center hours are Monday- Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., with one Thursday a month 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least two business days in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation for 65 and up, and \$5 for 55- 64 is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread, and fruit or dessert. This week’s menu: Tuesday, 7/22: Banh Mi pork riblet sandwich, carrots, coleslaw, cinnamon pears. Wednesday, 7/23: Chicken veggie stir-fry, rice pilaf, summer corn, fresh fruit. Thursday, 7/24: Beef bourguignon, garlic mashed potatoes, roasted broccoli and carrots, birthday cake. Friday, 7/15: Soup du Jour, roast beef sandwiches, bean salad, yogurt.

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

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

We are now offering MOVIE MATINEES every Wednesday at 1:00 pm! Popcorn is provided, no registration is needed. July movies include: Please Don’t Eat the Daisies on July 23rd, and The Goodbye Girl on July 30th.

Are you ready for Christmas in July? Come celebrate on Friday, July 25th with the Friends of the Webster Senior Center! There’ll be cookies, ice cream,

and a sing-along event with Roger Tincknell!

A representative from Mass Advantage will be visiting the senior center on Thursday, July 24th at 10:00 am. Come stop by to learn more about Mass Advantage Medicare plan options.

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

Knitting/Crochet group meets on Mondays from 10:00 am- 12:00 pm.

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

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

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

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

Calling all bridge players! Are you looking to spend an afternoon playing Bridge? We’re looking to get a group together! If you’re interested, please leave your name and number with the front desk. Once we have enough sign-ups, we’ll see what day works best for everyone!

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

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

## Local YA author to visit The Pearle

DUDLEY — On Thursday, July 31 from 6-7 p.m., join us in welcoming Dudley author, Maggie Montville, for her first book launch celebration. She will be reading an excerpt from her novel, “The Sideshow.” Refreshments will be served, and copies of the book will be available for purchase.

“The Sideshow” is a genre bender incorporating history, mystery, and suspense into a story filled with dynamic characters and clever tie-ins to the poetry of Edgar Allen Poe and other “easter eggs” referencing well-known pieces of literature. The setting of the book is a 1920s traveling circus, and the plot contains multiple twists and turns guaranteed to keep the reader on the edge of their seat.

Maggie Montville is an up-and-coming author who has just released her debut novel, “The Sideshow.” When Maggie is not writing, she enjoys acting in local theater productions, singing, and performing as a character actress at children’s parties across New England.

This program is free and open to the public. Registration is not required. This program is funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library. & he Hu

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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Hhaving a pet might just save your life

There’s nothing like coming home to someone who’s actually happy to see you. Not out of obligation, not because they want something, just pure, tail-wagging joy that you exist. That’s what a dog gives you. That’s what any pet can give you, really. They don’t need you to have your life figured out. They just want to be near you.

Lately, we have been thinking a lot about how much pets do for us. Without fanfare, especially when life’s been heavy.

If you have ever gone through a hard time, grief, illness or heart-break, you know what I mean. There’s this moment when the people fade out a bit. They get busy, they don’t know what to say, they pull away. But the dog? The cat? They stay. They sit right beside you when you’re too tired to talk. They follow you from room to room like your little emotional support shadow. They just know.

Having a pet means someone’s always keeping watch. Someone’s listening to the silence with you. Someone’s there when the world doesn’t make sense.

They remind you to take a walk. To go outside and to get up. To feed them, which sometimes is the only reason you feed yourself. They force you into a rhythm when everything feels offbeat. Plus, they make you laugh, even when you think you forgot how.

There is a kind of healing that comes from being needed in the most simple, unconditional way. Pets don’t care what your job title is or whether your life is falling apart. They just want to sit beside you on the couch and maybe steal your blanket.

And science backs it up! Petting a dog or cat has been shown to lower cortisol (the stress hormone) and raise oxytocin, the same hormone that helps us bond with other people. Just spending time with a pet can lower blood pressure, ease anxiety, and even reduce feelings of loneliness. Some studies show that dog owners, in particular, are more likely to reach recommended physical activity levels, just from walking their dog.

So no, they are not just pets. They are therapy. They are family. They are the ones who show up every day and ask for nothing but your presence.

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.

VIEWPOINT

Diversity and inclusion

“There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Gal. 3:28) The Apostle Paul offers this radical and transformative statement about diversity and unity in his powerful letter to the Galatians.

In these few words, St. Paul obliterates the human divisions and hierarchies of his time—ethnic, social, and gender-based—and lays out the Christian vision of radical unity. In Jesus Christ, all are one. This is not an erasure of our differences, but the sanctification of our diversity in the harmony of divine love.

In today’s world, the language of “diversity, equity, and inclusion” have become politicized. But we must not let political confusion rob us of a deep Christian truth - that every human being made in the image and likeness of God is worthy of love, dignity, and full participation in the life of Christ and His Church.

The Church is not a museum of the perfect or a club for an elite minority. It is, as the Fathers have taught us, a spiritual hospital for the broken. And who among us is not broken in some way? Whether our wounds are visible or hidden, physical or emotional, neurological or spiritual - we all carry wounds. And it is precisely in our weaknesses, as St. Paul says, that the power of Christ is made perfect.

The Church proclaims a vision of inclusion that is not sentimental. It is incarnational. Christ did not avoid the outcast, the diseased, the marginalized, or those who are different from ourselves. He embraced the leper, dined with tax collectors, touched the blind, reached out to those outside of Israel, and listened to the cries of people ignored by society. He became one with them. Then He commanded His followers, and now us, “As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

Harriet Fradellos, a dear parishioner of our Church and a mother of a child with special needs, has courageously faced overwhelming challenges, and allowed her challenges to lead to transformation. In our Church’s July issue of “The Light,” she writes of how autism, though terrifying at first, became a kind of spiritual exercise - one that brought her to her knees and closer to God. Her words echo the deep truth that many of us experience: that our greatest hardships can also become the very places where God meets us.

Harriet reflected on her recent experience at Hellenic College Holy Cross’ Huffington Ecumenical Institute’s special conference “On Behalf of All” where she attended a three-day groundbreaking “Disabilities, Accessibility, & Inclusion Workshop” in the Orthodox Church. There, she witnessed our Greek Orthodox hierarchs, clergy and lay leaders listening deeply to families like hers - families who often feel unseen or mis-



BEYOND THE PEWS

• • • • •

By FR. LUKE A. VERONIS  
SAINTS  
CONSTANTINE  
AND HELEN  
GREEK  
ORTHODOX  
CHURCH,  
WEBSTER

understood, who have learned to navigate stares and silence with grace and resilience. They discussed simple but meaningful changes churches need to make to help all people feel welcomed and comfortable. We need to cultivate a culture of belonging.

Her words reminded me that true inclusion is not just about ramps and handicapped restrooms. It is more about relationships. It is about love. It is about seeing Christ in each person. It is about welcoming people where they are at. Harriet wrote, “When we can’t change who we are or how we show up in the world, and others don’t want to be confronted with such differences, the impulse is to look away. But we all need each other. All of us make up the body of Christ.”

This is what Christian inclusion looks like. It looks like Jesus opening His arms to the thief on the cross. It looks like the early Church welcoming slaves, Gentiles, and women as full members of the Body of Christ. It looks like saints such as Saint Moses the Ethiopian, Saint Mary of Egypt, and Saint Maria of Paris—each different in background and brokenness yet made whole in God.

It also looks like us—our churches—learning to become more like Christ. Learning to see not with the eyes of fear, discomfort, or judgment, but with the eyes of love.

Can we become a Church where no one is “othered,” where everyone knows they belong, where even weakness is honored because it makes space for God’s grace?

In the end, diversity is not a political slogan. It is a Eucharistic reality. The Church is the one place on earth where people from all walks of life kneel side by side, receive the same holy Body and Blood of our Lord in the Eucharist, and are united into the one Body of Christ through our repentance and transformed life.

And so I ask, “What will our parishes look like if we take this calling seriously? Will we be a place of hospitality and welcome or a place of judgement and exclusion? Will we listen to the marginalized among us, or remain comfortably blind?”

As Harriet beautifully put it: “Autism exercised my spiritual being and created an unshakeable foundation... ‘My strength is made perfect in weakness.’” Let that be the heartbeat of our community.

Let us open our hearts, open our churches, open our fellowship to everyone. In doing so, we don’t dilute the Gospel. We fulfill it.

Remember, “There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for we are one in Jesus Christ!”

Quantum field!

Imagine if you were shrunk down to the size of a molecular particle. You wouldn’t see walls, chairs, or solid objects anymore; you’d see millions of other particles flying around, darting in every direction. It might look a bit like the inside of a Champagne glass—millions of tiny bubbles, jittering, popping, shimmering in and out of view all around you at the quantum level.

What you’re seeing at this microscopic level isn’t just a bunch of particles—it’s the pixelated foundation of reality, like the tiny dots that make up an image on a screen. Up close, you’d see individual pixels—red, green, or blue lights—but when you zoom out, they blend into the full picture. In the same way, these particles are the smallest “dots” that build everything you see in the world around you.

Every type of particle comes from its own field. There’s an electron field, a photon field, and a quark field—These fields overlap and interact with one another constantly, forming a unified foundation to everything. Together, they make up what scientists call the

Quantum Field—a single, connected fabric made from many invisible layers.

The Quantum Field isn’t something “out there” in deep space. It’s right here. It’s the invisible fabric reality is made from—and you are made from it, too.

Your body, your brain, and even your thoughts are built from particles that rise up from these fields. Every atom in you—carbon, calcium, oxygen—comes from ripples in those same invisible fields.

How do we know?

In 1801, physicist Thomas Young ran a simple experiment with light. He shined it through a single slit, then through two narrow slits, and observed the pattern it made on a screen behind.

If light behaved like tiny particles—like little bullets flying through the slits—he would’ve seen just two bright spots. Instead, he saw something strange: a series of bright and dark bands.

This experiment became one of the first major clues that light

behaves like a wave.

Years later, with the rise of quantum mechanics, scientists ran a modern version of the same test—not with beams of light, but with individual particles, like electrons.

They fired these electrons, one at a time, like bullets from a gun, through the two slits, and something unexpected happened.

When no one was watching, the electrons didn’t behave like particles at all. Instead, they landed on the wall behind in a wave pattern—just like Young’s light. It was as if each single electron somehow went through both slits at once.

How did the scientists figure this out?

They tracked where each electron landed. And over time, instead of forming two neat lines, the electrons built up a pattern of light and dark bands—the unmistakable fingerprint of wave behavior.

But then came the twist.

When scientists watched the particles

Home Remedies for Sunburn



TAKE THE HINT

KAREN TRAINOR

Summer is officially here, and the sunny season promises exciting outdoor activities, as well as direct exposure to the sun’s rays. If your “hot fun in the summertime” included getting burned, read on - these sunburn tips can take the heat off.

Everyone knows overexposure to the sun is dangerous. Not only does a sunburn dehydrate your skin, break down collagen and provoke wrinkles, just one blistering sunburn doubles the likelihood of developing malignant melanoma. The golden rule to treating a sunburn is to avoid applying lotions or creams that can hold in the heat, for the first 48 hours. Aloe Vera may be applied during that time. Here are some more ways to combat the common seasonal malady:

Cool milk compresses take the heat off a sunburn. Simply soak cheesecloth in whole milk and lay compress over skin. Reapply as necessary.

The tannins in black tea will also help soothe a sunburn. Simply pat the soreskin with wet teabags for almost instant relief.

White vinegar has long been used to relieve sunburn pain. Just mix two tablespoons of white vinegar in one half cup water and dab on burned area with a soft cloth as often as needed.

Or apply plain yogurt to the skin, then add some cold water and smooth on skin.

Sunburn sprays are handy to tote with you while you are suffering the after effects of a sunburn. There’s no need to spend big bucks on commercial mists when there are many effective sprays you can make yourself.

Here are some to try:

Super Sunburn Spray: Mix together liquid aloe vera (sometimes called aloe vera juice, available at health stores); with half as much liquid Vitamin E and a few drops of lavender essential oil. Pour into a spray bottle and lightly mist the body.

Cucumber Sunburn Lotion is another cool cure for sore skin: To make, squeeze the juice from one chopped cucumber (use a juicer) and mix with one quarter cup each glycerin and rosewater.

This Cooling Sunburn Mist is quick and easy to whip up. Mix together two ounces distilled water; nine drops of lavender essential oil; two drops of peppermint essential oil; and one drop of spearmint essential oil. The lavender has antibacterial properties and the mint oils cool off skin fast.

This recipe relieves the pain and tightness of a sunburn almost instantly: Sunburn Bath: In a blender, puree one cucumber and pour into a bowl. Add four cups oatmeal, ten black tea bags and two tablespoons rosemary leaves and mix well. Pour mixture into bath under running water. Take a long, relieving soak.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month (or whenever enough submissions are received) will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I’m in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I’m counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, c/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.



# Harvest garlic and replant with quick-maturing vegetables

Get the best flavor and longest storage life from your homegrown garlic with proper harvesting, curing and storage. Then fill that space with a quick-maturing vegetable for a tasty fall harvest.

Harvest garlic when approximately one third, but less than half of the leaves turn brown. Start by digging one plant to check the garlic for maturity. Cloves should be plump and fill the skin.

Immature garlic does not store well, while over-mature bulbs are more subject to disease. Don't discard but rather use immature garlic as soon as possible.

Cure the garlic you plan to store for three to four weeks in a warm, well-ventilated location. Once dried, remove soil, long roots and only the damaged outermost layer of papery skin with a brush of your gloved hand. Cut off the tops being careful not to damage the papery covering that protects the cloves.

Store the garlic in a cool location with good air circulation and out of



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

direct sunlight to prevent resprouting. Properly harvested and cured garlic will last for up to eight months.

Garlic can also be frozen. Place the whole bulb, individual cloves, or peeled, chopped cloves in a single layer in a plastic freezer bag. Use frozen garlic to flavor your favorite recipes within three to four months for the best flavor.

Once harvested, prepare the area for another planting. Spread a layer of compost over the area or incorporate an inch of compost into the top six inches of soil and fertilize if needed.

Calculate the number of frost-free days remaining in your growing season. Simply count the number of days from planting to the date of the average first fall frost

in your area. Select and plant vegetable seeds and transplants that will be ready to harvest before the first killing frost in fall. Check the back of the seed packet or plant tag for the number of days from planting to harvest. If there is enough time for the summer planting to grow and produce before the first killing frost, they can be added to the garden. Or extend the season with cold frames and floating row covers to protect plantings as needed from killing frost.

Depending on the variety, cucumbers and bush beans are ready to harvest in as few as 60 days. Enjoy great flavor from summer plantings of broccoli and cabbage transplants harvested during the cooler months of fall. Sow seeds of radishes, beets, carrots and other quick-maturing vegetables for a fall harvest.

Once your seeds and transplants are in the ground, be sure to water properly. Keep the seedbed and roots of transplants moist for the first few weeks. Gradually



Melinda Myers

Garlic is ready to be harvested when the cloves are plump and fill the skin.

reduce watering frequency as seedlings sprout and grow and transplants become established. Help keep the soil cool by mulching plantings with shredded leaves, evergreen needles or other organic mulch.

Enjoy the rewards of all your planning, planting and care with bounti-

ful harvests now through the end of the season.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"

instant video series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## Delaney Kudron of Oxford graduates from Eastern Connecticut State University

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. — More than 800 Eastern Connecticut State University students received undergraduate and graduate-level degrees in the 2024-25 academic year, which culminated this past May with two commencement ceremonies at the conclusion of the spring 2025 semester.

Delaney Kudron of Oxford graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Social Science.

From first-generation college students to seasoned professionals pursuing advanced degrees, the graduates reflected the breadth and diversity of Eastern's public liberal arts mission. They ranged in age from 20 to 72, representing nearly all of Connecticut's 169 towns, 19 other U.S. states, and more than 30 foreign countries.

The graduates went through the University's School of Arts and Sciences, School of Education and Professional Studies, and Graduate Division. Popular undergraduate majors included business administration, psychology, health sciences, sociology, and communication. At the graduate level, degrees were awarded in fields such as accounting, education (early childhood, elementary, secondary), management, applied data science, special education, and educational technology.

During her keynote speech at the May 20 undergraduate

commencement ceremony, Dr. Mary Grant, president of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, applauded the graduates for their resilience, especially as the first class to attend college following the initial shutdown of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"In a world that sometimes chooses fear over hope, choose hope," she said. Drawing on her own liberal arts background, she emphasized the enduring value of skills like critical thinking, creativity, and ethical reasoning. "These aren't soft skills," she said. "They're essential skills-skills that all employers want."

President Karim Ismaili echoed that sentiment, commending graduates for transforming through their college years into effective communicators, problem solvers, and thoughtful citizens. "You've matured, you've discovered new passions, and in many ways, you've changed," he said. "These skills will serve you no matter where life takes you."

Connecticut Attorney General William Tong spoke at the graduate-level ceremony on May 17, where he was awarded Eastern's inaugural Distinguished Public Service Award. Reflecting on his upbringing as the son of Chinese immigrants working in a family-owned restaurant in Wethersfield, Tong said, "There are a lot of people who feel

invisible. I want to help them because I know what they're going through."

He encouraged graduates to recognize shared humanity and stand up for marginalized communities. "See the people who don't look exactly like you; they're your people too," he said.

During her graduate ceremony remarks, student speaker Shellena Pitterson '25 highlighted the personal sacrifices and late-night study sessions that defined the graduate journey: "We've navigated assignments, exams, late nights, and - let's be honest - the occasional existential crisis."

At the undergraduate ceremony, Senior Class President Felishka Ramirez '25 thanked the "Eastern village" of faculty and staff who invested in students' growth. "They didn't just teach us; they believed in us. They taught us how to think critically, how to persevere, and how to believe in the power of our own voices," she said.

Speaking on behalf of alumni, Ellen Lang '81 spoke at both ceremonies to welcome new graduates into Eastern's alumni family, now more than 40,000 strong. "You are now connected to a powerful and supportive network of leaders, changemakers, and lifelong learners," she said. "Once a Warrior, always a Warrior."

### POSITIVELY

continued from page A4

pass through the slits, the particles behaved exactly as expected—like little bullets passing through one slit or the other. But when no one was watching, the particles behaved in a completely different way.

The only thing that changed... was the act of observing.

When the particles were observed, they behaved the way the scientists believed they should. When not observed, the particles had a mind of their own.

We all live our lives with an underlying expectation of what we think will happen. We expect certain outcomes in our relationships, our work, our health—even without realizing it.

If you expect failure, you'll probably see it. But if you expect success, and you are present, focused, and emotionally aligned with that outcome, quantum physics suggests that you may literally begin to tune into a version of reality where that success starts to show up.

Just as the observer changed the outcome of the particle's path, quantum physics suggests your awareness and expectation will shape the path of your own life.

The Quantum field is not distant. It's all around us, it's inside of us.

We are not separate from it; we are expressions of it. We are constantly sending signals into the field—through our thoughts, our emotions, and our beliefs. Put those three together, and you get expectations.

The Quantum world is telling us something. It's not just what we see, but how we see, that shapes our reality.

## Local students named to dean's list at Tufts University

MEDFORD — Lilianna Sigalovsky, Class of 2026, of Webster and Sophia Gawronski, Class of 2027, from Auburn have been named to the dean's list at Tufts University for the spring 2025 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

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PET of the WEEK



Amelia Bedelia

Meet Amelia Bedelia – Gentle, Goofy, and Ready for a New Beginning.

Amelia is a shy and sensitive husky mix who's been through a lot in her young life. At Baypath, she formed a special bond with Junie B. Jones, and the two have helped each other begin to trust, play, and feel safe again. While we know it would be incredibly difficult to find a home for them together, if someone is open to welcoming both girls, we'd love to hear from you! That said, we're actively looking for adopters for each of them — as long as they'll have a confident canine sibling in the home to help them thrive.

Amelia is still learning to feel comfortable with being pet, but she's full of affection in her own way — she'll gently offer you kisses to show she trusts you, and nothing beats the joy of seeing her tail wag when she sees someone she knows and loves.

She's also a very talkative husky and has lots of opinions to share! Whether it's her adorable wao-woos to greet you or her commentary on mealtime and walks, she'll keep you smiling with her sweet and silly chatter. Amelia loves to play and will happily chase and chew on her favorite toys — though she leaves the toy-carrying prance to her best friend Junie. She absolutely lives for chicken and cheese, which are the quickest ways to her heart.

She enjoys quiet walks in the woods and feels most at ease when exploring nature with someone she trusts. She'll need a calm, consistent home with a fenced-in yard, a patient family, and a confident dog companion to help her continue blossoming.

Amelia may be slow to open up, but she has so much love to give. With time, understanding, and a soft place to land, this sweet girl will make a wonderful, loyal companion.

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# WESTVIEW SPORTS MEDICINE

Introducing: Leah Kelleher, PT, DPT  
*and Equestrian*

We are excited to introduce Leah Kelleher, PT, DPT who recently joined our outstanding team of physical therapists at Westview Sports Medicine in Dayville. Leah is a graduate of the University of Hartford where she earned a bachelor's degree in Health Sciences and Doctorate in Physical Therapy, and has practiced in both acute care and outpatient physical therapy settings.

Leah is committed to helping individuals of all ages optimize their physical function and overall well-being. Across a lifetime of personal and professional experiences, Leah has accumulated a wealth of treatment knowledge; aiding patients recovering from strokes, traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and vestibular impairments including a nuanced understanding to treat infants, toddlers, and adolescents with a varied set of diagnoses.

Leah identified her hopes and goals as a member of the Westview Sports Medicine Team: **“Westview Sports Medicine is full of amazing people whose collective goal is to improve our patients and provide our community with the best care.”**



In her spare time, Leah is an equestrian and rides competitively while also cherishing her family life with her husband and three children.

**If you are interested in working with Leah for your recovery, please call us at 860-774-8574, and we will do the rest.**

*Back in the Game...  
by Way of Westview!*



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# Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director serves as National SkillsUSA EAP judge for second consecutive year

ATLANTA, Ga. — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy proudly announced that its esteemed Academy Director, Dr. Gretheline Bolandrina has once again served as a volunteer judge for the SkillsUSA National Employment Application Process (EAP) competition. This marks the second consecutive year that Dr. Bolandrina has lent her expertise to this prestigious national event, underscoring a deep commitment to fostering professional development among future skilled professionals.

Dr. Bolandrina's continued involvement with SkillsUSA highlights her dedication to preparing students not only for clinical excellence but also for the crucial professional skills required for successful careers. The EAP competition evaluates students' abilities in crafting compelling applications, demonstrating interview readiness, and showcasing the overall professionalism essential for entering the workforce.

With an impressive and diverse educational background, including a Doctor of Health Administration from the University of Phoenix (2021) and a Master of Science in Nursing / Ed from the University of Phoenix (2013), Dr. Bolandrina brings a wealth of academic rigor and leadership acumen to her judging role. Her extensive qualifications also include dual Registered Nurse (RN) licensure (Philippines 1987, Massachusetts 1989), Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN) certification (1994), and even coursework in

Crea Journalism from Harvard University (2001), showcasing a unique blend of clinical and communication expertise.

Prior to leading the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in 2015, where she also served as a Full-Time Faculty member (2013), Dr. Bolandrina held various impactful roles across the healthcare spectrum. This includes significant experience as a Clinical Instructor at Massachusetts Bay Community College, and numerous nursing leadership and direct patient care positions at facilities like Milford Care and Rehabilitation Center, UMass Memorial Health Care, and St. John of God Hospital. Notably, her roles as Nurse Manager and Director of Quality

Improvement demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of healthcare operations and patient advocacy.

Dr. Bolandrina's commitment extends beyond the campus, evidenced by her active involvement in numerous professional affiliations and volunteer activities. She was a past board member and language teacher for Iskvelahang Pilipino (www.ipbahay.org) and contributes/d her time to organizations like On Board for Kids, Pan-Mass Challenge, Chef Feed Kids, Medical Reserve Corps, and Special Olympics Massachusetts.

This consistent dedication to SkillsUSA, coupled with a distinguished career in nursing, education, and

community service, reflects Dr. Bolandrina's dedication and the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's commitment to producing highly competent and well-rounded healthcare professionals under exemplary leadership.



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**SAINT LOUIS CHURCH INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL**

**Picnic, Barbecue and Tacos**  
St. Louis Church 14 Lake St., Webster  
Friday, August 1st • Food 4:30pm to 6:30 pm and  
Party till 8:00 pm

**ALL ARE WELCOME! BIENVENIDOS! WITAMY!**

We are not islands, we need each other. Our human vocation is to build ourselves in the fabric of community, in the service of others.”  
— Pope Francis

When we come to Christ, we are no longer defined by our past but by His grace. St. Monica

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**Summer service begins July 7<sup>th</sup>!**

Stop by, fill up, and have fun!

Join us for food, weekly activities, giveaways, raffles, and entertainment at the Gladys E Kelly Library.

Meals are also available at Park Ave and Webster Middle School.

Free meal offerings are available to anyone age 18 and under. No registration required! One meal per serving period per person. Adult meals are available for \$5. Per USDA regulations, all meals must be consumed on site. No to go meals allowed.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for weekly updates, menus and activities!

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**Friday's Child**

**Laren**  
**Age 10**  
**Registration # 8313**

Laren is a friendly, fun-loving, and energetic young girl who brings joy and enthusiasm to everything she does. She thrives in a structured environment where routines are clear and consistent, as this helps her feel safe and supported. Laren loves being creative and often spends her time drawing and expressing herself through art. Music and dance are also some of her favorite outlets—she enjoys moving to the beat and letting her personality shine. Active and adventurous by nature, Laren enjoys outdoor play and being on the go, whether it's exploring new places or simply running around outside. She has a deep love for animals, especially turtles and other aquatic creatures, and enjoys learning about them whenever she can. Her interest in sea life is a special part of who she is and brings out her sense of wonder and curiosity. With the right support, encouragement, and structure, Laren continues to grow and shine. She would do best in a nurturing, active family that can provide consistency, patience, and plenty of opportunities to explore her interests.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/21182507386>

**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](http://www.mareinc.org). Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



OBITUARIES

Paul Donais, 74

Paul Donais, 74, of Dudley died Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at Harrington Memorial Hospital of Southbridge, MA. Paul was born October 16, 1950 in Southbridge, MA. He is the son of the late F Wilfred and the late Eleanor (LaFlamme) Donais. He Lived in Dudley most of his life.

He is survived by two brothers: Donald Donais with whom he made his home of Dudley, MA and Ronald Donais of Springfield, VA, several dear cousins who helped him and Donald

over the past years.

He was employed as a Quality Control Manager in the Plumbing Industry .

A memorial Mass will be held 10:00 am on Friday July 18th at St. Josephs Church 18 Main St. North Grosvenordale Burial will follow be in the family plot at St. Joseph Cemetery, North Grosvenordale Ct. Bartel Funeral Home & Chapel33 Schofield Ave. Dudley is directing arrangements. Leave a condolence at [www.bartelfuneralhome.com](http://www.bartelfuneralhome.com)

Patricia A. Parslow, 88



W E B S T E R – Patricia A. (S z c z e p a n i a k ) Parslow, 88, a 70-year resident of Webster, passed Monday, July 7th, 2025, surrounded by family. She now joins her beloved late husband of 65 years, Richard “Richie” F Parslow.

Patty was born at home in Garden City, Dudley on March 6th, 1937, to John B. and Catherine (Piechowiak) Szczepaniak. She graduated from Bartlett High School in 1955 and as a proficient typist, initially worked as a secretary at Bates Shoe Company for several years before dedicating her life to her true calling: being a loving wife and mother.

As a lifelong and dedicated parishioner of Saint Joseph Basilica, Patty was a member of multiple organizations including the Holy Rosary Sodality, Sacred Heart Society, St. Anne’s Society, and Saint Joseph Women’s Club, where she served as a past president. Additionally, she served on the parish council and was a captain of the 1-25 club and cash calendar committee. You could always find her there decorating for Feast Days and Holidays.

For decades, Patty and Richie looked forward to and volunteered at the annual St. Joseph’s festival. Patty took charge of the pastry booth and danced the Polka around the dance floor with

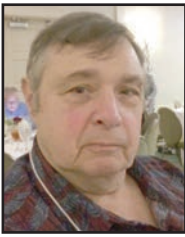
Richie, a tribute to how they first met at The White Eagle in Worcester, MA.

In her free time, Patty spent her days rescuing cats, gardening, and playing bingo, all the while rooting for the Red Sox and Patriots. She was also a member of the former Emblem Club.

She is survived by 2 sons, Keith R. Parslow and his wife Pamela of Douglas, and James F. Parslow and his wife Sharon of Northbridge; a daughter-in-law, Brenda A. Parslow of Haddam Neck, CT; 6 grandchildren, Michael, Sheila, Jack and his fiancée Mackenzie, Rachel and her fiancé Travis, Bethany and her husband Mike, and Ryan and his fiancée Kristin; 2 great-granddaughters, Ella and Rayna; as well as several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by and now joins her son John P. “Jack” Parslow, her sisters Florence and Virginia, and her brother Andy.

Her wake will be held on Monday, July 21st, at the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, at 340 School Street, Webster, MA; with visitation hours from 9:00 to 10:30 am. There will be a Catholic funeral service to follow at 11:00 AM at Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street, Webster, MA. Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Donations in her name may be made to Saint Joseph Elementary School, 47 Whitcomb Street, Webster, MA 01570.

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



Michael P. Olson  
1946 – 2025

Thompson, CT – Michael P Olson, 79, passed away on July 8, 2025. Michael was born in Southbridge, MA on June 14, 1946, son of the late William and Bridget (Hmay) Olson, Sr. also of Southbridge, MA.

He attended Southbridge schools and was a graduate of Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, MA, where he earned his associate’s degree.

Michael served honorably in the United States Navy during the Vietnam war from 1965 to 1971; he also served four years in the Massachusetts Air National Guard, in Worcester, MA, during the late 1970’s.

He worked for the telephone companies of central Massachusetts for 31 plus years.

Mike was a devoted husband and father; doting over his two daughters and five grandchildren. He and his wife, Linda, enjoyed motorcycling and traveling, taking many trips with family and friends. Archery and hunting were also passions he pursued. Michael was a member of the American Legion Post 67 in N. Grosvenordale, CT, for most of his adult life. He was also a “Tin

Can Sailor” member and a member of the USS Compton DD705 Association.

Michael leaves behind his loving wife Linda (Winchester) Olson, married for almost 58 years; his two daughters, Jessica Mongeau and her husband Christopher of Danielson, CT and Alycia Godzik and her husband Matthew of Putnam; his five grandchildren, Xavier and Luna Mongeau and Sophie, Gretta, and Theodore Godzik, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his only brother, William Olson, Jr.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to visit with Michael’s family on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, from 4:00PM to 7:00PM in the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home 48 School St., Webster, MA 01570. For a memorial guestbook please visit [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com), where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in his memory. Michael’s wishes were donations to be made to the Day Kimball Hospital, Oncology Department, 320 Pomfret St., Putnam, CT 06260.



Damon Dennis Anderson  
1968 - 2025



Webster – Damon Dennis Anderson, 57, of Wyman St., died in his sleep on Friday, July 4, 2025, at home. He was the loving husband of Cathy M. (Boisclair) Anderson. Born in Webster, he was the son of Frances J. (Beaushene) Anderson of Webster and the late Dennis R. Anderson who died on February 13, 2025. He was a graduate of Bay Path Regional Technical High School class of 1986.

On August 12, 1995, in Uxbridge, MA, he was united in marriage to the former Cathy M. Boisclair.

Mr. Anderson was a master electrician at the company that he owned and operated for many years D. A. Installers.

Damon was a member of the 200 Sportsman Club and the Webster Fish & Game. He enjoyed playing pitch, pitching horseshoes, golfing, and fishing. But, above all he cherished the quality time that he spent playing with his beloved grandchildren. Damon had many many friends and was willing to help them out at any time.

Damon is survived by his loving mother, Frances Anderson of Webster;

his devoted wife of 29 years, Cathy Anderson; his children, Brandon Anderson and Alexis Anderson both of Webster; his siblings, Darryl Anderson and his wife Lisa of Nashua, NH and Shelly Anderson and her fiancé Mark Difronzo of Merrimack, NH; and his beloved grandchildren, Nyah, Mason, Jaiden, and Lucas Rodriguez, his aunts, Barbara Larson and her companion Jim of Charlton, Joyce Lowney and her husband Francis of Boylston, Susan Kettec of Nashua, NH and his uncle, William Beaushene and his wife Patricia of Lunenburg. He was predeceased by his father, Dennis R. Anderson and his Goddaughter Brenna A. Larson.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Celebration on Damon’s Life on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 2:00PM to 6:00PM at the 200 Sportsmen Club, 184 Sutton Rd., Webster, MA 01570. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in his memory may be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 or online at [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org). Arrangements have been entrusted to the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA 01570. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com).

Send all obituary notices to  
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LEGALS

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

Please take notice that:  
Norman Boilard  
Has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.03.02 Density Regulations  
Location: 21 Intervale Road  
In the following respect: Special Permit for Chickens

The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday August 7, 2025 @ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be hard relative to this Public Hearing.

Please contact Amanda Jacobson at 508-949-8012 or [building@dudleyma.gov](mailto:building@dudleyma.gov) to attend the meeting.  
George Slingo, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals  
July 18, 2025  
July 25, 2025

**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. WO25P2295EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
Estate Of:  
**Stephan L MacLeod**  
Also known as: **Stephan MacLeod**  
**Date of Death: 05/06/2025**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **A Petition for Formal adjudication, Appointment of Personal Representative and Determination of Heirs** has been filed by **Rhonda MacLeod of Mapleton ME** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:  
**Rhonda MacLeod of Mapleton ME** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal 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 07/29/2025.**

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**  
Date: June 30, 2025  
Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
July 18, 2025

**NOTICE OF INITIAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN SITE MEETING**  
**181-183 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY, MA**  
**RELEASE TRACKING NUMBER 2-0022119**  
**AND TOWN OF DUDLEY SANITARY LANDFILL**  
**7 INDIAN ROAD, DUDLEY, MA**  
**RELEASE TRACKING NUMBER 2-0021744**

In accordance with the Public Involvement Plan Petition and Massachusetts Contingency Plan (310 CMR 40.0000), a public meeting will be held for the Sites located at 181-183 West Main Street and 7 Indian Road, Dudley, Massachusetts, on **THURSDAY, 31 JULY, at 7:00PM, at the DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS.** The purpose of this meeting is to present the draft Public Involvement Plans, to solicit public comment on the draft Public Involvement Plans, and to summarize background information about Site

conditions.

**Meeting Information**  
**Date:** JULY 31, 2025  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
**Location:** DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS TRAINING ROOM  
128 WEST MAIN STREET  
DUDLEY, MA 01571

Any questions regarding Release Tracking Number (RTN) 2-0022119 should be directed to **Jane Parkin Kullmann, Senior Technical Manager, WOODARD & CURRAN, 40 Shattuck Rd Suite 110, Andover MA, 01810, (978) 482-7840, 181-183 Main\_Dudley@woodardcurran.com**

Any questions regarding RTN 2-0021744 should be directed to **Sean Healey, LSP, WESTON & SAMPSON ENGINEERS, INC., 100 Foxborough Blvd Suite 250, Foxborough, MA 02035, (508) 203-8315, healeys@wseinc.com**

The Site file for RTN 2-0022119 can be viewed at the MassDEP website at <https://eeaeonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/dep/wastesite/detailviewer/2-0022119/> and the Site file for RTN 2-0021744 can be viewed at the MassDEP website at <https://eeaeonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal/dep/wastesite/detailviewer/2-0021744/>. Files can also be viewed at the MassDEP Central Regional Office, 8 New Bond Street, Worcester, MA 01606, (508) 792-7650. July 18, 2025

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
Premises: 177 Gore Road, Webster, MA 01570  
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by John B. Oliveira and Lillian Oliveira to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, LTD, and now held by **Nationstar Mortgage LLC**, said mortgage dated March 6, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62003, Page 233, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, LTD, its successors and assigns to Flagstar Bank, N.A. by assignment dated September 20, 2024 and recorded with said Registry of

Deeds in Book 71061, Page 177; said mortgage was assigned from Flagstar Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by assignment dated March 13, 2025 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 71773, Page 151; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on August 21, 2025 at 3:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

*The land in Webster, situated on Gore Road, Webster, MA shown as Lot 2, on a "Plan of land in Webster owned by John D. Casey Date: September 3, 1996, Scale 1"=50', B.C. Survey & Engineering, which plan is recorded with the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 709 Plan 2, and to which plan reference may be made for a more particular description of said lot.*

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 March 2, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62003, Page 230.

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 Nationstar Mortgage LLC  
Present Holder of the Mortgage  
(401) 217-8701  
July 18, 2025  
July 25, 2025  
August 1, 2025





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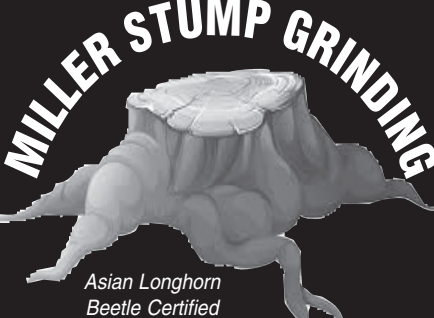
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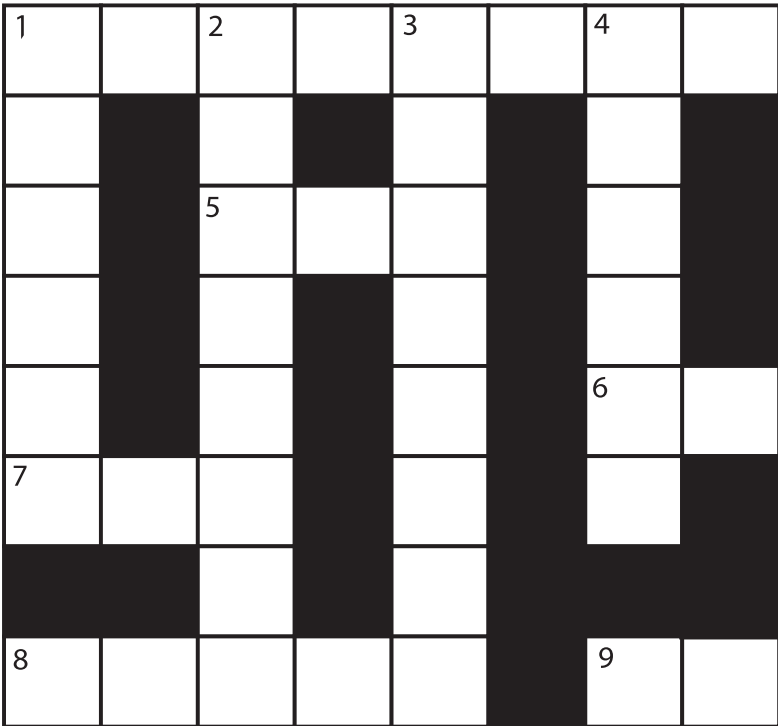


# Animal FACT:

When enjoying parks, it is important to avoid close encounters with these.

Answer: Wild animals

## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

- 1. Figure out the route
- 5. Area of land
- 6. “City of Angels” (abbr.)
- 7. Breakfast food
- 8. Green areas used for recreation
- 9. Opposite of “yes”

### DOWN

- 1. Plants, animals and the landscape
- 2. Person who lives in a village
- 3. Vacations, trips
- 4. Pathways to hike

Answers: Across 1. Navigate 5. Lot 6. LA 7. Eggs 8. Parks 9. No Down 1. Nature 2. Villager 3. Getaways 4. Trails

## CANADA MONTH HISTORY

1908

The Royal Canadian Mint Opens. The Mint produces all of Canada’s circulation coins.

## NEW WORD FUND

money for a particular purpose, like conservation

## How they say that in...

- English: Nature
- Spanish: Naturaleza
- Italian: Natura
- French: Nature
- German: Natur

## Did You Know?

“Forest bathing” started in Japan and is the process of spending time in nature. There is growing research to show that it promotes overall health.

## Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: RV

## CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to air conditioning. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 22 = O)

A. 9 22 22 24 18 25 17

Clue: Make less warm

B. 5 21 25

Clue: Circulates air

C. 18 25 1 22 22 13 4

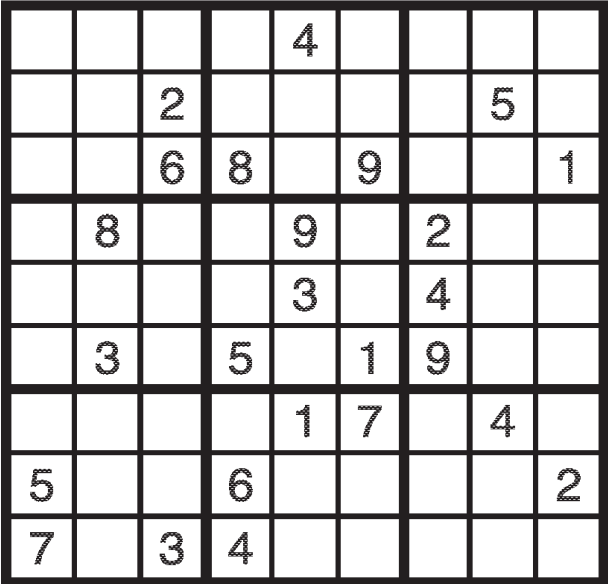
Clue: Inside

D. 13 26 16 21 18 13 4

Clue: Fixes

Answers: A. cooling B. fan C. indoors D. repairs

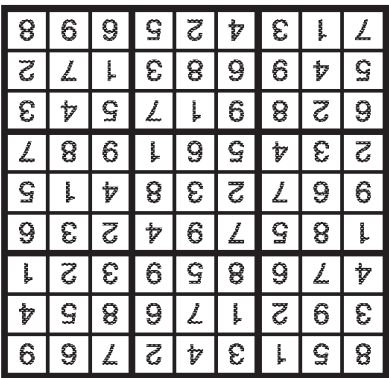
## SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

### Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



ANSWER:

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!




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- 

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  - Loading docks: (1) tailgate height
  - Basement: partial | Unfinished






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**PEARL**  
*continued from page A1*

how far the library has come, reminiscing on the successful campaign to build the facility as well as how The Pearle has grown to be so much more than a place to rent books.

“We never had a negative vote when we started this process 20 years

ago, but questions would be asked, ‘in the future you’re not going to need books.’ Well, books are a major part of this, but we do so much more here. The imagination between the staff. They always come to us asking to try new things and the Trustees are game to try anything. If it doesn’t work, they go on to some-

thing new and we’ve become known as ‘the fun library,’” said Craver.

The 15 years celebration of the current building was a testament to all the different elements that make The Pearle such a beloved community treasure. Music, food, arts and crafts and more made for a full afternoon for anyone of any

age. The day was also an opportunity to honor the many individuals who led the campaign for the building so many years ago and Hugh and Harriet Crawford who were the Grand Benefactors of the facility.

While one might think it’s unique that the library drew such a huge crowd for a single

celebration, Messier said the library has become accustomed to large turn-outs with the year-over-year numbers from 2024 to 2025 alone, seeing an increase of nearly 150 more program attendees and roughly 1,475 more total visitors to the facility. Despite fears of physical media disappearing, The Pearle continued to

see an increase in physical circulation by more than 40 percent year-over-year, as well as continued increases in digital circulation and foot traffic.

With numbers like that, it’s safe to assume The Pearle will continue to be a cherished local resource for another 15 years and beyond.



The caricature station was a popular attraction for visitors young and old with a line of patrons running through the library waiting for their turn.



The Pearle moved to its current building in 2010 continuing its longstanding history as a Dudley staple which now totals nearly 125 years.

**OFFICERS**  
*continued from page A1*

ly approved declaring a vacancy for a patrolman in June while another vacancy was already in the hiring process.

Karlowicz praised both officers as capable and well-trained veterans who bring knowledge and experience to the department.

“They will provide guidance to some of our young officers, and they’re excited for the new chapter in their lives to come to Dudley. That shows that our police department has a lot to offer when you have two veteran officers come into our town and show interest in joining our police department,” said the Chief.

Officer Scott Crevier

previously served 20 years with the Connecticut State Police as a detective in the Major Crimes Unit and on the force’s Tactical Team and Dive Team before joining the Sturbridge Police Department in 2018. He had previously served the Monson Police Department and the Ware Police Department. Currently a resident of Woodstock, Conn.,

Crevier told selectmen that the small-town mentality is what drew him to Dudley.

“It’s the professionalism and their style of the policing with the community. It seems like the town is behind them,” said Crevier.

Officer Jeff Forcier brings more than 27 years of law enforcement experience, the last 12 with Sturbridge.

He previously served in the Military Police as well as working in the Wales and Brookfield Police Departments and the Assumption College Campus Police. He was a Lieutenant for the Holland Police Department before his most recent stint in Sturbridge. Forcier, who was born and raised in Southbridge and Charlton, said he felt the

time was right for him to make a change in his career.

“Life is about opportunity and timing, and this just happened to be both. I’m looking forward to getting back to working in the smaller community,” Forcier said.

Both officers officially started their new positions in Dudley on July 15.

**JOB LOT**  
*continued from page A1*

Coordinator Brooke Hultgren, for a celebration that highlighted the company’s continued investment in revitalizing well-known retail sites and expanding job opportunities in the region. In May, OSJL opened a new store in Webster – also formerly a Big Lots location.

As part of OSJL’s ongoing commitment to the communities it serves, the Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation donated 250 backpacks to the Central Community Branch YMCA in Worcester.

The grand opening festivities will continue on Saturday, July 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with free photos with Bluey, complimentary beverages and donuts, and free glitter tattoos for customers. All event attendees will also have the opportunity to win one of three \$150 Ocean State Job Lot gift cards.

“We’re thrilled to officially open our doors in the Auburn community,” said Alison Altomonte, Store Team Leader, Ocean State Job Lot. “The town and customers have been so welcoming and we’re excited to provide an innovative, convenient, and friendly shopping experience for new and loyal customers alike.”

OSJL is on track to open approximately 22 new stores in New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware throughout 2025.

Vermont, Maine, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware, nearly 7,000

**LETTER**  
*continued from page A1*

Select Board has handled the matter, they want to keep a professional and productive working relationship with the town. Szela also stated that while they would inform Charlton that they would not issue a statement, they do understand and acknowledge the concerns shared by the selectmen.

“It’s an unfortunate climate that we’re in right now, but I don’t think that, as far as the schools go, we should issue a statement at this time. Just having Mr. Lamarche’s well-written words that he spoke regarding the situation probably covers our bases,” Szela said. “I don’t want to hurt the relationship that we have with the towns going forward, but I feel like just putting it on the burner and letting them know we’re aware and we understand their concerns and not taking really a stand at this time would be our best bet.”

A video recording of the July 10 meeting containing Lamarche’s full statement and the statements of individual School Committee members has been made available for the public on the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee page of the district Web site.

employees, and annual sales exceeding \$850 million. OSJL Shoppers find an ever-changing array of brand name, first-quality merchandise at closeout prices, including household goods, apparel, pet supplies, seasonal products (holiday, gardening, patio, pool, and beach supplies), and kitchen pantry staples at a fraction of their typical price. The company was named a four-time “Best Employer” by Forbes® Magazine\*, a five-time US Best Managed Company by Deloitte, one of America’s Greatest Workplaces for Parents & Families 2024 by Newsweek, a four-time winner of the Inspiring Workplaces in North America Award, and a Global Top 100 Inspiring Workplaces winner. \*Ocean State Job Lot is not affiliated with Forbes®.

The Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation has a long history of philanthropic leadership, supporting numerous causes, including feeding the hungry, helping the homeless, assisting veterans and military fami-

lies, aiding animal rescue, caring for children, advancing healthcare, supporting the arts, and promoting learning. The Foundation’s operational, administrative, and overhead expenses are covered by Ocean State Job Lot, not the Foundation, ensuring that 100% of every dollar raised through the Foundation goes directly to helping those in need. Ocean State Job Lot is headquartered in Quonset Point Business Park at 375 Commerce Park Road, North Kingstown, RI 02852. Phone: (401) 295-2672; Website: OceanStateJobLot.com.

# Kopas receives law degree

BOSTON — Jan Adam Kopas III, of Dudley, received a Juris Doctor degree with the honors of cum laude from New England Law Boston on May 16 at the Wang Theatre in Boston. He ranked 23rd of out 249 students in his class. He is the son of Attorney Jan Kopas and Cheryl Kopas.

Jan also received a certificate in taxation law from New England Law I Boston due to the number of tax classes taken, the high grades received in those classes, and satisfying the experiential education requirement.

While in law school Jan received CALI Awards in Evidence, Criminal Procedure, Taxation of Business Entities, and Perspectives: Taxation/Mergers & Acquisitions. CALI Awards are awarded to the student who finishes with the highest grade in each class. He was also the recipient of a New England Scholar Award (2023-2024) for superior academic achievement.

Kopas received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with the honors of summa cum laude from Nichols College in 2021 and a Master of Science in Accounting degree from Nichols College in 2022. He is currently studying to take the Massachusetts Bar Exam in July.

# Local student earning valuable experience as summer intern

BOSTON — Richard Hickson of Oxford is earning real-world experience as an Emmanuel College intern at J.H. Lynch Construction this summer.

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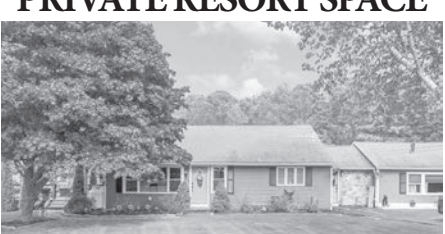


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\* Children's games will move to church hall in the event of bad weather.

# United Way holds 19th Day of Caring

REGION — The United Way of South Central MA (UWSCM) held its 19th Annual Day of Caring on Friday, June 20, aligning with United Way's National Day of Action on June 21.

This community-wide volunteer event brought together 75 volunteers from local companies and residents. The day was dedicated to giving back and making a positive difference in the communities served by UWSCM. Volunteers tackled 12 different projects across Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Webster. Projects included painting, cleaning, landscaping, and organizing. Volunteers were found at the following project sites: Dodge Chapel and the Charlton Animal Shelter in Charlton, the Perle L. Crawford Library and Tri-Valley, Inc. in Dudley, Heritage Trail, Joe Capillo Park, Southbridge Food Share, and the YMCA in Southbridge, Leadmine Trail in Sturbridge, and the Boys & Girls Club, Guild of St. Agnes, and the Gladys E. Kelly Library in Webster. The day began at the Southbridge Common with breakfast sandwiches provided by the Elm Centre Café and fresh fruit donated by Big Bunny Market. Volunteers also received custom embroidered hats, sponsored by Webster First Federal Credit Union.

According to United Way Executive Director, Kristin McCarthy, "Our volunteers accomplished so much in just five hours, and we are so grateful for the time and energy they contributed to each project. I'd like to thank the companies and agencies who allowed their employees to volunteer with us: CASA Project, Center of Hope, Community Legal Aid, Dexter-Russell, JLA Contracting, MAPFRE, Our Bright Future, Reconciliation House, Savers Bank, Southbridge Credit Union, Starkweather & Shepley, Tri-Valley, Inc., Webster First Federal Credit Union, and Webster Five. It was a successful day and several volunteers mentioned that they are looking forward to participating again next year!"

The United Way of South Central Massachusetts is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people in the communities it serves. UWSCM achieves its mission by funding local programs that focus on education, health, and financial stability. For more information, or to donate, please visit [www.uwscm.org](http://www.uwscm.org).

# Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty awarded competitive funding for professional development

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is proud to announce that four of its faculty members who were nominated for recent professional development funding have been successfully awarded, securing a total of \$3,356 to support their ongoing growth and excellence in nursing education. Each faculty member will receive an award of \$839.00.

- The funded faculty members are:
- Virginia Dockstader, BSN, RN
  - Barbara Martel, BSN, RN
  - Christine Piehl, BSN, RN
  - Rianna Romano, MSN, RN, CEN

This 100 percent success rate in securing funding underscores the high caliber and commitment of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's nursing educators. These funds are designated to support faculty who are eligible

to sit for the Academic Clinical Nurse Educator Certification Exam (CNEcl) exam, demonstrating the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's dedication to fostering advanced certifications and continuous professional development among its teaching staff.

The Academic Clinical Nurse Educator Certification Exam was created for academic clinical nurse educators to demonstrate expertise in this role. The academic clinical nurse educator facilitates the learning of nursing students throughout clinical components of an academic nursing program. This educator is guided in this role by faculty of the nursing program and is accountable to that nursing program for providing fair evaluations of learners' performance in meeting expected learning outcomes. The academic clinical nurse educator may have a variety of titles depending on the classification used by the specific nursing education program (e.g., clinical faculty, part-time faculty, adjunct faculty, clinical instructor, or preceptor), according to <https://www.nln.org/certification/Certification-for-Nurse-Educators/cne-cl>

"We are absolutely delighted by this news," said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director. "This funding is a testament to the dedication of our faculty to not only their students but also to their own professional growth. Investing in our educators directly translates to an enhanced learning experience for our students and reinforces the high standards of nursing education we uphold at Bay Path."

The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy worked closely with the funding body and finalized the necessary steps for payment processing. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy received the lump sum payment, which will then be distributed to the faculty members. Further follow-up will occur in approximately six months to capture outcomes for faculty who utilized this funding for the CNEcl exam.

This achievement highlights Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's ongoing commitment to faculty development, ensuring that its students receive instruction from highly qualified and continually advancing nursing professionals.

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