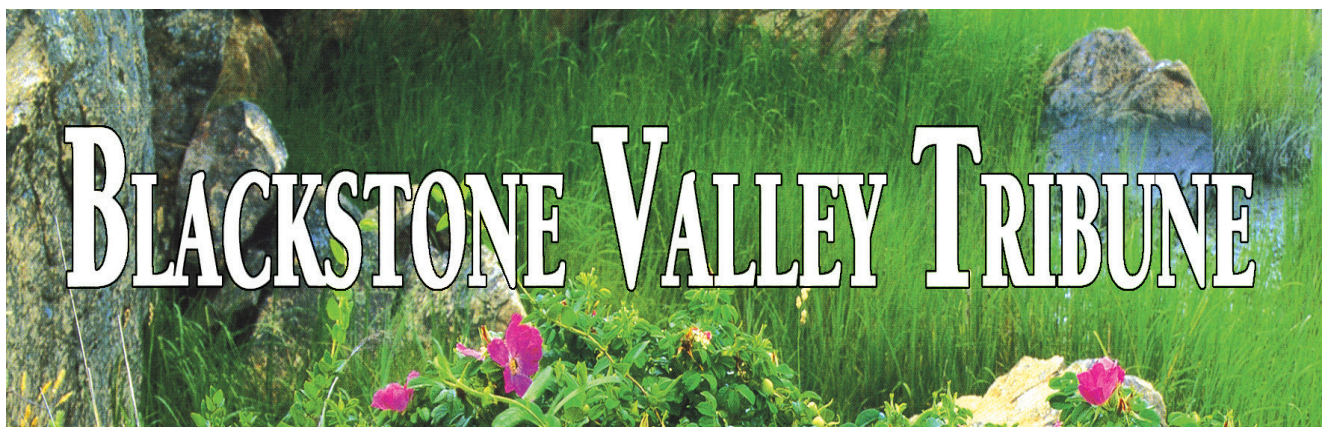


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As the season picks up, so does your hometown story. Thanks for reading.

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Friday, May 29, 2026

Building community through sculpture

NEW ENGLAND SCULPTORS ASSOCIATION CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES



Courtesy

Workshop participants Zachary Consolabe and Sadie Bergeron helping each other build their birdhouses.

WHITINSVILLE — ValleyCAST, the arts and culture arm of Open Sky Community Services, is thrilled to welcome the New England Sculptors Association (NESA) every winter for their Annual Inside & Out Exhibition. Artists from all around New England submit amazing sculptures that are seen inside the Spaulding R. Aldrich Heritage Gallery, 50 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, and outside on the grounds of the Alternatives' Whitin Mill



Workshop participants Stephen Paulson and Kyle Arsenault, and NESA artist and workshop instructor Lynn Simmons at the Birdhouse Installation Celebration.

complex for people to enjoy throughout the winter. January 2026 marked the fifth anniversary of this amazing collaboration that brings sculpture to the local community.

This year, in addition to this collaboration, NESA's grant writer, Christina Speidel, secured a grant from the Mass Cultural Council. The funds enabled several NESA sculptors to

work with area non-profit agencies to bring the joy of building sculpture to underserved communities. Because ValleyCAST has a long-standing collaboration with NESA, Open Sky

was one of the lucky agencies chosen to participate along with the Worcester Public Library, Hector House, Abbey's House,

Turn To SCULPTURE page A10

BVT Student Council recognized for excellence for eighth straight year

UPTON — For its exemplary record of leadership, service, and activities supporting both the school and community, the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) Student Council has been recognized as a 2026 National Gold Council of Excellence by the National Association of Student Councils. This marks the eighth consecutive year BVT's Student Council has earned this top award.

To qualify for the National Council of Excellence Award, a student council must meet various criteria, such as

Turn To STUDENT COUNCIL page A10

Soter announces \$210,000 grant for Uxbridge through Shared Streets and Spaces program

UXBRIDGE — State Rep. Michael Soter is pleased to announce that the Town of Uxbridge has been awarded \$210,000 in funding for equipment through the Shared Streets and Spaces Program. Administered by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), this program provides critical funding to municipalities to quickly implement improvements to public spaces, supporting public health, safe mobility, and strengthened commerce.

The Shared Streets and Spaces Program was launched in 2020 to provide flexible, quick-build grants for projects that

can be implemented within 18 months. While the program supports a wide range of infrastructure improvements, including sidewalks and transit-supportive facilities, this specific award for Uxbridge falls under the equipment and materials category, which allows for grants of up to \$250,000.

"Securing this \$210,000 for Uxbridge is a major win for our community's infrastructure and safety," said Soter. "This funding will provide our community with the essential equipment needed to maintain and improve our public spaces, ensuring they remain accessible and safe for all residents. Whether

it's enhancing pedestrian safety or supporting our local business districts, these resources allow us to make immediate, tangible improvements to the quality of life in Uxbridge."

Eligible equipment under this grant program can include a variety of items designed to improve the functionality of public ways, such as snow removal equipment for pedestrian and bicyclist facilities, speed feedback signs to enhance traffic safety, or materials to support outdoor programming and commerce in public plazas.

To be eligible for these funds, projects must align with the program's goals of fostering safe mobility and

are required to be located on municipally owned property that is accessible to the public. Uxbridge's successful application highlights the town's commitment to implementing quick-build solutions that provide immediate benefits to the community.

About the 8th Worcester District

The 8th Worcester District, represented by State Representative Michael Soter, includes the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Millville, Medway (Precinct 1), and Uxbridge (Precincts 1A, 2, 3, and 4).

Douglas High students earn certifications in advanced manufacturing



DOUGLAS — Congratulations to the 23 Douglas High School students in Mr. Gionet's PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture, PLTW Introduction to Engineering, PLTW Engineering Essentials, and Technology Engineering classes, each of whom earned a MACWIC certification this year.

This year's group achieved an outstanding 100 percent passing rate. Douglas High School is one of the few academic high schools in Massachusetts to offer this vocational training opportunity.

MACWIC Level 1 — Basic Manufacturing Skills Credential May 2026

Competencies included:

Shop Math, Blueprint Reading, Metrology, Safety, and Work Readiness

The MACWIC Applied Manufacturing Technology Pathway is an advanced manufacturing certification and credentialing system dedicated to supporting manufacturing growth initiatives. This evaluation process enables employers to match candidates with the appropriate competencies for positions while helping reduce hiring costs. These students have developed valuable skills for entry-level manufacturing careers.

Students may also earn credit at participating colleges such as Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of Massachusetts Lowell, and Quinsigamond

Community College, or apply the skills attained in undergraduate engineering programs.

The following Douglas High School students achieved this certification:

Highly Proficient
Alex Brunetti, Richie Fonseca, Josh Bisson, Ella Greenough, Jacob Thomas, Zach Chiasson, Ryan McCallum, Jack Oskirko, Trenton Gendron, Liem Dauplaise, Ben Brazeau, Ryan Peach, Nahven Felder, Tyler Hackett, Chase Blanchette

Proficient
Ayden Bressan, Holden Godfrin, Logan Kaminski, Camryn Forbes, Sean Vitale, Alex Robertson, Michael Reade, Jason Hernandez

PET of the WEEK



MEET Jill

Meet Jill: Champion Snuggler & Professional Cuddle Bug. If you're looking for a serious snuggle bug, Jill is your girl! She absolutely lives for affection—whether she's curled up right next to you on the couch, leaning in for full-body hugs, or rolling over for endless belly rubs. Jill doesn't just enjoy cuddles... she commits to them. In the home, Jill is a total cuddle bug—house-trained, relaxed, and happiest right by your side. She loves curling up on the couch or basking in a sunny spot, always happiest when she's close to her people. Calm and easygoing, she'll thrive in a cozy home where she can soak up all the love. Jill also has a fun, playful side! She enjoys playtime, adores squeaky toys and loves to train and learn new things—especially when treats are involved! She already knows her basics—sit, down, and paw and will be a great partner for someone who wants a dog that's both affectionate and engaged. Out and about, Jill loves meeting people and greets everyone with her signature smile, wagging tail, and gentle lean-in hugs (belly rubs encouraged!). On leash, Jill can be a bit strong and will benefit from continued guidance. She can also feel overwhelmed in busy neighborhoods, especially when lots of other dogs are around, so she'd likely be happiest in a quieter area where she can feel more at ease. While she has lived with other dogs in the past, she prefers slow introductions and time to build comfort. Because of that, Jill would do best as the only dog in the home, where she can fully relax and shine.

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Coast Guard Auxiliary offers boat safety checks

WEBSTER / DOUGLAS — Local boaters will have two opportunities in June to make sure their watercraft are ready for a safe summer season during free Vessel Safety Check events hosted by the Tri-State Flotilla 10-2 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The free inspections will take place Saturday, June 13, at the Memorial Beach Boat Ramp on Webster Lake in Webster and Saturday, June 27, at the Wallum Lake Boat Ramp inside Douglas State Forest in Douglas. Both stations will operate from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Weather-related reschedule dates will be the following Sundays at the same times and locations.

Boat owners are encouraged to bring all types of watercraft for inspection, including kayaks, canoes, personal watercraft, sailboats, fishing boats, pontoon boats, ski boats, and cabin cruisers. Vessels may be inspected either on trailers or while afloat.

According to organizers, the inspections are

designed to help recreational boaters comply with both federal and state boating safety regulations before heading out onto the water for the busy summer season.

Volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examiners will conduct what organizers describe as a “stem to stern” review of required safety equipment and overall vessel condition. Items reviewed include registration and hull identification numbers, life jackets, navigation lights, fire extinguishers, flares and expiration dates, ventilation systems, sound-producing devices, and general vessel safety standards.

Boats that successfully meet the requirements will receive a 2026 Vessel Safety Check decal. Organizers noted that the decal may help indicate to law enforcement officers on the water that the vessel is in compliance with safety regulations and could potentially qualify boat owners for insurance discounts.

Importantly, organizers stressed that the inspections are voluntary

and educational rather than punitive. No citations are issued, no penalties are assessed, and no reports are filed with law enforcement agencies if deficiencies are found.

Instead, examiners provide guidance to help boaters correct any issues. In many cases, organizers said, a simple stop at a marine supply store for missing equipment is enough to pass a same-day reinspection.

“Vessel Examiners are qualified and experienced to answer any boating-related questions or concerns along with being trained to spot any potential problems,” organizers stated in the event announcement.

The Webster Lake event at Memorial Beach includes accommodations for trailered boats that are not launching. Organizers said vessels without a Webster access sticker may still be inspected at the entrance gate if they are remaining on trailers.

At the Wallum Lake

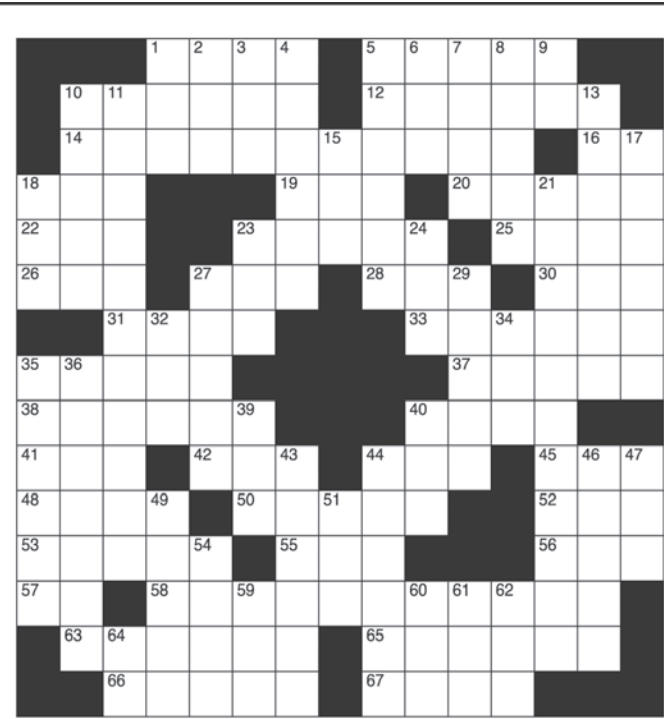
Douglas, personal watercraft are not permitted to launch on weekends, but organizers noted they may still be brought to the ramp area for inspection.

Both inspection stations can also accommodate vessels arriving by water.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary also conducts vessel safety examinations at various unscheduled times throughout the boating season, though organizers noted that inland examiners are limited and not always readily available.

Boat owners unable to attend either event may also schedule a free inspection online through the national Vessel Safety Check website.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary serves as the uniformed civilian component of the United States Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in a variety of mission areas. The organization was established by Congress in 1939.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Streetcar
- 5. Take ___ of it!
- 10. SW Asia peninsula
- 12. Beating wings to escape from a perch
- 14. One who revitalizes
- 16. Indicates position
- 18. Dishonorable man
- 19. Singer King Cole
- 20. Short-tailed marten
- 22. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 23. The god of the underworld in ancient mythology
- 25. Dirt
- 26. Superconducting super collider
- 27. Not good
- 28. A way to sink
- 30. Unwell
- 31. Follow orders
- 33. Deep ravine
- 35. Perfumery practice
- 37. Indian film director Sultan
- 38. Member of U.S. Navy
- 40. Wing-like
- 41. Very fast airplane
- 42. Slang for cigarette
- 44. Most cars still need it
- 45. Political war chest
- 48. Cools down
- 50. Diminish toward one end
- 52. Indigenous person of Thailand
- 53. Combined
- 55. Container
- 56. Expression of satisfaction
- 57. Thou
- 58. Return a favor
- 63. Go over once more
- 65. Removed
- 66. “Silence of the ___”
- 67. Comedian Rogen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Children's game
- 2. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 3. Own (Scottish)
- 4. Female follower of Bacchus
- 5. Subsidies
- 6. Protects from weather
- 7. Spanish municipality
- 8. Supermarket chain
- 9. Domain name
- 10. Semitic peoples
- 11. Designs anew
- 13. City associated with Jesus
- 15. Cool!
- 17. Bank employee
- 18. Central nervous system
- 21. Standardized piece of text
- 23. A type of fever
- 24. Baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 27. Threaten persistently
- 29. Aspirations
- 32. Baby's eating accessory
- 34. Actress Thurman
- 35. Turn into bone
- 36. One who saves you
- 39. Consume
- 40. Swiss river
- 43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
- 44. Categories
- 46. Expressed amazement
- 47. It's important in respiration (abbr.)
- 49. Greek war dance
- 51. Bland, semi-liquid food
- 54. Regard in a specified way
- 59. Taxi
- 60. Naturally occurring solid material
- 61. Feline
- 62. Post-burning residue
- 64. Elevated railroad

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Robert Gaudette graduates from Stonehill College

EASTON — Robert Gaudette of Whitinsville received a Bachelor of Arts degree at Stonehill College's 75th Commencement on Sunday, May 17.

At this year's ceremony, Leo J. Meehan III '75, president and CEO of W.B. Mason, served as keynote speaker. He also received an honorary degree alongside Matt Brown '16, who established the Matt Brown Foundation, and Sister Andrea Lee, I.H.M., former president of St. Catherine University and Alverno College.

About Stonehill College
Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 387-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional fields, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

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\$763,000, 81 Rebecca Rd, Boie, Bonnie M, to Jacobs, Maura Alice, and Jacobs Jr, Michael Anthon.

\$610,846, 140 Rolling Ridge Dr #140, Stone Hill Partners LLC, to Burke, Christopher, and Barber, Christina Nicole.
\$585,000, 220 Alana Dr, Graham Jr, Richard E, to Bumpus, Julia Elizabeth, and Christiansen, Curtis Scott.
\$470,000, 201 Prescott Rd, Theona Jean Taylor Lt, and Taylor, Bryan James, to Kuznetsov, Aleksandr.
\$163,000, 22 Whittin Ave, Open Sky Cmnty Svcs Inc, to Verdigogh LLC.

UXBRIDGE
\$820,000, 405 West St, Carvalho, Hugo M, and Carvalho, Sandra C, to Corso, James, and Corso, Stephanie.
\$350,000, 81 Sylvan Rd, Lisak Pamela Est, and Parente, Patricia J, to Gray, Kelsey.

WARE
\$410,000, 24 Clinton St, Rivera, Jessie, to Allen, Daniel, and Worthen, Sophie.
\$110,000, 23 Aspen St, Polonia Re Holdings LLC, to Asw Fund I Lp.

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BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE
PUBLISHED BY
STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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

Whitin Community Center gears up for 12th anniversary of Cars In The Park

WHITINSVILLE — The Whitin Community Center (WCC) is excited to invite all automotive enthusiasts and families alike to celebrate the 12th Anniversary of our highly anticipated “Cars In The Park» event. Join us for a day of automotive excellence and community fun on Saturday, Aug. 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the picturesque seven-and-a-half-acre Whitin Park, located at 60 Main St., Whitinsville.

This year’s Cars In The Park promises an unforgettable showcase of classic and contemporary cars, trucks, and motorcycles. Participants can vie for the prestigious Best In Show title and 25 other trophy categories, People’s Choice Award, with the first 100 registered vehicles again this year receiving exclusive Show Dash Plaques and Goodie Bags. The event will also feature a selection of food trucks, exhibit vendors, a 50/50 raffle, and live entertainment, ensuring a fun-filled day for the entire family. Entry is complimentary for all spectators, making it the perfect summer outing.

Last year’s event had a turnout of over 300 cars! In anticipation of this year’s event, vehicle owners are encouraged to register early and take advantage of a special \$10 donation fee before July 15th, after which the registration donation will increase to \$20. Pre-registration closes on Aug. 12. Registration for vehicles is available online at www.WhitinCommunityCenter.com, in-person at our Member Services Desk, or on the day of the event. Additionally, we are now welcoming applications from exhibit and food vendors looking to be part of this exciting event.

Funds raised during Cars In The Park will directly support the Whitin Community Center’s mission as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to enhancing the health, well-being, and community spirit of the Blackstone Valley. For a century, the WCC has been a

cornerstone of the community, offering a diverse range of social, recreational, educational, and outreach programs. 8184 or visit www.WhitinCommunityCenter.com.

We are also calling on community members to join us as volunteers for this summer event. Volunteers will not only enjoy complimentary refreshments and a free t-shirt, but also the satisfaction of contributing to their community. Opportunities include coordination, ballot input, event setup and teardown, fee collection, flyer distribution, overseeing children’s activities, and more.

For more information on vehicle and vendor registration, volunteering, or any other inquiries, please visit our website at www.WhitinCommunityCenter.com or contact Tammy Bodwell, Director of Operations, at Tammy.Bodwell@OurGym.org or call 508-234-8184, ext. 118.

Join us at the 12th Annual Cars In The Park for a day of automotive admiration, community engagement, and family fun. Let’s drive into a new decade of this cherished event together!

The Whitin Community Center is committed to enhancing the health and well-being of individuals and families and building a strong community in the Blackstone Valley. We offer social, recreational, educational, and outreach programs that bring community members of all ages and backgrounds together. The Whitin Community Center is the Blackstone Valley’s most complete family and recreation center with two swimming pools, a gym, fitness center, early learning programs, summer camps and a seven-and-a-half-acre park. For more information call 508-234-

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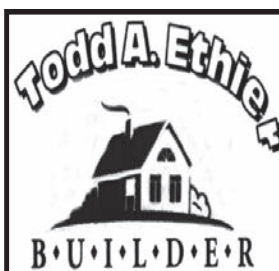
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SIMON FAIRFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Simon Fairfield Public Library’s June 2026 schedule follows. Please note that some events do require registration. If you have any questions regarding any events, please do not hesitate to contact the library at 508-476-2695 or email at us at douglas@cwmar.org.

Address: 290 Main St., Douglas
Phone: 508-476-2695
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Children’s Happenings
Monday, June 1 at 10 a.m. - Spring Storytime (Full)
Tuesday, June 2 & 16, 11:30 a.m. - Music & Movement with Deb Hudgins
Wednesday, June 17 at 5:45 p.m. - Reading to Bryce (Registration Required)

Teen Happenings
Tuesday, June 2, 16, & 30 at 4 p.m. - Battletech Club
Tuesday, June 9 at 4 p.m. - Dungeons & Dragons Club (Full)
Saturday, June 20 at 11 a.m. - Book Nerds, “Heartstopper Volume 1” by Alice Oseman

Adult Book Clubs
Thursday, June 4 at 6:30 p.m. - Greatest Book Club Ever, “The Midnight Feast” by Lucy Foley
Tuesday, June 9 at 6:30 p.m. - Intrepid Readers, “Cleopatra: A Life” by Stacy Schiff
Tuesday, June 9 at 6:30 p.m. - SciFi Book Club, “World War Z” by Max Brooks
Monday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. - Plot Twisters, “Where He Can’t Find You” by Darcy Coates

Adult Happenings
Monday, June 1, 8, 16, 23, and 30 at 6:30 p.m. - Writers Accountability Group
Wednesday, June 10, 17, & 24 at 10 a.m. - Fiber Arts Friends
Wednesday, June 10 & 24 at 5:45 p.m. - Fiber Arts Friends at Night
Thursday, June 18 at 6 p.m. - Cookbook Collective, Theme TBD
Saturday, June 20 at 10:30 a.m. - SFPL Gardeners

[www.Stonebridge Press.com](http://www.StonebridgePress.com)

EVERGREEN CEMETERY

Evergreen Cemetery Annual Trustees and Lot Owner Meeting will be held on May 30th at 8am at the Douglas Municipal Center, 29 Depot Street Douglas, MA.

St. Patrick’s Church hosting Car Wash/Bottle & Can Drive

WHITINSVILLE — St. Patrick’s Parish, 7 East St., Whitinsville, will be holding a car wash in the parking lot on Saturday, June 6 from 8 a.m. - noon. \$10/car. Cash only.

They will also be accepting donations of cans and plastic bottles (no glass) that are returnable in Massachusetts. All proceeds will support YIA service trip to Bowling Green, Ky. Thank you for your support. For more information, call 508-234-5656.

Strawberry Festival to feature local farm presentation

NORTHBRIDGE — Residents will have an opportunity to learn more about one of the Blackstone Valley’s longtime family farms during a Strawberry Festival event scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, from 1 to 2 p.m.

The program, titled “From Seedlings to Sweetness: The Story of Our Strawberries,” will feature Ken Foppema of Foppema’s Farm, a family-owned and operated farm that has served the region since 1983.

During the presentation, guests will hear about the history of the farm and the process of growing strawberries and other seasonal crops on the family’s 75-acre property. Foppema’s Farm is known throughout the region for its strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, sweet corn, tomatoes, apples, and other fresh produce sold at its farmstand.

Organizers say the event will also include themed refreshments and a free raffle for attendees.

Admission is \$5 cash, payable at the door on the day of the event. Participants are encouraged to sign up in the main office in advance.

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall This two-bedroom cottage near Tignish provides sweeping views of the ocean, the beach, and the North Cape lighthouse. Enjoy kayaking, bicycling, walking the beach, swimming in the warmer Gulf Stream waters, and exploring the community of Nail Pond and the many PEI attractions. Full Appliances. The cottage sleeps six comfortably. Weekly rent is only \$1,100. Contact Scott, for more information at 603-254-5032, or scottm@plymouth.edu.

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BERUBE**
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Building community through creativity

In communities across the Blackstone Valley, there is a tendency to think of art as something extra. A pleasant addition. A luxury. Something nice to have once roads are paved, budgets balanced and practical matters addressed.

But projects like the ongoing collaboration between ValleyCAST and the New England Sculptors Association remind us that art is not separate from community life. In many ways, it helps define it.

For five winters now, residents visiting the Whitin Mill complex in Whitinsville have encountered sculpture not in distant museums or major cities, but right in their own backyard. The “Inside & Out” exhibition has transformed familiar spaces into places of curiosity, conversation and reflection. It has made art accessible to people who might never otherwise seek it out.

That accessibility matters.

What makes this year’s collaboration especially meaningful is that it moved beyond viewing art into creating it together. Through grant support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, sculptors Lynn Simmons and Bayda Asbridge worked directly with Open Sky Community Services participants and community members in a birdhouse-building workshop that was about far more than birdhouses.

For many participants, it was their first time using power tools. That may seem like a small thing to some people, but confidence often begins with moments exactly like that. Learning a new skill. Completing a project with your own hands. Seeing an idea take shape and realizing, “I can do this.”

The finished birdhouses, painted with rainbows, hearts, hopeful messages and colorful landscapes, are certainly cheerful additions to the grounds. But perhaps more importantly, they represent empowerment, inclusion and dignity. They represent individuals who were given an opportunity not simply to observe creativity, but to participate in it.

That aligns perfectly with ValleyCAST’s broader mission of bringing people together across differences in age, ability and background. Too often, individuals with disabilities or those facing difficult circumstances are unintentionally isolated from cultural experiences that many others take for granted. Programs like this help break down those barriers.

There is also something uniquely fitting about this project taking place in the Blackstone Valley. This region was built by people who worked with their hands, solved problems creatively and built communities around shared effort. While sculpture may seem very different from the mills and workshops that once powered this region, both are rooted in craftsmanship, imagination and human connection.

The New England Sculptors Association deserves credit not only for sustaining a successful five-year partnership with ValleyCAST, but for recognizing that public art can serve a broader purpose. Sculpture in this case is not simply decoration. It becomes a bridge between people, organizations and communities.

Open Sky Community Services also deserves recognition for continuing to create opportunities that see beyond limitations and focus instead on possibility. In an era when many social services organizations are stretched thin, it would be easy to focus solely on immediate needs. Yet programs that foster confidence, expression and belonging are every bit as important to long-term well-being.

Communities are healthiest when people feel connected to one another and when everyone feels they have something valuable to contribute. Art has a remarkable ability to create that sense of connection.

This winter, visitors to the Whitin Mill complex may notice a cluster of colorful birdhouses standing together in the garden. They may smile at the bright paint or wonder whether birds will eventually move in.

But what they are really seeing is a reminder that creativity can build far more than art. It can build confidence. It can build inclusion. And sometimes, it can help build a stronger community.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Tale of Two Immigrations

To the Editor:

This is a Tale of Two Immigrations.

The legal immigration story and the misery of the illegal one.

I am a descendant of legal immigrant grandparents. I grew up with the children of legal immigrant parents or grandparents. My elementary school was populated with children of French Canadian heritage, Irish heritage, Armenian heritage, Dutch heritage, Polish heritage, and many Yankees.

Nearly everyone went to church on Sunday. Catholic, Protestant, Armenian Orthodox, Dutch Reformed, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Methodist, Baptist. Sundays were quiet. Stores closed. My Dad listened to the Red Sox game on the radio on the front porch. My Mom read novels, relaxing on her day off from work.

Our Dads were not parochial. They had seen the world. Fought World War II. My Dad sailed all over the Pacific. My Father-in-law fought in Germany on D-Day 3.

We children spoke a second language at home and were bi-lingual before it was “cool”! No one provided notices in our second languages. “Press two for Polish”. How did we ever manage!

Everyone worked. Dads worked. Moms worked. No one was on the dole. Many of our grandparents or parents became naturalized citizens. They were not born here but adopted allegiance to America. The American way of life, the freedom to worship, to toil in textile mills, but most of all, to be an American. No longer a Polish, Dutch, Armenian, or French Canadian citizen. Now, an American!

We pledged Allegiance to the Flag, and sang the Star Spangled Banner lustily with hands over hearts. We prayed in school, “Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name...” Then, the atheists sued and removed prayer from the schools.

No teacher questioned the legitimacy of America or said America was not the Home of the Free and the Land of the Brave. We knew it was. We were living it.

No one feared the police or federal agents. Full disclosure: during Prohibition, my grandfather [who toiled in the Whitin Machine Foundry] and his brother operated a moonshine still in Plummer’s Corner woods. My grandfather heard the “feds” were coming. He destroyed the still. It caused an irrevocable break between brothers.

Every week, the Boston Herald reports the ICE arrests in our state. Immigration, Customs, and Enforcement enforce federal law passed by Congress. The Fake News reports that ICE “arrested a fourteen year old girl.” ICE took the 14 year old girl into “protective custody,” when she was found in the custody of two illegal male immigrants, gang members, no relation to her. Can you say sex trafficking?

ICE arrested these “neighbors”: Danny Grandos Garcia, MS 13, aggravated assault with a homicide warrant in El Salvador. Lyonwonder Costa Ricardo, illegal border crossing and obscene behavior with a minor. Leider David Sanchez Jiminez, illegal from Colombia, cocaine trafficking and possession of firearms without a license. Carlos Eduardo Sierra Meijo, wanted in Guatemala for aggravated assault with a gun and assault on a family member. Frolan Vasquez Velaquez, rape of a child under seven, attempted rape of a child under 16. Walter Roberto Vides Ortez, arrest warrant from El Salvador for rape of a minor and an incapacitated person.

In 2024, Keoma Duarte, a 41 year old from sub-Saharan Africa, unemployed, drove his Tesla, while under the influence of alcohol and pot, south in the northbound lane of [Interstate] 95 until he crashed into Sgt. Jeremy Cole, a police officer, father of four, who was driving home from work. Duarte killed Cole instantly. Duarte was arrested and immediately freed on bail. In 2025, Duarte was arrested as a fugitive from justice by the Violent Fugitive Apprehension Squad. He pleaded not guilty to two counts of manslaughter while operating under the influence. His case is still pending. Is he on the streets? Hasn’t ICE deported him yet?

Duarte’s history? In 2013, unemployed, he was arrested, driving a Mercedes with a revoked license. He cried “racism.” In 2023, unemployed, he was arrested for leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident, driving a Tesla.

Massachusetts pretends the Supremacy Clause does not exist. They have approved the “Protect Illegal Immigrants” law which forbids ICE from arresting illegals in court houses, hospitals, schools, and childcare centers. Unconstitutional. Does the law cover U.S. citizens? You know the answer.

Comrade Healey set up a hot line for illegals to report ICE. We U.S. citizens need a hot line to report illegals to ICE. Deport them all before they commit crime.

Signed, the proud granddaughter of mostly law-abiding, hard-working, church-going, tax paying, flag-waving legal immigrants,

BEV GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

P.S.: with thanks to my honored Friend who monitors voting in Uxbridge for a lively debate on our President and his “possible” shortcomings. We dispute vigorously. We depart as friends, laughing and shaking our heads at the other’s misguided views. Is it because my Dad was his baseball coach? Is it because his daughter was my daughter’s softball coach? Or is it because he knows my character and I know his. We value our friendship more than we value our politics. That is America. God bless you, my honored friend!

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.

The last real waiting rooms

The other morning, I found myself sitting in a small-town Massachusetts waiting room with six other people and absolutely nothing to do.

No television blaring headlines nobody asked for. No giant digital screen flashing advertisements for prescription drugs with side effects worse than the original illness. No music pounding through hidden ceiling speakers.

Just silence.

Well...not complete silence.

There was the occasional page turning from a woman reading a paperback novel. Somebody coughing politely into a handkerchief. A coffee machine making tired little gurgling noises in the corner. Rain tapping against the windows.

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET
By CHARLES

And every single person in that room was pretending not to notice each other while secretly noticing everybody.

New Englanders are specialists at that.

The gentleman across from me wore a Red Sox cap that had clearly survived several presidential administrations. One woman had one of those enormous handbags that probably contained everything short of snow tires and jumper cables. An older fellow near the door kept folding and unfolding his umbrella like he was trying to solve a puzzle.

Nobody spoke for nearly 15 minutes.

Then, as always happens in small towns eventually, somebody cracked first.

A woman looked out the window at the rain and sighed, “Well, I guess the gardens needed it.”

That was it. The opening pitch.

Within two minutes, the entire room had become a committee on tomatoes.

One man said his plants were late this year. Another insisted you shouldn’t put them out before Memorial Day no matter what the weather says. Somebody else brought up rabbits. Then chipmunks. Then how nobody can keep woodchucks out of anything anymore.

And suddenly the room wasn’t quiet anymore.

People laughed.

People nodded.

The fellow with the umbrella told a story about his grandfather covering tomato plants with old bed sheets during a June frost back in 1962. The woman with the giant handbag offered everybody butter-scotch candies from somewhere deep inside it like a magician pulling scarves from a hat.

For 20 minutes, nobody looked at a phone.

I noticed that afterward.

Not because phones are evil. Lord knows I use one often enough myself. My son can somehow pay bills, check the weather, order dinner, and watch a baseball game all on one little screen. Meanwhile I still occasionally press the flashlight button accidentally and spend five minutes wondering why my pocket’s glowing.

But there was something comforting about that waiting room conversation because it reminded me of an older kind of American life that seems to be slipping away around the edges.

We used to talk to strangers more.

Not deeply. Not dramatically. We weren’t pouring our souls out in the hardware store aisle. But there was an understanding that if you sat beside somebody long enough, eventually one of you would mention the weather, the roads, the Red Sox, or how expensive blueberries have gotten.

And from there, conversation simply happened.

I worry sometimes that younger folks are losing those tiny everyday interactions that quietly hold communities together.

Not friendships exactly.

Something smaller than friendship, but important all the same.

Recognition.

Familiarity.

The sense that you belong among other human beings instead of merely passing beside them.

A town isn’t only buildings and roads. It’s thousands of little moments where people acknowledge each other’s existence. Holding doors. Waving from pickup trucks. Talking about gardens in waiting rooms.

That’s the glue.

You remove enough of those ordinary moments and eventually people begin feeling lonely without quite understanding why.

I don’t think most of us need giant solutions nearly as much as we need small reminders that we still live alongside one another.

A conversation about tomato plants can do more good than people realize.

Eventually the nurse called my name, and as I stood up, the fellow in the Red Sox cap nodded toward the rain outside and said, “Good soaking rain, anyway.”

Everybody murmured agreement like members of a town council.

I smiled all the way down the hallway.

And I thought afterward that maybe the last real community centers in America aren’t fancy places at all.

Maybe they’re ordinary waiting rooms where strangers still talk about gardens while the rain falls outside.

PLUMMER PLACE

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

The following events will take place at Plummer Place, Home of the Northbridge Senior Center. We are located at 20 Highland Street in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508) 234-2002. Northbridge residents have priority for all programming and events. Please call the main office to sign up for special events and programs, so we can plan accordingly.

Medical Drivers

We are in need of medical drivers for out-of-town medical appointments. This is a very important service that we provide for seniors who cannot drive themselves to their medical appointments. If you are interested and can spare any time, it would be most appreciated. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage. For more information, please call the main office.

Regular Programs:

Meditation with Kelly
Every Thursday morning at 9:30am
Book Club:
3rd Wednesday at 10:30am
Please call Kelly to find out what book we are reading.
Brew Crew:
First Wednesday at 9:30am
Wednesday, June 3rd
Guest Speaker ~ Adam Gaudette, Northbridge Town Manager
Dull Men's Club:
4th Tuesday at 9:30am
June 23rd's Guest: State Representative David Muradian, Jr.
Scrabble:
First and Third Mondays at 9:30am
June 1st, 15th, and 29th
Women's Collective:
2nd Thursday at 10:00am
June 11th: Eating for Health the Mediterranean Way
Please call Amy for more information.
Writing Your Way
2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm
Please call Lori for more information.

Special Events and Programs:

The Plummer Place Pluckers
Concert and Sing-A-Long
Wednesday, June 3rd
1pm-2pm
Come travel back in time with Plummer Place Pluckers on a musical journey through the past. This sing-a-long concert will feature a wonderful collection of favorites that might take you all the way back to your elementary school days!! Bring your singing voices. This group loves audience participation! Sign up in the main office.

Favorite Songs, Familiar Faces: An Afternoon with Mark and Raianne
Thursday, June 4th
1pm-2pm
Mark and Raianne are a married couple who entertain with unmistakable vocal harmonies, poetic lyrics and down-to-earth personae. These musically talented artists have contributed over seventeen albums within their first decade and toured consistently throughout the

US and Canada. These artists blend distinctive voices with rich tantalizing harmonies and a wide range of accompaniment (guitar, mandolin, banjo, harmonica, ukulele, clarinet and penny whistle) featuring original and traditional acoustic Folk/Americana songwriting. Their live performances are both musically captivating and spiritually uplifting as audiences are carefully balanced between serious songs and humorous commentary. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency. Sign up in the main office.

Strawberry Festival ~ Wednesday, June 10th 1pm-2pm
From Seedling to Sweetness — The Story of Our Strawberries

Join us as we hear from Ken Foppema of Foppema's Farm, a family-owned and operated farm in the Blackstone Valley! Since 1983, the Foppema family has been cultivating fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables — starting with strawberries in mid-June and extending through a diverse harvest of berries, sweet corn, tomatoes, apples and more — all grown on their 75-acre farm and sold directly at their farmstand. Northbridge Residents have priority.

Wednesday, June 10th from 1pm-2pm.
Light "themed" refreshments and free raffle!
Admission is \$5 cash payable at the door on the day of the event.
Please sign up in the main office, so we can plan accordingly.

Thursday, June 18th
10am-11am
The Apollo 11 Mission ~ America's Proudest Moment
This program describes the origins of the space race, rocketry, the Cold War, the training, the astronauts and the Mission! It will also cover the media frenzy and how America fell in love with the heroes who were responsible for it. You won't want to miss this one! Sign up in the main office.

Wednesday, June 24th
12:30pm-2:00pm The Great Summer Kickoff Party and Luncheon

Featuring the Driveway Chicks
Menu: Chicken Salad/Tuna Salad Sandwiches, Red Bliss Potato Salad, Cubed Watermelon, Potato Chips, and Lemon Squares. \$10 per ticket/2 ticket limit per person. Northbridge Residents have priority and you must have a ticket to attend. Tickets are on sale now in the main office. You must come to the senior center in person to purchase your ticket/s. Sponsored in part by a grant from the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, Unibank, and the Friends of Northbridge Elders (FINE).

Thursday, June 25th
1:30pm-3:00pm
Beachy Keen Craft Class
Carol and Ginny will be back bringing the beach to the craft table! This relaxed, coastal-inspired class blends creativity, conversation, and seaside vibes for a fun, feel-good experience.
\$7 Cash/per person. Payable on the day of the event. Space is limited. Northbridge Residents have priority.

Bay Path celebrates 59 CTI graduates, expands workforce training programs

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School proudly celebrated the graduation of 59 students from its Career Technical Initiative (CTI) program last evening, marking a significant milestone in the program's continued growth and impact.

The CTI program, launched in 2024, provides adult learners with access to high-quality, hands-on technical training designed to meet regional workforce demands. Last night's graduates represent a diverse group of individuals who demonstrated dedication, perseverance, and a strong commitment to building new career pathways. Many balanced work, family, and personal responsibilities while completing rigorous 200-hour training programs that prepare them for immediate employment in high-demand industries.

"This graduating class represents the heart of what the CTI program is all about—opportunity, access, and workforce readiness," said Marci Komssi, Program Coordinator. "We are incredibly proud of these 59 graduates and the determination they demonstrated throughout the program."

The success of the CTI program is made possible through continued state investment and workforce development partnerships. As part of the Commonwealth's commitment to economic recovery and growth, \$24.2 million was awarded to 23 organizations throughout Massachusetts to train 2,490 individuals. These strategic investments, led by the Massachusetts Workforce Skills Cabinet, are designed to expand access to career pathway programs and better position residents to fill critical workforce needs across the state.

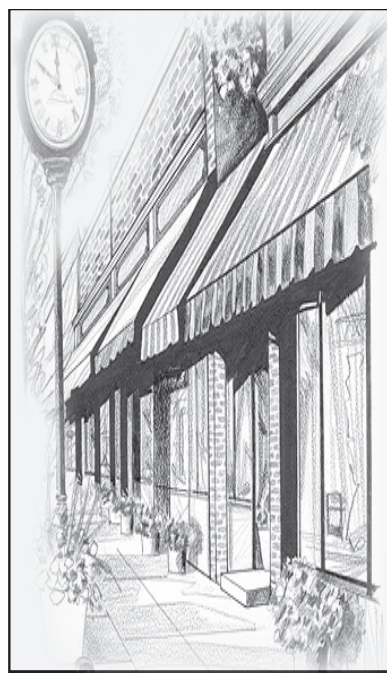
Building on this momentum, Bay Path is expanding its program offerings to reach even more adult learners. For the first time, the school will offer a 200-hour Building Maintenance program in a five-week hybrid summer format, running from June 29 through July 31. This program is offered in partnership with MassHire, with applications opening this week.

Looking ahead to Fall 2026, Bay Path will offer nine CTI programs, further increasing access to career training opportunities. These programs include:

- Building Maintenance
- HVAC
- Culinary
- Manufacturing
- Auto Collision
- Auto Technology
- Diesel Mechanic
- Welding
- Electrical

Since its inception, the CTI program has continued to expand in both enrollment and program diversity, attracting students from local communities as well as across the region. The program remains a critical component of Bay Path's efforts to support workforce development and provide meaningful career pathways for adult learners.

For more information about the CTI program or to apply for upcoming opportunities, please contact Marci Komssi at mkomssi@baypath.net.



Community Connection

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LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD

Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
St. Mary's Church
4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
Distribution: Wednesday 9:30 AM-11 AM:
Saturday 9:30 AM-11AM

CHARLTON

Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

St. Joseph's Church, Charlton
Tuesday 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9-11 a.m.
Everyone is welcome.

LEICESTER

Leicester Food Pantry
St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD

St. Joseph's Food Pantry
Located in the church hall at 296 North Main St. North Brookfield
Distribution is the 1st Thursday of the month from 5:00-6:30PM
the 3rd Thursday of the month from 12 Noon-1:15PM
Any questions should be directed to the Rectory office 508 867-6469.
St. Joseph's Food Pantry is a community partner affiliated with the Worcester County Food Bank.

OXFORD

Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf
Oxford Community Center
4 Maple Road
Oxford, MA 01540
Distribution: Thursday 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

ROCHDALE

The Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry
Greenville Baptist Church
674 Pleasant St.
Rochdale, MA
Distribution: Every Monday from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Open to everyone.

SOUTHBRIDGE

St. John Paul II Parish Food Pantry
279 Hamilton St., Southbridge
Tuesday 3-5 p.m., Wednesday 9-11 a.m.
(508) 765-0245

Southbridge Food Share
Located at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, lower level
446 Hamilton St,
Southbridge, MA 01550
Email:
Southbridgefoodshare.org@gmail.com
Phone: 508-764-6583
Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 10:00 am to 11:15 am.

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY

Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562
Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

STURBRIDGE

Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry,
Located in the St. Anne Church basement,
16 Church Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518
Stocked by donations
Contact: 508-347-6398

UXBRIDGE

Fellowship Church in Uxbridge.
All are Welcome!
Manna Food Pantry
Open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.
6 to 8 pm (Doors open at 5:45)
Located on the lower level, right-hand side of the building.
647 Douglas St., Uxbridge, MA

WEBSTER

Webster-Dudley Food Share
4 Church St #2
Webster, MA 0570
Distribution: Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 - 11:00 am. Open to Webster and Dudley residents.
Please call ahead: 508-943-9171

WEST BROOKFIELD

Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
First Congregational Church
36 North Main Street,
W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM
Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM



Raydio's 2026 Battle of the Bartenders raises \$4,440 for child awaiting heart transplant



MILFORD — The recent Raydio 2026 Battle of the Bartenders at Legends Sports Bar & Grille was more than just a bartending competition. It was a night filled with energy, laughter, creativity, community spirit, and an incredible outpouring of generosity.

Hosted by Raydio at the DoubleTree by Hilton Boston Milford, the event featured six talented local bartenders competing in a series of fun and challenging contests while raising money for a very special cause.

When the final scores were tallied, Iris Bentley of Cornell's Irish Pub was crowned the 2026 Battle of the Bartenders Champion, earning the \$250 grand prize after narrowly edging out a strong field of competitors.

Participating bartenders included:
Ashley Smith from Valley Pub / Polish Hall
Kristen Precourt from

The SHED / K Cooks
Iris Bentley from Cornell's Irish Pub
Jeanne Barry from The Black Harp
Zack Andrew from Rail Trail Flatbread Co.

Dario Palombo from Italian Vets in Milford
Each bartender also received a \$50 tip bonus in appreciation for participating and helping support the fundraiser.

While the cocktail competition kept the crowd entertained, the true focus of the evening was raising money for five-year-old Elina, who is bravely living with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome while awaiting a heart transplant at Boston Children's Hospital.

The fundraiser was held in partnership with Radiate Positivity Initiative, whose mission is to support children and families facing difficult medical journeys.

Funds raised from the event will help provide Elina with an oxygen con-

centrator, portable oxygen tanks, battery packs, and support for her adaptive bicycle, giving her greater freedom and independence while she continues her fight.

"With everything Elina and her family are facing, seeing the community rally together like this was incredibly emotional," said Ray Auger, owner and operator of Raydio. "We thought our goal of \$3,800 was going to be difficult to hit, but the generosity in that room was absolutely amazing."

By the end of the night, attendees and sponsors helped raise an incredible \$4,440 for Elina and other children in need through Radiate Positivity Initiative.

Raydio would like to thank judges Rich Cyr, Juli Johnson, and Amanda Bedrossian, last year's Battle of the Bartenders champion, for helping make the evening a success, along with the out-

standing staff at Legends and the DoubleTree.

Special thanks also go out to Tim Rice Photo for capturing the event and to sponsors:

Blackstone Valley Power Washing
DoubleTree by Hilton Boston Milford
Masters Touch Design Build

Berry Hill Farm, which also made an additional donation to the cause

Raydio also extended a heartfelt thank you to Julie Atherton of Milford Hardwood Floors for her generous contribution.

Raydio continues its mission of bringing the community together through fun, meaningful local events that make a positive impact throughout the Greater Milford area.

For more information about Raydio, visit www.localraydio.com or follow @LocalRaydio on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.

Blackstone Library Director selected to attend national conference



Courtesy

Lisa Cheever, director of the Blackstone Public Library, has been invited by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to attend "Library Convening 250: Telling America's Story," organized by the Institute of Museum and Library Services from June 10-12 in Washington, D.C.

BLACKSTONE — As the nation marks its 250th anniversary, the Blackstone Public Library will be represented in Washington, D.C., at a historic convening of librarians from all over the country, with a special focus on helping libraries tell the American story through local engagement and civic education.

Lisa Cheever, director of the Blackstone Public Library, has been invited by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to attend "Library Convening 250: Telling America's Story," taking place June 10-12 in the nation's Capital.

The convening aims to inspire and empower librarians from small and rural libraries to participate in telling both the national and local American story, while making sure to engage audiences that are often overlooked. Through keynote speakers, panel discussions and hands-on breakout sessions, participants will explore ways to create meaningful programs at their hometown libraries in a manner that honors the nation's history and strengthens civic understanding.

This educational and networking opportunity is fully funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Cheever said she is looking forward to the experience and bringing new ideas back home to the Blackstone community.

"Civic history and the American story are part of the rich tapestry our country's past and future," said Cheever. "Libraries play an important part in education and outreach for all individuals."

Interim Town Administrator Lauren Taylor thanked Cheever for representing Blackstone in Washington, noting the importance of continued professional development opportunities for local library leaders.

"We are proud to see Lisa and the Blackstone Public Library represented at this national librarian event of such historical significance, as our nation celebrates its 250th anniversary," said Taylor. "This opportunity reflects the important role libraries and librarians continue to play in connecting communities with history, education and civic engagement."

ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL ~ StonebridgePress.com





Timothy Ryan — Courtesy

Art Campbell (center), the Millville Veterans Agent, stands with members of the Millville American Legion for the Millville Memorial Day ceremony.



MEMORIAL DAY IN MILLVILLE

At left: Millville Selectman Joe Baker II reads the state proclamation for Memorial Day during the annual ceremony in Millville Veteran's Memorial Park.

UXBRIDGE

— Uxbridge area seniors donned their "glad rags" to attend the Second Golden Gala on Friday, May 15 at the VFW Ballroom. The event sponsored by the Uxbridge Elderly Connection was bigger and better and brighter with decorations by Activities Coordinator Sally Selvidge who doesn't believe less is more. Attending the Gala there were 120 guests, with the most senior being 90 years old.

Kapi's Pub catered for the Gala which offered chicken parmigiana or porketta for lunch with the cheesecake dessert gifted by State Representative Mike Soter. Live flower arrangements were prepared by Valley Vines Florist donated by members of the community. The revelers enjoyed the candy station, photo booth, and music by DJ Trish. In addition to suitable dance music, line dancing coaxed the more daring and energetic out on to the dance floor.

Slated to become an annual event, funds are raised by the Uxbridge Elderly Connection through their fundraising efforts and the generosity of the community. The most important one coming up will be its 20th Annual Uxbridge Senior Center Golf Outing to be held at the Whitinsville Golf Club on Sept. 21. Led by Russ Rosborough, President, the Board consists of Phyllis Dunn, Vice President; Cathy Thornton, Secretary; Marianne Shanley, Treasurer; Donna Oncay, Sharon Emerick, Karen Beane, Karen Sherlock, and Harriet Platt. Obviously, the greatest burden for making the Golden Gala a reality falls to the Uxbridge Senior Center staff under the leadership of Director Lisa Bernard.

Smiles for miles at VFW's second Golden Gala

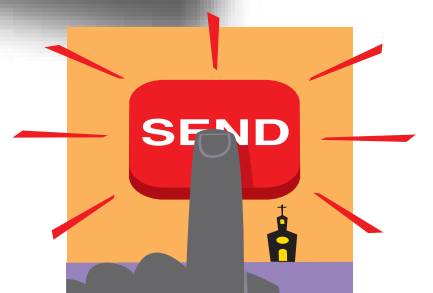


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OBITUARIES

Harriet Van Dyke, 98



Sutton - Harriet (Barnett) Van Dyke, 98, passed peacefully at Blackstone Valley Health in Whitinsville, MA on May 14, 2026. Harriet was born in 1927, the daughter of the late Howard and Irene Barnett. She was predeceased by her husband, Clarence Van Dyke, her two sons, Donald and Howard and her brother, Spencer Barnett.

Harriet lived on Barnett Road in Sutton her entire life. As a young girl, Harriet loved helping her father around the farm. She worked at the former Whitins Machine Works and as a waitress at the Blue Eagle Inn and The Blue Jay Lobster Pond for 19 years. In her later years, she was a volunteer at the Sutton Senior Center, greeting everyone with a smile and a sassy remark. She also volunteered with the 60Plus monthly newsletter.

No grass ever grew under Harriet's feet or the wheels of her car. She was constantly

on the go. She and her husband, Van, enjoyed cruising the local backroads braking at the sight of any returnable aluminum can. They collected and cashed in enough cans to pay for her grandson's college education. She was an avid coupon clipper who loved a good bargain, finding a great yard sale and going to the Beef Barn in Woonsocket, RI. One of her favorite places was her summer camp on the Douglas Reservoir where she enjoyed hosting Van Dyke and Jackson family reunions. She was a feisty woman who lived life on her terms right up to the very end.

She is survived by her grandson, Michael Brown of Englewood, FL, a great grandson, Logan Mussone-Brown of Rotunda, Florida, four nephews, Richard and his wife, Joanne Van Dyke, David and his wife, Jackie Van Dyke, Arthur and his wife, Anne Jackson and Francis and his wife, Kathy Jackson, three nieces, Helen Saucier, Alice Cook, Harriet Graves and many close friends.

A graveside funeral service will be held on Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 11 am at the Van Dyke family plot in the South Sutton Cemetery, Hough Rd., Sutton, where she'll be reunited with her husband and boys.

Memorial donations can be made to the Sutton Senior Center, 19 Hough Road, Sutton, MA 01590 or the Sutton Historical Society, 4 Uxbridge Road, Sutton, MA 01590.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Buma Funeral Home, Whitinsville. www.bumafuneralhome.com



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LEGALS

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
25 SM 002851
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
Richard W. Padovano; Eleanor R. Padovano
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY as Trustee for RESIDENTIAL ASSET SECURITIZATION TRUST Series 2004-A8 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES Series 2004-H, claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Northbridge (Whitinsville), numbered 86 Kingsnorth Street, aka 86 Kingsnorth Road, given by Richard W. Padovano and Eleanor R. Padovano to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Advanced Financial Services, Inc., dated April 12, 2004, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 33324, Page 312, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before June 29, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on May 15, 2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
25-007057
May 29, 2026

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO26P1635EA
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Estate of: Ronald L. Paille
Date of Death: 03/11/2026
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Liseann Paille of Uxbridge, MA
Liseann Paille of Uxbridge, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate

Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
May 29, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P1532EA
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

Estate Of:
Joy A Joslin
Also Known As: Joy M Joslin
Date of Death: November 24, 2025
To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Sean Moriarty of Millbiury MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate. **Sean Moriarty of Millbiury MA** has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
May 29, 2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
Docket No. 26 SM 000989
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: **Krystal Joy Gagnon a/k/a Krystal Gagnon**
Nicole A. Gagnon a/k/a Nicole Gagnon
and to all persons entitled to the ben-

efit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq)
Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Northbridge (Whitinsville), numbered 916 Hill Street, given by **Krystal Joy Gagnon and Nicole A. Gagnon** to "MERS", **Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, "Lender"; and its successors and assigns**, dated July 15, 2020, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62813, Page 129, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 06/22/2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 5/12/2026
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
May 29, 2026

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
The Town of Upton, Massachusetts requests sealed bids for construction of the **GROVE STREET BRIDGE OVER CENTER BROOK BRIDGE NO. U-01-004 (CRH) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND BRIDGE NO. U-01-004 (CRJ) PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**. Bids will be received at the Upton Town Hall, 1 Main Street, Upton, MA 01568 until 10:00 AM prevailing time, on June 23, 2026. The scope of work includes construction of a new a new precast concrete three-sided rigid frame bridge, concrete footings, pedestals, and wing-walls; temporary water diversion; support of excavation; full depth roadway reconstruction at approaches, milling, HMA overlay, driveway, sidewalks; water main relocation; utility coordination with gas and telecommunications; new prefabricated pedestrian bridge on concrete footings and abutments. The scope of work also includes the demolition of the existing bridge. Estimated construction cost: \$1,652,000
Contract Documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge at www.accentblueprints.com or at Accent Printing, 99 Chelmsford Rd., North Billerica, MA 01862, 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Questions addressed to Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc., Attn: Genny

Selfridge
(Selfridge.Genny@wseinc.com) 978-532-1900
All bids for this project are subject to applicable bidding laws of Massachusetts, including General Laws Chapter 30, Section 39M as amended. There will be no Prebid Conference. Contractors must be MassDOT pre-qualified.
May 29, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P1665EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Karen J. Wielsma
Date of Death: 02/23/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Earl J. Wielsma of Northbridge MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Earl J. Wielsma of Northbridge MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate 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 06/16/2026**.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 19, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 29, 2026

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email: legals@stonebridgepress.news

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www.uxbridgelibrary.org
508-278-8624

June 2026 library programs

The Uxbridge Free Public Library is welcoming the summer season with a vibrant array of programs for all ages this June. This year's Summer Reading program theme, "Plant a Seed, Read!", invites readers of all ages to grow their imaginations, discover new stories, and cultivate a love of reading all summer long. Join us for our Summer Reading Kickoff celebration on June 26 from 4-6pm, featuring live music, henna artists, fun activities, and popsicles to help everyone stay cool on a hot summer day. Don't miss this exciting event and your chance to participate in summer reading, with weekly prizes and plenty of opportunities to read, explore, and grow!

A quick reminder: the Library's summer hours are now in effect. We are open Fridays from 9am-2pm and closed on Saturdays through the season. Visit www.

uxbridgelibrary.org or call 508-278-8624 to learn more today.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Register now:
Gentle Flow Yoga – Mondays in June at 7pm
Uxbridge Knit N' Stitch Circle – Mondays in June at 7pm
Cardmaking Hands-On Workshop – June 11 at 6:15pm
PopUp Library at the Uxbridge Senior Center – June 24 at 11:30am
Embroidery 101 with Madonna Terlizzi – June 24 at 1pm and June 25 at 6pm
Book-a-Librarian – Need help downloading e-books and using other library digital resources? Contact the library to book a 30-minute appointment with a librarian for hands-on tech assistance. Wednesdays from 3:30pm-5pm.

Join a Book Club:
Uxbridge Senior Center Book Club – Every Tom, Dick, and Harry by Elinor Lipman, June 9 at 1pm
Historical Fiction Book Club – Keeper

of Lost Children by Sadeqa Johnson, June 16 at 3:30pm
Bookies Book Club – Boleyn Traitor by Philippa Gregory, June 29 at 6:30pm

YOUTH & TEEN PROGRAMS

Register now:
Teen Book-In-A-Bag (ages 13+) – Pick up your themed book-in-a-bag choice between June 1-15
Teen Food Series: No Bake Energy Bites – June 11 at 6pm
Manga Club (ages 13-19) – June 18 at 6pm
Book-on-a-Plate (ages 8-12) – June 3 at 4:15pm
Music & Movement (ages 0-6) – June 4 & 18 at 11am
Sound Mind, Sound Body (ages 0+) – June 8 at 11am
Blossoming Youth Yoga (ages 5-12 & caregivers) – June 8 & 15 at 4:45pm
Charmed Necklaces (ages 7-12) – June 10 at 6pm
Dragon Eggs (ages 7-12) – June 17 at 4:15pm
Henna by Jen! (ages 10+) – June 22 at

6pm
Sensory Play (3+ years) – June 23 at 11am
Lego Challenge Build (ages 5-10) – June 23 at 4:15pm
Jellyfish Jiggles (ages 6-12) – June 24 at 4:15pm
Summer Reading Kickoff (All Ages) – June 25 from 4:30pm – 6:30pm: Live Music, Henna Artists
Science with Amanda (ages 6-12) – June 25 at 4pm
Little Learners (ages 3-6) – June 26 at 11:30pm

Storytimes (registration required):
Baby Storytime (0-2 years) – June 15 & 22 at 11am
Toddler/Preschool Storytime (2-4 years) – June 17 & 24 at 11am
Baby Bumble (Socialization playgroup, 0-2 years) – June 9 at 11am
Toddler Tumble (Socialization playgroup, 2-5 years) – June 16 at 11am

Drop-In Programs:
Crafty Wednesdays – Wednesday mornings and afternoons



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SCULPTURE

continued from page A1

Worcester Art Museum's Victory Program, ACE, Bertram Senior Home, and The Mystic Learning Center's After School Youth Program.

NESA Sculptor and Community Arts Liaison, Lynn Simmons and NESA Sculptor and Vice President, Bayda Asbridge, worked with Cristi Collari, Director of Community Outreach at Open Sky to teach a Birdhouse Building

Sculpture Workshop. Each of the nine participants, a mix of community members and individuals from Open Sky programs, assembled and then painted their own separate birdhouses. Most participants had never used a power tool before and said they felt empowered as they successfully screwed the birdhouses together. Participants then painted their birdhouses with brightly colored rainbows, pink and red hearts, and green landscapes, some

adding painted words like hope and peace to their finished designs. All nine birdhouses were then installed together on a post secured into the ground in a garden in the lower parking lot. Together, these vibrant, multi-colored homes for birds can be enjoyed by all who visit the Alternatives' Whiting Mill Complex, which hopefully, one day soon, will also include the local community of birds.

The New England Sculptors Association was founded in 1948 and now

has over 210 professional sculptor members, emerging sculptors, and Friends of NESA from all 6 New England states and New York. NESA members are selected by jury, and work in a variety of media. Since the Association has no brick-and-mortar presence, NESA partners with local galleries, museums, historical sites, and communities to bring sculpture in all its amazing forms to the public. NESA and ValleyCAST have been enjoying their collaboration for 5 years.

The 6th Annual the Inside & Out Exhibit will be held in January 2027.

ValleyCAST fosters a creative and engaged community in the Historic Blackstone Valley that is inclusive and supportive of all people with and without disabilities. ValleyCAST curates events and activities that bring people of all ages, abilities, and walks of life together. ValleyCAST is the arts and culture arm of Open Sky Community Services.

Open Sky Community

Services provides the foundation for those served to see beyond and live beyond their circumstances. By blending best practices with the power of community, they enable individuals and families to achieve their goals and live their best lives.

To learn more about the New England Sculptors Association, visit nesculptors.org. To learn more about ValleyCAST and/or Open Sky Community Services, visit openskycs.org.

BHS Class of 1986 seeks community's help locating classmates for 40th reunion

REGION — As the Bartlett High School Class of 1986 prepares to celebrate its 40th reunion on Sept. 26, organizers are asking the community for assistance in locating classmates who have not yet been reached through social media or via text.

To make the process simple, the reunion committee has created a short contact-information form and is encouraging residents, friends, and former classmates to help spread the word. If you know someone on the "missing classmates" list, organizers ask that you text them the link to the form so they can update their information.

Contact Info Form: <https://tinyurl.com/BHS1986-40Years>

If it's easier, you may also complete the form on a classmate's behalf—so long as you have their current contact details. Organizers emphasize that any help tracking them down is truly appreciated, as personal connections often succeed where digital outreach falls short.

A list of classmates the committee is hoping to locate appears below. With the community's support, they hope every member

of the Class of '86 will have the opportunity to join this milestone celebration.

- Peter Allain
- Beth Antonopoulos
- Marie Aperges
- Andrew Baca
- Austin Bailey
- David Beardsley
- Frank Belanger
- Carolyn Bembenek
- Richard Bernier
- Sheila Bialoncik
- Beth Bialy
- Jason Borski
- Doreen Bourget
- Eric Brisbois
- Kathleen Brown
- Paul Browning
- Paul Bugan
- Cindy Bullens
- Sandra Butt
- Mont Canterbury
- Stephen Carlson
- Daniel Chapdelaine
- Kelly Cobb
- Ken Cournoyer
- Timothy Decker
- Tammy Deschenes
- Aaron Dorcas
- Daniel Doyle
- Dorothy DusoSelina
- Fife

- James Gardner
- Jeffrey Gatto
- Tina Giakoumis
- Alicia Goudreau
- Richard Guerin
- Robert Hamm
- Scott Horanzy

- Jane Houle
- Todd Hufault
- Joseph Hughes
- Melissa Jankowski
- Thor Johnson
- Nena Johnston
- Lisa Kozlowski
- Robert Krasnecky
- Jill Krause
- Michael Kryger
- Rick Lawson
- Deborah Leite
- Linda Lifer
- Patricia Majewski
- Renee Marchand
- Jennifer Marsh
- Jennifer Mason
- John Meagher
- Fumiyo Mochizuki
- Deborah Munsch
- Brett Napierata
- Wayne Parmentier
- Brian Poplawski
- Gary Poplawski
- Edward Powers
- William Radcliffe
- James Remy
- Debra Ross
- Collin Salmon
- Dale Schleis
- Theresa Sergel
- Henry Skiba
- Alan Standrowicz
- Jeffrey Surozenski
- Karen Toukonen
- Joseph Veronick
- Douglas Waldron
- Robert Wheeler
- Edward Zdrok

STUDENT COUNCIL

continued from page A1

crafting a written constitution, conducting regular meetings, and adopting a democratic election process. Additionally, it demonstrates successful sponsorship and participation in leadership development and activities that serve its school and the broader community.

"Our students are our best ambassadors, and they continue to impress us through their collaborative efforts," said Superintendent-Director Mr. Anthony E. Steele II. "The Student Council's dedication and consistent, award-winning efforts to improve both their school and local communities through leadership and service

have earned distinction."

"We are also proud of our advisors, Danielle Cann and Megan Wilk, who guide and empower our council members through annual service projects and fundraising efforts that truly make a difference in the lives of our families and community," added Mr. Steele.

This national recognition honors student councils that demonstrate exemplary leadership, service, and commitment to their schools and communities. Earning this prestigious award for eight consecutive years is a significant achievement for BVT and its Student Council members.

To learn more about the BVT Student Council,

visit www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/studentcouncil.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.

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Age 12
Registration #9115

Justice is a social, caring young person with a great sense of humor that easily brings smiles to those around him. He enjoys connecting with others and has a natural ability to make people feel comfortable, often using his humor and easygoing personality to build positive relationships with both peers and adults. Justice's kind and thoughtful nature shines through in his interactions, and he values spending time with people who share his interests. Justice has a strong love for reading, particularly when it comes to anime and graphic novels. He enjoys diving into imaginative storylines and following his favorite characters, which allows him to relax while also fueling his creativity. These interests give him a unique way to express himself and connect with others who enjoy similar genres. In his free time, Justice loves to get out and enjoy good food—especially at two of his favorite spots, Popeyes and Applebee's. A meal out at either of these restaurants is a guaranteed way to make his day a little brighter. He also takes great pride in his gaming skills and often jokes that he is a "professional" video gamer. Whether he's playing competitively or just for fun, gaming is something he truly enjoys and feels confident in. Overall, Justice is a fun, engaging, and genuine young person who thrives in environments where he can connect with others, share laughter, and enjoy the things he loves. With the right support and encouragement, he has so much to offer and will continue to grow and shine.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/22666079150>
Can I Adopt?

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

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



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Thompson ~ 6 Lillian Ave
Bonnette Acres on Webster Line



Young (2019) Pristine Raised Ranch, 1800+ SF, 3 BRs, LL Family Rm, 2-1/2 Baths, Primary BR Suite, Central AC, Country Setting with .70 Acre Lot & Lg Fenced Area on Cul-de-sac! \$489,900

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



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



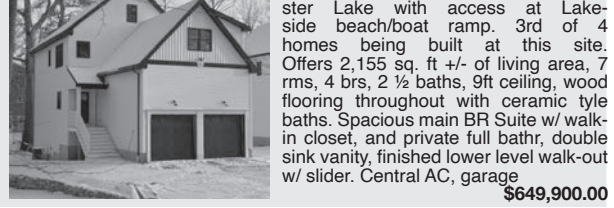
Webster - 34 Eastern Ave Condos
Unit M ~

Original Owner, 1st Time Offered, Well-Kept, 2-BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 1,500+ SF, LL Living Potential, Private Deck, 20-Unit Complex, Desirable Setting, 1395 in mins. \$310,000

Featured Listing
Webster ~ 33 Slater Street



Sprawling fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level, w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors. \$525,000



Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home

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

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg




Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Pt Snug Harbor Villa
OPEN HOUSE SAT. & SUN. 11-2
Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!
Most Luxurious & Largest on the Lake!
Presenting a distinguished condo residence that will provide an exceptional waterfront lifestyle! Offers an expansive 4600 sf +/- featuring 4BRs, 4-1/2 baths, 3 frplcs & more, all designed for relaxation & convenience! Nothing quite compares! Priced to Sell. MLS # 73507605 \$1,050,000.




Webster Lake Waterfront!
On Indian Point # 10
Astounding Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$900,000.



Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!!
Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! \$1,100,000




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DUDLEY - A SPRAWLING 59' RANCH



45 Aldea Ave. \$510,000

- *1st Floor Laundry *2 Baths
- * Gleaming Hardwood Floors *20' 1st Floor Family Room & Recessed Lighting
- *Open Floor Plan w/ Cabinet Packed Kitchen & Dining Area
- *2 Generous Size Bedrooms
- *Lower Level 28' Game Room
- *Wet Bar *Updates include Buderus Furnace
- *Roof *Oil Tank

BROOKFIELD- 55+ COMMUNITY LIVING



*Cathedral Ceilings Throughout *Floor to Ceiling Center Fireplace * Updated Roof, Appliances, Flooring, Trex Deck, C/A, Cabinet Packed Kitchen *Private yard 20 Deer Run \$285,000 w/ Storage Shed

THOMPSON, CT MOBILE HOME



*1 Bedroom Mobile Home that has been updated with new flooring *Modern Bath w/ Skylight * Bump Out Living Area, adds Space for Day Bed * Kitchen has dishwasher *Totally appliances includes washer and dryer * Shed 2 Sunrise Terrace

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Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Holiday Hours: Closed Friday, June 19 for Juneteenth

Super Book Sale
Saturday, June 20 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
The Friends of WSL's annual Summer Book Sale is taking place during the Church Street Sidewalk Sale in the library's front lawn. Great deals on used books. All proceeds go right back to funding the library.

Weekly Youth Programs:
Library Littles
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
Stories, songs, and playtime for children two and under and their caregivers. A

great opportunity to introduce your child to the library and meet new friends!

Preschool Storytime
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
Join us each week for stories, songs, movement, and fun! Designed just for preschoolers, but open to everyone, our storytime helps build early literacy skills through play, imagination, and social interaction. Come ready to wiggle, giggle, and grow a love of reading! Drop-in.

Builders & Makers
Thursdays at 3 p.m.
Our LEGO club meets weekly. Stop-in and create something new.

Special Youth Programs: Decorate a Flower Pot Workshop
Saturday, June 6 at 12:30 p.m., help us prepare for our town-wide Summer Reading scavenger hunt by decorating a flower pot for display at a local business!

Supplies provided. For ages six to 17. Registration required.

Want to decorate one at home? We have a limited number of pots available. Finished pots should be returned to the library by June 11. Please sign up, as pots are limited. All-ages.

Moms & Macarons
Saturday, June 20 from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Join us for a sweet morning featuring a short storytime, yummy snacks, and open crafting time. Make a handmade gift for someone special just in time for Father's Day or any celebration. Crafts available for a variety of ages and skill levels. Drop-in.

Gardening with Kids
Monday, June 22 at 2 p.m.
Help us dream up the library's new raised garden beds! Join a local gardening educator for a hands-on gardening program where kids will help plan what we'll grow this summer while learning about vegetables, pollinators, and gardening basics. Perfect for curious kids and future gardeners. For ages five to 12. Registration required.

Farewell to Miss Deb
Wednesday, June 24 at 10:30 a.m.
Join us for one final Music & Movement with Miss Deb as we celebrate years of songs, dancing, laughter, and memories at Whitinsville Social Library. Families are invited to sing, wiggle, and help us give Miss Deb a heartfelt sendoff. Registration required.

Reading with Casper
Saturday, June 27 from 11 a.m.-noon
Practice reading aloud with Casper, our gentle therapy dog! Reading to animals can help build confidence and make reading fun. Each child will receive a short individual reading session. For ages six and up. Registration required.

Pokémon Club
Monday, June 29 at 4 p.m.
Trainers, we choose you! Join us for Pokémon-themed games, activities, trading, and fun with fellow fans. Bring your cards if you'd like to trade or battle. For ages six to 12. Drop-in.

Summer Reading 2026: PlantaSeed, Read
Registration begins June 22
Get ready for a summer full of reading, creativity, and community fun at Whitinsville Social Library! Track your reading online through Beanstack or with a paper tracker, and receive a registration kit while supplies last, including a seed starter kit, Davis Farmland pass, and other surprises. We'll have something happening almost every day all summer long, including crafts, performers, gardening programs, scavenger hunts, and special events for kids, tweens, teens, and families. Featured events include:

- Pollinator Rockets
- Sub-Zero Ice Cream Science
- Petting Zoo visit
- Gardening activities
- Storytimes and LEGO building

There's something for everyone this summer at the library.

Summer Reading Kickoff
Wednesday, June 24 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Kick off Summer Reading 2026: Plant a Seed, Read with lawn games, bounce houses, activities, frozen treats, and summer fun for all ages! Drop-in.

The Whodunnits
Tuesday, June 9 at 11 a.m.
Read and discuss "Maisie Dobbs" by

Jacqueline Winspear. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk or via Libby. Refreshments provided. Register.

Craft Night for Adults
Wednesday, June 10 at 6 p.m.
Sign up for a special Wednesday night craft to make a trendy bag charm. Decorate your work bag, craft bag, or purse. For ages 18 and up. Register.

Dungeons & Dragons Campaign
Wednesday, June 17 at 3 p.m.
Calling all adventurers! Beginners welcome. First level character sheets will be provided if you don't have your own. Dice and snacks will be provided. For ages 12-17. Register.

Get Help with Jenna
Thursday, June 18 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Sign up for a 30 minute session with Community Health worker Jenna Gouin. Get assistance with applying for MassHealth, SNAP, WIC, Fuel Assistance, Medicare, Social Security, Veteran's benefits, and more. Register online or by calling.

Paint Night with Julie
Monday, June 22 at 6 p.m.
Join Art Educator Julie Harrold in this fun step by step summer painting! Participants will learn brush usage and how to add in light and shadow.... and how details make the difference! Acrylic paint on 11x14 canvas board. All supplies provided. For adults 18 and up. Registration required.

Memoir Book Club
Wednesday, June 24 at 6 p.m.
Read "The Dirty Life: On Farming, Food, and Love" by Kristin Kimball. Copies are available at the library and via Libby. Refreshments served. Please register.

Silent Book Club
Thursday, June 25 at 6 p.m.
Come gather at the library with fellow book lovers to read and relax. There are no assigned readings. Bring your own book or browse and borrow one of the library's. Refreshments provided.

Puzzle & Board Game Swap
Saturday, June 27 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Bring your gently used puzzles and games to the library, browse what others donated, meet fellow enthusiasts, and take some "new to you" ones back home! You don't need to bring a puzzle or game to take one. Please only donate puzzles and board games during this event.

Fiction Book Club
Monday, July 6 at 6 p.m.
July's book is "The Listeners" by Maggie Stiefvater. Copies are available at the library and via Libby. Refreshments served.

New Bocce League open to community

SOUTHBRIDGE — Bay Path Continuing Education & the Southbridge Italian Club have teamed up to launch an exciting new bocce league on Tuesday nights throughout May and June.

Bocce is a game that all can enjoy—no special skills or talents are required! If you can roll a ball, you can play! These two community organizations are thrilled to bring this sport to a wider audience. Both Bay Path Continuing Education and the Southbridge Italian Club are dedicated to offering various events for people to engage, socialize, and have fun. This new league is a perfect fit. Here are the details:

- Tuesdays: May 12 – June 30 (eight weeks)
- Teams of four to eight players
- \$240 per team
- One game per week at either 6 or 7 p.m.
- Maximum of eight teams – don't wait!
- Only team captains need to register for their team.
- A brief informational captain meeting will be held before the season starts.
- Gather your friends (18 and older), form a team, and come join us for a fantastic time on the court!
- Games will be held at: Italian American Club
- 20 North St., Southbridge
- To register your team, call Bay Path Continuing Education at 508-248-5971, ext. 1715. Spots for teams are limited, so don't hesitate—call today!

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