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SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Friday, August 28, 2026

Memorial motorcycle run to honor fallen Uxbridge police officers

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Police Fallen Officers Foundation will honor the lives and service of Officers Chester “Chet” Dzivasen and Stephen LaPorta with its “Let’s Ride” Memorial Motorcycle Run on Sunday, Sept. 13.

Organized in partnership with the American Legion Riders, Uxbridge Chapter 33, the event will raise money to support the foundation’s mission of assisting local students pursuing careers in law enforcement.

Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. at McCloskey Middle School, 62 Capron St., with kickstands up at 11 a.m. The registration fee is \$20 per person.

A police escort will accompany riders along the route before the run concludes at the Uxbridge American Legion/VFW hall on Cross Road. Following the ride, participants and members of the community are invited to gather for a chicken barbecue, live music and raffles.

The event will also include a police escort and other activities. All proceeds will benefit the Uxbridge Police

Turn To “LET’S RIDE” page A10



Courtesy

The People First Food Pantry would like to thank Premeer Real Estate and all of their volunteers who came out to fill backpacks again this year! Forty-four backpacks are now filled to the brim with school supplies that will help our children have a successful school year! Thank you to the Uxbridge community for all of your donations of backpacks and school supplies! A special thank you to Chris Whitten (owner of Premeer Real Estate), Fatima Deziel, Alex Groth, Shirley Whitten and Walter Whitten for donating their time to support the children served by our food pantry! Pictured is Alex Groth, age seven, filling backpacks.

Third Annual Douglas Common Scarecrow Contest starts Oct. 10

BY LYNN PARESKY
DOUGLAS COMMON PRESERVATION SOCIETY

DOUGLAS — Scarecrows will be arriving at the Douglas Common on Oct. 10 and 11 this Fall and will remain on display for the public to enjoy until Nov. 1 as the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. holds its 3rd Annual Douglas Common Scarecrow Contest. Make sure you visit the Common to enjoy a large collection of pretty amazing scarecrows – there is a lot of talent in the community and it will be on display.

Are you ready for a little Fall fun – and the chance to win one of three prizes for “Favorite Scarecrow?”

If you live in Douglas or any of the surrounding towns, you are invited to enter the contest and bring your creativity and talent to share with the community. Contest details, entry form and guidelines are available on the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. Facebook page and on several local Group FB pages, including We Are Dynamic Douglas. If you aren’t on Facebook, you can request your paperwork by emailing douglascommonpreservation@gmail.com or pick up a flyer at various local businesses or scan the QR Code on the banner at the Common.

Registration to enter this free, popular event is starting now! To be

part of the contest, your entry must be received by September 30th at the latest. Enter early to reserve a free commemorative gift. Our Sponsor, One by One, awarded us a \$500 grant to help ensure that the first 65 participants will receive a gift to be handed out on the day of scarecrow setup. Last year there were 54 entries in the Contest, with participants creating and displaying their own original scarecrows. Visiting the display was a very popular community activity. This year we’re hoping for even more entries.

No contest is complete without prizes, and our

Turn To CONTEST page A10

Douglas Historical Society plans for an exciting Fall!

DOUGLAS — The Douglas Historical Society is looking forward to an exciting fall including several new programs and special events.

This week you’re invited to bring the kids down to the museum for Revolution! Kids Craft & Story Time for activities that reflect the celebration of the 250th anniversary of our independence! The special event will happen on Saturday 8/29 from 10 - noon. Minors are required to be accompanied by an adult of course. This event is free and is generously supported by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

An annual fundraising drive is underway to bolster the Society’s coffers that maintain the E.N. Jenckes Store Museum. “This wonderful old building is a challenge to maintain,” Shirley Mosczynski, Society President, explained. “It’s a typical wooden New England structure and needs a lot of tender loving care. We need to raise money just to keep the heat on through the winter and we depend on area residents and businesses to help us. Please consider sending a donation to P.O. Box 176 in Douglas (01516) to help us continue to share this great museum with everyone!”

The E.N. Jenckes Store Museum is open Saturdays from 10am to 2pm and by appointment through the Fall. We welcome volunteers to help us achieve our goals with programming and preservation. Watch for additional events designed to celebrate the 250th in unique ways coming soon! For more information like our FaceBook page The Douglas Historical Society or email enjenckes1833@gmail.com.

Asa Waters Mansion to host special tribute concert benefiting senior transportation

MILLBURY — Get ready for an unforgettable evening of music, nostalgia, and community spirit as Asa Waters Mansion welcomes nationally recognized Elvis tribute artist, Dan Fontaine for Elvis at the Mansion, located at 123 Elm St., Millbury, on Friday, Sept. 18.

Set against the elegant backdrop of historic Asa Waters Mansion, the evening promises to bring the energy, charisma, and timeless music of Elvis Presley to Millbury for a special night benefiting the Friends of the Millbury Seniors Bus Transportation Program.

Doors will open at 6 p.m., with the concert beginning at 7 p.m. Guests will enjoy an evening of live entertainment, small bites, and a cash bar featuring Penny Pinchers Brewing Co. and Spicy Waters Distillery, with generous sponsorship support from Calabria Ristorante and Ballard Truck Center.

“This is more than just a night of great music, it is an opportunity for our community to come together, have some fun, and make a meaningful difference,” said Traci Parath, Executive Director of Asa Waters Mansion. “We are thrilled to welcome Dan Fontaine to the Mansion and create an evening that celebrates the spirit of Elvis while supporting transportation services that help our local seniors remain connected, independent, and active in our community.”

The Friends of the Millbury Seniors is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing programs and services that support older adults, including transportation and social services that help seniors maintain independence within the community.

For one night, the historic Mansion will trade its traditional elegance for a little rock ‘n’ roll as Dan Fontaine takes the stage with his acclaimed tribute to the King of Rock ‘n’ Roll. Guests can expect an energetic performance filled with the songs, style,

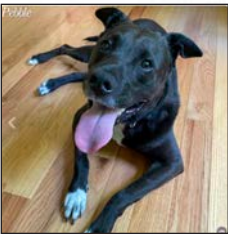
Turn To CONCERT page A10



Timothy Ryan — Courtesy

Members of the 4th Degree Edward McSweeney Assembly had their installation ceremony at Divine Mercy Parish in Blackstone last Saturday. Pastor John Larochelle of Divine Mercy Parish officiated the installation ceremony.

PET of the WEEK





BAYPATH
HUMANE SOCIETY
OF HOPKINTON
Small Shelter Big Heart

Meet Pebble

Pebble is a sweet, gentle 6-year-old at the perfect age—past the puppy chaos but still ready for adventures. He's currently thriving in a foster home with a family and a 9-year-old child, where he's shown himself to be calm, tolerant, and incredibly affectionate. He loves being close to his people, whether that means resting at your feet, climbing into your lap, or rolling over for belly rubs. In the home, Pebble is relaxed, fully house trained, and settles beautifully into daily routines. He enjoys walks, hikes, car rides, and enrichment toys, then happily lounges nearby while his people work or relax. He even handled a recent Boston field trip with confidence, showing he can adapt easily to new places and experiences. Affectionate, cuddly companion who loves people. Great in the car and always ready for an adventure. Fully house trained and easy to live with. Gentle and tolerant with children. Food-motivated and enjoys training (especially with cheese!). May be selective with some dogs, but has made friends with a proper intro. Wants to be your one and only in the home! Pebble is the kind of dog who's happiest right by your side—and he's ready to be someone's very best friend.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Manila hemp plant

6. Turkish river

10. Something to read

14. In a way, initiated

15. Popular Apple TV series

17. King Charles is part of it

19. Earlier

20. Foot (Latin)

21. Zodiac sign

22. A browsing of the skin

23. Remain as is

24. Turfs

26. It's used to slaughter animals

29. Volcanic crater

31. The mother of Jesus

32. One's life story

34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot

35. Counterparts
37. Jacob __, American journalist

38. Digital audiotape

39. River in South Africa

40. Kimono sashes

41. Rooting somewhere

43. American spy Aldrich

45. A way to call for

46. Taxi

47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour

49. Swiss river

50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)

53. Have surgery

57. Formal withdrawal from a union

58. Performs spoken improv

59. Greek war god

60. 2,000 lbs.

61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

1. Swedish rock group

2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter

3. Currency exchange fee

4. Feline

5. Folk singer DiFranco

6. Ghostly pale from distress

7. Rapid eye movements

8. Monetary unit of Macao

9. Lawmakers

10. Colorless mineral

11. At some prior time

12. American protest singer

13. Opener

16. Seldom

18. Relaxing places

22. Touchdown

23. From end to end

24. Kids love him

25. Metal-bearing solid

27. Skin care product manufacturer

28. Thirteen

29. Angry

30. Member of a Semitic people
31. One-thousandth of an inch

33. Former CIA

35. Most lemony

36. Engage in

37. Mass of fish eggs

39. Food supplies

42. Backbones

43. American real estate investment firm

44. Megabyte

46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter

47. Dutch colonist

48. Full-grown pike fish

49. Emergency prep expert Edwards

50. Flute

51. Dismissive sound

52. Slang term for marijuana

53. Young women's association

54. Cosmopolitan city

55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand

56. Pointed end of a pen

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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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 med-

ical 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:
Third Wednesday at 10:30am

Please call Kelly for more information
Brew Crew:
Wednesday, September 2nd 9:30am
Guest Speaker: Gary Bechtold, Northbridge Town Planner
Dull Men's Club:
No Meetings in August
Scrabble:
August 24th at 9:30am
Women's Collective:
No meeting in August
Writing Your Way:
2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm



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Small Stones Festival of the Arts announces art call, exhibit dates

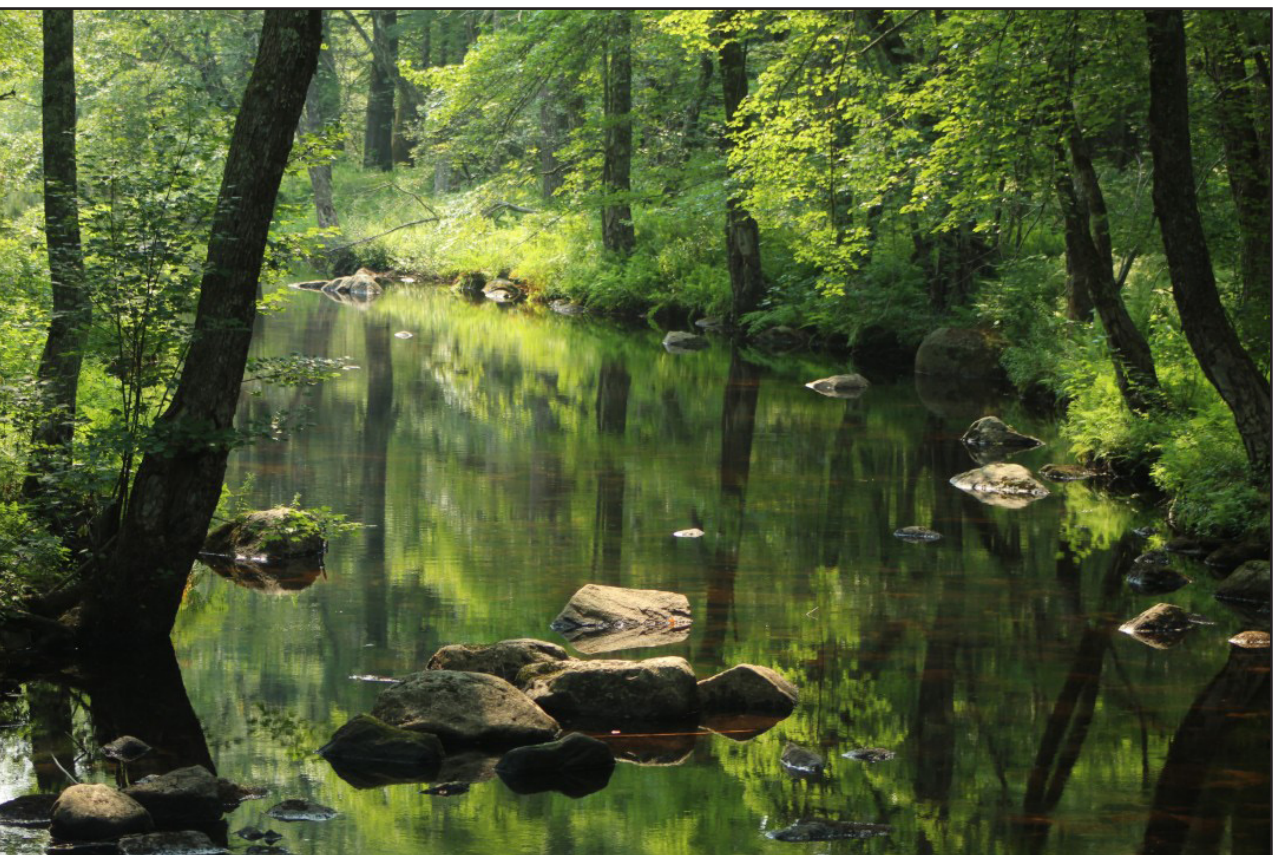
GRAFTON — Art Call opens Tuesday, Sept. 1 for submission of work to the 2027 Small Stones Festival of the Arts, the region’s largest juried fine art and photography exhibition. Fine art artists and photographers are welcome to join the area’s finest painters, photographers, watercolorists and other two-dimensional artists in the ninth year of the festival.

The two-week exhibition sponsored by the Blackstone Valley Art Association and the Worcester County Camera Club opens Jan. 30, 2027, at the Community Harvest Project barn located at 37 Wheeler Road in N. Grafton. The Festival runs until Feb. 7 and is free to the public.

The Art Call is open until Oct. 1. All forms of two-dimensional fine artwork and fine art photography are accepted with a maximum of five entries per artist. Juried artwork will be displayed at the exhibit and showcased in the hardbound exhibition catalog. The Festival’s web galley will feature all submitted artwork meeting minimum requirements. Visit <https://smallstones-festival.org/> to submit artwork.

A panel of six jurors who have distinguished careers as practicing artists or in curatorial capacities at area museums, galleries and colleges will select approximately 144 works to be displayed. Awards include first, second and third cash prize winners and jurors’ choice (six awards). Cash awards are \$500 for first; \$250 for second; and \$100 for third place. A popular choice award for each category will be voted on by attendees.

Several awards have been endowed to honor superb artistry. Dimitry Papkov, an award winning travel and landscape photographer, created the Excellence in Landscape Photography Award to acknowledge outstanding photography. An Abstract or Non-Objective Art Award, sponsored by Grafton Arts, Inc. president Ken Crater, is open to all painting or photography work, recognizes art which is either non-representational or imparts the strong subjective imprint of the artist. The Ted and Donna Williams Nature at its Best Award debuted at last year’s festival, is given to artists whose work encourages the advocacy of wildlife habitat and



healthy rivers. Each award offers a cash prize of \$250.

The mission of the Small Stones Festival of the Arts is to elevate the practice and appreciation of fine art and photography in the Blackstone Valley and beyond. Grafton Arts Inc., a 501 (c)(3) organization is the financial sponsor of the Festival.

The festival organizers appreciate the support

of these organizations: Brigham Hill Foundation, Grafton Cultural Council, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Grafton and Millbury Cultural Councils and Yesod Foundation and businesses: Central One Credit Union, Dance It Up!, EverRise, Gastonart & Frame, Gaudette Insurance, Homefield Credit Union, Millbury Federal Credit Union, New

England School of Fine Art, Pepperoni Express, Savers Bank, Uncommon Cow and Grafton Grill & Crust and UniBank.

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.

YEAR-ROUND SHORT-TERM RENTAL Egrets Landing-31A - LIGHTHOUSE POINT CONDOMINIUMS -TYBEE ISLAND, GEORGIA

Oceanfront 2-bedroom condo. Gated community with pool. Full Appliances. Ocean views of ships and birds with a short walk to the beach. Bookings Contact: Oceanfront Cottage Rentals, (800) 786-5889 <https://www.oceanfrontcottage.com/rentals/egrets-landing-31a>

Chamber celebrates An Officer and Two Gentlemen on Veterans Day

WHITINSVILLE — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce, a special ribbon cutting ceremony for An Officer and Two Gentlemen, Inc. (AOATG) on Veteran’s Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. This ribbon cutting ceremony will celebrate the organization’s fifth anniversary and the official opening

of its new home, Bridge Point – Veterans & First Responders Center, located at 875 Hill St. in Whitinsville.

When Founder and Executive Director Mike DeFazio established An Officer and Two Gentlemen five years ago, he intentionally chose Veterans Day as the organization’s founding date. Exactly five years later, the organi-

zation will celebrate that milestone by opening the doors to Bridge Point, bringing together a meaningful reflection on the past and an exciting vision for the future.

“Veterans Day has always held a very special meaning for An Officer and Two Gentlemen,” said Mike DeFazio, Founder and Executive Director of An Officer and Two Gentlemen, Inc. “When we founded this organization in 2021, we intentionally chose Nov. 11 because of what it represents. To now celebrate our fifth anniversary on that exact same day, while officially opening Bridge Point, is incredibly meaningful. It is a reflection of how far we have come and a reminder of why we started, heroes helping heroes.”

The ceremony will include the National Anthem, a meaningful Veterans Day observance, recognition of local veterans and first responders, remarks from elected officials and community leaders, and an introduction to the mission and vision behind Bridge Point. Created to provide a dedicated space for veterans, first responders, their families, and the broader community, Bridge Point will serve as a place for connection, fellowship, support, and continued service.

After five years of growth, the new center provides AOATG with

a home from which to expand its mission of Heroes Helping Heroes and continue building meaningful connections among those who have dedicated their lives to serving others.

Following the formal ceremony and ribbon cutting, the community is invited to stay and experience Bridge Point during an open house throughout the day. Guests will have the opportunity to tour the new center, enjoy refreshments, meet members of the AOATG community, and learn more about the organization and the work taking place at Bridge Point. This event is free and open to the public.

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.



Uxbridge’s Bronwyn LaChapelle receives Bay State Games Sportsmanship Award

UXBRIDGE — The Bay State Games is proud to recognize the recipients of the 2026 Sportsmanship Awards presented by DICK’S Sporting Goods, an honor given annually to athletes who best demonstrate fairness, respect, integrity, and a commitment to the spirit of competition.

This year, more than 40 athletes from across Massachusetts, representing eight different sports, were chosen by their coaches for their outstanding character and leadership. These honorees stood out not only for their athletic performance, but also for the way they carried themselves on and off the field during the 2026 Bay State Summer Games.

“Sportsmanship is a core value of the Bay State Games which we emphasize to all athletes, coaches and parents,” said Deputy Executive Director, Alanis Tirabassi.” These award recipients represent the very best of what the Bay State Games is all about. We’re grateful to DICK’S Sporting Goods for helping us recognize these outstanding student-athletes and celebrate the positive impact they have on their teammates, competitors, and communities.”

In recognition of their achievement, each recipient is awarded a Bay State Games Sportsmanship award certificate and medal.

Among this year’s recipients was Bronwyn LaChapelle, a basketball standout from Uxbridge High School.

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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Carrying their service forward

A memorial can preserve a name. The best memorials also carry a person’s work and values into the future.

That is what makes the mission of the newly formed Uxbridge Police Fallen Officers Foundation particularly meaningful.

On Sept. 13, motorcycle riders, police officers and community members will gather for the “Let’s Ride” Memorial Motorcycle Run honoring Uxbridge Police Officers Chester “Chet” Dzivasen and Stephen LaPorta. There will be a police-escorted ride, food, music and raffles, but behind the gathering is a larger purpose.

The foundation is turning remembrance into opportunity.

Uxbridge lost Dzivasen on April 9, 2001. For nearly a quarter-century afterward, his memory was carried forward in part through a scholarship offered to local students.

Then came another devastating loss. LaPorta died in the line of duty on Jan. 7, 2026.

For a relatively small community and police department, the loss of an officer is not an abstract event. These are people residents see on the roads, at community events and during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. Their colleagues are neighbors. Their families are part of the community. Their absence is felt long after the ceremonies and formal tributes have ended.

The Uxbridge Police Fallen Officers Foundation offers a way to ensure that remembrance continues in a practical form.

Its mission includes providing financial assistance to area students pursuing degrees applicable to law enforcement. It also extends assistance to dispatchers hoping to make the transition from working behind the communications desk to serving on patrol.

That second part of the mission is especially fitting because it reflects LaPorta’s own path.

He began as a dispatcher in Blackstone Valley communities before attending the police academy and becoming a patrol officer. His career demonstrated that public safety has many entry points and that someone answering emergency calls today may eventually become the officer responding to those calls tomorrow.

Making that transition is not necessarily easy. Education and training cost money. Police academy preparation requires commitment, and candidates may face expenses while trying to establish themselves in a demanding profession.

Helping someone overcome those barriers is an appropriate way to honor officers who devoted themselves to public service.

There is also something fitting about the foundation partnering with American Legion Riders, Uxbridge Chapter 33, for the memorial run. Police officers and veterans understand in different ways the meaning of service, duty and sacrifice. Bringing those traditions together creates an event that is about more than motorcycles traveling together along a roadway.

It becomes a visible demonstration that a community remembers.

As the motorcycles leave McCloskey Middle School on Sept. 13, the names of Dzivasen and LaPorta will travel with them. But perhaps the more lasting measure of the event will come years from now.

It may be found in a student who receives assistance toward a law enforcement education. It may be a dispatcher who gets the help needed to complete the journey from the communications center to a patrol car. It may eventually be another young officer serving the Blackstone Valley who was able to begin that career because a community chose to invest in the next generation.

No scholarship or motorcycle run can erase the losses that led to the foundation’s creation.

What they can do is make certain those losses are followed by something constructive.

Remembering fallen officers is important. Helping future officers follow their example of public service is a powerful way to ensure that remembrance has a future.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

John Adams for the defense

To the Editor:
In this our 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, let us remember the Boston Massacre. March 5, 1770. John Adams for the Defense.

Five citizens were killed: Crispus Attucks, James Caldwell, Patrick Carr, Samuel Gray, and Samuel Maverick. The British captain and eight soldiers were indicted for murder. A trial date was set for October 1770.

The British Captain Thomas Preston sent a “letter to the editor” to The Boston “Herald” Gazette on March 12, 1770. He thanked Bostonians for choosing a fair trial over mob rule: “Permit me through the Channel of your Paper to return my Thanks in the most Publick manner to all the inhabitants of this Town, who throwing aside all Party and Prejudice, have with the utmost Humanity and Freedom, stept forth Advocates for Truth, in defense of my injured Innocence in this unhappy Affair.”

Boston lawyers, conscious of their reputations and business, refused to represent the British soldiers. The soldiers were deeply hated. Almost all Boston lawyers refused to take the risk. What lawyer would step up and defy the status quo?

Do we hear any Boston lawyers today objecting to the craven actions of our state Attorney General? She cannot correctly write up a summary of the proposed tax cut referendum. She fails to indict those who committed perjury in the Karen Read trial. Have you heard of anyone she has indicted for any crime, at any time? Ever?

John Adams famously said: “I am for the law.” How many Boston lawyers can say that today? Most are for “social justice” and for nothing else. In his defense of Preston and the soldiers, Adams was vigorous, knowing it jeopardized his work and reputation.

But he did it anyway in 1770.

Adams began his closing speech with one of the best lines in legal history. He quoted Marchese di Beccaria, the Italian author of a celebrated volume on criminal justice. Adams was extremely well-educated. So were most of the Founding Fathers. Founding Mothers home-schooled their children to the highest level. They excelled in Greek and Latin. Read the Bible. Had beautiful penmanship. Were literate by the time they went to formal school.

“If, by supporting the rights of mankind, and of invincible truth, I shall contribute to save from the agonies of death one unfortunate victim of tyranny, or of ignorance,

equally fatal, his blessings and years of transport will be sufficient consolation to me for the contempt of all mankind.”

It was important to do the right thing. Adams suffered because of it. The Boston “Herald” Gazette railed against Adams. He lost half his legal practice. Yet the trial showed that citizens wanted a nation of laws, not of men or arbitrary power.

Captain Preston was acquitted. Most of the soldiers were acquitted. Two were found guilty of manslaughter for, in fear of their lives, they did fire on the crowd.

Adams was willing to risk the contempt of his fellow patriots and his law practice to live with a free conscience. Adams said: “The law...will preserve a steady, undeviating course; it will not bend to the uncertain wishes, imaginations and wanton tempers of men.” Attorney General Campbell, are you listening?

On the third anniversary of the Boston Massacre in 1773, Adams reflected on his 1770 decision to represent British soldiers: “I devoted myself to endless labor and anxiety if not to infamy and death, and that for nothing, except, what was indeed a sense of duty. Expressed to Mrs. Adams all my Apprehensions; the excellent Lady burst into a flood of Tears, said she was very sensible of all the Danger to her and to our Children as well as to me, but she thought I had done as I ought, she was very willing to share in all that was to come and place her trust in Providence.”

“Facts are stubborn things,” Adams stated. “Whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictums of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

Facts are sorely missing in our state right now. The state supports the destruction of our oceans in the name of climate change with giant wind turbines imported from other countries. The state supports the cutting of forests and paving over of open land with solar panels and battery storage units made in China. The state supports one third of your electric bill going to state fees. The state supports unlimited abortion. As a Boston Herald columnist wrote, cats have more rights in our state and are better protected than babies in the womb.

We the people of our state are unfortunate victims of tyranny, while our state politicians are victims of ignorance or evil, or both.

BEV GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

Painting Fauci as a hero is a vile idea

To the Editor:

Over the last few weeks, we readers have witnessed just how foolhardy some among our left-wing, Joe Biden adoring fascists have become. Thus leading us all to the same vast expanse of “A-ha!” moments where the truth on a variety of matters reveals itself to anyone who is not an idiot.

In Issue #33, this leftist tidbit was among the more foolish: “Measles is rebounding in areas with low vaccine coverage, threatening the country’s elimination status. 95 percent of reported cases are among people who are unvaccinated, or whose vaccination status is unknown.”

In other words, the illegal immigrants/undocumented workers that the leftists continue to protect, import, support and defend are the primary, perhaps even sole cause of the still unfolding measles problem. Isn’t that the most logical “A-ha!” moment involved with that bit of stupidity?

Thus, in the same insightful flash, we all came to the same inescapable conclusion. RFK, Jr. and the guy who put him in charge, Donald Trump, are doing their jobs for the greater good and greater health benefit of their fellow Americans. Meanwhile, the leftists continue to do their utmost to subvert such efforts, by any means possible, as they continue to blame others for the things we know for a fact the left has done, and continues to do, on a multiplicity of issues.

Of course, if apprised of such localized, leftist writings, the vast majority of the world’s present-day scientists, as well as their scientifically minded lay-person counterparts from across the globe would be quite appropriately disgusted by the same unspeakably vile idea that was there to be seen in Issue # 33.

The notion that Dr. Anthony Fauci was a hero, or somehow did something heroic while he was in power. With the ever-growing majority of the world taking an exceedingly dim view of such expressions and thoughts for obvious reasons.

Chief among the reasons is that in any highly direct, scientifically-minded comparison between Fauci and the absolute worst of the Nazi-era medically trained personnel, such as those who did comparative experiments on Jewish twins... it winds up being Fauci who loses out bigtime on virtually all counts in the measure of his humanity and the lack thereof.

Fauci measures to have had less compassion and concern for the fate of his victims than the Nazis did. He showed less concern for the greater good of humanity, in part or as a whole. Less respect for science itself, as well as a good many more things that are not good at all.

STEPHEN GAMBONE
NORTHBRIDGE

Letter submission policy

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Balanced or blended funds hold a mix of stocks and bonds in a single investment.

Target-date funds combine different types of investments in one fund. As you move toward a specified retirement year, the fund gradually adjusts to focus more on stability and less on growth.

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

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

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

History lessons we seem to have forgotten, Chapter 1: Health care

To the Editor:

American health care was deliberately restructured in 1973 to make denying health care more profitable than providing it. Before 1973, American health care operated mostly on a non-profit, service-oriented model. Religious charities or municipal governments ran hospitals. Doctors were paid per treatment. The primary incentive was care delivery. But that changed in 1973.

A physician named Paul Elwood walked into the Nixon administration with a proposal: instead of paying doctors per procedure, what if a single organization collected a fixed monthly fee per enrollee that was paid upfront, and then managed all their care from that pool of money? Under the old model, doing more procedures generated more revenue. Under Elwood's model, which employed what he called 'health maintenance' organizations — HMO's — spending less on patient care allowed the organization to keep as profit, the difference between the up front, monthly fee and the cost of the care provided. The incentive would be flipped completely.

On Dec. 29, 1973, President Richard Nixon signed into law the Health Maintenance Organization Act of 1973. The act provided federal funding to establish HMOs, removed state barriers to their expansion, and required employers with 25 or more workers to offer an HMO option as part of their benefits package. It also blocked states from enforcing old rules that banned managed care or prepaid group practices, and it encouraged private sector and for-profit investments to increase competition and lower costs. The law aimed to control rising medical costs and promote prepaid, comprehensive care. It did just the opposite.

Nixon framed the new law as a market driven alternative to government-run health care. The push to remove government involvement in all aspects of public support was starting! After the law passed, Wall Street moved in. Private equity and publicly traded corporations began acquiring non-profit hospitals and insurance plans, building large managed-care conglomerates. Insurers introduced 'prior authorizations', network restrictions, and coverage denials, systematic tools to limit medical spending and protect the margin, or profit. The old system didn't prioritize 'profit', it was contingent on quality of service. As cost-shifting to patients expanded, out-of-pocket expenses grew significantly, laying the foundation for what we now call medical bankruptcy.

The United States is the only developed country in the world without universal health care. We are the only wealthy country where medical bills can bankrupt its citizens. The U.S. built a system where a corporation sits between the patient and the doctor. And that corporation profits most when it prevents the parties from connecting. The system isn't broken, it's doing exactly what it was designed to do. Maybe this is, in reality, the long promised Republican healthy plan? It's been here all along, and it works perfectly for the wealthy donor class.

According to a new study led by researchers at the Yale University School of Public Health, a single-payer universal health care system, such as Medicare-for-all, could cover every American, save more than 114,000 lives a year, and still cost \$1 trillion less than the system it would replace - even after

accounting for the additional care that uninsured and underinsured people would receive. (A single-payer healthcare system is a model where one public organization or government agency pays for all health care services. This single agency collects the money through taxes. It pays doctors and hospitals directly. Everyone in the country gets health coverage. Doctors and hospitals often stay private, but the bills go to the government.)

So why don't we have Medicare for all? It's because we-the-people are not the priority of our own government. Somehow, John Adams statement "Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people, and not for the profit, honor or private interest of any one man, family or class of men" has been cast aside. It's also because 75 percent of all sitting congressmen have received a political contribution from the health care industry. And they are now beholden to health care industry donors. The profit mechanism is working overtime — we have 49 billionaires who made their wealth on private health care - so why change anything! Comedian Lewis Black once said "Why can't we have one industry, like health care, that is 'not for profit'? Could it be because too many people are making a killing from it?"

We are told over and over that we, the richest country in the world "can't afford" universal health care. We have money for everything else: we just gave Argentina \$40 billion to support their failing currency; we have spent over \$103 billion, so far, on the illegal, and unnecessary war with Iran; we have to subsidize farmers because of illegal tariffs; we subsidize fossil fuel companies...because?; we give Israel close to \$7 billion every year; we are spending billions on Trump vanity projects...and on and on. (We also refuse to eliminate tax loopholes used by major corporations and the wealthy.) Our tax money is being spent on everything but us.

Remember DOGE's ballyhooed targeting of 'waste and fraud'? Do you know that, under the current system, about \$80 billion of your health care spending is administrative waste — paperwork! Duke University Hospital employs 1300 billing clerks for 900 beds! We have 1000 insurers fighting each other for your health care fees. Every other country negotiates one price with one payer. The 5 largest health insurance companies made \$70 billion in profit last year. The CEO of United Health made \$23 million, and his job is denying your claims. Meanwhile, Americans pay double the global average for prescription drugs. (I get my family's prescriptions filled in Canada for half price.) Every uninsured person who ends up in the ER, by Federal law, has to be treated. And that cost gets passed to insured patients through higher premiums. So we are all subsidizing the least efficient possible entry point into the health care system — the emergency room - and calling that 'personal responsibility'.

We can afford universal health care. We just allow our representatives to keep telling us otherwise. The Republicans, according to MAGA Mikey Johnson, are the 'party of health care'. Nixon, a Republican, is responsible for what we have now. Republicans think we are all stupid. And maybe we are.

RICK BEVILACQUA
WHITINSVILLE

The annual mystery of the missing household scissors

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET
By CHARLES

There are certain objects in a house that apparently do not belong to anyone. Scissors are one of them.

My wife and I have purchased enough pairs of scissors during our marriage that, mathematically speaking, we should be able to open a small barber shop. Yet when I actually need a pair, there are none to be found.

This happened again recently when I needed to cut the tag off something. Simple job. Thirty seconds, maximum.

I opened the kitchen drawer where the scissors are supposed to live. No scissors.

I checked the other kitchen drawer, even though scissors have never lived there. No scissors.

Then came the junk drawer, which is less a drawer than an archaeological site. I found three expired coupons, several batteries of uncertain strength, a key that nobody can identify, two rolls of tape and a tiny screwdriver apparently designed to repair eyeglasses. But no scissors.

At this point, I asked my wife the question every married person eventually asks. "Have you seen the scissors?" This is different from asking, "Where are the scissors?"

The second question suggests that the other person has some responsibility for their disappearance. After three decades of marriage, you learn these distinctions.

She had not seen them. Or, more accurately, she had not seen "the good scissors."

That was when I remembered that our house has categories of scissors. There are the good scissors. There are the old scissors. There are the little scissors.

There are scissors that came with some kind of sewing kit and are apparently forbidden for ordinary use.

And somewhere, allegedly, there is a pair of scissors in the garage. I went to investigate.

Anyone who has ever entered a garage looking for one specific item knows how this goes.

You begin with scissors. Ten minutes later, you are holding an extension cord, wondering why you own four nearly empty cans of spray paint and trying to remember when you bought a snow shovel with a cracked handle.

I did find a pair of pruning shears, but even I understood that using those to remove a clothing tag would represent an unnecessary escalation.

So I returned to the house. By now, the original task had become irrelevant. This was no longer about cutting a tag. This was about solving a mystery.

I checked the desk. I checked a basket in the living room. I looked in the drawer where we keep pens, even though the pens themselves rarely seem to be there. Then I spotted them.

The scissors were sitting on a table approximately six feet from where I had begun my search.

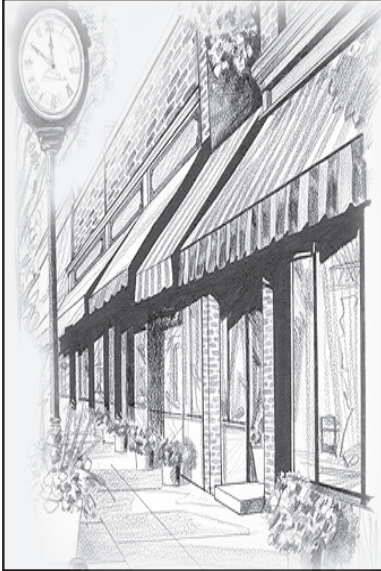
I picked them up triumphantly.

My wife looked over.

"Those aren't the good scissors," she said.

Apparently, victory has many definitions. I cut the tag anyway. Later that day, I started thinking about all the other household objects that seem to operate under the same rules. Tape

Turn To LANTERNS page A10



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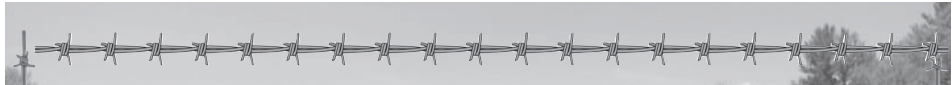
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Timothy Ryan — Courtesy



Paulie’s Push pays tribute to the ‘first first responders’ of 9/11

REGION — A former flight attendant on a mission to honor his colleagues who lost their lives in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks made his way through Uxbridge and Douglas last week with a unique tribute to their courage and sacrifice.

Retired United Airlines flight attendant Paul Veneto has been pushing an airline beverage cart more than 750 miles along routes symbolizing the flight paths of the four aircraft hijacked on Sept. 11, 2001 - pushed in honor of the flight crews - the ‘first, first responders’ that day.

In 2021 he pushed from Boston-Logan to Ground Zero in Manhattan for United Flight 175.

In 2022 he pushed from Washington-Dulles to the Pentagon for American Flight 77.

In 2023 he pushed from Newark-Liberty to the National Flight 93 Memorial in Stoystown/Shanksville.

In 2024 he pushed from the Boston Public Garden 9/11 Contemplative Garden to Ground Zero for American 11.

When the cart reaches Ground Zero by Sept. 11, 2026, it will have been pushed over 1,000 miles. Those final miles will see it pushed by members of many of the very communities that he’ll pass through, as well as members of the Sept. 11 community who join him along the route. This last Push is Everyone’s Push...

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Northbridge Senior Center hosts petting zoo

NORTHBIDGE — The Northbridge Senior Center recently welcomed some very special guests, bringing plenty of smiles, laughter, and opportunities for connection to the Center!

The event featured more than 30 animals, including adorable bunnies, guinea pigs, baby chicks, ducks, chickens, sheep and goats. Participants had the opportunity to get up close with the animals, enjoy their company, and experience the simple pleasure of spending time with these friendly visitors.

The petting zoo was a wonderful opportunity for seniors to “try something a little different” while enjoying conversation, laughter, and time together. Events like this provide meaningful opportunities to make connections and build community in a fun and welcoming environment. From cuddly bunnies and guinea pigs to curious goats, fluffy baby chicks and quacking ducks, the animals were a big hit with attendees! The event offered a memorable experience for everyone and was another example of the Northbridge Senior Center’s commitment to providing engaging activities that bring people together.

For more information on the Center, please call (508) 234-2002.



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OBITUARIES

Thomas E. Evers, 80,



Douglas- Thomas E. Evers, 80, of N.W. Main St., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, passed away surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, August 18, 2026, after a period of declining health. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Gail A. (Manyak) Evers.

He is also survived by his son Tom, of Douglas; his daughter, Tiffany Ouillette, and her husband, Jared, of Douglas; his cherished grandchildren, Tia, Abby and Jack; nephews, nieces; and longtime friends.

Born in Vancouver, WA, on August 9, 1946, Tom was the son of the late Jack M. and Eunice “Eunny,” (Reilly) Evers. Tom moved to Northbridge in the 50’s, where he would build a life filled with family, friendships, and cherished memories. He was a graduate of Northbridge High School, Class of 1964. After Highschool he proudly served during the Vietnam war era in the U.S. Navy. Tom worked as an Electrician for UMass University Hospital Lake Ave for over 20 years, retiring at age 64. Previously, worked for the town of Northbridge Highway Dept., Whitin Machine Works, Garelick Farms, Wyman Gordon, and General Motors.

Tom had a lifelong passion for classic cars, auto

racing, and rock and roll. Whether he was admiring a vintage automobile, following a race, or listening to his favorite bands such as The Mavericks and The Beach Boys, he always found joy in the things he loved most. He especially enjoyed attending concerts at Indian Ranch, taking in live concerts with family and making memories with family and friends.

Those who knew Tom knew that his favorite place was often right at home, sitting in the sunshine by his garage with a cold Miller Lite in hand, enjoying the beauty of the lake. Summer days were made even better by the daily boat rides he shared with his wife, Gail, around the reservoir, a tradition that remained a top priority and one of life’s greatest pleasures.

Tom was a loyal friend who built lasting relationships throughout his life and took great pride in staying connected with the many people he met along the way. He had a gift for conversation, storytelling, and making others feel welcome.

Above all else, Tom was devoted to his family. Tom often spoke proudly of his two children, especially when talking about Tommy wrenching on his beloved 1963 Impala, preparing it for the next race. Those moments reflected the shared passion and bond between father and son that brought him so much pride and happiness.

Tom’s legacy lives on in the family he adored,

the friendships he nurtured, and the countless memories made on the lake, in the garage, at the racetrack, and wherever there was good music, good company, and sunshine. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who knew and loved him.

“Some people leave behind a lifetime of accomplishments. Tom leaves behind something even greater: a lifetime of memories, laughter, friendship, and love.”

His family would like to extend a special thank you to Care Central VNA, Mass General Melanoma Clinic, and the Care Dimensions Hospice House for their outstanding care and attention to Tom during his illness.

In accordance with his wishes, Tom will be cremated. His service and burial will be privately held at the convenience of his family. A celebration of his life will be held at his home, 200 NW Main St., Douglas on Saturday, September 5th from 1-4pm. Come by car or boat and feel free to bring your classic car. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Douglas Firefighters Association, 64 Main St., Douglas, MA 01516 or to The Melanoma Research Fund.

To leave a condolence message for his family, please visit Jackmanfuneralhomes.com





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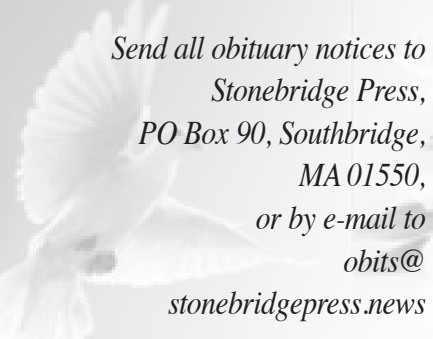
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LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO13P0703PM
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR ORDER OF
COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Estate of:
Steven Carrier

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Lisa Judkins of Sutton MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/01/2026.** 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.

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 04, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 28, 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. WO24P4009PM
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR ORDER OF
COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Estate of:
Gloria Comastra

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Lisa Judkins of Auburn MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, and 1st account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or

your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/15/2026.** 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.

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 18, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 28, 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. WO26P2609EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:

Timothy Jon Foster
Also known as:
Tim Foster
Date of Death: 06/26/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **W. Scott Foster of Whitinsville 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: .
W. Scott Foster of Whitinsville MA and **Lyndsay R. Carlson of Moultonboro, NH** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Withoutl Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2026.**

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised

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

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

Date: August 11, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 28, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 56 Driscolls Lane a/k/a 56 Driscoll’s Lane, Whitinsville (Northbridge), MA 01588

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kenneth R. Rusakovich to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, and now held by **loanDepot.com, LLC**, said mortgage dated February 14, 2024 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70208, Page 79, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns to loanDepot.com, LLC by assignment dated February 16, 2026 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 73204, Page 140; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on September 24, 2026** at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon, consisting of two parcels located at the southeasterly side of Driscoll’s Lane, in the Village of Linwood, in the town of Northbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:
PARCEL 1:
Being the most southerly lot shown on a plan entitled “Land of Laurent L. Gauthier and Margaret R. Gauthier and land of John A. and Allan Malizia, Northbridge, Mass.” dated January 19, 1983, by John R. Andrews III, R.L.S. filed with Worcester District Registry of Deeds herewith Plan Book 508, Plan 52, bounded and described as follows: BEGINING at the northwesterly corner of the lot hereby described at the southwesterly corner of Lot “B” as shown on said plan; THENCE S. 56° 30” E. by the southwesterly line of said Lot “B”, 218.00 feet. more or less, to a point; THENCE S. 34° W, 50.00 feet to the southeasterly comer of the lot hereby described;

THENCE N. 56° 30” W., 210.6 feet, more or less, to the southeasterly line of Driscoll’s Lane aforesaid as established by the highway taking in 1941 as shown on said plan; THENCE N. 26° 37’ E. by said line of Driscoll’s Lane, 50.2 feet to the point of beginning. P A R C E L 2
The land adjoining the northerly line of Parcel 1 located on the southeasterly line of Driscoll’s Lane and shown as Parcel B on said plan, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly comer of Parcel 1 above described at the southwesterly corner of the Lot hereby described: THENCE: N. 26° 27’ E. by said line of Driscoll’s Lane, 50.2 feet to land now or formerly of Malizia; THENCE S. 56° 30” E by the southerly line of said Malizia land as shown on said plan, 224.80 feet, more or less, to a point; THENCE S. 34° W., 50 feet to the northeasterly corner of Parcel 1 above described; THENCE N. 56° 30’ W, 218.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. Containing 11,080 square feet, more or less, according to said plan. Meaning and intended to convey the same premises as described by Deed dated 06/17/2022 and recorded on 06/24/2022 in Book 67807 at Page 312 in the Official Records of the Worcester (Southern District) Recording Office.

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

For Mortgagor’s Title see deed dated June 17, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67807, Page 312.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for loanDepot.com, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 217-8701
August 21, 2026
August 28, 2026
September 4, 2026

DOUGLAS ADULT SOCIAL CENTER

331 Main St.
(508) 476-2283
Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to noon
DAILY ACTIVITIES: All our daily activities are free of charge.
Monday: Painting class 9:45am to 11:45am, Balance & Strength Exercise 12pm, Mat yoga 2pm
Tuesday: Walking club 9am, Cribbage 9am, Lunch & Bingo 11:30am, Technology class 1pm (call to make an appt.) Line Dancing 2pm
Wednesday: Balance & strength 10am, Darts 11:30am, Mahjong 12:45pm, Dominoes 1 to 2:30pm
Thursday: Walking club 9am, Pitch 9am, Chair Yoga 9:30am, Tai Chi 10:45am, Hand and Foot card game 12:30pm
Friday: Balance & strength 10am, Zumba 11:15am
Friday Shopping Trips: Please call 48 hours in advance to schedule your ride. Grocery shopping pick up starts at 9:30.
Hannaford: 9/25
Price Chopper: 9/11
Walmart: 9/4 & 9/18
Tuesday & Thursday lunch club, please call the Friday before to sign up. Lunch is \$4.00 per person. If you would like to attend, we offer free rides to & from the center and are willing to waive the lunch fee is necessary.

September Lunch Menu: Tuesday/Thursday lunch club please call the center the Friday before to sign up!
Tuesday 9/1: American chop suey, salad, garlic bread & Jell-O.
Tuesday 9/8: Grilled cheese, tomato soup & cookies.
Thursday 9/10: Beef stroganoff, egg noodles, carrots and cake.
Tuesday 9/15: Baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potato, peas & pudding.
Tuesday 9/22: Ham & cheese quiche, English muffin & fruit.
Thursday 9/24: Free lunch with Amy Azza.
Tuesday 9/29: Sausage, pepper and onion

sub, pasta salad & cupcakes.
Wednesday 9/30: Free pizza party for Smile Day.
September Events: Line Dancing classes will start Tuesday September 15th @ 2pm.
WELLNESS CLINIC DATES: Monday September 14th & Tuesday August 29th. Clinic is open from 10 am to 12 pm.
Lunch & a Movie: Thursday September 10th @ 11:30. Project Hail Mary, is about Ryland Grace, a science teacher with amnesia who wakes up alone on a spaceship. He must use his scientific wits to stop an alien microbe from killing the sun and save humanity. Beef Stroganoff, carrots, & cake. Lunch is \$4.00. Sign up by 9/4.
Bemis Nursery Milk House Pitcher: Thursday September 17th @ 11:00. The cost for this craft is \$20.00. You must pay when you sign up, sign up by 9/8. Refreshments will be served.
Amy Azza, Estate Planning Attorney: Thursday September 24th @ 12:00. Enjoy a free lunch compliment of Amy and listen to her estate planning seminar. Sign up by 9/17.
Cemetery Walk: Friday September 25th @ 1:00. The Sunshine Club invites you to come and tour the Douglas Center Cemetery. Learn about the cemetery, and the history behind it.
Annual Smile Day Celebration: Wednesday September 30th @ 12:00. Free lunch courtesy of Unibank & surprise entertainment. Sign up by 9/23.
October Events:
Flu Shot Clinic: Wednesday October 7th from 9:00 to 11:00. We have teamed up with Hannaford's Pharmacy for our Flu Clinic Vaccines. Like years past we will have the form you need to fill out for the tech, please bring your insurance card and driver's license or ID. Please call the center to schedule your appointment time.

PLEASE CALL (508) 476-2283 TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS & CLASSES
Check our website for events that may not be listed here
<https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center>

Simon Fairfield Public Library announces September programs

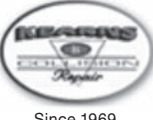
DOUGLAS — The Simon Fairfield Public Library has announced its September schedule, featuring book clubs, storytimes, games, crafts and other programs for children, teens and adults.
The library is located at 290 Main St. Regular hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, in observance of Labor Day.
Several programs require advance registration. For information or to register, contact the library at 508-476-2695 or douglas@cwmarms.org.
Children's programs
Three children's book clubs will meet during September. Book Wizards, for students in grades 5-7, will meet Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 4 p.m. to discuss "My Side of the Mountain" by Jean Craighead George.
Young Readers, for children in kindergarten through grade 2, will meet Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 4 p.m. for "Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie" by Peter Ropp. Book Bunch, for students in grades 2-5, will meet Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 4 p.m. to discuss "Wildsmith: Into the Dark Forest" by Liz Flanagan. Registration is required for all three book clubs.
Other children's activities include Lego Club I on Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 3:30 p.m.; Reading to Bryce on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 5:45 p.m.; and Lego Club II on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 3:30 p.m. Registration is required.
Fall Storytime will be held Mondays, Sept. 21 and 28, at 10 a.m., as well as Thursday, Sept. 24, at 10 a.m. Registration is required.
Teen programs
SFPL Game Night will be offered

Tuesdays, Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29.
Book Nerds will meet Saturday, Sept. 19, at 10 a.m. to discuss "The Infinite Sadness of Small Appliances" by Glenn Dixon.
The Dungeons & Dragons Club will meet Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 4 p.m. Registration is required.
Adult book clubs and activities
The library's adult book clubs offer four selections during September. Intrepid Readers will meet Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "The Gales of November" by John U. Bacon.
The Greatest Book Club Ever will discuss Larry McMurtry's "Lonesome Dove" on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 6:30 p.m. The SciFi Book Club will meet Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 6:30 p.m. for "Ringworld" by Larry Niven. Plot Twisters will meet Monday, Sept. 28, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "It's Not Her" by Mary Kubica.
Fiber Arts Friends will gather Wednesdays, Sept. 9 and 23, at 5:45 p.m., while the Writer's Accountability Group will meet Mondays, Sept. 14, 21 and 28, at 6:30 p.m.
The Cookbook Collective will meet Thursday, Sept. 17, at 6 p.m. and feature "Magnolia Table" by Joanna Gaines. SFPL Gardeners will meet Saturday, Sept. 19, at 10:30 a.m.
Rounding out the month will be Paint By Numbers on Thursday, Sept. 24, at 5:30 p.m. Registration is required for the program.
For additional information about September activities, registration requirements or program availability, contact the Simon Fairfield Public Library at 508-476-2695 or douglas@cwmarms.org.



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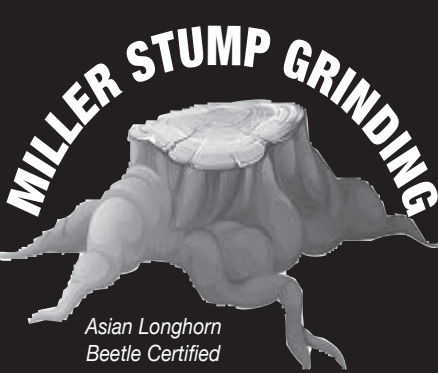


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“LET’S RIDE”

continued from page A1

Fallen Officers Foundation. The foundation was established in 2026 following the line-of-duty death of Uxbridge Police Officer Stephen LaPorta on Jan. 7. LaPorta began his public safety career as a dispatcher, working in multiple Blackstone Valley communities. He later completed the police academy and advanced from dispatching to serving as a patrol officer.

His death came nearly 25 years after the Uxbridge Police Department lost Officer Chester “Chet” Dzivasen, who died April 9, 2001. A memorial scholarship was subsequently established in Dzivasen’s name to assist local students.

The creation of the Uxbridge Police Fallen Officers Foundation expanded that effort. Organized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, the foundation is dedicated to preserving the memories of Dzivasen and LaPorta while helping another generation pursue public safety careers.

The organization provides financial assistance to area students seeking degrees in fields applicable to law enforcement. Its mission also recognizes the career path taken by LaPorta by supporting dispatchers seeking to make the transition from emer-

gency communications to becoming police officers. That process can require significant investments of both time and money as candidates complete education, training and police academy requirements.

The Sept. 13 motorcycle run will provide an opportunity for police, motorcycle riders and community members to remember both officers while helping future public safety professionals begin their own careers.

The partnership with American Legion Riders Chapter 33 also brings together two organizations with strong connections to public service. After the police-escorted ride, the gathering at the American Legion/VFW will give participants an opportunity to continue the memorial event with food, music and raffles while supporting the foundation.

The event is open to riders and community members who want to participate in the post-ride activities.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, at McCloskey Middle School, 62 Capron St., Uxbridge. The motorcycle run departs at 11 a.m. and concludes at the Uxbridge American Legion/VFW on Cross Road. Registration is \$20 per person, with proceeds benefiting the Uxbridge Police Fallen Officers Foundation.

CONTEST

continued from page A1

Sponsors have made sure that there will be prizes awarded to the three “Favorite Scarecrows” selected by a panel of respected, unbiased judges from the community. Judges will look at originality of design/theme, creativity, attention to detail, quality of workmanship, does it evoke an emotional response, does it stand out, is it memorable, and additional props like lights for night display or music/sound effects. First Place will receive a \$250 Amazon Gift Card; Second Place will receive a \$150 Amazon Gift Card; and Third Place will receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card! Winners will be announced and prizes presented at the Awards Ceremony to be held on Oct. 31 at 1 p.m. at

the Common. Winners will be notified if not present and arrangements will be made for them to pick up their prizes.

This year’s Scarecrow Contest sponsors are: Gold Sponsors – Ben’s Container and Rubbish, FJ Cunningham Plastering & Renovation, Guaranteed Builders & Developers, Inc., One by One – 4Imprint, and UniBank; Silver Sponsors – Bob Clark’s Dog Training & Dog Day Care, East Douglas Insurance, and Jared’s Auto, Inc.; Bronze Sponsors – Graffiti Works, Gregory’s Restaurant & Pizzeria, In-Gear, McGoldrick Property Services, LLC and The Sokol Club. We thank each of them for making this fantastic Fall event possible with their generous support.

CONCERT

continued from page A1

and unmistakable presence that made Elvis an icon. Tickets are \$25 per person, with limited seating is available, guests are encouraged to reserve their tickets early. Tickets may be purchased online at, <https://unipaygold.unibank.com/transactionInfo.aspx?CustomerID=1686&TransID=38533>, or guests may contact the Mansion directly at 508-865-0855 to pay by cash or check.

For more information, please contact Asa Waters Mansion Executive Director, Traci Parath at 508-865-0855 or email tparath@millburyma.gov.

LANTERNS

continued from page A5

measures vanish immediately after being used. Pens migrate from room to room. Flashlights are plentiful until the power goes out. The one screwdriver you need is always missing from the otherwise complete set.

And socks? I am not even

going to discuss socks. Some mysteries are beyond the reach of science.

What fascinates me is that these things never seem to disappear permanently. They merely go somewhere else for a while.

A missing tape measure eventually appears on a workbench. The flashlight turns up in the car. A pen emerges from underneath a pile of mail.

And the scissors will inevitably return to the kitchen drawer.

That is, until the next time I need them.

I suppose every home has its own small ecosystem, with objects circulating mysteriously among rooms and family members. Maybe that is why, after all these years, I have stopped asking who moved something.

Major collaborative milestone marked at QCC Center Topping Off



Courtesy

Left to right: Deputy Commissioner Dr. Richard Riccardi of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education; QCC Trustee Dr. Barur Rajeshkumar; QCC Trustee Dr. Satya Mitra; Commissioner Adam Baacke of the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM); QCC Board Chair Dr. Linda Maykel; QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja; State Sen. Robyn Kennedy; State Rep. James O’Day; Assistant Secretary Robert LePage of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Education; Worcester Mayor Joseph Petty; QCC Student Trustee Dawit Quilty and Craig Skurka, operations manager for Gilbane Building Company.

Dr. Richard Riccardi of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education; Commissioner Adam Baacke of the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM); and Craig Skurka, operations manager for Gilbane Building Company.

“The raising of the beam is a moment for us to give gratitude and thank those who have stepped

up to make this a reality,” Kennedy said. “As you join into the growing skyline of Worcester, we continue to grow with you. By signing our names to these beams, we are signing our commitment to make sure the school continues to be successful.”

The Topping Off Ceremony commemorated the progress of the \$37.4 million renovation and expansion project, which is transforming a 1960s-era athletic facility into a modern, accessible hub for learning, workforce development and student life.

Upon completion, the 57,000-square-foot facility will feature advanced manufacturing and robotics laboratories, hospitality training spaces, flexible classrooms and revitalized athletic facilities. The project also includes significant upgrades to aging infrastructure and accessibility improvements designed to create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all students.

“This project is so important to the mission and vision of Quinsigamond Community College, the region it serves and the Commonwealth,” Riccardi said. “We know that holistic student success incorporates curricular and co-curricular initiatives, and this project provides the infrastructure to check both of those boxes.”

Speakers highlighted the collaborative partnership among the college, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and project stakeholders that have made this investment pos-

sible. There is rarely a satisfactory answer. Besides, I have learned the safest approach.

When you finally find the scissors, use them quickly. Then put them back exactly where they belong.

That way, when they disappear again, you can be absolutely certain it was somebody else.

“It is a necessity that we continue to improve our community college environments,” O’Day said. “The legislature has made it very clear that not only is higher ed important, but certainly the community college segment is equally as important. It’s been an honor to be able to represent the college.”

While the majority of the renovation is funded by DCAMM, the project reflects the type of transformational campus investment envisioned through the Commonwealth’s BRIGHT Act (An Act to Build Resilient Infrastructure to Generate Higher Education Transformation). The statewide initiative is designed to support modernization of public higher education facilities.

“I want to thank our legislative partners for championing the BRIGHT Act to date and hopefully getting it across the finish line so we can keep doing impactful projects like this one,” Baacke said. “As someone whose parents both worked at community colleges, I know there are few things we do that are more important in changing the lives of residents across the Commonwealth than what community colleges do every day.”

Designed to achieve LEED Gold certification, the facility will support improved energy performance, enhanced indoor air quality and long-term sustainability goals.

“Buildings like this bring jobs to your community – great-paying opportunities for advancement. We are looking forward to continuing to make these investments. They are about the future of the economy,” LePage said.

Skurka recognized the efforts of the construction team and project partners in reaching the milestone safely and efficiently.

“Today’s event celebrates a significant construction milestone and the many people and partnerships helping us bring this project to life,” Skurka said. “At Gilbane, we are committed to creating healthy, safe and sustainable spaces that have a lasting effect on the community. We are honored to partner with QCC on this transformative project.”

The QCC Center is expected to open in Fall 2027 and will serve as a centerpiece of the college’s campus, creating new opportunities for hands-on learning, workforce training and community engagement.

“When we look at this structure, we aren’t just looking at steel beams and concrete; we’re looking at the literal framework of Worcester’s economic future,” said Petty. “True progress means lifting everyone up. By expanding physical accessibility and producing state-of-the-art, energy-efficient systems, QCC is ensuring our green energy and equity goals move forward.”

Bookmark design contest celebrates Library Card Sign Up Month

WHITINSVILLE — To celebrate Library Card Sign Up Month, Whitinsville Social Library invites you to show off your creativity in its first bookmark design contest. From Aug. 20 to Sept. 30, aspiring artists of all ages can submit an original bookmark design inspired by reading, books, libraries, or your own imagination.

Participants will submit designs in the following age categories: Kindergarten – Grade 2, Grades 3 – 5, Grades 6 – 12, and Adult. Designs must be original (no copyrighted characters). Artists must reside in Northbridge. Only one entry per person.

Visit the library to pick up the entry form or download the entry form on the library’s website <https://whitinsvillelibrary.org/bookmark-contest-2026>. Creators can drop off their completed entry at Whitinsville Social Library during business hours or submit it online.

In October, Library staff will announce the winner in each age group. The four winning designs will be made into professionally printed bookmarks and distributed to all visitors to Whitinsville Social Library.

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The People First Food Pantry of Uxbridge would like to thank Cornerstone Church Vacation Bible School’s Staff and Students for collecting 447 pounds of food and \$766 during their summer week! “Year after year, the students work so hard to support our families during their Vacation Bible School! We appreciate their commitment and support!” stated Denise Mussulli, People First Food Pantry Executive Director.

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Timothy Ryan – Courtesy

A P&W Railroad engine is pictured here going through North Uxbridge.

Uxbridge Cultural Council now accepting grant applications

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Cultural Council is now accepting applications for the Local Cultural Council Program’s 2027 grant cycle. The council prioritizes funding for activities that enrich cultural awareness through the arts, history, music, and performances held in the town of Uxbridge and its surrounding communities. This year, the council is especially interested in funding exciting new programs in our community. Individuals, schools, and cultural organizations are eligible to apply.

Applications open on Sept. 1. The application deadline is Oct. 15. Please apply through the Massachusetts Cultural Council Web site at <https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/>.

The Uxbridge Cultural Council is holding an info session and meet and greet event at the Uxbridge Free Library in mid-September. Please check the Uxbridge Cultural Council Facebook page for more details. If you have an idea for a program or questions about your eligibility, please contact us.

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<https://www.mareinc.org/child/22558031716>

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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.

