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Friday, October 9, 2020

# Webster schools to go hybrid

**BY GUS STEEVES**  
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER – The School Committee voted 4-1 to approve shifting to a “hybrid” school plan starting next week, largely driven by the fact some sports have already begun.

Tomember Linda Millett, the sole no vote, the plan was “kind of rushed” because “some towns that have started sports are seeing a higher Covid rating.”

“It’s being steered by sports, and that’s not what it’s about,” she said. “It’s about safety.”

Going hybrid in Webster means that students have been assigned to three groups. Group A will go to school Mondays and Tuesdays, and attend remotely Wednesdays and Thursdays; Group B does just the opposite. Both do remote learning half-day Fridays. Group C (Special ed, some English learners and other “high-needs” kids) are already going to school Monday-Thursday and remote on Fridays.

Regarding the sports aspect specifically, Tony Paranto said most of the area schools started Sept

Turn To **SCHOOLS** page **A7**

# Bartlett alum takes part in virtual Boston Marathon



Courtesy

Charlie Nikopoulos, center, recently took part in a virtual Boston Marathon.

# Author takes aim at abuse in daughter’s name



Diana Garlington reads a passage from her book “S he Wasn’t the One.”

**BY GUS STEEVES**  
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER – Diana Garlington has a story no parent wants to ever tell, never mind live through. But she’s telling it in the hopes nobody else has to.

Nine years ago, Thanksgiving 2011 proved to be the last day she could call normal. Dinner that night featured “a lot of delightful things,” including the fact her daughter Essence, 21, was “so playful and joyful. That was really different.”

A few hours later – she remembers the exact time, 2:42 a.m. – there was “a hard knock on the door” and her niece telling her to rush to the hospital. She did, only to find her daughter had been shot in a drive-by targeting her boyfriend and abandoned to die in the hospital by one of the

Turn To **GARLINGTON** page **A7**

# Halloween a go in Dudley

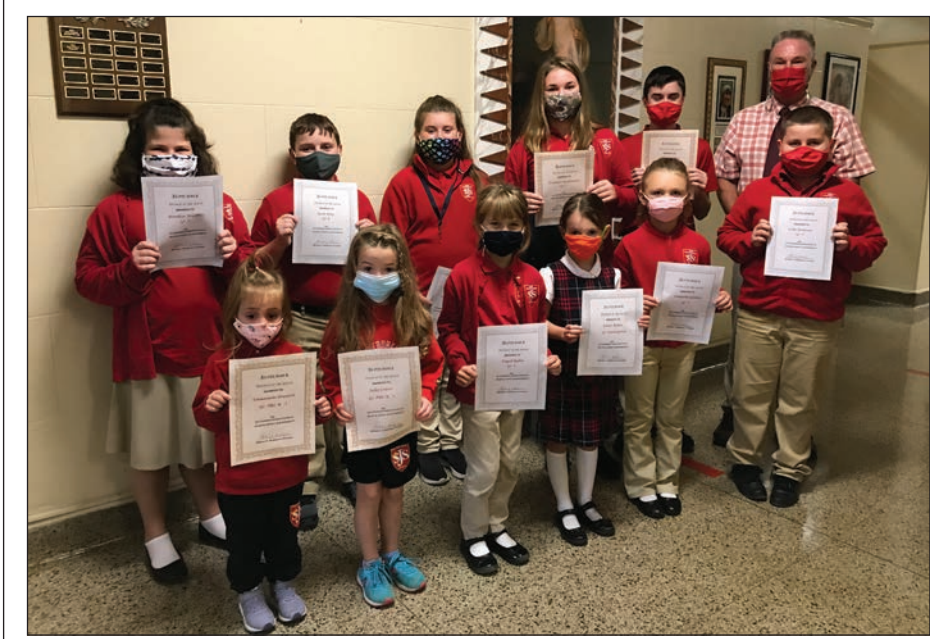
**BY JASON BLEAU**  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Halloween is on in Dudley for 2020 after the Board of Selectmen approved a recommendation from Police Chief Steve Wojnar to hold the annual holiday as planned on Saturday, Oct. 31.

Chief Wojnar discussed the matter with selectmen on Sept. 28 where the board unanimously supported allowing Halloween to proceed while also urging adults and trick-or-treaters to abide by CDC and Department of Public Health guidelines. Chief Wojnar said the recommendation was also partially to conform with the town of Webster as both communities tend to share populations during the scariest holiday of the year.

“(Webster) is going ahead with theirs, and I would recommend that we also go with Halloween on the 31st, a Saturday. Certainly, there are a lot of guidelines that have come out through

Turn To **HALLOWEEN** page **A7**



Courtesy

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as September Students of the Month at the St. Joseph School: Pre-K 3-year-old – 2 Day Program: Sawyer Miedema; Pre-K 3-year-old – 3 Day Program: Emmanuela Brunnett; Pre-K 4-year-old: Juliet Craver; Kindergarten: Emma Romeo; Grade 1: Samantha Genduso; Grade 2: Abigail Rubin; Grade 3: Brooklyn McCarthy; Grade 4: Luke Surowanec; Grade 5: Claire Calnan; Grade 6: Jacob Perry; Grade 7: Alexandra Parafinowicz; Grade 8: Dale Boudreau. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility.

Keep up the great work!

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YOUR  
TEETH  
MATTER

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Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.



No need to fear root canals

Procrastinating in regard to maintaining teeth and gums can prove harmful. Regular dental checkups and cleanings can reduce discomfort and expose conditions before they become especially problematic.

Root canal is one treatment men and women fear when going to the dentist. But root canals are often less painful than the symptoms that require they be performed.

A root canal is an endodontic therapy that can treat and save teeth. The American Association of Endodontists says root canal treats inflammation or infection in the roots of a tooth. This procedure enables dentists to save a tooth rather than extract it.

WebMD explains that, during a root canal, the nerve and pulp of the tooth are removed from the inside. If the tooth’s nerve or pulp chamber is damaged, it can eventually break down and bacteria can begin to form within. The most common causes of pulp inflammation or infection are a cracked or chipped tooth, a deep cavity or filling, or another serious injury to the tooth. All of these can allow bacteria to enter the pulp. Debris and bacteria can lead to infection or an abscessed tooth. Abscesses can form at the ends of the tooth roots. Swelling, pain, bone loss, and drainage into the gums may occur if a root canal is not performed.

The AAE says that people may avoid root canal treatment because they fear it is too painful. However, with modern technology and anesthetic medications, the pain that results from root canal is on par with having a cavity filled. Damaged tissues in the tooth and the severe toothache that ensues if root canal is not performed is generally much more severe than anything that occurs during the procedure.

Patients who are worried about discomfort can speak with their dentists about pain management. In addition to anesthetic injections, some dentists specialize in medical sedation that can further calm patients’ nerves during procedures.

The American Dental Association says this is what people can expect during a root canal.

- The tooth is numbed for comfort.
- A thin sheet of latex rubber is placed over the tooth to keep it dry, and an opening is made through the crown of the tooth.
- The nerve or pulp is removed. The excavated canal is then cleaned and shaped.
- Medicine may be placed in the pulp chamber to deter bacterial growth.



• The root canal is then filled with a rubber-like material to seal it. A metal or plastic rod or post may be placed in the canal to help retain the filling material so it can properly support the tooth.

• A temporary filling is placed in the tooth. During a subsequent treatment, the temporary filling will be replaced with a permanent crown or filling.

Root canals are nothing to fear. Such procedures are routine and generally produce little to no pain.

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# United Way holds baby supply drive



Mary O'Coin — Courtesy

**Volunteers at Park n Shop in Dudley.**

SOUTHBIDGE — The United Way of South Central Massachusetts today partnered with Fundación MAPFRE for a combined Day of Caring and Global Day of Volunteering, by holding a “Stuff a Truck Food and Baby Supply Drive.” The event collected 125 boxes of food and diapers and over \$1,000 in cash donations, with the help of 52 event volunteers comprised of MAPFRE employees, United Way Board members, Tantasqua Regional High School National Honors Society students and community members.

“Families in need may look different – a single parent without a permanent home; a mother and father who are on a low income; or a grandparent caring for young grandchildren, but they all need help getting the basic necessities to take care of their families,” said Mary O’Coin, Executive Director, United Way of South Central Massachusetts. “We deeply appreciate the public’s gen-

erosity and support for the families in our community.”

With the help of local dealerships, McGee Buick GMC, McGee Toyota and Place Motor Ford, new pickup trucks and vans were in the parking lots of Big Bunny Market in Southbridge, Park N Shop in Dudley and MAPFRE Insurance on Gore Road in Webster, to collect non-perishable food and baby supplies, such as diapers, jarred food and cereals. The proceeds were distributed to local food banks, Webster-Dudley Food Share, Webster St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank, Charlton Chip-In and Southbridge Food Share, as well as service organizations, such as Our Bright Future food closets in Webster and Southbridge.


About United Way of South Central Massachusetts

The United Way of South Central MA is a volunteer-driven organization that supports local agencies that pro-

vide health, education and financial stability services that profoundly affect the lives of those who live and work in the communities we serve. For more information, call (508) 765-5491 or visit [www.uwscm.org](http://www.uwscm.org). Follow on Facebook @United Way of South Central MA

About Fundación MAPFRE

Fundación MAPFRE is a nonprofit organization created by MAPFRE in 1975 to promote the well-being of society and citizens across the company’s footprint. Active in 30 countries, Fundación MAPFRE focuses on five areas: Road Safety and Accident Prevention, including fires, mishaps at home and drownings; Insurance and Social Protection; Culture; Social Action; and Health Promotion. Please visit <https://www.fundacionmapfre.org/fundacion/en> for more information about Fundación MAPFRE.



### ACCURACY WATCH:

The Webster Times is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected in a timely manner on page A3. We cannot run corrections based upon differences of opinion or unconfirmable facts. We will, however, print letters to the editor from area residents who wish to add their comments to our news coverage. If you find a mistake, please email [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news) or call (508) 909-4106. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voicemail box.

## WEBSTER

## POLICE LOG

**WEBSTER —** The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Sept. 27 to Oct. 3.

Giselle Jordan, age 33, of Webster was arrested on Sept. 29 in connection with a warrant.

Thomas D. Scannell, age 19, of Northbridge was arrested on Sept. 30 in connection with a warrant.

Theresa C. Edwards, age 28, of Providence, R.I. was arrested on Oct. 1 in connection with a warrant and for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Stephan D. Putis, age 32, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 3 for Speeding and Possession of a Class B Drug.

An adult male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 3 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Intimidation of a Witness, Juror, Police Officer, or Court Official.

## McGovern announces SAFER grant for Webster FD



**WEBSTER —** September 28, 2020, Congressman Jim McGovern and State Rep. Joe McKenna visited the Webster Fire Department to announce a major new investment from the federal government to help cover the costs of critically-needed staff positions. Currently, the department employees 3 full-time and 34 part-time firefighters to protect a population of 17,000 and respond to 700-800 emergency calls per year.

The \$1,320,464 SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) grant from FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) is one of 91 awarded nationwide, and McGovern advocated on behalf of Webster

directly to FEMA Deputy Assistant Administrator Bridget Bean. It will allow the department to significantly cut response times by hiring additional firefighters. SAFER funding is appropriated by Congress annually and authorized by Section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974.

“This is a fantastic day for Webster and I’m proud to be here with Representative McKenna and Chief Hickey to celebrate this grant,” said Congressman McGovern. “I’m especially proud that thanks to our advoca-

cy and teamwork at the local, state, and federal level, Webster was one of a handful of cities and towns nationwide to receive federal money. Our first responders work day and night to keep us safe. I’m glad this new investment will help keep them safe while they protect our community.”

“The Webster Fire Department is a tremendous and hardworking group of public servants who keep our commu-

nity safe. I can speak from experience; when I needed to call in the middle of a rainy night, the Department was there quickly with professionalism and class. I am tremendously appreciative of the Federal grant which will allow the Fire Department to continue to recruit and retain the highest quality fire-fighter who will be there to answer the call when there is an emergency in Webster,” said McKenna.

### Grounds and Maintenance Manager

Solair Recreation in Woodstock CT has a full time position for a Maintenance worker. This position involves projects and preventative maintenance. The campground is open to members year-round. The successful candidate should be able to work with limited supervision, have a working knowledge of mechanical systems, carpentry, painting and basic electric and plumbing skills. The position also requires some supervision of volunteers who assist with many of the duties.

Job duties include but are not limited to: Plowing snow, cleaning sites and grounds, maintaining a pool, hot tub, general landscaping, escorting guests to site, general labor and general minor repairs. Previous maintenance experience is required, some on the job training will be provided. Must be flexible with hours of availability as holidays and weekends are required during the season.

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## Friday's Child



Photo by Ern Mathieu

Aleenah  
Age 13

**Hi! My name is Aleenah and I have a great sense of humor!**

Aleenah is a fun, outgoing girl with an enormous amount of charisma and great sense of humor. Some of Aleenah's favorite activities include bowling, roller skating, going to the movies, drawing, and singing along to the songs on the radio. Aleenah does especially well with younger children; she is always willing to help out in other classrooms, read to younger kids, and/or mentor them. Aleenah feels important and takes great pride in building these relationships.

Legally free for adoption, Aleenah is in need of a family that can provide a structured, loving home. She would do best with a single mother or a two-parent family with or without other children. Interested families should be comfortable maintaining

contact with Aleenah's siblings and her birth mother, who she visits with twice per year.

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The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-6273 or visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

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# Zoning amendments included on Town Meeting warrant

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Dudley voters will have a say on 16 articles during the upcoming annual fall town meeting on Oct. 19, among them proposed revisions to the Mill Overlay District Zoning Bylaws that would help loosen current restrictions placed on historic mill properties.

Both the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board met on Sept. 30 to hold a public hearing concerning the proposed changes which include added options to commercial use requirements for the overlay district and providing a process for receiving a waiver for requirements that ten percent of the proposed dwellings on these properties be restricted to low and moderate income households. Special permitting would be required through the Planning Board and Board of

Selectmen for the waivers.

In the spring of 2020, Dudley residents also voted on an amendment to the overlay district but the changes failed to receive the two thirds vote required to pass. Following the spring town meeting town officials went to work revising the amendments resulting in the new proposal for October. The goal is to allow interested parties to bypass established commercial and residential requirements with the permission of both the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen through special permits. These proposals are also partially connected to plans by Camden Management Partners who seek to redevelop Stevens Mill, one of Dudley’s most prominent historic landmarks in the Mill Overlay District.

Steven Madaus of Mirick O’Connell, who represents Camden Management Partners, said he felt the proposal provides adequate protection for the town to adopt and that the leniency provided through the amendments would make the district more attractive to potential developers.

“It’s important to note, I went back and watched the annual town meeting and one of the objections seemed to be that there was a misunderstanding that all uses now would require a special permit but the special permit is applicable only to a mill conversion project pursuant to the overlay so the underlying zoning remains in place. We’re only talking about tweaking, if you will, the overlay district

and these proposed amendments require two votes of two boards in the town of Dudley, both the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, and of course boards must meet in public,” Madaus said.

Later, he expanded on his support for the amendments commenting on their significance to attracting potential investors for the district. He stated that the changing economic times make investing in properties with overly restrictive commercial and residential requirements and no wiggle room for negotiation unenticing.

“A project like this takes a lot of money and there are investors who would back the project. Some of those components if required, like a commercial development, in this market during COVID is not a favorable investment these days,” he said. “We’ve seen a lot of proposed commercial retail developments fall away. Residential development however I think is still a favorable proposal in the marketplace for investors.”

John Gumpert and Andrew Wydel, both representing Camden Management Partners, were also present for the meeting and expressed their support for the amendments while providing exterior renderings of the proposed redevelopment project for Stevens Mill which would include roughly 154 units, primary one and two bedroom living spaces and studios. These renderings will be made available during the annual town meeting to accompany the discussion concerning the amendment article.

## Abigail Karalus of Dudley serves as orientation leader at Nichols College

DUDLEY — Each summer Nichols College welcomes its freshman class with on-campus orientation sessions, but as is often the case in 2020, plans needed to be reimaged. At the end of April, the decision had to be made to take new student orientation online. The student leaders taking on the role of orientation leaders showed great resiliency and creativity when asked to step up to the challenge of creating an engaging virtual orientation session. This year the team included 13 student leaders, including Abigail Karalus, of Dudley.

Beth Gionfriddo, Director of Student Involvement, shared that “The students who make up BOLT (Bison Orientation Leader Team) didn’t hesitate to make the adjustment - learning how to manage and navigate Zoom, trying out new ice breakers to do online and receiving all of their training online. They even scheduled ‘hang out sessions’ virtually with each other so they could get to know their teammates better.”

At first, the orientation leaders were nervous that freshmen wouldn’t show up to an online orientation or that they wouldn’t be engaged. They brainstormed ways to get everyone involved

on the call. One of the most successful activities was when they asked freshmen to share a personal item that means something to them from their room, such as a family heirloom, a trophy or keepsake from travel. It was a great way for the students to get to know each other.

Orientation leader Krstyal Pizzi, a junior majoring in criminal justice, shared that although orientation was online, she was very proud of the feedback received from students. “The new students enjoyed orientation and had a lot of fun. I kept getting messages thanking me for their experience and sharing that they can’t wait to be on campus.” Pizzi shared that she felt proud being able to support students by answering their questions and welcoming them to the Nichols community. Pizzi feels “that being an orientation leader has been one of my greatest experiences at Nichols so far. I could not be more grateful for the opportunity.”

Another orientation leader, Deegan Eggleston, a sophomore and double major in criminal justice and psychology, was inspired to take on the role because he had an amazing experience at his freshman orientation. Eggleston shares, “I used to be very anx-

ious and antisocial. In my senior year of high school I just started to come out of my shell. I was extremely nervous for my orientation at Nichols, but the orientation leaders made me feel comfortable. By the end of our time together I had 10 new friends and felt excited to move to campus. I decided to become an orientation leader because I wanted to give a new student like me who might be anxious about starting college the same great experience that I had.”

Eggleston expressed that there were many highlights of being an orientation leader but what he is most proud of is making an impact on the students. “I have grown so much at my time at Nichols. I started as a shy kid and now I am the one pushing our new students out of their comfort zone. I hope that I have empowered our freshmen to be comfortable getting to know their peers and to embrace all that Nichols has to offer.” An added bonus, he made great new friendships with his fellow orientation leaders.

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow’s leaders. Nichols also offers master’s degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today’s professionals.

## REAL ESTATE

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\$476,500, 2 Britlees Way, Meece, Bryan W, and Meece, Candace L, to Sabara, Ashley A, and Bremmer-Sabara, Rarython.  
\$252,000, 36 Oxford Ave, Johnson, Joyce K, and Bartolomei, C J, to Polino-Torres, Glenidi.  
\$195,000, 1 Fairview Ave #B, Charpentier, Cristin, to Stan, Megan.

**Oxford**  
\$360,000, 3 Spicebush Ln, Wilson, Heather E, and Wilson, Michael J, to Oldenburg, Randy.  
\$285,000, 367 Main St, 367 Main Street RT, and Flynn, Patrick M, to Byrnes Realty LLC.  
\$270,000, 4 Oak Dr, Muska, Ylke, to Burgess, Seth.  
\$240,000, 8 Carol Dr #8, Forsberg, Lisa E, to Labonte, Nicholas D, and Jordan, Brianna M.  
\$160,538, 6 Rose Ln, US Bank NA Tr, to Wilmington Svgs Fund Soc.

**Webster**  
\$471,000, 51 Blueberry Hl, Horan, Albert B, and Horan, Susan A, to Cyr, Joseph.  
\$372,500, 206 Treasure Island Rd #206, Walker, Lynn R, to GL RE Holdings LLC.  
\$295,000, 703 Beacon Park #703, Villatico, Jason, to Moynahan, Pamela.  
\$175,000, 3 Lyndale Ave #E, Ankstitus, Shaun W, and Samadi, Farrah, to Peterson, Christopher.  
\$110,000, 7 Lake St, ABG Real Estate LLC, to Vangella Real Estate LLC.  
\$30,000, 132 N Main St, DMM RET, and Marcoux, Daniel M, to 73 Willard Road LLC.

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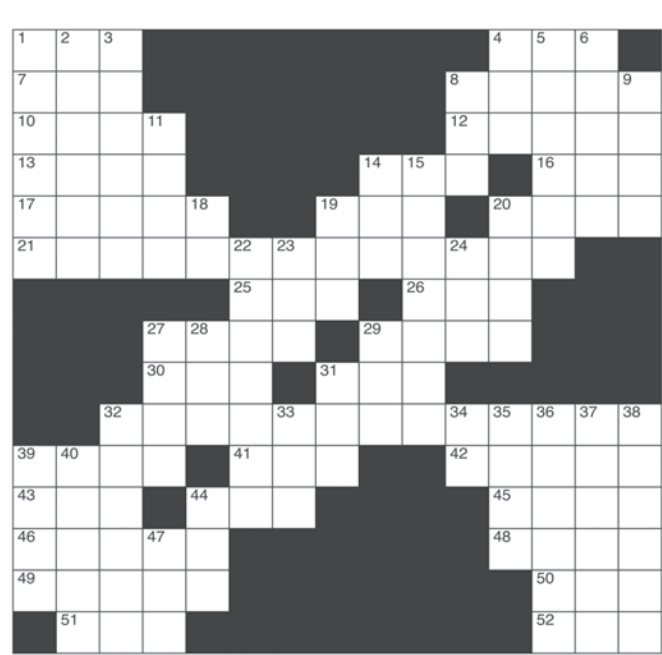
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*Town Clerk (987-6032)*  
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### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. They look out for kids
- 4. Play
- 7. Water (French)
- 8. Prayer leader
- 10. Small constellation
- 12. \_\_\_ Carta: influential royal charter
- 13. Pressure unit
- 14. Extrasensory perception
- 16. A symbol of “Aloha”
- 17. Portion of the small intestine
- 19. Psychedelic amphetamine
- 20. Very long period of time
- 21. British overseas territory
- 25. Cereal grain
- 26. Car mechanics group
- 27. Wish harm upon
- 29. At a specific prior time
- 30. Peyton’s younger brother
- 31. UK firefighters’ union
- 32. Carroll O’Connor’s screen partner
- 39. Popular show honoring musicians
- 41. Basics
- 42. Honk
- 43. Trent Reznor’s band
- 44. Patti Hearst’s captors
- 45. Long-legged wading bird
- 46. Specialized biological grouping
- 48. A coin goes in it
- 49. Of the wind
- 50. One-time measure of length
- 51. A very large body of water
- 52. River in NE Scotland

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Boston hoopster
- 2. A type of bribe
- 3. SE England county
- 4. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 5. “Hotel California” rockers
- 6. Italian province
- 8. Mischievous child
- 9. Popular street name
- 11. Boxing promoter Bob
- 14. Snakelike fish
- 15. Break into pieces
- 18. The Bay State
- 19. Time zone
- 20. Port city in Yemen
- 22. In name only
- 23. 007’s creator
- 24. No (Scottish)
- 27. Baseball’s Gordon and rock’s Snider are two
- 28. Pie \_\_\_ mode
- 29. Don’t know when yet
- 31. Supervises interstate commerce
- 32. Make a ringing metallic sound
- 33. Helps little firms
- 34. Pound
- 35. Lilly and Manning are two
- 36. Put on the back burner
- 37. Baltimore ballplayer
- 38. Cuddle
- 39. Poker stake
- 40. Drinks to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
- 44. Pouch
- 47. Not around



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# St. Joseph students celebrate First Friday Mass

WEBSTER — On Friday, Oct. 2, the St. Joseph School community gathered to celebrate their first, First Friday Mass since returning to in-person learning for the 2020-2021 academic year.

The practice of celebrating Mass on the First Friday of each month originated in 1673 when a French Visitation nun named Margaret Mary Alacoque had visions of Jesus. In her visions, Jesus asked the Church to honor His Most Sacred Heart by receiving Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, so they grow closer to His Heart. Celebration of Mass on First Fridays at St. Joseph School allows students to encounter Jesus more than just on Sundays and deepen their love for Him.

Although only seventh and eighth grade students could be seated in the Basilica to celebrate Mass (due to social distancing requirements), the school's remainder participated by watching the LIVE stream in their classrooms on interactive Promethean Boards. During Mass, eighth grade students Lauren Gingo and Samantha Keller, led the



St. Joseph School 8th Grade student and altar server, Dale Boudreau, prepares the chalice for Pastor and Headmaster, Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski.

school in the Liturgy of the Word. The eighth-grade student and altar server, Dale Boudreau, prepared the chalice for Pastor and Headmaster, Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski. Also, seventh grade students Maeve Sullivan, Matthew Zdrok, and Aleksandra Parafinowicz led the school in the Prayer of the Faithful and Adam Podgorny and Treyton Dery served on the altar.

Oct. 2 was also the Feast of the Guardian Angels. During his homily, Fr. Gregory reflected on guardian angels. He reminded students that they will always need help no matter what their age and should never hesitate to seek assistance from others. Following the Mass, eighth grade student Maya Podskarbi led the student body in reciting the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. Praying the Chaplet is a glorious way to experience the Mercy of God and another example of the continuous and close interaction of St. Joseph School with the Basilica. This relationship helps the students acquire good habits that will shape their spirituality for years to come.

# Two test positive for COVID at Bay Path

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Bay Path Regional Vocational High School has confirmed two positive cases of COVID-19 within the school system.

A press release on Oct. 1 from Superintendent-Director Kyle Brenner confirmed that two unnamed individuals associated with the school received positive tests for the infection. The identities of the individuals were not revealed however the press release did indicate that those with close ties or who were in close contact with the individuals were notified privately of the situation and were recommended to be tested and self-quarantine for ten days regardless of their test results.

“Though we cannot provide specific information about our school community members who tested positive, your child was not a close contact (defined as being within six feet of the person for at least 15 minutes) of the affected school members,” Brenner wrote to parents in the release. “Please continue to monitor your child for symptoms and keep your child home if he/she/they shows any symptoms or is not feeling well.”

The Superintendent-Director further added that Bay Path had build-in planning for this very scenario when they discussed reopening the school. These responses include sanitation, informing families of students who were at risk of exposure or close contact, and offering support for affected families. The school is also adhering to protocols established by the Department of Health and the local Boards of Health.

“We are asking those parents whose students are tested for COVID-19 to please report the results to the school nurse. We are working hard to understand the impact of the virus on our school community and this information is critical piece of that puzzle,” said Brenner. “The further prevent transmission of the virus to other staff and students, we have sanitized the school with a focus on those areas frequented by the community member that tested positive.”

While the press release did not confirm whether it was a student or staff member who tested positive for COVID-19, if students are forced to quarantine due to positive tests they are provided with remote learning opportunities to help “provide instruction, structure, and an emotional connection to the classroom” during that time.

Any parents or community members with concerns are invited to contact Brenner directly at KBrenner@baypath.net

## Local students enroll at Nichols College

DUDLEY — The newest class is welcomed to Nichols College, including the following students from your area.

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Nathan Howe of Dudley  
Victoria Palkon of Dudley  
Anthony Sacco of Dudley  
Alexander Green of Oxford  
Haley Meyer of Oxford  
Crystal Nelson of Oxford  
Allison Reynolds of Oxford  
Joseph Anderson of Webster  
Eddy Carias-Chilin of Webster  
Melissa Owusu of Webster  
MacKenzie Shilinsky of Webster  
Riley Stawiecki of Webster  
Sean Stockhaus of Webster  
Christin Walcek of Webster

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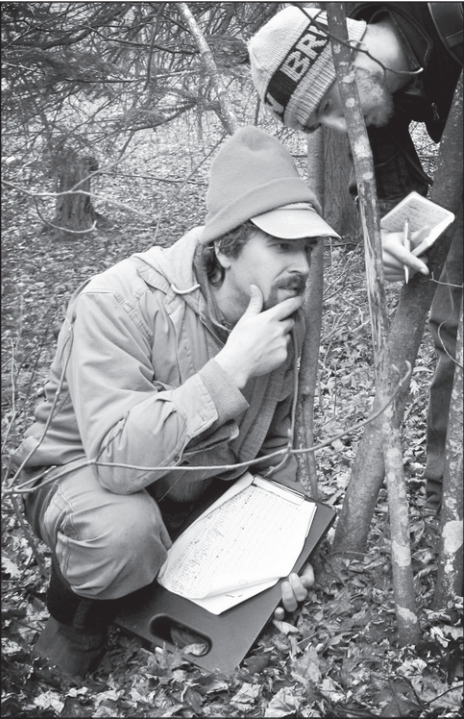
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# Tracking teaches new way to look at nature



Courtesy George Leoniak, in upper right corner, discusses the differences among skunk, opossum and raccoon tracks.

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

REGION – For many, winter is a time of skiing. But it’s also a great time to learn a far older skill – tracking.

To “cybertracker” George Leoniak, who recently presented what he termed some “cool mysteries of tracking” online for Mass Society of Conservation Professionals, anyone can do it with some dedication. Going around the “room,” he started by asking how much experience participants had, and most had very little.

“Kindergarten or fourth-grade expertise? That’s great,” he said. “I love going

into the field with kindergarteners and fourth-graders. ... They get into the stories and want to give back.”

There are three key aspects to tracking – learning the terms, understanding how to measure, and watching the dynamics of motion that make the tracks we see. It’s more than just footprints, though; good trackers learn a lot from scat, nests, feeding signs, scratches on trees, and a whole host of other marks of life.

Interpreting them well often depends on “starting at the right spot and the right time.” Frequently, the same species’ track can seem to be that of a different species depending on a host of factors, including the fact “different animals [have] different personalities out there,” Leoniak said. For example, raccoon tracks can mimic otter or fisher, small rodent racks can seem to be those of birds or even frogs, and it can be challenging to identify which canine or feline track you’re seeing.

That takes experience – “building up a slow process of seeing tracks over and over again,” sketching their details, taking pictures, measuring them and comparing them to field guides. “You can put all that together and you’re playing with this visual language,” he noted. “... Come up with your best analysis of what you see there even before you get to what you think it is.”

In essence, what’s critical is figuring out what the animal is doing. As always, he notes, be careful of your assumptions, because they can make it hard to see what’s actually happening. One important, but often overlooked aspect of any track series is what he defined as “negative space” – which occurs both within the track itself and between the tracks of a sequence. In the former, it can help identify what species it is – particularly distinguishing between canines, who tend to have

a X-like space between their pads, and felines, who don’t. In the latter, it helps determine “the behavior the gait says to us.”

As an example, he showed a hunting carnivore stalking a mouse – it took a couple of hops, pounced and broke through the snow crust, and trotted away with its lunch. “That’s what I love about gaits – the stories they tell,” he said.

Most species have three main types of gait – trot, walk and gallop – and those express themselves differently depending on what kind of limbs the animals have – plantigrade (includes humans), digitigrade (includes canines and felines), or unguligrade (includes deer and horses). The latter is “pretty obvious,” but several other species’ tracks can look like either of the first two depending on conditions and what they’re doing.

There are also a “lot of variations” on the three types that “gives you an indication if the animal’s going faster or slower,” but they all have the same pattern. Trots show the opposite front and hind feet on the ground at once, alternating; walks show three feet on the ground at once in a pattern of shifting weight back and forth between left and right sides. Gallops are a bit more complex, showing both fronts, both hinds, none, then all together.

Leoniak pointed people to animation videos at [www.vanat.cvm.umn.edu](http://www.vanat.cvm.umn.edu) as “a neat site to really burn this movement into your mind.” He noted he hopes to get people to “visualize the animal making this movement as you look at the track,” and also has people in the field try to duplicate it.

“If you get that into your body ... it really teaches you a lot about walk dynamics,” he added.

Once Leoniak got to the individual species’ tracks, he ran through a cou-

ple dozen of the more common New England mammals. The key is seeing the difference in foot shape, not always size, since “sometimes scale gets wonky out there.” That’s particularly true in wet conditions or snow, where melting can distort the tracks.

Her spent a lot of time analyzing canine vs feline tracks and distinguishing within those two groups. For example, he noted grey and red fox both have semi-retractable claws that you might not see, but “hairy” centers that sort of fuzz out the track, while coyote tracks are “arrowhead” like with claws. Among felines, the key feature is their asymmetrical toe shape and the fact their weight is more toward the heel. (To make things a bit more challenging, Leoniak noted grey fox tracks are easily confused with small feline tracks, while black bear can be confused with cougar.)

Some tracks look almost like small human hands. Raccoon feet have “fingery toes like our fingers,” while opossums have an obvious opposing thumb and unique tracks that “look like a lot of toes going in every direction” because two feet land together. Among smaller rodents, a common pattern is five toes in front, and four behind.

“Tracking is a lot of things,” he said. If you’re out with a skilled person, “you’ll get the chance to look at things in a new way.” He noted that’s even true when you’ve got experience; another tracker pointed out the subtle signs of a hare browsing on greenery that he’d never previously noticed.

A Marlboro, VT, resident, Leoniak has run The Mindful Tracker ([www.mindfultracker.com](http://www.mindfultracker.com)) for more than 20 years, training trackers all over the world.

Gus Steeves can be reached at [gus.steeves2@gmail.com](mailto:gus.steeves2@gmail.com).

# QCC’s early college program gets a boost

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has been awarded a Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Partnership (CDEP) Grant of \$32,400. The grant provides funding for high school students to take college-level courses that fulfill high school requirements, as well as earn college credit towards their degree. The CDEP helps to ease the transition from high school to college, enabling high school students to get a head start on their

college careers. The program offers academic experiences to qualified students who otherwise may not have access to an early college experience. The CDEP’s goal is to increase the population of high school graduates who are college ready.

QCC has a strong Early College Program and is a pathway to higher education for those historically underserved. Since 2018, the College has worked with Worcester Public Schools, creating college equity access to more students.

Currently, the College has partnered with seven Worcester Public High Schools and 22 Central Massachusetts High Schools. Classes range from general education to business and healthcare.

“The CDEP Grant funding will be used to offer college credit courses to underserved students in the Worcester County Early College Programs,” said Christina Hebert, director of Educational Partnerships K-12 & Early College Initiatives at QCC. “We are excited that this

CDEP Grant will enable us to offer credit courses to students in schools that to date have not had access to this type of program.”

Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito praised QCC’s program in a letter to President Dr. Luis Pedraja.

“We want to thank you for your commitment to increasing college participation through dual enrollment activities, particularly for low-income, underrepresented, and

first-generation college students. Through this funding and your continued support, we hope to expand access to great educational opportunities for every student in the Commonwealth.”

Visit [www.qcc.edu/early-college](http://www.qcc.edu/early-college) to learn more.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).

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**GARLINGTON**  
*continued from page A1*

people she was in the car with.

Essence was “the only one who didn’t call me that night,” Garlington recalled, noting that she knew things were bad upon arriving because there were “so many familiar faces” in the waiting room. That was reinforced by the doctor taking her to “the back room,” asking if Essence had any identifying marks. She fainted, screaming.

“I still have no closure,” she told a small audience at Booklovers’ Gourmet last Saturday, speaking about her activism and the book she wrote about that ordeal called *She Wasn’t the One*. “The perpetrators still walk the streets. I do know these individuals, and I have to see their faces on a daily basis.”

Garlington noted they’ve even read the book and were not happy she wrote it. But she doesn’t care. To her, getting out the message that witnesses need to come forward to testify and that “this could be any of our children” overrules the fear she might be a target herself someday. About the only thing she did to avoid legal issues was to refer to the boyfriend only by his nickname

“Smurf.” While most people may not live in a historically troubled neighborhood like hers – Broad Street in Providence, which has seen a spike in violence recently – the underlying issues that Essence faced are all too common even in “good” neighborhoods. Garlington said Essence wanted to be a lawyer when young, but became a mother at 14 and “lived her life on the edge.” She faced a series of traumatic incidents – two serious car accidents, the loss of relatives and friends, associating with people involved in crime, and a relationship of “abuse, lies, trauma and eventually death.”

As in many abusive relationships, Garlington said, Essence could talk to her mother about almost anything except her relationship. She only found out how bad it was afterward, from people who knew Essence.

“Abuse was everywhere,” she said. “I lost her twice – not only to gun violence, but to domestic violence, by not knowing she was going through it.”

To Karin Warinsky of Woodstock, this was a familiar story.

“I was somebody who left an abusive husband when I was young,” she said.

She admitted she was luckier than many, and too many people “don’t know how to identify emotional troubles in others.”

Although Essence’s case is slightly unusual in that she was killed by a third party, domestic violence itself is all too common. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence website ([www.ncadv.org](http://www.ncadv.org)), “1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence (e.g. beating, burning, strangling) by an intimate partner in their lifetime.” That’s a nationwide average; among America’s Black population (which includes Garlington), the numbers are much worse: 45 percent of women and 40 percent of men, a number that jumps to 53.8 and 56.1 percent, respectively, experiencing “psychological aggression.” Furthermore, about 51 percent of “Black adult female homicides are related to intimate partner violence” (a somewhat vague phrase that includes Essence’s murder).

“Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by

one intimate partner against another,” the site states. “It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and emotional abuse.”

Garlington said she’s been trying numerous methods to get parents to pay more attention to their kids and to encourage young women to speak up if they’re in such relationships. She began a youth empowerment program in Essence’s name for girls 14-18, through which girls have monthly sessions with various kinds of professionals related to these issues. She also works with Moms Demand Action and Safer Communities for Justice to hold public officials accountable and pass stronger gun laws. Since 2013, she’s also been hosting a monthly vigil called Lock Arms for Peace, which she’s begun taking to other Rhode Island communities and will hold online due to Covid. Garlington’s Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/lovingme123](https://www.facebook.com/lovingme123).

“It’s my job to continue to speak for her and the parents who are afraid or don’t have the drive to do it,” she said.

*Gus Steeves can be reached at [gus.steeves2@gmail.com](mailto:gus.steeves2@gmail.com).*

**SCHOOLS**  
*continued from page A1*

18 without issues, but the Southern Worcester County League (including Webster) started Oct 5. He said the plans include “a lot of precautions” learned from the experience of larger districts who “were throwing everybody out [out the fields] at one time.”

Bartlett Principal Fran Thomas agreed, saying the SWCL leaders and principals have met repeatedly on this issue since June. He argued they had a “well-thought-out” plan, schedule and geographic representation of schools that will help minimize and track any Covid incidents. If Covid does occur, he added, they’ll cancel games.

“We’re not talking about flooding the field with hundreds and hundreds of kids,” he said. “There are a lot of advantages to being a small school.”

To him, the real issue is academic. He noted that many kids attend classes specifically because they’re required to as part of participating in extracurricular activities. As of that meeting (Sept 22), Bartlett had an 85-86 percent attendance rate, but the administration hasn’t been penalizing students for absences because there have been issues with students logging into the remote system, Thomas said.

Business Manager Monique Pierangeli said the original plan was to “move slowly” from full-remote to hybrid by waiting “a couple more weeks,” but sports “is expediting the process a little bit.” To her, it’s “difficult” to have kids coming to school for sports but not academics, and she predicted “ongoing safety challenges.”

For hybrid to start on Oct 19, the number of disease cases – both in the school system and the community as a whole – must stay low, and it needs Board of Health approval, she added.

Even when hybrid begins, parents have the choice to keep their kids in the remote program. Pierangeli noted the district sent parents a letter saying such an option is good for the first term but can be

continued if they wish. But she needs to know in advance because changes affect busing and class sizes.

“Some of the buses are full. One or two kids can tip that and make us have to add routes,” she said.

Pierangeli said they’ve seen some technological glitches, but expected them, and various technology has begun to arrive, including cameras, WiFi hotspots and new computers for both teachers and students in kindergarten and grade 1. In the latter case, the vendor got 320 tablets earlier than expected.

“It might’ve been helpful if it wasn’t rolling in all at once, because we only have so many people to deploy it,” but they’re doing it “as fast as we can,” she said.

From a parent’s perspective, Chair Kelly Seddiki said she felt the remote opening “has gone amazingly well” and she likes the fact the kids “have an opportunity to interact on a smaller-group level.”

Regarding the Middle School, Principal Heidi Peterson agreed, noting the district ran weeks of professional development and “mindfulness sessions” in preparation for opening. Her school now has about 50 kids in it, making her feel it’s “very eerie to be walking through hallways without much chatter going on.”

Besides some sports, the schools have also begun National Honor Society at both Bartlett and the Middle School, Student Council, and a couple other activities. The committee approved making a counselor’s job full-time to account for the increased use of telehealth for remote students, amended the masking policy to require masks that cover “nose, mouth and [are] secured under the chin must be worn at all times” as opposed to face shields by themselves.

Members also accepted several recent donations, most of them Covid-related: 40 backpacks of school supplies from St. Helen and Constantine Church, protective gear from Lifesong Church and Gentex, and \$5,000 for such supplies from Curaleaf.

*Gus Steeves can be reached at [gus.steeves2@gmail.com](mailto:gus.steeves2@gmail.com).*

**HALLOWEEN**  
*continued from page A1*

the Department of Public Health and the CDC and everything else. We’ll put those out as well for folks basically leaving it up as an individual option for parents or individuals if they wish to participate in any trick-or-treating or anything of that nature,” said Wojnar.

The chief also noted that canceling the holiday would probably backfire on the town’s attempts to keep COVID-19 numbers low by unintentionally encouraging people to have private parties to enjoy the festivities. As always, residents are not required to embrace the Halloween holiday and those who wish to avoid trick-or-treaters are recommended to keep their lights off and post signage informing kids and their parents that they are not participating. Selectmen fully supported celebrating

the Halloween holiday with little to no objection or debate. Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda explained that the goal was to allow adults to make their own decisions concerning the holiday while asking residents to remain vigilant and to celebrate responsibly.

“We don’t expect that there’s going to be a lot of people, hopefully none, doing the traditional trick-or-treat without taking certain precautions and considering CDC recommendations and DPH guidelines. Rather than to be the town that bans trick-or-treating we’re declaring Halloween and we’re going to let the people make their own decisions within those guidelines,” Ruda said.

Trick-or-treating has officially been scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. Halloween Night, which falls on a rare Saturday in 2020.

## Expo Management postpones all shows until 2022

WOPRCESTER — Expo Management Group, producers of the Worcester RV & Camping Show, Worcester Home Show and the Worcester Boat Show announced the postponement of all events until 2022 due to uncertainties about COVID-19 protocols.

Currently, the state of MA is in “Phase 3” which does not allow large public events to be held. Phase 4 (which would allow public events and bars to open) is on indefinite hold until there is a viable and widely distributed vaccine in effect. The CDC predicts that this won’t happen until at least the end of the 3rd quarter of 2021.

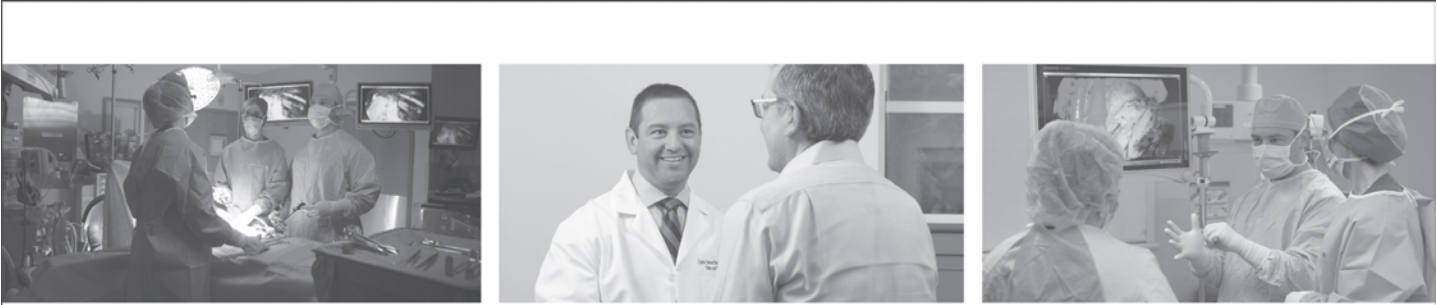
According to Jeffrey Davis, Managing Partner of Expo Management Group, “In the almost 75 years that we’ve been producing shows, we’ve always strived to produce the best events to justify the money our exhibitors spend with us. Consumer shows rely on face-to-face marketing where people can see, touch, and experience the product or service an exhibitor is promoting. Given the current situation, it is impossible to do this. We had to lay off our entire staff since March and have not been able to put together a plan that makes sense. It takes nearly a year to put together our shows, but with social distancing and additional safety protocols, we simply cannot in good conscience ask our valued exhibitors to pay for space without knowing whether or not the show will actually happen. We just hope that everyone stays safe as we try to adapt to a new normal.”

## No Substitution

“If you want to know what’s going on in your town – whether the news is about the mayor or taxes or high school football – there is no substitute for a local newspaper. Wherever there is a pervasive sense of community, a paper that serves the special informational needs of that community will remain indispensable...”



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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

**EDITORIAL**

# The need to unplug

Ofentimes, our ideas for editorials arise when something close to us personally surfaces that hits home, or when we hear a significant amount of chatter about a specific topic. This week, the chatter has been about national news overload.

We love the news — after all, it's what we do. Sharing information with our readers on the local level is both an honor and a necessity. This week, however, we have heard many people say they just can't listen to the national news anymore. They feel bombarded, often times leaving them feeling depressed and overwhelmed. News junkies watch the news every morning and night, check their Twitter feeds, listen to talk radio on their commutes and are constantly in the know. It's important and responsible to be aware of what's happening around you, however finding a balance is key, even for those of us in the businesses.

It seems as though the national news cycle has been nothing but chaos over the past several years, especially with regard to the current presidential election. Relentless statistics about the COVID-19 pandemic and negative commentary trying to pass itself off as analysis of the candidates and their platforms seems to ping our phones almost on the minute. This can be exhausting.

As a way to catch your breath, pick one day of the week as a 'no news' day, sort of like a news siesta. Get outside, unplug, read a book, listen to some vinyl or watch Cobra Kai (we do recommend for a splash of nostalgia). Attempt to shut off the little magic box we all stare at way too much on the daily. Could landlines actually still serve a purpose?

If you feel like you can't make a difference, realize that you can. First, it goes without saying, get out and vote. Second, do something every day to make the world a better place, even if that means your own little world. Such actions result in the domino effect.

Take some time to count the blessings in your life. Positivity still surrounds us in bulk if you look for it. Family, friends, dogs, crisp fall leaves, apple crisp, bacon, a friendly wave from a neighbor, morning coffee, a cold drink, a beautiful hike or walk, a good novel and a nice music blasting session are just a few things we can lean on to always lift us back up.

**SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!**



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# VIEWPOINT

## Our greatest call: To love our enemies

Pastor Richard Wurmbrand, a Romanian Christian minister of Jewish descent, wrote the bestselling book, *Tortured for Christ*, which has been turned into a movie. In it, he shared this story about an encounter with a horrible enemy:

One day, a soldier who had been fighting for the Nazis came back from the front and was boasting, "In the concentration camp where I worked, I killed many Jews, even Jews with children in their arms." He was glad to tell anyone who would listen.

When he met Richard Wurmbrand, the man thought he met a German because of his last name. Pastor Wurmbrand, however, was actually of Jewish heritage, a Jew who had become a Christian. So Wurmbrand invited the soldier to his home for dinner. The soldier loved music, and when Pastor Wurmbrand told him he would play the piano for him, the man gladly accepted the invitation.

The soldier arrived one evening when some other believers were present, but Wurmbrand's wife, Sabina, was feeling ill and stayed in her room. The pastor played the piano for all of them, and they had a wonderful evening together enjoying the music. After that, they had a long discussion into the night, further enjoying one another's company.

As it grew late, Pastor Wurmbrand turned to the soldier and said, "Sir, I have to tell you something, but you must promise me that you will listen without interruption for ten minutes. After that, you can say whatever you like." The man smiled broadly from all that he had enjoyed and agreed.

"In the other room," the pastor began, "my wife is sleeping. She is Jewish and I am Jewish too. Her family perished in the big Nazi concentration camp where you boasted that you killed Jews with children still in their arms. So, you are presumably the very murderer of my family. Now, I propose an experiment. We will pass into the other room and I will tell my wife who you are.

Incarnate, love you and will forgive you?"

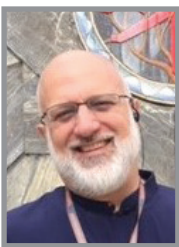
The man began to tear at his jacket. "What have I done? What have I done? I am guilty of so much blood!"

Pastor Wurmbrand gently spoke to him, "Well then, let's kneel down and ask God for forgiveness." They knelt. First Pastor Wurmbrand said a short prayer, followed by the man, who didn't know how to pray, and they asked Christ to forgive him. There were many tears, and then they embraced one another.

"I have promised you an experiment. Now we will go to see my wife." His wife, Sabina, had heard nothing while sleeping in the other room. They went to her and Pastor Wurmbrand awoke her. "Do you know this man?" the husband asked his wife. "No," she replied sleepily. He proceeded to introduce the man. "This is the murder of your sisters, your brothers, and your parents. But now he has repented and he is our brother in the Messiah, our brother in faith. What do you have to say to him?"

And Sabina got out of bed and embraced him, and they both wept together.

Jesus teaches us in his famous Sermon on the Plain "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6:27-30)



### BEYOND THE PEWS

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

# Hands off political signs

Whenever elections take place, signs and other informational material can be found on lawns, poles, and a variety of other locations. Several people have experienced problems with signs being removed from their property. With a much-anticipated election taking place in a few weeks, I was asked to provide information on political signs.

People lawfully exercising their right to vote must be as free from influence as possible. Voting must take place without intimidation or fear of retribution. When people post signs on their property, supporting a candidate or position, they assume control over them. Any removal or damage will fall under larceny or destruction of property statutes. These are determined on a case by case basis. The severity of the punishments will coincide directly to the amount or type of damage done. Threats of physical violence or damage to homes or buildings can carry more severe penalties. The goal is to avoid any of these unfortunate events.

Obviously, the unauthorized removal or destruction of signs is not appropriate. Many homes and businesses now have camera systems which can assist in the identification of those responsible for these actions. We will not hesitate to charge someone, should they be identified engaging in these illegal activities. We certainly hope to avoid having to do that. Proper conduct on everyone's part will result in a fair election process and limit problems. We need to all take the time to respect other points of view and proceed forward in an orderly and cooperative manner.

Another important reminder is the guidance for behavior on election day. Many regulations governing polling places are contained in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 54. Section 65 is entitled "Activities at polling places." The law is rather comprehensive. It states in part, "no poster, card, handbill, placard, picture or circular intended to influence the action of the voter shall be posted, exhibited, circulated or distributed in the polling place, in the building where the polling place is located, on the walls thereof, on the premises on which the building stands, or within one hundred and fifty feet of the building entrance door to such polling place." This can include shirts, stickers, buttons, signs, etc. Boundaries are established where these materials can be displayed lawfully on the day of elections. People should not bring or wear anything to the polling place that may fit into this category. Everyone's cooperation is greatly appreciated.

As a reminder to all, please remove all signs promptly after any election. These can be a hazard if left in place too long. Thanks in advance for your assistance with this matter.

In addition to the Corona Virus Pandemic, there is a great deal of turmoil taking place in our state and around the country. We continue to serve the people of Dudley and work with the community to improve the quality of life for everyone. I continue to thank the men and women from my department for their continued dedicated service to the Town of Dudley during these trying times. Thanks also go out to the many Police Officers, Fire and Emergency Services members, public works, government and all other "essential" personnel for their continued hard work and service. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department 71 West Main St., Dudley, MA 01571 or email at [swojnar@dudleypolice.com](mailto:swojnar@dudleypolice.com). Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.



CHIEF'S CORNER  
STEVE WOJNAR

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Stolen futures

To the Editor:

Hey, readers! Do you see that three-year-old boy with a huge smile running to his mother's wide open arms for a hug? There he is tomorrow standing at home plate, playing baseball — home run or strike out? There he is another tomorrow in school — A+ on his science project; great job! C- on his English literature paper; needs some work, pal.

There he is a yesterday ago, June 20, 2020, Mekhi James, three years old, sitting in his car, killed in a shooting crossfire in Chicago. All the black boy's precious tomorrows with all his hopes, possibilities, and hugs are gone. Where is the outrage?

To answer the question that was written on Sept. 1 by Andrea h. McDaniels in her commentary "Tell Me: What does the life of a Black boy mean in this country?" it means the same as any child: the fulfillment of a family; hopes and dreams of a future; the possibilities for great things. All these and more are gone for Mehki James.

On April 19, 1775 on a Concord green,

a shot was heard around the world. It was a "flash in the pan" that heralded the birth of a great new nation. On May 25, on a Minneapolis street, a terrible image was seen around the world that could spark great changes for that nation. My pen cannot find the ink to write stronger words to condemn this needless, cruel, and evil killing of George Floyd. To answer the question put forth on Sept. 1, "Does a Black man's life matter in America?" — to describe how a Black man's life matters is the problem. To describe the manner in which George Floyd died and leave out the word "Black" does not make it any more or any less horrific. George Floyd's life mattered because he was one of us.

I have written about two killings — both were needless and evil. Why do we let George Floyd's name be associated with broken glass and fires that only divide us more? Why can't we ensure that his name be associated with "Build, Back, Better" law enforcement and make social changes that will lift

everyone up, particularly our children and their future? Do not let his name be used to defund the police. I have never heard a 911 dispatcher ask the caller's color; they send the courage of the Blue to everyone.

Black future is being slaughtered in black communities. Say the name of Mekhi James and, more recently, eight year old Dajore Wilson, also of Chicago. More influential writers than myself with much heavier pens have got to write full truth and unbiased reports on what is going on in these cities. These children's lives matter. Write the protest; do not let your pens be silenced.

We live in a great nation made up of many colors, and we have got to come together as one people because, using the words of Maximo Alvarez, a Cuban businessman who addressed our country so eloquently on Aug. 25, "There is no other place to go."

God bless America, each and every one.

CARL W. WILSON  
OXFORD



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# Lessons from experienced investors

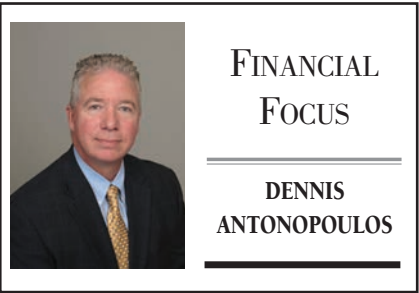
Those who have lived a long time have done a lot, seen a lot – and can teach us a lot. And that’s certainly true when it comes to investing.

Consider some of the lessons you might learn from experienced investors:

Regulate your emotions. In the investment world, there’s always something coming at us that could sound scary: political flashpoints, economic news, and even those once-in-a-generation occurrences, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. But older people may take these events in stride; in fact, baby boomers and members of the Silent Generation (born between 1925 and 1945) are coping better emotionally with the impacts of COVID-19 than young-

er age cohorts, according to the 2020 Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study. And by keeping control of your emotions, you may be less likely to make moves such as selling quality investments with good fundamentals just because their prices have fallen in the midst of an overall market decline.

Learn from experience. By definition, the older we get, the more experiences we will have. And most people do indeed learn from experience. Investors, too, benefit from having seen and done things before. Did you chase a “hot” stock only to have found it cooled off before you bought it? Did you buy



too many of the same type of investments, only to see your portfolio take a bigger hit during a downturn than it would have if you had diversified? In the investment arena, as in most walks of life, patterns emerge, and once you learn to recognize them, you can learn from past mistakes.

Know yourself. When we reach a certain age, most of us know ourselves pretty well. But you don’t have to wait decades to

gain this knowledge – at least not when it comes to investing. For example, you should quickly gain a good sense of your ability to withstand risk. How? Just consider how you react when the market declines sharply. If you find yourself losing sleep over your losses – even if they’re just on paper – you might be taking on too much risk for your own comfort level. Conversely, if market downturns don’t bother you as much as lack of growth in your portfolio, you might be investing too conservatively for your own risk tolerance.

Take a longer-term perspective. When we’re young, we sometimes are more inclined to desire

instant gratification – we want results now. Translated into the investment world, this could mean we want to see big returns in a short period. However, despite the popular mythology, it’s quite hard to turn enormous profits on investments overnight – or even over weeks or months. But as the years pass, we learn the value of thinking long-term – how investments we made years ago, and have added to steadily, are now yielding results that can help build the resources we need to reach our objectives.

Don’t go it alone. Some of us, when we’re young, have a tendency to think we have all the answers and don’t need much help in our endeavors. But age gives us the wisdom to

recognize that, although we may have acquired much knowledge over the years, we can still use some help in specialized areas, such as creating a long-term investment strategy.

These suggestions are appropriate for anyone – and they can help you on your journey toward your goals.

*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.*

## Fishing with a friend



Matt Fontain with a few of the seabass and tautog we caught last week.

This past Friday, Matt Fontain and this writer decided to make a trip to Galilee, R.I. to do some fishing for seabass and tautog. After stopping at Quaker Lane Bait and Tackle shop to pick up some green crabs for bait, we headed for the boat ramp at Galilee. Upon arriving just after daybreak, we found ourselves in line at the ramp. “Fishing must be good, Matt” were the first words out of my mouth. After finally launching the boat, we managed to catch a few mummies for bait, but they were extremely scarce.

Matt went to park the car and trailer, which gave me some time to talk to a few anglers that had recently returned from Block Island. They had been fishing most of the night, and all managed to retain a keeper striper. I mentioned about all of the trailers in the parking lot and wondered if

they were mostly fishing for stripers. “Heck, no,” one guy replied, “they are out chasing Bonito or False Albacore.” Matt was returning from parking the car and trailer, so it was time to go fishing.

We headed out through the East Breaker Wall, and planned to fish in front of the light house at Point Judith. We spotted a group of boats fishing in front of Scarborough Beach area, so I mentioned that they more than likely were catching tautog, as it is always a hot spot in the fall. As we arrived in the area, we soon realized that they were all chasing Bonito. After observing numerous bonito busting the water around us, I decided to give it a try. After a few minutes of fishing Matt suggested that we go back to the area around the Lighthouse. “I just don’t feel it,” he stated, meaning that he felt we

were in the wrong spot.



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS

• • • • •

RALPH  
TRUE

“Let’s go,” I stated. Arriving at a spot a mile off of the lighthouse I lowered my rig bated with green crab. “Wow, I got a fish on!” The rig had barely hit the bottom and I was hooked up to a good fish.

As the fish was reeled up to the surface, we realized I had a large seabass. It was lock and load action for the rest of the morning, catching seabass and tautog using crabs as bait. We left a bit early because of a squall with heavy winds coming into the area, but it calmed down as fast as it came in. We were already



A few of the club members ready to hunt pheasant this past weekend.

half way back to the launch area, so we called it a day. We are heading back this week for some more action. Tautog fishing is heating up fast, so give it a try.

Two local youngsters harvested a deer this past Saturday in the valley area. It was an opportunity for them to hunt deer during the special one-day youth hunt that is an annual event. Because of the deadline of this column, I was not able to acquire the names of the two young hunters. Hopefully, there will be more information on the two successful hunters.

This past Saturday, the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club had their first Pheasant hunt under there Preserve hunting license. It sure was nice to get the dogs out hunting for the first time. Numerous breeds of bird dogs did there

thing of pointing and flushing birds. Labrador Retrievers, Pointers, Springers, Brittney’s, and a Griffon were some of the dogs hunting this past weekend. The smell of spent gun powder in the crisp morning air after downing our first pheasant of the year was a sure sign that fall was here. Dog owners that took the time to train their dogs during the off season were rewarded with some great dog work in the field. There is nothing more enjoyable than hunting over a well-trained dog. This week’s picture shows a few hunters ready to enjoy a day in the field hunting pheasant, at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club.

Duck & Goose hunting opens on the 13th of October this year, in the Central District. Because of the low water in most ponds and rivers hunting ducks may be a lot

different than previous years. Locating areas of water along small streams, needs to be done prior to opening day. A good retrieving dog will save you a lot of otherwise lost birds. The wood duck population is high this year, as the birds had a good nesting season, as did the resident goose population.

Trout stocking by the Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife has started and most ponds and lakes that normally receive a fall stocking should be completed by the end of this week. The recent cool nights helped cool the water, but we still need a few inches of rain. Hopefully, we will get a good soaking soon.

Stay safe and wear a mask when out in the public!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

# Unexpected twists and turns

Life is rarely as we plan it. What we expect often turns out differently and we are reluctantly forced to adjust accordingly. Riding the waves of life is what we make of it.

It can be waves of frustration or we can allow those same waves to take us on a fascinating journey.

I didn’t plan on spending the last few days in the hospital, yet here I am. So, I’m writing this column on my phone rather than my laptop. I’m doing so, the old-fashioned way, without the use of my usual editing program. I’m horrified how this may be received by your newspaper but hopefully we can take it all in stride.

If you are a regular reader of my column, you know I’m fighting Stage 4 Stomach Cancer. It’s not what I expected. This isn’t what I planned. Lying in this hospital bed using one finger to type my column on a phone certainly isn’t what I anticipated happening ... but it did.

So, what do you do when



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

GARY W.  
MOORE

tration, or depression, or you can respond with courage to overcome the adversity. You can use your intuition to guide you. You can harness thoughtful and logical creativity and act to overcome the unexpected obstacle.

I’ve written about this before. There is a difference between reacting and responding. Reacting is usually a knee-jerk reaction that usually compounds the problem and makes it worse. Always try not to react.

Responding is different. When we respond, it’s usually with calmness and courage to face the situation. Face the issue and always respond.

It also makes a difference in how we label things. We can call them problems or situations. Problems are nasty, headache causing circum-

stances that usually cause a reaction. A situation insinuates a circumstance that you can resolve. Label all your obstacle and unexpired circumstance as situations and not problems.

So, I’m choosing tonight to respond to the situation of being in the hospital rather than reacting to a problem that’s out of my control. I can make this a problem or situation. I choose it to be the latter. either one true. This newspaper may fire me over this problem if I can’t resolve it. I instead choose to overcome this situation with courage, careful thought and logic and not disappoint the newspaper that relays on me.

Think about interchanging these words ... react vs respond and problem vs situation. We can look at the same event and react to a problem or respond to a situation. How we label it determines what we think I, and what we think determines how we view the obstacle. And again, how we view it determines if we react or respond.

I’ll admit. The fact I’m being

contained in a hospital without my computer caused me to momentarily react and become frustrated, but I took a breath and said out loud, this is a situation to be solved and not a problem. Once I thought about my options, my phone was it, and I resolved my situation and began typing.

As I began this column saying, life is never perfect. There will always be unexpected events that change destroy our carefully laid plans. The only choice you have in those moments is to label it as a situation rather than a problem and respond rather than react.

I always choose to respond.

Will you join me?

P.S.: I’m going to be fine. I had a bowel obstruction which is resolving itself. I hope to be released today.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

## MARATHON

continued from page A1

none, and it rubbed off onto his teammates.”

In his 23 years of coaching at Bartlett High School, Pepka found Nikopoulos to be one of the most impressive student-athletes on any of his rosters.

“Even with all the success he has experienced, he remains one of the most pleasant people you will ever meet,” Pepka added.

It meant a lot for Nikopoulos to receive the encouragement of family and friends throughout his training process, but a surprise guest helped inspire his virtual Marathon performance – his former Coach Pepka, who drove over an hour to see him run.

“He and his wife are top shelf people, and it meant so much to see them there supporting me,” Nikopoulos said.

As thrilling as it was for Nikopoulos to finish the virtual Marathon strong, nothing could compare to the funds he raised for sick children and their families.

“It’s important for me and my family to give back to kids dealing with cancer,” said Nikopoulos, who now lives in Boxborough. “It was a great accomplishment for all of us. I can’t thank Mass. General Hospital enough for supporting us.”

# Grow garlic this fall for flavorful meals and health benefits



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Add a bit of flavor and health benefits to your main course with some home-grown garlic. This vegetable has been used for thousands of years as both food and medicine. Today it is credited with fighting heart disease, lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, and boosting the immune system while fighting cancer. Grow garlic in a well-drained soil and full sun. Plant cloves in fall about six weeks before the ground freezes in cold climates and early winter in warmer regions. Garlic needs 6 to 8 weeks of cool temperatures below 40 degrees for the shoot and bulb to develop. The leaves will form during cool, short days then slows as bulb growth begins when the days are warmer and longer.

Plant individual cloves with the pointed side up and the base of the clove 2 to 3 inches below the soil surface. Space cloves 6 inches apart in rows 12 to 14 inches apart or more depending on the variety.

Mulch the soil with weed-free straw after the ground freezes in regions with cold winters. This provides added insulation and helps prevent frost heaving

that occurs when temperatures fluctuate, causing soil to alternately freeze, thaw and shift throughout the winter.

Water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil evenly moist during active growth. Inconsistent moisture during the growing season results in misshapen bulbs. Mulch the soil with shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or other organic matter to conserve moisture, suppress weeds, and improve the soil as it decomposes.

Double your garlic harvest by using the curly Q stems, called scapes, in cooking and flower arrangements. Watch for these curled stems about a month after the spring leaves appear.

Remove the scape soon after the swollen part appears at the tip of the stem. Cut or break the scape off just below the swollen area. All parts are edible and can be used fresh or cooked just like garlic. You will not only enjoy the mild flavor but removing the scapes helps increase the size of the garlic bulbs.

Harvest garlic when about one third, but less than one half of the leaves turn brown. Start by digging one plant and checking the garlic for maturity. Cloves should be plump and fill the skin. Immature garlic does not store well while over-mature bulbs are subject to disease.

Cure garlic for 3 to 4 weeks in a warm, well-ventilated location. Once dried, remove the tops and store in a cool, moderately humid location with good air circulation and out of direct sunlight. Properly harvested and cured



Photo Melinda Myers

Plant garlic cloves in fall about six weeks before the ground freezes in cold climates and early winter in warmer regions.

garlic will last for up to 8 months.

So, plant some garlic this fall and add flavor and health benefits to your meals.

Gardening expert Melinda Myers has 30 years of horticulture experience and written over 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. Myers is

the host of *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' website is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).

## 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. WO20P2641EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
**Estate of:**  
Florence R. Jones  
**Date of Death: 07/15/2020**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **George W. Jones, Jr. of Oxford 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:  
**George W. Jones, Jr. of Oxford MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/27/2020**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 24, 2020  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
October 9, 2020

**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. WO20P2625EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
**Estate of:**  
Richard Tetreault  
**Date of Death: 08/03/2020**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will**

**Docket No. WO20P2634EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
**Estate of:**  
Jayne L. O'Toole  
**Date of Death: 08/03/2020**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Gabrielle Labonte of Brooklyn CT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner Requests that:  
**Gabrielle Labonte of Brooklyn CT** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/27/2020**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 25, 2020  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
October 9, 2020

**with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Linda O. Jarmolowicz of North Grosvenodale CT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner Requests that:  
**Linda D. Jarmolowicz of Grosvenodale CT** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/27/2020**. 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)**  
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WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 24, 2020  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
October 9, 2020

**DUDLEY WATER DEPARTMENT  
HYDRANT FLUSHING**

The Dudley Water Department will be flushing hydrants throughout town starting in the 1st week of October 2020. Flushing of hydrants will be conducted during normal business hours in most areas.

During flushing operations, you may notice dirty or colored water, please do not be alarmed this is normal and does not pose a health risk.

If you have any questions or concerns please call The Dudley Water Department at:  
508-949-8007.  
October 9, 2020

**NOTICE OF  
SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE  
UNDER G.L., C.255, SECTION 39A**

Notice is hereby given by: Farrar Auto Body, Inc. 204 Main Street Oxford, MA 01540

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L., c.255, Section 39A that on October 31, 2020 at 9:00 AM at: 204 Main Street Oxford, MA 01540 by Private Sale, the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle.

Vehicle Description: Year: 2015 Nissan Rogue  
Registration#/State: Un Reg  
Vin: KNMAT2MV3FP520254  
Name and address of vehicle owner: Tanya L. Holmes, 272 Providence St, Putnam CT 06260  
By David C Farrar 8/24/20  
October 9, 2020  
October 16, 2020  
October 23, 2020  
October 30, 2020

**NOTICE OF SALE  
OF MOTOR VEHICLE  
UNDER G.L.C. 255, SECTION 39A**

Notice is hereby given by: School Street Towing 17-31 School Street, Webster MA 01570 pursuant to the provisions of G.L.c., Section 39A, that on: 10 Oct 2020 at 9:00 AM at 17-31 School Street, Webster MA by private sale the following Motor Vehicle will be sold to satisfy the garagekeeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle.

Vehicle description: Year 2007 Make: Hyundai Model: Elantra Registration#/State: Unregistered VIN: KMH-DU46DX7U022240  
Name and address of vehicle owner: Destiny Masi Lopez 21 2nd Island Road, Webster MA 01570  
By Frank A Czechowski Jr.  
September 14, 2020.  
This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L.c. 255, Section 39A.  
October 9, 2020

**SPECIAL EDUCATION  
INFORMATION**

*This notice is provided in compliance with state and federal regulations for conducting child find activities in order to identify students who may be in need of an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services.*

Parents/guardians of children ages 3 through 22, who reside in Webster and feel their child is in need of an evaluation for determination of eligibility for special education services, should contact the office of student support services at Webster public schools, 77 Poland Street, Webster, MA 01570.

Information regarding the procedure for requesting an evaluation can be obtained by calling the office of student support services at (508) 943-3646.  
October 9, 2020  
October 16, 2020

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# OBITUARIES

## Edward Kac, 91



Edward Kac, 91, of Las Vegas, passed away on Monday, September 28, 2020, on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement. Edward was born on September 12, 1929 in Poland to Paula (nee Blumenfeld) and Henryk Kac and had lived in both Massachusetts and Southern Nevada. He is predeceased by his parents and brother, Yoram Katz. He is survived by Dora, his beloved wife of 70 years; daughter, Sharon Berry (John); son, Allen Kac (Shifra); sister-in-law, Sylvie Katz; brother, Michael Kac; grandchildren, Michael Berry (Nicole), David Berry, Michelle Berry, Elisabeth Kac; step granddaughter Sara Sfadia; great grandson, Jack Berry. Edward was a strong and resilient person through the age of 89, but he struggled over his last two years. He grew up during the hard times of WWII having to fight for survival against war, hunger, persecution, and constant mental and physical challenges. As the oldest child of three, Edward helped

his family overcome these dangers. He participated in the earliest years of the building of the State of Israel. He was a talented textile chemist and played beautiful piano melodies from memory. He worked hard his whole life to provide for his family. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and was loved by many people. He was friendly and charming. He loved to collect antiques and had the skill to fix and repair them to their original condition. He had the patience to take apart and repair watches, as well. He had beautiful gardens while living in both Massachusetts and Nevada, hummingbirds used to land on his hand and many birds owed their winter survival to him. Edward loved all animals and always had a loyal dog at this side. A small graveside service for immediate family was held on Thursday October 1, 2020 at King David Memorial Chapel and Cemetery, 2697 E. Eldorado Lane, Las Vegas, NV. Family requests that memorial donations be made to charity of choice. King David Memorial Chapel handled the arrangements.

## Etta Ginga, 61



CHARLTON – Etta (Savage) Ginga, 61, of Nugget Drive, died Monday, September 28, 2020, at UMass Memorial Medical Center – University Campus in Worcester, surrounded by her family after a year-long battle with lung cancer. She is survived by her husband of 16 years, Dick Ginga of Charlton; two children, Mandy D. Christenson and her husband Chris of Oxford, and Dennis M. Griffin of Westfield; her stepson, Jacob P. Ginga of New Bedford; nine siblings, Lenny Savage, Pamela Savage, Toni Richards, Billy Savage, Steven Savage, Elyta Clark, Kenny Savage, Tina Valley, and Tammy Nail; her step-mother, Clemma Savage; four grandchildren, Micaela, Seth, Brielle, and Lucas Christenson, all of Oxford; her former husband, Matthew Griffin; and many nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends. She was born in Omaha, Nebraska, daughter of the late Kent Savage and Shirley (Craig) Tutlis, and lived most of her life

in Oxford before moving to Charlton 15 years ago. She attended Bay Path and the Salter School.

Etta worked at the Fallon Clinic for 20 years. Later, she worked in the Elementary School in Charlton in the cafeteria for five years, which she truly enjoyed every day. She loved camping, gardening, working with the children at Aspire Dance Center in Oxford, and spending time with her family and friends. Her positive attitude, sunny disposition, beautiful smile, and dazzling eyes were a comfort and joy to all who knew her. She will be remembered as a loving wife, mother, and the best Nana ever. She was greatly loved by everyone who met her and the world is a lesser place without her in it.

Calling hours were Thursday, October 1, 2020, from 4-7 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. A funeral service followed by burial at North Cemetery in Oxford will be held privately due to gathering restrictions. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to your local food bank.

[paradisfuneralhome.com](http://paradisfuneralhome.com)



## ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

• • • • •

WAYNE TUISKULA

The pandemic has affected all of us in some way, and non-profits are no exception. The Worcester Historical Museum recently reopened with social distancing guidelines in place. The Worcester Art Museum is scheduled to reopen this week. Cancelled events due to COVID-19 decreased revenue at these larger non-profits. Smaller non-profits typically have fewer grants and have likely suffered larger setbacks due to COVID-19. With the inability to conduct in-person meetings, members of smaller non-profits have not been able to share the camaraderie with those who hold similar interests.

One local non-profit group is learning how to adapt during these unprecedented times. The Townsend Historical Society recently approached me about appraising items virtually. I had appraised items at a live appraisal event for them in Townsend in 2017. I enjoy the interaction with the public at these events and look forward to having that interaction soon, even if it's through a screen.

The event will take place via Zoom during the Townsend Historical Society's "Virtually

Vintage: A Live, Online Antique Appraisal Event" on Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. You can buy tickets to get your items appraised on their website: [townsendhistoricalsociety.org](http://townsendhistoricalsociety.org). Appraisals are \$10 each or 3 items for \$25. After you purchase your ticket(s), you can either send photos of your items and any history that you have or bring them in person to Townsend on the day of the event. Ticket holders will be able to watch the entire event or just sign in when it is time to have their items appraised.

I have been working closely with Taber Morrell, the Site Administrator for the Townsend Historical Society, to prepare for the event. In an email interview, he said that the Site Administrator is responsible for the "Reed Homestead where [they] do most of [their] tours and programs, and where [their] records and artifact collections are stored." Morrell also said: "the position extends to other historic buildings we care for as well, a 19th century grist mill, cooperage, church, and some monuments throughout town."

Mr. Morrell provided me with some additional information on the organization and event. The group has close to 300 members who are "really active with the Historical Society and its programs." He informed me that the "appraisal

al held in 2017 along with our Arts and Crafts Fair are absolutely the most talked about events." Unfortunately, the fair had to be canceled this year, but the organization has been working hard to make many other events accessible virtually. Mr. Morrell said that the Townsend Historical Society has run a "virtual open house, an online presentation about the history of tourism in New England, and [they are] even working on a web-based cemetery tour for October." He informed me that "members have been craving another edition of the antique appraisal [held with me] in 2017" and they hoped to "create a virtual version we could make a lot of people really happy." I look forward to utilizing modern technology to help online attendees learn more about their historical artifacts. I hope to see some regular readers of this column through my screen.

In addition to the virtual appraisal with the Townsend Historical Society, we also have other exciting events coming up this month. We will be holding an estate sale in Stoneham, Mass. on Oct. 17, following COVID-19 safety guidelines. Bidding will end on October 28th for our online coin auction. We are still accepting quality consignments for our multi-estate online antiques and collectibles auction ending on Nov. 11.



Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales

and Appraisal Services [www.centralmassauctions.com](http://www.centralmassauctions.com) (508-612-6111) [info@centralmassauctions.com](mailto:info@centralmassauctions.com).

# Tips to Carve a Full Fall Display

No traditional New England harvest display would be complete without a parade of fat pumpkins and a sprinkling of assorted gourds. The simple pumpkin, rich in both nutrition and heritage, has long served as an object of intrigue and even today, generations of Native Americans hail the pumpkin's healing seeds as a medicinal sedative. Add in the mystique of the annual Halloween Jack-O-Lantern, and its no wonder both pumpkins and gourds remain an autumn wonder, touted for both their culinary and decorative virtues. Here are some tips to "carve out" a fun fall display! \*\*\*

For carving, choose pumpkins with a sturdy stem, as this is the sign of a healthy pumpkin. Never lift a pumpkin by its stem, not only do you risk it breaking off, a stemless pumpkin ages faster. \*\*\*

If you are tracing a design to carve from a pumpkin or gourd, use a chopstick or nut spear to

press into the gourd for a foolproof guideline. \*\*\*

To cut out a top lid that won't fall inside the pumpkin, carve a hexagon shape to keep it sitting pretty throughout the night. \*\*\*

Better yet, cut off the bottom of the pumpkin instead of the top. Place the carved pumpkin over a candle safely set on a plate, or for optimum safety, simply use a flashlight. \*\*\*

If you plan to place a pillar candle inside your Jack-Lantern, first cut a hole in the bottom of the pumpkin the same size as your candle to stabilize it. \*\*\*

For a festive twist on traditional Jack-O-Lantern lights or candles, stuff a string of small white Christmas lights inside the carved pumpkin. Make a hole out the back to feed plug through. \*\*\*

Carving a gourd? Here's a hint to halt the hassle. Simply place a towel inside a large bowl to hold the gourd steady. Place



## TAKE THE HINT

KAREN TRAINOR

the gourd in the padded bowl to keep it from moving while you trace or cut. \*\*\*

Did you know? The Japanese considered the gourd a lucky token and believed a set of six gourds had the power to improve health and spiritual power. Plus they believed the set of gourds could produce six fortunes! \*\*\*

Want your Jack-O-Lantern or gourd sculpture to last longer? A spray of Lysol or other disinfectant will prolong life of pumpkins and gourds. \*\*\*

For long term storage, put a thin amount of petroleum jelly on the exposed, sawed edges. This prevents water from getting out. If water gets out, your pumpkin will shrivel.

\*\*\*

Stretch the longevity of a Jack-O-Lantern by giving it a bath. Let the pumpkin float for a few hours, or even overnight, allowing the insides fill with water. Put a little bleach in the water if you wish to prevent mold. The pumpkin absorbs the water and become very firm. Anytime your pumpkin shrivels, soak it in a bath of cold water for one to eight hours to rejuvenate it. \*\*

\*\*\*

Another way to extend a lighted Jack-O-Lantern's life is to poke a vent hole or two in the top of the pumpkin to vent the heat and slow the rotting process. \*\*\*

Jack-O-Lantern Lore Legend has it the Jack-O-Lantern evolved from an Irish tale involving a drunkard named Jack. According to the longtime yarn, Jack was a trickster who playfully deceived family members. His fate was sealed the day he attempted to trick the devil into climbing an apple tree. Once Jack convinced the devil to climb

the tree, he placed crosses around the tree trunk, trapping the devil. With the devil cornered, Jack refused let him down until he promised not to take Jack's soul when he died. The story goes that many years later when Jack died, he couldn't get into heaven, yet he was turned out of hell too, because of the devil's long ago promise. Jack found himself with nowhere to go. He asked the devil how to leave the gates of hell as there was no light to guide him. According to the tale, the devil threw him an ember from the flames of hell to help him light his way. Jack put the burning ember inside a hollowed out pumpkin. From that day on, it is said that Jack wandered the earth without a resting place, lighting his way with his lantern, thus the legend of the "Jack-O-Lantern," was born. \*\*\*

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick

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

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



# Business Alliance forges ahead with annual meeting

WEBSTER—The Webster Dudley Business Alliance is forging ahead with our 14th annual meeting and elections to be held on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. at Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster. All local business representatives are welcome to attend either in person or remotely via a live feed stream on Zoom. Dinner will be served and all safety protocols will be followed. To RSVP, please email [contact@thewdba.org](mailto:contact@thewdba.org) by Oct. 19.

Officers up for nomination are president and secretary. Debra Horan, current president, will be stepping down after serving 5 consecutive terms. In addition to the two-year terms for officers, nominations are also being accepted for five one year Board Director terms. If you are interested in finding out more or nominating yourself or someone in the local business community, email [contact@thewdba.org](mailto:contact@thewdba.org) for details. Current officers include Vice President Lucas Perzan of Insation Technologies;

Secretary Caryl Savard of Caryl's Studio & Creative Design; Treasurer Halina Jachimczyk of The Webster First Federal Credit Union. Current directors include Darek Chojnacki of GreenCarl Kaliszewski of 511 Financial; Mark Marzeotti of The Marzeotti Group; Jess Sabine of The Rose Room and Nancy Healy of The Citadel Company.

Our guest presenter will be Mike Savage, Founder and CEO of The Savage Secrets, Business Coach & Mentor as well as a SCORE representative. He will be speaking on a very topical subject, "How to Master Your Mindset During a Crisis: The 7 Secret Weapons Of Great Business Leaders Who Thrive During Challenging Times." For more information, visit [www.the-savage-secrets.com](http://www.the-savage-secrets.com).

With more than 30 years' experience in entrepreneurship, both successes and failures, Michael Savage is battle tested from the school of hard knocks and possess the knowledge, passion, & experi-

ence to educate, entertain, motivate, and inspire CEO's & entrepreneurs. During his career, he has successfully launched and grown several companies in the Fitness, Nutrition, & Consumer Product Industries. His previous company sold more than \$250 Million Dollars in products to the world's leading retailers & eCommerce dealers including Walmart, Target, Kohl's, Sam's Club, BJ's, Costco, TJ Maxx, QVC, & Amazon. The company started with one product, one idea, A BIG ASS DREAM and ultimately grew into a 50-employee business with \$25M in annual sales. He is a personal development junkie and over the years he has spoken in the areas of entrepreneurship at nationally renowned universities, mentored hundreds of small business owners & startups, sat on Boards of Directors, and walked the Halls of Congress pushing active lifestyle legislation for children. He dreams big, never quits, & loves entrepreneurs!

Courtesy

## OXFORD NATIVE NAMED CREAN CAMPAIGN MANAGER

On Sept. 22, Oxford resident Noah Kersting-Mumm was named as Christine Crean's campaign manager. Kersting-Mumm is a 2016 Oxford High School graduate, and this past spring he graduated from UMASS Amherst with a double major in Economics and Political Science. Christine Crean is running as the Democratic nominee for State Senate to represent the Worcester and Norfolk Senate District. Christine has lived in the district for the past 35 years. She is a social worker and has worked for the Massachusetts DCYF (Department of Children, Youth, and Families). Christine has served as a union steward and ensured that workers were treated fairly and held accountable for their behavior. These experiences have made her support a livable minimum wage and affordable child-care.




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# QCC sophomore fights COVID one note at a time

**W O R C E S T E R** — One Quinsigamond Community College student has put her own spin on how to deal with today's national health crisis — through song. Sophomore music major Mason Wheaton sang her way into the hearts of many, with her self-written and self-recorded video song, "We Can Fight the Virus," sung to the tune of Bill Joel's 1989 hit, "We Didn't Start the Fire." Her rallying cry celebrated the start of school at QCC, and offered a brief insight into what students, faculty and staff are doing to push forward during these unprecedented times.

"Mason is an example of the incredible talent that we see in so many of

our students. This was a fun and effective way to demonstrate what we can and should be doing to fight the virus. Mason's song will resonate with many in the days and weeks to come," QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja said.

Ms. Wheaton is a first generation college student, and her journey to higher education is similar to many community college students.

"I started college later in life at age 22. I didn't know what I wanted to do, so I hesitated because I didn't want a lot of debt, but I was worried about my future and didn't want to keep working in low level jobs," she said.

After a bit of self-reck-

oning she enrolled at QCC to, as she put it, "save money and have a better life." She registered for classes in 2019, taking a full course load and becoming an active member of the college community. She became a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society; a student peer mentor; a tutor in the college's Writing Center and a member of the college's Music Club.

When Music Professor José Castillo was asked to find a student to perform a parody song to motivate the college during the pandemic, he immediately thought of Ms. Wheaton.

"My responsibility was to choose the perfect performer for the song.

Someone who would not only have a beautiful voice and musical talent, but also someone who would make the lyrics come to life and add a special charisma to the overall project," said Music Professor José Castillo. "I have worked with Mason for the past year, as she is part of the music option degree program. Mason has always been eager to take on new challenges in and out of the classroom, which is an excellent quality to have."

Ms. Wheaton said the lyrics she wrote were inspired by information she found on the college's website. Due to COVID-19 and in-person restrictions, she recorded the song at home on her phone in her closet,

after Mr. Castillo suggested the clothing in the closet would help absorb the echoing sound often heard when recording in a room. Mr. Castillo assisted with the background music and put the production together. Not only has the song become a hit with the college, it has also earned additional attention through the college's social media platforms.

"I am hearing from everyone how they loved the song," she said.

Ms. Wheaton plans to graduate in spring 2021 with her associate degree in music, and hopes to transfer to UMass Amherst to major in vocal performance/ vocal pedagogy and become a vocal teacher. She said

she is grateful to have begun her higher education at QCC.

"There is no shame in going to a community college. It's the smarter way to go to school especially if you don't have a lot of money, and then you can easily transfer to a four-year school," she said. "I want to help students become interested in being a part of the college community and follow their dreams."

To listen to part of Ms. Wheaton's song, visit [www.QCC.edu/fight-the-virus](http://www.QCC.edu/fight-the-virus). For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or [jmartin@qcc.mass.edu](mailto:jmartin@qcc.mass.edu).

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