

# Saint Joseph School students carry on Thanksgiving traditions



Saint Joseph School sixth grade student Ivonka Warnajtys assists her PreK-4-year-old buddies Jaxson Blain and Magdalena Kosiorek during the Annual Thanksgiving Feast.

WEBSTER — On Monday, Nov. 20, the students, faculty, and staff of Saint Joseph School continued their annual Thanksgiving traditions. As the students began the holiday week, they joined to give thanks for their many blessings and collect food for local needy families.

Each class was responsible for bringing items to complete a Thanksgiving dinner. Younger students, including the three pre-kindergarten classes, contributed canned vegetables, while older students donated stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, potatoes, and more. The food collection culminated with a prayer service led by the Sixth-Grade students. Then, on Tuesday, Nov. 21, the Saint Joseph School community gathered for their Annual Thanksgiving Feast in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium. Everyone enjoyed delicious homemade turkey, creamy mashed potatoes, and savory stuffing. The turkeys for the feast were

donated by the Saint Joseph Basilica Knights of Columbus Council #12980, prepared by the kitchen staff, and served by parent volunteers.

Highlights of the dinner included the 8th-grade students serving their teachers and peers, the older students assisting their young “buddies,” and the special guests in attendance. Guests included former principal

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# Dudley continues search for new Public Health Agent

**BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT**

DUDLEY — As the town of Dudley continues to fill vacant positions following a difficult year of budget turmoil and turnover, one position that has proven to be particularly complicated is for Health Agent. The Board of Health has posted ads seeking qualified candidates for the position over the last few months, however they have yet to find anyone with the skills or experiences required to fill the post.

The Board gave a brief update on the search during a meeting on Nov. 14 where mem-

ber Jennifer Cournoyer explained that they have yet to find anyone even qualified to fill the position.

“We have posted on three different sites already and we’ve had noone with any type of experience. Nothing whatsoever. We’ve had people not even in related fields apply for the position. So, we did reach out to the Worcester CMRPC (Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission) Health, and they gave us another location of where to post it. We’re just waiting for an approval. You have to sign up to be able to post on it,” she said.

Dudley had previously shared a Health Agent with Webster, but the new job description, as posted on Sept. 26, indicates the new hire will be a full-time position specific to Dudley. The Public Health Agent serves as the leader of the Health Department leading operations, grant procedures, programs, and attending meetings and coordinating with the Board of Health. The Public Health Agent also conducts inspections and site evaluations as well as helping resolve any issues regarding housing or any public health emergency.

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# Cornerstone Bank provides \$5,000 for Winter Wonderland Masquerade Gala



Pictured, left to right: Alexandria Dickson, marketing supervisor, Cornerstone Bank; Nicole Degregorio, community relations manager, Cornerstone Bank; Carla Delacruz Davila, co-founder/president, The Wellstorm, Inc.



# Holiday season brings early deadlines



The holiday season is upon us, bringing with it an accelerated press schedule for your local weekly newspaper.

The deadline for next week’s edition (out Dec. 8), Monday afternoon at 4 p.m., will mark the conclusion of business as usual for the remainder of the year.

The submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication in the Dec. 15 edition of the Auburn News will be Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.

For the following week (Dec. 22), the submission deadline will be Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m.

For publication on Dec. 29, submissions must be received no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The deadline for our first edition of 2024, Jan. 5, will be Friday, Dec. 22 at 4 p.m.

As always, submissions can be e-mailed to Editor Brendan Berube at news@stonebridgepress.news.

The Auburn News thanks our readers for their cooperation with our accelerated schedule, and wishes one and all a safe and happy holiday season.

REGION — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is sponsoring the Winter Wonderland Masquerade Gala with a \$5,000 donation. The event, which will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. at 55 Pearl St. in Worcester, benefits The WellStorm (TWS) in Southbridge and the For One Child Foundation in Auburn.

“Not only are we proud to support these two deserving organizations, but also to raise awareness for the valuable work they do,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “We hope others will join by attending and sponsoring this fun and creative opportunity to ‘glam up’ for a great cause.”

TWS aims to bridge the gap of poverty and engage the community in building connections and support for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health struggles and food insecurity. One way TWS does this is by supporting the community with the Bridge Fridge, which allows anyone in the community to access healthy food. The mission of the For One Child Foundation is to empower children by providing learning materials, educational technology and other classroom necessities to deprived schoolchildren, in order to holistically enhance their lives and allow for a better future.

The Winter Wonderland Masquerade Gala will include awards highlighting the work of each organization’s staff, volunteers and supporters, as well as raffles, silent auctions, food, drinks, music and dancing. Tickets are \$75 each and can be purchased online at bit.ly/3S8biEg.

About Cornerstone Bank  
Cornerstone Bank was

Turn To **CORNERSTONE** page **A16**



# Bay Path nursing students participate in Shepherd Hill’s Festival of Crafts

DUDLEY — The 31st Annual Shepherd Hill’s Festival of Crafts was held recently at the Shepherd Hill Regional High School. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2024, faculty and alumna participated along with over 125 New England Crafters and Artisans with top-quality handcrafted items, raffles, and food trucks.

The Bay Path Practical Nursing team was led by Professor Adelina Healy DNP, MSN, RN of Dudley. The Practical Nursing volunteer students offered free Blood pressure screenings. This year’s practical nursing student volunteers are Julie Dodson of West Brookfield, Kaitlin Miliauskas of Worcester, Ashley Rincon of Southbridge, Ashley Urbain of Paxton, Princess Agyeman of Webster, Evelyn Kiplangat, Michael Wairimu and Regina Njuguna all of Worcester.

Originally, Professor Suzanne Taylor, MSN, RN invited Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and coordinated the practical nursing student’s participation. This year, the invitation came from Chet Perea-Beaulieu.

“We are grateful that Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy has been invited and continues to allow our practical nursing students to be of service to the community,” stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy.

“It is a wonderful learning opportunity for the students,” said Dr. Healy. “I am glad to be joining Shepherd Hill’s Festival.”

Alumna, Hannah Lombardo, LPN of Dudley was equally eager and joyful to participate. She interacted with festival-go-

ers and PN students.

The Shepherd Hill’s Festival of Crafts is an annual event promoted by the Shepherd Hill Music Parents. Students from the music department sang and assisted with bringing food. The Shepherd Hill’s Festival of Crafts has 5,000 people attending annually. The celebration highlights the community. Vendors look forward to next year’s celebration. For more about the Shepherd Hill’s Festival of



Crafts, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/shepherd-hillfestivalofcrafts/>.

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Bay Path Practical

Nursing is a 40-week (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam.

## Country Bank supports Wonderfund with \$20,000 during annual Season of Difference campaign



Courtesy From left to right, Jodie Gerulaitis, Vice President of Community Relations at Country Bank, Lauren Baker, Former First Lady of Massachusetts, Founder and CEO of the Wonderfund and Shelley Reglin, Senior Vice President of Marketing at Country Bank.

WORCESTER — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, recently announced its partnership and \$20,000 in support of the Wonderfund of Massachusetts. The Wonderfund helps kids and teens served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to enjoy childhood’s magical moments during the holiday season. The Wonderfund organization is an ordinary group of people on an extraordinary mission to bring the magic and meaning of childhood into the lives of children who have been impacted by trauma, abuse, and neglect.

Join the Wonderfund and Country Bank in making magic this holiday season for kids in foster care by donating a new unwrapped gift at any of its banking cen-

ters until Dec. 15. Country Bank’s team will shop for gifts to join in the efforts, and donations will be delivered to DCF Offices in Springfield and Worcester to be distributed throughout Western and Central Mass.

“We are delighted about this partnership with the Wonderfund and the opportunity for our team and our communities to help us make a difference for children by putting a smile on so many faces,” said Jodie Gerulaitis, Vice President of Community Relations at Country Bank.

In addition to the toy drive, Country Bank donated more than \$100,000 to 17 local food pantries and \$42,000 to local senior centers to support food insecurities, homelessness, and elders in its local communities during its annual Season of Difference Campaign.

If you would like to help make some magic, please visit <https://wonderfundma.org>.

## BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

WEBSTER — Bartlett High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year.

Grade 12  
High Honor: Kwadwo Agyemang, Cash Frederick  
Honor: Peter Brandao, Ayden Carlson, Leidy Cruz Guzman, Arianna Franklin, Peter Lavache, Ryan MacCormack, Angel Marin-Caceres, Haideeliz Martinez, Benjamin Note, Jacob Sandecki, Madisynn Segarra, Dezmin Zona

Grade 11  
High Honor: Hope Cooper, Urmiben Dabhi, Ayden Do, Ess Keegan, Adam Phillips, Rafael Trivino, Dakota Vaudreuil  
Honor: Jibril Abshir, Savannah Bjork, Gracien Boucher, Lillyanna Cannon, Jayden Casey, Aiden Castillo, Jared Fallas, Sydney Fuller, Taryn Gerber, Ayden Heenan, Justin Ilarraza, Lexani Lewis, Evangeline Mayotte, Patrick McCluskey, Daniel McIlhargey, Cayleb Mercure, Jeremy Morillo Pena, Ian Mulbah, Htwa Peh, Milton Skerrett, Adam Urato, Odelis Valentin, Maya Wetherbee, Aiden Wolfram, Harry Zhu

Grade 10  
High Honor: Julia Mingos, Caiden Steeves  
Honor: Izayah Barjolo, Elijah Castro, Nathan Cole, Niel Duszlak, Shyanne Owens, Johensy Rodriguez, Travis Russell, Elijua Sanchez, Amaya Torres, Aiden Turner, Luigi Villegas

Grade 9  
High Honor: Jared Archambault, Jayden Azu, Caden Case, Megan Milligan, Morgan Minor, Michael Stawiecki  
Honor: Zainab Abshir, Amyrah Bethancourt, Daysha Collins, Yeidy Cruz Guzman, Aiden Falke, Jade Ferreira Parent, Leland Fisher, Cameren Forsythe, Ethan Gornco, Brayden Greene, Cheyanne Grundel, Cameron Hast, Libby Kokoszka, Darlene Macario, Nathan O’Neil, Irelyn Pottle, Gabriela Ramos Rivera, Lyniah Rivera, Carmen Ruiz Acosta, Madalynn Velasquez, Cassidy White, Tyler Whiting

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

**St. Roch Church Hall,  
332 Main St., Oxford**  
**Saturday, December 2, 2023**  
**from 8 am to 2 pm.**

**Hand Crafted Items, Several Raffles including a Themed Baskets Raffle, Scratch Ticket Raffle, Books, Bake Sale, and a Delicious Lunch!**  
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FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR #NED4655EW <b>\$1099.99</b> WAS \$1,599.99	AMANA WASHER OR DRYER #NED4655EW <b>\$469.99</b> WAS \$599.99	MAYTAG DRYER #VEDC46HW <b>\$549.99</b> WAS \$699.99	WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER <b>\$1599.99</b> WAS \$2,699
10 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER <b>\$439.99</b> WAS \$599.99	20 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER <b>\$899.99</b> WAS \$1099.99	LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE <b>\$699.99</b> WAS \$999.99	G.E. OVER-THE-RANGE MICROWAVE <b>\$199.99</b> WAS \$279.99

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**2022 BEST OF CENTRAL MASS**



# Bay Path nursing mock code team holds prep day



CHARLTON — The Practical Nursing Class of 2024 Mock Code Team under the guidance and leadership of Professor Cheryl Cahill executed the Mock Code Team Prep recently. During cardiac arrests, the quick response of a code team requires cohesiveness, timely defibrillation, and clearly defined roles. Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy’s Mock Code Team and Simulation Training improves response to code events.

“We are blessed to have the guidance, experience, and expertise of Professor Cahill,” said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director.

“Using simulation training improves performance,” Bolandrina added—the timely use of defibrillation and confident nurses empower and result in a positive response to code events.

According to the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines (GWTG) resuscitation program, time to first shock is one of four achievement metrics. The guidelines state that hospitalized patients exhibiting ventricular fibrillation or pulseless ventricular tachycardia should receive defibrilla-

tion within two minutes to improve outcomes.

In 2017, the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy MCT was formed to improve resuscitation skills and comfort levels for practical nursing students. The MCT meets for a full day of preparation, with members practicing as much as possible. On Mock Code Day, the MCT runs the code scenarios multiple times. The formation of the MCT increased mock code opportunities and participation three times in an academic year. Participation in mock codes increases the comfort level. An effective code team is one that acts safely, and efficiently, and saves lives. The MCT aims to be proficient with skills and knowledge, effective with communication, and highly organized.

Members of the PN Class of 2024 Mock Code Team are Victoria Boateng of Gardner; Julie Dodson of West Brookfield, Melisa Nale of North Brookfield, Patrick Njunge, Richard Nsiah, both of Worcester; Samantha Stanikmas of Charlton, Ashley Urbain of Paxton, and Cynthia Zayas-Torres of N. Grosvenordale, Conn. It is important for members of the healthcare team to intuitively know their role as part of the response team, especially during code situations when seconds count.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins in mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical

Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing (www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn) and is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education (www.council.org). For more information, visit www.baypath.net.



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## DUDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Courtesy

Dudley Middle School congratulates its Students of the Month for November: 5th Grade - Natalie Stinehart, Silas Ciuchta, Whitney Kungu, & Sara Rabski; 6th Grade - Mia Piotti, Avianna Vega, & Gwyneth Boudreau; 7th Grade - Lilly Connor, Kaiya Zaczek, & Georgia Nioforos-Ortiz; 8th Grade - Zed Akraasi, Logan Baxter, & Muriel Amponsah (not shown).



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## Masonic Lodge AED/ CPR & 1st Aid Courses were a great success during recent OPEN House Weekend!

American Heart Association Certified classes to be given on specific Saturdays, November and December: We will be sponsoring and conducting reduced rate classes to support the surrounding community for an AED/CPR class is combined with the Basic First Aid class for Certification. There will also be a “Stop the Bleed” Certificate class. Classes will require sign-up in advance & pre-payment made to: JOEL H. PROUTY LODGE of Masons 780 Southbridge Street, Auburn, MA. 01501

Dates are as follows:  
12.09.2023 Stop the Bleed \$65.00 w/ Certificate  
12.16.2023 AED/CPR & \*\*\* \$65.00 w/AHA Certificate Basic First Aid  
Classes will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
\*\*\* Must be 10 people for the AED/CPR Basic First Aid Class to be held to justify the instructor. Fees will be returned if we don't get 10 students or the second date can be used.  
Stop the Bleed class can accommodate up to 40 people

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## PET of the WEEK



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Librarian, Ms. Lida, will  
be bidding farewell to the  
Pearle as she embarks on  
a new journey. She has  
been an integral part of  
our library for 4.5 years.  
We want to thank Ms.  
Lida for all her contribu-  
tions and wish her well  
as she sets off on her  
next adventure. We will  
miss Ms. Lida and she  
will miss all her patrons  
as well.

Story time will resume  
once a new Children's

Librarian has been hired.  
  
Guest Reader Story  
Time  
Mondays at 5:30PM  
Join a different guest  
reader each week for sto-  
ries, songs, and crafts!

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group

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2nd Saturday of each  
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**POKEMON CARD  
TRADING**  
4th Saturday of each  
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Children are invited  
to bring their Pokemon  
cards for informal card  
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**MOVIE MONDAYS**  
Mondays at 2:00PM  
Join us each Monday  
for a movie and popcorn.  
December films are holi-  
day themed.

December 4 Irving  
Berlin's Holiday Inn  
December 11 Jingle All

the Way  
December 18 Elf  
  
Shepherd Hill Show  
Choir  
Saturday December 2  
at 11 AM  
Members of the  
Shepherd Hill Show  
Choir will be here per-  
forming Holiday Music.  
This is an all ages event!

Pearle Jam: Holiday  
Concert  
Thursday, December  
14th 6 PM  
Join David Polansky  
for a Holiday Concert!  
Fun for all ages!  
Sponsored by the Hugh  
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**ADULT BOOK GROUP**  
December 18, 6:00-7:30  
PM

All are welcome to join  
our adult book group  
for a discussion of this  
month's title, The Horse,  
by Geraldine Brooks  
Copies of the current  
title are available at the  
circulation desk one  
month prior to the meet-  
ing.  
Deb's Sing and Swing  
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**Spice Club** Each month  
will feature a new spice,  
recipes, and cookbooks.  
Stop by the lobby to grab  
a sample of that month's  
spice, then take it home  
and cook! October's Spice  
is All Spice.

Are you a Collector of  
Old Books? Come check

out our display upstairs  
to see if any of them  
could be added to your  
collection!

New Art Exhibit up!  
Come check out the new  
art exhibit in the com-  
munity room. Johanna  
Riddle is a Massachusetts-  
based travel photogra-  
pher. Artist Meet and  
Greet will be November  
13th from 6 to 8 PM.

**SERIES:** December  
14th --- The Blackstone  
Valley String Quartet &  
Ensembles at 6:30 PM  
The Blackstone  
Valley String Quartet  
& Ensembles is based  
in North Grafton,  
Massachusetts. The  
ensemble specializes in  
performances combin-  
ing classical and modern  
music throughout New  
England.

**ADULT BOOK  
DISCUSSION GROUP**—  
December 14th at 6:30 PM  
This month's  
book discussion will  
be in the Library's  
Community Room. The  
Group will be discussing  
The Personal Librarian  
by Heather Terrell. Stop  
by the library, or reach  
out by phone at 508-949-  
3880, or by email to [rcox@cwmars.org](mailto:rcox@cwmars.org) for inquiries.

**ADULT BOARDGAME  
NIGHT**— December 19th  
—6:00 PM  
Come in and play  
games with other board  
game enthusiasts. Learn  
a new one, or play one  
you know and help others  
learn!

**HUMMUS MAKING**—  
December 4th --- 6:00 PM  
This short tast-  
ing class will have you  
blending chickpeas, gar-  
lic, olive oil, and other  
fresh ingredients to  
make your own hummus.  
Registration is required,  
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you can call the library at  
508-949-3880

**COOKBOOK CLUB**—  
December 5th--- 6:00 PM  
Every month  
there will be a new  
cookbook and you will  
choose a delicious recipe  
to make! You can choose  
anything out of the cook-  
book to bring and share.  
Whether you like to cook  
or bake there will always  
be something for you!  
We will eat and discuss  
our favorite and our least  
favorite things of the  
cooking adventure. You  
can pick up your copy  
from behind the circula-  
tion desk.

Children's and Young  
Adult Programming

**Scavenger Hunt**--- All  
Month Long  
What's more  
exciting than a scavenger  
hunt? Come upstairs to  
the Children's room to  
pick up a list of things  
to find all around the  
library. Once you've  
completed the scavenger  
hunt, check in with the  
Children's Librarian to  
redeem a prize.

**MAKER MONDAYS** –  
Mondays from 3:30-4:30  
PM  
Feeling artistic? We  
will have a variety of  
craft materials available  
to put your creativity to  
the test! Every month  
we will rotate our craft  
material, stop in to see  
what we're making this  
month!

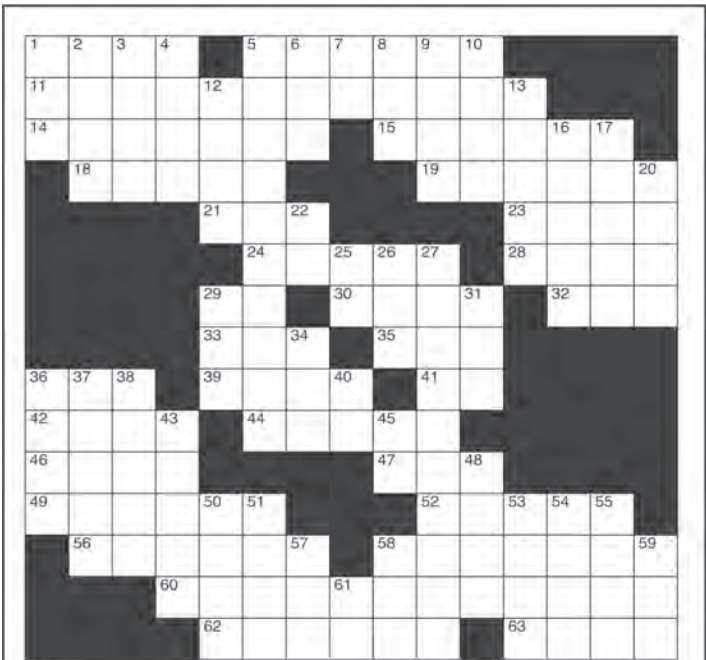
**BUILD  
TUESDAYS** –  
from 3:30-  
4:30 PM  
Join us every  
Tuesday

for a self-guided STEM-  
based building chal-  
lenge, appropriate for  
all ages. Younger kids  
should bring a parent.  
Instruction sheets will  
be provided. Contact  
Andrew at 508-949-3880,  
or [atai@cwmars.org](mailto:atai@cwmars.org) for  
more details.

**THE POOP  
MUSEUM**--- December  
2nd 11:30-12:30  
The Poop  
Museum covers the seri-  
ous science of poop and  
pooping, and is delivered  
with the silliness that you  
might imagine accompa-  
nying a program about  
poop for young kids. It  
is the perfect combi-  
nation of fun, and fab-  
ulous, fascinating facts,  
so that kids (and parents)  
never forget what they  
learned. Aimed at the 4-9  
age group, the program  
engages kids as young as  
3 and as old as 12. Funded  
by the Friends of the  
Gladys E. Kelly Public  
Library.

**STUFFED ANIMAL  
STORYTIME**--- December  
6th and 20th at 10:00 AM  
Join Library  
Director Sondra Murphy  
for stories, songs, and  
fun with our plush pals!  
This Storytime is geared  
toward ages birth to 3,  
but siblings are welcome.

**BABY MASSAGE  
CLASS**--- December 1st,  
8th, and 15th at 10:30  
Baby Massage  
can help with gas, con-  
stipation, bonding, sooth-  
ing, and sleep. Sheryl  
White will model the  
strokes on a doll as the  
parents practice the tech-  
niques on their babies.  
Funded by the Friends  
of the Gladys E. Kelly  
Public Library.

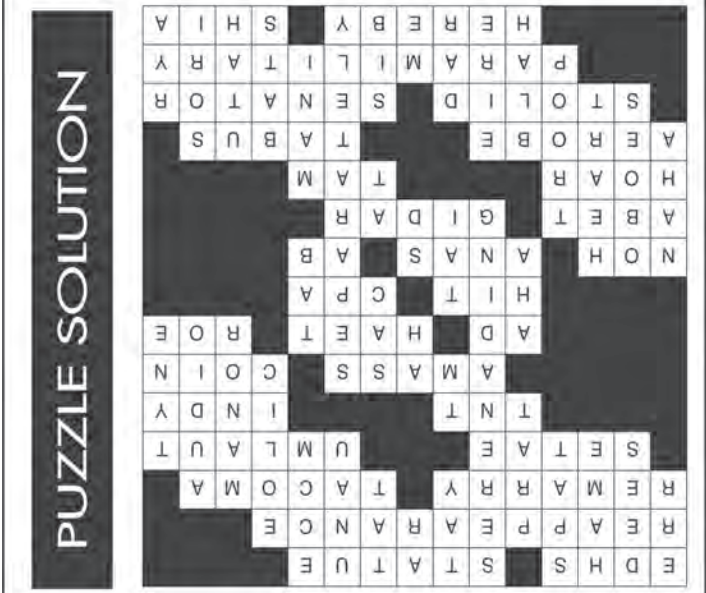


## CLUES ACROSS

1. Old English letters  
5. Sculpture  
11. Showing up again  
14. Tie the knot again  
15. Washington city  
18. Stiff structures in invertebrates  
19. Mark over a vowel  
21. Explosive  
23. Popular race; \_\_\_ 500  
24. Pile up  
28. Mint  
29. Commercial  
30. A minute amount (Scottish)  
32. Small Eurasian deer  
33. Baseball stat  
35. Numbers cruncher
36. Japanese masked drama  
39. Gasteyer and de Armas are two  
41. Blood group  
42. Assist in wrongdoing  
44. Language spoken in Cameroon  
and Chad  
46. Grayish-white  
47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin  
49. Microorganism  
52. Place under prohibition  
56. Calm, dependable  
58. Congressman  
60. Force  
62. As a result of this document  
63. One of two main branches  
of Islam

## CLUES DOWN

1. Make a mistake  
2. Gordon and Snider are two  
3. Geographical region of Finland  
4. Ejected saliva  
5. A way of performing  
6. Scotland's longest river  
7. One of the six noble  
gases (abbr.)  
8. Body art  
9. Two-toed sloth  
10. Electronic counter-  
countermeasures  
12. Foolish person (Brit.)  
13. Of the wind  
16. Grand home  
17. Sound  
20. English river  
22. Symbol indicating ownership  
25. Exclamation of surprise  
26. Pouch
27. Apart from  
29. Satisfaction  
31. The bill in a restaurant  
34. Sea bream  
36. Port in southern Japan  
37. Double-reed instruments  
38. Center  
40. South Dakota  
43. An orderly crowd  
45. Indicates position  
48. \_\_\_-pedi  
50. Nonsense (slang)  
51. Republic of Ireland  
53. Nocturnal flyers  
54. American state  
55. Clusters in fern fronds  
57. Patriotic women  
58. A person's brother or sister  
59. Breed of sheep  
61. Popular film "Despicable \_\_\_"



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## TO SUBMIT A LETTER

## TO THE EDITOR:

E-MAIL: [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)  
OR send to Webster Times  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550



## PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
860-928-1818 EXT. 103  
[frank@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:frank@stonebridgepress.news)

BUSINESS MANAGER  
RYAN CORNEAU  
860-928-1818 EXT. 102  
[ryan@salmonpress.news](mailto:ryan@salmonpress.news)

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR  
JIM DiNICOLA  
508-764-6102  
[jim@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jim@stonebridgepress.news)

EDITOR  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
508-909-4106  
[news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

PRODUCTION MANAGER  
JULIE CLARKE  
860-928-1818, EXT. 305  
[julie@villagernewsletters.com](mailto:julie@villagernewsletters.com)

THE WEBSTER TIMES (USPS#024-928) and THE AUBURN NEWS (546-680) IS PUBLISHED  
WEEKLY BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS, INC., 25 ELM ST., SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550.  
PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: SEND  
ADDRESS CHANGES TO WEBSTER TIMES, P.O. BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550

# ALMANAC

## OPEN TO CLOSE

### DUDLEY

**DUDLEY TOWN HALL (508) 949-8000**  
Monday: 8:00 AM-6:30 PM (second floor offices),  
Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Friday: 8:00  
AM-12:00 PM.

**DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411)**  
Staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week  
**DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040)**  
Monday-Sunday ..... 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### OXFORD

**OXFORD TOWN HALL (508) 987-6027**  
Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours:  
Monday, Tues., Thurs..... 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday ..... 9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Friday ..... 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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For emergencies, call 911  
**OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)**  
Monday-Friday ..... 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### WEBSTER

**WEBSTER TOWN HALL (508) 949-3850**  
Office Hours:  
Monday ..... 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Tuesday-Thursday ..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Friday ..... 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
(943-1212)**  
For emergencies, call 911  
**WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875)**  
Monday-Friday ..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Saturday ..... 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.



# DUDLEY SENIOR CENTER

71 West Main St.  
508-949-8015

ELDER ABUSE intake Hotline for Mass., 1-800-922-2275, to report physical/mental/financial abuse. Senior self-harm/neglect. (May remain anonymous in reporting suspected abuse).

Dudley Senior Center hours beginning November 6th are 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Seniors are welcome to drop in for self-directed activities, cards, puzzles, movies, knitting or just to hang out with friends.

Tri Valley Congregate lunches are served on Monday at 11:15 AM and Thursday at 11:45 AM. Reservations for lunch must be made two days in advance.

Call the office and leave a message to reserve your lunch at 508-949-8015. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated.

Activities at Dudley Senior Center:

- Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. – Pitch League
- Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. – The Dudley Senior Women's Knitting group.

Come join us if you're interested in creating groovy knitting projects which are helping to support our community.

Special Events at the Dudley Senior Center for December

Wednesday December 6, 2023: a group of seniors will be going to eat at the Public House. Meeting at the Senior Center to Carpool to the Public House reservations are required for this restaurant lunch will be at 12 noon. Please let us know if you are interested in joining we need to RSVP so please call.

Thursday December 7, 2023: the Dudley Senior Center will be celebrating December birthdays. After the Tri Valley lunch we will be having cake and ice cream. Please call by Monday December 4th., if you are interested in having us order a Tri Valley meal, or bring your own lunch, have cake, and ice cream with us.

Wednesday December 13, 2023: we will have a brown bag lunch. Your selection will be bologna or chicken salad. Please call the office or stop by and sign up with your choice of meat, and condiments. You must call in advance, so we have your brown bag ready as you request. The cost of this is \$3.00 per person.

Wednesday December 27, 2023: the Dudley Senior Center will be having a Potluck luncheon. We will be servicing Shepherd's Pie. The cost for this lunch is \$5.00. You will need to RSVP for this event, so we have enough meals: Please Call 508-949-8015 to RSVP or sign up in the senior center.

Please call the Senior Center for any of these Special Events so we have a count especially for the meals we are making: The number is 508-949-8015. Please leave a message. You can also contact us by email: coadirector@dudleyma.gov we are very excited to offer new events for our seniors.

Handouts are available at the Dudley Senior Center

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 10 AM – 2:00 PM.

Email: coadirector@dudleyma.gov  
Telephone: 508-949-8015. Please leave us a message with your return phone number.

We are always open to new ideas for programs/events. Come and share!

Open to all seniors. You are always welcome to attend any of our programs and events no matter where you live! Just a reminder to RSVP for any special events.

## REAL ESTATE

### AUBURN

\$569,000, 17 Saratoga Rd, Senior, Leslie, and Senior, Devin, to Gonzalez, Wilbert A.  
\$520,000, 3 Rochelle St, Gendreau, Brian, to Collins, Keith.  
\$420,000, 33 Colonial Rd, Lantiegne, Lauren B, to Davis, Ethan M, and Davis, Jessica B.  
\$415,000, 49 Barbara Ave, Lemoine Bonnie H Est, and Lemoine, Christopher, to Baptiste, Marie C.  
\$400,000, 27 Homestead Ave, Goodrau, Sheila A, to Phaneuf, Angela.

### DUDLEY

\$5,100,000, 123 Oxford Ave, Three R S Realty Corp, to Strategic Com Realty Inc.  
\$5,100,000, 153 Oxford Ave, Three R S Realty Corp, to Strategic Com Realty Inc.  
\$630,000, 185 Oxford Ave, Oconnor, Maureen E, and Oconnor, Thomas F, to Cappabianco Jr, Michael A, and Cappabianco, Lisa E.  
\$435,000, 26 June St, Perreault, Samantha, and Perreault, Kyle D, to Warren, Stanley G.  
\$425,000, 75 Marsh Rd, Restated Kulisa T, and Tierney, Lynn A, to Radcliffe, David, and Radcliffe, Heather.  
\$375,000, 127 Dresser Hill Rd, Gervais, Pamela J, to Campbell, Rebecca L, and Turner, Paul R.  
\$200,000, 16 Delaney Ave, Berube Rose V Est, and Berube, Thomas, to Johansen, Maryann.

### OXFORD

\$495,000, 44 Joe Jenny Rd, Perkins, Jillian, to Vazquez, Felix, and Vazquez, Michele.  
\$475,723, 167 Dudley Rd, Gendron, Edward R, and Lakeview Loan Servicing L, to Lakeview Loan Servicing L.  
\$415,000, 13 Dudley Rd, Delano Lt, and Delano, Todd M, to Cignetti, Stephen.  
\$355,000, 27 Leicester St, Cuadrado, James M, and Castro-Lainez, Jennifer C, to Losada, Nohora P.  
\$325,000, 6 Vine St, Abbascia, Dale, to Burse, Doreen R.  
\$267,000, 82 Walnut St, Duquette, Kenneth M, and Duquette, Patricia M, to Plouffe, Brian D.  
\$240,000, 27 Walnut St, Coleman, Brenda M, to Sdb Homes LLC.

### WEBSTER

\$557,500, 106 Lake St, Young, Ronald J, and Young, Kathleen M, to Coulombe, James, and Bird, Crystal L.  
\$280,000, 15 Tanner Rd, Hud, to Fenuccio-Ramos, Tiana, and Rosa, Miguel A.  
\$250,000, 104 Thompson Rd, Lebel Realty Invs LLC, to Francisco Stone Work Inc.  
\$240,000, 75 Main St, Rheault Properties Llp, to Putnam Inv Prop LLC.

# WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.  
(508) 949-3845  
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

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

The Webster Senior Center will close at 12:30 pm (after serving lunch) on Friday, December 22nd. The Senior Center will be closed on Monday, December 25th in observance of the Christmas holiday.

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday 12/5 Hot Dog, baked beans, coleslaw. Wednesday 12/ Stuffed Pepper Casserole, mashed potatoes, carrots. Thursday 12/7 Garlic Herbed Chicken, cranberry herb stuffing, brussels sprouts. Friday, 12/8 American Chop Suey, roasted broccoli & carrots.

SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Senior Center to assist you with any health insurance questions you may have. Just a reminder, Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15th to December 7th. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.

Need help with your MassHealth application? Tri-Valley has Certified Application Counselors available to assist you. Appointments are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Tri-Valley office in Dudley. Please call Tri-Valley at (508) 949-6640. Appointments are also available on Fridays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Webster Senior Center. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule Friday appointments at the Senior Center.

REC Farmer's Market every Thursday from 1:00 – 2:30 pm on the Town Hall front lawn.

Come on down to the Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center and enter a raffle to win a free haircut! No purchase necessary. Bomba Beauty Salon is open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

Come join us for our Golden Bachelor Viewing Party! Our Golden Bachelor viewing schedule: Fantasy Suites, Thursday, November 30th at 10:00 am. Finale will be shown on Friday, December 1st 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

NEW! Koffee Klatch get together and chat with us on Thursdays at 10:00 am. Starts Thursday, December 7th.

Do you have questions about health insurance? A Representative from MA Advantage will be at the Webster Senior Center on Friday, December 1st

at 10:00 am to answer questions. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Join our Coloring Workshops with Stacey! Friday, December 1st and Friday, December 15th at 10:00 am. Each class is 1-1/2 hours and participants will get their choice of drawing plus a set of colored pencils and a blending pencil to take home! Cost: \$5.00 per class. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Soup Social with Christopher Heights will be held on Monday, December 4th at 11:30 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Mondays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! Cost: \$3.00 per class. NOTE: Chair Dancing Classes will resume on December 13th!

Progressive Beginner Line Dancing Classes with Forty Arroyo are postponed until further notice.

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm. Why not sign up for lunch, come early and spend the day!

Do you like to play cribbage? Our weekly cribbage group now meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us!

Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center – come join us for 6-card or 13-card pitch! Six card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.

New card game! Euchere!! If you are interested, please call (508) 949-3845 or stop by the Senior Center front desk for more information.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday

at 1:00 pm – beginners welcome!

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

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

Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 or stop in to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of additional activities and upcoming events.

## Lost Diamond Ring

Lost Hamilton and Oliver Street Southbridge, MA Solitary Diamond, 4 prong, full setting engagement ring

If found please call 508-612-4506 Possible reward

## Friday's Child



Asa and Lilianna  
Age 8 and 10

Hi! Our names are Asa and Lilianna and we like karate!

Lilianna and Asa are amazing sibling group hoping to be adopted together. Lilianna (Lilly), the older sister is very outgoing. She is described as active, fearless, and strong-willed. Lilly also has a side she describes as "classy", such as enjoying getting her nails done and putting on makeup. She attends in karate class and really enjoys it. Lilly also loves art, enjoys watching cartoons, and helping her foster mother in the kitchen. In school, she performs at grade level and would benefit from support and consistent structure to stay task. Lilianna is severely allergic to cats and dogs and families with cats will not be considered but her social worker would consider a family with a hypoallergenic dog.

Asa, the younger brother, unlike his big sis has an introverted personality. He also likes to attend karate class. Asa likes indoor activities like mind-stimulating games that include problem solving, drawing, and playing with cars. He also loves outdoor activities such as going to the park. In school, Asa performs above average compared to his peers.

Lilly and Asa will bring joy to a home that can provide them with structure, consistency, and freedom to express their emotions. They will do well in a loving two parent family of any constellation, where they can be the only or youngest children in the home. Asa is biracial, being of African America and Caucasian descent and interested families must be dedicated to providing appropriate information and ethnic and cultural role models regarding his culture which includes discussing racism and discrimination.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/children/6956-6957>

### Can I Adopt?

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

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

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



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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

# EDITORIAL

## The power of small changes

In a world that often celebrates instant results and quick fixes, the true path to personal growth and self-improvement lies in the steady accumulation of small changes. We live in an age where we’re bombarded with information about radical transformations and overnight success stories. However, it’s essential to remember that lasting change often comes from the consistent practice of good habits, one small step at a time.

The journey of self-improvement can be daunting. Whether it’s striving for better health, financial stability, or personal development, the thought of making significant changes can be overwhelming. But here’s the secret: progress is not about massive, dramatic actions. Instead, it’s about the cumulative effect of tiny, daily efforts.

Developing good habits requires patience, persistence, and an understanding that meaningful change doesn’t happen overnight. Instead, it unfolds gradually.

Small changes are sustainable because they don’t disrupt your life drastically. When you start with tiny steps, you’re less likely to feel overwhelmed and give up. These changes become integrated into your daily routine, making them easier to maintain over the long term.

Consistency is the backbone of habit formation. By taking small actions every day, you reinforce positive behaviors and build momentum. Over time, these behaviors become second nature, and you don’t have to rely on willpower alone.

Large changes can trigger resistance and anxiety. Our brains are wired to resist big, sudden shifts. In contrast, small changes are less threatening, making it easier to overcome the resistance that often accompanies change.

Celebrating small victories along the way boosts motivation and confidence. Each small change achieved is a step forward, reinforcing your commitment to your goals.

Life is unpredictable, and sudden disruptions can derail even the best-laid plans. When your habits are built on small, manageable changes, you can adapt more easily to unexpected challenges without losing sight of your goals.

Identify one habit you want to cultivate and break it down into the smallest possible steps. For example, if you want to exercise regularly, start with just five minutes of activity each day.

Set specific goals: Make your goals clear and measurable. Instead of saying, “I want to get in shape,” say, “I will walk for 10 minutes every morning.”

Establish a daily routine that includes your new habit. Consistency is easier to maintain when your habit becomes part of your daily life.

Track your progress: Keep a journal or use habit-tracking apps to monitor your daily efforts. Seeing your progress can be motivating and help you stay on track.

Stay accountable: Share your goals with a friend or family member who can offer support and encouragement. Having someone to hold you accountable can be a powerful motivator.

Remember, the journey of self-improvement is not a sprint but a marathon. Embrace the process of making small changes every day, and in time, you’ll look back and be amazed at the significant transformation that these incremental efforts have brought to your life. By cultivating good habits one step at a time, you’ll not only achieve your goals but also develop the resilience and discipline necessary for a lifetime of positive change.

# VIEWPOINT

## What is Christmas all about?

What is Christmas all about? If you didn’t grow up in a Christian home, if you don’t go to Church, or didn’t have parents who read you the Christmas story each year, would you know what Christmas is about all? Think about that for a moment. Would you be able to figure out what Christmas is about from what our society says during this festive season?

I had a discussion with a person who told me they grew up with no religion in their home. They never went to church, never were baptized, and in fact, really never talked about anything religious in their home. This person wasn’t angry at God, or didn’t reject God or His Church because they had some negative experience with religious people. The simple fact was that their family never felt any need to be involved in a religious community, and now in their adult age, this person is totally indifferent to Christianity or any other religion.

This describes a growing number of people in our country. Statistics now say that almost 40 percent of millennials, people between 18 and 30, don’t identify with any religious community. And this number is growing rapidly.

For such people, what do they think about Christmas? Would they even know what Christmas is truly about?

Well, let’s think about what they see all around them? Homes have lights up, lots of lights, beautiful lights along with reindeer, Santas, candy canes, snowmen, and some snow dogs. Even non-Christian families have lights shining around their home. The lights are beautiful, but would a non-religious or a non-Christian person have any reason to understand why there are lights? What do they signify or mean?

Then there’s the Christmas music on the radio or in every shop or store we enter. Some stations have 24/7 Christmas music. Yet, what does this music tell us about Christmas? That chestnuts are roasting on an open fire. That Rudolph has a red, shiny nose. Lots of music about families gathering together to celebrate the most joyous time of the year amidst a winter wonderland. Once again beautiful, nostalgic music that may warm our hearts. But what is its significance. Maybe one out of every 20 or 30 songs may sing about the Christ child, but these few songs can easily get lost in the host of other catchy tunes.

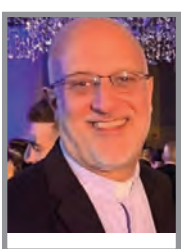
Of course, there are the Christmas cards we send to one another which show beautiful pictures of families. I love getting these cards and seeing how families change year after year. They are beautiful, and they remind us of family and friends. But do they tell us anything about Christmas?

How many of us go to different Christmas or holiday parties which gather co-workers, friends and families together. Great fellowship. Good food. But once again, what does it tell us about the meaning of Christmas?

And of course, there’s all the stress and rush of the season – shopping for more and more presents up until the day before Christmas. Feeling overwhelmed, ragged and tired. Does this get across what Christmas is all about?

What a non-religious person probably comes away with from American Christmas is that it is a time for family and friends, a time of celebration and cheer, a time of beauty and fun. Yet they can miss the entire religious message, the main point of Christmas! Seriously, it’s easy to celebrate Christmas and leave Jesus Christ entirely out of the picture!

One friend told me about a foreign exchange student from China who was living with them. Although this



BEYOND THE PEWS  
• • • • •  
BY FR. LUKE A. VERONIS  
SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, WEBSTER

student had heard about the Western holiday of Christmas in China, they actually knew nothing of its actual meaning. And after living through the celebration of Christmas in America, they still didn’t know what it was all about until they asked their host family, “Why do you celebrate Christmas? What is it all about? Do you really believe in flying reindeer?”

The “Good News of Great Joy” this season celebrates is about God the Creator of the universe becoming a human being. It’s about Jesus the long-awaited Messiah coming to earth to save the world from darkness and evil, sin and death itself. This radical and life-giving message is now lost for many people in all the hustle and bustle of our secular Christmas. Therefore, we Christians need to understand that this season as a great opportunity to tell others about what Christmas truly is! We have a special responsibility to share the good news of great joy with others – to let people know the reason for the season!

What does your Christian faith mean to you? How has your relationship with Jesus Christ impacted your life? What meaning and significance have you found in life because of your faith in God? As I reflect on my father’s death earlier this year, I realize I’m not afraid of death precisely because of what Christmas ushered into the world!

Christmas is the beginning of the greatest revolution in human history – a revolution which brings true freedom to humanity. Freedom to overcome our sinful temptations and passions and fulfill our God-given potential by uniting us to God Himself. As St. Athanasios the Great succinctly put it, “God became man so that man could become god.” This is the great promise of Christmas, to reach our potential as human beings! And this is good news everyone needs to know about!


Thus, I want to challenge everyone. Over the next weeks, can we make it a point to share the Good News of Christmas, the real message of Christmas, with at least one person each week. Think of someone you know who isn’t a Christian – maybe someone who is among the non-religious, or maybe someone with another religious background. Whoever it is, ask them how they celebrate Christmas, and what Christmas means to them. Then, share how you celebrate Christmas and what the birth of Jesus Christ means to you.

Even think about inviting them to come to Church with you one of these Sundays before or on Christmas. Everyone is welcome to our Saints Constantine and Helen Church in Webster!

Please remember that there are many people in our society who really don’t know what Christmas is all about. And more and more people are joining their ranks. Let us be like the angels who brought the “good news of great joy” to the shepherds. Let us be like the shepherds who shared their great discovery with the villagers of Bethlehem. Let us be like the wise men who after traveling far to see the newborn Jesus, surely went back to their homeland telling their people about the newborn king.

Christmas is a time for family and friends. Christmas is a time of beautiful lights and wonderful music. Christmas is a time of celebration and good cheer. Yet above all else, Christmas is the time that we remember how God entered the world and changed it! Jesus Christ came to conquer Satan and sin and even death itself, and because of this gave each one of us an opportunity for new life! May we let everyone know about this good news of great joy!

## Know the key benefits of a Roth IRA



FINANCIAL FOCUS

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DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

As you save for retirement, you’ll want to take full advantage of the investment vehicles available to you — and one of the best is a Roth IRA. But what sets it apart from other accounts?

Three key factors distinguish the Roth IRA:

Tax-free earnings – When you invest in a Roth IRA, your earnings can grow tax free, provided you don’t begin taking withdrawals until you’re 59 and a half and you’ve had your account at least five years. If you don’t meet these criteria, withdrawals of earnings will be subject to taxes and a possible 10 percent penalty.

No penalties on withdrawals of contributions – You fund a Roth IRA with after-tax dollars, which means you can withdraw your contributions — not the earnings — at any time for any reason, without facing taxes or penalties. So, you could use some of your Roth IRA money for non-retirement purposes, such as helping pay for a child’s college education.

No required withdrawals at age 73 – With a traditional IRA or a 401(k), you must start taking withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — once you reach 73. But this rule doesn’t apply to a Roth IRA — you can keep it intact as long as you like. You may need to tap into it for some of your retirement income, but if you don’t use it all, the remainder could benefit your beneficiaries.

A Roth IRA does share one similarity to a traditional IRA: It can be funded with virtually any type of investment, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit (CDs) and so on.

However, unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA does have income limits.

For the 2023 tax year, if your modified adjusted gross income was less than \$138,000 (for a single filer) or \$218,000 (married filing jointly), you can put in the full amount of \$6,500 and an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution if you’re 50 or older. The amounts you can contribute will gradually decline at higher income levels and are phased out entirely at \$153,000 for single filers and \$228,000 if you’re married and file jointly. These income ranges will likely change for the 2024 tax year, so you’ll want to consult with your tax advisor for details.

Still, even if you’ve contributed to a traditional IRA or a 401(k) for many years, you may have a chance to eventually “convert” some, or all, of these funds to a Roth IRA and gain its benefits. It’s not hard to do this conversion — it involves minimal paperwork from your traditional IRA or 401(k) provider — but it does come with tax issues. Any money that’s converted from a traditional IRA or 401(k) to a Roth IRA will be treated as ordinary taxable income. This can trigger a large tax bill, so, unless you have the money available from other accounts to pay the taxes, the conversion may or may not make sense for you. But you don’t have to convert all the funds at once. By spreading the conversion over several years, you could reduce the effect of a large tax hit in any single year. You may want to consult with your tax advisor before converting any funds to a Roth IRA.

If you can find a way to contribute to a Roth IRA, either directly or through a conversion, consider it carefully — you’ll find a lot of upsides to this investment account.

*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.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A clean heat platform for Massachusetts

To the Editor:

With the cold weather upon us, it is easy to forget the impact of a warming climate will have on our children and grandchildren. Here in Massachusetts the residential and commercial building sector is the second largest emitter of greenhouse gases. While there are several bills now proposed to address this, it is important to let our Governor and Legislators know that they should support the complementary policies that make up the Clean Heat Platform, which will steer us away from fossil fuel use and replacing it with clean, more efficient and cheaper electricity. This can be done through the use of ground and air heat pumps, weatherizing existing structures, and strengthening our building codes among other things. But just as important as getting our commonwealth to act, we should also take matters into our own hands, by taking responsibility for our own carbon footprints, by electrifying our own homes when time comes to replace any broken or obsolete appliances with energy efficient replacements.

GERRY FRANK DUDLEY

### Letter submission policy

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

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



# Be alert against CIRDC

Shotgun deer hunting season opened in Mass. this past Monday, in somewhat ideal conditions. The early morning rain was over by sunrise, followed by light winds in the morning, for hunters hoping to harvest a deer for the family's freezer.

Deer have already started to become nocturnal (traveling and feeding only at night). Deer hunters often work in small groups, hoping to locate the deer, often pushing them from their beds. With the high population of deer in Mass., hunters should have no problem harvesting a couple for the family freezer.

A canine respiratory disease known as CIRDC, "Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease," is a disease that is highly contagious, and has been detected in numerous pets recently. People that frequent dog parks

are exposing their pets to this deadly disease. Taking your pets to the veterinarian to diagnose and treat the disease can be extremely expensive, as most visits to the Veterinarian are.

Getting an appointment to the veterinarian can often take days, as most are often booked up. Pet owners are often referred to Tuff's medical clinic in Grafton, which is extremely expensive. Anyone that has had to take their pet to Tuff's, often come out with a bill of \$500 or more, a thousand dollar bill is not unusual. Owning a dog that is healthy is great, and the companionship is most often a strong bond with the owners.

I have often mentioned the risks of taking your pets to a dog park, and with the recent outbreak of this disease, you should not do it! People take their dogs almost



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
\*\*\*\*\*  
RALPH  
TRUE

everywhere they go, and the risks are very high that they could become infected. Don't do it!

Purchasing a dog as a Christmas present for someone is also a foolish thing to do! There is too much going on, and the pup could be injured during all of the commotion of opening other gifts. Also, when you decide to buy a new family member and/or hunting partner, be sure to buy a healthy dog directly from a breeder. Be sure to see both parents and spend a little bit of time with them. Labradors are still the no. one pet, but

if you do not do your homework before you purchase one, diseases like hip dysplasia could end up costing you hundreds, if not thousands of dollars, not to forget to mention a short life for your new family member. Choose wisely and good luck!

Christmas shopping for those special sportsmen is often a hard thing to do. It is best to give that special guy or gal a gift certificate at their favorite sporting goods store. Shopping at a Mom & Pop store is the best way to go, and will help keep the establishment in business. Many of these small shops have gone out of business over the last 20 years or so, and there are very few left.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Courtesy  
This week's picture shows Aiden, Charlotte, & Holden Walker enjoying a day of pheasant hunting recently with their dad.

## Holiday Crafts for Kids

As we count down to Christmas, a host of festive preparations take center stage in most families. This exciting time of year is hectic, and even more so for anxious children eager to be part of the pre-holiday activities. If you're searching for easy, creative ways to keep little ones from underfoot, look no further. The following ideas are fun and easy ways to keep kids busy. Best of all, these imaginative projects make great gifts for the special loved one in a child's life.

\*\*  
Magic Snowflake Ornament/Suncatcher  
This amazing scientific project takes a little time, but it is educational as well as interesting. Kids really get a kick out of gifting teachers with this sparkly ornament. (Adult supervision required.)  
Materials: String, wide mouth jar (such as a mason canning jar); white pipe cleaners; boiling water; borax (such as 20 Mule Team Borax booster; available at grocery stores); pencil; blue food coloring (optional).  
Directions: Cut a white pipe cleaner into three equal sections. Twist the sections together in the



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
\*\*\*\*\*  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

center so that you have a six sided star shape. If your points are not even, trim the pipe cleaner sections to the same length. Attach string along the outer edges to form a snowflake pattern. Attach a piece of string to the top of one of the pipe cleaners and tie the other end to a pencil (this is to hang it from). Fill a wide mouth jar with boiling water. Mix borax into the water one tablespoon at a time. Use three tablespoons of borax per cup of water. Stir until dissolved, (don't worry if there is powder settling on the bottom of the jar). If you want you can add a little blue food coloring now to give the snowflake a bluish hue. Insert your pipe cleaner snowflake into the jar so that the pencil is resting on the lip of the jar and the snowflake is freely suspended in the borax solution. Wait overnight and by

morning the snowflake will be covered with shiny crystals. Hang in a window as a sun-catcher or

\*\*  
Coal Stacking Bags  
Children love to think they aren't the only ones who are "naughty" at times, and really enjoy bestowing this holiday teaser on family members and friends. This tried and true project is so simple, yet never fails to garner giggles and fun!  
Materials: Small, coal sized rocks; black paint; ziplock bags or brown paper lunch bags; ribbon or twine.  
Instructions: Have kids package painted rocks in zipper bags or brown paper bag pouches and tie with a ribbon for gift giving. They can hand print out the following message and tie it to the bag:  
I heard you have been naughty not nice,  
And Santa even checked his list twice.  
So all the way from the cold North Pole,  
All you're getting is a bag of coal!  
\*\*  
Pinecone Trees  
Gathering pinecones for holiday crafts is a generations old tradi-

tion that reflects one of nature's many gifts of the season! Creating cute, colorful, pinecone "trees" is easy enough for young children to do. The little trees are made simply by painting a single pinecone and are ideal for displaying on the windowsill, desktop or table.  
Materials: Pinecones, dried (see below)\*; paints; glitter; beads; cinnamon candies, etc. and other adornments as desired; wine cork or a slice of tree trunk for base.  
Instructions: Choose a pinecone that mimics the shape of a Christmas tree (short and stout tall and slender, etc.). Paint pinecones green and decorate with beads or tiny buttons; cookie decorations such as cinnamon candies and silver balls, etc.; dip tips in glue and glitter, if desired, etc. Glue bottom of pinecone to a wine cork or small tree trunk slice to form a base (trim bottom of pinecone to make it flat for gluing).  
\*To dry pinecones for crafting; Lay pinecones out flat on an old cookie sheet. Bake at 225 for two hours. This not only helps the pinecones to open, but eliminates moisture and any insects.  
Note: a mix of short,

stout pinecones and long, slender ones can create a "forest" of varying heights for a tabletop display!

\*\*  
Garden Bows  
The gardener on your child's gift list will truly appreciate this creative tree ornament. Perfect for a grandparent, teacher or special adult, the gift can be opened for use in the spring, or hung on the tree year after year.  
Materials: Flower or vegetable seed packets; white glue; glitter; metallic tree garland; fishing line.  
Instructions: Fold seed packet into pleats. Spread white glue along the outside edges of the pleats. Dip the pleated packets into glitter and let dry. Pinch the top of the packet to create a fan. Hang the ornaments by wrapping them at center point with metallic garland. Thread fishing line or ribbon through the garland and tie in a loop for hanging on tree.  
\*\*  
Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House  
Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic

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

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

## 2023 auction results

I hope that you had a Happy Thanksgiving! As we near 2024, I'll use today's column to share some results from our 2023 auctions.

In previous columns, I've discussed how comic books are classified. As a refresher, Golden Age comics were printed from 1938 to 1956. The Silver

Age of comics lasted from 1956 to 1970. The Bronze Age spanned from 1970 to 1985 and the Modern Age began in 1985 and continues today. A Golden Age superheroes comic book in great condition could make you a millionaire. More recent ones can still be valuable, though. We sold a group of Bronze Age and Modern Age X-Men Comic Books that brought \$2,880 in November.

Old and newer collectible toys also brought strong prices this year, including two cast iron toys from our June auction. Kenton Toys of Kenton, Ohio began manufacturing toy trucks in 1903, according to the National Museum of American History. An early 1900s Kenton Toys Cast Iron Police Patrol Horse Drawn Carriage brought \$960. "Samuel



ANTIQUES,  
COLLECTIBLES  
& ESTATES  
\*\*\*\*\*  
WAYNE TUISKULA

F. Pratt, Pascal P. Pratt, and William P. Letchworth established the Buffalo Malleable Iron Works in 1836," according to worthpoint.com. They began toy production in 1889. A late 19th century Pratt & Letchworth Cast Iron Horse Drawn Steamer Fire Engine sold for \$1,020.

Some more modern toys also sold well in our 2023 auctions. "The Munsters" was the 18th highest-ranked TV show for the 1964-65 season. A 1964 Talking Herman Munster figure by Mattel with original box sold for \$900. The intro for "Six Million Dollar Man" became a 1970s catch phrase: "We can rebuild him; we have the technology." A 1970s The Six Million Dollar Man

Venus Space Probe in the box went for \$960. Even newer toys can be valuable. A 2016 Lego Ghostbusters Fire House MIB (mint in box) sold for \$780 earlier this year.

Baseball and other sports cards continue to be popular with collectors, especially graded cards of star players. Cards featuring two Hall of Famers brought strong prizes in our June auction. A 1954 Topps Hank (Henry) Aaron #128 PSA 5 (out of 10) Baseball Card fetched \$4,425. Mickey Mantle cards in good condition are highly desirable. A 1952 Bowman Mickey Mantle #101 PSA 6 (out of 10) Baseball Card knocked it out of the park, selling for \$5,000.

We are expecting more strong auction results at our major multi-estate online auction which starts soon and ends on January 10th. We will be offering fine art including paintings by list-

ed artists (those whose works have sold at auction), Pablo Picasso limited edition pottery, and bronze sculptures. We have gold, platinum, and diamond jewelry and a large amount of sterling silver. There's also a wide range of mid-century modern furniture and accessories. We will also offer aviation and Civil War memorabilia and much more, including a book from the 1600s. Our online estate auction of a Concord, Mass. home is also currently running and will end on Dec. 12. The Concord home has fine furnishings, oriental rugs, an antique tall case clock, and more. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique, Collectibles Auctions and Appraisal Services [www.centralmassauctions.com](http://www.centralmassauctions.com) (508-612-6111).

For Advertising Information  
Call 774-200-7308  
email: [mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)



# The strength to overcome obstacles lies within you

We sometimes find ourselves standing at the feet of towering giants and facing impossible battles. The types of battles that make you question everything you thought you knew, making you feel as if you don't have what it takes and that you should

give up and die.

What if I told you that this perception, this daunting outlook, is often a mere illusion?

There is a truth that many of us find hard to believe: that deep with-

in you lies everything you need to triumph over your giants.

At an early age, Stephen Wiltshire received an autism diagnosis, a condition that faced significant

stigma during his childhood. He was non-verbal until the age of five; few could have imagined his disability would eventually become one of his greatest strengths.

Stephen had a love for drawing; he was passionate about it. It was his way of connecting and communicating. Being autistic, I'm sure nobody thought Stephen had any chance in art.

had the attention of a teacher who noticed his remarkable talent. His drawings, characterized by their stunning detail and complexity, were entered into competitions and started win-

POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

TOBY  
MOORE

Soon enough, Stephen

Turn To **POSITIVELY** page **A10**

## LEGALS

**MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Alan J. Nash, Jr. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated June 8, 2016 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 55448, Page 227, subsequently assigned to RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing Corporation by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 58481, Page 161, subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing Corporation by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 63648, Page 237 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on December 8, 2023 at 1 Duncan Avenue aka 1 Duncan Street, Auburn, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

Beginning at the southwesterly corner thereof at the intersection of the Easterly line of said Carroll Street and the northerly line of said Duncan Street; THENCE: N. 9 degree 30' E. seventy-five (75) feet by the easterly line of said Carroll Street to the southwesterly corner of Lot 15 as sown on said plan; THENCE: S 80 degrees 30' E. one hundred fifty (150) feet by said Lot 15 as sown on said plan to Lot 17; THENCE: S. 9 degrees 30' W. ninety-eight and seventy-six hundredths (98.76) feet by said Lot 17 as shown on said plan to the northerly line of said Duncan Street;

THENCE: N. 66 degrees 27' W. ninety-eight (98.15) feet by said northerly line of Duncan Street to an angle in said northerly line of said Duncan Street;

THENCE: N. 80 degrees 30' W. fifty-four and ninety-three hundredths (54.93) feet by the northerly line of Duncan Street to the point of beginning.

CONTAINING 12.379 square feet of land, more or less.

Being the same premises conveyed to the mortgagors by deed of Patricia S. Pawlina, Trustee of the Pawlina Realty Trust (an unrecorded trust) recorded herewith.

For informational purposes, the subject premises is shown as Lot 14 on a "Plan of House Lots in Auburn, Mass.", dated November 1, 1948, and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 155, Plan 99.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

**TERMS OF SALE:**

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Freedom Mortgage Corporation  
Present Holder of said Mortgage,  
20-006439/248/NOTOP\_DR

By Its Attorneys,  
ORLANS PC  
PO Box 540540  
Waltham, MA 02454  
Phone: (781) 790-7800  
November 17, 2023  
November 24, 2023  
December 1, 2023

**MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Catherine E. Mallette AKA Catherine E. Malette to Citicorp Trust Bank, FSB, dated July 24, 2003 and recorded with the Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 31059, Page 260, subsequently assigned to Selene Finance LP by Citicorp Trust Bank, FSB by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 45757, Page 346, subsequently assigned to SRMOF 2009-1 Trust by Selene Finance LP by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 46345, Page 211, subsequently assigned to CitiMortgage, Inc. by SRMOF 2009-1 Trust by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 48363, Page 12, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Legal Title Trustee of LVS Title Trust I by CitiMortgage, Inc. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 48363, Page 13, subsequently assigned to SRMOF 2009-1 Trust by Selene Finance LP by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 51302, Page 254, subsequently assigned to MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Legal Title Trustee of LVS Title Trust I by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 54778, Page 152, subsequently assigned to Metropolitan Life Insurance Company by MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 64325, Page 375 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on December 15, 2023 at 158 Leicester Street, North Oxford, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

All that certain parcel of land in City of North Oxford, Worcester County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as more fully described in deed Book 15527, Page 115 ID# MAP02B Lot C06, being known and designated as a metes and bounds property.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

**TERMS OF SALE:**

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company  
Present Holder of said Mortgage,  
By Its Attorneys,  
ORLANS PC  
PO Box 540540  
Waltham, MA 02454  
Phone: (781) 790-7800  
November 24, 2023  
December 1, 2023  
December 8, 2023

**MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Alice L. Chmura and Jan T. Mathieu to Springfield Institution For Savings, dated October 15, 1993 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 15662, Page 11, subsequently assigned to Bank United by First Massachusetts Bank, NA as successor in interest to Family Bank, NA (FKA Family Bank, FSB) successor by merger to Springfield Institution For Savings by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 22710, Page 376, subsequently assigned to Bank United by First Massachusetts Bank, NA as successor in interest to Family Bank, NA (FKA Family Bank, FSB) successor by merger to Springfield Institution For Savings by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 68364, Page 152, subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, FA by Washington Mutual Bank f/k/a Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to Bank United by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 47321, Page 77, subsequently assigned to The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as received of Washington Mutual Bank formerly known as Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to Bank United by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 63588, Page 229, subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, FA by The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as receiver of Washington Mutual Bank formerly known as Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to Bank United by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 48211, Page 190, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by Wells Fargo Bank, FA by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 55766, Page 107, subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 63011, Page 279, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 56300, Page 48, subsequently assigned to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. by U.S. Bank Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 64368, Page 393, subsequently assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2019-RPL10 Trust by DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 68261, Page 72 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on December 22, 2023 at 26 Hall Road, Webster, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land on the easterly side of Hall Road, Webster, MA shown as Lot No. 990 on Plan entitled "Revised Subdivision of Plans No. 3 and No. 4 of Lots at Lakeside" owned by Helmi M. Hall dated July 5, 1966 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 305, Plan 74, and further bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING: at a point on the easterly side of Hall Road, said point being the northwest corner of the lot herein conveyed;

THENCE: , easterly by Lot #989, a distance of 293.86 feet;

THENCE: southeasterly, a distance of 100.97 feet;

THENCE: westerly, by Lot #991, a distance of 307.86 feet to Hall Road;

THENCE: northerly by Hall Road, a distance of 100 feet to the point of beginning.

SUBJECT to the restrictions set forth in Book 12594, Page 352.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

**TERMS OF SALE:**

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2019-RPL10 Trust  
Present Holder of said Mortgage,  
By Its Attorneys,  
ORLANS PC  
PO Box 540540  
Waltham, MA 02454  
Phone: (781) 790-7800  
November 24, 2023  
December 1, 2023  
December 8, 2023  
December 15, 2023

**DUDLEY PLANNING BOARD  
PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL NOTICE  
DUDLEY HOUSING AUTHORITY  
PARKING SITE PLAN**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 5.04, Site Plan Review, of the Dudley Zoning Bylaw, the Dudley Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on an application of the Dudley Housing Authority for major site plan review for parking improvements at the Joshua Place housing development located at 22 Joshua Place, Dudley MA. The hearing will open at 7:15 pm on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 in the Dudley Municipal Complex, Room 321-A, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571.

The project consists of resurfacing an existing paved parking area and the installation of ten (10) additional parking spaces and related stormwater improvements. The site plan was prepared by Graves Engineering, Inc., 100 Grove Street, Worcester MA 01605, dated October 11, 2023. The site is in an LI-43 district and the Business 15 Overlay District. The property is listed as Assessors Map 122, Parcel 5. Copies of the plan and application are on file in the Planning Board Office and the Town Clerk's Office, both of which are located in the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA. The Planning Board will receive public input at the hearing. If you wish to comment but are unable to attend, you may submit written comments to the Planning Board Office or via email to [planner1@dudleyma.gov](mailto:planner1@dudleyma.gov) before 4:30 p.m. on December 12, 2023.

Guy Horne, Chairman  
November 24, 2023  
December 1, 2023





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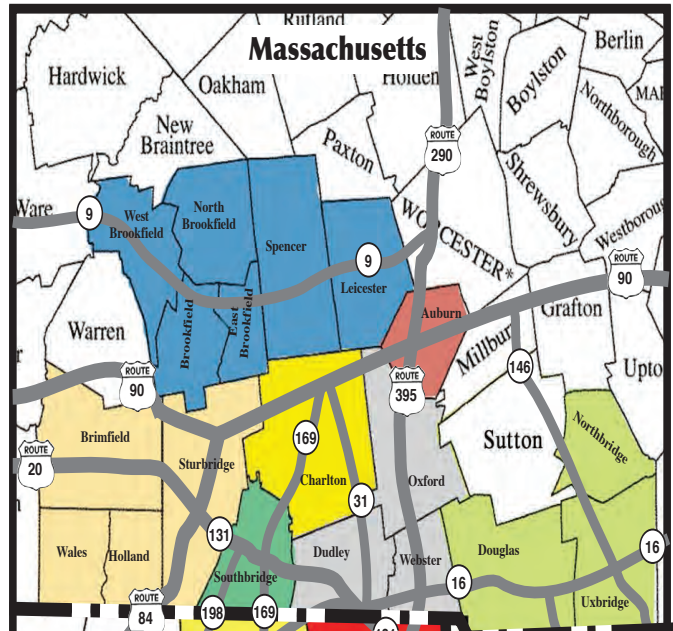
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# OBITUARIES

## Donald A. “Chick” Fiddes, 89



WEBSTER – Donald A. “Chick” Fiddes, 89, died peacefully Monday, November 20, 2023. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Blanche A. (Nadeau)Fiddes; a daughter, Julie Hewey and her husband Lewis of Dudley; a son, Gregg Fiddes and his wife Xuyen of San Diego, CA; 4 grandchildren, Kristen Proulx, Kaylyn Pinto and her husband Robert, Justin Fiddes and his wife Lexi, and Alyssa Fiddes; 3 great-grandchildren, Bryce and Chase Proulx and Liliana Pinto. He was preceded in death by his sister Gloria Boggins. He was born on September 23, 1934 in Webster, the son of James and Helen M. (Premond) Fiddes and graduated from Saint Louis High School in 1952. He earned an associate degree from Nichols College in 1954. He was a standout student and basketball player in his school days. He lived in Webster for many years, then moved to Venice, Florida for 20 years before returning here in 2016. He was an Army veteran of the

Korean War, serving from 1954 to 1956. Don worked for 40 years at Cranston Print Works Company in Webster in various roles, retiring in 1994. Chick loved sports and was an avid Boston sports fan, especially the Celtics and the Red Sox. He had a green thumb and loved “just being outside.” He and his wife had a wonderful, inseparable life together. He will always be remembered for his caring, kind heart. He cared for everyone and put others before himself, a quality he displayed all his life. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who will be missed. His memory, wit and sense of humor will live on in the hearts of those who loved him. Many thanks and blessings are extended to caregivers Sandy Mundel, Donna McGrath and the wonderful, kind and caring staff at both Oasis at Dodge Park in Worcester and Accord Adult Day Care in Webster; all of whom helped him so much in the past years. Services will be held privately. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street. www.websterfunerals.com

## Wanda R. Hommé, 97



WEBSTER – Wanda R. (Fila) Hommé, 97, passed away Thursday, November 23, 2023 in Saint Vincent Hospital, Worcester after a brief illness. Her husband of 49 years, Stefan D. Hommé, died

there from 1945-1951 when they moved briefly to Worcester; settling in Webster in 1953.

Mrs. Hommé worked as a secretary at Anglo Fabrics and then as a secretary at Deary Brothers in Dudley, retiring in 1988.

She was a communicant of Saint Joseph Basilica and belonged to the former St. Joseph Polish Women’s Club. She was a charter member of the Saint John Paul II Foundation and was named “member of the year” in 2022. She was actively involved in Troop 173 of the Boy Scouts and was a camp inspector and unit commissioner of the Mohegan Council where she was still active.

Her funeral was held Tuesday, November 28, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visitation was held from 9:00 to 10:30 Tuesday morning in the funeral home, prior to the Mass. Donations in her name may be made to the Heart of New England Council, 394 Pleasantdale Road, Rutland MA 01543. to a charity of one’s choice.. www.websterfunerals.com

## Frances S. Bond, 86



PDUDLEY – Frances S. (Stone) Bond, 86, of Alton Drive, died Saturday, November 25, 2023, in her home. She was predeceased by her husband, Stanley E. Bond of Dudley who died in 1993. She is survived by eight children, Debra A. Dauphin of Charlton, Alan L. Bond and his wife Maryann of Thompson, CT, Gary W. Bond of Dudley, Glen S. Bond and his wife Joann of Webster, Tammy J. Mancuso and her husband Mark of Oxford, Sandra L. Wilga and her husband Gary of Thompson, CT, Penny L. Buffone and her husband Ronald of Oxford, and Lila Towle, both of Charlton; 19 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother, Donald Stone; and two sisters, Nancy Prunier and Elda Langway. She also leaves her cockatiel who was with her for 30 years, Woody. She was born in Oxford, daughter of the late Everett and Cora (Davis) Stone, and lived in Charlton and Oxford before moving to Dudley 69 years ago. She graduated from Charlton High

School. Mrs. Bond worked as an upholsterer at Ethan Allen in Dudley for over 25 years, retiring in 2001. Previously, she worked at Empire Laundry in Dudley for 15 years. She enjoyed caring for her home and family as a stay-at-home mom for many years. She played in a women’s pitch league and was an accomplished seamstress. She enjoyed reading the newspaper; sudoku, knitting, puzzles, and watching soap operas. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy, and she loved attending all of their sporting events. Most of all, she enjoyed Sunday dinners and spending time with her family members who would visit.

The family would like to thank Kayla, Donna, and Kathy, for their exceptional care over the past several weeks. It takes a special person to do their job – they are angels among us.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Burial will follow at West Ridge Cemetery in Charlton. Calling hours are Wednesday, November 29, 2023, from 4-8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friends of John Paire Inc., P.O. Box 1505, Dudley, MA 01571.

## Ronald C. Langlois, 89



DACULA, GA – Ronald C. Langlois, 89, passed away Monday, November 13, 2023 surrounded by his family. His wife, Dorothy M. “Dot” (Bowers) Langlois, passed away in 2002.

He leaves his daughter, Debbie Copper and her husband Garry of Dacula; a son, Russell Langlois and his wife Lia of Bowling Green, KY; 5 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; a sister, Shirley A. Marshall of Dudley, MA; a brother, Robert Langlois and his wife Bonnie of Elk Horn, KY; nephews and nieces.

He was born in Webster, MA, a son of

Clarence L. and Anna A. (Martin) Langlois.

He served in the United States Army from 1957 to 1959.

Mr. Langlois worked for Conco Medical, now known as Hartman Conco. For 50 years.

Services will be held privately in Mount Zion Cemetery, Webster at the convenience of the family. Local arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster.

www.websterfunerals.com



Send all obituary notices to  
Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,  
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail  
to [obits@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:obits@stonebridgepress.news)

# Outdoor winter container gardens

Add a bit of greenery to your front steps, window box or patio with a winter container garden. You’ll find all the ingredients you need at your local garden center, craft store, and maybe even a few in your backyard.

Start with a walk through your yard and look for evergreens and other potential ingredients for your winter containers. Fruits like rose hips, winterberries, holly berries, crabapples and others add color to the container. Fluffy seed-heads of grasses make a nice vertical accent and add a bit of motion to the arrangement.

Next, convert one or two of your summer or fall containers into a winter display. The container should be able to tolerate the winter conditions in your area. Concrete, iron, metal, wood and fiberglass containers are best suited for year-round

use. Even plastic pots will last for a few years when left outside.

Or start a new container for winter. Repurpose or purchase a container. Nursery pots that once housed trees and shrubs make excellent options. These black containers provide the perfect backdrop for greenery and are available for free from most garden centers and fellow gardeners. Make sure the pot has drainage holes to prevent water-logged soil and water from overflowing the pot. Fill the container about seven eighths full with a well-drained potting mix. The soil helps hold the greenery, twigs and other materials in place and adds weight to keep the pot upright throughout the winter.

Consider using a mix of greens for a variety of textures and various



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
• • • • •  
MELINDA  
MYERS

shades of green. Pine, spruce, arborvitae, boxwood and junipers may be growing in your landscape and most are available at garden centers. Spruce tips are popular; allowing you to add “mini” trees or create vertical accents in your containers. Use greens to cover the pot and create an attractive base for your winter display. Place some branches upright and others at a 45-degree angle so the greens drape over the edge. Secure the stems by placing them at least four inches deep in the soil.

Now add some color

and vertical interest with stems of red twig dogwoods, paper birch branches, berry-laden stems from holly and winterberry and curly willow branches. Artificial material and outdoor ornaments can also be used. It’s your opportunity to get creative. Do consider adding other elements such as evergreen cones, seed pods, allium seedheads, and balloon plant pods. Leave them natural or add some paint and glitter.

Water thoroughly to remove air pockets and lock your ingredients in place. Keeping the soil moist until the potting mix freezes can help extend the beauty of the greenery. The winter containers will also last much longer in cooler temperatures. And those displayed in more sheltered locations out of direct sunlight and wind



Melinda Myers

Winter container gardens made of natural materials add beauty and color to the winter landscape.

will suffer less drying.

Once your container is complete it is time to relax and enjoy your holiday celebrations.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener’s Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening*. She

hosts *The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda’s Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

### POSITIVELY

continued from page A10

ning awards.

As fate would have it, Stephen discovered that he had an eidetic memory that allowed him to draw complex landscapes and cityscapes even after just a glance.

Against all odds, Stephen’s perceived disadvantage also came with an advantage that gave him everything he needed to become a world-class artist.

Ludwig van Beethoven, a renowned musical genius, faced an unimaginable challenge as he began to lose his hearing.

Many might have thought this marked the end of his illustrious career. Yet, in an astonishing turn of events, this loss became a transformational force in his musical journey.

His compositions got better as he lost his hearing; they soared in depth and expression. Astoundingly, Beethoven’s most celebrated works emerged when he was entirely deaf.

This profound loss forced him to listen in a new way, feeling the vibrations of each note. He began to perceive and compose music in a way he never had before.

This unforeseen chal-

lenge became the catalyst that propelled his artistry to unprecedented heights.

What seems like a crippling setback can be precisely what’s needed to bring you toward your destiny.

Aron Ralston, an adventurer and mountaineer, lived for the thrill of conquering the great outdoors. His passion for exploring remote canyons and scaling rugged peaks was not just a hobby but a profound expression of his connection with nature. Ralston’s adventures showed his profound love for the wilderness, a love that would be tested in ways he probably never

imagined.

In April 2003, a routine solo canyoneering trip in Utah became a life-or-death struggle. While navigating a narrow canyon, a dislodged boulder trapped his right arm against the canyon wall. For five agonizing days, Ralston battled the elements, his physical limits, and mounting despair.

With dwindling supplies and no hope of rescue, he faced an unimaginable decision: amputate his trapped arm with a dull pocketknife to escape. This harrowing choice marked a turning point not only in his ordeal but in his entire life.

Ralston was undoubtedly forced to alter his relationship with the outdoors dramatically. What had once been a playground became the scene of his most profound challenge.

Yet, it deepened his respect and appreciation for the wild and led him down a new path.

He penned his memoir, “Between a Rock and a Hard Place,” recounting his extraordinary survival and the lessons learned in the canyon.

His story inspired millions, leading to speaking engagements and even a film adaptation, “127 Hours,” that brought his

tale to a global audience.

In losing a part of himself, Ralston found a deeper purpose and discovered that even with losing his arm, he still had everything he needed to get to the next level of his life.

Each of us has an untapped well of inner strength. More often than not, we possess the tools necessary to navigate life’s biggest challenges. Sometimes, the presence of a daunting obstacle reveals the actual depth of our ability. Next time you feel overwhelmed or insufficient, hold onto this truth: within you lies everything you need to overcome and succeed.



# SPORTS

## Bartlett narrowly gets by Southbridge in another Thanksgiving Day classic

**BY NICK ETHIER**  
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — With the Bartlett and Southbridge varsity football teams having competed against one another on Thanksgiving Day over 100 times — this was the 103rd installment of the third longest rivalry in Central Mass. — anything can, and will, happen on the field.

“We talked a lot, ‘Don’t look at their record. Records don’t mean anything,’” said Dane Laboissonniere, head coach of the Indians, of the one-win Pioneers.

“Frank (Koumanelis, Southbridge’s former head coach) told me that crazy things happen on Thanksgiving,” added Nick Clark, Southbridge’s first-year head coach.

The Pioneers nearly pulled off the upset, but Bartlett — which finished 5-6 — scored the only points of the second half to rally for a 10-8 victory.

“We overcame a lot of self-inflicted mistakes today. We ended up costing ourselves a couple of scores, but the kids came out in the second half and found a way to win,” said Laboissonniere.

“Today, although we didn’t get the win, we proved that anything can happen on Thanksgiving,” added Clark. “We played to a caliber that I knew we could play all year, that we hadn’t gotten to all year until today.”

Points were at a premium throughout, and it was a safety — of all plays — for the Indians that staked them to a 2-0 first quarter lead. A poor pitch back on a sweep saw the ball fall in the end zone, resulting in the two points. But the Pioneers rallied later in the half as they grabbed an 8-2 half-time later. Southbridge’s Alexis Ramos scored the touchdown on a 9-yard run, and Steven Santos tacked on the two-point conversion rush.



The Bartlett football team poses with the trophy after defeating Southbridge on Thanksgiving Day, 10-8.

The Pioneers opened the second half with possession of the ball, but a turnover on downs gave it to Bartlett. The ensuing drive started on their own 13-yard line, but the Indians drove 87 yards to pay dirt, Joshua Ramirez eventually finding the end zone from 3 yards out in the final minute of the third quarter. Nay’Jean Holley then tacked on the all-important two-point conversion rush by extending the nose of the football over the goal line, and Bartlett led again, 10-8.

“Can you give me 3 yards?” Holley remembered Laboissonniere asking him before the two-point conversion. “And I said, ‘Of course, Coach, I can do it.’”

The Pioneers’ next drive was stalled, and the Indians gave Southbridge a big dose of Holley carrying the football as Bartlett held possession from 9:36 remaining until there was only 1:29 to go. Holley had many chunk

runs that continued to move the chains, bleeding the clock in the process.

“We put the ball in our senior captain’s hands and said, ‘Go win us the game,’ and there were a couple long, less than ideal down and distances, and picking up runs on third-and-7 and third-and-8,” Laboissonniere said.

Southbridge had its final chance, though, starting at their own 25 yard-line. They grabbed a couple of first downs, but Bartlett’s Caiden Steeves eventually secured an interception — his second pick of the day — to all but seal the deal with 29 seconds to go.

“It was going to take a stop at the end to win the ballgame and Caiden coming up with two picks, he’s top five in Central Mass,” Laboissonniere said of Steeves, who finished the season with six INT’s. “He’s turning into a ballhawk back there. He’s really blossomed in

his sophomore year as a receiver and a safety.”

For his rushing yards and game-winning two-point conversion, Holley won the Captain Vincent Sabatinelli Trophy for Game MVP.

“Nay’Jean wasn’t here as a freshman and as a sophomore I watched from afar when I was in my (one-year) retirement phase. He came out as a junior and we tried to find a home for him. By the end of the year, it was pretty clearly established that he was going to be our feature back,” said

Laboissonniere. “We fed him the rock today. The game was on the line, and we put the ball in his hands.”

“It feels great,” Holley said while clutching the trophy. “I put in a lot of work in the offseason. I’m in the gym every day. I set the tone for my team.”

Holley was perhaps happier with the team victory, though.

“It’s a big tradition in the entire town. It’s one of the biggest rivalries in the state. It means a lot to us especially because we haven’t won much in

the last two years,” he explained. “We did everything we could to turn it around. I can go home happy, everyone can go home happy.”

Clark, meanwhile, who was the Pioneers’ JV coach and varsity assistant last year, was proud of the way his team battled, regardless of the outcome.

“I knew they had heart all year, but they played with another kind of intensity that I haven’t seen, I’ve got to be honest with you,” said Clark. “The rivalry, they know what it is, and we make a good point to let them know the tradition of the rivalry. That extra intensity definitely comes from this Thanksgiving game and the tradition of it.”

“I can’t say enough about these guys, especially these seniors, they really, really battled right until the last whistle, right until the last play,” added Clark.

Clark noted that although Koumanelis is no longer the head coach, he started this season as a consultant before being promoted to assistant to the head coach.

“All season, Frank has been such a great mentor. I have a question and call him, he answers immediately. He’s calling me and we’re game planning. I don’t know where we’d be at without Frank because he’s been a great presence with the team,” said Clark.



Joshua Ramirez of Bartlett scampers into the end zone for a touchdown.



Bartlett's Nay'Jean Holley fights for extra yards while carrying the football.



Caiden Steeves of Bartlett runs down the field after securing one of two interceptions versus Southbridge.



Bartlett's Eric Manilut takes the handoff from Nay'Jean Holley.



# SPORTS

## Auburn keeps Tarantino Cup as Rockets top Leicester, 18-7



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, SeligerPhotography.com

Auburn's Zach Wetzel looks for room to run the ball against Leicester's defense.

LEICESTER — For the third straight year the Auburn varsity football team has defeated Leicester on Thanksgiving Day and, as a result, they have retained possession of the Tarantino Cup.

The now three-year-old rivalry — played in part because of fallen police officer Ronald Tarantino's ties to both communities — was played at the Becker Field, and the Rockets topped the Wolverines, 18-7. Auburn defeated Leicester in 2021, 34-31, and again in 2022, 28-7.

The Rockets finished their season with a record of 7-4, while the Wolverines wound up 3-8.



The Auburn football team did enough both offensively and defensively to turn back Leicester for the Tarantino Cup, 18-7.



A pair of Auburn lineman block Leicester's Dominic DiLiddo.



Brayden Belanger of Auburn scans the field while carrying the ball, looking for an open hole to run through.



Auburn's center and quarterback prepare to run a play versus Leicester.

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# SPORTS

## Bay Path narrowly defeats Pirates in Battle for Buffums, evens series at 5-5



The Oxford Pirates make their way onto the field waving the flag before the Battle for Buffums.



On defense, Kellen Clarkson of Oxford sizes up Bay Path's ball carrier.



Oxford's Kellen Clarkson makes his way through the Bay Path players attempting to tackle him.



Bay Path's Aiden Fausek powers through the Oxford defensive line.



Connor Fantasia of Oxford breaks a tackle while heading up the field.

OXFORD — If you're a fan of offense and high numbers on the scoreboard, then this year's Battle for Buffums Thanksgiving Day football game between Bay Path and Oxford was a treat.

In the end it was the

Minutemen who emerged victorious, 42-34, as they knotted up the battle in the 10th year of the rivalry, 5-5.

The scoring started on the first offensive play as the Pirates' Kellen Clarkson found Connor Fantasia on a 41-yard

pass, and Alexander Perry booted the extra point to make it 7-0.

Bay Path's Brayden Downes countered with a 57-yard TD run, Kaiden Brochu tacked on the two-point rush, and the Minutemen led, 8-7. Downes then scored again, this time from 26 yards, and Brochu again got the two-point run, and it was 16-7 Bay Path.

Next it was Brochu's turn to find pay dirt, and he rushed one in from 18 yards as the Minutemen surged ahead, 22-7.

But Oxford tied the game at 22-22, the half-time score, when Fantasia caught two TD passes from Clarkson, and Perry made one PAT and Clarkson hit Andruw Martinez with a two-point pass.

The Pirates then grabbed a 34-22 lead when Clarkson had a pair of rushing scores — from 3 and 4 yards out — before Brochu trimmed the deficit down to 34-28 at the end of the third quarter thanks to a 40-yard scoring run.

Brochu then tied the game at 34-34 with a 34-yard rushing TD and then, with 5:36 to play, Bay Path won it when they blocked a punt at the 4-yard line. Bryan Pardee was there to catch the ball and scamper into the end zone, and Brochu added the two-point rush to account for the 42-34 final.

The Minutemen improved to 9-3 and then played Blackstone Valley Tech for the State Vocational Large School Championship, which was played after press time. The Pirates finished their season with a record of 5-6.



Bay Path's Jake Delvalle reaches in to tackle Oxford's Jordan Deleon.



Brayden Downes of Bay Path attempts to find an opening on the field while the Oxford defense rushes behind him.



Quarterback Corey Scovil of Bay Path releases a pass before being tackled.

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# SPORTS

## Late game interception secures Thanksgiving Day victory for Tantasqua over Rams



The Shepherd Hill offense begins a play as Tantasqua's defense attempts to rush in.

Jason Bleau photos



Kyle LeBlanc of Shepherd Hill carries the ball and pushes forward while getting tackled.

BY JASON BLEAU  
STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — The Shepherd Hill Rams and Tantasqua Warriors met for their 49th annual Thanksgiving Day game, this year played at The

Reservation. The game proved to be a thrilling tale of two very different halves. Both teams came out determined to keep each other from the end zone as the game remained

scoreless at halftime, but the scoreboard would see plenty of work in the second half with points on every possession except the final drive, which ended with a game-clinching interception for the

Warriors, as they edged the Rams, 17-14. The second half provided a bit of everything from both teams as Shepherd Hill took the lead in the third quarter on the strength of a touchdown run by Aiden Tyler. The Rams would later secure the lead with a 75-yard kickoff return for a score by William Sirleaf. In between those scores Tantasqua kept things close with a touchdown of their own courtesy of a 33-yard connection between quarterback Adam Howe and receiver Noah Wotton. Shepherd Hill took their 14-7 advantage into the final quarter of the game, but that lead wouldn't last. Tantasqua took control in the fourth quarter thanks to scrappy play by Howe under center, who converted another touchdown — this time to Isaac Colon — to tie the game despite a strong showing by the Rams' defense. The Warriors then took their first lead of the day after successfully securing an onside kick complimented by a highlight scramble play later in the drive where Howe escaped a charging Rams defense to complete a first down pass. The effort eventually set up a 19-yard field goal by Luke Marvin to make the score 17-14 in



Joshua Harrison of Shepherd Hill rushes the ball for a first down.

favor of the Warriors. Shepherd Hill never backed down and threatened to take the lead in the closing seconds, attempting a desperation pass play into the end zone. However, Tantasqua's Jack Rapose made the game-clinching interception with 18 seconds left on the clock securing the Warriors their 10th win in the annual holiday matchup.

Warriors' head coach Nate Orzech complimented Rapose on his game-winning play, calling it redemption for a mistake made at the very beginning of the season.

"Week one against Marlborough he got beat on a play like that and I've been on him about it for the rest of the year, so it makes up for week one. We were talking to the safeties to be aware of toss passes and they didn't get beat. They did a good job and made a play," Orzech said.

After a scoreless first half, Orzech said the Warriors made all the right adjustments to counteract the Rams coming into the closing quarters. "(Shepherd Hill) did a great job taking away what we were trying to do. We said we had to run at them and beat them at their own game and be a little bit more downhill," said Orzech. "That set up Adam (Howe) obviously making some tremendous plays in the second half. He was excellent in the second half and made a lot of big plays for us and those receivers coming down with those passes was pretty great, too."

Shepherd Hill head coach Steve Ide said the loss was tough, but he felt it was a hard-fought

battle between two very capable football teams. "These were two good teams playing really hard football. The onside kick was obviously a huge play. The scramble play by the Tantasqua quarterback, he did an outstanding job because we had him a couple times and he still managed to get the ball loose and they caught it," Ide said. "That's the difference in the game. One big special team play by us, one by them. Good defense played by them, good defense played by us. They have an elite kicker, and he made a great kick."

Ide said he had no regrets going for it on the final play, although he wished the result was different for his team.

"We were out of timeouts, so it's tough for us because obviously we're a run first operation. We can throw the ball effectively, but we're run first, so in that situation and you're on the clock you need to take a couple of chances. We put the ball in the hands of two of our best players and it looked like they got tangled up, Tantasqua caught it and those are the plays you've got to make if you want to win the game," said Ide.

Howe was named Offensive MVP while Shepherd Hill's Joshua Harrison earned Defensive MVP honors. The win now puts the Warriors — who finished the season at 5-6 — in double digits for the Thanksgiving matchup with the record at 39-10 in favor of the Rams — who also wound up 5-6 — as the game approaches its 50th anniversary next year.



Shepherd Hill's Jacob Fredette carries the ball down the field for a valuable gain.

### MOHEGAN BOWL FALL LEAGUES, WEEKS ENDING Nov. 19, 26

Week ending Nov. 19	Series over average – Donna Lewandowski +47
Monday Men's Business Single – Jason Mahan 143, Mike Nardone 136, Tim Labay 130 Series – Jason Mahan 395, Mike Nardone 375, Tim Labay 349 Series over average – Jason Mahan +59	Thursday Men's Industrial Single – Ryan Pelletier 137, Bo Gauvin 135, Angel Claudio 129 Series – Ryan Pelletier 374, Angel Claudio 333, Bo Gauvin 322 Series over average – Geo Pastor +48
Women's Ten Pin City Single – Division 1 – Charlene Hebert 189, Bernie Stackpole 140 Division 2 – Kelly Apher 146, Kelley Webb 110 Series – Division 1 – Natalie Wood 547, Trini Thies 407 Division 2 – Evelyn Rivera 394, Tammy Rabidou 312	Thursday Mixed Tenpin Single – Frank Bosma 191, Chris Wong Kam 183, Todd Gaucher 177 Series – Frank Bosma 513, Todd Gaucher 493, Chris Wong Kam 486
Tuesday Chet's Social Single – DJ Devish 131, Ryan Pelletier 129, Michael LeBlanc 128, Diane Levesque 120, Erin Van Dam & Courtney Boulay 108 Series – Ryan Pelletier 362, Tom Smith 342, DJ Devish 332, Diane Levesque 328, Erin Van Dam 318, Mikayla Van Dam 285 Series over average – Jared Murawski +54, Diane Levesque +64	Week ending Nov. 26
Wednesday Women's Industrial Single – Tiffany Jarmolowicz 112, Monique Pierangeli 109, Annie Boulos 107 Series – Lynne Smith 301, Tiffany Jarmolowicz 298, Monique Pierangeli 292 Series over average – Mary Ellen Budzyna +44	Monday Men's Business Single – PJ Janton 146, John Guillotte & Mike Nardone 129 Series – Mike Nardone 360, PJ Janton 357, Sandor Bosci 339 Series over average – PJ Janton +42
Summit Tenpin Single – Division 1 – Bob Hanville 200 Division 2 – John Lizotte 197 Series – Division 1 – Ron Suprenant 536 Division 2 – Donny Altiery 511	Women's Ten Pin City Single – Division 1 – Trini Thies 167, Donna Dziadula 146 Division 2 – Kelley Webb 155, Kelly Apher 130 Series – Division 1 – Natalie Wood 542, Marie Piegorsch 434 Division 2 – Edna Miranda 441, Tammy Rabidou 345
Thursday Morning Coffee Single – Donna Lewandowski 103, Jackie Arpin 100, Pat Johnson 99 Series – Donna Lewandowski 296, Pat Johnson 275, Flo Jedrzynski 260	Tuesday Chet's Social Single – Ryan Pelletier 184, Angel Claudio 124, Joe Pranaitis 121, Erin Van Dam 105, Ellen Fugatt 102, Mikayla Van Dam 101 Series – Ryan Pelletier 428, Angel Claudio 354, Joe Pranaitis 325, Erin Van Dam 282, Ellen Fugatt 277, Mikayla Van Dam 273 Series over average – Ryan Pelletier +80, Kathryn Ward +29
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**ST. JOSEPH**  
*continued from page A1*

Principal Donald Cushing, benefactor Dr. John Kalinowski, Webster Police Officers Daniel Melhouse, Sean Ebbeling, and Sergeant Joseph Brooks, Representative

Joseph McKenna, Amanda Galonek Hellyar Deputy District Director, and Special Projects Coordinator from the Office of Senator Ryan Fattman, and Saint Joseph School Home and School Association Executive Officers Pamela Parslow, Krystal

Kolesnik, Kristen Krajcik, and Megan Belanger. However, everyone agreed that the best part of the gathering, besides the fellowship, was the homemade brownies served for dessert. The Thanksgiving holiday events were a grand celebration for all!



Saint Joseph School had several special guests attend their Annual Thanksgiving Feast. Guests pictured include former principal Donald Cushing, benefactor Dr. John Kalinowski, Representative Joseph McKenna, Amanda Galonek Hellyar, Deputy District Director and Special Projects Coordinator, from the Office of Senator Ryan Fattman, and Saint Joseph School Home and School Association Executive Officers Pamela Parslow, Krystal Kolesnik, Kristen Krajcik, and Megan Belanger.



Saint Joseph School Kindergarten and PreK-3-year-old students gather in the hallway with instructors Mrs. Justine Anthony and Mrs. Alicia Maurer as the 6th-grade students lead the school in prayer.



Saint Joseph School seventh grade student Ayla Reed contributes a bag of potatoes to the Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Saint Joseph School Kindergarten instructor Justine Anthony assists her student Maya Denert during the Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Saint Joseph School sixth grade student Tosin Akindele assists his PreK-4-year-old buddy Declan Pacheco during the Annual Thanksgiving Feast.



**CORNERSTONE**  
*continued from page A1*

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**At right: Saint Joseph School students were fortunate to have Webster Police Officers Daniel Melhouse, Sean Ebbeling, and Sergeant Joseph Brooks join them at their Annual Thanksgiving Feast.**

**SEARCH**  
*continued from page A1*

cies in the town. The job description seeks candidates with a Bachelor's degree in public health or related field and a minimum of three years of related work experience

as well as several special requirements including numerous registrations and certifications. Currently, the board is working with surrounding towns to resolve any issues or requests that require a Health Agent. The town does have a Title 5 Park Agent on staff

to resolve some matters in-house. It's not the first time in 2023 that Dudley has turned to other towns for assistance. Dudley had previously worked in partnership with Oxford when their Shared Health Agent with Webster went on leave over the summer. The Board of Health is

hopeful they will have a new pool of worthy applications to consider by the end of the year. The full job applications and details on how to apply can be found on the Town of Dudley Web site main page.



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# New student representative at Bay Path

CHARLTON — Samantha Stanikmas of Charlton, a practical nursing student at Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy, was recently named student representative for the



Samantha Stanikmas

Practical Nursing Class of 2024.

Stanikmas is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) with experience working at the UMass Memorial Harrington Hospital-Medical Surgical Unit. She was previously taking Interdisciplinary Studies- Allied Health Associates in Science at Mount Wachusett Community College where she was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She is BLS Provider certified with the American Heart Association and completed her NAT Certification program with the American Red Cross. She is a licensed massage therapist, having completed training at the Central Massachusetts School of Massage and Spa Therapy where she obtained the following certifications: Prenatal Massage, Lomi Lomi Massages, Thai Table Massage, and Spa Stone/Thai Stone Massage.

A 2012 graduate of Tantasqua Regional Technical High School,

she honors and appreciates diversity and has come to admire the diversity of culture, background, and opinion reflected on Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy. As a Captain of Team Helping Hands for the Relay for Life, Stanikmas is responsible for obtaining sponsors, recruiting team members, and coordinating the raffles and team activities.

As a student representative, Samantha will use her role to improve stu-

dent life at Bay Path in a tangible way and impact her peers. She will be working with Princess Agyeman and both look to increase access to academic services as well as promote Bay Path's outreach to the Southern Worcester community.

Outside of being the new student representative, Stanikmas is a member of the Mock Code Team. Samantha is certified in Mental Health First Aid, Healthcare Provider/BLS Provider

CPR, and Dementia care.

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

Bay Path Practical Nursing is a 40-week (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam

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