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Friday, May 29, 2026



Courtesy

Planning for the fourth Bites, Books, and Blooms event at the Webster Gladys E. Kelly Public Library is underway. The fundraiser, which features books in bloom—floral arrangements capturing the essence of a literary work—will take place on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at the Library from 6-8 p.m. Bites from Eighty Ates Restaurant and the Carlos Odria Trio's soothing music will accompany the blooms. To celebrate America 250, this year floral designers are being asked to choose American poems, short stories, and novels for their arrangements. These will be raffled at the event, along with other items. Tickets will be on sale in August. Interested in designing? Contact the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library at GladysKFriends@gmail.com. Members of the Steering Committee for the event pictured above are: Elizabeth Gray, Robin River, Elaine Davies, Evan Hale, and Rena Klebart. Tom Klebart is also a member of the committee.

Janet Malser grants fund children's curiosity center and pollinator garden at the Pearle

DUDLEY — The Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library in Dudley was recently awarded an \$8,155 Janet Malser Grant to upgrade the Children's Room with a new space named the "Crawford Curiosity Center."

An underutilized cubby will be removed and replaced with a STEM-based busy wall designed for children ages one to six. The transformation will enhance the functionality, educational value and visual appeal of space, while directly supporting early childhood learning and development.

"STEM learning in early childhood is critical as it lays the foundation for later success in critical thinking, spatial reasoning and

Turn To CURIOSITY page A6

Janet Malser Humanities Trust supports Gladys E. Kelly Library

WEBSTER — The Janet Malser Humanities Trust has generously supported the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library. With a grant to the Friends of the Library, the Library's popular music series will continue throughout the year. Another grant given to the Library will bring a prominent author to Webster through their One Book, One Community annual event.

The Library has been hosting a concert series since the
Turn To GRANT page A6

Auburn resident recognized for innovative Alzheimer's & dementia care



Michael Tubbs

WALTHAM — Benchmark Senior Living, a leading senior living provider in the Northeast, today announced that Michael Tubbs, senior

director of lifestyle engagement, and Michelle Tristani, director of memory care training and innovation, have been named recipients of the 2026 Memory Care Innovation Awards from WTW Healthcare. The two are among just 13 professionals nationwide recognized for advancing dementia care.

The annual awards honor leaders who are redefining cognitive care delivery and shaping the future of aging through innovative,

high-quality approaches that improve outcomes for individuals living with memory-related conditions — and those who care for them.

Tubbs, who lives in Auburn, brings more than 16 years of experience across senior living, beginning his career as a recreational therapist. While serving as an executive director for several memory care communities — including Benchmark's Adelaide of Newton Centre — he

identified opportunities to enhance staff training, caregiver support and resident engagement.

Today, Tubbs is helping lead a holistic transformation of memory care across Benchmark's 68 Mind & Memory Care communities throughout the Northeast. His work includes reimagining training programs, introducing purposefully designed environments that empower residents, and expanding staff development.

Turn To TUBBS page A6



Courtesy

Booklovers' Gourmet in Webster is hosting "Layers of Imagination," an art show & sale featuring mixed media drawings by Tim Oliver from June 5-30 in the cafe gallery. The public is invited to a meet and greet with the artist on Saturday, June 13, 2-4 p.m. Oliver lives in Woodstock, Conn., and has displayed his work in the local area for many years, including most recently at the Pearle L. Crawford Library in Dudley. For more information, call 508-949-6232. Booklovers' Gourmet is located at 72 East Main St., Webster.

Ryan Murphy named vice president for advancement at Nichols College

DUDLEY — Ryan Murphy, a seasoned and successful fundraising professional, has been named vice president for advancement at Nichols College. He will begin his role on June 15.

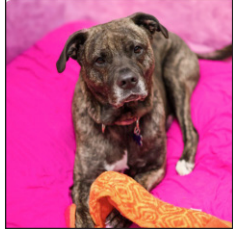
"I am so thrilled to return to Nichols College, where I received a master's degree back in 2010. I am truly excited to work alongside President Pieczynski, his cabinet and a talented veteran advancement team," said Murphy. "I can't wait to join the Herd and engage with Bison alumni, friends, families, students, trustees, faculty and staff while elevating philanthropy at Nichols to the next level. It is a privilege to join this exceptional community that is in the business of transforming students into leaders!"

Murphy joins Nichols from Anna Maria College, where he has served as vice president for advancement since 2023. In this role, he served as a member of the Presidential Cabinet and managed a staff of seven. Under his tenure, Anna Maria increased gifts to the Annual Operating Fund year over year, by 26 percent in his first year, by 300 percent to \$1.5 million in 2024-25 and by 430 percent to \$6.5 million thus far in 2025-26. Before his arrival, the AMC Annual Operating Fund's highest amount raised was \$560,000. Anna Maria also received a gift of \$5 million this past March, the largest gift ever to the college.

His strategic vision and collaborative efforts enabled the advancement team to raise \$4.3 million in capital funding for key projects, including the Miriam Nursing

Turn To MURPHY page A6

PET of the WEEK



MEET Jill

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

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Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

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Busy summer ahead for Auburn Rec

AUBURN — Auburn Recreation & Culture is preparing for a busy summer season with a wide variety of programs and community events designed to bring residents together through fitness, music, recreation, and family activities.

Among the upcoming offerings is the Mason Jar Flower Arranging Workshop, scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, at 6 p.m. at Camp Gleason, 261 Central St. Participants will create decorative floral arrangements while learning flower arranging basics in a relaxed setting. All supplies are included. The cost is \$55, payable upon registration, and checks should be made payable to the Town of Auburn.

The department is also continuing its partnership with the United States Tennis Association through the "Tennis in the Parks" program, which introduces children to the fundamentals of tennis in a fun and supportive environment led by a USTA-approved coach. The program focuses on helping players develop skills to serve, rally, and play using age-appropriate equipment.

Students participating in their first session will receive and keep a new tennis racket and tennis

ball. Sessions are scheduled at the Auburn High School tennis courts, 340 Southbridge St.

Programs include:
• Grades 1-2: Saturdays, May 9 through June 20, from 9 to 10 a.m.
• Grades 3-5: Saturdays, May 9 through June 20, from 10 to 11 a.m.
• Grades 6-8: Saturdays, May 9 through June 20, from 11 a.m. to noon.

Each session costs \$75. Residents can also look forward to the Town of Auburn Independence Day Celebration on June 30 from 5 to 9:30 p.m. at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex. A rain date is scheduled for July 1.

The annual celebration will feature free shuttle transportation provided by WRTA and Auburn Access Transportation, with pickup locations at Pakachoag School, the Senior Center, and Auburn Mall. Organizers noted that pets are not permitted, with the exception of service animals.

Another popular event returning this summer is the Town Wide Community Yard Sale on June 13 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents wishing to participate can obtain a yard sale permit through the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 104 Central St. The deadline to be

included on the official address list is June 4.

Music lovers will once again have plenty to enjoy during the Summer in the Park Concert Series at the Riley-Pappas Performance Pavilion at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex.

Concerts are held Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m., while the Farmers Market runs from 4 to 7 p.m. beginning June 4.

This year's concert lineup includes:
• June 4 — Robert Black, Elvis tribute
• June 11 — Alter Ego, party rock
• June 18 — Verona Rose, alternative power pop
• June 25 — On the Rocks, classic rock
• July 9 — Boys Gone Wild, 1980s rock tribute
• July 16 — The Brat Pack, 1980s tribute
• July 23 — XS Band, Motown to Top 40
• July 30 — She's Busy, classic rock
• Aug. 6 — Dock 10, 1970s and 1980s music
• Aug. 13 — Below Deck, yacht rock
• Aug. 20 — 4EverFab, Beatles tribute
• Aug. 27 — Aquanett, 1980s rock
• Sept. 3 — Petty Larceny, Tom Petty tribute

For student athletes,

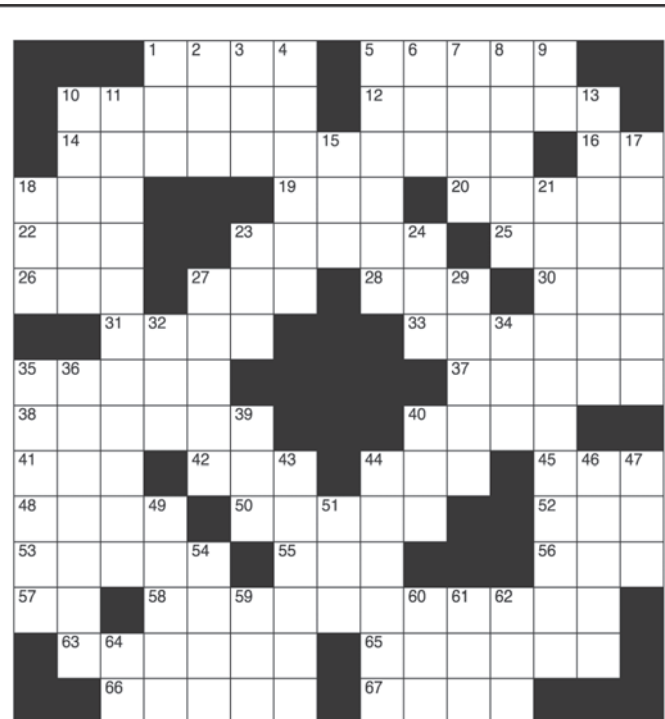
Auburn Recreation & Culture is also sponsoring Athletic Development Training for boys and girls in grades 5 through 12.

The ongoing Thursday evening program runs from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Auburn High School Fitness Room. The current session runs May 7 through June 25 and includes 10 classes for \$100, with a \$15 drop-in option available.

The program is led by certified personal trainer and coach Josh, who has more than 25 years of coaching experience. Organizers said the training focuses on improving athletic performance, preventing injuries, building conditioning, and teaching proper strength-training techniques for athletes participating in all sports.

Space is limited, with organizers noting the class requires a minimum of five participants and has a maximum capacity of 10 students.

For additional information or registration details on any Auburn Recreation & Culture program, residents may contact the department at 508-832-7736 or email kpappas@auburmma.gov.



CLUES ACROSS

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

CLUES DOWN

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



Amropali Karmakar makes Academic Achievement List at Georgia Southwestern State University

AMERICUS, Ga. — Amropali Karmakar, a resident of Auburn, made the Spring 2026 Academic Achievement List at Georgia Southwestern State University and was among 849 students recognized for scholastic achievement.

To be eligible for the Academic Achievement List, a student must previously earn at least 12 credit hours at GSW, be enrolled in 3 to 11 hours of courses, and earn a 3.5 or higher GPA.

Georgia Southwestern State University, located in Americus, Ga., is a public, four-year unit of the University System of Georgia with approximately 4,000 students. Georgia Southwestern offers outstanding professional programs of study as well as degrees in the arts, humanities, sciences and graduate programs in business, computer science, education, and nursing. Founded in 1906, Georgia Southwestern is recognized as one of the best value colleges in the nation. Visit www.gsw.edu for more information.

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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
FRANK@SALMONPRESS.NEWS

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4101
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
508-909-4105
julie@villagenewspapers.com

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REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$940,000, 1 Crowl Hill Rd, Basil, Arvind, and Basil, Anita, to Gregoire, Shannon.

DUDLEY

\$630,000, 249 Dudley Southbridge Rd, T Reardon Builders Inc, to Clogston, Sarah J, and Clogston 3rd, Gordon M.

OXFORD

\$930,000, 29 Charlton St, Depot Road Rt, and Gavin, Suzann, to Worcester Hills Rt, and Hevey, Gregory P.

\$365,000, 4 Toria Heights Rd #4, Higgins, Steven J, to Lavallee, Michael J.

\$236,000, 4 Pond St, Robles, Cassandra Jasmine, and Robles, Cassandra, to Erikson, Seolyoung.

\$197,000, 24 Thayer Pond Dr, Caves, Douglas Henry, and Murphy, Sandra L, to Mancuso, Peter.

\$156,975, 71 Charlton St, Newrez LLC, and Deutsche Bk Natl T Co Tr, to 71 Charlton Street LLC.

\$100,000, Southbridge Rd, Sinkus, Algimantas, and Sinkus, Silvestras, to Lozoraitis, Helen V, and Lozoraitis, Jean P.

WEBSTER

\$205,000, 18 King Phillip Rd, Asgc Holdings LLC, to Olona, Hamdallah M, and Tijani, Rasheed.

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Wednesday9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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Friday8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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Coast Guard Auxiliary offers boat safety checks

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

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

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

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

Volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examiners will conduct what organizers describe as a “stem to stern” review of required safety equipment and overall vessel

condition. Items reviewed include registration and hull identification numbers, life jackets, navigation lights, fire extinguishers, flares and expiration dates, ventilation systems, sound-producing devices, and general vessel safety standards.

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

Importantly, organizers stressed that the inspections are voluntary and educational rather than punitive. No citations are issued, no penalties are assessed, and no reports are filed with law enforcement agencies if deficiencies are found.

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

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

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

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

Both inspection stations can also accommodate vessels arriving by water.

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

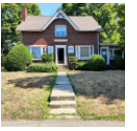
Boat owners unable to attend either event may also schedule a free inspection online through the national Vessel Safety Check website.

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

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Auburn Historical Society & Museum offers summer internship program

AUBURN — For the sixth year, the Auburn Historical Society and Museum will offer a summer internship program at their museum at 41 South St. on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The program will offer interns experience in photo and document organizing/categorizing, researching Auburn’s past and data input for the Holstrom Digital Archives. There will be the development and implementing of children’s programs. Interns will also learn how to create and maintain historical exhibits. The will gain practical experience of museum operations.

Each unpaid internship can be tailored to students in grade 8 through college, scouts, youth groups, and those looking for community service hours as well as work experience. The museum is handicap accessible. You do not need to be a resident of Auburn to be part of this program.

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

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



news@stonebridgepress.news



Area residents graduate from Stonehill College

EASTON — Patrick LeClair of Oxford and Briana Reidy of Auburn received Bachelor of Arts degrees at Stonehill College’s 75th Commencement on Sunday, May 17.

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

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

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

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

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

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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE

EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Planting curiosity, growing community

Libraries have always been places where communities quietly invest in their future. Long before computers, tablets, and smartphones, libraries offered something far more lasting than technology alone: opportunity. A child walking through the doors of a local library may discover a love of reading, an interest in science, a fascination with history, or simply a safe and welcoming place to learn. That is why the recent grant awards supporting the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library in Dudley deserve recognition and appreciation throughout the community.

The library's new "Crawford Curiosity Center" represents far more than a renovation project. It is an investment in young minds during the years when curiosity develops fastest. Early childhood educators have long understood that the first few years of life shape the foundation for future learning. Children learn through touching, building, observing, and experimenting. The decision to replace an underused space with a STEM-focused busy wall for children ages one through six reflects a thoughtful understanding of how children learn best.

In recent years, conversations about STEM education often focus on high school robotics teams, advanced science labs, or workforce development. Those are all important. But the real beginning of STEM learning happens much earlier. It begins when a toddler learns how gears move, when a preschooler experiments with shapes and patterns, or when a young child asks "why?" for the hundredth time in a single afternoon. Encouraging that curiosity at an early age helps build confidence, problem-solving skills, and creativity that can last a lifetime.

The beauty of a project like the Crawford Curiosity Center is that it also keeps learning accessible. Not every family can afford expensive educational toys or enrichment programs. Public libraries help level the playing field by offering opportunities to every child, regardless of background or income. A small-town library becomes one of the few places where education, exploration, and imagination remain entirely free.

The second grant award, supporting a pollinator garden through the efforts of Local 4 Life, highlights another important truth about libraries today. Modern libraries are no longer simply quiet rooms filled with bookshelves. They are active community centers where people gather, learn, and connect with one another.

The planned pollinator garden will create an outdoor classroom where children and families can experience science directly through nature. Lessons about soil, pollination, agriculture, and environmental stewardship become far more meaningful when children can see butterflies, bees, flowers, and growing plants with their own eyes. The project also fits naturally with the library's upcoming summer reading theme, "Plant a Seed. Read." It is a reminder that literacy and lifelong learning are deeply connected to the world around us.

There is also something fitting about a library creating a peaceful outdoor space for the public. In an increasingly hurried world, communities benefit from places that encourage people to slow down, observe, and reflect. Gardens do more than beautify a property. They invite conversation, curiosity, and calm.

Projects like these also highlight the value of local partnerships. The collaboration between the library and Local 4 Life demonstrates what can happen when nonprofits, educators, and community organizations work together toward shared goals. Too often, people assume meaningful improvements require massive budgets or state-level initiatives. In reality, many of the most impactful community projects begin locally with dedicated people who simply care enough to act.

Dudley should take pride in what the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library continues to represent. At a time when many communities worry about disconnection, shrinking attention spans, and the loss of shared civic spaces, the library remains one of the rare places where people of all ages can gather with a common purpose: learning.

The new curiosity center and pollinator garden may seem modest compared to large-scale construction projects or headline-grabbing developments. Yet their impact could prove far more lasting. Long after the grant money is spent, children will still be discovering, reading, building, and asking questions inside and outside the library walls.

That is how strong communities grow: one curious child at a time.

Viewpoint

THE DEADLINE to submit letters to the editor and commentaries for next week's newspaper is Friday at noon. SEND ALL ITEMS to Editor Brendan Berube at THE WEBSTER TIMES — news@stonebridgepress.news

Local Mason shares love of chess

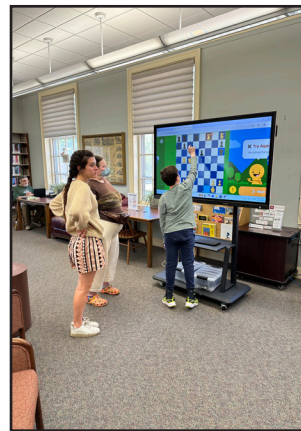
BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM TOWNE LODGE
SOUTHBRIDGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — For many years, the Southbridge Chess Club has flourished under the leadership of Benjamin Marinelli, a former Southbridge resident.

In 2019, Marinelli earned second place at the Continental Chess Association tournament, finishing as runner-up in the Eastern Class Championships Class B section. The club he founded meets at the Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge on Saturdays in April and May, then resumes in the fall when the library's Saturday hours end in late May. Most participants are children and teenagers, along with a few adults who enjoy the challenge. Chess brings people together, teaches players to win and lose with grace and builds valuable skills. It strengthens focus, sparks creativity, boosts confidence, exercises the mind and helps both children and adults think carefully about the consequences of each move.

Marinelli enjoys teaching this challenging game and sharing his passion and skills with the community. He has taught chess at the library for more than five years, with support from co-instructor Shielding Cournoyer, who hopes to inspire more girls and children to play. One tool they use is the ChessKid.com puzzles app, which allows students to test their skills on a touchscreen TV and see whether their moves work.

Brother Benjamin Marinelli is also a Master Mason and a member of the Major General Salem Towne Lodge (MGSTL) in Southbridge. He has belonged to the fraternity of Freemasonry for more than 8 years and his commitment to it has strengthened his service to the community. He believes in helping others not only because it is the right thing to do, but also because it helps him become a better man. He values honor and integrity and those principles are evident in his work within the community. For more information about the Southbridge Chess Club, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/southbridgechessclub. To learn more about Freemasonry or find a lodge near you, visit massfreemasonry.org



Courtesy
Co-Instructor Shielding Cournoyer watches one of the students work through his chess problem on the chesskid.com puzzle app. On the T.V. monitor.



Ben Marinelli explaining a chess move to Caleb Morales.



Students of all ages enjoy playing chess during a class in the Reading Room at the Jacob Edwards Library.

The last real waiting rooms

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET
By CHARLES

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

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

Just silence.

Well...not complete silence.

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

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

New Englanders are specialists at that.

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

Nobody spoke for nearly 15 minutes.

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

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

That was it. The opening pitch.

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

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

And suddenly the room wasn't quiet anymore.

People laughed.

People nodded.

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

For 20 minutes, nobody looked at a phone.

I noticed that afterward.

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

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

We used to talk to strangers more.

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

And from there, conversation simply happened.

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

Not friendships exactly.

Something smaller than friendship, but important all the same.

Recognition.

Familiarity.

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

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

That's the glue.

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

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

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

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

Everybody murmured agreement like members of a town council.

I smiled all the way down the hallway.

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

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

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.

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Adult Services Librarian Jessica Fontaine at jfontaine@cwmar.org

Adult Programming

Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm

The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Tuesday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Tuesdays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room

Losing a loved one is never easy. Please know that you are not alone. If you need support in trying to navigate the changes in your life, join us in a place of safety and comfort with others who have also experienced loss. This grief support group is a place to find understanding as we explore our grief, share coping strategies, and begin to heal.

Yoga – Saturdays at 9:15am

Dudley sets Candidates' Night for June 8

DUDLEY — Dudley's Annual Town Election will be held 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 15 at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main St.

The candidates on the election ballot have been invited to participate in a Candidates' Night: 6:30 p.m. at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main St. Residents are invited to meet the candidates and pose questions to gain an understanding of their positions relative to town governance and the seat they are seeking.

The election ballot holds one contested seat: Incumbent Kerry Cyganiewicz Sr. is challenged by Cynthia M. Iwanski for Board of Selectmen.

Unopposed on the ballot are:

- Conrad M. Allen for Assessor
- Maureen Chickering for DCRSD
- Richard P. Clark for Bay Path Regional
- Pamela M. Humphrey for Planning Board
- Spenser Lee Bell for Planning Board
- Kathleen E. Horne for Library Trustee
- Heather B. Bowes for Library Trustee

Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Yoga Nidra with Jess – Fridays at 9:00am

Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidra practice to start your day. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position for a guided relaxation (yoga nidra). Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door. If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing.

Worcester County Sheriff's Office Hour – First Friday of the Month 9am-10am

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office, Webster Regional Resource Center offers a variety of support services including; support groups, case management, education (including Hi-Set), employment opportunities, health insurance assistance, MA State ID/B.Cert, substance use and mental health referrals, transportation, recovery coaching and overall support. Their friendly case managers will be offering support the first Friday of every month from 9-10am.

Trivia Palooza 8 – Monday, June 1st at 6:00pm

Join Evan and Jess for General Knowledge Trivia. Assemble your team (up to 5 people) and put your thinking caps on! Registration is required.

Learn to Gel Print with Happy Arts Events – Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:00pm

Gel printing is a fun and versatile way to create unique art. Discover (or practice!) using a gel printing plate, paint, brayers, interesting papers and stencil/imprint objects. You can produce wonderful works of art to use in collage, journals, greeting cards, scrapbooks, or framed art! You can even print on fabric!

The Midnight Society x The Final Frontier Book Group – Wednesday, June 3rd at 6:00pm

Join Janessa and Evan for this special collaboration between The Midnight Society Horror Book Group, and The Final Frontier Sci-Fi Book Group as we discuss how Mary Shelley's Frankenstein crosses over between these two genres.

Computer Basics for Beginners – Friday, June 5th at 11:00am

Come learn some computer basics with Assistant Director Evan Hale and Adult Services Librarian Jess Fontaine. Registration is required.

Climate Future Film Festival – Tuesday, June 9th at 5:30pm

This "mini festival" features ten award-winning short films from four continents that invite inspiration, conversation, and hope around climate change.

The films—documentary, drama, animation, and humor—explore the human and emotional dimensions of the climate crisis. Leading climate voice Bill McKibben serves as Honorary Judge and anchors the festival with a videotaped introduction. Four-time Academy Award nominee Edward Norton joins him this year as Honorary Judge and Awards Judge, selecting four films in the timely program for highest honors.

Cookbook Club – Wednesday, June 10th at 6:00pm

Join our cookbook club this month as we cook recipes from the same book. We always have a great time eating and discussing our experiences with the book. This month we're reading and cooking from *Weekday Vegetarians* by Jenny Rosenstrach.

Extra copies are available at the circulation desk. To be added to the list, please email jfontaine@cwmar.org

Programming for All Ages
Library for All – Mondays and Fridays in June at 10am

Library for All is an inclusive program for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please let us know if you need any special accommodations! Join us every Monday and Friday! The 1st week of the month is coloring, the 2nd week is LEGO, the 3rd week is chair yoga, and the 4th week of the month is painting.

Friends Spring Concert Series: Dan Fontaine's Elvis Tribute – Thursday, June 4th at 6:30pm

Dan Fontaine grew up in Massachusetts and was raised listening to the music of Elvis Presley. At 16, he began his music career. Dan began performing his Elvis tribute all over New England in 2014, and aims to capture the energy, passion, and vocal prowess of The King.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
Play-Doh Storytime – Mondays at 10:30am

10:30am

Join us for an engaging storytime filled with interactive stories and Play-Doh fun! Kids are invited to explore, squish and make new creations each week. This sensory-friendly program is perfect for young learners and their grown-ups.

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm

Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces! June's Theme: Paper Chain Jellyfish! Kids will practice cutting out paper and weaving pieces together to make some amazing jellyfish.

Tiny Groovers – Tuesdays at 10:30am

Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids' tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm

Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!

Spring Festival – Saturday, May 30th from 11:00am-2:00pm

Join us for our annual Spring Festival! This community event will offer 9 Hole Mini Golf from One Up Games, a dunk tank with some awesome volunteers inside, an ice cream sundae station, soccer darts, henna and more.

Teen Advisory Board – Wednesday, June 10th at 2:45pm

Do you want to make the teen room and teen programs work for you? We want to do that, too. Join Jess and Paige for informal conversation about what works and what doesn't in the teen room. Ideas? Bring them! Concerns? Bring those, too!

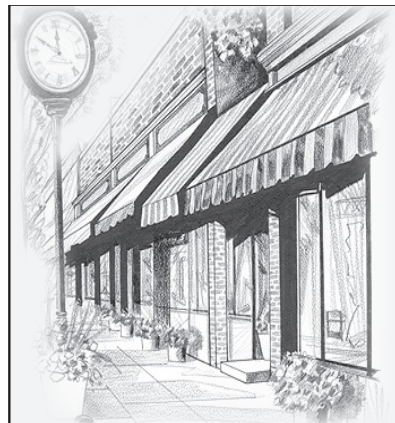
Dudley Grange announces 2026 recipients of Dudley Grange Scholarship award

DUDLEY — Dudley Grange is pleased to announce this year's recipients of the Dudley Grange Scholarship Award. The 2026 recipients are David Betancur from Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School, Nina Julian and Hayley Phommala, both from Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

Dudley Grange #163 wishes these students success in their educational pursuits. Dudley Grange awards scholarships each year to graduating seniors from Shepherd Hill Regional, Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical or Bartlett High School and any Dudley resident attending an accredited private high school.

The Dudley Grange is a family oriented, community service organization with its roots in agriculture. The Grange provides community service to Dudley and the surrounding area and supports local farming and agriculture. Dudley Grange is best known for its annual Strawberry Festival held on the third Thursday in June. This year, it is June 18, from 4 p.m. "until the berries are gone". For more information on the Dudley Grange, visit our Web site, dudleyfarmers.com, or our Facebook page, Dudley Grange #163.

www.StonebridgePress.com



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OBITUARIES

Antoni Jaskolski, 85



DUDLEY – Antoni Jaskolski, 85, passed away Wednesday, May 20, 2026 in UMass Memorial Healthcare, Worcester in the presence of his family. His wife of 23 years, Theresa M. (Jaskolski) Jaskolski, died in 1995. He leaves a daughter, Paula-Jean Lamoureux and her husband Theodore of Somerset, KY; a son, Edward A. Jaskolski and his wife Kristina of Hudson; a grandson, Nathan Johnson and his wife April of Honesdale, PA; 4 great-grandchildren, Ivy, Kyra, Isaiah and Gabriel; a brother Zygmunt Jaskolski and a sister, Lidia Chorowska both in Poland; a special nephew and niece Jarek Jaskolski and Theresa Bober who he welcomed from Poland into his home as his own children; many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his 4 brothers Wotek, Victor, Marian and Eugeniusz and by a sister Helena Laskowska. He was born in Gierwaty, Poland on January 15, 1941, a son of Boleslaw and Marianna Jaskolski and graduated from high school in 1959. He was a mem-

ber of the Polish Army. He emigrated to the United States in the early 1970's. Mr. Jaskolski was a machinist for many years with Wyman-Gordon in both Worcester and Grafton. He was an active member of Saint Andrew Bobola Church. He worked at both the St. Andrew's and the Saint Joseph's festivals. He was extremely involved in helping people from Poland immigrate to the United States, finding them jobs, lodging and daily essentials. While in Poland he was part of the Solidarity Movement that eventually gained Poland its' freedom from the USSR.

He was very good at repairing almost anything. He raised pigeons and enjoyed gardening and fishing. His funeral was held on Tuesday, May 26, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster. Burial with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Andrew Bobola Church, 54 West Main Street, Dudley. Burial followed in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. A calling period took place from 9:00 to 10:30 AM in the funeral home before Mass. Donations in his memory may be made to Tri-Valley Elder Care, 10 Mill Street, Dudley, MA 01571. www.websterfunerals.com

Phyllis M. Carlson, 89



WEBSTER – Phyllis M. (Belisle) Carlson, 89, of Sutton Road, died on Monday, May 18, 2026, at her home.

She was predeceased by her husband, Gerald C. Carlson who died in 2020. She is survived by three children, Melissa R. Voas and her husband Peter of Webster; Stephen C. Carlson of Dudley, and Rachel A. Carlson and her partner Steve Benoit of North Attleboro; five grandchildren, Jason Voas and his wife Jennifer, Nicole Schutter and her husband Levi, Jamal Carlson and his partner Bradie Schofield, Naomi Carlson, and Haleigh Carlson; five great-grandchildren, Aurora Voas, Harrison Voas, Wyatt Schutter, Julia Schutter, and Kali Carlson; a niece and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Lorraine VanHooten.

She was born in Northbridge, daughter of the late Walter and Bernadette (Morin)

Belisle, was raised in East Douglas, and lived in Webster since 1972. She was a U.S. Army veteran from 1956-1959, serving as a member of the Woman's Army Corp and as a secretary for Army Intelligence.

Mrs. Carlson was a claims representative in the insurance industry. She was a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Webster, and was a member of the Ladies of St. Anne's. She enjoyed baking, sewing, reading, quilting, knitting, and travelling with her husband Jerry.

The family would like to thank Pam Lloyd and Brookhaven Hospice for their exceptional care during her illness.

A private graveside service will be held at North Cemetery in Oxford. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation, 1350 Broadway, Ste 1530, New York, NY 10018.

Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

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



CURIOSITY

continued from page A1

logical problem solving," Library Director Nicole Messier said.

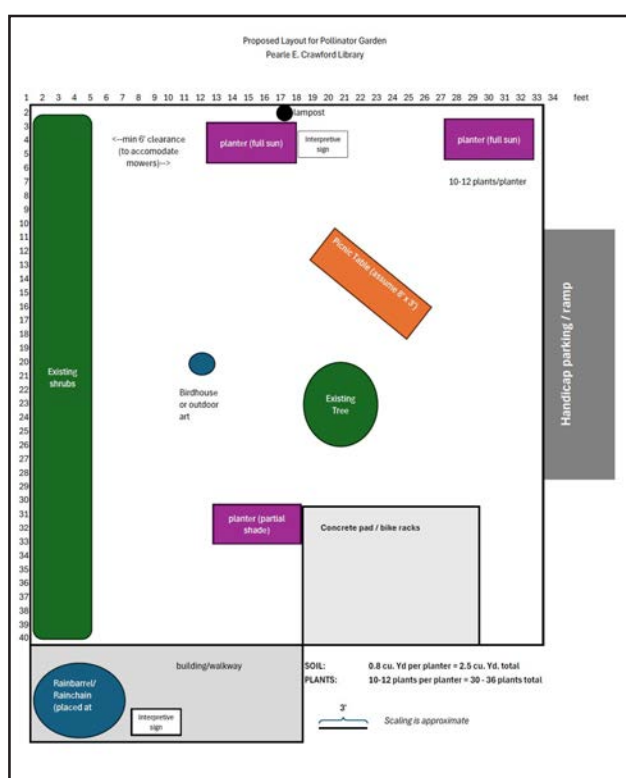
Work is set to commence late fall.

Additionally, local non-profit Local 4 Life was awarded a \$2,600 Janet Malsler Grant to install a pollinator garden on the front lawn of the Pearle.

Local 4 Life has partnered with the Pearle over the past two years to provide six educational programs for children and families in the Fels Community Room. These programs have featured hands-on learning experiences focused on topics such as soil health, composting, pollinators, plant life cycles, and agricultural crops.

The grant funding will enable these lessons to be expanded into an outdoor setting, creating

opportunities for more structured and immersive programming. Examples of educational activities in this garden include nature-based



literacy activities, age-appropriate science lessons, and environmental stewardship workshops.

It will also be used to support the library's 2026 Summer Reading Program theme, "Plant a Seed. Read."

This reading program

Become More Campaign and its \$50M Hope and Access Campaign for student financial aid.

Prior to his work in fundraising, Murphy served in leadership roles of increasing responsibility in sales, operations, management and business development for national companies, including Cintas, Altria, MillerCoors and Chiquita. Murphy earned a bachelor's degree and an MBA from Assumption University, where he played on the varsity soccer and tennis teams; a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Nichols College; and a Master Certificate in Applied Project Management from Villanova University.

An active community volunteer and sports coach, he received the Holden Good Neighbor Award in 2023. Murphy resides in Holden with his spouse, Allison, and their four children, Owen, Declan, Jack and Quinn.

"Ryan brings significant advancement experience, a proven record of securing multi-million-dollar gifts, and a passion for building meaningful and enduring relationships that

idea is rooted in the concept of farm-to-table.

The garden space will also be open to informal use by library patrons, small groups, and families seeking a peaceful and educational outdoor environment.

strengthen the institutions he has served," said Nichols President Bill Pieczynski. "Ryan is also a proud alumnus of our graduate school, and I am confident that his familiarity with, and dedication to, Nichols will be a tremendous asset as we seek to expand our fundraising efforts and pursue a bright future for the College."

About Nichols Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols College transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

TUBBS

continued from page A1

opment initiatives such as mentorship programs. His forward-thinking approach continues to set a new standard for memory care.

Tristani, who lives in Providence, R.I., and has more than 38 years of experience in healthcare and senior living, is a nationally recognized educator, speaker and author specializing in dementia care. A speech-language pathologist by training, she has dedicated her career to improving how organizations support individuals living with Alzheimer's and related dementias.

At Benchmark, Tristani has built a comprehensive training and support model that equips caregivers with the tools and real-time guidance needed to deliver personalized, compassionate care. She developed Benchmark's nationally recognized "Connect First" program, an innovative communication approach designed to foster meaningful human connection for those living with dementia. Her immersive training programs promote collaboration, strengthen care practices, and empower staff across all communities.

In addition to her educational leadership, Tristani

oversees on-demand behavioral expressions consults systemwide, delivering tailored care strategies for residents with complex needs. These insights are continuously tracked and refined, creating a feedback loop that enhances care quality across the organization.

"I feel truly honored to work alongside such passionate and skilled professionals like Michael and Michelle," said Beth Sampath, vice president of operations and resident programming. "They challenge the status quo every day and exemplify what innovation in memory care can and should be."

MURPHY

continued from page A1

Building and related equipment, the St. Joseph Science Building, the Mental Health & Wellness Center and improvements to the college's athletics facilities. Murphy also implemented a new database with more automation; collaborated with athletics to launch the AMCAT Challenge; and strengthened alumni engagement, stewardship and donor communications.

Prior to Anna Maria, Murphy served as major gift officer at the College of the Holy Cross from 2018 through 2023. He secured \$5.5M during the 2022-23 fiscal year, including multiple seven-figure bequest intentions. His efforts enabled Holy Cross to establish more than 10 endowed financial aid and academic scholarships and create a \$1M endowed scholarship for the football summer program—a distinctive student-athlete support initiative that contributed to the team's six-year championship success from 2019-24.

Murphy also played an integral role in the college's comprehensive \$420M

GRANT

continued from page A1

opening of the new building in 2018. With this grant funding the Library will continue its adult concert series, and also add more youth and family concerts.

"We have seen a growing interest in music programming for youth within our community. Community members are asking for more and more concerts

that they can attend as a family, and we aim to please!" commented Gladys E. Kelly Library Director, Sondra Murphy.

As a result of this demand, the Library has already scheduled three large-scale musical performances for the summer.

This year's One Book, One Community author, R.F. Kuang, attracted a crowd of over 150. This is the Library's fifth year

hosting this event, with attendance building steadily every year. With continued support from the Janet Malsler Humanities Trust, the Library will be able to host another New York Times bestselling author next Spring.

Thanks to these generous grants from the Janet Malsler Humanities Trust, the Library continues to offer more exciting events and programs for the community.

How to Submit an Obituary

Guidance in Your Time of Need.

Posting an obituary is a meaningful way to honor the life of someone who has passed, share the loss with the community, and support the grieving process. It celebrates their life, family, memories, and accomplishments while bringing people together in remembrance. An obituary also helps loved ones find comfort and closure during a difficult time preserves the individual's story as an important part of the family's history and legacy.



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Camp Invention's fun, action-packed summer STEM program coming to area

REGION — Camp Invention®, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program, is coming to the following locations. Auburn: Auburn Middle School the week of July 6 - July 10. Uxbridge: Our Lady of the Valley Regional School the week of June 22 - June 26. Regional program sponsors include Johnson Controls Foundation and Overdeck Family Foundation. A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame® in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in grades K-6 to tap into their natural curiosity and use their creativity to solve problems. Through hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes STEM learning; builds confidence, leadership, perseverance and resourcefulness; and encourages entrepreneurship in all in a fun and engaging environment. Each year, the program features new curricula inspired by some of our nation's most world-changing inventors in the National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees. This year's Spark program encourages children to be



Courtesy

In Camp Invention's Make Waves experience, children ride the waves of entrepreneurship and invention by creating prototypes, pitching their products and building a billboard boat.

confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness through hands-on activities including: Space Morphers™: Kids build a DIY rocket and launch an epic mission to transform a new planet's atmosphere, terrain and ecosystem. After a high-energy Rover Race to collect samples and data, they grow dazzling crystal trees and

hatch a mysterious animal egg in a Space Lab.

Make Waves™: Campers ride the waves of entrepreneurship and invention! Inspired by a surfer's journey, they create prototypes, pitch their innovative products to hook investors and build a billboard boat to set sail and "make waves" in the ma

Fur-ensics™: Kids sharp-

en their animal detective skills with Cap E. Bara and a fleet of robotic capybaras. They investigate a trail of footprints, collect bits of fluffy fur and examine suspicious splatters before forensically analyzing evidence that has a surprising twist.

The Infringers™: Campers use their invention superpowers to solve

challenges in their community and around the world. They miniaturize top-secret innovations, safeguard their designs using cryptography and protect their intellectual property from the Infringers. "I love that this camp lets my kids step out of the usual roles that they have at home and in school, and explore different parts of themselves," said the par-

ent of 2025 Camp Invention campers. "At camp my son learns to be more creative and my daughter learns to be more independent." All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by qualified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves 147,000 students every year and partners with more than 2,600 schools and districts across the nation. For more information or to register, visit invent.org/camp. About Camp Invention Camp Invention is the only nationally recognized summer program focused on creativity, innovation, real-world problem solving and the spirit of invention. Through hands-on programming, Camp Invention encourages children entering kindergarten through sixth grade to explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics curricula inspired by some of the world's greatest inventors. Since 1990, our education programs have served more than 3.3 million children, and 297,000 teachers and Leadership Interns. Regional program sponsors include the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley
508-949-8021

To register for events or sign up for the newsletter, go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021.

The Library will be closed on Friday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.

Join us for our Summer Reading Kick Off on June 16th @ 1:00!

The June featured artist is Irena Russell. A variety of her pieces will be on display for you to enjoy in the Fels Room whenever the Library is open.

CrafterNIGHT- Mandala Painting
Monday, June 1st
6:00-7:00 in the Local History Room

Learn to paint intricate, symmetrical designs (called mandalas) onto smooth wood slices. It blends art, mindfulness, and simple technique—making it suitable for beginners and experienced crafters alike. Registration is required. Ages 17+

The Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale!

Thursday, June 4th- Saturday June 6th
Pre-sale access for Friends members on Wednesday, June 3rd, 5:30-7 pm.

Not a Friend? Become one and take advantage of the pre-sale event. Dealers are welcome on Friday and Saturday only. No scanners allowed.

Pearle's Picking Parlor Jam, a "mostly" Bluegrass Focused Jam Session

1st Saturday of every month
Saturday, June 6th
10:00-12:00 in the Local History Room

This is the group that played at our 15 Year Celebration! This is an unplugged acoustic jam. All talent levels welcome... beginners on up! Don't want to play? No problem, listeners are welcome too!

Gentle Yoga
Every Monday
10:00-11:00

Join yoga instructor Patricia for a traditional "on the mat" yoga class with chair yoga modifications. This truly is a one-size-fits-all class. Bring your own mat. Wear layers, do not eat heavily 1.5-2 hours before class. Registration is required.

Mahjong at the Pearle
Every Wednesday
10:00-12:30 Fels Community Room

The game consists of players competing to form distinct sets or pairs of tiles, similar to gin rummy.

Everyone is welcome; registration is not required.

Quilting Group
Every Wednesday
1:30- 3:30

All quilters and would-be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

Knit & Crochet Group

Every Thursday 5:30-7:45 and Friday 10:00-12:00.

All stitchers are welcome to this informal group. Bring your project and enjoy the company!

Yoga with Buffy
Every Friday- NO SESSION Friday, June 5th
10:00-11:00

Join Buffy for Friday Yoga! Take time to relax, stretch, and recharge at this weekly Friday session. Registration is required: wideopenyoga@gmail.com. A co-payment is required to attend.

Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting
Monday, June 8th
1:15-2:15

Join the Friends of the Library for the monthly meeting! All are invited to attend!

Pearle's Genealogy Group
Monday, June 8th
4:00-5:30

Let's regrow our genealogy group! Facilitated by Patricia M. St. Marie, Professional Genealogist

Piano Men: A Tribute to Billy Joel and Elton John
Monday, June 8th
6:00-7:00

Celebrate the unforgettable hits of Billy Joel and Elton John in this lively tribute featuring pianist and vocalist Jay Daniels. With rich vocals and jazz-infused flair, Jay performs classics like "Piano Man," "Your Song," "Rocket Man," and more-bringing fresh life to the music of two pop legends in an evening of timeless tunes and nostalgic charm.

Bathsheba Spooner Book Talk with Andrew Noone
Thursday June 11th
6:00-7:00

Join local author Andrew Noone to find out what possessed Bathsheba Spooner, a woman from the elite of eighteenth-century New England society to conspire with American and British soldiers to murder her husband at the midpoint of the American Revolution. It's the most sensational "true crime" tragedy of the American 1700's. The book is available for checkout at the library.

About the author: Andrew Noone is an independent scholar with graduate degrees in art history and musicology from Syracuse University. He was music specialist in the Worcester Public Schools and has taught courses in the humanities at several colleges in Massachusetts, including Clark University.

The Missing Piece Puzzle Race
Monday, June 15th
6:00-7:30

Teams will compete against each other, with the ultimate goal of completing a

puzzle faster than their opponents. Teams can have up to six members. The first team to assemble the puzzle wins! Registration is required. There is room for seven teams; only one person from each team should register.

Plants for Monarchs and Other Garden Good Guys

Thursday, June 18th
6:00-7:00

Join Lanette Lepper, a member of the Dudley Agricultural Commission and Quiet Corner Garden Club, to learn about plants for monarchs and other garden good guys.

"Cook the Book" Book Club- Everything's Good: Cozy Classics You'll Cook Always and Forever

Monday, June 22nd
6:00-7:00

"Cook The Book" Book Club will meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 6:00

You will pick one recipe from the book selected for the month-the dishes don't have to be complicated or fancy, any recipe from the book is fair game, except alcoholic beverages-sorry! Prepare the recipe at home and share it at the library. We cannot reheat or keep food warm, so consider this when choosing your recipe.

You are responsible for bringing serving utensils. We will provide paper goods and utensils for eating.

AI for Everyday Life

Thursday, June 25th
6:00-7:15

Join us for a 60-minute beginner's session designed to demystify Artificial Intelligence. We will explore two essential pillars: Utility - how to use simple, free AI tools to make daily life easier, and Defense - how to spot and protect yourself from the new wave of AI-enhanced scams.

Crawford Library Book Group
Thursday, June 25th
Prague Winter by Madeleine Albright
6:00-7:30

Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout one month before the discussion.

No Registration Required

Children's & Family Programming

Wiggles & Giggles for Littles
Thursday, June 4th & 11th
10:00-10:30

YFCP is pleased to offer a FREE 5-week music series for children, ages 6-24 months, with a parent/caregiver. Ms. Laine will introduce music, movement, musical instruments and stories to your little ones. Registration is required. Please note: you are registering for a 5-week series.

Wiggles & Giggles
Thursday, June 4th & 11th
10:45-11:45

YFCP is pleased to offer a FREE 5-week

music series for children, ages 6-24 months, with a parent/caregiver. Ms. Laine will introduce music, movement, musical instruments and stories to your little ones. Registration is required. Please note: you are registering for a 5-week series.

Once Upon a Storytime with Kelcy
Every Monday
10:00-10:45

For ages 3-5 and their caregiver (siblings always welcome!). Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, scarves, shaker eggs, moving our bodies to music, activities, bubbles, a craft, and free play!

Summer Reading Kick-Off with Gilbert the Party Pig

Tuesday, June 16th
1:00-3:00

Enjoy an ice cream, VISIT WITH THE PIGGIES and collect your first Summer Reading tickets for 2026!

Peaceful Projects with Rileigh
Every Wednesday starting June 17th
2:00-3:00

Join Rileigh for a drop-in craft. There will be something a little different every week! Painting, slime-making, doodling, watercolor, and more! Best for ages 5-12.

Registration requested! Best for ages 5-12. This is not a drop off event.

Pokemon Trading Card Club
Thursday, June 18th
6:00-6:45

Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon Club where you can meet other Pokemon fans and trade cards if you want to! Best for ages 6 and up. No registration required. This is not a drop off program.

"The Library Boogie" with Tom Knight
Thursday, June 25th
1:00-1:45

Come join the fun while entertainer Tom Knight performs his exciting combination of music, puppets, and stories in "The Library Boogie"! This show is fun for the whole family, with lots of laughter and audience participation. No registration needed, but when the room reaches capacity, the program will be considered full - so come early!

Family Yoga
Friday, June 26th
11:00-11:45

Stretch and grow this summer! Join certified Yoga instructor, Buffy, for a 45-minute yoga class for families! Caregivers and their children between the ages of 3+ are welcome to register. Please bring your own mats. Registration is required as space is limited.

Seed Art & Mosaics with Hands on Nature
Tuesday, June 30th

Turn To LIBRARY page A9

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200**

**Docket No. WO26P1660EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

Estate Of:
**Deanna A. LaFontaine
Date of Death:10/22/2025**

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

The Petitioner requests that:
Randy J. LaFontaine of Dudley MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/16/2026**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day,

action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 19, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 29, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court**

**225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO26P111 OGD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor**
In the interests of
**Marissa Marie Jordan
of Webster, MA
Minor**
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed by on 04/06/2026 by Sarah Archidiacono of Webster, MA will

be held 05/12/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing
Located **Worcester Probate & Family Court**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

ORDER TO PETITIONER(S)
IT IS ORDERED THAT copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served in hand on the minor, (if 14 or more years of age and not the petitioner), the guardian, the parents of the minor, and any other person if ordered by the

Court, at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date listed above. **Service must be made by the sheriff, constable, or other person approved by the Court.**

If service in hand cannot be accomplished on any interested party. **IT IS ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on the interested party by leaving at and mailing by regular first class mail to last and usual place of residence of the interested party at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to the date of hearing listed above.

If the identity of whereabouts of an interested party is **not known, IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on all interested persons at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to the hearing date by mailing first class mail and by publishing a copy of the Order and Notice once in **Webster Times, Webster** publication to be at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing date.

If required, service on the United States Veteran Administration and the Department of Children and Families may be accomplished by regular first class mail at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing.

THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.

Date: April 9, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
May 29, 2026

For Legal Advertising Information, Call 508-909-4127

email: legals@stonebridgepress.news

PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

LIBRARY

continued from page A8

11:00-11:45

Join Hands on Nature for a simple lesson on the life cycle of a plant and the importance of seeds. After, use your creativity to make a mosaic with beautiful seeds! This program is for ages 4 and up. No registration needed, but when the room reaches capacity, the program will be considered

full - so come early!

Teen Programming

Dungeons & Dragons Game
Every Thursday
6:00-7:30
Ages 14-19

Off the Hook Crochet Club
Thursday, June 4th

6:00-7:00

Ages 12-17

Welcome to Off The Hook Crochet Club — where kids turn yarn into awesome!

From colorful creations to cool new skills, this club is all about learning, laughing, and stitching together. No experience needed — just bring your imagination (and your needles)!

Needle Felted Carnivorous Plant for Teens

Tuesday, June 23rd
1:30-3:00

Join Pop Up Art to make this quirky and cute needle-felted carnivorous plant, complete with fangs and a bright red tongue, all rooted in a real terra-cotta pot! This teen program is for ages 12-17 only. Registration is required, as spots are limited.

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO26P1109GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor**
In the interests of
**Joey Lee Jordan
of Webster, MA
Minor**
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED
PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed by on 04/06/2026 by Sarah Archidiacono of Webster, MA will be held 05/12/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located **Worcester Probate & Family Court**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

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4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

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ORDER TO PETITIONER(S)
IT IS ORDERED THAT copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served in hand on the minor, (if 14 or more years of age and not the petitioner), the guardian, the parents of the minor, and any other person if ordered by the Court, at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date listed above. **Service must be made by the sheriff, constable, or other person approved by the Court.**

If service in hand cannot be accomplished on any interested party. **IT IS ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on the interested party by leaving at and mailing by regular first class mail to last and usual place of residence of the interested party at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the date of hearing listed above.

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THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.

Date: April 9, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
May 29, 2026

Please take notice that: Joyce Nierodzinski has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.04.00 Density Regulations Location: 16 Lakeview Ave In the following respect: A 6ft variance on the left side setback. The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday July 2, 2026 @ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be heard relative to this Public Hearing. Please contact Amanda Jacobson at 508-949-8012 or building@dudley-ma.gov to attend the meeting.

George Slingo,
Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals
May 22, 2026
May 29, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 4 Meringo Avenue,
Webster, MA 01570

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Julian Vazquez Gonzalez and Marielly Gonzalez Reyes to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for OCMBC, Inc., and now held by **Freedom Mortgage Corporation**, said mortgage dated February 11, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67115, Page 32, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for OCMBC Inc., its successors and assigns to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment dated March 9, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68900, Page 40; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on June 15, 2026 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon located at 4 Meringo Avenue a/k/a Meringo Court a/k/a 4 Meringo Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts and more particularly described as follows: The land with the buildings thereon located at 4 Meringo Avenue a/k/a Meringo Court a/k/a 4 Meringo Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts and more particularly described as follows:

A certain parcel of land in Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon situate on the southerly side of Meringo Court, so-called bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the N.E. corner thereof at said Court and land of one Rein, now or formerly;
THENCE southerly by said Rein land and land formerly of one Haggerty 100 feet;
THENCE westerly by said Haggerty land 50 feet;

THENCE northerly by land formerly of one Towne 100 feet to said Court;
THENCE by said Court Easterly 50 feet to the point of beginning.

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

For Mortgageor's Title see deed dated February 8, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67115, Page 29.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor

Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701

May 15, 2026
May 22, 2026
May 29, 2026

(SEAL)

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT**

**26 SM 001581
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:

Lorna G. Sullivan a/k/a Lorna G. Roland

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*): PNC Bank National Association, successor by merger to National City Bank claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 6 Ridgewood Road, given by Lorna G. Sullivan and James F. Roland to National City Bank, dated February 23, 2007, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40749, Page 23, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before June 29, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on May 14, 2026.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
May 29, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 10 Sutton Avenue,
Oxford, MA 01540

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Marco Pacheco and Renee Pacheco to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Eastern Mortgage Corporation, and now held by **Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC**, said mortgage dated October 8, 2010 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 46452, Page 308, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Eastern Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment dated March 21, 2017 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 56886, Page 380; said mortgage was assigned from JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment dated November 2, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 69841, Page 201; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on June 29, 2026 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in said Oxford, with the buildings thereon, situated on the north side of Sutton Avenue, containing about thirty one (31) square rods, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the southwest corner of said tract at land formerly of one Savery; THENCE northwesterly by said Savery land nine (9) rods to a stake and land now or formerly of one Toomey; THENCE easterly by land of one Toomey three and one-half (3 1/2) rods to a stake at land formerly of Henry J. Clarke; THENCE by said Clarke land south-

erly nine (9) rods to said avenue; THENCE westerly by said avenue three and one half (3 1/2) rods to the point of beginning. Said premises are conveyed subject to rights of way of record.

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

For Mortgageor's Title see deed dated July 28, 2010 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 46452, Page 306.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
May 29, 2026
June 5, 2026
June 12, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO 26P1545EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
Richey C Fields
Date of Death: 03/29/2026

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

The Petitioner requests that: **Daniel P Fields of Charlton MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/09/2026**.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 11, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 29, 2026

Open Sky appoints two psychiatrists to Medical Director roles



Dr. Sarah Langenfeld



Dr. Prerna Moorjani

WORCESTER — Open Sky Community Services, a nonprofit behavioral health and human services organization, today announced the appointment of two new medical directors: Dr. Sarah Langenfeld and Dr. Prerna Moorjani.

“We are delighted to welcome Dr. Moorjani to Open Sky and to appoint Dr. Langenfeld to a well-deserved leadership position,” said Ken Bates, President and CEO of Open Sky. “Both doctors have proven expertise in navigating the complexities of behavioral health within the core populations and communities we serve. Their insightful, empathetic approach will strengthen our whole person care model, while ensuring inclusive and accessible services across all Open Sky programs.”

“I view these additions as a huge step forward for Open Sky in our efforts to provide comprehensive care and the highest quality of clinical services,” added

Manny Oppong, Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer of Open Sky. “These psychiatrists are coming to Open Sky with years of experience and specialized expertise that will truly support, enhance, and grow our services.”

Dr. Langenfeld, of Worcester, has more than two decades of experience as a board-certified psychiatrist and has spent the last four years practicing part-time at Open Sky’s Program of Assertive Community Treatment, where she has provided treatment to individuals with intensive, long-term mental health conditions. She has also served as Medical Director for a Community Behavioral Health Center and as an Attending Psychiatrist in outpatient services for an area provider. In 2023, Dr. Langenfeld was recognized as a Champion of Health Care by the Worcester Business Journal.

As Medical Director,

Dr. Langenfeld will support all of the agency’s state Department of Mental Health and Department of Public Health-contracted programs. She will also administer psychiatric pharmacology care at Open Sky’s Bridge Counseling Center.

Dr. Langenfeld earned a Bachelor’s degree from Bates College in Maine and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the UMass Chan Medical School.

Dr. Moorjani, of Shrewsbury, is a board-certified adult, child, and adolescent psychiatrist with years of clinical experience in central Massachusetts, specializing in intergenerational trauma and neurodevelopmental disorders. Dr. Moorjani will serve as Medical Director of Developmental Disabilities Services and the Child and Family Services Division. She will also provide care at Open Sky’s Behavioral Health Urgent Care clinic. In her previous role, Dr. Moorjani served as a child and adolescent psychiatrist at a community-based provider in Central Mass.

Dr. Moorjani earned a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Rutgers University and a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the New York Institute of Technology’s College of Osteopathic Medicine.

New Bocce League open to community

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

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

Tuesdays: May 12 – June 30 (eight weeks)

Teams of four to eight players
\$240 per team
One game per week at either 6 or 7 p.m.
Maximum of eight teams – don’t wait!
Only team captains need to register for their team.

A brief informational captain meeting will be held before the season starts.

Gather your friends (18 and older), form a team, and come join us for a fantastic time on the court!

Games will be held at:
Italian American Club
20 North St., Southbridge

To register your team, call Bay Path Continuing Education at 508-248-5971, ext. 1715. Spots for teams are limited, so don’t hesitate—call today!

Adult learners at QCC benefit from \$38,000 Bridges to College grant

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College was recently awarded \$38,208 by the Healey-Driscoll Administration for its Bridges to College program, which helps low-income and entry-level adults transition to higher education.

Bridges to College is a free summer program that prepares participants for math and English courses, while simultaneously exposing them to the college environment.

“The Bridges to College summer program gives students a free opportunity to refresh their English and math skills before the Fall semester begins,” said Director of Mentoring & Special Programs Kalan Lewis. “Participants gain confidence in college-level coursework, learn about campus

resources and connect with faculty and staff who are committed to their success.”

Since the program began in 2019, it has received funding from the Department of Higher Education and other key partners, including Hanover Insurance Foundation and Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

Program data from 2019-2023 showed that of the students who completed the Bridges to College program, 70 percent received a C or higher in ENG 101 and 102, and almost 70 percent received a C or higher in a college-level math course.

For more information, visit QCC.edu/learn-qcc/adult-basic-education/bridges-college.

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The Killdeer Island Club Neighborhood Yard Sale
will be held on Saturday, June 6th on Killdeer Island, Webster from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
Raindate is June 7th.

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7 Lyon Street, SOUTHBRIDGE
first floor, garage included
3 bedroom, no pets, non smoker
Call 508-764-6425

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Friday’s Child

Justice Age 12 Registration #9115

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

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

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

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

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* June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Maureen Cimoch * Bryan Pelletier

Thompson ~ 6 Lillian Ave
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Young (2019) Pristine Raised Ranch, 1800+ SF, 3 BRs, LL Family Rm, 2-1/2 Baths, Primary BR Suite, Central AC, Country Setting with .70 Acre Lot & Lg Fenced Area on Cul-de-sac!
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Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
Commercial Opportunity!



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



Webster - 34 Eastern Ave Condos
Unit M ~

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

Featured Listing
Webster ~ 33 Slater Street



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



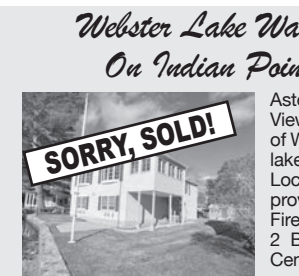
Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home

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

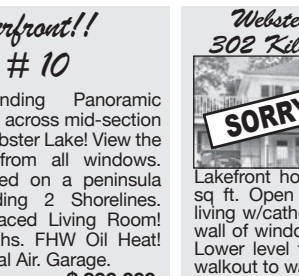
On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



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- *Wet Bar *Updates include Buderus Furnace
- *Roof *Oil Tank

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*Totally appliance includes washer and dryer * Shed
2 Sunrise Terrace



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Local 4 Life hosting free weather workshop

DUDLEY — Local 4 Life, an educational non-profit organization, is hosting a free weather workshop for children ages five to 12 called Junior Meteorologists : Field Meteorology on the Farm. It will take place Saturday, June 6 from 10-11 a.m. at Walnut Lane Farm in Dudley.

Participants will learn how weather tools from the farm's outdoor weather station provide weather information to the farmers and drive their decisions about the animals and plants on the farm. Real weather data will be collected to determine the air and soil temperatures, wind speed and direction, and air pressure. Children will have the



opportunity to make their own anemometer, barometer, cloud viewer, and wind vane to take home. Included in the workshop is a tour of the farm.

This is not a drop off event, all children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, sign up by emailing Erin Anderson at local4lifema@gmail.com or calling (508) 341-5347. Find Local 4 Life on Facebook or Instagram for more information. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Dudley Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

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QCC's Class of 2026 demonstrates strength and resolve at 61st Commencement



Dr. Matilde Castiel delivers the keynote address during Quinsigamond Community College's Commencement ceremony.

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FINAL THREE DAYS

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College conferred more than 1,500 graduates, the most since 2020, at its 61st commencement ceremony today. Keynote speaker Dr. Matilde Castiel, a physician, public health leader and former commissioner of Health and Human Services for the City of Worcester, commended graduates for their resilience and encouraged them to focus on humanity and take care of others.

Castiel detailed a journey that started when she left Cuba at age seven, without her parents, through Operation Peter Pan, a U.S.-backed initiative from the early 1960s that relocated over 14,000 unaccompanied Cuban children to America. Like many of the children, Castiel and her brother lived in foster homes until their parents could enter the country. They worked hard to build a new life and Castiel eventually began her pursuit of serving communities through healthcare.

"If that seven-year-old girl...at the Havana airport, holding a small suitcase and knowing only three English sentences, could one day stand here speaking to all of you," Castille said. "Then I promise you this: there is no limit to where your journey can take you."

Castiel noted how in the past, she questioned if she belonged in a field where only 2 percent of physicians are Latino women, yet Latinos make up nearly 20 percent of the population. Inspired by her hardworking parents, she didn't shy away from the challenge, but she emphasized that there is still work to be done in terms of access to educational and professional

opportunities.

"Graduates of Quinsigamond Community College, you already possess something powerful. You know how to keep going when the odds are stacked against you. This degree is not just a credential; it is proof that you belong in every room that you walk into," Castille said.

Student Government Association President Ryan Heath spoke at the ceremony about the external pressure he faced after graduating high school. While enrolling at QCC wasn't usually part of the advice he received, he realized the choice was his alone. Heath, who is transferring to Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the fall, encouraged graduates to stay true to their beliefs even when others don't see the same vision.

"What I love about our community college is that all of us were able to reach the same mountain top, yet we've all had our own complex and challenging paths of climbing here," Heath said. "Some of us are balancing multiple jobs or raising a family. Some of us are trying to balancing a social life while stressing about that 11:59 due date. Yet despite all of the roadblocks that were ahead of us and all of the doubt, we still made it."

QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja acknowledged the perseverance of the graduates and recognized QCC faculty and staff for supporting students throughout their journeys of pursuing higher education.

"Graduations are the culmination of years of hard work, overcoming obstacles, and pushing onward," Pedraja said. "Graduation does not signal the end of a chapter, but the start of a new one. It is a commencement, a beginning, a launchpad for future possibilities. It is the beginning of a career, of further studies, of a profession, of a new life."

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