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Shepherd Hill Regional continues innovative Engineering and Clean Energy Pathways programs



DUDLEY — Shepherd Hill Regional High School is proud to announce the continued expansion of its STEM curriculum with the launch of the updated Engineering and new Clean Energy Pathways programs. In partnership with Project Lead the Way (PLTW), the initiative brings hands-on learning, advanced technology, and practical engineering principles directly into the classroom.

Supported by grant funding provided through PLTW, Shepherd Hill has acquired materials and equipment to support interactive learning, including VEX robotics kits, electrical circuit equipment, and high-precision 3D printers. The new resources

empower students to take engineering concepts off the whiteboard and apply them to physical designs through creative problem-solving.

“Our goal is to give students direct, hands-on experience with the tools and mindsets used by professional engineers,” said Mr. Jugovic, engineering educator at Shepherd Hill. “When students can design, test, and iterate their own physical prototypes, abstract concepts like mechanics and physics suddenly make sense in a very tangible way.”

Mr. Jugovic’s classes feature rigorous design challenges that bridge theoretical concepts with real-world applications:

Tractor Pull competition: Combining mechanics and

friendly competition, students engineered custom model “tractors” to compete in a bracket-style tractor pull.

Through the activity, students directly applied principles of drag, friction, force, and gear ratios to maximize performance.

Human-centered design projects: Students practice real-world engineering workflows by interviewing Shepherd Hill teachers and staff to identify daily operational challenges.

Last year, an engineering student designed and 3D-printed a custom lab drain tool for a chemistry teacher—a device that remains in daily

classroom use today.

The Engineering and Clean Energy Pathways program reflects Shepherd Hill’s commitment to equipping students with high-demand technical skills, fostering innovation, and preparing graduates for future careers in advanced manufacturing, renewable energy, and technology.

About Shepherd Hill Regional High School

Shepherd Hill Regional High School serves students in grades 9–12 from Dudley and Charlton. Dedicated to academic excellence, innovative career pathways, and comprehensive student support, Shepherd Hill prepares students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Sheriff’s Office delivers thousands of pounds of fresh produce to local communities

Recipients include Auburn Youth and Family Services

REGION — Thousands of pounds of fresh, organic produce grown at the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office have been distributed to food pantries, senior centers, community refrigerators, and other

charitable organizations throughout Worcester County this growing season.

Amongst dozens of other stops throughout Worcester County, the WCSO

Dudley’s first Poetry Slam brings creativity to Fun Zone playground

DUDLEY — Poetry took center stage in the great outdoors on Thursday, Oct. 15, as children and adults gathered for the Town of Dudley’s first Poetry Slam, held in the wooded area of the Fun Zone Playground.

Sponsored by the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library and the Dudley Recreation Commission, the event brought together community members of all ages to share original poetry, spoken-word pieces and creative writing in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere.

Surrounded by the colorful backdrop of autumn foliage, participants stepped up to share their creativity while family members, friends and neighbors offered encouragement and finger-snapping for applause.

The event showcased the newly constructed outdoor stage area at the Fun Zone Playground, providing a unique setting for artistic expression and community connection.



WCSO Community Staff deliver fresh organic produce to Auburn Youth and Family Services.

Community Outreach teams visited Auburn Youth and Family Services and the Charlton Senior Center.

“Every delivery represents fresh produce going directly to an organization serving people in Worcester County,” said Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. “At

the same time, participating inmates experience the dignity of a full day’s work and the satisfaction of knowing their efforts are helping the same communities many of them call home. The rehabilitative value of this program is tremendous.”

Turn To WCSO page A11

Webster, Dudley to honor veterans with 21st annual Veterans Day Parade Nov. 11

WEBSTER/DUDLEY — Veterans, community organizations and residents will gather Wednesday, Nov. 11, for the 21st annual Veterans Day Parade, continuing a tradition of honoring the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

This year’s parade will feature Vietnam War veteran Armand Jalbert, who served in the U.S. Army, as grand marshal. Retired U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. William Conley Jr. will serve as guest speaker during the ceremonies.

The annual observance will begin at 11 a.m. at the Veterans’ Court of Honor at the Dudley Municipal Complex, where participants will gather for a ceremony recognizing the service and sacrifices of military veterans.

The program will include a prayer led by the veterans’ chaplain, a three-shot ceremonial volley by the honor guard and the playing of Taps. Conley will then deliver a commemorative address.

Following the Dudley ceremony, veterans and participating organizations will march in procession to the Webster Veterans’ Court of Honor, where a second ceremony will feature another chaplain’s prayer, ceremonial volley and the playing of Taps.

The ceremonies are expected to conclude at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Andrew Kozlowski, a U.S. Air Force veteran, will serve as parade chairman and master of ceremonies. He is joined in organizing the event by co-chairmen James Brinker, U.S. Army; Gary Jacobson, U.S. Air Force; Victor Jankowski, U.S. Army; Alan Martin, U.S. Army; Richard Norton, U.S. Air Force; Ronald Prest, U.S. Navy; and Stephen Rogerson, U.S. Army.

The parade will feature representatives of several veterans organizations, including the Webster/Dudley Veterans Council, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Polish American Veterans and Disabled American Veterans.

Ladies Auxiliary units, Sons of the American Legion and participating Scouting organizations will also take part.

The procession will be led by the honor guard carrying the colors and ceremonial weapons, followed by Jalbert in a vehicle. Representatives of the participating veterans organizations and community groups will follow in the designated marching order.

All former military personnel are welcome and encouraged to participate, regardless of whether they belong to a veterans’ organization.

Marching veterans assigned to the honor guard and other organized units are asked to assemble with their respective colors and ceremonial weapons at the St. Louis School yard parking area, next to the gymnasium at the bottom of the entryway, by 10:15 a.m. Bus transportation will depart at approximately 10:30 a.m. for the Dudley Municipal Complex.

Other veterans wishing to march should report directly to the Dudley Municipal Complex by 10:45 a.m. Participating Scouting organizations should also assemble at the complex at 10:45 a.m.

Organizers have arranged three vehicles for veterans who would prefer to ride rather than march. Those planning to use the vehicles should report to the Dudley Municipal Complex by 10:45 a.m.

An additional vehicle will be positioned at the rear of the parade to assist anyone who experiences difficulty completing the march.

For safety, marchers are asked to maintain approximately 30 feet of separation from vehicles and other designated groups in the procession.

Following the ceremonies, the Polish American Veterans on Ray Street in Webster will host refreshments for parade participants. All participants are invited to attend.

Kozlowski emphasized that the purpose of the annual observance is to recognize both those currently serving in the military and those whose service has concluded.

The parade offers residents of both communities an opportunity to come together in appreciation of the sacrifices made by generations of American service members.

Organizers encourage veterans to participate and residents to attend the ceremonies in Dudley and Webster as the communities mark Veterans Day together.

Author Suzanne Strempek Shea brings new memoir to Booklovers' Gourmet



WEBSTER — Join Booklovers' Gourmet, located at 72 East Main St. in Webster, is welcoming back Massachusetts-based author Suzanne Strempek Shea and her new memoir, "Compositions," on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 2-4 p.m.

An extraordinary memoir about the author's early years in a close-knit 1960s and '70s Polish-American Massachusetts grade school and community, "Compositions" details a life that revolves in a circle of faith and family. Written in the author's voice and point of view from her first eight years of school, the humorous and poignant essays show a past still fully present. Graduation photos lining the walls include students' parents who once sat in the same classrooms with the same wooden desks, same windows, same blackboards, and some of the same nuns. Strempek Shea learns new

words — bubbler for water fountain, sodality for club, lavatory for bathroom, Father for priest even if he wasn't hers. One snowy afternoon, looking at all the familiar faces, companions from early morning to afternoon, Monday through Friday, from for as long as she can remember, she realizes she likes school, thanks in part to the nuns who taught patiently, sang folk songs beneath a tree, and danced the hula, and despite the ones who wielded a croquet stick or hurled textbooks. Reverence is everywhere: dropped bread receives a kiss, swimmers bless themselves before diving, parishioners walk on their knees each Good Friday.

The miracles in "Compositions" that Strempek Shea prays for — a horse or at least a pony, her grandfather's health — never take place. Yet something no less tender and beautiful does as she spins childhood in a kaleidoscope of close-to-the-bone observations and stories written as energetically as if the author had always been waiting to tell the world all she knew. Read them and realize you've always been waiting for that, too.

This event is free and open to the public. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase. To RSVP, please call 508-949-6232 or email deb@bookloversgourmet.com.

Suzanne Strempek Shea is the author of six novels and six works of nonfiction. Her freelance journalism and fiction have appeared in publications including Yankee, The Bark, Golf World, The

Boston Globe, The Irish Times, The Philadelphia Inquirer, Brevity, Down East, and ESPN the Magazine. Awards for her books include the New England Book Award and the Oskar Halecki Prize. Her journalism was shortlisted for the Penney-Missouri Awards, and her creative writing was recognized in Best American Fiction. She taught at University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA program in creative writing for 18 years, and for 12 years was inaugural writer-in-residence and director of the creative writing program at Bay Path University in

Longmeadow, Mass., where she created its MFA in creative nonfiction. She co-directs the Dingle Writers' Workshop in Ireland and the Iota Short Forms Conference in Downeast Maine. She is married to lifelong journalist Tommy Shea. They divide their time between Bondsville, Massachusetts, and Howth, Ireland.

"How is it possible for a collection of personal essays to read like the finely rendered dream of a masterful novel? The authentic voice here alone is worth the price of admission for it captures the very soul of its bright, pre-

cocious narrator who happens to be Catholic and Polish-American and growing up in the 1960s in a neighborhood so tight-knit that it is a cultural canyon from which there's no exit until it's time to leave. But in Suzanne Strempek Shea's immensely capable hands, I predict that you will want to stay right here — as I did — in these moving, often funny, and deeply compelling pages. Compositions is a gem," raves Andre Dubus III, New York Times Bestselling Author of the Oprah Book Club Pick "House of Sand and Fog."

Book lovers invited to Friends of the Library Book Sale in Dudley

DUDLEY — Book lovers can stock up on reading material and support the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library at the Friends of the Library Book Sale, Nov. 5-7 at 40 Schofield Ave, Dudley.

The sale will feature a wide variety of gently used books and DVDs for readers of all ages, with proceeds benefiting the library and its programs.

Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library will get an exclusive preview on Wednesday, November 4, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Those who are not currently members can join the Friends at the door and shop during the preview.

The sale is open to the public Thursday through Saturday. Booksellers are welcome to shop on Friday, and the sale will wrap up Saturday morning with a bag sale, offering shoppers the opportunity to fill a bag with books for \$5.

Sale hours are:
Wednesday, Nov. 4: Friends Preview, 5:30-6 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 5: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 6: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. — Booksellers welcome
Saturday, Nov. 7: 10 a.m.-noon — \$5 Bag Sale
Donations of books and DVDs are welcome! Book donations may be dropped off at the library during normal library hours beginning Friday, October 30, through noon on Wednesday, Nov. 4. Books should be in good, sellable condition and please no textbooks, dictionaries, encyclopedias, or magazines.

Whether you're looking for a new novel, children's books, cookbooks, mysteries, nonfiction or something unexpected, the Friends' Book Sale is a chance to find a bargain while supporting programming at the Crawford library.

Poets at Large presents Arsego and Aeroelastic Flutter Oct. 24

POMFRET, Conn. — Poets at Large will continue its seventh season on Saturday night, October 24th with a wide variety of spoken word. The show begins at 7 p.m. at The Vanilla Bean Café, 450 Deerfield Rd. in Pomfret, Conn. and featured that night will be Sharon Arsego and performance artist duo Aeroelastic Flutter. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

Sharon Arsego is from Bristol where she works as a senior administrative assistant for the city. She has three published collections including Scenes and Sonnets which is an ekphrastic collaboration with Massachusetts photographer Wendy Tobin. Arsego is an active participant in various arts and culture communities, has been a featured spoken word performer for two seasons of The Soul Session in Bristol, and also writes for The Bristol Magazine.

Learn more at sharonarsego.com. Aeroelastic Flutter is a spoken word and sound collaboration, combining the often-absurdist poetry of Jim Whitten with the guitar work and sound exploration of Nicholas Pecsok. Their project experiments with lo-fi audio and borderline performance art, challenging audiences to reevaluate how poetry can be performed and defined.

Linda Blakesley will do an extended read in the open mic segment.

Blakesley is a poet from Coventry, CT who hosts a monthly open mic in connection with the Coventry Arts Guild, providing a platform for new and veteran poets. Linda works in adult education.

Poets at Large has brought more than 150 published and awarded poets to the area since 2020 and dozens of people have participated in the open mic portions during that time. Poets at Large is a project of Windham Arts. All events are ADA compliant and are recommended for ages 16 and up. Readings for the rest of the season are sponsored in part by donations from bankHometown, Charter Oak FCU, WHZ Financial and The Putnam Area Foundation. Contact karen.warinsky@gmail.com to sign up for the open mic; 5-minute max as time allows.

Park Ave students learn to advocate for themselves



Two students at Park Ave Elementary happily work with Ms. LA.

WEBSTER — At Park Ave, we are fortunate to have such a dedicated and hardworking team of teachers. Our teachers put countless hours into developing engaging lesson plans, meaningful learning experiences, and classroom routines and procedures that help our school run smoothly. We want to celebrate these curriculum highlights and recognize the incredible work our teachers do every day for our students.

Samantha Lopes-Avilla, Adjustment Counselor at PAE, recently led a wonderful lesson focused on helping students advocate for themselves and take ownership of their actions. Students learned practical strategies for responding when someone does something that bothers or upsets them, including telling the person to stop, turning away, and seeking help from a trusted adult.

These important skills empower students to handle challenging situations appropriately, communicate their

needs, and understand when to ask for support.

Please inform Auburn Historical Society of any donations

AUBURN — The mission of the Auburn Historical Society is to preserve and share the history of our town and surrounding area. Through the collection, preservation, and exhibition of historical materials, artifacts, and stories, we strive to engage the community and promote a deeper appreciation of our local history for current and future generations.

Recently, the Auburn Historical Society and Museum received an anonymous donation of a large vintage topographical map book which was left at the museum's door in a plastic bag. The museum appreciates any and all donations that help preserve the past, especially Auburns. As the museum is only open on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, this donation may not have been discovered before the predicted rain that came later on in the week. There is a phone number on the door that donors can call and leave a message that a donation has been left at the museum, whether you wish to remain anonymous or not.

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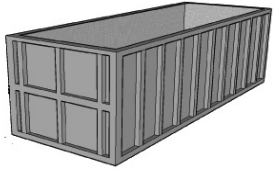
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EDITORIAL

Building the future, one idea at a time

There is something particularly encouraging about a high school student designing a tool that solves an actual problem, especially when that tool proves useful enough to become part of a teacher’s daily routine.

That is precisely the kind of achievement worth celebrating at Shepherd Hill Regional High School, where an expanded engineering curriculum and a new Clean Energy Pathways program are giving students opportunities to turn classroom lessons into practical solutions.

The school’s partnership with Project Lead the Way represents more than an investment in new equipment. It reflects an understanding that preparing young people for the future requires giving them opportunities to experiment, make mistakes, solve problems and discover what they are capable of accomplishing.

With new robotics kits, electrical circuit equipment and high-precision 3D printers, students are gaining access to technology that allows them to explore engineering principles in ways a traditional textbook cannot replicate.

Consider the school’s tractor pull competition, in which students designed miniature tractors and tested their creations against one another. On the surface, it sounds like an entertaining classroom activity. Beneath that friendly competition, however, students were learning about friction, force, mechanics and gear ratios.

More importantly, they were learning that an idea does not always work perfectly the first time.

That may be one of the most valuable lessons any school can teach.

In a world increasingly focused on immediate results, there is considerable value in teaching young people to approach a challenge, evaluate what went wrong, make adjustments and try again. Those skills extend well beyond engineering. They are essential in business, medicine, public service and everyday life.

Perhaps the most compelling example of the program’s potential is the student who designed and 3D-printed a specialized drain tool for a chemistry teacher. The device remains in use today.

Think about what that experience must mean to a young person. Rather than completing an assignment that eventually ends up in a folder or recycling bin, the student created something that addressed a genuine need. That is education at its most effective.

The addition of clean energy education is equally significant. As communities consider questions involving energy costs, infrastructure, environmental protection and technological change, the next generation will need people who understand both the possibilities and the practical challenges associated with emerging technologies.

Students who develop those skills locally may eventually help businesses and communities throughout Central Massachusetts adapt to changing industries and economic demands.

There is also an important economic development component to programs such as these. For generations, communities throughout this region have depended on people who knew how to build, repair, manufacture and improve things. Those traditions remain relevant, even as the tools and technologies evolve.

Today’s advanced manufacturing technician, renewable energy specialist or mechanical engineer may work with sophisticated computer systems and automated equipment, but the underlying principles of craftsmanship, precision and problem-solving remain remarkably familiar.

Shepherd Hill’s expanded curriculum offers an opportunity to connect that regional heritage with the industries of tomorrow.

Of course, providing equipment is only the beginning. The long-term success of these programs will depend on sustained support, capable instruction and opportunities for students with different interests and abilities to participate. Partnerships with local employers, technical colleges and industry professionals could eventually strengthen those opportunities further.

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Viewpoint

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A thank you

When did calling someone become rude?

ACLU sounds the alarm on destruction of American democracy

Transparency in government

We deserve a representative who listens

What are our legislators doing for us?

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

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET
By CHARLES

I committed a minor social offense the other day. I called somebody on the telephone. Without warning.

No advance text message. No appointment. No carefully worded inquiry asking whether it might be convenient to speak for a few minutes. I simply looked up the number, pressed the little green button and waited.

You would have thought I’d shown up at the fellow’s house at three in the morning carrying a trumpet.

He answered after several rings, sounding slightly alarmed.

“Everything OK?”

“Sure,” I said. “Why?”

“Well, you called.”

Apparently, that’s enough to suggest an emergency these days.

I remember when calling somebody was considered a perfectly ordinary way to communicate. In fact, for a considerable portion of my life, it was the only practical way to communicate with someone who wasn’t standing directly in front of you. You picked up the telephone, dialed a number and hoped the person you wanted was home. Sometimes, somebody else answered. Sometimes, you had to make polite conversation with a parent, spouse or sibling before being handed over to the intended recipient. And sometimes, nobody answered at all. In those cases, you simply tried again later. Nobody assumed the unanswered call represented a personal rejection or the collapse of a friendship.

Today, the rules appear to have changed. A telephone call without a preliminary text is apparently an intrusion. A voicemail is an unexpected burden. And leaving a message that says “Call me when you get a chance” can produce enough anxiety to warrant a family conference.

My wife understands these new customs considerably better than I do. She recently watched me leave a voicemail for someone and shook her head.

“Why didn’t you text him?”

“Because I wanted to talk to him.”

“You could have texted him to see if he was available.”

“Wouldn’t calling him accomplish the same thing?”

She gave me the look she reserves for moments when explaining modern civilization to her husband seems like an unreasonable use of her remaining years.

I don’t object to texting. It’s a wonderful invention for certain purposes. If I need to tell my wife I’m stopping for milk, a text is ideal. If I want to know whether somebody has arrived safely, a text works beautifully.

And if someone sends me a photograph of a dog wearing sunglasses, I can respond with the appropriate expression of amusement without interrupting either of our afternoons.

But there are conversations that don’t fit neatly into little rectangular bubbles on a screen. A story, for example.

A proper story requires timing. It requires pauses, interruptions and the occasional “You’re not going to believe what happened next.” It requires the ability to hear someone laughing before you’ve even reached the funny part. Try accomplishing that through a series of text messages.

By the time you’ve finished typing the setup, the other person has responded with a thumbs-up symbol, which could mean anything from enthusiastic agreement to “Please stop contacting me.”

I have also discovered that punctuation has become a delicate matter. Apparently, ending a text message with a period can sometimes make you sound angry. I learned this after responding to a perfectly innocent question with the words, “Sounds good.” A younger acquaintance later explained that the period made the message seem unnecessarily stern. I had no idea.

For more than six decades, I’d been under the impression that periods were simply how sentences ended. Now, evidently, they are tiny symbols of disapproval.

I’ve started wondering what other grammatical offenses I’ve been committing. Does a semicolon suggest hostility? Is a colon a threat? Should I apologize for using parentheses?

And don’t get me started on the three little dots that appear when somebody is typing a response. Those dots can keep a grown man staring at his phone like he’s awaiting the results of an important medical examination. They appear. They disappear. They appear again. Then nothing.

What happened? Did the person change their mind? Did the phone malfunction? Were they composing a lengthy declaration and decide against sending it?

In the old days, if somebody stopped

To the Editor:

I would like to thank Lou Bruso for his time and effort in chairing the Dudley Senior 13 Card Pitch League over the years. He created a social atmosphere, especially with him arranging our occasional destination luncheons.

In my opinion, it appears to me that those

days are gone with his departure, as recent developments have drifted away from the league’s tradition. He made my weekly card playing an enjoyable time during his leadership.

GARY BARONOSKI
DUDLEY

To the Editor:

The American Civil Liberties Union (“ACLU”) recently released a report entitled “76 Ways Mass Deportation is Breaking Our Democracy.” The report provides the details summarizing the extensive research over the last 20 months regarding how the current Administration in Washington is deliberately working under the false notion of enforcing immigration law. What precisely is actually happening is;

Attacking Civil Rights and Liberties for Every One in the Country

Attacking our Democracy’s Integrity and Structural Checks

Attacking our Multiracial, Pluralistic Democracy

The ACLU has been at the vanguard of protecting our democracy, civil rights, and the US Constitution since 1920. The current report issued very recently is an extensive high-quality work product aimed at correcting a situation that has gone off the rails.

Realistically, it is very easy to see how

regular law-abiding citizens going about everyday busy life in the US, have not been able to stay current with the tsunami of lies and crimes committed by government agencies under the false pretext of “protecting us”, as directed by the Whitehouse. The subject report makes clear the many disasters that are in progress to render the democracy in America gone and Authoritarian government firmly in place.

It will likely take years to repair the damage caused by the current operations ordered by an Autocrat for political purposes. All US citizens will benefit from taking the time to become familiar with the topics. The report is on line as well as accompanied by excellent summaries for the details, Putting the brakes on the destruction of our democracy that we all have enjoyed for the past 250 years can only be stopped at the ballot box. The work begins this November and is the prerogative of every freedom loving individual to vote.

BILL MAY
DUDLEY

To the Editor:

I agree wholeheartedly with the sentiment expressed by Frank Magiera in his recent letter to the Webster Times (“Voters deserve an explanation in plain English” – Oct. 16).

Although I am not a Dudley resident, I have seen all too well over the years how taxpayers are treated in this state. Transparency about government spending is virtually non-existent with new taxes that were supposed to be targeted for specific needs routinely get dropped into the General Fund to be used willy-nilly for whatever the regime needs to support its continued existence in power. Two

years ago, the voters overwhelmingly (72 percent) passed a referendum to audit the state legislature and this has been stalled repeatedly by the powers that be.

I guess Barry Obama and Joey Biden’s dream of a transparent government has been a failure; certainly it has in Massachusetts. When are the voters going to open their eyes and rid this state of the one-party machine politics that dominate Corruption-achusetts? I guess that’s my dream. I can only hope to see it in my lifetime.

RICK ERICKSBERG
WEBSTER

To the Editor:

Since the beginning of Donald Trump’s second term, I have contacted the office of my State Representative, Joseph McKenna, on five occasions. I wish I could say his office was responsive; unfortunately, that has not been my experience. I didn’t always receive a response, and whatever responses I did receive seemed to be ill informed or dismissive.

I’ve asked Rep. McKenna to use his voice within the Republican party of Massachusetts to urge the president to scale back his attacks on the Massachusetts economy and to support, rather than antagonize the allies of the United States.

Sadly, Mr. McKenna would rather just play partisan politics and blame anyone not named Trump for the problems plaguing his constituents.

As Trump strips away billions of dollars in grant money from Massachusetts companies, colleges and universities working to find cures for cancer, Alzheimer’s, ALS and so many other diseases, State Rep. McKenna sits idly by.

As Donald Trump cancels over 200 clean energy projects and strips away more than \$466 million for investments in wind, solar and other sustainable energy sources and all the jobs that come with it, Rep. McKenna wants to blame democrats for the high price of electricity and complain about job creation.

While Trump imposes his ridiculous tariffs and wages his foolish war, you and I all pay more for everything at the grocery store and the gas pump yet, Mr. McKenna wants to blame the Governor and if you

heat your home with oil, get ready for an expensive winter, for which Joe McKenna will surely blame some democrat.

State Rep. McKenna doesn’t make himself available to his constituents, he doesn’t hold regular office hours giving himself an opportunity to hear directly from those he purports to represent.

If you don’t take the time to listen to your constituents, you are never going to hear what they’re saying, and State Rep. McKenna doesn’t seem willing to listen.

The people of the 18th Worcester District deserve a representative who makes themselves available to their constituents on a regular basis and replies thoughtfully and promptly to their inquiries. It has been my experience that Joe McKenna doesn’t do that.

The people of the 18th Worcester District deserve a representative who puts the needs of their district above the wants of their party, and sadly, Joe McKenna doesn’t seem to do that either.

As I read through Rep. McKenna’s bio, I’ve noticed since graduating college, he’s either worked for a State Representative or been a State Representative, but he seems to have no real world experience outside of politics: maybe it’s time he found what life is like for regular people like you and me.

On Nov. 3, please vote Jen Heck for State Representative in the 18th Worcester District; she’s got plenty of real world experience and a history of figuring out real world solutions.

JOHN FLATTERY
OXFORD

To the Editor:

We have new candidates running that could be good, but if they are members of either of the two parties (Democrat or Republican), what does that matter?

Both parties have their policies, and reps, senators do not follow this, they cannot get cash for reelection and enjoy the benefits that go with being a loyal member of the party. Very few of them vote for their constituents or vote their conscience. It comes down to what party wants; the rep or senator will vote to support that objective. One party (Democrats) is for open borders, raising taxes on everything, socialism, and

the other party (Republican) is for free enterprise, less taxes, less regulations.

I recommend checking out votesmart.org, to see how these reps, senators vote. For example, Rep. Lynch was the only one of 9 DC reps, senators who voted for the Laken Riley act, and he also voted for Kate’s Law 10 years ago. One party (Democrats) voted against the war in Iran, this tells me they do not care Iran getting the A Bomb which I believe they will use to attack the USA. Iran has been passed on by both parties since 1979. One party (Democrats) voted against the Save

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Turn To KIND page A5

EDITORIAL

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helping students understand how classroom skills translate into meaningful careers.

Equally important is ensuring that students who have never considered themselves particularly strong in science or mathematics have opportunities to discover an interest in these fields. Sometimes all it takes is one successful project to change a young person’s understanding of what is possible.

The teachers guiding these experiences deserve recognition as well. Creating meaningful hands-on lessons requires preparation, creativity, patience and a willingness to allow students to work through difficult problems rather than providing immediate answers.

For families in Dudley and Charlton, the expansion of these programs offers another reason to take pride in their regional high school.

Not every student who participates will become an engineer. Some will pursue entirely different professions. Others may discover an unexpected passion that influences the direction of their education and careers.

All of them, however, can benefit from learning how to think critically, work creatively and approach unfamiliar challenges with confidence.

The future of education is not necessarily about replacing traditional lessons with technology. It is about using technology to make those lessons more meaningful.

And sometimes, the best evidence that a school is preparing students for the future is something as simple as a useful little tool, designed by a teenager, that makes someone’s workday easier.

KIND

continued from page A1

talking halfway through a sentence, you could at least ask whether they were all right.

Still, I recognize that communication changes with every generation.

My grandparents probably thought answering machines were peculiar. My parents had their own opinions about call waiting. And I distinctly remember a time when people complained about teenagers spending too many hours talking on the telephone. Now we complain because nobody wants to talk on the telephone. There’s a certain symmetry to that.

The other evening, I decided to call an old friend I hadn’t spoken with in several weeks. For a moment, I considered sending a text first. Then I decided to take my chances.

He answered on the second ring. “What’s wrong?” he asked.

“Nothing. Thought I’d see how you were doing.”

There was a pause. Then he laughed. “Well, that’s a pleasant surprise.”

We talked for nearly half an hour. Nothing especially important came up. We traded a few stories, complained mildly about the price of things and remembered an incident from years ago that somehow gets funnier every time we tell it. When we hung up, I realized how much I’d enjoyed hearing his voice.

A few minutes later, my phone buzzed. It was a text from him.

“Good talking to you.”

I wrote back, “You too.”

Then I looked at the message and made one small adjustment before sending it.

I removed the period. No sense starting an argument.

LETTER

continued from page A1

America Act; this tells me they do not mind illegals voting in our elections. Voted against the Big Beautiful Bill, they do not want tax cuts, cutting taxes on tips, social security, among other benefits of the act.

In Massachusetts, why has the state constitution not changed? Voters voted for term limits 30 years ago. Voters also voted for a state audit two years ago. The audit has not happened. That tells me Beacon Hill does not want the folks to know what they are doing. Why don’t they do what we voted for/what we want? I did not vote for the state spending billions to support illegals over the last six years or so. States give driver’s licenses to illegals knowing some of them have caused accidents responsible for killing US citizens across the nation. Just think about what our towns could do with the billions being spent on illegals. The actions of long-term representatives and senators support the argument for term limits.

When I look at New Hampshire, their state pays state reps and senators \$100 plus mileage for attending two or three sessions a year. Of course, in New Hampshire, there is no income or sales tax. Why don’t our Beacon Hill reps and Senators send emails or put articles in local papers telling us what they are doing on Beacon Hill? I do one thing when voting in every election — I vote for a representative or senator for only two terms. After that, I will vote for someone new for the job.

JIM ALLISON
WEBSTER

Local Elks welcome national leader

AUBURN — Auburn Elks Lodge No. 2118 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks recently had the honor of hosting their National Leader, Timothy F. Jaeger, of Napa CA Lodge No. 832. GER Jaeger was sworn in as Grand Exalted Ruler at the national convention held in Chicago, IL in July. Shortly thereafter, he and his wife, Sandy, set out on a tour that will have them visiting lodges and state Elks associations throughout the nation.

Auburn is the home lodge of David Charbonneau, President of the Massachusetts Elks Association, who expressed appreciation for the special evening. «The officers, members, and volunteers created an evening that truly honored the Grand Exalted Ruler and our statewide leadership.» The dinner was only one

stop on a three-day whirlwind tour of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Jaeger stated that, despite the rigorous schedule, he «truly enjoys seeing the various lodges and meeting people from the various states.» adding that, «although we are all different, in many ways, we are all the same.» One unique piece of Massachusetts that he enjoyed was visiting Boston and touring the U.S.S. Constitution. «That history is something that you just can’t find anywhere else.»

Jaeger’s motto for the year is «Ready Elks? - Let’s Go!» It is a call to inspire members to remember and build upon the 158-year legacy of the Order of Elks commitment to service and brotherly love. Massachusetts Elks were able to exhibit, first hand, their dedication to serving the community with purpose

at Hudson Lodge 959 where Jaeger witnessed members building several beds to be delivered to sleep-insecure children. «Every Lodge we visited demonstrated the heart of Elkdom - volunteers stepping forward, giving their time, and lifting up their communities,”

said Charbonneau “That’s what makes our state so special,” .

To learn more about the history and work of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, visit your nearest Elks lodge, or go to www.elks.org.

Booklovers’ Gourmet welcomes author Howard Mansfield



Howard Mansfield

WEBSTER — Booklovers’ Gourmet, located at 72 East Main St. in Webster, is pleased to host award-winning author Howard Mansfield, who writes about architecture, preservation, and history in his quest to understand the soul of American places, on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2-4 p.m. He will be signing and discussing his newest book, “Invisible Monuments: Tribute, Memory, and the Summoning of the Past.” The event is free and open to the public. Signed copies will be available for purchase. For more information or to RSVP, call 508-949-6232.

We live in an era of monument building, yet we don’t look at most of the monuments and memorials around us. They disappear from view. Think of all the mute memorials you may pass in a week that are unseen, a blurred background to your daily commute: the green-mottled great man on his horse, hosting only pigeons; the curious obelisk looking like a stunted Washington Monument; the historical marker crowded with so many words it looks like a warning label written by a cadre of liability lawyers. So much narrative left out in the weather, so much storytelling that has lost its way. Any monument that we stand before asks something of us. Think of monuments as the first part of a call and response, as in music, as in worship. We bring our sense of history to the present, otherwise the granite/marble/limestone/bronze before us will be mute. Some monuments do elicit a strong emotional response even after many decades. Why do these work, when others don’t?

Howard Mansfield sifts through the commonplace and the forgotten to discover stories that tell us about ourselves and our place in the world. He writes about history, architecture, and preservation. He is the author of a dozen books, including “The Bones of the Earth,” “The Same Ax Twice,” “Chasing Eden,” “Dwelling in Possibility: Searching for the Soul of Shelter,” and “In the Memory House,” which The New York Times called “a wise and beautiful book.”

In Mansfield’s previous book, “I Will Tell No War Stories: What Our Fathers Left Unsaid About World War II,” he “breaks through the wall of silence some war veterans maintain,” said Booklist. “The result is an impeccably researched and beautifully written account of the stories his father wouldn’t tell. Readers will find themselves in heated sheepskin flight suits and oxygen masks, high in the sky over enemy territory.... A vital and moving history of all that is left unsaid in the aftermath of war and how that affects the next generation.”

Mansfield has been honored by the N.H. Humanities Council as “a gem in our granite landscape” and this fall he will receive the Sarah Josepha Hale Award. He has won a Gold Medal for Commentary for City and Regional Magazines, a silver medal from the Independent Publisher Book Awards, and was a City and Regional Magazine Feature Story Finalist. He received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Franklin Pierce University.

He has served as a writer and consultant for museums, written and performed a stage show with composer Ben Cosgrove that was the subject of an Emmy Award-winning film, and has co-written a forthcoming documentary film.

“Howard Mansfield has never written an uninteresting or dull sentence,” said the writer and critic Guy Davenport. “All of his books are emotionally and intellectually nourishing. He is something like a cultural psychologist along with being a first-class cultural historian.”

For more information, visit www.HowardMansfield.com

Ken Gamache to present talk on history and evolution of Cranston Print Works

WEBSTER — The Samuel Slater Experience will host a special presentation by Ken Gamache, President and CEO of Cranston Print Works, doing business today as QT Fabrics, on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 1 p.m.

Gamache will share the history of Cranston Print Works, reflect on his decades in the textile industry, and discuss how the company has evolved since the closure of its Webster plant in 2009. The program offers former Cranston Print Works employees and members of the community an opportunity to reconnect, reminisce, and learn about the company’s transformation.

The face of Cranston Print Works today is vastly different from the bustling manufacturing operation that once ran three shifts a day. Under Gamache’s leadership, QT Fabrics operates with employees working remotely across the country, focusing primarily on high-end quilting fabrics sold through independent specialty fabric stores throughout the United States.

A graduate of Bartlett High School, Gamache earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Nichols College and an MBA from Anna Maria College. He began his career with Cranston Print Works in 1978, working third shift in the print room. Over the years, he held a variety of positions, gaining firsthand knowledge of the textile industry before ultimately becoming president and CEO.

Cranston Print Works operated manufacturing facilities in Cranston, Rhode Island; Fletcher, North Carolina; and Webster, Massachusetts, with the Webster mill being the last to close.

Gamache and his wife, Carol (Trepanier) Gamache, have been married for 42 years and now reside in their circa 1773 home in Durham.

The presentation is free, but advance registration is required. Register by visiting samuelslaterexperience.org, by calling 508-461-2955 or by emailing admin@samuelslaterexperience.org. The Samuel Slater Experience is located at 31 Ray St. in Webster and free parking is available. Join Ken Gamache on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 1 p.m. to hear the remarkable story of Cranston Print Works and discover what has become of one of New England’s historic textile companies.

Dudley’s annual Spooktacular returns

DUDLEY — Those known to haunt the halls have been scurrying about, transforming parking lots and lawns in preparation for a frightfully fun—and free—Halloween celebration for ghosts and goblins of all ages.

Dudley’s annual Spooktacular returns Thursday, Oct. 29. Hosted by the Dudley Recreation Commission and Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library, the event promises plenty of tricks, treats and Halloween fun from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Festivities begin at 4 p.m., when families are invited to gather in costume at the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library, 40 Schofield Ave., for some family-friendly fun before the parade begins. At 5 p.m., a gaggle of ghosts, goblins and other costumed characters will receive a police escort as they parade up Brandon Road to Town Hall, 71 West Main St.

Once there, families will be greeted with plenty of frightfully free fun, including games, live music, a balloon artist and the always-popular Cauldron of S’mores.

And no Halloween celebration would be complete without a costume contest! Prizes will be awarded for the scariest, funniest and most unique costumes.

Letter submission policy

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

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

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TOWN OF POMFRET POSITION OPENING - HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Qualified self-starter wanted for Town of Pomfret Highway Department. Must hold Class B CDL license/valid medical card and have a background in operating heavy equipment. Position includes, but is not limited to, assignments on all municipal road work including road grading, snowplowing, landscaping, building maintenance, and any other duties as needed and assigned. Mechanical aptitude in heavy equipment repair and five years of driving/equipment operation experience is preferred. Thirty-five hour work week but must be available to work nights and weekends as needed, able to lift up to 100 pounds, pass a DOT physical and drug screen, and consent to random drug/alcohol testing as required by the DOT. Salary dependent upon qualifications and experience. Attractive benefit package. Interested persons should forward resume/application and three references to the Selectman’s Office, 5 Haven Road, Pomfret Center, CT 06259. Position open until filled. Application form available at www.pomfretct.gov/first-selectmans-office . EEO/AA

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880
Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-1 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 Assistant Director, Evan Hale, at ehale@cwmar.org

Special Events
Tiny Art Show – Starting November 2nd
Calling all art lovers! The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library is hosting a Tiny Art Show, showcasing miniature pieces of art from our community. All creators are invited to participate -- no matter their age or skill level! Starting Monday, November 2nd, pick up your 3 in. x 3 in. canvas from the main Circulation Desk or the Children’s Desk. All mediums are strongly encouraged! For example, if you want to submit a 3 in. x 3 in. photograph or a 3 in. sculpture that is welcome. Keep an eye on our calendar for some fun drop-in events to complete your submissions with us! Important Dates: Canvas Pick Up: November 2nd-21st Art Submission Deadline: Tuesday, November 24th! Please be sure to complete the submission form with your artwork. Artwork on display: All of December

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 Monday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Mondays; 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
Join Meg 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.

Digital Literacy Course: Essential Computer Skills – Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30pm, beginning September 29th
Ready to get comfortable using a computer? This six-week course is designed for adults with little or no computer skill or experience who want to build confidence using technology for everyday life, work, and education. Students will learn the essential computer skills needed to navigate today’s digital world. Through hands-on instruction and guided practice, participants will gain confidence using a computer, the internet, and common online tools in a supportive, beginner-friendly environment. Classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, through November 10th, at 5:30-7:30PM. If you have any questions, email websterabelinkages@webster-schools.org or call (508) 949-8282 to register. Registration through Adult Basic Education is required.

Marching Still: A Musical Tribute to Civil War Poetry – Thursday, October 22nd, 6:30-7:45
Marching Still is a collection of poems about the American Civil War set to original music composed, arranged, & performed by composer Ryan Mascilak.
“Balance” All Levels Yoga – October 27th 6:30-7:30PM
Join Anais at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. This class aims to release tension, build stability, and leave you feeling refreshed, grounded and restored. A typical class includes awareness of breath, linking breath to movement, and fluid transitions through mindfully aligned poses that target both sides of the body equally. Class ends with a restorative period of rest. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.
Greetings from Breeds Hill...and Other Stories of Fact & Folklore for the 250th – Thursday, November 5th 6:30-7:30PM

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from Oct. 4-17.
A 45-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 9 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.
Meghan Rose Rice, age 21, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 10 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.
Brandon Coldwell, age 33, of Worcester was arrested on Oct. 13 for Interfering with a police Officer and in connection with multiple warrants.
Alexander Perez, age 51, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 13 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and a Lights Violation.
Shangel Renell Hayes, age 33, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 14 in connection with a warrant. Cameron C. Andrews, age 32, of Webster was arrested during the same incident in connection with multiple warrants.
Harold P. Leber, Jr., age 55, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 14 in connection with a warrant.
Jodi Lynn Dufault, age 53, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 15 in connection with a warrant.
A 35-year-old female from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 15 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.
Paul Robert Summa, age 41, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 16 for Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol and Lewd, Wanton or Lascivious Conduct.
Adeisha S. Thomas, age 29, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 17 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor).

As America commemorates and celebrates its 250th Anniversary, Ted Reinstein looks back. Way back. Even years before independence was actually achieved, events took place that would shape how the new nation would look back at its founding. Paul Revere’s ride? One of the most momentous nights in U.S. history. And, like any big night, there was a bill. And America’s first expense report. Who knew? (The first bean counters even tried to stiff Revere!.) While many New Englanders pride themselves on knowing the difference between Bunker and Breed’s Hill, few know that the bad blood over this historical inaccuracy continues—meet Jed Breed, thirteenth-generation direct descendant of the Boston farmer whose name should be in the history books, not an answer in “Trivial Pursuit.” Find out why Concord and Lexington are still doing battle—not with the British, but each other. Visit historic Copp’s Hill Burying Ground, and find the one headstone the British used for target practice—and why.
Programming for All Ages
Library for All: Crafts –Mondays and Fridays 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! September-February, the crafts will rotate between coloring and painting. We’ll provide the space and supplies, you bring the creativity!

Puzz Fest: Halloween Edition – Thursday, October 22nd 6:00-8:00PM
Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We’ll have snacks to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. All teams will get to keep their puzzle. Registration is required. Please only register 1 person per team; you cannot complete the registration process online if you say there are more attendees. We do not need to know how many people are on your team, but the maximum is 5.

Children’s and Young Adult Programming
NEW Toddler Storytime – Mondays, 10:30am
Join us every Monday from 10:30–11:30am for a storytime designed for toddlers and their caregivers! We’ll read stories, sing songs, and enjoy fingerplays together before diving into hands-on sensory free play. Together we’ll build early literacy skills, spark curiosity, and discover the joy of learning through play!

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!

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.

STEM Beginnings: Young Scientists – Thursdays starting 10/1, 10:30AM
Children, ages 3-6, with a parent/caregiver will learn STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) concepts through hands-on activities, storytime, challenges, and simple experiments in this weekly STEM series facilitated by STEM Beginnings. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to help their child and join in the fun during each class! Siblings are welcome and must be supervised. Registration is required. “Young Scientists” is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP), a Massachusetts Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE) Grant program funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

Haunted Library – Thursday, October 22nd 4:00-6:00PM
Step into our Haunted Library! Kids of all ages can explore the spooky Children’s Room, enjoy gentle frights, and make a craft. Costumes encouraged!
The Children’s Room will be closed 1:00-4:00 PM in order to set up for this event. Thank you for your understanding.

Annual Pumpkin Glow – October 29th 4PM and 5PM
It’s that time of the year again! Join us for our Annual Pumpkin Glow program where kids are invited to carve or paint their very own pumpkin to be put on display for Main Street Trick-or-Treat. In case of rain, this program will be moved indoors.

Blooming Book Collage for Tweens – Monday, November 2nd 5:30-6:30PM
Create a personalized collage inspired by what grows when you open a book. With colorful patterns, illustrations, die cuts, and stickers, Lián from Craftlab Westboro will share simple collage techniques to create vibrant, layered artwork. No experience needed. All materials included.
All projects made can be entered into our Tiny Art Show.

DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the month of September.
Madison Isabell Mirles, age 25, of Webster was arrested on Sept. 3 for Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, and multiple counts of Assault & Battery on a Police Officer.
An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Sept. 8 for Domestic Assault & Battery and in connection with an out of agency warrant.
Jesse Carlson, age 44, of Boscobel, Wisc. Was arrested on Sept. 12 in connection with multiple warrants.
An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Sept. 19 for Domestic Assault & Battery.
An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Sept. 25 for Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order and Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.
An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Sept. 26 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Intimidation of a Witness, Juror, Police Officer, or Court Official.

Tween Game Night – Twice a month starting Tuesday, November 3rd 5:30-6:30PM
Welcome to our brand-new Tween Game Night, happening twice a month for kids 7-12. Each session will offer a different type of game:
Board Game Night: Learn a new board game or bring your friends along to play some games together. Caregivers are encouraged to participate in the fun!
Video Game Night: Challenge your friends to some friendly competition! Every month will feature a different multiplayer game including Mario Kart, Nintendo Sports, Just Dance, Overcooked, Super Smash Bros and more!
Due to limited space, registration is required.

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 October featured artist is Beata Bzura. A variety of her pieces will be on display for you to enjoy in the Fels Room whenever the Library is open.
Gentle Yoga
Every Monday-NO SESSION Monday, October 12th 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!

SHOULD REGISTER. Teams can have up to six members. The first team to assemble the puzzle wins!

The Radikals
Thursday, October 22nd 6:00-7:30
Investigators & archivists of the unknown. Radikals are a paranormal investigative duo consisting of Danny and Lauren Perez. Described as “one part open-minded skeptic, one part true believer,” they specialize in residential paranormal cases, haunted objects, and psychometry (reading the history or energy of an object through touch).

Crawford Library Book Group
Thursday, October 22nd
Becoming Madame Secretary by Stephaine Dray 6:00-7:30
Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout one month before the discussion.
No Registration Required

“Cook the Book” Book Club-Super Italian by Giada De Laurentiis
Monday, October 26th 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.

Dudley Board of Selectmen Office Hours
Saturday, October 30th 10:00-12:00
Have a question, concern, or idea to share? Stop by the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library during Board of Selectmen Office Hours. This is an informal opportunity to meet with members of the Board, ask questions, discuss town issues, and learn more about what’s happening in the community. No appointment is necessary—residents are welcome to drop in during the scheduled office hours. There might even be refreshments!

Children’s & Family Programming
Storytime with Polly
Every Monday at 10:00-10:45
For ages 2.5-5 and their caregiver (but babies and toddlers are welcome to join as well!)
Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, scarves, shaker eggs, moving our bodies to music, activities, bubbles, a craft, and free play!

Town of Dudley Spooky Parade-Make Your Own Monster Craft
Thursday, October 29th 4:00-4:45
Make your own monster at the Library before the Dudley Spooktacular Parade!

Town of Dudley Spooky Parade
Thursday, October 29th 5:00-6:30
Town of Dudley Halloween Spooktacular SpookyY Parade starts at 4:45pm at the Library!
Police escorted SPOOKY PARADE: Children gather at the Library, in costume and march up Brandon Rd. to the Town Hall.

Saint Joseph students take classroom learning to Cape Cod

WEBSTER — Forty-six Saint Joseph School students in Grades 5 and 6 traded their traditional classrooms for the forests, fields, ponds, cranberry bogs, and coastal environments of Cape Cod during a three-day Outdoor Classroom experience in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts, from Sept. 28–30.

The overnight program combined environmental science, outdoor adventure, and team-building activities designed to strengthen students’ critical-thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. The Yarmouth Port location was selected to complement Saint Joseph School’s annual STEM Days at Webster Lake while giving students an opportunity to investigate a very different ecosystem.

“We selected the Yarmouth Port location because it allowed our students to build upon the environmental learning they experience during our annual STEM Days at Webster Lake while exploring an entirely different ecosystem,” said Principal Beth Boudreau. “The students were able to learn through direct observation, hands-on investigation, and collaboration—and they had an incredible time doing it.”

The highlight of the trip was an excursion to Chapin Memorial Beach. Arriving at low tide, students explored the beach’s vast intertidal zone and searched for signs of coastal and marine life, including hermit crabs, moon snails, and other organisms that inhabit the changing environment between land and sea. Students observed firsthand how tides influence habitats and the plants and animals that depend upon them.

Throughout their stay, students selected from a variety of hands-on classes based on their individual interests. In Camouflage and Stalking, they learned how and why animals use camouflage before practicing their own ability to hide within a natural environment. During Terrarium Making, students created miniature ecosystems while learning how living and nonliving components interact.

Orienteering introduced students to the use of maps and compasses, while Wood Carving emphasized tool safety and traditional outdoor skills. In Forest Fires, students explored how fires begin, spread, and sometimes contribute to the natural process of forest renewal. During the evening Science Fair, students participated in demonstrations involving scientific principles such as air pressure, electricity, convection, and states of matter.

Some students selected a Wild Wellness class, during which they learned about the historical uses of plants and created an all-natural facial scrub. The popular Night Experience, also known as the “Night Hike,” encouraged students to explore the outdoors after dark while learning how human senses adapt to nighttime conditions.

Beyond the academic lessons, students challenged themselves on a low ropes course, visited a cranberry bog, and participated in team-building exercises. Competitive—but friendly—games of gaga ball were a favorite during free time. Evenings were filled with singing, laughter, and camaraderie.

The food also earned especially enthusiastic reviews, with many students returning for second and even third helpings.

Although the trip began with rainy weather and many students were nervous about spending their first nights away from home, the group quickly adjusted.

“One of the most rewarding parts of the trip was watching students grow in confidence and independence,” Boudreau said. “Some were nervous about being away from home for the first time, but by the final day, many were asking if they could stay longer. That transformation says so much about the quality of the experience.”

The students were accompanied by Boudreau, Grade 5 Instructor Miss Norah Brennan, Middle School Science Instructor Mr. Mathew Kolesnik, and parent chaperones Mrs. Kristen Kracjik, Mrs. Melissa Copeland, and Mr. Michael Coan.

Saint Joseph School is grateful to the phenomenal Outdoor Classroom staff and to the faculty members and parents who helped make the trip a safe, meaningful, and memorable learning experience. Following the success of this year’s program, the school has already booked its Outdoor Classroom trip for 2027.



Forty-six Saint Joseph School students in Grades 5 and 6 gather with school chaperones and Outdoor Classroom staff during their three-day educational experience in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts. Students participated in hands-on environmental science lessons, outdoor challenges, and team-building activities while exploring the forests, ponds, cranberry bogs, and coastal ecosystems of Cape Cod.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

at Maxwell Luciano’s • Union Station

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH, 2026

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LEGALS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 26 SM 003263
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Jessica M. Roy
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
PHH Asset Services LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 106 Tinkerhill Road, given by Jessica M. Roy to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for PHH Home Loans, LLC., its successors and assigns, dated December 12, 2017, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58173, Page 275, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated June 6, 2022, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 68045, Page 319, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 11/23/2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 10/8/2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
October 23, 2026

(SEAL)
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 000792
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:
Calvin Bales; Denise Bales
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*):
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Dudley, numbered 3 Noble Street, given by Calvin Bales and Denise Bales to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Draper and Kramer Mortgage Corp., dated March 30, 2018, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58611, Page 238, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated July 27, 2022 and recorded at said Registry in Book 68840, Page 220 and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.
If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before November 23, 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 October 15, 2026.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
October 23, 2026
NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Joshua E. Steeves to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, dated August 28, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41773, Page 274, as modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on February 12, 2016, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54939, Page 96, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Family Choice Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns to Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc., recorded on

November 9, 2011, in Book No. 48095, at Page 215

Saxon Mortgage Services, Inc. to Residential Credit Solutions, Inc., recorded on April 3, 2014, in Book No. 52185, at Page 146

Residential Credit Solutions, Inc. to Federal National Mortgage Association, recorded on October 28, 2014, in Book No. 52967, at Page 209

Federal National Mortgage Association to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, recorded on January 10, 2020, in Book No. 61727, at Page 110

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on November 6, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 55 Sunny Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:

The land with the buildings thereon, in Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, Shown as Lot 8 on a plan entitled: "Definitive Subdivision sunny Shores Section II Webster, Massachusetts, Lotting Plan Owned by Sunny Shores, Inc., Old Worcester Road, Webster, Massachusetts, Massachusetts Developer: CJP Realty Trust 31 Charlton Road, Dudley, Massachusetts, prepared by Bouley Brothers, Inc., Professional Land Surveyors, 75 Hammond Street, PO Box 2215, Worcester, Massachusetts 01613.", said plan is recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 767, Plan 81, to which plan reference is hereby made for a more particular description.
Lot 8 contains 14,852+/- square feet, according to said plan.
Subject to a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants dated May 22, 2001 as Instrument No. 70475 in Book 24076, Page 46.
Expressly reserving the fee in the streets, but together with benefits of a right of way in common with others thereto over the street and ways on plan recorded in Plan Book 767, Plan 81.

Subject to easements and restrictions as shown on plan recorded in Plan Book 767, Plan 81.
For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39365, Page 214.
These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC S/B/M NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
29719
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026
October 30, 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. W026P3348EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
John Leo Dragomani
Also known as: John L. Dragomani
Date of Death: 09/21/2026
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Sharon M. Dragomani of Milford 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: .
Sharon M. Dragomani of Milford MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.
IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/10/2026**.

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: October 13, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
October 23, 2026

Notice is hereby given by: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on November 13, 2026 at 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571, the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:
Description of vehicles:
Vehicle: 2004 Chevy Trailblazer
VIN# 1GNET16S546145282
Owner: Petr Szczotka 69 Myrtle Ave Webster MA 01570
This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.225, Section 39 A
October 23, 2026
October 30, 2026
November 6, 2026

Notice is hereby given by: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on November 13, 2026 at 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571, the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:
Description of vehicles:
Vehicle: 2008 Saturn Vue Black
VIN# 3GSDL43N38S544704
Owner: Clemente Perez 219 Hudson St Apt 2 Northborough MA 01532
This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.225, Section 39 A
October 23, 2026
October 30, 2026
November 6, 2026

**TOWN OF DUDLEY
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
71 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY MA 01571**
Please take notice that: Christopher & Lisa Majka
Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.04.00 Density Regulations
Location: 1 Sophies Way
In the following respect: A 10ft variance on the rear setback for inground pool.
The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday November 5, 2026 @ 6:00PM at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may heard relative to this Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Holmes at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
Steve Watroba, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

**TOWN OF DUDLEY
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
71 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY MA 01571**
Please take notice that: Bradley Wright
Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 7.01.00 Driveway/Curb Cut Permit
Location: 0 Pierpont Road
In the following respect: Applicant is seeking special permit to have four houses on one driveway.
The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday November 5, 2026 6:00PM at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may heard relative to this

Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Holmes at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
Steve Watroba, Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by John A. Matteau, Jr. to MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A. dated July 30, 2009, recorded with Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 44693, Page 174, which mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage by Assignment dated March 21, 2013, recorded in Book 50738, Page 90; further assigned to The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by Assignment dated December 22, 2016, recorded in Book 56573, Page 23; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust XI-A by Assignment dated November 20, 2025, recorded in Book 72921, Page 65, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM, on the 17th day of November, 2026, at the mortgaged premises described and known as 21 Linwood Street, Oxford, Massachusetts described in said mortgage, to wit:

Being Lot #1 as shown on a Plan of Lots drawn for A. Esposito by Vincent F. Kubic, Surveyor, dated February 26, 1954 which plan is recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds Plan Book 215, Plan 77. Beginning at an iron pin on the westerly line of the Old Worcester Road one hundred eighty-six and 3/100 (186.03) feet northerly of a Massachusetts Highway bound; Thence N 38 deg. 45' E by Old Worcester Road ninety-five (95) feet to an iron pin; Thence N 63 deg. 47' W one hundred ten (110) feet along a proposed road to an iron pin; Thence S 40 deg. 10' W ninety-five (95) by Lot No. 10 to an iron pin; Thence S 63 deg. 47' E one hundred twelve and 42/100 (112.42) feet by a Lot No. 2 to the place of beginning.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The Mortgagee further reserves the right to open the bidding at the time, date and place appointed for sale, and if no bids are received, or the bids received are deemed unacceptable to Mortgagee, to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation.
Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to bid and be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale at the Law Office of Michael J. Murphy, 5 Commonwealth Road, Suite 4A, Natick, Massachusetts 01760. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of any typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.
WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB,
AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST XI-A
Present holder of said mortgage,
By its attorney,
Michael J. Murphy, Esq.
Law Office of Michael J. Murphy
5 Commonwealth Road, Suite 4A
Natick, MA 01760
Tel: (508) 650-9252
October 9, 2026
October 16, 2026
October 23, 2026

Girl Scout troops elcome new members

AUBURN — Girls entering grades K and 1 in the fall are invited to join Troop 65600, which meets in Auburn every other Tuesday 5:30-6:30 p.m., and Troop 655999, which meets every other Thursday in Dudley from 6-7:15 p.m. Girl membership registration fee is \$111, and is active until September 30, 2027. Financial Assistance is available.

Girl Scouts is the premier organization for girls to learn about leadership, financial literacy, life skills, the outdoors, community service, science and technology.

Girl Scout programming is customizable for all types of learners!

Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

You can register for a spot in the troop at <https://go.gscwm.org/troop65600>

Questions? Email info@gscwm.org or call 508-365-0115.

About Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves nearly 6,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of over 2,500 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together while building their personal leadership qualities. GSCWM supports girls by giving them extraordinary opportunities to explore, experience, and learn about their world and helps girls recognize that they are vital members of their communities.

LEGALS

Notice is hereby given by: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39 A that on November 13, 2026 at 5PM at: Precision Auto Rebuilders, Inc., 243 W Main St, Dudley, MA 01571, the following motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:

Description of vehicles:
Vehicle: 2015 Ram 1500 Gray
VIN# 1C6RR7PM3GS113462
Owner: Gary Wright 371 E Main St Southbridge MA 01550

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.225, Section 39 A
October 23, 2026
October 30, 2026
November 6, 2026

Explore “Haunted Mills of New England” at Samuel Slater Experience

WEBSTER — Some souls linger beyond their lifetime. This Halloween season, join authors and paranormal investigators, Thomas D’Agostino and Arlene Nicholson, as they take you on a journey to New England’s most haunted factories and mills. This special presentation is complete with voices of the spirits who remain, featuring recordings and photographic evidence of what lies beyond our senses.

New England is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Samuel Slater started the era in the 1790s and it was not long before factories sprang up everywhere in the region. The conditions were very dangerous and many tragedies took place. Some of those tragedies still reverberate within the walls of the ancient buildings. Although many of the early factories and mills have crumbled over time for one reason or another, the spirits that met with an unfortunate demise or were deeply tied to their place of employment still linger among the remains.

Hear their stories and their voices at the Samuel Slater Experience on Friday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 each. Purchase your spot online, at the box office, by calling 508-641-2955 or emailing admin@samuelslaterexperience.org. Refreshments will be available for a donation.

Samuel Slater Experience hosting free history talk on Poverty Point Mystery and Indigenous Lithic studies

WEBSTER — Though the United States has just celebrated her 250th Anniversary, these lands hold ancient Indigenous history that can be studied through lithic artifacts and other cultural remains. Learn about some of these archeological sites and their cultural significance for the peoples across what would become the United States.

Focusing on the enigma of the Poverty Point Mound in Louisiana, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Joe Iamartino will walk through how environmental and cultural changes during the Little Ice Age affected Native communities, including those in New England. The presentation will examine this evidence through color photographs and maps, connecting archaeological sites and environmental change to a broader story of Native life before European arrival.

The Poverty Point Mystery talk will be held on Oct. 24, at the Samuel Slater Experience in Webster at 11 a.m. This presentation will then repeat at 1 p.m. To register, please purchase your free ticket online, call 508-461-2955 or email admin@samuelslaterexperience.org.

Dudley Town Hall will close to public two days each week

DUDLEY — Effective Oct. 20, Town Hall will be closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The Board of Selectmen’s decision to close two days each week followed the Sept. 29 Special Election, in which voters rejected a proposed Proposition 2½ override earmarked for the Police, Fire and Highway Departments. As a result, the Town must operate within its existing recurring revenues, current appropriations and available one-time resources.

Since the start of FY2027, several Town Hall positions have been eliminated.

The administrative assistants in the Selectmen’s Office and Accounting Office were laid off. An assistant position in the Treasurer/Collector’s Office will not be restored. The Administrative Assistant in the Assessor’s Office has been eliminated. The employee responsible for managing the Town website, information technology,

Dudley Cable Access TV and served as administrative assistant to the Highway Department, has departed, and the position has been eliminated.

Given current staffing and budget limitations, closing the entire building two days each week is necessary to provide the remaining office staff with uninterrupted administrative time to keep Town Hall functions operating effectively.

First Congregational Church of Dudley to host turkey dinner

DUDLEY — First Congregational Church of Dudley will host a turkey dinner Saturday, Nov. 7, with two seatings available for area residents.

The dinner will be held at the church, 135 Center Road, with seatings scheduled for 4:30 and 6 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children ages 6 to 12. Children age 5 and younger may attend for free. Reservations are required by Friday, Nov. 6, and may be made by calling 508-943-7320. Takeout meals will also be available, but must be ordered in advance.

First Congregational Church is located at 135 Center Rd. in Dudley.



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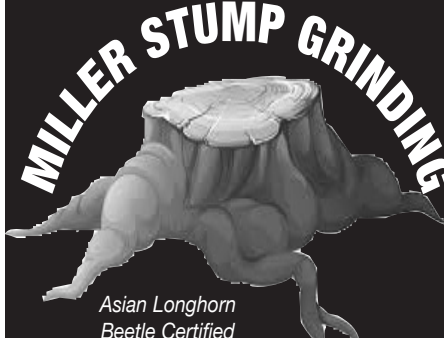
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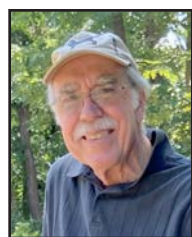
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OBITUARIES

Brian E. Bigelow, 75



Brian E. Bigelow, 75, of South Yarmouth, passed away peacefully on October 16, 2026. He was the beloved husband of Donna Bigelow, with whom he shared 45 years of marriage.

Born in Webster, Massachusetts, Brian was the son of the late Edward and Virginia Bigelow. He graduated from Bartlett High School in 1968 and earned a degree in finance from Nichols College. He served as Director of Purchasing at the Worcester Housing Authority.

Brian was a member of West Yarmouth Congregational Church and previously belonged to the United Church of Christ in Webster. He enjoyed camping, attending antique car shows, classic cars, square dancing, and riding with his motorcycle club, The Friendly Riders.

Brian had a compassionate heart and

shared his love generously with those around him. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

In addition to his wife, Donna, he leaves his stepchildren and their spouses: Kathleen Courtney and James Baker, Cynthia and Tom Krans, and Pamela Spiewakowski, all of Dudley; and Maryann and David Johnson of Plymouth. He also leaves 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; siblings Bruce and Tina Bigelow, Cindy Noe, and Jodi Christopher; several nieces and nephews; and his beloved dog, Trixie.

There will be no calling hours. Graveside services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the care of Hallett Funeral Home.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the caring staff at Cape Cod Hospital for their compassion and for making Brian's comfort a priority.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Brian's memory to Cape Cod Hospital.

Mary Ellen Curtis, 63



Mary Ellen Curtis, age 63, of Dudley died Saturday, October 10, 2026 at UMASS Memorial Medical Center -University Campus of Worcester, MA. Mary Ellen was born May 4, 1963 in Webster, MA. She is the daughter of Ronald and Marcia (McEvoy) Zablocki.

She is survived by her husband of 36 and a half years Clifton Curtis, one daughter: Samantha Curtis of Dudley, and one son: Luke Curtis of Dudley, her father Ronald and mother Marcia (McEvoy) Zablocki of Dudley and her three brothers: John Zablocki and his wife Sheryl of Dudley, MA, Paul Zablocki and his wife Deborah of Dudley, and Stephen Zablocki and his wife Nicole of Dudley. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews: Ashley, Regan, Amy, Jordan and her husband Chris, Ryan and his wife Megan and their three children Haley, Cody, and Maddie,

Kyle and his wife Bridgette and their two children Eli and Josie, and Jake and his wife Jolane and their son Anthony.

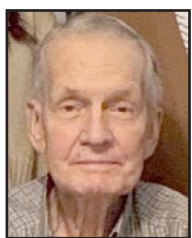
She worked for over 35 years as a programmer, most recently at Peraton. She enjoyed spending time with her family, particularly during the holiday season, vacationing to her favorite place Stage Neck Inn in York, Maine, sitting on her back deck, watching sports, and cozying up in front of the fireplace. Mary Ellen will be greatly missed by all her loved ones.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held 10:00 am on Friday, October 16 at St. Anthony Of Padua Church, 24 Dudley Hill Rd., Dudley, Burial will follow in St. Anthony Of Padua Cemetery, Webster

Calling hours were held Thursday, October 15 from 4 to 7 PM at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA. In Lieu of flowers please donate to St. Anthony of Padua Church in Dudley. <https://www.stanthony-dudley.org/donate-online> www.bartelfuneral-home.com

Frank A. Horanzy, Jr.

1942 – 2026



Webster – Frank A. Horanzy, Jr., 84, loving husband of 45 years to the late Susan (Zimatavich) Horanzy, died Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at UMass Harrington in Webster.

Born in Webster he was the son of the late Frank A. and Bernice (Jankowski) Horanzy, Sr.

Mr. Horanzy worked as an administrator at Boston Gas for many years and was a member of the American Legion Post 184.

Frank is survived by a brother, Paul S.

Horanzy of North Grosvenordale. He was predeceased by his wife, Susan Horanzy and a sister, Carol Ann Horanzy.

Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Shaw-Majercik Funeral and Cremation, 48 School St., Webster, MA. A memorial guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com and on the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home Facebook page. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Frank's name may be made to the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council, 71 W. Main St., 1st floor, Dudley, MA 01570.

Pamela J. Knight, 78



CHARLTON – Pamela J. (Morang) Knight, 78, of Bay Path Road, died peacefully with her family by her side on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Daniel H. Knight; four children, Daniel H. Knight, Jr. of Oxford, Brenda M. Kinnes and her husband William Jr. of Charlton, Janet A. Knight-Hidalgo and her husband Juan of Lawrence, David P. Knight and his partner Michelle Seale of Thompson, CT; and her brother, Kirk A. Morang and his wife Susan of Groton, CT. She was preceded in death by her first-born daughter, Rachel Knight. She was also a loving grandmother to seven grandchildren, Cameron Knight, Jenna Knight, Liam Kinnes, Emily Hidalgo, Kellen Kinnes, Brenna Kinnes, and Grayson Kinnes; along with several nieces and nephews.

Pamela was born in Webster, daughter of the late Guy A. and Jeanette R. (Cazeault) Morang and graduated from Oxford High School in 1966.

After graduation from high school, she began working at the historic Harrington and Richardson Firearm Company in Worcester, where she was an inspector of

their patented rifles that were used during the Vietnam War and a blueprint operator. She also worked at Charlton Woolen Mill as a Machine Operator. After her children grew up, Pamela began working as a Home Health Aid for Auburn District Nursing and retired in 2003.

Pamela was an avid reader, who also loved to crochet and knit. Her greatest joy in life was being "Mammy" to her seven wonderful grandchildren.

Pamela's family would like to acknowledge her life-long friend Nancy McCarthy (whom she loved dearly) and thank the residents and health care workers at Webster Manor in Webster, MA for their compassion, friendship and tender care. Additionally, her cardiac and vascular doctors of Dr. Goyal and Dr. Arous at St. Vincent's Hospital and the Vascular Care Group in Worcester, MA

A funeral mass will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church in Webster. Calling hours will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main Street, Oxford.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692.

Robert L. "Bob" Martin, 82



WEBSTER – Robert L. "Bob" Martin, 82, died peacefully Wednesday, October 14, 2026 in the presence of his family.

Bob was born on December 5, 1943 in Webster, the son of Normand A. "Bill" Martin and Ella E. (Perry) Martin. He graduated from Cole Trade High School in Southbridge in 1961. Throughout Bob's life he lived in Oxford, Hyannis, Centerville, Webster, MA and Woodstock, CT. Bob leaves three daughters, Lynne A. Borski and her husband Kenneth of Thompson, CT, Leah M. Murray and her husband Larry of Barnstable, and Elizabeth M. Curtis of Lockport, NY; 8 grandchildren, Jonathan, Stephen, Deanna, Corinna, Robert, Joseph, Jessica and Paul "PJ" and step-grandchildren, Amber and Grace; 9 great-grandchildren, Dominic, Brandan, Grady, Tucker, Levi, Ella, Brennan, Jeremiah and Tyler; a sister, Louise Gisleson and her husband Marc of Putnam, CT; nephews, Michael, Brett and Christopher Gisleson and their families. He was preceded in death by his parents, Normand and Ella Martin, his dear companion Nancy Miacco, his infant grandson Michael Curtis, his son-in-law David Smallman and many close friends from the Oxford and Cape Cod area; and, Bob left loving caregivers from his LTC home at Webster Manor.

They were family and friends combined for the last 12+ years of his long, well-enjoyed, life. Bob served in the United States Army National Guard and Reserves from 1964 to 1966.

He was a machinist for many years including at ABCO in Hyannis and retiring in 2010. He enjoyed being outdoors, doing yard work and completing any kind of project. He loved playing horseshoes and poker and would even kayak from Hyannis to Martha's Vineyard and back all in one day. Bob was a sports fan but favored the New England Patriots, Bruins, Celtics and Red Sox. As a youth, baseball was the sport he loved to play the most. More than anything, Bob was happiest with his family and friends and was proud of all of us, whatever our role. He had a gift of retaining a fondness always for all in his circles of people and pets too regardless of life's twists and turns. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, October 28, with Chaplain Larry Lake officiating, in Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Cemetery with the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council performing military honors. Visitation will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 AM in the funeral home that morning, prior to the service. Bob Martin always loved his dogs and if you wish to make any donations, the family suggests donations in his memory be made to the MSPCA, 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130-4803. www.websterfunerals.com



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WCSO
continued from page A1

Located at the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction in West Boylston, the Organic Farm spans more than 18 acres and produces approximately 40,000 pounds of fresh produce annually.

Favorable growing conditions during the spring and summer have resulted in bountiful harvests of zucchini, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, summer squash, cucumbers, and most recently, pumpkins and fall squash varieties.

Following each harvest, the produce is sorted and prepared for delivery to food pantries, senior centers, veterans’ organizations, women’s shelters, community refrigerators, and other local nonprofits. A portion of the harvest is also incorporated into meals served to inmates at the facility.

Beyond providing fresh, locally grown food to those in need, the program serves an important rehabilitative purpose. Participating inmates are classified as low-risk and nonviolent and typically work between 10 and 25 hours per week, depending on the season and workload. Through their involvement, participants gain valuable work experience while developing responsibility, discipline, and teamwork.

Since Evangelidis took office in 2011, the Organic Farm has undergone several

expansions, growing into the largest organic farm operating at a correctional facility in Massachusetts.

The farm is one of several initiatives through which the Sheriff’s Office works to address food insecurity and support local families. Earlier this year, several organizations receiving fresh produce also benefited from a separate infant formula distribution initiative made possible through a partnership between the Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff’s Association and the Ocean State Job Lot Charitable Foundation.

For updates on the Organic Farm Program and its community deliveries, follow the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office on social media.

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

Webster - 3 Oakwood Dr

SORRY, SOLD!

Presenting a meticulously maintained Colonial! This inviting home, spans 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths. The living room offers a sophisticated ambiance, enhanced by hardwood floors, crown moldings & custom built in shelves. Also provides a 2 car att'd garage for secure parking & storage. **MLS#73523347 \$589,900**

Featured New Listing!
Webster Lake Waterfront - 86 Bates Point Rd

SORRY, SOLD!

This Beautifully Maintained Two-Level Waterfront Panoramic WATER VIEWS from almost every Single Window!! 50 Ft of Sandy Shoreline!! Front-row Northwest-facing Sunsets !!... Offering a sweeping Wall of Windows to enjoy watching Mother Nature at her Finest!! Wood Flooring!!...This Main Level has an Effortless Layout adding a Roomy Convenient Bedroom & Large Closet, Full bath, 1/2 Bath & Laundry!!... Downstairs, the Walk-out Lower Level Transitions into a phenomenal Guest Retreat with 2 Bedrooms, Living space, and Full Bath!!...2 Car Garage! **MLS#7356983 \$1,050,000.**

Webster Lake Waterfront ~ 24 Laurelwood Dr
Webster Lake Waterfront

ON DEPOSIT

On the shores of prestigious Webster Lake! Experience ultra-luxury lakefront living with direct water access. This young modern craftsman lake home is masterly designed to maximize panoramic Western views through a two-story architectural tower. The home boasts 3,790 +/- square feet of sophisticated, three-story living space, complete with multilevel waterside decks, a radius stone faced patio, and a tiered landscape with its own waterfall. From morning coffee to sunset gatherings, you will enjoy every minute overlooking your waterfront. The 1,735 +/- square feet main level features a spacious open floor plan, welcoming you into a kitchen, dining, and living area tailored for intimate social hosting. The living room flows seamlessly onto an expansive open deck and into an exquisite sun-drenched sitting room. A magnificent primary bedroom suite offers a private full bath, double sink vanity, walk-in closet and dressing room. The purposely designed lower level delivers effortless, large-volume entertainment, featuring a full second kitchen and a sprawling recreation room that opens to a substantial lakeside patio. With 2 additional bedrooms and bath, this level easily serves as a private guest floor. This Lake property is designed to create long-lasting memories! **MLS#73563787 \$1,750,000**

Webster ~ 33 Slater Street

ON DEPOSIT

Sprawling fieldstone faced Ranch! Located on a +/- 0.5-acre, 2 car garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces-FHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/ sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom **MLS # 73500183 \$464,900**

Webster - Douglas Rd (Rt 16) ANR
Lot # 2

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Webster Lake ~ 60 Wakefield Ave ~ Corner Lot!

Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW home! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!
Go To **MLS # 73582966 \$277,500.**

Webster Lake ~ 0 Wakefield Ave

Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW HOME! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!
Go To **MLS # 73582967 \$247,500**

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Dudley Woman's Club celebrates October with friendship, generosity and community giving



DUDLEY — The Dudley Woman's Club's October meeting was filled with fun, friendship, and a generous dose of community spirit as Dudley Woman's

Club (DWC) members and guests came together to celebrate the season and make a difference!

We welcomed Darcy and Melissa from The Pink Exchange, who shared the organization's inspiring mission to ensure that no one faces breast cancer treatment without the comfort, care, and essential items they need along the way.

We also welcomed back a perennial favorite, Dudley Middle School teacher Lesa Patrock, whose enthusiasm and dedication continue to rally our community in support of the YOU Inc. Adopt-



a-Child for Christmas program. Lesa's goal this year is to provide Christmas gifts for 500 children in foster

care or separated from their biological families.

DWC members enthusiastically embraced the



cause, adopting children individually and voting to donate \$1,200 to the program—enough to brighten the holidays for 12 children. Club members also donated breast cancer com-

fort supplies valued at \$311 to Pinkhippy.org

More about the Pink Exchange here: <https://pinkexchange.org>

Booklovers' Gourmet spotlights local artist Judy Murphy



WEBSTER — An Art Show titled "The Colors of Life" by Judy Murphy, will be on display at Booklovers' Gourmet in Webster Oct. 6-31 in the cafe gallery. A public meet and greet with the artist will take place on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 2-4 p.m.

For more information, call 508-949-6232. Booklovers' Gourmet is located at 72 East Main St. in Webster, and has been a community gathering space

since 1995.

As a child, Murphy won coloring and poster contests, but never pursued art until she retired. Color is her main inspiration. She can stop and find the beau-

ty in any person, place or thing. Her style is said to be unique, quirky, fun, illustrative and easily recognizable. While most of her paintings are watercolors, she continues to expand her

skills through courses at the Worcester Art Museum and as an active member of the Blackstone Valley Art Association.

United Church of Christ announces free community Halloween party

WEBSTER — The United Church of Christ Federated is excited to invite the community to its annual

Halloween Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 24, from noon to 2 p.m.

Open to all local families

and residents, the free event aims to provide a safe, welcoming, and fun environment for children and parents in the area. Attendees can look forward to cookie and pumpkin decorating, face painting, games with free prizes (everybody is a winner!), a scavenger hunt, Halloween pinatas, and more! Refreshments will be available for purchase.

"We love our community and want to offer a safe, joyful space for families to celebrate the season together," said Pastor Sabina Terrades.

"I can't wait to be Snow White again!" she continues.

Admission is free, and costumes are encouraged (family-friendly, please). Prizes for the best costumes!!

The United Church of Christ is located at 4 Church St., across from Town Hall, 508-943-0061.



Join the fun at Seventh Annual Scarecrows on the Common event

OXFORD — Fall is in the air, and it's time once again for one of Oxford's favorite autumn traditions! The Oxford Community Center is delighted to host the Seventh Annual Scarecrows on the Common on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the event of extremely inclement weather, the rain date will be Sunday, Oct. 25.

Community members of all ages are invited to help transform the Town Common into a festive fall display by creating and entering a homemade scarecrow. Whether you are a resident, school group, town department, community organization, or local business, this is your chance to showcase your creativity and community spirit. Participants will have the opportunity to compete for prizes in categories such as Most Creative, Best Town Spirit, and Funniest Scarecrow.

In addition to the scarecrow contest, visitors can enjoy a lively day filled with fun and entertainment, including a vendor fair, live performances by DW and The Shakemakers, appearances by the beloved Sutton Dancing Witches, and exciting children's games hosted by Oxford Community Center staff.

Scarecrow entry forms will be available beginning Oct. 1 at the Oxford Community Center, 4 Maple Road, and at Oxford Town Hall. Registration and additional event details can also be found online at oxford-ma.myrec.com.

Bring your imagination, celebrate the season, and join your neighbors for a memorable day of family-friendly fall fun. We look forward to seeing the Town Common filled with creativity, laughter, and community spirit!

For more information, visit oxford-ma.myrec.com or contact the Oxford Community Center.

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