

**HARBRO IS NOW AN:  
OFFICIAL  
MASSACHUSETTS  
INSPECTION STATION**



MASSACHUSETTS  
VEHICLE CHECK  
Cleaner Air • Safer Fleets  
6  
2026  
MA INSPECTION STATION NO. 00000

**trusted for 52 years**

**508-234-6767**  
**HARBROAUTO.COM**

**HARBRO**  
AUTO SALES SERVICE



# BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE

*"Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you."*  
- Walt Whitman

©2026, Issue #24

Free by request to residents of  
Douglas, Northbridge, Uxbridge, Linwood, Whitinsville and North Uxbridge

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO [NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS](mailto:NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS)

Friday, June 19, 2026

## BVT students assist Calvinist Cadet Corps

UPTON — Sophomores in the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) Painting & Design Technology program recently had the opportunity to design, print, and install a custom trailer wrap for the Calvinist Cadet Corps. The non-denominational youth ministry organization often serves as a church-based alternative to traditional scouting.

From concept to completion, the project provided Mackenzie Johnson of Douglas, Hannah Gosselin of Douglas, and Hayden Tobin of Hopedale with valuable hands-on experience while showcasing their creativity, technical skills, and teamwork throughout the design and installation process. With guidance from their Painting & Design Technology Instructor, Tom Lamont, the students communicated directly with the customer, coordinated trailer delivery, prepared the trailer surface, and completed measurements before installation began. To develop their designs, students met with the customer to discuss the organization's vision for the trailer transformation.



Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School Painting & Design Technology sophomores Mackenzie Johnson, Hannah Gosselin, and Hayden Tobin stand alongside the completed trailer wrap created for the Calvinist Cadet Corps.

Incorporating the various ranks, badges, mottos, and missions of the Calvinist Cadet Corps was an important part of the project. "We were also given creative freedom through-

out the design process," said Mackenzie Johnson. After conducting extensive research on the Calvinist Cadet Corps and its mission, the students created a nature-inspired layout featuring various shades of blue and gray. The final design incorporated customer-provided

merit badges, ranks, and troop numbers to create a customized and meaningful visual presentation. The completed graphics were printed on wrap vinyl using the Roland TrueVis wide-format printer. The process also included laminating the graphics with a Royal Sovereign lami-

nator before applying them to the cleaned and measured trailer surface. "It was not an easy application because the trailer surface was not smooth," said Hannah Gosselin. "There were many rivets along the sides of the trailer, which made applying the wrap a challenge. We made sure

everything lined up perfectly and used heat correctly for a smooth application."

The Painting & Design students said they are incredibly proud of this collaborative community project. The newly wrapped trailer will transport equipment and gear used to support cadets in outdoor skill building, camping activities, and badge work while promoting the organization's mission throughout the Blackstone Valley.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills. For more information about the school, visit [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us).

### Sutton Historical Society hosting annual Bottle & Can Drive

SUTTON — The Sutton Historical Society will sponsor its annual returnable bottle and can drive from Saturday, July 4 through Sunday, July 12. Simply drop your rinsed empty returnable bottles and cans in the trailer parked at the M. M. Sherman Blacksmith Shop, 6 Singletary Avenue. This event is a significant fundraiser for the Society supporting our annual scholarship for a local graduating senior as well as assisting with our operating costs.

The Society is dedicated to preserving the history of Sutton. Check us out at [Sutton1704.org](http://Sutton1704.org) for membership information, our calendar of events, and much more. Membership is open year-round, and members do not have to reside in Sutton.

## Blackstone Valley State Parks offer Night Skies and Pride hikes and outdoor adventures

U X B R I D G E — Residents looking to explore the outdoors, learn about the night sky, or connect with nature on guided hikes will have numerous opportunities throughout 2026 as the Massachusetts Department

of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) rolls out a full slate of programs across the Blackstone River Valley.

The schedule includes stargazing events at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park

in Uxbridge, a series of guided recreational hikes throughout the region, and a special Pride Hike at Douglas State Forest in June.

All programs are free and open to the public, and most do not require

advance registration.

One of the most popular offerings returns with the annual Night Sky 2026 series at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park. Participants will gather in the field

Turn To PARKS page A10

## Strawberry Festival brings community together for sweet celebration at Northbridge Senior Center



See  
Additional  
Photos on  
page A-12

NORTHBRIDGE — The Strawberry Festival this week at the Northbridge Senior Center was a wonderful success, offering an afternoon filled with engaging conversation, fresh local flavors, and a strong sense of community!

Guest speaker Ken Foppema of Foppema's Farm captivated attendees with his presentation that covered their strawberry growing process from "seedling to sweetness!" He shared the history of his family's farm, established in 1983, and gave a vivid look into the care and dedication behind their strawberries as well as their seasonal harvests.

The crowd was enthusiastic and engaged, enjoy-

ing both the presentation and the opportunity to connect over a shared appreciation for both strawberries and local agriculture. The festival took place in the Center's beautifully decorated dining room, where festive, strawberry-themed décor added a bright and cheerful touch to the celebration. Guests delighted in fresh, flavorful refreshments that highlighted the best of the Foppema strawberry season, which included delicious homemade strawberry shortcake (recipe and efforts courtesy of Maggie Creaser and several other treasured volunteers of the senior center!) As a special takeaway, free raffle baskets were awarded to two lucky winners, and each

attendee received a strawberry themed favor—a scrumptious homemade cookie from Oat and Olive Bakery!

The entire event created a warm, welcoming atmosphere that celebrated not only strawberry season, but also the importance of supporting a local farm and coming together as a community.

For more information about the senior center's special events, please call (508) 234-2002. For more information on Oat and Olive, please email [oatandolivebakery@gmail.com](mailto:oatandolivebakery@gmail.com), and for more information on Foppema's farm, please call (508) 234-6711 or visit their farmstand at 1605 Hill St. in Northbridge.

# UUSGU to host Frederick Douglass reading July 5



Rev. Daniel Gregoire of UUSGU reads during a past 'Reading Frederick Douglass Together' event.

GRAFTON — On July 5, the Unitarian Universalist Society of Grafton and Upton (UUSGU) and Grafton Public Library will host a public reading of Frederick Douglass' powerful speech "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" first delivered in 1852 in Rochester, N.Y. to the Ladies' Anti-Slavery Society. The event will be held at the UUSGU meetinghouse at 3 Grafton Common in Grafton, MA, beginning at 5 PM.

The injustice that continues in our country makes the Frederick Douglass speech as relevant today as it was in 1852, and the reading offers an occasion to consider racism and the legacy of slavery in the United States.

The program begins with a "call to the Common" by African drummer Akili Jamal Haynes, as Frederick Douglass called people to the Common with a bell in 1842 after initially being denied access to local churches, homes, and marketplaces when he came to Grafton to speak out against slavery. He returned to Grafton Common to speak again in 1874.

The drumming will resonate throughout the Grafton Common, inviting the community into the meetinghouse. Once indoors, volunteers will take turns reading Douglass' speech aloud from start to finish. The moving oratory prompts our consideration of the nation's stated values, its triumphs and failures, and the actions and resolutions required of us as participants in the American project, a 250-year-old experiment in democracy.

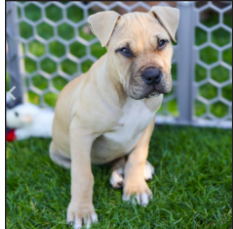
Following the reading, those interested will break into smaller groups to discuss what we, each of us, here in 2026, can do to further Douglass' vision of a more just and equitable American society.

Reading Frederick Douglass Together, a free community event, is made possible by a grant from Mass Humanities, provided by funding through the Massachusetts Cultural

Council (MCC). The UUSGU meetinghouse is welcoming to everyone, is accessible, and offers assistive listening devices. Volunteer readers will speak from an accessible lectern.

Courtesy

## PET of the WEEK



MEET Colby

If you're looking for a puppy who can make you smile without even trying, Colby might be your perfect match. This sweet, playful boy loves making new friends and approaches life with a happy-go-lucky attitude.

Colby recently spent the day at our Fore Paws Golf Tournament at Hopkinton Country Club, where he charmed everyone he met. Between collecting cuddles, watching all the activity around him, and taking breaks for puppy naps, he showed us just how adaptable and easygoing he can be. He took all the excitement in stride and was simply happy to be part of the fun.

As with any puppy, Colby is looking for a family committed to helping him grow into the wonderful adult dog he's meant to be through positive training, socialization, and lots of adventures together. If you're ready to welcome a puppy into your home and watch him grow, learn, and blossom into a devoted companion, Colby would love to be part of your family.

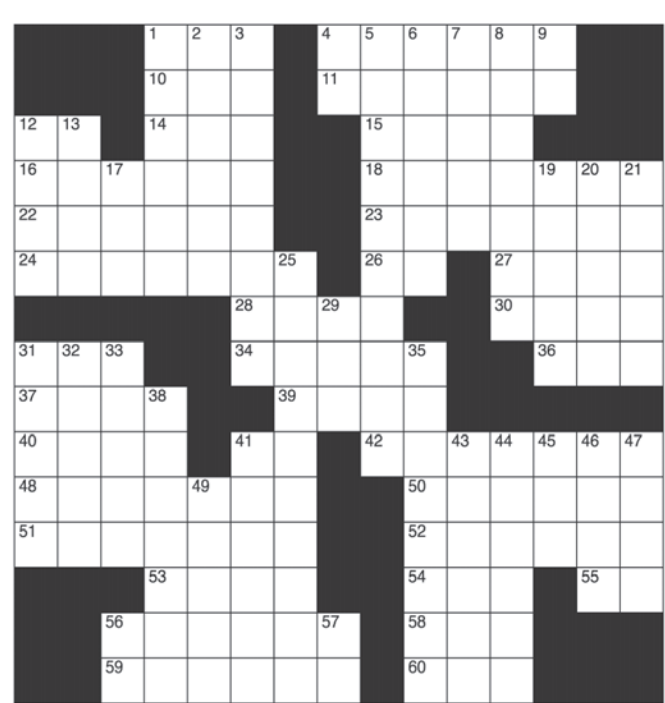
500 Legacy Farms North • Hopkinton, MA 01748



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

Bring your furry friend along on your next trip to MFB for a treat from our drive-up tellers, or stop in any branch and bring home a treat from our complimentary doggy treat bar.

1271 Providence Rd, Whitinsville, MA 508.234.8256 • 800.357.2265  
Milford | Whitinsville | Woonsocket



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Similar
- 4. Have an ambitious plan or a lofty goal
- 10. No (Scottish)
- 11. \_\_\_ Aires, city
- 12. Morning
- 14. Senior's son (abbr.)
- 15. A notable achievement
- 16. European nation
- 18. Endings
- 22. Puts into place
- 23. Former
- 24. Grenadier
- 26. Sea patrol
- 27. Algerian port
- 28. Norwegian river
- 30. Precipitation
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. New York is one
- 36. Patti Hearst's captors
- 37. Soft mineral with greasy feel
- 39. Retired Brazilian footballer
- 40. An Indian nursemaid
- 41. Atomic #24
- 42. Immobile
- 48. Insignia of royalty
- 50. Seeds from which chocolate is made
- 51. Begin again
- 52. Round root
- 53. Beginning to end (alt. sp.)
- 54. What newlyweds just said
- 55. Empire State
- 56. Give back
- 58. College hoops tournament
- 59. Unstable situations
- 60. Young women's association

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Administer a drug
- 2. Holy places
- 3. Contrary opinions
- 4. Blood type
- 5. Gags
- 6. Micturating
- 7. Silly
- 8. A type of "cuff"
- 9. Spanish be
- 12. Austrian river
- 13. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 17. Consume food
- 19. California supermarket
- 20. Electronic communication
- 21. Cassia tree
- 25. Written works
- 29. Cool!
- 31. Noteworthy 90s lawyer Kenneth
- 32. One who was compensated
- 33. National symbols
- 35. Raising
- 38. A type of talk
- 41. Cloud
- 43. Middle Eastern peoples
- 44. Pouches
- 45. 007's creator
- 46. A cut of meat
- 47. Sports entertainment award
- 49. Christine \_\_, actress
- 56. Relief organization (abbr.)
- 57. Canadian province (abbr.)

## Ella Collins of Douglas named to Lasell University Dean's List

NEWTON — Ella Collins, a Lasell University student from Douglas, was named to the Dean's List for their academic performance in the Spring 2026 semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.



## ARTHRITIS?

Is your arthritis care all that you would hope it to be? If not we may be able to help.

**Osteoarthritis of Hands - Knees - Hips. Back and Shoulder Problems Rheumatoid Arthritis Psoriatic Arthritis - Gout**

**Charles A. Birbara, MD**

Associate Professor of Medicine, UMass-Chan Medical School  
25 Oak Ave., Worcester, MA 01605 508-799-2674

"Committed to Advancing appropriate care to people with arthritis"



**TO PLACE AN AD:**  
MIKAELA VICTOR  
(774) 200-7308  
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

**SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:**  
KERRI PETERSON  
(508) 909-4103  
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

**TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:**  
E-MAIL  
obits@stonebridgepress.news  
CALL: 508-909-4149  
OR send to Blackstone Valley Tribune  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

**TO SUBMIT A LETTER**  
**TO THE EDITOR:**  
E-MAIL:  
news@stonebridgepress.news  
OR send to Blackstone Valley Tribune  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

**BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE**  
PUBLISHED BY  
**STONEBRIDGE PRESS**

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

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

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

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

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

The Blackstone Valley Tribune (USPS 024-873) (ISSN 0745-8673) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Blackstone Valley Tribune, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

**BEST WINDOW COMPANY**  
Beautiful, Efficient, Affordable

**WINDOWS & DOORS**

**KUBALA HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
Your Window & Door Experts

Lifetime Warranty | 100% Financing Available

CALL NOW FOR **50% OFF** WINDOW & DOOR INSTALLATION

**(508) 784-1550**  
MA CSL100114 | MA HIC150118 | CT HIC061972

## TRIBUNE ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

### BLACKSTONE

None

**DOUGLAS**  
\$847,500, 3 White Ct, Westview LLC, and Bedrosian, Alexander, to Lopes, Natalie V, and Lopes, Cory D.  
\$125,000, 153 Davis St, Woodland Brook LLC, and Caffery, Douglas E, to Hch Holdings LLC.  
\$85,000, 22 NW Main St, Slanda, Ewa K, and Slanda, Lukasz S, to Slanda, Lukasz S.

### NORTHBRIDGE

\$825,000, 192 Rebecca Rd, Massey, Brian J, and Massey, Annette B, to Hoffman, Nicholas, and Hoffman, Samantha.  
\$555,000, 17 Keryn Ct, Randolph Ft, and Randolph, Allen J F, to Lopez, Diego P, and Caguana, Jamileth.  
\$485,000, 32 Edmonds Cir #32, Riordan, Timothy J, and Riordan, Wendy L, to Bollimpalli, Radhika.  
\$390,000, 235 Heritage Dr #235, Cottengaim, Joseph, and Cottengaim, Gleydi, to Bearley, Alexandra.  
\$290,000, 14-24 D St, Big Dee LLC, and Therrien, Joshua, to Rutters Brook LLC.  
\$290,000, 2-12 D St, Big Dee LLC, and Therrien, Joshua, to Rutters Brook LLC.

### UXBRIDGE

\$715,000, 86 Hunter Rd, Desjardins, Rebecca, to Ruggles, Brett.  
\$615,000, 56 S Main St, Gosselin, Donna M, to Macdonald, Sean.  
Ware  
\$400,000, 3 Williston Dr, Lafountain, Marcus Pierre, to Torres, Jan Carol, and Torres, Katasha.  
\$390,000, 83 Beaver Lake Rd, Crevier, Jacob F, and Collette, Dannielle Zoe, to Laprade, Chase, and Collette, Britney Rose.  
\$170,000, 125 Glendale Cir, Smith, Daine L, to Appleton Grove LLC.  
\$70,000, 22 Church St, Bluedog Cap Partners LLC, to Real Est Invs Northeast L.

## PUZZLE SOLUTION





Courtesy  
Recently, Blackstone Valley Cannabis, Uxbridge held a collection drive in conjunction with Thanks To Yanks in support of veterans and military families. pictured left to right facing are Jared Freeman, Cortney Lubash and Jessica Dalton of Blackstone Valley Cannabis and Michael Shain of Thanks To Yanks, the local nonprofit has a long history of supporting those in uniform past and present. Shain said, "We are thrilled to work with local businesses in support of our military families." For information about Thanks To Yanks, please Like them on Facebook.

## Eight lawn & garden tips from Koopman experts for healthy, vibrant summer living

WHITINSVILLE — As homeowners across New England enjoy warmer temperatures and get ready for outdoor living (finally!), the experts at Koopman Lumber's family-owned Plant/Garden stores remind homeowners that consulting with experts makes yardwork and gardening easier, resulting in beautiful outdoor living spaces all summer and fall. Begin preparing and planning now to avoid delays and rushed decisions.

With full-service Plant & Garden Centers in Whitinsville, Uxbridge, and North Grafton, Koopman Lumber provides a wide selection of plants, lawn care products, and expert guidance during the peak gardening season from April through June.

Expert lawn & garden tips include:

### 1. Get Informed

A healthy lawn begins with proper timing and consistent care. Koopman recommends first measuring the lawn with a measuring wheel or tape, and doing a soil test locally through the county extension or 4-H program. Stop in for expert lawn advice and a free soil Ph Test Kit. Koopman's lawn care experts also note that soil testing helps determine the right nutrient balance to ensure optimal results.

### 2. Get Air With Aeration, But Only If Necessary

Allowing air, nutrients, and water to reach the grass roots is essential, but aeration is not always mandatory. If a screwdriver (flat head) sinks easily in the lawn, the soil is most likely getting the aeration it needs. If not, consider renting lawn aeration with product advice from a Koopman expert.

### 3. Seed Success with A Quality Lawn Care Program

Once you know what you are working with, it's time to start a lawn care program. We recommend following a proven four-step seasonal fertilizer program like the Scott's or Jonathan Green 4-Step Lawn Care Programs to build strong roots, prevent weeds, and maintain vibrant color throughout the summer. Early spring applications help prevent crabgrass and other invasive weeds, while late spring and summer treatments strengthen turf and improve drought resistance. The goal is to make big improvements each year: it's a marathon, not a sprint when it comes to lawn care.

### 4. Feed, Seed, and Strengthen

Spring is the ideal time to repair winter damage. Overseeding thin areas, applying high-quality fertilizer, and addressing bare patches early can dramatically improve lawn density before summer heat sets in.

### 5. Plant Smart for Seasonal Color

From annuals and perennials to flowering shrubs, spring planting sets the stage for months of color. Koopman's garden centers offer hundreds of plant varieties suited for New England climates, including pollinator-friendly options that attract bees and butterflies. Proper spacing, mulching, and watering early in the season help plants establish strong root systems and reduce maintenance later.

### 6. Carrots and Coriander: Grow Your Own with Vegetable and Herb Gardens

Home gardening continues to grow in popularity, and spring is the time to get started. Koopman offers a wide selection of vegetable plants, herbs, seeds, and raised bed supplies to help homeowners create productive backyard gardens full of organics and premium brands such as Espoma, Foxfarm, Coast of Maine, Bonide, and Miracle-Gro. Consistent watering, nutrient-rich soil, and proper sunlight are key to maximizing yields throughout the summer.

### 7. Control Weeds Before They Take Over

Weed prevention is most effective in early spring. Applying pre-emergent treatments and maintaining a thick, healthy lawn can reduce the need for reactive weed control later in the season. Koopman

carries a range of targeted solutions to address common lawn challenges while protecting surrounding plants and landscaping, including Scott's Step 1 and Step 2 product, and Bonide weed sprays.

### 8. Upgrade Outdoor Living Spaces

Spring is also the perfect time to enhance outdoor living areas. Koopman offers premium grills and accessories from brands like Weber, Traeger, and Big Green Egg, along with expert advice on creating functional, inviting backyard spaces.

#### Expert Advice Makes the Difference

"Spring is the most important time to set your lawn and garden up for success," said Coreen Nolle, Director of Retail Sales for Koopman Lumber. "With the right products and a proactive approach, homeowners can enjoy healthier lawns, better gardens, and more summer fun relaxing outdoors."

Koopman Lumber's Plant & Garden Centers are open throughout the spring season, offering expert advice, premium lawn care products, and a wide selection of plants and outdoor living essentials. Koopman experts can also advise on new decking, door, and window projects to bring the outside in.

"With locations across Massachusetts and Connecticut and a strong distribution network, Koopman Lumber is built to support the demands of the busy but brief outdoor living season in New England," said Denise Brookhouse, CEO of Koopman Lumber. "We work with both homeowners and pros across the region, and our focus during this time of year is making sure every project has the products, support, and service they need to be successful."

Koopman Lumber, a family-owned business founded in 1939 and headquartered in Whitinsville, Mass., is a trusted provider of lumber, hardware, and home improvement products. The company's mission is "Supplying Excellence for Generations," a promise it brings to every team member, customer, and community it serves. For more information, visit [koopmanlumber.com](http://koopmanlumber.com).

### Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

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

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

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

## LOWEST PRICES • FULL SERVICE

Serving Worcester County for almost 60 years! Shrewsbury's Own...



[www.alsoil.com](http://www.alsoil.com)

We accept most major credit cards



24-HOUR EXPERT BURNER SERVICE • 508-753-7221

## Local student named to Pacific University Dean's List

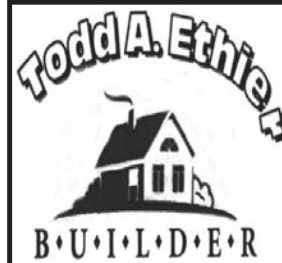
FOREST GROVE, Ore. — Chip Garrigan has been named to the Spring 2026 Dean's List at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon. The Dean's List recognizes undergraduate students in Pacific's College of Undergraduate Studies who earn a grade-point average of at least 3.70 and complete 12 or more graded hours.

Oregon's Opportunity University, Pacific University is Washington County, Oregon's only comprehensive university, offering over 50 undergraduate majors and 28 graduate and professional degrees. With over 175 years of helping students discover their purpose, Pacific inspires its 3,400 students to think, care, create, and pursue justice in the world. The No. 1 private research institution in the Northwest, Pacific serves its communities through campuses in Forest Grove and Hillsboro, healthcare clinics throughout the Portland area and through 34,000 alumni pursuing lives of purpose globally.

## WANTED TO BUY Antiques & Old Stuff

- Bottles • Crocks •Jugs •Costume Jewelry • Pottery •Toys
- Pewter • Glassware •Sterling Silver • Coins • Gold
- Silver Plated Items •Watches •Typewriters •Sewing Machines
- Tools • Radios • Clocks • Lanterns •Lamps • Kitchenware
- Cookware •Knives •Hunting • Fishing • Military • Masonic
- Video Games • Advertising Signs & Much More

CALL DONALD ROY 860-874-8396



•REMODELING EXPERT  
•PROFESSIONAL INSTALLED  
•WINDOWS AND SIDING  
774-230-3967  
Quality Building Since 1985



- ◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ KITCHENS ◆ BATHS ◆ GARAGES ◆ SIDING
- ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS ◆ AUTHORIZED HARVEY DEALER
- ◆ LICENSED & INSURED ◆ HONEST, CLEAN & DEPENDABLE



GREENDALE PHYSICAL THERAPY  
440 Washington St./Rt. 20  
508-426-8066 • [greendalept.com](http://greendalept.com)

If you're interested in becoming a patient of our new Auburn office scan to receive more info.



Where you don't have to be an Olympic athlete to be treated like one.

## Friday's Child



Richard Age 14 Registration #8694

Richard is an engaging, energetic, and friendly boy with a great sense of humor. He enjoys playing video games, watching movies, and participating in sports. Richard has built many positive relationships with both peers and adults at school and is known for being kind, respectful, and easy to connect with. Those who know Richard describe him as compassionate, intuitive, and exceptionally polite. He cares deeply about others and strongly believes in standing up for people when needed, while also advocating for himself. Richard's caring nature, strong values, and outgoing personality make him a joy to be around. He would benefit from a supportive and encouraging family that can continue to help him grow and thrive.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/21181269059>

### Can I Adopt?

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

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





25 ELM ST.  
SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550  
TELEPHONE: (508) 909-4126  
FAX: (508) 764-8015  
WWW.STONEBRIDGEPRESS.COM

**FRANK G.  
CHILINSKI**  
PRESIDENT &  
PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN  
BERUBE**  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

# Learning by doing builds more than skills

One of the enduring strengths of vocational education is that students do not simply learn about a trade. They practice it. They solve real problems, work with real customers, and produce real results. A recent project completed by students in Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School's Painting & Design Technology program serves as an excellent reminder of why that approach matters.

Three sophomores were tasked with designing, printing, and installing a custom trailer wrap for the Calvinist Cadet Corps, a youth organization that promotes leadership, outdoor skills, and character development. The project was much more than a classroom assignment. It was a professional job with expectations, deadlines, customer input, and technical challenges.

Along the way, the students gained something that cannot be replicated through a textbook alone.

They met with a client, listened to the organization's goals, conducted research, developed design concepts, and translated those ideas into a finished product. They learned how to balance creativity with customer expectations, a skill that every designer, marketer, and business owner must master. They also learned that successful projects often require flexibility, communication, and teamwork.

Perhaps most importantly, they encountered obstacles.

The trailer's riveted surface made installation difficult. The students could have viewed that challenge as a setback. Instead, they approached it as professionals do: by carefully measuring, aligning, adjusting, and persevering until the work was completed correctly. Those lessons may prove even more valuable than the technical skills involved in printing and applying vinyl graphics.

Too often, education is measured solely through test scores and classroom performance. While academics remain essential, projects like this demonstrate the importance of experiential learning. When students see their work leave the classroom and become part of the community, education takes on a deeper meaning. They gain confidence because they can point to a finished product and say, "I helped create that."

The benefits extend beyond the students themselves. Community organizations receive valuable support while local residents gain a greater appreciation for the talent being developed in our schools. It becomes a partnership where everyone benefits.

The Calvinist Cadet Corps now has a professionally wrapped trailer that will travel throughout the region promoting its mission. At the same time, three students gained firsthand experience that will serve them well whether they enter the workforce immediately after graduation or continue their education.

The project also highlights an important reality facing many industries today. Employers consistently report a need for skilled workers who can think critically, communicate effectively, and solve problems independently. Those abilities are developed through opportunities exactly like this one.

The Blackstone Valley students who completed this project learned how to work with clients, manage expectations, adapt to unforeseen challenges, and take pride in craftsmanship. Those are qualities every employer values, regardless of profession.

As communities continue to discuss the future of education and workforce development, projects like this offer a clear example of what success looks like. Students are engaged. Organizations are supported. The community benefits. And young people gain the skills and confidence needed to succeed in whatever path they choose.

That is education at its best: learning by doing, creating something meaningful, and leaving a lasting impression far beyond the classroom walls.

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The plot to kill Washington

To the Editor:

On the 250th anniversary year of the Declaration of Independence, let's visit a Moment in History. Did you know that New York has been corrupt since 1776?

Yup, New York was the center of a plot to capture George Washington and our top Revolutionary War generals. And execute them.

In 1776, before the Declaration of Independence had even been drafted, before our colonies had become a nation, Governor Tryon of New York and the mayor of New York City hatched a plot to capture Washington and his closest officers. Sound familiar?

Who joined the plot? Of course, the NY Attorney General, no surprise. Various New York government functionaries, Loyalists, the New Jersey Attorney General, and a few Life Guards whose mission was to protect Washington with their lives.

They committed treason against their new nation.

In the book, "The First Conspiracy - the Secret Plot to Kill George Washington" by Brad Meltzer, the diabolical plot is explained. When Washington set up headquarters in New York, he found the city awash in vice, filth, disease, prostitution, Loyalists, and plots. For Washington, it was a descent into darkness. New York has not changed one bit.

For Washington, the Cause of the Revolution was Glorious. He was fighting for noble ideas. The colonies had placed their trust in him. But "the deception, the disloyalty, the clandestine plots and schemes, the hidden dangers not just from his military foe, but from enemies all around him, sometimes in the shadows, sometimes in disguise," was real in 1776. It seems all too real in 2026.

Before Washington arrived in New York City, he had set up his tent in Cambridge and discovered a viper in his midst. One day, General Nathaniel Greene brought a Newport baker to Washington. The baker gave Washington a letter in code. Washington was stunned. In all previous wars and engagements, he knew the enemy. They wore British red or French blue. Now, who could be trusted?

The baker revealed that his ex-girlfriend, a prostitute in Cambridge, had brought him this letter and asked him to deliver it to a British official in Newport. Instead, the Patriot baker contacted General Greene and

they hid it to Cambridge.

In 1775, Washington had no cryptography department. No code breakers. Yet he found people who were good at codes. Two teams broke the code: a report on Washington's troops, the outline of the camp in Cambridge, the number of soldiers, weapons, ammunition, all in a message to the British. Yikes!

Washington ordered that the prostitute be brought to him. She refused to reveal who gave her the letter. Finally, she confessed and shocked Washington: Dr. Benjamin Church. One of Washington's closest advisors was secretly a most wretched British spy.

Dr. Church, naturally, was a Harvard graduate! No surprise there. He was the first Surgeon General of the fledgling Continental Army. A spy in the pay of the British. He wore lavish clothes. Had a big house in Cambridge. Plenty of cash, in the pay of the British government. And a mistress.

Church was arrested. He was tried and convicted of communicating with the enemy, and was sent into exile on a ship bound for the West Indies. Church disappeared at sea and is believed to have died in the Caribbean in 1778. Maybe he still lives in Brazil with the other Nazis!

Back to the New York assassination plot of January 1776:

The Governor of New York conspired with the Mayor of New York and ensnared some of Washington's Life Guards. In events that only Divine Providence could design, the plot was discovered. The Mayor of NY and 5 Life Guards were arrested. The Provincial Committee interviewed witnesses: 40 more were arrested. Washington conducted a public execution on June 28, 1776 before 20,000 citizens and soldiers.

Just then, the British army arrived in New York: 400 ships, 34,000 soldiers. We had no Navy. We had only 10,000 soldiers. Nevertheless, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed. It spread like wild fire.

Which colony was the only one to abstain from the Declaration? New York!

Does any Uxbridge student know these facts? Every student should have this book on his or her summer reading list. We are truly God-ordained.

God preserve us!

BEV GUDANOWSKI  
UXBRIDGE

### Battle of the gubernatorial war chests

To the Editor:

Here we go again with the Boston media and their ridiculously stupid gubernatorial war chest analysis nonsense. While what's really going on comes across a whole lot more like a retro battle of TV show classics as beamed to us from the dimwitted political planet where misfit toys are mass produced with great abandon.

On the extreme right, we have Mr. Clean versus Christian Kojak gone "Woke," a.k.a. Mike Minogue, our wealthiest candidate. With the former military man's split personality, dysfunctional government addiction disorder more than amply on display for the world to see.

With that fool doing battle with our anti-church lady candidate, Maura Healey, who for some silly reason decided that a discarded hairpiece from an unemployed Lucille Ball imitator might somehow counter the right-wing bald dude who quite clearly has

far more money than he does brains.

Thus giving us all the impression that Desi Arnez has indeed come back from the dead just to produce Maura Healey's "I Love Lucifer" summer theater remake of her first four years.

Lastly, we have dark horse candidate, and the most likely winner, Brian Shortsleeve. Who at present seems to have not yet discovered his "Hart to Hart" roots need to somehow meld with his Partridge Family travelling sideshow routes.

All of which boils down to the simple fact that a properly outfitted and attired, diesel-powered tour bus hitting the road for the summer is the best and most winning option for all concerned.

After all, since so many former residents fled this state under such remarkably similar circumstances, some gubernatorial candidate with sense should do the same.

STEPHEN GAMBONE  
NORTHBRIDGE

### Letter submission policy

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

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

## A handshake, a hammer, and a few quiet lessons

Father's Day arrives every year with a familiar collection of neckties, coffee mugs and backyard cookouts. Those are fine traditions, but as I get older, I find myself thinking less about the gifts and more about the men who shaped

us, often without realizing they

were doing it.

My father was

not much of a

talker.

That seems to be a common trait among fathers of a certain generation.

They could spend an entire afternoon working beside you and say fewer than a dozen words. Yet somehow, years later, you realize they taught you more during those silent hours than many people could teach in a semester-long class.

My father believed that if a job was worth doing, it was worth doing correctly. He did not need a motivational poster on the wall to remind him. He simply got up every morning and went to work.

As a kid, I didn't always appreciate that philosophy. In fact, I spent a fair amount of time wishing he would hurry up. Whether it was fixing a lawn mower, painting a fence, or repairing something around the house, I wanted the shortest route between broken and fixed. He wanted it done right.

At the time, it seemed unnecessarily slow.

Today, I catch myself doing the exact same thing.

I hear his voice every time I reach for a shortcut. Measure twice. Check your work. Clean up after yourself. Leave things better than you found them.

Funny how those lessons settle in when you're not paying attention.

Fatherhood itself has changed quite a bit over the years. Today's dads seem more comfortable expressing emotions and spending time with their children in ways previous generations often didn't. That's a good thing. Yet many of the fundamentals remain unchanged.

Children are still watching.

They notice how their fathers treat their mothers. They notice whether promises are kept. They notice how a father responds when things go wrong. They notice whether he shows kindness to strangers and respect to neighbors.

Most of all, they notice consistency.

A father does not need to be perfect. No father ever has been. But children remember the man who shows up. They remember the one sitting in the bleachers on a rainy afternoon. They remember the one helping with homework after a long workday. They remember the one who drives across town when the car won't start or answers the phone at 10 p.m. because a son or daughter needs advice.

The older I get, the more I appreciate those ordinary acts.

My own children are adults now. One is away building her future. The other lives nearby and is creating a life of his own. Fatherhood changes as children grow. You spend years teaching them to become independent, and then one day you realize they actually listened.

That can be both rewarding and a little unsettling.

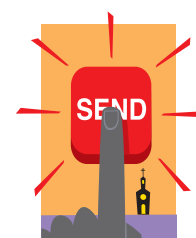
These days, conversations are less about curfews and homework and more about careers, relationships and life decisions. The role changes, but the responsibility never completely disappears. A father never stops being a father. The worries simply evolve.

On Father's Day, many of us will celebrate with our families. Some will be remembering fathers who

Turn To XXX page A5

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Email Us @



news@stonebridgepress.news

**LANTERNS**

continued from page A1

are no longer here. Others may be thinking about grandfathers, stepfathers, uncles, coaches, teachers or neighbors who stepped into that role when it was needed.

They all matter. The truth is that some of the most important fathers in a community are not necessarily related by blood. They are the men who volunteer to coach Little League, teach Scout skills, mentor young people or quietly lend a hand when someone needs guidance. Every town in Massachusetts has a few of those men. They rarely seek recognition, but their influence stretches farther than they know.

This Father's Day, perhaps the best gift we can give is a little gratitude.

A phone call. A visit. A handshake. A simple thank-you.

And if your father is still around, maybe ask him a few questions. Ask about his first job. Ask about his childhood. Ask what worried him when he was your age.

One day you'll be glad you did.

The older I get, the more I understand that fathers rarely leave their greatest legacy in bank accounts or buildings. They leave it in habits, values and lessons that quietly travel from one generation to the next.

Sometimes, all it takes is a handshake, a hammer, and a few quiet lessons.

**For Advertising Information Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news**

**DOUGLAS ADULT SOCIAL CENTER**

331 Main St.  
(508) 476-2283  
Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-noon

**DAILY ACTIVITIES:** All our daily activities are free of charge.  
Monday: Painting class 9:45am to 11:45am, Balance & Strength Exercise 12pm, Mat yoga 2pm  
Tuesday: Walking club 9am, Cribbage 9:00am, Lunch & Bingo 11:30am, Technology class 1pm (call to make an appt.), Line dancing 2pm  
Wednesday: Balance & strength 10am, Darts 11:30am, Mahjong 12:45pm, Dominoes 1 to 2:30pm  
Thursday: Walking club 9am, Pitch 9:00am, Chair Yoga 9:30am, Tai Chi 10:45am, Hand and Foot card game 12:30pm  
Friday: Balance & strength 10am, Zumba 11:30am

**Cooling Center:** The center is open as a cooling center all summer long. Feeling hot? Come on in enjoy some free ice cream, or a free cup of coffee and a pastry. We have tons of activities going on every day or if you like could sit read a book, play a game on one of our tablets, color on our poster table or put some pieces in the puzzle at our puzzle table. The staff and the patrons are a friendly bunch! Stop in to say hello and to cool off anytime.

Tuesday & Thursday lunch club, please call the Friday before to sign up. Lunch is \$4.00 per person. If you would like to attend, we offer free rides to & from the center and are willing to waive the lunch fee is necessary.

**June Lunch Menu:**  
Tuesday 6/2: Shepherd's pie baked potato, biscuit & cake  
Tuesday 6/9: Hot dog, tortellini pasta salad & fruit  
Tuesday 6/16: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, salad, garlic bread & pudding pie  
Thursday 6/18: Taco salad bar & fruit  
Tuesday 6/23: Chicken salad sandwich, garden salad & fruit

Tuesday 6/30: BBQ pork chops, seasoned potatoes, green beans & ice cream

**Friday Shopping Schedule:** Please call 48 hours in advance to schedule your ride. Grocery shopping pick up starts at 9:30.  
Hannaford: 6/26  
Walmart: 6/5 & 6/19  
Price Chopper: 6/12

**JUNE EVENTS:** The center will be closed on Friday June 19th in observance for Juneteenth.

**WELLNESS CLINIC DATES:** Monday June 8th & Tuesday June 23rd. Clinic is open from 10 am to 12 pm.

**Lunch & a movie:** Thursday June 18th @ 11:30. We will be enjoying the movie, "Last Breath." This movie is about a team of experienced underwater explorers face off against turbulent oceanic forces. Meanwhile, they strive to extract their imperiled teammate from the crushing depths. Their colleague remains ensnared hundreds of meters beneath the surface, fighting for survival in the unforgiving aquatic realm. Lunch is \$4.00 per person. Sign up by 6/12.

**Collette Travel:** Thursday June 25th @ 7:00. This will be a presentation for a trip in October 2027. This trip will be to the French Riviera. You will be informed about the trip, the cost, and travel dates.

**Annual Police BBQ:** Monday June 29th @ 12:00. Residents of Douglas are invited by the Douglas Police Department for lunch at The Grill on Main. Stop in the center to sign up & pick your menu choices. Sign up by 6/20.

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



Courtesy

In honor of the 40th anniversary of his ordination, a celebration was held at Galliford's Restaurant for Pastor Frank McKenzie of the First Congregational Church of Uxbridge. Pastor McKenzie has served in Uxbridge since 2019 after the retirement of their long time Pastor, Rev. Gordon Merten. Pastor Frank grew up in Cranston R.I., graduated from Bangor Seminary in Maine and was ordained at the Woodridge Congregational Church in Cranston in 1986. He has served churches in Pennsylvania, and here in Gardner. In the late 1990s, he completed a yearlong residency at the Clinical Pastoring in Staten Island, N.Y., and has been a full time hospice chaplain around Central Massachusetts for about 15 years. Parishioners, friends and family from across New England, gathered to celebrate this special event.

**PLUMMER PLACE**

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

The following events will take place at Plummer Place, Home of the Northbridge Senior Center. We are located at 20 Highland Street in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508) 234-2002. Northbridge residents have priority for all programming and events. Please call the main office to sign up for special events and programs, so we can plan accordingly.

**Medical Drivers**

We are in need of medical drivers for out-of-town medical appointments. This is a very important service that we provide for seniors who cannot drive themselves to their medical appointments. If you are interested and can spare any time, it would be most appreciated. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage. For more information, please call the main office.

**Regular Programs:**

- Meditation with Kelly
- Every Thursday morning at 9:30am
- Book Club:
- 3rd Wednesday at 10:30am
- June 17th: Summer on the Bluffs by Sunny Hostin
- Please call Kelly for more information.
- Scrabble:
- First and Third Mondays at 9:30am
- June 29th
- Women's Collective:
- 2nd Thursday at 10:00am
- Please call Amy for more information.
- Dull Men's Club:
- 4th Tuesday at 9:30am
- Tuesday, June 23rd State Representative David Muradian, Jr.
- Please call Amy for more information.
- Writing Your Way
- 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm
- Please call Lori for more information.

[www.StonebridgePress.com](http://www.StonebridgePress.com)



# Community Connection

**Morin JEWELERS**  
Fine Jewelry & Gifts  
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

**WE BUY GOLD**

**Specializing in Custom Designs**  
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS  
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA  
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250  
Located at CVS Plaza

**Charlton Oil**  
Propane  
508-248-9797

**Don't Pay Too Much for Propane**

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	Tanks Filled
0-50	\$4.99	301-500	\$2.25	to 80%
50-75	\$3.49	500 PLUS	\$2.10	
76-150	\$2.95	Dual Fuel	\$3.75	
151-300	\$2.55	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00	

**DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!**  
Monday price 6/15/26 was **\$4.15** per gallon\*  
100 gallon minimum  
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT [www.charltonoil.com](http://www.charltonoil.com)

**"Call Us First!"**  
\*prices subject to change

**Crooked Creek Farm**  
East Brookfield, Massachusetts



**Stock up now!**

**Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!**

To purchase your meat packages  
**CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308**  
[www.crookedcreekfarmma.org](http://www.crookedcreekfarmma.org)

**FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!**

**PLUMBING**

**JOHN DALY PLUMBING**  
The Homeowners Plumber, SINCE 1988

Faucets, Toilets, Pipe Repair, Garbage Disposals, Sinks, Vanities, Shower Valves, Outside Hose Connections, New Kitchen Sink Strainers and Undersink Re-Pipes, Sump Pumps, Sink Drain Cleaning,  
**Buy What You Like And I Will Install.**

Fully Licensed And Insured, License Number MPL-21763-J  
Call 508 304 7816 • [jdrainman714@aol.com](mailto:jdrainman714@aol.com)

For Advertising Information Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



All Photos by Timothy Ryan — Courtesy

# LIVING ROOM SALE

Our finest lines will include Names like La-z-boy, Craftmaster, Best, Ashley and Lancer

We are in the process of selling out some Floor Samples! Come check them out at **BIG SAVINGS**



**0% INTEREST - FOR 1 FULL YEAR!**

[www.sundeenfurnitureinc.com](http://www.sundeenfurnitureinc.com)

## Sundeen Furniture

241 Providence Rd., Whitinsville • 508-234-8777

FREE REMOVAL • FREE DELIVERY

M.T.W. 9:30-6:00; TH. & FRI. 9:30-7:00; SAT. 9:30-6:00; SUN 11-5



UXBRIDGE — Music and local history came together Sunday afternoon, as the Blackstone Valley Community Concert Band performed on the grounds of the historic Cornet John Farnum House, drawing residents for an afternoon of patriotic tunes, familiar favorites, and community fellowship.

Held June 14 at the historic home on Mendon Street, the concert featured two hours of live music performed by the volunteer ensemble, whose mission is reflected in its motto: "Music Unites Our Community."

Audience members gathered on the lawn of the 18th-century landmark, bringing lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy the performance in a setting that highlighted both Uxbridge's cultural and historical heritage. The event was hosted by the Uxbridge Historical Society as part of its ongoing effort to connect residents with the town's rich past while creating opportunities for community engagement.

The Cornet John Farnum House, one of the community's best-known historic homes, provided a fitting backdrop for the performance. The property serves as a reminder of Uxbridge's colonial roots and has become a focal point for educational programs, historical exhibits, and community events.

The event also provided an opportunity for residents to visit the historic property, learn more about the work of the Uxbridge Historical Society, and experience firsthand how community events can help bridge generations.



# EVERYBODY TALKS About Ford and Lamoureux Ford!

## LAMOUREUX



### Best Vehicle Lineup! Best Sales Experience!

Visit us on-line at [lamoureuxford.com](http://lamoureuxford.com)

*Treat Yourself, It's Time!*

### WE MAKE IT EASY!



366 E. Main Street, Rte. 9 • East Brookfield

**877-LAM-FORD or 508-885-1000**

SALES HOURS: Mon-Thurs 8:30am-6pm • Fri 8:30am-6pm • Sat 8:30am-3pm

SERVICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm • Sat 8am-Noon Sun-Closed

# COMMUNITY CONCERT BRINGS MUSIC AND HISTORY TOGETHER AT FARNUM HOUSE



**CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY**

**LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEK!**

6/19: RYAN HOOD  
6/21: KEAGAN STANDRING  
6/26: CHUCK CLOUGH  
6/28: EVAN COUTURE

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK  
11 - CLOSE  
CLOSED MONDAYS

Please visit our website or Facebook page for our full menu.

308 MAIN STREET  
EAST BROOKFIELD  
774-449-8333  
308LAKESIDE.COM

Find us on Facebook

**MUSIC BINGO EVERY THURSDAY 7 TO 9**

Please call 774-449-8333 for reservations, take-out or reserve online 308lakeside.com

Make Reservations for our Fathers' Day Brunch

**Local Mortgage Lending. Trusted Guidance.**

Whether you're buying your next home, building your dream house, or refinancing, UniBank's local mortgage lenders are here to help.

We'll put our expertise to work for you – offering personalized guidance and making the mortgage process feel a little less overwhelming and a lot more approachable. From your first home to your forever home – we're here to help.

**Let's Connect!**  
Visit [unibank.mymortgage-online.com](http://unibank.mymortgage-online.com) or scan the QR code to connect with one of our trusted lenders today.

**UNIBANK**  
Connecting all offices: 1.800.578.4270  
[www.unibank.com](http://www.unibank.com)

Member FDIC · NMLS #583135 \*Homeowners insurance required. Subject to credit approval. Other terms, fees, and conditions may apply.



**DON'T BUY 'TIL YOU SEE US!**

GREAT SELECTION! **TV SALE!** at **THE SPAGS OF SPENCER!**

Great Selection! **A/C's**

**GREAT SELECTION OF GAS GRILLS!**

**MATTRESS SALE!**

TWIN: \$199 / FULL: \$269 / QUEEN: \$299  
(REG. \$299) (REG. \$499) (REG. \$599)

**DEALS BETTER THAN the BIG BOX STORES!**

FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER REG. \$449.99 <b>\$329.99</b>	G.E. STOVE w/AIR FRY REG. \$899.99 <b>\$699.99</b>	SMOOTH-TOP STOVE REG. \$899.99 <b>\$599.99</b>	21 CU. FT. FREEZER REG. \$899.99 <b>\$799.99</b>
G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR REG. \$1999.99 <b>\$1499.99</b>	5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER REG. \$699.99 <b>\$499.99</b>	AMANA WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$599.99 <b>\$489.99</b>	ENERGY STAR 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR REG. \$699.99 <b>\$599.99</b>
FAMOUS-MAKER OVER-THE-STOVE MICROWAVE REG. \$249.99 <b>\$229.99</b>	LG WASHER OR DRYER Front Load - REG. \$1599.99 <b>\$1,399.99</b>	MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$899.99 <b>\$499.99</b>	FRIGIDAIRE SIDE BY SIDE REG. \$1,499.00 <b>\$1099.99</b>

**BIKE SALE!**

1000's IN STOCK! WE REPAIR BIKES!

E-BIKES IN STOCK!

SPRING BIKE TUNE-UP: **\$49.99!**

**INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!**

**WHITCO**

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA  
**508.885.9343**  
SEE [WHITCOALES.COM](http://WHITCOALES.COM)  
FOR 100's OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. thru Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 12 Noon-7pm

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

## University of Hartford Students named to Dean's and President's Lists

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that 2,332 students have been named to the Dean's List and President's List for the spring 2026 semester.

The Dean's List recognizes students achieving superior academic standing. The requirement, with some exceptions, is a grade point average of at least 3.0 and no grade below C.

The President's List recognizes a select group of students reaching the highest level of academic standing. To be placed on the President's List, students must maintain a GPA of at least a 3.75 and receive grades of C or better.

Please join us in congratulating:

Jada Gonzalez - Douglas - Dean's List  
Lee Warner - Uxbridge - Dean's List and President's List

Congratulations to all our students on their hard work and academic achievements

The University of Hartford blends raw passion with emerging talent, offering intentional preparation across six career-focused schools and colleges so every student can thrive. Located on a 350-acre campus neighboring Connecticut's capital city and positioned midway between New York City and Boston the University is home to approximately 4,300 undergraduate and 1,700 graduate students from 42 states and 53 countries. Here, students are guided to discover their place, their people, and their purpose.

## Area residents named to Dean's List at University of New England

BIDDEFORD/PORTLAND, Maine — Olivia Dunleavy and Gillian McGee of Douglas; Hannah Dizenzo of Northbridge; Aidan Blood, Carson Da Costa, Emma Demers, Jacob Piascik, and Tanner Russ of Uxbridge; and Samantha Billmyer, Sosie DerKorsofian, and Morgan Dion of Whitinsville have been named to the University of New England's Dean's List for the spring semester 2026. Dean's List students have attained a grade point average of 3.3 or better out of a possible 4.0 at the end of the semester.

The University of New England is Maine's largest independent university, with two beautiful coastal campuses in Maine, a one-of-a-kind study-abroad campus in Tangier, Morocco, and an array of flexible online offerings. In an uncommonly welcoming and supportive community, we offer hands-on learning, empowering students to make a positive impact in a world full of challenges. We are the state's top provider of health professionals and home to Maine's only medical and dental colleges, physician assistant program, and pharmacy school, in addition to a variety of other interprofessionally aligned health care programs and nationally recognized programs in the marine sciences, the natural and social sciences, business, the humanities, and the arts. Visit [www.une.edu](http://www.une.edu).

## Springfield College recognizes Dean's List students

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield College recognized its Dean's List students for the 2026 Spring Semester. The following local students were recognized for academic excellence:

Karlee Battista from Northbridge. Battista has a primary major of Sport Management.

Elizabeth Connolly from Northbridge. Connolly has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PT.

Caitlyn DeLuca from Uxbridge. DeLuca has a primary major of Education.

Corey Gjeltema from Whitinsville. Gjeltema has a primary major of Health Science.

Charbel Najem from Douglas. Najem has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PT.

Evan Wheeler from Douglas. Wheeler has a primary major of Health Science / Pre-PT.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term. Student must not have been barred from Dean's List due to disciplinary action.

## Students named to Champlain College Dean's List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — The following students have been named to the Champlain College Dean's List for achieving a grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the Spring 2026 semester.

Gavin Francisco of Douglas  
Matthew O'Neill of Douglas  
Riley Plourde of Uxbridge

Founded in 1878, Champlain College is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Vermont, with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland. Champlain offers a residential undergraduate experience from its beautiful campus overlooking Lake Champlain. Additionally, Champlain College Online provides an expansive portfolio of online degrees and certificates, reaching students across all 50 states and U.S. territories, while fostering strategic partnerships with forward-thinking workforce organizations. The College is known for its distinctive and innovative approach to career-focused education and its Upside-Down Curriculum, which helps students be ready for work, ready for life, and ready to make a difference. Champlain is ranked as one of the "Best Colleges" by U.S. News & World Report for 2025, and was named one of the "Best 390 Colleges" by The Princeton Review for 2025, including among its "Best Northeastern colleges." For more information, visit [www.champlain.edu](http://www.champlain.edu).

## BHS Class of 1986 seeks community's help locating classmates for 40th reunion

REGION — As the Bartlett High School Class of 1986 prepares to celebrate its 40th reunion on Sept. 26, organizers are asking the community for assistance in locating classmates who have not yet been reached through social media or via text.

To make the process simple, the reunion committee has created a short contact-information form and is encouraging residents, friends, and former classmates to help spread the word. If you know someone on the "missing classmates" list, organizers ask that you text them the link to the form so they can update their information.

Contact Info Form: <https://tinyurl.com/BHS1986-40Years>  
If it's easier, you may also complete the form on a classmate's behalf—so long as you have their current contact details. Organizers emphasize that any help tracking them down is truly appreciated, as personal connections often succeed where digital outreach falls short.

A list of classmates the committee is hoping to locate appears below. With the community's support, they hope every member of the Class of '86 will have the opportunity to join this milestone celebration.  
Peter Allain  
Beth Antonopoulos  
Marie Aperges  
Andrew Baca  
Austin Bailey  
David Beardsley  
Frank Belanger  
Carolyn Bembek  
Richard Bernier  
Sheila Bialoncik  
Beth Bialy  
Jason Borski  
Doreen Bourget  
Eric Brisbois  
Kathleen Brown  
Paul Browning  
Paul Bugan  
Cindy Bullens  
Sandra Butt  
Mont Canterbury  
Stephen Carlson  
Daniel Chapdelaine  
Kelly Cobb  
Ken Courmoyer  
Timothy Decker  
Tammy Deschenes  
Aaron Dorcas  
Daniel Doyle  
D o r o t h y  
DusoSelina Fife  
James Gardner  
Jeffrey Gatto  
Tina Giakoumis  
Alicia Goudreau  
Richard Guerin  
Robert Hamm  
Scott Horanzy  
Jane Houle  
Todd Hufault  
Joseph Hughes  
Melissa Jankowski  
Thor Johnson  
Nena Johnston  
Lisa Kozlowski  
Robert Krasnecky  
Jill Krause  
Michael Kryger  
Rick Lawson  
Deborah Leite  
Linda Lifer  
Patricia Majewski  
Renee Marchand  
Jennifer Marsh  
Jennifer Mason  
John Meagher  
Fumiyo Mochizuki  
Deborah Munsch  
Brett Napierata  
Wayne Parmentier  
Brian Poplawski  
Gary Poplawski  
Edward Powers  
William Radcliffe  
James Remy  
Debra Ross  
Collin Salmon  
Dale Schleis  
Theresa Sergel  
Henry Skiba  
Alan Standrowicz  
Jeffrey Surozenski  
Karen Toukonen  
Joseph Veronick  
Douglas Waldron  
Robert Wheeler  
Edward Zdrok



**BUMA**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
Uxbridge • Whitinsville • Milford  
[www.bumafuneralhome.com](http://www.bumafuneralhome.com)

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



*Jackman Funeral Home*  
7 Mechanic St. Douglas, MA  
12 Spring St., Whitinsville, MA  
*Tancress-Jackman Funeral Home*  
35 Snowling Rd., Uxbridge, MA  
(508) 278-2200 - Reaches All Locations  
[JackmanFuneralHome@yahoo.com](mailto:JackmanFuneralHome@yahoo.com) ~ [JackmanFuneralHomes.com](http://JackmanFuneralHomes.com)

# LEGALS

**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304, Docket No. WO26P1722GD, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The Trial Court, Probate and Family Court, Worcester Probate and Family Court, 225 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608. In the matter of: Austin Escobar of Uxbridge, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person**  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Department of Children and Families of Brockton, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Austin Escobar** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Department of Children and Families of Brockton, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian(s) to serve **Without Surety** on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardians are appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. **You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of **07/07/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. **IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**The outcome of this proceeding may**

limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. **WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.** Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate, Date: June 08, 2026 June 19, 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. WO15P4056EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**  
Estate of:  
**Maureen A. Kemp**  
Date of Death: 06/11/2015  
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Kathleen Kemp of Grant FL** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, 1st and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m.** on the return date of **07/07/2026**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this

proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. **WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.** Date: June 09, 2026 Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate June 19, 2026

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
Premises: 54 Carney Street, Uxbridge, MA 01569

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Bear Iona McColloch and Courtney R. McColloch to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company, and now held by **Freedom Mortgage Corporation**, said mortgage dated April 18, 2024 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70411, Page 210, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") as mortgagee, as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company Limited Partnership to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment dated July 23, 2025 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 72296, Page 247; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on July 20, 2026 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

*A certain lot or parcel of land being shown as Lot No. 1 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, Prepared for Harold F., Jr. and Jeanne M. Francis, Scale*

*1" = 40' dated January 16, 1997 by Andrews Survey and Engineering, Inc., 104 Mendon Street, Uxbridge, Mass. 01569" and being recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 713 as Plan 64. This conveyance is made subject to and with the benefit of restrictions and easements of record so far as now in force and applicable. For title see deed recorded herewith.*

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

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated April 9, 2024 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70411, Page 207.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC  
23 Messenger Street  
2nd Floor  
Plainville, MA 02762  
Attorney for Freedom Mortgage Corporation  
Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 217-8701

June 19, 2026  
June 26, 2026  
July 3, 2026

All Saints Academy preschoolers celebrate a year of learning and growth



WEBSTER — The preschool students at All Saints Academy proudly celebrated the completion of a successful school year during their Preschool Celebration 2026. Family members and friends gathered to enjoy a heartwarming program that highlighted the many skills and accomplishments the students achieved throughout the year.

The celebration began with a welcome from the narrator, who reflected on the children's growth, learning, and friendships. The students then processed into the ceremony, enthusiastically waving to their families. Faith played a central role in the program as the children began by reciting the Our Father, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Throughout the year, the preschoolers learned the importance of prayer,

respect, kindness, and working together as a classroom community.

The students proudly demonstrated many of the skills they practiced throughout the school year while families smiled as the children showcased their growing knowledge and enthusiasm for learning. Musical performances added to the celebration. The students delighted the audience with a lively rendition of "I'm a Little Teapot" and sang a colorful song highlighting the many colors they learned throughout the year.

Before receiving their certificates, the children recited their lunchtime prayer, demonstrating another daily routine that has been an important part of their preschool experience. A special highlight of the event was the presentation of certificates, recognizing each child's hard work,

growth, and accomplishments throughout the year. Proud families applauded as each student was recognized.

The celebration concluded with a farewell message reflecting on the friendships, memories, and learning experiences shared throughout the year. While saying goodbye to preschool, the students look forward with excitement to the adventures and opportunities that await them next year. The Preschool Celebration served as a joyful reminder of how much the children have grown academically, socially, and spiritually during their time at All Saints Academy. The school community congratulates its preschool graduates and wishes them continued success as they take their next steps in their educational journey.

Douglas Sunshine Club offers French Riviera trip

DOUGLAS — You are invited to join The Douglas Sunshine Club on a trip to the French Riviera with Collette Travel in October 2027.

We are going Oct. 14-22 on Collette's spotlight tour with lodging, all nights at one location, at the Radisson Blu Hotel Nice! All the daily excursions will leave and return to this hotel.

There will be an informational presentation with a Collette representative and AAA travel agent from Webster on June 25 at 7 p.m. in the Douglas Adult Social Center, at which time the itinerary and a PowerPoint, along with trip planning will be discussed. The trip information flyers are now available for you to review prior to the presentation. All your questions will be answered at this get together. Flyers are at the Douglas Adult Social Center, located at 331 Main St., Douglas, or call Pam Schwartz at 508-476-4474 for one to be mailed to you.

# Home Spring Auto

**AUTO BODY / REPAIRS**

**KEARNS COLLISION REPAIR**

Since 1969  
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal  
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services  
Warranted Work & Repairs  
Diagnostics • A/C Repair  
Tune Ups & Engine Repair  
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS  
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop  
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)  
Northbridge, MA 01534  
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231  
www.kearnscollision.com  
Fully Certified • RS# 2678

**CONTRACTING**

Indoor/Outdoor Remodeling  
Decks~ Kitchens ~Bathrooms  
Door~ Bedrooms ~ Floors ~Painting ~ Etc.  
Landscaping  
Mowing ~ Leaf Cleanups Plowing  
Hedge Trimming ~ Stone/Mulch beds  
Tree Work ~ Etc

Owner: Seth Goudreau  
774-402-4694  
Prices beating the competition  
Free Estimates Fully Insured

**Black Diamond CONTRACTING**

**LAWNMOWERS**

**WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER**  
ALWAYS THE BEST SERVICE

Snowblower & Generator Repair  
Tractor Service  
Tune-Ups & Repairs  
Pickup & Delivery

508-987-2775  
492 Main St Oxford  
WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER.COM

**Stump Grinding**

**MILLER STUMP GRINDING**

Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified

Fully Insured • Free Quotes  
**REASONABLE RATES**  
**PROMPT SERVICE**  
ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER  
OWNERS / OPERATORS  
508-688-2159

**Painting**

**FRESH COLOR PAINTING**  
YOUR VISION IN COLOR

**SPRING PRESSURE WASHING**  
15% OFF if you respond before June 30th  
Over 15 Years Experience  
Local Owned, Operated and Insured  
Call Today: 774-241-6399

**CHIMNEYS/MASONRY**

**CHIMNEY CLEANINGS**  
Starting at \$99  
ALL KINDS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE WORK  
New & Repairs, Repointing, Rebuilding, Re-lining, Waterproofing, Foundation & Chimney Repair, New & Stair Repair, Concrete Walkways, Stonewalls, New Roofs, Construction & Carpentry.  
Need to get it done? Call me!  
-FREE Estimates-  
Quality Chimney (508)752-1003

**ELECTRICIAN**

**COLONNA ELECTRIC LLC**  
Lic.# A1-8844

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL, GENERATORS, FIRE ALARM & EV CHARGERS

Call (508) 234-4889

**GUTTERS**

**GUTTER CLEANINGS**

30+ years exp Licensed & Insured

508-867-2877  
508-754-9054  
A. Eagle Gutters  
aeaglegutters.com

**Home Improvement**

**BONETTI'S Home Improvement**  
Roofing  
Siding  
Decks  
Remodeling  
Windows  
Doors  
Basement Finishing  
Gutters Cleaning  
Pressure Washing  
Painting Landscaping

Over 25 Years Experience  
Residential Specialist  
Licensed and Insured  
128231  
508-347-4906  
Cell 508-688-0072

For Advertising Information, Call 774-200-7308  
email:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

**Got Space? we do.**

Contact Mikaela Today  
774-200-7308  
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

**MASONRY**

**C J MASONRY HARDSCAPE**  
RETAINING WALLS  
OUTDOOR LIVING CONSTRUCTION

Chimney Repair  
Foundation Repair  
Steps, Patios  
Water Proofing  
Walkways  
Stone Veneer  
Brick and Block Work  
Cord Wood

Brian French  
(413)222-5542  
cmasonryhardscape@gmail.com

**GJ LEDUC PAINTING**

Interior and Exterior

Power Washing  
Wallpapering  
General Repair  
Fully Insured  
Over 40+ Years Experience  
508-764-8548  
774-230-8373

**Plumbing**

**MIKE LAMBERT'S PLUMBING & HEATING INC.**  
LIC# 08845-34

Commercial, Residential, New Construction

369 Main St, Ste 4  
Spencer, MA  
1-833-969-4330  
Fully Insured

MIKELAMBERTSPANDEH@GMAIL.COM

**ROOFING**

**David Barbale ROOFING**

Roofing/Gutters  
Repair Work

Fully Licensed and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127  
MA HIC. LIC #1079721  
INS. # CAC032585  
C: 508-397-6709  
O: 508-248-6709  
davidbarbale.com

**Roofing**

**SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING**

Read our reviews at the Better Business Bureau. A+ rating and accredited member since 2009.

Call Bill Toll-Free  
1-866-961-Roof  
508-765-0100

Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available

MA Reg #153955  
CSL #095459  
CT-HIC #0638641

Fully Insured, Free Estimates  
Family Owned and Operated  
Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

# Cornerstone Bank donates \$6,000 to support Habitat for Humanity project building playhouses for veteran families



**WORCESTER** — Cornerstone Bank has donated \$6,000 to Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester to support the 2026 Operation Playhouse Build-A-Thon, which took place Thursday, June 4, at Elm Park in Worcester.

The contribution marks the ninth consecutive year Cornerstone Bank has donated to the initiative. In addition to the financial support, bank employees

participated in the event as part of an annual volunteer day.

During the Build-A-Thon, teams of eight to ten volunteers came together to construct custom playhouses for children of veteran and military families. Each structure was designed around a theme selected by the recipient family and was completed in a single day with guidance from Habitat staff and trained volunteers.

“This event brought together teamwork, creativity and community impact in a very meaningful way,” said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. “Our employees look forward to this volunteer day each year and have taken great pride in building something special for local families who have served our country.”

Funds raised through Operation Playhouse sup-

port Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester’s broader mission to provide safe, decent and affordable housing across the 42 cities and towns it serves.

About Cornerstone Bank  
Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts,

Cornerstone Bank’s local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone, which is a subsidiary of PeoplesBankCorp, MHC, operating independently under its own name and brand, provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations. With the addition of Athol

Savings Bank, a Division of Cornerstone Bank, in 2026, Cornerstone offers customers access to 17 branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts, the most in Worcester County. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. To learn about Cornerstone Bank’s personal and business banking offerings, please visit [cornerstonebank.com](http://cornerstonebank.com) or call 800-939-9103.

## Central Mass. farmers’ market season starts now!

**REGION** — May marks the semi-official beginning to farmers market season, with many of the seasonal farmers’ markets in our region starting their regular schedules, with more starting in June. Central Mass Grown is proud to support more than two dozen farmers markets across the Worcester County area.

Just in the city of Worcester, residents can choose from no less than six different markets, including the markets run by the Regional Environmental Council, both the Beaver Brook Market (306 Chandler St.) Friday mornings starting June 12 and the University Park Market (965 Main St.) Saturday mornings starting June 13, plus the Out To Lunch Market on the Worcester Common Oval behind City Hall every Wednesday from June 24 to Aug. 26. On Sundays, there’s both the Market on Exchange Street starting May 17th and the Brussels Street Market starting June 7. And on Thursdays, check out the Burncoat Center for Arts and Wellness at 78 Burncoat St. for their new farmers market starting May 14th. Some

of these markets feel like festivals, while others are farmers markets in the truest sense, focused on offering fresh food and agricultural products directly from local farms.

Throughout the region, there’s a market nearly every day of the week: for example, the

Sturbridge Farmers Market on Sunday, Holden on Tuesday, Grafton on Wednesday,

Westborough on Thursday, and Westminster on Friday. And so many, many more markets featuring a wide variety of items you won’t find anywhere in supermarkets, including purple cauliflower, celeriac, husk cherries, goat cheese, duck eggs, or alpaca wool socks!

Every farmers’ market is important to the farmers and other vendors that are there.

According to Central Mass Grown Executive Director David Reed, “Farmers markets are a vital source of revenue for farmers, because every dollar goes right back to them. And they are an important

way for consumers to see where their food, flowers, wool, and soap all come from. If you usually shop in a big box store or online, you’ve never had a real chance to know anything about what you are buying.”

Most farmers markets in our region have one or more farms that participate in the Healthy Incentives Programs, a benefit connected to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). SNAP recipients can use their EBT card to purchase fresh produce from participating farms and receive an immediate refund to their card, up to a monthly limit that is

based on household size. The end result? Free farm-fresh fruits and vegetables, and the reward of knowing you supported your local farm!

So this summer season, visit a farmers’ market and take a second to say hi to your local

farmers. The farmers want to meet you. They want to say hi. Because farming is hard work, and they do it because they love it and they want you to love it, too.

Find out more about local farmers markets at [centralmassgrown.org](http://centralmassgrown.org).

### PARKS

continued from page A1

across from the River Bend Farm Visitor Center at 287 Oak St. in Uxbridge for guided observations of celestial events throughout the year. Upcoming sessions are planned for July 17, Aug. 28, Sept. 18, Oct. 23 and Nov. 6.

Highlights include a June evening featuring Venus, Jupiter and Mercury, an August full moon rising shortly after sunset, and a November program that will include viewing opportunities for the Milky Way.

The programs are suitable for all ages, although children must be accompanied by an adult. Organizers recommend dressing for weather conditions and bringing insect repellent.

Outdoor enthusiasts can also take advantage of the Exploring the Blackstone River Valley Recreational Hike Series, which began May 3 and continues each Sunday through June 28.

The hikes will visit sev-

eral regional conservation areas and state parks, including Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, Upton State Forest, Douglas State Forest, Whitehall State Park and the Blackstone River Greenway.

Among the featured outings are the Worcester Greenway Hike on June 28.

The guided hikes vary in length and difficulty, ranging from a two-mile paved walk along the Blackstone River Greenway in Millville to more challenging woodland routes featuring rocky terrain and steep inclines.

Participants are encouraged to wear sturdy footwear and bring water and insect repellent. Children attending must be accompanied by an adult.

The DCR is also continuing efforts to create welcoming outdoor experiences for all visitors through its annual Pride Hike program.

This year’s regional Pride Hike is scheduled for June 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Douglas State Forest. Participants will meet

at the Ridge Trail parking area and complete an approximately 2.5-mile hike over gravel surfaces and steep inclines.

The event is designed for LGBTQIA+ individuals, their families and allies, providing an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in an inclusive and supportive environment. Organizers encourage participants to wear pride colors and prepare for changing weather conditions.

The Pride Hike is recommended for ages 12 and older. Restroom and water facilities are not available at the trailhead.

DCR officials note that all programs are subject to change or cancellation due to weather or other conditions. Up-to-date information is available by calling the park office at (508) 278-7604.

The Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park serves as one of the region’s premier gateways to outdoor recreation, offering access to trails, historic canal features, wildlife viewing opportunities and educational programming throughout the year.

Home Town Service, **BIG TIME RESULTS**

**Town-to-Town**

# CLASSIFIEDS

## 774-200-7308

Place your ad today!

**FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:**  
Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need.  
24/7 Support  
Generous Reimbursement, \$1000 Sign-On Bonus.  
Call For Details.  
**Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care.**  
(508)829-6769  
**Devereux**  
ADVANCED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

**Jayco Jay Feather 2010 Eagle Super Lite (Trail) EX-Port 17 Camper for sale. Great Condition \$5,500 or BO. (413) 245-9461**

**WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED: WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!**  
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc.  
Over 40 years' experience.  
Call David (508) 688-0847. I'LL COME TO YOU!

Advertise Here



# REAL ESTATE



**hope2own.com**  
508.943.4333

Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker  
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

**We Want Your Listings!**

*Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)  
Commercial Opportunity!*



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

List Price: \$ 615,000

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

*Webster - 3 Oakwood Dr*



Meticulously maintained Colonial, 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 baths, 2 car garage, conveniently located on a park-like one acre, picturesque views. Kitchen is a culinary enthusiast's delight, elegant formal living/dining rms offer a sophisticated ambiance enhanced by hardwood flrs, crown moldings & custom built-ins.

**REALTOR MLS # 73523347 \$589,900**

*Webster - 18 DiDonato Ave  
Featured New Listing!*



**THIS IS THE ONE: AN AFFORDABLE-ONE-LEVEL-MOVE-IN-READY-RANCH!** Offers 980 SF+, 2 BRs, 1 Bath & partially finished walk-out LL Family Room. Situated on a 7,104 sf (0.16 Ac) level lot w/80' road frontage, a fenced backyard, & 2 CAR GARAGE! Conveniently located in East Village, just a short putt to shopping, restaurants & Webster Lake's Memorial Beach! 1st Time Offered

**\$333,000**

*Webster ~ 33 Slater Street*



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, hardwood & c-tile floors,

**\$499,000**

*Webster - 4 Eastern Ave  
Featured New Listing!*



Coming Soon! 1st Time Offered! Beautifully maintained, 1 Owner Raised Ranch. Lovingly cared for, & 3-season porch, oversized living rm, 3 BRs, Primary BR w/full bath, 2 car garage. Bonus: A Lower Level Walkout 1 BR Apartment!

**Price: \$569,900.**

*Webster - 24 Cooper Rd  
New Construction - Craftsman Style home*



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

**\$649,900.00**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

*Webster Lake Waterfront  
22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa*

**OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY 1:30 - 3:00**  
*Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!*  
*Most Luxurious & Largest on the Lake!*

Presenting a distinguished condo residence that will provide an exceptional waterfront lifestyle! Offers an expansive 4600 sf+ featuring 4BRs, 4-1/2 baths, 3 frplcs & more, all designed for relaxation & convenience! Nothing quite compares! Priced to Sell. VIEW REALTOR MLS # 73507605 FOR MORE DETAILS \$1,050,000.

*Webster Lake Waterfront!  
On Indian Point # 10*



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Astounding Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage.

**\$ 900,000.**

*Webster Lake -  
302 Killdeer Island*



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Lakefront home w/1,700+/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Full baths. Lower level family room w/ walkout to water.

**\$775,000**


*Webster Lake Waterfront -  
31 Bayview!!*




**SORRY, SOLD!**

Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront!

**\$1,100,000**



# REAL ESTATE



**PUT YOUR TRUST IN US  
TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE**

Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044  
Diane Luong 774-239-2937  
Maria Reed 508-873-9254  
Bob Berk 508-367-9226  
Deb Listewnik 508-847-0872

**ReMax Vision • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608**  
CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

<p><b>BROOKFIELD MEADOWS- 55+ COMMUNITY</b></p>  <p>*3 Bedrooms * 2 Baths *Cathedral Ceilings *Central Air * Storage Shed * New Upgraded Flooring *Fireplace</p> <p><b>20 Deer Run \$285,000</b></p>	<p><b>OXFORD- CHARMING COLONIAL</b></p>  <p>*2 Full Baths * 35' Potential Family Room * 3 Bedrooms *1st Floor Laundry * Recent Roof, Heating</p> <p><b>3 Elm St \$445,000</b></p>	<p><b>SOUTHBRIDGE CONDO</b></p>  <p>*2 Bedrooms *2 Baths *Deck *Breakfast Bar *Applianced Kitchen</p> <p><b>18A Maria Ave \$219,900</b></p>	
<p><b>NORTHBRIDGE- CAPE</b></p>  <p>*1.5 Baths *Hardwood Floors * 5 Yr. Old Heating System *Solar</p> <p><b>551 Fletcher St \$429,900</b></p>	<p><b>LEICESTER- WATERFRONT</b></p> <p>3 Bedrooms Walk Out Lower Level Dock Low 600's</p>	<p><b>WORCESTER- COMING SOON!</b></p> <p>*2 Bedrooms *2.5 Baths * Garage *Great Yard</p> <p><b>\$449,900</b></p>	<p><b>DUDLEY- PRICE REDUCTION</b></p> <p>2100 Sq. ft. Hardwood Floors, Gas, Heat, Gas Fireplace, 2.5 Baths</p> <p><b>\$679,900</b></p>



## MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Thinking about moving?



Whether you're buying your first home, upgrading, downsizing, or simply curious about today's market, I'm here to help you navigate every step with confidence.

- ✓ Local Market Expertise
- ✓ Personalized Service
- ✓ Strong Negotiation Skills
- ✓ Dedicated to Your Success



**Bob Berk Realtor®**  
508-367-9226  
bobberkrealtor@gmail.com

Find Out What Your Home Is Worth Today!



**When Experience and Commitment Matter**



**Mary Vigilantura Stolarczyk**  
ABR, GRI, CRS, C2EX RE/MAX Hall of Fame  
508.612.1382  
MESRealty.com  
Mary@WillSellit.com



"I SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"

ReMax Professional Associates  
Licensed in MA & CT  
We need properties to sell - any type!

**Conrad Allen**  
508.400.0438  
callen1995@aol.com




**ERA Key Realty SERVICES**  
Donna Flannery Realtor®  
508-612-6771  
Donnaflanneryrealtor.com  
Donnaflannery@erakey.net

**OVER 30 YEARS SELLING LOCAL REAL ESTATE**  
NATIONAL ERA FINALIST TWICE FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE

**TOP AGENT YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR # OF UNITS SOLD & SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME**  
ERA HALL OF FAME

415B Main Street Spencer, MA 01562

## Got Space? we do.

Contact Mikaela Today  
774-200-7308  
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

**BUYERS COFFEE HOUR**  
JUNE 27TH • 11AM-12NOON

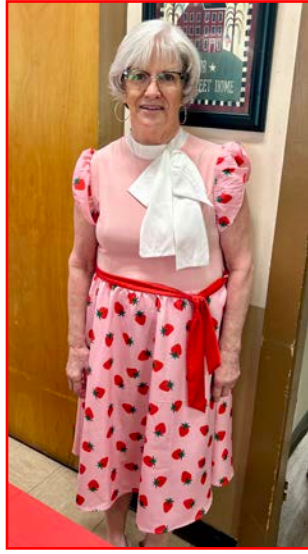
- \*Let's Tale Real Estate
- \*Discuss Financing Options
- \*Buyer Representation



Jo-Ann (Nedoroscik) Szymczak  
CRS, GRI, SRES  
508-943-7669  
774-230-5044

**ReMax Vision**  
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608  
CALL JO-ANN FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT





# Strawberry Festival at the Northbridge Senior Center



TOP-RATED, LOCAL ROOFING CONTRACTOR SERVING CHARLTON AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. Financing available and major credit cards accepted.



**ANDREW PORTER**  
CONTRACTING, INC



# ROOFING

**NO ONE DOES IT BETTER**

It's a bold statement. But one that we proudly stand behind—because **trust, quality and affordability** come standard with every job. No gimmicks, no markups and no shortcuts. Just good, honest work.

Call or text 774-452-2129, or visit [APCROOFS.com](http://APCROOFS.com).



## UniQue Checking. Designed Around Your Life.

### Experience a UniQue way to bank.

Our new UniQue Checking accounts make banking feel effortless. With two custom crafted accounts, you're able to choose the benefits that fit your lifestyle. Prefer an enhanced experience? Step up to our UniQue Plus Checking for even more rewards, access, and value.

Select the checking account that fits your goals. Apply online or visit any branch to get started.



**UNIBANK**



Member FDIC | NMLS #583135 | 800.578.4270  
49 Church Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588