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Friday, November 1, 2024

Town Meeting OK's auditorium, sewer proposals

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — Town Meeting voters gave a thumbs-up to a proposal to renovate the Town Hall auditorium into a new event hall, 83-18.

The proposal was originally drafted assuming the voters needed to approve it first, but acting Moderator Randy Becker said the town attorney determined the Selectmen have authority to negotiate without such prior approval. Instead of being binding, it became an effort “to get the sense of the community given the significant size and scope of this potential project.”

Right out of the gate, the Finance Committee's Kaitlin Morin raised concerns about the lack of financial documentation at this stage. To her, it might “cost more than it brings in.” A big part of that, she added, is the fact state law might require all of Town Hall be upgraded to meet current building and accessibility codes if this renovation costs more than 30 percent of the whole building's value.

Even with that vote, however, the project faces a lot of work before any actual change can happen, and Town Administrator Rick Lafond noted Morin's issues are “exactly the types of concerns we have to be aware of.”

The project will have to go through the formal Request for Proposal process, and still needs fiscal, maintenance, accessibility, traffic impact and other analyses, he added. Although the idea came from Chris Robert (owner of Indian Ranch and the Samuel Slater Experience), Lafond said nobody has “exclusivity over performing the project.” The project conditions “have to be suitable to all parties,” so “it is possible that won't ever happen,” he said.

“The town is not interested in paying for any significantly increased capital cost as a result of a project like this,” Lafond said. “... My caution is that if we don't do it right, it won't happen at all.”

Robert said his “rough estimate” of the cost to “get the theater back in usable condition” is around \$4 million, and pledged “the town will not have a financial burden of any substance” beyond potentially adding bathrooms if he does the work. His goal is to have the site run cheaply enough that high school and college drama groups will be able to rent it for performances, and he hopes to have it open in the last quarter of 2025, he said.

He pledged to “make sure that budget doesn't have an operating cost to the town of anything.”

Select Board Chair Earl Gabor said his board “will vet this thoroughly.”

Turn To **WEBSTER** page **A10**



Courtesy

Visitors enjoyed some good, old-fashioned fun with the local community at Saint Louis Church on Oct. 25 playing the classic Halloween game Donut on a String!

Oxford School Committee raises concerns over communication with town

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — The School Committee revisited their long-standing concern over communication between town and schools.

Palmina Griffin argued years ago there was “a great collaborative nature between the two departments,” and she thought former business manager Justin Ledoux's transfer to the town manager's office would improve communication. Instead, though, she said “the iron curtain is up” and “things are not being transparent and honest.”

Griffin said she wants a complete list of the things schools have paid for in recent years and an audit of the town/school “indirect costs” agreement, which started in 2017. She also suggested reaching out to former superintendents and others for documentation on that agreement, noting she plans to dig into her own records, since she was on the committee then.

According to current Business Manager Matt Bobola, it featured “a list of stuff they could do.” The schools don't actually pay the town for those indirect costs; the town just reports them to the state as part of the town's state-required school support, he added.

“It's kind of a tricky thing,” he said. “They're not

Turn To **OXFORD** page **A10**

Community bids fond farewell to Konieczny on retirement

DUDLEY — The residents of Dudley and the regional firefighting community came together Oct. 18 to celebrate and send off Deputy Fire Chief Paul Konieczny on his last day of duty at the Dudley Fire Department before heading off into retirement.

Konieczny joined the Dudley Fire Department in 1988. He was promoted to Emergency Management Deputy in 2001, to Lieutenant in 2004, Captain in 2011, and to Assistant Chief in 2019, which was later retitled to Deputy Fire Chief.

“For over three decades, I've been fortunate to have seen Deputy Chief Konieczny through multiple different lenses, always drawing the same conclusion: the Town is indebted to him for his willingness to

Turn To **KONIECZNY** page **A10**



Courtesy

The residents of Dudley and the regional firefighting community came together Oct. 18 to celebrate and send off Deputy Fire Chief Paul Konieczny on his last day of duty at the Dudley Fire Department before heading off into retirement

Dudley approves playground funding at Town Meeting



Jason Bleau

The closed Fun Zone playground is set to be replaced by a more modern and safer playscape following the project's approval at town meeting.

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Dudley's fall special town meeting on Oct. 21 was an eventful one, with several major issues up for discussion

on the warrant. Perhaps the biggest talking point was an article proposing funding for a new playground which was the subject of two different votes over the course of the night.

The playground has been the subject of numerous meetings and a well-attended public hearing earlier this year as well as an extensive fundraising campaign by the Dudley Woman's

Club. The proposal as the special town meeting sought to borrow \$704,410 to create the Richard Carmignani Sr. Memorial Playground at the Town Municipal Complex, which would replace the

Fun Zone playground which was closed in 2021 due to a health and safety concerns. The Dudley Woman's Club lead a successful fundraiser to help offset the cost of a new facility and a public hearing in April saw around 60 children and their parents participate in an interactive planning process to help prioritize the potential features of the playground. More recently, the town received a Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant that would cover 70 percent of the cost, equating to \$496,650 of the proposed borrowing in the article. The grant is contingent upon the approval of the article which sought to establish a funding mechanism for the project required to receive the reimbursement. Assuming the price tag didn't change, this

Turn To **DUDLEY** page **A10**

Saint Joseph School presents 2024 Volunteer of the Year Award

Courtesy
On Sunday, Oct. 6, Saint Joseph School awarded the Saint Joseph the Worker Volunteer of the Year Award to Eva and Jacek Podgorny of Oxford, MA. The award is presented annually and honors those whose time, talents, and commitment make a meaningful difference in the life of the school. (Pictured left to right: Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski, Jacek Podgorny, Eva Podgorny, and Principal Beth Boudreau.)



At Saint Joseph School, volunteers are the heart of our community, and their selfless dedication is deeply appreciated. Therefore, each year, the school recognizes one or more outstanding individuals who go above and beyond to support the school by presenting them with the Saint Joseph the Worker Volunteer of the Year Award. This award honors those whose time, talents, and commitment make a meaningful difference in the life of Saint Joseph School students.

Recipients of this prestigious award embody Saint Joseph's values—humility, service, and dedication to hard work. Their contributions reflect the very essence of the school: to foster a community grounded in faith, learning, and love. Saint Joseph School is incredibly grateful for all they do, and is excited to continue celebrat-

ing those who devote their time and energy to making the school such a wonderful place.

Saint Joseph School is thrilled and filled with joy to announce that Eva and Jacek Podgorny are this year's recipients of the Saint Joseph the Worker Volunteer of the Year Award. Their achievements bring the Saint Joseph School community a sense of shared pride and joy.

Eva and Jacek have been pillars of the Saint Joseph School community for many years, offering their time, energy, and skills in numerous capacities. Their contributions have significantly enriched the school, inspiring families with their dedication and service.

Eva and Jacek were married in October 2001 and have made their home in Oxford. It was always important to them that their children attend Catholic school to build a solid academic and spiritual foundation. Together, they have three boys—Sebastian, Adam, and Max—who all attended Saint Joseph School from PreK-3 through eighth grade.

Today, Sebastian is

a junior at Assumption University, Adam is a junior at Marianapolis Preparatory School, and Max is a freshman there. Jacek also has a daughter, Olga, whose two daughters also attended Saint Joseph School.

Since joining the Saint Joseph School community in 2007, Eva has been a dedicated volunteer for the Home and School Association, serving in various roles. Over the years, she has contributed to nearly every event the school has held, including auctions, book fairs, Migration Mass events, spaghetti dinners, teacher luncheons, sports banquets, and festivals. She has also organized paint nights, financial literacy classes, and the extremely successful comedy night earlier this year.

Jacek has also been a steady presence at the school and parish, volunteering at the Parish Festival, Corpus Christi picnic, and gym dedication. He chaired the bar at the festival and even stepped in as a soccer referee when needed. But most importantly, Jacek's unwavering

support for Eva's volunteer work, always caring for things at home so she could help the school whenever possible, is a testament to the warmth and support within the school community.

Together, their favorite contribution was working on the banquet for the Gym Dedication, the first event they worked on together—believing it was an opportunity to give a little bit of themselves during such a big moment in the school's history.

Eva and Jacek's dedication and service have left an indelible mark on the school community. Their tireless efforts have significantly enriched the school. Saint Joseph School is deeply grateful for their service. Their story is a testament to the power of volunteerism and the difference it can make. Saint Joseph School is honored to present them with the 2024 Saint Joseph the Worker Volunteer of the Year Award, a recognition of their outstanding contributions that have made the school a better place for all.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
5. Highly impressed
11. Pronoun to identify something specific
12. Uttered in an impassioned way
16. Outfits
17. "Westworld" actor Harris
18. Stewed game casserole
19. Indignities inflicted on others
24. Blood type
25. Says beneath one's breath
26. Taxis
27. Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
28. NFL great Randy
29. Where college students live
30. Brief Yankees sensation Kevin
31. Condiment
33. -frutti
34. Polish city

38. Astronomy unit of distance
39. Romanian village
40. Bears first overall pick Williams
43. Irritated
44. Clothing for sale has them
45. One-time world power
49. When you anticipate arriving
50. Farm building
51. Organize thoughtfully
53. Detective
54. One who reduces
56. Nursemaids
58. Partner to "Pa"
59. World's longest river
60. Commemorates
63. Compound
64. The Lannisters and Starks fought for one
65. Email function

CLUES DOWN

1. Open-roofed entrance
2. Japanese religion
3. Dancer's garments
4. Distributes
5. Yemeni port
6. Spanish doctors
7. It cools your house
8. Engine variant
9. Makes more manageable
10. Days (Spanish)
13. Milliliter
14. Spread out from
15. With two replaceable hydrogen atoms
20. Respectful title for a man
21. Equally
22. Scarlett's home
23. Big Blue
27. Subway dwellers
29. One-tenth of a liter
30. Central European river
31. Distress signal
32. Expression of sympathy

33. Bar bill
34. Football equipment
35. Dance music
36. Russian river
37. Mary __, cosmetics
38. Gym class
40. Autos
41. Fourth and honorable name in ancient Rome
42. Defeats (abbr.)
44. A way to color
45. Planet
46. Form of humor
47. Taken without permission
48. Go over again
50. Auto parts manufacturer
51. Detective's source
52. Home of the Flyers
54. Short official note
55. Emit coherent radiation
57. In the year of Our Lord
61. Atomic #18
62. Not from, but...

CLUES DOWN

1. Open-roofed entrance
2. Japanese religion
3. Dancer's garments
4. Distributes
5. Yemeni port
6. Spanish doctors
7. It cools your house
8. Engine variant
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62. Not from, but...

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\$80,000, 123 Sutton Rd, Woodard, William T, and Woodard, Wendy M, to Xu, Yueping..

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Trunk or Treat offers spooky fun!



Children gathering around the farmhouse theme trunk or treat decked out vehicle to get all kinds of treats and listen to the farm animals in the background.

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — Saturday, Oct. 26 was a beautiful fall day for the Trunk or Treat event

held at the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge. Every year, the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge Community Outreach Program holds this fun event for the

children in the community. Children and adults alike dressed up in their costumes to retrieve treats from the row of cars all decorated and decked out in the parking lot of the

Quinebaug Masonic lodge in Southbridge. Passing cars beeped their horns as they drove by to witness all the children and decked out cars.

This Trunk or Treat event is just one of the many community outreach program events the lodge has held this year. Many lodge members and their families along with friends volunteered their time and resource-

es for this fun event for the children. A special thank you, shout out to Nichols College for donating the big green wild and wacky floppy inflatable tube man on display in the Quinebaug Lodge parking lot for this event. If you would like additional information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org and read about this great fraternity and to find a lodge nearest you.

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Jeffrey Harnois receives degree From Georgia Tech

ATLANTA, Ga. — Jeffrey Harnois of Webster has earned a Master of Science in Cybersecurity from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

Harnois was among approximately 1,720 undergraduate and graduate students who earned degrees during the Summer 2024 semester.

Read about other accomplished scholars on Gold Letters: A Spotlight on Student Achievement: bit.ly/Gold-Letters-News.

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40 Schofield Ave., Wednesday, November 6
Dudley 10:30-11:30
508-949-8021 Meet with District Director Amanda Hellyar and John Marsi to seek guidance on issues related to a state agency, find out about upcoming events, and learn more about legislative affairs on Beacon Hill.

Gentle Yoga Johnny Cash - Songs and Stories performed by Matt York
Mondays in November 10:00-11:00 AM
Join our new yoga instructor Patricia, for a traditional “on the mat” yoga class with chair yoga modifications. This truly is a one size fits all class. Patricia will be there to help with all your needs
Bring your own mat. Wear layers, do not eat heavily 1.5-2 hours before class.

Movies @ The Pearle!! Tuesdays in November at 1:00
November 5: Borderlands
November 12: A Quiet Place: Day One
November 19: Kinds of Kindness
November 26: Twisters
No registration required.

Picking Parlor Jam a “mostly” Bluegrass Focused Jam Session
Saturday, November 2 10:00-12:00 in the Fels Community Room
This is an unplugged acoustic jam.
All talent levels welcome...beginners on up!
Don't want to play? No problem, listeners are welcome too!

Once Upon A Crime Book Club
The Stranger Beside Me
by: Ann Rule
Friday, November 1 11:00-12:00
Adult Reading Area
Do you have a passion for true crime and examining the details of each case? This book club is for you!
The “Once Upon A Crime Book Club” meets the first Friday of every month in the adult reading area.
All books will be pre-ordered and available for pick up at the circulation desk.

Katharine’s Remarkable Road Trip: An Author Talk by Gail Olmstead
Tuesday, November 12 1:00-2:30
Join Gail Olmstead for an in-depth talk about her latest book, Katherine's Remarkable Road Trip.
In the fall of 1907 Katharine decides to drive from Newport Rhode Island to her new home in Jackson New Hampshire. Despite the concerns of her family and friends that at the age of 77 she lacks the stamina for the nearly 300-mile journey Katharine sets out alone. Join Katharine as she embarks upon her remarkable road trip. Registration required.
Refreshments funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library

Fall Office Hours with Senator Fattman's Staff and State Representative John Marsi

learn how to be one? All skill levels are welcome to this informal group. Bring your projects and join the fun!
No registration required.

Knit & Crochet Group
Thursday 5:30-7:30 and Friday 10:00-12:00
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group. Bring your project and enjoy the company!

Dungeons & Dragons Game
Thursdays, 6:00-7:30
Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama? Come play the world's number one role playing game. This program geared towards kid and teens that are looking to learn more about playing and some short adventures!

Storytimes at the Pearle
10:00-10:45
Tuesday-Pre-K Power (best for ages 3-5)
Wednesday-Toddler Time (best for ages 0-2.5)
Friday-Open Baby Play (best for ages 0-12 months-pre-walkers)
Registration not required, siblings always welcome!

Deb's Sing and Swing
Friday, November 1 10:30-11:15 AM
Pre-K Music & Movement offers a 45 minute interactive program featuring singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms. These programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!
Registration Required.

Guest Reader Story Times
Monday, November 4, 6:00:
Music Teacher Julie Winans

Local Author Carmela Szklarz
Wednesday, November 13 4:00-4:30
Join us for a hopping good time with local author, Carmela Szklarz. She will share her newest picture book called Helping Friends.

Graphic Novel Book Club
Thursday, November 14 6:00-6:45
Do you love graphic novels? Join us for Graphic Novel Book Club! Each month we will meet to discuss the graphic novel of the month. Copies of the book will be located at the circulation desk in the Children's Room. Best for ages 8 and up.
Registration not required. This is not a drop off program.

Pokemon Club
Thursday, November 21 6:00-6:45
Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon club! Each month we will have exciting crafts and activities! Best for ages 6 and up.
Registration not required. This is not a drop off program.

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!
Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Program Coordinator Randa Cox at rc Cox@ cwmars.org.

THE NEST GRAND OPENING: November 18th at 9:30 AM:
Come join us for the Grand Opening of our Small Business Incubator and Co-Working space, The Nest. We will discuss what The Nest can offer Small Business owners and entrepreneurs, and you can meet with some of our collaborators that will be hosting workshops in the space.

Adult Programming
YOGA – Saturday: November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th at 9:30 AM
Join Julie or Lauren at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the “uniting of movement with breath”. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

FRIENDS CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS: Eduardo Ortiz --- November 14th at 6:30 PM
Eduardo Ortiz is a professional musician, director, bass player, and composer. Son of the trumpet player maestro Dante Ortiz, his career began 50 years ago in his native country, Dominican Republic. During the past 20 years, he has been an ambassador representing Dominican culture through his artistry in Massachusetts and locally in the city of Worcester. Eduardo has also a rich deep background in Jazz and Latin music for both live audiences and in recording and studio production. He has composed over 20 pieces. Just released his first album “El tiempo pasa” and is currently working on his second production. Eduardo lives in the city of Worcester with his beautiful and supportive wife Niurka Ortiz, close to his grandkids and daughters.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP— November 18th at 6:30 PM
This month's book discussion will be in the Library's The Nest. The Group will be discussing Dead Wake by Erik Larson. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880, or by email to rc Cox@ cwmars.org for inquiries.

COOKBOOK CLUB----

November 5th at 6:00 PM
Every month there will be a new cookbook and you will choose a delicious recipe to make! You can choose anything out of the cookbook to bring and share. Whether you like to cook or bake there will always be something for you! We will eat and discuss our favorite and least favorite things of the cooking adventure.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT--- November 25th at 6:00 PM
Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn!

Library for All: A drop-in event for Teens & Adults with Developmental Disabilities Mondays in November at 9:00 AM
This program is for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please call ahead if special accommodations or requirements are needed. We are happy to accommodate! Sensory Bins: 11/04/24 Chair Yoga: 11/25/24 Craft Program: 11/18/24
How to Protect Against Cyber Fraud with Webster Five and The Webster Police Department--- November 12th at 3:30 PM
Join Webster Five Bank and the Webster Police Department to learn how to protect yourself against cyber fraud.
Children's and Young Adult Programming

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

TAKE AND MAKE CRAFT--- All month long
Take and Make craft kids are now available for pick up upstairs in the Children's Room. Each month will feature a different craft to create and instructions will be provided with the supplies. New Take and Make kits will be available for pick up on the 1st of every month, while supplies last, and are limited to one per patron.

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

KIM THE LEGO LADY: November 5th at 4:00 PM
Do you love building, creating, and having fun with LEGO? Look no further! Our brand-new LEGO Club is launching, and we want YOU to be part of the adventure. Join us for interactive building challenges, new skills and create fabulous imaginative builds. For ages 5 to 11.

LEGO CLUB--- Tuesday November 12th at 3:30 PM
Come play with the library's Legos. If you like, we can put your work on display!
No registration Required

BUILD TUESDAYS - from 3:30-4:30 PM
Join us for the last two Tuesday for a self-guided STEM-based building challenge, appropriate for all ages. Younger kids should bring a parent. Instruction sheets will be provided. Contact Andrew at 508-949-3880, or atai@ cwmars.org for more details.

OPEN PLAY TIME ADVENTURE--- Fridays at 10:00 AM
Kids 0 to 6 are invited to get their wiggles out with weekly obstacle course and fun.

STORY TIME --- November 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th at 10:00 AM
Mornings will be filled with fun stories, songs, and activities perfect for ages 2-5. Siblings are welcome to join.

WEDNESDAY STUFFED ANIMAL STORY TIME --- November 13th and 27th at 10:00 AM
Join Sondra the Library Director for a few of his favorite stories, felt story fun, and some free play. For ages 0-3

PETITS PICASSOS: October November 6th and 20th at 10:00 AM
This art class for ages 2-5 will have your little one creating and exploring art in different mediums and styles! Each class will feature a story related to the project, and a finished work to take home and admire. This class series prepares the students to paint on canvas for their final project. A toddler art show and art opening will be held featuring these works in November! While not every program will be messy, please wear art-appropriate clothing. In order to prepare materials and keep the class size manageable, registration is required for each session. Registered spots will only be held for 15 minutes after program start time. A baby play area will be available for siblings if needed.

PLAYFUL ENGINEERS: November 4th at 4:00 PM
You supply the kids – Jay Mankita brings everything else! Catapults - Exploding Popsicle Sticks - Gravity-Powered Carousels - Track Feeders - Spiralators - Domino Rallies, Walls & Towers - Zip-Lines & Rolling Compasses - K'nex & Tinkertoy Construction! Sessions are tailored for all ages and abilities.
Funded by the Webster Cultural Council.

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The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library presents Brian Perry. Perry has been scuba diving since 1979. He became a scuba instructor in 1982 and taught diving at Inland Divers and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. His underwater photography began in 2009 to share photos with his diving students using a Canon digital compact camera. He took a Master Course in Underwater Photography in 2013 to learn how to use a Nikon DSLR camera underwater. His local underwater photography is done in Gloucester and Rockport. His favorite area is Key Largo, Fla., where the water is clear and the fish colorful. In July 2022, he spent one week diving with large Tiger Sharks in the Bahamas, up close, no protection, just his camera. His photography can be seen in the Library's community room Oct. 22 – Nov. 18.



Courtesy

November happenings at the Dudley Senior Center

November 6: Meeting at the Dudley Senior Center to carpool to lunch at Cracker Barrel in Sturbridge. Reservations are required, please call 508-949-8015.

November 7: the Dudley Senior Center will be celebrating November Birthdays with cake and ice cream following the Tri Valley lunch. Please call if you are interested in ordering a Tri Valley meal or bring your own lunch and have cake and ice cream with us.

November 13: Is Brown Bag Lunch with your choice of egg salad or turkey breast sandwiches. The cost of this is \$3 per person. Please RSVP by

calling 508-949-8015 and advise on your sandwich selection. PLEASE RSVP FOR THIS EVENT! We need to know the sandwich you want and what condiments. Dominic from UMass Injury Prevention will do a presentation on safety.

November 21: Memory Café from noon to 2 p.m. Cecile will entertain us with our favorite, Name That Tune. Lunch will be chicken tortellini soup, salad, garlic bread and assorted desserts. The cost is \$5 per person. Please RSVP by calling 508-949-8015 or sign up in the Dudley senior center.

November 27: Potluck Lunch will be meatloaf,

mashed potatoes, vegetables and dessert. The cost is \$5 per person. Please RSVP by calling 508-949-8015 or sign up in the Dudley senior center.

Activities at Dudley Senior Center: Tuesdays at 1 p.m. – Pitch League; Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. – The Dudley Senior Center Knitting group; Tri Valley lunches served Monday and Thursday; Book Club November 25, book to be decided call for information.

Senior Center Closed: November 1, November 4, and November 5 for voting; closed on November 11 for Veterans Day and closed November 28 for Thanksgiving.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from Sept. 29 to Oct. 26.

Peter F. Slota, age 73, of Webster was arrested on Sept. 30 for multiple counts of Vandalization of Property.

A 42-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 1 for Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon.

Michael John Bernadotte, age 27, of Brockton was arrested on Oct. 5 in connection with a warrant.

Nicholas Salony, age 36, of Eastford, Conn. was arrested on Oct. 6 in connection with a warrant.

A 57-year-old from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 6 for Assault & Battery.

A 21-year-old from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 7 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

A 22-year-old from Southbridge whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 7 for Vandalization of Property and Assault on a Family or Household Member.

Juan M. Guzman, age 48, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 10 for Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle,

Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Failure to Stop for Police, and in connection with multiple warrants.

Joy Mugaua, age 20, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 12 in connection with a warrant.

Brian Keith Coburn, age 53, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 13 in connection with a warrant.

A male from Webster whose age and identity have been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 17 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon.

Chelsea M. Rabidou, age 32, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 18 in connection with multiple warrants.

A 35-year-old female from Worcester was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Oct. 18 for multiple counts of Assault & Battery. A 39-year-old female from Webster was issued a summons during the same incident for Keeping a Noisy and Disorderly House, Disorderly Conduct (subsequent offense), and Disturbing the Peace (subsequent offense). An 18-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested for Assault & Battery, Disorderly Conduct, Assault, and Disturbing the Peace.

Christian Lee Mendoza, age 33, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 19 in

connection with probable cause from another agency.

Alexander Rosa, age 37, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 20 for Intimidation of a Witness, Juror, Police officer, or Court Official.

Jason Daniel Plaza, age 51, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 21 in connection with a warrant.

Elvin Juan Martinez, age 24, of Southbridge was arrested on Oct. 25 for Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering, Attempted Larceny, Trespassing, and Conspiracy. Isaac Colon-Miranda, age 24, of Southbridge was arrested during the same incident, also for Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering, Attempted Larceny, Trespassing, and Conspiracy. A 34-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest for Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering, Attempted Larceny, Trespassing, Threatening to Commit a Crime, Conspiracy, and Intimidation. A 19-year-old male from Southbridge was issued a summons in lieu of arrest for Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering, Attempted Larceny, Trespassing, Conspiracy, and Assault.

Jeremy Scott Adams, age 47, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 26 for Possession of a Class A Drug (subsequent offense).

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

Senior Center hours are Monday- Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., with every first Thursday 9 a.m.- 7 p.m.

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

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 a.m. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least forty-eight hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread, and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday, Nov. 5, Senior Center is closed for Election Day. Wednesday, Nov. 6, Chicken Cacciatore, gemelli pasta, roasted broccoli. Thursday, Nov. 7, Salisbury Steak with Gravy, mashed potatoes, corn. Friday, Nov. 8, Soup du Jour, cranberry chicken salad, pasta salad.

Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays- Fridays 8:30 a.m.- 3 p.m.

FUEL ASSISTANCE is returning to the Senior Center. Starting Thursday, Nov. 7, WCAC will be here every other Thursday from 9:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. These times are first come, first served, and there are no appointments.

A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Webster Senior Center. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.

Come on down to the Bomba Beauty Salon

at the Webster Senior Center! Call 508-341-8724 for an appointment. Bomba Beauty Salon is open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m., and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

We are now offering Movie Matinees every Wednesday at 1 p.m.! Popcorn is provided. No registration needed. The movie for Nov. 6 is "His Girl Friday," Nov. 13 is "The Lego Movie," and Nov. 20 is "Elvis." There will be no movie on Nov. 27.

The first Thursday of every month we will be open until 7 p.m., with entertainment starting at 5:45 p.m. For Nov. 7, we will have Dan Kirouac. Step back in time and groove to the classics! Get ready to dance the night away to the unforgettable beats of the '60s and '70s. No registration needed.

Chair Dancing Exercise classes with Forty Arroyo are the perfect workout for any fitness ability! The cost is a recommended \$3 donation per class. Classes are on Mondays, and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10 a.m.- noon.

Bingo is every Tuesday and starts promptly at 1 p.m. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 p.m. to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 p.m.

Do you like to play Cribbage? Our weekly Cribbage group meets every Thursday at 1 p.m. Feel free to join us!

Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center! Come join us for six-card or thirteen-card pitch! Six-card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1 p.m. Beginners welcome!

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office House Numbering Program will create a custom wooden sign with your house

number free of charge. One sign per senior household. Please contact the Webster Senior Center at (508) 949-3845. if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you.

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

The Sicilian Tenors Downton Abbey special live concert is a journey to Highclere Castle with the Sicilian Tenors- as seen in Downton Abbey with a reproduction of their nationwide broadcast. Featuring Aaron Caruso, Elio Saccio, and Sam Vitale. Combined with lighthearted fun, this is a concert for all ages and musical tastes. This show takes place at Lake Pearl in Wrentham on Wednesday, Nov. 13. The cost for this show is \$131 per person and includes a plated luncheon of Thanksgiving dinner, or vegetable lasagna, meal tax, gratuity, show ticket, and transportation (not including driver gratuity). For more information call (508) 949-3845.

Kenny and Dolly- A Smoky Mountain Christmas is the country's number one tribute show to two of the biggest names in country music. This incredible show stars Wendy T and Dave Karl, and recreates Dolly and Kenny's Once Upon A Christmas album. This show takes place at Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers on Thursday, Dec. 5. The cost for this show is \$131 per person and includes transportation, plated luncheon of chicken parmesan or baked schrod, meal tax, gratuity, and show ticket. There will be no refunds for cancellations made after Oct. 31. For more information call (508) 949-3845.

Dudley Woman's Club meets Nov. 14

DUDLEY — The November meeting of the Dudley Woman's Club will be held at the Dudley Municipal Complex on Thursday, Nov. 14. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., with the meeting following at 7 p.m.

The DWC welcomes Alex Diaz Salisbury for tips on holiday entertaining and creating festive centerpieces for your home. Our voluntary giving project this month will be Veterans' holiday baskets and gift bags for the YOU Inc. Adopt-a-Child for Christmas program. DWC is open to all women from Dudley and surrounding towns; we welcome your presence!

For more information, please visit:www.dudleywomansclub.org.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The joy of America’s pastime

As the leaves change colors and the air turns crisp, the onset of fall brings with it the arrival of one of America’s most cherished traditions: baseball playoffs. For generations, baseball has held a special place in the hearts of Americans, to become a timeless pas-time that brings happiness, unity, and a sense of belonging.

Baseball’s roots in America run deep, tracing back to the 19th century when it evolved from a simple game into a full-fledged professional sport. Over the decades, baseball has become more than just a game. From the crack of the bat to the roar of the crowd, baseball’s endur-ing appeal lies in its ability to evoke nostalgia and a sense of belonging. It reminds us of our history, spanning generations to connect grandparents, parents, and children through the love of the game.

During playoff season, this connec-tion becomes even more profound. The excitement of watching your favorite team battle it out on the national stage, the suspense of each pitch, and the thrill of a game-winning home run all create moments of genuine joy and a bit of adrenaline as well!

But it’s not just the game itself that brings happiness; it’s also the sense of community and camaraderie that baseball fosters. Ballparks across the nation become gathering places for fans of all backgrounds to come together and share in the experience. Whether you’re tailgating in the parking lot, high-fiving strangers after a big play, or singing along to “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” during the seventh inning stretch, baseball erases our differences, just like that.

Baseball has seen the nation through some of its darkest days, offering a distraction and a source of comfort during times of crisis. From the Great Depression to the aftermath of 9/11, baseball has been a constant, reminding us that there is always some- thing to look forward to and that, together, we can overcome adversity.

With that, we all have our favorite teams, so please indulge us as we take this opportunity to say, in lieu of the Red Sox...go Dodgers!

VIEWPOINT

Hope, patience and prayer

“Rejoice in hope; be patient in tribulation; continue stead-fast in prayer.” This advice comes from Saint Paul to the Christians in Rome during some very challenging times in the first century and it offers a great model for our own Christian life of today. Never give up! Persevere and struggle on! Trust in God and know that He is with you. And every day connect with Him in prayer!



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

Let’s take a closer look at these three disciplines we are called to cultivate in our lives – hope, patience, and prayer.

First, followers of Jesus Christ are always people of hope. No matter how grim the circumstances around us may seem, no matter how dark the world appears, no matter how it may seem that evil prevails, we are people of hope. And we will daily rejoice in the hope that God instills in us.

Why do we have hope? Because we know that God is with us; that God knows our situation; that God is not a distant God who stays absent from our world, but He is the One who entered this world precisely to experience our human existence and to conquer the evil and darkness and sin that surrounds us. He is the God who came to live among us, and to show us the path of peace, the path that leads back to Him. So we always have hope, no matter what the circumstance and no matter how the world around us may look.

Don’t get discouraged by the poli-tics of the day! Don’t get overwhelmed by the illnesses we hear about! Don’t despair about the violence and uncer-tainty in our world! These may present great challenges, and the future may seem uncertain, but we have a God that is greater than any challenge and dan-ger we face, and thus, we live in hope. “If God is with us,” the Apostle Paul proclaims, “then who can be against us!”


We always have reason to hope. Followers of Jesus Christ hold on to the hope that God instills in us and we share our contagious, joyous hope with all those around us!

Along with hope, followers of Jesus Christ are called to always persevere with patience in the midst of every tribu-lation we may face. Whatever challeng-es life may bring, whatever struggles we may face, whatever sudden tragedies may overwhelm us, we remain steadfast and patient in the midst of them.

Remember, God never promises that we will face no tragedies or struggles or great tribulation in our lives. Instead, He promises us something better – that in the midst of everything life brings, “I will be with you always.” He promised that in the midst of our great struggle,

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

Cutting spending can help boost retirement savings



FINANCIAL FOCUS
DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

Like most of us, you may someday want to enjoy a comfortable retirement. Your ability to achieve this goal will depend on how much you save — but it also matters how much you spend.

And saving and spending are certainly related: The more you can reduce your spending, the more money you could have available to save for retirement through your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. Over many years, even relatively small amounts diverted from spending to saving and investing could add up substantially.

How can you go about potentially reducing your spending? Here are a few suggestions:

Use a budgeting tool. If you’re not already doing so, you might want to con-sider using a free online budgeting tool. Among other capabilities, these apps can place your spending in categories — gro-ceries, travel, entertainment, and so on — which can reveal redundancies that, once eliminated, could save you money. For example, you might find that you’re spending a not-insignificant amount on streaming services you rarely use. Or you might be surprised at how often you go the grocery store, rather than con-solidating your visits and reducing the likelihood of “impulse” purchases.

Take advantage of employee benefits. If you work for a mid-size or large com-pany, you may have an extensive employ-ee benefit plan, which could include dis-counts on some products and services. Also, if you are enrolled in a high-deduct-ible health plan through your employer, you might have access to a health sav-ings account (HSA) or flexible spending account (FSA), either of which may let you lower your out-of-pocket health care costs by using pre-tax dollars to pay for deductibles, copayments, coinsurance and some other qualified expenses.

Shop around for insurance. To some extent, we are all creatures of habit, which can be good in some circumstanc-es and not so good in others. In the “not so good” category, many people stick with their auto, homeowners and life insurance policies year after year, even though they might be able to save some money by switching to another company. But even if you stay with your current company, you might find ways to save money by taking steps such as adding a home security system. Check with your insurer to learn more.

Compare credit cards. There’s a piece of financial advice that essentially says: “Pay cash for everything” — and this isn’t a bad idea. Ideally, you might want to use a credit card strictly for items such as car rentals or hotel reservations, and you should pay off the bill each month to avoid interest charges. Sometimes, though, you may need to use your card for other purposes, and it may not always be possible to pay your bill in full. That’s why you’ll want to review credit cards periodically to find one with lower inter-est rates, a favorable balance transfer offer and a better rewards program.

It’s not always easy to cut down on your spending, but when you do, it can provide more peace of mind — and an opportunity to boost your savings for what could be a long and active retire-ment.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopou-los@edwardjones.com.

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 consid-ered for publication. Only the au-thor’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 sub-mission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any sub-mission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Donald Trump must not be President again

To the Editor:

Donald Trump was President from January 2017-January 2021. At this point in his presidency, the country was in lock-down because Trump’s administration refused to heed the advice of the outgoing Obama administration, who had a pandemic response team in place in the event something like this happened. They tried their best to get Trump’s people up to speed but they pretty much ignored what they were told and refused to take it seriously.

When the first cases hit, it was the same deal. And even though Trump knew how lethal this virus was, he got in front of a camera and lied to our faces. He told Bob Woodward he lied because he “didn’t want to create a panic.” He lied because he was more worried about being blamed for not being ahead of this thing. That is all Trump was worried about. Well, that and getting re-elected. In the middle of a pandemic that was killing Americans like flies, when our best infectious disease experts were begging us to stay home unless we had no other option. What was Trump doing? He was holding his neo-Nazi rallies and complaining if the crowds weren’t packed in like sardines. He was mocking people for wearing masks, singling them out and humiliating them by saying ignorant things like “Wow, boy, you’re like, really politically correct, aren’t you?” - that’s an exact quote. How many of Trump’s rallies turned out to be what were called “super spreader events?” Does anyone remember Herman Cain? He was the black man who contracted Covid at a Trump rally and died a slow, painful death. Trump supporters and the Radical Right/MAGA media made fun of Joe Biden not holding rallies, saying things like “he’s hiding in his base-ment.” Actually, Biden wasn’t hiding anywhere. He still held rallies, but unlike the selfish, inconsiderate cult leader, Biden put the health and well-being of the American people before his own interests. That is why his rallies only had a few peo-ple. Biden insisted it be that way. He used technology to get his message out to the people, and it obviously worked since he beat Trump in 2020.

Now, let’s take a look at where Biden’s presidency is at: The US economy is the largest and strongest on the planet, period. Our economy is massive and there are more people not only

working but making more money than at any point in the last 50 years. Biden said he’d invest in America, that he’d start rebuilding roads and bridges and other infrastructure that was ignored by the previous administration and when he put his plan forward to get it passed, so the work could begin, what did the MAGA faction in Congress do? They tried to kill it. But it got passed, Biden got the money to get to work and now that those efforts are paying off, now that the MAGA faction see the results of having a competent President who knows how to get things done, Trump is trying to take credit for it. President Biden doesn’t need me to defend him. His record speaks for itself. The American people are better off than they were four years ago. Is inflation still an issue? Yes, and nobody is denying that but the factors causing it are not withing the control of the President no matter who is parked behind the resolute desk. People need to stop watching Fox news. CNN is actually credible. They report the facts as they are and every news story they report on can be verified and vetted using multiple other sources. Most of the people they have on to talk about politics are Republicans. They are pro-life conservatives. There is a reason CNN has never had to pay a voting machine company called Dominion nearly \$800 million at the last second to keep their reporters and news hosts from being shredded on the witness stand. It’s because they tell the truth, and they stand by their reporting. But you don’t have to watch CNN. You don’t have to watch any cable news or network news for that matter. If you really want to know the unvarnished facts, everything you need in order to make an informed decision instead of an influenced one is at your fingertips. You can go to Google and type in the search bar: “Department of Labor” to get facts on the labor market. You can Google “what factors impact the price I pay for a gallon of gas.” Donald Trump is lying when he tells you he’ll make that price any better for you because he has no way to do that without being a dictator and having the government take over the industry that gets that gas to that pump. I know that I don’t want a dictator for a President. Do you?

JULIANNE DYER
OXFORD

Pumpkin Possibilities: Recipes that Recycle!

Once Halloween is over, the big question remains: What to do with those perfectly fine sugar pumpkins used as porch props and party center-pieces? From whipping up a variety of pumpkin treats to prepping purée for future use, the following recipes, culled from old files and the internet, promote pumpkin repurposing!

Preparing Pumpkin: Freezing cooked, pureed pumpkin is a favored way to preserve the taste and texture of pumpkin for use in holiday recipes. Sugar or pie pumpkins are ideal candidates for freezing as the pulp is thicker and firmer. To easily prepare a pumpkin for pureeing, simply place the whole fruit in the microwave for about a minute or so to soften the skin. This will make the pumpkin much easier to peel. Cut the pumpkin in large slices, peel the skin and remove the strings and seeds. Then cut the slices into smaller pieces. Boil the pumpkin pieces until tender; then mash or process the pumpkin pulp until it forms a smooth, thick puree.

To store, freeze in Ziploc bags or frost safe containers.

Pumpkin Granola
Autumn flavors, such as pumpkin puree, maple



TAKE
THE
HINT
**KAREN
TRAINOR**

syrup and cranberries mix with crunchy pumpkin seeds and nuts and for a seasonal taste treat you can enjoy throughout the season.

Note: This recipe differs from the one shared in this column last year at this time, and doesn't require hours of roasting!

Ingredients: 3 1/2 cups rolled oats; 2 1/2 cups puffed rice cereal (like Rice Krispies); 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice mix; 3/4 tsp salt; 3/4 cup brown sugar; 1/2 cup pureed pumpkin; 1/4 cup smooth applesauce; 1/4 cup maple syrup; 1 tsp vanilla extract; 1 cup chopped nuts; such as walnuts pecans, pecans, etc; 1/2 cup pumpkin seeds; 1 cup raisins and dried cranberries

Directions: Preheat the oven to 325 degrees and line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. In a large bowl, combine oats, puffed rice cereal. In a medium bowl, whisk together spices, salt, sugar, applesauce (smooth), pumpkin puree, maple syrup

and vanilla. Whisk until very smooth. Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients and stir with a spatula or large spoon until mixture is evenly coated. Spread on prepared baking sheet in an even layer. Bake for 30 minutes, then turn over the granola carefully using a large wide spatula, spreading as thin as possible. Sprinkle the nuts onto the granola, and bake for additional 15 minutes, until crisp and golden. If center isn't fully dried, remove the edges of the cooked granola to a cooling rack and let the rest cook for another 10-15 minutes until done. Cool on pan or on a fine wire rack. Break up granola. Add dried fruit before serving.

Pumpkin Ginger Cookies

Fresh pumpkin transforms into a crisp cookie with this old fashioned recipe.

Ingredients: 1/2 cup of butter, softened; 1 cup granulated sugar, plus more for rolling the cookies; 1/2 cup fresh pumpkin puree; 1 egg; 1 teaspoon vanilla extract; 2 cups all-purpose flour; 2 teaspoons baking soda; 2 teaspoons cinnamon; 1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger; 1 teaspoon ground cloves; 1/2 teaspoon salt

Directions: In a large bowl beat the butter and

sugar together until creamy and smooth. Add the pumpkin, molasses, egg, and vanilla extract, mix until well combined.

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking soda, spices, and salt. Add dry ingredients to wet ingredients and mix until combined. Refrigerate dough for at least an hour.

To bake, preheat oven to 350° F. Line a baking sheet with a parchment paper. Roll spoon sized balls of dough in granulated sugar until well coated and place on prepared baking sheet, about two inches apart. Bake for 10–12 minutes, or until cookies look cracked and set at the edges. The cookies will still be soft. Let the cookies cool on the baking sheet for a few minutes after removing them from the oven, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely. Makes about three dozen cookies.

Pumpkin Latte
Leftover pumpkin elevates a simple cup of Joe to holiday gourmet status!

Ingredients: two cups whole or 1% milk; two tablespoons pumpkin puree; two tablespoons granulated sugar; two tablespoons pure vanilla; 1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice (or substitute 1/4 tsp cinnamon, 1/8 tsp cloves, 1/8 tsp nutmeg, and a scant pinch of

ground ginger); 3/4 cup of strong, brewed coffee (or substitute one half cup espresso).

Directions: Place coffee and milk in a small crock-pot. Mix in the pumpkin, vanilla and spices. Cover and cook on high for an hour or two. When ready, whisk again to mix. Ladle into mugs and top with whipped cream and shaved cinnamon if desired.

This recipe will serve two people. You can double or triple the recipe as needed.

Easy Pumpkin Bread
Simple and easy, this classic pumpkin bread recipe can be doubled. Loaves freeze well.

Ingredients: 1 1/2 cups flour; 1/2 teaspoon of salt; 1 cup granulated sugar; 1 teaspoon baking soda; 1 cup pumpkin purée; 1/2 cup olive oil; 2 eggs, beaten; 1/4 cup water; 1/2 teaspoon each nutmeg, cinnamon and allspice; 1/2 cup chopped walnuts.

Directions: Preheat oven to 350°F Sift together the flour, salt, sugar, and baking soda. Mix together pumpkin, oil, eggs, 1/4 cup of water, and spices. Lightly combine with the dry ingredients. Stir in the nuts. Pour into a well greased loaf pan. Bake 50-60 minutes until toothpick comes out clean.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

**
Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

The Marfa Lights

Well, I know I said last week that my spooky season series was done, but with many requests for one more, I said, why not? I couldn't resist sharing just one more story for Halloween. And this one might be the strangest yet. It's the tale of a place where the mysterious meets the unexplained—where eerie lights dance across the horizon, and science and folklore collide. I'm talking about the Marfa Lights.

In a remote stretch of West Texas desert near the small town of Marfa, strange, glowing orbs have illuminated the night sky for centuries.

According to local history, the first recorded sighting was in 1883, when a rancher named Robert Ellison noticed lights flickering in the distance, initially thinking they were Apache campfires. But as he traveled closer, the lights seemed to move farther away, as if intentionally evading him.

Interestingly, Native American tribes in the area, including the Apache, were aware of these lights long before settlers arrived, referring to them as "fallen stars" and interpreting them as celestial or supernatural phenomena.

The Marfa Lights, which appear as bright orange, red, or blue orbs, have been seen shifting, darting, and splitting apart only to rejoin moments later. Some say they float, while others claim they hover above the ground, weaving in and out of view.

During World War II, the Marfa Lights caught the attention of pilots stationed at the nearby Midland Army Air Field. Intrigued, these pilots attempted to locate the source of the lights, thinking it might be a natural or man-made structure. Despite multiple attempts, they never found the origin. It was as though the lights were aware of the pilots' presence, evading discovery every time they tried to pinpoint their source.

What causes these lights?

Some say they are cars from a nearby interstate, Route 67, but that doesn't explain how they've been observed long before the automobile.

Some theories range from the scientific, like reflections or naturally occurring gases, to the supernatural, with legends suggesting they're spirits or entities keeping watch over the land. But one thing's for certain—the lights behave

in ways that defy easy explanation, especially in encounters that seem almost personal.

Consider the story of a film crew that arrived in Marfa hoping to capture the lights on camera. After setting up equipment for hours, the crew finally spotted the lights flickering in the distance. But as they moved in, strange things began to happen. Cameras shut down inexplicably, and batteries drained without reason. Some crew members reported feeling as though the lights were watching them, reacting to their every movement. No matter how they tried, they couldn't get a clear shot—the lights would appear just out of reach, then disappear, only to reappear elsewhere. By the time they left, the crew was convinced that the Marfa Lights weren't just a natural phenomenon, but something else—something almost... aware.

Another tale comes from a local rancher who encountered the lights late one night while driving home. As he traveled down the dark, empty road, he noticed glowing orbs trailing behind his truck. At first, he thought they were headlights, but the lights behaved strangely, veering off into the desert only to reappear closer to him,

moving in sync with his truck. He described it as if the lights were "following" him, curious yet keeping their distance. Finally, as he neared home, the lights suddenly broke away and vanished into the mountains. Shaken, the rancher was left wondering—were the Marfa Lights watching him, guiding him, or simply toying with him?

To this day, the Marfa

Lights remain a mystery. Scientists have tried to pin them down as reflections, atmospheric gases, or mirages caused by temperature inversions. Yet no explanation fully accounts for their behavior, nor for the strange interactions people report. And the stories continue to pile up, from locals who've seen the lights their entire lives to travelers who stumble

upon them unexpectedly.

As Halloween draws near, and we gather around to share tales of the unknown, remember that some mysteries are closer than we think. They flicker on the horizon, waiting to be seen—but not necessarily to be understood.

Happy Halloween, and may all your mysteries be as strange as the Marfa Lights.

A winter season of colorful Amaryllis blooms



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
**MELINDA
MYERS**

This winter, brighten your mood and surroundings by planting and growing a few amaryllis. Your thoughts may turn to red when considering this plant but now you can find a variety of colors and flower shapes. Select the color that best suits your mood and indoor décor.

Fill your home with these beauties for the holidays. Then keep the blossoms coming all winter long. Plant several different types of amaryllis bulbs, from the southern and northern hemispheres, and you'll get a long-lasting, colorful display.

Most amaryllis bulbs grown in the U.S. are imported from Holland, and their natural bloom time is January through March. Exactly when the flowers will open is impossible to predict. The best strategy is to choose several different varieties and plant them three to four weeks apart during November, December, and January so you'll always have flowers coming into bloom.

Kick off the holiday season with amaryllis bulbs imported from growers in the southern hemisphere. As we enter autumn, it's springtime in South America, and these bulbs are eager to begin to bloom. Pot them up before early November for flowers in December.

Brighten the holiday

season with the pure white, fully double flowers of Alaska amaryllis (longfield-gardens.com). The white blossoms with lime green throat combine nicely with winter greens. Plant the bulbs in the fall and enjoy the blossoms throughout the holiday season.

Keep the flowers coming with an early bloomer such as Evergreen, which is always quick to break out of dormancy. Its flowers have narrow, lime/chartreuse petals on 20-inch plants adding a freshness to any room. Enjoy the impressive display as each bulb produces two to three stems with four to six blooms each.

Add a bit of fun and flare with the eight-inch flowers of Dancing Queen. You'll enjoy the showy layers of ruffled snow-white petals highlighted with brush strokes of red.

If you are a fan of the popular color pink, there is an amaryllis for you. Pink Surprise Amaryllis has enormous hot pink flowers with a silky sheen and a touch of white at the tip. It is a standout and perfect as a centerpiece on the dining room table or as a colorful welcome when displayed on a table by your front entrance.

For those who prefer something a bit more subtle, check out Terra Cotta Star. The soft watercolor hues of salmon, rose, buttercream and pistachio along with its dark veins add an artistic flare to each blossom.

Showcase and enjoy your colorful amaryllis by displaying it on a mantle, kitchen counter, or entryway table. Then watch the amazing show as the



Courtesy — LongfieldGardens.com

Plant Alaska amaryllis bulbs in the fall to enjoy pure white, fully double flowers throughout the holiday season.

first sprout appears, followed by buds and finally, its spectacular trumpet-shaped blooms. Or cut a few flowers to enjoy as long-lasting cut flowers.

Order these and other amaryllis varieties early for the greatest selection. Selecting an assortment of colors, flower shapes and bloom times provides months of beauty and enjoyment.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD instant video series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Longfield Gardens for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

There should have been a clear choice for the Teamsters

To the Editor:
The Teamsters' decision to not endorse a Presidential candidate left me wondering.

Had they forgotten that as President, Trump tried to weaken "tip pooling" regulations so employers could get a cut of their workers tips? Don't they understand he wants to eliminate Overtime protection, repeal child labor laws and diminish workplace safety and health requirements?

I wondered how the Teamsters could consider endorsing a guy who wants to ban Collective Bargaining for Federal, State and municipal workers? It seemed strange they didn't care whether or not Teachers, Firefighters, Postal Workers, DPW workers and others would continue to have a voice in the workplace.

How could they overlook a woman that wants to raise the minimum wage, strengthen Family Medical Leave protection, increase the number of Federal

contracts for small businesses and expand tax cuts for new businesses? She was part of the most Pro-union administration ever; she wants to protect Collective Bargaining and supports the Pro-Act which would make it easier for workers to form unions, make more workers eligible to join unions and ban the use of striker replacements.

Kamala Harris has walked picket lines because she respects unions and workers, Trump has crossed picket lines because he doesn't respect anything, yet the Teamsters couldn't decide?

It seems to me the Teamster endorsement means little. Why worry about the endorsement of a workers' rights group that's not concerned about worker's rights, and who would want the endorsement of a union that doesn't believe picket lines should be respected?

JOHN FLATTERY
OXFORD

Dudley celebrates Halloween with Annual Spooktacular



Kids play a challenge game where they had to carry eyeballs across an area using only a pair of skeleton hands to earn spooky prizes.



The treat of the day was a campfire classic, s'mores, all made by volunteers with freshly roasted marshmallows.



Costumed guests have some fun in one of several blowup displays at the Town Hall.

PET of the WEEK

Meet Edgar, an adorable puppy with a bright future ahead! This sweet boy is set to grow into a large, friendly dog with a playful spirit and a heart full of affection. Edgar already knows commands like "sit" and "come," showing off his intelligence and eagerness to learn. He's gentle, cuddly, and loves being close to his people, making him an ideal companion for cozy downtime.

Edgar absolutely loves other dogs and enjoys his daily walks with volunteers and his doggy pals. Whether it's fun outings with furry friends, adventurous walks, or snuggling up after a day of play, Edgar is ready to bring joy and laughter to your life. If you're looking for a loyal friend to grow with, Edgar might just be the perfect match for you!

Apply for Edgar today and let the fun begin at baypathhumane.org

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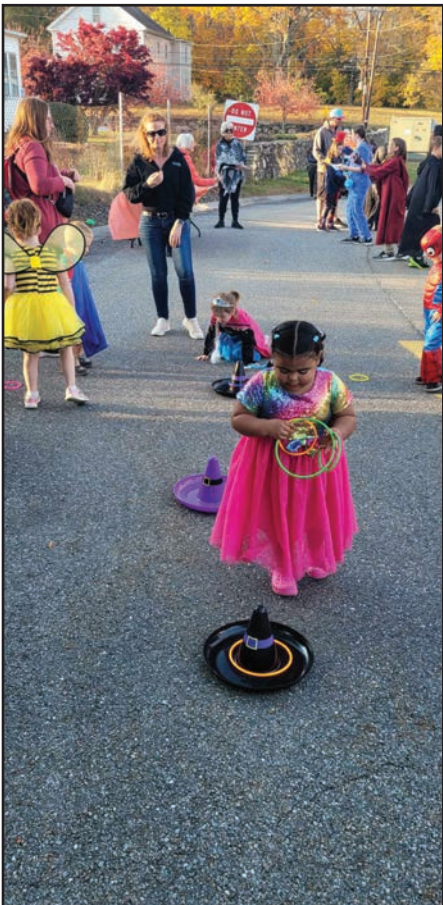
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DUDLEY — Guests of all ages crowded the parking lot of the Dudley Municipal Complex for the town's annual Spooktacular which has quickly become a Halloween season tradition. Both kids and adults dressed in costume to embrace the spirit of the season with plenty of games and fall-themed activities for all to enjoy. The Dudley Women's Club provided many of the volunteers for the day while officials from several town boards and commissions also donated their time to make the event a success.



Kenji of Dudley dressed up as a Pokémon trainer for the Spooktacular with a special partner, Eevee, along for the fun.



Children try out a ring toss game with a fun witch theme.

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Friday's Child

Lisa
Age 11
Registration # 7811

Hi! My name is Lisa and I like unicorns!

Lisa is described as both funny and intelligent. She is open to new experiences and has gone horseback riding, taken violin lessons, played volleyball at her school, and taken part in a local Wizard of Oz production. She loves arts and crafts, playing card and board games, and watching videos on her tablet. Lisa enjoys reading and you can always count on her to have a book in hand. Lisa would one day like to take gymnastics or karate lessons. Lisa also attends a youth group, which she enjoys very much.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7811>

Can I Adopt?

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

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

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

Scarecrows on the Common



Tarn Hildreth of Holliston shows off a big spider brooch. Most of her wares featured spiderwebs, spiders, moths and leaves in various artistic settings.

OXFORD – Oxford Community Center's Fifth Annual Scarecrows on the Common Event was held Saturday, Oct. 26.

Residents, town departments and local businesses visited the Oxford Common to participate in our Scarecrow contest. In addition to the creative scarecrows, hundreds of visitors enjoyed a vendor fair, children's games and crafts, pumpkin painting with the Oxford Cultural Council, live music by DW and The Shakemakers, and a dance performance by The Witches of Sutton. The Scarecrow submitted by Oxford DPW once again garnered top votes – winning first prize in the categories of Funniest and Town Spirit, and placing second in Most Creative. First prize in that category went to Oxford resident, Richard Guskey, with his Chef Poppa Corn entry reminding us all to care for our feathered friends and feed the birds over the winter.

DW and the Shakemakers, dressed as old-fashioned airline pilots, stewards and a stewardess, performed music from the '70s to current, including some Halloween themed favorites. Young Jaxon Cortis was the winner of the band's Twist contest! The Witches of Sutton, comprised of dancing witches from ages six to those into their '70s, entertained hundreds with 20 solid minutes of dancing. The Witches fundraise to benefit Central Mass Veteran Support Inc and Sutton Senior Center & Food Pantry.



If you drive too fast in a construction zone, the DPW might sic this monster on you.



Francine of Francine's Fancy looks over one of her wreaths.



Last year's Pirates scarecrow couple returned to hang out with this year's newcomers.

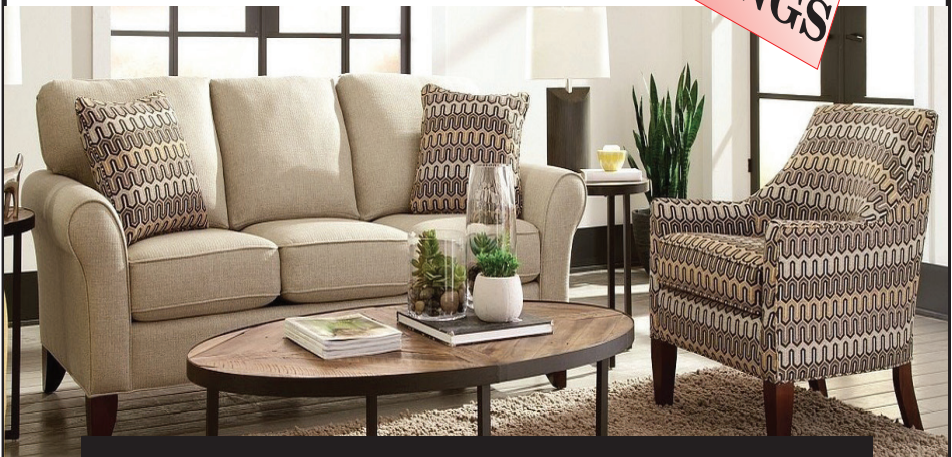


Grace and Marie Pelodeau were among those staffing the Board of Health's table, where they were promoting a survey on inclusiveness needs for local parks.

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OBITUARIES

Cecelia Dinwoodie Bray, 78



Cecelia Dinwoodie Bray, 78, of Union, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on October 10, 2024, at Matulaitis Rehabilitation & Skilled Care, Putnam, CT. Cecelia was born on August 13, 1946 in Great Barrington, MA, and was the daughter of Suzanne Carion Dinwoodie of Union, CT. Cecelia was the beloved wife of William (Bill) Bray for 28 years.

She leaves her son Mathieu Silbermann, and his wife Ellen, and cherished granddaughters, Madeline and Elizabeth Silbermann of Union, CT. She is survived by her brother, Thomas (Tom), and wife, Jeanne Dinwoodie, and family of Atwater, CA.

Cecelia was a 1964 graduate of Woodstock Academy. After a fulfilling career in assisted living, Cecelia retired from Christopher Heights, Webster, MA, as Director of Admissions and Marketing. She was the Agent for the Elderly in Union and active for many years with the Meals on Wheels program locally. She often volunteered at

Union Elementary School's hot lunch program and other local events.

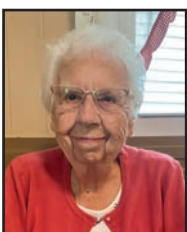
She loved camping in NH, motorcycle trips, downhill skiing, and fishing with her husband Bill.

She was co-owner of Hatchet Hill Farm Sugarhouse, an avid and accomplished gardener, and don't even think about touching her lawn mower! Cecelia never met a stranger and will be missed greatly by many, with her heart and spirit living on in those she knew.

The family wishes to express a heartfelt thank you to two special friends, Andrea Estell, and Carolyn Hudon, for their care and guidance over the last 4 years, and to the entire staff at Matulaitis Rehabilitation & Skilled Care in Putnam, CT.

The family will host a private celebration of life at a later date. Donations in Cecelia's memory can be made to the Union School Association, 18 Kinney Hollow Road, Union, CT 06076, or the Alzheimer's Association, <https://www.alz.org/get-involved-now/donate>, by phone at 1-800-373-3900, or mail to P.O. Box 96011, Washington, DC 20090-6011.

Rita M. Gajewski, 90



Dudley - Rita M. (Zmetra) Gajewski, age 90, died Wednesday evening, October 23, 2024, at Harrington Hospital in Southbridge.

Rita was born in Dudley, daughter of the late Stanley and Mary (Jedrzynski) Zmetra and lived in Dudley all her life. She previously worked at Commerce Insurance in the mailroom and was a cafeteria worker for the Dudley school system.

Rita enjoyed playing cards for nickels and bingo. She was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots. She enjoyed watching game shows on television.

Rita was predeceased by her husband of 50 years, Edmund W. "Deka" Gajewski.

who died on July 29, 2009. She is survived by three daughters, Brenda Floria of Webster, Donna Fortin, and Doreen

Pelletier and her husband Andrew of Dudley; five grandchildren, Joshua and his wife Courtney, Kyleigh, Shaelyn, Daniele and her husband James, and Emily; three great-grandchildren, Jameson, Isla and Kinley; many nieces and nephews; and her beloved cat, Baby.

The funeral was held Tuesday, October 29, 2024, from the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street, Webster beginning at 9:15 am. A Mass of Christian burial at 10 am in Saint Andrew Bobola Church, 54 West Main Street, Dudley. Burial followed in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace Cemetery, Webster. Calling hours were held Monday, October 28, 2024, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post message of condolence, share a memory and/or light a candle.

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

WEBSTER

continued from page A1

aiming to make it “revenue-neutral as far as I’m concerned.” As the process goes forward, he promised to keep the public informed, with public discussions and hearings “as things solidify.”

One voter said she didn’t see how it could be “revenue-neutral” because there are “so many different costs” involved. She did, however, note “I’d love to have

something like this in our town. Our town needs something like this.”

Lafond said the town’s fiscal staff already has a hard time keeping the budget balanced, so if this adds costs “it’s not going to happen... This is not going to be a drain on public resources.”

Another voter asked how this project will affect local taxes. Lafond noted the lease will not include tax breaks for the developer, but will also not reduce residential taxes.

Town Meeting’s other items also passed overwhelmingly. Of them, the biggest was a \$500,000 design project for biosolids dewatering at the sewer plant.

Water / Sewer Superintendent Tom Cutler said this issue came up in May when Woonsocket’s Synagro incinerator told Webster and several other communities it would no longer accept liquid sludge when the current contract ends in 2027. Cutler noted the facility

needs \$30-40 million in upgrades, so it might not even last that long.

To address the issue, he’s proposing building a local plant that will convert the liquid into a dry compost, which can be trucked less expensively to disposal sites. The town currently pays \$350,000-\$450,000 a year for such disposal, and he found one site willing to accept Webster’s current sludge for \$700,000-\$800,000 if Woonsocket stops doing so. He said a dewatering plant will

cost \$3-6 million, which would be paid back in eight to 10 years (if on the low end) or “closer to 20 years” on the high end. He estimated the project will add 1 or 2 percent to user bills at the high-end cost.

One voter asked whether they’d bid for engineers to do this, and Cutler said no. Tighe & Bond will do it because they already know Webster’s system, he said. (State law exempts engineering from Chapter 30B procurement requirements.)

Voters approved it 93-10.

The warrant’s other four items passed with no discussion. They were an unpaid prior year bill, a transfer to cover unexpectedly high police cruiser costs, a permanent utility easement to Nation Grid at the high school, and transferring what’s left of the Bartlett feasibility study money to the project budget.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

OXFORD

continued from page A1

really charging us ... but we don’t get the money.”

Griffin expressed concern that if the town continues requiring the schools to pay for various things, it’ll mean school budget cuts. To counter that, she said she feels the committee should start putting warrant articles before town meeting.

That came up during Bobola’s regular budget update, when he mentioned “going back and forth” with the

DPW over paying for a door replacement at the Superintendent’s Office. In response, David Cornacchioli questioned whether DPW would charge the library for a similar cost.

Bobola said he expects special education to go over budget because of an extra teacher (\$60,000) and about \$30,000 extra in out of district tuition, but plans to cover it in the school’s general fund. This year, such tuition totals about \$714,000.

He and Superintendent Mike Lucas both

expressed concern over the future of Title I grant funding now that ESSER funding has expired. Lucas said Title I had gone down during ESSER’s period.

Before that, the board had a couple of presentations – a summary of Chaffee PTO activity, a song from the middle school chorus, and an overview of Educare. The latter was by far the longer one, with September Forbes saying Oxford’s before and after school program has been state licensed for May

2023-25, while the summer program has been permitted by the Health Department.

Regarding summer, she said the permit allows 130 kids, and they’ve averaged 100 per day. It accepts some out of town families, most of them from Webster, and this year’s participants had to submit a \$150 deposit which covered the first five days.

“I was shocked at what a well-oiled machine Educare really is, and it’s just gotten better over the last three years,” she

said, particularly crediting a few people for that stability. Forbes said the funds have to be used to support the program itself, so they’ve used money for such things as school bubblers, flooring, and playground equipment.

In that time, it has seen some changes, including having to bus middle school kids to Barton for a year before eliminating them entirely. Today’s Educare is K-5, although she’s now working on having a “counselor-in-training” program

by which some middle schoolers can participate as volunteers and some high schoolers can use it for community service hours. To her, they can be “the best role models for our younger students” and are willing to do things – like poll the kids on what they want for lunch – the adults don’t want to do.

Forbes noted the program employs 17 part-time high school or college students.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

DUDLEY

continued from page A1

would bring the actual cost covered by the town to \$207,760 which would not necessarily need to be funded through taxation depending on future fundraising and donation efforts.

The project has been touted as an investment in the children of Dudley and a potential economic draw while the opposition argued the price tag was too high and the potentially superfluous addition of a splash pad. Jennifer Cournoyer, a member of the town’s Recreation Committee which sponsored the article, responded to concerns about the cost.

“It is going to be safe. It’s

OSAH certified, all of the equipment is certified for a municipality, hence the reason why it’s not just a \$70,000 playground,” Cournoyer explained. “It’s not like you can just go out and buy a swing set. There are certain standards that have to be met. That’s why the grant was applied for, so that we can reduce the cost – the maintenance costs are believed to be about \$46,000 a year during the peak months from the research that we’ve done. The Recreation Commission is also looking at using this facility and added space once it’s there as ways of bringing in revenue.”

The town eventually plans to hold events like farmers markets to not only offset the cost

of maintenance, but also bring people to Dudley with the hopes of creating more economic growth.

Dudley Selectman Jana Deschenes touted the project as a short-term cost that will be a long-term investment in building the community of Dudley.

“It seems like every year people want more to do in town, more things to do with their kids, more things to do with their families, more things to do in general. This is relatively a small investment that we’ll be able to use for a long time – In my estimation, the fact that most of it is being covered by a grant is a win-win to get better amenities in town,” Deschenes said.

Comments critical of the proposal focused primarily on the potential inclusion of a splash pad which would bring with it the added cost of water usage to the playground. Resident Michael Leo was one of the first to mention this feature as a possible dealbreaker for voters.

“There’s the question of where’s the water coming from. We can’t water our lawns but is there just going to be water running full time, what’s that cost? Truthfully, I’m of the opinion that this might be a great idea, but farther down the line this splash pad is going to fall into some of these things that we’re traditionally not good stewards of like the beach, like the gazebo, like the existing playground, and sure, things wear out, but we also traditionally haven’t been great stewards of things in our town, so I think some of the concern is looking farther down the line,” Leo said.

The Board of Selectmen clarified that a positive vote wouldn’t dictate what is included in the playground and that there would be opportunities to remove the splash pad or any other feature from the plans until ground is officially broken. However, selectmen couldn’t provide guarantees that a splash pad wouldn’t be included beyond asking people to trust the public process and attend future public meetings and hearings to have their voices heard. The town moderator stressed that the discussion at hand wasn’t concerning the specifics of the plan, but rather

deciding on a funding mechanism for the project with a future public hearing to determine the final design. It should be noted that the wording of the article asked voters whether to borrow the sum of \$704,410 to proceed with the project without providing design specifics. All design notes brought up during the town meeting were for the sake of discussion only and not the subject of the article as written. The Recreation Committee clarified that the proposed borrowing represented the biggest scope that the designers could provide and that was subject to change. The final plans have not been voted on by the Recreation Commission or, effectively, any other board in town.

When it came time to vote, a hand count was initiated and the project failed to earn the two-third required majority required to pass. However, in a rare but legal move the project was brought back to a vote at the end of the town meeting which is permissible if an article is reconsidered at the same town meeting where it was voted down and there is still a quorum. Despite arguments that bringing the article back to a vote did a disservice to those who voted and left the meeting early, the Town Moderator confirmed that a quorum was still intact and that it was appropriate to bring the article back to the table. Town Clerk Lori Smith, who officially moved to reconsider the playground, felt it was a topic worth deeper discussion

and a second chance.

“I really think this is in the best interest of the town to reconsider this. A lot of time and effort has gone into it. From what I heard tonight during the discussion, a lot of it was on the splash pad which we had assurances from the Recreation Committee that there will be a public hearing. If people really don’t want the splash pad, that can be taken out. We really need to put some money into our town. It’s a small amount when you look at how much we’re going to be getting for the grant. Our children don’t have places to go during the day. It’s a small thing we can do for them and make the town better,” said Smith.

The splash pad remained the most contentious portion of the playground proposal with comments continuing to label the addition as “too far” and questioning the upkeep of the water system. A motion was made and approved to amend the article by capping the price tag at \$704,410 and requiring the exclusion of a splash pad from the project design. Town officials clarified that changing the scope of the project would lower the price tag without losing the grant funding which would still cover 70 percent of the eventual total cost. The article was eventually approved. While the initial vote required a hand count, the Town Moderator deemed the voice vote to be a two-third majority the second time around.

KONIECZNY

continued from page A1

have served us,” Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda said. “A career marked by integrity and service, knowledge and wisdom and the ability to inspire those that came after him is a career well-earned and a retirement well-earned. On behalf of the community, I thank him for his service.”

Konieczny accomplished much in his career. For highlights, he shared many but topping the list was ushering in a new life.

“The greatest experience may be delivering a baby in the back of an ambulance,” he recalled. “Bringing new life into this world is an experience difficult to top!”

Other noted career highlights included

unexpectedly working two tornados, teaching thousands of elementary school children safety practices during Fire Prevention Week and teaching an Introduction to Firefighting class at Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

One experience Konieczny found profound was the honor of an all-access day pass at the World Trade Center (Ground Zero) post Sept. 11, 2001, to experience the site along with its clean-up activities.

It was, he said, “beyond what I can put into words.”

Konieczny’s advice for future generations of first responders: “As we enter the work force as a young person, we don’t realize what lays ahead but if we look around us and see who does things well, we can emulate

them. Allow yourself to be mentored by the right people and you will continue to grow yourself. The need to further your education and credentialing is not always immediately realized but when an opportunity presents, you need to be prepared.”

“It is rewarding to have worked a career doing what I love to do, in the town that I grew up in and still call home. It has been a pleasure to serve the people that I know and are close to,” he said, adding, “I will miss the staff in the firehouse and the cast of characters that pass through, the friendships with people that I have become close to in Town Hall and other town departments. In the end I hope I have left this town better than when I walked in for my first day on shift.”



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LEGALS

NOTICE OF SALE, NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE, Premises: 52 Harrison Avenue, Auburn, Massachusetts 01501, By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Phyllis M. Vario to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Trust Group, Inc., dated November 24, 2003, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 32365 at Page 16, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement dated September 23, 2008, and recorded in said Registry in Book 43911, Page 139, as affected by an assignment of mortgage from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Trust Group, Inc. to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, dated September 26, 2018, and recorded with said Registry in Book 59534 at Page 323, as affected by an assignment of mortgage from Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, dated November 15, 2019, and recorded with said Registry in Book 61769 at Page 210, as affected by an assignment of mortgage from Community Loan Servicing, LLC f/k/a Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, dated June 29, 2022, and recorded with said Registry in Book 67832 at Page 158, as affected by an assignment of mortgage from Nationstar Mortgage LLC to US Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for VRMTG Asset Trust, dated January 17, 2024, and recorded with said Registry in Book 70194 at Page 376, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold by Public Auction at 1:00 o’clock P.M. on the 12th day of November, 2024 at the mortgaged premises located at 52 Harrison Avenue, Auburn, MA 01501, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, To wit: The land in said Auburn on the easterly side of Harrison Avenue, now a public street, and is bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the southwesterly corner thereof at the northwesterly corner of land of Roger E. and Helen M. Williams; THENCE S. 73 degrees E. two hundred seventy (270) feet by land of said Roger E. and Helen M. Williams to land of Frank C. Williams; THENCE N. 17 degrees W. two eighty-one and thirty-three hundredths (81.33) feet by land of said Frank C. Williams to other land of said Grantors; THENCE N. 73 degrees W. two hundred seventy (270) feet by our other land to a stone bound on the easterly line of said Harrison Avenue; THENCE 17 degrees W. eighty-one and thirty-three hundredths (81.33) feet by the easterly line of said Harrison Avenue to the place of beginning, containing 21,959 square feet of land more or less. And more particularly described as follows: The land in said Auburn on the easterly side of Harrison Avenue, now a public street, and is bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the southwesterly corner thereof at the northwesterly corner of land of Roger E. and Helen M. Williams; THENCE S. 73 degrees E. two hundred seventy (270) feet by land of said Roger E. and Helen M. Williams to land of Frank C. Williams; THENCE N. 17 degrees E. eighty-one and thirty-three hundredths (81.33) feet by land of said Frank C. Williams to other land of said Grantors; THENCE N. 73 degrees W. two hundred seventy (270) feet by our other land to a stone bound on the easterly line of said Harrison Avenue; THENCE S. 17 degrees W. eighty-one and thirty-three hundredths (81.33) feet by the easterly line of said Harrison Avenue to the place of beginning, containing 21,959 square feet of land more or less. For Mortgagor’s title, see deed dated June 30, 1978, and recorded in Book 6499, at Page 272 in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds. Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. **TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of Ten Thousand

Dollars (\$10,000.00) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. High bidder to sign written memorandum of sale upon acceptance of the high bid. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid by certified or bank check at Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, within thirty (30) days from the date of the sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale. US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust, Present holder of said mortgage by its Attorneys, **Friedman Vartolo LLP** 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004
October 18, 2024
October 25, 2024
November 1, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Grace Boro to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mega Capital Funding Inc., dated March 17, 2023 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68940, Page 170, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Mega Capital Funding Inc., its successors and assigns to Mega Capital Funding, Inc., recorded on August 26, 2024, in Book No. 70937, at Page 59 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 3:00 PM on December 2, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 15 Glenview Road a/k/a 15 Glen View Road, Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:
The land in Auburn, County of Worcester, bounded and described as follows: Being all of Lot #14 on a Plan of Highlawn Manor Estates, dated July, 1951, drawn by R.B. Cullinan, Surveyor, recorded in Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 186, Plan 61, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a stone bound on the easterly side of Glenview Road, it being the northerly corner of said Lot # 14 as shown on said plan;
THENCE S. 50 degrees 35’ 40” E. 142.81 feet by Lot #13 as shown on said plan to a stake;
THENCE S. 35 degrees 14’ 30” W. by lots 9 & 10 as shown on said plan 100 feet to a stake;
THENCE N. 52 degrees 37’ W. by lots # 15 as shown on said plan 149.77 feet to a stake;
THENCE by a curve to the right a radius of which is 160 feet, a distance of 40.39 feet to a stone bound;
THENCE N. 37 degrees 23’ E. 19.07 feet to a stone bound;
THENCE by a curve to the right the radius of which is 124.29 feet, a distance of 47.05 feet to the point of beginning. Said last three courses being by Glenview Road.
Containing 15,200 square feet of land, more or less.

For mortgagor’s(s’) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68821, Page 330.
These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. **TERMS OF SALE:**
A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
MEGA CAPITAL FUNDING, INC.
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
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(617)558-0500
26353
November 1, 2024
November 8, 2024
November 15, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeffrey A. Patterson, Melissa A. Patterson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, a division of First Tennessee Bank, N.A., dated November 12, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42107, Page 356, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, a division of First Tennessee Bank N.A., its successors and assigns to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, recorded on February 24, 2023, in Book No. 68857, at Page 395 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on November 12, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 8 1/2 Sutton Avenue a/k/a 8.5 Sutton Avenue, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

JEFFREY A. PATTERSON AND MELISSA A. PATTERSON, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY
A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS SITUATED THEREON OFF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SUTTON AVE., OXFORD, WORCESTER COUNTY, BEING SHOWN ON PLAT OF LAND OXFORD PREPARED FOR STANFORD SEED COMPANY, DATED JANUARY 30, 1991 AND RECORDED N PLAN BOOK 647, PLAN 121 BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ALONG THE DIRT DRIVE AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAN, WHICH POINT IS THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF THE 15,183 SQUARE FOOT PARCEL OF LAND SHOWN ON SAID PLAN;
THENCE N. 83 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 41 SECONDS W. 71.35 FEET BY SAID PARCEL OF LAND IDENTIFIED ON SAID PLAN CONTAINING 15,183 SQUARE FEET;
THENCE N. 6 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 05 SECONDS E. 62.30 FEET BY LAND OF PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RAILROAD TO THE MOST NORTHWESTERLY CORNER;
THENCE S. 82 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 56 SECONDS E. 131.34 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY BARRE;
THENCE S. 8 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 00 SECONDS W. 139.26 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY MILLER;
THENCE N. 82 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 56 SECONDS W. 57.75 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY C. PARISEAU AND SAID DIRT DRIVE;
THENCE N. 8 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 00 SECONDS E. 77.52 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 12,533 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS. BEING THE SAME PREMISES CONVEYED TO THE GRANTORS BY DEED OF HERITAGE EQUITY RESOURCES, INC. DATED APRIL 7, 1993 AND RECORDED WITH THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS BOOK 15077, PAGE 389. SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS, EASEMENTS, COVENANTS, OIL, GAS OR MINERAL RIGHTS OF RECORD, IF ANY.
MAP: 34C; LOT: E28
For mortgagor’s(s’) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 19484, Page 253.
These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims

in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. **TERMS OF SALE:**
A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
23228
October 18, 2024
October 25, 2024
November 1, 2024

**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. WO23P2679EA
In the matter of:**
Barbara M. Stanley
Date of Death: **09/18/2022**
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT
To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by **Cheryl Urbano of Mansfield MA** requesting allowance of the SPR’s First and Final account(s) as Personal Representative and any other relief as 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 day of **11/19/2024**.
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. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court
October 21, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 1, 2024

**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. W024C0512CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**
In the matter of:
Sabia Gul
A Petition to Change Name of Adulthas been filed by **Sabia Gul of Dudley MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Sabia Gul Shaa
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 11/05/24 at 10 a.m. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 04, 2024
Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate
October 25, 2024

For Legal Advertising Information,
Call 508-909-4127
email: legals@stonebridgepress.news

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 9 Lovett Road and 0 Lovett Road, Oxford, MA 01540

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Alvin J Edison and Carey R Bissonnette to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc., and now held by **NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC**, said mortgage dated November 23, 2009 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 45162, Page 328, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc. to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment dated May 21, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62507, Page 352; said mortgage was assigned from JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association to Community Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment dated July 14, 2021 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 65637, Page 153; said mortgage was assigned from Community Loan Servicing, LLC to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by assignment dated June 27, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 67814, Page 116; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** December 3, 2024 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: **PARCEL I**

Certain tract or parcel of land situated in the easterly part of said Oxford, and containing about three (3) acres of land, more or less, and buildings thereon, bounded as follows, to wit: BEGINNING: at the southwesterly corner thereof at land now or formerly of one Davis, by the highway, leading to Sutton; THENCE: North 1° East about twelve (12) rods to land now or formerly of Charles White; THENCE: North on land now or formerly of said White about twenty- five (25) rods to land now or formerly of Thomas Foster; THENCE: on land now or formerly of said Foster about twelve rods to said highway; THENCE: westerly on said highway about fifteen (1.5) rods to the place of beginning. PARCEL II

Land in said Oxford known as a part of the Amos Pratt place bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING: at the southeasterly corner thereof, at a corner in the wall; THENCE: running northerly by land formerly of Roseann Foster now one Crosby, to a corner in the wall; THENCE: westerly by land formerly of said Foster, now. Crosby, to a corner in wall; THENCE: southerly by land formerly of Ivas Davis, to a corner in the wall; THENCE: easterly by land of Sally Reynolds, to place of beginning. Said tract containing three acres, be the same more or less. Together with the right to pass and repass from said/second tract of land and subject to the right to take water from a certain spring as reserved in a deed recorded in Worcester Registry of Deeds, Book 2664, Pager 71, if such rights exists. Parcels I and II being the same premises as conveyed in a deed from John L. Renaud et ux to Bernard O'Reilly et ux dated May 3, 1948 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 3118, Page 500. Excepting from the above premises is a deed from Erna A. O'Reilly to Brian J. O'Reilly dated April 4, 1960 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 4134, Page 22. PARCEL III

A certain tract or parcel of land situated in the easterly part of said Oxford, on which formerly stood a barn, situated northerly of and near the house formerly of William Daniel, now of grantee, containing 28 rods, more or less, and being described in a deed from Erastus Ormsbee to Alexander De Witt recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 663, Page 400, as follows: BEGINNING: At the S. E. corner of the granted premises, THENCE: S. 88 1/3° W. 4 rods and 4 links; THENCE: N. 1° E. 2 rods and 17 links; THENCE: N. 50° W. 3 rods 9 links to land now or formerly of Ivers A. Davis; THENCE: N. 78 3/4° E. 6 rods and 14 links; THENCE: S. 1 1/2° E. 6 rods and 2 links to place of beginning. SUBJECT: To rights of way referred to in said deed. Excepting from the above conveyance a strip of land ten feet in width and one hundred feet, more or less, in length, running from the southerly boundary to the northerly boundary of said above described premises, the center of said ten foot strip following the center of the cart road as now

located across said premises, and is more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point fifty feet easterly of the northwesterly corner of the above described premises at land formerly of Ivers A. Davis, now or formerly of Thiebeaut; THENCE: Southerly 100 feet, more or less, to the southerly boundary of the said above described premises at a point seven feet easterly of the southwesterly corner of the above described premises; THENCE: N. 88 1/2° E. ten feet to a point; THENCE: Northerly on a line parallel to and ten feet distant from said first described course 100 Feet, more or less, to said Thiebeault land; THENCE: S. 78 3/4° W. ten feet, more or less, to the place of beginning. Also hereby conveying a right to the grantee, in common with the grantor and others, to pass and repass over said ten foot strip. This conveyance is also made subject to any existing rights of way of the grantor and others. BEING the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagors by deed dated February 27, 2004 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 32930, Page 19.

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 February 27, 2004 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 32930, Page 19.

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 NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
November 1, 2024
November 8, 2024
November 15, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 26 Perryville Road, Webster, MA 01570

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Virginia D. Gogolinski to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Genworth Financial Home Equity Access, Inc., and now held by **Longbridge Financial, LLC**, said mortgage dated September 28, 2011 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 47914, Page 339, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Genworth Financial Home Equity Access, Inc. to Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. by assignment dated January 25, 2016 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 54873, Page 209; said mortgage was assigned from Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc. to Broad Street Funding Trust I by assignment dated August 16, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 59398, Page 330; said mortgage was assigned from Broad Street Funding Trust I to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee of RMF Buyout Acquisition Trust 2018-1 by assignment dated June 4, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 60582, Page 143; said mortgage was assigned from Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee of RMF Buyout Acquisition Trust 2018-1 to Reverse Mortgage Funding, LLC by assignment dated October 30, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 69944, Page 161; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** December 3, 2024 at 09:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: *A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon of every nature and description*

and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging , situated in the Town of Webster, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin at the northerly line of Perryville Road fifty three and twenty one hundredths (53.21) feet westerly from a proposed a proposed W. C. H. bound point and at land of William H. Sherwood; Thence N. 18 °16’ 28” W. by land of said William H. Sherwood one hundred fifty seven and fifty eight hundredths (157.58) feet to an iron pin; Thence S. 67° 44’ 20” W. seventy nine and forty nine hundredths (79.49) feet to an iron pipe; Thence southwesterly one hundred seventy and forty one hundredths (170.41) feet on Goodwin Street, so called, to the northerly line of said Perryville Road; Thence easterly by the northerly line of said Perryville Road one hundred eighty one and sixty five hundredths (181.65) feet to an iron pin and the point of beginning. Less and excepting that parcel that was conveyed to William H. Sherwood in Book 4402 at Page 478 of the Worcester County Registry of Deeds. For Title reference see deed as set forth in Book 6071 at Page 304 of the Worcester County Registry of Deeds.

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 November 18, 1976 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 6071, Page 304.

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 Longbridge Financial, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
November 1, 2024
November 8, 2024
November 15, 2024

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. WO24P3482EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate Of:
George Joseph Bibeau
Date of Death: 09/05/2024

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Neal G Bibeau of Galdwyne PA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Neal G Bibeau of Galdwyne PA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/12/2024**

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

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

and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 10, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 1, 2024

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. WO24C0524A
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the matter of:
Connor Alan Patrick Harnois
A Petition to Change Name of Adult
has been filed by
Connor Alan Patrick Harnois of Dudley MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Connor Alan-Patrick Hammond

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 11/19/24 at 10 a.m. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 16, 2024
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 1, 2024

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. WO24C0606CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the matter of:
Malgorzata Elzbieta Knutelska
A Petition to Change Name of Adult
has been filed by
Malgorzata Elzbleta Knutelska of Dudley MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Malgorzata Elzbleta Knutelska-Salem

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 11/05/24 at 10 a.m. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 03, 2024
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 1, 2024

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT
OF THE TRIAL COURT
24 SM 003652
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Amber Rock
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (*et seq*) **bankHometown f/k/a Hometown Bank, as successor-interest to Millbury Savings Bank** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in North Oxford, 54 Prospect St., given by Amber Rock to Millbury Savings Bank k/n/a bankHometown f/k/a Hometown Bank, as successor-interest to Millbury Savings Bank, dated February 8, 2011, and recorded in Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 47083, Page 334, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 12/02/2024 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 10/15/2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder

November 1, 2024



Health

FACT:

True or False? Eating a vegetarian diet can provide health benefits and aid in the prevention and treatment of certain diseases.

Answer: True

Maze Craze

Find your way through the maze.

START

FINISH

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

OCTOBER

28

306: Maxentius is proclaimed Roman emperor.

1726: The novel “Gulliver’s Travels” by Jonathan Swift is published.

1990: Georgia holds its only free election under Soviet rule.

NEW WORD

LEGUME

fruit of plants in the pea family

Storytimes return to Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library

DUDLEY — There are so many reasons Storytimes are important for young minds. They are a great place for preschoolers to meet new friends, develop listening skills, and spark imagination and curiosity. They also help children get ready for school by exposing them to new words, sounds, and languages.

We are excited to announce we have a new Youth Services Librarian and a new Storytime line up which will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 29. Registration is not required. All programs are free and open to the public.

Pre-K Power Story Time - Tuesday at 10 a.m.

For ages three to five and their caregiver (siblings always welcome). Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, scarves, shaker eggs, and moving our bodies to music. There will also be time for activities, bubbles, a craft, and free play!

Toddler Story Time- Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Best for ages two and a half and under and their caregiver (siblings always welcome). We will have fun with songs, fingerplay, a story, and moving our bodies to music! There is always time for bubbles, free play and socialization, too.

Open Baby Play - Friday at 10 a.m.

Open play for babies 12 months and younger (pre-walkers only)! Parents and caregivers can let babies play while getting to know others in the community!

Town-to-Town

Home Town Service, BIG TIME RESULTS

CLASSIFIEDS

774-200-7308

Place your ad today!

Local residents named to Simmons University Dean’s List

BOSTON — The following local residents have been named to the 2024 spring semester dean’s list at Simmons University in Boston.

- * Naleigha Evans, Webster
- * Victoria Lavelle, Webster
- * Leah Callahan, Oxford
- * Ella Staltare, Oxford

To qualify for dean’s list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

About Simmons University Located in the heart of Boston, Simmons is a respected private university offering nearly 50 majors and programs for undergraduate women and graduate programs open to all on campus, in blended formats, or entirely online in nursing and health sciences, liberal arts, business, communications, social work, public health, and library and information science. Founded in 1899, Simmons has established a model of higher education that other colleges and universities are only recently beginning to adapt: the combination of education for leadership in high-demand professional fields with the intellectual foundation of the liberal arts. The result is a Simmons graduate prepared not only to work, but to lead in professional, civic, and personal life - a vision of empowerment that Simmons calls preparation for life’s work. Follow Simmons on Twitter at @SimmonsUniv, and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/school/simmons-university/>.

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

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

Burden yourself no more with higher rents!

Come see this cozy mobile home for \$89,000 in Thompson, CT. Lot fee applies. Age 40+ in this park. Call 860-315-7395

LEGALS

LEGALS

continued from page A13

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. WO24P3539EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Janice May Williamson
Date of Death: 07/23/2021
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Denise Mayo of Hyde Park MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:
Denise Mayo of Hyde Park MA be appointed as Personal Representa-

tive(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/12/2024**
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate

are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 16, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 1, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO23P2679EA
Estate of:
Barbara M. Stanley
Date of Death: **09/18/2022**
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by

Kelly Maguire of Rutland MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account , and first account 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 day of 11/19/2024**. 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. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court
October 21, 2024
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate
November 1, 2024



REAL ESTATE



hope2own.com
508.943.4333
Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

We Want Your Listings!

WEBSTER- 20 COOPER RD

SORRY, SOLD!

Imagine Yourself in a New Craftsman Style Home ~* Tucked away on Cooper Rd, near Webster Lake w/Access at Lakeside Beach/Boat Ramp . This is the 2nd of 4 New Construction Homes To Be Built at this Site. Offers 2,250 SF+/- of Living Area, 7 Rms, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths! 2 car garage! **\$520,000**




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

Featured New Waterfront Listing!



WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT LIVING AT IT'S FINEST! THIS 4000+/- SF ** THE VILLA'S at SNUG HARBOR! ** END UNIT IS TRULY A RARE FIND! ONE of ONLY 6 UNITS** > Custom Built w/Special Features & Upgrades. Offers 4 BRs - 3 are Primary BR Suites w/private baths, 4-1/2 Baths Total!! The Outstanding direct lakefront location provides exceptional Southern panoramic views across Middle Pond, a boat dock, & full recreation activities like swimming, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding - - whatever Floats Your Boat :-) ! Perfect setup for entertaining family, friends & guests! Enjoy All 4 Spectacular Seasons! It's more than a home - it's a Life Style! **\$1,250,000**


STURBRIDGE - 66 WESTWOOD DR
WATERFRONT LAND!



1640' direct waterfront on Cedar Lake! Secluded 11.61 Acres - Pristine, Undeveloped, Private & Serene! Preliminary Plan suggests the potential for up to 5 house lots! 119' roadfront w/Gravel Drive Access to Land & Lake! 183 ac+- Cedar Lake is full recreational - A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity! **\$949,000**


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Saint Joseph students celebrate Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

WEBSTER — On Friday, Oct. 4, Saint Joseph School students and families celebrated the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi with their pets’ blessing.



Courtesy

Please join the Dudley Woman’s Club 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 7 at Dudley Town Hall, for a Poppy Pins Craft Night! We will fashion poppy pins to be worn by our Veterans who are marching in the Webster-Dudley Veterans’ Day Parade on Nov. 11. Please RSVP to dudleywomensclub@gmail.com to ensure we have enough supplies for everyone. For more information, please go to www.dudleywomensclub.org.

animals and the environment. In honor of his memory and Saint Francis’ love for all of God’s creations, families bring their pets to church for a special ceremony called the “Blessing of the Animals.”

The celebration is always a memorable event for Saint Joseph School students because they can share their pets with friends and faculty. This year, children and parents gathered on the Basilica steps with their pets, which were blessed by Saint Joseph Basilica Pastor and Saint Joseph School Headmaster, Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski. Pets included cats, dogs, ferrets, birds, and turtles.

Following the blessing, the students and their parents recited a special prayer with utmost reverence, “Saint Francis of Assisi, patron of all animals, we ask for your blessing on our pets today and to keep them safe from harm and sickness. Protect our pets who provide us with daily companionship and joy. Heavenly Father, Creator of all creatures, big and small, wild and tame, allow us to show respect to all Your animals and be a true friend to our pets. Thank you for allowing our pets to enrich our lives with their friendship and loving ways. Amen.” They also received a special Saint Francis of Assisi medal to keep with them.

Courtesy

Saint Joseph School student Evelyn Macko holds her dog Tunia while it receives a blessing from Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski on the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi.



Christmas Fair returns to First Congregational Church of Dudley

DUDLEY — The First Congregational Church of Dudley (aka Dudley Hill Church, 135 Center Rd.) will be having its annual Christmas fair on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Fair will include: Craft vendors - Craft workshop for adults - Craft workshop for children - Cafe - Cookie corner - Live entertainment - Basket raffle - Quilt raffle - 50/50 raffle - A visit from Santa Claus - A “heads and tails” game - And an online and in-person auction.

The online auction will open on Nov. 22 at 5 p.m. and close on December 7th at 10 am. The live auction will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 1 p.m. To register for the virtual auction either copy/paste the link <https://new.biddingowl.com/first-congregationalchurchofdudley01571> into your web browser or scan the QR code. Bidding Owl will ask for a private auction code. Use fccd2024 (case sensitive) to see the current items listed. Please email dudleyucc135@gmail.com with any questions.

We hope to see you there! The Christmas Fair Committee of the First Congregational Church of Dudley.



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