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Friday, May 20, 2022

Dudley Annual Town Meeting to be held Monday

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY — Dudley's Annual Town Meeting is quickly approaching on Monday, May 23 where a variety of items, including the town's 2023 budget, will make up the 24 articles to be discussed throughout the evening.

The Fiscal year 2023 spending plan is considered a "sensible" budget according to Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda who explained that education costs make up the bulk of added expenses. The overall budget total is \$23,626,199, with \$10,894,512 budgeted toward education and an additional \$280,000 article on the Town Meeting Warrant for a supplemental amount proposed for the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District (DCRS). That brings the total proposed appropriation to \$11,174,512 for education and \$9,333,617 the general government budget.

"Town received federal funds through the American Recovery Act (ARPA) for qualifying revenue loss costs, and \$1,102,564 of federal ARPA funds will be applied to FY23 for a net increase to the general fund budget of \$481,818 or a 4.8 percent increase over FY 22," said Ruda. "Education costs increased with a \$480,921 budgeted increase plus a \$280,000 supplemental increase request at the Town Meeting for a total of \$760,921 for the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District and a \$24,769 increase being requested from Bay Path, for a total of \$785,690 increase in education over last year, or 8 percent overall for DCRSD and 2.3 percent for Bay Path."

Ruda stated that coming out of the pandemic the focus has been to address regulatory and compliance issues that have been "deferred for decades" and upgrading infrastructure throughout the town. The budget also returns some positions lost during the pandemic. Officials also wanted to focus on reducing the impact to taxpayers as much as possible, which is why they added the \$280,000 supplemental appropriation article to the warrant. While this isn't a permanent fix, it will help ease the burden of the Regional School Committee's funding requests for the next fiscal year.

"The ability for Dudley to meet the original budget request of the DCRSD wasn't possible and the supplemental amount \$280,000 was not included in the assessment but rather as a standalone Warrant Article to help meet the town's obligation but to do so in a manner that demonstrates that ARPA has provided the Town with the ability to provide this one-time, non-recurring supplemental amount and that future increases could not and should not be predicated on that additional amount. Taxpayers must remember that the same cost increases in just about everything that we face in our own home budgets are the same that we face as a municipality, except on a significantly larger level," said Ruda. "The town does everything within its power to limit the impact of those increases on residents that are struggling with their own household budgets. The infusion of ARPA money is an example of that effort, but unfortunately, ARPA money is a one-time source of relief, but nevertheless, one that the Board of Selectmen has been eager to use to maintain services and offset costs."

Looking at the rest of the town meeting warrant articles, there are a few other minor financial items surrounding the budget on the warrant. Among those are a proposal to appropriate \$380,000 to restore and renovate the Fun Zone Playground located on the Town Municipal Building grounds and the purchase of a new fire engine for the fire department. The much-discussed betterments of Tobin Farms Road, Misty Meadows, and Partridge Hill Road will also be discussed as three individual articles. One citizens petition article will conclude the meeting as a proposed ban on single use plastic bags will also go before the voters.

Dudley's Annual Town Meeting will take place Monday, May 23 at 7 p.m. at the Connie Vanco-Galli Auditorium inside Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

Longtime Dudley hairstylist celebrates retirement



Jason Bleau Photo

Peter Sherifi (third from right), owner of Peter's Hair Salon, celebrated his retirement on May 14 during a special party organized by his employees and longtime clients.

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY — After a 54-year career, a staple of the Dudley community is hanging up his scissors. Peter Sherifi has owned and operated Peter's Hair Salon for 32 years making countless friends along the way, but in 2022 he

celebrates his retirement leaving behind a legacy that has made him one of the most well-known business owners in the community.

Peter's long list of friends, clients and employees turned out for a special retirement celebration on Saturday,

May 14 bidding farewell to a man that many called a true friend, a neighbor, and a prime example of the promise of the American Dream. Paul Bruell, a longtime client of Peter's, called him more than just a hairdresser, he's also a "great friend".

"I've known him a very long time. I invite him down to Florida for the winter any time he wants to visit. He's sure going to be missed by all the people in town. Everyone in Dudley knows him. He's absolutely one of the nicest."

Turn To **RETIREMENT** page **A12**

'If you want to be heard, you need to start voting for things like this'

OXFORD VOTERS APPROVE CITIZEN COMMENT BYLAW

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — Selectmen have started the ball rolling on creating a new policy for citizen comment at board meetings after this year's Annual Town Meeting approved a bylaw change requiring such opportunity, 56-50.

Chair Mike Daniels-Demers asked his board to review a collection of policies from various communities and do their own homework on the issue. Among the things they'll consider are where to put it in meeting agendas, how long it should be (10-30 minutes), how long individual citizens should have (2-5 minutes), whether they can comment on items and/or raise new material, and other issues.

He said he's read several requests for such a comment period and has spoken to some of those raising the issue, but noted he's "confused by the apparent narrative being put out by some in town" that the board opposes doing this. In his election profile of April 29, Daniels-Demers said he's "not opposed to

Turn To **OXFORD** page **A17**

Shepherd Hill principal search continues, former candidates not recommended

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The search is back on for a new principal of Shepherd Hill Regional High School after the finalists announced in April were not recommended for the job after meeting with the public and district representatives.

The Principal Search Committee had previously named Elizabeth York, currently principal of David Prouty High in Spencer, and Doug Daponte, assistant principal in Mount Everett Regional School, as the finalists from the initial round of interviews. On April 27, Dr. Brian Ackerman, assistant superintendent for teaching and learning for the Dudley Charlton Regional School District and lead representative of the Search Committee, revealed that neither candidate was recommended as the final choice for the job.

"After hearing and consolidating feedback from all the stakeholder cohorts, the decision has been made to reopen the posting for the position of principal of Shepherd Hill Regional High School," Dr. Ackerman said. "We will look to fill this position prior to the start of the 2022-2023 school year."

Dr. Ackerman provided another update during the School Committee's May 11 meeting where he revealed that 16 candidates have applied for the position and the Search Committee continues to work through each applicant with the intent of naming finalists before the

Turn To **PRINCIPAL** page **A12**

Police Chief Mike Shaw named Grand Marshal of upcoming parade

The Webster Board of Selectmen appointed Michael Shaw to head the Webster Police Department in 2019. The new Chief had been with the department, in many capacities since 1997. The unanimous vote of confidence was well deserved. Chief Shaw is a true believer in the Departments Mission: Honor-Courage-Commitment.

Following up on the BOS endorsement of Mike Shaw, the Memorial Day Parade Committee has chosen him to lead the parade through the streets of Webster and Dudley, our twin towns. Mike's early years

were spent in several Northern Worcester County towns, eventually settling in Shrewsbury, he attended St. John's High School, graduating in 1990. 'Shawzy' as he was called, played a little baseball but worked full time at his 'part time job' at the BIG D Market. He attended Fitchburg State College with plans on becoming a teacher before transferring to Anna Maria College, where he received his Master's Degree in Criminal Justice and Safety.

'Shawzy' became Private Michael Shaw upon his enlistment in the United States Marine

Corps Reserve. He was indoctrinated at Camp Lejeune, NC. Upon completion of Boot Camp, Mike reported to the Camp Edwards facility which was built to simulate a Middle Eastern town. Mike was assigned to Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Regiment, 4th Marine Division. The raw recruit became very familiar with close order drill on the parade grounds, and the proper use of the Heavy Machine Gun. Seventy-four months later he was discharged with the rank of Platoon Sergeant. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal and the Expert

Rifle Badge.

Soon after Mike concluded his six year commitment to his country and the Marine Corps, (and still a young man), Mike became the new cop working the beat in town. The proficient patrolman became Sergeant in 2006, advanced to Deputy Chief eleven years later. Today, he is Swat Team Control Chief and has led Webster's thirty three member Police Department since his appointment in 2019. Shaw is also a firearms instructor and fitness trainer.

Chief Mike Shaw

Turn To **SHAW** page **A12**



Courtesy photo

Grand Marshal Mike Shaw, Webster Police Chief

West Main Street intersections to receive MassDOT improvements

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY — Several intersections in Dudley are slated to receive new signage as part of a Massachusetts Department of Public Works Traffic Control Agreement with the town.

Highway Superintendent Jeffrey Murray briefly touched on the upcoming changes during a May 9 meeting of the Board of Selectmen explaining that the changes are initiated and installed by MassDOT as federal aid projects at no cost to the town itself. The focus will include several roadways with the goal of improving safety for both commuters and pedestrians.

“There will be some signage and traf-

fic controls put into place on Schofield Avenue at Brandon Road and West Main Street, at Pattison Avenue and West Main Street, at Conant Avenue, and West Main Street at Dudley Hill Road. These will be done through MassDOT and the town will become responsible for any of the maintenance issues and upkeep,” Murray said.

Exactly what changes can be expected were not made public. Murray said his office hadn’t been informed exactly what MassDOT will do but that the upgrades will be based on identified traffic concerns. “They don’t describe exactly what they will be doing, but I assume some of those areas will receive crosswalks where there isn’t

any right now, signage, maybe even lit signage,” said Murray. “At the Schofield Avenue intersection on the south side facing north there’ll be additional control. Right now, I don’t think there’s anything that exists as far as a walk signal so there will be installation of that as well. They don’t fully describe in detail exactly what measures are going to be put in place, but this is a brief overview of the areas that will be covered.”

Murray also did not disclose exactly when these updates would take place, however he stressed that the projects will be managed by MassDOT and will not cost town taxpayer money to install.

REAL ESTATE

Dudley

\$1,100,000, 26 Central Ave, Hartley, Keeley A, to Dintino 253 Realty LLC.
\$1,100,000, 9 Cross St, Hartley, Keeley A, to Dintino 253 Realty LLC.

Oxford

\$340,000, 34 Comins Rd, Haak, Travis D, and Haak, Amanda L, to Munoz, Jailene, and Hughes, Anthony.

\$300,000, Leicester St, Expedition RT, and Prouty, Daniel M, to Nova Group LLC.

\$300,000, Route 56, Expedition RT, and Prouty, Daniel M, to Nova Group LLC.

\$285,000, 8 Hemlock St, Ide Jr, Mark C, and Ide, Rebecca L, to Gaddis, Margaret M.

\$239,000, 275 Main St, Cochrane, Nicholas, to Michelson, James G, and Michelson, Theresa A.

\$225,000, 28 Carron Ln, Hebdem, Steven B, and Nichols, Brenda R, to Putnam Enterprises Inc.

\$190,365, 4 Toria Heights Rd #4, Mason, Paul M, and Santander Bank NA, to Santander Bank NA.

Webster

\$755,000, 24 Mechanic St, Best Properties LLC, to Sap Reguru LLC.

\$399,000, 6 Negus St, BD Construction LLC, to McMahon, Brian.

\$385,000, 505 Beacon Park #505, 505 Beacon Park LLC, to Currie, Barbara.

\$350,000, 8 5th St, Lambert, Glen E, and Lambert, Coral, to Slejzer, Kristen M, and Rallis, Robert N.

\$325,000, 15 Harris St, Savy Properties LLC, to Washburn-Baroutas, Krysta, and Baroutas, Dimitrios P.

\$280,000, 57 Lake St, Harbor RE Group LLC, to Carreiro, Daniel G, and Silva, Marcella.

\$100,000, 30 Hillside Ave, Karapanos, Zora, to Karapanos, Paul.



Courtesy photo

DUDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Dudley Middle School recently announced their Students of The Month. They are as follows:

Fifth Grade — Amelia Donahue, Lilly Connor, Shay Fournier, Oliver Okolita

Sixth Grade — Sarah Whitcraft, Cadence Kilderry, Brayden Dancause, Caiden Ayers

Seventh Grade — Jason Richard, Abigail Lonchiadis, Kai Dumont

Eighth Grade — Aubrey Demers, Eli Mitchell, Mars Ey



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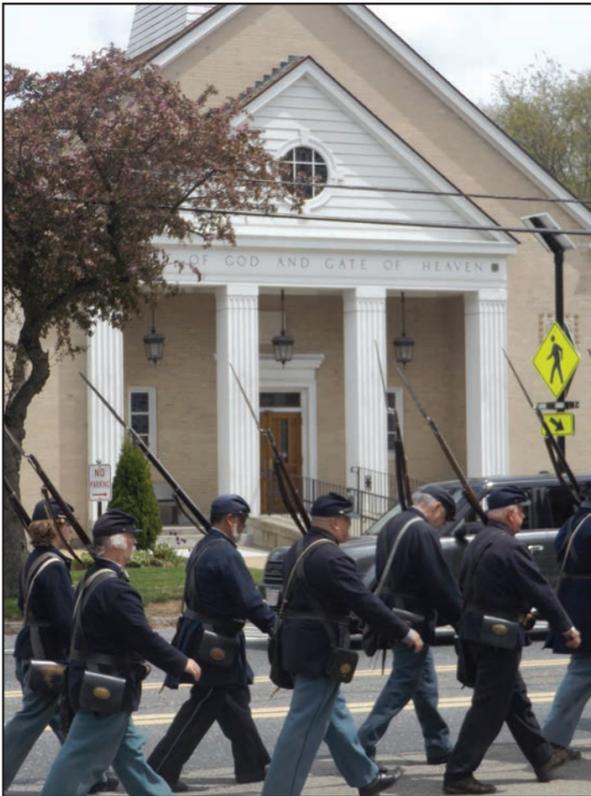


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Oxford rededicates Civil War memorial



Gus Steeves photos

Re-enactors of the 15th Mass Civil War regiment march down Main Street Saturday. At right: The 15th Mass fires its 21-gun salute in honor of the rededication of the town's Civil War memorial.



5th Mass Cmdr Tom Tuttle, left, and Oxford Honor Guard Cmdr Terry Cummings speak at Town Hall.



BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — If you thought downtown Oxford jumped into history Saturday, you were right. Sort of.

People driving through town saw a small detachment of Civil War soldiers marching down Main Street at one point. If they stopped long enough to see what was happening, they'd have seen the men were part of the formal rededication of the Civil War memorial tablets in Town Hall, which were recently restored by the Krasinskas family.

"Volunteering to essentially sacrifice your life is no choice any man should have to make," said Selectman Mike Daniels-Demers, himself an active soldier. In that war, he added, people "as young as 14 ... joined the Civil War and perished."

This memorial cites the names of 64 Oxford residents who did just that. Some died in battle, a few in Andersonville Prison, and some from wounds or diseases acquired due to the war. Honor Guard leader Terry Cummings noted Oxford residents served in the 12th, 15th, 25th and 36th infantry regiments

at various places, including Antietam, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Ball's Bluff and Spotsylvania Courthouse.

Re-enactors from the 15th Mass were on hand to help commemorate the event, and staged a small campsite up the street at Joslin Park. Their captain, Tom Tuttle, summarized the unit's history, saying Oxford's Town Meeting voted to raise \$4,000 for what was at first called the DeWitt Guards. Soldiers were paid \$1 a day for up to 24 days of training, six hours per day. Cummings noted Oxford's men later

went to Worcester, where they were formally added to the 15th Mass as Company E, one of 10 companies of 100 men in the regiment. Others came from various towns, including Company I from Webster, although most included people that weren't actually residents of those towns. Oxford's unit, for example, initially started with 87 men; "14 of those men had to sign with an X," he said.

Tuttle noted Oxford's unit was described by media of the day as "a hardy, able-bodied set of men" and was "the first organization in the state to appear armed and equipped in response to the president's call." He said area residents were particularly riled up by reports of Massachusetts soldiers en route to Washington getting attacked on the streets of Baltimore, with fliers circulating afterward calling for war.

Ted Urbanski portrays another unit's man, signalman Sgt. Charles Bacon of the 2nd Rhode Island. He said he was drawn to it both because of his own Vietnam War service and "the fun of learning about someone's life" in history. He said Bacon served for 10 months and was wounded, but made it home, living until 1924. Most of his working life after the war was in the shoe industry.

Urbanski found a letter from Bacon to his mother from May 1862, and passed out copies to visitors Saturday. It's short and not very grammatical, but shows his excitement at one particular encounter:

"The Captain of the company heard a rumor there was a chance we might be one of the companies inspected by a politician from Washington to see how we looked like," Bacon wrote. "Mother to my surprise it was President Lincoln [...]. As he passed me he stopped and shook my hand and thanked me for defending the Capital from the Rebels."

For Urbanski, discoveries like that are important. "We don't think about what soldiers were thinking about. It's fun to see what happens to them."

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

James Amorello is looking to make history



Courtesy photo

James Amorello

HOLDEN/WORCESTER — At 24, James Amorello is looking to make history as the third youngest State Senator ever elected in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as he vies to become the first person to serve the new Worcester and Hampshire State Senate District.

Amorello was raised in both

Worcester and Holden, playing basketball, golfing, and growing up with friends and family throughout the district. James' upbringing led him to understand that hard work leads to success. His uncles, Joe and Jim run A.F. Amorello & Sons, Inc. a company that has been passed down from father to son for three generations dating back to 1914. Another uncle, Dan Amorello, built Dan Amorello Services, Inc. from the ground up. His father, Robert, is a prominent Worcester County trial lawyer.

James Amorello's experiences living in both Holden and Worcester, give him a unique and informed understanding of this Senate District and the people living in it. He also spent a year living in Queens, New York while studying at St. John's University.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to serve everybody in our new Worcester and Hampshire Senate District. People are ready for change in Massachusetts. They are excited to

meet a young Republican with common sense ideas and care for people that can be easily applied to the State Senate District," said Amorello.

In addition to his Senate bid, Amorello plays basketball recreationally and serves on the Holden Board of Registrars. He is also active on the local Republican Town Committee, and manages his investments in the stock market.

Amorello has studied the economy extensively and understands what causes it to react as it does in real-time and on a historic basis. He knows the importance of implementing responsible public policies that work for, not against the people.

"We have all been hurt by failed economic policies, responsible for driving inflation to near record highs," says Amorello. "We must teach financial literacy in schools, and encourage fiscal responsibility in future generations. Additionally, we need to protect small businesses, that provide goods to us and bring value daily. We must make things less expensive for people."

The election is Nov. 8. Those interested in supporting James can donate on winred and by mailing contributions to:

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Cecelia J. Smolenski/Millette Charitable Trust announcement of funding availability

OXFORD — The Trustees of the Cecelia J. Smolenski/Millette Charitable Trusts have announced applications are available for grant funding for projects and programs that promote and foster recreational and literary opportunities and activities for children in Oxford.

The Smolenski/Millette Trusts were established in 1995 and 2000 to be used for the charitable, recreational, literacy, or educational purposes for the benefit of the youth of Oxford. The Trustees are comprised of various Town Officials as well as members of the public. The original donation to the Town totaled over \$2 million and distributions are made from trust income.

Previous projects and programs funded in whole or in part through the trust include the Splash Pad, the NJROTC program at the High School, the library pass program, the skate park, activities at Joslin Park, the Greenbriar osprey camera, playground equipment, upgrades to the Little League concession stand, and activities at the Community Center.

Applications can be found online at www.oxfordma.us/town-manager. Applications are due no later than June 3, 2022. Applications are also available by contacting the Town Manager's Office at manager@oxfordma.us or (508) 987-6030, ext. 8.

Annual Clara Barton Open Golf Tournament comes to Pine Ridge June 17

The 26th annual Clara Barton Open Golf Tournament, hosted by the Oxford Lions Club and with proceeds to benefit children with Type 1 diabetes, is scheduled for June 17 at Pine Ridge Country Club in Oxford. For information: Please call 508-987-2056, Ext. 2000 or email: events@bartoncenter.org

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Bay Path's Dr. Olivar Completes ACEN Workshop in Virginia

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy full-time faculty, Dr. Ana Olivar, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN completed the ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) administrator's workshop and Self-study forum held at Alexandria, Va. The ACEN "supports the interests of nursing education, nursing practice, and the public by providing specialized accreditation for all levels of nursing education and transition-to-practice programs. As the leading authority in nursing education accreditation, the goal of the ACEN is to be a supportive partner in strengthening the quality of nursing education and transition-to-practice programs." Dr. Olivar of Rutland completed her Doctor of Education degree at Northcentral University (NCU). She previously earned her Master of Science in Nursing from Walden

University (Nursing Education Track) in 2013 and Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the Cebu City Medical Center College in Nursing in the Philippines in 1996. She is a registered nurse with more than 25 years of experience in the classroom as full-time faculty, managerial as RN Manager, and as RN/Weekend Supervisor. She has held teaching positions at Blackstone Valley Technical School, Quinsigamond Community College, and Massachusetts Bay Community College. She has held nursing positions at University of Massachusetts Memorial Health Care, Neuro Rehabilitation Center at Worcester (Ventilator Unit), Whittier Rehabilitation Hospital and West Side House.

In attendance with Dr. Olivar was Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy



Courtesy photo

Dr. Ana Olivar, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN

Director. According to ACEN, "the Program Administrator Workshop is designed and developed specifically for program administrators, faculty, coordinators, and other positions that have administrative responsibilities for the nursing program and/or nursing education unit. Workshop topics include roles/responsibilities for program leaders, themes from ACEN Standards and Criteria, integration of ACEN policies, and maintenance of ACEN accreditation."

At the Self-study workshop, both Dr. Olivar and Dr. Bolandrina reviewed six ACEN Standards with the ACEN in-house nurse educators and gained a deeper understanding of each Criterion within the Standards. The goal is to support nursing faculty and administrators with demonstrating compliance and provide guidance for writing the Self-Study Report for individ-

ual programs in preparation for the ACEN site visit.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy runs a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health, Board of Registration in Nursing (www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn). The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education (www.council.org).

Cornerstone Bank and CEO recognized by YMCA of Central Massachusetts

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, along with Chief Executive Officer Todd Tallman were recently awarded the YMCA of Central Massachusetts' Strengthening Foundations of Community Award. For more than 20 years, Cornerstone Bank has served not only as a banking partner to the YMCA, but also provided volunteer and

financial support to the organization. Leading by example was Tallman, who is an active and engaged supporter of YMCA's mission and cause.

"I was so honored to receive this award along with my entire organization," said Tallman. "I firmly believe the YMCA of Central Massachusetts changes the lives of many in our community, and I have been so proud over the past two decades to have a small hand in their success. I want to thank all my colleagues for also adopting those same values and jumping in to volunteer and raise funds for the Y."

Over the years, Cornerstone Bank has supported the YMCA through annual and capital campaigns, youth development program grants, and a multitude of event sponsorships, including the YMCA's Annual Golf Classic. Tallman and the Cornerstone team

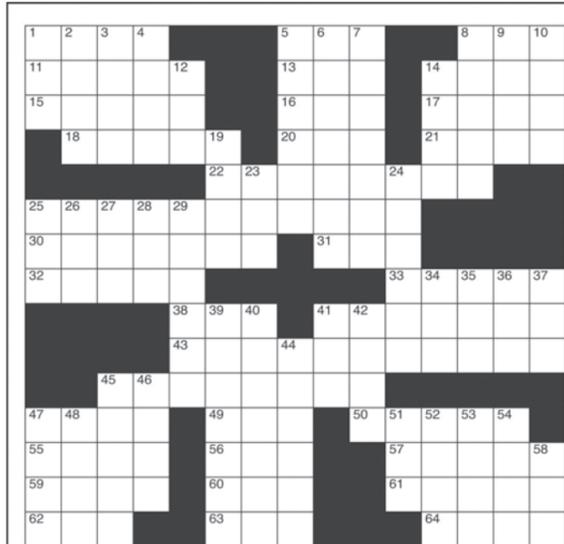


have also volunteered at the United Way Day of Caring at Camp Foskett, run by the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

"We look forward to a continued partnership with our local YMCA," continued Tallman. "The aligned values of the Y and Cornerstone Bank include supporting our communities, educating and enriching the lives of children, and helping our neighbors in need. Our area

of the state is a better place because of the YMCA, and we are excited to continue collaborating with this fulfilling organization."

The Strengthening Foundations of Community Award was presented at the YMCA's 158th Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Event held on April 20, 2022.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Scream loudly
- 5. Antidepressant (abbr.)
- 8. The bill in a restaurant
- 11. Oblong pulpits
- 13. Adult female chicken
- 14. Abnormal breathing
- 15. Financial obligations
- 16. Belonging to a thing
- 17. Winged
- 18. Peoples
- 20. College hoops tournament
- 21. An informal body of friends
- 22. Region of the world
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Connected by kinship
- 31. Type of tree
- 32. Official order
- 33. Foundation for an idea
- 38. Small, faint constellation
- 41. Book lovers
- 43. Vegetable
- 45. Cabbage variety
- 47. A way to heal
- 49. Illuminated
- 50. Dish that features a stick
- 55. Insurance-related costs (abbr.)
- 56. Solid water
- 57. Soldier's gear
- 59. "Uncle Buck" actress Hoffmann
- 60. Former measure of length
- 61. Arabic name meaning "spring"
- 62. Doctors' group
- 63. Actress Susan
- 64. Appropriate

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Cool!
- 2. Hebrew unit of measure
- 3. Swedish rock group
- 4. College army
- 5. Black eye
- 6. One who stopped working
- 7. Teach a value
- 8. Rhythmic patterns
- 9. "MASH" actor Alda
- 10. "Friday Night Lights" director
- 12. Midway between south and southeast
- 14. Indian musical pattern
- 19. Fulfill a desire
- 23. Water soaked soil
- 24. Brass instrument
- 25. Before
- 26. Popular color
- 27. Peyton's little brother
- 28. Partner to cheese
- 29. Put onto
- 34. "Much ___ about nothing"
- 35. A way to mend
- 36. Anger
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Mobilized
- 40. Resembles an earlobe
- 41. Cut of meat
- 42. Nigerian people
- 44. Recently
- 45. Square stone building at Mecca
- 46. Adhere to orders
- 47. Adventure story
- 48. Marine bivalve mollusk
- 51. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- 52. Actor Pitt
- 53. Tibetan village
- 54. A way to change by heating
- 58. A beam of sunshine

Flag Placing at Cemeteries in Webster, Dudley Communities

Corbin Cemetery: Brian Sgariglia and Stephen Rogerson Dudley @ 9:00 am, Friday May 20, 2022 flag placing for Waldron & Village Cemeteries, will take place after Corbin completion.

PAV: St. Joseph's Cemetery. Meet Saturday May 21, 2022@ 9:00 am

Mount Zion Cemetery: Wednesday May 25, 2022 Meet @ 6:00 pm

VFW: Sacred Heart Cemetery. Thursday May 26, 2022 Meet @ 12:15 PM- upon completion of it - go to St. Anthony's Cemetery:

Am Leg: Calvary Cemetery. Thursday May 26, 2022 Meet @ 6:00 pm

Note: We're respectfully requesting both Boy's and Girl Scouts to assist and offer their help with flag placing at the following cemeteries:

- Mount Zion Cemetery
- Calvary Cemetery
- St. Joseph Cemetery



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DUDLEY POLICE LOGS

Saturday, May 7
11:30 p.m.: Unwanted person at Chestnut Street, Age 34 Protective Custody Adult Male
Sunday, May 8
3:31 p.m.: Assault/Fight, Age 28 Assault and Battery on Family/Household Member Adult Female

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DUDLEY

DUDLEY TOWN HALL (508) 949-8000
Board of Selectmen (949-8001)
Monday-Thursday.....8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fridays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Evening appointments if needed.
Note: Office hours are for selectmen's secretary and town administrator. Selectmen do not hold office hours.
Town Clerk (949-8004)
Monday-Thursday8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday nights 5 to 7 p.m.
Fridays9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411)
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DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040)
Monday-Sunday.....6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OXFORD

OXFORD TOWN HALL (508) 987-6027
Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours:
Monday, Tues., Thurs.....9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT (987-0156)
For emergencies, call 911
OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)
Monday-Friday.....8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEBSTER

WEBSTER TOWN HALL (508) 949-3850
Office Hours:
Monday8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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Webster church celebrates 100th anniversary



Courtesy photos

Nearly 200 people gathered for the 100th anniversary of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster.



Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster celebrated its 100th Anniversary on May 7. After postponing the celebration twice over the past two years because of the pandemic, 190 people finally gathered to share in an evening honoring the past, celebrating the present and looking toward a bright future.

Father Luke Veronis has served this community for the past 18 years. "This Church has transformed from an immigrant community to a vibrant, diverse family. How beautiful to see us celebrate with fourth and fifth generation children of the original founders together with many faithful who come from various ethnic backgrounds along with numerous recent converts to the faith. The diversity of this community reflects our vibrancy and gives us much hope for our future."

The first generation of Greeks and Albanians came to Webster in the early 1900s because of the many mills established by the famous English-American industrialist Samuel Slater. The first immigrants gathered to worship in a home offered by Slater, and then established its first parish council in 1919, the date on which the centennial celebration is marked. After buying land in 1922, the new church of Saints Constantine and Helen was built on High Street and dedicated in 1924, with Prince Paul of Greece present for the festivities.

Another highlight of the community would occur in 1938 when the Greek Orthodox Archbishop Athenagoras held the 5th Greek Orthodox Archdiocese's New England convention in Webster. He brought with him a choir from the nearby Greek Orthodox seminary in Pomfret.

The original church was destroyed by a fire in 1966 and the present church on Lake Parkway was completed 19 months later in 1968.

During the evening celebration, all attendees warmly received a beautiful 27-minute video reflecting the history of the church up to its present transformation. It noted the ups and downs in the history of this community which has had 42 priests. Fr. Luke and Presbyteria Faith Veronis arrived 18 years ago and have overseen a vibrant turnaround where the community has double in size from 80 to 160 families.

One recent convert, Rayne Purcell, stressed how the video touched him. "It was powerful for me to understand the history of this church and to realize that I am now a part of this legacy. The gems of our Orthodox Christian tradition have been passed on to me and others and it is now our turn to share this light of Christ throughout society."

Fr. Luke challenged all the people present following this moving presentation. "We don't want to simply remember the past or even lift up the present. We must turn our eyes to the future. The serious responsibility of carrying the torch of faith and passing it on to a new generation of believers is now ours. We have the special privilege to discover and live out the treasure of our Orthodox Christian faith while we proclaim it to the world around us. May God grant to all of us and to our blessed Church family many more years where we can be a lighthouse, a hospital, an oasis, and an ark of salvation to Webster, Central MA, Northeast CT and to all the world!"



Victoria Mann presents at Lasell University Connected Learning Symposium

NEWTON — Victoria Mann, a Lasell University student from Webster, presented at the institution's annual Connected Learning Symposium.

Mann showcased work from her advanced ceramics class as part of a group display, "Communicating in Clay."

Since the inaugural event in 2002, the Connected Learning Symposium has, for the last 20 years, offered a community celebration of Lasell University's intellectual and creative achievements. All student scholarship presented at Symposium aligns with National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) in-demand professional competencies.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.

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Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photo's, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities and upcoming events.

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal.

The Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center is open Mondays - Fridays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Walk-ins Are Welcome! Please call (508) 341-8724 for more information.

Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! 9:30-10:30 am. Cost: \$3.00 per class

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets.

Do you like to play cribbage? We have a weekly cribbage group that meets every Tuesday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us!

Progressive Pitch 1:00 pm Mondays and Wednesdays, and 13-card Pitch on Thursdays.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm

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

Come create a Patriotic Wreath just in time for Memorial Day! Mona Kerrigan will lead this craft class on Thursday, May 26th at 10:00 am. Cost of \$20.00 per person. Class is limited to ten (10) people so sign up as soon as possible!

CRAFTERS WANTED! The Friends of the Webster Senior Center are sponsoring a Craft Fair on Monday, October 17, 2022. We are looking for applicants that are senior residents of Webster or a member of the Webster Senior Center. Come join us for the craft fair and rent a table for only \$10.00! Applications available at the Senior Center. Space is limited so be sure to fill out an application early.

Trip 1: Webster Senior Center and Best of Times are offering a trip to the Danversport Yacht Club for a Patsy Cline Tribute Show on Wednesday, June 22nd. Trip price of \$99.00 per person includes show ticket, transportation, luncheon, meal tax & gratuity. Trip 2: Lake Winnepesaukee Cruise & Castle in the Clouds on Tuesday, August 16th. Trip price of \$149.00 transportation, 2-hour Lake Cruise, visit to Castle in the Clouds, luncheon, meal taxes and gratuities. Our trips are quickly selling out so don't wait to reserve your seat! Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

Summer Porch Pot Workshop with Bemis Nursery will be held on Monday, June 13th at 10:00 am. Cost of \$25.00 includes all supplies. Sign up at Senior Center front desk, payment due at time of sign up.

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

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

Comedy comes to Samuel Slater's with Mike Donovan and special guests

WEBSTER — Live comedy returns to Samuel Slater's Restaurant on Saturday, May 28. Headliner Mike Donovan will be joined by special guests Jimmy Cash and Dan Miller for a night of laughs. Doors open at 7 p.m., with the show to start at 8. Tickets are on sale now at www.samuelsslater.com.

Mike Donovan is one of Boston's favorite comedians. He has been featured on the NESN Comedy All Stars TV Show, The Best Damn Sports Show Period with Tom Arnold on the Fox Television Network and on Showtime where he was featured in the documentary "When Stand Up Stood Out." Mike is a regular headliner at the Comedy Stop in Atlantic City and Las Vegas, and has also appeared at the Flamingo Hotel in Laughlin and headlined the Chopsticks Comedy Tour in Shanghai and Beijing, China.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 8-15.

Jamison A. Bugbee, age 21, of Fiskdale was arrested on May 8 on charges of leaving the scene of property damage, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and OUI-Liquor or .08 percent.

Michael J. Paradise, age 63, of Webster was arrested on May 11 in connection with a warrant. Timothy Corriveau, age 31, of Webster was arrested on May 11 in connection with a warrant.

An unnamed male, age 30, of Worcester was arrested on May 13 on charges of abuse prevention order, violate witness/juror/police/court official, intimidate.

Robert E. Lussier, age 59, of Webster was arrested on May 15 in connection with a warrant and assault and battery.

An unnamed male, age 42, of Webster was arrested on May 15 on the charge of assault and battery.

Leslie Wheeler, Sharon Healy-Yang head to Booklovers' Gourmet in double author event

On Saturday, June 4, from 1-3 p.m., join us for a double author event featuring Leslie Wheeler and Sharon Healy-Yang at Booklovers' Gourmet, 72 East Main Street, Webster. For more information, call (508) 949-6232 or email deb@bookloversgourmet.com. The event is free and signed copies of books will be available for purchase.

An award-winning author of books about American history and biographies, Leslie Wheeler launched her Berkshire Hilltown Mysteries with Rattlesnake Hill. With Shuntoll Hill, the latest in the series, Boston library curator Kathryn Stinson returns to the Berkshires, hoping to rebuild her romance with Earl

Barker, but ends up battling a New York developer, determined to turn the property she's been renting into an upscale development. Kathryn's search for answers leads her to other questions about the developer's connection to a friend of hers who fled New York years ago for mysterious reasons. The information she uncovers puts her in grave danger.

Sharon Healy-Yang is an aficionado of 1940s cinematic and written mysteries. A professor emerita at Worcester State University in Massachusetts, where she was known for her 1940s

hats, she had the great fortune to share her love of literature and film with her students

in her courses. Now retired, she's excited to recapture for readers the smart-talking heroines, suspense, adventure, and sharp wit of 1940s films in her Jessica Minton Mystery series: Bait and Switch, Letter from a Dead Man, and Always Play the Dark Horse. Once again diving into the perspective of Jessica Minton, Always Play the Dark Horse shows a gradual but significant transformation in this main character; Healy-Yang describes the newly engaged Jessica Minton in the third book of the Jessica Minton Mystery series as someone who has transformed from the strong woman who felt she had to prove herself to the strong woman who is confident in having proved herself.

'An Afternoon of Italian Opera' to benefit Worcester Organ at Mechanics Hall

WORCESTER — The sumptuous and tantalizing sounds of some of the most beloved Italian operas will fill Mechanics Hall on Sunday, May 22 during a special performance to benefit the great Worcester Organ. "An Afternoon of Italian Opera" will feature well-known musical selections, including excerpts from Puccini's Madame Butterfly, Verdi's La traviata, Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor and L'elisir d'amore (The Elixir of Love), performed by Ukrainian soprano, Olga Lisovskaya, Neapolitan tenor Giovanni Formisano, and Leonardo Ciampa

at the piano. The benefit concert, organized by The Friends of the Worcester Organ and held at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main Street, Worcester, begins at 4pm. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at mechanicshall.org or by calling the Mechanics Hall Box Office at 508-752-5608.

"The Worcester Organ is the centerpiece of our exquisite Great Hall. And it is also the pride of our city, whose past generosity helped pay to build the organ in 1864, as well as restore the Hall in 1977," said Kathleen Gagne, Executive Director of Mechanics Hall. "We are grateful to The Friends of the Worcester Organ for organizing this very special celebration of Italian opera to support this magnificent instrument."

"It is one of the greatest honors of my life to play and compose for the Worcester Organ, which was constructed by the Hook brothers of Boston, among the country's greatest 19th-century organ builders" said Leonardo Ciampa, Mechanics Hall Composer-in-Residence and organizer of "An Afternoon of Italian Opera." "This outstanding instrument is truly a "Stradivarius" of organs, one of the best ever built and a treasure that needs constant maintenance and care. With this special celebration, The Friends of the Worcester Organ hope to raise important funds so the organ continues to delight generations to come."

The doors to Mechanics Hall will open at 3:30pm on the day of the event. The accessible entrance is located on Waldo Street. Elevators are located in the ground-floor lobby and provide access to the second and third floors; there is no elevator access to the balcony. Those who need assistance can contact the Mechanics Hall Ticket Office, Monday through Friday from 9:30am to 4:30pm, by calling 508-752-5608.

Memorial Weekend Sunday Church and Cemetery Services

Veterans and their families from the Webster-Dudley area are cordially invited to attend a Memorial Mass to be held at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Dudley, MA on Sunday, May 29, 2022 at 10:30 AM.

Veterans, Auxiliaries, and their color bearers are requested to assemble in the church parking lot, beginning at 10:15 AM. At ~10:25, Veterans will assemble in columns of twos and march to the front entrance of the Church where they will be met by an usher who will escort them to assigned pews.

Upon the conclusion of the Mass, all Veterans will proceed to Holy Trinity Cemetery on Old Boston Road, Dudley, MA arrival time ~12:15pm to render Memorial Day weekend honors at ~12:30 PM.



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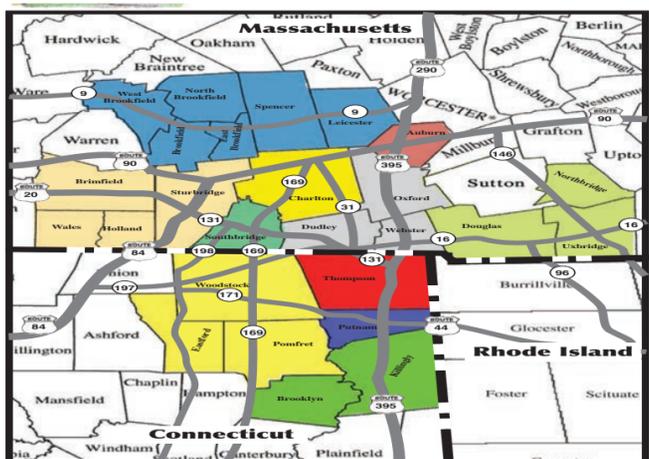
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

VIEWPOINT

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

Believe and Experience Life

"Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name."

This is how Saint John the Evangelist ends his Gospel account. The four Gospel writers – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – don't write about every detail in the life of Jesus Christ. Actually, there are many parts of the earthly life of Christ we know nothing about, including what happened during the first 30 years of his life. Yet the Evangelist John emphasizes that he shared in his Gospel all that is necessary so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name."

Believing in Jesus Christ so that we may experience life in His name. This is what our goal is as Orthodox Christians – to believe so that we can have a full and abundant life.

Christ doesn't want us to simply exist, living in a superficial manner and struggling through each day without knowing the deepest meaning and purpose of life. Jesus wants us to experience the fullness of life, a divine life filled with love, peace, joy and hope. He wants us to wake up each day proclaiming "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

He wants us to face each day with gratitude and thanksgiving, knowing that we are never alone and that in whatever life may bring, He will be with us and will guide and protect us.

He wants us to know that we are His children, deeply loved and cared for, and that when we know and truly experience His love, we will become ambassadors in sharing His love with the world around us.

He wants us to understand that life has a deep and meaningful purpose in which each one of us



BEYOND THE PEWS

BY FR. LUKE A. VERONIS
SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, WEBSTER

are instruments in His hands, bringing His light and joy, His Good News, to a world that is desperate for Good News. No matter how great the darkness and hopelessness of the world appears, we know that God is in control and we live according to His purposes and ways.

We believe in Jesus so that we may experience life in His name!

Now, such belief in the name of Christ is not always easy to experience. Belief and faith are part of a life-long journey of discovery. We may have doubts and questions. We may have moments of uncertainty during which we struggle to understand. We may face challenges in life that try to shake the foundation of our faith. We live in a contemporary society that does much to minimize, ignore and even reject the importance of faith.

Our belief and faith are a part of a living reality that we must nurture and cultivate throughout our lives. This is why we need the Church and a strong community of faith to help us navigate this journey and encourage and strengthen us in our moments of doubt and weaknesses.

Believing in Jesus Christ, the Lord who rose from the dead and conquered death itself, is a never-ending journey of discovery. Yet it is a journey of faith that leads to an exciting, abundant, and fulfilling life. A life in Christ is never mundane and without purpose. Only in Jesus Christ do we discover the real meaning of life.

We can reflect on how this journey of faith may include moments of doubt. Think about the Apostle Thomas. Sometimes Thomas is known as "Doubting Thomas" because of his initial uncertainty about the Resurrection of Jesus. When the Risen Christ appeared to His

disciples during the evening of the first day He resurrected, Thomas wasn't there. When the other 10 disciples proclaimed, "We have seen the Lord," he bluntly stated, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week goes by and Thomas' doubts did not go away. He didn't see the Risen Christ and he doubted the resurrection. Yet, the following Sunday Jesus appears again and this time He meets Thomas along with the other ten. Then he directly speaks to Thomas, saying, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas' doubts are overcome as he proclaims, "My Lord and my God!" To which Jesus responded, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

We know that Thomas went on to not only believe but to become a great apostle, traveling as far as India in proclaiming the Good News that Jesus rose from the dead. Everywhere he went he helped people come to believe in Jesus Christ and to discover the abundant, full and rich life of faith that leads to eternal life.

Thomas is a wonderful example of someone who had doubts and uncertainties, yet who stayed open to faith and came to believe and discover life.

We don't need to shy away from whatever doubts and questions we may have. Yet don't dwell on your doubts. Instead, humbly seek after answers from the Risen Lord Jesus Christ and His Church and be open to come to discover what faith in Him truly means.

Let us believe in Jesus, truly come to know Christ risen from the dead, and then experience the abundant and full life in His name!

'Take 25' to keep your children safe



CHIEF'S CORNER
STEVE WOJNAR

National Missing Children's Day is held in the month of May. It is observed officially on May 25. Since it was first established in 1983, National Missing Children's Day serves as an annual reminder that there are thousands of children who are still missing and

stresses the importance of making child protection a national priority. This is a great opportunity for parents to discuss safety awareness with their children.

There are many ways to begin discussions with your children on safety topics. One of the programs we have used in the past was "Take 25." Unfortunately, it has been discontinued, however, it was a national child safety public awareness campaign created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). It encouraged parents to take 25 minutes to talk to their children about safety and ways to prevent abduction. According to NCMEC, every year in America, an estimated 800,000 children are reported missing, more than 2,000 each day. Of that number, 200,000 are abducted by family members and 58,000 are abducted by non-family members, for which the primary motive is sexual. Each year, 115 children are the victims of the most serious abductions; they are taken by non-family members and either murdered, ransomed, or taken with the intent to keep. An analysis of attempted abduction cases by NCMEC found that in 84% of the cases, the child escaped would-be abductors through their own actions. Teaching children about safety works and saves lives.

The "Take 25" program provided some sample conversation starter questions for parents. Here are a few to consider should you wish to engage your children in this exercise. For kids ages 5-8: Could you tell me our address? How about our home, work, or cell phone numbers? Has anyone ever called or knocked on the door while I was gone? What did you do? Let's make a list of 3 people whom you can call in case of an emergency. For children, ages 9-12: If something happened at school that made you feel bad or scared, would you tell me? Do you think that it is safe to share your passwords with your friends? How about with your best friend? For teens (13-18): What kind of information do you feel is safe to share about yourself online? Are you comfortable with the information that you have posted online, knowing that it might be seen by friends, officials at your school, college and university admissions departments, and employers? Have you and your friends talked about what types of pictures are okay to post online? What about the comments you leave on each other's' pages? These are just a few examples which may be useful in getting started. Hopefully a productive dialogue can result. If you need more information, check out the NCMEC web site at: <http://www.missingkids.org>.

Children are exposed to a great deal of challenges, both in person and on-line. Any opportunity parents can utilize to discuss safety measures with their children is time well spent. Missing Children's Day is a chance for us to remember those who are still missing and take precautions to prevent future incidents.

For those still seeking COVID-19 vaccination or other information, it can be found at www.dudleyma.gov or by calling 508-949-8036. We encourage everyone to continue to be safe. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. These times continue to be challenging and we, at the Dudley Police Department, greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department 71 West Main St. Dudley, MA 01571 or email at swojnar@dudleypolice.com. Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.

Senioritis: what's it all about?

We've all heard the term 'senioritis' but is this diagnosis real? After some lengthy research, we say absolutely. Senioritis is defined as, 'A supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school or college, characterized by a decline in motivation or performance.' The end is near with graduation just around the corner, and many seniors can taste freedom, but aren't quite sure what to do with it. Even with some students heading off to college, the fear of the unknown combined with a complete change in the cadence in life is enough to make several seniors come down with a serious case of senioritis. The senioritis is a way to break away from the stress and rigors of 13 years of schooling.

Some signs of the affliction include a lack of motivation, a decline in grades or feeling as though nothing they do in the final months leading up to graduation really matters much. Most students' entire senior years of high school are spent trying to plan for the future, this can be daunting and stressful for these kids, who are still really, just kids. Some symptoms parents should look for include extreme laziness, apathy, spending all of their free time with friends away from home.

Unfortunately, the rapid decline in motivation does not go unseen by universities. After being accepted, many schools will look at a student's last semester, and a substantial decrease in grades raises a red flag. This has admissions offices questioning a prospective student's level of commitment and the question of maturity is also put on the table. If the situation is bad enough a college or university can rescind an acceptance. Each year thousands of students receive such letters. Sometimes a student will enter their freshman year of college already on academic probation. If a student was issued merit aid from an institution, they risk losing those funds.

There are things that can be done to help offset senioritis. One thing a student can do is to set tiny goals such as getting a B or higher on the next quiz or test, or to finish an assignment ahead of time. Working on better ways to study for tests is also crucial. Too much pressure can cause students to shut down so taking some time to relax and have fun with family and friends is a great idea.

Another idea is for parents and teachers to reassure students that life after high school is an exciting time and that not every graduate needs a definitive plan right away. Explain different opportunities for a gap year, including the pros and cons of taking one.

If your child becomes more and more disengaged, it's important to keep them on track. Remembering to reward good behavior is a must. If your child is behaving in such a way that they become emotionally removed, disobedient and disrespectful, taking a gap year might be the best option as college is expensive and tuition should never go to waste. Trade schools, the military or the work force are also excellent options. After all, happiness is the most important driver for success.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Small win, big loss

At the Town meeting on Monday May 9th, Webster had a small win. Thanks to the Veterans, the Town approved a proposal to renovate the World War II Air Observation Station on Memorial Athletic Field. Yes, that small building on the corner played a role in defending the homeland during WWII. One of my high school teachers, Mr. Norman Deptula, among other young men and women, manned it to keep the homeland safe from attack. Instead of tearing down this piece of history, it will now be renovated. As the daughter of a wounded WWII veteran and a member of the Historical Commission I am elated. Think of the opportunities we have to learn about the station and partner with the library, the Slater Experience, and other organizations to celebrate our history. Perhaps a WWII heritage day?

This win, however, is countered by a big loss — a vote to defeat the funding for a renovation of Bartlett High School, an effort under development for six years and about to come to fruition. The current high school, as was the original, is named for Captain Amos Bartlett, a teacher who fought in the Civil War and returned to serve the public as a Selectman, businessman, and Vestryman at a local church. This new Bartlett high school was approved by town meeting on May 4, 1976 and completed in 1979. After 43 years of faithful use the building is in need of serious repairs. Its renovation will provide an educational space fit to meet the challenges of the 21st STEM oriented century and give the community a place to gather and make connections. A look at the current space demonstrates its unsuitability for the type of teaching and activities required for the future. Note

that a renovation is less costly than demolition and new construction. Further, the beauty of partnering with the State is that the needed enhancements to the footprint come with State funding — a point recognized by the Webster voters in 1976 when they were pondering the building of a new school. Any repairs done outside of this do not. Hence those people voting against the project at the meeting (and the 383 who voted in the election against funding) will have quite a surprise over the next years when all of us have to foot a repair bill that is double what the tax would be with the renovation — and with no benefit of a useable, 21st century educational space. Check out the data on repair versus renovation costs and associated tax rates presented at the meeting.

As a student of history I was curious about the arguments made in 1976 when construction of a new school was being debated. In the May 5, 1976 edition, the Webster Times interviewed a few citizens prior to the meeting who questioned whether the old Bartlett could be renovated instead and raised concerns about an increase in the tax rate. However, the Town Meeting overwhelmingly approved funding for the new school 506 to 147, almost 80% in favor. No one spoke against funding for the new school. In 1976 there were 8,032 registered voters, indicating that turnout was 8.2%. Times have changed.

Throughout the years of the pandemic while the States and Washington exhibited gridlock and people across the country seemed to get angrier and angrier, I still believed that at a local level things could get done. I have to admit that my faith is shaken somewhat. Of the 330 voters who registered for Monday's meeting, only

300 voted. The result was 185 in favor and 115 against. Only 15 voters were needed to meet the two-thirds required threshold and there are 12,000 registered voters in Webster!!!! Not even 3% of the eligible voters participated. The sad thing is that everyone, including the eleventh hour social media naysayers, have had years and opportunity after opportunity to engage, to learn, to comment, and to shape the project. Amazing that so few people can so affect the future of Webster education! I hope that we in Webster are not taking on a Me focused mentality like many in the country. When I was growing up here, attending the town meeting was considered a sacred duty in my family; supporting core services, including education, was a must. Never once do I remember anyone suggesting that perhaps we return to the Old Red School House — it was good enough for our grandparents. Perhaps we could just fix the roof.

Most of us have to exist on budgets and pensions as we live with the current inflation and price gouging that shrinks our income. Prices will not be going down if we have to do piecemeal repairs to the school. Thanks to a few, we all will have to pay more for the new roof, boiler, mold remediation, other needed repairs, and bringing the building up to code — with no benefits of a renewed and forward reaching educational space, and no aid from the State. That will hurt. What would Captain Amos Bartlett — a wounded veteran, a true public servant, and a believer in education for a better future — think?

ELAINE F. DAVIES
WEBSTER

Wild turkey season closing; striper fishing season flourishing

With approximately two weeks left of the spring Mass. wild turkey season, reports of many local hunters harvesting their two birds is good news. However, these same hunters are reporting very few sightings of female turkeys. There are no reports from Mass. Fish & Wildlife of a possible problem with the wild turkeys to date. I have noticed the absence of sightings of wild turkeys in fields, and birds crossing the streets that I travel every day. Other local hunters have also sounded the alarm. Hopefully it is just a change in their feeding habits!

The Providence River is providing some great fishing for stripers, with some porgies starting to show up. The striper fishing should improve dramatically in the next week. The tautog bite is very good and the bite should last a bit longer, before the season closes. Archies Bait & Tackle provided this week's fishing report! Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle reported that striper fishing has been slow, but the tautog fishing was great.

Anglers fishing aboard the Yankee fleet have reported a lot of action catching haddock and cod, although all cod need to be released because of the regulations prohibiting the retaining of cod for a number of years now. A one fish limit was allowed last year for a short



Courtesy photos
Steve Rondeau with his first turkey for this season and his friend Jonathon Walker with his first turkey ever!

period, and anglers are hopeful that at least a couple of cod will be allowed soon.

The strict limits on ground fish like cod, fluke, seabass and stripers is hurting the recreational fishing in



Kellen Morosinskis with a 5 pound-plus large-mouth bass he caught a short time ago.

both Mass. and Rhode Island, and small charter boats are feeling loss of revenue because of less charter reservations.

Trout fishing had slowed last week on some of the Cape ponds according to reports from some of the local anglers that had fished some of them

last week. This happens every year on both fresh and saltwater. The old saying "you should have been here yesterday." Locally anglers have been catching some nice fish this year like brown, rainbow and brook trout for anglers using power bait and stick baits like small Rapalas.

I need to chuckle a bit when I hear a story about a young angler with a cheap rod, reel and worms, that walks down to the water at a local pond and catches a freshwater bass that weighs in at 5 lbs. or more, while a few bass boats nearby that cost thousands of dollars and have professional anglers with all of the latest gear, are having a slow day. It happens all of the time. My brothers and I did the same thing when we were young!

Dog owners should take extra care with their pets at this time of year. Providing a good shelter outside in plenty of shade, and a good supply of fresh water is essential. Up to date immunization against rabies and heartworm, along with other medications, are essential in keeping your dog healthy through the summer months. Vet bills are soaring, and a visit to them can be alleviated with just some extra care during the summer months.

Take A Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!!

What investors can, and can't, control

As an investor, you can easily feel frustrated to see short-term drops in your investment statements. But while you cannot control the market, you may find it helpful to review the factors you can control.

Many forces affect the financial markets, including geopolitical events, corporate profits and interest rate movements – forces beyond

the control of most individual investors.

In any case, it's important to focus on the things you can control, such as these:

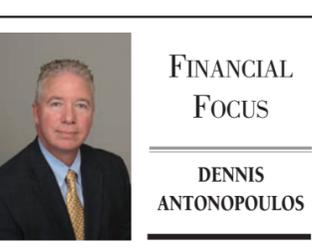
Your ability to define your goals – One area in which you have total control is your ability to define your goals. Like most people, you probably have short-term goals – such as saving for a new

car or a dream vacation – and long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. Once you identify your goals and estimate how much they will cost, you can create an investment strategy to help achieve them. Over time, some of your personal circumstances will likely change, so you'll want to review your time horizon and risk tolerance on a regular basis,

adjusting your strategy when appropriate. And the same is true for your goals – they may evolve over time, requiring new responses from you in how you invest.

Your response to market downturns – When the market drops and the value of your investments declines, you might be tempted to take immediate action in an effort to stop the losses. This is understandable – after all, your investment results can have a big impact on your future. However, acting hastily could work against you – for example, you could sell investments that still have solid fundamentals and are still appropriate for your needs. If you can avoid decisions based on short-term events, you may help yourself in the long run.

Your commitment to investing – The financial markets are almost always in flux, and their movements are hard to predict. If you can continue investing in all markets – good, bad or sideways – you will likely



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make much better progress toward your goals than if you periodically were to take a "time out." Many people head to the investment sidelines when the market tumbles, only to miss out on the beginnings of the next rally. And by steadily investing, you will increase the number of shares you own in your investments – and the larger your ownership stake, the greater your opportunities for building wealth.

Your portfolio's level of diversification – While diversification itself can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help greatly reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. Just how you diversify your investments depends on sever-

al factors, but the general principle of maintaining a diversified portfolio should govern your approach to investing. It's a good idea to periodically review your portfolio to ensure it's still properly diversified.

The world will always be filled with unpredictable, uncontrollable events, and many of them will affect the financial markets to one degree or another. But within your own investment world, you always have a great deal of control – and with it, you have the power to keep moving toward all your important financial objectives.

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 Street, Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edward-jones.com. Edward Jones Member SIPC.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Premature problem definition, tax increase reasons behind Webster's new school motion being defeated

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, May 10 I attended a special town meeting in Webster to discuss plans for a new high school building complex. Plans had been in development for six years and had been approved by the state for grant funding. But first it required town approval since half of the 100-million-dollar project would need to be paid for by the town of Webster. The high school auditorium was full with hundreds of Webster residents attending. Many persons spoke both in favor and against the plan, however the motion was defeated, and the plan will not be going forward despite the poor state of the high school building.

I believe there are two major components that may have contributed to why the project failed to get voter approval: Premature problem definition and a particular sensitivity to tax increases among Webster residents.

A helpful exercise in defining a problem and coming up with solutions is "brain-storming." A brain storming exercise starts with everyone offering all kinds of blue-sky ideas, no matter how wild or crazy, to find solutions to a problem. When done right, this exercise encourages creative problem-solving and produces a long list of ideas. After everyone has run out of suggestions, the ideas are then evaluated for practicality and feasibility to arrive at the best one. The reason practicality is not considered in the first step is that it inhibits creativity and prematurely narrows the possible solutions offered. Premature narrowing of ideas can set any project up for failure.

It's worth noting that many of the industrialists who made fortunes building railroads during the gilded age went bankrupt in the mid-20th century when transportation systems changed. As cargo ships, interstate highways and 18-wheeler trucks became more efficient methods of transporting goods, some of the railroad tycoons of the 19th century's gilded age went bankrupt because they didn't adapt. You see, they thought of themselves narrowly as being in "the railroad business," rather than in "the transportation business."

Webster high school is ranked among the bottom 20% of high schools in the state. The most recent data (2021) shows a graduation rate of 63.8% and a dropout rate of 15.5%. This contrasts to the graduation/dropout rates of nearby

towns such as Auburn (91.5% / 1.7%), Dudley-Charlton (90.7% / 5.5%), Oxford (86.1% / 6.9%), and Douglas (85.6% / 6.2%) (data from Mass.edu).

During the initial phase of this proposal's development the problem that Webster High School was facing seems to have been defined as a "building problem" rather than as an "education system problem." It may be that premature definition of the problem led to a less than ideal solution (new building) while missing other possible solutions (for example, partnering with nearby better performing schools).

A second factor that may have doomed the vote on this project was economic, particularly a citizenry that has become sensitized to property tax increases. I've lived in many towns over the years and typically they reassessed valuations on real estate about every 3-7 years. Webster is notably aggressive in that property valuations are updated annually (nearly always up) and has been increasing the rate of taxation in addition to increased property valuations. This combination has made residents highly sensitive to suggestions for additional property tax increases. The recent rise in inflation and gas prices didn't help the situation.

At the meeting one parent made a particularly impassioned plea in favor of the project. She said that when your home's roof has a leak, everyone tightens their belt and makes sacrifices to pay for the needed repairs. She was quite right. However, the only suggestion of how to pay for the proposed 100 million dollar building plan was a substantial increase in property tax. No suggestion was made that the town might tighten its spending belt in other areas to offset some of the building costs. Cutting an administrative position or even using funds allocated for repairs to the existing building which were not spent on repairs, could have been offered to help pay for the new project. This would have reduced (even a small degree) the proposed tax increases on homeowners and might have helped gain more citizen buy-in for the project.

It appears Webster is back to the drawing board to solve the problems in its education system. I hope a solution can be found, our students deserve it.

BETH BOCK
WEBSTER

Dudley Historical Commission appreciates support of Tradesmen on the Common

To the Editor:

The Dudley Historical Commission would like to thank the Janet Malser Humanities Trust for their generous support of our Tradesmen on the Common program for 2022. The Tradesmen on the Common program

will be held on the Dudley Common this October 1 from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm in conjunction with the Black Tavern Craft Fair and The Dudley Grange Apple Festival.

ED BAZINET, CHAIR
DAVID PROULX, SECRETARY

Don't take offense from offensive people

Have you ever spent time speaking with friends, acquaintances, or strangers, and you heard a comment that made you upset? Of course you have; you're a human being! Your feelings got hurt, and you were angry. You decided to stay quiet about it, but it kept nagging at you. What they said just wasn't right. The next day, you called one of your friends to discuss how offended you were. You told them the entire story, and then they got offended too!

There is no doubt that people say rude, insulting, derogatory, bigoted, and discriminatory things; it can be jarring and revolting. It might be best to ask them to stop, or you should walk away when someone behaves like this; but do you have to lose your inner peace? Are you obligated to become angry?

As human beings, we possess a quality called "Self Control." We can control how we feel. Fortunately, we do not have control over what others say and do.

I'm not saying that we should allow ourselves to accept the unacceptable. I'm saying that when we find ourselves feeling offended, we should ask the question, "Are they offending me, or am I allowing myself to become offended?"

I have become offended through the years, probably more than most people. I noticed that it wasn't what they said or did that offended me; it was my expectation of how they should behave. I expected people to be a certain way, and when they didn't fit that expectation, I allowed myself to become upset.

I was filming a movie once, and everyone was laughing and having a good time in between takes. I stepped away quickly to charge my phone. When I came back, one of the actors was screaming and yelling. He was offended over a comment somebody made. He ran off set, and filming became seriously delayed. The producer sent several people to try and calm him down.

The actor eventually came back, and we finished shooting for the day. I figured everything had calmed down, but it happened several more times with

the same actor over the next couple of months.

He seemed to be more interested in being offended and controlling everything everyone said than simply focusing on being a good actor. When all was said and done, nothing positive was accomplished. There was a lot

of gossip behind the scenes, and people were instructed to be careful around him. The people whom the actor found offensive didn't change; they just began walking on eggshells whenever they were nearby.

Have you ever heard the phrase, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me?" If that old saying can be trusted, it leads me to believe that being offended is a choice. It's a choice to allow your inner peace to be taken from you and take on the victim mentality.

Is it better to blame others for offending you? Or is it better to not allow yourself to be offended?

Taking offense is one way of living in the past. It's impossible to grow; it's impossible to be free if we are constantly offended. It's impossible to succeed and accomplish your dreams when we waste our time blaming other people for how we feel. It's holding you back.

We all know that there are people who will never share our views and accept our opinions. Therefore if you live your life constantly offended, it's your choice to do so.

While it may be challenging, it is possible to be free from insult even around the most insulting of people. If you want to be free from being offended by offensive people, it doesn't require you to accept their behavior. It only requires you to understand that everyone is at different stages of growth, and although we all hope they will change, it's not going to happen today, and most likely, you're not going to be the one to change them.

Keep a smile on your face, don't let someone's words distract you from what you're supposed to be doing. If you can do this, you'll be one step closer to living the life you truly want.



400 patrols. He served alongside Special Forces and Infantry doing the important work of keeping his fellow soldiers safe. But, after losing a leg to an IED blast in the Helmand River Valley which saved the lives of many soldiers, of which, one was his handler, Cpl. Juan Rodriguez, he continued to serve for six years in the Marine Corps. Lucca's injury finally led to her retirement in July 2012.

In April 2016, Lucca was awarded the Dickin Medal which is the equivalent of the Victoria Cross. This was the first time a military service dog has been given this honor.

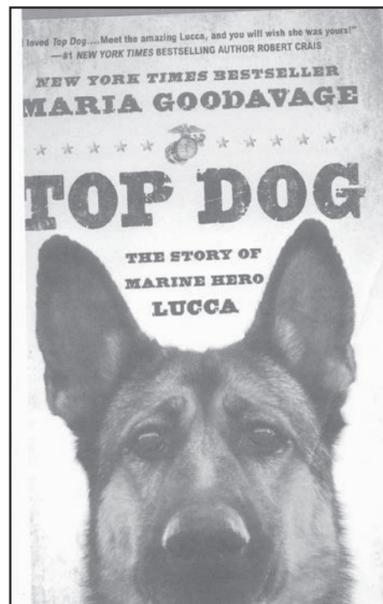
In 2018, Lucca passed away with full military honors. Lucca's military service is detailed in a book titled "Top Dog the story of a Marine Hero."

The LaPlante family decided that they wanted everyone to know of the bravery and service of these specially trained dogs and the handlers who work with them and they embarked on a mission to build the monument. Joe Jr. Command Sergeant Major Retired, has travelled back and forth to Minnesota to collaborate with the sculptor to create the perfect memorial to "those who also serve." Finally, many people including the Dudley Women's Club, Veterans Council of Webster and Dudley, family members and many other grateful residents of the community donated funds to make this possible.

Memorial Day unveiling of heroic service dog monument

This Memorial Day, May 30, will be the culmination of a dream and a labor of love for one family of patriotic citizens of the Town of Webster. This will be the unveiling of a monument that Joseph Sr., Joe, Jr. Jan and Annette LaPlante spent many hours on supervising and directing of the creation of the monument to honor our heroic service dogs and their handlers. It began when Joe Sr. read a story about Lucca, a remarkable military service dog hero that served three combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Lucca had the finest training in Israel with an American team so that he could be accustomed to the climate and terrain in the Middle East.

During these deployments, Lucca led



GLADYS E. KELLY LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster

508-949-3880

Library Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9-8, Wed: 9-1, Fri: 9-5, Sat: 9-2

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website, or by reaching out to our Library Director, Sondra Murphy, at smurphy@cwmar.org.

Adult Programming

SEED LIBRARY – Spring 2022

Do you have a green thumb, or are you looking to develop one? We are offering a selection of seeds for anyone to take home and plant! This selection changes weekly, this week we have mustard greens, carrots, corn, and kohlrabi. All of the seeds were generously donated by Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds.

FRIENDS' FEATURED AUTHOR BOOK SALE – Ongoing

Welcome spring! Friends' featured author book sale this month will feature: David Baldacci, Mary Higgins Clark, and Stuart Woods. Buy one get one free!

ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY – May 19th at 4:00PM for youth, and teens, at the Boys and Girls Club of Webster – Dudley, and 7:00PM for adults at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Christina Baker Kline is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of eight novels. Join us for two discussions with the author about her novel, Orphan Train. The first, at 4:00PM, is geared towards youth, and will take place at the Boys and Girls Club of Webster-Dudley. The second, at 7:00PM is geared towards adults, and will take place at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library. This event has been generously sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, the Janet Malser Humanities Trust, and the Webster Cultural Council.

YOGA WITH JULIE – Saturdays 10AM-11:15AM

Join Julie 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 a centering of the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages and, finally, a rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP – June 27th at 6:00PM

The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group will be meeting in person this month! The group meets at 6:30 pm and the meeting will take place in the Library's Community Room. New members are always welcome! Next month's book discussion will be on Monday, June 27th. The group will be discussing The Wife Upstairs by Rachel Hawkins. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone to 508-949-3880, or by email to ehale@cwmar.org for inquiries.

CAMPFIRE UKULELE SONGS – May 26th at 6:30PM

Want to try an instrument that is fun and easy to play? Join Julie Stepanek as she shows the fundamentals of ukulele playing. You'll learn how to tune, strum and read chords. After a short lesson, you'll be able to play songs. No experience necessary. Bring your own ukulele or borrow one of hers. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

SPRING CONCERT SERIES FINALE – Rave On – June 9th 6:30-8:00PM

50's and 60's Rock'n'Roll featuring the songs of Jerry Lee Lewis & Elvis. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

SEEING HISTORY: MONET'S GARDENS AT GIVERNY – June 23rd at 6:00PM

This beautiful and informative presentation will bring you into the world of Claude Monet's gardens at Giverny. The place that inspired so many of his masterpieces, from the water lilies to his Japanese bridge, will come alive in this vibrant and fun evening. No registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Children's and Young Adult Programming

MAKER MONDAYS – Mondays from 3:30-4:30PM

Feeling artistic? We will have a variety of craft materials available to put your creativity to the test! Every month we will rotate our craft material, stop in to see what we're making this month!

BUILD NIGHT – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30PM

Put your creative caps on and come build with LEGOs, magnatiles, or other neat building materials! Materials will change monthly, so don't miss it! For children of all ages and their caregivers.

WIGGLES AND GIGGLES – Every Friday from May 6th to June 3rd at 9:30AM

Children ages 2-5 will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm and listen to stories in this weekly music and movement series with Ms. Laine. Registration is required, follow the link on our website calendar. Sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP), a Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) grant funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

FOLKTALES FROM ASIA – May 21st at 10:30-11:30AM

Parents' Choice Award-winning storyteller Motoko enchants families (ages 5 and up) with fun folktales from Asia, combined with songs, mime, and origami. Every child receives Motoko's original paper sumo game! This program will take place in the Children's Storytime Room upstairs. This program is funded by a grant from the Webster Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

JUNGLE JIM – June 4th 1:00-2:00PM

Join Jungle Jim on a comical reading adventure in his "Imagine Your Story" Balloon Magic Show. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

SENSORY BIN STORYTIME – Wednesdays in June 10:00-11:00AM

Join us for stories and play time in a new sensory bin each week.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES – June 27th 10-11AM

This outdoor program will feature live animals of all shapes and sizes! Learn all kinds of facts about how different animals live in a fun and safe (socially distanced) outdoor setting. Program for all ages! No sign-ups required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley

508-949-8021

Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!

To register go to www.crawford-library.org or call 508-949-8021

KNIT & CROCHET GROUP

Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM

All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

PRE-K POWER STORYTIME

Tuesdays @ 11:00AM

Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time! We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

POKEMON CLUB

Tuesdays @ 3:30PM

Calling all Pokemon fans! Children ages 7 to 14 are invited to join our club. This meeting will be a great opportunity to meet other players and share ideas. Please make sure you bring your trading cards and anything else you would like to share and discuss.

TODDLER TIME

Wednesdays @ 11:00AM

Come join us for Toddler Time! We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs! This is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

LEGO CHALLENGE CLUB

Wednesdays @ 3:30PM

Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

WIGGLES AND GIGGLES

Fridays @ 11:00AM

Ages 2-5 are invited to attend this fun, free program! Sing, move, play instruments, learn rhythm, and listen to stories with Lainey Hanlon.

Space is limited; registration required. Sponsored by the YMCA Community and Family Partnership.

ADULT BOOK GROUP

Third Thursday, 6:00PM-7:30PM

The adult book group meets for an informal discussion of the month's title, which is available at the circulation desk a month prior to the meeting. For the current month's title see our website.

RELEASING PAIN NATURALLY

Thursday, May 19 6:00PM-7:45PM

Do you find yourself thinking "when will this pain end?" "why do I still have this pain?" or "how can I get rid of this pain?" Brad and Pamela Thompson will introduce some of the most recent breakthroughs in our understanding of pain and introduce a powerful and natural pain-reducing technique. Registration is recommended for this free program.

CRAFT SWAP

Saturday, May 21 10:00AM-1:00PM

Spring clean your craft closet and bring your new or gently used craft supplies, tools, books, and materials and swap them with other crafters - or stop by and pick

up some ideas and supplies for a new craft project!

Free; ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

BAY STATE BONANZA: FOUR CENTURIES OF MASSACHUSETTS VITAL RECORDS

Thursday, June 2 6:00PM-7:45PM

Certified genealogist Margaret Fortier will present everything you need to know to start tracing your own family tree in Massachusetts with a review of the types of records available and how to access them.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

CREATING A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

Thursday, June 9 6:00PM-7:00PM

Join representatives from the Council on Aging for a presentation on the Dementia Friendly Community movement and learn how you can be part of helping Dudley become Dementia Friendly.

Contact coadirector@dudleyma.gov for more information

YOGA WITH JULIE

Saturday, June 11 Noon-1:00PM

Monthly beginner-friendly yoga class, led by Julie St Francis.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

MOMMY AND ME PAINT NIGHT

Monday, June 13 5:30PM-7:00PM

Jean Walker will lead a special paint night for you and your child - space is limited so sign up now!

This event is intended for ages 5+ Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT WITH DEB HUDGINS

Thursday, June 16 10:30AM-11:00AM

This is a 30 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!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

SUMMER READING KICKOFF EVENT: ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Saturday, June 18 11:00AM-Noon

We will have Animal Adventures here with eight to ten animals presented in a one-hour session. Meet the animals, hear interesting stories and information about them and get close. Controlled petting and touching is allowed at the discretion of the Animal Adventure Guide. A fun and unique learning experience to be enjoyed by all! We will have a Skink, Porcupine, and Coati!

Sign up for Summer Reading while you are here!

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment

Tips to grow 'plants in a pot' for patio or porch

There are many reasons to plant a vegetable garden, among them the security of knowing where the food you bring to the table comes from. The current economy, coupled with food safety issues, has contributed to a surge in backyard gardening – add to that back porch, patio, and windowsill gardening!

For those who don't have room to plant a sprawling plot, container gardens fit the bill. From whiskey barrels to plastic buckets, plants are sprouting up on back decks, front porches, and even on balconies. Many vegetables grow successfully when contained in pots. Benefits include the ability to position the pots to increase growing condition, and a reduced risk of pest invasions.

*** Crop Pickings:** Luckily, some of the best loved vegetables are appropriate for container gardening. Crops that do

well include tomatoes, lettuce, peppers, cucumbers, beans, as well as, carrots, cabbage, peas, beans, beets, cauliflower and broccoli. In addition, there are many varieties of dwarf vegetables that are specially bred to grow well in containers. Once you've decided which plants to pot up, there are a few general rules to follow to ensure thriving container crops.

*** Container Choices:** The size of the container depends upon the crop that will be grown. Typically most vegetables can thrive as long as there is enough space for proper root development. Shallow rooted crops such as lettuce, peppers, radishes, and herbs require a space at least six inches in diameter with an eight inch soil depth. Tomatoes, cucumbers, squash and beans grow well in deeper buckets, such as five gallon buckets, half whiskey barrels, and deep patio pots.

Bushel baskets, half barrels, wooden tubs, or large pressed paper containers are ideal for growing tomatoes, squash, pole beans, and cucumbers. Note that container plants do best when transplanted from seedlings into the container, allowing for a hardening off period.

*** Select Soil:** The perfect planting material for containers should provide quick and steady drainage with enough water retention to keep the roots moist. Some gardeners suggest a traditional soil mix, others prefer a soil free potting mix that offers a light-weight medium that is free from soil borne diseases. A good rule of thumb is to mix equal parts of sand, garden soil and peat moss. This mixture may be heated in a low oven for an hour to kill any weeds, insects or bacteria.



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

Water Well: Proper watering is essential for a successful container garden, due to the fact its root system is restricted. Usually once a day is sufficient, but keep mind containers are much apt to dry out in hot weather, causing the plant to produce poorly or worse. Also, avoid soaking the leaves when watering, as wet foliage encourages disease. And make sure the pot is equipped with proper drainage. Inadequate drainage will cause the mix to become water logged, and the plants will be deprived of necessary oxygen.

**** Proper Placement:** Placement is important, since growing vegetables

need at least five hours of direct sunlight each day. Flowering and root vegetables need even more sun. Check the requirements of each variety you are growing. Since the container garden offers mobility, moving a pot to ensure it receives sufficient sunlight is a valuable advantage.

*** Pot Couture:** Container vegetable plants can do double duty. An attractive garden pot or two on a deck or patio adds ambiance to an outdoor space. A row of trellised pole bean pots can serve as a decorative barrier along a deck or balcony. And a window box of lettuce, radishes and peppers, not only offers lush greenery, but handy salad pickings at your fingertips.

**** Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!**

Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic

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

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

Summer antique destinations



Last week marked the opening of Brimfield and from what I've heard it was a great success. The warm weather brought crowds of happy dealers and shoppers. If you missed this first show, there will be two more opportunities from July 12th through the 17th and September 6th through the 11th. In addition to this special tradition, there are many other shows taking place close to home, or a short day or weekend trip away.

The day before Brimfield's July and September dates, you can attend the Sturbridge Antique Show. The show's website touts 100 dealers with vintage clothing, Americana, jewelry and antiques. It will be held at the Sturbridge Host Hotel on July 11th and September 5th. Early admission (beginning at 8 AM) costs \$40 while general admission (beginning at 10 AM) costs \$15.

If you're looking to attend a show happening sooner, the Grafton Annual Antiques and Arts Show will be held on June 18th from 9 AM to 3 PM on the Grafton Common. The Grafton Historical Society's website notes that "Antique & Art vendors will line beautiful Grafton Common offering high quality Antiques and craft items for sale."

Want to couple your antiquing with a weekend getaway? The Dover Show & Vintage Market is about an hour and a half away in Dover, NH and will be held on June 11th, July 23rd, August 20th, and September 17th. There is free admission from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM or you can pay \$6 for early admission.

Also in New Hampshire, tailgate antique shows will be running at Flying Pig Antiques on the following Thursdays: June 23rd, July 21st, August 25th, September 15th, October 20th and November 17th. The fields open at 9 AM and there is free admission.

The 65th Annual New Hampshire Antique Dealers Association Show takes place August 11th through August 13th in Manchester. The Maine Antique Digest describes it as "the best

show of its kind in New England." The NHADA website states, "the 65 professional antiques dealers who exhibit at the show save merchandise throughout the year in order to ensure that the show maintains its longstanding reputation for 'fresh-to-the-market' antiques." Thursday admission is \$15 while Friday and Saturday admission is \$10. As a great way to promote interest in antiques among the younger generation, admission is free to those 30 and under.

Also happening later in the summer, the 50th Annual Antiques Fair and Summer Festival will be held August 27th in Madison, CT. The Madison Historical Society describes the show as such: "with many outstanding antique exhibitors from the Northeast, New York State, the mid-Atlantic states and Florida, this unique fair typically offers eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American and European furniture, along with a wide range of other antiques." It runs from 9 AM to 4 PM with an admission fee of \$6 for adults and \$2 for children.

Some of these shows have been running for so long that they can almost be considered antiques themselves, too. Please confirm that any shows you are interested in attending haven't been canceled or changed before traveling.

We are cataloging more items for another model train and die-cast car auction from the same West Boylston estate as our previous auctions. We are also planning an online auction of tools, equipment and trailer/storage containers in Oakham, MA. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for a link to the auction and for other upcoming events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

Increase your perennial garden's beauty this spring



Photo courtesy MelindaMyers.com

Topdressing perennial gardens improves the overall health of the garden, so the plants can thrive.

Give your perennials a boost this spring with a topdressing of compost, aged manure, or other organic matter. It's a great way to revive tired gardens, improve a garden's overall health, and keep vibrant perennials healthy and blooming.

Research found topdressing your garden with compost every year or two provides most, if not all the nutrients that most perennials need. It feeds the soil, which in turn feeds your plants. Let a soil test report and your plant's performance determine if additional fertilizer is needed. Spring is a great time to add this as well.

When purchasing compost, it should appear light and fluffy. Take a whiff, it should not have a strong smell of ammonia, rotting food or another off odor. It should have a rich earthy smell and not be covered in flies or maggots. If jumping worms are a problem in your area, ask your compost provider how they are managing the compost to avoid spreading this invasive pest.

Once you have the needed organic matter, you are ready to get start-



GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS

ed. Pull the mulch back if needed. Keep it handy, so you can put it back in place once you finish amending the soil.

Topdressing is the first step in the process. Simply spread a one- to two-inch layer of the compost or other organic matter over the soil surface. Be careful not to bury the crown of your plants.

You can leave the compost sitting on the soil surface or lightly mix it into the top inch with a hand cultivator. The earthworms, ground beetles and other organisms will move it down into the soil and around the plant roots where it is needed.

The second step is especially helpful for those with heavy or compacted soils. Once the compost is in place, do a bit of vertical mulching. Use an auger bit on your cordless drill. Simply drill holes into the soil between plants. This aerates the

soil and pushes some of the compost into the soil further boosting your efforts.

Vertical mulching helps speed up the process a bit by getting the compost closer to the plant roots and soil organisms that will help incorporate it into the soil. The openings created in the soil allow air, water and fertilizer to penetrate the soil surface and travel to the root zone.

Then be sure to return the mulch you removed from the garden or add mulch if needed. Maintaining an inch or two of organic mulch on the soil surface not only conserves moisture and suppresses weeds; it also continues to improve the soil. As the organic mulch breaks down, it adds organic matter and nutrients to the soil.

Investing some time to create and maintain healthy soil goes a long way in making your garden a beautiful part of the landscape.

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 series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her website is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Former Marianhill students from Webster, Dudley, Oxford and more called upon for reunion

A reunion event, "Together Again – Strolling Down Memory Lane" will gather graduates and those who attended Southbridge Catholic Schools over the years. The search is on for individuals who attended Southbridge Catholic Schools prior to 1990. The opportunity to reminisce and enjoy each other's company will take place on Saturday, September 17, 2022, in Southbridge. The event will include buffet dinner and a fun experience. A committee has been formed to plan the event and members are asking alumni and community members to spread the word to those who attended Notre Dame Schools, Saint Mary's Schools, St. Joan of Arc School and Marianhill up to and including 1990. The opportunity for classes who have not had a reunion, or very few over the years to take advantage and make this gathering their own. What class or school will have the most classmates here!? For more details email Diane at SBDGecathalum@tc11.com or <https://givebutter.com/SouthbridgeCathAlum>. We are thankful to Reunion Sponsors: First Nation Finance LLC, T. Palmerino '74 and Trinity Catholic Academy who are helping make this event a reality! Alumni Sponsors from the classes of 64, 69, 75,76 & 82 have also come forward with support thus far, all is appreciated to make this happen!

Advertise Here

RETIREMENT

continued from page A1

est guys in the world,” said Bruell. Karen Shippee has been taking her sons to Peter for their entire lives. She shared a story of how Peter was able to entertain both her kids giving each of them something to look forward to every visit. “My kids used to fight about who would go first, so Peter always had a quarter in his pocket and would flip the quarter. Whoever called it right got to go first and the other one got the quarter,” said Shippee. “They were happy in that chair. They never had a problem with Peter from day one. I

told my oldest, who was in Arizona on a business trip, that Peter was retiring, and he was heartbroken. My younger son wondered who was supposed to cut his hair now. We’ve been talking about his retirement coming up and now it’s official, so we’re a little sad about that.” Dudley Selectman John Marsi was not only a client but also Peter’s neighbor for many years. He echoed the common theme of the day which was that everyone in Dudley seemed to know Peter and that he has become more than just a business owner, he’s become one of the town’s most beloved residents. “He will tell you a story every time you come in that might make you laugh. You’ll see him a month later and he’ll pick up a conversation where you left off. It’ll be sad to see him go. He’s such a Dudley institution that it’ll be hard to imagine him not here,” said Marsi.

Then there’s the staff of Peter’s Hair Salon who are saying goodbye to their longtime leader who provided a workplace that was welcoming, fun, and lively. Pam Spiewakowski worked with

Peter for 31 of the 32 years his shop was housed in Dudley and said she enjoyed every single day. “You never felt like you were going to work. It was always such a fun-loving family environment. He’s a father figure and one of my best friends,” Spiewakowski said. “I have woken up in the middle of the night crying, but I’m very happy for him. It’s emotional, but I’m happy to see him and his wife be able to travel and do things they want to do.”

Peter Sherifi himself looked back fondly on an eventful life journey that saw him learning hair styling from the age of 14 in Europe before he moved to the United States, working several jobs outside of the industry, and then returning to his passion establishing one of the longest lasting businesses along West Main Street. Through all the bumps in the road, including immigrating to the United States, he made it happen and after over 50 years can finally take time to relax.

“Instead of going to trade school I went right to the barber shop. I learned,

and I got my diploma and when I came to the United States, they wouldn’t recognize my diploma, so I worked in a factory for 15 years. I decided to go back to school, got my diploma again, and went back to this business. I’ve done a lot. I’ve tried to be as nice and welcoming as possible. I’m going to miss the people, but it’s time to enjoy life too,” said Sherifi. “This is a dream. I came with borrowed luggage. I didn’t even have many cloths. Hearing from older people, the main thing was to work hard and save. If you want anything in this country, you can get anything you want. It’s all up to you.”

Sherifi confirmed he plans to spend his retirement traveling with his wife. His extended family lives all around the world, so they will be taking time to reconnect. While he will be missed by his countless clients and the people of Dudley at large, most would agree that Peter Sharifi’s retirement is well earned and his impact on the people he served will never be forgotten.

SHAW

continued from page A1

visions Webster as a small New England town enjoying an improved quality of life, with enhanced public safety. A town where there is a minimum of fear of crimes, and there are safeguards in place to protect lives and property. Mike is active in supporting public programs, including International Night-Out, the Easter Egg Hunt and basketball leagues for kids. More recently the department sponsored Duck-Off, Polar Plunge and Touch a Truck events. Under the chiefs direction the Department has added a part time Community Outreach Advocate to provide assistance to townspeople in need.

With the addition of quality lawmen, an emphasis in Public Relations, a clear understanding of juvenile misbehavior and a role model like Chief Shaw, Webster’s Police Department will meet the challenges of Law Enforcement as it exists today.

The Webster-Dudley Veterans Council is proud to have Chief Shaw assume the duties of Grand Marshal as we observe this Memorial Day of remembrance and reflection.

PRINCIPAL

continued from page A1

end of the month. “Currently those applications have been shared with all the members of the team and, because of scheduling, we’re going to have folks review them asynchronous-

ly on their own time. There’s a couple hundred pages of documents for folks to go through. I want to applaud the work and confidentiality of the committee,” said Dr. Ackerman. “The goal will be to identify three candidates from the group to interview and we’re currently shooting for May 24 as that day.

After that interview, then we’d like to bring forward the finalist candidates so that they can connect with the assistant principals and Superintendent Lamarche.” Initially the Search Committee was going to skip the public meet and greet in the second cycle of candidates due to time constrains,

but the School Committee recommended the meet and greet be part of the process. This would push the naming of a final candidates until June. Dr. Ackerman also confirmed that if a candidate is not chosen from the second round a backup plan with an interim principal is in place.



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LEGALS

TOWN OF DUDLEY PUBLIC HEARING

Tree Removal on Mason Road, Dudley, MA

The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 23, 2022 @ 6:15pm at Shepherd Hill Regional High School, 68 Dudley-Oxford Rd., Dudley, MA in the school cafeteria prior to Annual Town Meeting. The purpose of this Hearing: To Act on a Request from MassDOT and Dudley Highway Department to remove four (4) shade trees located in front of 24 Mason Rd., 30 Mason Rd., 36 Mason Rd., and 38 Mason Rd that severely impede on the Mason Road Sidewalk Project.

Anyone wishing to be heard on this matter should appear at the date and times specified or submit their concerns in writing.
May 20, 2022

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 167 Dudley Road, Oxford, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Edward R. Gendron to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans and now held by Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, said mortgage dated December 22, 2017, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 58236 at Page 33, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated September 28, 2018, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 59543 at Page 48, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on May 27, 2022 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in the Town of Oxford, County of Worcester, State of Massachusetts, on the easterly side of Dudley Road, bounded and described as follows: See Plan Book 444, Plan 25

PARCEL I

BEGINNING at a point at the most westerly corner of the premises described herein at the end of a stone wall on the easterly line of said Dudley Road, said point being the southwest corner of Lot #114 as shown on a plan of land in Oxford owned by Nelson and Jeannette Cournoyer, dated June 22, 1970, Walter Brown surveyor, and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 337, Plan 8; THENCE along a stone wall by land now or formerly of Lacki, S. 88 deg. 29’ E., a distance of thirty nine and twenty hundredths (39.20) feet; THENCE N. 89 deg. 20’ E., a distance of ninety (90) feet; THENCE N. 81 deg. E., a distance of twenty six and five tenths (26.5) feet; THENCE S. 88 deg. 38’ E., a distance of three hundred seventy four (374) feet to a corner of stone walls and all being along said land of Lacki; THENCE in a southerly direction along a stone wall and continuing by said land

of Lacki, a distance of three hundred fifty and sixty two hundredth (350.62) feet to a corner of stone walls;

THENCE in an easterly direction along a stone wall along said land of Lacki, a distance of seven hundred fifty nine (759) feet to a corner of stone walls;

THENCE Northerly along a stone wall by land of Lacki, a distance of one hundred eighty five and sixty two hundredths (185.62 feet to a corner of stone walls;

THENCE in an easterly direction along a stone wall by land of Lacki, a distance of ninety nine (99) feet more or less to the westerly line of Larned Road;

THENCE N. 0 deg. 15’ E., along the westerly line of said Larned Road, a distance of ten (10) feet to a point in a stone wall on the westerly line of said Larned Road;

THENCE S. 85 deg. 15’ W., three hundred and thirty hundredths (300.30) feet along Lot #16 as shown on a plan of land entitled Subdivision of Land on Larned Road for Nelson Cournoyer, Paul Pytko, C.E. as revised July 15, 1967 and recorded in Plan Book 310, Plan 113 to a point;

THENCE N. 4 deg. 5’ E., a distance of eight hundred forty six (846) feet to a point;

THENCE S. 85 deg. 15’ W., a distance of fifty (50) feet;

THENCE N. 4 deg. 5’ E., three hundred three (303) feet all being along said land now or formerly of Alberts to a point at land now or formerly of LeFrancois;

THENCE S. 85 deg. 15’ W., one hundred fifty (150) feet;

THENCE N. 4 deg. 45’ W., four hundred (400) feet along said land of LeFrancois to a point, being the southeast corner of Lot No. 102 as shown on the aforementioned plan in Plan Book 310, Plan 113.

THENCE S. 31 deg. 10’ W., one hundred twenty nine (129) feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE S. 27 deg. 05’ W., one hundred thirty five (135) feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE S. 22 deg. 30’ W., seven hundred fifty six and forty hundredths (756.40) feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE S. 23 deg. 30’ W., one hundred forty and seventy hundredths (140.70) feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE S. 25 deg. 43’ W., one hundred twenty seven and ninety hundredths (127.90) feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE S. 30 deg. 28’ W., one hundred twenty five (125) feet to an iron pipe and Lots 103-113, inclusive and all being shown on the aforementioned plan recorded in Plan Book 337, Plan 8;

THENCE N. 63 deg. 35’ W., three hundred (300) feet along said Lot 113 to an iron pipe on the easterly line of said Dudley Road;

THENCE Southerly along the easterly line of said Dudley Road in a curve to the right with a radius of one thousand nine hundred seventy (1,970) feet a distance of two hundred eighty three (283) feet to the point of beginning;

As affected by an Affidavit for true and accurate measures of various bounds recorded September 13, 1982 in Book 7553, Page 269.

EXCEPTING therefrom the land located easterly of Lot 100 as shown on a plan recorded in said Deeds in Plan Book 337, Plan 8, in which the excluded piece does not abut the herein conveyed premises.

EXCEPTING therefrom those parcels of land conveyed to the following deeds:

1. Robert L. Choiniere and Barbara O. Choiniere to Richard D.Zack et al dated September 13, 1982 and recorded in Book 7553, Page 270;

2. Robert L. Choiniere and Barbara O. Choiniere to Robert J. Fiels et ux dated November 30, 1984 and recorded in Book 8508, Page 245.

3. Robert L. Choiniere and Barbara O. Choiniere to Mark A. Heroux et ux dated April 11, 1985 and recorded in Book 8650, Page 61.

PARCEL II

Also conveying another tract of land in said Oxford on the easterly side of Dudley Road adjoining Parcel I and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pipe at the northwest corner of the tract herein described on the easterly side of the 1958 Worcester County Highway layout of Dudley Road;

THENCE S. 88 deg. 29’ E., mostly along a stone wall by said Parcel I herein, 39.20 feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE N. 89 deg. 20’ E., along a stone wall by said Parcel I, 90 feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE N. 81 deg. 00’ E., along said stone wall by Parcel I, 26.50 feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE N. 89 deg. 29’ 56” E., along said stone wall by Parcel I, 342.11 feet to a drill hole in intersection with another stone wall;

THENCE S. 11 deg. 24’ 34” W., along said stone wall by Parcel I, 351.53 feet to an iron pipe at the intersection with another stone wall;

THENCE N. 54 deg. 53’ 28” W., by said stone wall by land now or formerly of Richard D. Zack, 545.86 feet to an iron pipe on the easterly side of Dudley Road;

THENCE running northerly along the easterly side of said Dudley Road on a curve to the left, having a radius of 2,030 feet and a length of 30 feet to the point of beginning.

CONTAINING an area of 2.153 acres shown as Parcel A on a plan recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 499, Plan 85.

EXCEPTING therefrom that portion of land conveyed by Robert L. Choiniere and Barbara O. Choiniere to Mark A. Heroux et ux dated April 11, 1985 and recorded in Book 8650, Page 61.

For title see deed recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 32294, Page 20.

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 December 11, 2017, and recorded in Book 58236 at Page 26 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds.

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, including but not limited to the lien recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds on February 20, 2014 in Book 52050 at Page 41, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a 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 by a certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale. **Marinosci Law Group, P.C.**
275 West Natick Road, Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886

Attorney for Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC

Present Holder of the Mortgage
Telephone: (401) 234-9200
MLG File No.: 19-01734

May 6, 2022
May 13, 2022
May 20, 2022

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. WO22P1551EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Helen M Austin
Date of Death: 01/31/2022

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Penny E Morway of Sutton MA**

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Penny E Morway of Sutton MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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 05/31/2022.** 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: May 04, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 20, 2022



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This special holiday sales event ends on May 31st!

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\$0 Down

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0% Interest

for 2 years!¹

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 24 months.



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1-800-209-2746**



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT



*DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 5/31/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 20% off your entire purchase and 24 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 5/1/2022 and 5/31/2022. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky[®] consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. Placed by newspaper.



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WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet/Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$1,749,900.00**



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



NEW LISTING

WEBSTER - Lower Gore Road! Build Your Dream Home! 2.3 & 5 Acre Approved Buildable Lots! Large Parcels are getting harder to come by! New England Field Stone Walls and beautiful tiger lily wildflowers can be found! Great Commuting Location, Easy Highway Access! Nearby State Boat Ramp for Easy Lake Access! Water & Sewer in the Street! **Each @ \$99,900.00**



ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 67 Southbridge Road! 6 Rm Ranch Set on 16,875' Lot! Appliance Eat-in Kitchen! Dining Area and Fireplace Living Room w/ Hardwood Floors! 3 Bedrooms w/ Hardwood Floors and ample Closet Space! Spacious 11x14.5 Master! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Garage! **\$279,900.00**



ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER - 6 Slater Street! Professionals Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1st Floor w/Waiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdwd Flrs! 2nd Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Bath and additional office/bedroom! C/Air CVA! Security System! **\$349,900.00**



SOLD

DUDLEY - 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 554 Rm! 2 1/2 Bedrms! 2 1/2 Bathrms! Investors take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History! Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! For Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Desirable School System! **\$336,900.00**



SOLD

DUDLEY HAYDEN POND WATERFRONT - 48 Hayden Pond Rd! Recently Renovated, beautifully appointed, 5 Rm Waterfront Ranch! Enjoy sunsets, fishing & all water sports! Vinyl Composite decking & vinyl railings! Open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings w/ skylights! Din Rm w/slider to covered deck! Kit w/quartz counters & SS appliances! Liv Rm w/stunning views of the Pond! Comfortable Master w/generous closet & half bath! 2nd bedroom or office! Full bath w/washer/dryer hook ups! Full basement for storage or additional living space! Floating Dock! Shed! **\$525,000.00**



SOLD

WEBSTER LAKE - 301 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Like Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bedrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$320,000.00!**



SOLD

WEBSTER LAKE - 65 Bates Point Rd - Eastern Exposure - Beautiful Sunrises! Year Round - Principle Residence - Second Home - Remodel - Tear it Down and Start Anew! The Choice is Yours! Set on a 12,449' Lot, 50x249', 50.7' Waterfront! Plenty of Area for Expansion! Surrounded by Million Dollar Homes the Parcel is Yours to Create! 5+ Room Ranch with Full Walk-out Expandable Lower Level! Open Floor Plan! Appliance Kitchen, Dining Area and Living Room with Panoramic Water Views! 3 Bedrooms! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Screened Porch! Detached Garage! Dock! Quick Closing! Summer is Just Around the Corner - Don't Delay! **\$710,950.00**



SOLD

DUDLEY - 16 Joseph St! Spacious UPDATED 8 Rm Center Hall Garrison Colonial! Nicely Landscaped 25,561' Lot Set on a Cul-De-Sac "Dead End"! Ideal Residential Neighborhood! Dble Glass Door Tiled Center Hall Entry Foyer w/Guest Closet! SS Appliance Cherry Cabinet Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Corian Counters, Tile First Din Rm w/Hrdwds, Crown Moldings & Bay Window! Epiced Liv Rm w/Pellet Stove, Custom Shelving, Hrdwds & Bay Window! Fam Rm w/Hrdwds, Custom Cabinetry, Ceiling Fan, French Doors & Slider to Deck Overlooking Private Backyard! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! Hall w/Dble Closet to the 2 Car Garage! 2nd Flr w/4 Spacious Bdrms w/Hrdwd & Vinyl Plank Flooring! MASTER w/2 Walk-in Closets, Ceiling Fan & Custom Tile MASTER BATH! Hall Bath w/Custom Tile Tub/Shower Surround w/Linen Closet! Don't Delay! **\$449,900.00**



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Featured Listing!



WEBSTER - 98 MINEBROOK RD
CAR/BOAT ENTHUSIASTS TAKE NOTE! 1.67 Acre Property Features 3 Buildings & 6 Garage Bays - 8', 10' & 12' Doors! Ample Space for all your TOYS! Close to I-395 & Webster Lake! A MUST SEE! - TOO MANY FEATURES TO LIST! *Cash or Special Financing due to its "Unfinished" status. **\$565,000.**

Featured New Listing!



ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 7 SHINE AVENUE
Better than new! 3100 Sq.Ft. of spacious living! METICULOUS, OVERSIZED CAPE w/CONTEMPORARY FLARE! CLEAN, UPDATED & SPACIOUS! .62 Acre Lot, 120'+ Rd Front, Private Backyard, 9 RMS, Front-To-Back Living Rm w/Frpic & scenic views, Open Flr Plan Kitchen/Dining w/Slider to rear deck, 1st Flr Office, 2 Car Attd Garage, 2nd Flr Great Rm over garage, MSTR BR Suite w/MSTR Bath, 2 more LG BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, LL BATH! AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFERING! Central Air, Central Vac. BEAUTIFULLY landscaped grounds. **\$549,000.**



WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND #503
Magazine Worthy Decor! New Kitchen with island, flooring, baths, gas fireplace, and so much more! Newer Furnace. Completely furnished. 6 rooms, 2-1.2 baths! 2 deeded boat slips. Salt Water Pool, Sandy Beach!
\$679,900



WEBSTER - 7 BRODEUR AVENUE
RARE FIND ~ TO BE BUILT - SPRAWLING 2,200 SQFT+ RANCH HOME! GARAGE Level 1/2 Acre Lot! FOUNDATION IS IN. Private backyard. GREAT LAYOUT! SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORS THROUGHOUT!



ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER - 10 GRANITE STREET
CONTRACTORS TAKE NOTICE! Single Family, need of Repair, 1,900 SF 3 BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 6,200 SF Lot, Oil Heat, City Gas avail. Architectural Character! SOLD "AS IS" - Submit Offers, Cash or Rehab Financing. **\$125,000.**



LEICESTER - 5 KEEFE COURT
CHERRY VALLEY of Leicester. Manageable 2 Bedroom Ranch! One Level Living! Large Dining Room for Entertaining! Detached Garage and Loft Area! .25 of an Acre! Flat side yard. Large Dog Kennel & Shed with Power! Mass Save Improvements. Central Air! **\$275,000**

LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD
Oxford - GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! LAND - 124 - Southbridge Road "ROUTE 20" VACANT LEVEL LOT - To be Subdivided from 124 Southbridge Rd LOT# 3 on a Preliminary Survey Plan will be 39,549 SF (0.905 ACRES) with 96.92' of Road Frontage. High Traffic, High Exposure Location. **\$419,000**
Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80+/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.
Webster - COOPER RD - 3 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & Sewer Access! **SORRY, SOLD! \$79,900.**



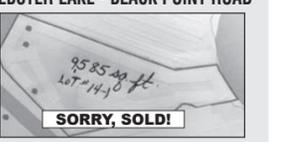
SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.
Killdeer Circle! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**



SORRY, SOLD!

TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO
Unit 1404 Marina side! of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE - BLACK POINT ROAD
Buildable Waterfront Corner Lot!, 9500 +/- sq ft. Sandy Beach. Town Water & Sewer Connections on the lot. **\$325,000.**



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.
Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms. 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**



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CHARLTON: Developers
41 Potential lots for a subdivision
on 99 acres
\$1,900,00



OPEN HOUSE SUN 11-12:30

DUDLEY: CAPE WITH OUT-BUILDING, 9.3 acres, 3 buildings, home, garage, workshop, Passing Title 5, Potential unit above 2 car garage or man cave, 4 room workshop or storage area, Additional land available
126 Old Southbridge Rd - \$469,900

OBITUARIES

Diane R. Quisenberry, D.V.M., 75



WEBSTER – Diane R. (Whalen) Quisenberry, D.V.M., 75, shuffled off this mortal coil with dignity and grace on Friday, May 13, 2022. Dr. Q is survived by her life partner of 32 years, Catherine; and her business partner, Tammie Masiello who has been considered family since the day they met in 1998. Diane was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, and moved Massachusetts in 1992 to attend Tufts Veterinary School.

Prior to becoming a veterinarian, Diane was the director of a county-wide animal control agency in North Carolina supervising 65 employees. From the 1970's through her departure in 1989, her department was often cited for excellence in transitioning to a no-kill shelter offering spay-neuter services and expanding city-wide adoption programs. Ms. Quisenberry received many awards for setting up and maintaining a staff that was bal-

anced by gender and ethnicity.

Diane graduated from Tufts Veterinary School in 1996 and worked in Oxford before opening her practice in Webster. The Animal Hospital of Webster was founded by Diane and Tammie in 2001 and has since maintained a strict policy of "It's all about the animals." A reminder to all staff to put the patients first, all the time, every time.

Dr. Quisenberry was an avid reader and loved law enforcement dramas where she would yell out procedural mistakes at the T.V. She was a scrabble champ, often playing on three boards at once and never met a crossword puzzle she didn't like. "Dr. Q" will be sorely missed and anyone who knew her (human or otherwise) will grieve her passing.

A celebration of her life will be held at a date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the M.S.P.C.A., 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

Theresa L. Wagner, 82



WEBSTER – Theresa L. (Lenkiewicz) Wagner, 82, passed away Monday, May 9, 2022 in Rose Monahan Hospice, Worcester with family at her side. Her husband of 56 years, Richard E. Wagner, passed away in 2016.

She leaves 3 sons, Scott L. Wagner and his wife Joann, Corie R. Wagner and his wife Lynn, and Raendi E. Wagner and his wife Rachel, all of Worcester; 5 grandchildren, Cole R. Wagner, Alexis L. Wagner, Rebecca K. Wagner, Samantha N. Wagner and Jacob D. Wagner; a brother, Richard P. Lenkiewicz of Cotuit; 2 sisters, Lorraine B. Breznick of Putnam and Dorothy L. Ciak of Northborough; nieces and nephews.

She was born on January 15, 1940 in Webster, a daughter of Leon F. and Tessie (Kruzewski) Lenkiewicz and lived here all her life. She graduated from Bartlett High School in 1958.

Mrs. Wagner started as a secretary for A T & T in Worcester. She retired in 2010 as an administrative assistant, working at the Solomon Pond Mall for Simon Properties. She was also a hairdresser on a part-time basis for many

years. Theresa was a communicant of Saint Joseph Basilica all her life. She was a member and past president of both the Holy Rosary Sodality and the Sacred Heart Society, a member of the Saint Joseph Women's Club and a Eucharistic minister at the church. She was currently the captain of the 1-25 club and worked at the church festivals for over 30 years. She was also a weekly adorer at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on East Main Street until recently.

A loving and devoted mother, she was the main cheerleader for her 3 sons at sports events and other activities when they were growing up. She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and all things involving her family.

The funeral was held Saturday, May 14, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, with a Mass at 10:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial was in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visitation was held from 4:30 to 7:30 PM Friday, May 13, in the funeral home. Donations in her name may be made to Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street, Webster, MA 01570. www.websterfunerals.com

Area seniors to view the scenery of Casco Bay

On Thursday, June 16 area seniors are joining Bob Wilby of Paxton to first have lunch at DiMillo's famous floating restaurant on the waterfront of downtown Portland, Maine. After a delicious lunch of either Honey Baked Scallops or Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast, served with New England clam chowder, potato and vegetable, finished off with bread pudding with bourbon sauce, we will have a short walk to the pier.

At the pier, we will board the Casco Bay Lines Mailboat. This is a working boat that delivers mail, freight and groceries to the residents and a few businesses of the many Casco Bay Islands. From the boat we see the beauty of these islands. As we leave the harbor, we will see firsthand the industry of the port of Portland, Maine.

Our Wilson bus will depart the Paxton Senior Center at 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 16. Reservations are needed by May 26 to Bob Wilby. You can email him at rwilby@charter.net or call (508) 792-4662.

Checks should be made payable to Wilson Bus Lines and mailed to Bob at 11 Tanglewood Rd, Paxton, MA 01612 by June 1. With your check, please include your luncheon entree choice.

The cost of this wonderful day on the Maine coast is \$126 per person. Our trips are open to all area citizens and ages. Please join us! Save the date of Wednesday, July 13, as we travel to Southern Maine for a Lobster Bake.

Walter J. Rousseau, Sr., 80



DUDLEY – Walter J. Rousseau, Sr., 80, passed away December 22, 2021 in Saint Vincent Hospital after being stricken ill at home.

He leaves his wife of 61 years, Joan S. (Ziamba) Rousseau who has lost her best friend and will miss him every day for the rest of her life; 2 sons, John A. Rousseau and his wife Petra of Ocala, FL, and Brian P. Rousseau and his wife Donna of Dudley; 2 daughters, Debra and Lisa Rousseau; 10 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, and nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his son Walter J. Rousseau, Jr. in March, 2002, by his brother Germain Rousseau, Jr. of Tavares, FL, and by 2 sisters, Janet Lowe of Largo, FL and Doris Brown, also of Largo, who died 2 days before Walter.

He was born on January 13, 1941 in Fitchburg, a son of Germain Rousseau, Sr. and Edna (Duguay) Rousseau and lived a few years there with his grandmother. His mother married John Kujawski of Webster whom Walter loved very much. He lived in Southbridge and Webster before moving here in 1966.

Mr. Rousseau worked in various jobs

at Wyman-Gordon in Grafton for 33 years, retiring as a driver in the forge department on February 1, 1999.

Walter loved cheering for the Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots, traveling, attending car shows, shopping and, in younger years, playing the guitar with his brother. He enjoyed music, particularly the Beatles and Elvis Presley. Time spent with family was his favorite pastime, particularly quiet evenings watching Western movies at home.

The family would like to thank the Dudley EMT's, Dr. Dimitry Levenson and his staff at Reliant Medical Group in Webster, and the caregivers in the emergency room at Saint Vincent's Hospital in Worcester. Joan would like to extend a special word of thanks to those who kept in contact and supported her during these difficult times. She also appreciates the kindness of the staff at Scanlon Funeral Service.

Memorial calling hours will be held on Saturday, May 21, their 62nd wedding anniversary, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster. A prayer service will be held at 2:45 PM that day in the funeral home, with Deacon Peter J. Motyka officiating. www.websterfunerals.com



Courtesy photo

This piece was done by Amanda Martin of Southbridge.

Southbridge's Ruth Wells Center for the Arts to hold Water Color Exhibit

The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts, located at 111 Main St., Southbridge, is holding a Water Color exhibit and the public is invited to view this exciting exhibit. Local artists are represented with a collection on display in the gallery. Gallery hours are Saturday and Sunday, 2-4 p.m., and is free to the public. The Ruth Wells Center, also known as the Quinebaug Valley Council for Arts and Humanities, was founded in 1978 and offers art classes, exhibits, workshops and offers space to the Southbridge Historical Society and the Southbridge Garden Club. For more information go to the website, ruthwellscenter.com or the Ruth Wells Center Facebook page.



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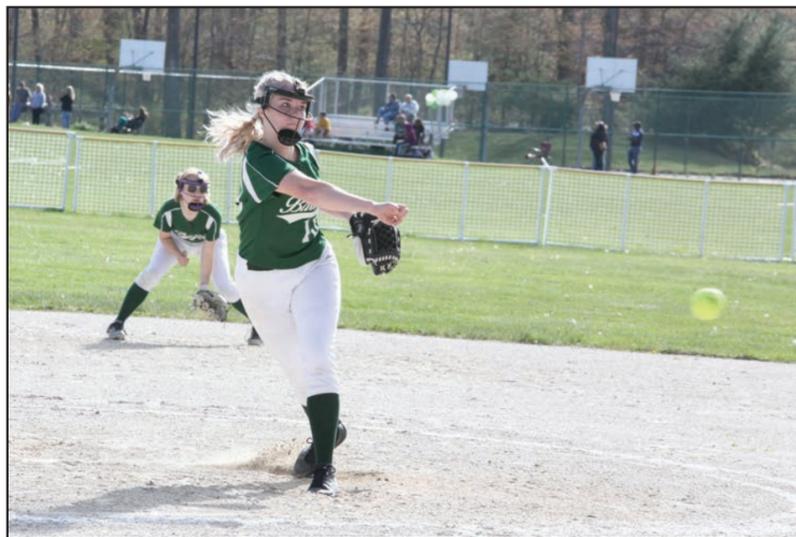
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SPORTS

Fastball the fix for Schneider, as Tantasqua outlasts Indians



Nick Ethier photos

Bartlett's Ellie Adams watches her released pitch head to the plate.



Camryn Phillips of Bartlett rips an RBI single into right field.



Bartlett's Dakota Vaudreuil speeds around the bases and eventually scores a run.



Bella Melo of Bartlett successfully slides into third base.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

SPORTS BRIEF

Sturbridge Legion tryout dates

Any baseball players interested in playing Sturbridge Legion Baseball that are born on Jan. 1, 2003 or later are eligible to play. All players that live in Sturbridge or attend Tantasqua Regional High School are all eligible to play for the Sturbridge team, also players from surrounding towns may also be eligible to play. Team will conduct tryouts Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday, May 22 from 1 to 3 p.m., both tryout dates will be held at Tantasqua Regional High School varsity baseball field. For more information you can contact team manager Jim Rosseel (774) 230-1784, email: jimrosseel@hotmail.com or coach Rich Wetherbee (508) 981-0897, email: qrards@aol.com.

WEBSTER — With the Bartlett High varsity softball team trailing in the bottom of the sixth inning, 6-2, Imani Washington (single), Sienna Stawiecki (single) and Dakota Vaudreuil (walk) all reached base for the Indians on Tantasqua Regional pitcher Katelyn Schneider to load the bases with nobody out in a game played on Wednesday, May 11.

Nate Orzech, head coach of the Warriors, then made his way to the circle to speak with his pitcher. After heading back to the dugout, Schneider escaped the stress-filled jam having surrendered just one run, which made it a 6-3 game.

Tantasqua then tacked on four runs in the top of the seventh inning to surge ahead, 10-3, before ultimately winning a 10-5 decision after Bartlett scored twice in the home half of the final frame.

When asked what was said between

Schneider during the mound visit, Orzech's answer was telling.

"Kate did all the talking, to be honest with you. She told me what wasn't working and what was working, and we went with what was working. It was a pitch that we hadn't thrown much all day. She went with it nine straight pitches to get out of the inning," explained Orzech.

The pitch? The most common one in the game — a fastball.

"She doesn't use it very often," Orzech said of his off-speed specialist. "She's a good pitcher, she knows what she's doing."

Tantasqua got to a 6-2 lead thanks to one run in the first inning, another run in the third, three more in the fifth and an additional run in the sixth. Despite the eventual 10-run effort, Orzech was critical about how his team struggled to piece together hits and runs, often-times being perplexed by the pitching

of Bartlett starter Ellie Adams. "We have a tough time adjusting to our timing. It takes us at-bats instead of pitches," said Orzech. "We're hitting the ball hard, but we're hitting it into the trees 100 yards foul."

Nonetheless, the Warriors are now 11-3 and in the midst of a successful season.

"We didn't play well and we found a way to win, which is the sign of a good team," said Orzech.

Schneider's complete game effort included 12 strikeouts, six hits and two walks. Only one of her runs allowed was earned. Offensively, Schneider was 2-for-4 with a pair of RBI, and Alexis Taudel was 3-for-5 with a trio of runs scored and an RBI. Elyse Geneway and Emma Quinn (two) also had RBI for the Warriors.

On the other side of the field, Bartlett head coach Courtney Stawiecki was pleased of the pitching of Adams, who worked the first five innings and allowed five runs (two earned) on six hits, with eight strikeouts and four walks.

"Ellie threw a great game. She was going down 3-0 in the count and she battled back to strike kids out multiple times," said Stawiecki. "There was an inning when they had bases loaded and she was able to get out of the inning. The kid has mental toughness."

The Indians held a 2-1 lead after two innings and the game was tied at 2-2 through four.

"It was a tough game. Tantasqua always has a really strong team. I was happy that they were able to time up the pitcher after the first inning and make effective contact with the ball," said Stawiecki. "We lost to a good team. It happens."

Offensively, Washington and Sienna Stawiecki each went 2-for-4, with Stawiecki driving in two runs. Sofia Napierata and Camryn Phillips also had RBI for the Indians.

Bartlett is now 7-8 as it hits the home stretch of the season.

"We are battling hard. The girls are at a really good mental point in the game where they can start improving their game without getting lost in their errors and the defeats to put them in a better place to start concentrating on what needs to improve," said Coach Stawiecki.

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VFW, PAV members proudly participate in Dudley Little League Parade



Courtesy photos

From left, James Brinker, Mark Landry Past Commander PAV, Randolph Snow

From left, Francis Mikolajczak, Richard Holewa, Stephen Rogerson Dudley Veterans Services Officer



From left, Stephen Rogerson, Richard Holewa, Francis Mikolajczak, Stephen Rogerson Background

OXFORD

continued from page A1

a public forum, but it has to be very well-regulated." At the time, he added he doesn't "really see the need" for it right now, though.

At Town Meeting May 4, very few of the key board members (Selectmen and Finance Committee) in front of auditorium voted to support Article 21, which added a new Chapter 3 to the bylaws. The proposal called for requiring such citizen comment, having meetings posted at least five days in advance, and having them all filmed. Two attempts to amend it to eliminate the latter two requirements failed, but it must still go to the attorney general for review.

The only selectmen who spoke on it at all was Cheryll Leblanc, a supporter, who observed "there certainly have been issues with getting certain items on agendas." She criticized prior speakers for stating "a lot of legal lingo to explain why you can't speak at your own meetings" and concluded with "If you want to be heard, you need to start voting for things like this."

She was referring to town attorney Mark Reich, who had noted the bylaw as written conflicts with the Open Meeting Law (at least in its five day requirement; OML has two days). State law "is very clear the chair specifically determines who may speak," he said. "... The public does not have a right to speak. The public has a right to attend and observe."

Finance Chair John Eul said his board voted not to recommend it because the proposal would cost the town money for "hybrid" access, while he noted "possibly as of July 15, that's going to be a moot point." That's a reference to the Legislature's Covid-related OML changes allowing remote and hybrid meetings, which have been periodically extended, but now sunset on that date. Resident Helen Chatel, however, said she thinks federal Americans with Disabilities Act might make hybrid access "a permanent feature," and thus require such expenses.

The article came from a citizen petition led by Robert King and Timothy Moriarty, who both ran for selectmen, as did Chatel, Daniels-Demers, and Amy Frick (who proposed one of the defeated amendments; Terry Cummings proposed the other). That election was Tuesday, May 17, after this paper's deadline.

To Moriarty, requiring this change "provides a greater understanding between the community and Town Hall. People should have the right to ask these questions." He said they felt the need to send it to Town Meeting "because it's been shut down everywhere else it's been."

King agreed, noting, "We can do this stuff. We've done it before." Regarding the five-day phrasing, he said the text "specifically says if there's an emergency, it does not apply."

Another proponent, School Committee Chair David Cornacchioli, said his board has had citizen comment for years. When he became chair, he adjusted their agenda to offer it twice, at the beginning and end of all meetings.

"I don't understand why all the other committees and boards in this town don't want to allow townspeople the opportunity to speak," he said. "There's no reason it can't be on every agenda."

Resident Joe DePasquale recalled a prior select board chair doing it. "I think it'd be great for the town and the selectmen too," he said. "They'd have more contact with their people."

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



Representative Peter Durant, Dudley Board of Selectmen Chairman John Marsi



Ronald Prest, Richard Holewa, Francis Mikolajczak, Stephen Rogerson Background: Dudley BOS Chairman John Marsi

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On Saturday, May 7, representatives of local and state government and the veterans groups of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 654 (VFW), and the Polish American Veterans Club (PAV) proudly participated for the first time since the start of the COVID restrictions three years ago in the Little League Parade. The Little Leaguers were escorted onto the ballfield where they were greeted by many happy and proud parents and friends who were eager to enjoy their first game of the season.

This was a special day for the veterans as well as it is the beginning of the Memorial Day events that are taking place throughout the entire month of May.

Friday's Child



Shyanne - 05/15
Age 12

Hi! My name is Shyanne and I am a social butterfly!

Shyanne is a funny, caring, and outgoing young lady of Caucasian descent. She is known as a social butterfly that makes friends easily and enjoys spending time with her peers. Shyanne is also able to hold conversations with the adults in her life and is able to request attention from them in an appropriate manner. Shyanne is very artistic and is an especially talented drawer. She is also interested in participating in sports, such as soccer, track, and jiu-jitsu. Shyanne is special in that she can find the positive in almost any situation and is very insightful. She is very in-tune with her emotions and the emotions of others around her.

Shyanne is a good student overall. She works with her teachers to improve her math skills and appreciates receiving support to complete her homework. Shyanne would like to attend college in the future and would like to pursue a career in teaching. She loves to be helpful and enjoys assisting others with the daily routines in life.

Legally freed for adoption, Shyanne's biological parents have an open adoption agreement to stay in contact with her. She also has siblings that she is very bonded with, so a potential family would need to facilitate these relationships as she grows. We are seeking a family of any constellation, including other siblings in the home. She will thrive in a home with a strong maternal role model that can set appropriate limits and boundaries. Shyanne does well in a family setting and is eager to find her forever home. Social workers would like to find a family that has parented before and understands how trauma affects a child's ability to process emotions. A patient family that is willing to build trust with Shyanne over time is ideal.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/6524>

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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, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.





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