

Auburn News

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Friday, July 31, 2026

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www.StonebridgePress.com

Sharing love and building hope in Mexico

WEBSTER — “It was such an amazing experience,” declared Charlie Caleri, the Assistant Superintendent of the Ayer Shirley Regional School District.

“I really had no idea what to expect,” he continued. “I joined the team thinking that my son and I were going to help build a house, but it turned into so much more. Aside from the profound gratitude I have for the little things in life (e.g., hot water, cold water, ice, a washing machine, etc.), the stark contrast between life in Rosarito, Mexico versus life in Central Massachusetts is unfathomable. Amalia, the woman for whom we built the home, was so kind, giving, generous, and thankful, even if she had very little. She had such a generous heart, which was so humbling. I was hoping for a chance to do a good deed with my son for a family who needed us, and I came back so much more fulfilled than I could have imagined.”

These words reflected the spirit of the entire 20-person team from Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in



Webster who built a home in Mexico for the 13th time over the past 20 years. The Church sent its team from July 15-22 to build a home for a family in need through the organization Project Mexico. The group joined more than 600 volunteers who come throughout the summer from around the country, sleeping in tents on the ranch of St. Innocent

Orphanage, an Orthodox Christian home for orphan boys from ages infancy to 18 years old. Each day the volunteers worked on building a 20 by 15 feet basic home with a concrete

foundation, sturdy walls, windows and doors and solid roof that will keep a family safe and warm especially during the rainy seasons.

Fr. Luke Veronis high-

lighted, “Every year this trip gives us a special opportunity to put our faith into action. We build a home for someone in need. I’m always reminding our people that God blesses us

so that we can share our blessings with others. Yet, the entire experience is so much more than just giving. We discover the meaning of Christ’s words “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Throughout the week, the team comes away with a profound sense that they have received so much – from the strong sense of community they experience on the team, to becoming a part of something larger than themselves as they join volunteers from around the country, to getting to know the orphan boys at the ranch, as well as with the special connections they make with all those they encounter in Mexico. Everyone realizes that we aren’t so different from the people who live in Mexico. We are all children of God.”

Every year, the team members experience shock when they cross the border separating San Diego from Tijuana. They enter a different world. Getting

Turn To MEXICO page A10

Girl Scout troops welcome new members

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

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

Girl Scout programming is customizable for all types of learners!

Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

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

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

About Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts

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

WEBSTER — The eighth-grade students of All Saints Academy recently traveled to Outdoor Classroom in Freedom, New Hampshire, for an unforgettable three-day educational experience that blended outdoor adventure, environmental science, engineering, teamwork, and personal growth. This field study served as a culminating activity of their years at the school and was selected by them among several opportunities.

During their stay, students engaged in hands-on science and engineering activities that brought key concepts to life. In a bridge-building challenge inspired by Leonardo da Vinci, they constructed wooden structures held together solely by gravity and friction—without nails or glue—and tested their strength by walking across them. They also collaborated to build a four-level, 25-foot-tall PVC geodesic

dome, gaining a deeper understanding of the physics behind its stability. In addition, students applied practical outdoor skills through cooking activities, building fires and preparing food while connecting scientific concepts to real-world applications.

Beyond their academic experiences, students participated in team-building activities that fostered communication, leadership, cooperation, and problem-solving. Whether hiking wooded trails, engaging in group initiatives, learning new outdoor skills, or simply enjoying the tranquility of the lake at sunset, they built confidence while deepening trust and strengthening peer relationships.

Evening programs provided opportunities for reflection, recreation, and community building, with sing-alongs creating lasting memories that will remain with students long after



graduation.

The Outdoor Classroom experience offers meaningful opportunities for students to grow academically, socially, and personally while enjoying the beauty of New Hampshire’s natural surroundings. All Saints Academy is grate-

ful to the dedicated professionals whose passion and commitment help foster a lasting connection between students and the natural world, making this memorable educational adventure possible.

New funeral home opens its doors in Webster



WEBSTER — The town of Webster welcomes a new funeral home and business owner. In June, the Gianaris-Gliniecki & Beauregard Funeral Home, at 366 School St., had an open house to welcome town residents and introduce itself to the community.

“We have tried to create a more relaxed and modern environment in our funeral home while showcasing the traditional aspects of this home and the history of Webster and Dudley,” noted co-owner, Joseph Gliniecki. “Alfred Lauretano, our Funeral Director, and I opened this

home in November of 2025 with the most valuable assistance of our friend and partner Zachary J. Gianaris. This used to be the Robert J. Miller Funeral Home, who owned and operated three funeral establishments in Webster, Oxford, and Charlton until his passing in 2023. Mr. Miller was a local legend and a former chairman of the board of selectmen.”

Lauretano brings two decades of serving as licensed funeral director, and more than 30 years of experience in funeral service. He worked closely with his father-in-law, the

late Peter A. Stefan, and longtime friend and colleague Bob Miller.

Gliniecki has been working in the funeral industry from his teenage years. Most recently he worked alongside Richard “Dick” Majercik of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home before Dick’s retirement.

The present establishment was once the home of Mart Albert Howard, a successful Webster businessman who struck it rich during the Yukon Gold Rush. Later, it became the Pike & Luther Funeral Home, and then the Robert J. Miller Funeral Home.

Calling all creative types to Webster’s Bites, Books and Blooms



“Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone,” a Book in Bloom created in 2024 by Forget Me Nots in Dudley.

WEBSTER — It’s not too late to exercise your creative muscles and join other floral artists, professional and amateur alike, in creating a display for Bites, Books and Blooms. This annual highlight of the Webster social calendar will take place at the Gladys Kelly Library on Sept. 23. In past years we have seen these representations through flowers of a favorite book or poem can range from literal to abstract and serious to silly. All have been intriguing and thought-provoking and demonstrate the talent for the visual arts that exists in our community.

For example, in 2024 Forget Me Nots Flowers & Gifts in Dudley chose to interpret Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone

with a gorgeous burgundy sorting hat, a literal object from the book, alongside a pumpkin arrangement, a more abstract nod to the festive spirit of Hogwart’s Great Hall at Halloween.

This year, Deb Horan, owner of Booklovers’ Gourmet, has chosen a poem, The Red Wheelbarrow by William Carlos Williams. She says, “I was inspired by this simple, descriptive poem of everyday objects and setting that asks us to just stop and observe our surroundings.” We can’t wait to see how she will translate this into a visual form through flowers.

If you are inspired to submit your own Book in Bloom, please fill out the commitment form on the Friends of the Gladys Kelly

Library website by August 3 or get a form at the library at 2 Lake Street in Webster.

Still unsure? Come to a Books in Bloom workshop on August 12, where Elaine Davies will lead a planning session, teaching you the mechanics of putting together a floral interpretation. Register for the workshop at the library or online under the library’s events calendar: August 12, 6 pm “How to Create a Book in Bloom.”

Whether you will be a featured artist or not, don’t miss this evening of food, music and fun on Sept. 23, benefiting the library’s free programming for all. Tickets will go on sale beginning Aug. 22.

Alley May Coté Dorgan to headline Keys for Kitties event

WEBSTER — Community Cat Connection will present Keys for Kitties, featuring Alley May Coté Dorgan (she/her/hers), an accomplished composer and multi-instrumentalist, in an exclusive piano performance. The performance will be held at Webster Federated Church of Christ, 4 Church St., at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8.

The public is invited to join for an afternoon of music for all tastes and times. Attendees can enjoy neo-classical musi-

cal compilations featuring renditions of Green Day, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and Metallica in a whole new way. The concert will feature two 45-minute sets with a brief intermission, and light refreshments will be available. Audio or video recording and flash photography are not allowed during the performance.

All proceeds support Community Cat Connection, a no-kill nonprofit shelter. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door the evening of the event or at Community

Cat Connection (289 Thompson Rd. in Webster) during open hours. The shelter is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and you can call (508) 949-0779 for more information.

Coté Dorgan has been playing the piano for 40 years, composing for 32 years, and accompanying for 33 years. She has studied classical piano since her grandmother, JoAnn Milburn May, recognized her talent at age four.

Coté Dorgan attended Worcester State University on the Frédéric François Chopin scholarship and has also studied and

performed at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, and Thayer Music Conservatory in Lancaster. She has appeared as a solo pianist, accompanist, composer, and arranger around the Worcester area, and has also composed and arranged neo-classical/new age solo piano music for special events. Alley has played drums in several bands and is a member of three semi-professional choruses: the MasterSingers of Worcester, co-founded by her grandmother in the 1970s; the Worcester Chorus; and the Sounds of Stow. She currently teaches piano at Guitar Center in Millbury. Her website is alleycote.wordpress.com.

Local students named to Holy Cross Dean’s List

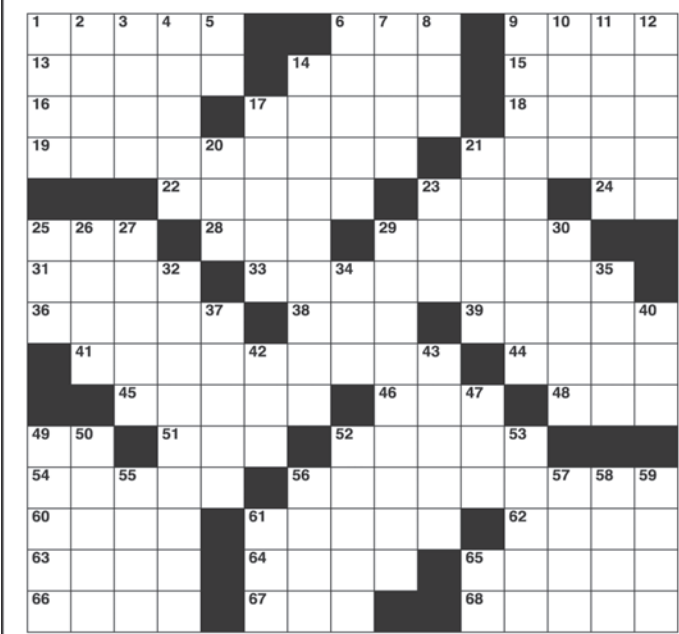
WORCESTER — College of the Holy Cross congratulates the students named to the Spring 2026 Dean’s List for outstanding academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2025-26 academic year. The following local students made the list:

Nora Foley of Auburn, Class of 2027
Oliana Tego of Auburn, Class of 2026
Maxine Adu-Boahen Jones of Webster, Class of 2027
Samual Lavallee of Oxford, Class of 2026
Aurora Voas of Oxford, Class of 2028

To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross

The [College of the Holy Cross](#), in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

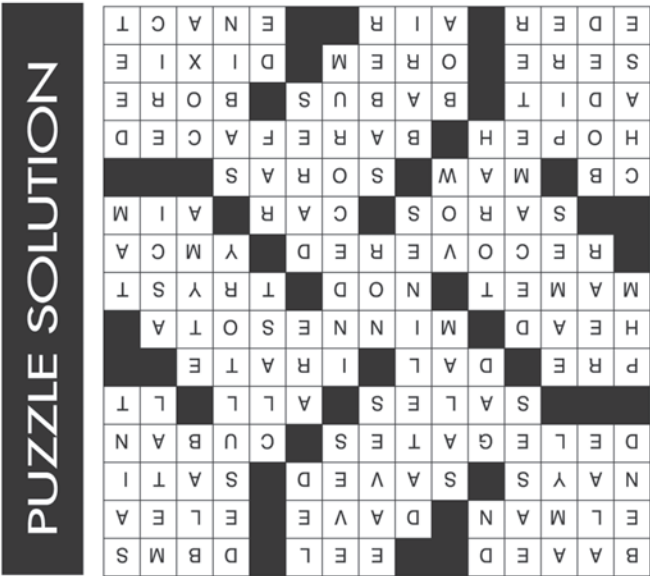


CLUES ACROSS

1. Bleated
6. Snakelike fish
9. Database management system
13. Social evolution anthropologist Service
14. American rocker Grohl
15. Greek personification of compassion
16. Negatives
17. Rescued
18. Self-immolation by fire ritual
19. Assigns tasks
21. Popular type of cigar
22. Discounts
23. The whole quantity
24. New York Giants legend
25. Indicates before
28. Lentils
29. Extremely angry
31. Body part
33. “North Star State”
36. David __, US playwright
38. Lower and raise one’s head
39. Private rendezvous
41. In a way, improved
44. A place to play
45. Astronomical period of 18 years
46. Automobile
48. Something you can take
49. A radio band
51. Jaws of a voracious animal
52. Short-billed rails
54. Chinese province
56. Shameless
60. Horizontal passage from the surface into a mine
61. Indian respectful titles
62. Fail to entertain
63. Dried-up
64. Central Utah city
65. Southern U.S.
66. German river
67. Necessary for breathing
68. Put into play

CLUES DOWN

1. Curved segment
2. Wings
3. Yellowish volatile liquid
4. Makes less severe
5. Debit note
6. Overhang
7. The nights before
8. Type of light
9. Lacking enthusiasm
10. Tattle
11. Some is “heavy”
12. One who is canonized
14. Indicates date and place of writing
17. “Peace” in Arabic
20. “Olaf” actor Josh
21. Fragmented rock
23. They __
25. Advanced degree
26. Backside
27. Influential architect and design couple
29. An act of undue intimacy
30. Words from which later words are derived
32. 10 meters
34. Neither
35. Fungal sacs
37. The law of God revealed to Moses
40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
42. A promise
43. Challenges
47. British Air Aces
49. Large bank
50. Served as an omen
52. Cavalry sword
53. Vaccine developer
55. Belgian WW2 resistance leader Jules
56. Italian Seaport
57. Hip joint
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Insect repellent
61. Constrictor snake
65 “The First State” (abbr.)



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

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Major General Salem Towne Lodge holds family cookout



Courtesy
Members of MGST Lodge, the Doric Chapter, their families, and friends enjoy the beautiful weather, refreshing breeze, food, fellowship, and camaraderie.

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM
TOWNE LODGE
SOUTHBRIDGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Saturday, July 25, Masonic family members and friends from Major General Salem Towne Lodge (MGSTL) and the Doric Chapter of Southbridge filled the upper park-

ing lot at Westville Dam Recreation Area in Southbridge for their annual summer cookout. These respected organizations have hosted this family tradition since 1991. On a beautiful summer day, guests enjoyed a strong turnout, walking trails, scenic views, and the nat-

ural beauty of Westville Dam, which has been the lodge’s favorite recreation area for the past 35 years. Because the large pavilion is highly sought after, it must be reserved at least a year in advance. Children laughed and played, and guests of all ages enjoyed the games. The

highlights of the day were the delicious food, the chance to reconnect with brethren and their families, and the camaraderie shared by all. If you are interested in learning more about Freemasonry, please visit www.massfreemasonry.org to find a lodge near you.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$930,000, 379 South St, Antonelli, Ricardo, and Antonelli, Nathalia, to Gentile, Brandon L, and Gentile, Sherri Lee.
\$890,000, 5 Rice Rd, Rosenberg, Karin L, to Tremblay, Daniel, and Tremblay, Sarah.
\$550,000, 3 Santom St, Laufer, Erik M, and Laufer, Ashlie L, to Tanona 3rd, Joseph J.
\$545,900, 10 Meadowbrook Rd, Alaburda, Jacob R, and Alaburda, Haylee, to Boateng, Assaw.
\$525,000, 177 Boyce St, Raposa, Erik J, and Raposa, Kelinyer, to Ormon, Georgiana M, and Mastro, James.
\$515,000, 18 Carroll St, 4J Real Estate Group LLC, and Aviles, Jaime, to Tronkowski, Sophia C, and Tronkowski, Ethan P.
\$480,000, 106 Elmwood St, Lucas Ronald A Est, and Lucas, Mark R, to Farese, Daniel, and Farese, Maria.
\$470,000, 61 Sumner St, Maleakas, Courtney S, and Maleakas, Charles, to Keddy, Shane, and Keddy, Courtney.
\$420,000, 150 Hampton St, 150 Hampton Street Rt, and Lanney, Diane E, to Ohagan, Ian.
\$410,000, 182 Leicester St, Szamocki, Michael J, to Halliday, Pompea, and Halliday, Christopher.
\$365,000, 20 Rockaway Rd, Farese, Daniel, and Farese, Maria, to Mirabal Jr, Victor Manuel, and Mirabal, Elizabeth Grace.
\$360,000, 2902 Forest Park Dr, Romani, Christopher S, to Coleman, Erin, and Digiaco, Olivia.

DUDLEY

\$880,000, 55 Dudley Oxford Rd, Mateo & Moran Prop LLC, and Duran, Valdemar M, to Perez, Edy O-Rossi, and Carvajal, Melbin Leonel-C.
\$450,000, 7 Lakeside Dr, Morse, Brian A, to Blair, Chynna R, and Prestes, Daniel R.
\$448,500, 19 Fairfield Dr, Devish, Michael, and Devish, Jennifer, to Oneil, Patrick, and Oneil, Christiane.
\$440,000, 39 Cardinal Dr, Tobias, William A, and Iodice, Paula, to Parent, Melissa.
\$360,000, 24 Railroad Ave, Mason, Travis A, and Mason, Travis, to Pinto, Ryan J.

OXFORD
\$655,000, 3 Walters Dr, Baird, Kinley, to Sweeney, Anthony, and Truman, Morgan.
\$605,000, 5 Garrison Heights Dr, Clem, Barbar S, and Clem, Jon P, to Guardiola, Kaleigh.
\$489,000, 142 Sutton Ave, 142 Sutton Ave Nt, and Suklis, Jayna L, to Northup Jr, Thomas D.
\$385,000, 25 Ashworth Dr #B, Watkins, Anna Elizabeth, to Mcleod, Reece.
\$374,999, 394-A Main St, Kroyman, Kevin, to Clarke, Peter.
\$187,500, 2 West Ct, Degnan, Robin M, and Steczko, Lori A, to Degnan, Kayla..

WEBSTER

\$1,600,000, 22 Pattison Rd, Guilbault, Raymond, and Guilbault, Lynn, to Michaud, Carla Marie.
\$1,500,000, 31 Joyce St, Kbg Realty Properties LLC, and Byrnes, Michael, to Andreozzi, Kristen, and Andreozzi, Bryan C.
\$805,000, 415-431 S Main St, Nayfeh, Ghassan, and Chamoun, Rajaa, to 415 South Main Street LLC.

\$805,000, 443 S Main St, Nayfeh, Ghassan, and Chamoun, Rajaa, to 415 South Main Street LLC.
\$535,000, 17 Upland Ave, Ramos, Nelson, and Ramos, Kathy A Yari, to Asensoh, Brendon Michael.
\$465,000, 44 Lake Pkwy, Parslow Patricia Ann Est, and Parslow, James, to Dobelbower, Kassidi Marie, and Dobelbower, Ashley Lynn.
\$465,000, 5 Litchfield Ln #5A, Belli, Michael, and Belli, Twila H, to Clem, Jon, and Clem, Barbara.
\$455,000, 8 Linwood St, Miller Stephen P Est, and Miller, Rebecca M, to Iloba, Nneka.
\$419,900, 40 Scenic Ave, Guglielmo, Mark, and Guglielmo, Joann, to Szamocki, Michael J.
\$350,000, 20 Hill St, Knight, Thomas W, and Knight, Brittany D, to Santiago, Alexandra River, and Rivera, Elvin X-Zayas.
\$25,000, 89 Main St, Levesque, Gerard, and Levesque, Glynne A, to 89 Main Street LLC.

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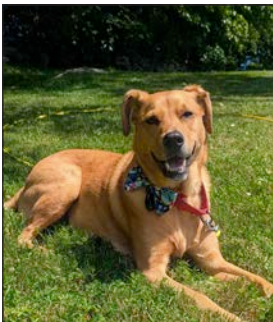


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PAW of the WEEK CHESTER

5 YR./53 LB./MALE/RETRIEVER/CATTLE DOG MIX



Hi, I'm Chester — I'm the kind of guy who will happily toss a toy around one minute and then roll over for belly rubs the next. I love my people deeply and bond closely with "my" humans. Once you're in my circle, you're in for life. I'm happiest when I'm playing, relaxing near you, or soaking up affection. I have a big heart, a playful streak, and a soft side that just wants to feel safe and loved.

A Few Honest Notes (Because Communication Matters)

I'm not a cat guy — it's just not my vibe.

I've been around other dogs at the rescue and have done fine, but I didn't have much proper socialization before coming here. When dogs rush up to me, I can feel unsure and a little overwhelmed. Because of that, I'd feel most confident being your one-and-only pup while I continue building skills and confidence at my own pace.

Vet visits used to make me nervous too — especially nail trims and being confined for exams. But guess what? I've made amazing progress. With the help of our awesome trainer, Jackie, I learned to file my own nails (yes, I'm basically a DIY king), and I've been muzzle trained so I can safely and successfully handle checkups and vaccinations! With a little medication beforehand and the right support, I'm doing so much better already. I'm proof that patience and training truly work.



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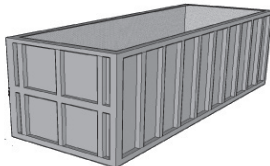


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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Building more than a house

It is often said that service changes both the person who gives and the person who receives. Few examples illustrate that truth more clearly than the recent mission trip by members of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster.

For the 13th time in the past two decades, parishioners traveled to Mexico through Project Mexico to build a home for a family in need. On paper, the accomplishment is straightforward. Twenty volunteers spent a week constructing a modest 20-by-15-foot home with a concrete foundation, sturdy walls, windows, doors, and a roof that will provide safety and shelter.

But anyone who has participated in this kind of mission knows the real work extends far beyond lumber, concrete, and nails.

Again and again, those who returned spoke less about what they gave than about what they received.

Assistant Superintendent Charlie Caleri described returning home with a deeper appreciation for life’s everyday comforts, from running water to a washing machine. More importantly, he spoke about the generosity of a woman who possessed very little materially yet welcomed strangers with kindness, hospitality, and gratitude. That realization, that generosity is measured more by the heart than by the size of one’s bank account, is a lesson many spend a lifetime trying to learn.

The reflections shared by other participants echoed the same theme. They expected to build a house. Instead, they built relationships. They discovered resilience, humility, and joy among people whose circumstances differed dramatically from their own.

Those experiences have a way of reshaping priorities.

In today’s world, it is easy to become consumed by the next purchase, the next promotion, the next inconvenience, or the next disagreement. Modern life encourages us to measure success by accumulation. Yet trips like these remind us that fulfillment often comes from contribution instead.

There is another lesson here that extends beyond one church or one denomination.

Communities thrive when people step outside their own routines and recognize that they have something valuable to offer. That contribution does not always require extraordinary skills. As participant Patrick Tutella observed, despite arthritis limiting his physical abilities, there was always meaningful work to be done. Every volunteer found a role.

That message resonates here at home as well.

Not everyone can travel to another country to build homes. But everyone can build something. A stronger neighborhood. A more welcoming community. A better future for a child. Whether through volunteering, mentoring, coaching youth sports, serving at a food pantry, or simply checking on an elderly neighbor, opportunities to strengthen our own communities surround us every day.

Perhaps equally important is the example these volunteers set for younger generations. Several teenagers and young adults made the trip, disconnecting from social media and stepping into a world far removed from the comforts they have always known. Experiences like these cultivate empathy in ways that no classroom lecture or online discussion ever could.

Communities need that kind of perspective now more than ever.

The volunteers from Webster returned with sore muscles, unforgettable memories, and stories that will stay with them for years. Amelia, the woman whose family now has a safe place to call home, received a house. The volunteers received something less tangible but no less valuable: a renewed understanding of gratitude, compassion, and shared humanity.

In the end, Project Mexico is not simply about constructing buildings. It is about constructing character.

That may be the strongest foundation of all.

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

Rotary International Club of Auburn

BY HELEN POIRIER
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Rotary is a global service organization that was started by Paul P. Harris, Gustave Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram E. Shorey in 1905 in Chicago. Its initial mission was: “provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.” It is a non-political and non-religious, and originally all male organization. It got its name because initially it rotated weekly club meetings to each other’s offices. It wasn’t until the membership grew too big that it adopted a regular meeting place. The National Association of Rotary Clubs in America was formed in 1910. It then expanded to Winnipeg Canada in November 1910 and Dublin Ireland in February 1911. The name was changed to International Association of Rotary Clubs in 1912, then Rotary International in 1922.

The Rotary has been instrumental in promoting many causes. It has worked with the United Nations since it started in 1945 as both groups shared ideals in promoting peace. At that time, the Rotary was involved in 65 countries. The Rotary launched its PolioPlus program to immunize the children of the world in 1985. It had contributed more than 900 million dollars to this campaign by 2011. One of the official mottoes besides “Service Above Self,” is “One Profits Most Who Serves Best”. The seven areas of concentration for the organization are: promoting peace, improving health through disease prevention and treatment, improving the health of mothers and children, water and sanitation, education, economic development, and supporting the environment.

Membership is by invitation from a current Rotarian to professionals or business-people working in diverse areas. The goal of the club is to promote service to the community they work in. Women were officially admitted as full members in 1986 although they did support their husbands’ endeavors through the “Rotary Ann’s” aspect of the organization previous to being full members. This name came about when two wives of Rotary International Presidents were both named Ann and they met up at a national meeting. The Auburn Rotary Ann’s was formed in 1954, with Alie O’Brien leading it with the purpose of “fostering friendliness among the wives of Auburn Rotary and give assistance to the me. The women had to be married to or a widow of a member.

The Auburn Rotary Club was formed by Robert Chafitz in September 1944 and met at the Howard Johnson’s Restaurant, which is now J Anthony’s Pub. Other meeting places included the Bancroft Club, the Yankee Drummer Inn, Jasmine’s Restaurant and the Heritage Coffee Shoppe. There were 18 Auburn men who were approved by the District Governor. The first president was Jesse J. Morgan, who was the school superintendent. Members through the years included: John C. Averka the fifth president in 1980, John R. Breault, market owner and incorporator of Auburn Co-operative Bank now Savers Cooperative Bank, Chief Roger G. Belhumeur, Chief John J. Boudreau, Rudolph Bloomquist owner and operator Bloomquist Tool Company, Hector E. Barriere, manager and town representative, Joseph F. Carlin Jr., Francis J. Quinn, Leonard White, Frank B. Sleeper founder of Imperial Distributors of Auburn, Joseph E. Murray, Roy Person president of Person Monuments, Earl Standring Sr. founding member of Flag Town USA, Raynard Whitcher, Edmund J. Lemansky, Charles L. Foster Jr. of Casson-Foster

Photography, Alex M. Pappas, Dr. Sidney M. Pond, Robert T. Kessell of Kessell & Morse Company, Freeman A. Fuller of Fuller Auto Service, Gerald P. Murphy owner and operator of Demers Brothers Inc., Dr. Gordon Milne, Lee G. Steinberg owner of Bancroft Restaurant and Seaport Lounge, John E. Riley town clerk, Chester Holstrom, and Daniel S. Horgan. The women included Joan Noonan the first woman president, Mary B. Cunningham, Ann C. (Cahill) Watters, Louis Camosse, Virginia C. McDonald president 2007.

The Auburn Rotary held many fundraisers through the years; the most notable might be the “Flips for Scholars” pancake breakfast at the high school. It was usually held the Sunday after Easter. In 1983 it cost \$1.99 per person. The money went for graduating seniors and enrolled college students. The top scholarship was the Goddard Scholarship Award of \$1,000 as well as other smaller scholarships. There were golf tournaments with the Kiwanis as well as softball games with the Kiwanis. The Rotarians donated the manual community sign board to the fire department around 1985 and collected eyeglasses.

The Auburn community benefited from Rotary Beach which was Auburn’s Public Beach. It was built after World War II and had picnic tables and a snack shack. It was on the west side of the Stoneville Reservoir. It had to be closed in the 1970s due to dirty water. Efforts to reopen stalled in 2014. The Rotary also was instrumental in developing Goddard Park at Drury Square. Mrs. Ester Goddard was part of the dedication ceremony. There was a cabin built for the Daniels School of Forestry, basketball courts at Auburn High School, and the Memorial Park Bandstand, which is now at the Auburn Senior Center. There are many local residents that are thankful for handicapped ramps being installed, Little League teams were sponsored, a boat was donated to Treasure Valley for the sea scouts, the backstop and flagpole at Franklin Field, and so much more.

Unfortunately, after seventy years, due to dwindling membership in 2014, the Rotary Club disbanded after their final project of cleaning up Goddard Park. Membership was down to five members with the passing of Ralph White. Those members were Don Post, Owen Russell, Vivian Nurse, Lorna Sullivan and Louise Downie. In January 2015 the remaining five members voted to rescind the disband vote and try again. The new president was Marcia A. Davis of Millville, John Convent, treasurer and foundation chairman and the meetings were held at J. Anthony’s on Southbridge Street. The new president was presented with the club’s original brass bell and original US flag from 1944. Activities that benefited the community continued until after 2018 and included a scholarship award dinner at Chuck’s Steak House, pancake breakfast, “Activating the Arboretum” at Swanson Road Intermediate School, and Fall Fun Fest Fundraiser at Hodges Village Dam – 5K, fun walk, mountain bike ride. The Rotary disbanded again some time after 2019. The flag that has a small brass plaque on it stating it was given to the Auburn Rotary in 1944 has found a home at the Auburn Historical Society and Museum on display.

This is the second installment of the “Civic Organizations of Auburn” series. It was made possible by the Auburn Historical Society & Museum, 41 South St. The museum is open Tuesday and Saturday mornings 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and may be reached at auburnmuseum@verizon.net or 508-832-6856, www.auburnhistoricalmuseum.org or follow us on Facebook at Auburn Historical.

When every errand took a little longer

I had three stops to make the other day. On paper, it should have taken about 30 minutes. Pick up one item, drop off another, grab a gallon of milk, and head home. An hour and 15 minutes later, I finally pulled into the driveway.

The funny thing is, I wasn’t delayed by traffic. I was delayed by people.

At the hardware store, I bumped into a fellow I hadn’t seen since last fall. We spent a few minutes talking about the weather, which, in New England, is less a conversation starter than an ongoing community project. We compared notes on gardens, wondered whether we’d ever get enough rain, and somehow ended up discussing high school football schedules.

At the post office, another familiar face asked how my wife was doing. Before I could answer, someone else joined the conversation because they had overheard the question and knew exactly who we were talking about.

By the time I reached the grocery store, I had already had three conversations and learned about a church supper, a grandson’s first job, and a neighbor’s new puppy. None of it had anything to do with why I left the house.

It reminded me that errands used to be more than chores. They were social occasions.

You never knew who you’d run into, and that was part of the experience. If someone spotted your car in a parking lot, there was a decent chance you’d meet them inside before you made it to the checkout.

Nowadays, efficiency seems to be the goal. Order online. Pick up curbside. Self-checkout. Tap your card. Head home.

There’s nothing wrong with any of that. Sometimes convenience is exactly what we need.

But convenience has quietly eliminated some of the unexpected moments that make living in a small town feel different from living anywhere else.

Those chance encounters don’t accomplish much in the traditional sense. They don’t shorten your to-do list or make you more productive. What they do is remind you that you’re part of a community. You hear that someone’s daughter earned a scholarship. You learn that a longtime business owner is finally taking a vacation. You find out a neighbor had surgery and could use someone to mow the lawn next week. None of those updates arrive through an app. They travel the old-fashioned way—one conversation at a time.

I suppose that’s why I’ve never been too bothered when an errand takes longer than expected. If I leave the house with a list of five things to do and come home having completed all five, that’s a successful trip. If I also come home knowing a little more about the people who share this corner of Massachusetts with me, that’s an even better one.

The older I get, the more I appreciate those unscheduled conversations. They can’t be penciled into a calendar or squeezed between appointments. They simply happen when neighbors cross paths. And maybe that’s why they’re worth protecting. Because someday we’ll all finish our errands. What we’ll remember are the people we met along the way.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How Long would you wait?

To the Editor:

How long would you wait for a response to an email from a friend, your doctor, or a coworker? Most of us would probably expect to hear back within a few days—perhaps a week at most.

Should we expect the same level of responsiveness from the people we elect to represent us?

On July 10, and again on July 17, I emailed Rep. Paul Frost asking him to support House Bill H.1370, An Act Relative to Massachusetts Primary Care for You. This legislation is important to residents of our district because it would strengthen the primary care workforce, improve access to care, and reduce patients’ out-of-pocket costs.

As of today (July 22), I have not received a response.

While I understand that legislators have demanding schedules, responding to constituents is a fundamental part of public service. Even a brief acknowledgment lets residents know their concerns have been heard.

Out of curiosity, I also contacted Nick Lazzaro, Representative Frost’s opponent in the upcoming general election (November 3), to ask for his thoughts on the bill should it still be under consideration next year. Candidate Lazzaro responded within one day in the affirmative.

Below is the email I sent to Representative Frost. I believe constituents deserve to know where their elected officials stand

on issues that directly affect their health care and whether they are willing to engage with the people they represent. What do you think?

“Dear Representative Frost,

I am writing as one of your constituents to respectfully ask for your support of the proposed legislation to strengthen primary care in Massachusetts.

Primary care is the foundation of a healthy health care system. Study after study has shown that increasing access to primary care improves health outcomes while also reducing overall health care costs. Investing in primary care is one of the most effective ways to improve the health of our communities while making our health care system more sustainable.

I strongly support this legislation because it takes a comprehensive approach to strengthening primary care across the Commonwealth.

The bill would increase investment in primary care by requiring hospitals, commercial insurers, and other health care entities to dedicate a greater share of their health care spending to primary care. Currently, only 6.7% of commercial health care spending in Massachusetts is directed toward primary care. This legislation would gradually increase that investment to 15%, helping to

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Special Events
Summer Eats – Monday-Friday 12:00-1:00pm
This totally free-of-charge program provides free lunch to all kids and teens. Adults can also eat lunch for \$5. If weather is poor, this program will be held inside. Made possible by Project Bread, the Massachusetts Department of Education, and local school and community meal providers.

Family Capoeira Workshop Series – Thursdays, June 25th-August 20th at 3:00pm
Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial art form originally developed in Brazil by enslaved peoples as a form of resistance. It incorporates elements of acrobatics, dance, and music. In this class, parents and kids will learn together — beginning with basic capoeira movements, songs

LETTER

continued from page A4

restore a healthier balance between primary care and specialty care without increasing overall health care spending.

The legislation also provides critical support for our Community Health Centers, which serve as the backbone of health care in many neighborhoods throughout Massachusetts. By ensuring that Community Health Centers receive equitable reimbursement rates from commercial insurers, the bill helps strengthen access to high-quality care for individuals and families who rely on these essential providers.

Equally important, the bill invests in the future primary care workforce. By re-establishing a Medicaid Graduate Medical Education program that leverages matching federal funds, Massachusetts can expand residency and fellowship opportunities in primary care and behavioral health, helping to address ongoing workforce shortages and improve access to care for years to come.

The legislation also addresses one of the greatest challenges facing today’s primary care providers: administrative burden. By reducing unnecessary paperwork, streamlining prior authorization requirements, and implementing more predictable payment models, physicians and nurse practitioners can spend more time caring for patients rather than navigating administrative obstacles.

Finally, the bill promotes transparency and accountability by requiring meaningful reporting on primary care spending, provider capacity, and staffing while empowering the Health Policy Commission to monitor progress and ensure that increased investment in primary care does not contribute to higher overall health care costs.

As a social worker and someone deeply committed to improving the health and well-being of Massachusetts residents, I believe this legislation represents a thoughtful, evidence-based investment in our health care system. Strengthening primary care will improve patient outcomes, reduce long-term costs, support our health care workforce, and ensure that communities across the Commonwealth have access to the care they need.

I respectfully urge you to support this important legislation and help make primary care the priority it deserves to be in Massachusetts.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration.”

Sincerely,

ANN M. MUMM
OXFORD

and rhythms.
No experience needed, and all athletic levels are welcome! Come ready to move and wear something comfortable. The class is led by instructors from Mass Capoeira Culture Center, located right here in Webster. See you there!

In Concert: Melodious Zach – Thursday, July 30th at 6:30pm
Melodious Zach performs pop/rock and Motown songs of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s, as well as a handful of original tunes in the retro style. Melodious Zach has been performing music professionally since 2004. In 2015, he received the ASCAP Plus award for songwriters and independent recording artists. His music video “Hum It” was featured on NH Chronicle, followed up by NH Magazine’s featuring his “20 Greatest Hits!” which was a #1 album on Amazon’s new Bubblegum CD chart. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Webster Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Trivia Palooza 9 – Monday, August 3rd at 6:00pm
Join Evan and Jess for General Knowledge Trivia. Assemble your team (up to 5 people) and put your thinking caps on! Registration is required. The winning team gets a prize!

Pet Portraits – Tuesday, August 4th at 4:30pm
Join Jess and Paige for a Pet Portrait painting program! No experience necessary! Everyone will leave with a framed abstract of their beloved animal. Please email us a photo of your pet at least one week in advance. Registration is Required.

Stop, Chomp, and Read: A Jurassic Balloon Magic Adventure! – Wednesday, August 5th at 5:00pm
Sixty-five million years ago, the dinosaurs ruled the earth. This summer, they’re coming to our library! Join Jungle Jim for Stomp, Chomp, and Read, where prehistoric creatures come to life right before your eyes. The audience helps hatch the magic, and no one knows what might burst out of a six-foot balloon egg! Roaringly funny, wildly interactive, and perfect for curious kids ages 3-11.

Sultana Performs “History and Legends through Song” – Thursday, August 6th at 6:30pm
Performing as the duo, Sultana, Jon and Li Waterman weave history and original songs to feature a rotating array of real and legendary characters and happenings throughout history. The program visits the first known museum and the earliest known author from the ancient world, a character from Arthurian legend from the Middle Ages, from Colonial Massachusetts the captivity story of Hannah Duston, from the Industrial Age the New England Shoemakers Strike, and more. The program is part of the series “Live Music Making History Live.” Jon and Li have presented the first show of the series “A Journey Through the Roots of American Popular Music” in libraries and other venues around

New England. The performances received enthusiastic reviews from those in attendance.

Adult Programming
Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm
The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Monday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Mondays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room and Generations in Webster
Losing a loved one is never easy. Please know that you are not alone. If you need support in trying to navigate the changes in your life, join us in a place of safety and comfort with others who have also experienced loss. This grief support group is a place to find understanding as we explore our grief, share coping strategies, and begin to heal. **Saturday Sessions for July and August will be held offsite at Generations in Webster.**

Yoga – Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Join Meg at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Midnight Society Book Club – Wednesday, August 5th at 6:30pm
Love to read spooky books all year round? Join Janessa for horror book club where we will meet and discuss a new book every month. August’s title is Devolution by Max Brooks. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk.

The Final Frontier Sci-Fi Book Group – Thursday, August 6th at 6:00pm
Want to explore outer-space from the comfort of your own home? Want to discuss speculative futures? Join Assistant Director Evan Hale for our Sci-Fi Book Group where we will look at classic and modern sci-fi titles. August’s title is A Psalm for the Wild Built by Becky Chambers. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk.

Worcester County Sheriff’s Office Hour – Friday, August 7th at 9:00am
The Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, Webster Regional Resource Center offers a variety of support services including: support groups, case management, education (including Hi-Set), employment opportunities, health insurance assistance, MA State ID/B.Cert, substance use and mental health referrals, transportation, recovery coaching and overall support.
Their friendly case managers will be offering support the first Friday of every month from 9-10am.

Programming for All Ages
Library for All –Mondays and Fridays

at 10am
Library for All is an inclusive program for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please let us know if you need any special accommodations! Join us every Monday and Friday! The 1st week of the month is coloring, the 2nd week is LEGO, the 3rd week is chair yoga, and the 4th week of the month is painting.

Children’s and Young Adult Programming
Sensory Bin Explorations – Mondays at 10:30am
Bring your little ones outside for sensory bin exploration! Each Monday morning will feature a new theme, offering hands-on fun for children ages 2–6.

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm
Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces! August’s Theme: Friendship Bracelets! Kids will make their own bracelets to share with family and friends. All creations left behind will be displayed in the Children’s program room for the rest of the month.

Tiny Groovers – Tuesdays at 10:30am
Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids’ tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm
Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!

Messy Art Storytime – Thursdays at 10:30am
Join Miss Paige for storytime and messy, hands-on fun! Each week, children ages 2–6 will enjoy a new art project that lets their creativity shine. Dress for a mess and get ready to create! No registration required.

Apple Country Music Together – Fridays, July 10th-August 14th at 10:30am
A music and movement program available to children from birth to age 6 and their families based upon on-going scientific research, and designed to help nurture children’s musical, cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. Classes include singing and dancing. The program brings families together by providing a rich musical environment in the classroom and by promoting and facilitating adult participation.

Wiggles and Giggles – Wednesday, August 5th at 10:30am
Come sing, dance, and make music with Lainey Hanlon! Geared for children ages 2-5 and their caregivers, but all ages welcome!

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Courtesy

Children, teachers, and volunteers from Saint Louis Church recently shared in an unforgettable week at Bible Study Camp. This year’s theme, “S’more About Jesus,” brought together kids ages five and up for five days packed with faith, fellowship, and fun. Through creative crafts and exciting indoor and outdoor games, the campers grew closer to Jesus while making lasting memories.

Qualified contractors are invited to bid on a set of contract documents for the construction of The Mechanic Street and Pleasant Street Complete Streets Improvements in the Town of East Brookfield. Class of work is Highway-Construction. Invitation for Bidders (IFB) Packages with specifications and a sample contract will be available on June 23, 2026. Request for bid documents can be emailed to Christopher Lyman at clyman@hshassoc.com. Sealed bids entitled “Bid for Mechanic Street and Pleasant Street Complete Streets Improvements” will be accepted at the East Brookfield Highway Department, located at 424 East Main Street, East Brookfield, MA 01515, until July 28, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read. Bids submitted after this time will not be accepted.



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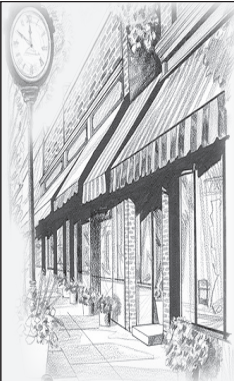
**Letter submission
policy**
Letters to the Editor must include the author’s name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author’s name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.
It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.



Christopher Yacino — Courtesy

The Hayden Pond Association held its first “Haydenpalooza,” or “Shoreline Shindig,” this past Saturday, July 25. It featured live entertainment, a poker run, a raffle and a cornhole tournament, all to benefit the HPA’s annual expenditure for inspections and treatments for invasive weed species and nuisance levels of native growth. The event was a big success, raising \$480 for the HPA!





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A group of students from Saint Louis Church in Webster traveled to Steubenville, Ohio for a summer youth conference seeking to enrich and celebrate their faith. A total of 140 teens and adult leaders in total from the Diocese of Worcester attended the event July 16-19, where they met up with thousands of participants who traveled across the country. It was an amazing weekend.

Local residents to participate Pan-Mass Challenge to support cancer research

NEEDHAM — This Aug. 1 and 2, the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) will bring together more than 6,000 cyclists and 4,000 volunteers on Aug. 1 & 2 to raise money for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Participants from local communities will be among those helping support the PMC’s mission to fund life-saving cancer research and treatment.

Local participants include Christopher Bolduc, Makenzie Parella, Pamela Fenby Lazerick, Mary Chaves, Carol Fraini, John Chaves, Maureen Grensavitch, and Dawn Allard of Auburn; Melissa Sellers, Riley Bowes of Dudley, Melissa Leonard,

Explore “History and Legends through Song” at Gladys E. Kelly Library

WEBSTER — On Thursday, Aug. 6, the musical duo Sultana will bring “History and Legends through Song” to Gladys Kelly Public Library at 2 Lake St. in Webster, at 6:30 p.m.

The program consists of songs, history and slides about fascinating historical or legendary people and events. The show will include songs about New England History, Ancient Mesopotamia, a character from Arthurian legend, a renowned radio broadcast and more. “History and Legends through Song” is part of the series “Live Music Making History Live.” The other shows in the series are “The Roots of American Popular Music,” “The Railroad in Song,” and “Popular Music and Veterans.”

The duo Sultana is Jon and Li Waterman, both lifelong musicians and songwriters. Jon is also a licensed history teacher in Massachusetts. He created “Live Music Making History Live” in 2018 with the belief that history and entertainment go together - throughout the ages, songs, stories and theater have included history, and history is – or should be – entertaining.

The program is supported in part by a grant from the Webster Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

Carol Watroba, Payton Parent, Kimberly Aucoin, Holden French, Sean Bowes, John Glowacki, Mike Allain, Brooke Bowes, Heather Bowes, Olivia Bowes, and Amanda Suss of Dudley; Lauryn Collins, Cynthia Sherman, Courtney Desrosiers, Amanda Collins, Emme Shippey, Brenda Williams, Dina Kujawski, and Brittany Caron of Webster; and Wilfred Desrosiers, Cynthia Podles, Janet Fiorentino, Mark Baker, and Jeanne Malone of Oxford.

The PMC, which raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraiser in the world, is aiming to raise more than ever this year, with a fund-raising goal of \$79 million.

This year’s PMC comes at an especially critical time, with federal research support shrinking, grant approval rates reaching historic lows, and cancer cases continuing to rise. For the 20thcon-

secutive year, 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar will go directly to Dana-Farber, one of the nation’s top three hospitals for cancer research and care.

“The theme for this year’s PMC, which is ‘now, more than ever,’ underscores the paramount importance of every single dollar raised in fueling the search for a cure,” said Billy Starr, founder and chairman of the PMC. “We are endlessly grateful to every rider, volunteer, donor, and sponsor who makes the PMC possible. Because of their training miles, long hours of volunteering, generous support, and unwavering commitment, we are moving ever closer to a world without cancer.”

Since its inception in 1980, the PMC has raised \$1.125 billion for Dana-Farber, making it the organization’s largest single contributor and accounting for 67 percent of the annual revenue of The Jimmy Fund, Dana-Farber’s community-driven fundraising arm. This unrestricted annual funding has empowered and accelerated advancements in cancer research, deeply benefitting patients across the world.

During each annual PMC weekend, thousands of cyclists and volunteers come together from across the world, hailing from 47

US states and 12 countries, with a shared purpose of raising as much money as possible for Dana-Farber. Cyclists ride routes ranging from 25 to 177 miles. Included among these participants is the PMC Living Proof community, riders and volunteers who were previously treated or are currently undergoing cancer treatment and serve as Living Proof of the progress made through raising funds for cancer research and treatment.

There is still time to participate in this year’s Pan-Mass Challenge. Folks interested in getting involved can learn more and register at PMC.org.

About the Pan-Mass Challenge

The Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) is a bike-a-thon that today raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraising event in the world. Founded in 1980 by Billy Starr - who remains the event’s founder & chairman, an annual cyclist, and a fundraiser - the PMC has raised \$1.125 billion for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through the Jimmy Fund. As Dana-Farber’s single largest contributor, the organization generates 67 percent of the Jimmy Fund’s annual revenue. 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar goes

directly to fueling cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber. In addition to its two-day bike-a-thon across Massachusetts, the PMC is powered by further “spokes in the wheel,” with initiatives including the PMC Winter Cycle, an indoor spin event; PMC Unpaved, a gravel bike ride; and PMC Kids Rides, mini bike-a-thons for children ages 2 to 15. The PMC attracts riders and volunteers from 47 states and 12 countries and over 300,000 individual donors. Across events, the PMC has suc-

cessfully melded support from committed cyclists, volunteers, corporate sponsors, and individual donors, all of whom are essential to the PMC’s goal and model: to attain maximum fundraising efficiency while increasing its annual gift. The PMC’s aspiration is to provide Dana-Farber’s doctors and researchers with the necessary resources to discover cures for all cancers. For more information, visit www.pmc.org.



The Tenth Annual Blackstone Valley Art Association’s “Sunflower Show” will be on view Aug. 1-29 at Booklovers’ Gourmet, which is located at 72 East Main St. in Webster. Works will include photography, paintings, drawings, sculptures, and more, all created to represent and celebrate the glorious sunflower. The public is invited to a meet & greet with artists participating in the group show on Friday, Aug. 21 from 5-7 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, please call 508-949-6232 or visit bookloversgourmet.com/events.

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OBITUARIES

Diane R. Bazinet, 75



Diane R. Bazinet, 75, of Dudley, passed away peacefully at her home on July 18, 2026, surrounded by the love and support of her family. Diane devoted many years of her life to caring for children as a daycare teacher before her retirement. She was an avid reader and enjoyed crocheting. Diane truly loved baking and found comfort and happiness in sharing her home-made goodies with everyone.

She leaves her two daughters, Debbie Jeneral and her partner, Chad Mariano, of Sturbridge; and Sarah Bazinet and her husband, Ravelle Lewis, of Webster; five

grandchildren, Sara Freedman, Michael Freedman, James Freedman, Mariah Rivera and her fiancé Brandon Zarinan and Deijah Delgado; her brother, Robert Smith, and his wife, Jeanine Smith; and her sisters, Maryann Corriveau and Tammy Adams.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to Care Central VNA and Hospice for their compassionate care and support. Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Center 55 Sayles St. Southbridge, Ma 01550

Bartel Funeral Home is assisting with Diane's final wishes. Online condolences at www.bartelfuneralhome.com

Ronald P. Leboeuf, 80



WEBSTER – Ronald P. Leboeuf, 80, died Thursday, July 16, 2026 in UMass/Memorial University Campus. He leaves his wife of 49 years, Carol A. (Maheu) Leboeuf; a sister, Lorraine Dulude of Leesburg, FL; two sisters-in-law, Susan Curtis of Webster and Alice Leboeuf of Dudley; nephew and nieces. He was preceded in death by his brothers Arthur C. Leboeuf and Robert R. Leboeuf. He was born in Webster on February 15, 1946, a son of Arthur A. and Agnes S. (Kozlowski) Leboeuf and graduat-

ed from Bartlett High School in 1965. Mr. Leboeuf was an electrician at the former Cranston Print Works Company for over 40 years, retiring as the boss of the electrical department. He loved fishing and participating in tournaments with the Webster Lake Anglers. He also enjoyed visits to the casino and watching horse racing. There will be no services. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to a charity of one's choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street.

www.websterfunerals.com

LEGALS

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002264
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
Craig A. Zaleski
and to all persons entitled to the benefit
of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act,
50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 16 Oak Street, given by Craig A. Zaleski to Mortgage Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., dated May 19, 2017, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 57159, Page 137 and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment,

has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemember status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in

this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before August 31, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on July 17, 2026.

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
29490
July 31, 2026



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LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01876
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P1673EA
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
Estate Of:
Sally Illona Sullivan
Date of Death: 04/23/2026

To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Melissa A O'Brien of Auburn MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Melissa A O'Brien of Auburn MA has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
July 31, 2026

**TOWN OF DUDLEY
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
71 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY
MA 01571**

Please take notice that: Kate Packard Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section 2.04.02
Location: 21 Jaybee Ave
In the following respect: Applicant is seeking a 4ft variance on rear setback for proposed deck
The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday August 6, 2026 @ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be hard relative to this Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Holmes at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
George Slingo, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals
July 24, 2026
July 31,2026

**TOWN OF DUDLEY
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
71 WEST MAIN STREET,
DUDLEY MA 01571**

Please take notice that:
Craig Garabedian
Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the. terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 4.01.01 Parking Standards Requirements
Location: 57 West Main Street
In the following respect: A special permit granting permission to get a class 2 Auto license at 57 West Main Street. Parking Standards Regulation 4.01.01 Requirements currently not met.
The Public Hearing will be. held on Thursday August 6, 2026@ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A at which time you may be hard relative to this Public Hearing.
Please contact Amanda Hohnes at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.
George Slingo, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals
July 24, 2026
July 31, 2026

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeffrey Lucewich to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for NewRez LLC, dated December 16, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 64002, Page 140, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for NewRez LLC, its successors and assigns to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on December 14, 2021, in Book No. 66743, at Page 290
for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on August 31, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 64 Myrtle Avenue, Webster,

Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:
The land in Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:
FIRST TRACT:
A certain tract or parcel of land situated in Webster, aforesaid, bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at a chestnut post at the northeast corner thereof on Myrtle Avenue;
THENCE West by land now or formerly of George Tracy one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to a chestnut post;
THENCE Southerly by land of said Tracy sixty (60) feet to a chestnut post;
THENCE Easterly by said Tracy land, one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to a drill hole in a stone on the westerly line of said Avenue;
THENCE Northerly by the line of said venue sixty (60) feet to the point of beginning.
SECOND TRAC?:
Situated on the westerly side of Myrtle Avenue, bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at the northeast corner thereof on the westerly line of said Myrtle Avenue;
THENCE Westerly by land formerly of George Tracy one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to a post;
THENCE Southerly sixty (60) feet to a post;
THENCE Easterly by land formerly of Lena R. Guenther, one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to post on said westerly side of said Myrtle Avenue;
THENCE Northerly by said Myrtle Avenue sixty (60) feet to the point of beginning.
Subject to restrictions, if any.

For mortgagor’s(s’) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 64002, Page 136.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
28844
July 31, 2026
August 7, 2026
August 14, 22026

**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. WO26P0445EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE
OF REAL ESTATE BY A
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**
Estate Of:
Daniel E. Frieswick
Date of Death: 12/12/2025

To all interested persons.:
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by:
Brian Frieswick of Millbury MA requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent’s real estate at a private sale.
.

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 08/18/2026.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.

Date: July 20, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
July 31, 2026

July 23, 2026
The Dudley Historical Commission is in receipt of an application for a demolition permit
For 139 Klondike Road, Dudley, MA 01571
A public hearing will be held as per section 12.04.00 of the Dudley MA Demolition Delay Bylaw, at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571
On Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 6:30 pm, in Room 315. A representative of the property owner must attend.
“Within forty five (45) days of the Commission’s receipt of a copy of the application for a demolition permit, the Commission shall hold a public hearing on such application, and shall make a determination as to whether the structure is a significant structure under one or more criteria set forth in sections 12.05.00a, and 12.05.00b. The Commission shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing, not less than seven (7) days prior to the hearing, to the owner by certified mail, and by posting and by publication once in a local newspaper. The Commission may conduct a site visit prior to the hearing.”
Respectfully,
David Proulx, Secretary
Dudley Historical Commission
(revised 11/2018)
July 31, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01876
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P1777
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
Estate Of:
STEVEN FRANCIS TOKARZ
Date of Death: APRIL 2 2026

To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **LAWRENCE J TOKARZ OF WEBSTER MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
LAWRENCE J TOKARZ OF WEBSTER MA has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
July 31, 2026

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE**

Premises: 5 Hammond Street, Oxford, MA 01540

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Lenda D. Young to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc, as Mortgagee, as nominee for Security First Mortgage Funding, LLC, and now held by **Computershare Delaware Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for PRET 2025-RPL2 Trust**, said mortgage dated September 4, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54262, Page 185, as affected by a Loan Modification dated January 25, 2018 and recorded

in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60047, Page 289; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for Security First Mortgage Funding, LLC, its successors and assigns to Ditech Financial LLC by assignment dated May 30, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 58870, Page 270; said mortgage was assigned from Ditech Financial LLC to New Residential Mortgage LLC by assignment dated March 6, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62010, Page 134; said mortgage was assigned from New Residential Mortgage, LLC to NewRez LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing by assignment dated May 26, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62471, Page 220; said mortgage was assigned from NewRez LLC F/K/A New Penn Financial, LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust by assignment dated September 27, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68374, Page 282; said mortgage was assigned from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust to Computershare Delaware Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee by assignment dated February 17, 2026 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 73256, Page 210; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on August 27, 2026 at 03:00 PM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon situated on westerly side of Hammond Street, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, being Lot 35 on a plan of lots in Oxford, MA owned by the Rocky Hill Realty Company, dated May 26, 1958 drawn by Walter W. Brown and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 233, Plan 24, and bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner of said lot, said point of beginning being the northeasterly corner of Lot 34 on said plan and being 230.50 feet northerly, as measured along the extended westerly line of Hammond Street from the intersection of the extended westerly line of Hammond Street and the extended northerly line of Rocky Hill Road;
THENCE N. 7° 58’ E. 91.62 feet to an iron pipe;
THENCE by a curve to the left with a radius of 20 feet and a length of 30.37 feet to an iron pipe;
THENCE N. 79° 02’ W. 92.02 feet to an iron pipe;
The last three courses being by the westerly then southerly line of Hammond Street;
THENCE S. 11° 54’ W. by Lot 41 on said plan 108.80 feet to an iron pipe;
THENCE S. 78° 12’ E. by Lot 34 on said plan 118.65 feet to the point of beginning

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

For Mortgagor’s Title see deed dated August 14, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54262, Page 183.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Computershare Delaware Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for PRET 2025-RPL2 Trust
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
July 24, 2026
July 31, 2026
August 7, 2026

Local students graduate from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College congratulates the 2026 graduating class, who earned their academic degrees at the College’s commencement ceremony on May 2, 2026, at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass. Delcie D. Bean IV, founder and CEO of Paragus IT, an employee-owned managed information technology (IT) services firm that is one of the most successful, fastest-growing IT firms in the region, delivered the commencement address.

The following local students earned the degrees listed:

Justin Laporte of Auburn earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

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Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov
Senior Center hours are Monday- Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photographs, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities, upcoming events, and our monthly lunch menu. You may also join our email list to view our newsletter online. You do not have to be a resident of Webster to participate in our activities and programs. ALL Seniors are welcome!

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least three business days in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation for 65 and up, and \$5 for 55- 64 is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread, and dessert. This week’s menu: Tuesday, 8/4: Ranch chicken, veggie couscous, spinach. Wednesday, 8/5: Hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw. Thursday, 8/6: braised beef, mashed potatoes, green beans. Friday, 8/7: Soup du jour, ranch chicken salad, pasta salad.

Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays- Fridays 8:30 am- 3:00 pm.

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

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

Chair Dancing Exercise classes with Forty Arroyo are the perfect workout for any fitness ability! The cost is a recommended \$3.00 donation per class. A new video class will be offered Thursday and Friday mornings, free of charge.

Line Dancing with Forty will be held on the 3rd, 17th, 24th, and 31st from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm for \$3 a class. Donations go directly to Shriner’s Children’s Hospital. Everyone of any skill level is welcome! Closed toed shoes are required.

Bingo is every Tuesday and starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm.

We offer Movies every Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 pm! August movies include “The Italian Job” on 8/5, “Easy Rider” on 8/12, “Magnificent Seven” on 8/19, and “The Great Escape” on 8/26.

Do you like to play Cribbage? Our weekly Cribbage group meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm. Feel free to join us!

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

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm. Beginners welcome!

We now have an official Bridge group! We will be meeting every Friday from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm in the upstairs activity room. All that are interested are welcome to join!

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

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

Cindy Ngo of Auburn earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Tommy Burny of Auburn earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

We applaud these students for their achievement.

Aleksandra Gronek of Oxford earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Ryan Lathrop of Webster earned a Master of Science in Accounting

Samantha Tremblay of Webster earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Paige Almon of Webster earned a Bachelor of Arts

Izabella Coughlin of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Arts

Cy Ducharme of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Anthony Pellegrine of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Kyle Miller of Oxford earned a Master of Business Administration

Tasana Walsh of Webster earned a Bachelor of Arts

Kaitlin Baca of Webster earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Felicia Benoit of Webster earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Arlene Richford of Dudley earned a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership

Kimberly Richford of Dudley earned a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership

Brynn Woods of Dudley earned a Master of Business Administration

Nachelle Nee of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Erika LaChance of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Jason Mayotte of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

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

Local students named to Holy Cross Dean’s List

WORCESTER — College of the Holy Cross congratulates the students named to the Spring 2026 Dean’s List at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The following local students made the list:

Nora Foley of Auburn, Class of 2027
Oliana Tego of Auburn, Class of 2026
Maxine Adu-Boahen Jones of Webster, Class of 2027
Samual Lavallee of Oxford, Class of 2026
Aurora Voas of Oxford, Class of 2028
To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross
The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

UMass Amherst announces Spring 2026 graduates

A M H E R S T — Approximately 7,000 students received bachelor’s degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst’s Undergraduate Commencement on May 15 at the McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

Below is a list of students from your area that received a bachelor’s degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst:

Auburn

Abdullah Ali Ahmad
Lydia J Kirkorian
Chloe Norwood
Eric Francis Edward Pietrewicz
Farreen Qadus
Sara Kathleen Ruffli
Peyton Scopetski

Dudley

Alyse Marie Biron
Stephanie Waithera Chege
Nyla Clark
Jacob A Luke
Isabella Marie O’Brien
Zachary Edward Robinson
Evelyn Serene Stanick
Alexander Charles Tsoumakas III

Oxford

Gracie Rayess
Molly Raymond

Webster

Rachel Bonney
Dominic Jacob Denert
Caroline Rose Doering
Emma Elizabeth Hinchey
Cassidy Lorraine Jones
Edison Aidin Rosario

UMass Amherst announces Spring Dean’s List

AMHERST — The following students were named to the Spring 2026 Dean’s List at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Students are appointed to the Dean’s List at the end of a semester in which they have completed a minimum of 12 graded credits and have earned a grade point average of 3.500 or better.

Auburn

Alyssa Rose Adams
Matthew John Adams
Nishil Thomas Adina
Evan Baviello
Sofia May DiDonato
Persephone Despina
Efthymiadis
Mallory Catherine Graves
Julie Hoang
Patricia M Howk
Jonah Robert Hussey
Lydia J Kirkorian
Shea Kobel
Thomas Augustine Lutz
Thomas Martin Maillet
Eric Francis Edward Pietrewicz
Konstantinos Nnm Pirperis
Jake William Rosen
EllaMargarete Cecilia Sanchez
Peyton Scopetski
Samuel Remo Soloperto
Jenna Nicole Stencel
Noah Max Stich
Michelle Yi Van

Dudley

Ethan Bradford Casey
Ola Julia Jaroszewski

Jacob A Luke
Isabella Marie O’Brien
Leo Augusto Perry
Olivia Jean Salem
Alexander Charles Tsoumakas III
Lea Marie Vanskike
Nicholas Luke Veronis
Sydney Rose Zmetra

Oxford

Muniba Awais
Sophia Gracia Balestracci
Genevieve Bartlett
Rhaira Schaper Boyer
Nicole Brzozowska
Sophia E Buffone
Kalimbiro Elisha Bujiriri
Nathan Alexander Davis
Caiden Michael Dumas
Chloe Terese Dumas
Isabella Lucile Geragonis
Ella Matilda Kirkpatrick
Christopher Michel Legault
Emma Madison Martin
Jacob John Joseph Morello
Lysette Parmentier
Molly Raymond
Catherine Victoria Sirard
Daniel James Wing

Webster

Caroline Rose Doering
Leah Marie Garabedian
Kira Johanna Gillette
Veronica Lynn Graves
Emma Elizabeth Hinchey
Cassidy Lorraine Jones
James John Kokernak
Noalani Perez
Kim Phan
Felipe Gabriel DeOliveira Sena

MEXICO

continued from page A1

teens, young adults, and parents to break away from their typical American life, including disconnecting from all social media, and to experience not only extreme poverty but also extreme beauty in the Mexican people is life changing.

“While Amelia had been faithfully praying for God’s help, I prayed daily the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi to “Make me an instrument of His peace,” stated Lea Christo, Associate Professor from Assumption College. “The miracle of God’s love manifested for us both in mutual kinship by making us instruments of His peace. Sowing love, pardon, and faith; hope, light, and joy sound like virtuous abstractions that are made more real - more concrete even - through Project Mexico. With every swing of the pick axe, shovel of sand and stone, drilled screw, trowel smear and sponged finish of stucco brushed with thin blue paint, - and with every “Lord Have Mercy” we prayed in between - we were God’s instruments, in spades!”

Patrick Tutella noted, “It seems, when we serve Christ by being expressions of God’s love in good works towards our neighbors, we also receive an extra measure of God’s love. We built a house for Amelia and her family but when we were thirsty, she made sure we were hydrated with the most wonderful homemade juice we ever had. When we were hungry, she turned us to delicious homemade Mexican Tamales. Her expressions and words of gratitude melted our hearts. As a senior citizen with arthritis in my knees and hips, I wondered what I had to offer on a construction team. What I discovered was that there is always something to do for whoever wants to serve.”

“Before I went down to Mexico, I figured this trip would be about the labor and work to put up a house,” mentioned Mike Caleri. “But as the days went by I realized it was much more than that. It was about connecting with the people and doing something greater than yourself. Through the process of house building, I was changed by the family who have little yet still gave us something to eat and drink every day. This experience made me realize even when we have little we can give our love and compassion. I am forever changed by this trip.”

Jude Wheaton concurred: “Project Mexico changed my life in a profound way. The people I went with became like family. Amelia was so gracious, loving and hospitable. It was truly a humbling experience and God willing, I hope to return as a summer intern next year.”

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WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of July 19-25.

Ruben Hernandez, age 51, of Webster was arrested on July 21 in connection with a warrant.

John Adrien Gauvin, age 62, of Webster was arrested on July 22 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor, third offense) and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Tyrique Dayjour Evans-Pergee, age 26, of Webster was arrested on July 23 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, operating a vehicle with No Inspection Sticker, and in connection with a warrant.

Lauren J. Degregorio, age 36, of Southbridge was arrested on July 23 in connection with a warrant.

A 28-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on July 24 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and in connection with a warrant.

Paul Robert Summa, age 41, of Webster was arrested on July 24 in connection with multiple out of agency warrants.

Amanda Saulnier Wilson, age 36, of Holyoke was arrested on July 25 in connection with a warrant.



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*Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
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MLS #73512426 \$ 615,000

Dudley - 3 Marshall Terrace

A Contractor's Opportunity! 8,000 SF (80'x100') level lot, great location, est. neighborhood, key resources > town water & sewer & natural gas in street. By appointment only!
MLS No. 73544127 \$155,000.

Webster - 18 DiDonato Ave

SORRY, SOLD!

THIS IS THE ONE: AN AFFORDABLE-ONE-LEVEL-MOVE-IN-READY-RANCH! Offers 980 SF+, 2 BRs, 1 Bath & partially finished walk-out LL Family Room. Situated on a 7,104 sf level lot w/80' road frontage, a fenced backyard, & 2 CAR GARAGE! Conveniently located in East Village. First Time Offered!
MLS #73534105 \$333,000

*Featured New Listing!
Webster Lake Waterfront
"Newly Constructed" - 26 Laurelwood Dr
Up & Ready For Your Viewing!*

Open House Sunday 11 - 2

Experience ultra-luxury lake-front living on prestigious Webster Lake. This masterfully designed, brand-new construction masterpiece spans 2,556 square feet of sophisticated, two-story living space optimized for panoramic Western water views and direct lake access. The upper level features a magnificent primary bedroom suite, anchoring an exquisite year-round sunroom that flows seamlessly onto an expansive open deck. Designed for seamless entertaining, the lower level serves as a private guest floor, complete with a full second kitchen, additional bedroom, and premium finishes throughout. From morning coffee to sunset gatherings, you'll enjoy every minute while overlooking the water from the lakeside deck, gorgeous covered patio, open 2nd story deck/sunroom. Every detail of this high-end estate redefines waterfront elegance.
MLS#73542689 \$1,550,000.

Webster ~ 33 Slater Street

Open House Sunday 11 - 1

Sprawling fieldstone faced Ranch! Located on a +/- 0.5-acre, 2 car garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces/FHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom MLS # 73500183 \$479,900

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

Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 bds, 3 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage
MLS # 73534271 \$679,900

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagamaugg

*Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa*

**Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!
Most Luxurious & Largest on the Lake!**

Presenting a distinguished condo residence that will provide an exceptional waterfront lifestyle! Offers an expansive 4600 sf+ featuring 4BRs, 4-1/2 baths, 3 frpics & more, all designed for relaxation & convenience! Nothing quite compares! Priced to Sell.
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*Webster Lake Waterfront!!
On Indian Point # 10*

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ASTOUNDING Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage.
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Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!

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Age 16
Registration # 5794

K'Lonie is an active and vibrant teenage girl, known for her love of all things girly. She enjoys getting her hair and nails done, experimenting with makeup, and expressing her creativity through different styles. K'Lonie also has a passion for photography and enjoys capturing moments through pictures. She loves watching videos and graphics that align with her interests, always looking for inspiration. In addition, K'Lonie is a music lover who enjoys humming along to her favorite songs. She has a warm and engaging personality, making her a joy to be around.

Can I Adopt?

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

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

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/22543875088>

Auburn resident sets out to raise awareness for Frontotemporal Degeneration

REGION — The Jim Tobin Memorial is inviting the community to support two upcoming events dedicated to raising awareness of Frontotemporal Degeneration (FTD), advancing research, and advocating for families affected by the disease.

The Third Annual Jim Tobin Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 at Holden Hills Country Club. Registration is now open for foursomes at \$500 per team, and individuals who do not golf are welcome to attend the Italian buffet lunch for \$40 with advance registration. The event will also feature raffles, contests, and sponsorship opportunities. Net proceeds will benefit the Frontotemporal Disorders Research Center at UMass Chan Medical School and The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD).

On Sunday, Sept. 6, Auburn resident and David Prouty High School graduate Devyn Tobin will take on the “From Lab to Legislator” Walk, a 40-mile one-man journey from UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester to the Massachusetts State House in Boston. Wearing a 40-pound weighted vest to symbolize the weight FTD places on families, he hopes to increase public awareness, support research, and encourage legislative action for those living with Frontotemporal Degeneration.

Both events honor the memory of Jim Tobin, a longtime Spencer resident, Air Force veteran, husband, father, and grandfather who lived with FTD. Many members of the Tobin family, including Jim’s wife, continue to call Spencer home and hope the community will join them in honoring Jim’s legacy and supporting efforts to improve the lives of families affected by FTD.

For golf registration, sponsorship information, or to learn more about the awareness walk, contact jimtobinmemorial@gmail.com or visit the Jim Tobin Memorial social media pages.

Local churches team up for Compassion VBS

OXFORD — Join the First Congregational Church of Oxford and Oxford United Methodist Church this summer for Compassion Vacation Bible School! Children ages five to 12 are invited Aug. 3-7 from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day for a fun-filled week of music, games, crafts, stories, and activities designed to encourage kindness, compassion, and faith. Space is limited to 20 children, so register early by calling (508) 987-2211 or e-mailing firstchurchoxford@gmail.com.

SENIORS NAMED TO BAY PATH HONOR ROLL

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School congratulates the following grade 12 students on being named to the honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.

High Honors

Vincent Paul Bedard, Isabella Aria Bitar, Dominic Dewayne Boyd, Aleah Claire Brink, Brianna Livia Brink, Mecheanise Monic Calo Resto, Emily Ann Corey, Jacob William Creeron, Valentina Ashley Culberson, Brody Lawrence Cunningham, Joseph Michael Daige, Basil Oliver Doud, Jocelyn Elizabeth Evans, Yandel Feliciano, Jordan Mariah Ferreira, Jayla Marie Fowler, Nicholas Edward Jalbert, Zachary Raymond Landry, Phoebe Alyson Lawendowski, Miranda Kate Linde, Julianna Rose Lovejoy, Cullen Gregory MacLeod, Ava Rose Mastrototaro, Emily Jean McDonald, Felix Casey Menard, Alexis McGee Messina, Liam Macrae Nicoll, Sebastian Alexander Nieuwenhoff, Mariah Lynn Pereira, Kayleigh Jean Ramm, Sawyer Luke Schultz, Brianne Marie Sentane, Jaxon Russell Sitko, Luke William Smolski, Ashley Mikayla Tingle, Madeline Beverly Trimby, Anne Louise Turcotte, Haylee Marie Zurowski

Elizabeth Grant, Mya Rose Hammond, Isaiah Terrence Harris-Harrington, Luke Robert Heller, Liam Wayne Hesselton, Hannah Jean Ingalls, Natalie Rose Ingles, Joshua William Irons, Amara Kimberly Johnson, Tabian Marschall Keegan, Ayden Matthew Kennedy, Samuel Arjun Kittredge, Allison Hemenway Klar, Cassie Lee Kotomski, Marshall Thomas Lafond, Nia Mya Laforest, Joel Carlos Landor, Nicolas Sebastian Londono, Philipos Anastasio Markrodimitras, Mystic Leigh Marion, Sebastian Luke Moniz, Alexis Paige Moody, Gianna Marie Morelli, Jackson Ryan Mullins, Benjamin Francis Nocchi, Connor James O'Brien, Matthew Thomas Obrycki, Kelsey Lynn Olson, Cole Henry Paradis, Samuel Joseph Prefontaine, Jae Mia Prochnow, Samantha Jeanne Reseigh, Nathan Alexander Rouille Montoya, Jordan Joyce Russell, Keagan Robert Standring, Nathan Adam Steen, Gaige Charles Thompson, Aynara Shirel Vazquez, Esmerelda Velez, Natalie Helen Vigeant, Harley Ann Wilson Wadden, Ava Quiyn Wall, Hunter Earl White, Katherine Marie Widebeck, Trey Stephen Wilkin, Noah Williamson, Brook Michelle Worthington

Principal's List

Violet Renee Aucella, Megan Lucy Bell, Ryan Michael Berthiaume, Lucien Stephen Brodeur, Marianelys Cintron Perez, Carla Janely Diaz, Paige Cynthia Eddy, Matthew Michael Fornari, Aiden Mark Giroux-Provencher, Sadie Lynn Hawley, Kristine Marie LaFlash, Callie Mae Lambert, Mia Marie Lussier, Emily Lynn Manyak, Kyle Joseph Mondor, David Antonio Morales, Chase Patrick Newman, Jeremiah Betsaleel Noel, Aiden Charles Perzanoski, Jacob Paul Pratt, Grace Elizabeth Retallic, Vincent Timothy Rose, Braden Charles Smith, Damion Robert Taylor, Yandel Omar Torres, Elias Manuel Vega, Reece Verderber

Honors

Helena Rowan Adkins, Addison Emily Aho, Adriana Nataly Alicea, Alexander Tyr Audunsson, Victoria Rose Bachand, Rhianna Anne Balliet, Arianna Rose Belanger, Nathan Paul Bernard, David Betancur, Roger Joseph Bishop, William Stephen Blash, Domnic Raymond Brodeur, Alissa Lynn Burlingame, Dimitri Anthony Burt, Cameron James Cabana, Liam Michael Carlson, Samuel Elia Ceppetelli, Lily Sabina Chartier, Hunter Matthew Coombs, Lorelie May Curbooy, Connor Anthony Czechowski, Treyton Joseph Dery, Zenovi Irene Dupont, Heidi Lynne Ebbeling, Aliyah Marie Gonyea, Molly

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