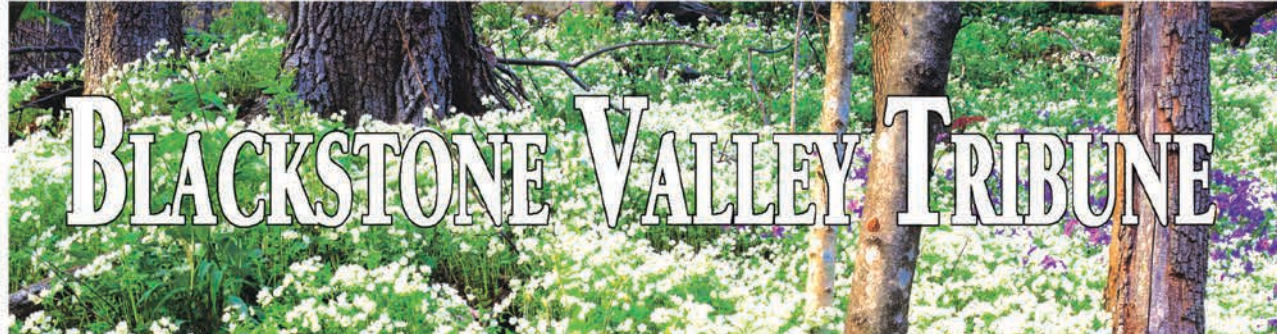


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Friday, August 29, 2025

## Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street to open in Douglas Sept. 13

DOUGLAS — The grand opening of the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street exhibit Voices and Votes will be Saturday, Sept. 13 at 2 p.m. at 29 Depot St. in Douglas. Local dignitaries and representatives of exhibit sponsors and partners will be on hand to cut the ribbon and welcome its first visitors!

The Douglas Historical Society is excited to host the exhibit and numerous programs in con-

junction with its local partners including the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, the Simon Fairfield Public Library and the Job Knapp Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

"This exhibit offers an exciting look into the past detailing how our democracy started and has evolved over the years," Lisa Moczynski, Project Director, explained.

"Featured components of the exhibit include artifacts and interactive screens, a scavenger hunt for students and its six units are expertly designed to reflect the breadth and depth of our living democracy."

We are very pleased to be one of six communities in Massachusetts to host this traveling exhibit this year. Grant funding also allows us to offer programs associated with the theme and for September those include "What

Democracy Means to Me" an Art Show and Contest with a \$250 People's Choice prize, a special night on Sept. 22 with our region's historical societies that will come together with items for a "show and tell" of local campaign ephemera, and a look at our 1840 William Henry Harrison presidential campaign banner with library archivist and historian Rebecca Lavalley on September 25 at the Simon Fairfield Public Library at 7 p.m. There

are plenty of opportunities for volunteers and even more exciting programs coming in October! For more details, please visit [www.msfp.org/moms](http://www.msfp.org/moms).

The exhibit is free through the generosity of the Smithsonian Institution, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism 250, the Douglas Historical Society and many volunteers. It is open to the public through Oct. 25 at the Douglas

Municipal Center at 29 Depot St. Donations are welcome. The facility is handicapped accessible and there is plenty of free parking.

Hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesdays 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., as well as by appointment. Student and group tours are welcome! To make special arrangements please call Project Director Lisa Moczynski at 508-341-4876.

## Unlock up to \$15,000 in grant funding through Blackstone Valley Chamber!

WHITINSVILLE — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce (BVCC) is thrilled to announce a special grant opportunity available exclusively to Chamber members: receive up to \$15,000 in grant funding for your business through the Commonwealth Corporation, and Workforce Training Fund Program. Funding for this grant went quickly last year, you don't miss out on this opportunity!

In partnership with the training experts at Compound Effect, the BVCC is here to help businesses secure this funding to support powerful programs in sales, marketing, leadership, operations, customer experience, AI adoption, and more. The application process is quick and painless, taking about 15 minutes. Our counselors will walk you through the application process and assist you in filling out the forms.

"Our members' success is our success, which is why the Blackstone

Valley Chamber is committed to proactively finding resources to help your business thrive. We are incredibly excited to announce our new program to help you access the Commonwealth's Express Workforce Training Grants," said Jeannie Hebert, BVCC President & CEO.

Get started now before the funding is gone!

Visit [www.blackstonevalley.org/grants](http://www.blackstonevalley.org/grants) to learn more and schedule your free consultation today. All it takes is one conversation to start the process toward transforming your team and scaling your business.

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.

## Northbridge exploring future Green Communities Act projects

NORTHBRIDGE — Since 2017, Northbridge has been awarded \$1.38 million in grant funds from Massachusetts' Department of Energy Resources (DOER), as part of the state's Green Communities Program.

Adopting the five criteria of the Green Communities Act, Northbridge became a designat-

ed "Green Community," enabling its eligibility for certain Green Communities Competitive Grant funds. The five criteria for Green Community designation are: 1) As-of-right-siting for renewable/alternative energy facilities in designated locations; 2) Expedited application and permitting for renew-

Turn To **GREEN** page **A8**



Courtesy

Last week, the Douglas Police Department hosted a bike rodeo for Boy Scout Troop 36 and their siblings! Participants got to show off their cycling skills on a course designed by our SROs! Not only that, but they got to take their bikes through an inspection station and had their helmets checked to make sure they were fitted properly! This group was filled with awesome riders and a great time was had by all! We wanted to thank everyone for their attentiveness and great behavior! Have a great rest of your summer! Photo courtesy of the department's Facebook page.

## Officials warn of elevated West Nile Virus risk

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — With several communities across the state at elevated risk for mosquito-borne diseases, officials are urging residents to take precautions.

Last week, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that the risk for West Nile virus (WNV) is now high in multiple communities due to evidence of mosquito samples carrying the virus.

The risk level for WNV has been elevated in the following municipalities: Acton, Bedford, Billerica, Boston, Brookline, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Dracut, Lowell, and Newton.

The Massachusetts Public Health Laboratory confirmed the state's first WNV-positive mosquitoes this year on June 17. Since then, there have been 168 WNV-positive mosquito samples collected from several counties across the state, including Worcester County.

Thus far, there has been one animal case of WNV confirmed this year in Lunenburg. No human cases of WNV have been confirmed in Massachusetts in 2025.

Meanwhile, eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) has also been detected in mosquitoes across Massachusetts this year. The Hampshire County

towns of Belchertown, Granby, Pelham, and Ware are currently at moderate risk for EEE.

There have been seven EEE-positive mosquito samples detected this year, with no confirmed human or animal cases.

"Both West Nile virus and EEE pose risk to the people in Massachusetts," said Public Health Commissioner Robbie Goldstein. "The weather remains warm and somewhat humid, which increases mosquito activity. I encourage everyone to take measures to protect themselves."

WNV and EEE are generally transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. There were 19 human cases of WNV reported in Massachusetts last year, plus four human cases of EEE, leading to one death.

"WNV findings in mosquitoes have accelerated rapidly over the last several weeks," said State Epidemiologist Catherine Brown. "We are now in the peak time for transmission of mosquito-borne disease to people, and it is important for people to know that so they can take steps to protect themselves."

One of the best ways to protect your family against mosquitoes is to avoid outdoor activities during peak mosquito hours from dusk to dawn. If you must be outside

during these hours, be sure to apply insect repellent and maximize clothing coverage of exposed skin.

Residents can also reduce the number of mosquitoes around their homes by draining sources of standing water. Mosquitoes often lay their eggs in small pools, wheelbarrows, rain gutters, and drains. Residents are advised to frequently empty flowerpots and wading pools, in addition to changing the water in birdbaths daily.

It is also important to make sure that window and door screens fit tightly. Screens with holes or openings should be replaced, officials said.

Looking ahead, local leaders will post additional resources and updates on conditions within specific communities throughout the late summer and fall months.

Residents are also urged to take steps to protect their pets from mosquitoes.

"The weather this summer is creating the opportunity for it to be a busy WNV season, and it is important to take steps to prevent mosquito bites," Brown added.

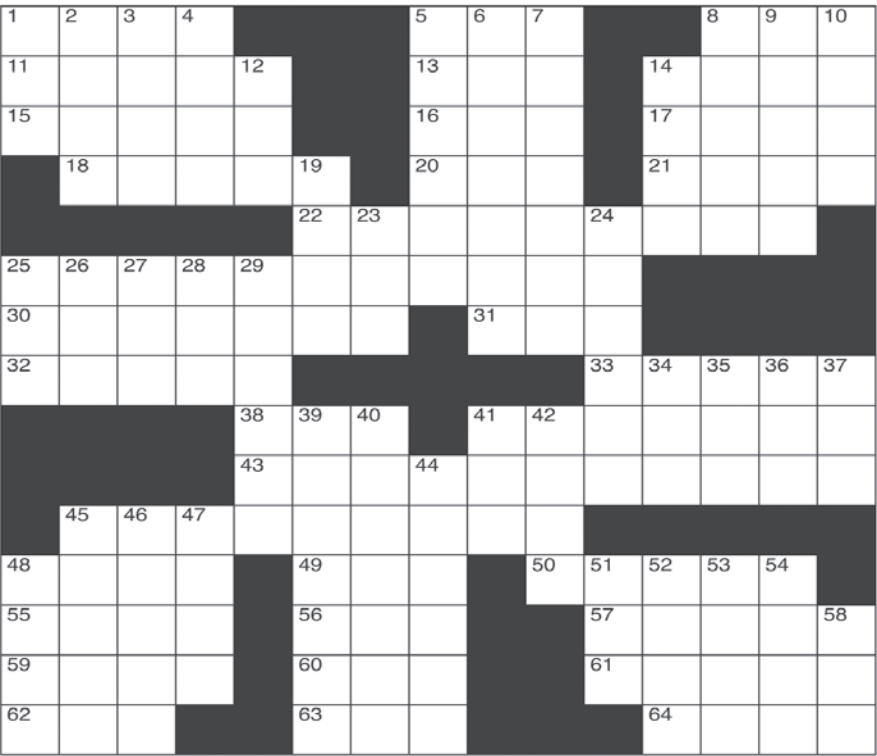
Additional information about EEE and WNV, as well as reports of current and historical virus activity in Massachusetts, can be found by visiting: [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov).



Courtesy

Michael Shain, president and founder of Thanks To Yanks, a local charity that serves our veterans and military families, donates to John Pilla, a local Veterans Agent, a supply of CVS gift cards. The cards will be distributed to local veterans and their families in need of a little assistance. For information on Thanks To Yanks, please like them on Facebook.





CLUES ACROSS

1. Taxis

5. Space Systems Command

8. Plant seed by scattering

11. Alliances

13. Fiddler crabs

14. Heroic tale

15. Yemen capital

16. Misleading gesture

17. Cain and \_\_\_\_

18. Simple shoe

20. Hundredweight

21. Children’s toy in the snow

22. Gets rid of

25. Free of deceit

30. Performed a dance

31. Chinese philosophical principle

32. Exaggerated

33. Refrain from inflicting
38. A doctrine

41. Can be subdued

43. A place to bathe

45. Land used for pasture

48. Curved piece of iron

49. Automobile

50. Fencing sword

55. Breezes through

56. Child

57. NBA legend Iverson

59. Horsley and Iacocca are two

60. Midway between northeast and east

61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

62. U.S. leader during much of WW2

63. Lair

64. Fibrous material

CLUES DOWN

1. Home of “60 Minutes”

2. Expression of sorrow or pity

3. \_\_\_\_ fide: legitimate

4. Immune response

5. Assistance and support

6. Glared

7. Spanish saloon

8. Pitch black

9. S-shaped lines

10. Statistical test

12. \_\_\_\_ Paulo, city

14. Graduation garb

19. A way to record

23. Not good

24. Weather events

25. A pituitary hormone

26. Jamie Foxx film

27. Rocker’s accessory

28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
29. One who obtains pleasure from another’s pain

34. Consume

35. Licensed for Wall Street

36. Sick

37. Israeli city \_\_\_\_ Aviv

39. Removed the husk

40. Mass of rocks and sediment

41. Two-year-old sheep

42. Area units

44. Prison overseer

45. Walked

46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier

47. Tax

48. 50 percent

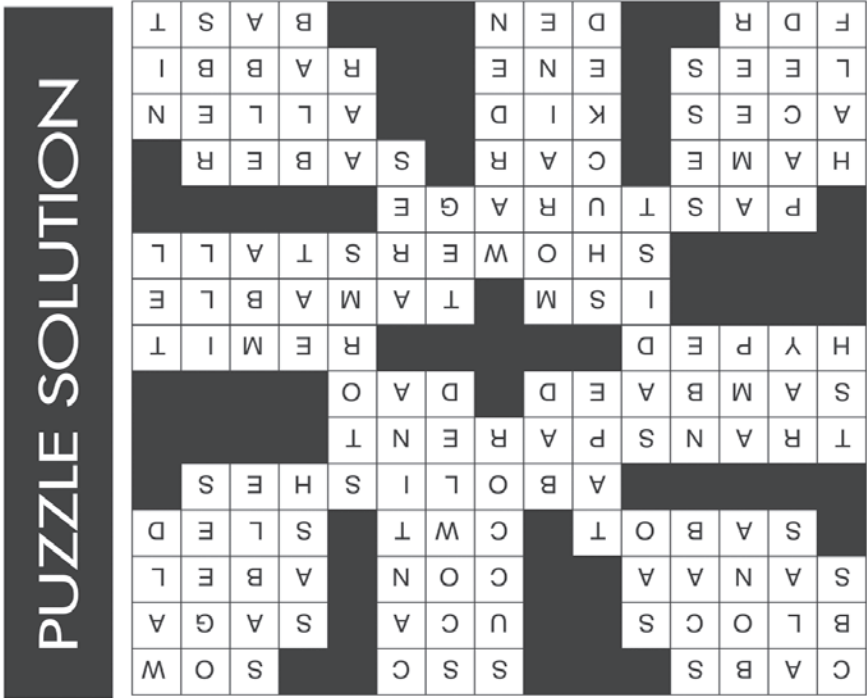
51. Swiss river

52. Tattle

53. Actor Idris

54. Resist authority (slang)

58. Egg of a louse



TRIBUNE  
ALMANAC

— REAL ESTATE —  
BLACKSTONE

\$750,000, 68 Blackstone St, Bissonnette, Daniel P, and Bissonnette, Karen J, to Richard, Micheal, and Richard, Gina M.  
\$630,000, 15 Crestwood Dr, Cress, Timothy, and Cress, Shannon M, to Rodrigues, Daniel.  
\$398,000, 735 Rathbun St, Rivard Agnes D Est, and Rivard, Aaron, to Marra, Anthony, and Marra, Kelsey.  
\$225,000, 716 Rathbun St, Costa, Lisa M, to Mccutcheon Jr, Gregory P.  
\$700,000, 9 Darling Way, Kearney, James G, and Hanna-Kearney, Deborah J, to Yan, Hank S, and Yan, Tiffany.  
\$545,000, 14 Churchill Rd, Jachimczyk Lt, and Jachimczyk, Louis J, to Lage, Ari O.  
\$475,000, 74 NW Main St, Guzewicz, Paul A, and Guzewicz, Joyce I, to Ethier, Christopher L.  
\$257,500, 54 Shore Rd, Gurney, James M, to Laferriere, Jacob.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$1,000,000, 456 Hill St, James M Knott Sr RET, and Knott Jr, James M, to Unibank For Savings.  
\$784,000, 206 Washington St, Howden, Andrew M, and Howden, Erin, to Joiha M Huguenin 2024 RET, and Huguenin, Joiha M.  
\$700,000, 354 Moon Hill Rd, Bender, Derek M, and Bender, Leah B, to Smith, Meghan M, and Belson, David S.  
\$648,000, 80-84 Prospect St, Morais, John, to Morais, Manuel C, and Morais, Veronica D.  
\$645,000, 569 Marston Rd, Davis-Cooke, Jason, and Davis-Cooke, Brittany, to Abbruzzese, Gian, and Abbruzzese, Elizabeth.  
\$219,000, 37 Thurston Ave #37, Lloyd, Randy A, and Lloyd, Kimberly, to Varteresian, Justin.  
\$215,000, 6 A St #6, Gould, Laura B, to Sousa, Jakson.

UXBRIDGE

\$849,000, 8 Bayliss Way, Sutton Street LLC, to Beaulieu, Mark J, and Beaulieu, Denise M.  
\$725,000, 31Eber Taft Rd, Wheeler, Julie A, to Wheeler, Nicolas J.  
\$644,400, 188 N Main St, Muffelman, Matthew, and Traub, Marina, to Chenoweth, Kendall D, and Chenoweth, Crystal J.  
\$625,000, 194 Crownshield Ave #194, Peacock, James, and Peacock, Beth, to Cellucci, Paul, and Cellucci, Diane.  
\$610,000, 21Rose Ln, Bennett, Timothy, and Bennett, Amanda, to Middleton, Kevin M, and Murphy, Carly M.  
\$606,000, 15 Rose Ln, Rapp, Erik A, to Oneill, David.  
\$580,000, 37Pouts Ln #37, Celestin, Kara, to Whitlock, Rachel.  
\$550,000, 120 Rawson St, Lozeau, Brian R, to Macleod, Daniel S, and Macleod, Mark D.  
\$550,000, 125 Blackstone St, Cardin, Nicholas A, to Ethier, Virginia A.  
\$545,000, 71 Pouts Ln #71, West River Homes LLC, to Desrochers, Ryan, and Zapcic-Desrochers, Meghan.  
\$544,900, 81 Pouts Ln #81, West River Homes LLC, to Dimaria, Matthew, and Dimaria, Michelle.  
\$470,000, 181 High St, Nancy Salem Ft, and Salem, Nancy, to Alexander, Taylor A, and Robshaw, Matthew A.  
\$132,497, 113 Henry St, Niro, Jessica M, and Thompson, Cynthia T, to Niro, Philip J, and Niro, Jessica M.  
\$272,000, 58 Mantell Rd, 47 Dodge Deco LLC, to Pokua, Naima.

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Senior Center

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The WISE program at Plummer Place starts Monday, September 15th from 1:00-3:00pm and continues every Monday for 5 weeks. WISE is offered as life-long learning courses for older adults through Assumption University. The course this part of the semester is “Soul Searching with Oprah” taught via video by instructor Kathleen Fisher. The course is \$25/person due at sign up at Plummer Place. Call Michelle at Plummer Place for more information.

The Plummer Place Brew Crew is a new monthly program beginning this fall offering exciting networking opportunities, guest speakers, timely topics and fun activities to jump start your day! We will perk you up beginning with our first get-together on Wednesday, September 3rd at 9:30am. Treats and coffee/tea on us. For more information, please contact Amy Cowen at Plummer Place or just stop by to join! All are welcome. 2025 meeting dates are September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th and December 3rd.

We are accepting donations for Plummer Place. Heavy duty plasticware utensils, heavy duty plates large and small, bowls, napkins, plastic cups, crystal lite packs, bottled water either large or small, creamers, sugar packets, decaf coffee and regular coffee, Shaw’s gift cards. We appreciate all donations!

Uxbridge Free  
Public Library  
announces  
Fall Book &  
Bake Sale

UXBRIDGE — The Friends of the Uxbridge Free Public Library are holding their annual Fall Book & Bake Sale on Saturday Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. -1 p.m.

Come peruse the large selection of adult, young adult, and children’s books offered in a variety of genres. A selection of cds/dvds and puzzles will also be available. Complete your visit with delicious homemade baked goods prepared by the Friends.

Donations of books will be accepted in the lower level of the library on the following dates:

Monday, Sept. 22 and Sept. 29, 10 a.m. to noon and 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 25 and Oct. 2, 10 a.m. to noon, 5-7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m. to noon Please note that the following will not be accepted: magazines, encyclopedias anything moldy or musty, incomplete puzzles.

When donating puzzles, please secure closure of the box with tape &/or elastics.

Donations of baked goods will be accepted after 8 a.m. on the day of the event.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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# Finding “solutions through compromise” on immigration

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

**SOUTHBRIDGE** — To Regina Edwards, a simple lesson from immigration comes in the form of one short question: “Who’s an immigrant, and aren’t we all?”

Edwards is a member of Grassroots Central Mass, several members of which came to Jacob Edwards Library to talk about the “very complex dimensions to this whole question of immigration” in an effort to “connect and bond” with other people in the community.

One of those dimensions is war, presented as a brief video of local resident Phoutasone (“DJ Phou”) Ketnouvang. He related the fact he came to the US from Laos as a child in 1980, with his mother having to bribe a VietCong soldier with his father’s gold watch to let them cross the Thai border. They eventually made it to Southbridge, where the local Hispanic community “took me in and gave me a home ... where I didn’t live in fear,” he said, noting they “rallied with us, getting us furniture, clothes and food.”

A member of that Hispanic

community, Jasmin Rivas, asked listeners to think about why people leave their homelands. Reading a poem, she noted, “No one leaves home unless home is the mouth of a shark.”

The poem listed several kinds of atrocities refugees faced in their homelands and insults some receive when here, but noted “the insults are easier to swallow than <seeing> the body of your child.”

Her poem elicited a variety of responses. One woman said her family’s been here since the 1960s from Ontario, Canada, and came because they thought “there wasn’t so much snow here” since her father worked for the railroad and wanted to transfer here. But when they got here, they also saw “snow up to the telephone poles.”

While that sparked a little laughter, another man said his father left Germany under Hitler in 1938 because he “didn’t know what would happen” there. A third man had a reverse story – his father’s family was here, but went to France when he was five because their Judaism

was “much more acceptable” there. (He came back for college and stayed.)

Edmonds noted some people opine “Why don’t they get in line and do it the right way?” In fact, most do – but the “right way” is very complex, with several different paths, some that lead to citizenship and some that don’t. Refugees often take eight to 10 years to go through the process, and the Constitution grants people born here citizenship, while some people brought here as children by their parents can work but don’t have a path to citizenship.

She said the law has many categories based on social class, profession, nation of origin, marital status and other details; some can get the documents, some can’t. Lately, she added, some people who have been following the rules are getting arrested while at court hearings and during immigration interviews.

Later, Edmonds said there have been recent cases where the US government is denying people already here the right to family reunification by bringing kin

from overseas. One friend has kin in Ghana and has been seeking such a visa for 15 years now. Such family sponsorships are generally being disallowed now, while corporate sponsorships are happening. Rivas, however, noted those are quite costly (about \$10,000 for both the company and the person).

One audience member said he’d worked with Nepalese people born in and expelled from Bhutan. The US had allowed about 100,000 to come here legally, but he knew of about 50 who have recently been deported by ICE. They were sent back to Bhutan, who immediately expelled them again; they’re now stateless in India, he said.

To Erick von Bleicken, such issues are unfortunately not new. He summarized a history of various ways the law has targeted certain groups of immigrants – most notably the Asian Exclusion Act and laws against Africans. The latter nearly caught his own father, born in what was then the German colony of Tanganyika (now Tanzania). At first, the US wanted to exclude him sight unseen,

but let him in when he proved to be white.

“Even the idea of America is entirely the product of immigration,” he said, noting everyone who’s not Native American or the descendant of slaves came as an immigrant.

He attributed some of the fear and prejudice surrounding immigration to “some of our own religious convictions,” and pointed out many groups “have wrestled this ball back and forth” over the years. But he argued knowing the facts can help us find “solutions through compromise.”

To Dave Niles, two major myths dominate the discussion of immigration: the ideas that illegal immigrants are negative for the economy and commit crimes. He put up a slide showing federal tax data from 2022 that undocumented people paid \$96.7 billion in state, local and federal taxes that year. The six states benefiting most from that money are California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois and New Jersey.

By contrast, the estimated cost to deport all roughly 11 million undocumented people would be about \$967.9 billion, and it’d take

about a decade to do, he said.

Regarding crime, Niles noted a Texan study found that undocumented people commit crimes “at a far lower rate” than either naturalized or native-born citizens. He attributed that to one simple fact: if you’re undocumented, “you don’t want to call attention to yourself.” He also observed that our laws do not just grant “due process” rights to citizens, but to everyone who’s here.

Niles said he’s known two undocumented people over the years, both in the same situation – their student visas expired. One was from Canada, the other from Malaysia; the latter became a notable player in the Providence art scene,

where he helped organize the Waterfire events.

“We can chart the tax contributions of undocumented immigrants ... but it’s difficult to quantify how they truly contribute to their communities,” he said, urging people to “not throw away our humanity” in today’s climate of animosity.

Edmonds encouraged people to explore their own ancestry and family experiences with immigration. She said she worked with the Women’s Oral History Project, which included a look at immigrant stories. Among the people she interviewed, she found several who spoke “four or five languages, just not English,” when they arrived here, and were “passionate”

about learning it.

Edmonds said there are at least six immigration-related bills now before the state Legislature, and urged people to “tell them we want to protect those who are more vulnerable.” Five of them are pro-immigrant, but she singled out one with the “misleading name” of the Shield Act (S 1096/H 2009) for opposition on the grounds it would “protect ICE agents.” By contrast, she supported one (HD 4886) that would require ICE agents to take off their masks and ID themselves as law enforcement.

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

## University of Rhode Island celebrates new graduates during 2025 Commencement

**KINGSTON, R.I.** — The University of Rhode Island celebrated more than 3,500 of its newest alumni during the University’s 2025 Commencement. Nearly 3,600 undergraduate degrees and 600 graduate degrees were conveyed to students during

the ceremonies which took place May 16-18.

Among the graduates were:

- Aaron Barber of Uxbridge graduated with a Master of Arts in History
- Emma Barnatt of Whitinsville graduated with a Bachelor of Science in

Early Childhood Education

- Charlotte Doubleday of Uxbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology
- Hannah Emmons of Uxbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
- Grant Houatchanthara of Whitinsville graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science
- Olivia Lavallee of Northbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Animal and Veterinary Science
- Stephanie Massey of

Whitinsville graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Animal and Veterinary Science

- Shelby Montville of Uxbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations
- Meghan Roeder of Uxbridge graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Kevin Sawyer of Whitinsville graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology
- Amanda Silva of Uxbridge graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health

- Emilia Zakon of Uxbridge graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in General Business Admin

Students who received the honor summa cum laude graduated with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.7; students who received the honor of magna cum laude graduated with a GPA of at least 3.50; and students who received the honor of cum laude graduated with a GPA of at least 3.3.

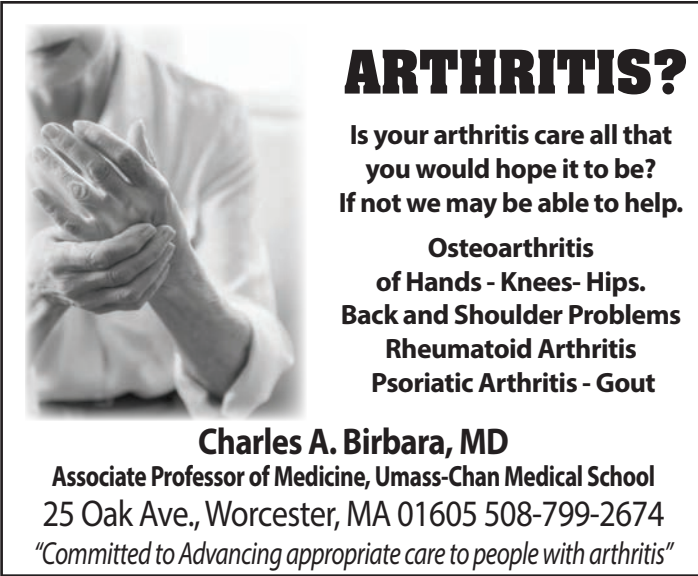


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PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Everyone is living a story you don't know

We've all heard the saying, "Everyone is fighting a battle you know nothing about." But how often do we really live by that?

It's easy to nod in agreement when we hear it. Of course, we know people carry invisible pain. Of course we want to be kind. But then we get cut off in traffic, or someone's short with us at the store, or a neighbor doesn't return our wave, and we forget. We assume the worst. We get annoyed. We judge.

The truth is, every day, we pass by people who are grieving. People who just got bad news. People recovering from trauma or showing up to work while caring for a sick parent, or silently holding the pieces of a life that's shifted beneath them.

Not everyone wears their struggle on their sleeve. Some of the strongest people you'll meet are walking around looking perfectly "fine," while their world has been anything but.

This isn't a plea to excuse bad behavior or ignore our own boundaries. It's a reminder to pause before reacting. To lead with compassion. To offer a little grace to the person in line ahead of us, to the driver who seems distracted, even to ourselves.

Kindness doesn't always look like grand gestures. Sometimes it's just not snapping back. Sometimes it's patience. Sometimes it's letting someone go first. Sometimes it's just choosing not to assume.

We say we want a more empathetic world. That begins with practicing empathy when it's inconvenient, not just when it's easy. Every day is an opportunity to remember that we don't know the whole story, but we can still be part of a kinder one.

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.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The big wind turbine lie

To the Editor:

Did you know that wind turbines use diesel generators to keep them turning when there is no wind? Yup. Clean and Green!

"Green" companies store thousands of gallons of diesel on these massive wind turbine platforms in order to keep the turbines moving when no wind blows. Petrochemicals lubricate the turbines and gears because the wind does not blow 60 to 70 per cent of the time!

Wait, what? Sixty to 70 percent of the time there is no wind? No, really? Yes.

Clean Green Energy uses fossil fuel to maintain wind turbines that only produce energy 30 to 40 percent of the time. It's a fact.

ECO RI News had the courage to print the expose, "How Wind Power gets a Pass." Because, after all, it's the idea of wind power, not the actual reality of wind power that Progressives love. They hate, hate, hate fossil fuel except when they use it to build and maintain these monstrosities.

Environmentalists expose the Big Green Lie. Responsible Solar Massachusetts insists that battery storage facilities be built on already despoiled land, not on agricultural or forested land. Big Green Companies continue to use open land.

"Green Capitalists" promise 2,400 megawatts over 127,000 acres of ocean! But Michael Lombardi, an award-winning environmental journalist, criticized ECORI news for claiming that "South Coast Wind is expected to generate 2,400 megawatts (MW) of electricity, powering around a million homes by the end of the decade."

He wrote that on Jan. 17 (before Trump), the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management approved the South Coast Plan "with the potential to generate up to 2,400 megawatts of which could power 840,000 homes. These facts matter in order to separate marketing propaganda from reality... the project is slated to span 127,388 acres of the continental shelf — more than 10 times the land area of Providence [Rhode Island]. Would you advocate that an equivalent farmland area be mowed for a solar farm? Unlikely." He is right. Is he conservative?

Lombardi explained that 2,400 MW from such a project is based on the assumption of full operation. In fact, these wind turbines do not operate 24/7 — unlike a nuclear power plant — and only deliver 30-40 percent of the promised capacity. Which means not 2,400 MW. Not 1,200 MW. More like 700 MW. Supply is intermittent. On and off. Like Venezuelan electricity.

Lombardi explained that reliable back up is required: coal, oil or gas powered plants that run all the time. I repeat, all the time. Or he said, we need big battery storage like the five facilities proposed for Uxbridge.

But, he wrote, big battery storage "should scare you beyond measure" because "battery storage requires massive quantities of heavy metals and mining them on land is an inherently dirty process, rife with conflict and human rights abuses. Most marine scientists assert that deep-sea mining for metals will be bad, very bad."

He pointed out the lie by a Brown University professor of "environment sociology" [whatever that is] that "wind power is an important energy source, it's cost-justified, is in compliance with environmental laws, and doesn't harm the environment." But it does harm the environment. Big Time

Save the Bay sent a letter of complaint to the DEP in June about Revolution Wind's discharge of heavy metals in excess of 1,000 percent over allowable levels during the construction of its export cable landing site in Quonset, R.I. Let me repeat, 1,000 per cent over the allowable levels of heavy metals! Lombardi says: "wind power gets a pass." [Via the Biden auto-pen.]

Lombardi wrote that the dismissals of real environmental impacts "exposes a clear detachment from reality of what occurs on and underwater. The concerns of electromagnetic forces (EMF) on fisheries, suspended sediments, re-suspended toxic metals, heating surrounding waters via open-loop cooling are all identified because they are indeed the environmental impacts of the project. These are not false claims." Wind power supporters "concede that they're acceptable in the name of a greenwashed industrial panacea."

Lombardi noted that the EPA permit for South Coast Wind "described the use of sea water to cool energized cables [of electricity] that will flow to the old Brayton Point location ...releasing hot water into the ocean." Lombardi asked: "how will discharging hot water over decades impact the life cycle of fish and other species? Can cold water species handle the heat?" They cannot.

The very same thermal discharges into the ocean from the Bad Old Brayton Point power plant - which led to its shut down - are the very same anticipated from South Coast Wind. The New Green Scam is not about the environment. It is about making millions for "Clean Green" capitalists.

Where is Bernie? Green oligarchs must be stopped!

Bev Gudanowski  
Uxbridge

Democracy dies in the dark?

To the Editor:

I keep hearing about how democracy is dying in the dark, but as far as I am concerned, it's dying in direct sunlight — a real horror show. Facts matter, and those who say they don't haven't done their homework.

Texas has been in the spotlight over the last month, and it was due to the fact that Democrats fled their state to stall the vote on the new GOP Congressional map. In addition, I read this article on X: "In their effort to retain control of power, Texas Democrats in the House have fled the state. In doing so, they're blocking any chance of passing desperately needed flood relief legislation in Texas. Instead of staying in Austin to do their jobs they took a private jet to Illinois to focus on fundraising for the midterms. Shame on you Democrats." Author Unknown.

Here are some facts that your readers need to know about gerrymandering by state and commonwealths around the country.

Massachusetts 36 percent Republican, 0 seats; Connecticut 42 percent Republican, 0 seats; Maine 46 percent Republican, 0 seats; New Mexico 46 percent Republican, 0 seats; New Hampshire 48 percent Republican, 0 seats; Rhode Island 42 percent Republican, 0 seats; Vermont 32 percent Republican, 0 seats; Hawaii 38 percent Republican, 0 seats; Delaware 42 percent Republican, 0 seats.

To be fair, I was also found this little nugget for our

sanctuary cities: California 38 percent Republican, nine out of the 52 seats; Illinois 44 percent Republican, three out of 17 seats; New York 43 percent Republican, seven out of 26 seats; Maryland 34 percent Republican, one out of eight seats; New Jersey 46 percent Republican, three out of 12 seats; Oregon 41 percent Republican, only one out of six seats.

We have seen that when Democrats stack the deck, it is considered "democracy," but when Republicans try to even the score for a fair game, it gets shouted down. The Democrats have been doing this for years, and Ronald Reagan pointed that out long ago. It is true that Democrats have held the House, Senate, and the White House moreso than Republicans. But the fact is that a Republican House, Senate, and White House clean up the mess that the Democrats have made, and we all know what a mess Joe Biden, or whoever was running the country, made. Maybe the "auto-pen" was running the country into the ground? One thing that disturbs me and my colleagues about the Democrats and their constituents is this: When a Democrat is elected to the highest office in the West, we republicans don't wish the economy to collapse, taxes, welfare and crime to increase, or the death of the democrat in office to occur. Thanks for reading.

Mike Downing  
Whitinsville

AI on climate change

To the Editor:

An AI assistant and I began one of our heated battles over the greenhouse effect, global warming and climate change silliness, as such are not rigorously defined in any great way from any truly scientific point of view.

In the end, we hit upon the need for improved forecasting methods, which the AI assistant summed up this way.

Introduction:

As climate change continues to pose significant challenges to our understanding of extreme weather events, innovative approaches to data collection and analysis are essential. One area where improvements can be made is in hurricane forecasting, which plays a critical role in public safety and preparedness. By exploring unconventional sampling methods, such as those inspired by the natural patterns found in pine cones, we can enhance our understanding of hurricane dynamics and improve climate change modeling efforts.

How can innovative sampling methods improve hurricane forecasting and contribute to more accurate climate change modeling?

Possible Improvements to Hurricane Sampling Using Pine Cone Swirls

1. Natural Pattern Utilization:

o Using the natural spiral patterns of pine cones, which often follow the Fibonacci sequence, can provide a more organic framework for defining sampling areas, reflecting the inherent complexities of hurricane dynamics.

2. Enhanced Spatial Distribution:

o The Fibonacci-based sampling method can lead to a more even distribution of sampling areas, potentially capturing variations in hurricane intensity and behavior that might be missed with traditional

grid-based sampling.

3. Minimized Human Bias:

o By relying on the natural geometry of pine cones, this method reduces the influence of human choice in selecting sampling locations, leading to more objective data collection.

4. Improved Data Representation:

o The unique sampling areas defined by the Fibonacci pattern may allow for better representation of the environmental conditions surrounding hurricanes, leading to more accurate analyses of their impacts.

5. Interdisciplinary Insights:

o This approach encourages collaboration between fields such as mathematics, biology, and meteorology, fostering innovative methodologies that can enhance understanding of hurricane dynamics.

6. Visual Clarity in Data Collection:

o The use of line drawings to represent the sampling areas can provide clear visual guidance for researchers, making it easier to implement and analyze data collection efforts.

Potential Benefits for Hurricane Forecasting and Climate Change Modeling

1. Improved Data Collection:

o By utilizing the natural patterns of pine cones, researchers could establish more effective sampling areas that capture the complexities of hurricane behavior, leading to richer datasets for analysis.

2. Enhanced Forecast Accuracy:

o More representative sampling could improve the accuracy of hurricane forecasts by providing better insights into wind patterns, precipitation, and storm dynamics. This could lead to more reliable predictions of hurricane paths and intensities.

3. Refined Climate Models:

o Accurate hurricane data is crucial for climate change models. Improved forecasting methods could

enhance the understanding of how hurricanes interact with climate systems, leading to better predictions of future climate scenarios.

4. Feedback Mechanisms:

o Understanding the role of hurricanes in the climate system, including their impact on ocean temperatures and atmospheric conditions, could be better modeled with enhanced data collection methods, allowing for more accurate assessments of feedback mechanisms.

5. Interdisciplinary Collaboration:

o This approach encourages collaboration between meteorologists, ecologists, and mathematicians, fostering innovative research that can lead to breakthroughs in understanding complex environmental phenomena.

6. Public Safety and Preparedness:

o Improved forecasting accuracy can enhance public safety measures and preparedness efforts, allowing communities to better respond to hurricane threats and mitigate potential impacts.

Conclusion

Incorporating Fibonacci sequence-based sampling methods inspired by the natural patterns of pine cones could significantly enhance hurricane forecasting and climate change modeling. This innovative approach not only emphasizes the importance of utilizing natural patterns in scientific research but also highlights the potential for interdisciplinary collaboration to address complex environmental challenges. By improving data collection and representation, we can gain deeper insights into hurricane dynamics and their interactions with the climate system, ultimately leading to more effective strategies for mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Stephen Gambone  
Northbridge





TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

For over a century New England has been hailed for its exceptional apples, and for generations of families, the local apple harvest has come to represent an abundance of both fruit and fun. As we welcome this year’s apple crop, this column features some insight an apples!

Want another reason to visit local apple orchards this season other than the farm experience which often includes “pick your own apples”, tractor rides, fresh pressed cider and baked goods? How about this: Local apples are consistently fresh. Buying apples in season at the grocery store doesn’t necessarily mean you’re getting that season’s crop of apples. In fact if you buy imported apples at the supermarket, chances are they are over a year old!

According to Martin Lindstrom, author of Brainwashed: Tricks Companies Use to Manipulate Our Minds and Persuade Us to Buy, the average imported supermarket apple is 14 months old.

U.S. farmers produced approximately 260 million bushels of apples last year. Apple Crop Facts for 2024 reveals the annual crop of orchard apples were consumed as such:

Approximately 67% of the U.S. crop is eaten fresh and one-third goes to processed uses (apple juice, applesauce, apple butter, packaged apple slices, etc.)

Apple varieties change over time. Today, Gala claims the title of the most produced apple, knocking Red Delicious of the list a half dozen years ago. (Note: Red Delicious was the top grown apple for 50 years.)

As consumer tastes shift, apple growers adapt their orchards, but trimming the trees down to a main trunk and several large branches, and then grafting growing tips of the new variety into those remaining branches. This allows growers to quickly produce the new variety to meet consumer demand. An example of this is Honeycrisp, which was developed in the 1960s, but not introduced commercially until 1997. It is ranked among the most popular apple today.

Some favorite apple varieties offered at local orchards include: McIntosh; Honeycrisp; Red Delicious; Rome; Gala; Paula Red; Jersey Mac; Ginger Gold; Empire; Northern Spy; Macoun; Cortland; Baldwin; Braeburn; Spencer; Idared; Mutsu.

Did you know? The apple peel contains certain antioxidants that aren’t present in the apple’s flesh. Multiple studies have shown that the antioxidant capacity of apple peel is up to four times higher than apple flesh.

Pectin Power: Apples are high in pectin, a soluble fiber found in the tissue of plants. Plentiful in the skin and pulp of fresh apples, the substance is more than a thickener for jellies and jams. Various studies confirm pectin’s valuable health benefits that include lowering cholesterol, lowering blood pressure, reducing the risk of heart disease, aiding digestion and promoting weight loss.

So what exactly is pectin’s magic bullet? Pectin is a gel like complex carbohydrate that binds substances in the body. Its properties have been shown to reduce LDL (the “bad”) cholesterol. Further, studies reveal pectin has the ability to absorb up to four times its weight in cholesterol

Research shows as little as two apples a day is enough to aid in cholesterol reduction.

Medical studies also show apples can help manage blood sugar in diabetics by stabilizing insulin levels normal. Pectin does this by slowing the absorption of sugar in the intestines.

In addition pectin has been hailed as an effective remedy for constipation and is being studied for bowel diseases. Further claims report the pectin in apples can accelerate weight loss.

Apples in History: Here in New England, Johnny Appleseed is hailed as a local hero as well as the father of the apple industry. Massachusetts boasts the birth of Johnny Appleseed, who was born in 1774 at Leominster, MA.

Legend has it since a young man, Johnny Appleseed a.k.a John Chapman, planted apple seeds all along his walking journeys, eventually establishing orchards from Virginia to Indiana.

Read on for more ways apples have played a role in history:

\*Sir Isaac Newton’s formulation of law of gravity is attributed to an apple that fell onto his head.

\*When William Tell refused to bow to an Austrian nobleman, he was forced to shoot an apple off his son’s head.

\*Newton Pippin apples were the first apples exported from America in 1768, some were sent to Benjamin Franklin in London.

\* Presidents George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were apple growers. They traded apple wood with another for grafting purposes.

\*Records of the Massachusetts Bay Company indicate that apples were grown in New England as early as 1630.

\*Gravenstein apples are thought to have come from castle Gravenstein (Denmark) in the 1600’s. Today they are grown in the U.S. and Europe.

Apple Season is Here!

\*In 1737 Robert Prince established the first commercial apple tree nursery in America in Flushing, New York. His nursery was hailed by colonists. During the Revolutionary War the William Prince Nursery was considered so valuable it had armed guards to protect it.

\*Many travelers of the Oregon Trail brought apple trees with them as they traveled west in covered wagons. In fact, apple trees were often planted on the new homestead before even shelter.

Easy Homemade Apple Cider  
Have extra PIY apples you can’t eat fast enough? Use your crockpot to make a warm batch with little effort!

Ingredients Ten apples; four cups water; one cinnamon stick  
Directions: Wash, core and slice apples (do not peel). Place apples into

slow cooker. Add four cups water. Cook on low for eight hours.

Pour into a sieve and press. Allow liquids to drain into a clean bowl. Pour liquid back into slow cooker. Press apples to collect more liquid and add to liquid in crock pot. Place a cinnamon stick into the liquid and allow it to cook for at least an hour. Serve warm or refrigerate. Spike with dark rum if desired.

Win a Three Course Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month (or whenever I receive enough tips for a column) will win a fabulous three course

Friends!

POSITIVELY SPEAKING  
TOBY MOORE

mirror that state. Your focus drops, your motivation decreases, and slowly, their reality becomes your reality. You begin to think and act like them.

And it doesn't stop with your closest circle. Researchers at MIT ran a study on the "hidden influence of social networks." They found that our moods, choices, and even levels of ambition ripple out three degrees. That means your friend's friend's friend—someone you've never even met—can still be shaping your outlook.

It's called emotional contagion. Emotions spread through groups like the flu. If your circle is pessimistic, it spreads. If they're optimistic, that spreads too.

There's also something called the Default Mode Network, or DMN, in your brain. Think of it as your mental autopilot—the backdrop of your identity, self-image, and the story you tell yourself about who you are. Neuroscience shows your DMN is highly malleable. Spend too much time around people who doubt themselves, and you'll doubt yourself too.

But here's the flip side. Mirroring isn't destiny. Just as negativity rubs off on you, so does passion. Hang around people who are building, creating, chasing their vision, and your brain taps into that energy too. Watch someone take bold risks, and your own neural circuits for courage light up. Inspiration isn't

dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

magic—it's your brain being reshaped by the people around you.

That's why Warren Buffett once said, "It's better to hang out with people better than you. Pick out associates whose behavior is better than yours and you'll drift in that direction."

And it echoes an even older truth, passed down in different forms for centuries: "Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future."

Curate your circle like it's an investment in your future. Spend time with people who believe bigger, live with more discipline, and push themselves further—not because they're flashy, but because their habits rub off on you. Their standards become your standards. Your brain literally rewires itself to match the company you keep.

So before you beat yourself up for not living up to your full potential, pause and look around. Who are you spending most of your time with? Their doubts—or their dreams—are setting the boundaries for what you believe is possible.

If your people are impatient dreamers, grounded believers, creative disruptors—keep them close. If they're dragging you into doubt, laziness, or "good enough" thinking, let them go—gently, but firmly.

Your brain is wiring itself every single day. Intentionally choose people who light sparks—not just for your mood, but for your mind, your vision, and your future.

Toby Moore is a columnist, the star of Emmy - Nominated A Separate Peace, and the CEO of Cubestream Inc.



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# bankHometown promotes Coveny to VP, commercial lending



Courtesy Photo

Sean Coveny

OXFORD — bankHometown recently promoted Sean Coveny to vice president, commercial lending, based at its 109 Elm St., Millbury, office.

Coveny has nearly 13 years of banking experience and joined bankHometown in 2018 as a commercial credit analyst III. He earned a bachelor's degree in resource economics from UMass Amherst, as well as an MBA from the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst. Coveny also earned a certification through The New England School for Financial Studies with the Massachusetts Bankers Association.

In his new role, Coveny will develop and manage commercial loan portfolios while building relationships in the business community. He will continue to excel in evaluating credit risk within the commercial lending department.

About bankHometown

Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford. We have \$1.6 billion in assets and offer a complete

line of consumer and business deposit and lending products and services through 16 branches located throughout Central Massachusetts and northeast Connecticut. We're proud to fulfill our community banking mission—providing individualized financial support, a suite of comprehensive products and services, and smart banking technology—all to ensure our customers can unlock their potential and build a successful future.

Through our sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2024 alone, The Giving Tree donated nearly \$325,000 and over the last decade has donated \$3 million. bankHometown is proud to be named a Corporate Citizenship Award winner by Boston Business Journal for the past six years. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.

# Southbridge resident embarks on new nursing career



Courtesy Photo

Ashley Rincon

SOUTHBIDGE — After years of dedicated service in community support, local resident Ashley Rincon, LPN, is set to begin a new chapter in her professional life. On Sept. 8, she will start her career as a nurse at Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital, bringing a wealth of experience and a passion for patient care to her new role.

For Rincon, this transition is the culmination of a journey she describes as one of "growth, resilience, and compassion." Having recently completed her Practical Nursing certificate from

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, she passed the NCLEX-PN on her first try.

"Each step from studying to hands-on patient care has strengthened not only my skills, but also my heart for serving others," Rincon said. "It hasn't always been easy, but every challenge has shaped me into the nurse that I will become."

Rincon is no stranger to the healthcare field. She has been a Direct Support Professional with Venture Community Services (and its predecessor, Life-Skills Inc.) since 2018. In this role, she provided essential daily care to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, assisting with personal care, medication administration, and medical appointments. Her experience also includes a tenure as a House Manager, where she supervised staff and ensured resident safety, demonstrating strong leadership and organizational skills.

# Cornerstone Bank awards \$40,000 in scholarships to 16 local high school graduates

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2025 Scholarship Awards Program. Sixteen outstanding local high school graduates have each been awarded a \$2,500 scholarship to help support their college education, for a combined total of \$40,000.

"At Cornerstone Bank, we believe in the power of education to transform lives," said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. "These students have demonstrated dedication, leadership and a commitment to their communities. We're proud to support them as they take the next step in their academic journey."

The 2025 Cornerstone Bank scholarship recipients are:

- Jackson Landine, Tantasqua Regional High School, attending University of Rhode Island
- Sydney Scott, Sutton High School, attending University of Connecticut
- Jolie Nguyen, Shrewsbury High School, attending Assumption University
- Alexa Benson, South High Community School, attending University College Dublin
- Jake Melillo, Tantasqua Regional High School, attending Syracuse University
- Haley Case, Wachusett Regional High School, attending UMass Amherst
- Ashley Alvarenga, Worcester Technical High School, attending UMass Dartmouth
- Colin Resener, Shepherd Hill Regional High School, attending UMass Amherst
- Matthew McDonough, Shrewsbury High School, attending St. Anselm College
- Salma Bayi, Wachusett Regional High School, attending Westfield State University
- Shane McGlone, Marianapolis Preparatory School, attending Boston College
- Emily Manfield, Saint Paul Diocesan Jr. Sr. High School, attending Suffolk University
- Jackson Checkosky, Shepherd Hill Regional High School, attending Providence College
- Leandro Jean-Pierre, Gateways Academy, attending Fitchburg State University
- Christian Rutter, Leicester High School, attending Worcester State University
- Ashley Dickhaut, Shepherd Hill

Regional High School, attending University of Connecticut

"Each of these students has shown not only academic promise but also a strong sense of purpose and responsibility," Tallman added. "We're honored to invest in their potential and can't wait to see what they achieve in the years ahead."

Applicants were evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Graduation from high school in 2025
- Full-time enrollment at an accredited college or university
- Planned study in business or finance
- Academic excellence and extracurricular/community involvement
- Submission of an official transcript and GPA
- A personal essay outlining goals and interests

For more information about this year's scholarship winners, visit: <https://cornerstonebank.com//cornerstone-bank-2025-scholarship-recipients/>

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone, which is an affiliate of PeoplesBankCorp, MHC, operating independently under its own name and brand, provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities through a broad range of deposit and loan products and services. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit [cornerstonebank.com](https://cornerstonebank.com) or call 800-939-9103.

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# Whitinsville Social Library

Web site: northbridgemass.org/  
WSL  
Phone: 508-234-2151

Hours:  
Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

This September, Whitinsville Social Library is celebrating Library Card Sign-Up Month with a brand-new promotion: The Golden Library Card. From September 1-30, every newly registered patron has the chance to draw a key from the library's "Key Bucket," with weekly Golden Key winners taking home prizes and earning a spot in the grand prize drawing. At the end of the month, one lucky new patron will receive the Golden Library Card, entitling them to one month of VIP library perks, including their name and face on library signage and the chance to showcase their favorite books.

**Weekly Highlights:**  
**Library Littles**  
Mondays at 10:30 AM, starting 9/8  
Stories, songs, and playtime for children 0-2 and their caregivers. A great opportunity to introduce your child to the library and meet new friends!

**Builders & Makers**  
Tuesdays at 3:30 PM September 10th and 24th  
LEGO, crafts, and maker projects for kids 6+ will be available. Stop-in and create something new.

**Music & Movement with Deb Hudgens**  
Wednesday at 10:30 AM  
Join Miss Deb for singing, dancing, games, stories, and lots of fun. Ages 1-5. Registration required. Please register for this program.

**Local History Help**  
Wednesdays at 2 PM

**Story Sprouts STEAM Storytime**  
Thursdays at 10:30 AM, starting 9/11  
A structured storytime for pre-schoolers featuring STEAM concepts and a special activity or take home project. Please register for this program.

**Art Attack**  
Fridays at 2:30 PM  
Dropping by the library after school? There will be rotating activities and crafts available for tweens and teens.

**Special September Events:**  
**Fiction Book Club**  
Monday 9/8 at 6 PM  
September's selection is *Stories from the Tenants Downstairs* by Sidik Fofana. Books are available for pick up at the library or online via Libby. Refreshments provided. Please register.

**D&D Campaign**

**Thursday 9/11 at 3 PM**  
Calling all adventurers! Join WSL's first multi-week Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Beginners welcome! First level character sheets will be provided if you don't have your own. Dice and snacks will be provided. Ages 12-17, registration required.

**Get Help with Jenna**  
Monday 9/15 from 11-1  
Sign up for a 30 minute session with Community Health worker Jenna Gouin. Get assistance with applying for MassHealth, SNAP, WIC, Fuel Assistance, Medicare, Social Security, Veteran's benefits, and more. Register online or by calling.

**Crafty Kids Corner: Calm Down Jars**  
Saturday 9/20 at 10:30 AM  
A creative craft for ages 6 and up! This month, we're making glittery calm-down jars—perfect for mindfulness, relaxation, or just something fun and sparkly to shake. Please register to ensure enough supplies.

**Gilmore Girls Trivia**  
Monday 9/22 at 6 PM  
Enjoying your annual fall rewatch of *Gilmore Girls*? Think Northbridge is a bit like Stars Hollow? Want to show off your knowledge of the greatest mother-daughter New England based TV show from the early 2000s? Register your team to win the title of WSL's ultimate GG fan.

**PJ Storytime**  
Tuesday 9/23 at 6:30 PM  
Join us in the Children's Room for a quick evening, seasonal storytime. All-ages. drop in. PJs aren't required, but encouraged!

**Memoir Book Club**  
Wednesday 9/24 at 6 PM  
This is the 50th meeting of our Memoir Book Club! The first meeting took place on April 24, 2018. For this special meeting readers will revisit one of the first books the group discussed: *Letters of a Woman Homesteader* by Elinore Pruitt Stewart. Copies are available at the library, via Libby, and Project Gutenberg. New and returning members are welcome to attend!

**Silent Book Club**  
Thursday 9/25 at 6 PM  
Come gather at the library with fellow book lovers to read and relax. There are no assigned readings. Bring your own book or browse and borrow one of the library's. Drinks and snacks are provided. The meeting starts at 6, quiet reading starts at 6:30. Small talk is not required.

**Friends of WSL Book Sale**  
Saturday 9/27 from 10-1:30  
The Friends of the Whitinsville Social Library is having their annual fall book sale with a ton of great quality used books and media for

great prices! Support your local library and snag your next read. The sale is on the library's front lawn, weather permitting.

**Teen Painting Night with Julie Harrold**  
Tuesday 9/30 at 6:30 PM  
Local artist Julie Harrold returns for an instructive, step-by-step painting workshop. This session's project: a beautiful autumnal scene, perfect for welcoming the season.

**GREEN**  
*continued from page A1*  
able/alternative energy facilities; 3) Establishing an energy use baseline and a plan for a 20 percent reduction within five years; 4) Adopting a fuel-efficient vehicle policy; and 5) Locally adopting the Stretch Energy Code.

Currently, 297 municipalities have adopted these criteria and have been designated Green Communities. This program provides cities and towns with financial and technical assistance to support their commitment to clean energy solutions. In November 2024, Northbridge was recognized for reducing its municipal energy consumption by at least 20 percent shortly after five years of implementing its Energy Reduction Plan.

Over the past eight years, Northbridge has implemented energy conservation measures and projects within its schools and municipal buildings. These projects include a) LED lighting upgrades at the Middle School, High School, and Library; b) Thermostat and unit vent demand control upgrades at the High School; c) Energy Management System upgrades at the Police Station and High School; and d) Hybrid heat pump and domestic hot water heater replacement at the Town Hall.

The LED lighting upgrades at the Middle School, High School, and Library will not only save energy costs but also create better lighting for students, patrons, and staff. All installed lighting features daylight harvesting capabilities, allowing lights to automatically dim near windows and other areas that utilize natural light.

Thermostat and unit vent demand control upgrades at the High School utilize demand-controlled ventilation with CO2 sensors to optimize indoor air quality and energy consumption. These sensors estimate occupant numbers by measuring the concentration of carbon dioxide in the air. Since humans exhale CO2, higher CO2 levels indicate a greater number of occupants in the space. Based on these real-time CO2 readings, the system adjusts the outdoor air damper. When CO2 levels are high, the damper opens wider to introduce more fresh air, and when levels are low, indicating fewer occupants, the damper closes to reduce fresh air supply. By pre-

All materials provided. No experience necessary—just bring your creativity! Ages 12+. Register.

Check our social media for special pop-up programs throughout the fall. Looking ahead to October: Families can look forward to Spooky Storytime, Halloween crafts, a community Scarecrow Contest, Community Open House, and more seasonal fun.

venting over-ventilation during periods of low occupancy, this dynamic adjustment minimizes the energy required for conditioning and moving unnecessary amounts of fresh air, ultimately ensuring a healthy indoor environment while achieving energy savings.

An Energy Management System (EMS) was installed at both the High School and Police Station to monitor, analyze, and optimize energy usage. These systems integrate various building systems, such as HVAC into a central platform for real-time data collection and analysis. This enables building managers to identify inefficiencies, diagnose issues, and make informed decisions to improve energy efficiency and performance, leading to reduced energy consumption and operational costs.

Northbridge has been an active participant in the state's Green Communities Competitive Grant Program and hopes to secure additional funds for future energy conservation measures. This ongoing initiative has been made possible by the continued support of town residents and the leadership of the Town Manager, Director of Public Works, Planning Director, and School Business & Finance Director. At the 2025 Spring Annual Town Meeting, voters committed \$25,000 in local matching funds for the next grant round.

The town is currently exploring future projects, including building weatherization initiatives at the Town Hall, Middle School, High School, and other public spaces. Weatherization involves implementing upgrades and repairs to improve a building's energy efficiency and reduce its overall energy consumption. These efforts may include air sealing, closing gaps and openings using materials like caulk and weatherstripping to prevent drafts; Insulation, adding insulation in walls, floors, pipes, and ducts to minimize heat loss; and upgrading windows & doors, installing storm windows or improving insulation and weatherstripping around existing windows and doors.

Questions on Northbridge's Green Communities initiatives may be directed to R. Gary Bechtholdt II, Director of Community Planning & Development/GC Grant Program Administrator at (508) 234-2447 or via email at [planning@northbridge-mass.org](mailto:planning@northbridge-mass.org).



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**Power Outage Tips**

**BEFORE**

- Follow directions from local officials
- Check flashlight and radio batteries
- Charge mobile devices
- Add warm clothes and blankets to emergency kit
- Keep gas tank full
- Take cash out (ATM's may not work)


**DURING**

- Conserve energy
- Go to community warming shelters & check on neighbors, family, seniors and homeless
- Only use generators in open areas away from windows and home to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning

**AFTER**

- Throw out unsafe food

[www.Ready.gov/blackouts](http://www.Ready.gov/blackouts)



Who to Call   Where to Meet   What to Pack

**Ready**

## LEGALS

**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. WO25P2883EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
Estate Of:  
**Cheryl A. Bergeron**  
**Also known as: Cheryl Bergeron, Cheryl Ann Bergeron**  
**Date of Death: 08/08/2025**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Tammy McGovern of North Smithfield RI** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.  
The Petitioner requests that:  
**Tammy McGovern of North Smithfield RI** and **Kim M. Havunen of Pascoag RI** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/16/2025.**  
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**  
Date: August 15, 2025  
Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
August 29, 2025

**(SEAL)**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**  
**Docket No. 25 SM 002518**  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:  
**Michael J. Brooks a/k/a Michael Brooks**  
**Michael J. Brooks a/k/a Michael Brooks, as Personal Representative of the Estate of John Leroy Brooks** and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):  
**Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Whitinsville, numbered 178 Mason Road,** given by **John Leroy Brooks to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center,**

**LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, its successors and assigns, dated March 4, 2015, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53458, Page 200,** and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.  
If you now are, or recently have been, in the **active** military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 10/06/2025 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  
Attest: 8/21/2025  
Deborah J. Patterson Recorder  
August 29, 2025



# Simon Fairfield Public Library

The Simon Fairfield Public Library’s September 2025 Schedule. Please note that some events do require registration. If you have any questions regarding any events, please do not hesitate to contact the library at 508-476-2695 or email at us at [douglas@cwmars.org](mailto:douglas@cwmars.org).

Address: 290 Main St., Douglas  
Phone: 508-476-2695  
Hours: Monday-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Please note that we will be closed on Sept. 1 in observance of Labor Day.

Club II (Registration Required)  
Monday, Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. - Fall Storytime (Registration Required)  
Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 3:30 p.m. - Lego Club III (Registration Required)

Adult Book Clubs  
Thursday, Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m. - Greatest Book Club Ever, “Jurassic Park” by Michael Crichton  
Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. - Intrepid Readers, “On the Hippie Trail” by Rick Steves  
Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 6:30 p.m. - SciFi Book Club, “The Doors of Eden” by Adrian Tchaikovsky  
Thursday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. - Cookbook Collective, “The Barefoot Contessa Cookbook” by Ina Garten  
Monday, Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m.: Plot Twisters, “All the Dangerous Things” by Stacy Willingham

Adult Happenings  
Wednesday, Sept. 3, 10, and 17, 10 a.m. - Fiber Arts Friends  
Thursday, Sept. 11 at 5:45 p.m. - Fiber Arts Friends  
Thursday, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. - William Henry Harrison 1840 Campaign Banner Talk

Children’s Book Clubs (Registration Required)  
Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 4 p.m. - Book Wizards (Grades 5-7), “The Bletchley Riddle” by Ruta Sepetys  
Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 4 p.m. - Young Reader’s Club (Grades K-2), “Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day” by Judith Viorst  
Wednesday, Sept. 24 4 p.m.: Book Bunch (Grades 2-4), “Fire on the Mountain” by Pamela McDowell

Children’s Happenings  
Tuesday, Sept. 9 & 23, 11:30 a.m. - Music & Movement with Deb Hudgins  
Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 3:30 p.m. - Lego Club I (Registration Required)  
Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 5:45 p.m. - Reading to Bryce (Registration Required)  
Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 3:30 p.m. - Lego

## United Way to host comedy fundraiser at Samuel Slater’s Restaurant

WEBSTER — The United Way of South Central Massachusetts (UWSCM), in partnership with Funny 4 Funds, is excited to announce a Comedy Night Fundraiser on Friday, Sept. 19 at Samuel Slater’s Restaurant in Webster. “This year has presented significant challenges,” said Kristin McCarthy, Executive Director of UWSCM. “According to philanthropy.org, charitable giving has declined by \$65 billion since 2021 and we are seeing the impact right here at home. Many local workplace giving campaigns have been reduced or eliminated, federal funding has been cut, and demand for services provided by our partner agencies continues to grow. We are hoping to close out the year strong and what better way to do that than with an evening full of laughter and community spirit?” Doors open at 6 p.m., with the show kicking off at 7 p.m. Guests can enjoy a cash bar and pub menu, exciting raffle prizes, and a 50/50 drawing all while supporting a meaningful cause. Tickets are \$25 and are available at [www.uwscm.org/events](http://www.uwscm.org/events). UWSCM extends heartfelt gratitude to our Platinum Level sponsor - Hyde Tools. Thanks also to our Gold Level sponsors - Guild of St. Agnes, Savers Bank, and Starkweather & Shepley, Silver Level sponsors - Rampco Construction, KARLSTORZ Endoskope, Webster Five, UMass Memorial Health Harrington, and Open Sky Community Services, and to Bronze Level sponsor - JLA Contracting – for making this event possible. The United Way of South Central Massachusetts is a nonprofit organization committed to improving lives in Charlton, Dudley, Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Webster by funding local initiatives that help our neighbors strengthen their resilience by advancing health, youth opportunities, and financial security. To learn more or to donate, visit [www.uwscm.org](http://www.uwscm.org).



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kids' corner

Book FACT:

In English-speaking countries, the works of this playwright are widely studied in school.

Answer: William Shakespeare

What's the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.

A

B

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

AUG

26

1883: The volcano Krakatoa, located on an island near Indonesia, erupts.

1920: The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution is certified, giving women the right to vote.

1972: The Games of the XX Olympiad open in Munich.

NEW WORD SYLLABUS

an outline of the subjects in a course of study

How they say that in...

English: Locker

Spanish: Taquilla

Italian: Armadietto

French: Casier

German: Schließfach

Did You KNOW?

Harvard University and the College of William & Mary are the oldest colleges in the United States, opening in 1636 and 1693, respectively.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: School bus

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to the school year. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 6 = S)

A. 26 18 25 21 20 7 26

Clue: Teach

B. 11 26 6 6 14 4 6

Clue: Plans for teaching

C. 21 11 20 6 6 12 14 14 13

Clue: Where students gather

D. 6 16 11 11 20 23 25 6

Clue: Course outline

Answers: A. educate B. lessons C. classroom D. syllabus

SUDOKU

9				2	8	1		
		4			5			
	5	2	9	1				
	4				7			
2				9		7		1
7	6	5	1		2	4		9
						3		
		1		3	6	5	9	2
3		8		7	9			4

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

3	2	8	5	7	9	6	1	4
4	7	1	3	6	5	9	2	8
5	6	9	2	4	1	3	7	8
7	6	9	1	8	2	4	3	5
2	8	3	6	9	4	7	5	1
1	4	9	3	5	7	2	8	6
6	5	2	9	1	3	8	4	7
8	1	4	7	6	5	9	2	3
9	3	7	4	2	8	1	6	5

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YARD SALE Auctioneer Retiring

Saturday - August 30 – 9 am 129 Ramshorn Rd-Dudley, MA

Antiques: furniture, Victorian cradle & library table, radios, art & prints, frames, porcelain, pottery & art pottery, dolls, Lusterware, mirrors, handmade quilts, Afghans & braided rugs, toleware, oil lamps & lighting ~ 1890s upright piano by H.F. Miller ~ Glass: cobalt, ruby, amethyst, milk, depression. Also: kids yard toys, new Huffy basketball hoop, new Coleman tailgate grill, fire pit & more!

BOY SCOUT TROOP 273 FALL YARD SALE

Saturday, September 20th

Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley Early Birds (8am to 9am) \$10.00 per person fee 9am until 3pm FREE We accept CREDIT CARDS! 24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY Pick your items and Make an offer!

Grouped Items: Electronics - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TV's) Tools - hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. Furniture - Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc.. Housewares - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances Sporting goods - Bikes, skies, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment Clothes - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags Kids toys and baby items - high chairs, bouncy, games, Antiques





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**Featured Listing**  
**WEBSTER - 24 COOPER RD**  
NEW CONSTRUCTION Craftsman Style Home! Tucked away on Cooper Rd, Webster Lake w/Access at Lakeside Beach/Boat Ramp. 3rd of 4 Homes being built at this Site. Offers 2,155 SF+/- of Living Area, 7 Rms, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 9' Ceilings. Wood Flooring Throughout w/Ceramic Tile Floors in the Baths. Spacious Main BR Suite w/Walk-in Closet & Private Full Bath, Double-Sink Vanity! Lower level walkout w/Slider. Basement-rough plumbed Central AC! Garage.  
**\$649,900.**

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

**Featured New Listing**  
**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT - 31 BAYVIEW!!**



**Panoramic View**, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF, 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! The home is full of Natural SunLight! Mature landscaping of seasonal plants/shrubs & yummy raspberries! Acres of untouched Forest across the street. Located on a low traffic, private dirt road! Only a handful of homes!  
**\$1,100,000**

**Snug Harbor Villa!**  
**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT**



**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT LIVING AT IT'S FINEST! \*\* THE VILLA'S at SNUG HARBOR! \*\* END UNIT\*\* IS TRULY A RARE FIND! ONE of ONLY 6 UNITS > Custom Built THIS 4000+/- SF w/Special Features & Upgrades. Offers 4 BRs - 3 are Primary BR Suites w/private baths, 4-1/2 Baths Total!! The Outstanding direct lakefront location provides exceptional Southern panoramic views across Middle Pond, a boat dock, & full recreation activities like swimming, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding -- whatever Floats Your Boat --) ! Perfect setup for entertaining family, friends & guests! Enjoy All 4 Spectacular Seasons! It's more than a home - it's a Life Style!  
**NEW PRICE \$1,075,000****

**WEBSTER LAKE- WEST POINT ROAD!**  
"Off Season Rental"  
October 1st-May 15th  
4 Bedroom,  
2 Bath,  
2 Car Garage  
**\$3500/month**



**WEBSTER- 4 PERRYVILLE RD**  
Hip Roof ranch! Move In Ready. Updated Kitchen. Formal Dining Rm, Living Rm.(18x13) Great Rm. 3+ BRS & full updated Bath w/Tub. Hardwood floors. Fireplace. Quality Owens-Corning finished basement system. 3 large LL rooms & 2nd Full Bath, kitchen area w/cabinets & refrigerator. Morton Barn Style Garage .39 acre  
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**SORRY, SOLD!**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

**Webster Lake - 53 Colonial Rd**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT! JUST SIMPLY AN INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY! OVER 31,000 SQ FT OF LAND! Summer Cottage on 9482 SF of land. Commanding view, breathtaking Western Sunsets + 5 Waterfront Lots across the street, on 4 of the 5 possibly buildable. assisted sale  
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**Webster Lake Waterfront 8 Long Island**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Beautifully Updated Circa 1890s Classic Antique Island Cottage, with Rare Boat House Included! Extremely Unique, Clean & Well Maintained, Modern Conveniences w/the Charm of Yester-Year! 1240 SF 6 Rms, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, Hardwood Floors! Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Stove, Wrap-Around Screened Porch, Lg Outbuilding w/Full Bath/Shower/Laundry & Workshop, Patio! Town Wtr/Swr + Private Well for Outdoor &/or Off-Season Water Use! 14,300 SF+/- Level Lot w/105' of Shoreline.  
**\$995,000**

**SORRY, SOLD!**  
**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT! 15 CEDAR POINT RD**



100+/- feet of Pristine, Sandy Shoreline! Boasting 6 Large rooms, 2 Baths, 3 Bedrooms, Garage. All on a Private road  
**\$1,000,000**

*Webster Lake Waterfront Lots Bates Point Rd*

In Beautiful, Calm, *Winter Cove*  
Lot# 1003R Natural Level Shore line 3800 +/- Sq Ft **\$180,000 SORRY SOLD!**  
Lot# 1004R Natural Level Shore Line 5000+/- Sq Ft **\$350,000 SORRY SOLD!**  
Lot# 1005R Natural Level Shore line 7800 +/- Sq Ft **\$380,000 SORRY SOLD!**



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- \* Includes 2nd Buildable Lot

**128 Old Southbridge Rd \$875,000**

**CHARLTON- PRIVATE COMPOUND WITH INGROUND POOL**



- \* New Well \*
- Ranch Style Home with Media Room
- \* 2.5 Abths
- \* 1864 sq. ft.
- \* Outbuilding with Private Driveway
- \* Perfect for Your Office or Business

**8 New Spencer Road \$795,000**

**LEICESTER- RANCH**



- \* Sided \* Solar
- \* 2 Car Garage
- \* 4 Heat Pumps

**2 Victor Ave \$455,000**

**ORANGE- 1600 SQ. FT SPLIT**



- \* 3 Baths
- "Like New" Property \*
- 1 Acre

**31 Prescott Lane \$475,000**

**SZYMCAK SELLS OXFORD**



- \* 3 Bedroom
- \* 1/5 Baths
- \* Oversized Garage

**61 Locust St SOLD \$500,000**

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# LPN sets her sights on the future

CHARLTON — With a heart full of compassion and a drive fueled by family, Katelyn Smith, LPN, of Charlton is making strides in the nursing field, one patient at a time.

Currently working as a Patient Care Assistant (PCA) on the Medical Surgical Unit at UMass Memorial Medical Center, Katelyn has been providing hands-on care to patients since February 2024. From assisting with vital signs and glucose checks to supporting daily living tasks and emotional needs, her presence brings comfort and calm to the patients she serves.

Now a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Smith is taking the next step in her career. She recently applied for an LPN position and has already been contacted for an interview — a promising step forward in a journey defined by determination and heart.

“I’m passionate about patient care and safety,” said Smith. “This field is where I feel I can make the most difference — helping people feel safe, supported, and seen.”

A graduate of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Class of 2025, with a certificate in Practical Nursing, and Quinsigamond Community College with an Associate’s degree in pre-nursing, she also holds certifications from the American Heart Association and the Stop the Bleed course, building a solid foundation in emergency response and criti-



cal care. She passed the NCLEX-PN on her first try!

Before entering healthcare, Smith spent several years as a hair stylist — a job that, she says, taught her the value of listening, patience, and hospitality.

“It gave me the ability to connect with people on a personal level,” she shared. “That skill has definitely carried over into nursing.”

Smith is an alumna of Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School, Class of 2018, Cosmetology.

Her long-term goal? To begin her RN program in the summer of 2026, she will continue to build her career in a place where she already feels at home.

Throughout her journey, Smith credits her parents as her greatest inspiration.

“They’ve shown me what hard work, kindness, and dedication really look like,” she said. “They’re the reason I pursued nursing in the first place.”

Her commitment hasn’t gone unnoticed — she’s received multiple honors, including the Horatio Alger Association Scholarship, Cynthia and Harrison Taylor Scholarship, and the Random Act of Kindness Award.

Motivated, skilled, and grounded by family values, Katelyn Smith represents the next generation of healthcare professionals — compassionate, competent, and committed to making a difference.

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## Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director marks 12 years as dedicated Pan-Mass Challenge volunteer

CHARLTON — Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Director of the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, recently marked her 12th year as a committed volunteer for the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) — one of the most impactful athletic fundraising events in the nation. On Aug. 2 & 3, the PMC community came together from all corners of the world with one mission: to raise funds for cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Since 2013, Bolandrina has served as a volunteer for PMC. She started as a medical volunteer and became the Signs and Supplies Manager at the PMC’s Monument Finish shortly thereafter, where she ensures smooth logistics and safety by managing crucial signage and distributing materials to support other volunteers, riders, and staff. With 3500+ volunteers, their efforts help guide thousands of cyclists through their final miles, culminating in an emotional and inspiring finish line experience.



Courtesy Photo

The Pan-Mass Challenge raises critical funds for cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and relies on a vast network of volunteers like Dr. Bolandrina. Her long-term service exemplifies her passion for community health and her unwavering support for causes that extend beyond

the classroom and clinic.

“Volunteering with the Pan-Mass Challenge has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life,” Bolandrina shared. “Along with my family, my husband Joseph, our children, and their significant others, it’s an honor to

be part of something that brings hope, healing, and support to so many.”

Her role in the PMC reflects the values she promotes at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy: leadership, service, and compassion—both professionally and personally.

We are in the process of selling out some of our current stock to make room for new Fall Models. Because of this, we are offering savings throughout the store!

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Some items are one of a kind floor samples. \*No orders will be taken on these items. Floor Sample Clearance items are sold on a first come first serve basis.

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