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Friday, June 2, 2023

Dudley voters send budget, school study to ballot

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — The town of Dudley held its annual town meeting on May 22, which included several hours of debate concerning 24 articles on the warrant,

most notably the town budget and a proposal for a Massachusetts School Building Authority study of Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

As expected, the town budget was a heavy topic of conversation, with a proposed \$25.18 million spending plan that would require a Proposition 2 ½ override.

The budget was adjusted from previous numbers that failed during a special election in April bringing the proposed increase to the general government budget to \$1.6 million and the school increase to \$994,283 while eliminating the concept of a school stabilization fund and removing school district capital projects from the budget proper. The budget also takes into consideration the retirement of debt as the town recently made

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Jason Bleau

A PATRIOTIC GIFT

Just in time for Memorial Day, the Dudley Knit & Crochet Group, pictured above, provided hand-knit red, white and blue blankets to military veterans residing at Lanessa, Webster Manor, and Brookside.

St. Joseph Polish Festival returns

WEBSTER — It's back! The 50th Annual St. Joseph Festival will be held Saturday, June 17 from noon to 11 p.m. at the St. Joseph School grounds, 47 Whitcomb St. in Webster. Free parking, free admission.

Plenty of food, fun and entertainment is planned. There will be games of chance, Money Raffle, featuring \$5100 in prizes, Spirit Shoppe, Pastry Booth, Polish Booth, Kiddie land with Bounce houses, and of course, the Bar will have Polish Beer and your favorite mixed drinks!

Something new this year -- Food trucks! On hand will be Andrej's Polish Kitchen serving hot Polish Foods, Three Kings BBQ, Kona Ice, Mexican Food, and your favorite ice cream/frozen treat from PK's Frozen Favorites.

The kitchen will serve American Food of hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken tenders and French fries. Frozen Polish food will also be available for purchase.

Entertainment all day long with Eureka DJ's - DJ Pawel and DJ Robert from Noon to 4 p.m. Dennis Polisky and Maestro's Men will hit the stage from 5 to 8 pm for your polka music dancing, and Adam Chrola will entertain us from 8 to 11 p.m. There will also be a Children's Talent show at 1 pm and the Piast Dance Group will entertain from 2 to 3 p.m.

It promises to be a fun time for all. Proceeds from the festival benefits St. Joseph School in Webster. Please join us as we kick off the summer season! For further information, please contact the St. Joseph Basilica Rectory at 508-943-0467.

“The future holds many challenges”

Leblanc, Eul and Lee win Oxford races

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

550-545.

OXFORD — Town residents have already started seeing two new faces on the Board of Selectmen and a new Moderator running Town Meeting, thanks to the May election results.

The latter, Cheryll Leblanc, beat 15-year incumbent Russell Rheault by just five votes,

The two new selectmen, John Eul and Mark Lee, scored in the same range, collecting 561 and 557, respectively. They ousted one-year incumbent Tim Moriarty, who got 519, and newcomer Chris Perron, 398.

“This shows the importance of individual voters,” Leblanc said afterward by email. “Elections



Cheryll Leblanc



John Eul



Mark Lee

can be won by the slimmest of margins. People may think that their vote doesn't matter, but clearly it does. And this is a perfect example of that. And a perfect example of how democracy works.”

To Eul, one thing that stood out was the increased turnout. He noted this year's 1,109 ballots amounted to a 34 percent increase over last year's 826.

“The path to a broader voter turnout is to engage and to inform the electorate as to the issues and challenges that we as a community face as we move forward,” he wrote by email afterward. “An uninformed voter is worse than a nonvoter. Today's technology allows for voters to engage and stay informed as to all committees' and boards' agendas and meetings. They can be accessed through our town's Web site or the free online application Cablecast. This allows the electorate to remain informed on the issues and the views of the elected or appointed officials and not having to rely on the rumors and opinions on social media.”

Lee essentially agreed with Eul, noting the “approximately 10 percent” turnout was up, but “still not a level of involvement I'd like to see.”

Despite that, he wrote, “Oxford is going to move from strength to strength over the next three years. There's a lot of good things happening and they are going to continue. Development is going to be encouraged in designated areas on the master plan and everyone's eye is out for increasing our

Webster Five receives “Outstanding” CRA rating



AUBURN — In its most recent evaluation by the Massachusetts Division of Banks and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Webster Five was awarded an “Outstanding” rating for community reinvestment, the highest possible rating available.

Banks go through a rigorous evaluation process to secure a CRA rating. Based on the institution ratings list provided by the Division of Banks, less than 12 percent of banks assessed in the state are currently rated as Outstanding.

Overall CRA performance highlights:

Some of the overall achievements for Webster Five during the evaluation period which resulted in the “Outstanding” rating include:

In the area of lending, Webster

Five achieved high marks via its commitment of a combined \$294.5mm in home mortgage and small business loans within the assessment area, providing growth opportunities for both consumers and businesses in the community

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Turn To **OXFORD** page **A18**

P.E.T. of the Week

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Pecan

She can be a nervous girl but attaches to her caretaker and then settles down. Pecan is a high energy dog who has learned some skills and would love someone to keep working with her. Socialization is so good for her, and lots of exercise would help tire her out. She would like a dog friend, but kids might make her nervous. She is a super smart girl and might like to be an agility dog.



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Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy celebrates Africa Day!

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy celebrated Africa Day on Friday, May 26. The Practical Nursing Class of 2023 officially celebrated the African culture through displaying traditional outfits to mark this year's Africa Day.

Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director joined the special celebration at Bay Path's campus, 57 Old Muggett Hill Road. She wore a special necklace



Courtesy

Photo shows, from left: Fidelis Mensah, Andrew Pereira, Angela DiGregorio, Paulina Asante, and Gretheline Bolandrina.

and a pair of sandals from Kenya. Bolandrina said: "Africa Day is an occasion to strengthen Africa relations and recognize the contributions of our African faculty, students, and alumni." This year, the Practical Nursing Class of 2023's

celebration of Africa Day immediately followed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing Practice facilitated by Professor Sarah Watson, MSN Ed, RN. Professor Watson completed her Licensed Practical Nurse (St. Francis School of Nursing), Licensed Practical Midwife (Monze School of Midwifery), and Diploma in RN (Kitwe School of Nursing) all in Zambia, Southern Africa prior to the

US. Professor Watson obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing Leadership Management, and Master of Science in Nursing Education, all at Grand Canyon University. South Africa has been included as one of the main countries in the celebrations.

Ghana was also a huge part of the day. Sisters Nataly Acheampong and Paulina Asante who both

Turn To **AFRICA** page **A18**

Grange seeks volunteers for festival

DUDLEY — The Dudley Grange is ramping up preparations for its

66th Strawberry Festival, which is coming Thursday, June 15 from 4 p.m. until the berries run out.

Ticket sales began last Sunday and will continue through the day of the event. They're available in two places during business hours — the Dudley Treasurer's Office and the courtesy desk at Park & Shop. Additionally, Grangers will be selling them at Big Bunny in Southbridge June 2 from noon to 4 p.m., the Park & Shop entrance June 10 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and at the festival itself. Those \$7 tickets



are not admission — that's free. They buy the event's signature strawberry shortcakes, which are being provided in one size this year, the traditional adult size.

There will be

something for all ages: Live music from the Old Fiddlers Club of Rhode Island, sponsored by the Massachusetts and Dudley Cultural Councils, a "unicorn" from Whip O

Will Stables, the old-time Frog Jumping Contest, Dudley Police equipment, Dudley Fire Department's Smoke House and new this year is the "Living Statue" as seen

at the Woodstock Fair. Food options include hamburgers and hot dogs from the grill, delicious french fries, and of course our famous Strawberry Shortcake.

Making everything possible requires a team of volunteers, and the Grange needs people to help. Specifically, we're asking for you to join us June 14 starting at 9 a.m. to hull the berries, and also people to staff the festival itself. Everything happens at the Grange Hall, 139 Center Rd., Dudley. For more information and to sign up to help, call Karen Gillon at 508-341-6289.

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Stonehill College celebrates the Class of 2023

EASTON — Alexa Trahan of Dudley and Max de Freitas of Auburn were among 548 students to process at Stonehill

College's 72nd Commencement on Sunday, May 21. Peter Ubertaccio, vice president for academic affairs, presided over the ceremony.

John Della Volpe, director

of polling for the Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics, gave the keynote address. He discussed the importance of listening to others, noting that the task is "essen-

tial for human flourishing." The speaker also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree alongside Janet Wu, Emmy-winning political and investigative

journalist. About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

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Election to decide Dudley budget, town leadership

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

D U D L E Y — Dudley voters will be called to the polls on Monday, June 12 to decide on new leadership, the fate of the town's latest budget proposal, and whether to fund a study of the Shepherd Hill Regional High School.

The 2023 municipal election will feature a pair of questions that serve as the culmination of months of debate concerning the town budget. Following a failed Proposition 2 ½ override vote in April, voters will once again decide on a budget override with a \$2.6 million assess-

ment that would increase the general government budget by \$1.6 million and the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District spending plan by \$994,283. The new proposals were pushed to the election by the May 22 annual town meeting and no longer include a pair of capital projects for the school that proved to be among the most divisive parts of the original budget. Both town and school officials have made their cases for the budgets during numerous public meetings warning that if the override fails significant cuts in staffing and programs would be implemented

on both sides of the spending plan to fit within the limitations of Proposition 2 ½. The second question on the ballot will be funding for Dudley's portion of the Massachusetts School Building Authority study for Shepherd Hill Regional High School. The proposal was originally included as part of the school budget in April but was removed after voters showed concern that the spending would become a permanent part of the town's spending plan. The new proposal calls for an assessment of \$463,000 through a capital debt override, defined as a

one-year override rather than a permanent increase to the budget. The town of Charlton approved its half of the funding in May; however, both towns need to agree on their share of the cost in order to utilize the program which will help determine the best course of action for the future of Shepherd Hill. Aside from the two questions, the annual election will also determine new town leadership with battles for Board of Selectman, School Committee, and Board of Health. The Board of Selectman race will feature two familiar names.

Incumbent Kerry Cyganiewicz will seek another term as selectman while perennial challenger David Durgin will make another attempt to join the town's highest elected board. The Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee will see the departure of one of its longest-standing members as Pauline Aucoin, whose term ends in June, will not run for reelection. Her seat will be filled by either Maureen Chickering or Jaimie Publico who are the only Turn To **DUDLEY** page A14

Find your summer reads at Gladys E. Kelly Book Sale

WEBSTER — Are you ready for summer? Don't forget sunscreen, beach towel and, of course, a good summer read! Come to the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Book Sale, Thursday, June 8 from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m.; Friday, June 9 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday, June 10, 9 a.m. until noon. You will find a wonderful selection of adult and children's books, paperbacks 50 cents, hard copy \$1 and a bag of books only \$5. Also for sale; games; jig-

saw puzzles, CDs and DVDs. Book Sale and pick up bargains for summer fun!
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BARTLETT EMPTY BOWLS 2023 A HUGE SUCCESS!

Webster/Dudley Food Share recently received a giant check for \$3,200 from the Bartlett High School Art Department. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Bartlett Empty Bowls possible! Bartlett Potters: Sean Harrington, Nya Gonzales, Hayley Gould, Emmie Shippey, AJ James Alkire, Peter Lavache, Eric Manilut, Meghan Rice, Anu Manilut, Faith Blaisdell, and Frederica Yanna.

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\$730,000, 14 Santom St, Laporte, Maria G, and Laporte, Paul A, to Oriol, Aleah S, and Fenton, Randall J.

\$639,900, 266 Central St, PRC Construction Co LLC, to Ford, Thomas, and Ford, Mariel.

\$600,000, 63 Chestnut Ave, Gold Star Builders Inc, to San, Boran.

\$600,000, 65 Chestnut Ave, Gold Star Builders Inc, to Sarn, Kahnel B, and Noug, Nita.

\$456,000, 4 Hickory Ln, Avonti, Richard A, and Avonti, Laurenia E, to Manu, Solomon F.

DUDLEY

\$425,000, 36 Pine St, James, Corey, and James, Samantha, to Itani, Lailah, and Corriveau, Katrina.

\$205,567, 4 Budd Dr, First Landing Invs LLC, to Rvz Investments Inc.

\$195,000, 4 Budd Dr, Sheehan, Troy J, and Sheehan, Heather L, to First Landing Invs LLC.

OXFORD

\$369,000, 45 Sullivan Blvd #A, Bigwood, Joseph W, to Langevin, Eric K, and Langevin, Kelly A.

\$220,000, 41 Wells St #41, Lga Properties LLC, to Gachuna, Theresa L.

\$170,000, 19 Rawson Ave, Lalone, Brian, and U S Bank TNa Tr, to Legacy Mtg Asset T 2018-R, and U S Bank TNa Tr.

WEBSTER

\$78,000, 8 Westwood Rd, Duguay Dennis L Est, and Ramsbotham, Susan P, to Ramsbotham, Michael J.

A boy and his boat

AUBURN — One of the Auburn Historical Museum's prized possessions is an old child's sailboat on display in a room known as "The Veterans Room," where meetings and research are done.

Alongside that boat is a news article about a young Auburn sailor named Norman Hall. It is his toy wooden sailboat that is on the shelf. It is thought that Norman and his dad sailed the boat together at Elm Park in Worcester. This may have been the start of Norman's

love of the sea and the reason he joined the Navy in 1939. In the article by the toy ship, Norman's mother recalls how close Norman was with his dad. They did many things together such as: swimming at Eddy Pond, basketball, and horseshoes. Both were avid archers and won awards at the Worcester Archery Club. Norman was quite the athlete in high school being a member of the track team. He also enjoyed singing in the Glee Club.

Norman enlisted in the

Navy on Sept. 19, 1939, three months after graduating from Auburn High School. He served aboard the USS Texas and the USS MacLeish from Feb. 1940-Feb. 1941 in convoy and patrol duties in the Atlantic Fleet. He reported aboard the USS Truxtun on Feb. 1, 1941. The last rating that he had was a Fireman Second Class aboard the U.S.S. Truxtun. A fireman would work on the ship's engines and their auxiliary machinery, ensuring they ran correctly and performing

maintenance. He would have worked on the ship's boiler, the engines, and turbines it fed, or on auxiliary machinery like desalination plants. In port, they were responsible for cleaning and maintaining the boilers and other machinery.

The reason for this article is to remember that 81 years ago, Norman became the first service man to die from Auburn in World War II. He died aboard the USS Truxtun off the Newfoundland Coast Feb. 18, 1942.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute students complete intensive research projects

WORCESTER — All students at Worcester Polytechnic Institute are required to complete a senior thesis as part of the university's distinctive project-based educational experience called the Major Qualifying Project (MQP), one that is usually team-based and often focuses on very specific issues or needs of an organization that has partnered with the university to sponsor the student's work.

"It's inspiring to see the creativity and skills that our students bring to these projects, as well as the professionalism with which they present their research," says Arne Gericke, interim

dean of undergraduate studies and director of the Office of Undergraduate Research. "Their experience managing a major project like this-including identifying a problem and researching all of the implications and possible solutions while also managing team dynamics over an extended period of several months-sets them up well for success not only in their first jobs after graduation but throughout their careers."

A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, project-based learning offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives-an experience that changes the student and their world.

In addition to providing tangible work experience that proves valuable to employers, MQPs often lead to publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at regional and national conferences, patents, and entrepreneurial ventures. Others become useful innovations and products for their corporate sponsors.

Prior to their MQP, students complete an Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP), usually in their junior year, with a team of other students across

disciplines; the projects may or may not relate to the students' fields of study and are sponsored by organizations across the globe to give students real-world experience addressing problems that lie at the intersection of science and society. Approximately 85% of WPI students complete a project at one of the university's 50+ off-campus project centers located in more than 30 countries around the world.

The following students completed their MQP:

Joseph Durocher of Auburn, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2023, completed the project titled Smart Net

Dayna Tang of Auburn, majoring in Environmental Engineering, class of 2023, completed the project titled Water Contamination from Fire Events

Hayden Smith of Webster, majoring in Computer Science and Data Science, class of 2023, completed the project titled Efficiency Analysis of Organizations: Poverty Stoplight

Bradley Markiewicz of Webster, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2023, completed the project titled Small Jet Engine Test Fixture, Design and Fabrication

Alexandra Kiely of Dudley, majoring in Physics, class of 2023, completed the project titled Terahertz

Spectroscopy of Glycolaldehyde Andrew Ferrecchia of Oxford, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2023, completed the project titled Triboelectric Power Generation in Military Applications

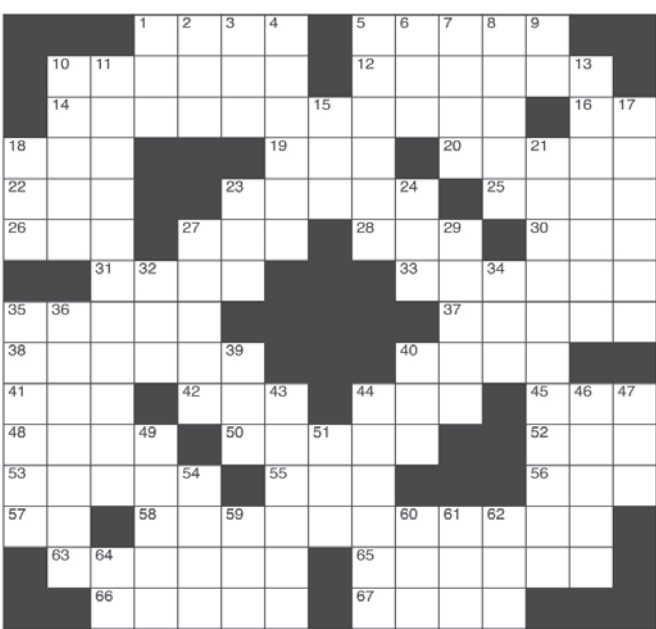
Brandon Scanlon of Dudley, majoring in Computer Science, class of 2023, completed the project titled Library Technology

David Bilis of Dudley, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2023, completed the project titled Elevator Rope Sway Monitoring System

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the

National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

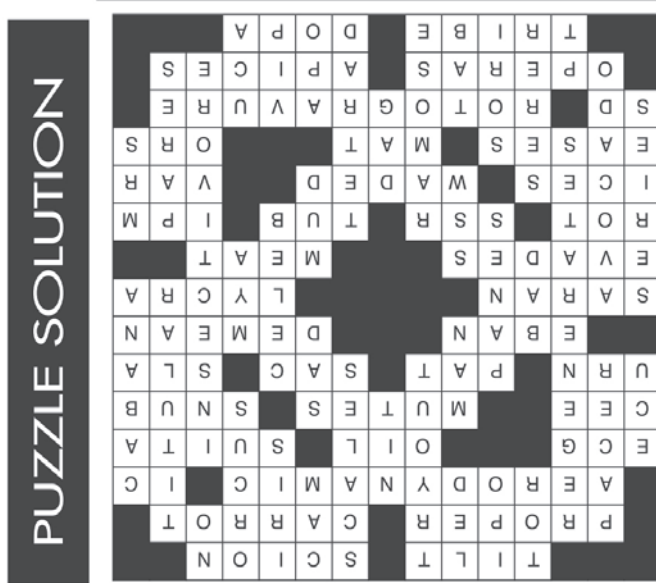


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sloping position
5. Descendant of a notable family
10. Following accepted norms
12. Root vegetable
14. Having a shape that reduces drag from air
16. Integrated circuit
18. Records electric currents of the heart
19. Used to anoint
20. Japanese city
22. After B
23. Muffles
25. Pass over
26. Vase
27. Soft touch
28. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
30. Patti Hearst's captors
31. Israeli politician
33. Degrade
35. Type of wrap
37. Polyurethane fabric
38. Avoids capture
40. Vegetarians avoid it
41. Decay
42. Soviet Socialist Republic
44. Vessel to bathe in
45. Inches per minute (abbr.)
48. Frosts
50. Dipped into
52. Controversial replay system in soccer
53. Comforts
55. Needed for yoga
56. Ands/
57. South Dakota
58. Printing system
63. Dramatic works set to music
65. Highest points
66. Social division
67. Used to treat Parkinson's disease

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Hill or rocky peak
2. Initial public offering
3. Type of light
4. Test
5. Flaky coverings
6. Former NFLer Newton
7. Part of the eye
8. Roman god of the underworld
9. Negative
10. Indiana pro basketball player
11. Replaces lost tissue
13. Denotes one from whom title is taken
15. Historic college hoops tournament
17. Hut by a swimming pool
18. Defunct European monetary unit
21. Feeds on insects
23. Adult male
24. Melancholic
27. Sheets of glass
29. Slang for famous person
32. Not good
34. "Ghetto Superstar" singer
35. The "World" is one
36. Used to make guacamole
39. Midway between south and southwest
40. Wet dirt
43. Ancient Egyptian name
44. Set of four
46. Strips
47. Wife
49. More dried-up
51. Socially inept person
54. Clusters on fern fronds
59. Bar bill
60. Prefix indicating "away from"
61. Very important person
62. Fiddler crabs
64. Special therapy



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2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880
Library Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Wed: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Fri: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!
Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Library Director, Sondra Murphy, at smurphy@cwmar.org.

The Library Lobby will be home to some very special friends for the month of June! Watch as 7 chicken eggs incubate throughout the month, then stop in or watch on Facebook Live as they hatch around June 13th. Don't miss seeing these adorable, fluffy chicks before they head back to the farm in early July! Funded by the friends of the library.

Our Friends group will be having their annual book sale June 8th- 10th.

Adult Programming
YOGA WITH JULIE – Saturday June 3rd, 17th and 24th at 9:30 AM
Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the "uniting of movement with breath". A typical class involves 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.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT---
Thursday June 1st and Tuesday June 20th—6:00 PM
Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn!

FRIENDS CONCERT SERIES---
SUNTA AFRICA BAND--- Thursday June 8th 6:30 PM

This concert will be held outside weather permitting so bring your lawn chairs!! If weather is bad it will be held inside the lobby. The Sunta Africa Band is a force of Funk mixed with some Soul, R&B Reggae & Blues, that brings an eclectic selection of original music and covers to any stage they play on! Funded by the friends of the library.

CHICKENS AROUND THE WORLD---
Thursday June 12th 5:00 PM

Learn how to care for chickens in your own backyard or a sustainable farming operation. Funded by the friends of the library

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP— Thursday June 15th at 6:30 PM

The Group will be reading and discussing Amor Towles's *The Lincoln*

Highway Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880 or email rcox@cwmar.org for inquiries.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
MAKER MONDAYS – Mondays from 3:30-4:30 PM

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

MINI STEM-CHALLENGE – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 PM

Join us every Tuesday for a self-guided STEM-based building challenge, appropriate for all ages. Younger kids should bring a parent. Instruction sheets will be provided. Contact Andrew at 508-949-3880, or atai@cwmar.org for more details.

MOM'S DROP-IN GROUP—Tuesday Mornings 10 AM

Moms and caregivers, bring your children, ages 0-5, to our drop-in open playtime. In this community-building event, we set out toys for your children to play with as you get to see and know other parents from the area who have children of similar ages. Stop in any time between 10 am and 12 pm and stay as long or as little as you like.

BABY MASSAGE CLASSES---
Thursday afternoons in June at 1:30 PM
Baby Massage can help with gas, constipation, bonding, soothing, and sleep. Sheryl will model the strokes on a doll as the parents practice the techniques on their babies.

SENSORY BIN EXPLORATION---
Wednesday mornings in June at 10 AM
Children and their caretakers are welcome to come explore their sense of touch as they play in different sensory-stimulating materials like rice, orbies, Epsom salt, and more.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES--SUMMER READING KICKOFF--- Monday June 26th at 10:00 AM

Join us for this exciting outdoor event marking the kickoff of summer reading! There will be animals of all shapes and sizes. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

ONE UP GAMES: OPEN GAME PLAY WITH VR--- **SUMMER READING KICKOFF**—3:00 PM

One Up Games brings a variety of next-gen consoles and gaming monitors to the library, along with popular games, classic games and retro games. Up to 30 teens can play what they wish, with the freedom to move to any system and play any game. Funded by the Friends of the library.

Local students graduate from College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER — Holy Cross celebrated nearly 762 bachelor of arts degree recipients at its 177th Commencement held in person on Friday, May 26 at the DCU Center in Worcester. U.S. Senator Peter Welch '69 of Vermont, a Class of 1969 alumnus, delivered this year's address to the Class of 2023 and received an honorary degree.

Vincent D. Rougeau, president of the College, presided over the celebratory event, bestowing the honorary degrees and greeting each graduate as they crossed the stage.

In his remarks, Welch said the social mission of Holy Cross - that achievements should be shared and used for the betterment of others - left an indelible mark on him.

Welch also assured graduates that they are capable of facing the great odds of today to accomplish great things for the future.

"You are strong and ready. Your

shared experience at Holy Cross has made you so," said Welch. "The Holy Cross commitment to intellectual and open inquiry and using our talents for good is something this institution has preserved and passed on to one generation after another since 1843. This experience and commitment will make you the builders of tomorrow."

In addition to Welch, Holy Cross also awarded an honorary degree to Rosanne Haggerty, an internationally recognized social entrepreneur and leader in developing innovative strategies to end homelessness. Haggerty is the president and chief executive officer of Community Solutions, a non-profit organization dedicated to ending homelessness she founded in 2011.

The following local students earned degrees:

Madison Kann of Oxford
Gianna Cravedi of Dudley, Cum

Laude
Obiamaka Igwenagu of Auburn
Zachary Lazerick of Auburn, Cum Laude
Andrew Toth of Auburn
Olivia Curnen of Auburn, Summa Cum Laude
Peter Oliver of Auburn, Summa Cum Laude

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 3,100 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.

Yard sale at First Congregational Church

AUBURN — Join us on the lawn of the First Congregational Church, 128 Central St. in Auburn, on Saturday, June 10, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., for our annual Community Yard Sale/Plant Sale.

We currently have more than 25 households signed up to sell their treasures, so there's sure to be something for everyone! We also will be having our Church Plant Sale where you'll find a large selection of annuals and perennials. Those who have been buying plants from us return year after year and see how each year we have more and more to offer. This year should be no different.

This is a rain or shine event. See you there!



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Local residents receive degrees at WPI's 154th undergraduate commencement

WORCESTER — President Grace Wang and Board of Trustees Chair William Fitzgerald presided over Worcester Polytechnic Institute's 154th Commencement exercises on May 13, marking the first time for both in their respective positions. In her remarks, President Wang, who officially joined WPI in early April, applauded the graduates for their dedication, persistence, passion for their field of study, and achievements. "You have earned your place among generations of exceptional WPI alumni. I hope you will take the opportunity, as they did, to push boundaries, explore unknowns, and deliver a tangible and profound impact to the world."

In his commencement address to undergraduates titled, "Don't Switch Off Your Conscience," Congressman James P. McGovern, who represents the Massachusetts second congressional district, urged graduates not to forget about the moral and ethical consequences of their work. "I ask you to stay true to yourself and the values you have learned at WPI. As citizens of the world, you have a responsibility to the greater good. To ask yourself not only what is profitable, but what is just. To ask yourself not only what is efficient, but what is equitable. And to ask yourself not only what is innovative, but what is

honorable."

McGovern received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at the event. Honorary degrees were also bestowed upon Shankar Balasubramanian, the Herchel Smith Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at Cambridge University, and John T. Mollen, former chair of WPI's Board of Trustees.

The undergraduate student speaker was Susanna Oppong, biology and biotechnology, who led the graduates in a resounding cheer; "I am here because I am resilient!" Recalling the unprecedented times the Class of 2023 has faced, Oppong said "They say resilience is born through experience and I truly believe that the resilience of our generation has come from the situations we have endured as students and how we have gathered as a community to advocate for them. We have broken through the stereotypes given to our generation and created the definition of our destiny."

The following students were bestowed degrees:

- Joseph Durocher of Auburn, majored in Mechanical Engineering
- Dayna Tang of Auburn, majored in Environmental Engineering
- David Bilis of Dudley, majored in Mechanical Engineering
- Andrew Ferrecchia of Oxford,

majored in Mechanical Engineering

- Alex Kiely of Dudley, majored in Physics
- Bradley Markiewicz of Webster, majored in Mechanical Engineering
- Brandon Scanlon of Dudley, majored in Computer Science
- Hayden Smith of Webster, majored in Computer Science and Data Science

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize

for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

Worcester Polytechnic Institute announces Spring 2023 Dean's List

WORCESTER — A total of 2,054 undergraduate students achieved the criteria required for WPI's spring 2023 Dean's List. The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

"WPI's academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses. WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real" said Professor Arthur C. Heinricher. "Some of this nation's best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the Dean's List have excelled in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students."

The following students were on the Dean's List for Spring 2023:

- Alysha Creelman of Auburn, class of 2025, majoring in Computer Science and Data Science
- Audrey Johnson of Auburn, class of 2025, majoring in Mechanical Engineering
- Nick Palumbo of Auburn, class of 2026, majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering and Robotics Engineering
- Edison Doko of Dudley, class of 2024, majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Marlee Donohoe of Dudley, class of 2026, majoring in Biomedical Engineering
- Brock Dubey of Dudley, class of 2025, majoring in Data Science
- Abigail Duval of Oxford, class of 2024, majoring in Aerospace Engineering

Talia Gardner of Webster, class of 2026, majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

Nikita Igoshin of North Oxford, class of 2025, majoring in Mechanical Engineering

Jessica Peets of Webster, class of 2026, majoring in Mechanical Engineering

Benjamin Perry of Dudley, class of 2026, majoring in Computer Science and Interactive Media and Game Development - Technology

Catherine Sauter of Oxford, class of 2026, majoring in Biochemistry

William Tyrrell of Dudley, class of 2025, majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

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🌿 Friday's Child 🌿



Yaveliy
Age 10

Hi! My name is Yaveliy and I love to read!

Yaveliy is a charming girl. She loves to build with Legos, play basketball and watch movies. She is currently in the 5th grade in school year 2022-2023 and does very well in school with an educational plan in place to help her with emotional and social needs. She enjoys being involved in school activities. She has been described by others as possessing "a love of laugh", fun loving and always having her music close by to listen to. She is very close to her siblings especially her older sister who lives close. They contact with each other and also enjoy virtual calls with each other.

Yaveliy has a large number of siblings who all live in western MA with whom she will need to maintain contact. She would do best in a 2 parent family with younger children in the home. She will thrive on one on one attention, love, structure and routine in her new home.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/5893>

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care 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.

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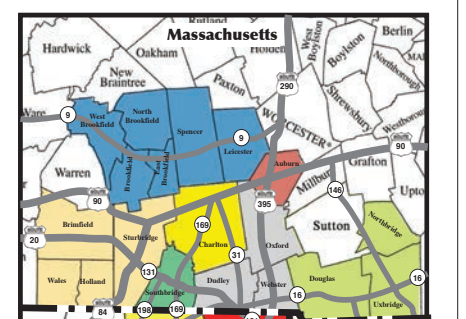
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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Never forget the price of our freedoms

We wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you to our readers, family and friends who have served or who are currently serving in our armed forces. We all should take the time to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, while you were relaxing, enjoying some barbecue and a big plate of pasta salad, we hope that all of you out there took a moment to pause, even if it was undetected, and ruminate about the individuals who were brave enough to afford to us this freedom. Pick a battle and try to imagine, if you can, what it would be like if you were on the front lines. Those of us who have never served can't possibly imagine what this would feel like, however we can appreciate, recognize and commend the courage of those who are no longer with us and those who continue to serve.

When Memorial Day was first celebrated, it was known as Decoration Day following the Civil War. Youngsters would place flowers in cemeteries while they sang songs and honored those lost due to war. The Civil War that ended in 1865 took the lives of more people than any other war in the history of the United States, the estimate is roughly 620,000, the Union losing 365,000 and the Confederacy 260,000. History says that more than half of these losses came as the result of disease. As a result, the first national cemeteries were created.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization for Northern Civil War Veterans, called for a nationwide day to honor fallen soldiers. General James Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery on the first Decoration Day and the more than 5,000 people in attendance decorated over 2,000 graves, both Union and Confederate.

The holiday as we all know is celebrated on the last Monday in May, and became an official holiday in the year 1971. Parades across the country take place, and people visit cemeteries where family members who have served in the military have been laid to rest.

At 3 p.m. every year, a moment of silence takes place across the country. In December of 2008, President Bill Clinton signed the "National Moment of Remembrance Act" which designated the time be at 3 p.m. In 1966, the government marked Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, every business in town would shut their doors and owners would venture out to decorate graves with flags as well as flowers.

Originally, Decoration Day was intended to honor those lost in just the Civil War. After the First World War, America felt the need, and rightfully so, to honor all those lost serving their country. In WWI, a total of 116,516 Americans died on the battlefield, and 405,399 were lost during WWII. The Korean War took 36,574 lives and the Vietnam War cost 58,220 lives. 4,411 were lost in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 73 in Operation New Dawn, 2,346 as the result of Operation Enduring Freedom, 48 in Operation Freedom's Sentinel and 61 in Operation Inherent Resolve.

An estimated 38 million people in America traveled over the holiday weekend, and 2.5 million travelers boarded flights, making Memorial Day is the fourth busiest travel day of the year.

In New York, Washington, D.C and Chicago, you can find the largest parades in the country. Because of the three day weekend, many Americans threw parties and barbecues or headed out of town for a mini getaway, but we should never forget the reason for it all.

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.

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

Becoming an informed collector

BY WAYNE TUISKULA

With summer unofficially underway, you might be heading out to more estate sales, yard sales, flea markets, and antique shows. Here are some tips to help you make that next great find and avoid buying something you might regret later.

Knowledge is power when it comes to antiques and collectibles. The more you know about what you're collecting, and the more you know about antiques in general, the more likely you are to find a great piece. Antique dealers used to have libraries with reference books and



price guides, but now you easily look up selling prices on online auction sites or pay for auction results on websites like worthpoint.com. You can also find a lot of information for free. For example, on our website, centralmassauctions.com, we offer advice about items that are selling well and tips for evaluating paintings.

If you're more inclined to learn in-person, many places also offer live antique courses. Old Sturbridge Village has previously offered live antique courses. Historic Eastfield Village (which is located between Pittsfield, Mass. and Albany, N.Y.) is offering classes this summer on 19th century printing and weaving in the rural Northeast, among other topics.

Attending live auctions is also a good

Turn To **ANTIQUES** page **A16**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't get too tired to show up and vote

To the Editor:

We Dudley voters need to think long and hard about this vote on June 12. The first vote on April 25, in my opinion, should never have come before the people with the exorbitant amount and the one time costs that were included as a forever tax. So let's not compare this June vote to that 32.87% tax increase of the April vote. Yes, a permanent tax increase of 18.55 percent (actually 21.8 percent for one year if the feasibility study question passes) is less but it is still a lot more than 2 ½ percent.

My difficulty in this vote lies in the fact that nothing was cut out of the operational budgets of both the school and the town from the first vote to this second vote on June 12. They chose to believe the overwhelming no vote on April 25 was all about the one time costs (feasibility study and DMS roof) included in the forever tax.

After witnessing the board of selectmen meeting on May 4, with the discrepancies and concerns of the water and sewer commissioner with his budget (watch the May 4 BOS/FAA meeting video starting at 00:10:00, but especially pay attention starting at 00:16:00), I'm not that comfortable in thinking the budget request is tight and lean, as his concerns were not resolved.

In this economy we've all had to make sacrifices in our households and I believe the school and the town needs to do the same. I am not in favor of large cuts to our town services or to the schools, but I am in favor of some smaller, less impactful reductions that can certainly be made, as some have suggested without any job loss, and should have been made.

This is not over. They are going to keep trying until the people get tired and don't show up to vote. Don't get tired and please show up to vote on June 12.

Patricia Fanning-French
Dudley

Here we go again

To the Editor:

Here we go again.

We thought Dudley voters, on April 22, resoundingly rejected a Proposition 2 1/2 override that would have raised property taxes almost 33 percent. We thought the question was settled.

Rather than cower under projections of drastic cutbacks in town services and school programs, 2,261 voters told town officials to face economic reality, especially for less affluent and elderly taxpayer who can't afford their pie-in-the-sky budgets _ and devise more practical solutions to the town's alleged fiscal crisis.

But no.

After paying lip service to the voters who defeated the override, the town manager, selectmen and school officials came back with virtually the same override proposals, offering the same rejected arguments about why taxpayers should pay through the nose to fund their idealistic visions of municipal services and quality education.

This time, however, they used a sparsely- attended town meeting, salted with municipal employees and parents who believe students will suffer life-altering consequences if struggling residents don't pony up another 28 percent increase in property taxes _ this on top of the recent increase in water and sewer bills. At least now they're proposing a mere \$2.7 million override rather than the \$3.2 million demanded last month. (The \$463,000 for the high school feasibility study requested in last month's override was separated and moved to a second proposal as a debt exclusion override. Last month's \$1.4 million request for the elementary school roof replacement was not mentioned but is very likely to come up in another override proposal in the not too distant future.) Sure, the numbers look a little better now. But when you do the math, it all adds up to the same toxic medicine in different bottles.

The town meeting featured a litany of emotional appeals, some more contrived than others. One former town moderator railed against taxpayers, who opposed the increases, suggesting they were defaulting on commitments to future generations, and betraying town officials that they elected, as if we somehow owe them unfaltering allegiance, regardless of whether we believed that they were still acting in our best interests.

School officials and a few former students echoed the arguments made during previous override discussions, claiming that students' educational experience would be drastically altered if we don't give them our money. Other town employees, including one selectman, recalled how their lives were saved because of the action of EMT's or firemen who just happened to have the right equipment and be in the right place at the right time when it was desperately needed.

Turn To **LETTER** page **A16**

Honor your right to vote

To the Editor:

Honor your right to vote so you have the right to complain. Vote on June 12 at the Town Hall!

Cheryl Leyden
Dudley

"We have been listening"?

To the Editor:

When voters voted 76.3 percent against the Prop 2 1/2 override, even after Mr. Ruda's eloquent editorial, it should have changed the Town Government's perspective on what Dudley voters wanted. "It opened our eyes," as someone stated.

Then we get another long editorial by the Superintendent of Schools. Boy, now there's two extremely impartial people trying to influence Dudley voters. Huge kudos to Robin Watson's editorial, which I found to be totally truthful, to the point, and consisting of how most Dudley voters feel.

Please do not let "special interests" guide the people of Dudley any longer. The regular people cannot afford these yearly can-do's. Maybe 76.3 percent isn't enough to really open eyes enough and wake some people up...Please get out and vote on June 12 (will 80 percent convince them?).

Clifford J. Szczypien
Dudley

Keep the big picture in mind when you vote

To the Editor:

Dudley residents, I am urging each and every one of you to get out and vote. The election that will take place on June 12 is a critical component in Dudley's future. This town is facing a financial balancing act that begins on June 12. The ballot questions, if both are passed, will add a 21.8 percent increase to our real estate taxes in an already very difficult and challenging economy. The people of Dudley must remember that next year we have an obligation to pay for the middle school roof repair or replacement. The ballot presented at the special election in April stated the cost of the roof work was \$1,439,000. Since then, we have learned that the cost of the roofs for the Dudley middle school and the Charlton middle school combined is \$5,000,000. Dudley's share is currently unknown, and won't be known until late summer of 2023, when the job is completed.

Next year, the town will face a debt exclusion (hopefully not a Prop 21/2 override) to pay for this \$1 million-plus roof repair or replacement.

In addition, in 2025, we will have the results (if the June 12 vote on question # 2 is passed) of the two-year \$1 million Shepherd Hill Feasibility Study. This could entail any amount of money from a couple of million dollars for perhaps mechanical updates to a complete or partial (and yes it has been mentioned out loud any number of times) tear-down. In addition to school dollars being spent, we as Dudley voters have to keep in mind that the increasingly dangerous world we live in dictates our town will have no choice but to hire more first responders, i.e. police officers, firefighters, and EMTs. Dudley voter we have a fine line to walk. Yes, we need excellent schools, but we must also stay abreast of the times to maintain a safe community. This will require hiring more first responders in the near future. We must pay these people a decent wage, and offer an employment package that is competitive in this arena.

When you cast your vote on June 12, don't just think about the immediate financial impact we face, try to look into the future to see what our town will be facing in the next several years. This is the big picture that should be on every voter's mind as they wait in line at the polls.

Mary Sansoucy
Dudley

Help move the fight against embodied carbon forward

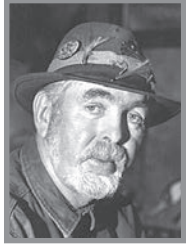
To the Editor:

Depending on exactly how it is defined, embodied carbon is responsible for 11 to 23 percent of the greenhouse gases that are responsible for climate change. This is what is associated with the manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of building and infrastructure materials, such as concrete, steel, glass, lumber and other materials we use. If we are serious about trying to lower our impact on climate change, we need to address this.

H.764, an act incorporating embodied carbon into state climate policy is a reasonable and effective way for Massachusetts to join other states in addressing this issue. I would therefore ask that you ask your state representatives to not only support this bill, but to urgently move it favorably out of the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Gerry Frank
Dudley

Rabbits, rabbits everywhere



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

By the time you read this column, Memorial Day will be over, and boat ramps and road traffic will be back to some type of normality. Whatever that is! Hopefully, you took some time out of the holiday to pay tribute to all of our veterans, and to all those that paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep our freedoms, and way of life safe.

Saltwater fishing was pretty good this past week, with numerous reports of anglers catching

their limit of four sea-bass in Buzzards Bay. The new size limit of 16 and a half for sea-bass in Mass. was easy to fill, but stripers were spotty in many areas. The new size limit on stripers changed on Friday, May 26 in Mass. The new slot limit was reduced by three inches, making legal stripers 28 to 31 inches. It really does not make any difference what anglers think about the new slot limit. Attending public hearings and making recommendations may as well be thrown in the wastepaper basket. Further cuts

are being discussed on stripers if they do not get a good year of population growth. It is not the recreational angler that is causing the problem! Draggers and commercial fishing is raping the ocean's fish populations, and they will continue. I know you have heard it all before, but it is just crazy and unnecessary!

Fluke fishing is starting to improve in both Mass. & Rhode Island. Squid strips and jigs seem to be the hottest bait so far this season.

Rabbits are everywhere in Central Mass. this year. Trying to grow a garden is not easy. This past week, I had at least eight rab-



Courtesy

This week's picture is Scott Lambert 25-pound striped.

bits spotted in my neighbor's yard, and three in mine. There was one huge rabbit that ran from my neighbor's yard and stopped in my driveway. It was the size of a snowshoe hare. I hunted rabbits for many years, and rarely harvested a cottontail rabbit the size of that one. The native cottontail rabbits are the

New England cottontail, and the non-native are the Eastern cottontail. The Eastern cottontail was introduced into New England in the 1900's. The Eastern rabbit has pretty much taken over in Mass. woodlands, and they are here to stay.

Very few hunters own beagles today in the area, but back in the day there were many hunters that owned two or more for hunting purposes. Every Saturday, my two buddies met up with me to hunt rabbits, and it was great. Today, there are too many homes, and private property to hunt rabbits in our area. The Cape still has some rabbit hunting going on, and north & west of our area still has some rabbit hunting.

Snowshoe hare are extremely rare in Central Mass., only because the anti-hunting groups stopped the sportsmen from transporting them live from Canada, approximately 15 years ago or longer. Local Rod & Gun Clubs purchased them from a trapper in Canada and stocked them in local covers, hoping to have the hare breed and have young in the wild here. Each litter of hare contains one to eight young, and grows to maturity in about one year. Cottontail rabbits have up to three litters a year, and can have up to six or more young in their litters.

A large bear was spotted recently in Webster Mass. and was spotted by a local fisherman. He was fishing at Webster Lake, and observed the bear slip into the water and swim to the opposite shoreline. That had to be exciting!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them rods Bending!

A READER EXCHANGE OF HELPFUL HINTS AND HANDY TIPS

Fishing Tips and Tricks

Days "gone fishin'" are the simple pleasures life-long memories are made of. Whether relaxing on the shore of still waters, or wrangling in a temperamental trout, the sport of recreational fishing remains a popular activity for all ages.

Fishing enthusiasts can enjoy the waterways in Massachusetts knowing that the state is ranked among the top ten states for fishing. In fact, a 2022 study by Lawnlove.com also revealed the Bay State had the highest number of fishing competitions, and the sixth-most marines per 100,000 residents. Read on for some tips to up your odds of reeling in the big one!

Free Fishing Weekend
Many memorable fishing tales begin at the waterways in the region. Once a year the state waives its licensing laws for a weekend, allowing residents of all ages the pleasures of a day "gone fishin'."

On Saturday and Sunday, June 3 and 4, Free Fishing Weekend offers an opportunity for fishers of all ages to toss their line into statewide waters whether or not they are licensed. While licenses are usually required, during Free Fishing Weekend in Massachusetts, the state's licensing policy will be waived during these two days.

No license is required to fish any public lake, pond, reservoir, stream, or river in Massachusetts from 12 a.m. Saturday, June 3 until 11:59 p.m. Sunday, June 4.

Fishing Tips from Expert Anglers

Dropping your line into the waters this weekend? Here are some tips to help make your time at the fishing hole more productive

Successful fishers make it a habit to change their line. Fishing line has memory- it will retain the twist, nicks, scrapes, and it gets weaker every time it is used. Don't chance losing the "big one" to brittle line!

And be sure to match your hook size to your bait: small for small, large for large. It makes a difference in holding your bait, and in how many strikes you will get.

Take a valuable fishing tip from old timers who say "if you find the bait you'll find the fish." To do this efficiently, they make it a habit to scan the water for bird activity. Follow the birds, who follow the bait, and you'll likely find the fish!

When throwing into the wind, drop your rod tip to the water right after making the cast. You'll get more distance and will also get the slack out of your line in case you get bit just when the bait hits the surface. If you leave the rod held high, the wind will make an arc out of your line and you'd lose control of the bait.

Still no bites? It could be



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

your bug repellent. Never handle bait after applying it as the scent will keep the fish away.

Tips to Track Trout
* Did you know Rainbow Trout favor 56 degree water? Find that temperature and you're sure to find the fish! If it's cold out, trout can typically be found on the surface of a lake. If it's hot out, they'll be deeper in the water.

*Remember, trout have tough mouths. Keep your hooks sharp - and use a number 4 hook for best results!

* Want to up your odds of trout for supper? When lake fishing, dip your crawler in the oil from a can of smoked oysters!

* Trying to tempt the best trout. Try this secret recipe from anglers: Combine two ounces of cod liver oil with 20 drops oil of anise. Mix well. Dip your bait in the mixture and string up the trout!

Bait and Catch
It's summertime and the fishin' is easy - if you use an old fashioned bait recipes. They're tried and true secret weapons from successful fishermen - but best of all, you can whip them up with ingredients from your kitchen cupboards!

*Anglers swear refrigerator biscuit dough is a great bait for trout. Just pull a raw biscuit apart and start reeling in the "big one!"

*Even fish love spicy food, as this super lure recipe will attest. Mix together 8 ounce ground aniseed or fennel seed and two ounces ground all-spice. Sprinkle 1/16th oz. oil of cloves over the above and mix. Store in tightly sealed jars for a few days while the odors blend. Put a drop on fish bait.

*If you're fishing with salmon eggs or worms, don't forget to add a miniature marshmallow to the hook to keep your bait buoyant!

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

Positively speaking!

Toby Moore

The journey is the destination

Renowned motivational speaker and entrepreneur Jim Rohn said, "There are times when you just lose; no matter what you do, it's that kind of planet."

You could be passionate about what you do, work ten-hour days, love your family, be honorable, and ultimately, you can still lose! Does that mean you did something wrong? Only sometimes.

Humans strive to comprehend the world, drawing patterns and expecting consistent outcomes. We prefer a neat universe where hard work and dedication lead to success. But life doesn't always adhere to these rules.

As a former high school and college swimmer, I experienced this firsthand. I woke up at dawn, diving into morning practices before the school bell rang, and slipped back into the pool each afternoon when classes ended; I always smelled like chlorine and loved it.

My passion for swimming was the compass guiding my efforts. Yet, despite my dedication and undying love for the sport, I couldn't compete at the elite level.

What had I done wrong? In essence, nothing! Being a professional athlete just wasn't in the cards. The realization stung, of course. I mourned losing what I believed was my calling, grappling with feelings of failure and disappointment. But then, I remembered another nugget of wisdom from Jim Rohn.

Asked in one of his lectures about knowing when to give up on something and try something new, Rohn humorously replied that he knew it was time to change course when he ran out of money.

That's a good reason. Another good reason is when you run out of passion.

I often talk about never giving up, never giving in, and striving to achieve your goal no matter the odds, and I still believe that, but also you need to be passionate about what you're doing.

I quit the swim team mid-way through my junior year in college. Why? I ran out of passion when I realized I couldn't compete as an Olympian.

Some would say I'm a quitter, but if you no longer feel enthusiastic about your current goal, you should consider a new direction. Without passion,

sustaining your motivation is almost impossible. You must love what you do.

The focus is not on throwing in the towel but actively channeling your energies toward more productive pursuits.

Sometimes, you may only need a break; after some time away, you may discover your passion again. That's great! Return to what you love.

How did I lose my passion? Despite consistent efforts, I wasn't making the progress I needed to achieve my dream. It was only then that I realized it wasn't suitable for me.

So, how does one know what to turn to next? The answer lies in uncovering what stirs your soul.

It is often said, "Whatever you don't use, you lose." Hence, exercising the ability to chase your dreams, and stirring your innate desire, is crucial.

Embracing a new direction is a delicate process. After deciding to move on from an unfulfilled dream, don't beat yourself up reliving the past. Doing so can crush your new vision and dampen your plans. Forgive yourself; you haven't failed but are on the path to your true destiny.

Another reason to pursue a different dream is that your values change. What seemed like a worthy goal in the past may no longer align with your current reality. It's imperative to ensure that your goals resonate with your present self and not an outdated version of you.

Life, as we all know, is an ever-changing journey - an expedition marked by phases of growth, learning, and evolution. As we navigate through these stages, our perspectives inevitably shift and expand, giving rise to new values, aspirations, and self-understanding.

Clinging onto an outdated goal is like adhering to a defunct map; it can lead you somewhere, but likely not your desired destination. Allow yourself to revise your dreams. If they no longer resonate with you, then move on.

As Jim Rohn famously stated, "If you don't like where you are, move! You aren't a tree." Embrace change as your companion, and constantly remind yourself that the journey is the destination.

Keep plants thriving despite the heat of summer

Last year's record-high temperatures across much of the country took a toll on gardens and landscapes. Once again, above-normal summer temperatures are in the forecast for many regions of the country. Adjusting how you manage your gardens and landscape can help plants thrive as temperatures rise.

Water plants thoroughly to promote deep drought-tolerant roots that help boost the plants' pest resistance. Wait until the top few inches of soil are crumbly and moist before watering most plants. Newly planted perennials, trees, and shrubs need more attention and water than drought-tolerant plants or established ones with more robust root systems that are better able to absorb more moisture. During extended dry periods, even drought-tolerant and established plants may need supplemental water.

Water early in the day to reduce water lost to evaporation. Avoid late evening watering that leaves foliage wet at night, increasing the risk of disease.

Apply water directly to the soil above the plant roots using soaker hoses or drip irrigation whenever possible. Water is applied where needed and the



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

slow, steady flow of water is better able to infiltrate the soil and moisten the roots with less runoff.

Check soil moisture daily in container gardens and several times a week for raised beds. Both dry out more quickly than in-ground gardens and need to be watered more often. Save time and water by incorporating Wild Valley Farms' wool pellets into the growing mixes. This sustainable product is made from wool waste. University research found it reduced watering by up to 25% and increased air space in the soil, promoting healthy plant growth.

Further conserve water by spreading a two- to three-inch layer of shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or shredded bark mulch over the soil in garden beds and around trees and shrubs. Mulching conserves moisture, keeps roots cooler and moist, and suppresses weeds. As the organic mulch decomposes, it adds nutrients and organic matter to the soil. Just pull the mulch away from tree trunks, shrub stems, and the crowns of other plants to avoid rot.

Include plants that are more tolerant of the weather conditions in your area. Those that tolerate both heat and cold extremes will thrive with less care once established.

Incorporate organic matter like compost into the soil. It helps the soil accept and retain water so you will need to water less often. It also adds nutrients to the soil so over time you will need to fertilize less often.

Use a low-nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer if your garden plants need a nutrient boost. These types of fertilizers release small amounts of nutrients over an extended period. The low level of nitrogen reduces the risk of damaging heat-stressed plants.

Remove weeds from garden beds and borders as soon as they appear. These "plants out of place" steal water and nutrients from your desirable garden plants. Plus, many harbor insects and diseases that are harmful to your garden plants.

Provide stressed plants with a bit of shade from the hot afternoon sun. Container gardens can be moved to a more suitable spot during heat waves. Add a bit of temporary shade to garden plants that are struggling to survive in the blazing hot sun. A strategically placed chair, lattice, or umbrella may



Melinda Myers

Provide heat-stressed plants in containers relief by moving them into the shade during heat waves.

be all that is needed. As temperatures drop, you can move plants back in place and remove the temporary shade. Your garden will greatly benefit from these changes to your summer garden care. Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, 2nd Edition and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Wild Valley Farms for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

LEGALS

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 Keith M. Paquette, Viki S. Paquette to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, dated May 4, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55380, Page 239, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns to Freedom Mortgage Corporation, recorded on April 20, 2022, in Book No. 67461, at Page 365

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on July 14, 2023, on the mortgaged premises located at 8 Hillside Street, Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:

Real property in the City of AUBURN, County of WORCESTER, State of Massachusetts, described as follows:

THE LAND IN AUBURN MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AS THE LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS NOW THEREON ON THE NORTHWESTERLY SIDE OF HILL STREET, ALSO KNOWN AS HILLSIDE STREET, SITUATED IN AUBURN, IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER AND COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, BEING LOTS NUMBERED 45, 46 AND 47 AS SHOWN ON A PLAN OF LOTS AT PAKACHOAG HEIGHTS, DATED MAY 1904, DRAWN BY W.I. THOMPSON, CIVIL ENGINEER, RECORDED IN THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS, PLAN BOOK 9, PLAN 6 AND FURTHER BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTHWESTERLY SIDE OF HILL STREET, SAID PINT BEING THE SOUTHEASTERLY CORNER OF THE LAND HEREIN CONVEYED AND THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF LOT NO. 48 ON SAID PLAN;

TENCE SOUTHWESTERLY BY SAID LOT NO. 48, ONE HUNDRED (100) FEET TO A POINT AT THE SOUTHEASTERLY CORNER OF LOT NO. 56 ON SAID PLAN;

TENCE NORTHWESTERLY BY LOTS NUMBERED 56, 57 AND 16, SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET TO A POINT AT THE SOUTHWESTERLY CORNER OF LOT NO. 17 ON SAID PLAN;

TENCE NORTHEASTERLY BY LOTS NUMBERED 17, 18, 19 AND 20, ONE HUNDRED (100) FEET TO HILL STREET;

TENCE SOUTHEASTERLY BY SAID HILL STREET, SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 7,500 SQUARE FEET OF LAND.

Commonly known as: 8 HILLSIDE ST, AUBURN, MA 01501
APN #: 6/ 17

For mortgagor's(s) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51806, Page 298.

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 Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) 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.
FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500
22948

June 2, 2023
June 9, 2023
June 16, 2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 89-91 Slater Street, Webster, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kristen Ann Piskator to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for E Mortgage Management, LLC d/b/a EMM Financial its successors and assigns and now held by AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, said mortgage dated March 22, 2019, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60181, Page 117, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated March 27, 2020, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 62110, Page 237, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on June 16, 2023 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in said Webster, being a certain tract or parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated on the southwesterly side of Slater Street, in said Webster and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stake driven into the ground on the southwesterly line of said Slater Street at Lot #48 as designated on a plan hereinafter mentioned, and being the most easterly angle of the tract hereby conveyed; Thence southwesterly one hundred nineteen and three tenths (119.3) feet by said Lot #48 to a stake in the ground at land of the Town of Webster;

Thence westerly ninety (90) feet by said land of the Town of Webster to a stake in the ground at Lot #28; Thence northeasterly seventy-eight and six tenths (78.6) feet by said Lot #28 to a stake in the ground at Lot #46;

Thence deflecting to the right and extending northeasterly a distance of ninety-six (96) feet by said Lot #46 to a stake in the ground on the southwesterly line of said Slater Street; Thence with an included angle of 86 degrees 50' and extending southeasterly ninety-two (92) feet by said Slater Street to the point of beginning.

Being Lot #47 as shown on a Plan in Sub-Division showing properties of Slater Mills, Inc. and Slater Co., Inc., Webster, Mass., drawn by B.A. Wakefield, Eng. Dated April. 1935 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 85, Plan 37. 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 March 22, 2019, and recorded in Book 60181, Page 114 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds.

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

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
275 West Natick Road, Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886

Attorney for AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC Present Holder of the Mortgage

Telephone: (401) 234-9200 MLG File No.: 22-03202

May 26, 2023
June 2, 2023
June 9, 2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court

225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO23P1740GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO

G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of:

Paul Walker

Of: Webster, MA

RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all oth-

er interested persons, a petition has been filed by

Webster Manor Rehabilitation and H of Webster, MA

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Paul Walker** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Duane Sullivan of Quincy, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **06/13/2023**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 17, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate

June 2, 2023

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
23 SM 001989
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Christine A. Millett; John J. Millett Jr and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 28 Tower Street, given by Christine A. Millett and John J. Millett, Jr. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for M&T Bank, dated October 14, 2008, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43423, Page 68, 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 June 26, 2023 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on May 11, 2023.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder
June 2, 2023

A.C. 92A

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
23E0034PP

WORCESTER, SS.
PROBATE COURT

To Ronald Guerard of Graham in the State of North Carolina and to all other interested persons.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Linda Welton of Charlton in the County of Worcester representing that she hold as tenants in common undivided part or share of certain land lying in North Oxford in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows:

The land consisting of Lots #5 and #6, together with buildings thereon and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, located in the Town of Oxford, County of Worcester, Massachusetts, on the northerly side of a private road, as shown on a plan of lots in North Oxford, Massachusetts,

owned by Edmond F. Guerard and El-mire Guerard, surveyed May 31, 1941 by Walter W. Brown, bounded and described as follows:

LOT #5

BEGINNING at an iron pin at the northerly side of a private road, said point running S. 77°W. one hundred seventy-four(174.0) feet from the intersection of the northerly line of said private way with the westerly line of Leicester Street;

TENCE S. 77° West by the northerly line of said private road seventy-two (72.0) feet to an iron pipe in the southeasterly corner of Lot #6 on the said plan;

TENCE N. 12°W by Lot #6, one hundred thirty-seven and eighty-five hundredths (137.85) feet to a stone wall at land now or formerly of one Melvina M. Cormier;

TENCE N 80°57' E by said stone wall and Cormier land, eighty-two .and five-tenth (82.5) feet to an iron pipe at Lot #1

TENCE S 7°15' E, by Lots #1 and #2 on said plan, one hundred thirty-five and seventy-five hundredths (135.75) feet to the northerly line of the private road and the point or beginning. CONTAINING 10,540 square feet approximately.

Lot#6

BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner of the tract to be conveyed at an iron-pipe driven in the ground on the northerly line of a private road and said pipe also being the southwesterly corner of other land of the grantors and is located two hundred forty-six (246) feet westerly, measured along the northerly line of said private road, from the westerly line of Leicester Street;

TENCE from said pipe, by the northerly line of said private road, South 86° 58' West, one hundred eight-seven and twenty-three hundredths (187.23) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground of the grantors;

TENCE by said land of the grantors, North 3°02' West, one hundred forty-three and one-tenth (143.1) feet to the center of a stone wall at an iron pipe and at land owned by Melvina M. Cormier;

TENCE by said Cormier land, by the center of the wall, South 83 °38' East, seventy-nine and twenty-three-hundredths (79.23) feet to and angle in the wall and North 80°57' East, eighty-eight and nine-tenth (88.9) feet to iron pipe set in the wall and at the land of grantors;

TENCE by land of the grantors, South 12° East, one hundred thirty-seven and eighty-five-hundredths (137.85) feet to point of beginning.

CONTAINING 23,775 sq. ft. or .545 acre

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD to the said Frederick Guerard and Mary Guerard, husband and wife, as TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY, and not as tenants in common.

With rights to use water from the spring of the grantors' premises, which spring is located across the street from the herein conveyed premises. TOGETHER with right to pass and repass over the private road adjoining the above conveyed premises.

setting forth that her desires that – all – the aforesaid described part – of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than \$125,000.00 dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the Twenty-Seventh day of June 2023, the return date of this citation.

Witness, LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-eighth day of April 2023.

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate

May 19, 2023
May 26, 2023
June 2, 2023

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

Kelly Knutelski, of Oxford recognized by Assumption for exceptional service and leadership

WORCESTER — In recognition of their commitment to service, 21 members of the Class of 2023, including Kelly Knutelski, of Oxford, have been awarded the prestigious Crown & Shield Award, which honors students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service during their four years at Assumption. Students were honored during a ceremony on May 5, two days before the University held its 106th Commencement exercises at the DCU Center in downtown Worcester.

“Crown and Shield recipients are the students who have exemplified the mission of Assumption University during their time on campus,” said Laura Pena Pantano, Ph.D.,

Vice President for Student Affairs. “These students help to plan events, serve as ambassadors for Admissions and Orientation, build community in the residence halls, represent the student voice in SGA, tutor and support their peers, compete athletically, spread the mission of the University through Campus Ministry and much more. We are deeply grateful to our students for the role they play in creating a culture of service and for helping us build a strong community that inspires the students who will follow.”

Crown & Shield Award recipients are nominated by faculty, staff and administration for their exemplary service and leadership.

The crown and shield are two key elements of the Assumption University seal and the award, which has been given since 1952, recognizes graduating seniors who have protected (shield) and furthered (crown) in the interest of the student body and the University community.

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is a premier New England University for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption's graduates are known for their intellectual seriousness,

thoughtful citizenship, and dedication to the common good. Located in Worcester, Massachusetts, Assumption has undergone a series of major advancements since transitioning to a university, including new academic buildings, degree programs, and athletic facilities for our NCAA Division II student athlete population. The University offers 38 majors and 50 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing, and professional studies, and other areas, as well as graduate degrees and professional credentials. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.

LEGALS

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
Pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 106 § 9-601 and in compliance with the terms of a certain mortgage given by Elite Rivers LLC to New Silver Lending, LLC dated May 31, 2019, recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 60493, Page 323, which mortgage was assigned to AlphaFlow WH, LLC by Assignment dated June 10, 2019, recorded in Book 60781, Page 100, as affected by Corrective Assignment recorded in Book 68873, Page 266; further assigned to AlphaFlow, Inc. by Assignment dated July 24, 2019, recorded in Book 60823, Page 138; further assigned to JAFW by Assignment dated July 24, 2019, recorded in Book 60823, Page 142; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust VII-B by Assignment dated November 29, 2022, recorded in Book 68873, Page 274, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM, on 27th day of June 2023, at the mortgaged premises described and known as 25 Tanyard Road, Dudley, Massachusetts described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract of land situated in said Dudley on the southwesterly side of Tanyard Road in the Town of Dudley, County of Worcester, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Southeasterly corner thereof at an iron pin on the southwesterly line of said Tanyard Road, said iron pin being at the northeasterly corner of land owned by the inhabitants of the Town of Dudley;

THENCE South 17 degrees 45' West by land of said inhabitants of the Town of Dudley for a distance of one hundred (100.00) feet to an iron pin at land of Nichols College;

THENCE North 54 degrees 00' West by land of said Nichols College, for a distance of one hundred and seven hundredths (100.07) feet to an iron pin on the southerly line of a thirty-three (33) foot right of way and land of said Nichols College;

THENCE North 36 degrees 00' East by the Southeasterly line of said right of way for a distance of one hundred sixty-seven and sixty-three hundredths (167.63) feet to an iron pin on the southwesterly line of said Tanyard Road;

THENCE South 7 degrees 39' East by the southwesterly line of said Tanyard Road for a distance of one hundred one and three hundredths (101.03) feet to the point of beginning.

Together with a right of way thirty-three (33) feet in width northwesterly of and parallel to the third (3rd) course described above.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The Mortgagee further reserves the right to open the bidding at the time, date and place appointed for sale, and if no bids are received, or the bids received are deemed unacceptable to Mortgagee, to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation.

Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of

the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to bid and be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale at the offices of Murphy & Lupan, P.A., 5 Commonwealth Road, Natick, Massachusetts 01760. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of any typographical error in this publication. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY,

FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY-

Present holder of said mortgage,

By its attorney,

Michael J. Murphy

Murphy & Lupan, P.A.

5 Commonwealth Road

Natick, MA 01760

Tel: (508) 650-9252

May 26, 2023

June 2, 2023

June 9, 2023

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 Patricia A. O'Keefe to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for New Penn Financial, LLC, dated September 8, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56000, Page 173, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated February 11, 2022, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67347, Page 261, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for New Penn Financial, LLC, its successors and assigns to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on July 10, 2020, in Book No. 62765, at Page 196

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 4:00 PM on June 16, 2023, on the mortgaged premises located at 29 Park Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

ALL CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON OF EVERY NATURE AND DESCRIPTION AND ALL THE PRIVILEGES AND APPURTENANCES THERETO BELONGING, SITUATED IN THE TOWN OF WEBSTER, WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF SOUTH SLATER STREET, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A STAKE ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF SAID SOUTH SLATER STREET AND AT LAND OF ONE CLIFFORD D. HALL;

THENCE NORTHEASTERLY ALONG SAID HALL LAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) FEET TO A STAKE AT LAND OF ONE TOOMEY;

THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG LAND OF SAID TOOMEY, SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET TO A STAKE AT LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OF JOSEPH A. PATENAUE AND ARTHUR CHOINIÈRE;

THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG THE SAID LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OF JOSEPH A. PATENAUE AND ARTHUR CHOINIÈRE, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) FEET TO A STAKE AT SAID SOUTH SLATER STREET;

THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID SOUTH SLATER STREET SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

PARCEL ID: 26-A-56-0

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41406, Page 79.

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 Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) 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

23139

May 19, 2023

May 26, 2023

June 2, 2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Worcester Division

Docket No. WO23P1603EA

Estate of:

Patricia T. DeBassio

Date Of Death:

March 10, 2023

INFORMAL PROBATE

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner

Lori A. Patterson of Webster MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate

Lori A. Patterson of Webster MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the 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.

June 2, 2023

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. WO23P1689EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

David Paul Cortese

Also Known As:

David P Cortese

Date of Death: 07/07/2022

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Andrea L. Cortese of East Douglas MA**

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

Richard Rafferty of Worcester MA 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 06/20/2023.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC).

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 19, 2023
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
June 2, 2023

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
CASE NO. 23 SM 001939
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Crystal A. Saad;

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):

West Coast Servicing

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 3 Lake Parkway, given by **Crystal A. Saad to Beneficial Massachusetts, Inc., dated February 2, 2004,** and recorded at Worcester County Registry of Deeds on February 2, 2004, in Book No. 32757, at Page 261 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 6/26/2023 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on 05/10/ 2023.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

June 2, 2023

SPORTS



Nick Ethier

Nick Ethier

Bay Path's Sam Buchanan gets her pitching arm up over her head to generate speed.

First baseman Savannah Steiner of Bay Path catches the ball while stretching to force out Nipmuc's Kara Johnson.

Nipmuc again beats Bay Path, this time in Central Mass. Tournament

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

CHARLTON — Come postseason time, Nipmuc Regional continues to be a thorn in the Bay Path Regional varsity softball team's side. A year ago the Warriors bested the Minutemen twice, first in the Central Mass. Athletic Directors Association's (CMADA) Class B Tournament, 5-0, and again in the Division 4 State Tournament Round of 32, 8-7. Fast forward to this spring and Bay Path again met, this time in the quarterfinals of the CMADA Class B bracket on Tuesday, May 23. And, unfortunately for the fourth seeded Minutemen, the end result remained the same. The fifth ranked Warriors won the game, 11-0. "They came here to play. That was the biggest difference," said Bay Path head coach Rick Carrero. "We're the home team, we have an opportunity to beat this team after they knocked us out twice last year,

and they looked like they were the home team that was ready to get back at us. It should have been the other way around." Carrero noted that the team's energy needed to be different. "That has to come from our team. The energy can't come from the coaches," he explained. "You have to want to be here and want to play softball and defend your house." Luckily for the Minutemen, their season is far from over. The State Vocational Large Schools Tournament kicked off on Tuesday, May 30 (after press time), as third seeded Bay Path played at No. 2 Monty Tech. Another appearance in the Division 4 State Tournament comes after the State Vocational. "We have a lot to play for," said Carrero. Nipmuc scored once in the top of the first inning, but Bay Path pitcher Sam Buchanan worked her way out of a jam and left the bases loaded with Warriors. Buchanan then held Nipmuc



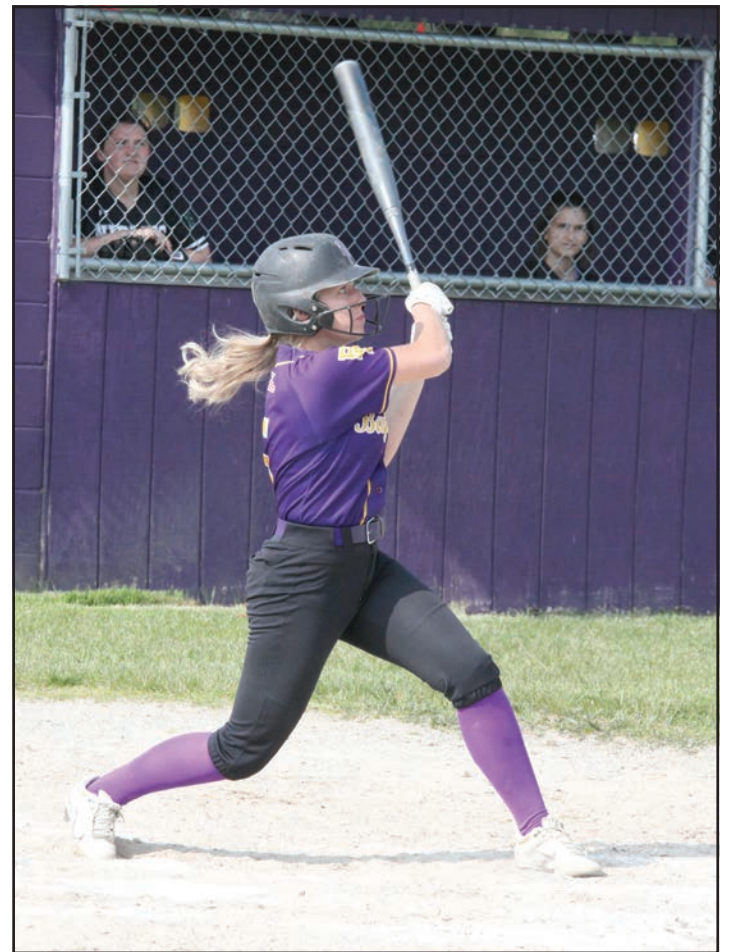
Nick Ethier

Miranda Linde of Bay Path connects on a pitch over the plate.

scoreless in the second frame. Single runs in the third and fifth innings, though, ballooned the Warriors' lead to 3-0 as the Minutemen couldn't get their bats going against pitcher Janelle Scirocco, whose changeup posed a problem. "We weren't learning. There were several

times when batters had two balls and no strikes, and they were swinging at a changeup and popping up. We're a better hitting team than that," said Carrero, whose team finished with five hits (two by Grace Jones and one each by Katie Magnusson, Buchanan and Savannah

Steiner). Nipmuc put the game away with two runs in the sixth inning and six more in the seventh to account for the 11-0 final. "They're too good to lose 11-0, and that's no knock against Nipmuc. We shouldn't be losing to anybody on our schedule 11-0," said



Nick Ethier

Bay Path's Anna Lehtola follows through on her swing and watches the ball sail into the outfield.

Carrero, citing a lack of focus. An example of poor focus, Carrero noted, was the team's shaky defense. The Minutemen committed nine errors, as nearly all of Buchanan's runs against were unearned. "When you're making errors on plays you should be making, that's a focus issue,"

said Carrero. "That's not a talent issue." When asked if his team will rebound, Carrero started with one emphatic word. "Absolutely," he said. "They have it. It's not the skill, it was just the focus. They've got to come mentally prepared to play." The Minutemen

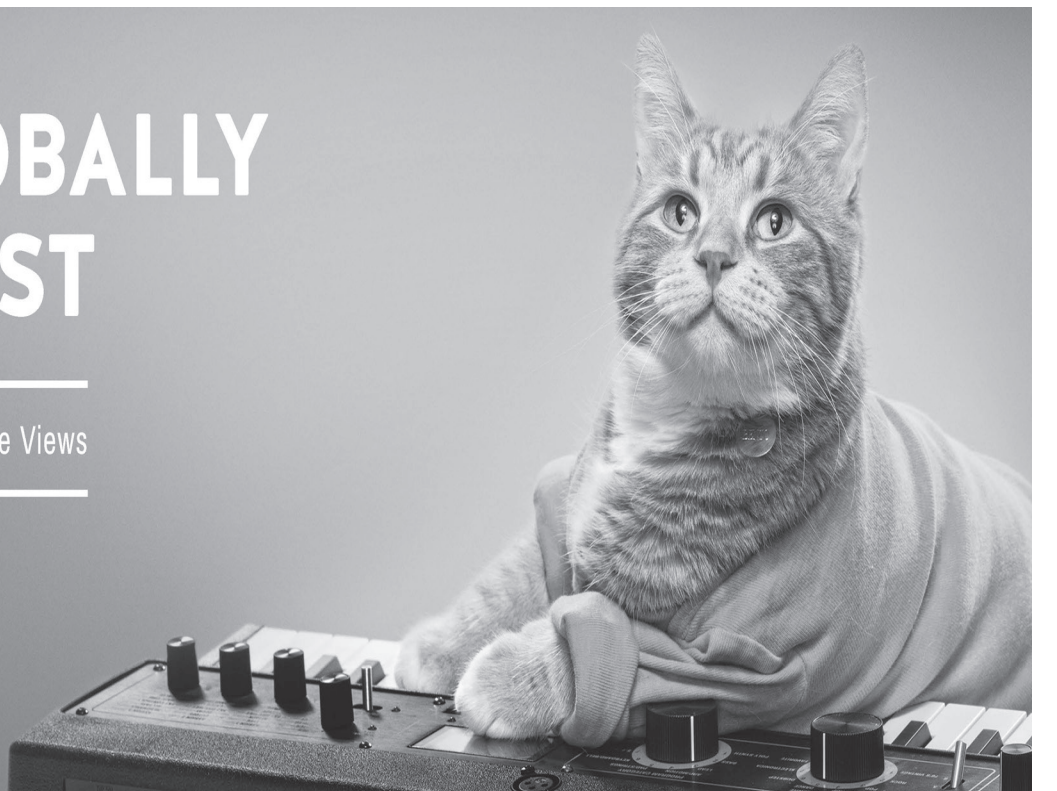
played a CMADA consolation round game against No. 6 Oakmont Regional and put up a bigger fight, ultimately losing by one run, 11-10. Bay Path will take its 14-6 record into the State Tournament, with the brackets being released after press time.

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PEARLE L. CRAWFORD (DUDLEY) LIBRARY

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508-949-8021
Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!
To register, go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021

PRE-K POWER STORYTIME
Tuesdays @ 11:00AM
Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time! We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

TODDLER TIME
Wednesdays @ 11:00AM and 3:45PM
Come join us for 'Toddler Time!' We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs! This program is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

QUILTING GROUP
Wednesdays @ 1:30PM – beginning March 8th
All quilters and would-be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

LEARN TO PLAY DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
Thursdays @ 6:00PM
"Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama? We have an experienced Dungeon Master ready to run a new game of Dungeons and Dragons, the world's number one role playing game. We are missing just one thing ... YOU! This is for those that are looking to learn more about playing and do some short adventures!"

QCC announces Dean and Merit Lists

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has released its Spring 2023 Semester Dean and Merit Lists. A total of 439 students were named to the college's Dean's List and 826 students were named to the Merit List.

Dean's List
Students who meet the criteria below and have earned 12 or more credits in a given semester are named to the Dean's List:

All grades must be "C" or higher. (No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted).

Semester Quality Point Average (QPA) must be 3.50 or higher, and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher.

All courses must be college level

Auburn: Logan Alexander, Emily Briddon, Jacqueline Cetrone, Zoe Coleman, Kelly Do, Erika Goff, Daquan Gooch, Emelis Henriquez, Angel Medina, Chanel Napoli, David Zona

Blackstone: Reno Caretta, Jacob Ridlon, Declan Shave

Brookfield: Emily Pope, Tay-Lynne Pope, Vanessa VanGerven

Charlton: Molly Cloutier, Emanuel Desouza, Zenyah Figueroa, Jordan Goulas, Jordan Keefe, Kellen Kinnes, Vitor Kuhn Scariot, Haley LaFortune, Jessica Lapierre, Amanda McDermott, Alexia McFarlin, Chase McKenney, Nicole Mulvey, Hanna Palmer, Jordyn Poirier, John Price, Maged Samwaeil, Dylan Smaltz

Cherry Valley: Cilia Lannon
Dudley: Anthony Awad, Mina Boktor, Isabella Freitas, Thalia Hernandez, Nicole Karp, Emily Kolodziejczak, Christopher Lincoln, Amanda Wisnowski

East Brookfield: Grace Haight

East Douglas: Caroline Beaird, Hayden Krasner, Hannah Rosenkrantz, Ashley Schofield

Fiskdale: Drew Howard

Grafton: Jeremy Barrett, Evan Ducharme, Harrison Klumpenaar, Brinna Smith

Holland: Haley Dulmaine, Zane Salameh

Leicester: Camden Crocker, Nikolas Dagostino, Jason Edson, Jackie Long, Cassidy Saksa

Milford: Shanay Patel, Amanda Silva

Millbury: Gabriella Bianchi, Clarence Johnson, Madison LeClaire, Eric Renaud, Julia Silva Santiago, Nicholas Terp, Stephanie Xiao

Millville: Amelia Tober

North Brookfield: Liam Carlson, Deborah Hill

North Grafton: Fadi Alkoht, Sean Manning, Holly Martin

North Oxford: Shannen Hennessy, Gracyn Mauch

Northbridge: Vivian Adams, Bronte Chosta, Nicholas Cleary

Oxford: Joseph Gallant, Allison Hamel, Ashley Hamel, Chloe Hatstat, Blake Lentine, Amanda Listewnik, Brandon Pen, Julie Viola, Tyler Wilson

Rochdale: Stephen Collins, Kailyn Orrell

South Grafton: Nicholas Fobert

Southbridge: Kandy Alvarado, Kendall Barton, Evan Duffey, Bianca Fantaroni, Daniel Fuentes, Rosalie Groleau, Giovanni Hernandez, Anthony Lang, Emily Maldonado, Jacob McDonald, Ogochukwu Nwasolu, Abigail St. Laurent, Venus Streeter, Payton Vega, Amber Warden

Spencer: Matthew Heffernan, Thomas Heffernan, Lourdes Morales, Kyle Paquette, Kyle Sadusky, Yujia Wei

Sturbridge: Abby Arena, Brian Gagnon, Ryan Manners, Zoe Melanson

Sutton: Aliyssa Courville, Katherine Fields, Conor Hickey, Disha Khanna, Amanda Moulton, Tehreem Zainab

Upton: Adrienne Guertin

Uxbridge: Hailey Bergman, Antonio Demalia, Alexandra Gonzaga, Abigail Hanscom, Solomon LeFrancois, Jeremy Lutton, Nicholas Maracle, Justin Meola, Abigail Vanderbrug

Wales: Jalissa Gardner

Webster: Makayla Blanchard, Ashley Denham, Sean Flynn, Hlaing Htoo, Karma Lama, Falonne Modjom, Kasey Pechie, Jullia Pinheiro, Beatriz Roman, Kyle VanCott, Tyler Verrier

West Upton: Logan Quinn, Omer Rona

Whitinsville: Alison Beaupre, Melissa Sue Chenevert, Hunter Fabri, Alianna Georges, Patrick Spain

Merit List

Students who meet the criteria below and have earned six or more credits in a given semester, but fewer than 12 credits, are named to the Merit List:

All grades must be "C" or higher. (No grades of "I" or "X" are permitted).

Semester Quality Point Average (QPA) must be 3.50 or higher, and cumulative QPA must be 2.00 or higher.

All courses must be college level

Auburn: Zahraa Alshammari, Diana Bies, Hannah Chapdelaine, Angela DiTommaso, Laura Keister, Paul Landry, Hao Mai, Emily Mills, Anthony Miranda, Maria Misenti, Aidan Owusu Mensah, Julia Paz, Matti Phaneuf, Sara Ruffi, Matthew Seaman, Cameron

Open to ages 10+, children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for this free program.

KNIT & CROCHET GROUP
Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

LEGO CLUB
Mondays @4:00PM
Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

POKEMON CARD TRADING
Tuesdays @ 4:00PM
Children are invited to bring their Pokemon cards for informal card trading and discussion.

ART EXHIBIT BY ANNE TISDELL
Throughout the month of May
The Pearle will host an exhibit of works by local artist Anne Tisdell, open to the public during regular library hours.

PEARLE JAM: MASS-CONN-FUSION
Thursday, June 1 6:00PM-7:45PM

The annual Pearle Jam concert series kicks off with Mass-Conn-Fusion, playing songs from the 60s to today's top hits.

Free; Children under 12 must be accompanied by

an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

CHAIR YOGA WITH JULIE
Saturday, June 3 12:30PM-1:30PM
Instructor Julie St. Francis will lead a chair yoga class for all ages. Chair yoga is a gentle practice in which poses are performed while seated or with the aid of the chair, and is perfect for seniors or those with mobility issues.

Free; sponsored by the Friends of the Library.
Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

PAINT NIGHT
Thursday, June 8 6:00PM-7:45PM

Returning favorite Jean Walker will lead a paint class intended for those 16 years of age and older.

Space is limited, so registration is required.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

DEB'S SING AND SWING
Thursday, June 15 10:30AM-11:15AM

This is an interactive program featuring singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, bean-bags, scarves, and pom poms. These programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!

Children 12 and under need to be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

TRAVEL FILM: NEW ENGLAND
Thursday, June 22 6:30PM-7:30PM

Visit some of the iconic locations in New England and get some ideas for summer vacation destinations with a video tour of New England.

Free popcorn and water provided.

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

SUMMER READING KICKOFF!
Saturday, June 24 11:00AM-12:30AM

Come and meet Gilbert the Party Pig and Violet! You will get a chance to see them do tricks, feed them, and some get some fun photos with them!

While you are here you can sign up for Summer Reading!!!!

Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment.

SING ALONG MOVIE: ENCANTO
Monday, June 26 3:00PM-5:00PM

Join us for popcorn and sing along with the movie "Encanto."

All children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

ADULT BOOK GROUP
Monday, June 26 6:00PM-7:00PM

All are welcome to join our adult book group for a discussion of this month's title, My Beloved World, by Sonia Sotomayor

Copies of the current title are available at the circulation desk one month prior to the meeting.

CROCHET A SCARF
Monday, June 26 6:00PM-7:00PM

Crochet a scarf to keep or give away. Learn the basics of crochet. You will get a hook and a skein of yarn. This is for ages 10+.

This is a 6 week class, register for the first class only!

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment

DROP IN CRAFT: MAKE A SHRINKY-DINK KEYCHAIN
Tuesday, June 27 2:00PM-4:00PM

Drop in and create your own keychain and then watch it shrink! Ages 5+, children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

LUNCH AND STORYTIME
Wednesday, June 28 Noon-1:00PM

Come and picnic in the children's room! Bring your lunch and listen to Ms. Lida read stories, sing songs, and get a take home craft!

All children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

DROP IN CRAFT: DESIGN A FLAG
Thursday, June 29 11:00AM-1:00PM

If you had a flag what would it be? Come and make a flag to represent you!

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

MAKE A CHAINMAIL BRACELET
Thursday, June 29 6:00PM-7:45PM

Learn the basics of chain mail making with the experts from Castle Nitor. By the end of this class you'll have made a chain mail bracelet to take home!

This program is suitable for those 13 and up.

Space is limited; registration required.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

MESSY ART
Friday, June 30 3:00PM-4:00PM

Come and get messy! Come and play/create in messy art mediums. This is for ages 15months - 5 years old.

All children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Shop Locally.

HELP REBUILD OUR ECONOMY!

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SENIOR CORNER

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov
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 do not have to be a resident of Webster to participate in our activities and programs. ALL Seniors are welcome!

OXFORD SENIOR CENTER

323 Main St.
(508)987-6000
Laura Wilson, Director

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Email: seniorcenter@oxfordma.us
Website: www.oxfordma.us
Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center

Lunches are served on Tuesdays and Fridays, prepared by our own in house chef! Please call @ least 48 hours in advance to reserve a lunch. We offer DINE IN for \$4.00, and TAKEOUT for \$5.00.

Weekly Activities:
Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 AM – Cribbage
Tuesdays @ 9:15 AM – Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost \$3.00 per class
Wednesdays @ 9:15 AM – Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost \$3.00 per class
Tuesdays and Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM – Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint). Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.
Wednesdays @ 1:00 PM – Pitch
Wednesdays @ 1:00 PM – Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay in your chair (2) have fun!
Thursdays @ 10:00 AM – Dominoes (Mexican Train)
Thursdays @ 12:30 PM – Quilting Class
Fridays @ 9:00 AM – Walking Club (Weather Permitting)

Monthly Activities:

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday 6/6 Salisbury Steak, garlic mashed potatoes, Capri vegies. Wednesday 6/7 Marinated Pork Loin w/gravy, herbed potatoes, carrots. Thursday 6/8 Teriyaki Meatballs, brown rice, brussels sprouts. Friday 6/9 Macaroni & Cheese, stewed

Men's Coffee Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30AM – coffee and pastry are served
SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) – 3rd Wednesday of each month by appointment
Book Club – 1st Friday of each month @ 12:45 PM – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library
Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month @ 12:45 PM – popcorn and M&M's are served
BEANO – 4th Friday of each month @ 12:45PM – arrive by 12:30PM to purchase your BEANO sheets

Like to make puzzles but don't have the room – we always have a puzzle going on – come add a piece or two.

Need help completing any paperwork? Fuel Assistance, MassHealth applications or re-certifications, SNAP, etc., we can help. Call us @ 508-987-6000 to make an appointment.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:
June 13th @ 12:30PM ~ AmeriCorps Seniors Presentation ~ Senior Volunteer Opportunities
June 15th @ 1PM ~ Ice Cream Social ~ MUST RSVP BY JUNE 8th
June 22nd @ 12PM ~ Chili & Cornbread Luncheon sponsored by Life Care Center of Auburn ~ MUST RSVP BY JUNE 15th

Please stop in and pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of upcoming events. You do not have to be an Oxford resident – ALL seniors are welcome!

tomatoes, green beans.

New Covid-19 Treatment Hotline: Have you tested positive for Covid-19? Telehealth is a quick and free way to see if you're eligible for Covid-19 treatment. Just call 1-833-273-6330. Clinicians are available every day from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm EST.

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

Life Care of Auburn will conduct free blood pressure screenings on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 9:30 am.

Join us for Soup Social at the Senior Center on Monday, June 5th at 11:30 am. Sponsored by Christopher Heights. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Life Care of Auburn is sponsoring a Dessert Social at the Senior Center on Monday, June 12th at 12:00 pm. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Come celebrate our June birthdays on Wednesday, June 14th! Cake will be served at 12:00 pm. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

REC Farmer's Market returns every Thursday starting Thursday, June 15th from 1:00 – 2:30 pm on the Town Hall front lawn.

Webster Manor is sponsoring an Ice Cream Social on Thursday, June 15th at 12:00 pm. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

DID YOU KNOW??? The Webster Senior Center has a table shuffleboard with pucks available to play. If you know how to play and how to score, come check it out!!!

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

Progressive Line Dancing with Forty Arroyo on Fridays, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Cost: \$3.00 per class. (Please note: there will not be a line dance class on Friday, June 16th).

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm. Why not sign up for lunch, come early and spend the day!

Do you like to play cribbage? Our weekly cribbage group now 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 6-card or 13-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!

Trip 1: The Texas Tenors in Concert at Danversport Yacht Club, Danvers, MA on Wednesday, June 21st. Trip price of \$119.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, and show ticket. Trip 2: The Corvettes Doo Wop Revue and traditional Lobsterbake at Fosters in York Maine on Wednesday, August 9th. Trip Price of \$119.00 includes transportation, lobster (or chicken BBQ) luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, & show ticket. Our trips sell out quickly so don't wait to reserve your seat! Trip prices do not include bus driver gratuity. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

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

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, at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.

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

Bay Path's David Macharia: An LPN, a leader and a resident care manager

CHARLTON — "I have a great sense of responsibility. I strive to improve the quality of life of all residents," said David Macharia, a licensed practical nurse and a 2019 alumnus of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy.

Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, is grateful for Macharia's sharing updates of his nursing journey.

"David is caring, attentive, patient and gracious, and he does it all with utmost humility," Bolandrina explained.

"He was equally attentive when he was a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. With all the nurse burnout, especially during COVID, it's refreshing to see a nurse maintain being patient-focused," Bolandrina added.

Macharia's care, leadership, and demeanor are what have made him a top nurse, well-suited for the resident care manager position.

When Macharia graduated from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, his dream to become a nurse became a reality after successfully passing the NCLEX-PN on his first try. He initially worked at Benchmark Senior Living in Worcester, but his family moved to Spokane, WA. So Macharia moved as well, landing a position at Columbia Crest Center in Moses Lake, WA. But all that time, he had the leadership roles on the horizon.

His mother, who is also a nurse was his inspiration and encouraged him to "go for it."

"I went for it" and I endured, even the rigorous 10-month practical nursing program," said Macharia. "I started the resident care manager position last April and I am enjoying the new role. I finally have a great work-life balance."

As resident care manager, Macharia reports directly to the Director of Nursing Services. His primary focus areas include development and documenting care plans and changes in resident condition and quality assurance of care.

While at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Macharia was elected Student Representative, was a member of the UNICEF Club, a member of the Mock Code Team, a recipient of MassHire Grant, District & State Champion for SkillsUSA Medical Math earning silver medals, attendee for SafeTALK and Innovation Summit at Northeastern University, nominee for Clinical Excellence Award and the Massachusetts Vocational Association Outstanding Post-Secondary Student of the Year Award. He is certified in Mental Health First Aid and Dementia Care.

Prior to moving to WA, he was instrumental in facilitating scholarships for current practical nursing



David Macharia

students. He continues with his philanthropy, which he says is very uplifting.

"I am abundantly blessed, and I am forever grateful," Macharia said.

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy
Bay Path Practical Nursing is a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Visit www.baypath.net.

Nalin H. Koo named to Dean's List at the University of New Haven

WEST HAVEN, Conn. —Nalin H. Koo of Oxford, a student in the School of Health Sciences at the University of New Haven, has been named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester.

Nalin is working on a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene and an Associate in Science degree in Dental Hygiene About the University of New Haven ...

The University of New Haven,

founded on the Yale University campus in 1920, is a private, coeducational university situated on the coast of southern New England. It is a comprehensive, diverse, and vibrant community of more than 6,800 undergraduate and graduate students on campuses in West Haven and Orange, Connecticut, and Tuscany, Italy.

Within our colleges and schools, students immerse

themselves in a transformative, career-focused education across the liberal arts and sciences, fine arts, business, engineering, healthcare, public safety, and public service. We offer more than 100 academic programs, all grounded in a long-standing commitment to collaborative, interdisciplinary, project-based learning.

Information is available at www.newhaven.edu.

Samantha Hadley makes Goodwin Dean's List

EAST HARTFORD, Conn. — Samantha Hadley has earned a spot on the Goodwin University Dean's List for Spring 2023.

Hadley, a student from Webster, is one of 652 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance.

Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

Goodwin University congratulates Samantha on making the Dean's List and demonstrating such a high standard of excellence in the classroom and beyond!

Goodwin University in East Hartford, Connecticut, is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of students. Classes are conveniently offered year-round - days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor's, and master's programs in a variety of in-demand fields. Better still, we surround our students with the personal support and the professional guidance they need - not just to earn degrees, but to change lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. For more information, please visit www.goodwin.edu.

ANTIQUES

continued from page 8
way to learn more about antiques and collectibles. When I first started learning about antiques, I attended an average of three auctions a week. Attending in-person offers the opportunity to view items and even handle them. The auction staff may also be available to answer any questions. If you attend auctions on a regular basis, you may see people who also attend regularly. Making connections with other bidders can be helpful when

you are buying or selling. Some experienced bidders may be willing to offer advice. Be careful when listening to people during the preview though because an auction is a competitive situation. People may not want to share what they know about items, and may intentionally

mislead you on a piece that they are also interested in. Dealers at antique shows are often happy to share information about items they are selling because, the more they describe the items, the better chance they have of finding a buyer. Many dealers specialize

in an area that interests them. You can find dealers specializing in a wide variety of items from Shaker furniture to antique photographs. When I used to sell at Brimfield, I spoke with other dealers during slow times. Many are also collectors of the items they're selling and are

passionate about their items. I learned a lot from those conversations. Happy antique hunting this summer! Feel free to email me if you make that great find. Our online auction of antique and vintage toys, baseball cards, sports memorabilia, guitars, and

pop culture collectibles is currently underway and ends on June 21st. We are also running an estate sale of a home in Chicopee packed full of antiques, collectibles, dolls, and thousands of other items on June 23, June 24, and June 25. We will have another online auction later

this month starting with jewelry, sterling silver, nautical paintings and memorabilia, other art, pocket watches, stoneware, duck decoys, antique firearms, and a wide variety of other items. It will end in late July. Please visit our Website, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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

DUDLEY

continued from page 3

candidates for the single vacancy. The Board of Health will have competition as well with Heather Ruth Arnold and Ann Chojnacki-Durgin seeking the open seat in the 2023 election. The remain-

der of the ballot is comprised of no-contest candidates with Christopher Starzewski unopposed for re-election for moderator, Conrad Michael Allen unopposed to return as an assessor, Alfred Carl Reich, Jr. Seeking re-election with no opposition to the Southern Worcester County

Regional Vocational School District, Richard Padden Clark is unopposed for another term on the Planning Board, and Donald Cristina has no opponent in his re-election bid for the Dudley Housing Authority. Daniel Edmiston caps off the ballot running unopposed for a two-year

unexpired term on the Planning Board.

The Dudley Municipal Election will be held on Monday, June 12. Voters are encouraged to visit the Town Clerk page of the Town of Dudley Web site for more information.



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WEBSTER-5 SUMMIT ST

Large & Beautiful! 6 Bedroom Cape! Gently cared for. OFFERS 1,937 +/- SF OF LIVING AREA W/6 BRS. LARGE 9,900 SF LEVEL LOT, DET'D GARAGE & STORAGE SHED. CONVENIENT LOCATION, WALKING DISTANCE TO SCHOOLS. PUBLIC ACCESS TO WEBSTER LAKE'S MEMORIAL BEACH! **\$314,900.**

WEBSTER-100 PARK AVENUE
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Featured New Listing!
WEBSTER - 791 SCHOOL ST

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OXFORD - 72 OLD SOUTHBRIDGE RD

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DUDLEY - 25 BUDD DR. ON DEPOSIT!

Well Cared for 3 Bedroom Ranch! Garage. 9,000 Sq. Ft. Lot. **\$285,000**

WEBSTER - 16 BLUEBERRY LANE

Blueberry Hill Scenic Neighborhood! Garrison Colonial, 8 RMS, 4 BRS, 2-1/2 Baths, FR-PL'D Family Room, 2 Car Garage **\$449,900**

SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER - 42 EAST MAIN STREET

SORRY, SOLD!

Circa 1900 Cape style 3-4 BR. 1 Car Detached Garage. Zoned GB4 (Business) **\$249,900**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake Waterfront Lot

New listing! "Build to Suit"
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Webster Lake 13 Loveland Rd

SORRY, SOLD!

Eastern Exposure & Amazing Sunrises! Beautiful shoreline, 3 bedroom Cape features eat in kitchen w/island, fireplace living & dining room. 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms with 1 1/2 bath! **\$785,000**

Webster Lake 27 South Point Road

SORRY, SOLD!

OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! 80' +/- sandy beach! Expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage, **\$811,000.**

Webster Lake 13 Bates Point Road

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Stolarczyk has been a member of RACM since she began her career in 1998, and has been serving on the Professional Standards Committee for over 15 years. RACM is celebrating their 100th year anniversary this year.

Read what her clients are saying about their experience of buying or selling a property with Mary here: www.MesRealty.com.

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Assumption students named to university's Dean's List

WORCESTER — Assumption University has announced those who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

"Earning the right to be named to the Assumption University's Dean's List is an extraordinary accomplishment and we congratulate those students who demonstrated exemplary academic excellence this semester," said Assumption University President Greg Weiner, Ph.D. "These students have demonstrated a deep commitment to the pursuit of truth in the company of friends that lies at the heart of the Catholic liberal education Assumption provides."

Elizabeth Cormier of Webster, Class of 2024

Julie Dwyer of Webster, Class of 2023

Michael Gevry of Oxford, Class of 2024

Eric Giarnese of Dudley, Class of 2025

Adam Ide of Dudley, Class of 2024

Rebecca Jalbert of Oxford, Class of 2023

Julie Jean Jacques of Webster, Class of 2024

Catherine Jones of Webster, Class of 2023

Deana Korkidis of Oxford, Class of 2026

Jaclyn Landry of Oxford, Class of 2023

Brooke Leblanc of Dudley, Class of 2026

Madison Pehler of Webster, Class of 2025

Cassandra Pryor of Dudley, Class of 2024

Allison Smith of Dudley, Class of 2026

Philip Benvenuti of Auburn, Class of 2024

Owen Fitzgerald of Auburn, Class of 2026

Madison Kapulka of Auburn, Class of 2023

Molly Lovely of Auburn, Class of 2023

Georgia Pokropowicz of Auburn, Class of 2025

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England's premier university for high-quality edu-

cation, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service.

The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.

Region celebrates legacy of Rick Hoyt

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Officials and residents throughout the region are celebrating the life of Rick Hoyt, who teamed up with his late father Dick to build a local racing team that inspired generations of athletes.

Rick Hoyt, 61, passed away last week due to respiratory complications. His father died two years earlier, in March of 2021, at age 80.

"It is with profound sadness that the Hoyt Family announces the passing of our beloved brother and uncle, Rick Hoyt," read a statement released by The Hoyt Foundation. "As so many knew, Rick, along with our father, Dick, were icons in the road race and triathlon worlds for over 40 years and inspired millions of people with disabilities to believe in themselves, set goals, and accomplish extraordinary things."

Born and raised in Holland, Rick Hoyt was diagnosed at a young age as a spastic quadriplegic with cerebral palsy. Although doctors once recommended that he be placed in an institution, he overcame all odds with the help of his family.

In the spring of 1977, Rick told his father that he wanted to participate in a five-mile benefit run for a lacrosse player who was paralyzed in an accident. Even though Dick had no experience at the time as a long-distance runner, he agreed to push Rick in his wheelchair for the race. They wound up completing all five miles and finishing in next to last place,

but far more important than the results was the journey they were starting together. In the following years and decades, the father-son duo took part in over 1,000 races, including marathons, duathlons, triathlons, and Ironman competitions. Additionally, they traversed the contiguous United States in 1992, completing 3,735 miles in just 45 days.

Of all the competitions Team Hoyt participated in, the Boston Marathon was always a favorite. They officially hit the 1,000-race milestone during the 2009 Marathon.

"Rick Hoyt will always be remembered as a Boston Marathon icon," read a statement released by the Boston Athletic Association. "We are fortunate to have been able to call Rick a friend, mentor, pioneer, and Boston Marathon finisher. His legacy will live on through the Rick and Dick Hoyt Award, which is presented each April around the Boston Marathon to someone who exhibits the spirit of Team Hoyt through advocacy and inclusion."

Beyond their accomplishments in athletics, Rick Hoyt and his family were also pioneers in education. Rick's mother, Judy Hoyt, fought to change laws and enable her son to be educated alongside his non-disabled peers. In 1975, at the age of 13, Rick was admitted into a public school system, and he later graduated from Boston University with a degree in special education.

"Rick and Dick Hoyt were true icons of the Boston Marathon, and together they inspired people far beyond the borders of Massachusetts," read a statement released by Governor Maura Healey. "This is an enormous loss. My heart goes out to the Hoyts and the entire Boston sports family."



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DUDLEY

continued from page 1

the final payment on the Dudley Town Hall remodel Town Hall Remodel which will reduce the 2024 budget by \$344,177 and decrease the tax rate by 24 cents. After over two hours of debate the budget proposal was officially moved for-

ward to the June town election.

Later in the night Article 9 addressed the Shepherd Hill Regional High School feasibility study. The question asked voters whether to include a capital exclusion question on the June 12 election for the town's \$463,000 share of the study. There was a proposal to change the language of the question as one

AFRICA

continued from page 2

reside in Worcester were both originally from Ghana. The practical nursing students and faculty shared stories from their African countries. Other activities included photoshoot featuring the Practical Nursing students in their African traditional and African-inspired attire, along with pinning proposals for Professor Jennifer DeFilippo and Dr. Ana Olivar. Fidelis Mensah of Worcester, a UNICEF Club Officer, from Kenya actively participated in the celebration.

"We honor our connection to Africa; we have many successful African students and alumni of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. It continues to be a joy for all of us to see them succeed," said Bolandrina.

"To date, many African alumni participate in mentoring current students," she said. "The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty is diverse, and the celebration was used as the occasion to deepen our knowl-

edge about Africa and to celebrate our faculty, students, and alumni's African culture and heritage."

Africa Day was previously known as African Liberation Day or Africa Freedom Day. It is the annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), on May 25, 1963.

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

taxpayer found it misleading, however that motion failed and the article was successfully pushed to the election ballot. The budget and school study now go to the voters one more time during the annual town election on June 12.

The remainder of the night addressed a series of housekeeping items, bylaw amendments, and other proposals mostly with either quick, healthy debate or no debate at all. A handful of articles were passed over for future town meetings, including the very last item of the night, a citizens petition to implement reductions in real estate taxes for local seniors with 50-years or more of

Dudley citizenship. Taxpayers approved the revolving fund as well as funding for regulatory and compliance mitigation and response. Articles to accept a portion of Partridge Hill Road and the betterment of St. Anthony Road were also approved. The Dudley Sewer Asset Management Plan Project received voter approval as well as a series of wording changes in multiple bylaws. Three Planning Board zoning amendments addressing site plan reviews, a battery storage system, and shared driveway standards all failed when put to a public vote.

OXFORD

continued from page 1

number of elderly housing units."

Eul came from a similar development-based perspective, saying he hopes to attract enough businesses to increase the commercial share of the tax burden by 10 percent and locate them where it "will not impact our community's historical character or congested downtown center."

"Oxford finds itself in a strong sound financial condition as opposed to other neighboring communities with low debt and healthy stabilization reserves. The future holds many challenges and uncertainties, but we have planned for the worst while remaining hopeful for the best," he added.

None of the winners are strangers to local politics, just new in their roles. Leblanc served as a selectman until last year. Eul was chair of the Finance Committee for many years, while Lee sat on the Planning Board. All of them have also held various other roles in town.

Chances are, they also tend to agree with Leblanc's saying thanks to the voters, the staff in the Town Clerk's office

and poll workers, whom she described as "the unsung heroes in our democratic world." She also thanked Rheault for running "an election based on merit." She praised his "well-known and respected" commitment to the town, noting, "We are lucky he is part of the fabric of Oxford."

"Officially, I would like to say thank you to all of the voters who took the time to do so," Leblanc wrote. "This election wasn't won because I shook five more hands or kissed five more babies. This was won by those people who left work early to make it in before 8 pm to vote or the group of people who decided to vote when they normally don't. It was won because a handful of people took the time to do so. I'm grateful."

Several people were also elected in uncontested parts of the ballot: Corey Burke and Jennifer Pearson to the School Committee, Ben LaMountain to the Bay Path School Committee, and John Bowes to the Library Trustees.

Rheault did not respond to an email seeking comment, nor did Moriarty or Perron. (Moriarty

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

LETTER continued from page 8

In one particularly grotesque tableau, a father stood out in front of the high school entrance loudly proselytizing for support of the override just so his son could play junior varsity football. So this apparently well-heeled parent had no reservations about forcing elderly and less affluent taxpayers on fixed incomes to pay nearly 28 per cent more in property taxes just so his son can participate in an organized sports activity? I think that there is something exceedingly wrong with that attitude.

I'm all for more teachers, better air conditioning in schools, plugging leaks in the roofs, encouraging the arts, special programs for this and that, opportunities for student athletes to win college sports scholarships. And maybe more EMTs and more firemen and better educated policemen will save lives and property.

But maybe they won't. Even an army of EMTs, teachers, administrators, police and firefighters, might not prevent unlucky people from dying, houses from burning, criminals from preying upon victims. Some students will still fall through the cracks and Dudley's student-athletes might not always become multi-millionaire professionals on the taxpayers' dime.

Nobody is advocating eliminating the police, the fire department, the ambulance service, the great schools, the athletic, language and arts programs. These are all things that make our community safe, and livable. But in the real world there are limits to what communities like Dudley can afford. Public officials must recognize that taxpayers' wallets are not bottomless pits; that money will not always control life's unpredictability; that substantial tax increases like these might literally force some less fortunate property owners out of their homes.

Maybe instead of paying consultants nearly half a million dollars to tell us about the deficiencies in the school buildings; apparently, things we already know. We should use a fraction of that to pay those dedicated reserve police officers more than \$19 an hour or hire more EMTs to better the odds that they'll be around when they're really needed.

Fortunately, the new override proposals rammed down our throats at the May 22 town meeting must still be approved by all of Dudley's voters on June 12. I'm urging voters to reject these second overrides. And if town officials come back and try yet again, reject them again.

Frank Magiera
Dudley

WEBSTER FIVE

continued from page 1

With \$20.1mm in qualified equity investments and \$849k in donations in the assessment area, Webster Five achieved an 88 percent increase over their previous CRA exam period in which Webster Five received a "high satisfactory" rating

Webster Five was recognized for its retail banking effectiveness and availability, as well as its innovation, by performing 143 combined community development services in the areas of affordable housing, community service and economic development

"Supporting and improving the communities that we serve is foundational to Webster Five," said Don Doyle, president and CEO. "From consumers to businesses and non-profits, Webster Five's mission is to help our customers grow, thrive and find long-term success and security while achieving their banking goals."

The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 was implemented to encourage financial institutions to help meet the credit needs of all the communities in which they serve, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

Community banks have long played an integral role in boosting the local economy and supporting the commu-

nities in which they serve. With recent uncertainty swirling around the banking industry, Webster Five offers consumers, businesses and non-profits not only a wide range of products and services but also the stability and community support that can't be matched by their larger counterparts.

"We are proud of the work we have done to help build affordable housing, increase equitable lending, and support economic development in Worcester County," added Doyle. "Additionally, the grant-giving efforts of the Webster Five Foundation support non-profits in their missions to improve access to education, arts, social services and community development."

With over 155 years rooted in Central Massachusetts, Webster Five is a financial leader in Worcester County and has a reputation for outstanding personal service, community support and fiscal strength. As an FDIC and DIF insured bank, Webster Five stands out as a financially stable institution that prioritizes the security of their customers' money. In addition, the bank's branch network makes it convenient for area residents and businesses to meet and exceed their banking goals. Webster Five continues to win awards including the BBB 2022 Central Massachusetts Award for Marketplace Excellence.

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Cornerstone Bank donates \$25,000 to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, donated \$25,000 to support programs and services at the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

“We are longtime supporters of our local YMCA because we recognize the important role the organization plays in the lives of our neighbors,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “Our donation will be put toward four programs that benefit a diverse range of local residents.”

YMCA programs that

will benefit include:

The Achievers initiative, which supports the next generation of college students with academic assistance, adult mentorship, college prep programming and career workshops, all designed to help teens find their unique paths to higher education and beyond.

The Numbers in the Sun program, through which an experienced math teacher delivers high-quality academic programming to children to reinforce their mathematic core competencies and comprehension in fun and engaging ways.

LIVESTRONG, a



Left: David Connell, President & CEO at YMCA of Central Massachusetts. Right: Todd Tallman, President & CEO of Cornerstone.

at no cost to participants.

The What’s for Dinner weekly meal service that provides an assembled package of groceries to families and seniors in need. On average, 500 meals are distributed monthly.

“We are most proud to support this type of programming, which addresses real needs in our community,” said Tallman.

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 deliv-

er outstanding service, with a personal touch.

Cornerstone 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 tag line, 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 or call 800-939-9103.

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