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*Winter reminds us  
who shows up  
and who sticks  
around*

# STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

©2026, Issue #2

Free by request to residents of Sturbridge and Holland

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO [News@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS](mailto:News@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS)

Thursday-Friday, January 15-16, 2026

## Central Park comes to Brimfield via local author

**BRIMFIELD** — Hitchcock will proudly host its first Brown Bag Speaker Series installation of the new year on Jan. 21 — Gail Ward Olmsted will present “Designing America: The Olmsted Effect.”

The talk will begin at 12:30 p.m., with an optional lunch at noon. Attendees may reserve a lunch ahead of time or bring one in. Reservations are required for both (\$10 for the talk with an additional \$10 due for the lunch at the event). The talk will likely run approximately one hour, and additional time is reserved for questions and discussion.

Frederick Law Olmsted is considered the father of American landscape architecture. He was born in Hartford, Connecticut April 26, 1822. His most famous

work is Central Park in New York City designed in 1857. Other works include the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina, the grounds of the United States Capitol, the grounds of the White House, the 1893 Columbia Exposition (The White City) in Chicago, Illinois, and the Main Quad at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Mr. Olmsted also was informally involved in the design of Forest Park in Springfield. He retired in 1895 and his sons John Charles Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. continued their father’s firm doing business as the Olmsted Brothers which lasted until 1980. Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. died in 1903.

Married to a descendant of Olmsted author Gail Ward Olmsted will discuss Olmsted’s body of work,

share some little-known facts about him and read an excerpt from her critically acclaimed historical novel: *Landscape of a Marriage*. Signed copies of all her books will be available for sale.

Gail Ward Olmsted was

a marketing executive and a college professor before she began writing fiction on a full-time basis. A trip to Sedona, AZ inspired her first novel *Jeep Tour*. Three more novels followed before *Landscape of a Marriage*, a

biographical fiction featuring landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, a distant cousin of her husband’s, and his wife Mary. Olmsted enjoys writing about quirky, wonderful women in search of a second chance at a happy

ever after. When not writing, she loves being on the water, especially in a kayak.

The Brown Bag Speaker Series is presented with support from The Shirley Frye Memorial Fund.

Also offered in January is a “Baking Bread Made Easy” workshop on the 31st. Local baker Lee Fernandez of Turnabout Farm Bakery and Brimfield Farmers’ Market will share her baking secrets while guiding attendees in the preparation of their choice of Honey Wheat Oatmeal or an Italian loaf with roasted garlic and Italian herbs to bake and take home. The workshop will run from 10am to 2pm and costs \$65. Regular fitness offerings such as Yoga, UpBeat Barre, Pilates, Fencing, High Fitness, Judo/Ju-Jitsu continue, along with Music Lessons, K-9 Nosework and additional workshops routinely added.

For more information, visit [www.hitchcockacademy.org](http://www.hitchcockacademy.org). Hitchcock Academy is a community center located at 2 Brookfield Rd. in Brimfield serving the community with educational, recreational, and cultural programming.



*Last week, members of the Charlton Fire Department stood alongside our law enforcement partners with heavy hearts as we paid tribute to Officer Stephen LaPorta on his final journey home. Members of Charlton Fire lined the bridge on Center Depot and Hammond Hill Road. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and the entire Uxbridge Police Department, and keep them in our thoughts and prayers during this incredibly difficult time. Officer LaPorta’s service, dedication, and sacrifice will never be forgotten. Photo courtesy of the department’s Facebook page.*

## Sturbridge Historical Society presents “The Notables & Notorious of the American Revolution: Curious and Infamous Characters from The Last Green Valley”

**STURBRIDGE** — On Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. at The Publick House, the Sturbridge Historical Society will present Regan Miner, the Development Director

for TLGV, speaking about “The Notables & Notorious of the American Revolution: Curious and Infamous Characters from the Last Green Valley.”

Not every hero held a musket. The people living in the area now known as The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor (TLGV) shaped and helped win the American Revolution. They fueled the passion for declaring independence, bravely signed the Declaration, supported the war effort, and were integral in the earliest days of our democracy. TLGV Heritage Corridor, which encompasses 35 towns in south central and eastern Connecticut from Brimfield to Norwich, is a region that spurred the revolutionary leadership of Samuel Huntington and Jonathan Trumbull but also spawned the traitorous Benedict Arnold. As we acknowledge the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026, this talk will explore the notable and notorious figures that helped shape the region and the nation in our fight for independence.

With more than 10 years of experience in the history and nonprofit sector, Regan Miner is a public historian and a historic preservation advocate. Currently, Miner serves as the Development Director of The Last Green Valley and enjoys building partnerships to strengthen our cultural, historical, and natural resources within the National Heritage Corridor. Her previous roles included serving as the Executive Director of the Norwich Historical Society and the Executive Director of the Fort Adams Trust in Newport, Rhode Island. In addition to her position at TLGV, Miner volunteers as Chairman of the Norwich Historic District Commission, the Commission of the City Plan, America 250 Norwich Commission, and is a Corporator at the Norwich Free Academy.

The program is free and open to the public, and is generously hosted by the Publick House.

## Courage theme of Faith in Film Series at Charlton Federated Church

**CHARLTON** — Courage is the theme of the latest Faith in Film series at the Federated Church of Charlton (FCC). On the third Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. the public is invited to view and discuss movies at no charge. Each showing includes free refreshments and a handout with pertinent and interesting information, key concepts and discussion questions about each film.

The Faith in Film Series this winter and spring includes the following:

Jan. 16 — “Mr. Smith Goes to Washington” (1939) — This comedy-drama made Jimmy Stewart a superstar.

In it, he plays a naïve Senator who goes to Washington and fights political corruption. Also starring Jean Arthur, Claude Rains, Thomas Mitchell, Edward Arnold and directed by Frank Capra, this Academy award-winning film can renew one’s faith in American democracy.

Feb. 20 — “Selma” (2014) — This historical drama depicts the 1965 Selma to Montgomery voting rights marches and the courage of the black clergy, including the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the heart of that struggle. Directed by Ava DuVernay and written by Paul Webb, the film was nominated for

two Academy Awards and four Golden Globe Awards.

March 20 — “Mrs. Miniver” (1942) — This film portrays the courage of ordinary people as it tells the story of one English woman’s struggle to protect her family during World War II. Directed by William Wyler and starring Greer Garson, Walter Pigeon and Theresa Wright, the film was a critical and a commercial success, becoming the highest-grossing film of 1942 and winning six Academy Awards. In 2006, the film was ranked number 40 on the American Film Institute’s list of most inspirational movies and was

placed on the National Film Registry by the Library of Congress in 2009.

April 17 — “Finding Nemo” (2003) — Created by Pixar Animation Studios for Walt Disney Pictures, this animated movie depicts an epic search for a kidnapped son by his father, both are clownfish and they are aided by a dizzy, forgetful regal blue tang fish named Dory. Featuring the voices of Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres, Alexander Gould, Willem Dafoe, and Geoffrey Rush it was directed by Andrew Stanton, who co-wrote it with Bob Peterson, and David Reynolds. Finding Nemo was the first film to win an Oscar in the category of Best Animated Feature.

May 15 — “The General” (1926) — This silent comedy featuring Buster Keaton who also co-directed it with Clyde Bruckman is based upon an actual locomotive chase that took place during the Civil War. While the film was not a commercial success when it was first released, it is now recognized as one of the greatest films ever made.

June 19 — “Drums Along the Mohawk” (1939) — This is the first color film directed by John Ford. It tells the story of the fight for American Independence along the Mohawk River in upstate New York. Based on a very popular novel of the same name, it stars Henry Fonda, Colette Colbert, John Carradine, and Oscar-winner



The Wales Community Pantry is about neighbors helping neighbors. We are inviting the public to join us at an Open House on Saturday, Jan. 24 from 2-3 p.m. at the Pantry, located at 172 Palmer Rd. (Route 20), Brimfield. We are looking for community members to share their skills and talents to expand our team of Board Members. If you enjoy organizing events, love writing, have a talent with social media, love working as a team, please join us for some information. For more information email [walescommunityfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:walescommunityfoodpantry@gmail.com) or call 413 245-0055. Pictured are Pantry Board members (left to right) Sue Gregory, Ella Peterson, Annette Farrington, and Meghan Matczak

# Community Calendar

## January 16-23

Friday, Jan. 16

- Jacob Edwards Library Children's Story Time, 10:30 a.m., Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge.
- Charlton Senior Center Open Hours, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 37 Main St., Charlton.

Saturday, Jan. 17

- Charlton Public Library Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 40 Main St.,

### Local residents named to Dean's List at Saint Anselm

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Saint Anselm College has released the Dean's List of high academic achievers for the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.4 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a letter grade. This semester there

were a total of 702 students from 25 states, the District of Colombia, and 3 countries.

Mark W. Cronin, Dean of the College, announced that Caroline Stewart of Brimfield has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2025 semester.

About Saint Anselm College  
Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a four-year liberal arts

college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in southern New Hampshire near Boston and the sea-coast, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, a highly successful nursing program, a legacy of community service and a commitment to the arts.

Charlton.

- Joshua Hyde Public Library Open, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 49 Main St., Sturbridge.

Sunday, Jan. 18

- Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale Worship Service, 9:30 a.m., 8 Maple St., Sturbridge.
- Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Service, 11 a.m., 446 Hamilton St., Sturbridge.

Monday, Jan. 19

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day — Town offices closed in Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Charlton unless otherwise posted.
- Charlton Public Library Open, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., holiday hours.

Tuesday, Jan. 20

- Southbridge Town Council Meeting, 6 p.m., Southbridge Town Hall, 25 Elm St.
- Charlton Board of Selectmen Meeting, 7 p.m., Charlton Town Hall, 37 Main St.

Wednesday, Jan. 21

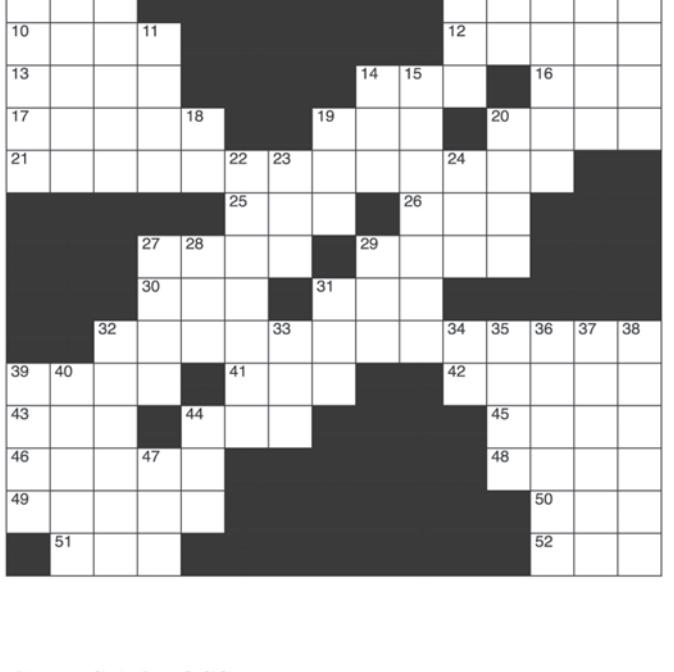
- Sturbridge Council on Aging Program, 10 a.m., Sturbridge Senior Center, 308 Main St.
- Jacob Edwards Library Open, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Southbridge.

Thursday, Jan. 22

- Charlton Planning Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Charlton Town Hall.
- Joshua Hyde Public Library Evening Hours, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sturbridge.

Friday, Jan. 23

- Charlton Senior Center Open Hours, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 37 Main St.
- Jacob Edwards Library Children's Program, 10:30 a.m., Southbridge.



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Former CIA  
4. Language  
7. Constrictor snake  
8. Demand  
10. Rich man  
12. Short-tailed marten  
13. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire  
14. Superconducting super collider  
16. International group of countries within the Americas  
17. Sacred state for Muslims  
19. Shock therapy  
20. Engrave  
21. Localities  
25. Paddle  
26. Periodical  
27. Dishonestly gained money  
29. Gain possession of

30. Actor DiCaprio  
31. High schoolers' test  
32. Mr. October  
39. Sign of healing  
41. One's grandmother  
42. Entrap  
43. One who simultaneously buys and sells  
44. Francisco  
45. Web-based data provider of marine life  
46. Type of snake  
48. Dark mark or stain  
49. Member of the Salii  
50. Former measure of length  
51. CNN's founder  
52. Witness

### CLUES DOWN

1. Acquire  
2. Console  
3. Hunting expedition  
4. Pie \_\_\_ mode  
5. Simple shoes for peasants  
6. Eurasian shrub  
8. Reciprocal of a sine  
9. Work together in harmony  
11. Grenade  
14. File extension  
15. Minute pores in a plant  
18. Medal of Honor  
19. Make a mistake  
20. Advance slowly, as if by inches  
22. Sandwich meat  
23. An awkward stupid person

24. Strong tree  
27. Commoner  
28. Electroencephalograph  
29. Mahal  
31. Congressman  
32. Disorderly crowd  
33. 007's creator Fleming  
34. Atomic #55  
35. Part of a door  
36. Short-tail martens  
37. Baltimore ballplayer  
38. Cuddle  
39. Gang in "The Outsiders"  
40. Of Croatia  
44. Body cavity  
47. Get free of

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Friday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

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Tuesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (May 25 will be our last open Saturday until Labor Day) Sunday: Closed

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#### Office Hours:

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..... 7:30 a.m to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesdays ..... 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday ..... Closed

visit [www.townofcharlton.net](http://www.townofcharlton.net)

or more information.

Individual offices may vary

##### PUBLIC LIBRARY (248-0452)

For library hours please check

[www.charltonlibrary.org](http://www.charltonlibrary.org)

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Heritage School ..... (508) 248-4884

Charlton Middle School ..... (508) 248-1423

Shepherd Hill Regional High School

..... (508) 943-6700

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical

High School

..... (508) 248-5971 or (508) 987-0326

##### HOLLAND: 413-245-7108

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Weekdays 9:00-4:30 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

##### STURBRIDGE 508-347-6463

Weekdays 8:30 – 5:00 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

##### BRIMFIELD: 413-245-3451

Weekdays: 9:00 – 4:30 and Sat. 9:00 -12:00

##### WALES: 413-245-9808

Weekdays 8:30 – 12:30 and 2:00 – 4:30 and

Sat. 9:00 – 12:00

##### CHURCH LISTINGS

#### • Central Baptist Church

256 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550

Tel 508/764-6365; Worship 10:00 A.M.

#### • Charlton Federated Church, 64 Main St., 508- 248-5550.

Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Summer worship is

9:30 a.m. [www.fed-church.org](http://www.fed-church.org)

#### • Charlton Baptist Church, 50 Hammond Hill Road,

248-4488, [www.charltonbaptist.org](http://www.charltonbaptist.org),

Sunday worship 10 a.m.

#### • Charlton City United Methodist, 74 Stafford St. 248-7379, web site: [CharltonCityUMC.org](http://CharltonCityUMC.org)

Sunday worship and Children's church 10am

#### • St. Anne St. Patrick Church, 16 Church St., Fiskdale

(508) 347-7338

[www.stannestpatparish.com](http://www.stannestpatparish.com)

# Bay Path opens application process For 2026-2027

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is excited to announce that the application process for the 2026-2027 school year is now open!

As a school dedicated to excellence, Bay Path offers students a wide range of opportunities to explore their passions and prepare for future success. With 23 career pathways, rigorous academics, and a variety of sports, activities, and clubs, there is truly something for every student at Bay Path. With that being said, I wanted to provide as much clarity as possible around our admissions policy.

#### Admissions policy and lottery overview

Bay Path's Admissions Policy has been updated and approved by the School Committee to fully align with state guidelines.

To ensure equity and fairness, the admissions lottery system—conducted by a third-party organization—gives every eligible student from our ten sending districts an equal opportunity to attend Bay Path.

All applicants who complete the admissions process will be entered into the lottery. Students demonstrating strong attendance and disciplinary

records may receive additional lottery entries:

- Students with fewer than 27 unexcused absences and no suspensions or expulsions under M.G.L. c.71, §§ 37H or 37H½ within the past 270 days may receive up to three lottery submissions.
- Students who fall short of these standards will receive one lottery submission.

This process recognizes the importance of commitment and responsibility while maintaining fair access for all applicants.

#### Waitlist information

Applicants not selected in the initial lottery will be placed on a waitlist organized by town, based on seat allocations. If openings occur, additional lotteries will be conducted using these town-specific waitlists.

All applicants will be notified of their admission status by Friday, April 10.

#### Admissions Timeline:

- Nov. 1 — Application opens and becomes available online.
- Jan. 16 — Deadline for students to submit all

application materials.

- Monday, Feb. 2 — Bay Path requests attendance and discipline data from sending schools to determine lottery weights.

- February–March 2026 — If applications exceed available seats, a public third-party lottery will be held, announced at least one week in advance in accordance with resident student allocations.

- By Friday, April 10 — Offer letters will be sent to accepted resident students.

- April 25 — Deadline for students to accept or decline admission offers.

Bay Path remains deeply committed to providing students with exceptional opportunities that prepare them for college, career, and life success and is open to all students.

For more information about the admissions process, please contact Mrs. Tracey Coleman, Assistant Pupil Services Director, at [tcoleman@baypath.net](mailto:tcoleman@baypath.net).

## Charlton Lions welcome visitors and questioners

## SNHU announces Fall President's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2025 President's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter, spring, and summer.

Jocelyn Forrette of Uxbridge  
Eden Ebbeling of Uxbridge  
Melissa Russell of Uxbridge  
Hannah Burke of Charlton  
Michelle Houghton of Charlton  
Loriauna Graika of Charlton  
Russell Sanborn of Charlton  
Camron Dagnese of Carlton  
Noa Jones of Sturbridge

Nikolas Coppinger of Sturbridge  
Kaigley Obuchowski of Southbridge  
Carol Bernardone of Southbridge  
Marysol Cruz of Southbridge  
Lauren Norris of Southbridge  
Kalie Hernandez of Southbridge  
Jariany Solero of Southbridge

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 93-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

## Trinity Catholic Academy announces open house

SOUTHBRIDGE — Trinity Catholic Academy invites the community to an Open House for parents of prospective stu-

dents in Pre-K through eighth grade Sunday, Jan. 25 from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Meet our teachers, visit classrooms, and

apply for early registration!

The school is located at 11 Pine St. in Southbridge.

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Is your arthritis care all that you would hope it to be? If not we may be able to help.

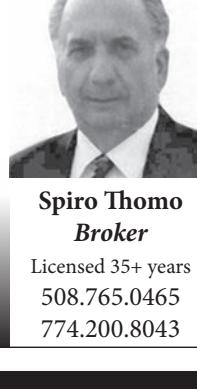
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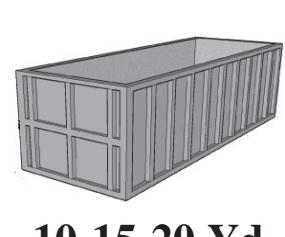
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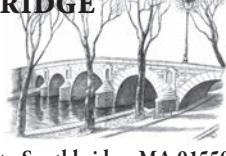
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
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BRENDAN BERUBE  
EDITOR

## January is when the year is actually decided

For many people, January feels like a holding pattern. The holidays are over, spring feels far away, and daily routines settle back into something familiar and quiet. But beneath the surface, January is often when the most consequential work of the year quietly gets done in our towns.

This is the season when budgets take shape.

While voters will not see final numbers until town meetings and annual elections arrive, the groundwork is being laid now. Department heads are refining requests. Committees are weighing priorities. Boards are trying to balance rising costs with the realities facing taxpayers. These discussions rarely draw large crowds, yet they influence nearly every aspect of community life for the year ahead.

Public safety staffing, road maintenance, school programming, senior services, library hours, and capital improvements are not decided in the spring. They are shaped now, in meeting rooms that may only have a handful of chairs filled.

That reality makes January one of the most important months for civic engagement, even if it does not feel that way.

It is easy to assume that participation matters most when a big vote appears on the ballot or when a controversial issue hits the headlines. But by the time those moments arrive, many of the key decisions have already been narrowed. Options have been weighed. Trade-offs have been accepted. Paths forward have been chosen.

January is when residents still have the greatest opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, and understand how priorities are being set.

This is especially true in small towns, where access to local government is often far more direct than people realize. Boards are not distant institutions. They are made up of neighbors. Meetings are open. Agendas are posted. Public comment periods exist for a reason.

Showing up does not require confrontation or expertise. Sometimes the most valuable contribution is simply listening and learning. Understanding why a road project is delayed. Hearing how fuel costs affect municipal budgets. Learning what state mandates mean for local schools or public safety departments.

That knowledge builds trust, even when disagreements remain.

January is also when communities must grapple with difficult truths. Costs are rising. Staffing is harder. Infrastructure is aging. There are rarely enough resources to do everything at once. Honest conversations about these realities are not comfortable, but they are necessary.

Avoiding them does not make the challenges disappear. Engaging with them helps ensure decisions reflect community values rather than convenience or habit.

There is another reason January matters: consistency. The same faces tend to appear at meetings year after year, while many others only engage when a crisis emerges. While passion during moments of controversy is understandable, steady participation throughout the year leads to better outcomes.

When boards recognize familiar faces in the audience, it changes the tone of discussion. When residents understand how decisions are made, debates become more productive. When trust exists, compromise becomes possible.

None of this requires extraordinary effort. It requires showing up once in a while. Reading an agenda. Asking a respectful question. Staying informed beyond headlines and social media posts.

As the year unfolds, there will be plenty of moments when attention is demanded. But January offers something quieter and more valuable: the chance to shape the year before it fully takes form.

In many ways, this is when the real work of community happens. Not in grand gestures, but in patient conversations, careful planning, and the shared responsibility of deciding what matters most.

### Letter submission

#### policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

# OPINION

## New tax laws for 2026

### that you should know

The new year brings more than resolutions and fresh starts; it also ushers in several tax changes that could affect your wallet. Whether you're saving for retirement, funding your child's education, or supporting your favorite charity, here's a few things you need to know about the tax landscape in 2026.

More room to save for retirement and healthcare. There's good news for savers: Contribution limits for retirement accounts are going up. If you're under 50, you can now contribute up to \$7,500 to an IRA, which is up from \$7,000 in 2025. Those 50 and older can contribute an additional \$1,100, for a total of \$8,600.

The limits for 401(k), 403(b) and governmental 457(b) plans are also increasing, with workers younger than 50 able to defer up to \$24,500. Visit IRS.gov and search "401k limit increases" for an article outlining the details.

Health savings account limits are rising too. In 2026, individual coverage increased to \$4,400 and family coverage to \$8,750. If you are age 55 or older and are not enrolled in Medicare, you can contribute an additional \$1,000 as a catch-up contribution.

The start of the year is an ideal time to review your contributions and consider increasing them, even by small



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amounts  
which can  
add up over  
time.

A catch-up rule for high earners. If you're 50 or older and earned more than \$150,000 last year, there's a new wrinkle in your retirement planning. You can still make catch-up contributions to your workplace retirement plan, but they must now be Roth contributions rather than traditional pre-tax contributions. This includes 401(k), 403(b) and 457(b) plans.

While you won't get an immediate tax break, Roth contributions offer tax-free income in retirement and can provide a tax-free legacy for your heirs.

Expanded benefits for 529 education plans. Families using 529 plans to cover K-12 expenses will see the annual federal distribution limit double from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per student. The definition of qualifying expenses has also expanded to include curriculum, books, certain tutoring expenses and testing fees.

This change provides more flexibility for families with overfunded plans and increases options for managing education costs across multiple children or beneficiaries.

New charitable giving provisions. The rules around charitable deductions are shifting in two directions. Taxpayers who take the standard deduction can now deduct up to \$1,000 in cash donations (\$2,000 for joint filers) to qualified organizations.

However, those who itemize deductions face a new threshold: only charitable contributions exceeding 0.5 percent of adjusted gross income are now deductible. Donors may want to consider bunching strategies or using donor-advised funds to maximize their tax benefits.

Getting help. Navigating these tax changes can be challenging, but you don't have to go it them alone. A qualified financial advisor and tax professional can help you understand how these and other changes affect your specific situation. Together, you can develop strategies to make the most of new opportunities while minimizing your tax burden.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edward-jones.com. Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

## Lanterns Along Main Street

LANTERNS  
ALONG  
MAIN STREET  
By CHARLES

nod. You say good morning. You hold the door. You do not need to win anything. You just need to get through the day with a little decency left over.

I have lived long enough to know that this did not happen by accident. The people who built these towns, the ones whose names are still etched on the bricks and cornerstones, were not chasing attention. They were chasing stability. They wanted a place where you could raise a family, earn an honest living, and trust that when something went wrong, someone nearby would notice.

I think of that whenever I stop at the local coffee shop, where the same faces appear at the same stools, week after week. There is the man who always orders his coffee black and reads the paper from front to back, even the parts most people skip. There is the woman who keeps a little notebook, writing down reminders in neat, careful letters. They do not know everything about each other, but they know enough. They know who likes cream, who needs a little extra time to find their wallet, who has not been in for a few days and might deserve a quick phone call.

That is the thing about small towns. You are seen. Sometimes that can feel inconvenient. But most of the time, it is a gift.

I once heard someone say that modern life is about efficiency. You tap a screen and groceries arrive. You tap another and a movie starts. None

of that is bad, but it does remove a certain kind of friction, the kind that forces us to notice one another. When you have to walk into a store, stand in line, and exchange a few words with a real person, you end up learning small things about the people around you. Those small things, added up over time, become community.

Even now, when so much is done through devices, the old patterns have not disappeared entirely. You still see them in the way folks look out for each other when the weather turns rough. You see them in the way local volunteers show up for events that do not make the evening news. You see them in the simple courtesy of letting someone go ahead of you at the register when they only have one item.

None of this is glamorous. But it is sturdy.

As I get older, I find myself appreciating that sturdiness more than ever. The world will always have its noise. It will always have its trends and its arguments and its urgent headlines. But here, along the sidewalks and storefronts of our Massachusetts towns, there are still lanterns lit by quieter things: habit, kindness, and a shared understanding that we are all, in our own way, in this together.

The neighbor eventually drove off, his headlights cutting through the cold blue morning. I finished my coffee and got ready for my own day, comforted by the thought that somewhere down the street, someone else was doing the same. No fanfare. No fuss. Just another small town waking up, one windshield scrape at a time.

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Contact Mikaela Today

774-200-7308

mikaela@

stonebridgepress.news

# Public hearing planned on Community Development Block Grant application

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Town of Southbridge will hold a public hearing to receive public input on the Town's FY21- FY24 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Mini Entitlement (ME) Program Activities and the FY2025 CDBG ME Grant Application.

Current CDBG activities include code enforcement, street improve-

ments, housing rehabilitation, and commercial façade improvements. Potential activities include downtown beautification, business development, street improvements, and public social services. All activities are based on the FY24 Community Development Strategy.

The meeting will be held in the Economic Development and Planning

Department, Town Hall, 41 Elm St., Southbridge, on Monday, Feb. 9 at 5 p.m.

The Town encourages any member of the public wishing to provide input and be heard to attend any meeting. Comments may be submitted in writing by email to [sstarkey@southbridge-mass.org](mailto:sstarkey@southbridge-mass.org) or by mail: Attn: Sue Starkey, Economic Development and Planning

Office, Southbridge Town Hall, 41 Elm St., Southbridge. Written comments will be accepted until Feb. 6 at 11 a.m. Any comments received will be read at the next public hearing.

Funding by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Massachusetts CDBG Program.

## Family Dining & Gift Guide

Too Busy to Cook?  
Ask your favorite local restaurant if they offer dine-in or take-out!  
Treat yourself to a nice dinner out anytime!  
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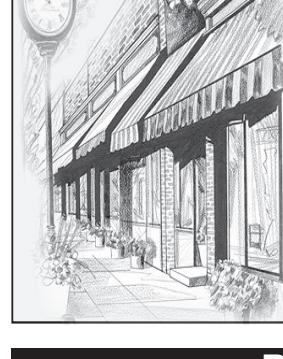


Call Mikaela at 774-200-7308 or email [mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news) to advertise on this page.



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# Community Connection

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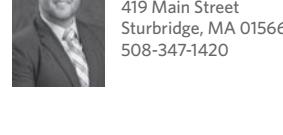
**774-200-7308**

[mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)



Edward Jones

You can't predict the future, so plan for it.  
Let's talk about your options.



Trevor Nielsen  
Financial Advisor  
419 Main Street  
Sturbridge, MA 01566  
508-347-1420

[edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com)

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# Gateway Players bring “Remedial” to the stage

SOUTHBRIDGE — Gateway Players Theatre in Southbridge presents "Remedial," written by local playwright Jordan Miller. Performance dates are Feb. 27 & 28 and March 6 & 7 at 7:30 p.m. and March 8 at 2 p.m. The

performances are held at Fellowship Hall of Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm St. in Southbridge. Entrance is on Park Street (around the corner). Directed by Jordan Miller, Produced by Stephen Jean.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors and youth under 18. Tickets may be reserved by calling Gateway at 508-764-4531. Online credit card ticket sales are available at <https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/gateway-play>

ers/remedial.

The cast includes Patrick Bracken (Robin), Tey Ferron (Dr. Hamilton), Vivian Eliza Nichols (Angel), Katie Walsh (Morgan), Stephen Clarke (Jamie), Greg Glanville (Cameron), Mary Tisdell (Devin) and Asher McCoy (Blake).

Robin is a disillusioned author who reluctantly takes a job teaching remedial English to a group of adult students.

Bitter from past trauma and career setbacks, Robin initially struggles to connect with these diverse students, each of whom carries their own burdens. As the story unfolds, the classroom becomes a space for unexpected growth, where Robin and the students challenge each other's assumptions and learn to confront their insecurities. Through humor, conflict, and shared vulnerability, "Remedial" explores themes of resilience, empathy, and the transformative power of understanding and human connection.

## SNHU announces Fall Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2025 Dean's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in

fall, winter/spring, and summer.

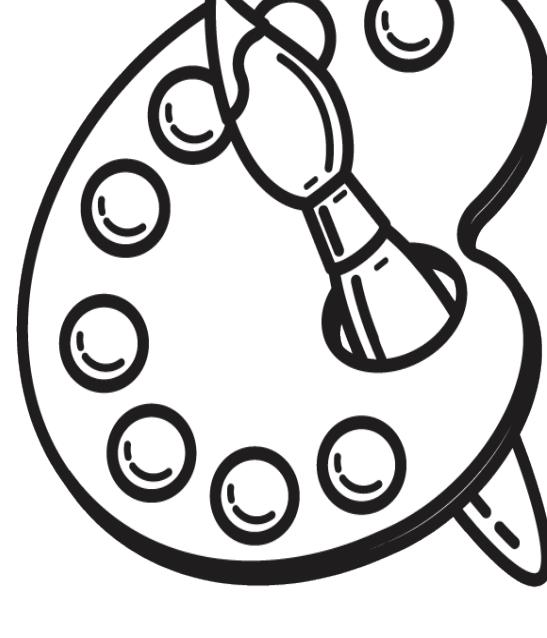
Luisauris Montilla of Southbridge  
Katelyn Halley of Southbridge  
James Maschal of Southbridge  
Lisbeth Aviles of Southbridge  
Marion Adomako of Southbridge  
Grace Morin of Wales  
Emma Keith of Brimfield

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 93-year history of educating traditional-aged students and

working adults. Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

## Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



## Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

FCART

6	2	1	7	3

TIGNTINK

5		3	3		

ISTRAT

1	2		4	3

NTIPA

			3

## Art FACT:

Various artistic activities can be considered hobbies, including this pastime that involves clay.

Answer: Pottery

## THIS DAY IN HISTORY

JAN

16

1909: Ernest Shackleton and his expedition find the magnetic South Pole.

1920: The League of Nations holds its first council meeting in Paris, France.

1969: Soviet spacecraft Soyuz 4 and Soyuz 5 perform the first-ever docking of crewed spacecraft in orbit.

## NEW WORD

### NICHE

a specialized segment of the market

1	2	3	4	1	5	6	2

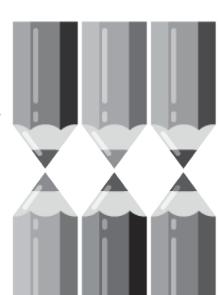
Answer: Arts and crafts

## How they say that in...

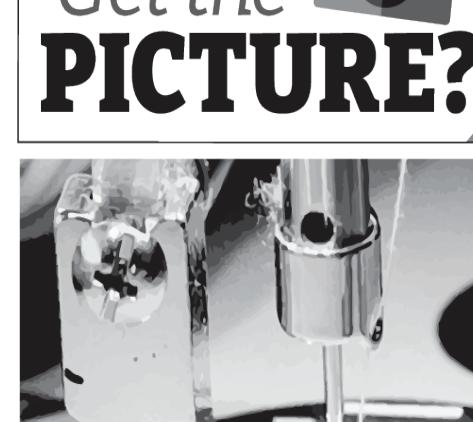
**English:** Hobby  
**Spanish:** Pasatiempo  
**Italian:** Passatempo  
**French:** Passe-temps  
**German:** Zeitvertreib

## Did You Know?

Hobbies have many benefits, including reducing stress, improving mood, fostering social connections, and encouraging community involvement.



## Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Sewing machine



# 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 Angela Broden, Alan Broden to Bank of America, N.A., dated August 23, 2006 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39630, Page 1, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Bank of America N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC, recorded on March 20, 2012, in Book No. 48693, at Page 132 Nationstar Mortgage LLC to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., recorded on July 1, 2024, in Book No. 70707, at Page 350 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on February 10, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 71 Shepard Road, Sturbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:  
the land in said Sturbridge, with the buildings thereon situated, and all privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, bounded and described as follows:

Being Lot No. 9 as shown on plan entitled "Revised Plan of Lots in Sturbridge, Massachusetts, owned by William A Swiacki, dated April 1967, Robert F. Para, Land Surveyor" said Plan not of record, and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin on the easterly side of Shepard Road;

THENCE N. 14° 00' E. along the easterly side of said Street, a distance of one hundred thirty-five (135.0) feet to an iron pin in the ground;

THENCE S. 76° 00' E. a distance of one hundred eighty (180) feet;

THENCE S. 14° 00' W. a distance of one hundred thirty-five (135.0) feet;

THENCE N. 76° 00' W. a distance of one hundred eighty (180) feet to the point of beginning.

For mortgagor(s)' title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39629, Page 389.

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

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

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC.

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

27034

January 15, 2026

January 22, 2026

January 29, 2026

ment needed to support the safe and proper function or usage of the battery modules, and one or more physical containers providing secondary containment to any of the above. This shall not apply to storage systems accessory to residential uses or ancillary to other commercial uses

The purpose of this temporary moratorium is to allow sufficient time to engage in a planning process to address the effects of the construction of large-scale standalone Battery Energy Storage Systems and uses in the Town including environmental, fire, health and safety standards of these systems, including but not limited to standards for the placement design and construction, operation, monitoring, modification, and removal of such systems that address public safety, minimize the impacts on the scenic, natural and historic resources and to provide adequate financial assurance for the decommissioning of such installations.

Additionally, this moratorium will allow sufficient time to study the impacts of such systems and develop appropriate zoning bylaws that will insure that the installation of such systems will occur in such a way as to insure the protection of groundwater and other natural and environmental resources, and the health and welfare of the residents of the Town of Sturbridge. The Town has a significant watershed protection zone and this moratorium would allow time to see if there are fire suppression options that would allow these systems to be safely allowed in this zone. Presently the Town has no zoning bylaw expressly governing the placement and use of these Systems. During the time of this moratorium the Planning Board will work to develop and enact Bylaws in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives. This moratorium shall be in effect through December 1, 2026 or the date on which the Town adopts amendment to the bylaw concerning Battery Energy Storage Systems, whichever first occurs.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and may be conducted via remote means if circumstance warrant, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/472675877>

Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post of the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Charles Blanchard

Chairperson

January 8, 2026

January 15, 2026

## 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. WO26P0026EA

#### CITATION ON PETITION FOR

#### FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate Of:

**Madelaine A Latini**

Date of Death: 10/25/2025

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Albert P Latini of Southbridge 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:

**Albert P Latini of Southbridge 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 02/03/2026**.

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

#### 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: January 07, 2026

Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
January 15, 2026

## MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **174 HAMILTON STREET LLC to Alpha Real Estate Lending LLC**, dated April 11, 2024 and recorded with the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 70392, Page 189 of which mortgage

**Alpha Real Estate Lending LLC** is

the present holder for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 174 Hamilton Street, Southbridge, MA will be sold at a Public Auction at 1:00 PM on February 9, 2026, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land, with all buildings and improvements thereon, situated in Southbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

The land in said Southbridge with the buildings thereon, situated on the easterly side of Hamilton Street, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner thereof, at a drill hole in the stone curbing on the easterly line of Hamilton Street at land of Southbridge & Webster Plumbing Co., Inc., formerly of Elizabeth A. Bourdelais; THENCE easterly by land of said Southbridge & Webster Plumbing Corp., Inc., about 193 feet to an iron pin in the ground at the westerly line of the locate in of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad; THENCE southerly by said Railroad location about 80 feet to land of Tetreault, formerly of John J. O'Shaughnessy; THENCE westerly by said Tetreault land 200 feet more or less to the easterly line of Hamilton Street; THENCE northerly by the easterly line of Hamilton Street 80 feet to the point of beginning.

Terms of the Sale: Cash, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$10,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable in cash or current funds in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Taft & McSally, LLP, 21 Garden City Drive, Cranston, RI 02920 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

**Alpha Real Estate Lending LLC**

Present holder of said mortgage, by its attorney

John V. McGreen

Taft & McSally, LLP

21 Garden City Drive

Cranston, RI 02920

(401) 946-3800

January 15, 2026

January 22, 2026

January 29, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Worcester Probate and Family Court

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

(508) 831-2200

Jarmolowicz Docket No.

WO26P0047EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Alan M. Standing

Date of Death: October 21, 2025

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Lori Ann Donnelly of North Oxford, 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: Lori Ann Donnelly of North Oxford, MA, be appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve Without Personal Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. 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 02/03/2026.

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

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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.**

Date: January 07, 2026

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

January 15, 2026

**(SEAL)**

COMMONWEALTH  
OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT

DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL  
COURT

25 SM 004049

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Hicham Elkhabzi

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

Freedom Mortgage Corporation claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Southbridge, numbered 111 Plimpton Street, given by Hicham Elkhabzi to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for ARC Home LLC, dated July 22, 2021, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 65676, Page 230, 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 February 16, 2026 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 December 31, 2025.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

January 15, 2026

**(SEAL)**

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## LEGALS

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate  
and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO26P0032EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate Of:  
Albert A Belanger  
Date of Death: 11/04/2024

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will**  
with **Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **John J Belanger of Dudley 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:  
**John J Belanger of Dudley 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 appear-

ance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/03/2026.**

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

**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: January 06, 2026

Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
January 15, 2026

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. WO25P4452EA

#### CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate Of:

**Allen A Paquin**

Date of Death: 12/02/2025

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will** with **Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Judy K Paquin of Rye NY** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

**Patricia J Parente of Northborough 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 appear-

ance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/27/2026.**

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

#### 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: December 31, 2025

Stephanie Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
January 16, 2026

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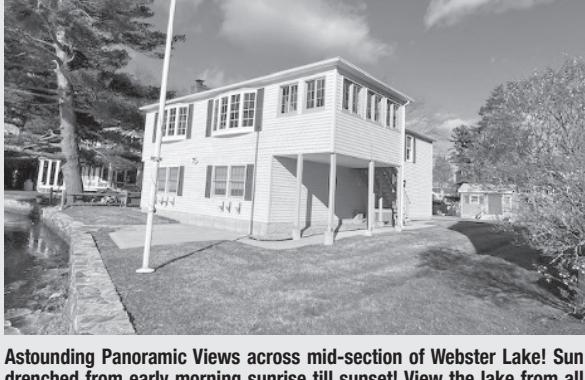
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DUDLEY - 13 OXFORD AVE

2 -FAMILY offers 2,354 SF of living area! 2 Large Apartments, 5 Spacious Rms, 2 BRs, 1 Bath each. Beautiful grand front entry foyer with the charm of yesteryear! double French doors & other unique features. Plenty of Natural light that flows into these apartments! 2nd flr apt has a private enclosed rear entry with its own outside covered porch. Updates were done to electric & roof to accommodate Solar Panels. Property was family occupied \$379,900.

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

Featured New  
Webster Lake Waterfront Listing!!  
On Indian Point # 10 "Private Rd"



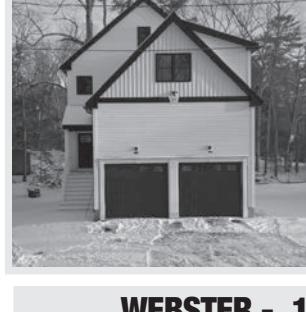
Astounding Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! Sun drenched from early morning sunrise till sunset! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! Recent Kitchen & Bath! Primary Bedroom w/walk-in closet. Hardwood Floors. 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$900,000.

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# Building community and character at Saint Joseph School's December Assembly

WEBSTER — On Dec. 16, Saint Joseph School gathered in the Nowak Gymnasium for its monthly Recognition and School Spirit Assembly, a tradition designed to strengthen community, celebrate growth, and reinforce the values that guide daily life at SJS.

Each assembly follows a consistent format that helps students build pride and a shared sense of purpose. The assembly begins with a welcome from Principal Mrs. Beth Boudreau, followed by the recitation of the school's mission statement. This month, Grade 1 students volunteered to lead the student body—an opportunity that encourages confidence, leadership, and ownership of Saint Joseph School's



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