



Free by request to residents of Webster, Dudley and the Oxfords

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Friday, May 1, 2026

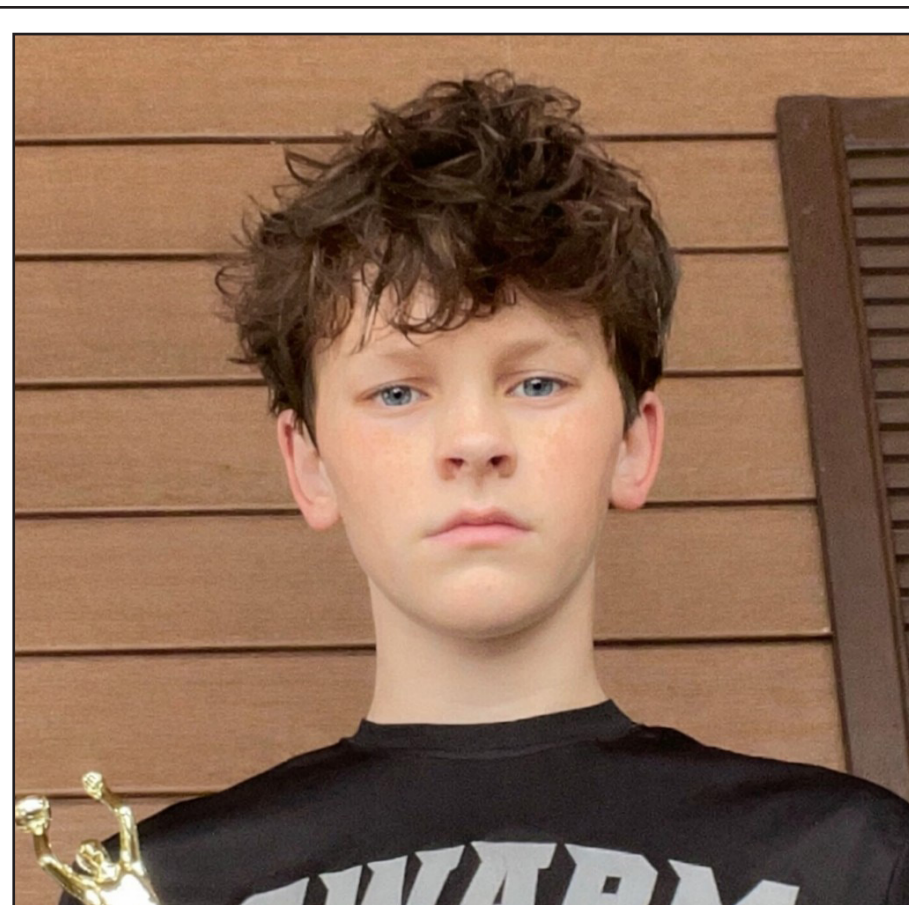
Friends of the Auburn Library announce fundraising events

AUBURN — The Friends of the Auburn Public Library announce two upcoming fundraising events. The Friends are having a Book Sale on Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Auburn Library Merriam Room. Hundreds of books will be available for purchase. The Friends accept cash, check or PayPal at the book sale.

The Friends are also inviting the public to our very popular third annual Afternoon Tea, a fundraiser, on Sunday, May 17, 1 to 4 p.m. at the Pakachoag Center, 203 Pakachoag St., Auburn. The featured guest speaker is Lewis Alderton, Beekeeper. The menu for the tea is a delicious assortment of finger sandwiches, savory delights, sweet treats and tea. The cost is \$30 per person in advance (cash, check, or PayPal). Space is limited, please reserve your seat by May 15. E-mail friendsofauburnlibrary@gmail.com to reserve a seat, for payment methods, or a brochure. Brochures are also available in the lobby of the Auburn Public Library with additional information. Wearing fancy hats to the tea is encouraged, but not required!

The Friends also maintain an ongoing book sale at the Auburn Library. Come to the Auburn Public Library Lobby and peruse dozens of gen-

Turn To EVENTS page A6



Courtesy

LOCAL YOUTH COMPETES IN FREE THROW FINALS

On Saturday, April 11, the Knights of Columbus Massachusetts State Council held their state final competition in its Free Throw Competition at the Hopkinton Middle School gym. Representing Webster Council # 228 and District 14 was Grayson Dollar of Webster. Congratulations to Grayson for placing fourth in the 13-year-old boys division.

Webster awarded \$500,000 in MassWorks Infrastructure funding for Main Street project

WEBSTER — The Town of Webster is pleased to announce that it has been awarded \$500,000 for preliminary design of the Main Street Transportation Improvements Project through the MassWorks Infrastructure Program.

Working in partnership with TEC, Inc., the town will design upgrades to segments of Main Street, South Main Street, and North Main Street including intersection improvements, traffic signal upgrades, and new sidewalks. This infrastructure project aims to enhance safety and access for pedestrians and cyclists, complementing regional economic development efforts. The goal is for the Main Street project to be included on the MassDOT Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The MassWorks Infrastructure Program is a competitive grant program that offers capital funding to municipalities and other eligible public entities for infrastructure improvements. These investments are intended to promote and expedite development, encourage private sector investment, and support job creation across the Commonwealth.

MassWorks will fund the design of the reconstruction of Main Street, South Main Street, and North Main Street to provide improved pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access between proposed developments and existing businesses throughout the corridor. Key developments include a mixed-use development at 21 Pearl St., 6,000 square feet of retail and fuel services at 431 South Main St., and access to Main Street businesses for the Stevens Mill redevelopment in neighboring Dudley.

“This funding represents a meaningful investment in Webster’s future, allowing us to address long-standing needs along one of our most important corridors,” said Richard LaFond, Town Administrator. “By improving safety, enhancing accessibility, and modernizing infrastructure, we’re creating a more connected and resilient community that better serves residents, visitors, and local businesses alike.”

The town plans to hold a public engagement meeting in the coming months to gather community input from residents and business owners that will be considered in future design efforts, so the project aligns with the community’s vision for its downtown area.

Oxford candidate forum to be held May 2

OXFORD — A meet the candidates forum will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Oxford Free Public Library, 339 Main St. in the downstairs meeting room. The candidates for Board of Selectmen and School Committee have been invited.

The forum will be open to the

public, and residents are encouraged to attend to hear candidates speak and to ask them questions. The purpose is to help educate voters about the candidates and their ideas on important issues facing Oxford, prior to the town election on May 19. Refreshments will be available.

The following candidates have

committed to participate:

- Board of Selectmen
- Philip Davis
- Tyler DiPietro
- John Eul, current Chair
- Timothy Moriarty
- School Committee
- Corey Burke, current Chair
- Erin Pepka

The Oxford Democratic Town Committee is hosting this event as a community service to help inform voters and encourage participation in elections and town affairs. If you have any questions, please contact Rick Hanauer at 508-344-7018 or Rick.Hanauer@gmail.com.

Park Avenue Elementary welcomes guest readers

WEBSTER — On April 16, Park Avenue Elementary welcomed more than 60 community members for our annual Guest Reader Event. During this special day, each classroom hosts a community guest who shares a book with students—helping to inspire a love of reading, encourage learning, and deepen students’ understanding of the diverse cultures within our school and community.

This year, Park Avenue was proud to welcome Chief Shaw, along with many members of our police department; Fire Chief Jeff Saad, former Chief Brian Hickey, and members of our fire department. We were also joined by representatives from Mapfre, Desiree—our animal control officer—and School Committee members Kelly Seddiki, Linda Millet, and Miranda Scarglia.

We were especially grateful for the participation of Town Administrator Richard LaFond and Selectmen Tom Klebart and Mark Rogers. Superintendent Monique Pierangeli, a dedicated supporter of this event, returned once again and was joined



Courtesy

Kelly Seddiki, school committee chair, reading to a group of elementary students.

by Lisa Kontoes, our Business Manager; Carol Cohen, Assistant Director of Special Education; and Kelsey Sanders, our Food Service Director.

Retired teachers Leslie Kwasniewski and Ellen Jeffers also returned to visit former students and read to new ones. Our PAE PTO President, Alysha Smith, not only joined us as a reader but also played a key role in celebrating culture and diversity by coordinating the PTO’s purchase of

nearly all the books shared on this special day.

We are also grateful for the support of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, whose partnership helps strengthen our shared mission of promoting literacy and a lifelong love of reading within our community.

Throughout the day, the impact of this event was clear.

One guest shared, “You could feel how special this was the moment you walked in—every detail

made it feel so welcoming.”

Another reader reflected, “It was such a sweet experience. The students were so engaged, and you could tell how much this meant to them.”

A staff member added, “Days like this remind us how strong our community is when we come together for kids.”

State Representative Joseph McKenna continues to make this event part of his annual calendar,

demonstrating his commitment to inspiring our students and supporting our school community.

This memorable event was thoughtfully planned by Sue Ricard and Joy Simonelli, whose dedication and attention to detail were evident in every aspect of the day. From the earliest planning stages and personalized outreach to community readers, to carefully matching guests with classrooms, they ensured that every participant felt welcomed, prepared, and valued. Their thoughtfulness extended to creating a warm and inviting atmosphere, organizing meaningful touches like centerpieces, refreshments, and personalized tokens of appreciation, and anticipating the needs of both students and guests.

As one participant noted, “You can tell how much care went into this—it felt truly special from start to finish.”

The time, care, and effort they invested behind the scenes made this event not only run smoothly, but feel genuinely meaningful for everyone involved—highlighting the power of strong relationships and the heart of our school community.

PET of the WEEK



MEET Drift

Meet Drift
Drift is a curious, affectionate pup with a heart full of love and a zest for life that's impossible to resist. He's the kind of dog who gets excited about the little things—walks, toys, puzzles, treats (especially treats!), and just being near his people. Whether he's learning a new trick or exploring the outdoors, Drift is happiest when he's engaged and having fun. He already knows "sit" and "down" and is eager to keep learning. He'd do best in a home with teens or older kids since he can get a little jumpy when excited. Overall, Drift is a sweet, eager-to-love pup who's ready to find an active home that will continue to guide him, play with him, and most importantly—love him. In return, he'll give you endless joy, companionship, and a lifetime of happy moments. If you're looking for a fun, loving pup to grow with, Drift is your guy. Drift's adoption fee has been generously sponsored.

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Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

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Free museum passes now available, including new historic New England offerings

DUDLEY — The Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library is pleased to announce the expanded availability of free and discounted museum passes for the community, now including passes to Historic New England, the oldest and largest regional heritage organization in the nation.

These passes provide residents with an affordable way to explore history, art, culture, and nature across New England and beyond. With the addition of Historic New England properties, patrons can now enjoy access to historic homes, landscapes, and exhibitions that bring New England's past to life, including nearby Roseland Cottage in Woodstock, Conn.

In addition to Historic New England, the Friends also makes available free or discounted passes to Davis Farmland, Ecotarium, John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Magic Wings, Massachusetts State Parks, Mystic Aquarium, New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, Old Sturbridge Village/Coggeshall Farm, Providence Children's Museum, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Samuel Slater

Experience, Springfield Museums, and Worcester Art Museum.

"These passes are a wonderful resource for our community," said Jeanne Samples, President of the Friends. "We're especially excited to add Historic New England to our offerings, giving residents even more opportunities to connect with the rich history of our region."

Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis and must be reserved online through the library's website. Many participating institutions now offer digital passes, which can be accessed without needing to visit the library for pickup or return.

Community members are encouraged to visit crawfordlibrary.org to view available passes, check availability, and review specific details for each destination. Those wishing to join the Friends can fill out a form at the circulation desk. Volunteers are always needed to help with fundraising events, such as the upcoming book sale the first

week in June.

About The Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library

The Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to enriching our community by supporting, extending, and enhancing library programs, resources, and services.

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall. This two-bedroom cottage near Tignish provides sweeping views of the ocean, the beach, and the North Cape lighthouse. Enjoy kayaking, bicycling, walking the beach, swimming in the warmer Gulf Stream waters, and exploring the community of Nail Pond and the many PEI attractions. Full Appliances. The cottage sleeps six comfortably. Weekly rent is only \$1,100. Contact Scott, for more information at 603-254-5032, or scottm@plymouth.edu.

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MAY EVENTS AT THE DUDLEY SENIOR CENTER

Thursday, May 7: We are celebrating May birthdays with cake and ice cream following the Tri Valley lunch. Please RSVP for this event by calling 508-949-8015 or sign up in the Dudley Senior Center if you are interested in ordering a lunch from Tri Valley.

Thursday, May 21: Memory Café at noon. Celebrate Mother's Day with Our Mother's Day Brunch and music by Sandy Allen. The cost for this event is \$5 per person. Please RSVP for this event by calling 508-949-8015 or sign up in the Dudley Senior Center. You must sign up and give 24-hour notice if you are unable to make it. No shows will be charged \$5 per person. Also, seating is limited to 45 people.

Activities at Dudley Senior Center:
Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Pitch League
Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. The Dudley Senior Center Knitters
Tri Valley lunches served Monday and Thursday.
The Senior Center is closed Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

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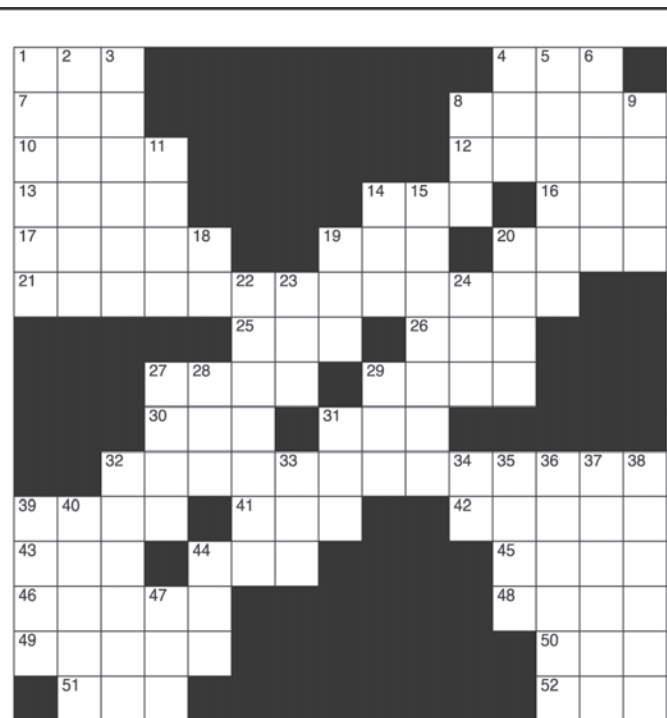
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CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Purchase | 29. American comedian Vidale |
| 4. British news organization | 30. Peyton's little brother |
| 7. Midway between northeast and east | 31. Corporate higher-up |
| 8. Language specialist group | 32. "All in the Family" star |
| 10. Fancy automobile | 39. Strike something forcefully |
| 12. Small loop or series of loops | 41. Up in the air (abbr.) |
| 13. Exploiter | 42. Clay earth pigments |
| 14. Don't know when yet | 43. Means to record brain activity |
| 16. Group of languages | 44. Small constellation |
| 17. One who's finished | 45. Embraces |
| 19. After B | 46. Brief description |
| 20. Angled | 48. Exclude |
| 21. A place to adopt pets | 49. White (French) |
| 25. Swiss river | 50. Insect |
| 26. Young boy | 51. A major division of geological time |
| 27. Unexciting | 52. Soviet Socialist Republic |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Type of whale | 24. Buffer used in chemistry |
| 2. In tune | 27. Fall heavily |
| 3. A citizen of Yemen | 28. Pie ___ mode |
| 4. Actress Ling | 29. The Brits love it |
| 5. One who supports | 31. Children's TV channel (abbr.) |
| 6. Circus performer | 32. Jacksonville footballer |
| 8. Yearly tonnage (abbr.) | 33. Helps little firms |
| 9. Quantitative fact | 34. ___ and behold |
| 11. Utah city | 35. A way to resemble |
| 14. Where a golfer begins | 36. Fingers |
| 15. Attendant | 37. Excessive indulgences |
| 18. The ancient Egyptian sun god | 38. You might be an "empty" one |
| 19. Book of Chronicles (abbr.) | 39. "How the West Was Won" writer |
| 20. Benedictine monk | 40. European river |
| 22. Not turbulent | 44. They begin the alphabet |
| 23. Car mechanics group | 47. The body's messenger |

PUZZLE SOLUTION

B	U	Y						B	B	C									
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							E	R	A								S	S	R

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN
\$477,000, 2 Pine Valley Dr, Ferguson, Marjorie J, to Ferguson, Pamela, and Ferguson, Mark.

\$300,000, 18 Maple St, Dauphinais Richard D Est, and Rousseau, Randi D, to Whiteacre Properties LLC.

\$210,000, 5 Athens Ave, Divoll, Lynn, and Leboeuf, Thomas, to Fontes, Amber Ruth.

DUDLEY
\$465,000, 10 Daves Way, Mank, Paul, and Mank, Christina M, to Garcia, Rafael Ortiz, and Colon, Maribel Aviles.

\$326,900, 3 Sixth Ave, Corriveau, Jason, and Corriveau, Christa, to Stark, Chondra Kay.

OXFORD
\$585,000, 13 Dolge Ct, Robinson, Neil A, and Robinson, Nicole, to Megoldrick, Christopher J, and Megoldrick, Melissa C.

\$475,000, 1166 Stafford St, Pecyna, Albert, and Pecyna, Teresa, to Pontes, Eliseu, and Pontes, Maria Docarmo.

\$437,500, 14 Walnut St, Polis Catherine N Est, and Polis, William J, to Culhane, Nicholas Robert, and Gevry, Amanda Dianne.

\$180,000, 145 Main St, Julian, Mark J, to North East Prop Alternati.

\$100,000, 71 Locust St, Forcina, Paul, and Forcina, Melissa, to Forcina, Melissa, and Phillips, Larry.

WEBSTER
\$435,000, 27 Ash St, Desrosiers, Aidan, and Desrosiers, Courtney, to Sullivan, William Michel.

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

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New Bocce League open to community

SOUTHBRIDGE — Bay Path Continuing Education & the Southbridge Italian Club have teamed up to launch an exciting new bocce league on Tuesday nights throughout May and June.

Bocce is a game that all can enjoy—no special skills or talents are required! If you can roll a ball, you can play! These two community organizations are thrilled to bring this sport to a wider audience. Both Bay Path Continuing Education and the Southbridge Italian Club are dedicated to offering various events for people to engage, socialize, and have fun. This new league is a perfect fit. Here are the details:

Tuesdays: May 12 – June 30 (eight weeks)
Teams of four to eight players
\$240 per team

One game per week at either 6 or 7 p.m.
Maximum of eight teams – don't wait!
Only team captains need to register for their team.
A brief informational captain meeting will be held before the season starts.

Gather your friends (18 and older), form a team, and come join us for a fantastic time on the court!

Games will be held at:
Italian American Club
20 North St., Southbridge

To register your team, call Bay Path Continuing Education at 508-248-5971, ext. 1715. Spots for teams are limited, so don't hesitate—call today!

Regis students showcase scholarship at Third Annual Social Justice Research Symposium

WESTON — Cosponsored by the Writing Program and the Center for Student Engagement, the symposium features student research panels, poster presentations, art/music displays and performances, and thesis slams from students across the university's undergraduate and graduate programs.

More than 200 students participated in the event, highlighting

Regis' mission to cultivate students as change agents in their communities, and to encourage them to serve and lead as advocates for a more just and compassionate global society.

"This is the third annual symposium bringing together the research and voices of students, faculty, and staff at Regis to explore unsolved issues in our local and larger communities," said Associate Professor of the Writing Program and Symposium Coordinator Jennifer Krusinger, PhD. "At a time when AI plays an ever-more dynamic and unpredictable role in many of the professions and our society, this

event underscores the power of our mission at Regis and our unique emphasis on the human role in identifying a need, taking responsibility, and developing solutions in a socially just way."

Students who presented their research included:

Claire Farrar, of Webster, a Dental Hygiene major, presented on "Mohammad Kochi: International Care."

Lily Durda, of Dudley, a Dental Hygiene major, presented on "Examining the Ethical Implications of Fast Fashion."

Maria Morales, of Auburn, a Dental Hygiene major, presented their research "Mohammad Kochi."

Documenatry on mill workers written and directed by Woodstock author

WEBSTER — The public is invited to attend a documentary titled "Threaded Together" will premiere on May 5 at 6 p.m. the Gladys E. Kelley Library, 2 Lake St., Webster. The 40-minute documentary reveals what life was like for mill and factory workers in and around Webster in the 1950s-'70s. The public may sign up on the library website, or by calling the library at (508) 949-3380. This is a free event.

Woodstock resident Karen Warinsky interviewed 14 people, researched about the era and wrote and directed the script. Those interviewed tell what it was like to work in the linen mills, and in shoe and mattress factories that were prevalent in the area at that time, as well as what life was like in Webster. This project is a collaboration between the library, the Webster Senior Center, Nichols College and Mrs. Warinsky. Students Kyle Busha and Miles Wesolowski worked on the photography and editing, and the film is narrated by Elaine Davies.

Dudley library offers program on effective communication

DUDLEY — Would you like to improve the communication you have with those in your life? The Dudley Library is offering a program on effective and thoughtful communication with family, friends, and colleagues.

At a time when listening across differences may feel harder than ever, learn how to listen, share, and find understanding – even when you don't agree.

The session, entitled "Listen Up," will be held at the Dudley Library on Tuesday, May 5 at 10 a.m. No registration required.

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Elm Hill Water District Annual Meeting is Tuesday

AUBURN — The Annual Meeting of the Elm Hill Water District will be held Tuesday, May 5 at 7 p.m. at the district office, 55 Jerome Ave., Auburn.

What should you do in the new year? Get your "estate needs in order". No one likes to talk about death, that is why you should have everything done in advance. Make sure your hard-earned money and investments are left to those you want. Call me for a free consultation. Also, handling all types of real estate matters.



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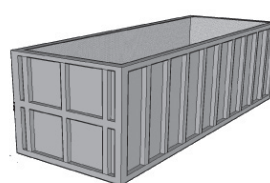
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

When a community walks into the classroom

There are many ways a town shows what it values. Sometimes it happens at Town Meeting. Sometimes it happens on the playing field. And sometimes, in the most meaningful way of all, it happens quietly inside a classroom with a book in someone's hands.

The recent Guest Reader event at Park Avenue Elementary School was one of those moments.

More than 60 community members stepped through school doors on April 16 to spend time reading with students. Police officers, firefighters, elected officials, educators, library partners, retired teachers, and volunteers all took part. It was not a ceremony or a performance. It was something better. It was a shared act of attention, encouragement, and connection.

Events like this remind us that literacy is not only a school responsibility. It is a community responsibility. When children see familiar faces from town government, public safety departments, local organizations, and neighborhood institutions sitting beside them and sharing stories, reading becomes something larger than an assignment. It becomes something that belongs to everyone.

That matters.

Students learn early what a community believes about them. When adults show up in their classrooms, they send a clear message that young people are worth the time. Worth the effort. Worth the investment.

It is especially meaningful to see participation from so many parts of town life. Police Chief Shaw and members of the department, Fire Chief Jeff Saad and firefighters past and present, Town Administrator Richard LaFond, Selectmen Tom Klebart and Mark Rogers, School Committee members, district leaders, and State Representative Joseph McKenna all helped create a day that students will remember long after the books are closed.

So did the many others who contributed quietly behind the scenes.

Retired teachers returning to familiar hallways show students that education is a lifelong relationship. The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library continues to strengthen the connection between school reading and community reading. The Park Avenue Elementary PTO helped ensure students had access to culturally meaningful books that reflected the diversity of the school community. These partnerships help build confidence in young readers and strengthen the idea that learning continues beyond the classroom walls.

It is also worth recognizing the planning that made the event possible. Programs like this do not happen by accident. They happen because people care enough to organize them thoughtfully. The work of coordinating readers, selecting books, welcoming guests, and preparing classrooms reflects the kind of quiet leadership that keeps schools strong.

Guest Reader Day is not only about reading aloud. It is about belonging. It is about showing children that their community is close at hand and paying attention. It is about building trust between students and the adults who help shape their town. And it is about reminding everyone involved that education works best when it is shared.

In a busy world, time is one of the most valuable gifts anyone can give. More than 60 people chose to give that gift to Park Avenue students this year.

That is something worth celebrating.

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

Developer Loring Stone creates a neighborhood

BY HELEN POIRIER
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

When driving around Auburn, a person may wonder how a street got its name. Streets like Albert Street, Arnold Drive, and Francis Street sound like first names. Could these names have been real people with a connection to their area?

In the area of South St. and Rt. 20 there seems to be a few "first names" for streets. This area was developed in the 1950s by Loring W. Stone a local builder who lived at 11 Paul St. In an advertisement from September 1955 a "choice development of custom-built homes" was being offered in the Greenbriar area of Auburn. The area was "convenient to buses, schools, stores and churches. They were large, wooded lots on approved streets."

Loring's family was originally from Great Bromley, England. They immigrated to Watertown in 1635; sometime after 1745 [Deacon] Jonathan Stone III moved to Worcester and was one of the larger landowners of Worcester. He married Ruth Livermore of Watertown in 1747 and purchased land from Gamaliel Wallis of Boston. It was ten acres of land and a house in Worcester near the Leicester town line and 130 acres in what was then Leicester. He was active in town government and at the age of 50, marched in Timothy Bigelow's Company as a Minute Man.

Loring enlisted in the Navy October 1942, and served on the USS Baltimore from 1943-1945 in the Pacific Theater. After his military service was over, he and his wife, Maybelle stayed connected to the military by being members of the civilian Coast Guard Auxiliary where they taught sailing and patrolled Lake Quinsigamond. He was past commander of Flotilla 1301 USCG. This also allowed them to be Lighthouse Keepers in Boston in 1993 for nine days. Loring was also a member of the Rhode Island Yacht Club.

Loring was the fifth great grandson of

Deacon Jonathan Stone III. He was born and raised in Auburn, graduating from Auburn High School in 1939. He graduated from Worcester Academy in 1940 then attended WPI. The 1930 tax records show Ralph and Alta Gilson Stone, Loring's parents, owning a farm at 128 South St. It had 30 acres with a house, barn, and henhouse, one horse, six cows, two yearlings and 10 fowls. There was also another 130 acres listed on South St. with a log cabin and a shed. He married Maybelle Masterson in 1943 and had three children, Paula A., Barbara Diane, and Andrea M. He also had a brother Paul and sister Janice. In 1945 Ralph's property was listed under his heirs, Alta, and children with 59 and two thirds-acres on South St., two acres on Elm Street, 33 and two thirds acres on Cedar Street, 13.5 acres South St. and Washington St. on the south side, and South St. and 26 acres on Washington St. on the north side. Loring himself had a small lot on Paul St. with an unfinished house. As the years went on, more of the land on South St. was being redefined with new streets and neighborhoods, and Loring was the builder and designer of the homes and street layouts. Maybelle Street was in the 1953 tax records, and by 1957 there were lots and homes for sale in the South Street to Washington Street area where you can find Loring St, Maybelle Ave., Barbara Ave., Diane Ave., Andrea Ave, Paul St. and across route 20, Stone St. It would seem that this area does have a Stone family connection.

This article is part of the "History of Street Names" series made possible by the Auburn Historical Society & Museum, 41 South St. The museum is open Tuesday and Saturday mornings 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and may be reached at auburnmuseum@verizon.net or 508-832-6856, www.auburnhistoricalmuseum.org or follow us on Facebook at Auburn Historical.

When the porch chairs come back

There is a certain day every year when you realize the town has put its chairs back outside.

Not folding chairs for a parade or a cook-out. I mean the ordinary chairs.

The ones that live on front porches, at the edge of driveways, beside garage doors, or near the front walk where the afternoon sun lingers the longest. One week they are not there. The next week they are everywhere.

You do not see them arrive. They simply reappear, as if they had been waiting all winter for permission.

I noticed the first one this year outside a house on a side street I drive through often. A plain wooden chair, nothing special about it, set just far enough from the front door that someone could sit comfortably and watch the street without feeling like they were blocking the entrance. Two days later there were three more on the same block. By the end of the week it felt as though the whole neighborhood had quietly decided it was time again.

Porch chairs change the pace of a town.

When people sit outside, they notice things. They

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STREET

By CHARLES

see who walks by with a dog that is getting older. They notice which kid has suddenly outgrown last year's bicycle. They wave to someone who has lived three houses down for 20 years, but whose schedule never quite lined up with theirs until now.

You cannot do that from inside.

Winter encourages us to keep moving. We arrive home and go straight indoors. We close the door and settle into the evening. Spring invites us to pause again. Not for long stretches, necessarily. Sometimes just five minutes before supper. Sometimes long enough to finish the last of a cup of coffee. Sometimes long enough to watch the sky change color without quite meaning to.

Those chairs make that possible.

When I was younger, it seemed as though there was always someone sitting outside somewhere along the street. Not every house. But enough that you never felt alone walking past. There was usually someone who would nod, or raise a hand, or ask how things were going even if they did not expect a long answer.

That kind of presence is easy to overlook until it

returns.

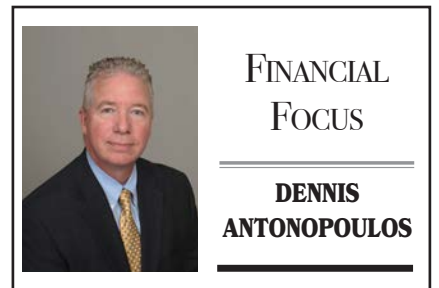
I passed one house the other evening where two chairs had been placed side by side near the front steps. No one was sitting in them at the time, but they faced the road in a way that made it clear they would be used soon. A little farther along, someone had set a single chair near the edge of a driveway where the late sun reached just before disappearing behind the trees. Down the block, another chair rested beside a small table that looked as though it had held a glass of iced tea not long before.

None of these things were remarkable on their own. Taken together, they made the street feel open again.

A porch chair is a small declaration. It says someone plans to be outside for a while. It says the day has stretched enough to make room for sitting instead of hurrying. It says the neighborhood is not only a place we pass through, but a place we share.

I always like the week when the chairs come back. It means the season has turned in a quiet but dependable way. And it means that before long, someone will be sitting in one of them, watching the evening settle over the street the same way people here always have.

Saving for retirement: Are you guessing or planning?



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Let's say you dream of spending your retirement mornings on a warm beach, coffee in hand, waves rolling in. To get there, you had a simple plan: save \$1 million and buy the beach house you always wanted.

But when retirement arrives, reality hits. After accounting for keeping your current home, everyday expenses and health care, \$1 million doesn't stretch as far as you thought, and the beach house remains a dream. The problem wasn't your discipline — it was that your number was never really your number. It was arbitrary, not anchored to what your ideal retirement would actually cost.

How can you make sure your retirement number is right for you?

A solid savings goal starts with a clear picture of the retirement you want. Think through where you plan to live, whether you'll keep your current home or downsize, how much you plan to travel, if you'll help children and grandchildren financially and what health care might cost you later in life. Build a realistic monthly budget, then multiply by 12 months to find your annual need. Adjust this amount for inflation until the first year of retirement.

Then, multiply that figure by 25 to get a sense of how much may be needed to save. It's a formula based on the idea of withdrawing 4 percent annually from your savings, assuming you retire in your mid-60s. If you need \$60,000 a year, your target is around \$1.5 million. You may need more or less depending on your lifestyle, health, unexpected expenses, Social Security benefits and other income. No single rate or strategy will work for everyone. A financial advisor can help you determine your number and strategy.

Once you know your target, the path forward becomes clearer. Here are a few tips for next steps:

Start early. The sooner you begin saving, the more time compound interest has to work in your favor. Small amounts set aside automatically each paycheck have the opportunity to grow significantly over decades.

Live below your means. Spending less than you earn is one of the most powerful wealth-building habits. When your income rises, save and invest the difference instead of upgrading your lifestyle.

Keep your debt under control. Since credit cards and other high-interest debt can slow your progress, pay off balances monthly when possible.

Invest consistently. If your employer offers a 401(k), aim to contribute at least 10-15 percent of your salary, and increase your contributions after every raise. If you max out your 401(k), a traditional IRA or Roth IRA may offer additional tax-advantaged growth (eligibility and contribution limits apply).

Boost your income when you can. Develop new skills, ask for a raise or explore a side income. Every extra dollar saved moves you closer to your goal.

The difference between a retirement you love and one full of compromises often comes down to the planning you do today. Know your real number, build a solid plan and get the right help along the way.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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Adult Programming

Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm

The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Tuesday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Tuesdays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room

Losing a loved one is never easy. Please know that you are not alone. If you need support in trying to navigate the changes in your life, join us in a place of safety and comfort with others who have also experienced loss. This grief support group is a place to find understanding as we explore our grief, share coping strategies, and begin to heal.

Yoga – Saturdays at 9:15am NO CLASS on May 16th

Join Julie or Lauren at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Yoga Nidra with Jess – Fridays at 9:00am NEW TIME

Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidra practice to start your day. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position

for a guided relaxation (yoga nidra). Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door. If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing.

Worcester County Sheriff's Office Hour – First Friday of the Month 9am-10am

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

Grow Your Local Business in the Era of AI – Monday, May 4th at 6:00pm

Join this workshop designed to help local business owners understand how to use AI in practical ways to grow their business, reduce costs, and improve customer engagement – without requiring technical experience. Participants will leave with an understanding of how AI applies to their specific business, actionable ideas to immediately implement, and clarity on how to grow locally using modern tools. This program is for adults and requires registration.

Threaded Together: Mill Work and Life in Webster, MA Film Screening – Tuesday, May 5th at 6:00pm

An original 40-minute film featuring stories and memories of working in the Webster Mills from 1950-1975. A collaboration between the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, Nichols College, Karen Warinsky, and the Webster Senior Center. Join us for a screening of our original film: Threaded Together: Mill Work and Life in Webster, MA. The screening will be followed by a Q and A.

Cookbook Club – Wednesday, May 6th at 6:00pm

Join our cookbook club this month as we cook recipes from the same book. We always have a great time eating and dis-

cussing our experiences with the book. This month we're cooking from Lidey Heuck's Cooking in Real Life. Extra copies are available at the circulation desk.

The Midnight Society – Wednesday, May 6th at 6:30pm

Love to read spooky books all year round? Join us for a horror book club where we will meet and discuss a book every month! In May we're reading Hidden Pictures by Jason Rekulak. Prepare to have fun being scared! Copies of this month's book are available at the circulation desk.

The Final Frontier – Thursday, May 7th at 6:00pm

Want to explore outer-space from the comfort of your own home? Want to discuss speculative futures? Join Assistant Director Evan Hale for a Sci-Fi Book group where we will look at classic and modern sci-fi titles. This month we're reading The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula K. LeGuin.

Friends of the Library Book Sale – Thursday, May 14th-Saturday, May 16th

Check out the Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale! Setup in the Community Room May 14th-16th.

Programming for All Ages

Library for All –Fridays at 10am

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

Paint Party with Emmerly Lane – Thursday, May 7th at 6:00pm

Join us for a special paint party designed for caregivers and children to create together! Participants will paint wooden buttons to create a heart-shaped wooden sign. This activity is a chance to slow down, get creative, and make a meaningful keepsake to celebrate the caregivers who do so much every day. No experience needed—just come ready to paint and make memories together.

Bead Therapy for Families with ZMakes Beads – Saturday, May 9th at 11am

Join Zangar of ZMakesBeads for a family bead therapy workshop. Bead Therapy is an expressive arts workshop that teaches participants the basics of beaded jewelry making and the difference between semi-precious stones and precious stones. The materials used are semi-precious stones and other natural jewelry materials. Semi-precious stones have been appreciated for generations for their unique beauty and healing and grounding properties. This workshop is for ages 6 and up; children must be accompanied by a guardian. This program requires registration.

Friends Spring Concert Series: Miss Maybell & Her Ragtime Romeos – Thursday, May 14th at 6:30pm

Miss Maybell and Her Ragtime Romeos are known for their large repertoire of Prohibition-Era Jazz, Ragtime and early Blues. Sourcing their tunes directly from dusty old records and antique sheet music, they bring new life to songs created over 100 years ago. With this unique sound and dedication they were recently featured on The NPR Show "Person, Place, Thing" With Randy Cohen. Building a sizable local following in their hometown of New York City from sold out residencies at legendary venues such as Birdland Theater, this group has also performed across the country at countless Jazz and Ragtime festivals and even abroad.

Children's and Young Adult Programming

Play-Doh Storytime – Mondays at 10:30am

Join us for an engaging storytime filled with interactive stories and Play-Doh fun! Kids are invited to explore, squish and make new creations each week. This sensory-friendly program is perfect for young learners and their grown-ups.

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm

Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces! April's theme is Origami! Kids will make their own origami

masterpieces to share with friends and family. All creations left behind will be displayed in the Children's program room for the rest of the month.

Tiny Groovers – Tuesdays at 10:30am

Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids' tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm

Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!

Teen Therapy Dog Thursday – Thursdays in May from 3:00-4:00pm

Calling all teens! Join us every Thursday in May from 3:00-4:00 PM to de-stress and spend time with Sophie the therapy dog. Sophie and her owner, Robin, are registered with the Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program. Drop in anytime and relax with Sophie!

Bubble, Comedy, and Music Show: Reading Rocks! – Saturday, May 2nd at 10:45am

A Bubble, Comedy and Music Show: Reading Rocks! features wonderful classic and original children's songs and tales. The show engages children with songs, comedy, dance, and music technology. Join us for this novel performance which will be accompanied by visual and sensory experiences. Kids will dance, sing, laugh, use their imaginations and connect with new friends. The show is crafted to be inclusive for all children, including children on the Autism Spectrum, and a great time for parents and teachers!

Teen Advisory Board – Wednesday, May 13th at 2:45pm

Do you want to make the teen room and teen programs work for you? We want to do that, too.

Join jess and Paige for informal conversation about what works and what doesn't in the teen room. Ideas? Bring them! Concerns? Bring those, too!

OXFORD SENIOR CENTER

323 Main St.
(508) 987-6000

Laura Wilson, Director

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Email: seniorcenter@oxfordma.us

Web site: www.oxfordma.us

Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center

Monthly CHATTER Newsletter www.oxfordma.us

The senior center will be closing at noon on Thursday, May 21st and closed on Monday, May 25th

Weekly Activities:

Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 am – Cribbage

Tuesdays @ 9:15am – 10:00 am Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost \$3.00 per class

Wednesdays @ 9:15am – 10:15 am Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost \$3.00 per class

Tuesdays and Wednesday @ 10:15 am - Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint)

Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.

Wednesdays @ 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay seated (2) have fun!

Thursdays @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Dominoes

Fridays @ 9:00am – Walking Club (weather permitting)

Monthly Activities:

Let's Talk Oxford History – 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1pm - Sponsored by the Oxford Historical Commission

Men's Coffee Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30am – coffee and pastry are served.

Book Club – 1st Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library

Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – May movie "The Breakup"

Senior Safety with Oxford Fire/EMS - 3rd Friday of the month @ 12:30pm

BEANO – 4th Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – arrive by 12:30pm to purchase your BEANO sheets.

Bus Trip:

Reserve our last few seats! Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum with lunch at Margaritaville Faneuil Hall, only \$129 pp



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OBITUARIES

Christopher J. Charron, 56



Christopher J. Charron, 56, of Webster passed away on April 19, 2026 with his family by his side.

Chris leaves behind the love of his life, Alyssa; his four children, Siobhan Clark, Aaron Charron, Brianna Drake Charron, and Timothy Drake; and his two best friends Tom Gilfoy and Shane Hewett.

He is predeceased by his parents Sheila and Richard Charron, and his son Matthew Charron.

Chris was a member of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 58 and the American Legion Riders Chapter 58. He

enjoyed riding his motorcycle whenever he could, whether he was on a charity ride or just out for fun, collecting toys for Brightside Children's Hospital and was an avid New England Patriots fan.

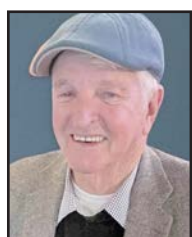
His favorite times were spent with his nine grandchildren Daisy, Sophia, Amelia, Evelyn, Arya, Jaxon, Charlie Jo, Jonathan, and Finnley.

A Celebration of Chris' Life will be scheduled and announced at a later date.

The Gianaris-Gliniecki & Beauregard Funeral Home, 366 School Street Webster, MA is honored to assist Chris' family with funeral arrangements.

A guest book is available at www.ggb-funerals.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Chris.

Maurice William Healy Jr., 91



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Maurice William Healy Jr., fondly known as Bill, on Thursday, April 23, 2026, his 91st birthday.

Mr. Healy was born to Maurice William Healy Sr. and Margaret Elizabeth Berger Healy of Webster, Massachusetts.

Bill attended St. Louis School in Webster. He also served 8 years in the Army National Guard. He was employed at Wajer's Express in Dudley before becoming active in assisting his sons and grandsons in establishing and operating their businesses. The latest being JP Tree Service.

Bill is survived by his wife of 69 years, Dr. Adelina Healy of Dudley; a daughter, Anne Marie Safae, and her husband Mehdi of Dudley; sons: Maurice W. Healy III and his wife Gretchen of Woodstock, Connecticut, Christopher D. Healy of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Paul E. Healy and his wife Donna of Webster; 17 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. He

is predeceased by his son John P. Healy and great-grandson Jace.

Bill was a member of St. Louis Church. He was a devoted fan of New England sports, and deeply committed to his love of history.

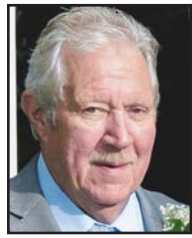
Family gatherings often included stories of the past, told with remarkable detail and enthusiasm. Whether visiting historic sites or watching documentaries, he found joy in understanding where we came from. He was a former member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Above all, Bill was a hard worker, a loyal family man, and a dedicated husband.

A visitation will be held Thursday, April 30, from 6-8 p.m. at Bartel Funeral Home located at 33 Schofield Ave in Dudley, MA. A funeral service will be held Friday, May 1, at 11 a.m. at St. Louis Church located at 14 Lake St. in Webster, MA. Bill's burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Louis Church 52 Negus St., Webster, MA.

Keith J. Doyle, 73



WEBSTER- Keith J. Doyle, 73, passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at home surrounded by family. He leaves his loving wife of 50 years, Cindy (Cloutier) Doyle; 3 children, Travis Doyle

and his girlfriend Huyen Nguyen of Worcester, Ryan Doyle of Webster, and Chelsea Gulino and her husband Tom of Quinebaug, CT; a grandson that he adored, Dylan Gulino; and his sister Kathy Woods and her husband Gary of Dudley. Born in Danielson, CT on November 19, 1952, he was the son of William and Doris (Mullaney) Doyle and was raised in Oxford. Keith attended and graduated from Oxford High School where he excelled in baseball and basketball. For the love of the game, Keith continued playing baseball even after graduation. It was in Oxford he met the love of his life Cindy, who he moved to Milford with after they married for 3 years until settling in to Webster in 1979 and started their family.

Keith was a born salesman and after working door to door sales for several years became the owner and operator of The Bargain Shop in Oxford. He ran the wholesale/retail business alongside his wife for 25 years before retiring in 2011. Keith enjoyed his summers in Westport, MA, boating, quahogging, and fishing in the ocean. He also enjoyed gardening and golfing with his friends which he played as often as he could. The life of the party, Keith was quite the jokester and spent much of his days with a smile and making others laugh. An incredibly doting husband, loving father, proud Grampa, and reliable brother, Keith will be forever missed by all. The wake will be held on Friday, May 1 from 4-7pm at the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School St. The funeral will be held on Saturday, May 2, with a Mass at 10am at Saint Louis Church, 15 Lake St. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. Donations in his name may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105. www.websterfunerals.com

EVENTS

continued from page A1

tly used adult, young adult and children's books, DVDs and CDs any time that the library is open. Choose from popular titles and old favorites. Book prices are posted in the lobby. See the Auburn Public Library website for the library hours (<http://auburnlibrary.org>).

Friends of the Auburn Public Library is an independent, non-profit 501(c)3, volunteer organization ded-

icated to raising money through special events such as the Afternoon Tea, annual Calendar Drawings, various Literary presentations, book sales, monetary donations and other activities, and to donate those funds to the Library for materials, services and programs not funded through the library's municipal budget. Watch for all the upcoming Friends event dates. You will find notices in the Auburn Library Lobby and postings on our Facebook group page 'Friends of the Auburn

Public Library - Auburn, Massachusetts'. Come join the Friends. Meetings are typically held the 4th Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Merriam Room (please check the Library Calendar in case of a change.) New members are always welcome! And please add your email to our contact list by writing to friendsofauburnlibrary@gmail.com because you can never have too many Friends!

Cornerstone Bank supports EcoTarium's "The Secret World of Elephants" exhibition



Courtesy

Sean Duke, Market Manager; Kim Drudi, Commercial Services Officer (ASB); Julie Mann, Executive Assistant (ASB); Jason Williams, Customer Relations Specialist Onboarding Ambassador; Todd Tallman, CEO; Nicole Gaylord, Community Relations Manager; Madeline Gronski, Community Relations Assistant; Dan Zona, President.

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank has donated \$25,000 to the EcoTarium museum of science and nature, to sponsor The Secret World of Elephants exhibition.

The donation will help defray the more than \$600,000 cost of bringing the traveling exhibit from the American Museum of Natural History in New York to Worcester for a six-month stay from March through September 2026. The EcoTarium expects more than 100,000 visitors to experience the exhibit, which will not travel to Boston.

"The Secret World of Elephants" explores the science, behavior and impact of elephants through immersive displays including a life-size woolly mammoth, detailed models of modern elephants, touchable casts, interactive exhibits and video experiences. Visitors

will learn how elephants communicate, sense vibrations through their feet, use the 16 powerful muscles in their trunks and shape the ecosystems around them.

"Supporting organizations that expand access to education and science is central to our community mission," said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. "We are proud to help bring this extraordinary exhibit to the region and make it accessible to families, students and visitors across Central and Western Massachusetts."

About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model

enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone, which is a subsidiary of PeoplesBankCorp, MHC, operating independently under its own name and brand, provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities through a broad range of deposit and loan products and services. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstone-bank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to obits@stonebridgepress.com.

news

6th Anniversary
Cheryl Ann Malesky
May 2, 2020 - May 2, 2026



It is hard to believe that today marks 6 years since you passed. In some ways, it feels like a lifetime, in others, it was just yesterday. Missing you more than ever today. You will be forever loved and remembered.
~ Love, Paul, Ami, and Family ~

Thomas J. Bartholomew recognized on Forbes BestInState Wealth Advisors list for ninth consecutive year



Thomas J. Bartholomew

WORCESTER — Bartholomew & Company, a provider of financial planning and wealth management services headquartered in Worcester, Massachusetts announced that President & CEO, Thomas J. Bartholomew, AIF® has been named to the Forbes "BestInState Wealth Advisors" list for 2026, marking the ninth consecutive year he has received this recognition. The 2026 rankings were released on April 7.

The Forbes BestInState Wealth Advisors list recognizes financial advisors nationwide based on research and analysis conducted by SHOOK Research.

According to Forbes, the evaluation process incorporates both qualitative and quantitative criteria, including industry experience, assets under management, compliance history, and professional credentials.

"I am honored to be included on this list for the ninth year in a row," said Tom Bartholomew. "I am thankful for the continued trust of my clients and remain focused on providing thoughtful guidance tailored to their individual financial needs."

About Bartholomew & Company
Bartholomew & Company has been providing individuals and organizations with financial guidance since 1994. Located at 370 Main St., Suite 1000, Worcester, MA and 405 Cochituate Rd., Suite 305, Framingham, Bartholomew & Company's advisors pride themselves on crafting unique strategies for each client—whether serving individuals, families, municipalities, or institutional clients. For more information, please visit www.bartandco.com.

Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser.

2026 Forbes Best In State Wealth Advisors, created by SHOOK Research. Presented in April 2026 based on data gathered from June 2024 to June 2025. Not indicative of advisor's future performance. Your experience may vary.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.forbes.com/lists/best-in-state-wealth-advisors/>.

Courtesy

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as March Students of the Month at St. Joseph School: Pre-K 3-year-old: Greta Dostoler; Pre-K 4-year-old: Rita Dostoler; Kindergarten: Anna Berry; Grade 1: Vianna Addo; Grade 2: Gianna Dowd; Grade 3: Klaudia Piascik; Grade 4: Kenny Maurer; Grade 5: Michael Kamangu; Grade 6: Charlotte Dollar; Grade 7: Abby Rubin; Grade 8: Jacob Lopez. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!



LEGALS

TUESDAY, MAY 5TH, 2026 AT 7:00PM ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELM HILL WATER DISTRICT TO BE HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 55 JEROME AVENUE, AUBURN, MA. ANDREW SMITH., CHAIRMAN May 1, 2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
 26 SM 001326
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
 Richard Mensah and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 19 Manor Lane, given by Richard Mensah to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, dated September 21, 2021, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66108, Page 240, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated August 7, 2024 and recorded at said Registry in Book 71032, Page 92 as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated July 1, 2025 and recorded at said Registry in Book 72402, Page 96 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 8, 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 April 23, 2026. Attest:
 Deborah J. Patterson
 Recorder
 May 1, 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. WO26P1009EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
 Estate Of:
Margaret M Maska
Date of Death: 03/24/2023

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for **SIA - Late and Limited Fonnal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Martina A Maska of Webster 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: **Martina A Maska of Webster 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 05/12/2026**.

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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: April 13, 2026
 Stephanie Fattman,
 Register of Probate
 May 1, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage dated November 6, 2025 given by Michelle Ngila, Trustee of 791 School Realty Trust to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Two Trust u/d/t dated May 2, 2022 (recorded in Book 67529, Page 292), said mortgage recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 72839, Page 372, and 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 **10:00 a.m. on the 15th day of May, 2026** at 791 School Street, Webster, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:
 Property Address: **791 School Street, Webster, Massachusetts**
 The land with all the buildings and structures, now or hereafter standing or placed thereon, and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in said Webster, on the easterly side of School Street, bounded and described as follows:
 BEGINNING at an iron pipe driven into the ground on the easterly line of said School Street and being the most northwesterly angle of the tract hereby conveyed;
 THENCE easterly two hundred twenty-nine and one-tenth (229.1) feet partly along a stone wall to a stake;
 THENCE S. 87 degrees 50' E. deflecting to the right 6 degrees 36', four hundred forty-three and seven tenths

(443.7) feet to a stake;
 THENCE southerly one hundred forty-eight and five tenths (248.5) feet to an iron pipe in the ground on the northerly line of a private way known as Phillips Avenue;
 THENCE N. 87 degrees 50' W. four hundred eighty-two and two tenths (482.2) feet by said Philips Avenue to a stake at land of Ethel F. Putnam;
 THENCE northerly sixty and seven tenths (60.7) feet by land of said Putnam to a stake at the northeast corner of said Putnam's lot;
 THENCE westerly one hundred thirty-six and five tenths (136.5) feet by land of said Putnam to a stake on the easterly side of said school street;
 THENCE northerly sixty-six (66) feet by said School Street to the point of beginning,
 Along with a right of way over Phillips Avenue, so called, from the southeast corner of the above tract westerly to said School Street.
PARCEL II
 BEGINNING at the southeast corner thereof on the northerly line of Phillips Avenue, at a point forty (40) feet northerly of northwest corner of land now or formerly of Otto M. Piehler et ex;
 THENCE northerly sixty-five (65) feet by the easterly line of School Street to an iron pipe in the ground at land now or formerly of one Phillips;
 THENCE easterly one hundred thirty-six and one-half (136 1/2) feet by said land now or formerly of one Phillips to a stake at land now or formerly of one Phillips;
 THENCE southerly sixty and seven tenths (60. 7) feet by said land now or formerly of one Phillips to a stake on the northerly line of said Phillips Avenue;
 THENCE westerly one hundred twenty (120) feet by said Avenue to an iron pin at point of beginning.
 For title reference, see deed recorded with the Worcester County Registry of Deeds herewith. [Book 72839, Page 353].

Premises to 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 and rights of any tenants and parties in possession, if there be any, 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. The successful bidder will pay all costs of recording the foreclosure deed and any other foreclosure documents including, without limitation, all state and county excise stamp fees, and shall also be responsible for any Title V inspection and repair requirements.

Terms of sale: A deposit of Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) 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 to Mirrione, Shaughnessy & Uitti, LLC 2 Batterymarch Park, Suite 202, Quincy, MA 02169 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. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
 Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Two Trust
 u/d/t dated May 2, 2022
 Present holder of said mortgage
 By his Attorneys,
 Mirrione, Shaughnessy & Uitti, LLC.
 2 Batterymarch Park, Suite 202
 Quincy, MA 02169
 April 24, 2026
 May 1, 2026
 May 8, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Docket No. WO24P0473PM CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT In the matter of: Savanna Salvas Of: East Douglas, MA Protected Person/Disabled Person/ Respondent

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the 2nd account(s) of Alison MacLeod of East Douglas, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance. **You have the right to object to the account(s).** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M on the return date of **05/12/2026** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court
 You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you

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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 17, 2026
 Stephanie K. Fattman
 May 1, 2026

Sophomores named to Bay Path honor roll

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School congratulates the following students in grade 10 on being named to the honor roll for the third quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.

High Honors

Madeline Candice Adugyamfi, Davian Alexander Alicea Aponte, Matheus Holanda Antonelli, Nyahlise Lillian Aviles, Isabella Elizabeth Barrell, Caterina Beverlianna Boon, Emerson Hagen Borgeson, Benjamin Robert Brooks, Morgan Lynn Brooks, Julia Rose Bukowski, Claire Elizabeth Calnan, Derek Alexander Campos, Keegan Jack Champlin, Sydney Faustina Chisholm, Noah James Cole, Alyssa Marie Cuevas, Esmee Elizabeth Cyr, Ayla Rose Drisco, Alice Marie Dufault, Christopher Jeremy Feliciano, Brian Thomas Finnegan, Madelyn Helena Frost, Melody Starr Fuentes, Alivia Rose Gauvin, Vanessa Diane Gordon, Yadiel Enrique Hernandez Navarro, Shaylan Rose Hesselton, Emma Mae Jalbert, Veronica Mae Jensrud, Jordyn Kate Labrecque, Isabella Grace Leatham-Wright, Ginelly Shantel Molina, Carly Jane Moody, Shea Alfred Mulligan, Teagan Patrice O'Halloran, Michael Thomas Payson, Ava Sophia Reed, Ethan Vance Rodriguez, Alexia Grace Rondeau, Esmerelda Rosario Tirado, Brianna

Jingchen Shi, Paul Joseph Skarzenski, Victor Manuel Sobinski, Nelson Tobias Sorto, Victoria Marie Sullivan, Spencer Thomas Wisniewski

Honors

Arlind Aliu, Chase Michael Anthony, Yaniel Aviles, Gianna Rae Bedard, Elizabeth Susan Bennington Lynch, Addam James Bergeron, Cody James Blair, Brian Bui, Andrew Mason Carter, Julie Elizabeth Chenier, Sadie Ann Cleary, Elijah Gabriel Cornier, Brody James Coughlin, Jackson Murray Coughlin, Addyson Kaeleigh Coutu, Blake Nicholas Curboy, Holly Marie Dailey, Tavis McKinley Davis, Norah Abigail Dean, Arielle Grace Deauseault, Oliver Gage DeLorge, Aaron Justin Desautels, Ava Marie Dufault, Fable Dufresne, Rylie Anne Dwyer, Dominik John Duziubasik, Madysin Riley Fitzgerald, Kylee Marie Fournier, Nikolas William Foustoukos, Anthony Joseph Fredette, Charlotte Susan May Fredette, Ryan James Fuller, Jayden Robert Afolabi Giwa-Bello, Colton Philip Hall, Marcus Roy Hamilton, Addison Katie Harrington, Fatima Edilene Herrera, Chloe Rose Hosley, Colin Henry Joyce, Victoria Rose Kaiser, Brooke Marie Kasprzak, Brayden Albert Kraus, Brianna Ashleigh Laforest, Olivia Corinne LaMountain, Andrew

Arthur Lashua, Wesley Patrick Lawless, Valentina Medeiros Lima, Juliano Ligeniale Lopez, Kaitlin Angela Lulu, Emily Ann Macko, Cynthia Kagan Marc, Julia Danielle Marini, Aydan Michael Marsh, Sherlyn Mazariegos Hernandez, Madison Grace McKinstry, John Steven McMahon, Logan James Mondino, Ashlyne Emily Monsen, Derek Omar Morales, Raider Keith Newton, Adalynn Jane Nietsche, Nathaniel Leif Noyes, Landen Spencer Olszta, Giavanna Bella Orsi, Gabriel Armando Ortiz, Julian Thomas Papeirski, Matilda Cecile Paradis, Jocelyn Rose Peck, AJ Jesse Perron, Kurtwood Russell Pettiford, Parke rJonathan Piehl, Joseph Lewis Pretty, Blake Leonard Richard, Christopher Jeffrey Richardson, Shaye Patricia Riley, Danna Paola Rodriguez Lopez, Emilyanis Joan Rodriguez, Ava Victoria Rondeau, Keomar Arnaldo Rosario Sanchez, Isabella Roszkowski, Aiden Lee Rubito, Liliana Morgan Rubito, Rianna Gathoni Ruo, Jayden Jose Santos, Thomas Francis Shivick, Grace Autumn Shoblom, Alejandro Javier Sierra Varas, Tatiana Maria Smolynsky, Heather Holiday Starr, Owen Miles Stewart, Jade Antonia Stien, Angela Sofia Suarez Pineros, Nayelis Nahir Torres Godineaux, Olivia Ruth Torres, Haidynn Anne Tuttle, Shafick Yamal Vasquez-Grande, Gina Grace Vautour, Castiel Lee

Vazquez, Colin Anthony Vega, Sadie Mckenna Villegas, Sione Flynn Villegas, Ella Violette Wall, Thomas Earl Welch, Colby Deary Wells, Madison Elizabeth Wells, Riley John West, Sydney Alexandra Winer, Benjamin Richard Wolanski, Chloe Olivia Young, Isabella Anne Zorena

Principal's List

Zachary Barry Barsalou, Abel Pax Burdick, Collin Edward Burr, Jowell Alberto Cedeno, Paul Matthew Ceppetelli, Ayva Marie Coffey, Aiden Michael Collins, John Michel Rousseau Daniel, Tristan Nichole Defazio, Nadya Anita Delgado, Nicolas James DiGioia, Ian Joseph Fantasia, Emanuel Jesus Feliciano Rodriguez, Adrie James Ford, Tyler Blake Friend, Matthew Donald Graves, Jannie Mahoney Kabba, Ryan Khai Lima, Amelia Layne Magorian, Amelia Layne Magorian, Isabella Adeline Monahan, Marieliz Magdalena Morel, Bryton Favor Mosong, Anthony Jadon Ribeiro Ortiz, Saverio James Palaia, Mason D. Michael Parker, Jacob Louis Pecore, Treva Mae Plank, Tianyu Qi, Bo Carl Riley, Kayla Elizabeth Shepard, Gavin Joseph Thompson, Jamison Douglas Trevallion, Angelina Marie Vazquez, Joniel Leonardo Velez Diaz, Noah Joel Waterhouse, Julianis Paola Zayas Rivera



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Massasoit Art Guild announces Spring Small Works show at Leicester Public Library

LEICESTER — The Massasoit Art Guild will present its Spring Small Works Art and Photography Show from April 30 through May 27 at the Leicester Public Library, offering visitors a chance to view a wide range of compact-format artwork created by guild members from across the region.

The members-only exhibition will feature original pieces limited to a maximum size of 12 by 14 inches,

measured by outside frame dimensions. Artists may submit up to two entries each. Organizers said the smaller format encourages experimentation and accessibility while allowing a broad range of styles and media to be displayed in a shared community setting.

The show will be judged as a single category rather than divided by medium. Awards will be presented for first, second and third place, along with an honorary

mention. A People's Choice selection will also be recognized. Ribbon prizes will be awarded to winners.

Artwork drop-off and check-in is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the library's ground-floor Community Room. Later that day, the guild will host a public meet-and-greet reception with participating artists from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the same location. Organizers encourage

all participating artists to attend the reception to connect with visitors and fellow exhibitors.

The exhibition will remain on display during regular library hours through May 27. Pick-up for submitted artwork is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., again in the Community Room.

Registration for the show opened Feb. 22 and continues through April 15, or until available space is filled. Advance registration

is required, and artists must complete the entry process through the guild's website.

Guild representatives said the annual small works exhibition provides an opportunity for artists to present new material while also introducing local audiences to the range of talent within the organization. The show is designed to be approachable for both established artists and newer members interested in exhibiting their work publicly.

Support for the exhibition is provided in part through a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

Additional information about show rules and registration is available through the Massasoit Art Guild website. Questions may also be directed to the organization by email at massasoitartguild@gmail.com.

Safe Boating certificate courses scheduled at Milford and Webster locations

REGION — The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Tri-State Flotilla, Massachusetts will be instructing two upcoming boating safety classes that meet current state mandated educational requirements.

The Boat America Course is offered in a one-day format developed to provide the skills and confidence needed to explore the coast and inland waters by boat. Basic knowledge and skills are needed to have safe and enjoyable boating experiences. This course is perfect for families that have just purchased any type of boat or are planning to in the future, and for the boater keeping up with chang-

es to boating regulations and laws. Basic marline-spike seamanship (knots etc.) will also be included. Successful completion of the course will certify any minor, from 12 to 16 years of age, to operate a powerboat, including a Personal Water Craft / Jet Ski (for 16 & 17-year-old operators), on all Massachusetts waters; in conjunction with the Mass. Environmental Police. Approved by National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) it will also cover the requirements to operate a vessel in most other states & many countries where boating safety education is

mandatory including RI and CT.

The Hanson-Milone Boater Safety Act, signed into Mass. Law, will now require ALL Mass. motorboat operators to complete an approved Safe Boating Certificate course before April 1, 2026, for anyone born after 1/1/1998, and by April 1, 2028, for boaters born before 1/1/1998. Enforcement of the new law will begin on September 1, 2026. This course meets the new Mass. requirement. Most boating insurance companies offer a discount on premiums for successful completion of this course. Participants 16 years old and under must be

accompanied, in person, by a registered parent/guardian. SPACE IS LIMITED so register soon:

Milford High School – Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Milford High School courses offered at 31 West Fountain St., Milford. Registration is managed through the Milford Community School Use Program,

[https://milfordcommunityprogram.activityreg.com/selectactivity_t2.wcs#](https://milfordcommunityprogram.activityreg.com/selectactivity_t2.wcs#Adult-Spring-2026)

Adult-Spring-2026 – Education - Boat America Certificate Class or call Laura Farrell (508) 478-

1119, email lfarrell@milfordma.com.

The registration deadline is April 26.

For additional USCGAux. information: phil.uscgaux@verizon.net or (508) 478-3778.

Webster Fire Department – Saturday, May 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Webster Fire Department Classroom, 55 Thompson Rd., Webster

The registration deadline is May 10.

Contact our Public Education Officer Phil Kubat for registration or additional information: email phil.uscgaux@verizon.net or call (508) 478-3778.

uscgaur@verizon.net or call (508) 478-3778.

To locate the BA meeting certification requirements, and other USCG Auxiliary courses offered go to: https://www.cgaux.org/boatinged/class_finder/index.php

The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard and supports the Coast Guard in nearly all mission areas. The Auxiliary was created by Congress in 1939. For more information, please visit www.cgaux.org

Action-packed summer STEM program coming to area



Courtesy

In Camp Invention's Make Waves experience, children ride the waves of entrepreneurship and invention by creating prototypes, pitching their products and building a billboard boat.

Camp Invention's fun, acREGION — Camp Invention®, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program, is coming to the following locations. Auburn: Auburn Middle School the week of July 6 - July 10.

Uxbridge: Our Lady of the

Valley Regional School the week of June 22 - June 26. Regional program sponsors include Johnson Controls Foundation and Overdeck Family Foundation. A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame® in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges chil-

dren in grades K-6 to tap into their natural curiosity and use their creativity to solve problems. Through hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes STEM learning; builds confidence, leadership, perseverance and resourcefulness; and encourages entrepreneurship - all in a fun and engaging environment.

Each year, the program features new curricula inspired by some of our nation's most world-changing inventors - the National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductees. This year's Spark program encourages children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness through hands-on activities including:

Space Morphers™: Kids build a DIY rocket and launch an epic mission to transform a new planet's atmosphere, terrain and ecosystem. After a high-energy Rover Race to collect samples and data, they grow dazzling crystal trees and hatch a mysterious animal egg in a Space Lab.

Make Waves™: Campers ride the waves of entrepreneurship and invention! Inspired by a surfer's journey, they create prototypes, pitch their innovative products to hook investors and build a billboard boat to set sail and "make waves" in the market.

Fur-ensics™: Kids sharp-

en their animal detective skills with Cap E. Bara and a fleet of robotic capybaras. They investigate a trail of footprints, collect bits of fluffy fur and examine suspicious splatters before forensically analyzing evidence that has a surprising twist.

The Infringers™: Campers use their invention superpowers to solve challenges in their community and around the world. They miniaturize top-secret innovations, safeguard their designs using cryptography and protect their intellectual property from the Infringers.

"I love that this camp lets my kids step out of the usual roles that they have at home and in school, and explore different parts of themselves," said the parent of 2025 Camp Invention campers. "At camp my son learns to be more creative and my daughter learns to be more independent."

All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and

taught by qualified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves 147,000 students every year and partners with more than 2,600 schools and districts across the nation. For more information or to register, visit invent.org/camp.

About Camp Invention Camp Invention is the only nationally recognized summer program focused on creativity, innovation, real-world problem solving and the spirit of invention. Through hands-on programming, Camp Invention encourages children entering kindergarten through sixth grade to explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics curricula inspired by some of the world's greatest inventors. Since 1990, our education programs have served more than 3.3 million children, and 297,000 teachers and Leadership Interns. Regional program sponsors include the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

P.E.O. Chapters R and AA join forces to revive beloved "Chocolate Sunday" fundraiser

CHARLTON — After a hiatus of several years, a cherished local tradition is making a decadent return. Sheila Ansley of P.E.O. Chapter R recently announced that the organization's signature "Chocolate Sunday" is officially back on the calendar, thanks to a dynamic new partnership with Chapter AA.

The fundraiser—an afternoon dedicated to sampling gourmet chocolate treats, coffee, and tea—was previously sidelined due to the intensive labor required for a single small group to manage. However, after Chapter R reached out to their sisters in Chapter AA, the two groups agreed to a joint venture. By splitting the workload, the chapters have found a sustainable way to bring the sweetness

back to Charlton.

Event details
Date: Sunday, May 17
Time: 2 p.m.

Location: The Performing Arts Center at The Overlook, Charlton

Mission: All proceeds support the P.E.O. Sisterhood's mission of providing life-changing educational opportunities and scholarships for women.

Contacts: Sheila Ansley 508-434-2649 or Elizabeth Pacek 508-829-4504

A season of sisterhood: Chapter R's Active Winter

The revival of Chocolate Sunday comes on the heels of a busy winter for Chapter R. Despite a string of "historically biting" temperatures, members remained dedicated to their cultural and social calendar.

In December, mem-

bers braved one of the coldest nights of the year to tour the "Winter Reimagined" display at Tower Hill Botanic Garden. While the air was frigid, the spectacular light installations proved well worth the chill.

The momentum continued into January with two standout events:

Musical excellence: Members attended a moving organ concert performed by Amanda Mole, daughter of Jackie Mole. The performance offered a warm, soaring reprieve from the January frost.

Founders Day: The group honored the P.E.O. Sisterhood's 1869 roots at the Founders Day Program. Members «toughed out» the New England cold to enjoy a commemorative meal and program honoring the



seven women who started the organization over 150 years ago.

Looking ahead to spring As the frost thaws, Chapter R is looking forward to milder weather

and continued community engagement.

For over a century and a half, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has focused on the intersection of friendship and philanthropy. Through various grants and STAR

scholarships, they continue to help women reach their educational goals, one "Chocolate Sunday" at a time.

BHS Class of 1986 seeks community's help locating classmates for 40th reunion

REGION — As the Bartlett High School Class of 1986 prepares to celebrate its 40th reunion on Sept. 26, organizers are asking the community for assistance in locating classmates who have not yet been reached through social media or via text.

To make the process simple, the reunion committee has created a short contact-information form and is encouraging residents, friends, and former classmates to help spread the word. If you know someone on the "missing classmates" list, organizers ask that you text them the link to the form so they can update their information.

Contact Info Form: <https://tinyurl.com/BHS1986-40Years>

If it's easier, you may also complete the form on a classmate's behalf—so long as you have their current contact details. Organizers emphasize that any help tracking them down is truly appreciated, as


personal connections often succeed where digital outreach falls short.

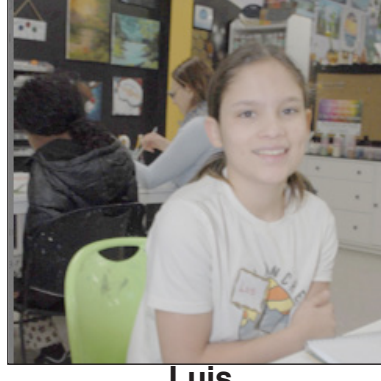
A list of classmates the committee is hoping to locate appears below. With the community's support, they hope every member of the Class of '86 will have the opportunity to join this milestone celebration.

Peter Allain
Beth Antonopoulos
Marie Aperges
Andrew Baca
Austin Bailey
David Beardsley
Frank Belanger
Carolyn Bembenek
Richard Bernier
Sheila Bialoncik
Beth Bialy
Jason Borski
Doreen Bourget

Eric Brisbois
Kathleen Brown
Paul Browning
Paul Bugar
Cindy Bullens
Sandra Butt
Mont Canterbury
Stephen Carlson
Daniel Chapdelaine
Kelly Cobb
Ken Cournoyer
Timothy Decker
Tammy Deschenes
Aaron Dorcas
Daniel Doyle
Dorothy DusoSelina Fife
James Gardner
Jeffrey Gatto
Tina Giakoumis
Alicia Goudreau
Richard Guerin
Robert Hamm
Scott Horanzy
Jane Houle
Todd Hufault
Joseph Hughes
Melissa Jankowski
Thor Johnson
Nena Johnston
Lisa Kozlowski
Robert Krasnecky

Jill Krause
Michael Kryger
Rick Lawson
Deborah Leite
Linda Lifer
Patricia Majewski
Renee Marchand
Jennifer Marsh
Jennifer Mason
John Meagher
Fumiyo Mochizuki
Deborah Munsch
Brett Napierata
Wayne Parmentier
Brian Poplawski
Gary Poplawski
Edward Powers
William Radcliffe
James Remy
Debra Ross
Collin Salmon
Dale Schleis
Theresa Sergel
Henry Skiba
Alan Standrowicz
Jeffrey Surozenski
Karen Toukonen
Joseph Veronick
Douglas Waldron
Robert Wheeler
Edward Zdrok





Luis
Age 14
Registration #8311


Luis is an active, outgoing, and inquisitive young boy who brings energy and enthusiasm to everything he does. He loves spending time outdoors, whether he's riding his bike around the neighborhood or showing off his competitive spirit while playing soccer or basketball. Luis enjoys staying active and thrives in environments where he can move, play, and challenge himself. When he's not outside, Luis likes to unwind by playing video games, giving him a chance to relax while still engaging his curiosity and problem-solving skills. He is also a thoughtful and caring child who values his relationships—on his birthday, Luis chose to use his own money to buy presents for his sister, showing just how much he cares about the people in his life. With his lively personality, strong sense of curiosity, and kind heart, Luis is a joyful and engaging child who brings both fun and warmth wherever he goes.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/21175660323>

Can I Adopt?

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

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



Summit campus, QCC announce three-week summer college readiness program

WORCESTER — Summit Campus and Quinsigamond Community College's Student Accessibility Services today announced the Summer College Prep Program, a new collaborative summer program designed to help rising high school juniors and seniors develop self-advocacy, strengthen academic skills and prepare for meaningful post-secondary options.

The three-week summer self-exploration and college readiness program will provide diverse learners with an immersive college experience on QCC's campus that includes writing workshops and personal development sessions. The program also offers an optional dormitory living experience at Summit Campus, called Summit Summer Launch.

"I have always believed that students with learning differences need an experience to show them what they may not be able to envision on their own. This program can impact a student's vision of their future immeasurably and create a pathway to higher education that may not have seemed possible," said Nikki Koppel, director of Summit Campus. "This partnership creates a supportive environment where students can grow academically and personally while gaining real insight into college life."

"Quinsigamond Community College is proud to partner with Summit Campus to support students in our community as they prepare for their educational futures," said Kristen Proctor, director of

Student Accessibility Services & Assistive Technology. "This program reflects our commitment to expanding access to college readiness opportunities and helping students see themselves as future college scholars."

All accepted students will attend sessions on study strategies, time management, college expectations, self-care and stress management. The program will also offer a variety of social events and excursions.

Girls on the Run Worcester County will host 5K event May 17

WORCESTER — Girls on the Run Worcester County will host its 5K event on Sunday, May 17 at Polar Park in Worcester.

This spring season, Girls on the Run Worcester County is supporting more girls than they ever have in a single season, reaching 986 girls throughout Worcester County. Girls on the Run is a physical activity-based, positive youth development program that uses fun running games and dynamic discussions to teach life skills to girls in 3rd to 8th grade. During the eight to ten-week program, girls participate in lessons that foster confidence, build peer connections and encourage community service while they prepare for an end-of-season celebratory 5K event.

Participation in the 5K event on May 17 is open to the public and all proceeds from the event will benefit Girls on the Run Worcester County. This season's 5K event is expected to bring together approximately 4,000 participants including program participants, their family, friends, and community members. Registration is \$55 or \$65 for day of registration and includes a finishers medal. This event is not chip timed as Girls on the Run volunteer coaches coach their girls to run at their "happy pace" and the goal is to cross the finish line.

The doors will open at Polar Park at 8:30 a.m., and the run will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 17 at Polar Park. Early arrival is suggested. For more information about the event, how to register and volunteer opportunities, visit www.gotr-worc.org.

About Girls on the Run
Based in Charlotte, N.C., Girls on the Run is a nonprofit organization with local Councils in all 50 states. Founded in 1996 with 13 girls, Girls on the Run has now served over 2 million girls. Over the course of the program, girls in 3rd-8th grade develop essential social, emotional and physical skills to successfully navigate life experiences. The program culminates with girls positively impacting their communities through a service project and being physically and emotionally prepared to complete a celebratory 5K event. With the largest 5K series by number of events in the world, Girls on the Run hosts more than 330 5Ks per year. Girls on the Run is included as a top research-based program in a Social-Emotional Learning Guide developed by researchers at Harvard University and has been recognized by the National Afterschool Association (NAA) as one of the most influential after-school programs. Girls on the Run is offered in more than 13,000 across the US. Visit {council website} to learn how to get involved in your community.

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

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Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
Commercial Opportunity!



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Featured Listing ~ New To Market!
Webster ~ 33 Slater Street



Sprawling fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level, w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors.
\$525,000

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bath, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage
\$649,900.00

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

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.

Webster Lake - 302 Killdeer Island



Renovated + move-in ready lakefront home w/1,700+/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Primary suite w/private bath! 2 add'l bedrooms, 2nd Full bath. Lower level family room w/walkout to water. Wraparound deck, new vinyl railings, terraced yard, sandy beach, professional landscaping. Many updates
\$775,000


Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!!



Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF, 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront!
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Booklovers' Gourmet spotlights artist Linda Littleton

W E B S T E R — Booklovers' Gourmet, located at 72 East Main St. in Webster, is hosting "Fins and Feathers," a small works show of paintings by local artist Linda Littleton, in our cafe gallery May 1-30. The works will include watercolors, prints and acrylics of some of our favorite feathered friends and fish and may be viewed during normal business hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The public is invited to a meet the artist reception with light refreshments on Friday, May 15, 5-7 p.m. For more informa-

tion, call 508-949-6232. Littleton exhibits consistently at Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster, changing art every season. Over the years, she and the owner have had a symbiotic relationship that represents support of local art and a donation from every sale to the Webster Dudley Food Share. It is a great way to support what our community needs and still be able to show her work. The paintings at Hometown Bank were also commissioned to her. She is referred to as the "Lake Artist" with many on and

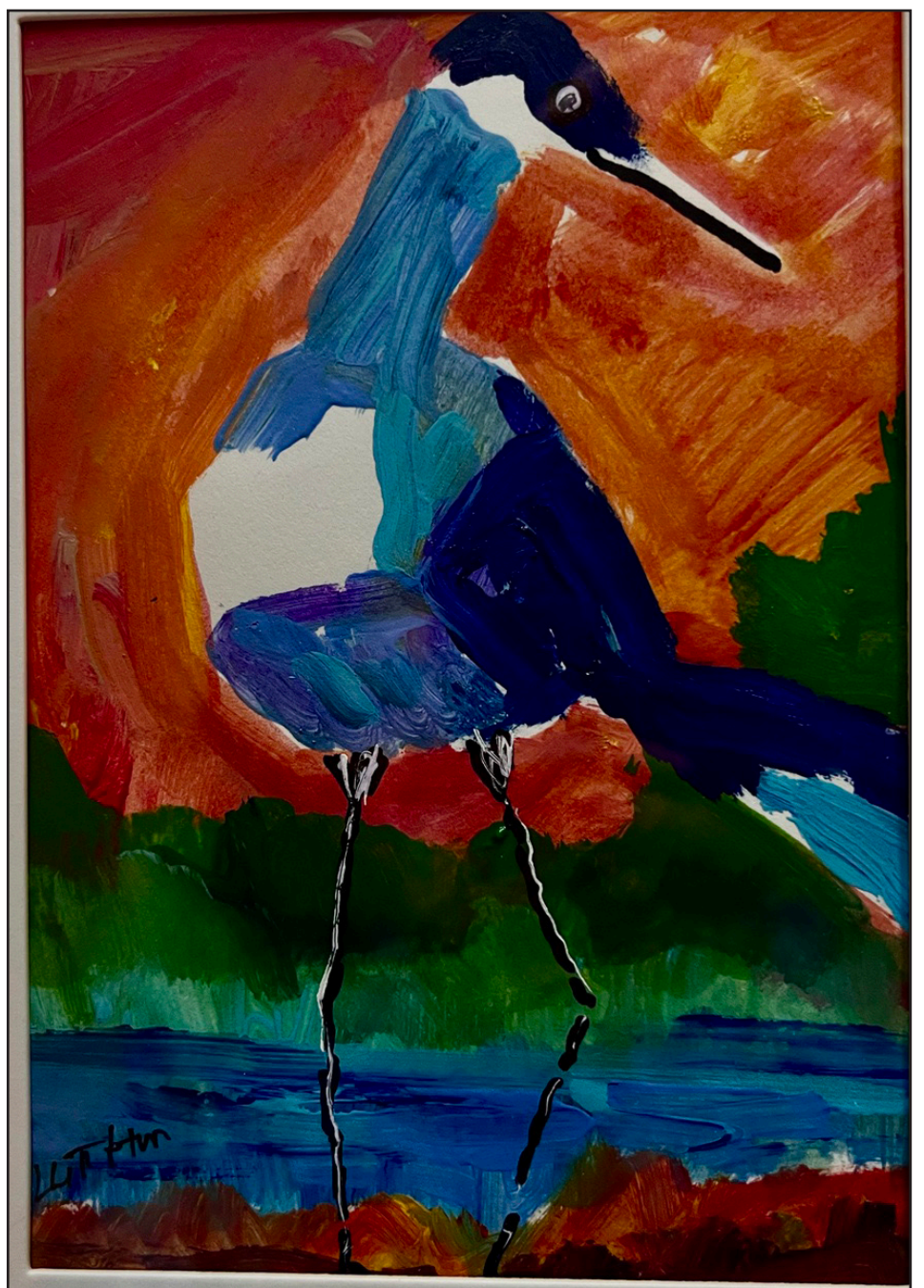
around beautiful Webster Lake. She has Giclee prints of 5 favorites available in a variety of sizes such as the well-known painting "Gas Dock." Living on the lake offers an endless opportunity for an artist. Consignment work, special requests, house portraits and donations to many local non-profit fund raisers keep Linda busy at her home studio where she resides with her life partner John Lefebvre and their rescue dog Darla. Linda is encouraged to paint more than ever as her granddaughter Hadley wants to be an artist like "Grammy". There is

no better incentive/ compliment to get!

Littleton just received

acceptance in two prestigious regional shows at Hopkinton Arts Center and Rhode Island Water Color

Society where she has been a long-standing Artist member.



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Auburn Senior Center to host Victorian Tea & performance



AUBURN — On May 11, the Auburn Senior Center will host a Victorian Tea with a performance titled The Etiquette Expert of 1890. Guests will step into late-Victorian America to explore some of the complications and joys of life in the era of corsets, calling cards, and decorum.

Fictional proper Victorian lady Mrs. Russell Parsons (The Etiquette Expert of 1890) will be their guide. Guests will sip and nibble, as they learn about the intricacies of tea etiquette, fan language, ball etiquette, fashion, a near courtship catastrophe, and more. A collection of Victorian props will accompany the performance.

Guests are encouraged to wear a hats and/ or gloves.

Janet Parnes of Historical Portrayals by Lady J, Millis will portray The Etiquette Expert of 1890.

The Victorian Tea and The Etiquette Expert of 1890 performance will take place on Monday, May 11 from 1-2 p.m. at the Auburn Senior Center, 4 Goddard Drive, Auburn.

The event is free to attend. Register by calling 508-832-7799.

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