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Friday, December 1, 2023

Saint Joseph School students carry on Thanksgiving traditions



Saint Joseph School sixth grade student Ivonka Warnajtys assists her PreK-4-year-old buddies Jaxson Blain and Magdalena Kosiorek during the Annual Thanksgiving Feast.

WEBSTER Monday, Nov. 20, the students, faculty, and staff of Saint Joseph School continued their annual Thanksgiving traditions. As the students began the holiday week, they joined to give thanks for their many blessings and collect food for local needy

Each class was responsible for bringing items to complete a Thanksgiving dinner. Younger students, including the three pre-kindergarten classes, contributed canned vegetables, while older students donated stuffing mix, gravy, cranberry sauce, potatoes, and more. The food collection culminated with a prayer

service led by the Sixth-Grade students. Then, on Tuesday, Nov. 21, the Saint Joseph School community gathered for their Annual Thanksgiving Feast in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium. Everyone enjoyed delicious homemade turkey, creamy mashed potatoes, and savory stuffing. The turkeys for the feast were

donated by the Saint Joseph Basilica Knights Columbus Council #12980, prepared by the kitchen staff, and served by parent volunteers.

Highlights of the dinner included the 8th-grade students serving their teachers and peers, the older students assisting

their young "buddies," and the special guests in attendance. Guests included former prin-

Turn To ST. JOSEPH page A16

Dudley continues search for new Public Health Agent

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — As the town of Dudley continues to fill vacant positions following a difficult year of budget turmoil and turnover, one position that has proven to be particularly complicated is for Health Agent. The Board of Health has posted ads seeking qualified candidates for the position over the last few months, however they have yet to find anyone with the skills or experiences required to fill the post.

The Board gave a update on the search during a meeting on Nov. 14 where member Jennifer Cournoyer explained that they have yet to find anyone even qualified to fill the posi-

tion. "We have posted on different sites three already and we've had noone with any type of Nothing experience. whatsoever. We've had people not even in related fields apply for the position. So, we did reach out to the Worcester CMRPC (Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission) Health, and they gave us another location of where to post it. We're just waiting for an approval. You have to sign up to be able to post on it," she said.

Dudley had previously shared a Health Agent with Webster, but the new job description, as posted on Sept. 26, indicates the new hire will be a full-time position specific to Dudley. The Public Health Agent serves as the leader of the Health Department leading operations, grant procedures, programs, and attending meetings and coordinating with the Board of Health. The Public Health Agent also conducts inspections and site evaluations as well as helping resolve any issues regarding housing or any public health emergen-

Turn To **SEARCH** page **A16**

Cornerstone Bank provides \$5,000 for Winter Wonderland Masquerade Gala



Pictured, left to right: Alexandria Dickson, marketing supervisor, Cornerstone Bank; Nicole Degregorio, community relations manager, Cornerstone Bank; Carla DelaCruz Davila, co-founder/president, The Wellstorm, Inc.

Holiday season brings early deadlines

The holiday season is upon us, bringing with it an accelerated press schedule for your local weekly newspaper.

The deadline for next week's edition (out Dec. 8), Monday afternoon at 4 p.m., will mark the conclusion of business as usual for the remainder of the year. The submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended

for publication in the Dec. 15 edition of the Webster Times will be Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. For the following week (Dec. 22), the submission deadline will be Wednesday, Dec.

13 at 4 p.m. For publication on Dec. 29, submissions must be received no later than 4 p.m. on

The deadline for our first edition of 2024, Jan. 5, will be Friday, Dec. 22 at 4 p.m. As always, submissions can be e-mailed to Editor Brendan Berube at news@ stonebridgepress.news.

The Webster Times thanks our readers for their cooperation with our accelerated

schedule, and wishes one and all a safe and happy holiday season.

Foundation in Auburn. "Not only are we proud to support these two deserving organizations, but also to raise awareness for the valuable work they do," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "We hope als, educational technol-

For One Child

R E G I O N

- Cornerstone Bank, a

community bank with

10 locations throughout

Central Massachusetts,

is sponsoring the Winter Wonderland Masquerade

Gala with a \$5,000 dona-

tion. The event, which

will be held on Saturday,

Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. at 55 Pearl St. in Worcester, bene-

fits The WellStorm (TWS)

Southbridge

the

others will join by attending and sponsoring this fun and creative opportunity to 'glam up' for a

great cause." TWS aims to bridge the gap of poverty and engage the community in building connections and support for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health struggles and food insecurity. One way TWS does this is by supporting the community with the Bridge Fridge, which allows anyone in the community to access healthy food. The mission of the For One Child Foundation is to empower children by providing learning materiogy and other classroom necessities to deprived schoolchildren, in order to holistically enhance their lives and allow for a better future.

The Winter Wonderland Masquerade Gala will include awards highlighting the work of each organization's staff, volunteers and supporters, as well as raffles, silent auctions, food, drinks, music and dancing. Tickets are \$75 each and can be purchased online at bit.ly/3S8biEg.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank was Turn To CORNERSTONE page A16

Bay Path nursing students participate in Shepherd Hill's Festival of Crafts

31st Annual Shepherd Hill's Festival of Crafts was held recently at the Shepherd Hill Regional High School. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2024, faculty and alumna participated along with over 125 New England Crafters and Artisans with top-quality handcrafted items, raffles, and food trucks.

The Bay Path Practical Nursing team was led by Professor Adelina Healy DNP, MSN, RN of Dudley. The Practical Nursing volunteer students offered free Blood pressure screenings. This year's practical nursing student volunteers are Julie Dodson West Brookfield, Kaitlin Miliauskas of Worcester, Ashley Rincon of Southbridge, Ashley Urbain of Paxton, Princess Agyeman of Webster, Evelyn Kiplangat, Michael Wairimu and Regina

Njuguna all of Worcester. Originally, Professor Suzanne Taylor, MSN, RN invited Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and coordinated the practical nursing student's participation. This year, the invitation came from Chet

Perea-Beaulieu. "We are grateful that Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy has been invited and continues to allow our practical nursing students to be of service to the community," stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing

"It is a wonderful learning opportunity for the students," said Dr. Healy. "I am glad to be joining Shepherd Hill's Festival."

Hannah Alumna, Lombardo, LPN of Dudley was equally eager and joyful to participate. She interacted with festival-go-

The Shepherd Hill's Festival of Crafts is an annual event promoted by the Shepherd Hill Music Parents. Students from the music department sang and assisted with bringing food. The Shepherd Hill's Festival of Crafts has 5,000 people attending annually. The celebration highlights the community. Vendors look forward to next year's celebration. For more about the Shepherd Hill's Festival of



Crafts, visit: https://www. facebook.com/shepherdhillfestivalofcrafts/.

Bay About Practical Nursing Academy

Bay Path Practical

Nursing is a 40-week (10month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive

Practical Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam.

Country Bank supports Wonderfund with \$20,000 during annual Season of Difference campaign



Τf

help

make some

magic,

wonder-

to

From left to right, Jodie Gerulaitis, Vice President of Community Relations at Country Bank, Lauren Baker, Former First Lady of Massachusetts, Founder and CEO of the Wonderfund and Shelley Regin, Senior Vice President of Marketing at Country Bank.

WORCESTER — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, recently announced its partnership and \$20,000 in support of the Wonderfund of Massachusetts. The Wonderfund helps kids and teens served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to enjoy childhood's magical moments during the holiday season. The Wonderfund organization

is an ordinary group of people on an extraordinary mission to bring the magic and meaning of childhood into the lives of children who have been impacted by trauma, abuse, and neglect.

Join the Wonderfund and Country Bank in making magic this holiday season for kids in ters until Dec. 15. Country Bank's team will shop for gifts to join in the efforts, and donations will be delivered to DCF Offices in Springfield and Worcester to be distributed throughout Western and Central Mass.

"We are delighted about this partnership with the Wonderfund and the opportunity for our team and our communities to help us make a difference for children by putting a smile on so many faces," said Jodie Gerulaitis, Vice President of Community Relations at Country Bank.

In addition to the toy drive, Country Bank donated more than \$100,000 to 17 local food pantries and \$42,000 local

senior centers to support food insecurities, homelessness, and elders in its local communities during WEBSTER — Bartlett High School its annual has released its honor roll for the first Season of

quarter of the 2023-2024 school year. Difference Campaign. Grade 12

High Honor: Kwadwo Agyemang, would like Cash Frederick Honor: Peter Brandao, Ayden Carlson,

Leidy Cruz Guzman, Arianna Franklin, Peter Lavache, Ryan MacCormack, please visit Angel Marin-Caceres, Haideeliz https://Martinez, Benjamin Note, Jacob Sandecki, Madisynn Segarra, Dezmin fundma. Zona

High Honor: Hope Cooper, Urmiben Dabhi, Ayden Do, Ess Keegan, Adam Phillips, Rafael Trivino, Dakota Vaudreuil

Honor: Jibril Abshir, Savannah Bjork, Gracien Boucher, Lillyanna Cannon, Jayden Casey, Aiden Castillo, Jared Fallas, Sydney Fuller, Taryn Gerber, Ayden Heenan, Justin Ilarraza, Lexani Lewis, Evangeline Mayotte, Patrick McCluskey, Daniel Mcilhargey, Cayleb Mercure, Jeremy Morillo Pena, Ian Mulbah, Htwa Peh, Milton Skerrett, Adam Urato, Odelis Valentin, Maya Wetherbee, Aiden Wolfram, Harry Zhu

Grade 10

High Honor: Julia Mingos, Caiden

Steeves Honor: Izayah Barjolo, Elijah Castro, Nathan Cole, Niel Duszlak, Shyanne Owens, Johensy Rodriguez, Travis Russell, Elijua Sanchez, Amaya Torres, Aiden Turner, Luigi Villegas

Grade 9

High Honor: Jared Archambault, Jayden Azu, Caden Case, Megan Milligan, Morgan Minor, Michael Stawiecki

Honor: Zainab Abshir, Amyrah Bethancourt, Daysha Collins, Yeidy Cruz Guzman, Aiden Falke, Jade Ferreira Parent, Leland Fisher, Cameren Forsythe, Ethan Gornco, Brayden Greene, Cheyanne Grundel, Cameron Hast, Libby Kokoszka, Darlene Macario, Nathan O'Neil, Irelyn Pottle, Gabriela Ramos Rivera, Lyniah Rivera, Carmen Ruiz Acosta, Madalynn Velasquez, Cassidy White, Tyler Whiting



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This Holiday Season





Bay Path nursing mock code team holds prep day



CHARLTON Practical Nursing Class of 2024 Mock Code Team under the guidance and leadership of Professor Cheryl Cahill executed the Mock Code Team Prep recently. During cardiac arrests, the quick response of a code team requires cohesiveness, timely defibrillation, and clearly defined roles. Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's Mock Code Team and Simulation Training improves response to code events.

"We are blessed to have the guidance, experience, and expertise of Professor Cahill," said Gretheline Bolandrina.

DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director.

"Using simulation training improves per-formance," Bolandrina added—the timely use of defibrillation and confident nurses empower and result in a positive response to code events.

to According American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines (GWTG) resuscitation program, time to first shock is one of four achievement metrics. The guidelines state that hospitalized patients exhibiting ventricular fibrillation or pulseless ventricular tachycardia should receive defibrillation within two minutes to improve outcomes.

In 2017, the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy MCT was formed to improve resuscitation skills and comfort levels for practical nursing students. The MCT meets for a full day of preparation, with members practicing as much as possible. On Mock Code Day, the MCT runs the code scenarios multiple times. The formation of the MCT increased mock code opportunities and participation three times in an academic year. Participation in mock codes increases the comfort level. An effective code team is one that acts safely, and efficiently, and saves lives. The MCT aims to be proficient with skills and knowledge, effective with communication, and highly orga-

Members of the PN Class of 2024 Mock Code Team are Victoria Boateng of Gardner, Julie Dodson of West Brookfield, Melisa Nale North Brookfield,

Patrick Njunge, Richard Nsiah, both of Worcester, Samantha Stanikmas of Charlton, Ashley Urbain of Paxton, and Cynthia Zayas-Torres of N. Grosvenordale, Conn. It is important for members of the healthcare team to

intuitively know their role as part of the response team, especially during code situations when seconds count.

About Bay Path **RVTHS** Practical Nursing Academy

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week (10month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins in mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive

Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The **Bay Path Practical** Nursing is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing

boards/rn) and is accredited by the Commission Occupational Education (www.council. org). For more information, visit www.baypath.



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DUDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Dudley Middle School congratulates its Students of the Month for November. 5th Grade - Natalie Stinehart, Silas Ciuchta, Whitney Kungu, & Sara Rabski; 6th Grade - Mia Piotti, Avianna Vega, & Gwyneth Boudreau; 7th Grade - Lilly Connor, Kaiya Zaczek, & Georgia Nioforos-Ortiz; 8th Grade -Zed Akrasi, Logan Baxter, & Muriel Amponsah (not shown).









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Masonic Lodge AED/ CPR & 1st Aid Courses were a great success during recent **OPEN House** Weekend!

American Heart Association Certified classes to be given on specific Saturdays, November and December.

We will be sponsoring and conducting reduced rate classes to support the surrounding community for an AED/CPR class is combined with the Basic First Aid class for Certification. There will also be a "Stop the Bleed" Certificate class. Classes will require sign-up in advance & pre-payment made to:

JOEL H. PROUTY LODGE of Masons 780 Southbridge Street. Auburn, MA. 01501

Dates are as follows: 12.09.2023 Stop the Bleed \$65.00 w/ Certificate 12.16.2023 AED/CPR & \$65.00 w/AHA Certificate

Classes will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. *** Must be 10 people for the AED/CPR Basic First Aid Class to be held to justify the instructor. Fees will be returned if we don't get 10 students or the second date can be used.

Stop the Bleed class can accommodate up to 40 people

PET of the WEEK





LUNA- Age: 1 year

Meet Luna, the life of the party with a heart as big as her playful spirit! Luna is a beauty, and she is on the hunt for her forever home! She is great with older kids and teenagers, and would love a family that can join in on her zoomies! Luna is food motivated and enjoys learning new skills.

She aiready knows commands like sit, paw, and down. She is on the lookout for owners who are up for continuing her training sessions adventures! If you're ready to bring Luna into your home, reach out today! https://baypathhumane.org/available-dogs/#sl_embed&page=shelterluv wrap 1653909403420%2Fembed%2Fanimal%2FBPHS-A-15667

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

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Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!

To register go to www. crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021

Our Youth Services Librarian, Ms. Lida, will be bidding farewell to the Pearle as she embarks on a new journey. She has been an integral part of our library for 4.5 years. We want to thank Ms. Lida for all her contributions and wish her well as she sets off on her next adventure. We will miss Ms. Lida and she will miss all her patrons

Story time will resume once a new Children's

Guest Reader Story

Mondays at 5:30PM Join a different guest reader each week for stories, songs, and crafts!

QUILTING GROUP Wednesdays @ 1:30PM All quilters and would-

be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

LEARN TO PLAY DUNGEONS **DRAGONS**

Thursdays @ 6:00PM «Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama? We have an experienced Dungeon Master ready to run a

Schofield Ave., Librarian has been hired. new game of Dungeons and Dragons, the world's number one role playing game. We are missing just one thing ... YOU! This is for those that are looking to learn more about playing and do some short adventures!

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

KNIT & CROCHET **GROUP**

Thursday 5:30PM 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM

All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

LEGO CLUB

2nd Saturday of each month at 11:00ÅM

Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

CARD POKEMON TRADING

4th Saturday of each month at 11:00AM

Children are invited to bring their Pokemon cards for informal card trading and discussion.

MOVIE MONDAYS

Mondays at 2:00PM Join us each Monday for a movie and popcorn. December films are holiday themed.

December 4 Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn December 11 Jingle All the Wav December 18 Elf

Shepherd Hill Show Choir

Saturday December 2 at 11 AM

Members of the Shepherd Hill Show Choir will be here performing Holiday Music. This is an all ages event!

Pearle Jam: Holiday Concert

Thursday, December 14th 6 PM

Join David Polansky for a Holiday Concert! Fun for all ages!

Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment.

ADULT BOOK GROUP December 18, 6:00-7:30

All are welcome to join our adult book group for a discussion of this month's title, The Horse, by Geraldine Brooks

Copies of the current title are available at the circulation desk one month prior to the meet-

Deb's Sing and Swing Thursday December 21st 10:30 AM

Join the fun! Music, stories, singing and danc-

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

Closed December 25th for Christmas

GLADYS E. KELLY LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster 508-949-3880

Library Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Wed: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Fri: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or

contacting our Program Coordinator Randa Cox at rcox@cwmars.org.

Spice Club Each month will feature a new spice, recipes, and cookbooks. Stop by the lobby to grab a sample of that month's spice, then take it home and cook! October's Spice is All Spice.

Are you a Collector of Old Books? Come check

out our display upstairs to see if any of them could be added to your collection!

New Art Exhibit up! Come check out the new art exhibit in the community room. Johanna Riddle is a Massachusettsbased travel photographer. Artist Meet and Greet will be November 13th from 6 to 8 PM.

> Adult Programming YOGA

Saturday December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th at 9:30 AM

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

CONCERT

SERIES: December 14th --- The Blackstone Valley String Quartet & Ensembles at 6:30 PM

The Blackstone Valley String Quartet & Ensembles is based North Grafton, in Massachusetts. The ensemble specializes in performances combining classical and modern music throughout New England.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP-December 14th at 6:30 PM

month's This book discussion will be in the Library's Community Room. The Group will be discussing The Personal Librarian by Heather Terrell. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880, or by email to rcox@ cwmars.org for inquiries.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT--- December 19th -6:00 PM

Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn!

HUMMUS MAKING----December 4th --- 6:00 PM

This short tasting class will have you blending chickpeas, garlic, olive oil, and other fresh ingredients to make your own hummus. Registration is required,

you can call the library at 508-949-3880

COOKBOOK CLUB-December 5th--- 6:00 PM

Every month there will be a new cookbook and you will choose a delicious recipe to make! You can choose anything out of the cookbook to bring and share. Whether you like to cook or bake there will always be something for you! We will eat and discuss our favorite and our least favorite things of the cooking adventure. You can pick up your copy from behind the circulation desk.

Children's and Young **Adult Programming**

Scavenger Hunt---- All Month Long

What's more exciting than a scavenger hunt? Come upstairs to the Children's room to pick up a list of things to find all around the library. Once you've completed the scavenger hunt, check in with the Children's Librarian to redeem a prize.

MAKER MONDAYS -Mondays from 3:30-4:30

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

what we're making this month!

BUILD **TUESDAYS** - from 3:30-4:30 PM

Join every Tuesday

for a self-guided STEMbased building challenge, appropriate for all ages. Younger kids should bring a parent. Instruction sheets will be provided. Contact Andrew at 508-949-3880, or atai@cwmars.org for more details.

POOP THEMUSEUM---- December 2nd 11:30-12:30

The Museum covers the serious science of poop and pooping, and is delivered with the silliness that you might imagine accompanying a program about poop for young kids. It is the perfect combination of fun, and fabulous, fascinating facts, so that kids (and parents) never forget what they learned. Aimed at the 4-9 age group, the program engages kids as young as 3 and as old as 12. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

STUFFED ANIMAL STORYTIME--- December 6th and 20th at 10:00 AM

Join Library Director Sondra Murphy for stories, songs, and fun with our plush pals! This Storytime is geared toward ages birth to 3, but siblings are welcome.

BABY MASSAGE CLASS--- December 1st, 8th, and 15th at 10:30

Baby Massage can help with gas, constipation, bonding, soothing, and sleep. Sheryl White will model the strokes on a doll as the parents practice the techniques on their babies. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

CLUES ACROSS

- 5. Sculpture
- 11. Showing up again 14. Tie the knot again
- 15. Washington city 18. Stiff structures in invertebrates
- 19. Mark over a vowel
- 21. Explosive 23. Popular race: __ 500
- 24. Pile up
- 28, Mint
- 29. Commercial
- 30. A minute amount (Scottish)
- 33. Baseball stat
- 32. Small Eurasian deer
- 35. Numbers cruncher

of Islam

60. Force

- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Make a mistake 2. Gordon and Snider are two
- 4. Ejected saliva
- 5. A way of performing
- 6. Scotland's longest river 7. One of the six noble
- gases (abbr.)
- 8. Body art 9. Two-toed sloth
- 10. Electronic countercountermeasures
- 12. Foolish person (Brit.) 13. Of the wind
- 16. Grand home
- 17. Sound
- 20. English river 22. Symbol indicating ownership
- 26. Pouch

SOLUTION

- 25. Exclamation of surprise
- 27. Apart from
- 29. Satisfaction
- 3. Geographical region of Finland 31. The bill in a restaurant 34. Sea bream

39. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

44. Language spoken in Cameroon

47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

41. Blood group

and Chad

46. Grayish-white

49. Microorganism

58. Congressman

56. Calm, dependable

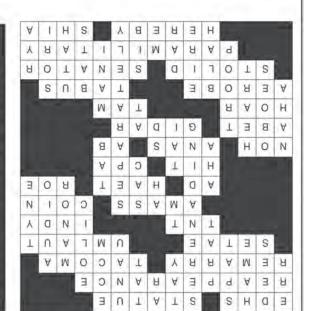
52. Place under prohibition

62. As a result of this document

63. One of two main branches

42. Assist in wrongdoing

- 36. Port in southern Japan
- 37. Double-reed instruments 38. Center
- 40. South Dakota 43. An orderly crowd
- 45. Indicates position -pedi
- 50, Nonsense (slang) 51, Republic of Ireland
- 53. Nocturnal flyers
- 54. American state 55. Clusters in fern fronds
- 57. Patriotic women 58. A person's brother or sister
- 59. Breed of sheep 61. Popular film "Despicable __"



FRIENDS

please visit the website or

Dudley Woman's Club meets Tuesday

 $\hbox{\tt DUDLEY-The\ Dudley\ Woman's\ Club's\ December\ club}$ meeting and holiday celebration will be held at the Dudley Municipal Complex on Thursday, Dec. 7. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. Caroling, games and lots of laughs will fill the night! We wish everyone a peaceful and joyous holiday. You won't want to miss this fes-

Our voluntary giving projects this month are unwrapped toy donations for the Dudley Police Dept.'s holiday drive as well

as holiday stocking stuffers for seniors. DWC is open to all women from Dudley and surrounding towns; we welcome your presence! For more information, please visit: www.dudleywomansclub.org.

TO PLACE AN AD:

MIKAELA VICTOR

(774) 200-7308

mikaela@stonebridgepress.news **LEGAL NOTICES:**

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E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news

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OR send to Webster Times P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

DUDLEY

DUDLEY TOWN HALL (508) 949-8000 Monday: 8:00 AM-6:30 PM (second floor offices), Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Friday: 8:00

DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411) Staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040) Monday-Sunday......6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OXFORD

OXFORD TOWN HALL (508) 987-6027 Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours{

Monday, Tues., Thurs....... 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday 9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT (987-0156) For emergencies, call 911 OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012) Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEBSTER

Webster Town Hall (508) 949-3850 Office Hours:

.....8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday Tuesday-Thursday8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-1212) For emergencies, call 911 WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875) Monday-Friday8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday......8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Dudley Senior Center

71 West Main St 508-949-8015

ELDER ABUSE intake Hotline for Mass., 1-800-922-2275, to report physical/mental/financial abuse. Senior self-harm/ neglect. (May remain anonymous in reporting suspected abuse).

Dudley Senior Center beginning hours November 6th are 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Seniors are welcome to drop in for self-directed activities, cards, puzzles, movies, knitting or just to hang out with friends.

Tri Valley Congregate lunches are served on Monday at 11:15 AM and Thursday at 11:45 AM Reservations for lunch must be made two days in advance. Call the office and leave a message to reserve your lunch at 508-949-8015. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated.

Activities at Dudley Senior Center:

Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. -Pitch League

Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. The Dudley Senior Women's Knitting group. Come join us if you're interested in creating groovy knitting projects which are helping to support our community.

Special Events at the **Dudley Senior Center for** December

Wednesday December 6, 2023: a group of seniors will be going to eat at the Public House. Meeting at the Senior Center to Carpool to the Public House reservations are required for this restaurant lunch will be at 12 noon. Please let us know if you are interested in joining we need to RSVP so please call.

Thursday December 7, 2023: the Dudley Senior Center will be celebrating December birthdays. After the Tri Valley lunch we will be having cake and ice cream. Please call by Monday December 4th., if you are interested in having us order a Tri Valley meal, or bring your own lunch, have cake, and ice cream with

Wednesday December 13, 2023: we will have a brown bag lunch. Your selection will be bologna or chicken salad. Please call the office or stop by and sign up with your choice of meat, and condiments. You must call in advance, so we have your brown bag ready as you request. The cost of this is \$3.00 per person.

Thursday December 21, 2023: Memory Café from 12-2 PM: Please note the new time this event will begin at 12 noon with lunch and entertainment. We will be charging \$5.00 for the meal which is a ham dinner. Entertainment is a Dulcimer Group playing Christmas Music. We will be doing a \$10.00 grab if you would like to join and are accepting any gift cards for Homeless Veterans. You will need to RSVP for this event, so we have enough meals: Please Call 508-949-8015 to RSVP or sign up in the senior center.

Wednesday December the Dudley 27, 2023: Senior Center will be having a Potluck luncheon. We will be servicing Shepherd's Pie. The cost for this lunch is \$5.00. You will need to RSVP for this event, so we have enough meals: Please Call 508-949-8015 to RSVP or sign up in the

senior center. Please call the Senior Center for any of these Special Events so we have a count especially for the meals we are making: The number is 508-949-8015. Please leave a message. You can also contact us by email: coadirector@dudleyma.gov we are very excited to offer new events for our seniors.

Handouts are avail-

able at the Dudley Senior Center

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 10 AM -2:00 PM.

Email: coadirector@ dudleyma.gov

Telephone: 508-949-8015. Please leave us a message with your return phone number.

We are always open to new ideas for programs/ events. Come and share!

Open to all seniors. You are always welcome to attend any of our programs and events no matter where you live! Just a reminder to RSVP for any special events.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$569,000, 17 Saratoga Rd, Senior, Leslie, and Senior, Devin, to Gonzalez, Wilbert A.

\$520,000, 3 Rochelle St, Gendreau, Brian, to Collins, Keith.

\$420,000, 33 Colonial Rd, Lantiegne, Lauren B, to Davis, Ethan M, and Davis, Jessica B.

\$415,000, 49 Barbara Ave, Lemoine Bonnie H Est, and Lemoine, Christopher, to Baptiste, Marie C.

\$400,000, 27 Homestead Ave, Goodrau, Sheila A, to Phaneuf, Angela.

DUDLEY

\$5,100,000, 123 Oxford Ave, Three R S Realty Corp, to Strategic Com Realty Inc.

\$5,100,000, 153 Oxford Ave, Three R S Realty Corp, to Strategic Com Realty Inc.

\$630,000, 185 Oxford Ave, Oconnor, Maureen E, and Oconnor, Thomas F, to Cappabianco Jr, Michael A, and Cappabianco, Lisa E.

\$435,000, 26 June St, Perreault, Samantha, and Perreault, Kyle D, to Warren, Stanley G.

\$425,000, 75 Marsh Rd, Restated Kulisa T, and Tierney, Lynn A, to Radcliffe, David, and Radcliffe,

\$375,000, 127 Dresser Hill Rd, Gervais, Pamela J, to Campbell, Rebecca L, and Turner, Paul R.

\$200,000, 16 Delaney Ave, Berube Rose V Est, and Berube, Thomas, to Johansen, Maryann.

OXFORD

\$495,000, 44 Joe Jenny Rd, Perkins, Jillian, to Vazquez, Felix, and Vazquez, Michele.

\$475,723, 167 Dudley Rd, Gendron, Edward R, and Lakeview Loan Servicing L, to Lakeview Loan Servicing L.

\$415,000, 13 Dudley Rd, Delano Lt, and Delano, Todd M, to Cignetti, Stephen.

\$355,000, 27 Leicester St, Cuadrado. James M, and Castro-Lainez,

Jennifer C, to Losada, Nohora P. \$325,000, 6 Vine St. Abbascia, Dale, to Burse, Doreen R.

\$267,000, 82 Walnut St, Dugette, Kenneth M, and Duqette, Patricia M, to Plouffe, Brian D.

\$240,000, 27 Walnut St, Coleman, Brenda M. to Sdb Homes LLC.

WEBSTER

\$557,500, 106 Lake St, Young, Ronald J, and Young, Kathleen M, to Coulombe, James, and Bird, Crystal

\$280,000, 15 Tanner Rd, Hud, to Fenuccio-Ramos, Tiana, and Rosa, Miguel A.

\$250,000, 104 Thompson Rd, Lebel Realty Invs LLC, to Francisco Stone Work Inc.

\$240,000, 75 Main St, Rheault Properties Llp, to Putnam Inv Prop LLC.

Wishing all of our customers & friends
many blessings this
holiday season.
Thank you for your
support this past year. Cormier Jewelers & ART GALLERY A Family Business Since 1949 152 Main Street • Spencer • 508-885-3385 erspencer.com | TUES, WED, FRI 10-5 • THURS 10-6 • SAT 10-3 Family Owned & Operated for Over 70 Years

Webster Senior Center

5 Church St.

(508) 949-3845

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

Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photographs, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities, upcoming events and our monthly lunch menu. You do not have to be a resident of Webster to participate in our activities and programs. ALL Seniors are welcome!

The Webster Senior Center will close at 12:30 pm (after serving lunch) on Friday, December 22nd. The Senior Center will be closed on Monday, December 25th in observance of the Christmas holiday.

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday 12/5 Hot Dog, baked beans, coleslaw. Wednesday 12/ Stuffed Pepper Casserole, mashed potatoes, carrots. Thursday 12/7 Garlic Herbed Chicken, cranberry herb stuffing, brussels sprouts. Friday, 12/8 American Chop Suey, roasted broccoli & carrots.

 $SHINE (Serving \, the \, Health \, Insurance$ Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Senior Center to assist you with any health insurance questions you may have. Just a reminder, Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15th to December 7th. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.

Need help with your MassHealth application? Tri-Valley has Certified Application Counselors available to assist you. Appointments are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Tri-Valley office in Dudley. Please call Tri-Valley at (508) 949-6640. Appointments are also available on Fridays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Webster Senior Center. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule Friday appointments at the Senior Center.

Farmer's Market every REC Thursday from 1:00 – 2:30 pm on the Town Hall front lawn.

Come on down to the Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center and enter a raffle to win a free haircut! No purchase necessary. Bomba Beauty Salon is open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

Come join us for our Golden Bachelor Viewing Party! Our Golden Bachelor viewing schedule: Fantasy Suites, Thursday, November 30th at 10:00 am. Finale will be shown on Friday, December 1st 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

NEW! Koffee Klatch get together and chat with us on Thursdays at 10:00 am. Starts Thursday, December 7th.

Do you have questions about health insurance? A Representative from MA Advantage will be at the Webster Senior Center on Friday, December 1st

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



at 10:00 am to answer questions. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Join our Coloring Workshops with Stacey! Friday, December 1st and Friday, December 15th at 10:00 am. Each class is 1-1/2 hours and participants will get their choice of drawing plus a set of colored pencils and a blending pencil to take home! Cost: \$5.00 per class. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Soup Social with Christopher Heights will be held on Monday, December 4th at 11:30 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Mondays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! Cost: \$3.00 per class. NOTE: Chair Dancing Classes will resume on December 13th!

Progressive Beginner Line Dancing Classes with Forty Arroyo are postponed until further notice.

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

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

Do you like to play cribbage? Our weekly cribbage group now meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us!

Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center come join us for 6-card or 13-card pitch! Six card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.

New card game! Euchere!! If you are interested, please call (508) 949-3845 or stop by the Senior Center front desk for more information.

at 1:00 pm – beginners welcome!

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

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

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

Lost Diamond Ring

Lost Hamilton and Oliver Street Southbridge, MA Solitary Diamond, 4 prong, full setting engagement ring

> If found please call 508-612-4506 Possible reward

* Friday's Chi



Asa and Lilianna Age 8 and 10

Hi! Our names are Asa and Lilianna and we like karate!

Lilianna and Asa are amazing sibling group hoping to be adopted together. Lilianna(Lilly), the older sister is very outgoing. She is described as active, fearless, and strong-willed. Lilly also has a side she describes as "classy", such as enjoying getting her nails done and putting on makeup. She attends in karate class and really enjoys it. Lilly also loves art, enjoys watching cartoons, and helping her foster mother in the kitchen. In school, she performs at grade level and would benefit from support and consistent structure to stay task. Lilianna is severely allergic to cats and dogs and families with cats will not be considered but her social worker would consider a family with a hypoaller-

genic dog.

Asa, the younger brother, unlike his big sis has an introverted personality. He also likes to attend karate class. As alikes indoor activities like mind-stimulating games that include problem solving, drawing, and playing with cars. He also loves outdoor activities such as going to the park. In school, Asa performs above average compared to his peers.

Lilly and Asa will bring joy to a home that can provide them with structure, consistency, and freedom to express their emotions. They will do well in a loving two parent family of any constellation, where they can be the only or youngest children in the home. Asa is biracial, being of African America and Caucasian descent and interested families must be dedicated to providing appropriate information and ethnic and cultural role models regarding his culture which includes discussing racism and discrimination.

https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/children/6956-6957

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.





A Stonebridge Press Weekly Newspaper 25 ELM STREET, SOUTHBRIDGE MA 01550 Tel. (508) 764-4325• Fax (508) 764-8015 www.StonebridgePress.com

Frank G. Chilinski STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

> Brendan Berube **E**DITOR

EDITORIAL

The power of small changes

In a world that often celebrates instant results and quick fixes, the true path to personal growth and self-improvement lies in the steady accumulation of small changes. We live in an age where we're bombarded with information about radical transformations and overnight success stories. However, it's essential to remember that lasting change often comes from the consistent practice of good habits, one small step at a time.

The journey of self-improvement can be daunting. Whether it's striving for better health, financial stability, or personal development, the thought of making significant changes can be overwhelming. But here's the secret: progress is not about massive, dramatic actions. Instead, it's about the cumulative effect of tiny, daily efforts.

Developing good habits requires patience, persistence, and an understanding that meaningful change doesn't happen overnight. Instead, it unfolds gradually.

Small changes are sustainable because they don't disrupt your life drastically. When you start with tiny steps, you're less likely to feel overwhelmed and give up. These changes become integrated into your daily routine, making them easier to maintain over the long term.

Consistency is the backbone of habit formation. By taking small actions every day, you reinforce positive behaviors and build momentum. Over time, these behaviors become second nature, and you don't have to rely on willpower

Large changes can trigger resistance and anxiety. Our brains are wired to resist big, sudden shifts. In contrast, small changes are less threatening, making it easier to overcome the resistance that often accompanies change.

Celebrating small victories along the way boosts motivation and confidence. Each small change achieved is a step forward, reinforcing your commitment to your goals.

Life is unpredictable, and sudden disruptions can derail even the best-laid plans. When your habits are built on small, manageable changes, you can adapt more easily to unexpected challenges without losing sight of your

Identify one habit you want to cultivate and break it down into the smallest possible steps. For example, if you want to exercise regularly, start with just five minutes of activity each day.

Set specific goals: Make your goals clear and measurable. Instead of saying, "I want to get in shape," say, "I will walk for 10 minutes every morning."

Establish a daily routine that includes your new habit. Consistency is easier to maintain when your habit becomes part of your daily life.

Track your progress: Keep a journal or use habit-tracking apps to monitor your daily efforts. Seeing your progress can be motivating and help you stay on

Stay accountable: Share your goals with a friend or family member who can offer support and encouragement. Having someone to hold you accountable can be a powerful motivator.

Remember, the journey of self-improvement is not a sprint but a marathon. Embrace the process of making small changes every day, and in time, you'll look back and be amazed at the significant transformation that these incremental efforts have brought to your life. By cultivating good habits one step at a time, you'll not only achieve your goals but also develop the resilience and discipline necessary for a lifetime of positive change.

TEWPOINE to submit letters to the editor and comment week's newspaper is Friday at noon. **SEND ALL ITEMS** to Editor Brendan Berube at THE WEBSTER TIMES — news@stonebridgepress.

THE DEADLINE to submit letters to the editor and commentaries for next Brendan Berube at The Webster Times — news@stonebridgepress.news

What is Christmas all about?

What is Christmas all about? If you didn't grow up in a Christian home, if you don't go to Church, or didn't have parents who read you the Christmas story each year, would you know what Christmas is about all? Think about that for a moment. Would you be able to figure out what Christmas is about from what our society says during this festive season?

I had a discussion with a person who told me they grew up with no religion in their home. They never went to church, never were baptized, and in fact, really never talked about anything religious in their home. This person wasn't angry at God, or didn't reject God or His Church because they had some negative experience with religious people. The simple fact was that their family never felt any need to be involved in a religious community, and now in their adult age, this person is

other religion. This describes a growing number of people in our country. Statistics now say that almost 40 percent of millennials, people between 18 and 30, don't identify with any religious community. And this

totally indifferent to Christianity or any

number is growing rapidly. For such people, what do they think about Christmas? Would they even know what Christmas is truly about?

Well, let's think about what they see all around them? Homes have lights up, lots of lights, beautiful lights along with reindeer, Santas, candy canes, snowmen, and some snow dogs. Even non-Christian families have lights shining around their home. The lights are beautiful, but would a non-religious or a non-Christian person have any reason to understand why there are lights? What do they signify or mean?

Then there's the Christmas music on the radio or in every shop or store we enter. Some stations have 24/7 Christmas music. Yet, what does this music tell us about Christmas? That chestnuts are roasting on an open fire. That Rudolph has a red, shiny nose. Lots of music about families gathering together to celebrate the most joyous time of the year amidst a winter wonderland. Once again beautiful, nostalgic music that may warm our hearts. But what is its significance. Maybe one out of every 20 or 30 songs may sing about the Christ child, but these few songs can easily get lost in the host of other catchy tunes.

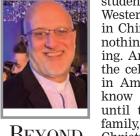
Of course, there are the Christmas cards we send to one another which show beautiful pictures of families. I love getting these cards and seeing how families change vear after vear. They are beautiful, and they remind us of family and friends. But do they tell us anything about Christmas?

How many of us go to different Christmas or holiday parties which gather co-workers, friends and families together. Great fellowship. Good food. But once again, what does it tell us about the meaning of Christmas?

And of course, there's all the stress and rush of the season – shopping for more and more presents up until the day before Christmas. Feeling overwhelmed, ragged and tired. Does this get across what Christmas is all about?

What a non-religious person probably comes away with from American Christmas is that it is a time for family and friends, a time of celebration and cheer, a time of beauty and fun. Yet they can miss the entire religious message, the main point of Christmas! Seriously, it's easy to celebrate Christmas and leave Jesus Christ entirely out of the picture!

One friend told me about a foreign exchange student from China who was living with them. Although this news of great joy!



BEYOND THE

PEWS

By Fr. Luke A. VERONIS SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, Webster

student had heard about the Western holiday of Christmas in China, they actually knew nothing of its actual meaning. And after living through the celebration of Christmas in America, they still didn't know what it was all about until they asked their host family, "Why do you celebrate Christmas? What is it all about? Do you really believe in flying reindeer?"

The "Good News of Great Joy" this season celebrates is about God the Creator of the universe becoming a human being. It's about Jesus the long-awaited Messiah coming to earth to save the world from darkness and evil, sin and death itself. This radical and life-giving message is now lost for many people in all the hustle and bustle of our secular Christmas. Therefore, we Christians need to understand that this season as a

great opportunity to tell others about what Christmas truly is! We have a special responsibility to share the good news of great joy with others - to let people know the reason for the season!

What does your Christian faith mean to you? How has your relationship with Jesus Christ impacted your life? What meaning and significance have you found in life because of your faith in God? As I reflect on my father's death earlier this year, I realize I'm not afraid of death precisely because of what Christmas ushered into the world!

Christmas is the beginning of the greatest revolution in human history a revolution which brings true freedom to humanity. Freedom to overcome our sinful temptations and passions and fulfill our God-given potential by uniting us to God Himself. As St. Athanasios the Great succinctly put it, "God became man so that man could become god." This is the great promise of Christmas, to reach our potential as human beings! And this is good news everyone needs to know about!

Thus, I want to challenge everyone. Over the next weeks, can we make it a point to share the Good News of Christmas, the real message of Christmas, with at least one person each week. Think of someone you know who isn't a Christian - maybe someone who is among the non-religious, or maybe someone with another religious background. Whoever it is, ask them how they celebrate Christmas, and what Christmas means to them. Then, share how you celebrate Christmas and what the pirth of Jesus Christ means to you.

Even think about inviting them to come to Church with you one of these Sundays before or on Christmas. Everyone is welcome to our Saints Constantine and Helen Church in Webster!

Please remember that there are many people in our society who really don't know what Christmas is all about. And more and more people are joining their ranks. Let us be like the angels who brought the "good news of great joy" to the shepherds. Let us be like the shepherds who shared their great discovery with the villagers of Bethlehem. Let us be like the wise men who after traveling far to see the newborn Jesus, surely went back to their homeland telling their people about the newborn king.

Christmas is a time for family and friends. Christmas is a time of beautiful lights and wonderful music. Christmas is a time of celebration and good cheer. Yet above all else, Christmas is the time that we remember how God entered the world and changed it! Jesus Christ came to conquer Satan and sin and even death itself, and because of this gave each one of us an opportunity for new life! May we let everyone know about this good

<u>letters to the E</u>ditor

A clean heat platform for Massachusetts

To the Editor:

With the cold weather upon us, it is easy to forget the impact of a warming climate will have on our children and grandchildren. Here in Massachusetts the residential and commercial building sector is the second largest emitter of greenhouse gases. While there are several bills now proposed to address this, it is important to let our Governor and Legislators know that they should support the complementary policies that make up the Clean Heat Platform, which will steer us away from fossil fuel use and replacing it with clean, more

efficient and cheaper electricity. This can be done through the use of ground and air heat pumps, weatherizing existing structures, and strengthening our building codes among other things. But just as important as getting our commonwealth to act, we should also take matters into our own hands, by taking responsibility for our own carbon footprints, by electrifying our own homes when time comes to replace any broken or obsolete appliances with energy efficient replacements.

> GERRY FRANK **DUDLEY**

Know the key benefits of a Roth



FINANCIAL Focus

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

As you save for retirement, you'll want to take full advantage of the investment vehicles available to you — and one of the best is a Roth IRA. But what sets it apart from other accounts?

Three key factors distinguish the Roth IRA:

Tax-free earnings – When you invest in a Roth IRA, your earnings can grow tax free, provided you don't begin taking withdrawals until you're 59 and a half and you've had your account at least five years. If you don't meet these criteria, withdrawals of earnings will be subject to taxes and a possible 10 percent penalty.

No penalties on withdrawals of contributions - You fund a Roth IRA with after-tax dollars, which means you can withdraw your contributions — not the earnings — at any time for any reason, without facing taxes or penalties. So, you could use some of your Roth IRA money for non-retirement purposes, such as helping pay for a child's college

No required withdrawals at age 73 -With a traditional IRA or a 401(k), you must start taking withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — once you reach 73. But this rule doesn't apply to a Roth IRA — you can keep it intact as long as you like. You may need to tap into it for some of your retirement income, but if you don't use it all, the remainder could benefit your beneficiaries.

A Roth IRA does share one similarity to a traditional IRA: It can be funded with virtually any type of investment, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit (C

However, unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA does have income limits.

For the 2023 tax year, if your modified adjusted gross income was less than \$138,000 (for a single filer) or \$218,000 (married filing jointly), you can put in the full amount of \$6,500 and an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution if you're 50 or older. The amounts you can contribute will gradually decline at higher income levels and are phased out entirely at \$153,000 for single filers and \$228,000 if you're married and file jointly. These income ranges will likely change for the 2024 tax year, so you'll want to consult with your tax advisor for details.

Still, even if you've contributed to a traditional IRA or a 401(k) for many years, you may have a chance to eventually "convert" some, or all, of these funds to a Roth IRA and gain its benefits. It's not hard to do this conversion

it involves minimal paperwork from your traditional IRA or 401(k) provider but it does come with tax issues. Any money that's converted from a traditional IRA or 401(k) to a Roth IRA will be treated as ordinary taxable income. This can trigger a large tax bill, so, unless you have the money available from other accounts to pay the taxes, the conversion may or may not make sense for you. But you don't have to convert all the funds at once. By spreading the conversion over several years, you could reduce the effect of a large tax hit in any single year. You may want to consult with your tax advisor before converting any funds to a Roth IRA.

If you can find a way to contribute to a Roth IRA, either directly or through a conversion, consider it carefully you'll find a lot of upsides to this investment account.

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.

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.

Be alert against CIRDC

Shotgun deer hunting season opened in Mass. this past Monday, in somewhat ideal conditions. The early morning rain was over by sunrise, followed by light winds in the morning, for hunters hoping to harvest a deer for the family's freezer.

Deer have already started to become nocturnal (traveling and feeding only at night). Deer hunters often work in small groups, hoping to locate the deer, often pushing them from their beds. With the high population of deer in Mass., hunters should have no problem harvesting a couple for the family freezer.

A canine respiratory disease known as CIRDC, Infectious "Canine Respiratory Disease,' Is a disease that is highly contagious, and has been detected in numerous pets recently. People that frequent dog parks

exposing their pets to this deadly disease. Taking your pets to the veterinarian to diagnose and treat the disease can be extremely expensive, as most visits to the Veterinarian are.

Getting an appointment to the veterinarian can often take days, as most are often booked up. Pet owners are often referred to Tuffs medical clinic in Grafton, which extremely expensive. Anyone that has had to take their pet to Tuff's, often come out with a bill of \$500 or more, a thousand dollar bill is not unusual. Owning a dog that is healthy is great, and the companionship is most often a strong bond with the owners.

I have often mentioned the risks of taking your pets to a dog park, and with the recent outbreak this disease, you should not do it! People take their dogs almost



THE GREAT OUTDOORS RALPH TRUE

everywhere they go, and the risks are very high that they could become infected. Don't do it!

Purchasing a dog as a Christmas present for someone is also a foolish thing to do! There is too much going on, and the pup could be injured during all of the commotion of opening other gifts. Also, when you decide to buy a new family member and/or hunting partner, be sure to buy a healthy dog directly from a breeder. Be sure to see both parents and spend a little bit of time with them. Labradors are still the no. one pet, but

if you do not do your homework before you purchase one, diseases like hip dysplasia could end up costing you hundreds, if not thousands of dollars, not to forget to mention a short life for your new family member. Choose wisely and good luck!

Christmas shopping for those special sportsmen is often a hard thing to do. It is best to give that special guy or gal a gift certificate at their favorite sporting goods store. Shopping at a Mom & Pop store is the best way to go, and will help keep the establishment in business. Many of these small shops have gone out of business over the last 20 years or so, and there are very few

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



This week's picture shows Aiden, Charlotte, & Holden Walker enjoying a day of pheasant hunting recently with their dad.

Holiday Crafts for Kids

As we count down to Christmas, a host of festive preparations take center stage in most families. This exciting time of year is hectic, and even more so for anxious children eager to be part of the pre-holiday activities. If you're searching for easy, creative ways to keep little ones from underfoot, look no further. The following ideas are fun and easy ways to keep kids busy. Best of all, these imaginative projects make great gifts for the special loved one in a child's life.

Snowflake Magic Ornament/Suncatcher

This amazing scientific project takes a little time, but it is educational as well as interesting. Kids really get a kick out of gifting teachers with this sparkly ornament. (Adult supervision required.)

Materials: String, wide mouth jar (such as a mason canning jar); white pipe cleaners; boiling water; borax (such as 20 Mule Team Borax booster, available at grocery stores); pencil; blue food coloring (optional).

Directions: Cut a white pipe cleaner into three equal sections. Twist the sections together in the TAKE THE

HINT **KAREN**

TRAINOR

center so that you have a six sided star shape. If your points are not even, trim the pipe cleaner sections to the same length. Attach string along the outer edges to form a snowflake pattern. Attach a piece of string to the top of one of the pipe cleaners and tie the other end to a pencil (this is to hang it from). Fill a wide mouth jar with boiling water. Mix borax into the water one tablespoon at a time. Use three tablespoons of borax per cup of water. Stir until dissolved, (don't worry if there is powder settling on the bottom of the jar). If you want you can add a little blue food coloring now to give the snowflake a bluish hue Insert your pipe cleaner snowflake into the jar so that the pencil is resting on the lip of the jar and the snowflake is freely suspended in the borax solution. Wait overnight and by

morning the snowflake will be covered with shiny crystals. Hang in a window as a sun-catcher

Coal Stocking Bags Children love to think

they aren't the only ones who are "naughty" at times, and really enjoy bestowing this holiday teaser on family members and friends. This tried and true project is so simple, yet never fails to garner giggles and fun!

Materials: Small, coal sized rocks; black paint; ziplock bags or brown paper lunch bags; ribbon or twine.

Instructions: Have kids package painted rocks in zipper bags or brown paper bag pouches and tie with a ribbon for gift giving. They can hand print out the following message and tie it to the

I heard you have been naughty not nice,

And Santa checked his list twice.

So all the way from the cold North Pole,

All you're getting is a bag of coal!

Pinecone Trees Gathering pinecones for holiday crafts is a

generations old tradi-

tion that reflects one of nature's many gifts of the season! Creating cute, colorful, pinecone "trees" is easy enough for young children to do. The little trees are made simply by painting a single pinecone and are ideal for displaying on the windowsill, desktop or table.

Materials: Pinecones, dried (see below)*; paints; glitter, beads; cinnamon candies, etc. and other adornments as desired; wine cork or a slice of tree trunk for base.

Instructions: Choose a pinecone that mimics the shape of a Christmas tree (short and stout tall and slender, etc.). Paint pinecones green and decorate with beads or tiny buttons; cookie decorations such as cinnamon candies and silver balls, etc.; dip tips in glue and glitter, if desired, etc. Glue bottom of pinecone to a wine cork or small tree trunk slice to form a base (trim bottom of pinecone to make it flat for gluing).

*To dry pinecones for crafting; Lay pinecones out flat on an old cookie sheet. Bate at 225 for This not two hours. only helps the pinecones to open, but eliminates moisture and any insects. Note: a mix of short,

F. Pratt, Pascal

P. Pratt, and

Letchworth

established

Malleable Iron

Works in 1836,'

according to worthpoint.

began toy pro-

duction in 1889.

A late 19th

century Pratt

Buffalo

They

William

the

com.

stout pinecones and long, slender ones cam create a "forest" of varying heights for a tabletop display!

Garden Bows

The gardener on your child's gift list will truly appreciate this creative tree ornament. Perfect for a grandparent, teacher or special adult, the gift can be opened for use in the spring, or hung on the tree year after year.

Materials: Flower or vegetable seed packets; white glue; glitter; metallic tree garland; fishing line.

Instructions: Fold packet pleats. Spread white glue along the outside edges of the pleats. Dip the pleated packets into glitter and let dry. Pinch the top of the packet to create a fan. Hang the ornaments by wrapping them at center point with metallic garland. Thread fishing line or ribbon through the garland and tie in a loop for hanging on tree.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic

in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month (or whenever enough tips are received) will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

2023 auction results

I hope that you had a Thanksgiving! As we near 2024, I'll use today's column to share some results from our 2023 auctions.

In previous columns, I've discussed how comic books are classified. As a refresher, Golden Age comics were printed from 1938 to 1956. The Silver



Age of comics lasted from 1956 to 1970. The Bronze Age spanned from 1970 to 1985 and the Modern Age began in 1985 and continues today. A Golden Age superheroes comic book in great condition could make you a millionaire. More recent ones can still be valuable, • though. We sold a WAYNE TUISKULA & Letchworth group of Bronze

Age X-Men Comic Books that brought \$2,880 in November.

Age and Modern

Old and newer collectible toys also brought strong prices this year, including two cast iron toys from our June auction. Kenton Toys of Kenton, Ohio began manufacturing toy trucks in 1903, according to the National Museum of American History. An early 1900s Kenton Toys Cast Iron Police Patrol Horse Drawn Carriage brought \$960. "Samuel



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

Cast Iron Horse Drawn Steamer Fire Engine sold for \$1,020.

Some more modern toys also sold well in our 2023 auctions. "The Munsters" was the 18th highest-ranked TV show for the 1964-65 season. A 1964 Talking Herman Munster figure by Mattel with original box sold for \$900. The intro for "Six Million Dollar Man" became a 1970s catch phrase: "We can rebuild him; we have the technology." A 1970s The Six Million Dollar Man

Venus Space Probe in the box went for \$960. Even newer toys can be valuable. A 2016 Lego Ghostbusters Fire House MIB (mint in box) sold for \$780 earlier this year.

Baseball and other sports cards continue to be popular with collectors, especially graded cards of star players. Cards featuring two Hall of Famers brought strong prizes in our June auction. A 1954 Topps Hank (Henry) Aaron #128 PSA 5 (out of 10) Baseball Card fetched \$4,425. Mickey Mantle cards in good condition are highly desirable. A 1952 Bowman Mickey Mantle #101 PSA 6 (out of 10) Baseball Card knocked it out of the park, selling for \$5,000.

We are expecting more strong auction results at our major multi-estate online auction which starts soon and ends on January 10th. We will be offering fine art including paintings by list-

ed artists (those whose works have sold at auction), Pablo Picasso limited edition pottery, and bronze sculptures. We have gold, platinum, and diamond jewelry and a large amount of sterling silver. There's also a wide range of mid-century modern furniture and accessories. We will also offer aviation and Civil War memorabilia and much more, including a book from the 1600s. Our online estate auction of a Concord, Mass. home is also currently running and will end on Dec. 12. The Concord home has fine furnishings, oriental rugs, an antique tall case clock, and more. Please visit our Web site, https://centralmassauctions.com, for links to upcoming events.

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

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The strength to overcome obstacles lies within you

We sometimes find ourselves standing at the feet of towering giants and facing impossible battles. The types of battles that make you question everything you thought you knew, making you feel as if you don't have what it takes and that you should

give up and die.

What if I told you that this perception, this daunting outlook, is often a mere illusion?

There is a truth that many of us find hard to believe: that deep within you lies everything you need to triumph over your

At an early age, Stephen Wiltshire received an autism diagnosis, a condition that faced significant

Positively **SPEAKING**

TOBY MOORE

stigma during his childhood. He was non-verbal until the age of five; few could have imagined his disability would eventually become one of his greatest strengths.

Stephen had a love for drawing; he was passionate about it. It was his way of connecting and communicating. Being autistic, I'm sure nobody thought Stephen had any chance in art.

Soon enough, Stephen

had the attention of a teacher who noticed his remarkable talent. His drawings, characterized by their stunning detail and complexity, were entered into competitions and started win-

Turn To **POSITIVELY** page **A10**

<u>LEGALS</u>

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Alan J. Nash, Jr. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated June 8, 2016 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 55448, Page 227, subsequently assigned to RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing Corporation by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 58481, Page 161, subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing Corporation by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 63648, Page 237 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on December 8, 2023 at 1 Duncan Avenue aka 1 Duncan Street, Auburn, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

Beginning at the southwesterly corner thereof at the intersection of the Easterly line of said Carroll Street and the northerly line of said Duncan Street; THENCE: N. 9 degree 30' E. seventy-five (75) feet by the easterly line of said Carroll Street to the southwesterly corner of Lot 15 as sown on said plan; THENCE: S 80 degrees 30' E. one hundred fifty (150) feet by said Lot 15 as sown on said plan to Lot 17;

THENCE: S. 9 degrees 30' W. ninety-eight and seventy-six hundredths (98.76) feet by said Lot 17 as shown on said plan to the northerly line of said Duncan Street;

THENCE: N. 66 degrees 27' W. ninety-eight (98.15) feet by said northerly line of Duncan Street to an angle in said northerly line of said Duncan

THENCE: N. 80 degrees 30' W. fifty-four and ninety-three hundredths (54.93) feet by the northerly line of Duncan Street to the point of beginning.

CONTAINING 12.379 square feet of land, more or less.

Being the same premises conveyed to the mortgagors by deed of Patricia S. Pawlina, Trustee of the Pawlina Realty Trust (an unrecorded trust) recorded herewith.

For informational purposes, the subject premises is shown as Lot 14 on a "Plan of House Lots in Auburn, Mass.", dated November 1, 1948, and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 155, Plan 99.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes. tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's

fees and costs. TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

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

Freedom Mortgage Corporation Present Holder of said Mortgage, 20-006439/248/NOTOP_DR

By Its Attorneys, ORLANS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 20-006439 November 17, 2023 November 24, 2023

December 1, 2023

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Catherine E. Mallette AKA Catherine E. Malette to Citicorp Trust Bank, FSB, dated July 24, 2003 and recorded with the Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 31059, Page 260, subsequently assigned to Selene Finance LP by Citicorp Trust Bank, FSB by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 45757, Page 346, subsequently assigned to SRMOF 2009-1 Trust by Selene Finance LP by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 46345, Page 211, subsequently assigned to CitiMortgage, Inc. by SRMOF 2009-1 Trust by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 48363, Page 12, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Legal Title Trustee of LVS Title Trust I by CitiMortgage, Inc. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 48363, Page 13, subsequently assigned to SRMOF 2009-1 Trust by Selene Finance LP by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 51302, Page 254, subsequently assigned to MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Legal Title Trustee of LVS Title Trust I by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 54778. Page 152, subsequently assigned to Metropolitan Life Insurance Company by MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (South District) Registry of Deeds at Book 64325. Page 375 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for

Mortgage, to wit: All that certain parcel of land in City of North Oxford, Worcester County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as more fully described in deed Book 15527, Page 115 ID# MAP02B Lot C06, being known and designated as a metes and bounds property.

the purpose of foreclosing same will be

sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on

December 15, 2023 at 158 Leicester

Street, North Oxford, MA, all and sin-

gular the premises described in said

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's

fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, **ORLANS PC** PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 22-003357 November 24, 2023 December 1, 2023

December 8, 2023 MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Alice L. Chmura and Jan T. Mathieu to Springfield Institution For Savings, dated October 15, 1993 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 15662, Page 11, subsequently assigned to Bank United by First Massachusetts Bank, NA as successor in interest to Family Bank, NA (FKA Family Bank, FSB) successor by merger to Springfield Institution For Savings by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 22710, Page 376, subsequently assigned to Bank United by First Massachusetts Bank, NA as successor in interest to Family Bank, NA

(FKA Family Bank, FSB) successor by merger to Springfield Institution For Savings by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 68364, Page 152, subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, FA by Washington Mutual Bank f/k/a Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to Bank United by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 47321, Page 77, subsequently assigned to The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as received of Washington Mutual Bank formerly known as Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to Bank United by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 63588. Page 229. subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, FA by The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as receiver of Washington Mutual Bank formerly known as Washington Mutual Bank, FA successor by merger to Bank United by assignment recorded in said

Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 48211, Page 190, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by Wells Fargo Bank, FA by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 55766, Page 107, subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by U.S. Bank Trust. N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 63011, Page 279, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank Trust. N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 56300, Page 48, subsequently assigned to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. by U.S. Bank Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 64368, Page 393, subsequently assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2019-RPL10 Trust by DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 68261, Page 72 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on December 22, 2023 at 26 Hall Road, Webster, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land on the easterly side of Hall Road, Webster, MA shown as Lot No. 990 on Plan entitled "Revised Subdivision of Plans No. 3 and No. 4 of Lots at Lakeside" owned by Helmi M. Hall dated July 5, 1966 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 305, Plan 74, and further bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING: at a point on the easterly side of Hall Road, said point being the northwest corner of the lot herein conveyed;

THENCE:, easterly by Lot #989, a distance of 293.86 feet;

THENCE: southeasterly, a distance of

THENCE: westerly, by Lot #991, a distance of 307.86 feet to Hall Road: THENCE: northerly by Hall Road, a

distance of 100 feet to the point of beginning. SUBJECT to the restrictions set forth in

Book 12594, Page 352.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

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

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2019-RPL10 Trust Present Holder of said Mortgage,

By Its Attorneys, **ORLANS PC** PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 22-000857 December 1, 2023

December 8, 2023 December 15, 2023

DUDLEY PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL NOTICE DUDLEY HOUSING AUTHORITY PARKING SITE PLAN

In accordance with the provisions of Section 5.04, Site Plan Review, of the Dudley Zoning Bylaw, the Dudley Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on an application of the Dudley Housing Authority for major site plan review for parking improvements at the Joshua Place housing development located at 22 Joshua Place, Dudley MA. The hearing will open at 7:15 pm on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 in the Dudley Municipal Complex, Room 321-A, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571.

The project consists of resurfacing an existing paved parking area and the installation of ten (10) additional parking spaces and related stormwater improvements. The site plan was prepared by Graves Engineering, Inc., 100 Grove Street, Worcester MA 01605, dated October 11, 2023. The site is in an LI-43 district and the Business 15 Overlay District. The property is listed as Assessors Map 122, Parcel 5.

Copies of the plan and application are on file in the Planning Board Office and the Town Clerk's Office, both of which are located in the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA. The Planning Board will receive public input at the hearing. If you wish to comment but are unable to attend, you may submit written comments to the Planning Board Office or via email to planner1@dudleyma.gov before 4:30 p.m. on December 12, 2023.

Guy Horne, Chairman November 24, 2023 December 1, 2023

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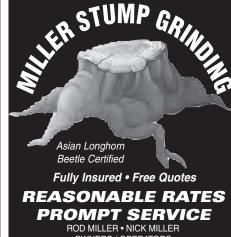
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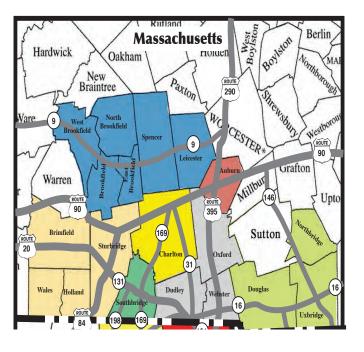
• Charlton Villager

• Southbridge News

Webster Times

Auburn News

• Blackstone Valley Tribune





JBITUARIES

Donald A. "Chick" Fiddes, 89



WEBSTER – Donald A. "Chick" Fiddes, 89, died peacefully Monday, November 20, 2023. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Blanche (Nadeau)Fiddes; a daughter, Julie Hewey and her hus-

band Lewis of Dudley; a son, Gregg Fiddes and his wife Xuyen of San Diego, CA; 4 grandchildren, Kristen Proulx, Kaylyn Pinto and her husband Robert, Justin Fiddes and his wife Lexi, and Alyssa Fiddes; 3 great-grandchildren, Bryce and Chase Proulx and Liliana Pinto. He was preceded in death by his sister Gloria Boggins. He was born on September 23, 1934 in Webster, the son of James and Helen M. (Premond) Fiddes and graduated from Saint Louis High School in 1952. He earned an associate degree from Nichols College in 1954. He was a standout student and basketball player in his school days. He lived in Webster for many years, then moved to Venice, Florida for 20 years before returning here in 2016. He was an Army veteran of the

Korean War, serving from 1954 to 1956. Don worked for 40 years at Cranston Print Works Company in Webster in various roles, retiring in 1994. Chick loved sports and was an avid Boston sports fan, especially the Celtics and the Red Sox. He had a green thumb and loved "just being outside." He and his wife had a wonderful, inseparable life together. He will always be remembered for his caring, kind heart. He cared for everyone and put others before himself, a quality he displayed all his life. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who will be missed. His memory, wit and sense of humor will live on in the hearts of those who loved him. Many thanks and blessings are extended to caregivers Sandy Mundel, Donna McGrath and the wonderful, kind and caring staff at both Oasis at Dodge Park in Worcester and Accord Adult Day Care in Webster, all of whom helped him so much in the past years. Services will be held privately. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East

Main Street.www.websterfunerals.com

Wanda R. Hommé, 97



WEBSTER - Wanda (Fila) Hommé, passed away Thursday, November in Saint 2023 Hospital, Vincent Worcester after a brief illness. Her husband of 49 years, Stefan D. Hommé, died

She leaves a son, George Hommé and his wife Sherri of Selbyville, DE; 3 grandchildren, Elizabeth Rawson and her husband Richard of Sutton, Michael Hommé and his wife Lyndsay of Holden, and Shannon Stirling of Firestone, CO; 3 great-grandsons, Marek, Liam and Lucas; a nephew, Jan Kolodziej who had lived with the family and was still very devoted to her; another nephew, Marek Fila in Poland; several nieces and godchildren, especially Erma, Ewa and Krys, who were very special to her. Her brother, Jan Fila, passed away recently.

She was born on September 9, 1926 in Chorzow, Poland, the daughter of Jan and Otylia (Machaczek) Fila and graduated from high school in Katowice, Poland. She fled to Germany in 1945 where she met her husband. They lived

there from 1945-1951 when they moved briefly to Worcester, settling in Webster

Mrs. Hommé worked as a secretary at Anglo Fabrics and then as a secretary at Deary Brothers in Dudley, retiring

She was a communicant of Saint Joseph Basilica and belonged to the former St. Joseph Polish Women's Club. She was a charter member of the Saint John Paul II Foundation and was named "member of the year" in 2022. She was actively involved in Troop 173 of the Boy Scouts and was a camp inspector and unit commissioner of the Mohegan Council where she was

Her funeral was held Tuesday, November 28, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visitation was held from 9:00 to 10:30 Tuesday morning in the funeral home, prior to the Mass. Donations in her name may be made to the Heart of New England Council, 394 Pleasantdale Road, Rutland MA 01543. to a charity of one's choice..

www.websterfunerals.com

Frances S. Bond, 86



PDUDLEY Frances S. (Stone) Bond, 86, of Alton Drive, died Saturday, November 25, 2023, in her home. She was predeceased by her husband, Stanley E. Bond of Dudley who died in 1993. She is

survived by eight children, Debra A. Dauphin of Charlton, Alan L. Bond and his wife Maryann of Thompson, CT, Gary W. Bond of Dudley, Glen S. Bond and his wife Joann of Webster, Tammy J. Mancuso and her husband Mark of Oxford, Sandra L. Wilga and her husband Gary of Thompson, CT, Penny L. Buffone and her husband Ronald of Oxford, and James E. Bond and his wife Kim of Charlton; her sister, Bettyann Ellis and her husband Milton of Sun City, FL; her sisters-in-law, Jean Stone and Lila Towle, both of Charlton; 19 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother. Donald Stone; and two sisters, Nancy Prunier and Elda Langway. She also leaves her cockatiel who was with her for 30 years, Woody. She was born in Oxford, daughter of the late Everett and Cora (Davis) Stone, and lived in Charlton and Oxford before moving to Dudley 69 years ago. She graduated from Charlton High School.

Mrs. Bond worked as an upholsterer at Ethan Allen in Dudley for over 25 years, retiring in 2001. Previously, she worked at Empire Laundry in Dudley for 15 years. She enjoyed caring for her home and family as a stay-at-home mom for many years. She played in a women's pitch league and was an accomplished seamstress. She enjoyed reading the newspaper, sudoku, knitting, puzzles, and watching soap operas. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy, and she loved attending all of their sporting events. Most of all, she enjoyed Sunday dinners and spending time with her family members who would visit.

The family would like to thank Kayla, Donna, and Kathy, for their exceptional care over the past several weeks. It takes a special person to do their job they are angels among us.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Burial will follow at West Ridge Cemetery in Charlton. Calling hours are Wednesday, November 29, 2023, from 4-8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friends of John Paire Inc., P.O. Box 1505, Dudley, MA 01571.

Ronald C. Langlois, 89



DACULA, GA -Ronald C. Langlois, passed awav Monday, November 13, 2023 surrounded by his family. His wife, Dorothy M. "Dot" (Bowers) Langlois, passed away in 2002.

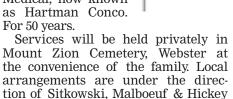
He leaves his daughter, Debbie Copper and her husband Garry of Dacula; a son, Russell Langlois and his wife Lia of Bowling Green, KY; 5 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; a sister, Shirley A. Marshall of Dudley., MA; a brother, Robert Langlois and his wife Bonnie of Elk Horn, KY; nephews and nieces.

He was born in Webster, MA, a son of

Clarence L. and Anna A. (Martin) Langlois.

He served in the United States Army from 1957 to 1959.

Langlois Mr. worked for Conco Medical, now known as Hartman Conco. For 50 years.



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Funeral Home, 340 School Street,

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



Outdoor winter container gardens

Add a bit of greenery to your front steps, window box or patio with a winter container garden. You'll find all the ingredients you need at your local garden center, craft store, and maybe even a few in

your backyard. Start with a walk through your yard and look for evergreens and other potential ingredients for your winter containers. Fruits like rose hips, winterberries, holly berries, crabapples and others add color to the container. Fluffy seedheads of grasses make a nice vertical accent and add a bit of motion to the arrangement.

Next, convert one or two of your summer or fall containers into a winter display. The container should be able to tolerate the winter conditions in your area. Concrete, iron, metal, wood and fiberglass containers are best suited for year-round use. Even plastic pots will last for a few years when left outside.

Or start a new con-

tainer for winter. Repurpose or purchase a container. Nursery pots that once housed trees and shrubs make excellent options. These black containers provide the perfect backdrop for greenery and are available for free from most garden centers and fellow gardeners. Make sure the pot has drainage holes to prevent water-logged soil and water from overflowing the pot. Fill the container about seven eighths full with a well-drained potting mix. The soil helps hold the greenery, twigs and other materials in place and adds weight to keep the pot upright

throughout the winter Consider using a mix of greens for a variety of textures and various



GARDEN MOMENTS **MELINDA**

MYERS

shades of green. Pine, spruce, arborvitae, boxwood and junipers may be growing in your landscape and most are available at garden centers. Spruce tips are popular, allowing you to add "mini" trees or create vertical accents in your containers. Use greens to cover the pot and create an attractive base for your winter display. Place some branches upright and others at a 45-degree angle so the greens drape over the edge. Secure the stems by placing them at least four inches deep in the soil. Now add some color

and vertical interest with stems of red twig dogwoods, paper birch branches, berry-laden stems from holly and winterberry and curly willow branches. Artificial material and outdoor ornaments can also be used. It's your opportunity to get creative.

Do consider adding other elements such as evergreen cones, seed pods, allium seedheads, and balloon plant pods. Leave them natural or add some paint and glitter. Water thoroughly to

remove air pockets and lock your ingredients in place. Keeping the soil moist until the potting mix freezes can help extend the beauty of the greenery. The winter containers will also last much longer in cooler temperatures. And those displayed in more sheltered locations out of direct sunlight and wind



Melinda Myers

Winter container gardens made of natural materials add beauty and color to the winter landscape.

will suffer less drying.

Once your container is complete it is time to relax and enjoy your holiday celebrations.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She

hosts TheGreatCourses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds Blooms magazine. Myers Web site is www. MelindaMyers.com.

POSITIVELY

continued from page A10

ning awards.

As fate would have it, Stephen discovered that he had an eidetic memory that allowed him to draw complex landscapes and cityscapes even after just a glance.

Against all odds, Stephen's perceived disadvantage also came with an advantage that gave him everything he needed to become a worldclass artist.

Ludwig van Beethoven, a renowned musical genius, faced an unimaginable challenge as he began to lose his hearing.

Many might have thought this marked the end of his illustrious career. Yet, in an astonishing turn of events, this loss became a transformational force in his musical journey.

compositions His got better as he lost his hearing; they soared in depth and expres-Astoundingly, sion. Beethoven's most celebrated works emerged when he was entirely

This profound loss forced him to listen in a new way, feeling the vibrations of each note. He began to perceive and compose music in a way he never had before.

This unforeseen chal-

lenge became the catalyst that propelled his artistry to unprecedented heights.

What seems like a crippling setback can be precisely what's needed to bring you toward your destiny.

Aron Ralston, adventurer and mountaineer, lived for the thrill of conquering the great outdoors. His passion for exploring remote canyons and scaling rugged peaks was not just a hobby but a profound expression of his connection with nature. Ralston's adventures showed his profound love for the wilderness, a love that would be tested in ways he probably never

imagined.

In April 2003, a routine solo canyoneering trip in Utah became a life-or-death struggle. While navigating a narrow canyon, a dislodged boulder trapped his right arm against the canyon wall. For five agonizing days, Ralston battled the elements, his physical limits, and mounting despair.

With dwindling supplies and no hope of rescue, he faced an unimaginable decision: amputate his trapped arm with a dull pocketknife to escape. This harrowing choice marked a turning point not only in his ordeal but in his entire

Ralston was undoubtedly forced to alter his relationship with the outdoors dramatically. What had once been a playground became the scene of his most profound challenge.

Yet, it deepened his respect and appreciation for the wild and led him down a new path.

He penned his memoir, "Between a Rock and a Hard Place," recounting his extraordinary survival and the lessons learned in the canyon.

His story inspired millions, leading to speaking engagements and even a film adaptation, "127 Hours," that brought his

tale to a global audience.

In losing a part of himself, Ralston found a deeper purpose and discovered that even with losing his arm, he still had everything he needed to get to the next level of his life.

Each of us has an untapped well of inner strength. More often than not, we possess the tools necessary to navigate life's biggest challenges. Sometimes, the presence of a daunting obstacle reveals the actual depth of our ability. Next time you feel overwhelmed or insufficient, hold onto this truth: within you lies everything you need to overcome and succeed.

Bartlett narrowly gets by Southbridge in another Thanksgiving Day classic

BY NICK ETHIER

WEBSTER — With the Bartlett and Southbridge varsity football teams competed having against one another on Thanksgiving Day over 100 times — this was the 103rd installment of the third longest rivalry in Central Mass. thing can, and will, happen on the field.

"We talked a lot, 'Don't look at their record. Records don't mean anything," said Dane Laboissonniere, head coach of the Indians, of the one-win Pioneers.

"Frank (Koumanelis, Southbridge's former head coach) told me that crazy things happen on Thanksgiving," added Nick Clark, Southbridge's first-year head coach.

The Pioneers nearly pulled off the upset, but Bartlett — which finished 5-6 — scored the only points of the second half to rally for a 10-8

"We overcame a lot of self-inflicted mistakes today. We ended up costings ourselves a couple of scores, but the kids came out in the second half and found a way to win,' said Laboissonniere.

"Today, although we didn't get the win, we proved that any-thing can happen on Thanksgiving," added Clark. "We played to a caliber that I knew we could play all year, that we hadn't gotten to all year until today."

Points were at a premium throughout, and it was a safety — of all plays — for the Indians that staked them to a 2-0 first quarter lead. A poor pitch back on a sweep saw the ball fall in the end zone, resulting in the two points. But the Pioneers rallied later in the half as they grabbed an 8-2 halftime later Southbridge's Alexis Ramos scored the touchdown on a 9-yard run, and Steven Santos tacked on the two-point conversion rush.



The Bartlett football team poses with the trophy after defeating Southbridge on Thanksgiving Day, 10-8.

The Pioneers opened the second half with possession of the ball, but a turnover on downs gave it to Bartlett. The ensuing drive started on their own 13-yard line, but the Indians drove 87 yards to pay dirt, Joshua Ramirez eventually finding the end zone from 3 yards out in the final minute of the third quarter. Nay'Jean Holley then tacked on the all-important twopoint conversion rush by extending the nose of the football over the goal line, and Bartlett led again,

"Can you give me 3 yards?" Holley remembered Laboissonniere asking him before the two-point conversion. "And I said, "Of course, Coach, I can do it."

The Pioneers' next drive was stalled, and the Indians gave Southbridge a big dose of Holley carrying the football as Bartlett held possession from 9:36 remaining until there was only 1:29 to go. runs that continued to move the chains, bleeding the clock in the pro-

"We put the ball in our senior captain's hands and said, 'Go win us the game,' and there were a couple long, less than ideal down and distances, and picking up runs on third-and-7 and third-and-8," Laboissonniere said.

Southbridge had its final chance, though, starting at their own 25 yard-line. They grabbed a couple of first downs, but Bartlett's Caiden Steeves eventually secured an interception — his second pick of the day — to all but seal the deal with 29 seconds to go.

"It was going to take a stop at the end to win the ballgame and Caiden coming up with two picks, he's top five in Central said of Steeves, who finished the season with six INT's. "He's turning into a ballhawk back there.

his sophomore year as a receiver and a safety."

For his rushing yards and game-winning twopoint conversion, Holley won the Captain Vincent Sabatinelli Trophy for Game MVP.

"Nay'Jean wasn't here as a freshman and as a sophomore I watched from afar when I was in my (one-year) retirement phase. He came out as a junior and we tried to find a home for him. By the end of the year, it was pretty clearly established that he was going to be our feature back," said Laboissonniere. "We fed him the rock today. The game was on the line, and we put the ball in his hands."

"It feels great," Holley said while clutching the trophy. "I put in a lot of work in the offseason. I'm in the gym every day. I set the tone for my team.'

Holly was perhaps happier with the team victory, though.

"It's a big tradition in the entire town. It's one of the biggest rivalries in the state. It means a lot to us especially because we haven't won much in

the last two years," he explained. "We did everything we could to turn it around. I can go home happy, everyone can go home happy.'

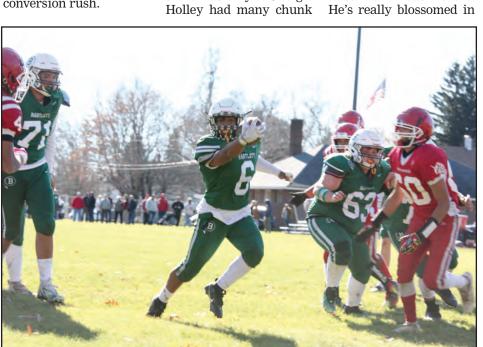
Clark, meanwhile, who was the Pioneers' JV coach and varsity assistant last year, was proud of the way his team battled, regardless of the outcome.

"I knew they had heart all year, but they played with another kind of intensity that I haven't seen, I've got to be honest with you," said Clark. "The rivalry, they know what it is, and we make a good point to let them know the tradition of the rivalry. That extra intensity definitely comes from this Thanksgiving game and the tradition

"I can't say enough about these guys, especially these seniors, they really, really battled right until the last whistle, right until the last play," added Clark.

Clark noted although Koumanelis is no longer the head coach, he started this season as a consultant before being promoted to assistant to the head coach.

"All season, Frank has been such a great mentor. I have a question and call him, he answers immediately. He's calling me and we're game planning. I don't know where we'd be at without Frank because he's been a great presence with the team," said



Joshua Ramirez of Bartlett scampers into the end zone for a touchdown.



Caiden Steeves of Bartlett runs down the field after securing one of two interceptions versus Southbridge.





Bartlett's Eric Manilut takes the handoff from Nay'Jean Holley.

Auburn keeps Tarantino Cup as Rockets top Leicester, 18-7



defensively to turn back Leicester for the Tarantino Cup, 18-7.

The Auburn football team did enough both offensively and



A pair of Auburn lineman block Leicester's Dominic DiLiddo.

Auburn's Zach Wetzel looks for room to run the ball against Leicester's defense.

LEICESTER — For the third straight year the Auburn varsity football team has defeated Leicester on Thanksgiving Day and, as a result, they have

retained possession of the Tarantino Cup.

The now three-yearold rivalry — played in part because of fallen police officer Ronald Tarantino's ties to both communities — was played at the Becker Field, and the Rockets topped the Wolverines, 18-7. Auburn defeated Leicester in 2021, 34-31, and again in 2022, 28-7.

The Rockets finished their season with a record of 7-4, while the Wolverines wound up 3-8.



Brayden Belanger of Auburn scans the field while carrying the ball, looking for an open hole to run through.



Auburn's center and quarterback prepare to run a play versus Leicester.



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Bay Path narrowly defeats Pirates in Battle for Buffums, evens series at 5-5



The Oxford Pirates make their way onto the field waving the flag before the Battle for Buffums.



Oxford's Kellen Clarkson makes his way through the Bay Path players attempting to tackle



Connor Fantasia of Oxford breaks a tackle while heading up

OXFORD — If you're a fan of offense and high numbers on the scoreboard, then this year's Battle for Buffums Thanksgiving Day football game between Bay Path and Oxford was a treat.

In the end it was the

Minutemen who emerged victorious, 42-34, as they knotted up the battle in the 10th year of the rivalry, 5-5.

The scoring started on the first offensive play as the Pirates' Kellen Clarkson found Connor



Bay Path's Jake Delvalle reaches in to tackle Oxford's Jordan Deleon.

thanks to a 40-yard scoring run. Fantasia on a 41-yard

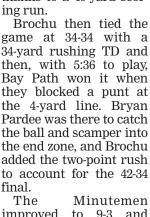




Bay Path's Aiden Fausek powers through the Oxford defensive line.



Brayden Downes of Bay Path attempts to find an opening on the field while the Oxford defense rushes behind him.



pass, and Alexander Perry booted the extra

But Oxford tied the game at 22-22, the halfscore,

Fantasia caught two TD passes from Clarkson, and Perry made one PAT and Clarkson hit Andruw Martinez with a two-

The Pirates then

grabbed a 34-22 lead when Clarkson had a pair of

rushing scores — from 3 and 4 yards out — before Brochu trimmed the defi-

cit down to 34-28 at the

end of the third quarter

when

time

point pass.

point to make it 7-0. Bay Path's Brayden Downes countered with a 57-yard TD run, Kaiden Brochu tacked on the two-point rush, and the Minutemen led, 8-7. Downes then scored again, this time from 26 yards, and Brochu again got the two-point run, and it was 16-7 Bay Path. Next it was Brochu's turn to find pay dirt, and he rushed one in from 18 yards as the Minutemen surged ahead, 22-7.

improved to 9-3 and then played Blackstone Valley Tech for the State Vocational Large School Championship, which was played after press time. The Pirates finished their season with a record of 5-6.



Quarterback Corey Scovil of Bay Path releases a pass before being tackled.

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Late game interception secures Thanksgiving Day victory for Tantasqua over Rams



The Shepherd Hill offense begins a play as Tantasqua's defense attempts to rush in.



Kyle LeBlanc of Shepherd Hill carries the ball and pushes forward while getting tackled.

BY JASON BLEAU STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — The Shepherd Hill Rams and Tantasqua Warriors met for their 49th annual halves.

Both teams came out determined to keep each the final drive, which Thanksgiving Day game, other from the end zone

Reservation. The game scoreless at halftime, but proved to be a thrilling the scoreboard would see tale of two very different plenty of work in the second half with points on every possession except ended with a game-clinchthis year played at The as the game remained ing interception for the

Mohegan Bowl fall leagues, WEEKS ENDING NOV. 19, 26

Week ending Nov. 19

Monday Men's Business Single - Jason Mahan 143, Mike

Nardone 136, Tim Labay 130

Series - Jason Mahan 395, Mike Nardone 375, Tim Labay 349

Series over average – Jason Mahan

Women's Ten Pin City

Single – Division 1 – Charlene Hebert 189, Bernie Stackpole 140

Division 2 – Kelly Apher 146,

Kelley Webb 110 Series - Division 1 - Natalie Wood 547,

Trini Thies 407 Division 2 – Evelyn Rivera 394, Tammy Rabidou 312

Tuesday Chet's Social

Single - DJ Devish 131, Ryan Pelletier 129, Michael LeBlanc 128, Diane Levesque 120, Erin Van Dam & Courtney Boulay 108

Series - Ryan Pelletier 362, Tom Smith 342, DJ Devish 332, Diane Levesque 328, Erin Van Dam 318, Mikayla Van Dam

Series over average – Jared Murawski +54, Diane Levesque +64

Wednesday Women's Industrial

Single - Tiffany Jarmolowicz 112, Monique Pierangeli 109, Annie Boulos

Series - Lynne Smith 301, Tiffany Jarmolowicz 298, Monique Pierangeli

Series over average – Mary Ellen Budzyna +44

Summit Tenpin

Single – Division 1 – Bob Hanville 200 Division 2 – John Lizotte 197 Series - Division 1 - Ron Suprenant 536

Division 2 – Donny Altiery 511

Thursday Morning Coffee Single – Donna Lewandowski 103, Jackie Arpin 100, Pat Johnson 99 Series - Donna Lewandowski 296, Pat

Johnson 275, Flo Jedrzynski 260

Series over average – Donna Lewandowski +47

Thursday Men's Industrial

Single – Ryan Pelletier 137, Bo Gauvin 135, Angel Claudio 129

Series - Ryan Pelletier 374, Angel Claudio 333, Bo Gauvin 322

Series over average – Geo Pastor +48

Thursday Mixed Tenpin

Single – Frank Bosma 191, Chris Wong Kam 183, Todd Gaucher 177 Series - Frank Bosma 513, Todd

Gaucher 493, Chris Wong Kam 486

Week ending Nov. 26 Monday Men's Business

Single – PJ Janton 146, John Guillotte & Mike Nardone 129

Series - Mike Nardone 360, PJ Janton 357, Sandor Bosci 339

Series over average – PJ Janton +42

Women's Ten Pin City Single – Division 1 – Trini Thies 167, Donna Dziadula 146

Division 2 – Kelley Webb 155, Kelly Apher 130 Series - Division 1 - Natalie Wood 542,

Marie Piegorsch 434 Division 2 – Edna Miranda 441,

Tuesday Chet's Social

Tammy Rabidou 345

Single – Ryan Pelletier 184, Angel Claudio 124, Joe Pranaitis 121, Erin Van Dam 105, Ellen Fugatt 102, Mikayla Van Dam 101

Series - Ryan Pelletier 428, Angel Claudio 354, Joe Pranaitis 325, Erin Van Dam 282, Ellen Fugatt 277, Mikayla Van Dam 273

Series over average – Ryan Pelletier +80, Kathryn Ward +29

Summit Tenpin

Single - Division 1 - Aiden Sabatinelli

215 Division 2 - Lee Standrowicz

Series – Division 1 – Mike Smith 570 Division 2 – Joe Harvard 463 Joshua Harrison of Shepherd Hill rushes the ball for a first

favor of the Warriors.

Shepherd Hill never backed down and threatened to take the lead in the closing seconds, attempting a desperation pass play into the end zone. However, Tantasqua's Jack Rapose made the game-clinching interception with 18 seconds left on the clock securing the Warriors their 10th win in the annual holiday matchup.

Warriors' head coach Nate Orzech complimented Rapose on his game-winning play, calling it redemption for a mistake made at the very beginning of the season.

Warriors, as they edged

The second half pro-

vided a bit of every-

thing from both teams as

Shepherd Hill took the

lead in the third quar-

ter on the strength of a

touchdown run by Aiden

Tyler. The Rams would

later secure the lead with a 75-yard kickoff return for a score by William

Sirleaf. In between those

scores Tantasqua kept

things close with a touch-

down of their own cour-

tesy of a 33-yard connec-

tion between quarterback

Adam Howe and receiver

Noah Wotton. Shepherd

Hill took their 14-7 advan-

tage into the final quarter

of the game, but that lead

trol in the fourth quarter

thanks to scrappy play by

Howe under center, who

converted another touch-

down — this time to Isaac

Colon — to tie the game

despite a strong showing

by the Rams' defense. The

Warriors then took their

first lead of the day after

successfully securing an

onside kick compliment-

ed by a highlight scram-

ble play later in the drive

where Howe escaped a

charging Rams defense

to complete a first down

pass. The effort eventu-

ally set up a 19-yard field

goal by Luke Marvin to

make the score 17-14 in

Tantasqua took con-

wouldn't last.

the Rams, 17-14.

"Week one against Marlborough he got beat on a play like that and I've been on him about it for the rest of the year, so it makes up for week one. We were talking to the safeties to be aware of toss passes and they didn't get beat. They did a good job and made a play," Orzech said.

After a scoreless first half, Orzech said the Warriors made all the right adjustments to counteract the Rams coming into the closing quarters. "(Shepherd Hill) did a great job taking away what we were trying to do. We said we had to run at them and beat them at their own game and be a little bit more downhill.' said Orzech. "That set up Adam (Howe) obviously making some tremendous plays in the second half. He was excellent in the second half and made a lot of big plays for us and those receivers coming down with those passes was pretty great, too."

Shepherd Hill head coach Steve Ide said the loss was tough, but he felt it was a hard-fought

battle between two very capable football teams. "These were two good teams playing really hard football. The onside kick was obviously a huge play. The scramble play by the Tantasqua quarterback, he did an outstanding job because we had him a couple times and he still managed to get the ball loose and they caught it," Ide said. "That's the difference in the game. One big special team play by us, one by them. Good defense played by them, good defense played by us. They have an elite kicker, and he made a great kick.'

Ide said he had no regrets going for it on the final play, although he wished the result was different for his team.

"We were out of timeouts, so it's tough for us because obviously we're a run first operation. We can throw the ball effectively, but we're run first, so in that situation and you're on the clock you need to take a couple of chances. We put the ball in the hands of two of our best players and it looked like they got tangled up, Tantasqua caught it and those are the plays you've got to make if you want to win the game," said

Howe was named Offensive MVP while Shepherd Hill's Joshua Harrison Defensive MVP honors. The win now puts the Warriors — who finished the season at 5-6 — in double digits for the Thanksgiving matchup with the record at 39-10 in favor of the Rams who also wound up 5-6 as the game approaches its 50th anniversary next year.



Shepherd Hill's Jacob Fredette carries the ball down the field for a valuable gain.

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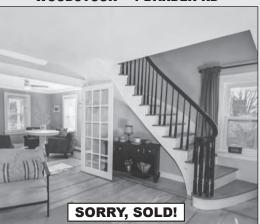
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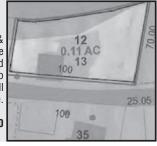
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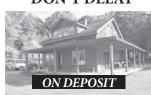
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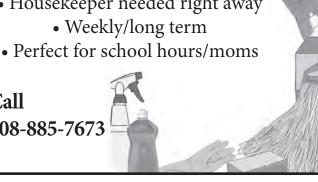




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ST. JOSEPH

continued from page A1

cipal Donald Cushing, benefactor Dr. John Kalinowski, Webster Police Officers Daniel Melhouse, Sean Ebbeling, and Sergeant Joseph Brooks, Representative

Joseph McKenna, Amanda Galonek Hellyar Deputy District Director, and Special Projects Coordinator from the Office of Senator Ryan Fattman, and Saint Joseph School Home and School Association Executive Officers Pamela Parslow, Krystal

Kristen Kolesnik, Krajcik, and Megan Belanger. However, everyone agreed that the best part of the gathering, besides the fellowship, was the homemade brownies served for dessert. The Thanksgiving holiday events were a grand celebration for all!



aint Joseph School had several special guests attend their Annual Thanksgiving Feast. Guests pictured include former principal Donald Cushing, benefactor Dr. John Kalinowski, Representative Joseph McKenna, Amanda Galonek Hellyar, Deputy District Director and Special Projects Coordinator, from the Office of Senator Ryan Fattman, and Saint Joseph School Home and School Association Executive Officers Pamela Parslow, Krystal Kolesnik, Kristen Krajcik, and Megan Belanger.



Saint Joseph School Kindergarten and PreK-3-year-old students gather in the hallway with instructors Mrs. Justine Anthony and Mrs. Alicia Maurer as the 6th-grade students lead the school in prayer.



Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.

Saint Joseph School Kindergarten instructor Justine Anthony assists her student Maya Denert during the Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Saint Joseph School sixth grade student Tosin Akindele assists his PreK-4-year-old buddy Declan Pacheco during the Annual Thanksgiving Feast.



Saint Joseph School seventh grade student Ayla Reed contributes a bag of potatoes to the

CORNERSTONE

continued from page A1

formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help peoand 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 provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities, through a broad range of deposit and loan products, and services. Built on Trust is not just a tag line, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are on trust To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank. com or call 800-939-9103.

At right: Saint Joseph School students were fortunate to have Webster Police Officers Daniel Melhouse, Sean Ebbeling, and Sergeant Joseph Brooks join them at their Annual Thanksgiving Feast.

SEARCH

continued from page **A1**

cies in the town. The job description seeks candidates with a Bachelor's degree in public health or related field and a minimum of three years of

as well as several special requirements including numerous registrations and certifications.

Currently, the board is working with surrounding towns to resolve any issues or requests that require a Health Agent. The town does have a

to resolve some matters in-house. It's not the first time in 2023 that Dudley has turned to other towns assistance. Dudley had previously worked in partnership with Oxford when their shared Health Agent with Webster went on leave over the summer.

hopeful they will have a new pool of worthy applications to consider by the end of the year. The full job applications and details on how to apply can be found on the Town of Dudley Web site main page.

related work experience Title 5 Park Agent on staff The Board of Health is

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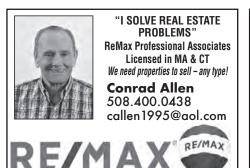
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New student representative at Bay Path

Samantha Stanikmas of Charlton, a practical nursing student at Bay

Nursing Academy, was recently named student representative for the

Path RVTHS Practical Practical Nursing Class of 2024.

Stanikmas is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) with experience working at the UMass Memorial Harrington Hospital-Medical Surgical Unit. She was previously taking Interdisciplinary Studies- Allied Health Associates in Science at Mount Wachusett Community College where she was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. She is BLS Provider certified with the American Heart Association and completed her NAT Certification program with American Red Cross. She is a licensed massage therapist, having completed training at the Central Massachusetts School of Massage and Spa Therapy where she obtained the following certifications: Prenatal Massage, Lomi Lomi

A 2012 graduate of Regional

Thai Stone Massage.

she honors and appreciates diversity and has come to admire the diversity of culture, background, and opinion reflected on Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy. As a Captain of Team Helping Hands for the Relay for Life, Stanikmas is responsible for obtaining sponsors, recruiting team members, and coordinating the raffles and team activities.

As a student representative, Samantha will use her role to improve student life at Bay Path in a tangible way and impact her peers. She will be working with Princess Agyeman and both look to increase access to academic services as well as promote Bay Path's outreach to the Southern Worcester community.

Outside of being the new student representative, Stanikmas is a member of the Mock Code Team. Samantha is certified in Mental Health First Aid, Healthcare Provider/BLS Provider

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