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Uxbridge Lions plan Eighth Annual Car Show



Courtesy
Everyone loves to visit the trophy table at the Uxbridge Lions Car Show.

UXBRIDGE — Since the first vehicle rolled out in 3300 BC, man has had a romance with the wheel. Feel the love at the Eighth Annual Uxbridge Lions Car Show on Saturday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Valley Chapel, 14 Hunter Rd. in Uxbridge. The event benefits the Uxbridge Lions’ local community projects. All cars, motorcycles and trucks are welcome. Last year more than 150 enthusiastic owners and awed spectators enjoyed the fall weather, entertaining music, picnic fare, local vendors and the Sweet Wise Ice Cream Truck. Registration for every category is only \$20.

The judges will choose the top 40 participants with the Best in Show singled out. Those in attendance may vote for the People’s Choice Award. In 2025, Charlie Langevin of Seekonk, Massachusetts, won Best in Show with his 1956 Chevrolet Belair Nomad with Marco from Ware voted the People’s Choice Award for his 2015 White Storm Trooper

Lexus RC 350.

“Judging is no easy task,” says Lions President Mike Sulham, “since the quantity, care and beauty of the vehicles is quite amazing. And we couldn’t be happier with the positive response from those who have come each year.”

Local businesses and organizations can support the Lions Club charities and local projects by choosing to be a Diamond, Platinum, Gold or Silver Sponsor. The Diamond Sponsor, with three available, provides the name of the business or logo on the Dashboard Sheet, display area for product and on-site advertising. Platinum, with five available for \$250, provides company name or logo on one row of registered cars and a small display area plus on-site advertising. Gold, offered at \$125, gives a small display area for products and on-site advertising and finally, Silver Sponsorship, at \$75, provides advertising announcements at the event.

Turn To CAR SHOW page A10

BVT receives CTI grant to expand workforce training

UPTON — The Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District has received an \$880,000 Career Technical Initiative (CTI) grant to train 84 adults for careers in high-demand skilled trades through the Blackstone Valley Technical Institute (BVTi).

The Round 11 grant, announced Aug. 10 by Massachusetts Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Lauren Jones during an event at Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, is part of \$15.5 million in CTI grants awarded to 24 organizations across the Commonwealth.

The CTI program enables Massachusetts vocational technical high schools to use classrooms, labs, and equipment in the evenings and on weekends to provide workforce training outside the traditional school day. Through partnerships with employers, workforce boards, community organizations and educational institutions, CTI helps prepare participants for in-demand occupations.

The Round 11 funding will support training in carpentry, automotive collision, automotive technology, culinary arts, electrical, HVAC, plumbing and advanced manufacturing. The programs are designed to address regional workforce needs and provide adult learners with opportunities to gain industry-recognized skills and credentials.

Through BVTi, the District will continue to expand its adult education programs. Fall courses include advanced manufacturing, electrical, HVAC, and welding. Spring courses will include auto body, automotive technology, construction, culinary arts, and plumbing.

“We’re proud to expand access to career technical education at BVT,” said BVT Superintendent-Director Anthony E. Steele II. “This grant will allow BVTi to deliver high-quality career technical education to adults seeking to upskill or retrain, strengthen the regional workforce by preparing skilled employees for in-demand careers, and generate revenue that supports our students and programs.”

This grant is funded by the Career Technical Initiative through State Appropriations and funds appropriated through the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. This grant initiative is administered by Commonwealth Corporation on behalf of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and the Workforce Skills Cabinet.

For more information about adult education at BVT, visit the Blackstone Valley Technical Institute at www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/bvti or www.bvtadulthood.org.

About the Commonwealth Corporation The Commonwealth Corporation, a quasi-public agency of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, administers the Career Technical Initiative (CTI) grant program. In partnership with the Executive Office of Education, CTI transforms career and technical education

Turn To GRANT page A10

Community Preservation Committee seeks pre-applications

NORTHBRIDGE — The Northbridge Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is accepting Project Pre-Applications for its next round of CPA funded projects. The Community Preservation Committee is a volunteer-appointed committee that oversees Northbridge’s Community Preservation Act (CPA funds) and recommends projects for Town Meeting approval. For this round, eligible projects may be considered during the 2027 Spring Annual Town Meeting. CPA funds are collected from a local property tax surcharge to support Open Space Recreation, Community Housing, and Historic Resources.

Each year, the Committee calls for Project Pre-Applications (proposals) in August and September, with full applications due in October. The CPC is now soliciting projects for FY2028. Municipal departments, community organizations, and individuals may apply annually for CPA funds. First-time applicants are encouraged to attend a Community Preservation Committee meeting. The CPC may accept applications on an ongoing basis; however, CPC recommendation and Town Meeting approval are required prior to appropriating CPA funds.

Since local adoption in November 2017, Northbridge has dedicated over \$2.3 million in CPA funds; including Castle Hill Farm acquisition, Linwood Basketball Courts, and Building Assessment of the historic Col. James Fletcher House (circa 1770). At the 2026 Spring Annual Town Meeting, voters approved CPA funding for Cross Street Playground Improvements and the redevelopment of Quaker Street property awarded to Habitat for Humanity.

Those interested in submitting a project application or learning more about Northbridge’s Community Preservation Act are encouraged to contact R. Gary Bechtholdt II, Planning Director/CPA Administrator (Community Planning & Development) at 508-234-2447 or cpc@northbridgemass.org For information on CPA goals, meeting schedule, eligible projects, and application process go to the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee Web site at <https://www.northbridgemass.org/community-preservation-committee>.

Celebrate Manchaug’s 200th with Sutton Historical Society



SUTTON — In 1826, the sleepy southwest section of Sutton, with its access to Manchaug Pond and the Mumford River gave birth to the Manchaug Mills and Manchaug Village. By 1872, the operation was under the ownership of the B. B. & R. Knight Company out of Rhode Island producing muslin cloth with the Fruit of the Loom trademark. By 1900, the village population approximated 1,600 persons of mostly French-Canadian ancestry. Fire, flood, and bankruptcy have changed this robust village, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The original 200-year-old mill building proudly stands along Main Street as the focal point complemented by the 1870s Manchaug Store building, Post Office and Supervisor Mansion. The Village is home to a variety of small businesses, including J. D. Bousquet & Sons, Inc., District V House, Vaillancourt Folk Art, Blackstone Valley Auctions and Estates, LLC, Rev Fitness, Ruby Environmental, Inc, B. Thom Studies and much more (manchaugmills.com/mill-businesses).

The Sutton Historical Society invites members and the general pub-

lic of all ages to a free celebration and history sharing event on Saturday, Sept. 26, at 3 p.m. at the former Baptist Church, 439 Putnam Hill Road. Light refreshments will be served. Did you grow up, visit friends, work, camp, witness the chicken mill fire, swim at Stevens Pond Dam, attend Manchaug School, march or sing at a Memorial Day event, attend events at St. Anne’s Church, meet Rex Trailer, or just have inherited memorabilia from the Village? The Society wishes to preserve these stories, photos and memorabilia for future generations. Bring your memories through 2026, and join us for a Manchaug reunion. If you are interested in sharing but are unable to attend, please reach out to us at sutton1704@gmail.com.

Parking is limited at the event. Additional parking is located at 6 Whitins Road, Manchaug Mills a quick walk up Putnam Hill Road to the event.

The Sutton Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the preservation of Sutton History. Membership is open year-round. For more information and our complete calendar of events, visit Sutton1704.org.

Local resident named to Dean's List at Dickinson College

CARLISLE, Pa. — Jocelyn Renae Mrotek, a rising sophomore international studies major at Dickinson College, has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2026 semester.

A graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School, Mrotek is the daughter of Douglas and Sharon Mrotek of Fiskdale. All students earning a position on the dean's list-a recognition of academic excellence-must have a grade-point average of 3.7 or above on a 4.0 GPA scale for the semester.

Dickinson is a nationally recognized institution chartered in 1783 in Carlisle, Pa. With an enrollment of 2,100 students, Dickinson emphasizes small classes with extensive opportunities for research, fieldwork and internships in each of our 46 majors. Our distinctive educational approach translates into a competitive edge, leading graduates into a job or graduate school within one year. Dickinson has one of the top off-campus study programs in the nation and was one of the first colleges in the country to achieve carbon neutrality. www.dickinson.edu

Upton VFW continues summer flea markets through Oct. 10

UPTON — The Upton Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post will conclude its summer flea market series with events on Saturday, Sept. 12 and 26, as well as Oct. 10. Please note that the event on Sept. 26 will be held in conjunction with a town-wide event, Upton Heritage Day. Table spaces can be rented for \$10 each. For an additional \$5, a table can be provided by the Post.

If additional information is needed, contact Post member David Kennedy at 508-529-3314 or through the Upton VFW Facebook page.

Coffee and donuts will be available throughout the morning, then hot dogs, chips, and cold drinks for lunch.

Parking is free, and there are no rain dates.



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Local residents named to Simmons University Dean's List

BOSTON — Katherine DiPillo of Millbury and Eva Llopiz of Douglas were named to the 2026 spring semester dean's list at Simmons University in Boston.

To qualify for dean's list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

About Simmons University Located in the heart of Boston, Simmons is a respected private university offering nearly 50 majors and programs for undergraduate women and graduate programs open to all on campus, in blended formats or entirely online, in nursing and health sciences, business, communications, social work, public health, library and information science, and more. Founded in 1899, Simmons inspires a culture of education, connection, and action through high-impact learning with engaged faculty, an immersive community that forges lifelong networks, and career-centered programs that accelerate professional success. The result is a Simmons experience that prepares graduates to thrive as they launch and advance in their careers. For more information, please visit www.simmons.edu.

Enjoy a free meal and explore life's big questions

UXBRIDGE — Valley Chapel invites you to Alpha, a friendly and welcoming series where you can enjoy a free meal each week while exploring questions of life, faith, and meaning.

Alpha runs every Wednesday evening from Sept. 23 to Nov. 11, 6–8 p.m., at Valley Chapel, 14 Hunter Rd., Uxbridge. Each gathering includes dinner, a short video, and open discussion in a relaxed atmosphere—no pressure and no charge.

Learn more and please register at www.valleychapel.us/ alpha.

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

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

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Friday's Child



Julian, Darion

Age 14, 12

Registration #9438 9439

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<https://www.mareinc.org/recruitment-group/51030325292>

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





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PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Opening the doors to a second chance at a skilled career

For generations, vocational education has been associated primarily with teenagers preparing to enter the workforce after high school. The continued expansion of the Blackstone Valley Technical Institute offers a reminder that career education does not have to end at graduation.

An \$880,000 Career Technical Initiative grant awarded to the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District will allow the district to train 84 adults in several high-demand trades. That is good news not only for those 84 students, but for employers and communities throughout the Blackstone Valley.

The grant will support training in carpentry, automotive collision, automotive technology, culinary arts, electrical, HVAC, plumbing and advanced manufacturing. Fall programs through BVTi include advanced manufacturing, electrical, HVAC and welding, with additional programs planned for the spring.

There is something remarkably practical about the concept behind the state's Career Technical Initiative. Massachusetts has vocational schools filled with expensive equipment, specialized laboratories and instructors with valuable expertise. Much of that infrastructure was traditionally used during regular school hours.

CTI asks a sensible question: Why should those resources sit idle during evenings and weekends when adults throughout the region are looking for opportunities to build new careers?

Opening vocational facilities beyond the traditional school day essentially gives taxpayers greater use of an investment they have already made.

It also recognizes that careers rarely follow perfectly straight lines.

A person who chose one occupation at 18 may discover at 35 that the industry has changed. Someone who spent years raising children may be looking to re-enter the workforce. Another worker may have lost a job, reached the ceiling in an existing position or simply realized that a different career could provide greater stability.

For those people, returning to a traditional college setting for several years may not be practical. Career and technical education can provide another route, particularly when programs are tied closely to occupations where employers need trained workers.

That need is evident throughout the trades. Communities depend upon electricians, plumbers, HVAC technicians, automotive technicians, carpenters, welders and manufacturing workers. These are not abstract workforce categories. They are the people who keep homes heated, businesses operating, vehicles running and construction projects moving.

There is another benefit worth recognizing.

Blackstone Valley Tech already serves students from Douglas, Grafton, Millbury, Northbridge, Sutton and Uxbridge, along with several other surrounding communities. Expanding adult education strengthens the school's role as a regional workforce institution rather than a building serving only students between roughly ages 14 and 18.

Superintendent-Director Anthony E. Steele II also noted that the adult programs can generate revenue supporting the school's students and programs. If the district can simultaneously prepare adults for better employment, provide employers with skilled workers and make greater use of facilities already supported by participating communities, that is a model worth developing.

Vocational education has changed considerably from the old perception that it was an alternative for students who were not headed to college. Today's technical schools increasingly combine rigorous academics, sophisticated equipment, industry credentials and direct pathways into both employment and higher education.

BVTi extends that philosophy to people who may have left the classroom years or even decades ago.

Eighty-four adults may seem like a modest number across an entire region. For each person who emerges with a marketable skill, however, the impact can be substantial. A new credential can mean a new occupation, better wages and greater economic security for a household.

Education should not have an expiration date.

Sometimes the most valuable classroom is the one whose doors remain open after the regular school day ends.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An "A-ha!" moment

To the Editor:

I always wondered how the Uxbridge Urchin managed to churn out so much antisocial bile with such alacrity that she pretty much owned the top position on the BVT Letters to the Editor page. By chance, as I was Googling her claims about Ayana Pressley, up popped the print incarnation of Fox News – the Boston Herald! I didn't realize that the Herald, still existed – although, in this case, 'existed' takes on a somewhat restricted connotation. But, there was Bev's latest screed about Pressley 'corruption,' almost word for word. The only thing she left out was the phrase "there is no evidence," which the Herald appended to every theorized infraction. All this time, I suspected Howie Carr's radio program as the Urchin's malevolent wellspring. Turns out Carr's (he also writes for the Herald) is just one of them. Easier, and quicker, to cut and paste on-line. I just hope that Pressley, her husband and any other Democrat found guilty of criminal activity, be removed from office and punished accordingly. At least we know they won't be pardoned like every Republican scam artist, fraudster, drug dealer that pays Trump off.

While sifting through the Herald's headlines, I had another revelation - it read more like Stephen Miller's fever dream of dystopian society – Democrats do all the bad stuff! Not a single mention of the ongoing Republican stewardship of our country - no mention of war; Epstein; gas prices; rampant corruption; eroding civil rights; SS troops in the streets; flock cameras; citizen protest becoming criminalized; Trump's name on buildings/airports/money/passports/police blotters; the derision and total lack of respect with which we are viewed around the world; etc. I noticed this same informational void when watching Fox – it's see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil...unless it's engendered by Democrats. So, there is a reason that the MAGA crowd is clueless. They aren't just dumb, they are also uninformed. Isn't that double jeopardy? They know that Fox lies – it's already paid \$785 million for lying about the 2020 election being stolen, and has another \$2.7 billion case pending against them. (To say nothing of the roughly 400,000 unnecessary COVID deaths due to lies about the necessity of wearing a mask and social distancing that they promoted.) Yet MAGA continue to watch and diddle while America burns.

Trump is a lame-duck President, so anything I write about he and his administration – including the following – is not intended to disabuse anyone of supporting him. You can't vote for him again, thank god. But none of what he is doing would be possible without the consent – in this case abdication - of the Republican-controlled Congress. No Republican should be voted into public office – at any level of government – until the party is reconstituted and cleansed of the spineless cowards that now infest its ranks. But more on that in a coming letter. Here are just a couple more examples of how Trump and the GOP are destroying our country:

- Ever since Donald Trump returned to the White House, his administration has taken a sledgehammer to anti-corruption efforts, destroying policy after policy dedicated to preventing bribery and money laundering in the country. But this week brought the biggest

blow yet: the Treasury has obliterated a rule intended to deter the use of devious shell companies, handily reopening the American economy to anyone looking to hide their illicit wealth. On Tuesday, the Department of the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) announced that businesses formed in the United States would no longer need to disclose their actual owners, and that nearly all the data already gathered on such companies would be destroyed. This move, which Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent called "a victory for common sense and American small businesses," effectively undoes years of progress in curbing devious financial networks, both domestic and foreign. It also delivers a new shelter for wealthy Americans who wish to dodge taxes and move money around undetected. Corporate entities that allow owners to stay anonymous are handy vehicles for corruption—they enable dodgy characters from around the world to stash their proceeds in an otherwise legal American business. After a brief experiment cracking down on these black boxes, the U.S. has decided to let them multiply instead.

- Trump just fired every remaining member of the federal commission that helps run America's elections, just months before the mid-terms. This commission is the agency that certifies voting machines and supports election officials. Trump spent years claiming election fraud, and now he has dismantled the safeguards that keep elections fair. If he is so worried about electoral fraud – fraud that never existed before he lost the 2020 election - why would he do this?? What is he planning for the mid-terms?
- the Trump administration has now targeted, halted, and negotiated multi-billion-dollar buyouts to cancel major offshore wind farm leases on both the East Coast and the West Coast. The latest being the \$1.22 billion wired a German energy company to not build wind farms.

That is the fifth time this year it has paid a company to walk away from clean power, and the total is closing in on \$4 billion of public money...your tax dollars.

RWE was set to put wind turbines off the coast of Humboldt, Calif. Enough to power roughly 600,000 homes. Instead, Doug Burgum's Interior Department cut them a check to abandon the leases and pour the money into gas. This is not a subsidy for wind. It is a payout to kill it.

RWE is taking the cash and dropping \$900 million into a Louisiana gas terminal and a fleet of new gas plants. So the "energy security" on offer is you breathing more of what comes out of a smokestack, on purpose, because your government paid a premium for it.

Burgum's justification is the best part. He said Americans deserve energy that doesn't lean on "costly subsidies." He said this while handing \$1.22 billion to a foreign corporation.

They think we are all stupid.

RICK BEVILACQUA
WHITINSVILLE

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.

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bankHometown strengthens Retail Banking team with key leadership appointments

OXFORD — bankHometown is pleased to announce the addition of four experienced banking professionals across its retail network. These appointments reflect the bank’s continued investment in customer service, employee development, and community-focused banking throughout Central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut.

Jerusa DeBrito appointed AVP, Branch Officer in Leominster

Jerusa DeBrito has joined bankHometown as assistant vice president, branch officer of the bank’s 9 Sack Blvd., Leominster office.



Jerusa DeBrito

With nearly 30 years of retail banking experience, DeBrito most recently served as AVP, bilingual branch manager at M&T Bank. She is known for her relationship-focused approach and commitment to serving customers and the community.



Alison Tozzi

DeBrito serves as a board member of Fresh Start Furniture Bank and She’s Local and is a member of the American Heart Association’s Go Red Awareness Committee. She earned a Certificate in the Fundamentals of Banking from the New



Dhimitri Piluri

England College of Finance and has participated in the Certified Financial Educators’ Financial Wellness Program.

Alison Tozzi named AVP, Branch Officer in Putnam

Alison Tozzi has joined bankHometown as assistant vice president, branch officer of its 182 Main St., Putnam, Connecticut office.

Tozzi brings nearly 30 years of banking experience to the organization. Most recently, she served as branch manager at KeyBank and previously worked as a senior personal banker at Bank of America. Her extensive background in branch leadership and customer service will support the continued success of the Putnam team.

Dhimitri Piluri joins Worcester Office as Branch Officer

Dhimitri Piluri recently joined bankHometown as branch officer of the bank’s 1001 Millbury St., Worcester office, bringing more than 10 years of banking experience to the role.

Most recently, Piluri served as branch manager at Savers Bank and previously held positions as a relationship banker at Main Street Bank and Santander Bank. He has developed expertise in customer service, relationship management, and retail banking operations.



Maria Baker

Piluri holds a Bachelor’s degree in marketing from La Sapienza University in Italy and a master’s degree in information technology from Southern New Hampshire University. A strong advocate for financial education, Piluri has volunteered with Junior Achievement, assisting with lessons on budgeting, saving, credit, and loans. He has also participated in financial workshops for immigrants and low-income families and served through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

Maria Baker joins Sturbridge office as Assistant Branch Manager. Maria Baker recently joined bankHometown as assistant branch manager of its 331 Main St., Sturbridge office.

Baker has 25 years of banking experience and most recently served as market manager at Cornerstone Bank. Her extensive knowledge of retail banking and customer relationship management will be an asset to the Sturbridge team and its customers.

“At bankHometown, our success is driven by the talented individuals who serve our customers and communities every day,” said Robert Morton, president & CEO of bankHometown. “We are excited to welcome these accomplished banking professionals to our team. Their experience, leader-

ship, and commitment to relationship banking will strengthen our ability to deliver exceptional service, build meaningful customer connections, and support the communities we proudly serve.”

About bankHometown
Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts. We have \$1.6 billion in assets and offer a complete line of consumer and business deposit and lending products and services through 15 locations throughout Central Massachusetts and northeast Connecticut. We’re proud to fulfill our community banking mission—providing individualized financial support, comprehensive products and services, and banking tools—to ensure our customers can unlock their potential and build a successful future.

Through our charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, we support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2025 alone, The Giving Tree donated more than \$550,000 and over the last decade donated more than \$3.3 million. bankHometown was named a Corporate Citizenship Award winner by Boston Business Journal for the past six years, reaffirming our status as one of Massachusetts’ most charitable companies. Additionally, we were named a 2025 Top Place to Work award winner by The Boston Globe, and both bankHometown and our parent company, Hometown Financial Group, were recognized as five-time USA Today Top Workplaces award recipients. For more information, visit bankHometown.com.

Webster First Federal Credit Union promotes Colleen Carney to Chief Risk Officer



Colleen Carney

WORCESTER — Webster First Federal Credit Union has announced the promotion of Colleen Carney to Chief Risk Officer. The appointment reflects the growing importance of risk management within the credit union and recognizes Carney’s leadership in supporting Webster First’s continued success.

“Colleen brings a strong and well-rounded background in banking, operations, finance, revenue management, and risk management,” said President and CEO John Thomasian, “As Webster First continues to demonstrate strong performance and sustained growth, the importance of a comprehensive and proactive risk management function has never been greater. I am confident that Colleen will excel in this important leadership role.”

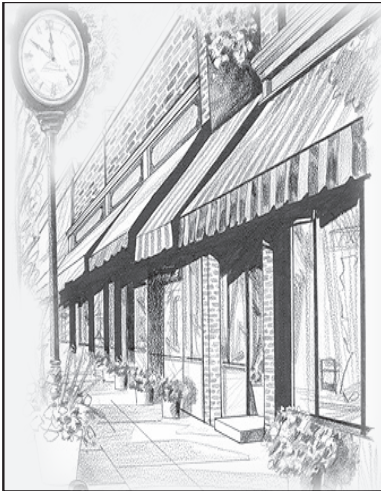
Before joining Webster

First, she spent 10 years at Flagship Bank in Worcester. She earned a B.S. in Business Administration, magna cum laude, from Worcester State University.

Carney joined Webster First in October 2007 as Spencer Branch Manager. During her tenure, she earned an M.S. in Management from Worcester State University and later transitioned to the Accounting Department as Assistant Vice President of Risk Management in July 2018. She was promoted to Vice President of Revenue in October 2020, and in January 2024 assumed responsibility for risk management as Vice President of Risk and Revenue. In this role, she expanded and strengthened the credit union’s risk management function, enhanced the work of the Risk Committee, and helped ensure that risks across the organization are appropriately assessed, evaluated, mitigated, and managed. She is currently pursuing an M.S. in Enterprise Risk Management at Boston University.

Carney said “I am honored to step into the newly created role of Chief Risk Officer and grateful for the opportunity to help shape this important function for the credit union. Establishing this position reflects our continued commitment to strong governance, thoughtful risk management, and long-term organizational strength. I look forward to working collaboratively across the organization to protect and support our members, employees, and community while helping guide sound decision-making and responsible growth.”

About Webster First Federal Credit Union
Webster First Federal Credit Union ranks among the largest credit unions operating in Massachusetts. Since its founding in 1928, Webster First has grown its operations, services, and membership to serve four counties across the state, Worcester, Essex, Middlesex, and Suffolk with branches throughout. For more information, visit websterfirst.com.



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Leah Guanipa — Courtesy

CARS IN THE PARK RETURNS TO WHITINSVILLE

Area residents enjoyed a day of food, entertainment, family fun and classic wheels at the Whitin Community Center’s 12th Annual Cars in the Park event held at Whitin Park this past Saturday.





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BLACKSTONE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNOUNCES SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

BLACKSTONE — Library Director Lisa Cheever and the Blackstone Public Li-brary Board of Trustees are pleased to present a September schedule packed with events and activities.

The library invites the community to enjoy the last weeks of summer and transi-tion into fall with this month’s lineup of book clubs, events, crafts and more.

The Blackstone Public Library is located at 86 Main St.

Children’s Programs
Wag, Read, Repeat: Therapy Dogs Return to Blackstone Library

The therapy dogs are back at the Blackstone Public Library, and they won’t leave without hearing a story. Children are invited to read books aloud to a specially trained and certified therapy dog as part of the “Wag and Read — Reading with a Therapy Dog” program. Parents can sign their children up for 15-minute sessions during Monday evening meetups. This is a chance for children ages 5 and up to practice their reading skills with a certified therapy dog who never complains, judges or spoils the ending. Registration is required.

- WHEN: 5 to 6 p.m. and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Mondays, Sept. 14, 21 and 28
- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration required. To reserve a 15-minute session, call 508-883-1931 or email Children’s Librarian Tressy Collier at tcollier@cwmars.org.

Lego Club

Children ages 6 and older are invited to this month’s Lego Club meeting. Participants will be given a theme to base their creations on, and can work inde-pendently or team up with friends or a parent to build their own Lego project.

- WHEN: 6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 24

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration begins for Blackstone residents on Monday, Aug. 31, and Tuesday, Sept. 8, for all library patrons. Space is limited to 20 children, and registration is required. For more information or to register, call 508-883-1931, or email Tressy Collier at tcollier@cwmars.org. When emailing, please include your child’s full name, age and the caregiver’s email and phone number.

Drop-In Pumpkin Craft

Welcome the fall season by creating your own pumpkin craft at the library using beads and pipe cleaners. This event is appropriate for children ages 4 and older.

- WHEN: 6 to 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 29

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is not required.

Music and Movement Class for Tots and Preschoolers

Join Brenda Lau from Apple Tree Arts for a free enrichment series filled with singing, dancing, guitar music and more. This program is appropriate for children ages 4 and older.

- WHEN: 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 22 and 29, Oct. 20 and 27, Nov. 17 and 24, and Dec. 8 and 15.

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is required and begins on Monday, Aug.

31. For more information or to register, call 508-883-1931 or email Tressy Collier at tcollier@cwmars.org. This program is sponsored by the YMCA Family and Community Partnership (YFCP), a grant program funded by the MA Department of Early Education and Care and administered by the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

Children’s Fall Story Times

The library is pleased to offer two six-week story time sessions this fall, including Story Time and Craft Classes and Toddler Story Time:

Story Time and Craft Classes

Beginning in September, the library will offer “Story Time and Craft Classes” for preschoolers and kindergarteners ages 3 to 5. Each class includes two stories and a simple craft.

- WHEN: 11 a.m. on Mondays beginning Sep. 14, and 1 p.m. on Thursdays beginning Sept. 17

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration begins on Monday, Aug. 31, for Blackstone res-idents and Tuesday, Sept. 8, for all library patrons. Space is limited to 15 children. For more information or to register, call 508-883-1931 or email Tressy Collier at tcollier@cwmars.org. When emailing, please include your child’s full name, age and the caregiver’s email and phone number.

Toddler Story Time

Babies and toddlers ages 6 months to 3 years are welcome to participate in Toddler Story Time. Stop by the library to read board books, sing songs and fin-gerplays, play games and explore toys and books. This story time will last 45 minutes.

- WHEN: 10:15 a.m., Fridays, beginning Sept. 18

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration begins on Monday, Aug. 31, for Blackstone res-idents and Tuesday, Sept. 8 for all library patrons. Space is limited. For more information or to register, call 508-883-1931 or email Tressy Collier at tcollier@cwmars.org. When emailing, please include your child’s full name, age and the caregiver’s email and phone number.

Young Adult Programs

YA Chess Club (and Board Games!)

Stop by the library for these drop-in events to practice your chess skills or play some board games. This is not an instructional class, and all skill levels are welcome. Students in grades 5 through 12 are invited to attend the Monday evening club meetings.

- WHEN: 5 p.m., Mondays, Sept. 14, 21 and 28

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is not required. For more information, call 508-883-1931 or email Mandi Whipple at mwhipple@cwmars.org.

YA Un-Book Club

Join us for our monthly Un-Book Club meeting! This club has no set book titles or reading requirements. Instead, students in grades 5 through 12 are invited to discuss their recent reads and find their next book. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month.

- WHEN: 6 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15

- WHERE: Blackstone Public

Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is not required. For more information, call 508-883-1931 or email Mandi Whipple at mwhipple@cwmars.org.

Cursive Comeback: Keep in the Loop with Old-Fashioned Penmanship

Cursive handwriting used to be a standard part of the school curriculum, but its use has sharply declined in recent decades as education has become more digi-tal. But it’s making a comeback, including at the Blackstone Public Library, where students in grades 5 through 12 can practice their penmanship at 5 p.m. every Thursday.

- WHEN: 5 p.m., Thursdays, Sept. 3, 10, 17 and 24

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is not required. For more information, call 508-883-1931 or email Mandi Whipple at mwhipple@cwmars.org.

Adult Programs

Learn How to Grow Mushrooms

Discover the skills you need to grow edible mushrooms at home using simple and accessible methods. This workshop explores mushroom varieties suitable for home cultivation, growing mediums, environmental requirements, inoculation, maintenance, harvesting and common problems. Participants will leave the class with the knowledge needed to begin growing outdoor mushrooms.

- WHEN: 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 508-883-1931 or visit the library’s events calendar. This program is sponsored by UniBank.

Give it Your Best Shot at the Photography Club

Join other photographers at the club’s monthly meeting and discuss various pho-tography tips, tricks and ideas. Refreshments will be provided.

- WHEN: 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Registration is required. Call the Blackstone Public Library at 508-883-1931 for more information or to register. This club is funded by UniBank.

Pop-Up Library at the Senior Center

Join Ellen and other library staff members as they help you discover your next great read or get a library card.

- WHEN: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 17

- WHERE: Blackstone Senior Center, 15 St. Paul St.

- MORE INFO: Registration is not required.

Blackstone Quilters Assemble at the Library

Patch it up with a group of like-minded crafters this September by joining the Quilting Club at the Blackstone Public Library. Come together for a relaxing and creative gathering with fellow quilters. Not a quilter? Become one. Learn some tips and tricks, while doing some quilting. Each meeting is an opportunity to learn, relax, share ideas, work on projects and enjoy each other’s company.

- WHEN: 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 24

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: This club is sponsored by the Friends of the Blackstone Li-brary.

Evening Blood Drive

Make a difference in someone’s life by donating blood at the library’s blood drive. Interested donors can register online at ribc.org/drives with the code RM5246. Walk-ins are also accepted.

- WHEN: 3 to 7 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28

- WHERE: Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Donors must have a photo ID and be age 17 or older, or 16 with a signed parental consent form.

Ongoing Book Groups:

Get Spooked With the Grim Reader’s Society, a Horror Book Club

The strange, scary and mysterious world of horror literature comes alive with the Grim Reader’s Society, also known as The Horror Book Club, at the Blackstone Public Library. This monthly book club focuses on spooky, spine-tingling tales. The Grim Reader’s Society welcomes newcomers if they are brave enough. Scaredy-cats are welcome, too. Copies of the book of the month are available at the front desk.

- WHEN: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 3

- WHERE: Quiet Study #2, Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Contact Children’s Librarian Tressy Collier at tcollier@cwmars.org or call 508-883-1931.

The Blackstone Book Group

The Evening Book Group, also known as the Blackstone Book Group, offers par-ticipants the chance to discuss amazing works of literature with like-minded readers. Copies of this month’s book can be found at the circulation desk.

- WHEN: 6:30 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 8

- WHERE: Quiet Study #2, Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Contact Renee Milliken at rmilliken@cwmars.org or call 508-883-1931.

Saddle Up With a Book at the Senior Center

The Senior Center Book Club meets on the third Tuesday morning of every month at the Senior Center on St. Paul Street. Monthly books are available at the library’s front desk or the Senior Center. New members are always welcome.

- WHEN: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15

- WHERE: Blackstone Senior Center, 15 St. Paul St

- MORE INFO: Contact Ellen Goudreau at egoudreau@cwmars.org or call 508-883-1931.

Spend an Afternoon Recapping the Latest Book of the Month

The Afternoon Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month. Join the group for a lively chat and a cup of tea. Take a seat, relax and unwind during an afternoon of great conversation about the Afternoon Book Club’s latest book of the month. Newcomers are welcome. Copies of the book of the month are avail-able at the front desk.

- WHEN: 3 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 29

- WHERE: Quiet Study #1, Blackstone Public Library

- MORE INFO: Contact Donna Foster at dfoster@cwmars.org or call 508-883-1931.\

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DAILY ACTIVITIES: All our daily activities are free of charge.
Monday: Painting class 9:45am to 11:45am, Balance & Strength Exercise 12pm, Mat yoga 2pm
Tuesday: Walking club 9am, Cribbage 9am, Lunch & Bingo 11:30am, Technology class 1pm (call to make an appt.) Line Dancing 2pm
Wednesday: Balance & strength 10am, Darts 11:30am, Mahjong 12:45pm, Dominoes 1 to 2:30pm
Thursday: Walking club 9am, Pitch 9am, Chair Yoga 9:30am, Tai Chi 10:45am, Hand and Foot card game 12:30pm
Friday: Balance & strength 10am, Zumba 11:15am

Tuesday & Thursday lunch club, please call the Friday before to sign up. Lunch is \$4.00 per person. If you would like to attend, we offer free rides to & from the center and are willing to waive the lunch fee is necessary.
August Lunch Menu:
Tuesday 8/25: Scrambled eggs, sausages, home fries, English muffin & fruit

Friday Shopping Schedule:
Please call 48 hours in advance to schedule your ride. Grocery shopping pick up starts at 9:30.
Hannaford: 8/28, 9/25
Walmart: 9/4, 9/18
Price Chopper: 9/11

AUGUST EVENTS:
WELLNESS CLINIC DATES:
Tuesday August 25th. Clinic is open from 10 am to 12 pm.

September Events: Line Dancing classes will start Tuesday September 15th @ 2pm

WELLNESS CLINIC DATES:
Monday September 14th & Tuesday August 29th. Clinic is open from 10 am to 12 pm.
Lunch & a Movie: Thursday September 10th @ 11:30. Project Hail Mary, is about Ryland Grace, a science teacher with amnesia who wakes up alone on a spaceship. He must use his scientific wits to stop an alien microbe from killing the sun and save humanity. Beef Stroganoff, carrots, & cake. Lunch is \$4.00. Sign up by 9/4.
Bemis Nursery Milk House Pitcher: Thursday September 17th @ 11:00. The cost for this craft is \$20.00. You must pay when you sign up, sign up by 9/8. Refreshments will be served.

Amy Azza, Estate Planning Attorney: Thursday September 24th @ 12:00. Enjoy a free lunch compliment of Amy and listen to her estate planning seminar. Sign up by 9/17.
Cemetery Walk: Friday September 25th @ 1:00. The Sunshine Club invites you to come and tour the Douglas Center Cemetery. Learn about the cemetery, and the history behind it.
Annual Smile Day Celebration: Wednesday September 30th @ 12:00. Free lunch courtesy of Unibank & surprise entertainment. Sign up by 9/23.
October Events:
Flu Shot Clinic: Wednesday October 7th from 9:00 to 11:00. We have teamed up with Hannaford's Pharmacy for our Flu Clinic Vaccines. Like years past we will have the form you need to fill out for the tech, please bring your insurance card and drivers license or ID. Please call the center to schedule your appointment time.

PLEASE CALL (508) 476-2283 TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS & CLASSES
Check our website for events that may not be listed here
<https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center>

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

The following events will take place at Plummer Place, Home of the Northbridge Senior Center. We are located at 20 Highland St. in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508) 234-2002. Northbridge residents have priority for all programming and events. Please call the main office to sign up for special events and programs, so we can plan accordingly.

Medical Drivers
We are in need of medical drivers for out-of-town medical appointments. This is a very important service that we provide for seniors who cannot drive themselves to their medical appointments. If you are interested and can spare any time, it would be most appreciated. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage. For more information, please call the main office.

Regular Programs:

Meditation with Kelly:
Every Thursday morning at 9:30am
Book Club:

Third Wednesday at 10:30am
Please call Kelly for more information
Brew Crew:
No Meetings in August
Dull Men's Club:
No Meetings in August
Scrabble:
August 24th at 9:30am
Women's Collective:
No meeting in August
Writing Your Way:
2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm

Special Programs and Events:

Local Authors Fair
Wednesday, August 26th 10:00am-12:00pm
Calling all bookworms! Don't miss this chance to meet talented local writers, explore their books and enjoy a morning celebrating storytelling and community connection. FREE admission. Complimentary coffee and tea will be provided, as well as free door prizes. Books will be available from all authors for purchase that day. Please call the main office to sign up so we can plan accordingly (508) 234-2002. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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CAR SHOW

continued from page A1

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The Uxbridge Lions Club does not seem to get the recognition it deserves since it has been active

in the community since before 2011 and has contributed widely to many organizations and events in Uxbridge. Most visible right now is its Beautify Uxbridge Project providing flower displays around the downtown area. In addition, it is a member of the largest service organization in the world with clubs in 205 countries with its motto “We Serve.”

GRANT

continued from page A1

schools across the state to become “Career Technical Institutes” that run three shifts a day for skill-building programs in the trades, construction, and manufacturing career pathways. For more information, visit www.commcorp.org.

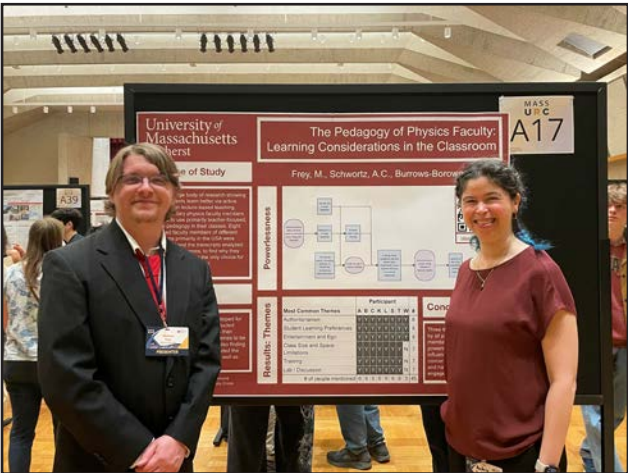
About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational

Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Millford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.

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Three generations of scholars team up to improve physics education



Michael Frey and Dr. Andria Schwartz at the Massachusetts Undergraduate Research Conference.

WORCESTER — A multigenerational team of educators and learners has come together to improve physics education, helping prepare the next generation of engineers, astrophysicists, and more.

The collaboration began when QCC Professor of Integrated Science & Physics Dr. Andria Schwartz noticed that many post-secondary physics teachers rely heavily on lecture-based lessons instead of active learning. Schwartz discovered little research on the topic and set out to learn more with help from Michael Frey, who was a QCC student at the time, and Dr. Andrea Borowczak, Schwartz’s former Ph.D. advisor.

Together, they conducted a qualitative study involving

physics faculty from across the United States. Their findings were published in “Education Sciences,” a peer-reviewed international open-access journal, in an article titled, “How to Engage Active Pedagogy with Physics Faculty: Watch Out for Powerlessness.”

“Research has shown that active learning helps everyone more than lectures,” Schwartz said. “So why do we still use lectures so much?”

Frey was invited to join the project after Schwartz witnessed his intellectual curiosity in an astronomy course. For the study, Frey helped develop interview questions and conducted several interviews, a level of responsibility Schwartz described as significant for an undergraduate student.



Dr. Andrea Borowczak

“It’s been surreal. I started out as a student with a love of space. Now I’ve published my first paper,” Frey said. “Working with Andria and Dr. B has been amazing. It’s like a web; we’re all learning from each other.”

Borowczak, director of the School of Teacher Education at the University of Central Florida, served as an external mentor, contributing to the writing, review and development of the final article. Throughout her career, she has studied partnerships and believes collaborative research creates opportunities for new perspectives and deeper understanding.

“Working with Andria and Michael showcased our trust of each other, our unique voices and added another step in our relationship,” Borowczak said. “It was a pleasure working with them.”

For Schwartz, the project

reflects the ongoing cycle of mentorship that drives both teaching and research.

“Dr. B is an amazing resource. If I’m stuck, I get on the phone with her, and she sets me straight. Now I’m teaching Michael, and in the process, I’m learning more as well,” Schwartz said.

Through their interviews, the team found that many faculty rely on lectures because they feel powerless to make change or believe they lack the time to prepare more in-depth active learning lessons. While perceptions of powerlessness may not always reflect reality, Schwartz noted that time constraints are a genuine obstacle. In addition to teaching, faculty members often balance research, student advising, and service commitments.

“It’s important to get this info out there. If people know why it’s a challenge, they can design things to get past the challenge,” Schwartz said.

Schwartz and Frey presented their findings at the last Massachusetts Undergraduate Research Conference and are already planning a follow-up paper.

“How to Engage Active Pedagogy with Physics Faculty: Watch Out for Powerlessness” is available at mdpi.com/2227-7102/16/1/8.

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 56 Driscolls Lane a/k/a 56 Driscoll’s Lane, Whitinsville (Northbridge), MA 01588

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kenneth R. Rusakovich to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, and now held by **loanDepot.com, LLC**, said mortgage dated February 14, 2024 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70208, Page 79, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns to loanDepot.com, LLC by assignment dated February 16, 2026 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 73204, Page 140; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on September 24, 2026 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon, consisting of two parcels located at the southeasterly side of Driscoll’s Lane, in the Village of Linwood, in the town of Northbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: PARCEL 1: Being the most southerly lot shown on a plan entitled “Land of Laurent L. Gauthier and Margaret R. Gauthier and land of John A. and Allan Malizia, Northbridge, Mass.” dated January 19, 1983, by John R. Andrews III, R.L.S. filed with Worcester District Registry of Deeds herewith Plan Book 508, Plan 52, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the lot hereby described at the southwesterly corner of Lot “B” as shown on said plan; THENCE S. 56° 30” E. by the southwesterly line of said Lot “B”, 218.00 feet. more or less, to a point; THENCE S. 34° W, 50.00 feet to the southeasterly corner of the lot hereby described; THENCE N. 56° 30” W., 210.6 feet, more or less, to the southeasterly line of Driscoll’s Lane aforesaid as established by the highway taking in 1941 as shown on said plan; THENCE N. 26° 37’ E. by said line of Driscoll’s Lane, 50.2 feet to the point of beginning. P A R C E L 2 The land adjoining the northerly line of Parcel 1 located on the southeasterly line of Driscoll’s Lane and shown as Parcel B on said plan, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of Parcel 1 above described at the southwesterly corner of the Lot hereby described: THENCE: N. 26° 27’ E. by said line of Driscoll’s Lane, 50.2 feet to land now or formerly of Malizia;

THENCE S. 56° 30” E by the southerly line of said Malizia land as shown on said plan, 224.80 feet, more or less, to a point; THENCE S. 34° W., 50 feet to the northeasterly corner of Parcel 1 above described; THENCE N. 56° 30’ W, 218.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. Containing 11,080 square feet, more or less, according to said plan. Meaning and intended to convey the same premises as described by Deed dated 06/17/2022 and recorded on 06/24/2022 in Book 67807 at Page 312 in the Official Records of the Worcester (Southern District) Recording Office.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor’s Title see deed dated June 17, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67807, Page 312.

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

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer’s or cashier’s check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for loanDepot.com, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 217-8701
August 21, 2026
August 28, 2026
September 4, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P2622EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Doris J St.Marie
Also known as:
Doris Jacqueline St.Marie
Date of Death: 07/30/2025

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Mary C Mulrenin of Whitinsville MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: .

Mary C Mulrenin of Whitinsville MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Withoutl Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2026.**

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 12, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 21, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P2594EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Carole Ann Prior
Date of Death: 07/27/2026

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Pamela B. Pierce of Whitinsville MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: .
Pamela B. Pierce of Whitinsville MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Withoutl Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court be-

fore: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2026.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 10, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 21, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P2041PM
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Estate of:
Eleanor Messina

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Lisa S Judkins of Shrewsbury MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account , 1st and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/01/2026.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 28, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 21, 2026



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WORCESTER — The 41st annual Valley Friendship Tour drew more than 250 participants who walked, ran, and rolled through the Blackstone Valley on June 6 and raised nearly \$110,000 to benefit Open Sky Community Services, a nonprofit behavioral health and human services organization.

The Valley Friendship Tour, which starts and ends at Alternatives' Whittin Mill, is Open Sky's signature fundraising event

WORCESTER — The 41st annual Valley Friendship Tour drew more than 250 participants who walked, ran, and rolled through the Blackstone

Valley on June 6 and raised nearly \$110,000 to benefit Open Sky Community Services, a nonprofit behavioral health and human services organiza-

The Valley Friendship Tour, which starts and ends at Alternatives' Whittier Mill, is Open Sky's signature fundraising event.



Lorie Martiska (right), Open Sky Executive Vice President and Chief Advancement Officer, poses with Teresa Pitaro, the 2026 Valley Friendship Tour top fundraiser. Pitaro, of Norwood, has been the top fundraiser for five years in a row and she raised nearly \$7,000 for this year's community event.

for the agency's nearly 150 programs serving children, adults, and families with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other complex challenges. Since it began just over four decades ago, the tour has raised millions in support of individuals and families in Central Massachusetts.

"The Valley Friendship Tour is a visual representation of Open Sky's mission – individuals of all abilities coming together in the community with purpose," said Ken Bates, President & CEO of Open Sky Community Services. "We are grateful to this community that has been created over the past four decades and for its unwavering support of our neighbors throughout Central Massachusetts fac-

ing complex challenges. Thank you to our participants, attendees, sponsors, and staff for making this year's Tour another one to remember."

Teresa Pitaro, a resident of Norwood who has a family member served by Open Sky, was the top fundraiser for the fifth year in a row. She raised nearly \$7,000 for the 2026 Valley Friendship Tour.

The individual and team participants of all ages and abilities had the option of a 1-mile walk, 5K run or walk, or a 30-mile bike ride through the Blackstone Valley. The all-day event featured lunch, live music, raffles, and entertainment on the Dennis H. Rice Community Plaza at Alternatives' Whittin Mill.

[About](#)
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[Community Services](#)

Open Sky Community Services is a 501(c)3 non-

profit agency based in Worcester that has been helping individuals in our community achieve more than they imagined possible for over 50 years. The agency provides a wide range of services throughout Central Massachusetts for children, adults and families with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness, and other complex challenges. Open Sky Community Services has over 1,300 dedicated employees and nearly 150 programs throughout the region, supporting more than 8,000 individuals annually. Open Sky is committed to equity and belonging, and promotes a trauma-informed, whole-person care culture. For more information, please visit www.openskycvs.org.



Courtesy

Worcester-based nonprofit Open Sky Community Services brought together over 250 participants for its 41st annual Valley Friendship Tour fundraiser. The community event, for all ages and abilities, was held on June 6 in Whitinsville to support Open Sky's programs throughout Central Massachusetts.

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