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Friday, January 12, 2024

Newsstand: 75 cents

# Saint Joseph Robotics team competes in championship tournament

# Dudley selectmen address calls for audit



The Saint Joseph School FLL Robotics Team proudly displays their State Championship medals while standing in front of their project presentation at the Massachusetts FLL Championship Tournament held at WPI on Dec. 16. Left to right: Eighth grade student Emily Macko, and sixth grade students Jacob Lopez, Lukas Barbosa, and Mycheal Jones.

Courtesy

WEBSTER — On Saturday, Dec. 16, the Saint Joseph School FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Robotics Team competed in the Massachusetts FLL Championship Tournament at WPI.

More than 450 teams competed in FIRST LEGO League robotics competitions in Massachusetts this season and 72 of the top teams competed at WPI. The Saint Joseph School team was one of two teams represent-

ing Southern Worcester County. The town of Douglas was also represented.

This year's challenge theme was Masterpiece. Therefore, in addition to competing with an autonomous robot that the team designed and programmed to solve missions, the team had to imagine and innovate a new way to create and communicate art across the globe—using their imagination

to re-think the world of art! Following much discussion regarding their interests and hobbies, the SJS team, also known as the Fantastic 4, decided

to focus on dance. The team learned that there are limited resources for visually impaired dancers to study independent-

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# Applications welcome for Rita Zielinski Gelinas Alumni Scholarship

WEBSTER — The Bartlett High School Guidance Department is once again offering the Rita Gelinas Scholarship for the study of math or science.

Students from the BHS Class of 2020 who will be immediately entering a graduate program in a math or natural science field are encouraged to apply. Funds are available up to \$5,000 per semester with a minimum award of \$1,000 per semester for one year. Please pick up an application in the Guidance Department or call Nancy Guiney at (508) 943-8552 ext. 34033. Complete applications are due to the Guidance Department by Friday, April 5.

The Rita Gelinas Scholarship is also available to students in the Class of 2024. Two seniors will be chosen to receive up to \$10,000 a year for all four years of an undergraduate program.

Applicants must have over a 3.0 (B average) and be pursuing a major in either a math or natural science field. The application process is very extensive so all applicants should start the process early. In addition to other materials, students must supply their SAR (Student Aid Report through the FAFSA process) as well as the financial aid award letter from the college that the student WILL attend if given the award. Applications are due to the BHS Guidance Department by Friday, April 5.

If you have any questions about either of these scholarships please contact Nancy Guiney in the Guidance Department at Bartlett at (508) 943-8552, ext. 34033 or via email at [nguiney@webster-schools.org](mailto:nguiney@webster-schools.org).

# T.S.K.K. assists with Toys for Tots drive

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER/DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department got a little assistance from a local members club over the holidays to support their holiday toy drive initiatives for local children.

The T.S.K.K., a members club on Harris Street in Webster, spearheaded a special toy drive complete with live music on Dec. 2 to help support local Toys for Tots drives at the Webster and Dudley Police Departments as the club continues its efforts to become a larger, more involved part of their local community. Club President Michael Paschopoulos explained how the event was an opportunity for guests and members alike to give back to a bigger cause around the holidays while also enjoying some music and a sense of community.

"The Toys for Tots Fundraiser showcased many talented musical artists throughout the day. Everyone who attended had a great time and were very generous and because of their generosity the T.S.K.K. was able to make sizable toy and money contributions to each of the Webster and Dudley Police Departments toy drives. Our goal at the T.S.K.K. is to better our community as best we can and what better way to do that than to help make a child's Christmas a more enjoyable one. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who donated toys, money, time, and effort to make this event a successful one! Thank

you," said Paschopoulos. The event was led by Karl Arnett, a regular DJ at the T.S.K.K. who goes by the stage name DJ Blink. Arnett had previously helped orchestrate a musical event at the club to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute which he plans to continue in 2024. For the holidays however, he wanted to do something special to help bring the holidays to kids in need.



Courtesy

Webster Police accept toy donations from the T.S.K.K. toy drive.

"I think the whole team did amazing and worked together to make this event as successful as possible," said Arnett. "I want to thank the bands and artists that performed, to give the children of Webster and Dudley a better Christmas, because I feel Christmas is all about the children."

Turn To **TSKK** page A19

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Following the budget crisis that plagued Dudley in 2023, town officials have received a call from private citizens for an operational audit to examine the town's finances and spending habits.

While the town hires its own third-party auditor to examine the books every year, this latest petition calls for another third-party entity to come in and produce a more in-depth report into the town's spending habits. However, the Board of Selectmen are questioning both the motivations and the cost behind the request.

The call for an audit comes after a months-long budget battle eventually saw several line items approved during an override ballot vote in August. The most pressing issue was the extensive increases to the school district budget which forced the town of Dudley to consider unprecedented cuts to the town budget and programs to offset the cost without an override. During the Board of Selectmen's final meeting of 2023 on Dec. 18, Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda presented possible paths forward if the town chose to proceed with an audit. The most likely option was to procure the services of UMass Boston Edward J. Collins Center for Public Management which Dudley previously utilized through a grant to review the town's human resources needs. Ruda was unable to local any grant opportunities to fund such an audit, meaning the town would need to cover the cost through free cash, stabilization, or a town meeting approved budget item. While a low-end cost was estimated at \$15,000, the more realistic price ranges from \$50,000 to as high as \$100,000 for the extensive audit citizens have recommended.

While selectmen stated numerous times throughout the meeting that they were not against an audit, some questioned the motivations of the private citizens and debunked information that had allegedly been spread in public forums about the School Committee preparing for a similar audit. Selectman Steve Sullivan noted that at least one citizen in writing stated it was their understanding the School Committee had begun negotiations with an auditor. However, as of the Dec. 18 meeting that information was proven false. Sullivan made it clear he wasn't questioning funding the schools

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Dudley Police accept toy donations from the T.S.K.K. toy drive.

# When disaster strikes

## THE ROLE OF MRC AND CLASS OF 2024 VOLUNTEERS

CHARLTON—The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Class of 2024 recently welcomed Lois Luniewicz of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

Luniewicz emphasized that when crises such as floods, wildfires, hurricanes and other disasters happen, they create gaps in care across the affected communities. Displaced populations and compromised healthcare infra-

structure increase the patient care burden at clinics, health systems, and hospitals. The necessity of assistance from medical response teams and the activation of alternate care sites cannot be over emphasized.

From <https://www.mamedicalreservecorps.org/> "The objective of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) program is to strengthen commu-

nities by establishing a system for medical and public health volunteers to offer their assistance and expertise to existing medical and emergency service providers during times of community need."

According to Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN academy director, "At Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, we intend to create awareness and encourage practical nursing students' volunteer participation in the MRC." Bolandrina signed up as a volunteer in 2016. The MRC volunteers are called upon to organize public health, medical, and other volunteer activities in support of existing MRC programs and resources that improve the safety and health of the community. Increasing awareness for disaster preparedness and strength-



Courtesy

Shown in photo, seated is Lois, behind her standing are the volunteers who signed up, from left: Patrick Njunge, Jamal Kimani both of Worcester, John Martin Wanjiru of North Grafton, and Michael Wairimu of Worcester.

ening partnerships with MRC volunteers play a significant role as they emergency care, and fill community emergency networks is a good start work together to coordinate mitigate care gaps. nate treatments, deliver resource gaps."

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**PET of the WEEK**

**BAYPATH HUMANE SOCIETY OF HOPKINTON**  
Small Shelter Big Heart

**Luna is on a mission to find her family**  
Could you be the one for this smarty-pants pup? Luna is an active and playful girl, always keeping the people around her laughing. Her ideal day involves playing fetch, exploring, learning new tricks, and snuggling up with her pals. Whether it's from tossing and catching her own toys mid-air or zooming around the yard, her silly personality is sure to put a smile on your face. This canine genius has mastered commands like sit, paw, down, stay, come and even "center". She walks well on a leash, is already house-trained and crate-trained, and is food-motivated! She cannot wait to find a forever family to continue learning new tricks, embarking on adventures, and creating cherished memories together. But that's not all—Luna adores her doggy pals. Luna's dream is to have a doggy sibling to share zoomies and silly moments with. A fenced yard would be a perfect playground for her energetic antics! Learn more about her at [Baypathhumane.org](http://Baypathhumane.org)

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# Worcester Polytechnic Institute students complete intensive research projects

WORCESTER — At Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology that addresses an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of students complete a project at one of the university's 50-plus off-campus project centers, which are located around the world. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives and make a difference

and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of Integrative & Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

titled Reimagining Kukes' Underground City: Community Perspectives

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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

before they graduate. "The WPI project-based curriculum's focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of Integrative & Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

The following students completed intensive research projects:

Alysha Creelman of Auburn, majoring in Computer Science and Data Science, class of 2025, completed a project titled Assessing the MMA Intern Program's Impact on Science

Audrey Johnson of Auburn, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, class of 2025, completed a project



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[openskycs.org/stonebridge-aw](http://openskycs.org/stonebridge-aw)

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# Nursing student collecting donations for soldier care packages



Martin Wanjiru

CHARLTON — A nursing student from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is spending his free time giving back to those who gives their service to the country. He is collecting items for care packages that will be sent

to soldiers. This is the first year that John Martin Wanjiru of South Grafton is collecting items for soldiers. He spoke in front of the Practical Nursing Class of 2024 and showed samples of items that can be

donated. Care bags will be filled and donated to the <https://military-missions.org/> sent via USPS at 570 Delzan Place, Suite 10, Lexington, KY 40503. Although John Martin just started the drive recently, he will collect items until the end of Term 2, by April 12. He feels encouraged and empowered to show appreciation to the veterans.

John Martin wants to pursue a career in nursing, having been motivated by his experience as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Certified Home Health Aid (CHHA), and a direct support professional. "Giving the best version of a nurse whenever I will be working, to create a positive environment for the residents and colleagues," John Martin noted.

Reaching out to his peers, the class of 2024 for help with donations

of travel size shampoos, conditioners, lotions, and dental hygiene items. John Martin is a CNA at the River Terrace Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center since 2021. From 2019 to 2022, he was a direct support professional at Venture Community Services. Originally from Kenya, he obtained his certification at Kenyatta University (Nairobi, Kenya for CISCO Networking Academy, 2012). He completed his secondary education at Kiamuya Secondary School (Nyeri, Kenya 2009).

As a practical nursing student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, John Martin is certified in BLS/HCP CPR, mental health first aid, and dementia care. He is a member of the admissions

panel interview and coordinated the Alzheimer's Association memorial luminary during the longest night in December. Most recently, through <https://www.betherecertificate.org/> he received his Be There Certificate. The Be There Certificate is a self-paced learning experience designed to increase mental health literacy. The training provides knowledge, skills, and confi-

dence needed to safely support anyone who may be struggling with their mental health. It provides a deep understanding of Be There's 5 Golden Rules — a simple but actionable framework on how to recognize when someone might be struggling with their mental health, your role in supporting that person, and how to connect them to the help they deserve.

# Sheriff's Office brings joy of music to local children



Courtesy

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis, center, and his team help spread the joy of music to local youngsters.

REGION — Thanks to strong community support, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office continues to bring the joy of music to local kids.

Last month, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Group made multiple donations to UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center.

These included donations of musical instruments, as well as monetary donations to benefit the facility's Child Life Services initiatives.

These programs include the facility's Music Therapy Program, Canine Therapy Program, and the Community Closet.

Each year, the Special Operations Group organizes a memorial golf tournament in honor of former colleague Jason Bristol, who passed away in 2018. The funds raised at the event are used to benefit the community through a number of projects.

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## REAL ESTATE

### AUBURN

- \$500,000, 12 Pearl St, Jermyn, Kevin B, and Jermyn, Patricia M, to Ross, Sarah N.
- \$450,000, 6 Bryn Mawr Ave, Hill, Rebecca F, to Avezzie, Anthony P, and Beverly, Brooke B.
- \$420,000, 2 Marion Ave, Perkins, Michael W, and Perkins, Ashley M, to Ducharme, Tyler A.
- \$385,000, 54 Elmwood St, Salome, Stefanie A, to Martin, Ryan.
- \$350,000, 503 Forest Park Dr #503, Gnieski, Michael, and Gnieski, Miriam, to Brunyak, Nicole, and Brunyak, Michael.
- \$345,000, 16 Ravine Dr, Luperchio, Ashley M, and Luperchio, Linda L, to Joyce, Hailey E.
- \$150,000, 66 Federal Hill Rd #66, Whelan, Christine, to Grady, Lauren.
- \$26,000, 196 Pakachoag St, Coyne, Anne, and Giannini, Elizabeth, to Coyne, Mary E.

### DUDLEY

- \$538,000, 8 Roberts Rd, Moore, Timothy C, and Moore, Ramona J, to Doherty, Nicholas, and Doherty, Kaitlyn.
- \$490,000, 4 Par 5 Ln #4, Country Club Acres LLC, to Urquhart, Matthew P, and Koumanelia-Urquhart, N E.
- \$485,000, 366 Dudley Oxford Rd, Hardy, Kelley A, to Fitzpatrick, Michael G, and Fitzpatrick, Ashley M.
- \$85,000, Sawmill Rd, Sawmill Road LLC, to T Reardon Builders Inc.
- \$70,000, Bates Rd, Omeara Robert A Est, and Omeara, Jonathan B, to Dube, David A, and Dube, Karen S.
- \$30,000, 36 Silvestri Rd, Guerin Jr Richard R Est, and Guerin Sr, Robert E, to Ohop, Steven N, and Ohop, Lori A.

### OXFORD

- \$595,000, 445 Main St, Oxtown Builders LLC, to Al Zubaidi, Mohammad J.
- \$425,000, 4 Wellington Rd, Krevosky, Brian G, and Murphy, Gail M, to Callan, Jakob M.
- \$405,000, 3 Arrowhead Dr, 3 Arrowhead Drive Rt, and Congdon, Jodie L, to Fraser, Matthew D, and Moreira, Arielle R.
- \$375,000, 14 Old Cudworth Rd, Guerin, Linda H, and Chipman, Thurman E, to Pappas, Cheryl A, and Pappas, Steven D.
- \$331,000, 15 Foster St, Miles Paul L Est, and Miles, Daniel W, to Bell, Raymond, and Roy, Claire.
- \$250,000, 16 Cole Dr #16, Taft, Judith A, to Kelly A Simulynas RET, and Simulynas, Kelly A.

### WEBSTER

- \$575,000, 93 Killdeer Rd, Hopkins, Felicia C, and Hopkins, Nicholas P, to Blondin, Jacob N, and Dakin, Anais S.
- \$410,000, 117 Minebrook Rd, Kordel, Zbigniew, and Kordel, Jadwiga, to Comeau, Diane.
- \$240,000, 75 Main St, Rheault Properties Llp, to Putnam Inv Prop LLC.
- \$217,000, 43 Stoughton Ave, Stolarczyk, Mark T, to Ethier, Kenneth, and Sato, Keiko.

## Friday's Child



**Demitria**  
Age 19

Hi! My name is Demitria and I'm the life of the party!

Demi has an enthusiastic, very outgoing, and well-spoken personality. She is mindful of and continues to work on her boundary setting and not afraid to reach out for help when needed. Demi is very good at expressing her opinion while connecting to other's energy. Some of Demi's favorite activities are hanging out with her friends, doing her makeup/self-care, cleaning her apartment, and baking. Demi is good at keeping a clean space, advocating for herself, setting boundaries, and goal setting. Demi's favorite memories consist of going to Boston and concerts with friends.

Demi is of Caucasian descent. Demi graduated high school and has a plan to attend college or a university in the future. Her plan is to study Social Work and become a DCF worker. While in high school Demi enjoyed math class

and stayed busy in lots of activities like cross country and dance.

Demi would do best with at least one mother figure in her home and a family who loves and supports her. Demi wants to feel comfortable talking to her family and to help her maintain connections with her birth father and extended family. <https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8833>

### 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 with.

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit [www.mareinc.org](http://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.



# 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.

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!

Art Exhibit! Come check out Artists Lisa Davidson, Susan Graseck, and Sally Rogers in our community room for an ongoing art exhibit!

For the month of January bag of books is back! In the lobby of the library the Friends of the Library are having a \$5 bag of books sale! Come check it out!

Adult Programming YOGA - Saturday January 13th, 20th and 27th 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.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP—January 22nd at 6:30 PM  
This month's 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@cwmmars.org for inquiries.

ADULT BOARD GAME NIGHT—February 5th—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!

COOKBOOK CLUB—February 12th --- 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 PM

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

LEGO CLUB--- First two Tuesdays of the month at 3:30 PM

Come play with the library's Legos. If you like, we can put your work on display!

No registration Required

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

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

SILENT DISCO--- January 13th at 11:30 AM

This is a part of our Snow Much Fun Saturdays. It is an all-ages dance party at the Webster Library! Come enjoy the music alone together, through a set of headphones. For up to 32 people at a time.

WINTER CRAFT SERIES: MARSHMALLOW ART-- January 16th at 3:30 PM

Join us for a festive craft this winter season. We'll be using fluffy delicious marshmallows to create works of art! Creations include animals, rainbows, and anything else you can dream up. For all ages with adult supervision.

MS. FRIZZLE PRESENTS THE SOLAR SYSTEM --- January 20th at 11:30 PM

"Fasten your seatbelts kids and trav-

el to the solar system with your favorite wacky science teacher, Miss Frizzle. Students will interact with the Friz as the 8 planets orbiting the sun and travel to space to walk on the moon!" For all ages!

WINTER CRAFT SERIES: HOT COCOA SLIME---- January 25th at 3:30 PM

Join us for a festive craft this winter season. We are making taste-safe Hot Cocoa 'slime!' Made with 3 common pantry staples, you can add chocolate chips or mini marshmallows to your creation! We'll also have hot cocoa for all to enjoy during the program. For all ages with adult supervision.

DRUM CIRCLE WITH MIKE LEO--- January 27th at 12:30 PM

Local musician Mike Leo will be facilitating a session of rhythm, drumming, and interactive live music for all ages. Be both the audience and the performer as we connect deeper with rhythm, interact with Musical and rhythmic games, and become the Rhythm Section of an interactive live concert. All Instruments provided, all ages welcome. Families and caregivers of individuals with special needs are encouraged to attend.

**PART TIME CLERK VETERANS OFFICE**

The Town of Dudley is seeking a 19.5 hour/week part-time Veterans Office Clerk. This is a Grade 2 position with a starting salary range of \$20.45 per hour. Duties include processing documents for veterans' benefits, preparing for veterans' programs/events, and administrative/clerical work. Ideal candidates will have excellent computer, writing, and customer service skills and the ability to work as part of a team to meet the needs of veterans and their families. Prior experience in a municipal or state veterans office a plus. Submit resume to townadmin2@dudleyma.gov. Applications are available in the Board of Selectmen's office at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA or online at www.dudleyma.gov. EOE.

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Defensive nuclear weapon
  - 4. Moved back and forth
  - 9. One-time coach of the Cowboys
  - 14. Last letter
  - 15. Cause to become less intense
  - 16. Genus of tree bugs
  - 17. Body art
  - 18. Romance novelist
  - 20. Be filled with love for
  - 22. City
  - 23. Make vivid
  - 24. Horses
  - 28. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano
  - 29. Atomic #18
  - 30. Shortly
  - 31. A type of prejudice
  - 33. Whirls
  - 37. Six
  - 38. Old world, new
  - 39. \_\_ Hess, oil company
  - 41. Talk
  - 42. Not off
  - 43. Begets
  - 44. Cars need them
  - 46. Computing architecture (abbr.)
  - 49. Of I
  - 50. Journalist, activist Wells
  - 51. Takes apart
  - 55. Lists
  - 58. Positively charged electrode
  - 59. Hard, colorless compound
  - 60. Inflammation of the peritoneum
  - 64. Trent Reznor's band
  - 65. Simply dry fruit
  - 66. "Ivanhoe" author
  - 67. Google certification
  - 68. French commune
  - 69. Medieval circuit courts
  - 70. Soviet Socialist Republic

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Indigenous people of Mexico
  - 2. Dietary supplement
  - 3. Having a particular sheen or luster
  - 4. Views
  - 5. Academic Bill of Rights
  - 6. Automobile
  - 7. When you anticipate arriving
  - 8. Beef or chicken intestine
  - 9. Conspiracy
  - 10. Blood disorder
  - 11. Long-time NBAer Shawn
  - 12. Time zone
  - 13. US, Latin America, Canada belong to
  - 19. Upton Sinclair novel
  - 21. What a cow does
  - 24. Cavalry-sword
  - 25. Ancient Greek war galley
  - 26. Stars
  - 27. Rebukes
  - 31. Billion year periods
  - 32. Some are in a bottle
  - 34. Tears down
  - 35. Lethal dose
  - 36. Humorists
  - 40. Midwestern US state (abbr.)
  - 41. Frameworks
  - 45. Rocker Billy
  - 47. More thin
  - 48. Dog
  - 52. Habitual repetitions
  - 53. State of fuss
  - 54. Uneasy
  - 56. Chemical compounds
  - 57. More cognizant of reality
  - 59. A place to build
  - 60. Exclamation that denotes disgust
  - 61. Supplement with difficulty
  - 62. Very slick
  - 63. Hill or rocky peak

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

H	S	S	S	E	H	A	E	S	E	H	E	H
E	O	G	L	L	O	O	S	E	N	E	K	V
N	I	N	S	I	L	I	N	O	L	I	H	E
V	O	I	T	I	S	E	O	N	V			
S	V	L	O	H	S	E	L	V	H	V	D	E
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S	L	H	E	B	O	H	V	H	O	N	L	V
V	S	V	N	V	E	L	V	B	V	E	E	Z
O	D	W	V	C	D	E	C	V	D	W	B	V

## Ring in the new year with a bag of books!

WEBSTER — Thanks to generous donors, the Gladys E Kelly Public Library has many new and slightly used books for sale, both paperback and hardcover. During the month of January, the Library is offering a special deal. Titles from a select group of popular authors will be available for \$5 for a bag of books. Authors include: James Patterson, Erin Hildebrand, John Grisham, and more! Come check out the offerings in the lobby of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, Webster. But hurry; this special offer is only good throughout the month of January.

## WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from Dec. 17 to Jan. 6.

A 32-year-old male from Danielson, Conn. whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 18 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

A 38-year-old female from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 22 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Jennifer Marie Toomey, age 30, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 22 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, a Marked Lanes Violation, and Speeding in Excess of the Posted Limit.

A 26-year-old female from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Dec. 22 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Ryan Nicholas Livernois, age 37, of Webster was arrested on Dec. 22 for Distribution of a Class B Drug, Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute, and in connection with multiple warrants. A 58-year-old male from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest during the same incident for Possession of a Class B Drug (subsequent offense).

Jennifer Lee Breault, age 48, of Dudley was arrested on Dec. 22 for Operating Under the Influence of both Alcohol and Drugs, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Disorderly Conduct, and Disturbing the Peace.

A 30-year-old female from Dayville, Conn. was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Dec. 31 for operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle, operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle, and a Number Plate Violation.

David O. Faford, age 39, of Hampton, Conn. was arrested on Jan. 1 in connection with multiple warrants.

Christian A. Scott, age 33, of Webster was arrested on Jan. 2 in connection with a warrant.

Katherine Burnett, age 35, of Webster was arrested on Jan. 2 for Assault & Battery.

A 26-year-old male from Webster was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Jan. 3 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and Disorderly Conduct.

Nathan W. Jones, age 47, of Worcester was taken into protective custody on Jan. 3 and subsequently arrested for Disorderly Conduct and Disturbing the Peace.

A 64-year-old male from Thompson, Conn. whose name has been withheld from publication was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Jan. 5 for Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon against a Child Under 14.

A male from Dayville, Conn. whose name has been withheld from publication was issued a summons in lieu of arrest on Jan. 5 for operating an Uninsured and Unregistered Motor Vehicle.

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Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Friday: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

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

WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-1212)  
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# Poets At Large season begins at Vanilla Bean Café

POMFRET, Conn.—The Vanilla Bean Café, 450 Deerfield Rd. in Pomfret, will again host Poets at Large spoken word and poetry performances on the last Saturday of the month, 7-9 p.m., from February through May.

Poets at Large is a regional group of poets who read in Connecticut and Massachusetts, now in its fifth year. The group's coordinator, Woodstock author/poet Karen Warinsky, is the Emcee, and those wishing to be in the open mic segment can sign up by contacting her at karen.warinsky@gmail.com. There is a 5-minute limit for open mic readers and these events are recommended for ages 14 and up.

The upcoming dates for these first shows are Feb. 24, March 23, April 27 and May 25. Admission is \$15, except for the first show on Feb. 24, which is a "Winter Blues" special and will cost \$10 to attend. Admission includes a chance at a give-away.

Kicking things off for the 2024 Poets at Large series on Feb. 24 will be "Home Grown," a show featuring Pomfret Poet Laureate Nancy Weiss, Woodstock's Karen Warinsky (Coordinator of PAL and Emcee) and Thompson Poet Laureate Steve Veilleux. Weiss was appointed Pomfret's poet laureate in 2021, is a life-long resident and writes a weekly column for the Woodstock Villager. Warinsky has published poetry since 2011, authored three books, is a 2023 Best of the Net nominee and a former finalist in the Montreal Int'l Poetry Contest. Author Veilleux was appointed as Thompson's poet laureate in 2023. All three write about relationships, politics and life events with a mix of concern and humor.

March 23 the Poets at Large show will feature well-known Worcester poets Tony Brown, John Hodgen and Karen Elizabeth Sharpe. Tony Brown has been writing for well over 50 years, and publishing and performing his work for more than 40. A seven-time Pushcart Prize and two-time Best Of The Net nominee, he is also the winner of the 2022 Stanley Kunitz Medal, endowed by the late

Kunitz, a US poet laureate and Worcester native. Hodgen is the Writer-in-Residence at Assumption University in Worcester, Mass., and Advisory Editor for New Letters at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. Hodgen won the AWP Donald Hall Prize in Poetry for Grace in 2005, and is the author of five volumes of poetry. Sharpe is a poetry editor at The Worcester Review and the author of two volumes of poetry. She has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, Best of the Net, and is widely published.

April 27 will feature two women poets reading in a volta-style on the issue of child abuse and healing, Massachusetts residents Candace Curran and Janet MacFayden created the piece and began performing it last year. Curran, twice named as Western Massachusetts Poets' Seat Laureate and winner of the 2022 Elyse Wolf Prize, collaborated with MacFayden, who is the author of three full-length collections, the recipient of a 2022 Massachusetts Cultural Council grant and a seven-month Fine Arts Work Center fellowship. She is managing editor of Slate Roof Press. Also on the program will be Massachusetts resident Roger Kechawah Mbianda, a native of Cameroon in Africa. He is presently pursuing a Doctorate in Curriculum Development and Instruction. Mbianda has a poetry collection titled "Rays of My Days," and is about to finish his first novel. The evening will also present several "Quiet Corner Poets" who will present work created through their monthly writing group.

May 25 will feature poets Wendy Haller and Catherine DeNunzio. Haller, a Rhode Island native, released her first book of poems last year and is a former preschool special education teacher with two published children's books. Her poems center on family dynamics and individual growth. Connecticut's DeNunzio has one volume of poetry and has published widely in lit magazines and anthologies. Her work is characterized as wide-ranging with a focus on what it means to be human.

5 Church St.  
(508) 949-3845  
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

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

The Senior Center will be closed on Monday, January 15th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr 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 1/16 Buttermilk Chicken, potatoes au gratin, mixed veges. Wednesday 1/17 Baked Potato with chili & cheese, broccoli. Thursday 1/18 Beef with Onions & Peppers, potato wedges, Tuscan veges. 1/19 Shepherd's Pie, carrots, peas.

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. Please call (508) 949-3845 for more information.

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.

REC Farmer's Market returns Thursday, January 25th from 1:00 – 2:30 pm indoors at the Webster Senior Center.

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.

NEW! Koffee Klatch - get together and chat with us on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am. Starting Thursday, January 18th we will be watching a 4-week mini-series "Archie", a Four-part drama depicting the life of Hollywood's greatest leading man, Archibald Alexander Leach - A.K.A. Cary Grant. Coffee, tea, and refreshments will be served – come join us!

Coloring Workshops with Stacey will be offered on Friday, January 12th and Friday, January 26th at 10:00 am. Cost: \$5.00 per class, sign up at the front desk.

Come join us for a Root Beer Float Social on Wednesday, January 24th at 12:00 pm. Please sign up at the front desk.

We will have a Movie Matinee on Monday, January 29th at 1:00 pm. We're showing "Mack & Rita" and refreshments will be served. Come join us! Please sign up at the front desk.

Mondays and Wednesdays: 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.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday 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.

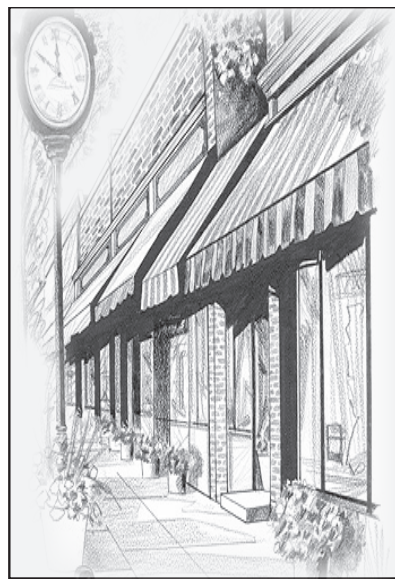
Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 or stop in to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of additional activities and upcoming events.



Courtesy

## NEW OFFICERS TAKE REINS OF WEBSTER/ DUDLEY VETERANS COUNCIL

Officers have been announced for the Webster/Dudley Veterans Council for 2024. Officers include Treasurer Robert Guenther; Chaplain Ken Kuzdzal; Commander Victor Jankowski; Sergeant at Arms James Brinker; Sr. Vice Commander Ron Prest; Jr. Vice Commander Randy Snow; and Adjutant Andy Kozlowski. From left: Robert Guenther; Ken Kuzdzal; Victor Jankowski; James Brinker; Ron Prest; and Randy Snow.



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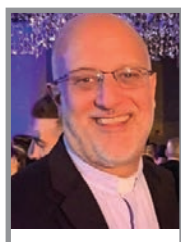
**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
 EDITOR

# VIEWPOINT

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

## The extremism of Martin Luther King

An extremist. How many of us would like to be labeled extremists? We see this on the far right and the far left. We see violent extremists throughout the world. We often link extremists with certain ideologies or religious movements. Our country, however, pauses on Jan. 15 to remember someone who was considered an extremist of his time – the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



**BEYOND THE PEWS**  
 BY FR. LUKE A. VERONIS, SACS, CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, WEBSTER

When his enemies, including many in the established church, criticized MLK with the label “extremist,” he responded in a thought-provoking manner: “Though I was initially disappointed at being categorized as an extremist... I gradually gained a measure of satisfaction from the label. Was not Jesus an extremist for love: “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to those that hate you, and pray for those which despitefully use you and persecute you.” Was not the Prophet Amos an extremist for justice: “Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” Was not Paul an extremist for the Christian gospel: “I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.”

Acting as an extremist for good, for justice, for love! Yet, how far have we in the Church fallen away from such “good” extremism?

I remember an inspiring ecumenical prayer service in honor of MLK which I attended several years ago. The service highlighted the “extremism” of his words and actions at three critical points in his life – 1) right after the arrest of Rosa Parks and the beginning of the Montgomery Bus boycott, 2) in the Birmingham prison right after police arrested him for his civil disobedience, and 3) on the night before he was murdered.

In each of these instances, MLK offered an extreme approach of nonviolence - willingly suffering for justice and moral truth! MLK expressed a desire and displayed a passion for justice, as well as revealed incredible courage and strength in enduring terrible suffering and persecution for righteousness’ sake. Would we be willing to stand up for truth in a similar situation? Are we courageous enough to witness to the evil of the world in our own contemporary setting with the radical love of God? The legacy of MLK should challenge all of us!

“If a man hasn’t discovered something he will die for, than he isn’t fit to live.” Ouch! More thought-provoking words from MLK. Have we discovered something so precious in our lives that we would be willing to die for it? And is that which is precious something with eternal significance?

When I think about prophets like MLK, what really haunts me is the way contemporary Christians, myself included, have become too comfortable and passive in our faith. We forget how the first Christians who willingly suffered and died for the Kingdom of God. MLK called out the church of his day, lamenting the fact that “The church today is often a weak, ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. It is so often the arch-supporter of the status quo.” Unlike the early Christians, we don’t want anything to disturb our comfortable way of life, even if we know that people around us are suffering from injustice and discrimination.

Too many of us choose to remain isolated from the suffering of others, and remain afraid that if we do speak up, we may face not only inconvenience, but even persecution. We forget Jesus’ words in the Sermon on the Mount: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled... Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” When we struggle for what is right, for what is true, for what is good... when we walk in the path of the extreme prophets and saints, we do not walk a comfortable or easy path.

I often think of MLK’s life – when his home was bombed and his children were threatened; when he was imprisoned numerous times and witnessed friends being murdered; when he faced an uncertain future and knew his life was constantly in danger. All because he spoke an uncomfortable truth! Yet, how

did he respond to these perils? He confronted the evil and hatred that surrounded him in an extreme manner: “I’ve seen too much hate to want to hate, and every time I see it, I say to myself, hate is too great a burden to bear. Somehow, we must be able to stand up against our most bitter opponents and say: We shall match your capacity to inflict suffering by our capacity to endure suffering. We will meet your physical force with soul force. Do to us what you will and we will still love you.... Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, and violence multiplies violence in a descending spiral of destruction... Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend... Thus, be assured that we’ll wear you down by our capacity to suffer, and one day we will win our freedom. We will not only win freedom for ourselves; we will so appeal to your heart and conscience that we will win you in the process, and our victory will be a double victory.”

What extreme words, combined by extreme actions – radical words and actions that imitated the Spirit of Jesus Christ! Throughout the Bible, and among the saints we honor every day in the Church, we see many extremists - men and women of extreme faith. On Jan. 18, a few days after MLK Day the Church remembers Saint Athanasios, one of the greatest Church Fathers and surely an extremist by all measures! He stood up against the world of his day, and even against most in the Church, for the sake of truth! And he suffered for it – being expelled and exiled for more than 20 years from his Episcopal throne in Alexandria. Yet, he never compromised the faith or water downed the truth. This is the faith of our forebearers, and this is the extreme faith we are called to imitate!

Let me conclude with the words Martin Luther King, “So the question is not whether we will be extremists, but what kind of extremists we will be. Will we be extremists for hate or for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice or for the extension of justice? In that dramatic scene on Calvary’s hill three men were crucified. We must never forget that all three were crucified for the same crime - the crime of extremism. Two were extremists for immorality, and thus fell below their environment. The other, Jesus Christ, was an extremist for love, truth and goodness, and thereby rose above his environment.”

An extremist for God, for love, for truth and for justice. This week, may we all reflect upon such “good” extremism, and think about where each of us stands!

For anyone who may be interested, you are welcome to join us for a special Martin Luther King Breakfast at 9-10 a.m. on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Day, at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church at 37 Lake Parkway, Webster. We will have a special guest speaker, Fr Paul Abernathy, who is a distant relative to the great friend of MLK and civil rights leaders Ralph Abernathy.

Fr. Paul will offer a talk on “Seek Justice & Reconciliation Not Victory: Exploring the Relevance of the Civil Rights Movement in Our Time Today.” Fr. Paul is an Orthodox Christian priest and founding CEO of the Neighborhood Resilience Project. Since 2011, Fr. Paul has labored with his inner city Pittsburgh St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church and the larger community to address Community Trauma with Trauma Informed Community Development, which facilitates the transformation of trauma affected communities to resilient, healing and healthy communities. His goal is to help people find healing from whatever trauma they have experienced and realize their potential.

Fr Paul was selected for Harvard Business School’s Young American Leaders Program. A former Non-Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Army, he served as a combat veteran in the Iraq War. Fr. Paul is also an author, and his work has been featured in film as well as local, national, and international media.

## Consider family meeting to discuss estate plans



**FINANCIAL FOCUS**  
 DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

At some point, you’ll want to share your estate plans with your loved ones — and the first step in this process may be to hold a family meeting.

The best time to hold this meeting is when you’re still in good mental and physical shape, and the enactment of your estate plans may well be years away. But what topics should you cover?

Consider these main areas:

Your wishes — and those of your family. Use this meeting to introduce your estate plans and, in a basic sense, what you hope to accomplish with them — leave money to your family, support charitable groups and so on. You’ll want to emphasize that you want to be equitable in what you leave behind, but there may be issues that affect this decision, such as disparities in income between grown children or an allowance for a special-needs child. But you’ll also want to listen to what your family members want — and you might be surprised at what they tell you. Consider this: More than 80% of the millennial generation would rather know their parents are financially secure throughout their retirement, even if this means that their parents will pass on less money to them, according to an Edward Jones/Age Wave study.

Estate planning documents – At the time of your family meeting, you may or may not have already created your estate planning documents, but in either case, this would be a good time to discuss them. These documents may include a will, a living trust, financial power of attorney, health care power of attorney and possibly other arrangements. At a minimum, you’d like to give a general overview of what these documents mean, but at an initial family meeting, you don’t necessarily have to get too detailed. For example, you might not want to talk about specific inheritances. This is also an opportunity to inform your loved ones of the professionals involved in your estate plans, such as your attorney and your tax advisor.

Roles of everyone involved – Not only does a comprehensive estate plan involve moving parts, such as the necessary documents, but it also includes actual human beings who may need to take on different roles. You will need an executor for your will and, if you have a living trust, you’ll need a trustee. Even if you choose to serve as the initial trustee, you’ll still need to identify one or more successor trustees to take your place if you become incapacitated, or upon your death. Plus, you’ll need to name people to act as your power of attorney for health care and finances. Choosing the right people for these roles involves thought and sensitivity. Obviously, you want individuals who are competent and reliable, but you also need to be aware that some family members could feel slighted if others are assigned roles they feel they could do. By being aware of these possible conflicts, you can be better prepared to address them.

Here’s one more suggestion: Let your family know that this initial meeting doesn’t mean the end of communications about your estate plans. Encourage your loved ones to contact you with questions whenever they want. You may need to hold additional family meetings in the future, but by laying the initial groundwork, you will have taken a big first step in establishing the legacy you’d like to leave.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com. Edward Jones Member SIPC Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.*

## EDITORIAL

# The Power of kindness and class

In today’s fast-paced world, where the pursuit of success often takes precedence, it’s worth taking a moment to reflect on the significance of being a class act and a kind person. In recent times, the celebration of ruthlessness, competitiveness, and self-centeredness seems to have overshadowed the virtues of kindness, compassion, and class. As a society, we’ve perhaps overlooked the incredible positive impact that these qualities can have.

Being a class act goes beyond just politeness; it’s about demonstrating grace, dignity, and respect in all our interactions. It involves considering the feelings and perspectives of others and upholding a standard of decency.

In the pursuit of personal and professional achievements, many of us may have inadvertently downplayed the importance of character and values. However, true success should not only be measured by accomplishments but also by the kind of people we become along the way. Kindness is a potent force that can generate waves of positivity. It costs nothing but can yield immeasurable rewards.

In a world marked by division and polarization, the significance of kindness cannot be overstated. We are all part of a broader community, and our collective well-being depends on how we treat each other. Being kind doesn’t mean compromising our principles or avoiding necessary debates; rather, it means engaging in those discussions with respect, empathy, and an open heart.

The current absence of kindness and class in our society has resulted in a decline in empathy and understanding. We witness it in the way people engage on social media, in the political arena, and sometimes in our everyday interactions. We have become quick to judge, dismiss, and vilify others, often forgetting that behind every opinion or argument is a human being with their own experiences, hopes, and fears.

It’s time for a cultural shift towards embracing the power of kindness and class, not as a fleeting trend but as a way of life. By doing so, we can restore a sense of unity, empathy, and respect in our society.

### 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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# More deer population control is needed

Finally, a bit of snow and cold weather hit the valley area this past weekend, but it was expected to disappear with the heavy rain that was expected this week. Ice fishing continues looking very poor again this year.

Maine finally got some ice to fish on last weekend. One particular angler used common sense when he brought along his ice chisel to ensure the safety of the new ice coating on the lake. After cutting a hole a good distance from the shoreline, he returned back to his pickup truck. Suddenly, he lost all his common sense and proceeded to drive his truck onto the ice.

He managed to travel a good distance from the shoreline before he went crashing through the ice. The angler was fortunate that the truck stayed afloat long enough



THE GREAT OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH TRUE

for him to exit the vehicle and scramble onto safe ice. I do not know how his auto insurance company will handle this claim, but it doesn't look good for him. I will keep any other comments about the angler to myself.

Farmers are having a very hard time making ends meet after a terrible growing season last year, and to make matters worse, deer are destroying their crops all year long. Some areas of Mass. & Rhode Island still have a large population of deer roaming their woodlots and fields. Winters have been mild,

making the deer population grow. Hunters are doing a good job in harvesting more than 10,000 deer annually in the state, but more needs to be done.

Extending the deer season through February is a good start; allowing Sunday hunting with bows, and allowing every bowhunter to possess a crossbow would be a good start. Many family farms have been lost over the years, and have become gobbled up by developers. Just in the town of Uxbridge alone, there were more than eight farms in operation. Most were small dairy farms, but some also raised produce. We cannot lose anymore.

Sportsmen and women are anxiously awaiting the opening of Sportsmen's shows. A complete list of their opening dates and times will be in next week's col-



Courtesy

This week's picture shows the Walker family with my dog Twig after a successful pheasant hunt at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun club recently.

umn. For now, stay off of thin ice!

Take a kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods

Bending!

## Annual Cold/Flu (& More) Review

It's respiratory illness season, and therefore this week's column will offer an annual review of symptom checkers (with RSV added) to identify your ailment, along with some natural and proactive methods you can employ to increase your odds of staying healthy this season.

Note: This information is offered as a guide only, NOT medical advice. Seek out a health professional to treat any respiratory illness.

Cold, Flu, Covid, RSV? The common cold, the flu, Covid-19, and RSV are all respiratory illnesses caused by different viruses. Symptoms of these maladies can be similar at the start of the illness, they are often treated differently, so it's important to identify them.

Most common this time of year are colds and flu, so we'll start with that: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a cold is a milder respiratory ailment that has symptoms that last a few days; the flu can last weeks and result in such serious health problems as pneumonia. While a stuffy nose and aches and pains are symptoms typically present in both colds and flu, a temperature reading can often differentiate the two. A common cold rarely causes a temperature to reach over 101 degrees. Also, body aches are much more common with the flu virus.

Cold Symptoms: Symptoms usually begin with sore throat, runny

nose followed by congestion and cough. Mucus may become thicker and darker. A slight fever is possible. Cold symptoms usually last for about a week. During the first three days that you have cold symptoms, you are contagious.

Flu Symptoms: Flu symptoms usually come on quicker than cold symptoms are typically more severe. They can include a sore throat, (sometimes hacking) cough, congestion, accompanied by headache, fatigue, chills and fever 102 to 104 degrees. Most symptoms improve in about five days, but fatigue can linger on for a week or more. The flu virus can be contagious from the day before the onset of the virus up to a week after.

Covid-19 Symptoms (subject to change as new strains are discovered): JN.1 is the latest Covid-19 variant that has increased to account for 39 to 50 percent of all COVID cases. The latest Covid-19 symptoms are typically similar to flu symptoms, but loss of taste or smell is more common, as is diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting. Symptoms of severe complications from Covid-19 may include trouble breathing; ongoing pain or pressure in the chest, and changes in the color of the skin, lips, or nail bed.

Research published by the CDC indicate the incubation period of this variant may have shortened to as little as two to three days on average.

RSV: Symptoms of RSV mimic the common cold but may become more severe over time. Symptoms can last over a couple of weeks. Typical RSV symptoms are a runny nose, cough, wheezing, sneezing, and reduced appetite. In more serious cases RSV infections can lead to bronchitis or pneumonia.

According to the CDC, People infected with RSV are usually contagious for 3 to 8 days and may become contagious a day or two before they start showing signs of illness. However, some infants, and people with weakened immune systems, can continue to spread the virus even after they stop showing symptoms, for as long as four weeks.

How viruses are spread: Respiratory viruses are spread when an infected person releases germs in the air via coughing, sneezing and close contact. Such viruses can live for hours on surfaces such as desks, door knobs, handrails, phones, etc.

Home Remedies: The following remedies are effective "first step" treatments for respiratory illnesses. Symptoms that last more than a few days or become severe should be checked by a physician.

A hot bath can be a powerful cold chaser and in Chinese medicine very hot baths are used to "sweat" out a cold at its earliest stages. To kick up the detox power of a



TAKE THE HINT  
.....  
KAREN TRAINOR

bath, add a few drops of eucalyptus, rosemary or thyme essential oils to the water.

Note: Check with your doctor before taking a hot bath if you are pregnant, diabetic, have heart disease or other complications.

\*Giving colds a two-step punch with a double dose of ginger and lemon can relieve cold and flu symptoms. Adding ginger and lemon to a hot cup of tea not only soothes the throat, but ginger's antimicrobial properties and lemon's vitamin C help fight the bug. To break up mucus, add a pinch of cayenne pepper to the hot tea.

\*Or try this recipe from Food Network to relieve respiratory ailments: Combine in a mug: the juice of half a lemon, a quarter size piece of fresh ginger, two teaspoons of honey, and 3/4 cup of boiling water. Allow to steep for at least three minutes. Add dark rum if desired.

\*It's true that chicken broth can offer cold and flu sufferers relief, but did you know it's the bone broth from the homemade brew that provides much of the healing power? Broth made from boiling bones (for about 12 hours for

maximum benefit) offers magnesium, sulfur, phosphorus and other trace minerals that are easily absorbable not always readily available.

\*Whether you like it hot or cold, a compress applied to sinuses can relieve congestion quickly. A freeze pack (or bag of frozen vegetables) works as a cold pack on the sinus area to decrease symptoms. Or, heat up a wet facecloth in the microwave (not to hot) and apply across the bridge of the nose for similar relief.

\*While there's no cure for the common cold some foods appear to reduce susceptibility to catching colds, or at least reduce the severity of the symptoms. Foods containing beta-carotene, vitamin C, and zinc have shown to have immune repairing and boosting properties. Research suggests that zinc (which is in many over the counter products to prevent colds) can work to reduce the duration and severity of a cold. But it is only effective if it's started early, at the very first signs of illness.

\*Did you know you can reach into the refrigerator to clear congestion? Apple juice and purple grape juice both have properties to help clear congestion and a runny nose. As a bonus dark grape juice is rich in tannins, which have been known to kill viruses.

\*Hot foods may be the weapon to battling mucus. Studies show foods such as chili peppers, horseradish and garlic help reduce con-

gestion by driving out mucus. How so? The same agent that induces tears also helps thin out excess mucus.

\*Coughs and congestion is uncomfortable, but relief can be as close as your water bottle. Keep hydrated by drinking at least 64 ounces of water a day. Water is the best expectorant, and will help thin the mucus and loosen the cough.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

Do you have a 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.

## Civil War memorabilia and firearms 2023 auction results



I've shared results from our 2023 auctions over my last three columns. In today's column, I'll focus on Civil War memorabilia and firearms that sold well at auction.

Firearms manufactured in or before 1898 are considered antiques, according to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). Antique firearms can be sold without having to be transferred by a federally licensed firearms dealer.

We sold several antique rifles and pistols from a northern central Massachusetts estate in

our August auction. One of the rifles from the collection was a British Tower rifle. The Union Army used these .577 caliber rifles during the Civil War. It is estimated that around 500,000 rifles were imported during the war. The Enfield was a very accurate rifle, and many considered it to be the best firearm in the world at the start of the Civil War in 1861. The Enfield in our auction brought a little over \$1,000.

Later in the 19th century, an American rifle became known as "the gun that won the West." Oliver Fisher Winchester

started out in the men's shirt business in 1810 but bought a controlling interest in Volcanic Repeating Arms Company in 1857. Winchester refined designs and formed the Winchester Repeating Arms Company in 1866, according to the company's website. In 1873, the Winchester repeater rifle (the gun that won the West) was developed with lever action, allowing for faster firing. We sold an 1894 Remington lever action rifle that also sold for a little over \$1,000.

It's not only the hardware that appeals to collectors. Letters from

Civil War soldiers provided insights into the battles they fought and also offer a window into how the war affected the soldiers and their family members back home. The Library of Congress has many letters online for academics and also people who are generally curious. Locally, Brandeis University and Wellesley College received a grant to preserve Civil War letters for students, scholars, and researchers. They have nearly 450 letters in their collection.

Two sets of letters from Blackstone Valley estates were the top selling military related items in our 2023 auctions. A group of Civil War letters from Charles Carr along sold with a plate showing Lieutenant Charles Carr died in 1864, brought



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES  
.....  
WAYNE TUISKULA

they can be researched and appreciated.

Our major auction of art, sterling, gold and platinum jewelry, and historical items recently ended. We are now accepting consignments of vintage collectibles, including sports cards, non-sports cards, comic books, and other memorabilia for a spring auction. Later in the spring, we expect to run another

\$1,300 in our January auction. A larger group of letters sent by George Maynard to Nellie Brown in Westborough, Mass. brought \$3,775. The consigning family was pleased to have these important letters be sold to somewhere

with more art, jewelry, sterling silver, and other antiques and collectibles. I will also be teaching my night class at the Bay Path Evening School in Charlton again in the spring and I'll be at the Learning in Retirement event in Danielson, Connecticut on May 6. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to other upcoming events.

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



# Recycle your Christmas tree into the landscape

Don't drag that Christmas tree to the curb to be hauled away by the trash collectors. Give it a second, even third life, in your landscape. No live Christmas tree? Don't worry. I'm sure your friends and neighbors will share theirs.



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

greens to reduce problems with winter burn. Place it on the south side of these plants to shade them from the drying winter sun.

Or remove the branches and use them as winter mulch over bulbs and perennials. Layer the boughs over the plants and soil to keep the soil consistently cold. This reduces the risk of early sprouting and winter damage that can occur during winter thaws.

Or set the tree in the landscape for a bit of added greenery. Secure it in a snow pile or use stakes and guy wires in milder climates where the soil is not frozen. The birds will enjoy the added shelter and you will enjoy watching these visitors to your landscape.

Then consider adding a bit of food for your feath-

ered visitors. Decorate the trees with fruits, berries, and seeds the birds can enjoy. Stringing cranberries and popcorn is a fun family activity and makes an attractive outdoor garland. Slices of oranges on colorful yarn and homemade bird ornaments can complete the adornments.

Sweep up the fallen needles that were under your tree indoors and use them as mulch in the garden. Place them directly on the soil or atop the snow. As the snow melts, the needles will be right where they belong. And don't worry, they will not make the soil too acidic. In fact, as they break down, they add organic matter to the soil.

As spring arrives, consider chipping and shredding your tree into mulch for trees and shrubs or pathways in the landscape. No chipper? You and your neighbors may want to rent a chipper to shred these and other prunings for use as mulch in your landscapes.

And, if this is not possible, check for recycling resources in your com-



Melinda Myers

Removing the branches from Christmas trees and layering them over bulbs and perennials keeps the soil consistently cold, reducing the risk of early sprouting and winter damage.

Move your locally grown Christmas tree outdoors after the holidays. Avoid trees imported from other states that may host invasive insects that can infest your landscape and nearby Christmas tree farms. Your local municipality or Department of Natural Resources has more information on any threats and disposal recommendations for your area.

Use your cut Christmas tree to protect evergreens in your landscape from winter winds and sun. They make excellent windbreaks while shading sensitive plants in your landscape. Strategically place your discarded tree on the windward side of rhododendron, boxwood, and other broadleaf ever-

munity. Many municipalities have special pick-ups for Christmas trees. These are chipped, shredded, and made available for citizens to use in their landscapes.

Lake communities often sink the discarded trees to the bottom of lakes and ponds to provide habitat for the fish. Another great way to give your tree a second life.

And once you discover the value of this free resource you may find yourself collecting a few more from the neighborhood. However, your family may ask that you wait until dark to drag your evergreen treasures back home.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's*

Handbook, 2nd Edition and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

Lately, I have been trying to read more. I bought a book I have been told to read many times, but I have never been interested enough till now. Reading it has caused me to have significant reflections on the last few years.

POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

TOBY  
MOORE

Do you have a dream you want to accomplish? Does it seem too big? Does it seem like maybe if you tried to accomplish it, you would be biting off more than you can chew?

It would be wise for you to examine the conditions before you commit. Look at the market you are trying to enter, give yourself and your abilities an honest assessment, read the necessary materials, and listen to the experts. These will serve as your

roadmap that you can navigate to success should you decide to commit.

I never thought the dream I was trying to accomplish was too big, but I heard from my business partner that my dad confessed to him early on that he thought what we were trying to accomplish may not be possible!

One of the chapters in the book discusses that to navigate successfully to your dream, you will need to find a balance between faith with facts! Some people have their heads up in the clouds so high that they never bother to look at the facts. It is essential to assess the situation and strike a balance. Also, you do not want to be so fact-oriented that you cannot

dream and have faith, but knowing the facts of the situation will keep you grounded and let you know if you need to scale it back.

Once you find the balance between faith and facts and decide to keep moving forward, it is important to realize something. It was the biggest realization I have had in a long time; a reality check.

For the last few years, I have worked with a team of people who are all experts in their field to accomplish a big vision. I believe in the dream and what we are doing; I have balanced the faith with the facts, and I was naive enough to think that is all I needed: a great team and a grand vision.

I learned something

while reading this book that I should have known, and maybe subconsciously, always have known. Just because you have an excellent vision for the future, a great team, have balanced faith with facts, and are willing to work hard to make your dream a reality does not mean you will get there.

The book I am talking about is "The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership" by John C. Maxwell.

In it, I discovered something quite profound. No matter how positive you are, how beautiful your vision is, or how hard of a worker you are. You will never rise higher than your leadership ability.

If your vision is a 10, but your leadership is only a 5, you will only

accomplish half of your vision. Wow! If you have a big dream, you would like to accomplish, that should send shivers down your spine.

It is not the size of the vision and the execution of it that will ensure success. It is not your work ethic; it is not your positive attitude. All of these are essential, and combined, these qualities will take you a long way, but one of the determining factors in how far you can advance your vision is your ability to lead!

According to Maxwell, your success will never surpass your leadership ability. Your leadership level is the cap on how high you can take your vision.

That made me nervous to read that; I have never

thought of myself as much of a leader.

The book was worrisome in many ways but also provided strong reassurance.

Maxwell says, "Champions don't become champions in the ring- they are merely recognized there...if you want to see where someone develops into a champion, look at their daily routine."

In the same way that investing in the stock market will not make you instantly rich, you can never become a leader in a day. It only happens through consistency, regular learning, practice, and focus. You can learn to lead!

## Financial fitness for a new year

It should come as no surprise that January is the favorite month for gym owners and fitness instructors. The start of a New Year brings new resolutions, and approximately 12% of new gym memberships are signed during this period. If you want to get in shape, hiring a professional instructor makes sense, right?

But what about other New Year's resolutions, like financial fitness? Recent data shows American's are recognizing the importance of financial fitness and it is a financial goal which tops the list for "America's Top New Year's Resolutions 2024". While there are basic financial exercises individuals can (and should) do on their own, many individuals may also benefit from the professional guidance of a financial planner.

If you've never received a formal financial plan (or perhaps it's been a while), the team at The Capstone Planning Group can review your goals and develop one for you. Some of the more

common financial items we evaluate include:

**Planning for retirement:** Have you determined how much money you'll need to meet your desired retirement lifestyle? Have you analyzed your sources of retirement income (i.e., Social Security, Pension, 401k, etc.)? Have you established a sustainable withdrawal and tax-efficient spending strategy?

**Insurance analysis:** If you have a spouse and/or children, are you carrying an appropriate amount of life insurance? Life insurance can protect your spouse and children from the potentially devastating financial loss that can result if something happened to you. Long Term Care (LTC) insurance may also be worth consideration for some individuals.

**Estate Planning:** Have you established a Will, Power of Attorney (POA), Health Care Proxy, and considered using a Trust to pass on assets to the next generation? Estate

**FINANCIAL FOCUS**

BY CHRISTOPHER MALLON  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,  
PROGRAM MANAGER  
LPL REGISTERED PRINCIPAL, THE  
CAPSTONE PLANNING GROUP

planning involves determining how an individual's assets will be preserved, managed, and distributed after death (or if they become incapacitated).

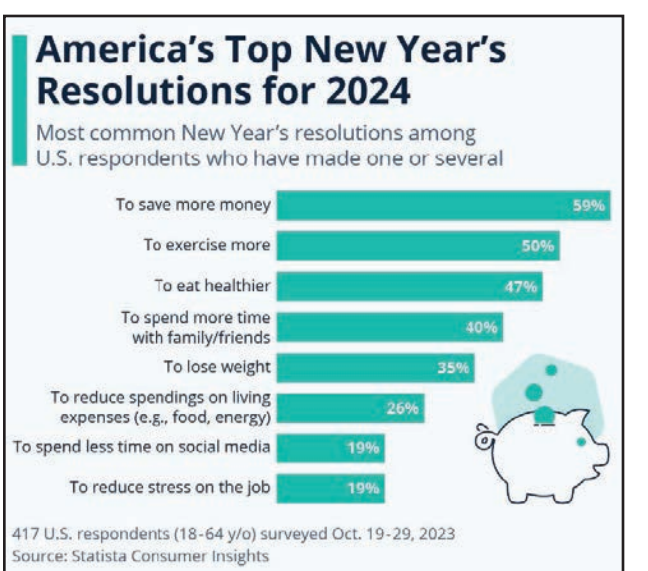
**Investment Analysis:** Have you reviewed your investment portfolio's performance and current asset allocation? Are you properly allocated based on the current environment or should you make adjustments? Do you know what your targeted "risk score" is and if your portfolio falls within that range? Could you benefit from adding downside protection or a principal protected strategy to your account?

While the exact tools needed to achieve "financial fitness" will vary from person to person, the financial planning pro-

cess is generally the same. It involves an assessment of each person's current situation, identifying goals, income needs, risk score, and an attempt to mitigate risk(s) when possible. A formal financial plan provides a written document outlining these areas and it provides actionable recommendations. If financial fitness is a priority for you in 2024, consider reaching out to The Capstone Planning Group for a complimentary consultation.

This information is not intended to be a substitute for specific individualized tax advice. We suggest that you discuss your specific tax issues with a qualified tax advisor.

About The Capstone Planning Group  
The Capstone Planning Group is an experienced wealth management team conveniently located at Cornerstone Bank. The team offers comprehensive financial planning, asset management, and insurance. To learn more about the team and schedule a courtesy consultation please visit [www.thecapstone.group](http://www.thecapstone.group)



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# Winter storm slams central Massachusetts

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — It took until the first week of January, but area residents finally received their first significant snowstorm of the season last weekend.

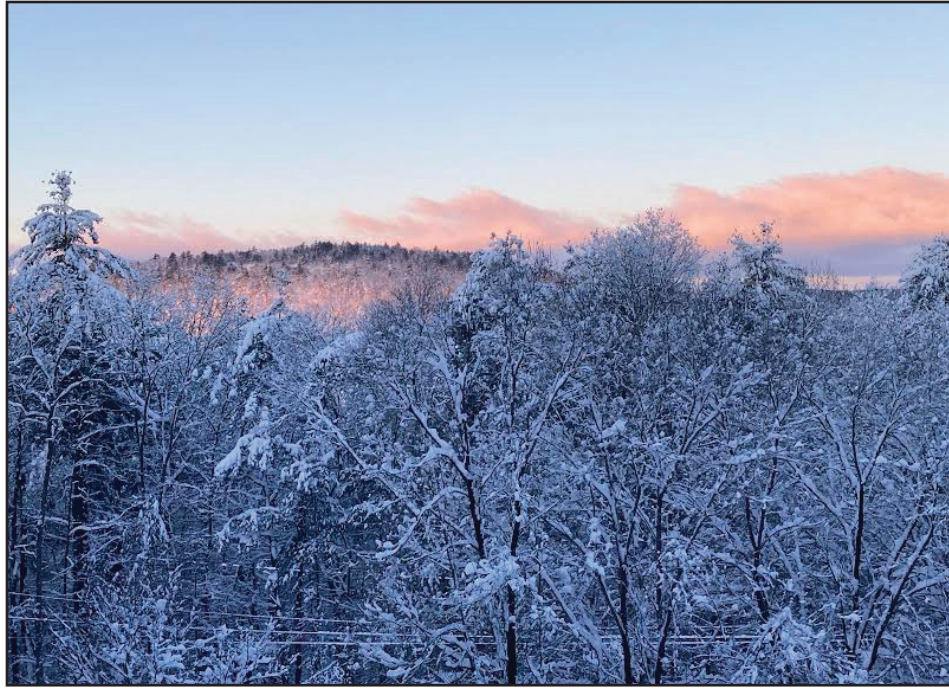
The Jan. 6-7 storm brought more than a foot of snow to several local communities. Leicester picked up approximately 15 inches by Sunday evening, with Spencer checking in at 13 inches. Auburn and Warren also saw about a foot, with slightly lesser amounts registered in Sturbridge.

Since the heaviest precipitation occurred overnight into the early hours of Sunday morning, impacts on local roads and travelers were minor, police said. By the time the snow finally stopped on Sunday evening, crews had gotten most roads in good shape for the morn-

ing commute.

To give students, parents, and bus operators extra time before class, some local school districts, including the Quaboag Regional School District and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, delayed school by two hours on Jan. 8. Students in the Tantasqua Regional School District and Leicester Public Schools also saw a two-hour delay.

While the storm brought headaches for residents who had to clear their driveways and walkways, it delivered much-needed relief for plow operators who rely on winter white to bring in the green. After November and December passed with hardly any snow in local communities, plow drivers told us they're hoping for more work in the coming months.



Kevin Flanders

Local residents awoke to a snowy scene after a major weekend storm.

Meanwhile, as residents dug out from the weekend snowstorm, they were already turning their attention to the next major weather event slated for

Jan. 9-10. But with temperatures having once again been forecasted to rise, this storm was projected to be mostly wet and windy rather than white.

Looking ahead, local police departments remind drivers to obey winter parking bans and clear their vehicles of snow and ice after storms. Violators may be subject to a citation.

For information on parking regulations in your community, visit the municipal website.

Additionally, residents are reminded to make sure their homes and vehicles are stocked with items that can be used during power outages or vehicle breakdowns during storms. It's best to always stock up on supplies ahead of major winter weather events and be prepared for three days without power, officials said.

## Adams targets state rep run

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBRIDGE — Even before this year's Election Day happened, Town Councilor Dave Adams had thrown his hat in the ring for next year's state representative race, officially announced Sunday online.

He said he'd run for the 6th Worcester seat as a Republican regardless of whether incumbent Peter Durant wins his special Senate election (which was decided this week, after this paper's deadline).

"I've been thinking about it back and forth, whether I should run for the House, for another Council term, for School Committee," Adams said. "I told [Durant] I'd

run if he won, but things changed and now I'm all in."

Adams is in his sixth year on the Town Council, and was previously on both the Board of Health and Redevelopment Authority. He said his primary goals will be to help address agricultural issues, work on Southbridge's receivership and net school spending issues, assist the district towns with various funding concerns (he specifically noted Dudley's recent overrides), help with the recent surge in migrants to our area, and help develop economic infrastructure in the region.

Regarding migrants, Adams said, "there's got to be a limit, but you still have to be a human being

with empathy. ... We're all migrants. People come here for a reason, and don't go to other countries for other reasons."

He'd like to see the state devise a "strategic plan" for newcomers and for internal migration of our own citizens. Although he did not link that to climate change, it could help address them, since various projections have shown New England is likely to get migrants from southern states as inland Massachusetts is likely to from coastal areas.

When it comes to broader capital needs, Adams said he'd like to see the state provide money "without a lot of red tape." He specifically pointed to reducing or eliminating the paperwork involved in securing grants and other regulations that take up a lot of local officials' time.

"I'd like to see government shrink a little bit," he said. "We've become too dependent on it to take care of issues we used to take care of on our own."

That said, though, Adams feels the state need to be providing more infrastructure funding for roads and public buildings, because the costs of

those projects "are killing the small towns."

So is that for schools — he noted local per pupil cost in Southbridge was about \$10,000 when he joined the Council, but now it's about \$19,000, but educational outcomes have not risen proportionately. He notes the town has consistently increased its school spending, but the state's minimum requirement has risen faster; Receiver Jeffrey Villar has said Southbridge is at risk of not meeting it this year, depending on how the state's accounting comes out.

Beyond that, Adams said our schools "need to go back to some of the basics of [home] economics, how to spend money, and civics," plus math, writing skills and similar subjects. A large part of that is encouraging more technical education; he noted he has family members who are plumbers and welders "making very, very good money" without huge college debts. Additionally, he said he'd like to see promotion of more personal involvement in community affairs and better understanding of how

American government works.

For a little while, Adams talked about recent gun issues, sparked by the Lewiston, ME mass shooting. In that case, he noted the shooter had been recently released from a hospital due to insurance coverage expiring, but had not had adequate care. He said he feels illegal guns "are too easy to get," and we're seeing more mental health issues without legal changes and insurance needed to assist them. But he said he doesn't feel the laws being currently proposed (he didn't specify them) will actually help.

"People don't want to divulge mental health problems, but we've got to have some way to identify these issues" before they get guns. Among other things, he said he favors "red flag" laws and mental health checks, which he said aren't in conflict with the Second Amendment.

Regarding mental health overall, Adams said he feels Southbridge already has "a lot of resources," and the public needs to be talking about the issue more. Overall, he sees a problem

with the fact police and schools have both, in some respects, become social workers, and that there is no good single point of contact for people needing assistance.

Adams was born and grew up in Santa Ana, Calif., which he described as a middle-class "bars on our windows community." He went into the Marine Corps at age 19, retiring in 2013 after about 26 years. When he moved to Southbridge, he taught at Trinity Catholic Academy for about five years and got involved in town government and veterans issues. Most recently, he's been spearheading a revamped veterans monument in Dresser Park and serving as Veterans Agent for the town of Oxford.

"I didn't grow up in Southbridge, but I love this town," he said. "... I have nothing I need when it comes to what the state is providing [for state rep pay]. It's just about helping our local communities."

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

## Roland Butzke completes intensive research project

WORCESTER — Roland Butzke, resident of Oxford, a member of the class of 2025 majoring in Robotics Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense research project titled Adaptive Reuse of Underused Office Buildings in Arlington, Va.

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology that addresses an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of students complete a project at one of the university's 50-plus off-campus project centers, which are located around the world. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives and make a difference before they graduate.

"The WPI project-based curriculum's focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of Integrative & Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable per-

spectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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

## DUDLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

DUDLEY — Dudley Middle School has released its honor roll for the first term of the 2023-2024 school year.

Grade 8

High Honors: Morgan Brooks, Colson Caron, Cecelia Donahue, Christopher Feliciano, Rydyr Finlay, Madyson FitzGerald, Ariana Jurski, Olivia Kac, Kaitlin Lulu, Mikhail Namera, Calleigh O'Grady Teagan O'Halloran, Gabriella Pace, Bo Riley, Victor Sobinski

Honors: Zed Akraji Adjei, Muriel Amponsah, Logan Baxter, Hailee Bell, Madison Boggio, Collin Brazeau, Britney Carvalho Schemmilmfennig, Addyson Coutu, John Daniel, Nadya Delgado, Aaron Desautels, Kaitlyn Donais, Brady Farmer, Alyssa Grammer, Ella Hanson, Amal Joudi, Elisabeth Kalmin, Cadence Kilderry, Tyler Koszewski, Aleksa Kruszewski, Stephanie Krysinski, Wesley Lawless, Sophia Lindberg, Ryan Mason, Jillian Mitchell, Emma Panczyk, Kamilah Reyes, Rianna Ruo, Oscar Salcedo, Milena Sikorski, Damian Torres, Zynata Twumasi Ankrah, Avery Walker, Paige Walker, Colby Wells, Riley West, Sarah Whitcraft, Felix Wierbik, Magdalena Wood, Aiden Young, Graham Zimmer

Grade 7

High Honors: Charity Acquah-Mensah, Kaylee Baillargeon, Dominic Bastardo, Timothy Booth, Eric Carlson, Miranda Carlson, Ava Cincotta, Lilly Connor, Teddy Cunkovskii, Avery Desautels, Amelia Donahue, Emelia Dusty, Alessio Falcone, Emerson Fedish, Shay Fournier, Caroline Fuentes, Tyrone Giteru, Elliot Havens, Emma Hopper, Maya Kaminska, Nikolas Mason, Marina Morgan, Mariah Morse, Georgia Niforos-Ortiz, Victoria Norton, Haley Paquette, Aden Patterson, Amilia Piarulli, Antoni Powaza, Jesse Rumrill Andino, Gabriel Soto, Aslynn St. Laurent, Connor Stackpole, Colin Starzewski, Margaret Straw, Tobias Swanbeck, Noah Torres, Brayden Trybulski, Nicole Villasaldo Samano

Honors: Maximus Abrams, Emmanuel Acheampong, Kimberly Agim, Aaron Allard, Aleksander Androlewicz, Tyler Beaty, Gavin Benoit, Callum Blackwood, Trenton Blowers, Bridget Boyle, Eryn Brazeau, Arianna Breault, Julian Brockway, Bentley Cahill, Rachael Ciuchta, Rose Cole, Ethan Crosby, Nicholas Cryan, Helen Defranc, Michael Devine, Brody Dix, McKenna Doyle, Kayla Flibbert, Lena Gago, Connor Gasco-Albro, Abigail Hanna, Gavin Hanson, Elizabeth Haynes, Giavanna Jones, Zachary Kaiser, Jaedyn Knorr, Mason Kokocinski, Kacper Krawczyk, Jack Loiselle, Dillon McFarlin, Ryan O'Halloran, Finley O'Shea, Oliver Okolita, Madison Parsons, Wyatt Pelletier, Nia Phommachanh, Jasper Riley, Lane St. Laurent, Tessa Sullivan, Kourtney Tucker, Ella Vallee, Olivia Vivenzio, Dennis White, Kaiya Zaczek

Grade 6

High Honors: William Antos, Oltina Bektashi, Gwyneth Boudreau, Sofia Cabrera, Isabella Congdon, Ana-Clara Dallorto, Tiffany DePaula, Addison Duval, Dylan Gidney, Jasmine Hansen, Phoebe Houatchanthara, Eliora Ibrahim, Camden Karle, Olivia Laskowski, Calista Lawless, Alexander Lewandowski, Arianna Norton, Nathan Shay, Maddex St. George, Evan Steriti, Ryder Trajanowski, Lucas White

Honors: Erik Anderson, Abigail Avakian, Gabriel Ayala, Griffin Bachand, Sophie Barcelo, Kellen Caines, Kolby Campbell, Richard Carmignani, Paul Chabot, Emily Charette, Celeina Collins, Josephine Conrad, Matilda Cronauer, Breanna Curran, David Curran, Olivia Delisle, Rhea Denson, Jason Donais, John Doyle, Olivia Dubreuil, Dylan Dufresne, Benjamin Durgin, Chase Dzivasen, Avante Earl, London Ellis, Kristina England, Mason Fanion, Jaxon Flagg, Sophia Garcia, Brianna Gingras, Taya Greene, Jameson Groh, Milani Hammiel, Karolina Janusz, David Kruszewski, Damien LaFontaine, Taylor Laskowski,

Adam Legere, Coleton Lempicki, Noah LePage, Cooper LeVierge-Mallet, Macy MacDonald, William Martel, Eleanor McCool, Michael Menard, Victor Mensah, Autumn Palmer, Carter Paquin, Jayce Peters-Green, Mia Piotti, Kiersten Plocher, Alivia Rada, Ariana Rodriguez, Damien Rodriguez, Justen Shenouda, Connor Spahl, Jacob Strafer, Logan Thornbrugh, Ayla Tombeno, Anastasia Towadros, Ari VanDeusen, Avianna Vega, Sage Webster, Devante Whitcomb, John Whitcraft, Blake Yanovsky, Rofail Youssef

Grade 5

High Honors: Miah Amorelli, Connor Ares, Jason Broadmeadow, Silas Ciuchta, Logan Connor, Logan Dunn, Kylie Ebbeling, Ayla Flores, Leo Guardiani, Penelope Habib, Elliott Harnois, Henri Hokanson, Ava Hortance, Michael Kaloyanides, Charlotte Langlois, Anthony LeBlanc, Olivia Macek, Marcus Meschke, Benjamin Moisan, Finnegan Page, Sara Rabski, Maya Rousey, Jenna Rousseau, Leilani Sobinska-Colon

Honors: Ivory Agim, Jasmine Arboleda, Sophia Bastardo, Grayson Belley, Rihnaya Bembridge, Dylan Bort, Jacob Casey, Brynlee Chickering, Fiona Cole, Daxton Colella, Ronan Coulson, Liv Cushing, James D'Andrea, Lana Denson, McKenna Devine, Arianna Dos Santos, Caleb Gaumond, Afram Geres, Malcolm Goetz, Cynthia Kerry, Timothy King, Whitney Kungu, Aaron Lamata, Abigail Larrabee, Eliana Lempicki, Alexandria Lundy, Giada Manzi, Maxwell Maple, Sebastian Milewski, Lauren Mitchell, Rylee Mongeon, Rhys Myler, Andreas Niforos-Ortiz, Delaney O'Grady, Evangelina Ouellette, Adriana Panu, Jacob Paradis, Gavin Patenaude, Peter Penesis, Hunter Reid, Logan Rodrigues, Anthony Rodriguez, Amarie Rosario, Ava Rosario, Jackson Smith, Isabella Soto, Ivy St. Laurent



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# SPORTS

## Oxford outlasts Pioneers in competitive contest



Nick Ethier photos

Oxford's Sophia Cornacchioli dishes a pass around a Southbridge defender.



Gwen Gustafson of Oxford moves the ball to her left while on the fast break.



Oxford's Amaya Rosario-Green sets herself before taking a jump shot.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**SOUTHBRIDGE** — Two girls' varsity basketball teams in the midst of learning how to win games took to the hardwood on Wednesday, Jan. 3 when Oxford took on the hosts from Southbridge.

And it was the Pirates who built a first half lead, extended it in the third quarter and held on in the final frame. When all was said and done, Oxford emerged victorious, 42-39.

"I thought we did a really good job of moving the ball tonight. I thought a lot of kids got touches. I thought on the offensive glass we did a great job," said Joe Pietrzak, head coach of the Pirates, while shouting out Amaya Rosario-Green and Sophia Cornacchioli. "They did a whale of a

job." Rosario-Green finished with double-double totals of 12 points and 20 rebounds, while Cornacchioli scored 9 points and pulled down 11 boards. In total, Oxford collected 53 rebounds to the Pioneers' 30.

The Pirates led after the first quarter of play, 11-10, and then won second quarter scoring by a 12-5 count to grab a 23-15 halftime lead.

Southbridge then showed that it would fight in the second half, as Yasiri Rojas (10 points) — the only senior on the floor for this game — hit back-to-back deep shots from the right corner — one a 3-pointer, the other a two with her toes on the line — to open the third quarter, as the deficit was trimmed down to 23-20. The Pirates then coun-



Haley Alves of Oxford soars into the air while laying the ball in for two points.

tered with a 13-3 run, which included a basket by Kate Mayo, her first career varsity points, as Oxford held a 36-23 lead as play shifted to the fourth quarter.

There, Southbridge employed a defensive press. The Pioneers also changed their half-court defensive set earlier in the second half, which helped toward the comeback bid.

"The second half of the game we did switch (our defense) from a man-to-man to a 2-3 zone, which put pressure on them in a different way," explained Southbridge head coach Jill Lombardi. "Having that press at the end allowed them to make some turnovers and allowed us to get the ball a little more frequently."

The Pioneers weren't able to make a complete comeback, though, as Jaimarys Oquendo's (13 points) 3-pointer with only a couple of seconds to play made it a 42-39 game, but the final buzzer sounded before the Pirates inbounded the ball.

"We definitely have a

stronger skillset this year that allows us to make those game-time decisions and be able to adjust and not have confusion or missteps," Lombardi said of the progression the Pioneers have made from last season, although the loss dropped them to 0-3.

"We're a step closer each time. We have some tough games ahead of us, but we can only use it to get better."

Oxford is now 2-4 after defeating Douglas in their game prior to the Southbridge contest.

"A win is a win, and

we're building off the Douglas win. I think the games are competitive dogfights in SWCL B," Pietrzak said of earlier season losses to Quaboag and David Prouty.

Haley Alves was in double figures for the Pirates with 10 points.



Southbridge defender Madison Demers extends her reach to make it difficult for Oxford's Sarah Arndt to drive the ball closer to the basket.

## Bartlett High Athletic Hall of Fame Committee soliciting nominations

The Bartlett High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is soliciting worthy nominations from the community for the 11th class of inductees, which will be honored in the fall of 2024. Anyone interested in nominating individuals for this recognition submit a nomination through the Hall of Fame website at [www.bhsathletichof.org](http://www.bhsathletichof.org). The deadline is Jan. 31, 2024. Athletes who are nominated for induction must have graduated from BHS at least seven years prior to being considered for induction. Other eligibility requirements are available on the organization's website. Supporting documentation, including statistics are requested to be submitted to the committee with all nominations.

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# SPORTS

## Rams return to winning form, take down North Middlesex



Nick Ethier photos

Shepherd Hill's Lucas Miglionico attempts a midrange jump shot.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

**DUDLEY** — The Shepherd Hill boys' varsity basketball team took a 5-0 record into school vacation week, but the Rams — playing just once

during the break — lost to Tantasqua, 59-44, on Wednesday, Dec. 27.

Shepherd Hill head coach Mike Rapoza called it a disappointing loss and added, "I thought we got away from a lot of the



Shepherd Hill's Luke Poirier delivers a pass to the outside.

stuff that we've done well over the last couple of years."

Now with school back in session and games to be played at a more frequent clip, the Rams opened the 2024 portion of their season on Thursday, Jan. 4, hosting North Middlesex. There, The Hill took it to the Patriots, 63-46, to find their winning form and improve to 6-1.

"I was really impressed with the bounce back," said Rapoza. "Obviously, Tantasqua took it to us last week.

"That game didn't go well, and we've had a week to really improve at the areas that we needed to improve in, and I thought that we did a really good job answering, especially defensively. Offensively, I thought our execution was a little bit better," added Rapoza. "All around, it was a great

team effort. I thought we had great contributions from guys 1-9."

The Rams led at all the stops: 16-8 after one quarter, 34-19 at the half and 51-31 through three periods before winning by 17 points. Shepherd Hill also won the battle of the boards, 38-22.

The Rams were led by Lucas Miglionico, who made a 3-pointer in all four quarters and finished with a game-high 27 points and a

team-high 9 rebounds. Zachary Wennerberg added 20 points. For North Middlesex (1-6), Jack Callahan posted a double-double (12 points, 10 rebounds) and Brian Morse scored 16 points.

"You try to avoid developing bad habits, and I thought we did a lot of things relatively poor in all areas of the game last week. This week, we cleaned up a lot of the stuff. Hopefully we can keep it going," Rapoza concluded.

## MOHEGAN BOWL WINTER LEAGUES, WEEKS ENDING DEC. 31 AND JAN. 7

Week ending Dec. 31

Tuesday Chet's Social

Single — Ryan Pelletier 147, Richard Girouard 124, Angel Claudio 116, Erin Van Dam 118, Diane Levesque 112, Patti Hurm 102

Series — Ryan Pelletier 404, Tom Smith 332, Angel Claudio 315, Erin Van Dam 338, Diane Levesque 299, Dawn Gleason 275

Series over average — Ryan Pelletier +53, Erin Van Dam +50

Wednesday Women's Industrial

Single — Marie McNally 111, Lynne Smith 110, Shanna Boucher & Katrina Gomes 104

Series — Lynne Smith 303, Marie McNally 301, Tiffany Jarmolowicz 298

Series over average — Jeanne Walker +29

Summit Tenpin

Single — Division 1 — Bob Grant Jr. 221

Division 2 — Joe Harvard 175

Series — Division 1 — Bob Hanville 612

Division 2 — Lee Standrowicz 547

Thursday Morning Coffee

Single — Carolyn Josti 98, Donna Lewandowski 97, Flo Jedrzynski & Jessica Agazarian 96

Series — Jessica Agazarian 272, Flo Jedrzynski 269, Barbara Penniman 268

Series over average — Barbara Gomes +45

Thursday Men's Industrial

Single — Ryan Pelletier 139, Iver Peterson 132, Bo Gauvin 123

Series — Ryan Pelletier 369, Josh Antos 334, Bo Gauvin 330

Series over average — Iver Peterson +55

Thursday Mixed Tenpin

Single — Todd Gaucher 201, Frank Bosma 183, Derek Marcelonis 180

Series — Todd Gaucher 539, Derek Marcelonis 505, Frank Bosma 501

Week ending Jan. 7

Monday Men's Business

Single — Nate Walker & Todd Siefert 124, Tim Labay 121

Series — Tim Labay 346, Jason Mahan 340, Mike Nardone 334

Series over average — Nelson Rodriguez & Todd Seifert +31

Tuesday Chet's Social

Single — Ryan Pelletier 142, Tom Smith 120, DJ Devish 119, June Carpenter 109, Courtney Boulay 107, Patti Hurm 101

Series — Ryan Pelletier 381, DJ Devish 328, Michael LeBlanc 312, June Carpenter 286, Erin Van Dam 279, Courtney Boulay 276

Series over average — Jared Murawski +41, June Carpenter +43

Wednesday Women's Industrial

Single — Tiffany Jarmolowicz 141, Marie McNally 110, Wendy Angelo 109

Series — Tiffany Jarmolowicz 317, Marie McNally 307, Noelle Gorski 296

Series over average — Marie McNally +34

Summit Tenpin

Single — Division 1 — Eric Apher 235

Division 2 — Carol Harvard 185

Series — Division 1 — Butch Mattson 580

Division 2 — Joe Harvard 522

Thursday Morning Coffee

Single — Jessica Agazarian 101, Flo Jedrzynski 99, Pat Kaczor 94

Series — Flo Jedrzynski 271, Barbara Penniman 269, Jessica Agazarian 264

Series over average — Julie Dell Anna +41

Thursday Men's Industrial

Single — Ryan Pelletier 146, Dan Mungovan 127, Charlie Legacy & Bo Gauvin 123

Series — Ryan Pelletier 364, Dan Mungovan 320, David Blake 314

Series over average — Paul Lango +42

Thursday Mixed Tenpin

Single — Derek Marcelonis 192, Gina Blake 184, Marc Vigeant 174

Series — Marc Vigeant 474, Frank Bosma 470, Derek Marcelonis 456



Both Alexander Lanpher (4) and Lucas Miglionico of Shepherd Hill leap for the ball, with Lanpher securing the rebound.



Alexander Lanpher of Shepherd Hill gets just enough contact out of North Middlesex defender Nolan Lyle to draw a foul on his drive to the basket.

# SPORTS

## Western Mass. Blue Devils a tough test for Shepherd Hill



Shepherd Hill's Heidi Jarosz goes up against Northampton's Liv Joensen for the opening tip-off.



Shepherd Hill's Jillian Clarke dribbles toward the net against a Northampton defender.



Ashley Dickhaut looks for the open teammate for Shepherd Hill.

DUDLEY — Coming off a 3-2 start to the 2023-24 season, the Shepherd Hill Lady Rams' basketball team hosted the 5-0 Northampton Blue Devils on Wednesday, Jan. 3. Shepherd Hill's Head Coach, Maura Hackenson, said before the game that she enjoys their competitive schedule: "We want to put our team in a place to compete with some of the better teams in our region,"

as the Rams picked up Northampton this season for a good non-league matchup.

Coach Hackenson was very complimentary of their opponents, stating, "Northampton are a successful Western Mass. team. We have played them in the past (when we played in Western Mass. for a short stint) and we are happy to have picked them up this year."

When asked about her expectations for the game, Coach Hackenson said, "We have had a few good practices leading up to tonight. We focused on being prepared for their press, knowing their personnel and how to come out and play four quarters."

In the first quarter, both teams came off the tip-off pressing hard forcing

both offenses to be creative. Northampton got on the scoreboard first at the three-minute mark. Shepherd Hill had to find a way past the ever-present in-your-face defense of Northampton and wasn't able to get their first points until the fifth minute. With two minutes left in this very fast-paced first quarter, Coach Hackenson used the Rams' first timeout to settle her players. The Rams fell behind the Blue Devils 11-2 at the end of the first eight minutes.

The Blue Devils found their groove in the second quarter, capitalizing on rebounds and fast breaks, outscoring the Rams 15-5. Shepherd Hill found themselves in foul trouble early in the quarter and Northampton took advantage of every

free throw. Northampton led at the half, 26-7.

Coming out of half-time, Shepherd Hill found the basket and settled into the game, keeping pace with Northampton. The Rams put 10 points on the board while the Blue Devils added 13, as coming out of the third quarter Northampton led 39-17.

Shepherd Hill continued to work hard for every point, outscoring their opponents in the final quarter, 12-10. This early January matchup went to the Blue Devils with a final score of 49-29. The Rams go to 3-3 on the season, as Jaizzy Santiago and Ashley Dickhaut both scored 10 points.



Shepherd Hill's Jaizzy Santiago looks for an opening to drive the ball to the basket.



Shayley Szela uses the pick set by teammate, Heidi Jarosz, to make her way to the basket for Shepherd Hill.



Shepherd Hill's Heidi Jarosz goes up strong while being double teamed by Northampton.

## Knights of Columbus 228 Free Throw Competition 2024

Webster/Dudley Council No. 228 announces the 2024 Free Throw Competition to be held Saturday, Jan. 20th. The competition is open to all local boys and girls ages 9 to 14 years of age. Competitors' age is determined as of Jan. 1, 2024. Proof of birthday is required at registration. This year's contest will be held at All Saints Academy, 48 Negus St., Webster, MA. Registration starts at 8:15 AM and all competition starts at 8:30 AM. For questions contact Paul Perry at 508-943-9345 or pjpknights@yahoo.com. Winners of each age category will receive a trophy and represent Council No. 228 in District competition.

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# SNHU announces Fall 2023 Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following stu-

dents on being named to the Fall 2023 Dean's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

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

- Miko Schiavoni of Oxford
  - Kelly Weiner of Oxford
  - Kelsey Bates of Oxford
  - Dennis James Stelmach of Dudley
  - Jonathan Morse of Dudley
  - Nick Piekarczyk of Dudley
- Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is

a private, nonprofit institution with a 91-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 225,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.



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Young 3 Bedroom Colonial! Living Room, Kitchen, Dining Area - Washer/Dryer & 1/2 Bath!! 2nd Floor - 3 Bedrooms plus 2 Full Baths!! Walk out Lower Level. Large finished room in lower level. Furnace Replaced 2023.  
**List Price \$355,000 Sale Price \$385,000**

**OXFORD - 68 PLEASANT ST UNIT 36**



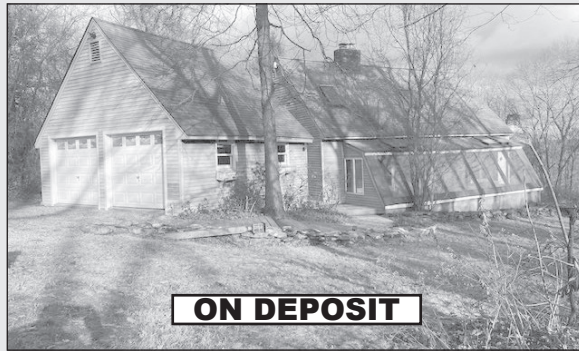
Fairway Woods! Unit 36, rare end unit that boasts new windows, skylights, slider door and bay window, new central air, granite counters, 3 Level living. Loft can be your personal oasis! garage.  
**\$319,900**

**WOODSTOCK - 4 BARBER RD**



Circa 1800 Vintage 3 bedrooms. Renovations included kitchen & 2 baths, refinished wood flooring, interior painting & more... Barn, large lot.  
**\$399,000**

*Featured New Listing!*  
**DUDLEY - 28 PARTRIDGE HILL RD**



ATTN: This is a FIXER UPPER PROJECT. Special property needs, some love to bring it back to life. Open Concept. Wood Floors, 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, loft. Attch'd 2car gage. Large Private Lot. *Being Sold AS IS* **\$349,000**

**WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE**



**BEING BUILT!! SPRAWLING 2000 SF ONE LEVEL RANCH HOME!** Situated on a level 1/2 acre Lot! **OPEN FLOOR PLAN.** Living room, dining room, upscaled kitchen with 8' island, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, Beautiful Hardwood Floors! central air. 2 car garage, & shed.  
**\$615,000.**

**On the shores of Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg**

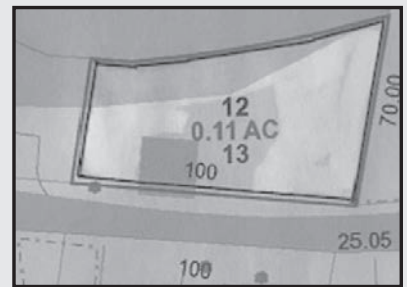


*Webster Lake -*  
**245 Laurelwood Drive**  
*Waterfront Lot!*

Approximately 11,000 Sq. Ft. of mostly cleared flat land, gentle decline to waters edge. Sandy Shore line! Western views. Call for a viewing!  
**\$695,000**

*Webster Lake*  
**13 South Point Rd.**

100' of frontage on the water & road. An old cement block garage is located on the property.. Land area surveyed, DEP approval to build. Property suitable for small craft dockage/off season storage. Town Water & Sewer available  
**\$195,000**



**Open House Directory**

- |              |                 |                   |                     |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| (C) Condo    | (X) Condo       | (M) Multi-Family  | (T) Townhouse       |
| (B) Business | (U) Duplex      | (S) Single Family | (D) Adult Community |
| (P) Land     | (L) Mobile Home | (A) Apartment     | (W) Waterfront      |

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22 Village Way C 11-1 \$305,000 Century 21 / Mary Hicks  
2 bedroom condo 55 and over. 508-612-4794 / 508-867-2222

*To have your open house listed in this directory, please contact Mikaela Victor 774-200-7308*

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# LEGALS

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeffrey A. Patterson, Melissa A. Patterson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, a division of First Tennessee Bank, N.A., dated November 12, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42107, Page 356, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, a division of First Tennessee Bank N.A., its successors and assigns to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, recorded on February 24, 2023, in Book No. 68857, at Page 395

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 2:00 PM on January 23, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 8 1/2 Sutton Avenue a/k/a 8.5 Sutton Avenue, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

JEFFREY A. PATTERSON AND MELISSA A. PATTERSON, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY

A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS SITUATED THEREON OFF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SUTTON AVE., OXFORD, WORCESTER COUNTY, BEING SHOWN ON PLAT OF LAND OXFORD PREPARED FOR STANFORD SEED COMPANY, DATED JANUARY 30, 1991 AND RECORDED N PLAN BOOK 647, PLAN 121 BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A POINT ALONG THE DIRT DRIVE AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAN, WHICH POINT IS THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF THE 15,183 SQUARE FOOT PARCEL OF LAND SHOWN ON SAID PLAN;

THENCE N. 83 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 41 SECONDS W. 71.35 FEET BY SAID PARCEL OF LAND IDENTIFIED ON SAID PLAN CONTAINING 15,183 SQUARE FEET; THENCE N. 6 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 05 SECONDS E. 62.30 FEET BY LAND OF PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RAILROAD TO THE MOST NORTHWESTERLY CORNER; THENCE S. 82 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 56 SECONDS E. 131.34 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY BARRE;

THENCE S. 8 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 00 SECONDS W. 139.26 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY MILLER;

THENCE N. 82 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 56 SECONDS W. 57.75 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY C. PARISEAU AND SAID DIRT DRIVE;

THENCE N. 8 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 00 SECONDS E. 77.52 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 12,533 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS.

BEING THE SAME PREMISES CONVEYED TO THE GRANTORS BY DEED OF HERITAGE EQUITY RESOURCES, INC. DATED APRIL 7, 1993 AND RECORDED WITH THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS BOOK 15077, PAGE 389. SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS, EASEMENTS, COVENANTS, OIL, GAS OR MINERAL RIGHTS OF RECORD, IF ANY.

MAP: 34C; LOT: E28

For mortgagor's(s)' title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 19484, Page 253.

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

### TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in

full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

23228

December 29, 2023

January 5, 2024

January 12, 2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO22P1297PM  
Estate of:  
Neil Stockwell**

**CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR ORDER OF  
COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Shelly Oakes of Braintree MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, First and Final 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 **01/02/2024**. 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. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court  
December 04, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate  
January 11, 2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. W023P4420GD  
NOTICE AND ORDER:  
Petition for Appointment of  
Guardian of a Minor  
In the interests of  
Patrick A. Rowe  
of Dudley, MA  
Minor**

**NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**1. Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **12/21/2023** by **Sabrina T. Regan of Dudley, MA** will be held **01/28/2024 08:30 AM Guardianship of a Minor Hearing** Located **Worcester Probate and Family Court**

**Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and  
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

**3. Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

**4. Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

**5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

**THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE:** An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.  
Date: December 21, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
January 12, 2024

**TOWN OF DUDLEY  
Notice to Bidders**

The Town of Dudley is requesting bids for the following construction materials and services for various departments for the period of **January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024**.

ITEM #1 All grades of medium curing asphalt and emulsion type asphalt  
ITEM #2 Bituminous concrete, at plant  
ITEM #2A Bituminous concrete, in place  
ITEM #3 Gravel and Washed screened sand at owners' pit and delivered.  
ITEM #4 Screened stone at owners' pit and delivered.  
ITEM #5 Tree Trimming and Removal  
ITEM #6 Corrugated pipe, steel, and aluminum, delivered to highway garage.  
ITEM #7 Corrugated pipe, polyethylene delivered to highway garage.  
ITEM #8 Cold Plaining  
ITEM #9 Asphalt Rubber SAM  
ITEM #10 Pavement Striping

*Bidders of items # 2A & # 9 must be pre-qualified and have a Certificate of Approval from Mass Highway.*

*All materials must conform to Mass Highway Specifications.*

Bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer in the Dudley Town Hall, 71 West Main St. MA 01571 until **11:00AM on January 25, 2024** at which time they will be opened and read. All envelopes must be sealed and **marked "BID" and appropriate "ITEM #" indicated.**

The Town of Dudley brings to the attention of bidders Chapter 149, sections 26D & 27D of the Mass. General Laws concerning minimum wage rates where applicable. All bidding must follow all Mass. General Laws.

Specifications available at the Selectmen's Office, 71 West Main St, Dudley MA 01571, Monday – Thursday between 9:00a.m. and 4:00p.m., Friday from 9:00a.m. – noon. Specific questions may be addressed to Jeffrey Murray, Highway Superintendent at (508) 949-8020.

The Town reserves the right to reject any bid or proposal if deemed in the best interest of the Town.

Town of Dudley  
Jonathan Ruda  
Town Administrator  
Chief Procurement Officer

**TOWN OF DUDLEY  
Instructions & Information to Bidders**

Sealed bids for the cost of the CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS for Departments for the Town of Dudley will be accepted by the Chief Procurement Officer at the Dudley Town Hall, 71 West Main St. Dudley, MA 01571 until **11:00AM on January 25, 2024**. Bids will be opened and read immediately thereafter. Any questions on specifications should be referred to Jeffrey Murray. (508) 949-8020.

All bid documents must be sealed in an envelope clearly marked "**BID and ITEM#**". Each vendor shall submit the completed attached forms (*including attached BID PRICE FORMS*). All bids are to include a business card for the contact person for the Item.

**NO BID WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE SPECIFIED TIME AND DATE.**

Bids which are incomplete, not property endorsed, signed or otherwise contrary to these instructions, may be rejected as unresponsive. **CONDITIONAL PROPOSALS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

The bid shall comply fully with all applicable laws.

Purchases made by the Town of Dudley are exempt from payment of Federal Excise Taxes and Massachusetts State Taxes. Do not include such taxes in the quoted price.

Bids and unsolicited amendments to bids received by the Town after the bid deadline will not be considered and requests for extensions of time will not be granted. Bidders who mail bids are responsible for ensuring the Town receives the bid by the deadline.

All bids shall be signed by the bidder. If the bidder is a corporation, the bidder shall include a current vote of the corporation to the bid and any contract awarded (Certification of Authority form attached).

Tax statement: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 62C, sec. 49A requires all bidders to acknowledge compliance with the tax laws of the Commonwealth (Attestation Certificate enclosed).

Bids submitted to the Town shall remain unopened until the bid deadline.

Negligence on the part of the bidder in preparing the bid does not confer the right of withdrawal after the bid deadline. The Town does not assume any responsibility for errors, omissions or misinterpretations that may result from the use of incomplete bid documents. Any bidder finding an ambiguity, inconsistency or error shall promptly notify the Chief Procurement

Officer.

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of the bid, the Town will provide addenda to all those who have requested this Invitation for Bids.

The Town will issue no addenda within three (3) business days immediately before the deadline for proposals. "FAX" bids shall not be considered.

The bidders will provide three (3) favorable references if and when requested, from public entities having purchased similar goods and services in 2022 or 2023. Such reference shall include the name of the purchaser, contact person, telephone number, the date the contract was signed, and the date the job was completed.

The bid will be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. The successful bidder shall be required to provide the Town with an Insurance Certificate and a payment bond, bid deposit, prevailing wage forms and to meet all the requirements of applicable Mass. General Laws.

The bidder must certify that no official or employee of the Town of Dudley is pecuniarily interested in this proposal or in the contract which the bidder offers to execute or in the expected profits to arise therefrom and this bid is made in good faith, without fraud or collusion or connection with any other person submitting a bid (Affidavit of Non-Collusion attached).

All prices and delivery times quoted must be firm.

An award will not be made to a bidder who is not equipped to undertake and complete the work. Before submitting a quotation, each bidder must make a careful study of these specifications and fully assure himself as to the quality of the materials required and the services to be provided.

Bids may be withdrawn without penalty prior to the time and date specified.

The bid price must cover all contingencies, including all labor and materials, transportation, etc., necessary for the purchase and delivery of equipment or service as required by the Town of Dudley.

January 12, 2023  
January 19, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO23D1756DR  
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY  
PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
Latihfa Lee Morgan Day  
vs.  
Danielle Lee Morgan Day**

To the Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:  
**Latihfa Lee Morgan Day  
701 Center Street  
Chicopee, MA 01013**

your answer, if any, on or before **01/30/2024**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: October 31, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
January 11, 2024

Notice is hereby given by S.H. Auto Repair, LLC., 120 Schofield Ave, Dudley, MA 01571 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A, that on January 19, 2024 @ 5:00 PM at: S.H. Auto Repair, LLC 120 Schofield Ave, Dudley, MA 01571. The following motor vehicles will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles. Description of vehicles:

Vehicle: VIN# 1FMCU9F60MUA16517 2021 Ford Escape, Reg: 4JFR21 MA. Owner: Stacy Lawson M, 19 Intervale RD, Dudley, MA 01571

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A  
December 29, 2023  
January 5, 2024  
January 12, 2023



# LEGALS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT  
DOCKET NO. 23 SM 004684  
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: The Heirs, Devisees and Legal Representatives of the Estate of Nancy J. Gurney; Jane Braica, Cheryl Steverman, Nancy Anger, Pamela Gurney, Tom Curry, David Gurney, Glenn Gurney

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq): Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Mortgage Assets Management Series I Trust claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 11 Depot Road, given by Nancy J. Gurney to Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, A Subsidiary of IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., dated March 28, 2007, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40929, Page 148, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 02/05/2024 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 12/19/2023.  
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder  
January 12, 2024

TOWN OF DUDLEY  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
71 WEST MAIN STREET, DUDLEY  
MA 01571

Please take notice that: Dawn Goddard Personal Representative to the Estate of Joseph R Goddard Have applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.04.02 Density Requirements  
Location: 4 Charlton Road  
In the following respect: A variance from the 100-foot minimum frontage requirement. They are looking for a reduction of the pre-existing nonconforming frontage from 85 feet to 73 feet.

The Public Hearing will be held on February 1, 2024 @ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be hard relative to this Public Hearing.

Please contact Amanda Jacobson at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma.gov to attend the meeting.

George Slingo, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals  
January 12, 2023  
January 19, 2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO23P4438EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Joseph S. Pauk

Also known as: Joseph Sullivan Pauk  
Date of Death: 11/15/2023

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Brittany P. Pauk Martins of Bedford NH** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

**Brittany P. Pauk Martins of Bedford NH** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your

attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before:

**10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/30/2024.**

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

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

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

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

Date: December 27, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

January 12, 2023

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

DOCKET NO. 23 SM 004712  
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Billie Jean Theriault

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

EMM Loans LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Dudley, numbered 38 Pine Street, given by Billie Jean Theriault to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for E Mortgage Management, LLC D/B/A EMM Financial, its successors and assigns, dated May 18, 2020, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62420, Page 326, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 02/05/2024 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 12/20/2023.  
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder  
January 12, 2023

#### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Jordan Donais** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Nominee for EverBank dated September 7, 2007, recorded at the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41792, Page 32, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement dated April 7, 2016, and recorded in Book 55791 Page 52; said mortgage was then assigned to CitiMortgage, Inc. by virtue of an assignment dated May 25, 2012, and recorded in Book 49090, Page 60; and further assigned to Pretium Mortgage Credit Partners I Loan Acquisition, LP by virtue of an assignment dated December 11, 2015, and recorded in Book 54689, Page 292; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, D/B/A Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust by virtue of an assignment dated January 14, 2016, and recorded in Book 54941, Page 323; and further assigned to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. by virtue of an assignment dated August 22, 2018, and recorded in Book 59679, Page 326; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2018-RPL9 Trust by virtue of an assignment dated

May 10, 2022, and recorded in Book 67635, Page 101; of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION at 10:00 AM on **February 8, 2024**, on the mortgaged premises. This property has the address of 41 Dudley Road, Oxford, MA 01540. The entire mortgaged premises, all and singular, the premises as described in said mortgage:

The land with the buildings thereon of every nature and description and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in said Oxford, being part of Lot #178 Walnut Street, as shown on a Plan of Lots, owned by Leslie J. Chaffee, drawn by Leslie J. Chaffee, Surveyor, dated June 1, 1955 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 210, Plan 68, more specifically described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly line of Dudley Road, at the intersection of Walnut Street; THENCE northeasterly along the easterly line of said Dudley Road ninety-five and five tenths (95.5) feet more or less to a point at Lot #181; THENCE S 47 10' E One hundred six (106) feet more or less by Lot #181 to a point at the northwesterly corner of Lot #176; THENCE S 37 10' W One Hundred (100) feet by Lot #176 to a point on the northerly line of Walnut Street; THENCE N 52 50' W Ninety-four and five tenths (94.5) feet by the northerly line of Walnut Street to a point; THENCE by a curve to the right whose radius is Twenty (20) feet along the line connecting the northerly line of Walnut Street with the easterly line of Dudley Road to the point of beginning. SUBJECT to restrictions in deed to us from John H. Rives et ux, dated 9/28/78, recorded with Worcester County Registry of Deeds at Book 6577, Page 13. For title reference see Book 21913, Page 59.

Subject to and with the benefit of easements, reservation, restrictions, and taking of record, if any, insofar as the same are now in force and applicable. In the event of any typographical error set forth herein in the legal description of the premises, the description as set forth and contained in the mortgage shall control by reference. Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property and all easements, rights, appurtenances, rents, royalties, mineral, oil and gas rights and profits, water rights and stock and all fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. All replacements and additions shall also be covered by this sale.

**Terms of Sale:** Said premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and assessments, tax sales, tax titles and other municipal liens and water or sewer liens and State or County transfer fees, if any there are, and TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) in cashier's or certified check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of the sale as a deposit and the balance in cashier's or certified check will be due in thirty (30) days, at the offices of Doonan, Graves & Longoria, LLC ("DG&L"), time being of the essence. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Dated: December 15, 2023  
Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2018-RPL9 Trust  
By its Attorney DOONAN, GRAVES & LONGORIA, LLC, 100 Cummings Center, Suite 303C, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 921-2670 www.dgandl.com 56862 (DONAIS)  
January 12, 2024  
January 19, 2024  
January 26, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO23P4435GD  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304  
In the matter of:  
**Roy Daniel M. Kiruma**  
Of: **Webster, MA**  
RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has

been filed by **Esther N. Ndangara of Webster, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Roy Daniel M. Kiruma** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Esther N. Ndangara of Webster, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. **You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **01/30/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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

Date: December 25, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman

January 12, 2024

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. WO23P4441 EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Gordon B. Jennings

Date of Death: 07/19/2020

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by

**Dawn L. Jennings of Leicester 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:

**Dawn L. Jennings of Leicester MA** be appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

**10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/30/2024.**

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

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

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

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

December 27, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

January 12, 2024

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## For Legal Advertising Information

### Call 508-909-4127

### email:legals@stonebridgepress.news

# OBITUARIES

## Carole Anne Brozowski, 74



OXFORD – Carole Anne (Vacca) Brozowski, 74, of Burbank Street, died Thursday, December 28, 2023, in her home. She is survived by two sons, Richard Vacca of Oxford, and Peter Brozowski of Oxford, whom she loved and cared for; a brother, Anthony Vacca of Worcester; two sisters, Shirley (Vacca) Pavone and Anna Vacca, both of Worcester; a grandson, Isaac Brozowski; and a niece, Amanda. She was predeceased by a stepson, Michael Brozowski. She was born in Worcester in 1949, daughter of the late Ottavio and Lucy (Ricchuti) Vacca, and moved to Oxford in 1977. The Vacca and Ricchuti family have lived in the Worcester community for over 75 years. Ms. Brozowski was an insurance adjuster at Mapfre/Commer

Insurance in Webster for over 30 years. She loved her dogs, especially her Lhasa Apso, Cuddle; and her Maltese, Fluffy. She was grateful for her wonderful friends, Elaine and Mike Palumbo, Linda and Bill Levie and family, and Lisa Gregoire and Barry.

Mrs. Brozowski was active in the Oxford community. She was a den mother for Cub Scout Pack 147 and was active in school activities. She cheered on the Villager baseball team to victory in the 1981 championship when her sons were on the team.

Services are private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Oxford Animal Shelter, Oxford Animal Shelter, 325 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540, or to Here Today Adopted Tomorrow Animal Sanctuary, P.O. Box 557, Brimfield, MA 01010.

Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

## Mary M Johnson, 98



Mary M Johnson, 98 of Sterling, Ma died on January 2, 2024 at Webster Manor in Webster, MA. Mary has resided in Dudley MA for the last 10 years. Mary was born February 14, 1925 in West Boylston, MA.

She is the daughter of the late Joseph and the late Minnie (Geneva) Salluce. She was predeceased by her husband, Harold J. Johnson.

She is survived by her son: Jon R Johnson and his wife Deborah Johnson of Dudley, MA; and her sister Rose Oliver of West Boylston, MA; Grandson Jon M Johnson of Great Falls VA and Dana R Johnson of Marietta, GA; great grandsons James and Evan Johnson;

several nieces and nephews.

She was employed by Sprage Electric as an Assembler for many years. She enjoyed her family and traveling. Mary and Harold traveled around the country driving everywhere. They were always taking Sunday rides around New England.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11 AM, Saturday February 10, 2024 at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 24 Dudley Hill Rd., Dudley, MA. Burial will in Hillside Cemetery in Sterling at a later date.

To honor Mary's memory, donations can be made to Deus Caritas Est., c/o St. Anthony of Padua, 24 Dudley Hill Rd. Dudley, MA. 01571. Bartel Funeral Home & Chapel 33 Schofield Ave. Dudley is assisting the family with arrangements www.bartelfuneralhome.com

## Joyce Anne Nass, 92



Joyce Anne Nass, 92, of Southbridge, died on December 26th, at Webster Manor after fighting a battle of dementia. She was predeceased by her son, William Nass who died in 2017, and her husband, Donald W. Nass in 2008.

She leaves a daughter, Margaret "Peg" Whitney and her husband, Richard "Dick" of Southbridge; four grandchildren, Christopher Whitney and fiancé, Gabe of Webster; Erica Whitney Jajliardo of Southbridge, Andrew Nass and wife Robbie of Uxbridge and Sara Nass and husband, Curtis of Richmond, VA. Also, she leaves two Great-Grandchildren: Nolan Jajliardo and Mattie Nass.

Joyce (Bailey) Nass was born in Milford, MA in 1931, daughter of the late Samuel W. and Ruth (Herrick) Bailey of Upton, MA. She graduated from the former Grafton High School in 1949 and the Milford Hospital School of Nursing in 1952. She lived in Hopedale and Upton before moving to Southbridge after her graduation in 1953.

Mrs. Nass worked at Harrington Memorial Hospital as a Registered Nurse for 27 years. Later in life, she also worked part time as an RN at the Adult Day Care Center in Southbridge. She was an active member and former trustee of the United Methodist Church in Southbridge and was an auxiliary member of her husband's WWII China, Burma, India Veterans Association of

the Worcester Basha. Most of all, she enjoyed time with her family, while her children were growing up; they camped many weekends & vacations all down the east coast.

Prior to her children, Mrs. Nass had open heart surgery in 1953 in Boston, MA. She was nearly the first patient that had this procedure performed in the area.

As an avid Red Sox fan (learning the sport from her husband), she attended many spring training games in Florida during their traveling days after retiring along with other sites including Alaska, Hawaii, Canada and Europe. She also enjoyed going to the YMCA and playing Bridge with her friends. A special memory of the family is lengthy phone conversations (usually 1 hour) and her playing cards with her Children and Grandchildren.

A service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, January 5, 2024, in the Pickering & Son Upton Funeral Home, 45 Main St. Upton. Burial will follow in Maplewood Cemetery, Upton.

There are no calling hours.

The family wishes to thank the staff of the Webster Manor Nursing Home for their outstanding care given to Joyce for several years. We are also indebted to the several caregivers who helped keep her in her home for several years prior to moving to Webster Manor.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association; 2 Speen St. Framingham, MA 01701.

www.UptonFunerals.com

## Prosper Gadoury, 79



Prosper Gadoury, age 79, of Southbridge died tragically after a pedestrian accident in Southbridge Friday, December 22, 2023, he passed late December 22nd at UMASS Memorial Medical Center -University Campus of Worcester.

Prosper was born August 13, 1944, in Webster, MA. He is the son of the late Edgar and the late Yvonne (Renaud) Gadoury. He is survived by three sisters: Georgette Wegscheid, Yvonne Lubecki and Louise Hebert, and two brothers: Edgar Gadoury and Gerard Gadoury. Many nieces and nephews. Prosper had many friends at St. John

Paul II Parish in Southbridge and has lived the past 15 years in Southbridge. He lived many years in Dudley and enjoyed being a baker at local bakeries before retiring.

A memorial service will be held at 5:30 pm on Friday, January 12, 2024, at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley Calling hours will be Friday, January 12 from 3-6 pm at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA. Burial will be in the spring at Sacred Heart Cemetery in Webster at the family plot.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. John Paul II Parish 446 Main St. Southbridge, MA 01550. His online guest book can be found at www.bartelfuneralhome.com

## Nathan J. Gorczynski, 44



Nathan J. Gorczynski, 44, of Charlton, passed away unexpectedly on December 22nd at UMASS Memorial Medical Center after being stricken ill at home with his mother and father by his

side.

Born in Worcester, and lived most of his life in Dudley and Charlton, Nathan graduated from Shepherd Hill Regional High School in 1997.

He is survived by his father, John A. and his mother, Margo A. (Jenkins) Gorczynski of Dudley; his brother, Steven J. Gorczynski of Avon, Colorado; his partner and soul-mate, Carlee Davis and her son, Joseph Mancini of Charlton, who Nate loved as a son; and his 4-legged children, his four dogs; Kali, Hades, Nemo and Bowie and three cats; Fizz, ZigZag and Mojo. Left to grieve his loss are extended family members that include his aunts and uncles, Carol Nugent, Ted and Pong Gorczynski, Tom and Ginny Jenkins, Ann Jenkins and several cousins. He was predeceased by

his uncle, Jerry Jenkins and grandparents, Charles and Marie Jenkins; Ted and Betty Gorczynski; his uncle Steven Gorczynski who died in 1970.

Nathan was a talented musician who played in various local bands throughout the years but most recently was the base player in "The Tribe". He also co-hosted a podcast with his longtime friend, Dave Schultz. He loved to ski and spent weeks every winter with his brother, Steven in Colorado where he also learned to snow board and ride a "OneWheel". He was a cherished friend to many and invaluable help to his family.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 6th in O'CONNOR BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME, 592 Park Avenue, Worcester, MA.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to Pawsitivity Forever Dog Rescue, 51 Cambridge Avenue, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663 (pawsitivityforever.org) or an Animal Rescue organization of your choice because of Nathan's passion for animals. To leave a memory or message of condolence, please visit www.oconnorbrothers.com.

## Newsweek awards Briarwood #1 Continuing Care Retirement Community in Massachusetts!

WORCESTER — The Briarwood Community- has been awarded on Newsweek's list of America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities 2024. Newsweek and Statista Inc., the world-leading statistics portal and industry ranking provider, present this prestigious award. The awards list was recently announced. The methodology and list can be viewed on Newsweek's Web site.

Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs) offer long-term care options, allowing residents to access higher-level care if medical needs progress. The communities include Independent Living, Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing Care, and Memory Care. To provide people looking for guidance on CCRCs with a comprehensive resource for informed decision-making, Statista and Newsweek have partnered for the first time to award America's Best Continuing Care Retirement Communities 2024.

Briarwood, a not-for-profit community, began in 1984 with cottages and expanded to a CCRC in 1993, building an outstanding reputation as a continuing care retirement community in the West Boylston/ Worcester community. For 40 years, Briarwood has evolved into a community that offers independent living in cottages and apartments, traditional and memory care assisted living, an innovative home companion program, and a CMS 5-star-rated Nursing and rehabilitation center- Knollwood.

Andrew Freilich, Briarwood's Executive Director, stated, "I couldn't be prouder to be part of Briarwood. Our success is a reflection of our outstanding team and an incredible group of residents who enrich our community with their vibrant spirits and diverse life experiences. We're not just a community; we're a family."

There are approximately 2,000 CCRCs in the U.S., which is expected to increase as the population ages. These communities provide programming, amenities, and a continuum of care that adapts to the evolving needs of older adults.

# LEGALS

## LEGALS

continued from page A17

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 7 Coachman Lane, Auburn, MA 01501  
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by George J. O'Connor and Barbara A. O'Connor to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Mackinac Savings Bank, and now held by U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust, said mortgage dated February 9, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40649, Page 269, as affected by a Loan Modification dated May 1, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53865, Page 256; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mackinac Savings Bank to Green Tree Servicing LLC by assignment dated February 12, 2014 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 52042, Page 121; said mortgage was assigned from

Ditech Financial LLC F/K/A Green Tree Servicing LLC to New Residential Mortgage LLC by assignment dated January 2, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 61697, Page 46; said mortgage was assigned from New Residential Mortgage LLC to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust by assignment dated May 20, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 67735, Page 51; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on February 8, 2024 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 shown as Lot 22 on a plan of Cullinan Engineering Co., Inc. dated November 7, 1975, and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 421, Plan 118, and further described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly sideline of Coachman Lane at the most southwesterly corner of the lot to be described, said point also being the northwesterly corner of Lot 23 shown on the above mentioned plan; THENCE N. 18 deg. 06' 34" E. along the easterly side line of Coachman

Lane, a distance of 120.00 feet to a point at Lot 21; THENCE S. 71 deg. 53' 26" E. along Lot 21, a distance of 167.00 feet to a point at other land now or formerly of Gemme Bros. Inc.; THENCE S. 18 deg. 06' 34" W. along other land now or formerly of Gemme Bros. Inc., a distance of 120.00 feet to a point at Lot 23; THENCE N. 71 deg. 53' 26" W. along Lot 23, a distance of 167.00 feet to the point of beginning. THE above described Lot contains 20, 040 square feet, more or less and is subject to a ten (10) foot Drainage Easement as shown on the aforementioned plan. BEING THE SAME PREMISES CONVEYED TO THE MORTGAGORS BY DEED OF GEORGE J. O'CONNOR, BARBARA A. O'CONNOR AND CHERYL WEIL DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2007 AND RECORDED WITH THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS HERewith IN BOOK \_\_\_\_\_, PAGE \_\_\_\_\_.

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 February 9, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District)

Registry of Deeds in Book 40649, Page 266.

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 U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust  
Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 217-8701  
December 29, 2023  
January 5, 2024  
January 12, 2024

**DUDLEY**  
continued from page A1

but felt it wouldn't be fair to proceed unless the audit reviewed the entirety of Dudley's budget including the schools to get a true big picture of the town's expenditures rather than just focusing on the smaller portion of the spending plan in the municipal budget.

"I've said it before, and I'll say it again — I have nothing to hide. I don't think the town has anything to hide. It wasn't our budget. It wasn't the town's spending or budget that triggered this financial crisis. It was the other side of the budget. I'm not saying it wasn't warranted, necessary or needed. I'm not questioning the merits. For a private citizen to run almost a shadow government to come forward and say we're going to challenge the town and let the biggest portion of your tax dollar and financial obligation the town is responsible for not (get audited), it's not fair. It's insulting to the town workers. It's insulting to people like our auditor who comes from the outside and does that job every year," said Sullivan.

Selectman John Marsi agreed saying such an audit would feel incomplete without a full examination of all expenses.

"This board listened, we heard, people want to do it, but we'll have all the information necessary, and people can decide if they want to do that. We have to be comprehensive and look at it wholistically from all the income and expenditures for the town and the schools so we would have to join forces at some point which includes the school committee getting involved," he said.

Some selectmen questioned the potential expense. Board of Selectmen Chair Kerry Cyganiewicz spoke against funding the audit outside the scope of the town budget and seeking more clarity for citizens as to what kind of audit they'd like to perform.

"People want an audit. What kind of audit do you want? Getting this kind of information is probably going to cost \$50,000 to \$100,000 and is it really solving something? I'm not against an audit. For an operational audit, I'd be upset if I paid \$50,000 for that. We need to drill down a little more, find out what we can get, put it in front of the people and let the people say what they want and if they want something like this. I don't think it should come out of free cash or another department's operational budget. I think it should be a town meeting and people vote to pay for it and choose the method of payment. I think if people are paying for it, they'll be more invested in it and they'll get something that they want. Just about anyone will take something for free, but if you're paying for it you pay more attention," said Cyganiewicz.

The Board of Selectmen did not move on the audit request during the December meeting, tabling it for further discussion with the intent of bringing the School Committee to the table for a more in-depth conversation. Both parties are expected to meet for a joint meeting on Feb. 14 which could be the first real opportunity to discuss the matter together in a public forum.

**TSKK**  
continued from page A1

Musical artists Kevin Williams, Matt Brodeur, Brett Talbert, Ron Jones and Tangerine Daydream, and Jared Moore all donated their time to provide entertainment during the Dec. 2 event. The T.S.K.K. continued their toy distribution into the early weeks of December allowing their membership and visitors to their meat raffle to donate goods as well.



A Christmas Tree is surrounded by toys collected during the T.S.K.K.'s toy drive in early December to benefit local police department-led Toys for Tots efforts.

**ROBOTICS**  
continued from page A1

ly. Therefore, they utilized a tactile drawing board to create a library of basic poses and positions that dancers could feel instead of seeing. Then, they shared their project with fellow Saint Joseph School students, dancers, and visually impaired friends.

Following their Qualifier Event on Dec. 10, the team spent more time improving their project which included 3D printing their library to improve durability.

This also made the library easier to sanitize between each use. In addition, they spent time creating a poem to help express how the FIRST Core Values of discovery, innovation, impact, inclusion, teamwork, and fun influenced their time together. Finally, they also visited Aspire Dance Studio in Oxford to continue to share their innovation project.

At both the qualifier and championship events, the team had to present their research and results in a fun and creative manner. Congratulations

to the team for receiving a Judge's Award at the State Championship. The FLL Judges Award is a special recognition given to teams that stand out for reasons other than the core award categories. The award is based on the judges' observations and impressions of the team. During the presentation of this award, it was noted that the team made significant progress in their confidence and capability in both the Robot Game and Innovation Project and are shining examples of excellent Core Values. They demonstrated that they understand

that what they discover is more important than what they win. The judges also noted that the team "danced their way into their hearts."

Team members include 6th grade students Lukas Barbosa, Mychael Jones, Jacob Lopez, and 8th Grade student Emily Macko. Saint Joseph School Principal Beth Boudreau and parent volunteer Mariusz Macko coach the team. Congratulations on your hard work and achievements!

**DUDLEY WOMAN'S CLUB BRINGS HOLIDAY CHEER TO LOCAL FAMILIES**

Courtesy

The Dudley Woman's Club's Annual Veterans Holiday Basket program brought seasonal meals and cheer to 20 local families this year! Starting in 2010, and each year since, DWC members have assembled holiday gift baskets for local Veterans in need. This annual giving project is coordinated with the Dudley Veterans Agent, who identifies those in need and distributes the baskets that hold a complete holiday dinner and pantry foods. This year, DWC club members donated the goods for 20 baskets valued at \$1,626. Thank you to club member Cecile Bernier, who heads up this giving project and to everyone who donated or played a role in making this happen! DWC is open to all women from Dudley and surrounding towns. We provide members with social time, enrichment programs and charitable opportunities in our communities. For more information please visit [www.dudleywomensclub.org](http://www.dudleywomensclub.org).



*Auburn's part in the Revolutionary War*

BY HELEN POIRER  
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUBURN — When it came to answering a call to arms, the men of Auburn, at the time, known as Worcester South Parish later Ward, responded in numbers. This was seen when the news came in about Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775.

A company of Minute Men was formed under the command of Captain John Crowl, with 26 men in all. They joined the company from Oxford being commanded by Col. Ebenezer Learned heading towards Lexington. Along the way, they were told that the British had retreated and so the group changed their destination to Cambridge to meet up with the Continental Army that was being formed. The

commander-in-chief for these armed forces was General Artemas Ward of Shrewsbury, who remained in command until relieved by General George Washington. Not all patriots from the town joined Capt. Crowl, as some joined Captain Timothy Bigelow or Captain Benjamin Flagg from Worcester.

On April 21, 1775, the Provincial Congress drew up plans for an army of eight thousand out of the Massachusetts forces. There would be nine companies to a regiment with each company having a captain, lieutenant, ensign, four sergeants, a fife, a drummer and 50 men. The South Parish men who enlisted on April 24 were under the command of Captain Jonas Hubbard, who had been a 1st lieutenant in Timothy Bigelow's com-

pany. Others joined the regiment of Jonathan Ward who was a colonel and Major Timothy Bigelow. Still others were in either Captain Ephraim Doolittle's regiment or Colonel Thomas Craft's artillery. Some names included: James, Rahan and William Bancroft, David and Israel Stone, Levi Eddy, Darius, and Peter Boyden, James Wiser, and Samuel Clark just to name a few. Enlistment periods were usually three to six months, with each draft drawing four to six men from the town. The enticement for enlisting as offered by the Continental Congress in June 1776 was a bounty of \$10. Then in September the bounty was changed to, non-commissioned officers and privates would get twenty dollars and 100 acres of land,

which was provided by the state. The men were also furnished with arms, clothing and necessities, the cost of the clothing to be deducted from their pay. All went well until June 1778 when the newly renamed town of Ward, after Gen. Artimus Ward, didn't meet its quota for men or equipment and was given a fine for being two men short.

Future articles will detail specific people from the town of Ward and their contribution to the American Revolution. Next month, look for African Americans from town in the American Revolution. These articles are being provided by the Auburn Historical Society and Museum, 41 South St., open Tuesday and Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**BAY PATH ANNOUNCES GRADE 10 HONOR ROLL**

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School congratulates the following students in grade 10 on being named to the honor roll for the first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year.

**High Honors**  
Jacob Archambault, Logan Barriere, Vincent Bedard, David Betancur, Isabella Bitar, Dominic Boyd, Aleah Brink, Samuel Ceppetelli, Charles Congdon, Emily Corey, Jocelyn Evans, Jayla Fowler, Hannah Ingalls, Natalie Ingles, Nicholas Jalbert, Phoebe Lawendowski, Felix Menard, Alexis Messina, Alexis Moody, Gianna Morelli, Tyson Moriarty, Cole Paradis, Jacob Pratt, Kayleigh Ramm, Sawyer

Schultz, Luke Smolski, Gaige Thompson, Gabriel Turcotte, Esmerelda Velez, Ava Wall

**Honors**  
Helena Adkins, Addison Aho, Nicholas Albright, Sarah Amlaw, Violet Aucella, Alexander Audunsson, Victoria Bachand, Emma Baldyga, Arianna Belanger, Emma Berry, Ryan Berthiaume, Edward Blash, Brianna Brink, Lucien Brodeur, Alissa Burlingame, Dimitri Burt, Liam Carlson, Lily Chartier, Hunter Chenevert, Nanthan Coombs, Jacob Creeron, Valentina Culberson, Connor Czechowski, Joseph Daige, Abigail Dejong, Myiah DeLaRosa, Treyton Dery, Cody Dombroski, Savannah

Dubois, Aedan Ellis-Morris, Jayson Everitt, Matthew Falcigno, Yeleana Feliciano, Anika Ferrantino, Ethan Ford, Aiden Giroux-Provencher, Anthony Gonya, Aliyah Gonyea, Airanna Gonzalez, Anna Guay, Isaiah Harris-Harrington, Sadie Hawley, Luke Heller, Kolton Hemenway, Jacoby Henderson, Liam Hesselton, Lillian Horner, Joshua Jeffers, Tabian Keegan, Samuel Kittredge, Cassie Kotomski, Marshall Lafond, Joel Landor, Jomar Landor, Gabrielle Lapan, Miranda Linde, Michael Lulu, Cullen MacLeod, Philipos Makrodimitrias, Ava Mastrototaro, Emily McDonald, Madeline McDonald-Trimby,

Sebastian Moniz, Chase Newman, Liam Nicoll, Sebastian Nieuwenhoff, Benjamin Nocchi, Connor O'Brien, Matthew Obycki, Kelsey Olson, Angelica Padilla, Niti Patel, Landon Pellet, Amari Pereira, Adam Phaneuf, Samuel Prefontaine, Leah Raymond, Grace Retallic, Taylor Richard, Marian Rodriguez Rivera, Vincent Rose, Nathan Rouille Montoya, Nathan Steen, Yandel Torres, Thadeus Tweneboea, Sebastian Vargas, Elias Vega, Natalie Vigeant, Marcanthony Weld, Hunter White, Zaylie Whiteman, Katherine Widebeck, Trey Wilkin, Madison Williamson, Haylee Zurowski

Principal's List

Adriana Alicea, Sarah Appiah Kubi, Megan Bell, Jayden Bernard, William Blash, Riley Boucher, Dominic Brodeur, Victoria Callahan, Thomas Choquet, Frederick Cierpich II, Marianelys Cintron Perez, Aiden Coleman, Hailey Costa, Brody Cunningham, Lorelie Curboy, Samuel Davis, Eliseo Diaz Villegas, Jr., Max Domineck, Christopher Dufresne, Grace Dumas, Genevieve Dupont, Caden Edwards, Mya Federico, Jordan Ferreira, Leia Foster, Zariyah Frechette, Riley Gilmore, Jocelynn Gordon, Molly Grant, Deirdra Holton, Joshua Irons, Jr., Christian Johnson, Zackery Kelleher, Ayden Kennedy, Allison Klar, Kristine

Laflash, Nia Laforest, Zachary Landry, Elyse Laramie, Vincent Latorre, Alyssa Lopez, Mia Lussier, Bradley McCarthy, Cheyenne Mitchell, Kyle Mondor, Klay Monti, Jackson Mullins, Aydan Nanigian, Oskaryna Nunez, Maddox Parente, Mariah Pereira, Jordan Russell, Jaxon Sitko, Ashley Tingle, Gabriela Vazquez Hernandez, Londyn Walker, Ethan Wall, Nash Zimmer

*Editor's note: Due to space limitations, the ninth grade honor roll will be published in next week's edition.*



# Master Masons celebrate 250th anniversary of Boston Tea Party

Hundreds of Master Masons, family and friends walking towards Griffin's Wharf harbor down Milk St. in Boston to watch the reenactment of the Boston tea Party to watch cases of tea being emptied off 2 tea part ships.



Courtesy

Left to right: Brother Clay Tull, Brother Eric Willard, and Brother Sean Leblanc members of the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge. In background you can see one of the tea party ships and people dressed up as British soldiers.



Reenactment of colonist emptying cases of tea into Griffin's Wharf Harbor.

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE  
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Dec. 16, Master Masons of the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge and almost a thousand other Master Masons, gathered in Boston to participate, celebrate, and watch the reenactment of the 1773 Boston Tea Party. These Master Masons, wearing commemorative white aprons, along with family and friends walked down Milk Street in Boston heading to Griffin's Wharf, located at the Boston Harbor for the ceremony at the tea party ships to watch the colonists' dumping cases of tea overboard in defiance of the British Government.

Here is a little history summary of The Boston Tea Party. It was a political protest that occurred on Dec. 16, 1773, at Griffin's Wharf in Boston Harbor. American Colonists disguised as Native Americans were frustrated and angry at the Britain for imposing "taxation without representation." A total of 342 chests of teas, imported by the British East India Company was dumped into the harbor. The Boston Tea Party was executed by the Sons of Liberty. The Sons of Liberty was a group of colonial merchants and tradesmen. It was founded to protest the Stamp Act and other forms of taxation by the British Government back in 1773. Among its members were Massachusetts Freemasons such as John Hancock, Paul Revere, Isaiah Thomas, and Joseph Warren to mention a few. If you are a history enthusiast, go to History.com Editors Archives and search the Boston Tea Party. There is so much information about this historic event and how Freemasonry helped make this country what it is today. If you would like more information about Freemasonry and to find a lodge nearest you, visit our website at [www.massfreemasonry.org](http://www.massfreemasonry.org).

## Molly Starczewski of Dudley named to Provost's List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Molly Starczewski of Dudley achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Spring 2023 semester, earning a spot on the Provost's List at Hofstra University. Molly's major is Dance.

Hofstra University is a dynamic community of nearly 11,000 students dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers. Students can choose from approximately 175 undergraduate program options and 200 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.

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