

Auburn News

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Friday, December 6, 2024

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Webster Middle School teacher honored at STEM conference



WEBSTER — Kate Berti, one of Webster Middle School's STEM teachers, has been awarded the Massachusetts Project Lead the Way

Rookie of the Year Bright Light Teaching Award. This was a surprise to Berti when she received her award at the Massachusetts STEM

conference. Her award puts her in the running for the nation's STEM award.

Berti's nominators offered that she is "... an active participant in community events and bringing creativity and excitement to the new Automation and Robotics curriculum. Her student projects are exemplary and are a testament to her dedication and delivery of quality STEM education."

While Berti is not a rookie teacher, this is the first year of full Project Lead the Way (PLTW) implementation at Webster Middle School.

PLTW has been well underway at Bartlett High School. The middle school team explored

bringing in Project Lead the Way, the nation's leader in STEM curricula, with the intention of creating a pathway of project based instruction from pre-K to 12 for both Engineering and

Biomedical Sciences. WMS began rolling out immersive learning experiences in Automation and Robotics, Computer Science, and Green Architecture last year. This year, the program was expanded to include an advanced course in App Creation. Throughout their coursework, students work with high quality materials to propose solutions to real-world problems.

Last year in Boston at the PLTW showcase, the Webster Middle School robotics students

received the highest praise while interacting with industry professionals. Berti invites parents and community members, particularly those with jobs that align with the Pathways, to offer working suggestions and conversations for her students. Her classroom is always abuzz with thinking and processing.

Berti hopes that

Webster Public Schools will eventually complete the Pathway by begin-

ning PLTW at the elementary level.



Join the Very Merry Dickens Carolers at Samuel Slater Experience Dec. 8



WEBSTER — The Very Merry Dickens Carolers will bring the music of the holiday season to the Samuel Slater Experience museum on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 5 p.m.

A professional group of a cappella singers, the Very Merry Dickens Carolers look the part in period costumes. Their repertoire of four-part harmony features a variety of styles, including traditional, swing, and

jazz. Holiday refreshments are included in the price of admission.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://samuel Slater Experience.org>, by phone at 508-461-2955, or at the box office during regular open hours. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Come spend a little time indulging in the holiday spirit on Webster's

recreated "Main Street" at the Samuel Slater Experience museum, 31 Ray St., Webster.

This event is sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council as part of its festival grant program.

About Samuel Slater Experience Samuel Slater Experience opened in 2022 to tell the story of Samuel Slater, the begin-

nings of the American Industrial Revolution, and Slater's impact on mill towns such as Webster, Massachusetts. The museum uses advanced digital technology with immersive video and interactive exhibits to recreate two time periods: the early 1800s and the early 1900s. For more information and tickets, visit www.samuel Slater Experience.org.

Holidays bring early deadlines

Along with merriment and good cheer, the holiday season brings with it an accelerated press schedule for our next few editions.

The submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication in our Dec. 13 edition will be Monday, Dec. 9 at 4 p.m., as usual.

For the following week (Dec. 20), the submission deadline will be Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m.

For the Dec. 27 edition, the deadline will be Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m.

For the Jan. 3 edition, the deadline will be Friday, Dec. 20 at 4 p.m.

Please note that our offices will be closed Dec. 23-25 in observance of Christmas and Dec. 30-Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's.

Shepherd Hill hosts 32nd Festival of Crafts

DUDLEY — More than 200 vendors participated in Shepherd Hill Regional

High Schools annual holiday kickoff event on Nov. 23, the Festival of Crafts. For the 32nd year the

event served to help start the holiday shopping season with crafters spread throughout the halls and

gym of the high school continuing a tradition for

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Carmen and her mother Juliana traveled from Stafford Springs, Conn. to enjoy the Festival of Crafts, an annual tradition for the pair.



Student volunteers pose for a photo between shifts, complete with holiday spirit.

Jason Bleau

SHEPHERD HILL ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

DUDLEY — Shepherd Hill Regional High School has released its honor roll for the first term of the 2024-2025

school year.
Grade 12
First Honors: Ryan Choinski,

Izabella Lorente, Lily Durda, Nolan McGonagle, Brendan Moran, Caroline Freeman, Anthony Avoglia, Rosalie Knowlton, Jonathan Vitkus, Hannah Roberts, Jacob Reed, Trinity Gosselin, Timothy Krynski, Hannah Phillion, Donovan Ennis, Kam Iwanski, Amber Quadarella, Sadie Mae Nobert, Alexis Warren, Ashley Dickhaut, Fiona Duke, Liam Burke, Sophia Sparhawk, Ava Pederson, Mara Weber, Dakota Dancause, Jackson Checkosky, Collin Moody, Aidan Hachey, Robert Jadczak, Jillian Terlizzi, Nicholas Ramsey, Michael Doktor, John Shields, Rachael Ciani, Maggie Montville, Thomas Hennessey, Isabella Kalmin, Colin Resener, Connor Fox, Alexis Leoni, Sarah Jalbert, Julianna Croteau, Jeffrey Popsui, Kaitlyn Maklary, Owen Reece, Brady Holden, Piotr Namera, Nathaniel Nocchi, Shawn Sulkoski, Olivia Cronauer, Scott Lehmann, Nathan Karalus, Ryan Jaworski, Madison Rizzo, Jaiden Brooks, Jonathan Hutchinson, Sophina Zacek, Jacob Wojcicki, Marye Gaffney, Madison Bergeron, Lucas Soto, Isabel Poplawski, Evan Beaudette, Damian Burgos, Rose Bell, Sean Tyrrell, Isabella Piasta, Ella Doering, Maya Podskarbi, Sabrina Krementsov, Jacob Godoy, Ava Simon, Mekhi Blanc, Isaiah Giblin

Brianna Jankowski, Nina Julian, Liam Kay, William King, Brenna Kinnes, Joseph Kustigian, Andrew Lancette, Sadie Landrum, Paige Leone, Riley Lepage, Paul Mankarios, Danika Marcotte, Sierra McCloud, Natalie Megas, Isabella Mello, Sarah Miller, Xavier Mojica, Kate Moran, Sophia Nassar, Brianna Ndegwa, Jayden Njoroge, Samantha Norberg, Jack Orrell, Logan Pecore, Hayley Phommala, Ella Pinto, Jacob Ramsey, Valentine Reddick, Jake Rousseau, Devin Rowden, Adam Rydlak, Maxwell Sanchez, Sarah Starczewski, Emily Staruk, Kaitlyn Sullivan, Madison Tessier, Meghan Traverso, Lucilla Tryba, Chase Vangel, Emily Walker, Adrienne Warner, Max Waron, Alexa Zannotti, Matthew Zdrok

Onyekwere, Korina Paliyannis, Kayla Paquette, Ruby Paradis, Jamison Paradise, Elyse Peculis, Gabriela Pianka, Elyse Resener, Violet Romanelli, Ike Rudnicki, Jean Paul Salem, Natalie Smith, Dylan Snow, Ethan Steriti, Lillian Terry, Julia Williams, Olivia Williams, June Young

Second Honors: Preston Enberg, Jordan Warren, Alex Zurawski, Emma Kokocinski, Raine LaVoie, Dylan MacCormack, Thomas Ide, Abigail LaFleche, Layla Macharia, Lyla Harrison, Marcelle Wall, Madelyn Carpenter, Cadence Duval, Nathan Dion, Travis Breault, Shayley Szela, Jayden Miglionico, Grecibel Arboleda, Lilianna Latino, Emma Comforti, George Khalif, Mia Ferris, Finn Santora, Aiden Muchiru

Recognition: Elijah Emond, Elijah Garcia, Avianna Gauvin, Emerson Bernard, Benjamin Vitkus, Celia Ares, Alianna Johnston, Olivia Pecyna, Olivia Fournier, Lilly Kavorkian, Skyler Poole, Matthew Gale, Burrell Sturte, Tyler Bushman, Noah Stevens, Cameron Brockway, Ethan Straw, Kaylin Marsh, Christopher Snow, Evan Remillared, Liam O'Shea, Rangeley St. John, Jonathan Barrows, Bryce Hannagan, Kennedy Davis, Kyle Goodspeed, Jaelyn Mason, Andrew Khalil, Alexander Croteau, Isabella Falzone Juarez, Marissa Boutiette, Khloey Fongeaillaz, Madelynn Doucette, Chloe Tuttle, Jaylee Ortiz

Grade 9
First Honors: Madison Boggio, Zoey Boland, Britney Carvalho, Lily Faucher, Alyssa Grammer, Chopper Hills, Laura Ibrahim, Amal Joudi, Ariana Jurski, Olivia Kac, Stephanie Krynski, Brayden Kulchy, Matthew Miller, Jariel Morales-Diaz, Mikhail Namera, Trueness Onyekwere, Maebh Pinto, Ava Rheaume, Ella Robbins, Philopater Salib, Magdalena Wood

Second Honors: Christopher Crowley, Avery Walker, Ryan Westbury, Kyrillos Ayoub, Sophia Lindberg, Jackson Duval, Graham Zimmer, Paige Walker, Ryan Mason, Brayden O'Neill, Dylan Rowden, Rydyr Finlay, Troy Gardner, Brayden Berube, Agia Guoda, Adiran Ramos-Gonzalez

Recognition: Eloise Thomas, Aiden Wilk, Madelyn Lotter, Mayah Phillion, Brayden Dancause, Shannon Kelly, Zynata Twumasi Ankrah, Lilliana Diaz, Khristian Plymouth, Nolan Lajoie, Brody Rose, Jonathan Gauvin, Tyler Koszewski, Colt Moroz, Damian Torres, Felix Wierbik, Braedon Hirtz, Joshua Legier, Keagan Fricchione, Lily Arsenault, John Arsenault, Collin Brazeau, Aleksa Kruszewski, Aiden Young, Kyn Phommachanh, Alexys Rodriguez, Augusto Medola, Muriel Amponsah, Jeiralisse Almanzar, Lily Gastogiannis, Maria Clara Anjos Cabidelli

Second Honors: Christopher Boyd, Grace Deslisle, Chase Bourasa, Alanna Kelly, Domadious Tawadrous, Jacob Shook, Anthony Desto, Lily Falke, Sarah Gelardi, Aiden Casamassa, Maximous Tawadrous, Harrison Jordanoglu, Delaney Rose, Emma Gasco, David Breault, Sawyer Ayotte, Prince Dorbor, Bishroy Ibrahim, Jaden Ingraham, Ashtyn Bennett, Harrison Balko, Dominik Duby, Elizabeth Mahler, Meghan Stevens

Recognition: Phyll Hardy, Alexa Erickson, Courtney Lolax, Brody Barsalou, Jessica Marsi, Brianna Hicks, Charli Easton, Nathan Nguyen, Colleen Thomas, Christian Paquin, Kasey Blanchette, Brooklyn Page, Nicholas Fry, Kellen Chumsantivut, Michael Wassef, Jeffrey Martel, Adam Houle, Hazel Rucci, Madison McNamara, Gianna Cariglia, Edward Ermlick, Aidan Dean, Brianna Duffy, McKenzie Duffy, Merolla Khalil, Adriana Guoda, Isabelle Walker-Baldwin, Christopher Harding, Tamiyah Christian, Julian Rivera, Dominik Gielarowiec, Jordan Rousey

Grade 10
First Honors: Joya Adib, Jean Sebastian Bardier, Colden Blackwell, Hannah Boudreau, Daniel Burgos, Jillian Clarke, Cailyn Daniel, Samara Doane, Addison Dono, Sinead Ennis, Addison Foster, Julia Gard, Carter Gendron, Erin Gormley, Sophia Grammer, Sara Hennigan, Lillian Heybeck, Aubrey Izzo, Olivia Jankowski, Sebastian Janusz, Ashley Jerome, Brandon Jerome, Nazih Joudi, Isaac Kaminski, Thomas Kennan, Evan LePage, Trenten Lorenzen, Samantha Mahan, Garrett McLaughlin, Jillian Moran, Marcus Muchiru, Elaina Nelson, Owen Obara, Steadfastness

PET of the WEEK



Izzy, 2 Years

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59													
62													

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Bar bills
 - Recipe measurement (abbr.)
 - Swiss river
 - Czech Republic capital
 - "Officially known as"
 - A French abbot
 - Having a strong sharp smell or taste
 - Local area network
 - Data transmission speed measure
 - Embarrass
 - When you hope to get there
 - This (Spanish)
 - Gives up
 - Churchgoer
 - Current
 - Slang for gun
 - Small drum
 - Vanished union bigwig
 - Rocker's tool of the trade
 - Dearth
 - 2024 Olympics host
 - Excess blood in the vessels
 - Afrikaans
 - Agreement between provider and customer
 - Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
 - Ancient Syrian city
 - Witch
 - Celebrations
 - Long period of time
 - A team's best pitcher
 - Current unit
 - One-time aerospace company
 - French/Belgian river
 - Swedish rock group

- CLUES DOWN**
- Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
 - Genus of clams
 - Remark
 - Actor LaBeouf
 - Ohio town
 - Olympic sport
 - Cure
 - Behave in a way that belittles
 - Shares a boundary with
 - Give advice
 - Promotional materials
 - Assist or encourage, usually in some wrongdoing
 - "Agatha All Along" actress Kathryn
 - Small piece
 - King of Camelot
 - Parts per thousand (abbr.)
 - Small Milky Way constellation
 - One who challenges authority (abbr.)
 - Equal (prefix)
 - Shawl
 - S. American wood sorrel relative
 - The end
 - Supervises interstate commerce
 - Yes vote
 - Officer of high rank
 - Church office
 - Tire pressure measurement
 - From a distance
 - Photographs
 - Industrial process
 - Nobel Prize-winning physicist
 - Map out
 - Mammary gland part of female mammal
 - Honorable title (Turkish)
 - Spongelike cake leavened with yeast
 - Speak incessantly
 - Poetry term
 - Relaxing space

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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Courtesy

The Dudley Woman's Club's December club meeting and holiday celebration will be held at the Dudley Municipal Complex on Thursday, Dec. 12. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. Caroling, games and lots of laughs will fill the night! You won't want to miss this festive meeting! Our voluntary giving project is travel size hygiene products for seniors in assisting living. DWC is open to all women from Dudley and surrounding towns. Please consider joining us at this or any of our club events. We wish everyone a peaceful and joyous holiday! For more information, please visit www.dudleywomensclub.org.

Bay Path Academy Director attends 60th Anniversary Civil Rights Celebration



Courtesy

Joseph and Gretheline Bolandrina at The Embrace Boston.

BOSTON — Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN of Athol (formerly of Dudley and Douglas), Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy in Charlton, was joined by her husband, Joseph Bolandrina, at the “We Still CARE- 60th Anniversary Civil Rights Celebration at the Embrace Monument, Boston Common. The mission of the Embrace Boston is “to dismantle structural racism through our work at the intersection of arts and culture, community, and research and policy” and the vision is “a radically inclusive and equitable Boston where everyone belongs and Black people prosper, grounded in joy, love, and well-being.” <https://www.embraceboston.org/>

At the 60th Anniversary Civil Rights Celebration members of the academic community came together to honor the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement and celebrate the progress made. The in-person event featured inspiring speakers, live music, and community activities such as mural painting. Attendees brought pairs of slightly used shoes for the symbolic Civil Rights march. The event allowed for opportunity to reflect on history and continue the fight for equality and justice.

The Coalition for Anti-Racism and

Equity (CARE) hosted the 60th Anniversary Civil Rights Celebration.

According to Bolandrina, “It was inspiring and an honor to attend and reflect.”

It is worth acknowledging the work that still lies ahead.

She adds, “I am grateful to have met State Representative Tara Hong and Jasmin Rivas, CARE Program Director in person. She invited us to CARE.”

CARE - the Coalition for Anti-racism and Equity is a 501(c)(3) state member-driven nonprofit in the state of Massachusetts <https://www.care4equity.org/>. CARE is committed to fostering social justice and equity in education. CARE works to empower students, educators, and communities by advocating for systemic change, promoting diversity, and creating opportunities for under-represented voices to lead and thrive. CARE supports “educators of all forms—teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators—in uniting across the commonwealth to share experiences that will inform the legislative process around anti-racism in the education system.” CARE values the voice of education professionals and believes engaging in statewide conversations are vital in decision-making.

Massachusetts State Representative Tara Thorn Hong of the 18th Middlesex District who spoke at the event shared that he is “grateful for the uplifting speakers especially from all of the young people that are part of team who put all of this together!”

He added, “Let us keep the work going to build better and safer future for all!”

Criminal Expungement Services

If you have previously been convicted of a marijuana/cannabis related offense, you may be eligible to have these charges expunged for free.

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Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle! Do you want to be the first to know about events happening at the Library? Check out our event calendar at www.crawfordlibrary.org or sign up for our eNews letter by calling 508-949-8021.
LIBRARY CLOSED:
Wednesday, December 25
Wednesday, January 1

Gentle Yoga
Mondays in December
10:00-11:00 AM
Join our new yoga instructor Patricia, for a traditional "on the mat" yoga class with chair yoga modifications. This truly is a one size fits all class. Patricia will be there to help with all your needs

Bring your own mat. Wear layers, do not eat heavily 1.5-2 hours before class. Registration is Required.

Movies @ The Pearle!!
Tuesdays in December at 1:00
December 3: Blink Twice
December 10: The Holiday
December 17: The Family Man
No registration required.

Bemis Farms Nursery
Red Candle Centerpiece
Thursday, December 5
3:00-4:00 and 4:30-6:00
Kick off the season with Bemis Farms Nursery
Join us to make a red candle centerpiece filled with evergreens, berries and much more! This will definitely get you in the holiday spirit!
Class is limited to 20 people. Ages 17+ only.
Registration Required.

Crafternoons With Lena
Book Stack
Wednesday, December 4
2:00-3:00
Spend the afternoon with our experienced and enthusiastic instructor, Lena. You'll leave with a one-of-a-kind creation to enjoy!
Registration required.

Once Upon A Crime Book Club
If I Did It
Friday, December 6
11:00-12:00
Adult Reading Area
Do you have a passion for true crime and examining the details of each case? This book club is for you!
The "Once Upon A Crime Book Club" meets the first Friday of every month in the adult reading area.
All books will be pre-ordered and available for pick up at the circulation desk.

Picking Parlor Jam
a "mostly" Bluegrass Focused Jam Session
Saturday, December 7
10:00-12:00 in the Fels Community Room
This is an unplugged acoustic jam.
All talent levels welcome...beginners on up!
Don't want to play? No problem, listeners are welcome too!

Pearle's Holiday

Jewelry Sale
Saturday, December 7
10:00-1:00
We are liquidating our Baubles and Bling inventory...Shop for your Mom, Sister, Aunt, Grandmother or anyone else who loves jewelry!
Great for kids who want to pick out a special gift. Volunteers will be available to help young shoppers & there will be a gift wrap station too!
All items are \$2, \$3, or \$5.
Proceeds go to the Friends of the Library.

The Boston Freedom Trail
Thursday, December 12 @ 6:00
Join local historian, Eric Spahl to learn all about the Boston Freedom Trail. This program depicts the 16 designated landmarks along the 2.6-mile trail and the amazing local history surrounding them.
The presentation will also include videos, photos, music, and narratives.

Community Yoga with Erin
Saturday, December 21
10:00-11:00
Traditional "on the mat" yoga class with 15 minute relaxation at the end. Bring your own mat. Wear layers, do not eat heavily 1.5-2 hours before class.
No registration required

Crawford Library Book Group
Thursday, December 26
6:00-7:30
Book: The Paris Wife
Author: Paula McLain
Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout
one month prior to discussion. No registration required.

Mahjong at the Pearle
Every Wednesday in November
10:00-12:30 Fels Community Room
The game consists of players competing to form distinct sets or pairs of tiles, similar to gin rummy.
Everyone welcome, registration not required.

Quilting Group
Wednesdays @ 1:30
Are you a quilter? Would you like to learn how to be one?
All skill levels are welcome to this informal group.
Bring your projects and join the fun! No registration required.

Knit & Crochet Group
Thursday 5:30-7:30 and Friday 10:00-12:00
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group.
Bring your project, enjoy the company!

Dungeons & Dragons Game
Thursdays, 6:00-7:30
Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama?
Come play the world's number one role playing game.
This program geared towards kid and teens that are looking to learn more about playing and some short adventures!

Storytimes at the Pearle
10:00-10:45
Tuesday-Pre-K Power (best for ages 3-5)
Wednesday-Toddler Time (best for ages 0-2.5)
Friday-Open Baby Play (best for ages 0-12 months-pre-walkers)
Registration not required, siblings always welcome!

Deb's Sing and Swing
Friday, December 13
10:30-11:15 AM
Pre-K Music & Movement offers a 45 minute interactive program featuring singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms. These

2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880
Library Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Wed: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Fri: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!
Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Program Coordinator Randa Cox at rcox@cwmmars.org.

Adult Programming
YOGA - Saturday: December 14th, 21st, & 28th 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.

FRIENDS CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS: Hot Flashes -- December 12th at 6:30 PM

The Hot Flashes are an exciting and eclectic group fronted by three female vocalists who have made a name for themselves on the New England music scene showcasing their tight vocal harmonies and jazzy acoustic stylings. The Flashes are Amy Gallatin, who with her expressive soulful singing has made a name for herself both in North America and overseas, award-winning singer-songwriter/guitarist Gail Wade, and multi-instrumentalist Peggy Harvey, founding member of the legendary bluegrass group Traver Hollow. Backed by the solid chops of mandolinist JD Williams, Dobro veteran Roger Williams—both from Gallatin's band Stillwater's--and bassist John Urbanik, the instrumentation also includes the occasional clawhammer banjo. As a group these six veteran musicians meld their collective experiences, voices and instruments

programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!
Registration Required.

Guest Reader Story Times
Monday, December 9, 6:00:
Steve Sullivan "Sully"

Graphic Novel Book Club
Thursday, December 12
6:00-6:45
Do you love graphic novels? Join us for Graphic Novel Book Club! Each month we will meet to discuss the graphic novel of the month. Copies of the book will be located at the circulation desk in the Children's Room. Best for ages 8 and up.

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

into a unique and rousing musical experience as the three women fuse their distinct voices into one soaring, harmonious musical element.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP—
December 16th at 6:30 PM
The Group will be discussing The Wager by David Grann. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880, or by email to rcox@cwmmars.org for inquiries.

COOKBOOK CLUB---
December 10th at 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 least favorite things of the cooking adventure.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT---
December 17th at 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!

Library for All: A drop-in event for Teens & Adults with Developmental Disabilities Mondays in December at 9:00 AM
This program is for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please call ahead if special accommodations or requirements are needed. We are happy to accommodate! Sensory Bins: 12/2/24
Craft Program: 12/9/24
Chair Yoga:

The Nest: Starting and Growing a Business--
The SBA Advantage---
December 16th at 6:00 PM
Are you thinking of starting a business? Do you need small business assistance? The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) can help! Join Shelly Gillis, Outreach and Marketing Specialist with the Small Business Administration in the Massachusetts District Office, to learn how these services can work for you. This workshop aims to provide you with a better understanding of the various programs and services offered by the

Registration not required. This is not a drop off program.

Pokemon Club
Thursday, December 19
6:00-6:45
Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon club! Each month we will have exciting crafts and activities! Best for ages 6 and up.
Registration not required. This is not a drop off program.

Open Game Play with VR with One Up Games!
Friday, December 27
12:00-3:00
Love VR? Come join the fun with One Up Games and play all the popular games (with a mixture of classic and retro games) with next-

gen consoles and gaming monitors! You'll have the freedom to move to any system and play any game! This program is for ages 8 and up. Registration is required as space is limited.

How to Draw Pokemon Workshop
Monday, December 30
1:00-2:30 PM
Learn how to draw your favorite Pokemon characters at this fun and interactive workshop with Pop Up Art School! Best for ages 7-12, this program will have fun Pokemon trivia during the lesson as well. Registration is required as space is limited.

SBA that are available to prospective or current entrepreneurs who need assistance in starting or expanding their businesses.
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.

TAKE AND MAKE CRAFT-- All month long
Take and Make craft kids are now available for pick up upstairs in the Children's Room. Each month will feature a different craft to create and instructions will be provided with the supplies. New Take and Make kits will be available for pick up on the 1st of every month, while supplies last, and are limited to one per patron.

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!

Me and My Mini: December 12th, & 19th at 10:00 AM
A 45-minute creative movement group for ages birth through 2.5 with a grown-up. Group is focused on adult and baby spending quality time together, fostering attachment, and baby interacting with others their age. Get groovy to upbeat music with props, instruments, and a story. Adult participation is required and 1-2 children per adult is recommended.

MUSIC TOGETHER---
December 14th, 21st and 28th at 11:15 AM
A music and movement program available to children from birth to age 6 and their families based upon on-going scientific research, and designed to help nurture children's musical, cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. Classes include singing and dancing. The program brings families together by providing a rich musical environment in the classroom and by promoting and facilitating adult participation.

KIM THE LEGO LADY: December 17th at 4:00 PM
Do you love building, creating, and having fun with LEGO? Look no further! Our brand-new LEGO Club is launching, and we want YOU to be part of the adventure. Join us for interactive building challenges, new skills and create fabulous imaginative builds. For ages 5 to 11.

Tuesday December 10th at 3:30 PM
Love building? This revamped program invites kids to explore their creativity with magnet tiles, wooden blocks, hollow blocks, LEGO, and more

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.

OPEN PLAY TIME ADVENTURE--- Fridays at 10:00 AM
Kids 0 to 6 are invited to get their wiggles out with weekly obstacle course and fun.
Sensory Bin Storytime: Dinosaurs--- Tuesday at 10:00 AM

Come join us for a fun filled Storytime as we read together and then let our imaginations fly through different sensory bin activities. Each week will offer a different theme exploration related to the books and bins provided. Perfect for ages 2-5. Siblings are welcome to join.

W E D N E S D A Y STUFFED ANIMAL S T O R Y T I M E - - - -
December 11th and 18th at 10:00 AM
Join Andrew the Youth Services Librarian for a few of his favorite stories, felt story fun, and some free play. For ages 0-3.

STUFFED ANIMAL CREATION (two sessions) December 7th at 10:30(Snow Monster) & 11:30(Owl)
Settle in for a story or two before you get the chance to make your very own stuffed animal! Please only sign up for one of the two sessions to allow for others to get a chance at participating in this program.

DECEMBER WINTER CRAFT SERIES: Cookie Decorating Party (2 Sessions) December 9th 3:30-4:15 and 4:30-5:15 PM
Who doesn't love cookies and hot chocolate on a cold winter day? Join us for the opportunity to decorate some cookies and sip on hot cocoa. Space is limited and will be held in two sessions. Please register in advance for only one session. PJs are encouraged! Registration for this event opens Monday, November 25 at 9:00 AM.

WINTER CRAFT SERIES: SNOW GLOBES: December 16th at 3:30 PM
Join us for a festive craft this winter season. Bring your own jar or use one of ours to make your own Snow Globe! We'll have all the glitter and figurines you'll need to create this magical toy. For all ages with adult supervision.

MINI BLOCK PARTY



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WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

Senior Center hours are Monday- Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., with every first Thursday 9 a.m.- 7 p.m.

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 may also join our email list to view our newsletter online. You do not have to be a resident of Webster to participate in our activities and programs. ALL Seniors are welcome!

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least forty-eight hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk,

bread, and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday, 12/10, Teriyaki Beef, steamed rice, broccoli. Wednesday, 12/11, Chicken Milano, wild rice, spinach. Thursday, 12/12, Salisbury Steak w/ gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, peas and carrots. Friday, 12/13, Soup du Jour, Roast Beef Sandwich, macaroni salad.

Come on in and enjoy our SOUP SOCIAL on Monday, December 9th @ 11:30 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center, or call 508-949-3845.

Join us for our ICE CREAM SOCIAL on Thursday, December 19th @ 12:00 pm.

FREE Blood Pressure Screening at the Senior Center on Friday, December 20th 9:30 am- 11:30 am. No appointments necessary.

Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available

Mondays- Fridays 8:30 am- 3:00 pm.

FUEL ASSISTANCE is returning to the Senior Center. As of Thursday, November 7th, WCAC will be here every other Thursday from 9:30 am- 2:30 pm. Please call WCAC for an appointment 508-754-1176.

A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Webster Senior Center. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.

A representative from Mass Advantage will be available at the Senior Center on Thursday, December 5th @ 10:00am. Stop by to learn about the 2025 Mass Advantage Plan options. For accommodations of person with special needs at meetings, call 508-949-3845. TTY:771.

Come on down to the Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center! Call 508-341-8724 for an appointment. Bomba Beauty Salon is

open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am- 1:00 pm, and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

We are now offering MOVIE MATINEES every Wednesday at 1:00 pm! Popcorn is provided. No registration needed. The movie for December 11th is That Darn Cat, and December 18th is Die Hard.

The first Thursday of every month we will be open until 7:00 pm with entertainment starting at 5:45 pm. December 5th we will be making burlap mesh poinsettia wreaths. This event is full.

Chair Dancing Exercise classes with Forty Arroyo are the perfect workout

for any fitness ability! The cost is a recommended \$3.00 donation per class. Classes are on Mondays, and Wednesdays at 9:30 am.

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

Bingo is every Tuesday and 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.

Do you like to play Cribbage? Our weekly Cribbage group 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 six-card or thirteen-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 at (508) 949-3845, if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you.

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. This is at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.

OXFORD SENIOR CENTER

323 Main St.
(508) 987-6000
Laura Wilson, Director

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

Email: seniorcenter@oxfordma.us

Website: www.oxfordma.us

Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center

*The Oxford Senior Center will be CLOSING at 12:00pm on December 24th and will be CLOSED on December 25th. Happy Holidays!

Lunches are served on Tuesdays and Fridays, prepared by our own in-house cook! Please call at least 48 hours in advance to reserve a lunch or come in and sign up. We offer DINE IN for \$5.00 and TAKEOUT for \$6.00.

Weekly Activities:
Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 am - Cribbage

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

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

Tuesdays and Wednesdays @ 10:00am - Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint)

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

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

Thursdays @ 10:00 am - Dominoes

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

Blood Pressure Clinic - 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 11:00am

Men's Coffee Group -

2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30am - coffee and pastry are served.

Tri-Valley Inc. Options Counseling - 3rd Tuesday of each month from 12:30pm - 2:30pm. By appointment.

SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) - 3rd Wednesday of each month. By appointment.

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

Movie Matinee - 2nd Friday of each month @ 12:45

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

Need help completing paperwork? Fuel Assistance, MassHealth applications or re-certifications, SNAP etc., we can help. Call us @ 508-987-6000 to make an appointment.

Country Bank partners with Wonderfund with \$10,000 donation during Season of Difference campaign

REGION — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, partnered with the Wonderfund of Massachusetts, with a \$10,000 donation. This collaboration will make a difference in the lives of kids and teens served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), allowing them to experience the magic of childhood during the holiday season. The Wonderfund, an extraordinary group of people on a mission, is dedicated to bringing the joy and meaning of childhood to children who have been impacted by trauma, abuse, and neglect.

You, too, can be a part of this magical initiative. Join the Wonderfund and Country Bank in making this holiday season special for kids in foster care by donating a new, unwrapped gift at any of its banking centers until Dec. 14. Your contribution, no matter how small, will make a difference. Country Bank's team will shop for gifts to join in the efforts, and donations will be delivered to DCF Offices in Springfield and Worcester to be distributed throughout western and central Massachusetts.

"We are excited to partner with the Wonderfund again this year and the opportunity for our team and the communities we serve help us make a difference for children by putting a smile on so many faces this holiday season," said Shelley Regin, Chief Marketing and Community Relations Officer at Country Bank. "Last year, we had such overwhelming support and collectively, we donated over a thousand toys to local DCF offices who shared with us, without your donations most children would have only received one toy."

If you're ready to help make some magic this holiday season, please visit <https://wonderfundma.org>. Your support is invaluable and will bring joy to children in foster care.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$700,000, 28 Sharon Ave, Shaw Development Inc, to Maxim, Christopher, and Maxim, Lindsay

\$651,000, 8 Pakachoag Xing, Coleman, Edward J, to Nguyen, Joseph, and Nguyen, Krystal.

\$505,000, 3 Arlington St, Parker, Shannon, to Oleary, Maureen T.

\$464,500, 7 Upland St, Millett, Sylvia R, to Hercyk, Neta, and Hercyk, John.

\$285,000, 156 Boyce St, Pepka, Mary L, to Katsiaounis, Georgios.

DUDLEY

\$520,000, 5 Daniels St, Marcano, Natashia O, to Stockhaus, Sean L, and Fulone, Spencer B.

\$439,999, 40 Brentwood Dr, Brazeau, Nicholas, to Mard, Larame, and Seeley, Bonnie.

\$390,000, 20 Dudley Hill Rd, Ford, Joshua, and Ford, Rhiannon, to Cote, Jacob, and Cote, Jordyn.

\$385,000, 18 George St, Lamoureux, Norman R, and Lamoureux, Nancy L, to Elvira, Cesar A.

\$100,000, Noble St, Depot Road Charlton LLC, to Champagne 3rd, Victor K, and Champagne, Johanna L.

\$50,000, 239 Ramshorn Rd, Robillard, Paul M, and Robillard, Barbara D, to Robillard, Paul M.

OXFORD

\$619,900, 570 Main St, Przystas, Tracy J, and Przystas, Rhonda L, to Marcano, Natashia, and Garvey, Nathan.

WEBSTER

\$485,000, 106 Lakeside Ave, Gaskell, James, to Fallon, Brenda, and Fallon, Thomas.

\$462,000, 36 Harris St, Knutelski, Mariusz, and Knutelski, Elzbieta J, to Escobar, Jose A.

\$455,000, 26 Wakefield Ave, Neeser, Henry F, to Casiano, Efrain, and Casiano, Jariel.

\$430,000, 11 5th St, Baniukiewicz, Katelyn, and Chabre, Mathew S, to Miley, Todd.

\$400,000, 11 E Main St, Ferik & O Abdullai RET, and Abdullai, Ferik, to Webster House Of Pizza LL.

\$399,900, 5 Pinewood Dr, Hibbard, Arlene D, to Beaudry, Raymond.

\$362,000, 13 Crosby St, Crosby Real Estate LLC, to Pidgeon, Brian C.

\$340,000, 141 N Main St #B, Julian, Robert, to Villegas, Joselin A, and Brito, Jean H.

\$270,000, 30 Nelson St, Grivalski, Patricia, and Grivalski, John J, to Kuznetsov, Aleksei.

\$215,000, 26 Hall Rd, Shorebreak Npl T, to S & S Bee Realty LLC.

OUR COMPREHENSIVE ORTHO CARE JUST GOT MORE COMPREHENSIVE.

The Day Kimball Ortho Group is expanding. Again. And we're excited to welcome five new highly skilled orthopedic surgeons to our team:



Victor Gennaro, DO
Orthopedic Surgeon
(DKH)



Douglass Weiss, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
(DKH)



Brian H. Cohen, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
(Ortho RI)



Sidney P. Migliori, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
(Ortho RI)



Michael P. Bradley, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon
(Ortho RI)



Alyson Hernigle, PA-C, AT-C
Orthopedic APP



David LaChance, NP-C
Orthopedic APP



Michael G. Olm, MS, PA-C
Orthopedic APP

These additions allow us to cater to patients throughout the region, including Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Our highly qualified orthopedic team is dedicated to managing our patients' continuum of care, empowering them to get back to their life as soon as possible. To schedule an appointment with our team, please contact us at (860) 963-3883.

Healthcare in motion.
daykimball.org/orthopedics

DKH The Ortho Group
DAY KIMBALL HEALTH
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Ortho Rhode Island



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Finding your holiday spirit

It happens every year. November fades into December, and suddenly, the world expects you to transform into a holiday fanatic overnight. The lights go up, the carols start playing, and every ad you see insists it's "the most wonderful time of the year." But what if you're just not feeling it yet? Or, worse, you're feeling the pressure to feel it?

Here's a little secret: the holiday spirit isn't something you have to force. It sneaks up on you when you least expect it—like when you hear a kid giggling in a Santa hat, or when the smell of cookies baking fills the house. It's in those little moments, not in the perfectly decorated tree or the over-the-top gift list.

So, how do you find it? Start small. Pour yourself a mug of hot cocoa (marshmallows optional but highly recommended) and sit by the window for five minutes. Listen to your favorite holiday song—the silly ones count too. Drive around to check out the lights in your neighborhood. You don't have to deck the halls in a single day; sometimes, just hanging one strand of twinkle lights can do the trick.

And if the holidays feel like more of a chore this year, that's okay too. Give yourself permission to celebrate in your own way. Skip the big party if it stresses you out and invite a few close friends for a movie night instead. Or spend a quiet evening wrapping gifts (even if they're just for yourself). It's about finding joy where you are, not where you think you're supposed to be.

Remember, holiday spirit isn't one-size-fits-all. It's not about how much you spend or how perfectly you decorate; it's about making the season your own. So whether you're going full Buddy the Elf or keeping it low-key, let the magic find you. It always does.

Letter submission policy

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

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

VIEWPOINT

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

Be strong in the Lord

"Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness." (Ephesians 6:10-12)

These words of Saint Paul to the Christians in Ephesus clearly remind us that our struggle to live a life in Jesus, a life with the "mind of Christ," a life following His ways is surely not an easy endeavor. To be a Christian is not for the fainthearted, not for the lazy, not for those who want an easy life. To live under the reign of God means that we must live counterculture to the values and ways of this fallen world. We have a difficult battle on our hands! Holy Scripture describes the devil like a lion ready to devour us, with forces of darkness attacking us. We have to be prepared to protect ourselves and understand how to fight back!

Thus, Saint Paul gives us the image of putting on the whole armor of God. Our fight is against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness and spirit hosts of wickedness! That sounds pretty scary. Yet the Apostle Paul never fears. The enemy is a mighty foe, yet the Apostle knows that God Almighty is with us, and if God is with us, it doesn't matter who is against us! The devil with all his forces may attack us, but we have nothing to fear. Walk with God. Be filled with His Spirit. Imitate the path of Jesus Christ. And put on the entire armor of God!

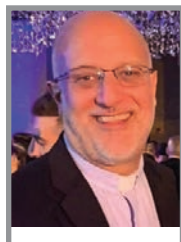
So, what is this armor we are called to wear in our battle against the forces of darkness and evil. Saint Paul mentions six parts of armor God that we protect ourselves with each day.

Let us arm ourselves with TRUTH. We live in an age of False News. Not just the political news we hear on the various news channels, but the spirit of our contemporary age is filled with lies and half-truths. Remember, the devil is called the father of lies. And our post-Christian, modern society has embraced full force many of these lies. Many people, even unconsciously accept the secular view that there is no absolute truth. The lie that this life is the end of life. The lie that denies Almighty God is alive, is a God of love and is a God who passionately loves each one of us!

We have to always remember followers of Christ are People of the TRUTH. Jesus says, "Know the truth and the truth will set you free." He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the Lord Almighty. Everything begins and ends in Him. So, He is the standard of the truth that we maintain. Jesus boldly claimed, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

So we need to constantly ask ourselves, "Are we seekers after truth? Do we strive to truly know the One is who the beginning and the end, the way the truth and the life?"

The second piece of armor is putting on RIGHTEOUSNESS: Jesus taught in the Beatitudes, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled." We have to be people who seek after the righteousness of God; who seek first after righteousness in our own lives, to live right according to God's truth and according to His will



BEYOND THE PEWS

By FR. LUKE A. VERONIS
SAINTS
CONSTANTINE AND HELEN
GREEK
ORTHODOX
CHURCH,
WEBSTER

of love and goodness, but who also seek after righteousness and justice in the world around us. Let us become instruments of working towards justice in the world around us!

The next piece of armor is PEACE: Again, in the Beatitudes Jesus noted, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God." Jesus is the Prince of Peace and promised to filled our hearts with the "peace that passes all understanding." He said, "Peace I give you, my peace I leave with you, not as the world gives... let not your hearts be troubled." There will never be ultimate peace or any type of utopia in this world because we live in a fallen world with much violence, evil, and darkness. Yet, each of us can become carriers of peace. We can become instruments that

bring the peace of God into our violent and dark world. As Saint Seraphim of Sarov highlighted, "Acquire inner peace, and thousands around you will be saved."

The fourth piece of armor is FAITH: Faith is described as "Hoping for things that are not seen." Jesus reprimanded His disciple Thomas by saying, 'You believe because you see. Blessed are those who do not see yet believe.' Faith is trusting in God even when all seems impossible around us. Knowing that God is greater than anything we ever face in life. The Prophet Habakkuk notes the role of faith when he concludes, "Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer and makes me tread upon the heights." (Hab 3:17-19)

Then we are to put on the armor of SALVATION: Never forget that Jesus Christ is a Savior, who 'desires all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.' Faith is on our side, longing to live in us and save us from the fallenness of this world. Salvation ultimately is a life in Christ. Our goal is not simply to "go to heaven" but it is to experience the kingdom of God here and now, walking with Him every day. As we live in Christ, we will then die in Christ. Putting on salvation implies living a life in Hope, a life of Hope!

And finally, Saint Paul concludes by telling us to use the WORD OF GOD as the sword of our armament. The word of God is "a light to our feet and a lamp to our way." When we meditate on the word of God day and night, and know His word, we have the wisdom and knowledge to guide us on how to live, on what to do, and how to avoid the snares of the evil one and live according to His will. We must be lifelong students of His word!

TRUTH, RIGHTEOUSNESS, PEACE, FAITH, SALVATION, and THE WORD OF GOD. This is the armor we must put on daily to fight against the power of the evil one! Let us work and honor each of these gifts in our own life — TRUTH, RIGHTEOUSNESS, PEACE, FAITH, SALVATION, and THE WORD!

Padre Pio

In the small Italian village of Pietrelcina, on May 25, 1887, Francesco Forgione was born into a humble family of farmers. No one could have predicted that this boy, who would later take the name Padre Pio, would become one of the most enigmatic and revered figures in modern Catholicism.

Padre Pio's journey to the priesthood began early. As a child, he claimed to have mystical experiences, including visions of Jesus and Mary. At 15, he entered the Capuchin Order; and by 23, he was ordained a priest. But it wasn't his sermons or pastoral care that would make him famous—it was the miraculous and inexplicable phenomena that surrounded him.

Perhaps the most famous aspect of Padre Pio's life was his stigmata—wounds resembling those of Christ on the cross. In 1918, while praying, Padre Pio reportedly received these marks, which he bore for 50 years until his death.

The stigmata were examined multiple times by medical professionals, with opinions ranging from supernatural to psychological or physical causes. The Vatican conducted thorough investigations into these claims over decades, reflecting both skepticism and respect.

Ultimately, the Church ruled the stigmata as genuine and beyond natural explanation, contributing to his canonization in 2002.

His mystical gifts didn't stop there. Padre Pio was said to possess the ability to bilocate—appearing in two places at once—and to read souls, revealing private details during confessions that penitents hadn't disclosed.

These accounts, while widely believed by his devotees, are based on anecdotal evidence and lack independent verification, leading skeptics to question their authenticity. Padre Pio humbly attributed all his gifts to God, famously saying, "I only want to be a poor friar who prays."

For all the awe he inspired, skepticism followed him, too. Was the stigma self-inflicted? Were the stories exaggerated by adoring followers? In the 1920s, the Church temporarily restricted Padre Pio's public ministry, citing concerns about the authenticity of his wounds and the intensity of his following. These questions persist but don't diminish the enduring allure of his legacy.

Of all the mysteries tied to Padre Pio, none are as dramatic—or as spine-tingling—as the stories from World War II. San Giovanni Rotondo, where Padre Pio lived, was under threat from Allied bombing campaigns. Intelligence reports indicated German munitions near the town, making it a likely target.

But according to eyewitness accounts, strange things happened whenever Allied planes flew near the area. Pilots reported seeing a figure in the sky—a monk with outstretched arms—forcing them to veer off course. Bombs either dropped harmlessly into nearby fields, or missions were abandoned altogether due to unexplained mechanical failures. These stories, while captivating, lack corroboration in wartime records and are primarily based on post-war testimonies.

One American pilot, shaken by what he described as a vision of a monk in the air, visited San Giovanni Rotondo after the war. When he saw Padre Pio, he recognized him immediately as the figure who had appeared before his plane.

This account and others like it were popularized by author Frank Rega in "Padre Pio and America."

While these stories border on the unbelievable, they come from multiple sources. Even skeptics wonder: How was the town spared when so many others weren't? Could these be tales of coincidence and wartime imagination, or were they miraculous interventions?

Stories like these invite both awe and doubt. How much of what we hear is faith-driven embellishment, and how much points to something beyond human understanding?

He once remarked: "In books we seek God; in prayer we find him..."

Perhaps it is that unwavering belief in prayer and divine intervention that makes stories of Padre Pio so compelling.

Whether or not Padre Pio truly appeared as a "flying monk" to Allied pilots, the fact remains: his life continues to captivate millions.

As we consider these extraordinary tales, we don't have to decide whether they are fact or fiction. Instead, we can marvel at their ability to inspire and remind us of the mysteries that surround the human experience.

During our time of division and uncertainty, perhaps the most valuable takeaway from Padre Pio's life is his simple yet profound message: "Pray, hope, and don't worry."

Selection and care of living holiday trees

Dress up a potted dwarf spruce, Norfolk Island pine, lemon cypress or topiary Rosemary or lavender plant for the holidays and enjoy its beauty all year. Add a bit of garland and a few small ornaments for a festive effect.

Norfolk Island pines have long been decked out and displayed for the holidays. Smaller specimens can be placed on a tabletop, and larger ones can be used as indoor floor plants when space allows. Grow Norfolk Island pines in a cool well-lit location free of hot and cold drafts. Occasionally, turn plants growing in front of windows to ensure even growth.

Avoid low humidity



Lemon cypress trees add interest and texture to this poinsettia display.

and dry soil, often resulting in dry brown needles and branches. Use a gravel tray to reduce your workload and increase your growing

success. Place pebbles in the plant saucer and set the container on the pebbles so it rests above any excess water that collects

Turn To GARDENING page A7

Repurposing Everyday Items

In today's economy it's important to get the most use out of the products you buy. Thanks to some creative repurposing, many ordinary items can do double duty all around the house. Read on for some unusual uses for everyday things.

And remember readers, send in your best tips and you'll be in the running to win Dinner for Two at the Publick House!

Bamboo Skewers: Not just for shish kabob or fruit arrangements, a package of inexpensive wooden skewers come in handy! Use them to test the doneness of cakes; to easily turn doughnuts and other foods when deep frying.

Insert wooden skewers into cake layers to invisibly stabilize a crooked confection. (Just be sure to remove them when cutting the cake!)

Wooden skewers are also in the workshop. To camouflage a narrow nail hole, dip the end of a skewer in white glue, push it into the wall, break it off and paint over.

Aluminum Foil: Hate to iron? Here's a generations old tip that stands the test of time: Place a sheet of tinfoil under the ironing board cover (above the foam but below the cloth) to boost the heat of the iron and get the job done more efficiently and quickly!

Run out of steel wool pads? Crumple up a ball of tinfoil and use to clean non stick pans and even the barbeque grates, just toss when done - no mess!

If you are struggling to move heavy furniture over a rug, place pieces of aluminum foil under the legs and it the furniture will glide much easier.

Vodka: Is your potpourri losing its scent? Toss in a capful of vodka and mix it up to renew fragrance in the dried flower mix.

Want your fresh flowers to last a bit longer? Simply add a few drops of vodka along with a teaspoon of sugar to the water in the vase. The vodka kills bacteria, extending the life of the blooms.

And you can whip up an effective air freshener with vodka. To do: In a spray bottle, mix together

six ounces water (distilled if possible), one ounce of vodka, and your choice of essential oil (about 20-30 drops). Shake up and spray!

Dental Floss: Hanging a picture and don't have any wire? Doubled up dental floss is strong enough to substitute on lightweight pictures.

Are photos stuck together? Instead of pulling apart, lessen the risk of damage by gently shimmying the floss between the photos to pry them off.

Swaging holiday greenery? Green mint dental floss serves as a strong (and invisible) tie to wind around garlands to hang down stairways or along a mantle.

And unflavored dental floss can also be used to truss a turkey.

Dental floss even works as a quick fix to restring beaded jewelry.

Here are some additional multipurpose ideas:

Have extra roof shingles? Stow a few in your trunk during winter weather. If you get stuck,



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

wedge the shingle under the tire for traction.

Need to clean a grout stain? Saturate a cotton ball in bleach and place it on the stain until it fades out.

Save plastic newspaper sleeves. The long bags protect shoes from other clothing when packing a suitcase.

Wet boots from winter weather? Stuff newspaper inside your shoes and they'll dry out faster.

Newspaper also works to prevent odors in thermos bottles between

uses. Just pack crumpled newspaper into the bottle before closing to store.

Stuff Styrofoam packing peanuts into a bean bag chair to puff it back up without spending a dime!

Spray some no stick cooking spray on your snow shovel to help heavy, wet snow from sticking to it.

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

GARDENING

continued from page A6

in the saucer. Water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil slightly moist. The excess water that collects in the saucer increases humidity around the plant.

Tabletop lemon cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa 'Goldcrest Wilma') trees have filled the benches at garden centers and florists for the past few holiday seasons. Their fragrant chartreuse needles and upright conical shape make them a cheery addition to your winter décor. Grow them in a brightly lit location near a draft-free window and water thoroughly when the top few inches are dry to the touch. Those who garden in zones seven to ten can move them into their landscape or add them to their outdoor containers after the danger of frost has passed. This dwarf variety can eventually reach six feet tall and three to four feet wide.

Enjoy the beauty, fragrance, and flavor of a topiary Rosemary tree. Grow it in a brightly lit location and water thoroughly when the top few inches of soil begin to dry. Regularly trim the

branches to maintain the upright tree shape. Use clippings to season your favorite holiday dishes.

Consider growing a tree-shaped lavender plant this holiday season for its attractive foliage and calming fragrance. Grow your lavender in a south-facing or other sunny window. Find a



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

cool spot in your home away from hot and cold air drafts. The cooler air helps increase your indoor growing success. Water it thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry to the touch. Pour off any excess water that collects in the saucer.

If you want a tree that can be moved outdoors into the landscape or a container in hardiness zones two to six, consider growing a tabletop dwarf Alberta spruce tree (Picea glauca 'Conica'). Grow it in a very cool bright location indoors. Water thoroughly as needed pouring off any excess water that collects in the saucer.

If the buds break and new growth appears, wait until the danger of frost has passed to move it outdoors. Just change out the seasonal decorations and enjoy it on Valentine's Day, Easter, and any spring holiday celebrations. Grow it outside in a sunny location protected from winter wind and sun to prevent the needles from drying. Watch for spider mites which are a common pest on this landscape plant.

These plants also make great gifts for the holidays and for the host or hostess. You and your gift recipients will enjoy the beauty of these plants throughout the holidays and beyond.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including 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.

Friday's Child

Hi! Our names are Jalen and Jaren and we want to be adopted together!

Jaren and Jalen are twin boys, they have similar interests, and they both enjoy moon sand and other sensory items. Jalen and Jaren love playing Temple Run and watching sports on their iPad. The twins also enjoy spending time outside and playing on the swings.

Jaren and Jalen are currently enrolled in a special school where they are doing well with the services and support put in place for their overall development. Their social worker stated that Jaren and Jalen can bond very well with staff and caretakers who have been consistent in their lives. They have great smiles and get along with people they encounter!

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/children/8657-8659>

Can I Adopt?

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

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org. Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.

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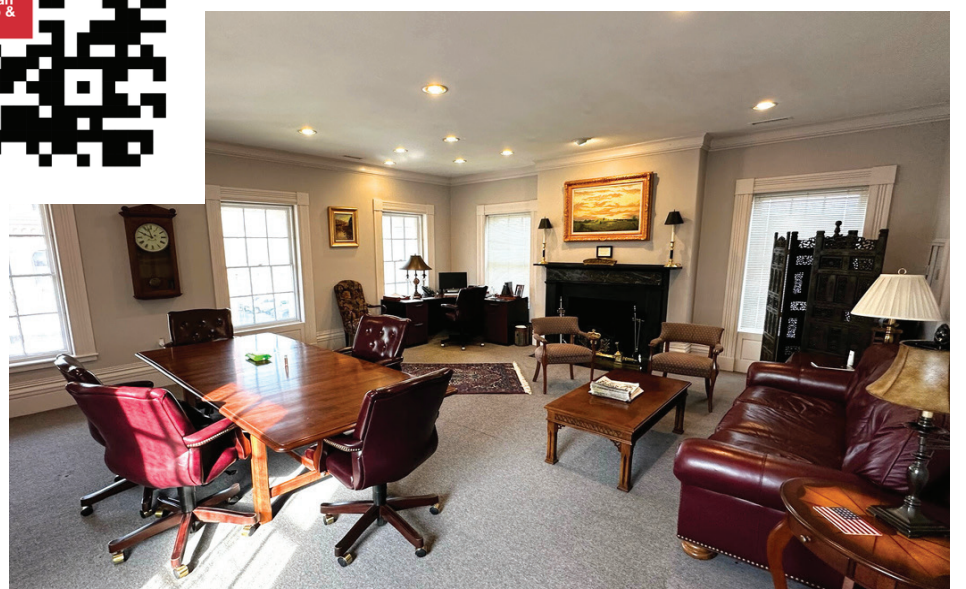


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Courtesy

Naomi Bone, of Dudley is the latest child to complete the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program at the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library. She loves reading books before bed with her Mommy and visiting the Library, where she is a staff favorite. Congratulations Naomi, what an accomplishment! The 1,000 Books Foundation's mission is to promote reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers and to encourage parent and child bonding through reading. The 1,000 BBK challenge at the Crawford Library is funded by the Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library.

HELP WANTED

Custodian

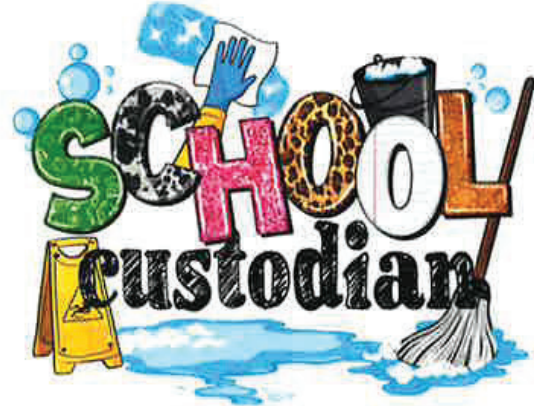
WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOL is searching for a Custodian for Park Ave Elementary School.

Custodial work is full-time from 2:00PM - 10:30PM Monday - Friday.

Candidates can send a letter of interest and resume to Lisa Kontoes, Business Manager. Applications must be received by December 13, 2024

508-943-0104 ext 40010

or email lkontoes@webster-schools.org



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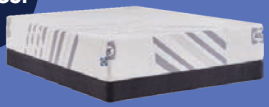
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OBITUARIES

Anna M. Starkus-Peltier, 101



NORTH OXFORD – Anna M. (Laugaud) Starkus-Peltier, 101, formerly of McIntyre Road, died Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at CareOne in Millbury. She was predeceased by her first husband of 25 years, Daniel

Starkus of North Oxford who died in 1968; and her second husband of 25 years, Frieland C. “Hank” Peltier of North Oxford who died in 1998. She is survived by two children, George J. Starkus and his wife Dorothy of North Oxford, and Pauline A. Starkus of Auburn; two stepchildren, Edward J. Peltier and his wife Carol of West Hartford, CT, and Catherine M. Engle and her husband Gordon of Dudley; two grandchildren, Michelle Bernier and her husband Christopher of Auburn, and Timothy Belliveau and his wife Lindsey Gardell of Auburn; two great-grandchildren, Christopher Bernier of Tewksbury, and Tara Moir of Auburn; many step-grandchildren; and her dear friend, Patricia Donnelly of North Oxford. She was predeceased by a stepdaughter, Frances Roy; and a brother, Joseph Laugaud.

She was born in Bloomfield, CT, daughter of the late Justin and Kazimara (Zetroitis) Laugaud, and

lived in Worcester and Auburn before moving to North Oxford in 1943. She graduated from Auburn High School in 1941.

Mrs. Starkus-Peltier was a secretary at Memorial Hospital in Worcester for 10 years, retiring in 1976. She was a member of St. Ann’s Church in North Oxford. She was a member and past president of the Friends of the Oxford Senior Center, and a member of the Friends of the Oxford Public Library. She was also a volunteer at the Oxford Senior Center. She was an avid bowler and bowled regularly at the Mohegan Bowling Alley in Webster. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

A funeral will be held on Friday, December 6, 2024, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford, followed by a Mass at 11 a.m. at St. Roch’s Church, 332 Main St., Oxford. Burial will follow at St. Roch’s Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours are Thursday, December 5, 2024, from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to CareOne at Millbury, c/o Activities Dept., 312 Millbury Ave., Millbury, MA 01527, or to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1942.

Mary Lou Lepko, 76



CHARLTON – Mary Lou (Rossi) Lepko, 76, died Tuesday, November 26, 2024, at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Rich Lepko of Charlton; three children, Philip

Geiger and his wife Sheena of Davidson, NC, Robert Geiger of Plattsburgh, NY, and Alyson Romanelli and her husband Michael of Charlton; her sister, Vicki Molnar of Charlton; eight grandchildren, Kylee, Brea, Andrew, Annemarie, Emilee, Violet, Adeline, and Julianne; and one nephew, Joseph.

She was born in New Brunswick, NJ, daughter of the late Michael and Violet Rossi, and lived most of her life in New Jersey before moving to Charlton in 2017.

Mary Lou was an executive administrative assistant at Johnson & Johnson in New Brunswick, NJ, prior to retirement. She was a very active member

of the community, especially at the church and senior center. She was president of the Mary Martha Guild and played in the bell choir at St. Joseph’s Church. She was very active with the Senior Center in Charlton, where she was a member of the Golden Age Group and organized travel for the members. Mary Lou will be remembered as a generous woman who contributed to many organizations. Most important in her life were her children and grandchildren.

A funeral Mass will be held at 12 noon on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at St. Joseph’s Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. Burial will follow at West Ridge Cemetery in Charlton. A calling hour will be held on Thursday from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the church prior to the Mass.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph’s Church, P.O. Box 338, Charlton City, MA 01508.

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

Robert P. Morris, 85



Robert P. Morris, age 85, of Webster died Sunday, November 24, 2024 at Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge, MA, after an illness. Robert was born March 17, 1939 in Providence, RI. He is

the son of the late Antone and the late Doris (Knowles) Morris.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years Dorothy (Jordan) Morris, his children, daughters Cheryl Carr and her partner Tom Ziomek of West Melbourne, FL, Donna Morris of Mars Hill, NC and Gina and her husband Nick Mazares of Dudley, MA, and one son, Patrick Morris and his wife Tracie of Putnam CT.

He was blessed with grandchildren William Carr, Aaron Lieske and his wife Hannah, Damien Morris, Alyson Morris, and Julie Morris, and Great Granddaughter Nora Lieske. He also leaves his sister Priscilla Ferrell of Melbourne FL, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two of his sisters, Marilyn Dutch and Doris Houghton. He also sadly leaves his Golden Doodle, Abby, who he adored.

Bob retired from the Webster Post Office as Head of Maintenance in 2002. He and Dot then enjoyed 10 years of their retirement in North Carolina, living on a golf course they played daily. They subsequently moved back to Webster, MA where they had previously

lived for many years. Bob was very handy and could repair virtually anything. He was an avid sports fan, and enjoyed watching all the Boston sports teams, golf, and car racing. As a car enthusiast

he could tell you the make, model, and year of most cars, as well as having a passion for riding motorcycles. He was very quick-witted; whether with a joke, or to the answers to questions on Jeopardy. Bob loved Rock & Roll, Blues, and Country Music. This love of music stems back to listening to Alan Freed on AM radio in the 1950’s. Bob was a great storyteller and conversationalist, and time could pass swiftly hanging out with him outside on the deck on a nice summer day. Above all, Bob loved to spend time with family and friends. Because he kept his refrigerator so low, he could proudly offer his guests “the coldest beer in town.” After a life well-lived, Bob will be missed by many.

The funeral was held at 10:00 am on Monday, December 2 at Bartel Funeral Home & Chapel, 33 Schofield Ave., Dudley, MA. Burial followed in East Thompson Cemetery, Thompson, CT.

Calling hours were held on Monday, December 2 from 9 AM to 10 AM at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Alzheimer’s Association



LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

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Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
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4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
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Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

LEICESTER

Leicester Food Pantry
St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD

St. Joseph’s Food Pantry
Located in the church hall at 296 North Main St. North Brookfield
Distribution is the 1st Thursday of the month from 5:00-6:30PM
the 3rd Thursday of the month from 12 Noon-1:15PM
Any questions should be directed to the Rectory office 508 867-6469.
St. Joseph’s Food Pantry is a community partner affiliated with the Worcester County Food Bank.

ROCHDALE

The Lord’s Cupboard Food Pantry
Greenville Baptist Church
674 Pleasant St.
Rochdale, MA
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SOUTHBRIDGE

Saint John Paul II Food Pantry
Saint Vincent de Paul
279 Hamilton St, Southbridge, MA 01550
Distribution: Tuesday 3 PM-5 PM,
Wednesday 9 AM -11 AM

Southbridge Food Share Pantry 79 Elm St., Southridge, Ma. 01550.
Distribution:
MWF from 10:00AM - 11:15AM

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY

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ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
 Nicole Magnusson
 and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*): Freedom Mortgage Corporation claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 17 Bacon Street, given by Nicole Magnusson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Homebridge Financial Services, Inc., dated February 23, 2022, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67170, Page 187, 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 January 6, 2025 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on November 22, 2024.

Attest:
 Deborah J. Patterson
 Recorder
 December 6, 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. WO24P4035EA
 CITATION ON PETITION FOR
 FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
 Estate Of:
William P Auger
Also known as: William Auger
Date of Death: 08/25/2024

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **William Auger of Dudley MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **William Auger of Dudley MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/24/2024**.

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: November 25, 2024
 Stephanie K. Fattman,
 Register of Probate
 December 6, 2024

Webster
 Office of the Collector of Taxes
December 6, 2024
 The owner (s), occupant (s) and public are hereby notified that the following described parcels herein, located within the municipality of Webster and Worcester County, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have taxes and special assessments for the year 2007 as committed to the Collector of Taxes, by the Board of Assessors of this municipality which remain delinquent and unpaid, and that the property herein described will be taken by WEBSTER on December 20, 2024 at 12:00 P.M. for nonpayment of taxes & special assessments including interest and all legal costs and charges thereon, unless the property shall be previously discharged.

Tina M. Landry
 Collector of Taxes
 Town of Webster
 Property Location: 8 Brookline St
 Assessed Owner: Adem, Nurit
 Supposed Current Owner: The ESA Realty Trust N/O Zicaro Lake, LLC
 Land Description: 5,032 Square Feet
 Parcel Number: 1-P-3-0 Book 62269
 Page 221 BBill Number: 101
 Bill Number: 5234
 2021 Real Estate Taxes & Special Assessments:
 Total Due \$716.45

Property Location: 25 Arkwright Rd
 Assessed Owners: Penkala, Julia
 c/o Penkala Michael
 Supposed Current Owner: Penkala, Julia
 c/o Penkala Michael
 Land Description: 15,049 Square Feet
 Parcel Number: 17-F-11-0
 Book 4550 Page 559
 Bill Number: 4615
 2021 Real Estate Taxes
 & Special Assessments:
 Total Due \$2,518.68

Property Location: 29 Nelson St
 Assessed Owners: Radzik, Keith
 Supposed Current Owner: Radzik, Keith
 Land Description: 9,570 Square Feet
 Parcel Number: 27-D-19-0
 Book 54392 Page 129
 Bill Number: 4909
 2021 Real Estate Taxes
 & Special Assessments:
 Total Due \$2,597.20

Property Location: 2 Eddy St
 Assessed Owners: Ropi, Stephen
 Supposed Current Owner: Ropi, Stephen
 Land Description: 6,300 Square Feet
 Parcel Number: 28-J-8-0
 Book 34298 Page 354
 Bill Number: 5177
 2021 Real Estate Taxes
 & Special Assessments:
 Total Due \$25.36

Property Location: 66 Union Point Rd
 Assessed Owner: Russell, Mark R
 Supposed Current Owner: Russell, Mark R
 Land Description: 7,875 Square Feet
 Parcel Number: 55-B-24-0
 Book 64654 Page 57
 2021 Real Estate Taxes
 & Special Assessments:
 Total Due \$4,250.51
 December 6, 2024

Webster
 Office of the Collector of Taxes
December 6, 2024
 The owner (s), occupant (s) and public are hereby notified that the following described parcels herein, located within the municipality of Webster and Worcester County, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have taxes and special assessments for the year 2021 as committed to the Collector of Taxes, by the Board of Assessors of this municipality which remain delinquent and unpaid, and that the property herein described will be taken by WEBSTER on December 20, 2024 at 12:00 P.M. for nonpayment of taxes & special assessments including

interest and all legal costs and charges thereon, unless the property shall be previously discharged.

Tina M. Landry
 Collector of Taxes
 Town of Webster
 Property Location: 0 Beaudry Lane
 Assessed Owners:
 Christopher, Constance
 c/o Jane Brossman
 Supposed Current Owners:
 Christopher, Constance
 c/o Jane Brossman
 Land Description: 4,736 Square Feet
 Parcel Number: 29-G-11-0
 Book 1244 Page n/a
 Bill Number: 987
 2021 Real Estate Taxes
 & Special Assessments:
 Total Due \$16.91
 December 6, 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. WO24P4017EA
 CITATION ON PETITION FOR
 FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
 Estate Of:
Darlene C Leonard
Date of Death: 09/02/2024

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ralph H Leonard of Auburn 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:

Ralph H Leonard of Auburn MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/24/2024**.

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: November 22, 2024
 Stephanie K. Fattman,
 Register of Probate
 December 6, 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. WO24P4030EA
 CITATION ON PETITION FOR
 FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
 Estate Of:
Ernest Karapanos
Date of Death: 06/23/2017

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Paul Karapanos of Webster MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

Paul Karapanos of Webster MA

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/24/2024**.

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: November 25, 2024
 Stephanie K. Fattman,
 Register of Probate
 December 6, 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. WO24P4032EA
 CITATION ON PETITION FOR
 FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
 Estate Of:
Zora Karapanos
Date of Death: 11/11/2022

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **James Karapanos of Webster MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

James Karapanos of Webster MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/24/2024**.

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: November 25, 2024
 Stephanie K. Fattman,
 Register of Probate
 December 6, 2024

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FESTIVAL

continued from page A1

many of supporting local businesses and raising money for a great cause.

All the proceeds benefit the Shepherd Hill music program with parents, supporters, and students from the program staffing the event to serve food, sell raffle tickets,

assist the vendors, and even provide some fun holiday music and spirit throughout the day. The 33rd edition of the event has already been scheduled for Nov. 22, 2025.



Potential buyers examine the goods at Emmerly Lane, one of the crafters at the 32nd annual Festival of Crafts.



The Shepherd Hill gym is always a huge draw for the event, filled with a good portion of the more than 200 vendors that joined the festival.



Brees Sweet Treats of Worcester brought a mix of their delicious snacks for tasting and purchasing to the Festival of Crafts.



Parents and adult supporters of the Shepherd Hill music program volunteered their time to help sell tickets and check people in throughout the day.



Vendors at the Festival of Crafts each donated a good to be raffled off as part of the event.



The Worcester Children's Chorus set up a booth where visitors could spin a wheel for a chance at fun prizes.



Potential buyers examine some cloths at one of the booths during the Festival of Crafts.



Members of the Shepherd Hill Class of 2026 hosted a booth to help raise money for their class programs.

Bay Path Nursing students show gratitude

CHARLTON—General education focuses on academic success measures such as grade point average and graduation rates. For nursing education this includes licensure examination first time pass rate. Indeed, these outcomes are important, but they are the traditional measures of success. The outcomes fail to capture the complexities of nursing student success, the integration of psychological and cognitive aspects of the learning experience, the nursing students' grit and grace, the tenacity of spirit, the joys, appreciation, and gratitude.

As nursing students, it is nice to show appreciation and gratitude towards the faculty and staff who supports and guides your training and education. Eight members of the Practical Nursing Class of 2025 did just that. Not with a simple thank you note,

but with an impromptu and yet thoughtful way to express their appreciation for the faculty and staff's hard work and dedication, a group photo holding signs that reads, "Thank you for all that you do!"

Collectively known as "Team Webster," the eight nursing students are Elizabeth Achayo of Worcester, Cynthia Agyeman of Worcester, Celestine Akagbo of Worcester, Rachel Anane of Worcester, Tamara Lidonde of Spencer, Ashley Rincon of Southbridge, Giselle Rosario of Southbridge, and Katelyn Smith of Charlton. All are under the leadership and guidance of Dr. Adelina Healy of Dudley and attend their fundamentals of practical nursing clinical rotation at the Webster Manor Rehabilitation & Health Care Center <https://webstermanorrehab.com/> in Webster. The Webster

Manor offers skilled nursing and rehabilitative care. They are devoted to providing residents with quality care with an individualized touch, designed to improve residents' quality of life. As part of Athena Health Care Systems' continuum of care, residents can "age in place" knowing that they do not have to move as their care needs change.

According to Dr. Healy, Team Webster is great, "they are all attentive, they enjoy clinicals, and I love them all." Dr. Healy joined Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy as adjunct faculty in 2017. She positively praised the education and training the nursing students received. "As faculty, I see firsthand how the staff and faculty interacted with nursing students and the true concern for their success," she said. Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy has

a small clinical faculty to student ratio of 1:8, less than the maximum ratio established by the Board of Registration in Nursing of 1:10.

Both faculty and staff at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy create a positive learning experience and help in understanding how theory related directly to patient care at specially selected clinical sites such as the Webster Manor: Hands on education and the ability to practice in a safe learning environment allows students to become confident. With only three weeks remaining before the end of Term one and progression to Term two, Team Webster is mastering their clinical skills. As the demand for qualified nurses increases, their training, education, preparation, expression of appreciation and gratitude is surely leading them to a great path to success.



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Courtesy

People waiting in long lines to get those tasty treats the Master Masons were selling.

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Saturday, Nov. 30, it was a cold blistering night at the Christmas Tree Lighting festivities on Southbridge common. This annual event that Quinebaug Masonic Lodge participates in is part of their Community Outreach Program.

Volunteers from Webster Masonic Lodge wanted in on the action and fun and participated at this annual tradition event. Both Lodges put

smiles on many, many people and children's faces with the selling of kettle corn, hot dogs, fried Oreos, cookies and fried dough. There were vendors selling Christmas ornaments that light up that you could wear around your neck or on your hats. A DJ played Christmas music in the gazebo and a vendor selling hot coffee and coco and much, much more. There were very long lines at the Quinebaug Lodge's booth to get those tasty treats the lodge was selling. When the parade

started and Santa came by, the lines were still long while many adults and children watched the parade go by.

The common was lit up with Christmas lights and decorations of all kinds. No one at this event seemed to mind the wind and cold because there was so much to see and do. If you are interested about Freemasonry and what we do in your local community, for more information and to find a lodge nearest you, visit our website at www.massfreemasonry.org

Happy Holidays

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